

Upcoming

■ **Forgiveness Sunday** — To properly begin our Great Fast journey to Pascha, we should ask forgiveness from others for our offenses to them. In turn, we should ask forgiveness from them for our offenses. At the end of Divine Liturgy on February 7 (Forgiveness/Cheesefare Sunday), we will do so by participating in the Rite of Forgiveness.

■ **Great Fast 2016** — The first full day of the Great Fast will be Monday, February 8.

■ **The Tammies Are Back** — During February 2016, Duquesne University's Tamburitzans will perform at these three area venues:

- Annandale, Virginia: 7 p.m., Saturday, February 13, at the Ernst Theatre/Northern Virginia Community College.
- Rockville, Maryland: 2 p.m., Sunday, February 14, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.
- Shepherdstown, West Virginia: 8 p.m., Saturday, February 20, at the Frank Center Theatre/Shepherd University.

The "Tammies," America's longest-running, multi-cultural song and dance company, is a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists dedicated to the performance and preservation of the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. The performers are full-time students who receive substantial scholarship awards from Du-

Last Week's Liturgy

January 17, 2016

Attendance: 35 Souls

quesne University, with additional financial aid provided by Tamburitzans Scholarship Endowment Funds.

For more information, including ticket purchasing information, visit <http://www.duq.edu/life-at-duquesne/tamburitzans>.

SOCIAL HOUR TODAY
Please Join Us!

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Jan. 24*	Our Lady's Chapel Goshen House 10 a.m.
Jan. 31	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 7	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 14	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 21	Mother of God School 10 a.m.

- Social Hour scheduled.

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Our Venerable Mother Xenia

January 24, 2016

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 2 (page 130)

Kontakion of the Prodigal Son - Tone 3 (page 216)

Prokiemenon - Tone 2 (page 132)

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Alleluia - Tone 2 (page 132)

GOSPEL: Luke 15:11-32

Communion Hymn (pages 78-81)

Fr. Lee Gross, Celebrant

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Lou and Marie Shanks for the blessed repose of Joyce Oxley. May her memory be eternal. *Vičnaja jej 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 Sunday of the Prodigal Son, the third of the five pre-Great Fast Sundays.

The Gospel lesson for today presents us with a young man who, against his father's advice, had taken all of his possessions, wasted them through foolishness, resorted to tending pigs in order to make a living, and found himself sharing the food they refused to eat.

Today, we are challenged to come to ourselves and see what we must do in order to return to the house of God our Father. Jesus Christ assures us beyond all doubt that our heavenly Father will run to greet us. He will come and kiss us and, with great jubilation, open up the eternal festival of His Kingdom to us. But, we must first see ourselves as we are, see what we must do, and return home to our Father.

On this date, January 24, the Byzantine Church

commemorates our venerable mother Xenia who was born in Rome, the only daughter of an eminent Roman senator. Wishing to avoid the marriage arranged for her by her parents, she secretly left home with two of her slaves.

Originally named Eusebia, she now took the name

(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*

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.

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

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 Tworkoski.
- Norman Dennis.
- Andrea Haba.
- Linda Oros.
- Johanna Klema.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Noah Kent.
- Anita Rhinehart.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Peter Minihane.
- Dee Kissell.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Fr. Francis Martin.



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

(Continued from a previous page.)

Xenia. She caught a ship to Mylasa on the island of Kos, where she started a community for virgins, remaining there in asceticism until her death. Because of her virtuousness, charity, and humility, she was soon made a deaconess. She helped all, and counted herself as the worst of sinners. She would often spend days and nights standing in prayer, and fasting.

When she died, a sign appeared above the monastery; a wreath of stars encircling a cross, shining brighter than the sun. The slave girls, who followed Xenia's example in everything, asked to be buried at her feet when they died. Many people are said to have been cured when touching the relics of Xenia, in faith.

■ **Day of Penance** — Friday, January 29 is prescribed as a day of penance. One may abstain from meat and meat products or one may perform an act of penance in place of abstinence.

■ **All Souls Hramoty** — There are five All Souls Saturdays during the liturgical year of the Byzantine Church on which we pray the Divine Liturgy and remember our faithful departed by name.

The first All Souls Saturday this year is January 30. If you wish to add any names to the list of persons remembered in your family, known as "diptychs" or "hramoty," please use the appropriate envelop in your offertory envelope box. Place the envelope in the Sunday collection with the list of names you wish to add along with your offering for their remembrance.

New mission members should list the members of those they wish remembered on the reverse side of the envelop. It is also per-

DIVINE LITURGIES

NOTE: Because the Mother of God School is sponsoring an open house today, we are having Divine Liturgy in Our Lady's Chapel in the Goshen House. We will need assistance transporting our liturgical items back to the Mother of God School following today's liturgy. Also, the sign-up sheet for liturgy setup for February is now available.

Thank you to all those who continue to lend a hand for setup and takedown.

missible to simply list "all the departed of the (your family name) family" rather than each person by name.

If you wish to update, delete, or add new names, please contact the Parish Office during office hours. Hramoty envelops must be received on or **before January 28** to be remembered at all five All Souls Saturdays.

■ **Bishop's Appeal Goal Met** — Our Mission Community has met its \$6,000 goal for our eparchy's annual Bishop's Appeal. Because we met our goal, we will receive a 40% rebate on our contribution.

A prayerful thank you to all who contributed to this yearly appeal that helps fund the day-to-day operations of our eparchy as well as special needs and programs.

■ **Food Pantry: More Than Food** — In addition to canned and dry foods, the Food Pantry Program takes manufacturers' coupons and sealed personal toiletries. The number of households seeking assistance from the program continues to rise. Please support our mission's ministry to the area's working poor.