

Of Special Note

Any 2016 Graduates? – If you or someone in your family will be graduating from high school, college, etc., this coming May or June, please notify Marie Shanks or Rick Neimiller so that the individuals can be included in an upcoming bulletin and remembered at Divine Liturgy.

AmazonSmile and Our Seminary – Consider using AmazonSmile for you next online purchases. When using AmazonSmile you are helping our Byzantine Catholic Seminary to receive a small contribution based on the price of your purchases at no additional cost to you. Items are priced the same as on the regular Amazon site. Log on to <https://smile.amazon.com> and follow the prompts for any purchase you wish to make.

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council
Postfestive of the Feast of the Ascension
Holy and Glorious Apostle and Evangelist John
Venerable Father Arsenius the Greek
Blessed Venerable Mother Miriam Teresa Demjanovich
May 8, 2016
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Antiphons and Entrance Hymn for the Ascension (p. 196)
Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 6 (p. 197)
Troparion of the Ascension — Tone 4 (p. 198)
Kontakion of the Feast — Tones 8 (p. 199)
Prokiemenon — Tone 4 (p. 200)
New Testament Reading: Acts 20:16-18 & 28-31
Alleluia — Tone 1 (p. 200)
Gospel: John 17:1-13
Magnification and Irmos (p. 200)
[in place of “It is truly proper...”]
Communion Hymn (p. 168-169)
Fr. Lee Gross, Celebrant
[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Blessed Venerable Mother
Miriam Teresa Demjanovich

Today is the feast day appointed for Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich. Born March 26, 1901, in Bayonne, N.J., the daughter of Greek Catholic immigrants from Bardejov and Zabava in present-day Slovakia, she was baptized, chrismated, and communicated at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Bayonne and ascribed as a member of the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church.



She attended public schools, graduating from Bayonne High School in January 1917. She graduated summa cum laude from the College of St. Elizabeth in 1923. Following graduation, Teresa accepted a teaching position at the Academy of St. Aloysius in Jersey City. Since high school she desired to enter a contemplative religious order. After the death of her parents, for whom she cared, she chose to enter the order who ran the college she attended, the Sisters of Charity, and took the name Miriam Teresa after the Empress Maria Theresa of Austro-Hungary, who was responsible for the protection and promotion of the Eparchy of Mukachevo.

Sister Miriam Teresa, at the direction of her spiritual director, wrote a series of conferences that were published after her death as the book titled *Greater Perfection*. On May 8, 1927, she died, at age 26, following an operation for appendicitis. The miracle attributed to her was the restoration of sight to a New Jersey boy suffering from loss of sight due to macular degeneration.

The sign-up sheet for liturgy setup for May is available on the information table. Thank you to all those who continue to lend a hand for setup and takedown.

Divine Liturgy Schedule

May 15	[Feast of Pentecost] Mother of God School 10 a.m.
May 22	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
May 29	Mother of God School 10 a.m.

Announcements

Today’s Liturgy Intention – Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered by Andy Haba for the blessed repose of +Andrea, +John, +Anna, +George, +Ellen, +Edward, +George Jr., +Andrew John, and +Janet Haba; and Mark Nickerson. *Vičnaja jemu 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, the Byzantine Catholic Church commemorates the more than 300 Fathers who participated in the First Nicene Council. Today is also a post-festive day of the Feast of the Ascension, which was observed this past Thursday.

The First Ecumenical Council, held in Nicea in 325 in the reign of Constantine the Great, was summoned to remove the confusion that Arius, an Alexandrian priest, had created by his false teaching. He had been spreading the teaching that Christ was created from God in time, and that he is not the pre-eternal Son of God, equal in being with God the Father. The council condemned the Arian teaching and anathematized Arius when he would not repent. This council also definitively confirmed the Symbol of Faith (the Creed), which was later amplified at the Second Ecumenical Council. In addition, the council also confirmed the time of the celebration of Pascha.

Also Commemorated Today – Commemorated on this date, May 8, is St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, beloved of Jesus, who labored much in preaching the Gospel and was alone of the Twelve Apostles who did not forsake the Savior in the hour of His Passion. He wrote a Gospel supplementary to the three other Gospels, three Epistles, and the mysterious Book of the Apocalypse (Book of Revelation).

Having lived 102 years, he died in the reign of

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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.

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.
- 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.



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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the Emperor Trajan. He was the only one of The Twelve that did not suffer a martyr's death.

Also commemorated on this date is our Venerable Father Arsenius the Greek, who was tutor to the two sons of the Emperor Theodosius. He declined all worldly honor and retired into the desert in Lower Egypt. He died at the age of 95 in A.D. 450.

■ **Mother's Day** — Today is observed as Mother's Day on the secular calendar. Let us pray that God will strengthen and protect all our living mothers and grandmothers and will grant peaceful repose to all our mothers and grandmothers departed.

■ **Mirovanije** — In commemoration of the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord this past Thursday, there will be anointing (*mirovanije*) and distribution of blessed bread at the close of today's Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to receive the anointing and blessed bread. *Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

In Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox theology, the Ascension of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is interpreted as the culmination of the Mystery of the Incarnation, in that it not only marked the completion of Jesus' physical presence among his apostles, but consummated the union of God and man when Jesus ascended in his glorified human body to sit at the right hand of God the Father. The Ascension and the Transfiguration both figure prominently in the Eastern Christian doctrine of theosis (<http://orthodoxwiki.org/Theosis>). The bodily Ascension into heaven is also understood as the final token of Christ's two natures: divine and human.

■ **Days of Penance** — Fridays resume as Days of Penance, that is, we abstain from meat, or we do an equivalent penitential act or an act of charity.

Upcoming

■ **Next Sunday: Pentecost** — Next Sunday, May 15, is the Feast of Pentecost. It is a Slavic custom to wear the color green on this Great Feast to symbolize the growth of the new Church as well as to decorate church sanctuaries with the boughs of linden trees, which have heart-shaped leaves. Slavs traditionally believed that the Holy Spirit resides in the heart of each of us.

In the Roman Church and some Protestant traditions it is common for the priest/minister and altar to be vested in red to symbolize the tongues of fire that descended on that first Pentecost.

■ **Apostles Fast & Feast** — The Apostles Fast begins on the day following the Sunday of All Saints and concludes on the eve of the Feast of the Prime Apostles, Peter and Paul.

A fasting period of variable length, for 2016 the fast is observed this year from May 23 through June 28. Observance of the fast is voluntary, but all Fridays during this period remain days of penance (abstinence from meat products).

The Feast of Peter and Paul, a day of precept (obligation) for the Byzantine Church, falls annually on June 29.

Last Week's Liturgy

May 1, 2016

Attendance: 20 Souls