

■ **Smithsonian Religious Exhibit** — The National Museum of American History has opened a new exhibition, “Religion in Early America,” which celebrates the free exercise of religion eventually codified in the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution. The exhibit contains items from various faiths from the 1630s to the 1840s. The Catholic display includes the iron cross made of ballast beams forged by the blacksmith for the Catholic colony of Maryland in 1634. Also attracting attention is the chalice used by Archbishop John Carroll, S.J., the first Catholic bishop of the

United States and cousin of Charles Carroll, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence. The chalice is unique in that it disassembles to be made into a saddle bell. Such chalices were used by Catholic priests when Catholicism was persecuted in English Colonial America.

The exhibition runs until June 3, 2018. It can be viewed online at americanhistory.si.edu/religion-in-early-america.

“We used to hate and destroy
one another and refused
to associate with people
of another race or country.
Now, because of Christ,
we live together with such people
and pray for our enemies.”

St. Justin Martyr
A.D. 150



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 sheet for **September**
is now available on the information table.
Thank you!

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered for the blessed repose of +Elizabeth and +Joseph Zelloe by Joni (Zelloe) and Vince Kovalick. *Vičnaja pamjat’.*

“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

■ **Today’s Commemorations** — Today is the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Commemorated on this date, September 3, is the Priest-Martyr St. Anthimus, Bishop of Nicodema, where he was martyred A.D. 303 under the Emperor Diocletian. Also commemorated is our Venerable Father Theoktistus, Co-faster with Euthymius the Great, who died A.D. 431.

■ **Happy New Year!** — September 1 marked the beginning (Indiction) of the Church Year for the Byzantine Catholic Church. The first great feasts of the liturgical year are the Nativity of the Theotokos on September 8 and Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 21.

■ **Friday: Birth of the Theotokos** — The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament; however, information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the *Book of James* or *Protevangelion*. According to this book, Mary’s parents, Joachim and Anna, were childless for many years. They remained faithful to God, but their prayers for a child were unanswered. One day, when Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest, who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, Joachim retreated to the hill country to live among the shepherds. As Joachim was praying, his wife Anna was

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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.
- 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."

Psalm 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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praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. An angel appeared to both of them and announced that Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. Anna promised to offer her child as a gift to the Lord. Joachim returned home, and in due time Anna bore a daughter, Mary, whose name would be known throughout the world.

■ **Middle Eastern Food Festival** — The annual Middle Eastern Food Festival sponsored by Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek Catholic Church in McLean, Va., continues today from 12 noon until 6 p.m. on the parish grounds. For more details, go to <https://middleeastern foodfestival.com/festival/>.

■ **Day of Abstinence** — Friday, September 8, is a day of simple abstinence in the Byzantine Church. One may abstain from meat or perform an appropriate act of penance.

■ **Slavic-American Festival** — Information regarding Epiphany's annual Slavic-American Day on September 10 can be accessed through the website: www.slavicamericanfestival.com.

■ **Byzantine Catholic Seminary** — The seminary in Pittsburgh seeks to raise \$39,200. Needs for this accredited institution are: upgrading outdoor lighting for safety; making a first-floor bathroom handicapped accessible; replacing the worn set of red vestments and altar covers for the chapel; "pointing" the joints in the Indi-

ana limestone of the chapel; faculty research and development; and adding to the seminary's dividend-yielding reserves, which are mandated by the terms of the accreditation. Visit www.bcs.edu for more information.

■ **Uniontown Receives 2017 Grant** — (SOAR, Support our Aging Religious) gave a grant to the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great to repair and upgrade an elevator at Mount St. Macrina.

SOAR was formed by concerned Catholics in 1986 to help care for aging monastics and religious. For information about SOAR and how you can help, visit www.soarusa.org.

■ **Bell Tower Tour** — The Basilica of the National Shrine will open the Knights of Columbus Bell Tower to the public on the feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, September 8, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The last time the Tower was open to the public was September 8, 2013, for the 50th anniversary of the tower's dedication.

There are no tickets or reservations for the tour; visitors are permitted on a first-come basis. Visitors must be able to ascend the 85 steps to the tower elevator so participants must be in good health. Further, those who are claustrophobic or would have anxiety being in an elevator are advised not to participate. Children are permitted, but parents are reminded about the restrictions for strollers. Food and drink are not permitted. Bags, suitcases, camera cases, large purses or other bulky items are not permitted. Photography is allowed, but tripods are not permitted. Prohibited items cannot be stored. Please leave the items in your vehicle or leave them at home.

Last Week's Liturgy

August 27, 2017

Attendance: 20 Souls