

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 all parishioners is "For the Intention of Parishioners." The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners who participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue this prayer for one another during the week by remembering several parishioners and families each week. Please remember this week: Joseph Stone, Timothy and Kathleen Stotish & family, Andrew and Caitlin Stafford & family, Edward and Miriam Strickland & family, and from the Mission, John and Belinda Radko & family.

Christmas Fast. Christmas Fast or Philip's Fast (Filipovka) began the day following the feast of St. Philip, November 14th and continues for forty days until December 24th. Unlike the Great Fast, it is not strictly penitential in character but instead is a way to separate from our preoccupation with worldly cares so that we will have space to welcome the coming of the Son of God to us. From the 11th century the Metropolitans of Kiev encourage the Sacraments of Penance and a worthy reception of Holy Communion during this Fast, as well as the other three fasts. There are aliturgical days, days when the Divine Liturgy is not to be offered, so that we can experience the longing of the Old Testament people for the coming of the Savior. A number of Old Testament prophets are commemorated during the Christmas Fast, Obadiah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, and Daniel and the Three Young Men. Daniel and the three men give the example of fasting, and being thrown into the fiery furnace but remaining unburnt is seen as prophetic image of the Theotokos, who has God incarnate in her womb but is not destroyed. There are

several feasts during this Fast, the first is observed this week. The fasting aspects of the Christmas Fast is left to the conscience of the individual in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States.

Commemoration of the Forefathers. The Second Sunday before Christmas is a commemoration of all the human ancestors of Jesus Christ the Messiah promised to Eve and promised to David to be of his family. Also included are the men and women prophets of the Old Testament through whom the Holy Spirit spoke, reminding the Chosen People that the Messiah was to come. A special commemoration is the prophet Daniel and the three young men who were thrown in the fiery furnace. The emphasis on the human ancestors of Christ, the Messiah, emphasizes that the Messiah, who was the eternal God, really became man and from the race of Adam and Eve, the first humans, while remaining God. This emphasis is to avoid the error that God the Son only appeared to be man.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

EMC Awards Club. The Awards Club weekly drawings have begun. Today is the ninth drawing. Previous weeks winners are as follow: 1. Mike Dalton, #265; 2. Marlene McCracken, #299; 3. John Kuklish, #283. 4. Mike Hancher, #086. 5. Mary Goodspeed, #262. 6. Mary Michaels #192. 7. Thomas Soyka # 07. 8. Frank Polink, Sr. #052. The ninth drawing is today, Sunday December 15, 2019. The tenth and final drawing will be held Sunday, December 22nd.

ELG Christmas Bread. Epiphany Ladies Guild will be selling freshly baked Christmas Bread today Sunday, December 15th while supplies last. The Christmas Bread is a pascha

like bread that is traditionally the center piece of the dining table on Christmas Eve at Holy Supper, Svjatjy Vecer'.

2020 Calendars. The calendars for 2020 have arrived and are available for pick up in the Narthex of the church today. Take only one per family, please.

Nativity Candles. If you would like to offer a candle for your family or a loved one, you may do so by signing up in the Parish Office beginning today Sunday, December 15th between Divine Liturgies or by coming into the Parish Office beginning December 16th between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The deadline for requesting candles is December 20th.

Slava Men's Chorus. The Slava Men's Chorus will sing the responses for the 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy Sunday, December 29th. The chorus will lead a sing-a-long at 9:30 AM in the Parish Center. All are invited to join in the singing of Christmas carols.

EPARCHIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences. We offer our condolences to Bishop Kurt Burnette, the priests of the Eparchy of Passaic, the parishioners of Patronage of the Mother of God Church and its missions in Abingdon, MD and Hagerstown, MD, and the parishioners of Blessed Basil Hopko mission, Myrtle Beach, SC, and the family upon the death of Very Reverend Conan Timoney, PhD, December 9, 2019. Father Timoney, pastor of Patronage Church for thirty-six years, served as the protopresbyter of the Middle States Protopresbyterate, member of the Presbyteral Council, assistant Vocations Director, and member of the Evangelization Committee.

