

(Continued from a previous page.)

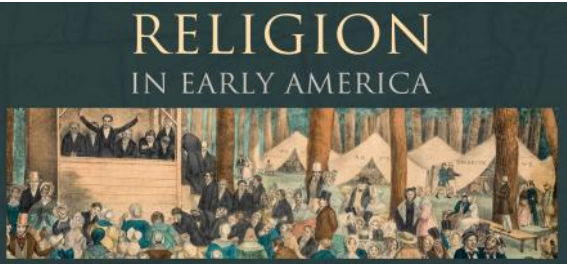
serve the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. For more details, including a promotional video highlighting last year’s performances, go to www.thetamburitzans.org/.

■ **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.



Last Week’s Liturgy

January 14, 2018
15 Souls

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee
Our Venerable Father Maximus, Confessor
St. Neophitis, Martyr
SS. Eugene, Canidius, Valerian & Aquilas
January 21, 2018
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 8 (p. 161)
Kontakion of the Publican and Pharisee — Tone 3 (p. 215)
Prokiemenon of the Resurrection — Tone 8 (p. 162)
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Alleluia of the Resurrection — Tone 8 (p. 163)
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14
Communion Hymn: Psalm 148:1 (p. 78)
CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS
[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Jan. 21...	Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Jan. 28...	Sunday of the Prodigal Son Our Lady’s Chapel Goshen House 10 a.m.
Feb. 4...	Meatfare Sunday Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Feb. 11...	Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness) Mother of God School 10 a.m.

Announcements

■ **Today’s Liturgy Intention** — Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered by Rick Neimiller for the deceased members of the Neimiller and Hartle families. Eternal memory. *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 in the Byzantine Church is the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee, the second of our Church’s five pre-Lenten Sundays. The Gospel reading for this Sunday is taken from Luke 18:10-14.

Two men went to the temple to pray. The Pharisee was actually a very religious man. He fasted, prayed, and gave away ten percent of his goods. Yet he boasted about his accomplishments and, as a result, his prayers were rejected by God. The Publican, on the other hand, was truly evil, a genuine sinner. However, he sought to make a change in his life by confessing his sinfulness and begging God for mercy. Consequently, he was justified and accepted by God.

Like the Pharisee, we too are filled with pride and boastfulness. Unlike the Publican, we often refuse to acknowledge our sinfulness, confess it, and beg for mercy. On this Sunday we take a deeper look inward, to search the depths of our souls and to beg for mercy. We are called, through our vision of Jesus Christ, to acknowledge our sins and to fall before the face of God in repentance, making the publican’s prayer our own: “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!”

On this date, January 21, we commemorate our Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor; the Holy Martyr Neophyte; the Holy Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian, and Aquila; and the Holy Virgin Martyr Agnes of Rome.

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

■ **Abstinence Free Week** — The week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is free from fasting or abstinence. It is not by coincidence that the Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic Churches do not fast the week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Pharisee prided himself on his twice-weekly fasting. To guard against the danger of comparing ourselves to others (and favorably at that) the Church says: Don't fast. Instead, on this coming Wednesday and Friday, recall this Gospel text and remember the humility of the Son of God who became man.

■ **All Souls Saturdays** — If you would like to have a deceased individual or individuals remembered during the five All Souls Saturdays observed by the Byzantine Church during the liturgical year, please list their names and place them in the All Souls envelope found in your envelop packet, along with the requested donation, and place it in the collection basket. The envelopes will be forwarded to Epiphany-Anandale. You may specify particular names or just a family name (e.g., the deceased members of the Smith Family). The first All Souls Saturday for 2018 falls on February 3.

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 **February**
are available on the information table.

Thank you!

■ **Great Fast Begins** — The first full day of the Great Fast is Monday, February 12. At the close of Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 11 (Cheesefare Sunday), we will pray the Rite of Forgiveness, during which we ask for forgiveness from one another. Cheesefare Sunday is also known as Forgiveness Sunday.

■ **Holy Images Blessing** — As is our tradition, we will bless personal icons and other religious items on the First Sunday of the Great Fast, February 18, also known as the Sunday of Orthodoxy (True Worship), which marks the restoration of the icons to the churches on March 11, 843, following the suppression of the Iconoclastic heresy.



■ **Thank You, James!** — A prayerful thank you from our Mission Community to high school student James Radko for his meticulous proposal for the building of our own church.

■ **Pascha Meats** — If there is enough interest, Tonja Siemucha will again coordinate the delivery of Pascha meats. If you are interested in purchasing, please see Tonja during the next few weeks. Delivery would be around Palm Sunday. The meats would once again come from a butcher shop near Clearfield, Pa.

■ **"Tammies" To Return** — Pittsburgh's internationally renowned Tamburitians (Tammies) will return to our area on Saturday, February 10 (Rockville) and Sunday, February 11 (Annandale). The Tammies' mission is pre-

(continued on following page)