



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

Glory to Jesus Christ!		Slava Isusu Christu!
Glory forever!	March 22, 2026	Slava na v'iki!

VIGIL OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Sat. Mar. 20 5:00 PM +Michael and +Ann Opachko
by Michael & Dolores Opachko

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST VENERABLE MOTHER ST. MARY OF EGYPT

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

Sixth Week of the Great Fast

SOLEMN – ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Wed. Mar. 25 7:30 PM Vespers & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
+Elizabeth Basarab by Her Girlfriends in Christ

Fri. Mar. 27 7:30 PM Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

LAZARUS SATURDAY

Sat. Mar. 28 10:00 AM +Ferdinand Fleck by Donors

VIGIL OF THE ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Sat. Mar. 28 5:00 PM Intention of Parishioners

THE ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM – PALM SUNDAY

Sun. Mar. 29 9:00 AM +Mary and +Peter Gaydos by Nephews & Families

Sat. Mar. 28 5:00 PM R. Maurice

Sun. Mar. 29 9:00 AM J. Ricca, (L), P. Cooke, J. Hughes, M. Hughes

USHERS SCHEDULE

Sat. Mar. 28 5:00 PM Volunteers

Sun. Mar. 29 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.

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, no later than 2:00 PM Wednesday.

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

Fifth Sunday of Great Fast

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March 22, 2026

TITHING AND GIVING

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Adults	\$2608.00
Building Fund	\$1170.00
Holy Days	\$45.00
Candles	\$83.00
Flowers	\$200.00
BCY	\$35.00
SOR	\$38.00
Hramoty	\$10.00
Mission Church	\$150.00
St. Nicholas	<u>\$648.00</u>
	\$8762.04

Tithely January 2026 Total

by Category

Offertory	\$2615.74
Building Fund	\$426.84
Holy Water Bottles	\$10.61
Blessed Candles	\$31.20
Less Tithely Fees	<u>\$92.36</u>

TOTAL \$2992.03

"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, Hramoty, 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 The net profit of March 17 \$4712. Next Session Tuesday, April 7.

LITURGY AND LIFE

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast. In the gospel read today, the Lord Jesus explains that He has come “to give His life as a ransom for the many.” The passage from the epistle to the Hebrews develops this: the ransom Jesus spoke about is a sacrificial offering for sin to God the Father offered by God the Son on our behalf through God the eternal Spirit—and here is our response—so that we, Jesus’ disciples, can have our consciences cleansed in order that we be empowered to worship God. Both passages refer to the sacraments—Pope St. Leo the Great taught that what Jesus did has “passed over” into sacrament—the Lord Jesus referring to baptism and the cup or chalice of Holy Eucharist, and the epistle to the cleansing of the soul from sin by Baptism, Eucharist, and Confession and to our free will to avail ourselves of what Jesus has done for us and offers to us.

Saint Mary of Egypt. On the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, our venerable mother Mary of Egypt is commemorated and presented to Christ’s Faithful as a model of repentance and Christian asceticism. Her commemoration is April 1st, the day of her passing. It is likely that the Church moved her commemoration to the Fifth and final Sunday of the Great Fast as an encouragement to repentance, even at the Eleventh Hour. Her encounter during the Great Fast with the monk, Zosimos, to whom she told her story and who brought her Holy Communion, was the way by which her story was shared. St. Sophronius, patriarch of Jerusalem, wrote her Life, which was read this past Thursday at the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete.

Lazarus Saturday. At the conclusion of the Great Fast and before Great Week begins, Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday form a two-day interlude of two feasts. The Holy Land monks who would go into the Judean wilderness for forty days in imitation of the Lord would return to their monasteries on this weekend to observe Great Week and Pascha. Lazarus is a prefiguring of the Lord’s resurrection and anticipation of the resurrection of the righteous at the Second Coming. The Lord’s words to Martha and through Martha to us announce His authority of life and death. “I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.” The feast, through the gospel account from St. John appointed to be read, clearly sets out the two natures of Jesus Christ, human and divine. As man, Jesus weeps at the tomb of Lazarus while as God, Jesus raises His friend from the dead. This dogmatic truth of the two natures of Jesus Christ is intended to be kept in mind through all elements of Great Week: The Passion, Crucifixion, and keeping Sabbath in the Tomb. Matins and Liturgy of Lazarus Saturday have elements of a Sunday celebration on a Saturday. Lazarus Saturday was also a day when baptisms took place. The vestments are white, a sign of the resurrection, or green, as a sign of new life.

