

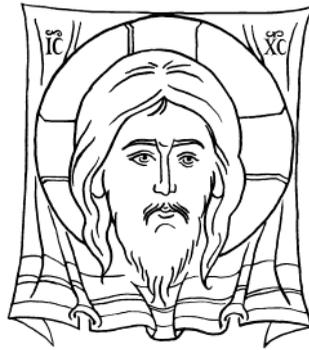
■ **Divine Liturgy Broadcasts** – St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Pittsburgh streams live broadcasts of their weekend liturgies (5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday) for those people who unable to leave their homes, but still wish to participate in Divine Liturgy. Details can be found at [www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com](http://www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com)

■ **Eastern Catholic Radio** – Eastern Catholic Radio is a 24/7 internet radio station broadcast through [Live365.com](http://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 OLV and Eastern Christian Publications are heard daily as well as “Light of the East,” featuring Father Thomas Loya.

Listen to Eastern Catholic Radio through the free *Live365 app* or on your computer or smartphone at [www.easterncatholic/broadcasting.com](http://www.easterncatholic/broadcasting.com) or [Live365.com](http://Live365.com).

## Divine Liturgy Schedule

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>March 22</b>    | <b>Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast / Memory of St. John Climacus<br/>Mother of God School<br/>10 a.m.</b> |
| <b>March 29...</b> | <b>Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast / Memory of St. Mary of Egypt<br/>Mother of God School<br/>10 a.m.</b>  |
| <b>April 5...</b>  | <b>Palm Sunday / Blessing of Palms and Willows<br/>Our Lady's Chapel / Goshen House<br/>10 a.m.</b>       |



O Lord and Master of my life,  
take from me a spirit  
of despondency, sloth,  
love of power, and idle talk.

But give to me, your servant,  
a spirit of sober-mindedness,  
humility, patience, and love.

Yes, O Lord and King,  
grant me to see my own sins  
and not to judge my brother,  
since you are blessed  
to the ages of ages.

Amen.

Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

### Help Needed

In the Liturgy we pray “for those who serve and have served in this holy church.” For now, we continue to need men and women to help with liturgy setup and takedown. The signup sheet for April (including Great Friday and Pascha) is available on the information table.

Thank you!



Glory to Jesus  
Christ!  
Glory forever!

Slava Isusu Christu!  
Slava na v'iki!

## Announcements

■ **Today's Commemorations** – Today in the Byzantine Church is the Third Sunday of the Great Fast and is dedicated to the veneration of the lifegiving Cross of our Lord.

The Kingdom of God comes only through the Cross and through suffering. Life follows death; resurrection follows Golgotha. Saint Paul teaches that, in the worldly sense, the Cross is a sign of foolishness, signifying death and sorrow. The faithful, however, look in faith and hope beyond the suffering brought about by the Cross, discerning the loving victory that it truly proclaims.

Sung at Sunday matins is: “Behold! Through the Cross joy has come to all the world!” The Cross is a sign of victory and the landmark of paradise. It is inseparable from the Resurrection. For this reason we sing on this Sunday: “We bow to Your Cross, O Lord, and we glorify Your Holy Resurrection.” Not only is the Cross a sign of victory for Christ, “the leader to salvation made perfect through suffering” (Hebrews 2:10), but for us as well.

And as we approach Pascha, it stands as a reminder to us to take up our crosses and worthily follow Christ in His suffering, and ultimately, in His eternal victory as well (*Matthew 10:38*).

On this date, March 15, the Byzantine Church commemorates the martyr St. Agapius and with him

*(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](http://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

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

### OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Delores Moldowan.
- 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.
- 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.)

six other: Timolaus, two Alexander's, Romel, and two Dionisii, who were put to death A.D. 290 in the reign of Diocletian, Emperor.

■ **The Great Fast** – The Great Fast (Lent in the Western Church) for the Byzantine Church symbolizes the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert, while the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (celebrated on lenten Wednesdays and Fridays) is the fulfillment of the promise of manna.

In the Great Fast, we also imitate Jesus our Lord, Who fasted for 40 days in the desert following His baptism. Because the Feast of Pascha was also the time for baptisms, so the Great Fast was a time of preparation for baptism. Our observance of the Great Fast, therefore, is our renewal of our baptismal fervor.

The Great Fast for Byzantine Catholics is marked by abstaining from all meat and milk products on the first full day of the fast. In addition, during the Great Fast, all Wednesdays and Fridays are days of fasting from meat and meat products. Holy and Great Friday is also a day of fasting from meat and dairy products. Fasting/abstinence requirements may be mitigated for reasons of health and/or age. Please contact Fr. John at Epiphany Parish Office if you have questions or concerns.

■ **Lenten Services** – There are no Lenten services scheduled for our mission except **Solemn Vespers for Holy and Great Friday, to be prayed Friday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m.**

Please avail yourself of services at Epiphany-Annandale (see schedule in bulletin) or St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville (call 301-953-9323). Also note that Epiphany- Annandale serves meatless meals on the Fridays of the

Great Fast from 5–7 p.m., prior to the praying of Presanctified Liturgy at 7:30 p.m. No meals are served on Holy and Great Friday.

■ **God with Us Online** – The spring schedule of Adult Faith and Spiritual Enrichment is now available. The first offering is "Great Lent: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha" is offered by Fr. David Anderson. The online sessions are Wednesdays (March 4, 11, and 18 from 8-9 p.m.).

Using Fr. Alexander Schmemmann's *Great Lent* as a text, we will examine the liturgies of the Great Fast to more deeply experience and benefit from them.

All courses are offered as live webinars and are free of charge. Please go to [www.easterncatholic.org/events](http://www.easterncatholic.org/events) to register.

■ **Byzantine Catholic Convention** – The Byzantine Catholic Convention will be held at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Pittsburgh from Nov. 12 through Nov. 14, 2020. It is an event primarily for the leaders and members of the Byzantine Catholic Church for the purpose of prayer, and mission as a national body of Eastern Catholics

The theme for the 2020 Convention is *Growing a Vibrant Byzantine Church*, during which talks and workshops will be offered on ways to grow as missionary disciples to help cultivate vibrant parishes, monasteries, missions, outreaches and apostolates where Christ is encountered and worshipped!

Sign up for updates at [byzantineconvention.com](http://byzantineconvention.com) Registration opened March 1.

*"Hide not your face from your servant, for I am in distress; answer quickly, come close to my soul and deliver it."*

Psalm 68[69]