

■ **Lenten Services** — There are no Lenten services scheduled for our mission except Solemn Vespers for Holy and Great Friday. Please avail yourself of services at Epiphany-Annandale (see schedule in bulletin) or St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville (call 301-953-9323). Also note that Epiphany-Annandale serves meatless meals on the Fridays of the Great Fast from 4-7 p.m., prior to the praying of Presanctified Liturgy. No meals are served on Holy and Great Friday.

■ **Continue to Remember in Prayer** — “They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword...” (Hebrews 11:37a)

Please lift up in prayer all those who are persecuted and deprived of liberty, everywhere in the world, even in our own country.



Liturgy Propers

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast
Memory of St. Gregory Palamas
Our Venerable Father Alexis, Man of God
March 17, 2019

Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
 Typica and Beatitudes (pp. 17&23)

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 2 (p. 130)

Kontakion of the Second Sunday — Tone 4 (p. 222)

Prokiemenon of the Second Sunday — Tone 5 (p. 223)

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Alleluia of the Resurrection — Tone 2 (p. 132)

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Magnification [In You O Woman...] (p. 98)

Communion Hymn: Psalm 148:1 (p. 78)

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

Especially remember the peoples of Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Niger — the whole Middle East and Africa — who are literal martyrs for Christ. Also the people of Ukraine.

Evangelization

■ **Food Pantry** — Our Mission Community’s ministry to the unfortunate of our area through the local Food Pantry program, administered by St. Martin Roman Catholic Church, Gaithersburg, is always in great need of nonperishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items. Hunger never takes a vacation or holiday.

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Mar. 24... 3rd Sunday of the Great Fast/Veneration of the Holy Cross
 Mother of God School
 10 a.m.

Mar. 31... 4th Sunday of the Great Fast
 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 need men and women
 to help with setup and takedown.

The signup sheet for **April**
 is available on the information table.

Thank you!

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered by Rick Neimiller for the blessed repose of +Geraldine (Ridenour) Bolyard. May her memory be eternal. *Vičnaja pamjat.*

“O God of spirits and of all flesh, You trampled death and broke the power of the devil and granted life to Your world. Now grant rest, O Lord, to the soul of Your departed servant, Geraldine, in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning.”

— From the Litany for the Deceased

■ **Today’s Commemoration** — Today in the Byzantine Church is the Second Sunday of the Great Fast.

Originally, St. Polycarp was commemorated on this Sunday. Now, Eastern Orthodox and some Byzantine Catholic Churches dedicate this Sunday to a major figure in fourteenth century Byzantium, St. Gregory Palamas, a monk, archbishop, and eminent theologian.

Again today we are reassured — as we contemplate this man and reflect on his teachings — that we can attain salvation and behold the “Light of Wisdom” by becoming “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4). St. Gregory Palamas clearly teaches that, by cooperating with the God who makes all things possible, we can attain eternal life. Thus, our lenten efforts are confirmed, our resolve is strengthened, our frustrations at the end of the second week are overcome, and we are filled once more with the light of hope.

■ **On This Date** — On this date, March 17, the Byzantine Church commemorates our Venerable Father Alexis, man of God, who was the only son of a Roman senator. He died A.D. 404.

■ **Also On This Date** — On March 17, the Latin (Roman) Church honors St. Patrick — or Patricius — who was believed to have been born in Britain circa

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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

- Ann Radko.
- Delores Moldowan.
- Mary Neimiller.
- Yazmine Nickerson.
- 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."



Psalms 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.



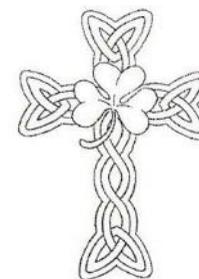
"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren,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

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

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387, near the English border with Scotland. His parents, Calpurnius and Conchessa, were wealthy Roman nobles. His father also was a Decurion, a cavalry officer in command of a troop of 30 soldiers in the Roman army.

Calpurnius was sent to Britain to help to quell the attacks from the Picts of Scotland and the Celts of Ireland. Calpurnius was a Christian, as in 380 the Roman Emperor Theodosius I had proclaimed Christianity as the sole religion of the Roman Empire. Patrick was therefore raised in the Christian faith. At the age of 14, he was captured during a Celtic raiding party and taken to Ireland. Patrick was a slave of the Irish and forced to herd and tend sheep. He remained a slave for the next six years during which he learned the language of the Irish and their customs and religion. [The Irish were Druids, whose symbol was the Serpent or Snake of Wisdom.]



Patrick escaped from Ireland and returned to Britain and re-joined his family. He undertook studies to become a priest, visiting several monasteries in Europe, and was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre. He was appointed as a bishop and, due to his experiences in Ireland and his knowledge of the Irish people and the Druids, he was appointed by Pope St. Celestine I to evangelize in Ireland. Patrick knew how important the Druids were and made every effort to decrease their power.

Hundreds of soldiers supported St. Patrick, thus ensuring Ireland's conversion and the defeat of the Druids. He had converted Ireland to Christianity in 33 years.

St. Patrick died in 464 at Saul, a small village in County Down in Northern Ireland situated about two miles from Downpatrick.

■ **The Great Fast Has Begun** – The Great Fast (Lent in the Western Church) for the Byzantine Church symbolizes the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert, while the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (celebrated on Lenten Wednesdays and Fridays) is the fulfillment of the promise of manna.

In the Great Fast, we also imitate Jesus our Lord, Who fasted for 40 days in the desert following His baptism. Because the Feast of Pascha was also the time for baptisms, so the Great Fast was a time of preparation for baptism. Our observance of the Great Fast, therefore, is our renewal of our baptismal fervor.

During the Great Fast, all Wednesdays and Fridays are days of fasting from meat and meat products. Holy and Great Friday is also a day of fasting from meat and dairy products.

Fasting/abstinence requirements may be mitigated for reasons of health and/or age. Please contact Fr. John at Epiphany Parish Office if you have questions or concerns.

■ **Changes in the Divine Liturgy** – During the Sundays of the Great Fast we pray the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great instead of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The liturgies are very similar with the most notable differences being the singing of The Typica and The Beatitudes in place of the First and Second Antiphons. In addition, we sing "In You, O Woman, Full of Grace" in place of "It is truly proper..." The other major differences are in some of the prayers that the priest sings and in some of the melodies [see pp. 96-103 in the green Divine Liturgy book].