



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

Christ is Risen!

Christos Voskrese !

Indeed He is Risen!

April 17, 2022

Voistinnu Voskrese!

***VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST***

Sat. Apr. 16 5:00 PM Vespers and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

***RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST***

Sun. Apr. 17 8:00 AM Resurrection Matins  
9:00 AM Easter Divine Liturgy

***BRIGHT WEEK***

***BRIGHT MONDAY***

Mon. Apr. 18 +Elizabeth Basarab by Jamie

***BRIGHT TUESDAY***

Tues. Apr. 19 +Madonna Jaimes by EMC

Fri. Apr. 22 +Sonja Fazio by Ellen Nacik

***ST. GEORGE—GREAT MARTYR***

Sat. Apr. 23 +Julia Hancher by Michael Hancher

***VIGIL OF THOMAS SUNDAY***

Sat. Apr. 23 5:00 PM Intention of Parishioners

***THOMAS SUNDAY***

Sun. Apr. 24 9:00 AM +Deacon Gerry McDonnell  
by Mary McDonnell & Family

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***ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – April 23 & April 24***

Sat Apr. 23 5:00 PM Michael Sirotniak

Sun. Apr. 24 9:00 AM Michael Sirotniak

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***USHERS - February 26 & February 27***

Sat Apr. 23 5:00 PM Volunteers

Sun. Apr. 24 9:00 AM Volunteers

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## COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine [Spirituality](#)
- On Line Contributions
- Amended Safety Protocols
- EMC Awards Club
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Easter Basket Blessing
- Mission Development
- Eparchial Refugee Relief
- God with Us Online
- Bishop's Appeal

☒

BINGO WILL RESUME

MAY 3, 2022

## TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$1730.00
Building Fund	\$630.00
Holy Days	\$580.00
Candle	\$54.25
Flowery Sunday	\$385.00
SOR	\$76.00
<u>St. Nicholas Fund</u>	<u>\$495.00</u>
	\$3950.25

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. None of these items are part of the General Fund.

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

## LITURGY AND LIFE

Christos voskrese!

Voistinnu voskrese!

Church Slavonic Христосъ Воскресе.

Воистину Воскресе.

Latin

Christus Resurrexit!

Vere Resurrexit!

English: Christ is risen!

Indeed He is risen!Rusin:

Христос воскрес!

Воістину воскрес!

Slovak:

Kristus vstal zmŕtvych!

	Alithos anesti!	Χριστός Ανέστη. Αληθώς Ανέστη.
Spanish:	¡Cristo es resucitado! ¡Verdaderamente! ha resucitado!	
Italian	Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!	
	Vraiment Il est ressuscité!	
Romanian	Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat!	
Czech	Kristus vstal z mrtvých! Vpravdě vstal z mrtvých!	
Polish	Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!	
German	Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden	
Scots Gaelic	Tha Crìosd air èiridh! Gu dearbh, tha e air èiridh!	
Irish	Tá Críost éirithe! Go deimhin, tá sé éirithe!	
Japanese	ハリストス復活 ！実に復活！	

## LITURGY & LIFE

**Paschal Rituals.** We express our joy in the resurrection by several rituals during Bright Week: (1) The Royal Doors and Deacon Doors are opened during Bright Week as a sign that heaven is reopened to the human race through the Resurrection of our Lord. (2) As a sign of the joy that is ours in the resurrection, we do not kneel from Easter Sunday until Pentecost for any of the liturgical services, for the time of penance is completed, and joy now reigns. We stand instead of kneeling and we stand whenever *Christ is risen* is sung. We sit at the epistle and homily. You may sit at the litanies, the first and second antiphons and the Troparia. You may sit at other times, except when *Christ is risen* is sung. (3) During Bright Week no personal commemorations for the living or the departed are made during the Liturgy and at the conclusion of Liturgy. After Bright Week, commemorations are made for intentions, but with the proper response of "Many years..." or "Eternal Memory." (4) The Artos (Greek: Bread) is blessed and placed on the tetrapod. The risen Lord ate with his disciples during the forty days from Pascha to Ascension. Jesus said, "I am the living Bread that came down from heaven" (John 6:51). The Artos is placed in the middle of the churches "in full view of the faithful to serve as their same reminder of the invisible presence of the Lord with us" (Bulgakov, Kiev, 1900).

