

■ **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.

■ **Eastern Catholic Radio** – Eastern Catholic Radio is a 24/7 internet radio station broadcast through *Live365.com*. Programming 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

#### A NOTE FROM FR. LEE

Many thanks to all of you for your kind words and good wishes in the Christmas card, and especially for your exceedingly generous gift, which I deeply appreciate.  
May God richly bless you and our Mission in the year to come.

### *Divine Liturgy Schedule*

**Jan. 12...**      **Sunday After Theophany**  
Mother of God School  
10 a.m.

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.

The easiest way to listen to Eastern Catholic Radio is through the free *Live365 app* or on your computer or smartphone at *www.easterncatholic/broadcasting.com* or *Live365.com*.

■ **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, Gaithersburg, is always in need of nonperishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items.

### *Liturgy Propers*

#### **Sunday Before Christmas**

**St. Theonas, Martyr**  
**Venerable Syncletica**  
**Holy Prophet Micah**

January 5, 2020

[Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom]

Troparion of the Resurrection– Tone 5 (p. 146)

Troparion of the Vigil of Theophany – Tone 4 (p. 310)

Kontakion of the Vigil of Theophany – Tone 4 (p. 311)

Prokeimenon – Tone 6 (p. 311)

**EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 4:5–8**

Alleluia – Tone 8 (p. 311)

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:1–8**

Communion Hymn (p. 78-81)

PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS



*Christ is baptised!*  
*In the Jordan!*

### *Announcements*

■ **Today’s Divine Liturgy Intention** – Today’s Divine Liturgy is offered for the good intentions of the members of our Montgomery County Byzantine Catholic Mission.

*Christos Khreshchayetsya! Vo Yordani!*

*“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

– John 1:14 (NAB)

■ **Today’s Commemorations** – Today in the Byzantine Church is the Sunday before the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord.

The feasts of the Nativity of Jesus Christ and Theophany are the celebration of a single, most profound event – the coming of the Light of the World among us. In these glorious feasts we remember Jesus was sent by the Father through Mary the Godbearer (Theotokos), to bring “a people in darkness” into the light of salvation.

In this revelation, the birth and public appearance of the Messiah is the sign, the expression, and the proclamation that God’s love for His people is boundless, total, and infinitely tender. As we arrive at the celebration of “God-with-us” in these feasts, may we re-immers ourselves in the warm and saving light of Jesus Christ. Filled with His radiance once again, we will be better able to perceive that God’s image does indeed shine brightly and beauti-

*(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.

## 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. 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

*(Continued from a previous page.)*

fully within ourselves and that He is ever present in our family, neighbors, and in the people of our Church, no matter what darkness may surround us.

On this date, January 5, the Byzantine Church commemorates St. Theopemptus and St. Theonas, who were martyred A.D. 260 in the reign of Diocletian. Also commemorated is the Venerable Syncretica and the Holy Prophet Micha.

■ **Theophany** – Each year on January 6 the Byzantine Church commemorates the baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River. This feast is often called "Epiphany" or "Theophany," which means the Holy Manifestation of the Divinity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. One of the oldest feasts of the Eastern Church, it has been traced back to the beginning of the second century. The Western Church accepted this Great Feast from the Eastern Church in the third century. Part of the tradition of the Eastern Church is to bless water (Great Sanctification of Water).

■ **Abstinence** – Friday, January 10, is a day of simple abstinence for the Byzantine Church. One may abstain from meat or one may perform an appropriate act of penance.

■ **National Prayer Vigil for Life** – The National Prayer Vigil for Life is an all-night, pro-life prayer vigil held on the eve of the March for Life each January in Washington, D.C.

More than 20,000 pilgrims from across the nation pray through the night for an end to abortion and a greater respect for all human life. It is held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The vigil schedule includes the

Opening Mass celebrated in the Great Upper Church at 5:30 p.m., On Thursday, January 23, and prayer continues throughout the night with the National Rosary for Life, Night Prayer (Byzantine Rite with Bishop Kurt and Epiphany's Slava Mens Chorus), and Hours for Life. The following morning, the prayer vigil concludes with Morning Prayer, Benediction, and the Closing Mass.

For a complete listing of events and times, visit [www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/national-prayer-vigil-for-life-schedule.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/national-prayer-vigil-for-life-schedule.cfm)

The National Prayer Vigil for Life is one small part of the Church's "great prayer for life." It is sponsored by the USCCB Pro-Life Secretariat, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and The Catholic University of America Office of Campus Ministry.

■ **Bishop's Annual Appeal 2019** – It's not too late to return the pledge card with your check made out to the Eparchy of Passaic, 445 Lackawanna Ave., Woodland Park, NJ 07424. You can also pledge online. Go to [www.eparchyofpassaic.com](http://www.eparchyofpassaic.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.

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 **January** is available on the information table.

*Thank you!*