

■ **Lenten Dinners** – Lenten dinners sponsored by Epiphany–Annandale Parish will be served during the Friday’s of Lent. Take-out begins at 4 p.m. Eat-in dinners begin at 5 p.m. Food service ends at 7 p.m. so that individuals may attend the Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts at 7:30 p.m. No Lenten dinners are served on Holy and Great Friday.

*Upcoming*

■ **Willows Needed** – On Palm Sunday it is the tradition of Slavic Byzantine and Orthodox Churches to bless both palms and pussy willows. If you can provide willows, please let Lou Shanks know. Palm Sunday this year falls on March 20. We also need individuals to bundle the palms and willows.

The sign-up sheet for liturgy setup for March is now available.  
Thank you to all those who continue to lend a hand for setup and takedown.

| Divine Liturgy Schedule |                                                                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb. 28                 | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.                                    |
| Mar. 6                  | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.                                    |
| Mar. 13                 | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.                                    |
| Mar. 20                 | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.<br>[Blessing of Palms and Willows] |

*Last Week’s Liturgy*  
**February 14, 2014**  
Attendance: 38 Souls

■ **Kielbassa Orders** – The kielbasa orders have been collected. Please watch upcoming bulletins for delivery information. Direct any questions to Tonja Siemucha.

**Social Hour** – We need volunteers to organize a social hour following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 28. If you can be of assistance (either providing refreshments or setting up), see Marie Shanks.

Welcome visitors and guests.

*Liturgy Propers*  
**Second Sunday of the Great Fast**  
**(Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas)**  
**Our Venerable Father Timothy, Hermit**  
**Our Holy Father Eustacius**  
**February 21, 2016**  
**Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**  
Typica and Beatitudes (beginning page 16)  
[in place of Sunday Antiphons]  
Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 6 (page 152)  
Kontakion of the Second Sunday - Tone 4 (page 222)  
Prokiemenon - Tone 5 (page 223)  
**EPISTLE: Hebrews 1:10-2:3**  
Alleluia - Tone 6 (page 153)  
**GOSPEL: Mark 2:1-12**  
“In You, O Woman Full of Grace (p.102)  
[in place of “It is truly proper...”]  
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 Marie’s parents, +Charles and +Mary Oros. May their memory be eternal. *Vičnaja pamjať.*

*“O God of sprits 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 servants 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 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.

Once again we 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 co-operating 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, February 21, the Byzantine Church commemorates our Venerable Father Timothy, Hermit, and our Holy Father Eustacius, Archbishop of Antioch, who assisted at the Ecumenical Council of Nicea. He contended against the Arians by word and pen. He died about A.D. 337, during the reign of Emperor Constantine the Great.

*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.
- 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.



## 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

## The Holy and Great Fast

■ **The 40 Days** — The 40 days of the Great Fast (Lent) for the Byzantine Church symbolize the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert, while the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is the fulfillment of the promise of manna.

In the Great Fast, we imitate Jesus our Lord, Who fasted for 40 days in the desert following His baptism. The Feast of Pascha was also the time for baptisms, and 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.

■ **Abstinence/Fasting** — The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat but allows the use of eggs and dairy products. All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain. Abstinence is observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays during the season of the Great Fast.

The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products. All of the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe strict abstinence. Strict abstinence is to be observed on the first full day of the Great Fast (February 8) and on Holy and Great Friday (March 25). Pastors and administrators, for just cause, may grant to the individual faithful and to individual families dispensations or commutations of abstinence and strict abstinence into other pious practices.

■ **Liturgy of St. Basil the Great** — It has become the norm in countries evangelized from Constantinople, or that came under its influence for any considerable period, to pray the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom as

the normal liturgy of the Byzantine Church throughout the year.

However, the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is also used — 10 times a year: The five Sundays of Great Lent (Palm Sunday is not considered by the Orthodox and Eastern Catholics to be part of Lent); Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday; on the Eves of Nativity (Christmas) and Theophany (Epiphany); and on the feast day of St. Basil (January 1 for the Byzantine-Ruthenian Church).

The Liturgy as it is currently celebrated in the Byzantine Rite is very similar to the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom — the primary differences being the prayers said by the priest. In addition, in the Byzantine-Ruthenian Church, the Sunday Antiphons are replaced by the Typica and Beatitudes and "It is truly proper..." is replaced by "In You, O Woman, Full of Grace." In general, the prayers of St. Basil are more penitential, and therefore lend themselves to the Church's liturgical preparation for important holy days; hence, their use during Great Lent and on the eves of Nativity and Theophany (both of which are days of fasting).

The elements of both the St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great liturgies are provided in the green liturgy books.

■ **Lenten Services** — There are no Lenten services scheduled for our mission except for Holy and Great Friday on March 25 at 7:30 p.m. Please avail yourself of Lenten services at Epiphany-Annandale (see schedule in bulletin) or St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville (call 301-953-9323).

*Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
have mercy on me, a sinner!*

The Jesus Prayer