**Pentecostarion for Pascha.** The Pentecostarion, which means "Fifty Days" referring to the fifty days from Pascha to Pentecost, began last night. Another name for this collection of hymns and services is "Flowering Triodion". The Day of Pascha of the Lord, called the Great Day (Velik Den'), is seven days long. This is to recall that Pascha is the Dawn of the Day that has no midnight. During this week-long Pascha, called Bright Week or Week of Light, the neophytes who were baptized Holy Saturday night at the Easter Vigil wore their white baptismal garments all week and attended daily a mystagogical catechesis. During Lent the catechumens received catechesis about God and God's plan of salvation which culminated in Jesus Christ. Now, the newly baptized; Friday, the chapel of Ss. Peter and Paul at the cathedral; and Saturday they were informed what transformation happened to them through Baptism, Chrismation and the reception of the Holy Eucharist and how they had to live as a result. In the Byzantine Empire all work was prohibited and entertainments and the races were closed during the week. Instead, there was Divine Liturgy every day as of Easter itself. Each day the readings from the gospel according to John and the Acts of the Apostles appointed influenced which church in Constantinople the Divine Liturgy would be offered. As a result, currently the prokeimenon and Alleluia psalm of each day is not from Pascha but changes to reflect the readings. So, Monday was the church of the Holy Apostles; Tuesday, the church of Our Lady at Blacherna, Wednesday the church of Our Lady at Chalcoprates; Thursday the church of Saint John at the Dippon Friday, the chapel of Ss. Peter and Paul at the cathedral; and Saturday the church of Saint John the Baptist in the Sphorace quarter. Today only Bright Monday and Bright Tuesday are holydays. The liturgical services and the

readings from the Bible are from the Acts of the Apostles which follows the historical record of the apostles after the resurrection and the beginning of the gospel according to John.

**Blessed Palms and Willows** should be kept in your home, usually at the icon corner or crucifix, as a witness to the Lord's presence in your life. Last year's palms and willows are blessed sacramentals and should be destroyed by burning or burying them or bring them to the hall in the chapel basement and place them in the receptacle provided. *Do not throw them into the garbage.*

**Resurrection Procession.** Representatives of Epiphany Men's Club, Ladies Guild, BCY, and ECF-School of Religion will carry their respective banners in the procession before Resurrection Matins on Easter Sunday.

**Traditional Blessing of Paschal Foods** will take place this morning, Easter Sunday, after the Divine Liturgy.

**Fast-free Week.** There is no fasting this week even on Friday because of the joy in the

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Parish Office Schedule.** The Parish Office will be closed today, Easter Sunday, and tomorrow, Bright Monday. Office hours will resume Tuesday, April 19th. Jamie and Lucie will be working from home on Tuesday.

**Easter Egg Hunt.** The BCY will once again hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning immediately following the Divine Liturgy and food blessing. Eggs will be scattered on Epiphany's grounds with a special area set aside for younger children.

**Thomas Sunday Dinner.** The St. Thomas Sunday Dinner will take place next Sunday, April 24th. Help is needed on Saturday, April 23rd and Sunday, April 24th.. Please see Nancy Soyka and Marsha Puhak for details and volunteer.

**EMC Awards Club.** Epiphany Men's Club has begun their 300 Awards Club raffle drawings. The drawing takes place every Sunday for ten weeks. The winning ticket of the first nine weeks is worth \$50. The winner of the tenth and final drawing takes home \$1000. The winner of the first drawing is Charles Russo, #030. The winner of the second drawing is Steve Fezuk, #167. The winner of the third drawing is Charles Russo, #031. The winner of the fourth drawing is Steve Fezuk, #167. The winner of the fifth drawing is Mary Sue Kotula, #196. The winner of the sixth drawing is Steve Seman, #032.

**Mission Development.** The fourth icon arrived and has been installed on the iconostas. The first Divine Liturgy in the new Montgomery County took place last Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 11:00 AM by Fr. Jerome with assistance from Deacon Peter. The conversion of a family room to a place of worship has been incredible. Is it finished yet? Not completely. Temporary substitutions have been made to accommodate the new schedule to be open before Easter. The ten boxes of chairs have been delivered to the Mission chapel over the weekend. Eleven carpets are being deep cleaned, repaired and having new fringe attached. Jamie has been informed they should be ready to move to the chapel in two weeks. The window film that will add to the milieu of a sacred place has arrived. It will most likely be moved to the chapel and installed after Easter. It has been reported that several very curious neighborhood deer visited during the Divine Liturgy last week.

**Pastor.** Father John has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email messages, it might be because we do not have your email address or you have changed your email address and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when some parishioners are remaining safe at home. Simply email the parish office at [epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com).

