

parishioners is “For the intention of our Parishioners.” The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners 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 and Jean Kopka, Eleanor Korbini, James and Michelle Koshuta & family, Joseph and Corinne Koshuta & family, Monica Koshuta, Kevin and Jennifer Koshute, Mark and Cindy Kost & family, and from the Mission, Steven Krempasky.

Christmas Fast. The forty day Christmas Fast begun November 15th is completed December 24th. Another name for the Christmas Fast is Philip’s Fast because the fast begins after Vespers the evening of November 14th the feast of Saint Philip. This week the Christmas Fast offers the Sunday before Christmas which commemorates all the righteous men and women from Adam to Saint Joseph the Betrothed. They were faithful to God’s will, observing what He commanded, and living in the hope of the fulfillment of the promise of God, the coming of the Messiah. The coming of Saint Joseph and the Mother of God to Bethlehem where she will give birth to the Son of God confirms the truth of the lives of the holy ones. Like last Sunday, this Sunday also remembers the Prophet Daniel and the Three Youths in the fiery furnace. They are examples of how all the righteous men and women remained faithful to God’s will awaiting His promised salvation whether through daily life or through persecution or suffering. They remind us of the deliverance from the flaming punishment through this holy birth. During the Christmas Fast there are several aliturgical days which are days when the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated, usually on the day of an Old Testament prophet to recall that the prophets and people of the Old Testament time waited

for the coming of the Messiah. This week there is one aliturgical day.

Prefestive of Christmas. The pre-festive of Christmas begins December 20th to December 24th. Most other feasts have a one day prefestive day to prepare us spiritually to observe the impending feast. Christmas has a five day pre-festive period while Theophany has a four day pre-festive. During this pre-festive we contemplate the Blessed Virgin Mother of God bearing her Divine Son in her womb journeying with the Blessed Saint Joseph to Bethlehem while we contemplate—not a moving from one place to another but rather—the infinite condescension by which God the Son chooses to become man although still remaining everlasting God with the Father and the Spirit. The prefestive has its ultimate day Christmas Eve. In the traditional fast, Christmas Eve is a day of strict fast. However, because Christmas occurs on Sunday, the fast is transferred to Friday, December 23rd. In the United States, Fridays remain as days of penance, and in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States the other fasting prescriptions of the Christmas Fast are left to the ability of the individual.

Royal Hours. When the feast of Christmas occurs on a Sunday, the Typicon of Father Dr. Alexander Mikita, Uzhorod, 1901, directs that “the services are divided,” that is, Royal Hours of Christmas Eve are celebrated on December 23rd, since only Great Saturday is observed as a fast day, and Christmas is observed the night of December 24th.

Lamp and Light. There will be no Bible Study class December 21st or December 28th.

End of Life Plans. There will be presentations on three Sundays in the New Year to help us with end-of-life planning. The topics will be

1. Fairfax Memorial Park representative will speak about opening a new section for our parishioners because the present Epiphany section is full. Prices for parishioners will be discussed. This presentation will be Sunday, January 15th.
2. How to plan for Power of Attorney and Catholic Church moral theology approved Medical Power of Attorney as well as Will preparation will be the topics of this presentation on another Sunday.
3. Liturgical Preparations on a third Sunday. What are the options for church funerals? This preparation can help you make decisions for your family so that they can know and respect your wishes. Also, since cremation is now allowed in the Catholic Church as long as the cremains are interred, how are the cremains handled liturgically?

Epiphany Holy Supper. We are looking for a person to chair the Epiphany Holy Supper on Sunday, January 8th. We are also looking for helpers for preparing the Epiphany Holy Supper (food preparation) on Saturday, January 7th and to help serve the food and cleanup on Sunday, January 8th. If you can help either day or organize this event, please call (703-573-3986) or email (epiphanyoffourlord@verizon.net) the Parish Office.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Office Schedule. The Parish Office will be closed Sunday, December 25th and Monday, December 26th. Office hours will resume on Tuesday, December 27th.

Bulletin Deadline. The deadline for bulletin announcements this week will be Tuesday, December 20th by 2:00 PM.

New 2006-2015 Parish Directory. If you have not yet picked up the new Parish Directory, copies are available in the Parish Office. A copy will be provided at no charge to each family that participated by having a picture taken or purchasing an ad. Additional copies are available to those who did not participate for a donation of \$30.00.

2016 EMC Awards Club Drawing. Drawings for the 2016 Awards Club sponsored by Epiphany Men’s Club began Sunday, October 16th. The winner of the ninth Awards Club Drawing is Theresa Matlaga Palenski, #119

EMC Breakfast. The Epiphany Men’s Club will host a complimentary breakfast today Sunday, December 18th.

ELG Christmas Candy for Sale. ELG will be selling delicious homemade chocolate this season! Sales of the popular treats will take place between Liturgies today Sunday, Dec. 18th.

Christmas Bread. The Ladies Guild is selling Christmas breads for Holy Supper and nut rolls until today December 18th or until they are gone. They are being sold between liturgies.

