



# Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Tues-Fri: 10AM—5PM—For Sacramental Emergencies Call Fr. Lewis: (570) 573-1565

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## — Schedule of Divine Services —

### 10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: POST-FESTIVE DAY OF TRANSFIGURATION, THE HOLY APOSTLE MATTHIAS

<b>Saturday Aug. 8</b>	4:30–5PM	Mystery of Repentance*
	5:30PM	Vigil Divine Liturgy for Fr. Andre Mahanna by David & Sarah Malakauskas
<b>Sunday Aug. 9</b>	9–9:30AM	Mystery of Repentance*
	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the faithful of Epiphany Parish (streamed) Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 & Matthew 17:14-23
	11:20AM	Panachida for the repose of +Bernabe Garcia by Antonia Reidy
	1:00PM	Divine Liturgy for a Agnes Marie Ray by Martha Jane Ray

### The Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary (Holyday of Obligation—live-streamed)

<b>Fri. Aug. 14</b>	7:30PM	All-Night Vigil: Great Vespers and Matins with Procession of the Burial Shroud
	10:00PM	Office of Lamentations
	11:00PM—9:00AM	All-Night Vigil: Chanting the Psalms and private silent prayer
<b>Sat. Aug. 15</b>	9:00AM	Akathist in Honor of the Dormition of the Theotokos
	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos, offered for the faithful of Epiphany Parish

### 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: POST-FESTIVE DAY OF DORMITION

<b>Saturday Aug. 15</b>	4:30–5PM	Mystery of Repentance*
	5:30PM	Vigil Divine Liturgy for Fr. Milan Kasperek by David & Sarah Malakauskas
<b>Sunday Aug. 16</b>	9–9:30AM	Mystery of Repentance*
	10:00AM	Divine Liturgy for the faithful of Epiphany Parish (streamed) Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 & Matthew 18:23-35
	1:00PM	Divine Liturgy for Connie & Jim Eubanks by Ileana Bragg

\*Mystery of Repentance also available by appointment or before and after weekday services

**Welcome to our parish!** We are glad that you have chosen to participate in the Divine Liturgy with us today and we pray that it has been a spiritually nourishing experience. If you would like to register as a parishioner or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

**The Mysteries** (Sacraments) of the Church are available for all Baptized Catholics in Good Standing. This means that a

Catholic attends Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation, utilizes the Mystery of Repentance at least once a year, receives the Eucharist at least once a year, observes the church's penitential seasons and fasting regulations to include abstaining from meat or an equivalent penance on all Fridays except when mitigated, supports the Church in Her temporal needs through offering of time, talent, and treasure, and believes the Church's teachings on faith and morals.

During the month of August, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for +Mary Ellen Evan and Linda Goodloe by Nick and Susan Russo

Stewardship 8/02/2020	Aug. Off. Total:	\$2,119
Offertory \$2,119.00	Cap. Imp. Total:	\$180
Capital Imp. \$180	Aug Operating Budget	\$10,111

### LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Those who are ill or convalescing: Fr. Brian Higgins, Gary Parnaby Sr., Joseph & Joanne Baranko, Clara Vranich, Daniel Cunningham, Patricia Rabayda, Catherine Garcia, Betty Yurchik, Frank Korkowski, Patricia Anne Reidy, and Jeff Lovall. *May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years.*

Also, our deployed military members: Lt. Commander William Bridges, and Sergeant Francis "Joseph" Fuchko. *May God's Divine Care and Mercy be given to them and may their Guardian Angels protect them from harm. —Please let Fr. Lewis know if anyone should be added or taken away from these lists.*

**ON THE DISPENSATION OF OBLIGATION:** Bishop Kurt stated in his letter of May 13, which is posted on our website: **"Should I stay home from church, even though the church is open? In his chapter on the Holy Eucharist, St. Paul says, 'Let each one examine himself: If you think you are contagious, or if you think you are in danger, you are dispensed from any obligations to attend. Please stay home if you do not feel well.'"** This means that we have returned to our "normal" dispensations of attending holydays of obligation. Those who are vulnerable or who are sick are still dispensed from their obligation, but all others are encouraged to resume attendance.

**CLEANING HELP BETWEEN LITURGIES NEEDED:** We need volunteers to assist with cleaning the narthex and nave after the weekend Divine Liturgies. Please consider staying for a quick clean—see Fr. Lewis

**2020/2021 ECF SCHOOL YEAR:** We will be obtaining curriculum books for each student so that parents can teach the faith to their children at home instead of in-person classes this year. The **deadline for requesting materials is Aug 17th.**

**AVE MARIA SCHOLARSHIP FOR EASTERN CATHO-**

**LICS:** The Catholic University Ave Maria is offering a \$7,000/year scholarship to an Eastern Catholic first time freshman. Please visit [avemaria.edu/future-students/scholarships/](http://avemaria.edu/future-students/scholarships/) for more information.