**Praying at home together.** If you are remaining safe at home, you may consider praying the Divine Liturgy in your homes so we can be united by the same prayer. Visit the <https://mci.archpitt.org> web site under Publications tab to use on your smart phone when participating in the Liturgy.

**On-line Giving.** Both the parish and the mission have online accounts with Tithe.ly and these can be accessed at the church or mission web sites. To make a contribution, go to the church web site. On the home page is a link that says Epiphany of our Lord online donation. Click on that and you will be directed to Epiphany's tithe.ly account. Please note that where you see Offertory, that is a drop-down menu that allows the donor to specify what the donation is for: Sunday offertory, Building Fund, St. Nicholas Fund, or eparchial collections. Please show care in the category Recurring Giving. If it is not a donation to be given each week or month, please make that adjustment that this is a one-time donation.

## EPARCHIAL AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bishop's Appeal 2020.** The Bishop's Appeal 2020 began November 1, 2021. The goal for Epiphany of our Lord, Annandale is the same as last year, \$19,800.00. The goal for Epiphany of our Lord Montgomery County Mission also remains the same as the previous year, \$6,000. If you have not received your Appeal information, please call the parish office at 703-573-3986 or email to [epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanyofourlord3420@gmail.com). Pledges and payments will be accepted through June 30, 2022. Any contributions received after December 31, 2021, must be attributed to the 2022 tax year. As in previous years, if we reach or exceed our goal, the parish will receive a 40% refund of the total received.

**God with Us Online** The first course offered for 2022 was "Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy: The History of the Ecumenical Councils. The professor is Father Christiaan Kappes, PhD, SLD. The five lectures are posted at GodWithUsOnline.org. The next topic to be treated is "Image and Likeness-St. John of Damascus On the Holy Icons" which will cover the spirited and effective defense of icons by St. John of Damascus during the iconoclastic heresy. This session is scheduled February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8-9:30 PM just in time to prepare for the Sunday of Orthodoxy and the Restoration of the Holy Icons. The session will be presented by Rev. Nathan Symeon Adams, associate pastor of St. Mary proto-cathedral, Sherman Oaks, CA.

**Bishop's Refugee Fund.** Bishop Kurt has established a fund to receive donations which go to our Mother church in Muchajewo to help Ukrainian refugees, giving them a place to rest, cleanup, offering food, diapers, and basic needs and medication before they go on to cross the border. If you wish to make a donation, please look at Fr. John's email for the details. We will post the total for each week. For the week of March 25 -April 1, \$800 has been donated to the aid of refugee from Ukraine. The weekly postings only reflect donations received at the church office. It does not reflect donations made to the eparchial refugee relief fund and sent directly to the chancery.

**PASCHA**

## **THE GREAT DAY- VELIK DEN**



*He was in the world and the world was made through Him but the world knew him not. He came unto His own and His own did not receive Him but to as many as received Him He gave them power to become children of God to those who believe in His name who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.*

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we saw His glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.* John 1:10-11, 14-15

The proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead in the Byzantine rite or ritual is done in two parts.

The first is the actual proclamation of the resurrection by the angel, then the testimony of the empty tomb and then by the risen Lord Himself from the account in the gospel according to Matthew. This is proclaimed at the Easter Vigil at Vespers and the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil on Great and Holy Saturday night. This reading begins with Pilate

setting the guard at the tomb of Jesus offered by Joseph of Arimathea and continues with the women coming to the tomb, finding it open and empty and the angel who gives them the message for the apostles, and the risen Lord meeting the apostles on a mountain in Galilee where He gives them the Great Commission: "Go, therefore, teach all nations, baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teach them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

The second is the gospel reading for Easter morning itself. This is the Prologue of the gospel according to John 1:1-17. The choice of this as the Easter gospel is interesting. Some have through the years wondered why this would be the gospel of the Great Day of Resurrection. One reason is that the Prologue functions like the overture of a symphony or like a synopsis does for a course of study in that it is the summary of the entire work of God's salvation. An interesting feature of the reading of this gospel in Byzantine churches is that it is read in several languages. The seventeen verses are read in twelve sections (to remind us that the risen Lord was seen by the eleven apostles and by Matthias who was chosen to replace Judas and these Twelve announced the resurrection to the world). The reason why the gospel was first read in many languages is because the emperor attended this Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Holy Wisdom and all the ambassadors to the Roman Empire (now called Byzantine Empire) were present. In order for all to understand the gospel it was read in many languages. This practice was then used in all Byzantine churches as the way to fulfill the command of the risen Lord to the apostles that was read in the gospel of the Easter Vigil on Great Saturday to "go, therefore, and teach all nations."

