

(Continued from a preceding page.)

abstain from meat or instead offer prayers or charitable works.

■ **Prayerful Condolences** – Our Mission Community extends its prayers and sympathy to Steve Krempasky upon the recent passing of his grandfather. May his memory be eternal. *Vičnaja jemu pamjať.*

■ **In Appreciation** – Last Sunday, altar server James Radko was presented with an icon of his patron, St. James, in appreciation of his many years assisting at God’s holy table. James will be attending college this fall. May God grant him many blessed years. *Mnohaja l’ita!*

■ **Blessing of First Fruit** – In commemoration of the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ on August 6, there will be the blessing of first fruits of the pre-festive day, Sunday, August 5. You are invited to bring fruits of the harvest for blessing and sharing, especially grapes and apples.

Divine Liturgy Schedule

- July 29...** **10th Sunday after Pentecost**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.
- August 5...** **11th Sunday after Pentecost**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.
[Blessing of First Fruits]
- August 12...** **12th Sunday after Pentecost**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.

In the Liturgy we pray “for those who serve and have served in this holy church.”
Until the happy day when we have our own temple
(Grant it, O Lord!),
we will need men and women
to help with setup and takedown.

Signup sheet for the Sundays in August
is available on the information table.

Thank you!

■ **Dormition: Fast and Feast** – The fourth of four fasting periods during the liturgical year of the Byzantine Church begins August 1. The Dormition Fast is observed each year from August 1 to 14, the eve of the Feast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos. In commemoration of the Dormition, it is our tradition to bless flowers, herbs, and medicines at the Divine Liturgy. You are invited to bring flowers, herbs, or medicines for blessing to the Divine Liturgy. Date and time for the Divine Liturgy will be announced.

Liturgy Propers

- Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**
The Holy Myrrh-Bearer Mary Magdalene,
Equal to the Apostles
Translation of the Relics of the
Holy Bishop-Martyr Phocas
July 22, 2018
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Troparion — Tone 8 (p. 161)
Kontakion — Tone 8 (p. 162)
Prokiemenon — Tone 4 (p. 162)
EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17
Alleluia — Tone 1 (p. 163)
GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-34
Communion Hymns (p. 78)

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** – Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered for the blessed repose of Norm Dennis by Lou and Marie Shanks. May his memory be eternal. *Vičnaja jemu pamjať.*

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

– Revelation 21:4 (NKJV / OSB)

■ **Today’s Commemorations** – Today in the Byzantine Church is the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, July 22, the Byzantine Church commemorates the Holy Myrrh-Bearer Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles.

Also remembered is the Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop-Martyr Phocas. “Translation” in this context means the removal of holy objects from one locality (such as a tomb) to another (usually a reliquary in a church or cathedral). This translation took different forms, including all-night vigils, and the carrying of the precious remains in a bier of gold or silver, overshadowed with silken canopies.

■ **The Real Mary Magdalene** – Mary Magdalene was a disciple of Jesus from Magdala in Galilee. Her feast is celebrated today, but she is also remembered on the Sunday of Myrrh-Bearing Women. Among her titles are “Apostle to the Apostles.”

Although the Apostles proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the whole world, it was Mary who proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the Apostles themselves. She is also called “Equal-to-the Apostles,” because she was the first messenger sent by the Lord Himself to announce His resurrection. Finally, she is called “Myrrh-Bearer,” because she purchased myrrh and spices to anoint the body of the buried Christ and to accord Him, following Jewish custom, as much honor as possible.

(Continued on a following page.)

Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church



Montgomery County Mission

Mother of God Community School
20501 Goshen Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
301-482-0282
www.eolmission.org

Our community...

was established in October 1996 to meet the spiritual needs of Byzantine Catholics living in northern Montgomery County, southern Frederick County, and adjoining areas.

We celebrate our faith...

in a diverse community. We welcome all, regardless of ethnic or religious background who are committed to develop a deeper understanding of the Christian faith expressed in the Byzantine tradition and spirituality, and who wish to pray for and work towards the full communion of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches as sister Churches of the One Universal Church of Jesus Christ.

