

■ **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 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*.

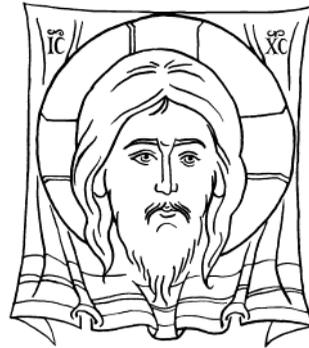
■ **Icon Project** – Icons of St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Monastery on Mt. Sinai are now online.

Princeton University began the project with the University of Michigan and the University of Alexandria to photograph the icons as they were being cleaned and restored.

St. Catherine’s Monastery was built by Emperor Justinian over an older monastic house in the 6th century. It is the oldest continuously occupied monastery in the world and houses the second largest collection of manuscripts in the world, as well as ancient icons, especially the famous icon of Christ the Pantocrator made not with egg tempera paint but the older technique of wax encaustic. It is one of the few icons that escaped being destroyed by the iconoclasts. To view the icons, see [vrc.princeton.edu/sinai/](http://vrc.princeton.edu/sinai/)

**Mission Facility Update** – The VIKa report shows that the simplified site and grading plan is still in process. Jack McLaurin received good news from VIKa that the simplified nat-

ural resources inventory and forest stand delineation forest conservation exemption request has been granted by Montgomery County with the usual requirement for a pre-construction meeting when the limits of disturbance have been staked prior to disturbance and clearing.



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.

Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian



Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of God,  
have mercy on me,  
a sinner.

The Jesus Prayer

#### Regarding the Coronavirus

There will be no Divine Liturgy at the Montgomery County Mission today, March 22; and next Sunday, March 29, due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Services and Divine Liturgies for Holy Week and Pascha will be announced at a later date.

Please refer to the Sunday bulletin for Epiphany–Annandale for additional information.

#### Announcements

■ **Today’s Commemorations** – Today in the Byzantine Church is the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast. On this day we commemorate St. John Climacus, author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*.

In this work, St. John outlines the steps essential in attaining communion with God, steps which remind us that the way to the Kingdom constantly challenges us to engage in spiritual warfare. We know with certainty that Christianity is not for weaklings and cowards.

The end of the Great Fast is drawing near and we recall Christ’s awesome words that encourage us to persevere until the end: He who endures to the end will be saved (*Matthew 24:13*).

For more information, see [https://orthodoxwiki.org/John\\_Climacus](https://orthodoxwiki.org/John_Climacus)

On this date, March 22, the Byzantine Church commemorates the priest-martyr St. Basil, Presbyter

(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.



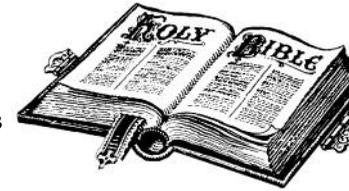
*"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."*

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

(Continued from a previous page.)

of the Church in Ancyra who was thrown to the wild beasts in the arena at Caesarea in Palestine A.D. 363 under Julian the Apostate. Also commemorated is the Venerable Isaak, monk.

■ **Today's Scripture Readings** – Today's Epistle reading is from *Hebrews* 6:12-20. The Holy Gospel reading is from *Mark* 9:17-31.



■ **Today's Troparia** – The troparia for this Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast and for the Commemoration of our Venerable Father John Climacus can be accessed through the Metropolitan Cantor Institute website at <https://mci.archpitt.org/> (Look under "Liturgical Calendar" on right-hand side of page.)

■ **Divine Liturgy On the Internet** – 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)

■ **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.

■ **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]