



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3410 Woodburn Road

Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-573-3986 Fax: 703-573-0344

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor

Slava Isusu Christu!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

September 14, 2025

Slava vo v'iki!

Glory forever!

VIGIL OF SUNDAY OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sat. Sept. 13 5:00 PM Intention of Parishioners

SUNDAY OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sun. Sept. 14 9:00 AM +Anne Soyka by Children & Grandchildren

Fifteenth Week after Pentecost

Tues. Sept. 16 10:00 AM Health & God's Blessings on James Bacigalupi by
Jamie, Children, & Grandchildren

Thurs. Sept. 18 10:00 AM +Julia Zdynak by Epiphany Parishioners

VIGIL OF SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sat. Sept. 20 5:00 PM +Patricia Carucci by Michael and Emily Strickland

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sun. Sept. 21 9:00 AM Intention of Parishioners

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE

Sat. Sept. 21 5:00 PM R. Maurice

Sun. Sept. 22 9:00 AM J. Ricca (L), P. Cooke, A. Naccash

USHERS SCHEDULE

Sat. Sept. 21 5:00 PM Volunteers

Sun. Sept. 22 9:00 AM Volunteers

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Byzantine Catholic Church

The Sacraments – Our Life in Christ

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation. Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist. We follow the command of the Lord to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Chrismation (Confirmation) and Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion) are imparted at the same time immediately following baptism.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Infants – is scheduled at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays or Sundays during the year except certain fast periods. Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing and supply a sponsor card attesting to that from their parish. While two Catholics in good standing is usual, one baptized non-Catholic can function as a Christian Witness with the Catholic sponsor. Both must be at least sixteen years of age. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon. Details are available at the parish office.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults – follows a period of catechumenate.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Crowning in Marriage – According to the Pastoral Policy and Guidelines for Marriage Preparation for the Catholic Church in New Jersey, couples wishing to marry must inform the pastor one year before the date of the wedding and be free to marry in the Catholic Church. They will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions—to begin the Pre-Nuptial Questionnaire, to take FOCCUS, a communication, values, and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the Pre-Nuptial Questionnaire, and for a session on the Theology of the Mystery (Sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana Conference.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) at other scheduled times. Visiting confessors are also scheduled at special times during the Great Fast. Confessions are also heard on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great and Holy Week. Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of confession at church or home where there is more privacy.

Anointing of the Sick – Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-threatening medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of the Sacrament of Penance and Anointing of the Sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church or at your home rather than the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance for interruption. If you are unable to come to church or are at the hospital, family members should contact the rectory so Father can anoint at the hospital.

Holy Communion and Visitation of the Sick – Holy Communion is brought to our parishioners who are ill at the hospital or at home by the deacons on Sundays and at other time by arrangement. Please contact the deacons or the rectory office by Friday prior to the Sunday communion visitation.

Funeral Services – The Office of Christian Burial is offered in ways to accommodate the needs of the family. The Epiphany Ladies Guild as part of their charity offers a Mercy Meal for families at the Parish Center following the interment. Epiphany of our Lord cemetery are two portions of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see Deacon Peter Turko.

Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County Maryland – Divine Liturgy Sunday 10:00 AM. Epiphany Mission Chapel 9301 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD. Phone (301) 482-0282.

Parish Administration

“The Church is not an organization with sacraments but a Sacrament with organization.”

Parish Clergy

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor
Deacon Elmer Pekarik, Deacon Peter Turko

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Sally Green

School of Religion – Eastern Catholic Formation-School of Religion classes meet on Sundays after the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (10:30-11:30) throughout the school year (September -June). Classes are offered for Pre-school & Kindergarten-High School.

Bulletin – Announcements may be brought to the office or faxed (703-573-1088) or emailed to epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com.

Parish Registration – Individuals who wish to register should visit the parish office and complete a confidential census form.

Parish Website <https://eolbcc.com>

Mission Website: <https://eolmission.com>

Epiphany does not conduct pastoral business on the website. Submissions to the website are made through the parish office.

Parish Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Monday – Friday

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TITHING & GIVING

Sunday, September 7, 2025	
Adults	\$1563.00
Building Fund	\$875.00
Candles	\$113.50
BCY	\$5.00
SOR	\$202.00
Seminary	\$50.00
Holy Water Bottles	\$29.00
St. Nicholas	\$27.00
TOTAL	\$3019.50

Tithely August 2025- Total by Category

Offertory	\$2,030.04
Building Fund	\$323.54
<u>Less Bank Charge</u>	<u>\$72.90</u>
TOTAL	\$1,957.14

“The king, however, replied: ‘I cannot sacrifice to the LORD my God offerings that cost me nothing.’”

(2 Samuel 24:24)

Envelope donations for the Building Fund, BCY, SOR, and St. Nicholas Fund are deposited into Epiphany's General Account then transferred to their respective bank accounts quarterly. None of these items are part of the General Fund.

BINGO IS BACK TWICE A MONTH

Have you seen our web site?