Father Timoney had retired as a chaplain at the Loch Haven VA Hospital. He was a chaplain in the Army Reserves. Vesting of Father Conan took place yesterday, Saturday, December 14th by the syncellus and local clergy at Ambrose Funeral Home, Arbutus, MD. Tomorrow, Monday, December 16th, the body of Father Conan will lie in repose at Patronage Church. Visitation will be from 2:30 PM to 6:30PM. The Office of Burial for a Priest will be prayed at 6:30PM. The Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be offered by Bishop Kurt Burnette Tuesday, December 17th at Patronage Church at 10:30AM. A Funeral Luncheon will follow at the parish hall. There will be a visitation and a panachida at Saint Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church, Westbury, NY Saturday, December 21st followed by interment at Saint Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY. "O Lord, You called Your servant the Priest Conan, to be a minister in Your holy Church, and have shown him a participant at the service of Your holy altar. Now make him worthy to serve You at Your heavenly altar" From the Office for Burial for A Priest.

Bishop's Appeal. The 2019 Bishop's Appeal has begun. You should have received your mailing from the Eparchy with the magnetic icon included. The goal for Epiphany church remains the same \$19,800. Our parish has met its goal each year thanks to the sacrificial offerings of our parishioners and the generosity of Epiphany Ladies Guild. Costs for our seminarians' formation at the seminary in Pittsburgh, the financial support of our eparchies in Europe, support of the Office of Eastern Christian Formation, the young adult run Theosis In Motion, and God-With-Us on-line providing on line classes in Scripture, Evangelization, and other topics. There is no charge for participants because the Eparchy funds this popular program. Because we have reached our goal each year, we received the 40%

reversions which benefited our parish. The reversions were used for parish repair and maintenance projects, like the roof replacements, parish center boiler replacement, and chapel AC HVAC replacement. This year if we reach our goal the reversion would go to the fund the repair of our parking lot.

God With Us Online. God With Us Online as part of their series of online adult catechetical programs is offering a program of preparation for Christmas December 18th. The Gift of God: Preparing for the Nativity of the Lord will be offered by Father David Anderson. The programs are the work of ECED, the Eastern Catholic Directors of Religious education, the religious education division of the Eastern Catholic Bishops in the United States. To register go to easterncatholics.org/. The program begins at 8:00 PM and is free.

COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Christmas Fast
- 2020Calendars
- Nativity Candles
- BCY Activities
- EMC Awards Club
- Bishop's Appeal

EMC BINGO
 12/17/19 B
 12/24/19 No Bingo
 12/31/19 No Bingo
 01/07/20
<http://EMCBINGO.com>

TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$6,113.00
Children	\$3.25
Building Fund	\$3,830.00
Holy Days	\$1,285.00
Candles	\$138.75
BCY	\$5.00
School of Religion	\$56.00
Christmas	\$600.00
Military Archdiocese	\$50.00
Retired Religious	\$1,370.00
<u>St. Nicholas Fund</u>	<u>\$109.32</u>
TOTAL	\$13,560.00

"Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." (Dt. 8:18)

LITURGY AND LIFE

Prayer Intentions. Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobes, Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, Jeffrey Sesok, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, and Paul Vrabel. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Fr. Conan Timoney, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Fr. Lee Gross, Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Ed Livingston, Richard Doering, Julia Zdynak, Mary Catharine Bishop, Tim Berty, Joyce Rose, Ethan Augliera, Krista Brazzill, Jean Figel, Doris Stender, June Parrell, Richard Ryaby, Kelly Kunder, Jeff Lowery, Jim Bacigalupi, and Katherine Sikoryak.



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!
Glory Forever!

December 15, 2019

Slava Isusu Christu!
Slava Na Viki!

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

TWENTY - SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS

Dec. 15 Sun. 8:00 AM Intention of Parishioners
10:30 AM Health & God's Blessings on Msgr. Dobes by Joseph Stone

Twenty-eighth Week after Pentecost

Dec. 16 Mon Aliturgical

Dec. 18 Wed. Aliturgical

Dec. 19 Thurs. Aliturgical

Prefestive of Christmas

Dec. 20 Fri. 10:00 AM +Daniel Green by Sally Green

Dec. 21 Sat. 10:00 AM +John and +Kathryn Vrabel & +Helen Seach by Paul Vrabel

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS-OF THE ANCESTORS

Dec. 22 Sun. 8:00 AM Intention of Parishioners
10:30 AM +LaDonna Rodock by Marlene McCracken & family

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – December 22, 2019

Dec. 22 Sun. 8:00 AM J. Cooke (L), T. Hughes, J. O'Leary, P. O'Leary
10:30 AM J. Naccash (L), J. Cassella, A. Naccash, G. Naccash

USHER SCHEDULE – December 22, 2019

Dec. 22 Sun. 8:00 AM K. Koshute (L), H. Katawczik, T. Susco
10:30 AM T. Fazio (L), E. Gubanich, M. Kernich

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) is 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. Details are available at the parish office.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults – follows a period of catechumenate. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon.

