

■ **Lenten Services** — There are no Lenten services scheduled for our mission except for Holy and Great Friday on April 14 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 (301-953-9323 or stgregorynyssa.net).

Of Special Note

■ ***Update on Fr. Conan*** — According to last Sunday's bulletin for Patronage Church, Fr. Conan is doing rehab three times a week to strengthen his leg muscles and is progressing well. Volunteers from Ascension Church are proving transportation to and from rehab. Father also started hand therapy to strengthen his grip. Thanks to all who visited, prayed for his recovery, and kept the parish moving in a prayerful manner.

■ **Kolbassi Orders** — Tonja Siemucha is taking orders today for kolbassi. Order sheets are available on the information table. The delivery date is yet to be determined but will be at least one week before Easter. If you have questions, please see Tonja.

■ ***Lenten Meatless Meals*** – Epiphany Church-Annandale will again sponsor meatless meals on the Fridays during Lent (March 3

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Mar. 19	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Mar. 26	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Apr. 2	Mother of God School 10 a.m.

to April 7). Takeout orders can be picked up between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dining in begins at 5 p.m. and runs until 7 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy follows at 7:30 p.m.

■ **Food Festival at Patronage** — Mark your calendar for Patronage of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church's spring food festival on April 8. Watch upcoming bulletins for more details.

■ ***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.

Liturgy Propers

Second Sunday of Great Lent
Venerable Father and Confessor Theophane
Our Holy Father Gregory the Great, Pope of Rome
March 12, 2017

Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Typica and Beatitudes

[in place of Sunday Antiphons]

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 2 (p. 130)

Kontakion of the Second Sunday — Tone 4 (p. 222)

Prokiemenon of the Second Sunday — Tone 5 (p. 223)

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10 & 32-12:2

Alleluia of the Resurrection — Tone 2 (p. 132)

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

"In You, O Woman Full of Grace (p. 102)

[in place of “It is truly proper...”]

Communion Hymn "A" (p. 78)

Celebrants: Fr. Lee Gross

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 Lou's parents, +Alma and +Thomas. May their memories be eternal.

"O God of spirits 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

■ *Second Sunday of the Great Fast* — Today in the Byzantine Church 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 cooperating 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.

■ *Today's Commemorations* — On this date, March 12, we commemorate our Venerable Father and Confessor Theophane of Syngria, who was banished by the Emperor Leo the Armenian for his stand against the Iconoclasts at the Second Council of Nicea A.D. 787. He died in exile A.D. 818 bound and starved to death.

Also commemorated is our Holy Father Gregory the Great, Pope of Rome, who probably composed

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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
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 Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Sorensen.
- Tony Tworoko-
- Linda Oros.
- Jenelle Wag-
- Mike Di-
- Robert Kreger.
- Robert Di-
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia and Peter Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.



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Ellen

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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

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the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts for the Eastern Churches. He died A.D. 604 in the reign of Emperor Phocas.

The Holy and Great Fast

■ **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 "Basil" 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.

■ **The Great Fast Has Begun** — The 40-day Great Fast (Lent) for the Byzantine Church symbolizes 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 Guidelines** — 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 27) and on Holy and Great Friday (April 14). 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.

Last Week's Liturgy

March 5, 2017

Attendance: 34 Souls