**FEAST OF THE DORMITION:** For those who have decided to take up this voluntary fast, we will continue to fast this week until after celebrating the Divine Liturgy of the Dormition at 10AM on Saturday. The Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (Assumption) is a holyday of obligation and one of great importance in the life of the Church. We will gloriously celebrate this feast with a Liturgical All-Night Vigil and an actual All-Night Vigil from August 14-15 with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in the morning. Please note, there is no allowance for a "twofer" of attending the Saturday Vigil Liturgy because that liturgy is specifically for Sunday, and even though it occurs on the same day as the feast, it cannot suffice both obligations. Please join us for the glorious feast and stay during the night to



pray. One may visit our SignUpGenius link to sign up for keeping vigil at the tomb:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B-4BA8AE28A4FD0-dormition>

**The All-Night Vigil will be streamed for the entirety of the services from 7:30PM until 11:30AM**

**DEVOTIONAL ITEMS BLESSED:** To prepare for upcoming events, the faithful may desire to have several sacramental items in their homes such as: Holy Water, blessed candles, crucifix, rosaries, medals, and of course, icons. Please feel free to bring-in these items to be blessed. In the near future, we will have a communal blessing of candles on the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos on October 1.

## Upcoming Events

- Aug 14 All Night Vigil: Great Vespers with Matins for the Dormition of the Theotokos (Holyday of Obligation)  
Then, all night vigil through the night
- Aug 15 Akathist for the Dormition, then Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos
- Aug 18 August Men's Group Meeting
- Aug 25 August Women's Group Meeting
- Aug. 28 Great Vespers at 7:30PM for the feast of the Beheading of John the Baptist
- Aug. 30 3rd ByzanTeen Virtual Evening Out  
check bulletin & eparchy's website for info
- Aug. 31 Byzantine New Years Eve:  
end of the Church year

Divine Liturgy Intentions can now be accepted for 2020.  
Divine Liturgy and Panachida suggested stipend is \$15.



### LIGHT OF THE EAST FLYER: DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Since the 1st century, the Eastern Church has celebrated the death, resurrection and glorification of Christ's Mother, proclaiming that Mary has been taken

**BYZANTEEN VIRTUAL EVENING OUT:** The eparchy is continuing its series of Virtual events for the teens of the eparchy to get together and hear talks from different speakers. The third in this series will be on Sunday, August 30th REGISTER NOW on the eparchial website <http://www.eparchyofpassaic.com>. This month the theme is: *Faith and Reason: The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same* with special guest Subdeacon Tim Fariss.

by God into the heavenly kingdom in the fullness of her spiritual and bodily existence. Even though she had no personal sin, the Theotokos had to experience death, not "voluntarily" as her Son, but by the necessity of her mortal human nature which is indivisibly bound up with the corruption of this world. The Church teaches as well that Mary truly needed to be saved by Christ, as all human persons are saved, from the trials, sufferings and death of this world; and that having truly died, she was raised up by her Son as the Mother of Life and participates already in the eternal life of paradise which is prepared and promised to all who "hear the word of God and keep it" (Luke 11:27-28). Her "translation" (as the feast was called in the early Church) to heaven is the first one of all humanity; she is the first fruit of Christ's death and resurrection.

The feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (Assumption) is celebrated by the Church on August 15, a Day of Precept (obligation) for all Catholics. It is a proclamation that all people are "highly exalted" in

the blessedness of the victorious Christ, and that this high exaltation has already been accomplished in the Theotokos.

The "Falling Asleep" of the Mother of God is the sign, the guarantee, and the celebration that Mary's fate is the destiny of all those of "low estate" whose souls magnify the Lord, whose spirits rejoice in God the Saviour, and whose lives are totally dedicated to hearing and keeping the Word of God which is given to all of us by the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. With her, all people will be "blessed" to be "more honorable than the cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim" if they follow her example. All will have Christ born in them by the Holy Spirit. All will become temples of the living God. All will share in the eternal life of His Kingdom.

Holy Tradition holds that the Mother of God was gloriously carried to heaven, body and soul. As the time of her repose approached, the Apostles were at her bedside as the inexpressible Light of Divine Glory shone forth. Descending from Heaven was Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by Angels, Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who prophesied in ages past concerning the Virgin Mary. Seeing Christ, the Mother of God rose from her bed to meet her Son Who bid her enter into Life Eternal. Without any bodily suffering, as though in sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave her soul into the hands of her Son and God. Kissing the all-pure body with reverence, the Apostles buried her earthly body near the Garden of Gethsemane where they chanted psalms for three days. The Apostle Thomas was not present at the burial of the Mother of God. Arriving late on the third day at Gethsemane, he lay down at the tomb and with bitter tears asked that he might be permitted to look once more upon the Mother of God and bid her farewell. The Apostles out of pity for him decided to open the tomb and permit him the comfort of venerating the all-pure body of the Ever-Vir-

gin Mary. Having opened the grave, they found in it, only the burial shroud and an abundance of fragrant flowers. Thus they knew for certain of the bodily ascent of the Most Holy Virgin Mary to Heaven. On this day, then, the tradition of the Eastern Church is to bring fragrant flowers to the Theotokos before Liturgy to remember her empty tomb and to bless flowers as well as scented herbs for culinary and medicinal use.

This Feast of the Church and the icon celebrate a fundamental teaching of our faith — the Resurrection of the body which is accomplished by the divine will of God. This is a feast of hope in the Resurrection and life eternal. Everything that is praised and glorified in Mary is a sign of what is offered to all persons. As we remember the Dormition of the Theotokos, we prepare ourselves to one day be received into the new life of the age to come. As we journey toward our heavenly abode, we also affirm through this Feast that the Mother of God intercedes for us. Through Christ she has become the Mother of all, embracing us with divine love.