



Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

2030 Old Alabama Road, Roswell, GA 30076 • Office: (770) 993-0973

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

Fr. Lewis M. Rabayda, Parochial Administrator • email: fatherlewis@epiphanybyz.org

Fr. Deacon James Smith • Fr. Deacon John Reed • Deacon Candidate Alex Adekambi

Email: office@epiphanybyz.org • Website: <http://epiphanybyz.org> • YouTube

—Schedule of Divine Services—

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST; MEMORY OF OUR HOLY MOTHER, MARY OF EGYPT TONE 1

- Saturday Mar. 20** 4:30–5PM Mystery of Repentance*
5:30PM Vigil Divine Liturgy (St. Basil) for Fr. Dismas Kimboi by David and Sarah Malakauskas
6:45PM Panachida for the repose of +HRH. Prince Ferdinand Duke of Castro by Michael Limongello
7:30PM Young Adult Social by the campfire
- Sunday Mar. 21** 9–9:30AM Mystery of Repentance*
9:30AM Third Hour
10:00AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish (streamed)
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 & Galatians 3:23-29 :: Mark 10:32-45 & Luke 7:36-50
- Wed. Mar. 24** **OUR VENERABLE FATHER ZACHARY** (abstinence from meat)
7:30PM Bible Study on 1Peter
8:30PM Great Compline for the Great Fast with Litija for Annunciation
- Thurs. Mar. 25** **ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS** (Solemn Holyday; complete mitigation of the fast)
7:30PM Vigil Divine Liturgy for Durazi Savasir by Tahir Savasir
- Fri. Mar. 26** **SYNAXIS OF GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL** (abstinence from meat, mitigation of wine and oil)
10:00AM Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory (Pre-Sanctified) for the repose of
+The Holy Souls in Purgatory by Ileana Bragg
- Sat. Mar. 27** **Lazarus Saturday** (mitigation of wine and oil)
- PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY** (Feast of Our Lord; today is not a day of fast—complete mitigation)
- Saturday Mar. 27** 4:30–5PM Mystery of Repentance*
5:20PM Blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows
5:30PM Divine Liturgy with the Office of Christian Initiation of
Dominic Bartholomew Abraham Lazarus D'Alessandro
- Sunday Mar. 28** 9–9:30AM Mystery of Repentance*
10:00AM Blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows with Palm Sunday Procession
10:10AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish (streamed)
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 :: John 12:1-18

*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 Bap-

tized 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.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Those who are ill or convalescing: Suzanne Pichnarcik, Anna Cospelich, Ed Sabula, Alexandria Odish, Joseph & Joanne Baranko, Clara Vranich, 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, Sergeant Francis “Joseph” Fuchko, and the newly enlisted David Russo.

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.

2020 ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL: Our parish goal is the same as last year at \$10,800. As of March 2, we have reached our goal! **So far, 33 families have contributed \$11,450! Thank you so much for your incredible generosity!**

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION REPORTS: If you would like your contribution report quicker than snail mail, then Fr. Lewis can email your report to you, please email the parish office.

NOTES FROM THE TYPICON: “All days of the Great Fast are days of Alleluia (days on which the Divine Liturgy is not to be celebrated), unless otherwise noted.”

“The Great Fast is our penitential preparation for the great feast of Pascha (Passover). As such, it is one of the most ancient parts of the liturgical year. Its forty days symbolized the forty years the Israelites wandered in the desert, while the divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is the fulfillment of the promise of the manna, as St. John wrote, ‘So Jesus said to them, ‘Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven’ (John 6:32). In the Great Fast we imitate Jesus our Lord, who fasted for forty days in the desert following

his baptism. The Feast of Pascha was also the time for baptisms, and so the Great Fast was a time of preparation for baptism. Our observance of the Great Fast, therefore, is our renewal of our baptismal fervor.”



PERK ARTISAN COFFEE FUNDRAISER: We have enrolled in a fundraising program for those who enjoy excellent freshly roasted coffee. For each bag sold, the parish will receive a \$4 donation! The coffee is shipped to your home and may be whole bean or ground. Please visit our website for the link to Perk Artisan Coffee.