Visit www.emcbingo.com

Next Session Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Bingo Session Net Profit

8/19/2025 - \$6,031.00

LITURGY AND LIFE

Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobes, Ed Gubanich, Caroline Zurun, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, Steve Seman, Damon Seman, Jack Figel, Jessica Polink, John Anthon, Kimberly Snow, Michael Maskarinec, Michele Horosko, Thomas Soyka, and Alfred Minichiello. Please pray for these relatives and friends of our parishioners: Eileen Gray, Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Kelly Kunder, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Margaret Hospodar, John Ryaby III, Guillermina Donalson, Steve Smith, Caleb Joseph Lugo, *Mary Catherine Bishop, Samuel Gaush, Joshua Bacigalupi, Dr. John Feola, Lisa Fazio Rhodes, Jayden Ramos Jimenez, James Bacigalupi, Larry Dowdy, Natasha Bacigalupi, and Laurie Anderson, friend of Frank Polink, Jr.

Prayers for our Parishioners. The particular Law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs that “the pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept (holydays of obligation) (canon 294). This liturgy intention for parishioners is “For the Intention of Parishioners.” The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue to pray for our parishioners by several parishioners in our daily prayers each week. This week please remember Steven & Andrea Fezuk, John Figel, Lana Ford, Mark and Franziska Fournier & family, William and Maryanna Fournier, Macrina and Stephen Galloway, Joyce Galovich, and from the Mission, Louis and Marie Shanks.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Fasting Regulations. Bishop Kurt Burnette has relaxed the provisions of fasting for the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross because it is a Sunday. Please disregard the fasting regulation on the ecclesiastical wall calendar. Bishop Kurt stated that should a person desire to fast, they should transfer the observance of the fast to Monday or another day this coming week.

Decree on the Sacrament of Penance. Bishop Kurt Burnette issued a Decree, dated May 1, 2025, regarding cell phones and the Sacrament of Penance (Confession). The Bishop orders: “All cell phones, both belonging to the priest or to a penitent must be left outside the confessional or be powered off. It is not enough to have it silenced.

Catechetical Sunday. On Sunday, September 28, an important blessing ceremony will take place during the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for ECF-SOR students and their parents as catechists.

The theme for the 2024-25 Catechetical Year is, “Jesus Christ Our Hope.” Parents are kindly requested to bring their students to the Church Lower Level 15 minutes after Liturgy for the first session of the year. Let us all pray for God to grant them wisdom, understanding, and holiness!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Slavic American Festival. Thank you to all who contributed time, labor and a whole lot of LOVE to making the Slavic American Festival a success. Words don’t seem to express how much you are appreciated!

Congratulations!!! Our sincere Congratulations to the Slavic American Festival raffle ticket winners! There are three prizes: 3rd prize-\$100, Marlene McCracken: 2nd prize - \$300, Mary Fazio: and 1st prize, \$1000, David MacDonnell. And thank you for your contributions to the raffle!

Transportation Needed. A donation of two single wooden bed frames has been made to the Mission by a parishioner of Epiphany, Annandale, but no one with a truck or large SUV is available to pick them up from Annandale and drive them up to the Mission. Fr. John has accepted the donation. All we need now is the transportation and the Mission house will have another room furnished. If you have a vehicle that fits this description and can help these beds arrive at their new home, please call Jamie, Epiphany’s Administrative Assistant at 703 573 3986 or email to epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com ASAP, please.

Next Epiphany Men’s Club (EMC) Meeting Today. The EMC September meeting is today, **Sunday, September 14, 2025.** The meeting will begin at the back of the parish center **immediately following** the conclusion of 9 am Liturgy. Food and beverages will be provided. The meeting is taking place on the second Sunday of the month due to the Festival being on the 7th.

Epiphany Church Web Site. Please note, the parish address is no longer eolbcc.org. It is now <https://eolbcc.com>. Please adjust your search and phone app.

Weekly Office Schedule.

<i>Mon. 9/15</i>	<i>Tues. 9/16</i>	<i>Wed. 9/17</i>	<i>Thurs 9/18</i>	<i>Fri. 9/19</i>
Jamie/Lucie	Lucie	Jamie	Jamie/Lucie	Jamie/Lucie

EPARCHIAL AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal Reversion. Epiphany Church has received the 40% reversion for going over goal. A check for \$10,058 has been remitted to Epiphany Church. God bless you for your tithe to the Bishop's Appeal which assists our Eparchy gives humanitarian assistance to Ukraine as well as eparchial programs, and the reversion which benefits our parish

Mid-Atlantic States Syncellate Wedding Anniversary Celebration Invitations for the Middle Atlantic Syncellate Wedding Anniversary Celebration being held at Epiphany of our Lord October 11, 2025, were mailed September 1st. The invitations are for couples celebrating five-year anniversaries in years ending in 5 or 0. If you do not receive an invitation and were married validly in a year ending in a 5 or 0, please call Jamie at 703 573 3986. When you receive your invitation, please complete the response card and return it in the return addressed, self- stamped envelope as quickly as possible.

Byzantine Catholics in America Video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJ_oVpBIPY

MISSION

Mission Liturgy Schedule.