We continually resolve...

to gather in His Name, share the truth of our Faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone.

Please Remember

"Is anyone among you sick? ...the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

James 5:14-15 NKJV/OSB

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY

- Jeff Sesok
- Ron Pytel.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris and Rich Fejka.
- Raymond Klimkosky.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Yazmine Nickerson.
- Paula and Tom Tate & Family.
- Christine Dennis.
- Peggy Winkelmann.
- Laura Hinkle.
- Doran Coady.
- Ann Tracy.
- Travis Waters.
- Bertha Bergan.
- Arlene Kollar.
- Jamee Kruse.
- Joseph and Nancy Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Ellen Sorensen.
- Tony Tworkoski.
- Linda Oros.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert and Doris Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Conan Timoney.
- Fr. Lee Gross.
- Deacon Peter Turko.



Pray for Our Community

"Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, and visit this vine and the vineyard which

Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself."

Psalm 80:14-15 NKJV/OSB



Food Pantry

Our community places a food collection basket near the information table as you enter the gymnasium. Don't forget those who are less fortunate. Nonperishable food items, diapers, baby food, and personal care items are always in demand. The Food Pantry Program, administered by St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, supports the working poor of our area.



"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

(Continued from a previous page.)

In the Gospels, two of the Evangelists place her as first among several other women who followed her in doing likewise, and the third Evangelist identifies only her as performing that noble deed (cf. *Mt 28:1; Mk 16:1; Jn 20:1*).

According to tradition, during a dinner with the emperor Tiberius Caesar, Mary Magdalene was speaking about Christ's Resurrection. Caesar scoffed at her, saying that a man could rise from the dead no more than the egg in her hand could turn red. Immediately, the egg turned red. Because of this, icons of Mary Magdalene sometimes depict her holding a red egg. Also, this is believed to be an explanation for dyeing eggs red at Pascha.

In Ephesus, according to the tradition and testimony of many of the holy Fathers and ecclesiastical writers, the holy Mary Magdalene assisted the holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian in his evangelical labors, remaining there until she reposed in peace and was buried in that city.

She is often confused with other women of the New Testament. However, she is not Mary of Bethany (a city south of Jerusalem), the sister of Martha and Lazarus, who anointed Jesus' head, nor is she the prostitute who anointed Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair. These two Mary's understandably are confused with her, and unfortunately in the West are lumped together under Mary Magdalene's name, a confusion continued in *The Last Temptation of Christ*, *The Da Vinci Code*, and other works.

It is believed that Pope Gregory the Great began the tradition in the Western Church – not accepted in the Eastern Church – which

identified St. Mary with the "sinful woman" in the seventh chapter of Luke.

■ **Today: Blessing of Vehicles** – Wheeled vehicles (cars, trucks, bicycles, etc.) will be blessed today following Divine Liturgy in commemoration of the Feast of St. Elias, which falls annually on July 20.

Elias was a prophet of the Old Testament who lived in the ninth century before the Coming of Jesus Christ. The Troparion of his feast calls him "a pillar of prophets, and the "second Forerunner of the coming of Christ."

Because, as Scripture tells us, he was taken to heaven in a fiery chariot, the Jewish people felt that he did not die as mortals do and that some day he would return to earth to "restore the tribes of Israel" (*Ecclus. 48:10*).

Icons depicting Elias usually show him in a chariot drawn by fiery horses heading heavenward and his cloak or mantle falling earthward into the outstretched arms of Elisha his companion and disciple, signifying the transfer of his power and authority of a prophet. To learn about Elias and the miraculous events that surrounded him, read *Kings I* and *Kings II*

■ **A Latter Day Martyr** – Tomorrow, July 23, is the feast day of Basil or Vasil' Hopko (April 24, 1904, Hrabské – July 23, 1976), an eparch (bishop) of the Slovak Greek Catholic Church who was beatified by Pope John Paul II for his martyrdom under Communist occupation.

■ **Day of Penance** – As each Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord, each Friday is a commemoration of Holy and Great Friday and is observed with penance. One may

(Continued on a following page.)