Resurrection Candles. If you would like to offer an Easter candle in remembrance of a departed loved one, the intention of a living loved one, or a special intention, please visit the Parish Office Monday through Friday 10-4, email your intentions to epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com, or call 703 573 3986. Most candles can be offered for \$10. A few candles are \$20. Checks or cash and your intention's request may be sent in a sealed envelope marked "Attention Jamie" and put in the collection basket. All requests for candles must be received no later than **March 23, 2026**.

Great Fast. The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products. All faithful of the Eparchy of Passaic who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain. Abstinence is to be observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast. Pastors and Administrators may, for a just cause, grant to the individual faithful and to individual families, dispensation our commutation of Abstinence and Strict Abstinence into other pious practices.

ECF-SOR Procession. Next Sunday, March 29th, is Palm Sunday. Traditionally, the Divine Liturgy includes a procession and blessing of palms and pussy willows on this day. Parishioners are invited to join ECF-SOR students and parents during the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy to receive the blessing. **ATTENTION parents of small children and infants:** We need you for the procession! The diary of the fourth century Spanish noblewoman-turned-nun, Egeria, explains the source of this practice is Palm Sunday in Jerusalem in the 4th century. She wrote: "And when the eleventh hour begins, there is read that passage from the gospel where children with branches and palms meet the Lord, saying, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord'...and there are very many children in these places—including those who cannot walk on foot because they are to be carried, their parents carry them on their shoulders—all carrying branches, some of palm, others of olive; and so the bishop is led in the same way as the Lord was led then."

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final Lenten Dinners. The final Lenten Dinners will be this Friday, March 27th 4-7 pm.

Baking Paska Bread. Paska, the traditional decorated Easter bread, will be baked on Saturday, March 28, 2026. Early birds should arrive at 8:00 a.m. to prepare dough. Decorators should arrive by 9:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Daria Parrell at 703-909-6133 or dtparrell@gmail.com.

Weekly Office Schedule

<u>Mon. 03/23</u>	<u>Tues. 03/24</u>	<u>Wed. 03/25</u>	<u>Thurs 03/26</u>	<u>Fri. 03/27</u>
Lucie	Lucie	Office Closed	Jamie & Lucie	Lucie & Jamie

Epiphany Loan. The 1st quarter interest payment on the loan for the new church of \$4,022.12 was paid. The balance on the loan remains the same, \$535,282.67. The principal payment of \$75,000 is due in September and will reduce the balance to \$461,282.67. Looking forward, the principal payment for 2027 will reduce the debt to \$386,282.67. There is a balloon payment at the end of the loan.

Cemetery plots in Original Section. Fairfax Memorial Park has an additional (7) seven plots adjacent to our older section and all seven plots are in a row. Each site is \$9,995.00. With a potential discount, the price per plot could be \$7,496.25. The cemetery will now hold the plots for Epiphany. If you are interested in purchasing one of these seven plots, you are urged to contact Fairfax Memorial Park quickly at 703 988 1071.

EMC Awards Club. The first drawing for the Spring EMC Awards Club Raffle was held Sunday, March 8th. The winner of the first drawing was Deacon El Pekarik, #053. The winner of the second drawing on March 15th was Mary Sikora, 186. The next drawing is today, Sunday, March 22nd at 11:30 In the parish center.

