

(Continued from a previous page.)

Life for details and instructions.

Note: Pledges/payments must be sent directly to the Eparchy and checks must be made out to “Eparchy of Passaic.” Please see Vince Kovalick with questions. Our goal once again is \$6,000. Also, as last year, if our Mission Community reaches the goal, we will receive a reversion of 40% of donations sent to the chan-cery. Watch upcoming bulletins for a progress report regarding our Mission Community’s donations.

■ **Food Pantry** — Remember our Mission Community’s ministry to the unfortunate of our area through the local Food Pantry pro-

gram, administered by St. Martin Roman Catholic Church, Gaithersburg, which is al-ways in great need of nonperishable foods, ba-by food and supplies, and personal hygiene items. Hunger never takes a vacation or holi-day.

Upcoming

■ **Christmas Divine Liturgy** — Divine Litur-gy for the Nativity of Our Lord is tentatively scheduled to be celebrated with a vigil Divine Liturgy at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 24, in Our Lady’s Chapel in the Goshen House. There will be no Liturgy celebrated on Christ-mas Day, Sunday, December 25.

The sign-up sheet to assist with the setup for the Sundays in December and Christmas Eve is available on the information table. Thank you to all those who continue to provide assistance in setting up and taking down.

Liturgy Propers

Twenty-Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

St. Barbara, Great Martyr

Our Venerable Father St. John Damascene

December 4, 2016

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 4 (p. 141)

Kontakion of the Resurrection — Tone 4 (p. 141)

Prokiemenon — Tone 4 (p. 142)

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16

Alleluia — Tone 4 (p. 142)

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

Communion Hymn [Psalm 148:1] (p. 78-81)

Fr. Lee Gross, Celebrant

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Dec. 4	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Dec. 11	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Dec. 18	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Dec. 24	Christmas Vigil Divine Liturgy Our Lady’s Chapel, Goshen House 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 25	[No Liturgy at the Mission]

Last Week’s Liturgy

November 27, 2016

Attendance: 27 Souls

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered by Elizabeth and Claire Keyes for the blessed repose of John Diamond. *Vičnaja jemu pamjaf.*

“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 servant 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 Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, De-cember 4, the Byzantine Church commemorates the Great-Martyr Barbara, who endured death A.D. 290 during the reign of Diocletian and Maximus, emper-ors.



Also commemo-rated is our Vener-able Father St. John Damascene, a Doctor of the Church, who was born in Syria, edu-cated by St. Co-mas, succeeded his father as the Ca-liph’s Vizier. He distributed his possessions among the poor and re-tired to a monas-tery of St. Sabbas in Jerusalem.

Laboring and writing much, he championed the Faith against the Iconoclast Emperor Leo the Isaurian and was sentenced to have his right hand cut off. It was miraculously restored by Our Blessed Lady. By him was composed the beautiful “Canon of the Res-urrection.” He lived to be 104 years old and died in the second half of the 8th century.

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 Freder-ick County, and adjoining areas.

We celebrate our faith...

in a diverse community. We welcome all, regard-less 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.
- Doris Fejka.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- 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.
- Norman Dennis.
- Linda Oros.
- Jenelle Wagner.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Anita Rhinehart.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia and Peter Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

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



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

■ **Christmas Fast** — Philip's (or Christmas) Fast began at sundown on November 14, the Feast of St. Philip, and runs 40 days until Christmas Eve.

The Christmas Fast offers several feasts: the Entrance of the Mother of God in the Temple, November 21; Saint Nicholas, December 6; Conception of Saint Ann (Immaculate Conception), December 8; two special commemoration Sundays before Christmas; and several aliturgical days, which are days when the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated, usually on the day of an Old Testament prophet to recall that the prophets and people of the Old Testament time waited for the coming of the Messiah.

Fridays remain as days of penance and in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States the other fasting prescriptions of the Christmas Fast are left to the ability of the individual.

This fast was introduced to prepare the Church for a worthy celebration of the great and holy days of Christ's birth and Christ's baptism in the Jordan.

■ **The Darr Mine Disaster and St. Nicholas** — On December 19, 1907, a tremendous explosion shook the Youghiogheny River Valley, killing 239 men and boys at the Darr Mine in Van Meter, Westmoreland County, in Western Pennsylvania.

The death toll would have been far worse had those workers who were Byzantine Catholics been in the mine also. That day (Old Calendar) was the Feast of St. Nicholas and the Byzantine Catholic workers were taking the day without pay to attend the local church. A video about the disaster was produced by WQED-TV, Pittsburgh, and can be accessed at www.wqed.org/tv/watch/onq/darr-mine-disaster.

■ **The Real Santa Clause** — Annually on December 6, the Byzantine Church commemorates our Holy Father, St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, and patron of all Byzantine Catholics.

So, just who is St. Nicholas? To uncover the real story behind "Santa Claus," go to www.stnicholascenter.org/r

■ **Ask a Priest** — Fr. Dr. Vasyl Chepelskyy, is Administrator of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, Lansford, Pa., and St. Mary Church, Nesquehoning, Pa. Fr. Vasyl holds a doctorate in Moral Theology and is a professor of Theology at DeSales University, Allentown, Pa. If you have a question on theology, spirituality, the sacraments, morality, Church history, or the lives of the saints, you may contact Fr. Vasyl and he will answer it or direct it to one of the priests of our eparchy expert in that topic. You can submit your question by e-mail: stjohnpastor@ptd.net or on the wall of or by private message through Facebook: *SaintJohntheBaptistByzantineCatholicChurch*.

■ **Address for Fr. Conan** — If you wish to send a card to Fr. Conan Timoney, address it to him c/o University of Maryland Rehabilitation & Orthopedics Institute, Room G721, 2200 Kernan Dr., Baltimore, MD 21207. If you are also interested in stopping by to see Father, he can receive visitors after 4:30 p.m. each day until 8:30 p.m.

■ **Bishop's Appeal** — The Bishop's Appeal for the Eparchy of Passaic has begun. Please watch your mailbox, access the eparchy's website, or see the latest issue of *Eastern Catholic*

(continued on following page)