

■ **Bishop's Appeal Coming to a Close** — The Bishop's Appeal for the Eparchy of Passaic will conclude at the end of this month. Please access the eparchy's website or see the latest issue of Eastern Catholic Life for details and instructions. Note: Pledges/payments must be sent directly to the Eparchy and checks must be made out to "Eparchy of Passaic." Please see Vince Kovalick with questions. Our goal once again is \$6,000. Also, as last year, if our Mission Community reaches the goal, we will receive a reversion of 40% of donations sent to the chancery office.

Welcome Visitors and Guests

Last Week's Liturgy

December 3, 2017

Attendance: 18 Souls

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Dec. 10... Mother of God School
10 a.m.

Dec. 17... Mother of God School
10 a.m.

Dec. 24 & Christmas Liturgies...

- ◆ 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 p.m. and in Our Lady's Chapel.
- ◆ There will be no Divine Liturgy celebrated on Christmas Day at the Mission.

O who loves Nicholas the Saintly,
O who loves Nicholas the Saintly.
Him will Nicholas receive,
and give help in time of need.
Nicholas, Nicholas.

O kto, kto Nikolaja l'ubit,
O kto, kto Nikolaja sluzhit,

:Tomu svjatyj Nikolaj
Na vsjakij chas pomahaj,
Nikolaj, Nikolaj.:

Liturgy Propers

Twenty-Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
SS. Mennas, Hermogenes, and Eugegraphus, Martyrs
December 10, 2017
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Opening Hymn: "O Come, O, Come Emmanuel"

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

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

Prokiemenon — Tone 2(p. 132)

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17

Alleluia — Tone 2 (p. 132)

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

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

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

[Page numbers refer to green Liturgy pew book.]

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) replaces the Third Antiphon.

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Mike Hamas for the blessed repose of his wife, +Theresia Maria. *Vičnaja jej 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 servant 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-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. Commemorated on this date, December 10, are the martyrs SS. Mennas, Hermogenes, and Eugegraphus, who were tortured and beheaded during the reign of the emperors Maximian and Diocletian A.D. 304 for spreading Christianity in Egypt.

■ **Mirvanije** — In commemoration of the feasts of St. Nicholas this past Wednesday and the Maternity of the Holy Anna this past Friday, there will be anointing (*mirovanije*) today. All are welcome to receive anointing and blessed bread.

Christ is among us! (Christos posred'i nas!)

He is and shall be! (Jest' i budet!)

■ **The Holy Supper: Christmas in the Carpatho-Rusyn Tradition** — The Carpatho-Rusyn people maintain a wide variety of customs associated with all the holidays of the year, but few of them are as elaborate or as eagerly awaited as those associated with the Feast of the Nativity of Jesus Christ.

The entire drama of events associated with Christmas is made present in the Rusyn home by the observance of the Christmas Eve Holy Supper (*Svjatyj Vecer / Veliija*). The custom of the Holy Supper



is observed wherever Rusyns live, but

(Continued on a following page.)

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."

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

(Continued from a previous page.)

variations in customs and foods served at the meal are found from region to region, village to village, even among different families. These variations testify to the richness of the Rusyn culture, but in the unity of a tradition kept by all Rusyns.

To find out more about observing the Christmas Eve Holy Supper, go to www.wirnowski.com/Carp/Nat_HolyNight.html

■ **The True Santa Claus** — Annually on December 6, the Byzantine Church commemorates its patron, our Holy Father, St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia. So, just who is St. Nicholas? To uncover the real story behind "Santa Claus," go to www.stnicholascenter.org/ to find out more.

■ **St. Nicholas and the Darr Mine Explosion** — On December 19, 1907, a tremendous explosion shook the Youghiogheny River Valley, killing 239 men and boys at the Darr Mine in Van Meter, Westmoreland County, in Western Pennsylvania.

The death toll would have been far worse had those workers who were Byzantine Catholics been in the mine also. That day (Old Calendar) was the Feast of St. Nicholas and the Byzantine Catholic workers were taking the day without pay to attend the local church.

A video about the disaster was produced by WQED-TV, Pittsburgh, and can be accessed at <https://www.wqed.org/tv/watch/experience/darr-mine-disaster-0>.

Food Pantry — Remember 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.

■ **Philip's Fast** — 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 on the two 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 Testament 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.

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

Thank you!