EPARCHIAL AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal 2025. The Bishop's Appeal 2025 began in October 2025. Parishioners should have received their Bishop's Appeal pledge forms. Pledges and payments will be accepted thorough June 30, 2026. Contributions received now will be attributed to the 2026 tax year. Our goal for this year was \$19,800. To date, Epiphany parishioners have pledged \$21,100 and have exceeded our goal. Since we have exceeded our goal, as in past years, the parish will receive a 40% refund of the total received. The refund will be calculated at the end of the fiscal year in June.

Harvest Helpers. "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:36-38). What you can do: 1. Sign up to host the icon for one week. 2. Use the booklets to pray prayers for vocations each day. 3. Return the icon the following Sunday for the next person or family. 4. If you have a vocation, say "yes" to Jesus Christ. **"Come after me. I will make you Fishers of Men."** **New men for crew of Barque of Peter needed. Complete training and nets provided. Expect turbulent seas, rough conditions, life-long voyage, life-preservers for people you catch on nautical rescue mission, best Captain in this or the next world.** Consider the Priesthood. <https://www.eparchyofpassaic.com/vocations>

Young Adult Summer Convocation. *The Heart of the God-Bearer* at the 2026 Byzantine Catholic Young Adult Convocation, July 31st to August 2nd at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in

Hillsborough, New Jersey. Young adults ages 18-35 will gather for fellowship, communal praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, and talks from speakers. Join us for three days of faith, friendship, and transformation. For more information, go to <https://www.heartofthegodbearer.org/>. Online registration is open from now until 30th! Not a young adult? Contact us if you're interested in helping sponsor scholarships to help the young adults in our Church grow and share their faith!

MISSION

Mission Liturgy Schedule.

Day	Date	Time	Celebrant
Sun.	3/22	10:00 AM	Fr. John
Sun.	3/29	10:00 AM	Fr. Daniel
Tues.	3/31	6:30 PM	Fr. Jerome
Fri.	4/3	3:00 PM	Fr. Jerome

(Confessions 3/29 5:00 PM and after Sacrament of Holy Anointing)

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

Social Hour. There is a social hour on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month following Liturgy.

Food Pantry Donations: *Every week* there is a collection of pantry staple foods (beans, rice, soup, peanut butter, mac and cheese, pasta, cereal, etc.). The food will be donated to a local food pantry.

Bishop's Appeal 2025. The Bishop's Appeal 2025 began in October 2025. Our goal for this year is \$6000, the same as last year. As last year and the past several years, if we reach or exceed our goal, the parish will receive a 40% refund of the total received. The refund will be calculated at the end of the fiscal year, and checks will follow. To date, Epiphany Mission parishioners have pledged \$2,290.

Financials:

Collections Feb. \$3,663.68 + transfer from savings \$8,000=\$11,663.68-expenses\$8,943.20=\$2720.48

Collection: Mar. 1: \$740.00

Collection: Mar. 8: \$355.00

Collection Mar. 15 \$450.00

"The king, however, replied: 'I cannot sacrifice to the Lord my God offerings that cost me nothing.'"
(2Samuel 24-24)

PARISH USTAV

**The Order for the Divine Liturgy
for
FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
and
MARY OF EGYPT – VENERABLE WOMAN**

BLUE	p. 11	Mark and Follow Parts of the Divine Liturgy
GREEN	p. 161	Resurrection Tone 8
RED	p. 230	Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

**ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: D
EXCEPT: Cherubic Hymn A**

1. The Divine Liturgy begins on page 11 BLUE
2. Typical Psalms and Beatitudes, pp. 16-17, 23-24 BLUE
3. At the Troparia
 - Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 8 p. 161 GREEN
 - Troparion of the Venerable Mother Tone 8, p. 230 RED
 - Kontakion of the Venerable Mother p. 230-231 RED
4. Scripture Readings
 - Prokeimenon of the Resurrection Tone 8 p. 162 GREEN
 - and of Venerable Mother Tone 4 p. 231 RED
 - Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14
 - Alleluia of the Resurrection Tone 8 p. 163
 - Gospel: Mark 10:32-45
5. Anaphora of St. Basil, pp. 96-99 BLUE
7. Communion Hymn of Sunday p. 78 and of the Venerable Woman p. 233