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cycle is sung on the seventh day of the festival, called Hoshana Rabbah (Great Hosanna).

“Hosanna” was the shout of praise or adoration made in recognition of the Messiahship of Jesus on his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” It is used in the same way in Christian worship, especially on Palm Sunday, which commemorates that event.

■ **Prayerful Thank You** — Our prayers of appreciation go out to Andy Haba and Tom Klimkosky for providing the pussy willows and to Tonja Siemucha for bundling them with the palms.

■ **Pascha Liturgy/Blessing of Baskets** — Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Pascha) and blessing of Easter foods will be prayed next Sunday at 10 a.m.

Welcome to our visitors and guests
who are praying with us today.

Divine Liturgy Schedule	
Apr. 14	Solemn Vespers for Holy and Great Friday Mother of God School 7:30 p.m.
Apr. 16	Pascha (Easter) Mother of God School 10 a.m. Blessing of Paschal Foods
Apr. 23	Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Apr. 30	Mother of God School 10 a.m.

■ **Food Pantry** — 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, is always in great need of nonperishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items.

If you need to properly dispose of last year’s palms and willows, please bring them to Vespers on Holy and Great Friday securely wrapped in newspaper. Blessed palms and willows are considered sacramentals and therefore should not be disposed of in the household refuse.

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

Liturgy Propers	
Flowery (Palm) Sunday	
Our Lord’s Journey into Jerusalem	
April 9, 2017	
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom	
Opening Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy” (p.56)	
Antiphons for Palm Sunday (p. 235)	
Entrance Hymn for Palm Sunday (p. 237)	
Troparion of Lazarus — Tone 1 (p. 236)	
Troparion of Palm Sunday — Tone 4 (p. 237)	
Kontakion of Palm Sunday — Tone 6 (p. 238)	
Prokiemenon — Tone 4 (p. 239)	
Epistle: Phillipians 4:4-9	
Alleluia — Tone 1 (p. 239)	
Gospel: John 12:1-18	
Exaltation and Irmos for Palm Sunday (p. 239)	
Communion Hymn (p. 241)	
Celebrant Fr. Lee Gross	
PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK	

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered for the good intentions of the members of our Mission Community. *Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na v’iki!*

■ **Palm Sunday** — Today is the commemoration of the Journey of Our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, known more commonly as Palm Sunday, although the Slavs traditionally refer to it as Flowery Sunday. Palms and pussy willows will be blessed and distributed at the beginning of today’s Divine Liturgy.

In John’s account of the Gospel, the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is reduced to the essentials, within the chronological framework of what had happened during the past few days: the anointing of Jesus’ feet by Mary; the hypocritical reaction of Judas, who witnessed the scene; the resolve of the priests to have Jesus “removed”; the procession of the palms; the incomprehension of the disciples who would grasp only later the significance of the event; and the concourse of the people emotionally stirred up by the resurrection of Lazarus. All this was to bring the hostility of the religious leaders to a head. In their minds, Jesus was already condemned.

In addition to the blessing of palms and willows in commemoration of our Lord’s journey into Jerusalem, we will have anointing (*mirovaniye*) and distribution of blessed bread. All are welcome to receive blessed palms/willows, anointing, and blessed bread.

■ **Holy and Great Week** — During this upcoming week, the most solemn of the Church Year, we re-live the mystery of God’s merciful loving-kindness, when He suffered death and burial for our salvation, and is risen for our hope of eternal life. During Holy Week, we do not only observe what happened in history, but through our acts of repentance, our prayers and

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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

- Michael Maffett.
- 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

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fasting, and our processions and veneration, we take an active part in what is happening now through divine remembrance. We die in Christ and rise in the fullness of life.

■ **The Passion of the Lord** — By the word "passion," we refer to all the sufferings and humiliations our Lord underwent on Holy and Great Friday. In our time, "passion" generally has a positive sense: it refers to some strong emotional drive or energy. But in the early Church, and even today among Christian theologians and spiritual writers, this word is much more complicated.

To the Church Fathers, the "passions" were precisely what one suffered — and not only physically. A desire is passionate precisely to the extent that it drives us and renders us unable to control our lives. It is in this sense that we as Christians are urged to master our passions, rather than letting them master us. In doing so, by God's gift we regain the inner freedom of the children of God, which was forfeited by the sin of our first parents.

Another word we hear on Holy Friday is long-suffering, which might perhaps be translated as "enduring patience" or "steadfast endurance." Our Lord, to an unimaginable degree, not only suffered for our faults, but did so without complaint, in obedience to the will of his Father, and out of love for us.

On this day, before each Gospel reading, we sing *Glory to your Passion, O Lord!* and after each, we sing: *Glory to your long-suffering, O Lord!*

■ **Fasting During Holy Week** — During Holy and Great Week the Byzantine Church prescribes a fast from meat on Holy Wednesday, a

strict fast from meat and dairy on Holy Friday, and by tradition, a fasting from meat on Holy Saturday. In celebration of the Resurrection, from Pascha, on April 16, through April 22 (Bright Week) there is no fasting.

■ **Vespers for Holy and Great Friday** — There are no Holy Week services scheduled for our mission except for Holy and Great Friday on April 14 at 7:30 p.m. Please avail yourself of services at Epiphany-Annandale (see schedule in bulletin) or St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville (301-953-9323 or stgregorynyssa.net).

Because the Mother of God Community will not be having their Saturday Easter Vigil Mass, we will be able to prepare our space for Sunday Pascha Liturgy and Easter basket blessing following our Great Friday Vespers. Please consider remaining for a few minutes to help us make that change. Also, you are welcome to bring flowers for Friday evening and/or Sunday morning.

■ **Hosanna!** — We sing "Hosanna" several times during every Divine Liturgy and especially on this day, Palm Sunday. But what does the word mean?

In a liturgical context, it refers to a cry expressing an appeal for divine help. For Jews, the word is applied specifically to the Hoshana Service, a cycle of prayers from which a selection is sung each morning during Sukkot, the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles. The complete

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Last Week's Liturgy

April 3, 2017

Attendance: 23 Souls