

COMING EVENTS

(see inside for details)

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Awards Club
- Bishop's Appeal Update
- March for Life
- Compline Transportation
- Seminary Applications
- Theophany Holy Supper
- Eikona Studios
- 2019 Calendars
- Insurance Inventory

EMC BINGO	
01/08/19	Team A
01/15/19	Team B
01/22/19	Team C
01/29/19	Team D
http://EMCBINGO.com	

TITHING & GIVING

Parish Donations – December 30, 2018

Adults	\$10,036.00
Children	\$2.00
Initial Offering	\$40.00
Building Fund	\$930.00
School of Religion	\$11.00
Candles	\$89.50
Holy Days	\$155.00
Christmas	\$500.00
St. Nicholas Fund	\$50.00
TOTAL	\$11,913.50

"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: Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, George Semonick, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, Jeffrey Sesok, John Vernoski, and Marge Rusnak. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Tim O'Leary, Joanne Gaudino, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Fr. Conan Timoney, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Fr. Lee Gross, Mike Shuster, James Williamson, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Ed Livingston, Richard Doering, Julia Zdynak, Mary Catharine Bishop, Tim Berty, Joyce Rose, Ethan Augliera, Krista Brazzill, and Jean Figel.

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 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: Charles and Helen Russo, Michael and Carlyn Ryan & family, Sean and Neele Ryan & family, Timothy, Jr. and Tracey Ryan & family, Timothy Ryan, Sr., Anna Ryjik & family, Cynthia and Richard

Sandridge, and from the Mission, John and Colleen Dolinish & family.

Epiphany: The Feast of Light. In the Christian East, the Church observed one great feast of God manifesting Himself or shining forth in the world, and this feast, Theophany of the Lord, was observed on January 6th each year. This one feast celebrated Christmas—the birth of the Messiah as perfect Man—this revelation that was given to Chosen People (Shepherds) and Gentiles (Wise Men) alike, and it celebrated all the events of His childhood (Circumcision and Finding in the Temple); and it celebrated the Baptism of Jesus—the revelation that Jesus the Perfect Man is Perfect God; that God is Holy Trinity; and, in the baptism of the sinless Christ, that God is a saving God. In the fourth century the Church of Constantinople New Rome began to follow the observance of Elder Rome and divided the observance of the shining forth or manifestation into two great feasts; observing Christmas, the shining forth or revelation to the world that the Son of God was born as Perfect Man on December 25th. Following the time set by the gospel of Luke, the Circumcision was observed eight days after the nativity on January 1st. Together with the Circumcision, all the other events of the childhood of Jesus were commemorated on January 1st. Then, on January 6th, the Theophany or shining forth of God commemorated the baptism of the Lord Jesus in the Jordan as the event in which Jesus is revealed as Perfect God. This feast was called the Feast of Light, influenced from the Old Testament winter Festival of Light. Reflecting the importance of the theme of light the assembled congregations carried candles during the liturgical celebration. St Ephrem the Syrian and St. John Chrysostom attest that water was blessed for the baptisms which took place on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This blessing of water became an important part of the feast on its own, separate from the baptismal rite. In this way the major emphases of the feast were made. Jesus Christ as perfect God and perfect man did not need baptism, a bath in which people confessed their sins through an exterior sign of an interior action had their souls cleansed of sin. While people went into the Jordan as a sign of their desire or wish to be washed clean, Jesus went into the Jordan clean and took on the sins of the entire sinful human race. He then journeyed for three years to the cross to suffer and die for humanity's sins. At the baptism of the Lord Jesus, the ineffable voice of God the Father testified that Jesus is the Son of God, while God the Holy Spirit descended in the "form" of a dove, that reconciling sign Noah perceived after the watery flood had washed away a sinful humanity. Therefore at the baptism God is revealed—or shines forth—as the Holy Trinity. Even more, God is revealed as a God who is at work to save His human beings: God

the Father is well pleased in God the Son because He takes on the burden of humanity's sins and will now take the penalty of sin—death—on Himself. At the same time God the Holy Spirit—who is Pure Spirit and therefore invisible—manifests Himself as dove, the sign of God reconciling with humanity at the time of Noah, to show that the baptism of Jesus Christ is the moment where God is reconciling Himself with sinful humanity by cleaning them of their sins. Finally, by immersing Himself in the Jordan, Jesus heals and restores water. In the beginning God created water as good. Water indeed is an element necessary for human life. But after the Original Sin water is no longer good alone. Its meaning is ambiguous, for while it preserves human life, it can also destroy. When Jesus, Perfect Man and Perfect God goes into the Jordan with the intention to recreate water, He heals the water and makes water when it is blessed unambiguously good again, a means for humans to use in baptism to wash away their sins by employing the Lord's saving Death on the cross.