As mentioned the Prologue is an excellent summary of the entire gospel that the risen Lord charged must be taught. It begins by teaching that the Word of God, the Logos, is with God the Father and is one with God the Father and is really, truly God.

Next, the Prologue explains that the Word of God who is really God truly became a real man and lived among us. This Word is Light that enlightens all creation except Darkness that cannot grasp or overwhelm the Light. So God is not like Persian dualism of the past or the Star Wars divinity of the present. God is Light without darkness. Evil has no part with God.

## PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy  
for

Resurrection of the Lord - Pascha

### PLACE RIBBONS AT:

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

RED p. 164 Resurrection of the Lord

### ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: Festal Tones

**EXCEPT:** All You Who Have Been Baptized B  
Cherubic Hymn D  
Our Father - Paschal Melodies

1. Hymns during Incensation Your Resurrection
2. The Divine Liturgy begins on p. 11 BLUE
3. First, Second & Third Antiphons p. 164 -165 RED
4. At the Troparia:
  - Troparion of Pascha Special Tone 5 p. 164
  - Kontakion of Pascha Tone 8 p. 166
5. Instead of "Thrice Holy Hymn", All you who have been baptized..." p. 32 BLUE  
and reverse of this sheet
6. Scripture readings:
  - Prokeimenon of Pascha Tone 8 p. 166 RED
  - Epistle: Acts 1:1-8
  - Alleluia of Pascha Tone 4 p. 166 RED
  - Gospel: John 1:1-17
7. Cherubic Hymn D and Church Slavonic on reverse of this sheet
8. Instead of "*It is truly proper...*", "*Anhel Vopijasce*"
9. Instead of "*Blessed is He...*", Christ is Risen A
  - "*We have seen the true light...*", Christ is Risen A
  - "*May our mouth be filled...*", Christ is Risen B p. 171 RED

### JEDINORODNYJ SYNE – ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyñi i prisno i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amiñ. Jedinorodnyj Syne, i Slove Božij,

bezsmerten syj, i izvolivij spasenija našeho radi vplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i prisno-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravij, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu i Svjatому Duchu, spasi nas.

### **SVJATYJ BOŽE – HOLY GOD**

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas. (3)  
Slava Otcu, i Synu, i Svjatому Duchu, i nyňi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amin.  
Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.  
Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

### **IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY**

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjasščej Trojč'i trisvjatuju p'isň prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyňi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.  
Amiň. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Allilua. Allilua. Allilua.

### **SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolň nebo i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadyj vo inja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich

### **TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU**

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimitsja Bože naš.

### **DOSTOJNO JEST' – IT IS TRULY PROPER**

Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a Bohorodicu, prisnoblaženuju i preneporočuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česňjšuju Cheruvim i slavňjšuju 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 inja Tvoje. Da prijdet carstviye 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 iskušenje, no izbavi nas ot lukavaho.

### **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 Trojč'i poklanjajemsja, T'a bo nas spasla jest'.

### **DA ISPOLŇATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED**

Da ispolňatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojeho Hospodi, jako da vozpojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas Bože, pričastitsja svjatym bezsmertnym prečistym presvjatym i životvor'ascim Christe tvojim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja bozestvennyj pravdy Tvojeje. Allilua!

## **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 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) 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 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** – 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 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  
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](mailto: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>

### *Love Conquers All*

A story is told of a man who, while he lived upon the earth, was unconcerned about the state of his soul, or spiritual growth, or eternity. When he died he found himself not enjoying eternal happiness but, rather, suffering eternal torment.

His friends and relatives went down to the gates of hell and tried to intercede for him, giving him a positive endorsement and a good character reference, but the gates of hell would not open to release him. Likewise, his parish priest tried to plead for him saying that he really wasn't all that bad. Still, the gates of hell remained closed. Finally, came his mother. She did not plead for him, she did not try to bargain for him, she did not make excuses for him. She simply said, "Let me in." The gates

of hell opened immediately because they could not withstand the force of love.

Our Father among the Saints, John Chrysostom writes: "Let no one fear death, for our Savior's death has set us free. He has destroyed death by enduring it. He has despoiled death by going down to its kingdom. O Death where is your sting, O Hades where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are abolished! Christ is risen and life is freed! Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead, for Christ has become the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and honor forever!" (*Paschal Sermon*)

**Christ is Risen! Indeed He Risen!  
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!**