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States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings.

■ **Sunday Offerings for June** — Sunday offerings for the month of June were \$1,070, \$485, \$830, and \$890 for June 4, 11, 18, and 25, respectively. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

■ **Pray for Our Suffering Church** — Many Christian clergy, religious, and laity have been killed by Islamic radicals. Please pray for all those afflicted by these barbaric acts and for

Divine Liturgy Schedule

July 23	Mother of God School [Blessing of Vehicles] 10 a.m. (Fr. Alexei)
July 30	Our Lady's Chapel/Goshen House 10 a.m. (Fr. Alexei)

Liturgy Propers

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
SS. Trophimus, Theophilus & Others with Them
St. Apollynarius, Priest-Martyr
July 23, 2017
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Troparion — Tone 6 (p. 152)
Kontakion — Tone 6 (p. 152)
Prokiemenon — Tone 6 (p. 153)
Epistle: Romans 15:1-7
Alleluia — Tone 6 (p. 153)
Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35
Communion Hymn (p. 78-81)
Celebrant: Fr. Alexei Michalenko
PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

the conversion and forgiveness of the perpetrators. *Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!*

■ **Who Is Mary Magdalene?** — Mary Magdalene was a disciple of Jesus from Magdala, a town in Galilee. Her feast was celebrated yesterday, July 22, but she is also remembered on the Sunday of Myrrh-Bearing Women.

Among Mary Magdalene's titles is "Apostle to the Apostles." Although the Apostles proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the whole world, it was Mary who proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the Apostles themselves.

She is often confused other women of the New Testament. However, she is not Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, who anointed Jesus' head; nor is she the prostitute who anointed Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair. These two Mary's understandably are confused for her, and unfortunately in the West are lumped together under Mary Magdalene's name — a confusion continued in *The Last Temptation of Christ*, *The Da Vinci Code*, and other works.

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

In the Liturgy we pray "for those who serve and have served in this holy church."
Until the happy day when we have our own temple (grant it, O Lord!),
we will need men and women
to help with setup and takedown.

Signup sheets for **July and August**
are available on the information table.
Thank you!

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Elizabeth and Claire Keyes and Marion Kniska for the health and physical well being of Cecilia Danish.

"O Lord Jesus Christ... We beseech You, look mercifully upon her and in Your great love grant her relief from her pain... that restored to the vigor of health, she may serve You faithfully and gratefully all her life and become heir of Your kingdom, for You are the physician of our souls and bodies, O Christ..."

— St. John Chrysostom

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today is the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. On this date, July 23, we commemorate SS. Trophimus, Theophilus and others with them who suffered martyrdom by beheading about A.D. 302 during the reign of Diocletian, Emperor.

Also commemorated today is St. Apollynaris, Priest-Martyr, who was appointed first Bishop of Ravenna by St. Peter. He died in the reign of Vespasian, Emperor A.D. 79.

■ **Thank You, Fr. Alexei** — A prayerful thank you to Fr. Alexei Michalenko, who is praying the Divine Liturgy with us today and next Sunday during Fr. Lee's recovery.

■ **Today: Blessing of Vehicles** — Wheeled vehicles (cars, trucks, bicycles, etc.) will be blessed at the close of today's Divine Liturgy in commemoration of the Feast of St. Elias, which falls annually on July 20.

Elias was a prophet of the Old Testament who lived in the ninth century before the Coming of Jesus Christ. The Troparion of his feast calls him "a pillar of prophets, and the second Forerunner of the coming of Christ."

Because, as Scripture tells us, he was taken to heaven in a fiery chariot, the Jewish people felt that he did not die as mortals do and that some day

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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.
- Raymond Klimkosky.

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.
- Linda Oros.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

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



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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he would return to earth to "restore the tribes of Israel" (Ecclesiastes 48:10).

Icons depicting Elias usually show him in a chariot drawn by fiery horses heading heavenward and his cloak or mantle falling earthward into the outstretched arms of Elisha his companion and disciple, signifying the transfer of his power and authority of a prophet. To learn about Elias and the miraculous events that surrounded him, read Kings I and Kings II.

■ **Day of Penance** — In commemoration Friday, July 28, is prescribed by the Byzantine Church as a day of penance. One may fast from meat/meat products or perform an appropriate act of penance.

■ **Dormition Fast** — The fourth of four fasting periods during the liturgical year of the Byzantine Church begins Tuesday, August 1. The Dormition Fast is observed each year from August 1 to 14, the eve of the Feast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Theotokos.

The Mother of God was without sin. Therefore, she was always prepared during her life on earth for the journey to eternal life in heaven. Through a life of prayer and fasting she was prepared always to meet her Son upon her falling asleep.

During the Dormition Fast, we prepare for a worthy life and happiness in heaven through prayer, repentance, and fasting in imitation of our Mother, the most pure Theotokos, that we

Last Week's Liturgy

July 16, 2017

Attendance: 26 Souls

might be prepared for death and a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ and to be worthy of eternal life. Therefore, during August, the last month of the Byzantine Church Year, we prepare in advance for the end of our lives.

■ **Transfiguration/Blessing of First Fruits** — In commemoration of the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ on August 6, there will be the blessing of first fruits of the harvest. You are invited to bring fruits of the harvest for blessing and sharing, especially grapes and apples

■ **Uniontown 'Otpust'** — The 83rd Annual Pilgrimage (otpusť) in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held September 2 & 3.

The pilgrimage has been held every Labor Day weekend since 1934. It was that year that the Sisters and pilgrims celebrated the blessing of the then newly acquired Monastery for the Sisters. In 1935, Pope Pius XI gifted the Sisters with a beautiful icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help requesting that they spread devotion to the Theotokos under that title.

The Pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country.

The Pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling.

The Pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United

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