Day	Date	Time	Celebrant
Sun.	Sept. 14	10:00 AM	Father Dan Griggasy, OFM
Sun.	Sept. 21	10:00 AM	Father Dan Griggasy, OFM
Sun	Sept. 28	10:00 AM	Father Dan Griggasy, OFM

Prayer Intentions: Louis Shanks, Rick Neimiller, Vince Kovalick, Marie Shanks, and Alfred Minichiello.

Condolences. We offer our condolences to Marie Tvaroch and the Hamas Family upon the passing of Michael Hamas who passed away Monday, September 1st. The funeral will be determined by the military schedule. May God grant His departed servant, +Michael, peaceful repose. Vičnaja jemu pamjat'.

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Financials:

August 2025 Collection Total	August 2025 Expenses Total	Monthly Overage/Deficit
\$2,035	\$5,781.55	(-\$3,746.55)
Tithely August 2025 – Total by Category		
Total Donations	\$144.68	
<u>Less Bank Charges</u>	<u>\$4.68</u>	
Net Donations	\$140.00	

Sunday, Sept. 7 Collection \$685.

*“The king, however, replied: ‘I cannot sacrifice to the
Lord my God offerings that cost me nothing.’” (2Sammuel 24-24)*

PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy for Sunday of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

BLUE p. 11 Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy

RED p. 253 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: A
EXCEPT: We bow to your cross B
Our Father

1. The Divine Liturgy begins on page 11 BLUE
2. 1st 2nd, and 3rd Antiphons of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross pp. 253-254 RED
3. At the Troparia:
 - Troparion of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Tone 1 p. 254 RED
 - Kontakion of the Exaltation Tone 4 p. 255 RED
4. *Instead of* “Holy God”, ‘ “We bow to your Cross...” p. 33 BLUE
5. Scripture Readings
 - Prokeimenon of the Exaltation Tone 7, p. 256 RED
 - Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24
 - Alleluia of the Exaltation Tone 1 p. 256 RED
 - Gospel: John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-27, 30-35
6. *“Instead of* “It is truly proper...” Magnification and Irmos Tone 8 pp. 256-257 RED
7. Communion Hymn of Exaltation p. 258 RED

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorates the ceremonial lifting up of the true Cross upon which Jesus Christ was crucified by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem on the occasion of the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Mother Church of all Churches, September 13, 335. Those in attendance bowed down and repeatedly cried, “Lord, have mercy.” Around this event coalesced several other historical events.

- Constantine’s vision of a cross in the sky with the message, “In this sign, you will conquer” led to his victory at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge October 28, 312. As emperor, Constantine deputed his mother to locate the Cross of Christ.
- Empress Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the Holy Cross and the Title in a cistern with the other two crosses during the excavation for the construction of the Martyrion and the Anastasis, the complex of buildings at Golgotha and the Tomb of Christ. This event was observed annually on March 6th and is now observed on the Third Sunday of the Great Fast as the Veneration of the Holy Cross as well as being commemorated on September 14th. It is reported that this area was covered over with basil. The plant’s name is taken from the Greek word *basileos*, which means emperor or king.
- The recovery of the True Cross after it had been captured by the Persians. Byzantine Emperor Heraclius’s decisive victory at the Battle of Nineveh over Shah Khosrow in 627.

The significance of the feast is contained in the first prayer or sticheron of Vespers for the Exaltation:

“By its elevation, the Cross is like an appeal to the whole creation to adore the Blessed Passion of Christ our God, who was suspended on it. By this cross, Christ destroyed the one who had destroyed us. In his great goodness, he brought us back to life after we had been dead. In his mercy, he clothed us with beauty and made us worthy of heaven. Therefore, we exalt his name with great rejoicing, and glorify his infinite compassion.”

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross functions like a secondary Good Friday. The crucifixion of our Lord took place forty days after His transfiguration, so the Church observes the

Transfiguration on August 6th, forty days before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Also, the traditional fast is a strict fast, just as a strict fast is observed on Good Friday.

As the Original Sin was disobediently partaking of the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, this sin and the sins of every human being except the Mother of God results in exile from God and paradise. The obedience of Jesus Christ, Son of God, the New Adam, to God the Father's plan, is that He gives Himself to take the punishment of death for us. By doing so, the Cross becomes the Tree of Life of Paradise and the tomb in the Garden becomes the entrance of the Garden of Eden.

Observing the Exaltation of the Cross at home in the Domestic Church

1. Attend Vespers or the Divine Liturgy of the feast as a family, if possible.
2. Place the family's cross in a prominent place in the icon corner or the center of the dining room table. Decorate it with flowers and with basil.
3. Traditionally, this is a day of strict fast, like Good Friday. If you observe a day of simple abstinence, have pasta with basil pesto sauce. If your baker provides them, have Hot Cross Buns for dessert.
4. Since the significance of the observance is that "the elevation of the Cross is like an appeal to the whole creation", place a large cross in your yard or on your porch to appeal to passers-by to turn their thoughts to the victory won for us by our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. Read the *Life of Constantine* by Eusebius of Caesarea written for Constantine the Great. <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/25021.htm>
6. Read the appointed scripture readings of the feast as a family.