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. Couples will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions – to begin the pre-nuptial investigation, to take FOCCUS, a communications, values and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and for a session on the theology of the mystery (sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) on Sundays between the Divine Liturgies. 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 Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord's Resurrection.

Anointing of the Sick – of the sacrament of penance and anointing of the sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church before entering the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance of interruption for confession and anointing. If you are unable to come to church, please call the rectory. Families of parishioners who have a medical emergency should contact the rectory office so one of the priests can go 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 deacon on Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Please contact the deacon 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 is a portion of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see the deacon.

Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County - Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM; Religious Education & Social Hour 11:15-12:15: 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg, MD; (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 Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

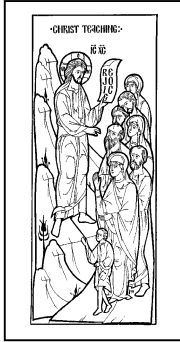
Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Monday- Friday
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday

School of Religion - School of Religion classes meet on Sundays between Liturgies (9:20 AM - 10:20 AM) throughout the school year (September - June). Classes are offered for children grades Preschool & Kindergarten - High School

Announcements may be dropped off in the Parish Office, faxed to the office (703-573-1088) or email to epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net.

Registration - Individuals who wish to register in the Parish should stop by the Parish Office and complete a census form.

Meditation on Today's Readings



Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

The master then ordered the servant, "Go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in that my house may be filled. For I tell you none of those men who were invited will taste my dinner."
Luke 14:16-24

Two Sundays before Christmas, the Byzantine Church observes the memory of all the human ancestors of Christ from Adam and Eve to the Blessed Virgin. The commemorations this Sunday also remember the patriarchs and faithful women of the Old Testament who awaited the Redeemer. King David, the Three Youths in the Furnace, and St. John the Baptist are also recalled.

The gospel appointed is the parable of the Lord Jesus about the Great Banquet. A man is giving a great banquet. In accordance with the conventions of the time two invitations are sent, one to announce the banquet and one to inform that it is about to take place. Those who were initially invited did not decline at that time but waited until all the food and drinks were prepared for the number planned and then, when the second invitation came, made excuses. Instead, the host invited all sorts of people so his banquet could be eaten and his home filled.

Jesus applied this to some of those of Israel of His time on earth who had read the prophets (the first invitation) and who waited for the Messiah to come (accepted the first invitation) and now that He was here, were rejecting the second invitation and would miss the banquet. The shepherds of Israel who were invited (who received the first and second invitations) and the magi of Persia (who did not receive the first invitation) both came to the stable and saw God in the flesh in a feeding trough, a prophecy that He would give His Body and Blood.

Humans do not bring themselves in existence. Humans do not keep themselves alive. Humans must eat food and drink liquids. Therefore, God uses the image of food as a way to show that only God gives and sustains life. A banquet is a way of expressing the reality of heaven which, "eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man, what God has prepared for those who love Him".

In addition to the reference in the gospel to the patriarchs, faithful women and prophets as the inviting servants and faithful people invited as well as the gentiles and those who were called sinners because they did not observe all of the Old Testament laws, the holy fathers of the Church saw the gospel as applying to the Church. The ones who accepted the first invitation but made excuse for the second are those Christians who accept baptism but who do not come to the Eucharistic banquet every Sunday. The servant who is to "make" others come in are the baptized who attend the Holy Eucharist every Sunday who are, by prayer, good example and charitable work, and repeated inviting, "making others" come into the joy of God's banquet.

