

■ **Ask a Priest** — Fr. Dr. Vasyl Chepelskyy, is Administrator of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, Lansford, Pa., and St. Mary Church, Nesquehoning, Pa. Fr. Vasyl holds a doctorate in Moral Theology and is a professor of Theology at DeSalles University, Allentown, Pa. If you have a question on theology, spirituality, the sacraments, morality, Church history, or the lives of the saints, you may contact Fr. Vasyl and he will answer it or direct it to one of the priests of our eparchy expert in that topic. You can submit your question by e-mail: stjohnpastor@ptd.net.

■ **“Tammies” To Return** — Pittsburgh’s internationally renowned Tamburitzans (Tammies) will return to our area on Saturday, February 10 (Rockville) and Sunday, February 11 (Annandale). The Tammies’ mission is preserve the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. For more details, including a promotional video highlighting last year’s performances, go to www.thetamburitzans.org

Last Week’s Liturgy

November 12, 2017

Attendance: 17 Souls

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Nov. 26...

Mother of God School
10 a.m.

Nov. 30...

Immaculate Conception
Chapel, Mount St. Mary,
Emmitsburg, Md., 4 p.m.

Dec. 3...

Mother of God School
10 a.m.

■ **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. 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 U.S. 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 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 welcome our visitors and guests..

Liturgy Propers

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

St. Obadiah, Prophet

St. Barlam, Martyr

November 19, 2017

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 7 (p. 156)

Kontakion of the Resurrection — Tone 7 (p. 157)

Prokiemenon — Tone 7 (p. 158)

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Alleluia — Tone 7 (p. 158)

Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

Communion Hymn for Sunday: Psalm 148:1A (p. 78)

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

[Page numbers refer to green Liturgy pew book.]

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered by Andy Haba for the blessed repose of +Mark Nickerson and +Andrea Haba-Gose. *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 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. Commemorated on this date is St. Obadiah, one of the Twelve Minor Prophets having lived in the ninth century B.C. Also commemorated is St. Barlam, martyr. He was a pious peasant who was imprisoned and tortured for the Faith at Antioch A.D. 340 during the persecution under Diocletian and Galerius, emperors.

■ **Change in Liturgy Propers** — Because we are now in a fasting period, there is a slight change in the Divine Liturgy propers. The First and Second Typical Psalms (pp. 16-17) replace the First and Second Antiphons. In addition, The Beatitudes (pp. 23-24) replace the Third Antiphon.

■ **Philip’s Fast Begins** — Philip’s (or the Christmas or Winter) Fast began at sundown on Tuesday, November 14, the Feast of St. Philip, and runs 40 days until Christmas Eve.

The Philppian Fast offers several feasts: the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple, November 21; St. Nicholas, December 6; Maternity of St. Anna (Immaculate Conception), December 8; two special commemoration Sundays before Christmas; and several aliturgical days, which are days when the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated. These aliturgical are, usually on the day of an Old Testament prophet to recall that the prophets and people of the Old Testa-

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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.
- 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."

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

(Continued from a previous page.)

ment time waited for the coming of the Messiah. Fridays remain as days of penance and in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States the other fasting prescriptions of the Christmas Fast are left to the ability of the individual. This fast was introduced to prepare the Church for a worthy celebration of the great and holy days of Christ's birth and Christ's baptism in the Jordan.

■ **Feast of the Presentation** — The Feast of the Entrance (Presentation) of the Theotokos into the Temple is observed annually by the Byzantine Church on November 21. The history of this feast is found mostly in apocryphal works, particularly the *Protoevangel of St. James*.

According to the narrative, St. Anna, after an angel informed her that she was at last to bear a child, vowed to offer this child to the Lord. At the age of three, Mary, accordingly was brought to the Temple to be dedicated to the Lord.

The epistle reading for the feast (Hebrews 9:1-7) is oriented in that direction. Just as the High Priest of the Jews entered the sanctuary once a year to offer the blood of expiation for himself and for the sins of the people, Christ himself would once and for all enter the Tabernacle on high with His own blood for He is our High Priest.

At Matins on this feast, the first liturgical hint of Christmas is to be heard in the singing of the Christmas Canon (Katavasia): *Christ is born, glorify Him! Christ is from heaven, receive Him!*

■ **Divine Liturgy at Mount St. Mary** — The Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Holy and Glorious Apostle St. Andrew will again be cel-

ebrated at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, at 4 p.m. on November 30, the feast of the Apostle.

Fr. Lee will concelebrate the Liturgy with various Byzantine Catholic clergy. The Seminary Schola (choir) will lead the responses, and several seminarians will assist at the altar. All are welcome to attend.

■ **Christmas Liturgy** — The Divine Liturgy schedule for Christmas is as follows. Liturgy for Sunday, December 24 will be celebrated on Saturday, December 23, at 5:30 p.m. in Our Lady's Chapel in the Goshen House. Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity will be celebrated on Sunday, December 24, also at 5:30 and in Our Lady's Chapel. There will be no Divine Liturgy celebrated on Christmas Day at the Mission.

■ **Bishop's Annual Appeal 2017** — Mission members have received a letter from Bishop Kurt with a pledge/donation card and more information. Please return card with you check made out to the Eparchy of Passaic to 445 Lackawanna Ave., Woodland Park, NJ 07424. You can also pledge online. Go to www.eparchyofpassaic.com. Our goal for this year is once again \$6,000. Questions, see Vince Kovalick.

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 the month of **December** is available on the information table.

Thank you!