FASTING: Remember, there is no alternate penance for not adhering to the fasting regimen outlined in the weekly schedule.

CHANGE IN PASCHA SERVICES: Please note that this year we will be adhering to the schedule change of last year because of the length of services. The Typicon states that the Vigil Basil liturgy for Holy Saturday evening is not to be omitted for any reason, as it is the most important liturgy of the year. However, it is a little over two hours in duration, so we will move the Resurrection Matins to the morning of Pascha. Sunday morning will begin with Resurrection Matins, and then we will proceed with the Paschal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom and end with the blessing of baskets.

We will also have the opportunity to once again guard the Tomb through the night. One may sign up to guard a specific hour of the night, and the vigil will end with a reader-led Jerusalem Matins.

**During the month of March, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle
for the repose of +Edward & +Marie Klotz by Ed Klotz**

**Changeable Parts of the Divine Liturgy
March 20/21 for the Teal Pew Book**

Vigil Liturgy Begins on p. 104
Tone 1 Psalm 140 p. 123

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Propers: p. 230 or see insert
Troparion Tone 1p. 125

Typical Psalms (instead of Sunday Antiphons): p.16-17

Hymn of the Incarnation: C p. 21

Thrice Holy Hymn: D p. 29

Cherubikon: F p. 47

Creed: A p. 51

Anaphora of St. Basil: p. 96-103

Our Father: Tone 1 p. 66

"We Have Seen": B p. 83

"May Our Mouths Be Filled": B p. 85

"Blessed be the Name of the Lord": B p.88

Thanksgiving Prayers: p.95-96

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 25 7:30PM: Annunciation of the Theotokos
(Solemn Holyday) Vespereal Liturgy
- Apr. 5 7:30PM Bright Monday Paschal Divine
Liturgy with Gospel Procession
- Apr. 11 Monthly Picnic with Easter Egg Hunt

Months available for Altar Lamp Memorials: July, August,
September, October, November, & December.

Suggested offering is \$50

Stewardship 3/07/2021	Lenten Coll.	\$20
Offertory	Easter Flowers	\$150
Online Giving	Mar. Off. Total:	\$7,428.24
Capital Imp.	Cap. Imp. Total:	\$1,245
Lenten Coll.	Lenten Coll.	\$70
ECL	ECL	\$12
Stewardship 3/14/2021	Easter Flowers	\$150
Offertory	Mar. Operating Budget	\$9,179
Online Giving		
Capital Imp.		

NOTES FROM THE TYPICON ON THE FINAL WEEK OF THE FAST: Friday, March 26 is the end of the forty-day fast before Pascha that runs from the Monday after Cheese-fare Sunday until the day before Lazarus Saturday. In origin this fast seems to be an imitation of the forty-day fast Jesus made after His baptism in the Jordan. In Egypt, it prepared the catechumens for the reception of baptism on the fortieth day after Theophany. Today it is done immediately before Pascha and concludes with a day of baptism on Lazarus Saturday. The Great and Holy Week remains as a period of six days of even more intense penance as an immediate preparation for Pascha, perhaps originating in the Jewish Week of Unleavened Bread, which was understood as a period of fast. The Paschal Fast of Holy Week is, therefore, more ancient than that of the Great Forty-day Fast.

PRAYER TO ST. HELEN FROM DCN. JAMES' HOMILY:
“Holy & blessed St. Helen, with the anguish & devotion with which you sought the Cross of Christ, I plead that You give me God’s grace to suffer in patience the labors of this life, so that through them & through your intercession & protection, I will be able to seek & carry the Cross, which God has placed upon me, so that I can serve Him in this life & enjoy His glory ever after. Amen.”

Lenten Homily Notes – Sunday of St Mary of Egypt (supplied by the Eparchy)

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

We have been spending this Great Lent focusing on the *Prayer of Preparation for Holy Communion* from our Byzantine Divine Liturgy.

Today – this Sunday before Palm Sunday, I want to conclude these reflections by focusing on the final part of this prayer: *O Lord, I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious body and your life-giving blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting. Amen.*

It is important to recall that this prayer begins with: *“O Lord, I believe and profess that you are truly Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners of whom I am the first.”*

Therefore in this prayer, what begins as a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God Made Flesh, concludes with a profession of faith of Jesus Christ the Son of God *Made Flesh Made Bread of Life* for us.