When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory... Christ is all in everything.
Colossians 3:4-11

The epistle appointed for the Sunday of the Forefathers is from the epistle of Saint Paul to the Colossians. The first sentence gives a reference to the coming of Christmas, namely, "When Christ your life appears, you too will appear with him in glory". God became a man when Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We observe that saving act on the feast of the Annunciation, March 25. At Christmas, this saving act is an epiphany, a manifestation, because what was hidden in the womb of the Blessed Virgin has now appeared and is revealed to men and women of good will. The epistle is dealing with the sacrament of baptism. Here Saint Paul encourages baptized readers to remember they were born in Christ by

Order for the Divine Liturgy
for
Sunday of the Forefathers

PLACE RIBBONS AT:

- | | | |
|-------|--------|--|
| BLUE | p. 11 | Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy |
| GREEN | p. 130 | Resurrection Tone 2 |
| RED | p. 281 | Sunday of the Forefathers |

ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: B

EXCEPT: Cherubic Hymn

We Praise You

Communion Hymn Christmas p. 292

1. Typica and Beatitudes pp. 16, 17, 23 BLUE
2. At the Troparia:
 - Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 2 p. 130 GREEN
 - Troparion of the Forefathers Tone 2 p. 281 RED
 - Kontakion of the Forefathers Tone 6 p. 281-282 RED
3. Scripture readings:
 - Prokeimenon of the of the Forefathers Tone 4 p. 282 RED
 - Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11
 - Alleluia of the Forefathers Tone 4 p. 282 RED
 - Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

JEDINORODNYJ SYNE - ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyñi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amiin. Jedinorodnyj Syne, i Slove Božij, bezsmerten syj, i izvolivyj spasenija našeho radi voplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i prisno-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravjy, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu I Svjatomu Duchu, spasi nas.

SVJATYJ BOŽE—HOLY GOD

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj Kr'ipkij, Svjatyj Bezmertnyj, pomiluj nas. (3)
Slava Otcu, i Synu, i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyñi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amin.
Svjatyj Bezmertnyj, pomiluj nas.
Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj Kr'ipkij, Svjatyj Bezmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjasšče Trojc'i trisvjatuju p'isñ prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyñi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.

Amiin. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolñ nebo i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadyj vo imja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich.

TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimtisja Bože naš.
Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a bohorodicu, prisenoblaženuju i preneporočnuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česñijšuju Cheruvim i slavñišuju bez sravnenija Serafim, bez istl'inija Boha Slova roždšuju, suščuju Bohorodicu, t'a veličajem.

OTČE NAŠ – OUR FATHER

Otče naš, iže jesi na nebes'ich, da svjatitsja imja Tvoje. Da prijedet carstvije Tvoje, da budet vol'a Tvoja, jako na nebesi, i na zemli. Chl'ib naš nasuščnyj dažd nam dnes'. I ostavi nam dolhi naša, jakože I my ostavl'ajem dolžnikom našim. I ne vvedi nas vo iskušeniye, no izbavi nas ot luk

VID'ICHOM SVIT ISTINNYJ – WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT

Vid'ichom svit istinnyj, i prijachom Ducha nebesnaho, obr'itochom v'iru istinnuju, nerazd'ilnij Svjat'ij Trojc'i poklanjajemsja, T'a bo nas spasla jest'.

DOSTOJNO JEST' – IT IS TRULY PROPER

Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a bohorodicu, prisenoblaženuju i preneporočnuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česñijšuju Cheruvim i slavñišuju bez sravnenija Serafim, bez istl'inija Boha Slova roždšuju, suščuju Bohorodicu, t'a veličajem.

DA ISPOLŃATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED

Da ispolñatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojego Hospodi, jako da pojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas pričastitsja svjatym tvojim, božestvennym, bezsmertnym, i životvor'ascim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja pravd'i Tvojej. Alliluja.

Saint Paul continues, reminding baptized people to become in practice what they already are in baptism, Christ. Because baptism makes the person being baptized participate in the death and the resurrection of Christ, the baptized person must daily die to sinful practices and live by virtues. Just as the Jewish shepherds and the Gentile wise men were united in adoring the Infant Son of God in Bethlehem, so, Saint Paul writes, all believers of all nations are one in Christ.

From *Ignatius Study Bible: Luke, The Navarre Bible: Luke*, John S. Custer, *The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective and The Navarre Bible*.

Children's Corner

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utensil with prongs; a division	○	★	◇	◆
stronger than a breeze; to coil or twist	◻	△	●	◼
tropical tree; center of one's hand	☆	■	◇	▲
to draw on glass or metal with acid	▲	◎	◐	◻
insects or germs	◐	◼	⊕	◎

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