Christmas Candles. Anyone wishing to donate a candle for their family or loved ones may do so by signing up in the Parish Office today Sunday, December 18th after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Divine Liturgies

ELG. The next meeting of the Epiphany Ladies Guild will be Monday, January 2nd.

Light refreshments will be served at 7:00 PM with the meeting following at 7:30 PM. All women of the parish are encouraged to attend.

Holy Supper Booklets. The Holy Supper booklets used on Christmas Eve at the evening meal called Holy Supper will be available today Sunday, December 18th in the narthex of the church.

2017 Calendars. The calendars for 2017 have arrived and are available in the narthex of the church. Please take only one per family.

Parish Activity Calendar. Organization and activity chairpersons please contact Marsha Puhak with the event dates you are planning for each month in 2017. Failure to do so will leave your planned event unscheduled on the church and Parish Office calendar.

End of Year Tax Planning. Now is the time to plan donations you wish to make by the end of the year. Remember donations must be postmarked by or delivered to the Parish Office by December 31, 2016 to count for 2016. Donations of stocks may also be made. If interested, contact the Parish Office for more information.

EPARCHIAL AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal 2016. The parish goal for the church is \$19,800 as last year. Also, as last year if the parish reaches the goal it will receive a reversion of 40% of donations sent to the chancery. To date, 52 families have contributed \$9,845.00 toward our goal. Through your generosity the parish reversions from recent Appeals given back to Epiphany parish have provided for necessary repairs and

maintenance. The 2014 reversion, along with the Festival Raffle and individual gifts allowed us to replace the over 30 year old roof of the chapel. The reversion from the Bishop's Appeal 2015 is \$7,932.40 which is dedicated funds for the replacement of the Parish Center boiler. Added to the reversion, \$3,841.00 has been donated by parishioners toward the replacement of the boiler in the Parish Center. The proceeds from this year's festival raffle was \$2,066. The latest estimate for a new boiler is \$45,257.00. Thank you for your generosity. It is not too late to make your 2016 pledge.



COMING EVENTS

(see inside for details)

- Byzantine Spirituality
- EMC Awards Club Raffle Winner
- Bishop's Appeal
- New Parish Directory
- ELG Christmas Candy
- Christmas Bread
- EMC Breakfast
- Directories
- Nativity Candles
- Calendars
- Bible Study
- Guest Speaker – January 15, 2017

EMC BINGO

12/20/16 No Bingo Team B
 12/27/16 No Bingo Team C
 01/03/17 Bingo Resumes Team D
 01/10/17 Team A

TITHING & GIVING

Parish Donations–December 11, 2016

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adults | \$3,356.00 |
| Children | \$6.70 |
| Building Fund | \$1134.00 |
| School of Religion | \$61.00 |
| Candles | \$99.09 |
| Christmas Flowers | \$105.00 |
| Holy Days | \$870.00 |
| Christmas | \$900.00 |
| BCY | \$10.00 |
| St. Nicholas | \$153.00 |
| TOTAL | \$6,694.79 |

“Do not neglect good deeds and generosity. God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind.”
 (Hebrews 13:16)

LITURGY AND LIFE

Prayer Intentions. Please remember in prayer: Michael Mikulak, Patricia Fedorko, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Mary Gaydos, Justine Ferrari, Julia Zdynak, Louis Shanks, Peter Wegman. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O’Leary, Russell Plasha, William Brokaw, Maureen Guth, Tim O’Leary, Joanne Gaudino, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Wayne Bowman, Steven Goula, Fr. Phillip Scott, Mary Jewette, Luke Kolar, Fr. Conan Timoney, Eileen Gray, Bernadette Strate, and Karen Baine, mother of Emily Green.

Prayers for our Parishioners. The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs: “The pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holy days of obligation]” (canon 294). This liturgy intention for all



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

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 catechuminate. 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 Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord’s Resurrection.

Anointing of the Sick – 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 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
Diane Dougherty, Financial Assistant

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

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

9:00 AM to 12:00 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.

Bulletin – Bulletin announcements should be submitted in writing by 12:00 Noon Wednesday afternoon for the upcoming Sunday. 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.

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| Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! | December 18, 2016 | Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki! |
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DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Dec. 18 Sun. 8:00 AM +Gary Kodman by BCY
10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

Thirty-second Week after Pentecost

Dec. 20 Tues. 10:00 AM +Julia Hancher by Irene Markovich
Dec. 23 Fri. 10:00 AM Royal Hours

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

Dec. 24 Sat. 7:00 PM Vespers and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
11:00 PM Compline
11:30 PM Christmas Carols

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Dec. 25 Sun. 12:00 AM Christmas Divine Liturgy
10:00 AM Christmas Carols
10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – December 25, 2016

Dec. 25 Sun. 12:00 AM Volunteers
10:30 AM Volunteers

USHER SCHEDULE – December 25, 2016

Dec. 25 Sun. 12:00 AM Volunteers
10:30 AM Volunteers

Epiphany of Our Lord Church, Annandale, VA

<http://www.eolbcc.org>

Epiphany of Our Lord does not conduct pastoral business on the website email.