

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

■ *Exhibit of Repairs to Holy Sepulchre* — The “Tomb of Christ” exhibit at the National Geographic Museum details the restorations recently completed to the edicule, which contains and protects the empty tomb of Jesus Christ, at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

Visitors to the museum are shown stunning 3-D and virtual reality views of the Jerusalem and the church in iterations throughout time and what it looks like today following the restorations. The exhibit runs to August 15, 2018. For more information, go to www.nationalgeographic.org/dc/exhibitions/tomb-of-christ.

■ *Daily E-Mail Prayers* — Eastern Christian Publications, supplier of our Sunday bulletin covers, is now offering its daily e-mail prayer service for Morning and Evening Prayer, The Hours (1st, 3rd, 6th, 9th), and Daily Vespers (not Sundays or feast days) for **free**. Go to <http://ecpubs.com/byzantine-daily-office-bdo/> to sign up. This subscription includes all the changeable parts you need according to the our liturgical calendar in various PDF files viewable on any portable device.

■ *Holy Purity* — The Road to Purity helps men and women resist pornography and challenges to purity. Their pamphlet bears the imprimatur of Archbishop Samuel Aquila of Denver. The organization is motivated by the verse in Genesis: “God created Man in his own image... male and female He created them.” Visit www.roadtopurity.com.

Last Week’s Liturgy

January 21, 2018
21 Souls

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Our Venerable Father Ephrem, Prophet of the Syrians
January 28, 2018
Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 1 (p. 125)
Kontakion of the Prodigal Son — Tone 3 (p. 216)
Prokiemenon of the Resurrection — Tone 1 (p. 127)
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Alleluia of the Resurrection — Tone 1 (p. 167)
Gospel: Luke 15:11-32
Communion Hymn: Psalm 148:1 (p. 78)
CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS
[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

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 Prodigal Son, the third of our five pre-Lenten Sundays.

The Gospel lesson for today presents us with a young man who, against his father’s advice, had taken all of his possessions, wasted them through foolishness, resorted to tending pigs in order to make a living, and found himself sharing the food they refused to eat.

Today, we are challenged to come to ourselves and see what we must do in order to return to the house of God our Father. Jesus Christ assures us beyond all doubt that our heavenly Father will run to greet us. He will come and kiss us and, with great jubilation, open up the eternal festival of His Kingdom to us. But, we must first see ourselves as we are, see what we must do, and return home to our Father.

On this date, January 28, one of the saints we commemorate is our Venerable Father Ephraem (Ephrem), known as “Prophet of the Syrians and an instrument of the Holy Spirit,” who was a great orator, exegete, and defensor of Orthodoxy. He died about A.D. 373 as a Deacon.

■ *Abstinence* — As each Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord, each Friday is a commemoration of Holy and Great Friday and is observed with penance. One may abstain from meat or instead offer prayer of charitable works as our penance.

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

■ **Feast of the Encounter** — This coming Friday is the Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna. This feast, which was first celebrated in the Christian East, falls yearly on February 2 and brings to a close the 40 days of Christmastide. In the West, the feast is known as the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. It is also referred to as Candlemas, as on this day candles were blessed. This tradition is still carried on in the Latin Church.

■ **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-Annandale. 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.

■ **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

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!

(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.



■ **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 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.thetamburitians.org/.