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ple’s differing schedules. No registration or materials needed, just show up. Questions, please call Fr Lewis at 570-573-1565.

Upcoming

- **“Tammies” Return** — The Tamburitians (Tammies) will perform at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville on Saturday, February 18, 2017, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
The “Tammies,” America’s longest-running multicultural song and dance company, is a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists from the Pittsburgh area dedicated to the performance and preservation of the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures.
For ticket information, call 240-314-8690. For more information about the Tamburitians, visit www.thetamburitians.org/.

- **Great Fast Begins** — The first full day of the Great Fast is Monday, February 27. At the close of Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 26 (Cheesefare Sunday), we will pray the Rite of Forgiveness, during which we ask for forgiveness from one another. Cheesefare Sunday is also known as Forgiveness Sunday.



- **Holy Images Blessing** — As is our tradition, we will bless icons and other religious items on the First Sunday of the Great Fast, March 5, also known as the Sunday of Orthodoxy (True Worship) marking the restoration of the icons to the churches on March 11, 843, following the suppression of the Iconoclastic heresy.

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

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
St. Agatha, Martyr
February 5, 2017
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 5 (p. 146)
Kontakion of the Publican & Pharisee – Tone 3 (p. 215)
Prokiemenon — Tone 5 (p. 148)
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Alleluia — Tone 5 (p. 148)
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14
Communion Hymn (p. 78)
Celebrant: Fr. Lee Gross

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Divine Liturgy Schedule	
Feb. 12	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 19	[Sunday of Meatfare] Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 26	[Sunday of Cheesefare/ Forgiveness Sunday] Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Mar. 5	[First Sunday of Great Fast/ Blessing of Holy Images] Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Mar. 12	Mother of God School 10 a.m. [Daylight Saving Time]

Announcements

- **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered for the blessed repose of +Anthony Spin by Andy Haba. May his memory be eternal.
“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 Publican and Pharisee, the second of our Church’s five pre-Lenten Sundays.
Commemorated on this date, February 5, is St. Agatha, who suffered death in prison A.D. 250. Among the tortures this martyr endured was the cutting off of her breasts. In recent years, she has been considered the patron saint of those suffering from breast cancer.
- **Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee** — The Gospel reading for this Sunday is taken from Luke 18:10-14. Two men went to the temple to pray. The Pharisee was actually a very religious man. He fasted, prayed, and gave away ten percent of his goods. Yet he boasted about his accomplishments and, as a result, his prayers were rejected by God. The Publican, on the other hand, was truly evil, a genuine sinner. However, he sought to make a change in his life by confessing his sinfulness and begging God for mercy. Consequently, he was justified and accepted by God.
Like the Pharisee, we too are filled with pride and boastfulness. Unlike the Publican, we often refuse to acknowledge our sinfulness, confess it, and beg for mercy. On this Sunday we take a deeper look inward, to search the depths of our souls and to beg for mercy. We are called, through our vision of Jesus Christ, to acknowledge our sins and to fall before the face of God in repentance, making the publican’s prayer our own: “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!”

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 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.
- Doris Fejka.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Christine and Norman 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.
- Linda Oros.
- Jenelle Wagner.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- 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

■ *Mirovaniye/Feast of the Encounter* —

There will be anointing (*mirovaniye*) and distribution of blessed bread at the close of today's Liturgy in commemoration of the Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna this past Thursday. All are welcome to receive anointing and blessed bread.

This feast, which was first celebrated in the Christian East, falls yearly on February 2 and brings to a close the 40 days of Christmastide. In the West, the feast is known as the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. It is also referred to as Candlemas, as on this day candles were blessed. This tradition is still carried on in the Roman Church.

■ *Abstinence Free* — The week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is free from fasting or abstinence. It is not by coincidence that the Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic Churches do not fast the week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Pharisee prided himself on his twice-weekly fasting. To guard against the danger of comparing ourselves to others (and favorably at that) the Church says: Don't fast. Instead on this coming Wednesday and Friday, recall this Gospel text and remember the humility of the Son of God who became man.

■ *Fr. Conan* — According to Patronage's bulletin, Fr. Conan Timoney's rehabilitation is progressing to the point where he is able to move around in the house with his wheelchair. (An outdoor wheelchair lift was recently installed.) Father started rehab to strengthen his leg muscles, and he intends to regularly celebrate Sunday Divine Liturgy. Father thanks all who visited, prayed for his recovery, and kept the parish moving in a prayerful manner.

■ *All Souls Saturdays* — If you would like to have a deceased individual or individuals remembered during the five All Souls Saturdays observed by the Byzantine Church during the liturgical year, please list their names and place them in the All Souls envelope found in your envelop packet, along with the requested donation, and place it in the collection basket. The envelopes will be forwarded to Epiphany-Annandale. You may specify particular names or just a family name (e.g., the deceased members of the Smith Family). The first All Souls Saturday for 2017 falls on February 18.

■ *Food Pantry* — Please participate in our Mission Community's ministry to the unfortunate of our area through the local Food Pantry program, administered by St. Martin Roman Catholic Church, Gaithersburg, which is always in great need of nonperishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items. Hunger never takes a vacation or holiday.

Of Educational Note

■ *Adult Education Class* — Fr. Lewis Raybada is conducting an Adult Education Class at St. Gregory of Nyssa, 12420 Old Gunpowder Spur Rd., Beltsville. Topic is "The Early Church: From the Resurrection of Christ to Catholicism" on February 1, 8, 15, & 22 at both 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. to accommodate for peo-

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Last Week's Liturgy

January 29, 2017

Attendance: 15 Souls