Postfestive of the Theophany. The postfestive of the Theophany or Epiphany of our Lord is a period of observing the feast of Theophany for eight days after the feast of Theophany on January 6th. This period includes the Synaxis of St. John the Baptist on January 7th and the Saturday after Theophany and the Sunday after Theophany. The postfestive periods that the Church provides for feasts are an indication of how significant the event is for our salvation, indicated by the number of days in the postfestive. In the case of Theophany the eight days is the greatest number of days for a postfestive. Eight days gives us time to observe the feast by liturgical celebrations and by reflection on the meaning of the event for the life of each of us. Postfestives begin with a special observance the day after the fast called a synaxis or gathering of the Church to honor the human or angelic being who is a principle cooperator in the event of salvation being celebrated. On January 7th it is the Synaxis of St. John the Baptist.

Fast Days Resume. Fridays resume as days of penance. As every Sunday is the weekly observance of the Pascha so every Friday is the weekly commemoration of Great Friday. For the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church in the United States the fast on a day of penance is simple abstinence from meat, or the substitution of an equivalent penitential work or charitable work.

Great Blessing of Water. The Great Blessing of Water will take place today, the Theophany of our Lord, at the 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy.

Calendars for 2019. Church Calendars for 2019 are available in the narthex. The church calendars

provide the Scripture readings for every day, the holydays and their rankings, and the fasting times.

Theophany Holy Supper. Following the 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy today, January 6th, parishioners are invited to attend Theophany Holy Supper in the Parish Center.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eikona Studios. Christine Uveyges Loya, the principle of Eikona Studios, has repaired the outdoor shrine icon of Epiphany of our Lord and it was reinstalled in time for the observance of our parish titular feast. The icon of the Crucifixion will be installed on the cornice in the nave in ten days. The icons of the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the Dormition on the nave cornice will be blessed by Bishop Kurt Burnette and Bishop Milan Lach at the Divine Liturgy for Life on Friday, January 18.

Church Consecration. The plaque commemorating the consecration of the Holy Table and the church of Epiphany of our Lord, November 20, 2011 and the names of the members of the Parish Planning Committee is in fabrication by W & E Baum, Freehold, NJ but will not be completed for the parish feast of Epiphany of our Lord. The estimated date is the beginning of February 2019.

Bingo. The profit from Epiphany Men's Club Bingo must go to Epiphany Building Fund according to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia with Epiphany Men's Club. Volunteers will be needed on Tuesdays of 2019 for next year's EMC Bingo. Consider volunteering to work on one of four teams that cover Bingo. It means you would work one Tuesday per month. Twelve Bingos a year too much to commit to right now? Consider instead adding your name as a substitute worker, a very valuable help when a worker from one of the four teams cannot work or when there is a larger than usual number of patrons expected for a special occasion or a high jackpot.

EMC Awards Club Winners. Thank you to all who so generously supported the EMC Awards Club 300, which began October 14, 2018. The ten drawing winners are as follow: Week 1: Frank Polink, #013; Week 2: Frank Polink, #010; Week 3: Pat Trubia, #014; Week 4: Tricia Rhodes, #223; Week 5: Donna Reid, #144; Week 6: Anna Ryjik, #163; Week 7: Tim Ryan, #129; Week 8: Anna Ryjik, #166; Week 9: Olga Osterberg, #199; Week 10: William Cervenak, #156. Congratulations to all!

Parish Activity Calendar. Organization and activity chairpersons please contact Marsha Puhak with the event dates you are planning for each month in 2019. Failure to do so will leave your

planned event unscheduled on the church and Parish Office calendar.

Inventory. Althans Insurance Company is no longer our insurance broker. The eparchy does business with Catholic Mutual Insurance directly. Catholic Mutual has requested that all the parishes of the eparchy provide a pictorial and verbal inventory of the contents of all the buildings and grounds of the parish. Toward this end, the councilors have approved the purchase of two iPads with picture and text capabilities and also video. That purchase has been made and the iPads are in the process of being made ready to begin this process. With the capability of working and loading data in two areas at the same time, work should progress quickly, as the eparchy would like the inventory completed as soon as possible.

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 FOCUS, 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 to 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

9:30 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.

Epiphany of Our Lord Church, Annandale, VA

<http://www.eolbcc.org>

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