Our faith in Christ leads us to profess a faith in both His words and His deeds, including the Sacred Mystery He established in the Holy Eucharist.

It is here that faith is professed not simply with words, but also with deeds, for when we approach the Holy Chalice to receive the Holy Gifts as God’s Holy People, we are doing so as an act of faith – a *faith* that believes in all of what Christ reveals, a *faith* that trusts in His words and providential care for us in giving us these Sacred Mysteries, and a *faith* which expresses allegiance to Him as Lord and King and which leads to salvation.

Abraham who is our spiritual father and model of faith asked for a sign that God would fulfill His promises to give him the son he was promised because he was getting old and his wife was barren. What sign did God give him? He told him to look at the stars in the sky and that his descendants would number like the stars.

Now this was said to him in broad daylight where only the blue sky could be seen! But Abraham as a nomad in the desert knew that the sky was full of stars and has seen them many times in his travels to the Promised Land. What was God teaching Abraham? He was teaching him that just as Abraham knew that, although they were for the moment hidden behind the veil of the sunlit sky, a vast multitude of stars representing God’s promise to him. Even though his senses saw only the veil, the mystery of the promise was behind them.

In this same way, we may experience only the sensible veil of Bread and Wine in the Holy Eucharist, but the mystery of Christ’s covenant Promises – “This is My Body” and “This is My Blood” means that these gifts are truly His most precious body and His life-giving blood and that by receiving them, we are also receiving the invisible Fire of the Holy Spirit for the remission of our sins and for life everlasting.

As St Ephrem the Syrian Deacon writes in his beautiful work, *Hymns on Faith*:

In your Bread is hidden a Spirit not to be eaten,

In your Wine dwells a Fire not to be drunk.

*Spirit in your Bread, Fire in your Wine,
A wonder set apart, yet received by our lips!*

*See, Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you!
See, Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptized!*

*Fire and Spirit in our Baptism;
In the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit!*

*Your Bread kills the Devourer death who had made us his bread,
Your Cup destroys death which was swallowing us up.*

We have eaten you, Lord, we have drunk you, Not to exhaust you, but to live by you.

And we conclude our prayer of preparation calling out to God for His healing mercy which is the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit:

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.

O Lord, forgive me for I have sinned without number.

In these words, may we think today of the great Saint Mary of Egypt, who lived this prayer for many decades in hunger and anticipation of receiving one last time the Sacred Mysteries of Our Lord's Body and Blood from the holy priest-monk, Saint Zosimas.

Let us approach, receive, and act upon this great Mystery of Faith, full of faith, hope, and burning charity that leads us to be more faithful and fervent disciples after the model of great saints like Saint Mary of Egypt.

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

—Schedule of Divine Services for Great and Holy Week—

FLOWERY AND PALM SUNDAY (FEAST OF OUR LORD, TODAY IS NOT A DAY OF FAST)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday Mar. 27 | 5:30PM | Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom with the Mystery of Christian Initiation of Dominic Bartholomew D'Alessandro |
| Sunday Mar. 28 | 10:00AM | Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18 |
| Holy Mon. Mar. 29 | 10:00AM | Bridegroom Matins |
| Holy Wed. Mar. 31 | 5:30PM | The Mystery of Repentance until 7PM |
| | 7:30PM | Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory (simple abstinence from meat) |
| Holy Thurs. Apr. 1 | 7:30PM | Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil |
| Good Friday Apr. 2 | 10:00AM | (day of strict fast, no meat or dairy) Passion Matins |
| | 7:30PM | Burial Vespers |
| Good Sat. Apr. 3 | 8:00AM | (day of strict fast, mitigation of wine) Jerusalem Matins (reader led) |

PASCHA: THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday Apr. 3 | 7:30PM | Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
Romans 6:3-11 & Matthew 28:1-20 |
| | 9:45PM | The Blessing of Baskets |
| Sunday Apr. 4 | 10:00AM | Resurrection Matins |
| | 11:15AM | Divine Liturgy of for the faithful of Epiphany Parish
Epistle: Acts 1:1-8; John 1:1-17 |

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