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■ **Blessing of First Fruits** — 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 harvest on Sunday, August 7. You are invited to bring fruits of the harvest for blessing and sharing, especially grapes and apples.



■ **Blessing of Flowers, Herbs & Medicines** — In commemoration of the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Most Holy Theotokos on August 15, there will be a blessing of flowers, herbs, and medicines at the Divine Liturgy. Please note

upcoming bulletins for exact date and time for this Divine Liturgy and blessing. This feast is a day of precept (obligation) for all Byzantine Catholics.

■ **Uniontown Pilgrimage** — It's not too early to start planning for the Uniontown Pilgrimage (*otrust*) this coming Labor Day weekend.

This year marks the 82th Annual Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pilgrimage at Mount St. Marina. Visit www.sistersofstbasil.org for more information and updates.

■ **Seminary Choir Performance** — The Seminary Choir of Blessed Theodore Romzha Academy in Mukačevo, Ukraine, will perform a concert at St. Gregory of Nyssa Byzantine Catholic Church on Thursday, September 29, at 7 p.m. The concert will include selections from liturgical services and religious hymns in Old Church Slavonic. The seminarians will also visit a number of Byzantine Catholic parishes throughout the Northeast during their tour.

The sign-up sheet to assist with the setup for the month of July is now available on the information table. Thank you to all those who continue to provide assistance in setting up and taking down.

<i>Divine Liturgy Schedule</i>	
June 26	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
June 29	[Feast of SS. Peter & Paul] Mother of God School 7:30 pm.
July 3	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
July 10	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
July 17	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
July 24	Mother of God School 10 a.m. [Blessing of Wheeled Vehicles]

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered for the good intentions of the members of our Mission Community. *Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!*

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, June 26, the Byzantine Catholic Church commemorates our Venerable Father David, Hermit. Also known as David the Dendrite (? - 540), David the tree-dweller, and David of Thessalonika, he is a patron saint of Thessalonika and a renowned holy fool.

(A holy fool is a peculiar form of Eastern Orthodox asceticism, the holy fool is one who acts intentionally foolish in the eyes of men. The term implies behavior that is caused neither by mistake nor by feeble-mindedness, but is deliberate, irritating, even provocative.)

Originally from Mesopotamia, David became a monk at the Monastery of Saints Merkourios and Theodore outside Thessaloniki. Famed for his sound advice, he was hounded by crowds seeking words of wisdom and prayer. Wishing a quiet, contemplative life, David fled to the seclusion of an almond tree, where he lived for three years. He left the tree to petition the Byzantine emperor Justinian the Great in Constantinople to send soldiers to defend Thessaloniki from attack. David died in 540 as his ship was re-route to Macedonia. He is commemorated on June 26 by the Roman and Byzantine Catholic Churches and on July 17 by the Eastern Orthodox Church.

■ **Birth of St. John the Baptist/Mirovanije** — This past Friday, June 24, was the Solemn Feast of the Birth of the Holy Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist.

St. John was born of the righteous parents Elizabeth and Zachariah. Although old and barren, Eliza-

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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

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 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.

Liturgy Propers

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Our Venerable Father David, Hermit
June 26, 2016

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 5 (p. 146)

Kontakion of the Resurrection — Tone 5 (p. 147)

Prokiemenon — Tone 5 (p. 148)

Epistle: Romans 12:6-14

Alleluia — Tone 5 (p. 148)

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

Communion Hymn "A" (p. 78)

Fr. John G. Basarab, Celebrant

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

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

- Ron Pytel.
- Maggie and Robert Karam.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris Fejka.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Peggy Winkelmann.
- Laura Hinkle.
- Doran Coady.
- Ann Tracy.
- Travis Waters.
- Bertha Bergan.
- Arlene Kollar.
- David Chisarick.
- Jamee Kruse.
- Joseph and Nancy Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Ellen Sorensen.
- Tony Tworoski.
- Norman Dennis.
- Linda Oros.
- Jenelle Wagner.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Anita Rhinehart.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia and Peter Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.
- Beth Brackett.
- Lisa De Rosa.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Fr. Francis Martin.
- Sally Pekarik.



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

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beth came to be with child. Fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it a secret for five months. Then her cousin, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was first to greet the Most Holy Virgin Mary as Theotokos (God-bearer). St. John leaped in his mother's womb at the visit of the Theotokos and the Son of God incarnate within Her. This feast of St. John the Baptist was very popular in ancient times and throughout the Middle Ages in both the Eastern and Western Churches.

In commemoration of the feast, there will be distribution of blessed bread and anointing (*mirovanije*). All are welcome to receive blessed bread and anointing.

Christ is among us! He is and shall be!



■ **Apostles Fast & Divine Liturgy** – The Apostles Fast, which began on the day following the Sunday of All Saints, concludes this Tuesday, the eve of the Feast of the Prime Apostles, Peter and Paul.

The Feast of Peter and Paul, a day of precept (obligation) for the Byzantine Church, falls annually on June 29. Divine Liturgy for our Mission Community will be prayed on that day at 7:30 p.m. in the Mother of God School.

■ **Day of Penance** – Friday, July 1, is a day of simple abstinence in the Byzantine Church. One may abstain from meat or perform an appropriate act of penance.

Upcoming

■ **Painting and Praying with Icons** – A presentation titled "Painting and Praying with Icons" will be held July 10-13, at Priest Field Pastoral Center in Middleway, W.Va (just west of Charles Town).

The icons of the Eastern Churches are neither holy cards – as many Roman Catholics believe. Nor are they idols – as Evangelicals fear. Icons are the Sacred Scriptures communicated in Eastern Christendom "visually rather than verbally."

Learn how to communicate the Scriptures both verbally (storytelling or hagiography) and visually (iconography) during this practical skill-building seminar and prayerful retreat conducted by Robert Bela Wilhelm, Th.D., of the Hagerstown Byzantine Mission Community. Visit www.byzantinespirituality.org for more information.

■ **Slavic-American Festival in Harrisburg** – St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church in Harrisburg, Pa., will hold its annual Slavic-American Festival from noon until 9 p.m. on Sunday, July 17. The parish is located at 5408 Locust Lane in Harrisburg. For more information, call 717-652-1415 or visit StAnnByz.org.

■ **Blessing of Vehicles** – Wheeled vehicles (cars, trucks, bicycles, etc.) will be blessed on Sunday, July 24, following Divine Liturgy in commemoration of the Feast of St. Elias, which falls annually on July 20.

Last Week's Liturgy

June 19, 2016

Attendance: 30 Souls