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an icon of great hope to all generations, especially the powerless, the exploited, and the downtrodden. As many of us, Mary went through great suffering in her lifetime. Yet she remained the ever supporting mother of Jesus. As we face many challenges in today's world, Mary continues to be our source of hope.

The Uniontown Pilgrimage has been held every Labor Day weekend since 1934. It was that year during which the Sisters and pilgrims celebrated the blessing of the then newly acquired Monastery for the Sisters. In 1935, Pope Pius XI gifted the Sisters with a beautiful icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help requesting they spread devotion to the Theotokos under that title.

The pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church.

Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country. The pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling. The pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic pilgrimage in the U.S. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings. For more information, visit www.sistersofstbasil.org/events-2/pilgrimage-brochure/

In the Liturgy we pray "for those who serve and have served in this holy church." For now, we still need men and women to help with liturgy setup and takedown. The signup sheet for **August** is available on the information table. Thank you!

Liturgy Propers
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Seven Youths (Sleepers) of Ephesus, Martyrs
Venerable St. Eudokia, Martyr
August 4, 2019
[Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom]
Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 7 (p. 156)
Kontakion of the Resurrection — Tone 7 (p. 157)
Prokiemenon — Tone 7 (p. 158)
EPISTLE:
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Alleluia — Tone 7 (p. 158)
GOSPEL:
Matthew 14:14-22
Communion Hymn "A" (p. 78)
[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]
CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Aug. 11...	9th Sunday after Pentecost Mother of God School 10 a.m. [Blessing of First Fruits]
Aug. 15...	Feast of the Dormition Mother of God School T.B.A.
Aug. 18...	10th Sunday after Pentecost Mother of God School 10 a.m. [Blessing of Flowers, Herbs, and Medicines]



Christ is among us!
(Christos posred'i nas!)
He is and shall be!
(Jest'i budet!)

Announcements

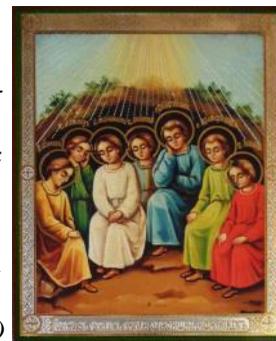
■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Ron Pytel for the blessed repose of +Anne Radko. *Vičnaja jej pamjať.*

"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, Anne, in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning."
— From the Litany for the Deceased

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, August 4, the Byzantine Church commemorates the martyrs the Seven Youths of Ephesus: SS. Maximilian, Dionisius, Amblicus, Martin, Antonin, John, and Marcell.

Commonly called the "Seven Sleepers of Ephesus," this group of Christian youths hid inside a cave outside the city of Ephesus around A.D. 250 to escape a persecution of Christians being conducted during the reign of the Roman emperor Decius. Another version says that Decius ordered them imprisoned in a closed cave to die there as punishment for being Christians.

Having fallen asleep inside the cave, they purportedly awoke approximately 180 years later during the reign of Theodosius II, following which they were reportedly seen by the people of the now



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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.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- 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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-Christian city before dying. Also commemorated on this date is the Venerable St. Eudokia, martyr.

■ **The Dormition Fast** – The fourth of four fasting periods during the liturgical year of the Byzantine Church began Thursday, 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.

The Mother of God was without sin. Therefore, she was always prepared during her life on earth for the journey to eternal life in heaven. Through a life of prayer and fasting she was prepared always to meet her Son upon her falling asleep. During the fast we prepare for a worthy life and happiness in heaven through prayer, repentance, and fasting in imitation of our Mother, the most pure Theotokos, that we might be prepared for death and a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ and to be worthy of eternal life.

Therefore, during August, the last month of the Church Year, we prepare in advance for the end of our lives.

The traditional rule for the Dormition Fast is a strict abstinence. The Ruthenian Metropolis has identified this period as a penitential season. The observance of this fast is voluntary; however, the Fridays during the fast remain days of penance.

■ **Feast of the Transfiguration** – On Tuesday, August 6, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration, in which we see Jesus as God, wonderfully "wrapped in light as in a robe." This event on Mt. Tabor is a window into the divinity of Jesus Christ, surrounded with

glory, intensely white. Nothing else could produce such brilliance. Jesus is God, and in His presence we worship in silence.

Once before, Moses and Elias (Elijah) worshipped God on this mount and in silence fell on their faces before Him. Here, now, however, they are speaking with Jesus. Let us, as disciples might, bask in the brightness of this mystery, begging our Savior God to reveal Himself more fully.

■ **Blessing of First Fruit** – In commemoration of the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ 6, there will be the blessing of first fruits of the post-festive day, Sunday, August 11. You are invited to bring fruits of the harvest for blessing and sharing, especially grapes and apples.

■ **Dormition Blessing** – The Feast of the Dormition (August 15) is a day of precept (obligation) for Byzantine Catholics. However, we will have the traditional blessing of flowers, herbs, and medicines at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 18. You are welcome to bring your flowers, herbs, and/or medicines for the blessing.

■ **Uniontown Pilgrimage** – Preparations are well underway for the 85th Annual Pilgrimage (*otrust*) to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. The Pilgrimage will take place beginning Friday, August 30, through and including Monday, September 2. You are once again cordially invited to be a part of this special event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church in the United States.

Throughout the centuries, Mary has been

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