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Gaithersburg, is always in great need of non-perishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items. Hunger never takes a vacation or holiday.

■ **Online: God With Us Seminars** — Interested in learning more about your faith as expressed through the Byzantine/Eastern Christian tradition? Join us for live webinars, all offered free of charge. Webinars open 30 minutes ahead of time for questions and pre-class discussion. Detailed information and registration instructions are at <http://easterncatholic.org/>



Divine Liturgy Schedule

Sept. 22...	15th Sunday after Pentecost Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Sept. 29...	16th Sunday after Pentecost Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Oct. 6...	17th Sunday after Pentecost Mother of God School 10 a.m.
Oct. 13...	Sunday of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Councils Mother of God School 10 a.m.

... But grant, O Lord, peace, love and speedy reconciliation to Your people whom You have redeemed with Your precious blood. Make your presence known to those who have turned away from You and do not seek You, so that none of them may be lost, but all may be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, so that everyone, in true love and harmony, O long-suffering Lord, may praise Your all holy Name.
Amen.

In the Liturgy we pray “for those who serve and have served in this holy church.” For now, we still need men and women to help with liturgy setup and takedown.

The signup sheet for the remainder of **September** is available on the information table.

Thank you!

Liturgy Propers

Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross St. Nicetas, Great Martyr

September 15, 2019
[Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom]
Antiphons of the Exaltation (p. 253)
Third Antiphon and Entrance Hymn (p. 259)
Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 1 (p. 125)
Troparion of the Cross – Tone 1 (p. 254)
Kontakion of the Cross – Tone 4 (p. 255)
We Bow to Your Cross (p. 33)
[in place of “Holy God”]
Prokeimenon – Tone 7 (p. 260)
EPISTLE: Galatians 2:16–20
Alleluia – Tone 1 (p. 260)
GOSPEL: Mark 8:34–9:1
Magnification and Irmos (p. 256)
Communion Hymn (pp. 78 & 258)
[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]
CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS



Christ is among us!
(Christos posred'i nas!)
He is and shall be!
(Jest'i budet!)

Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Rosemary Chisarick for the blessed repose of her husband, +Andy. *Vičnaja jemu pamjaf.*

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

— Revelation 21:4 (NKJV / OSB)

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today we observe the Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross. On this feast we honor the Holy Cross by which Christ redeemed the world.

The public veneration of the Cross of Christ originated in the fourth century, according to early accounts. The miraculous discovery of the cross on September 14, 326, by Saint Helen, mother of Constantine, while she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, is the origin of the tradition of celebrating the feast on September 14. Constantine later built the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of her discovery of the cross.

On this same pilgrimage she ordered two other churches built: one in Bethlehem near the Grotto of the Nativity, the other on the Mount of the Ascension, near Jerusalem.

In the Western Church, the feast came into prominence in the seventh century — after 629, when the Byzantine emperor Heraclitus restored the Holy

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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 for 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

- Jeff Sesok.
- Ron Pytel.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris and Rich Fejka.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Delores Moldowan.
- Mary Neimiller.
- Yazmine Nickerson.
- 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 and Doris Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot.
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Conan Timoney.
- Fr. Lee Gross.
- Deacon Peter Turko.

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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Cross to Jerusalem, after defeating the Persians, who had stolen it.

Christians "exalt" (raise on high) the Cross of Christ as the instrument of our salvation. Adoration of the Cross is, thus, adoration of Jesus Christ, the God Man, who suffered and died on this Roman instrument of torture for our redemption from sin and death. The cross represents the One Sacrifice by which Jesus, obedient even unto death, accomplished our salvation. The cross is a symbolic summary of the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ — all in one image.

■ **Commemorated Today: St. Nicetas** — Nicetas is a Christian martyr of the 4th century, venerated particularly in the Russian Orthodox Church.



A Gothic soldier, Nicetas lived in the Danube region at the margins of the Byzantine Empire. Presumably, he received his Greek name on the occasion of his baptism by the Gothic bishop Theophilus, a participant in the

First Ecumenical Council.

Pagan Goths began to oppose the spread of Christianity, which resulted in internecine strife. Nicetas fought in the Gothic civil war between the pagan Athanaric and the Christian Fritigern. After the defeat of Athanaric and after the invention of Gothic alphabets by Ulfilas, Nicetas worked intensely among the Goths. He was condemned to the stake in A.D.372.

It is said that the devil, shaped as an angel, induced Nicetas to sacrifice to the pagan gods for saving his life. Nicetas, however, put him to flight by means of prayer and assisted by the Archangel Michael. His body was buried in Cilicia, and later transferred to Constantinople.

In Greece, Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, and Cyprus there are several churches and monasteries named after St. Nicetas. He is prayed to for the preservation of children from birth defects.

■ **Mirovanije** — In commemoration of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, there will be anointing (*mirovanije*) and distribution of blessed bread at today's Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to receive anointing and the blessed bread. *Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

Upcoming Events

■ **Divine Liturgy at Mount St. Mary** — This year, the annual Divine Liturgy at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg will take place on the Feast of St. Josephat, Tuesday, November 12. Please watch upcoming bulletins for more information.

■ **Patronage Festival** — Fr. Conan and the parishioners of Patronage of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church in Arbutus (Baltimore) invite you to their annual fall festival scheduled for Saturday, November 23. More details to follow.

Evangelization

■ **Food Pantry** — Our Mission Community's ministry to the unfortunate of our area through the local Food Pantry program, administered by St. Martin Roman Catholic Church,

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