

(Continued from a preceding page.)

can also pledge online. Go to *www.eparchy-ofpassaic.com*. Every year since our community began participating in the appeal, we have either met or exceeded our goal. Monies over our goal are returned for religious education.

■ **Eastern Catholic Radio** — Eastern Catholic Radio is a 24/7 internet radio station broadcast through *Live365.com*. Programing consists of continuous Eastern Christian Church music and selections from Western Christianity. We also broadcast daily prayers, church services, sermons, podcasts, inspirational talk radio, and lectures. Lecture series produced by OLTV and Eastern Christian Publications are heard daily as well as “Light of the East,” featuring Father Thomas Loya.

Eastern Catholic Radio is a production of Eastern Catholic Broadcasting, a media Apostolate affiliated with the Byzantine Catholic

Eparchy of Passaic. With the permission of Bishop Kurt Burnette, the apostolate was founded in 2014 at Saint Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church in New Brunswick, N.J., and Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Somerset, N.J., by Fr. Francis Rella.

The ministry began as weekly broadcasts of the Sunday Divine Liturgy and the production of multiple videos for the Eparchy, including a full-length documentary titled “A Time for Living.” The media ministry continues with funding from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Toms River, N.J., and private donations.

For the past 10 months, Eastern Catholic Radio has beta-tested the station, without any formal advertising and publicity. So far, over 250,000 listeners have tuned in to Eastern Catholic Radio from around the world. The easiest way to listen to Eastern Catholic Radio is through the free *Live365 app* or on your computer or smartphone at *www.easterncatholicbroadcasting.com* or *Live365.com*.



Christ is among us!

(Christos posred'i nas!)

He is and shall be!

(Jest'i budet!)

Announcements

■ **Today's Divine Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered by Joni and Vince Kovalick for the blessed repose of +Elizabeth and +Joseph Zelloe, Joni's parents. May their memories be eternal.

“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 in the Byzantine Church is the Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. It is also the Maternity of St. Anna, known as the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in the Roman Church. The Byzantine Church has been celebrating this feast since the 6th century.

St. Joachim was of the tribe of Judah, and a descendant of King David. Anna was the daughter of Matthan the priest, of the tribe of Levi as was Aaron the High Priest. Matthan had three daughters: Mary, Zoia, and Anna. Mary was married in Bethlehem and bore Salome; Zoia was also married in Bethlehem and bore Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Forerunner; and Anna was married in Nazareth to Joachim, and in old age gave birth to Mary, the most holy Mother of God.

Joachim and Anna had been married for 50 years, and were barren. They lived devoutly and quietly, using only a third of their income for themselves and giving a third to the poor and a third to the Temple,

(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 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.

Divine Liturgy Schedule

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Dec. 15... | Sunday of the Forefathers
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |
| Dec. 22... | Sunday before Christmas /
Sunday of the Holy
Ancestors
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |
| Dec. 24... | Christmas Eve Divine
Liturgy (Obligation)
Our Lady's Chapel, Goshen
House
5:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 29... | Sunday after Christmas
Mother of God School
10 a.m. |

Liturgy Propers

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Feast of the Maternity of St. Anna

December 8, 2019

[Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom]

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 1 (p. 125)

Troparion of the Maternity – Tone 4 (p. 277)

Kontakion of the Maternity – Tone 4 (p. 278)

Prokeimenon – Tone 4 (p. 278)

EPISTLES: Ephesians 5:9–19 / Galatians 4:22–31

Alleluia – Tone 1 (p. 279)

GOSPEL: Luke 17:12–19 / Luke 8:16–21

Magnification/Irmos [instead of “It is truly proper” (p. 279)]

Communion Hymn (p.78 & p. 280)

[PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

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."

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.)

and they were well provided for. Once, when they were already old and were in Jerusalem to offer sacrifice to God, the High Priest, Issachar, upbraided Joachim: "You are not worthy to offer sacrifice with those childless hands." Others who had children jostled Joachim, thrusting him back as unworthy. This caused great grief to the two aged souls, and they went home with very heavy hearts.

Then the two of them gave themselves to prayer to God that He would work in them the wonder that He had worked in Abraham and Sarah, and give them a child to comfort their old age. God sent them His angel, who gave them tidings of the birth of "a daughter most blessed, by whom all the nations of the earth will be blessed, and through whom will come the salvation of the world." Anna conceived at once, and in the ninth month gave birth to the holy Virgin Mary.

St. Joachim lived for 80 years; Anna for 79.

■ **Mirovaniye** — This past Friday, was the Feast of St. Nicholas of Myra, the patron of Byzantine Catholics. Today, we commemorate the Maternity of St. Anna. In commemoration, there will be anointing (*mirovaniye*) and distribution of blessed bread at the close of Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to be anointed and receive the blessed bread. *Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

■ **Philip's Fast** — Philip's Fast, also known as the Christmas Fast or Pre-Nativity Fast, began on November 14, the Feast of St. Philip, and runs 40 days until Christmas Eve.

This feast 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.

According to tradition, it was customary to observe as strict fast (no meat or dairy products) on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and a lesser fast on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Under current eparchial norms, Fridays are to be observed as days of fasting from meat; Wednesdays are recommended as days of fasting from meat.

■ **Yes, Virginia, There Is a St. Nicholas** — On December 6, the Byzantine Church commemorates our Holy Father St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, and patron of all Byzantine Catholics. So, just who is St. Nicholas? To uncover the real story behind "Santa Claus," visit stnicholascenter.org/

■ **Christmas Divine Liturgy** — Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh will be prayed on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 5:30 p.m. in Our Lady's Chapel, Goshen House. There is no Divine Liturgy at the Mission on Christmas Day. Please note that all other liturgies for December are being held in the Mother of God School.

■ **Updates Regarding Warfield Road** — Please note that any updates regarding our Warfield Road property are being posted in the Epiphany-Annandale section of the Sunday bulletin.

■ **Bishop's Annual Appeal 2019** — Mission members should have received a letter from Bishop Kurt with a pledge/donation card and more information regarding the 2019 appeal. Please return the pledge card with your check made out to the Eparchy of Passaic, 445 Lackawanna Ave., Woodland Park, NJ 07424. You

(Continued on a following page.)