



# 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 Live-Stream of Divine Services—

### 5TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: OUR HOLY MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT—TONE 1

**Sunday Mar. 29** 10:00AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish  
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 & Galatians 3:23-29; Mark 10:32-45 & Luke 7:36-50

**Wednesday Apr. 1** **OUR HOLY MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT** (simple abstinence from meat)

**Friday Apr. 3** **OUR VENERABLE FATHER AND CONFESSOR NICETAS** (simple abstinence from meat)  
7:30PM Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory

### FLOWERY AND PALM SUNDAY—TONE 1 (FEAST OF OUR LORD, TODAY IS NOT A DAY OF FAST)

**Sunday Apr. 5** 10:00AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish  
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18

## —Schedule of Open Church and Confession—

**Wednesday Apr. 1** 6:30PM-7:30PM Church Open for private prayer and confession

**Friday Apr. 3** 6:30PM-7:30PM Church Open for private prayer and confession

**Saturday Apr. 4** 4:30PM-5:30PM Church Open for private prayer and confession

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

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

**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

### **LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER:**

Those who are ill or convalescing: Clara Vranich, Daniel Cunningham, James Murray, Patricia Rabayda, Catherine Garcia, Betty Yurchik, 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*

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.

*blessed years.*

Also, our deployed military members: Lt. Commander William Bridges, and Specialist 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.*

<b>Stewardship 3/01/2020</b>	<b>Stewardship 3/22/2020</b>
Offertory \$3,413.00	Offertory \$630.00
Capital Imp. \$705	Capital Imp. \$75
Lent \$20	Easter Flowers \$25
<b>Stewardship 3/08/2020</b>	<b>Mar. Off. Total: \$10,787.00</b>
Offertory \$2,637.00	<b>Cap. Imp. Total: \$1,085</b>
Capital Imp. \$205	<b>Lent \$20</b>
Easter Flowers \$20	<b>Easter Flowers \$195</b>
<b>Stewardship 3/15/2020</b>	Mar. Operating Budget \$11,183
Offertory \$4,107.00	
Capital Imp. \$100	
Easter Flowers \$150	

**THE GREAT FAST:** The Great Fast is upon us. This wonderful time of repentance, fasting, prayer, alms-giving, and purification of soul and body is given to us by the Church and by Christ for our benefit. Let us take this Fast seriously, so that we may become ever more closer to Jesus Christ, so that we can be conduits of His Holy Spirit to those we encounter.

**CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MAILED IN:** Fr. Lewis would like to remind everyone that those who are in the financial position to continue to support the church implore you to continue to make your weekly or monthly contributions to our parish via the US Mail or through your on-line banking Bill Pay services. If we do not continue to receive contributions, we will not be able to continue the great success we have had these past two years. We are on our way to funding many much needed repairs and improvements in the coming years, and we hope to retain the momentum we have seen from your abundant generosity. May God continue to bless you and your families and keep you healthy and safe in these uncertain times.

**NOTES ABOUT HOLY WEEK AND COVID-19:** Holy Week is the most solemn and prayerful time of the liturgical calendar. We are planning to have many special services to commemorate Christ's Saving Passion and Resurrection. However, due to the unavoidable issue of the COVID-19 virus, Fr. Lewis has petitioned Bishop Kurt to allow us to offer services outside. Bishop Kurt has informally replied that we may hold these services

outside, unless our local civil authorities have made other restrictions, and that he will give guidelines for this in the near future. Fr. Lewis hopes that the civil authorities allow those of us who wish to, publicly gather to celebrate these important feasts in person, or to at least participate in them from home via Live-Stream.

Since Great and Holy Friday is the most solemn of these days, Fr. Lewis suggests that those who are able, should take off of work on this day, or specifically set aside the time at home, so that all can come to a deeper understanding of Christ's Passion, and keep this a day of prayer and fasting. We will have two services this day: Passion Matins in the morning, and Burial Vespers in the evening.

**FURTHER DISPENSATION OF OBLIGATION:** Bishop Kurt has extended the dispensation from attending the Sunday Divine Liturgy for all of the faithful of the Eparchy of Passaic through April 12, Pascha. However, he reminds the faithful that we must still keep Sunday a Holy Day.

Altar Lamp Memorials and Divine Liturgy Intentions can now be accepted for 2020. Remaining Months for Altar Lamps:  
**October, November, and December.**  
Altar Lamps suggested donation is \$50, and Divine Liturgy and Panachida suggested stipend is \$15.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Apr. 6 Bridegroom Matins 10AM
- Apr. 8 Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory 7:30PM
- Apr. 9 Vespers with D. Liturgy of St. Basil 7:30PM
- Apr. 10 Passion Matins 10AM  
Burial Vespers 7:30PM
- Apr. 11 Vespers with D. Liturgy St. Basil 8:30PM  
Resurrection Matins 10PM
- Apr. 12 Divine Liturgy 10AM

excerpt from the Life of  
**Our Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt**

Many days passed and at last recovering from his illness he remained in the monastery. And when attain the monks returned and the day of the Last Supper dawned, he did as he had been ordered. and placing some of the most pure Body and Blood into a small chalice and putting some figs and dates and lentils soaked in water into a small basket, he departed for the desert and reached the banks of the Jordan and sat down to wait for the saint. He waited for a long while and then began to doubt. then raising his eyes to heaven, he began to pray: "Grant me O Lord, to behold that which Thou hast allowed be to behold once. do not let me depart in vain, being the burden of my sins." And then another thought struck him: "And what if she does come? There is no boat; how will she cross the Jordan to come to me who am so unworthy?" And as he was pondering thus he saw the holy woman appear and stand on the other side of the river. Zosima got up rejoicing and glorifying and thanking God. And again the thought came to him that she could not cross the Jordan. Then he saw that she made the sign of the Cross over the waters of the Jordan (and the night was a moonlight one, as he related afterwards) and then she at once stepped on to the waters and began walking across the surface towards him. And when he wanted to prostrate himself, she cried to him while still walking on the water: "What are you doing, Abba, you are a priest and carrying the divine Gifts!" He obeyed her and on reaching the shore she said to the elder: "Bless, father, bless me!" He answered her trembling, for a state of confusion had overcome him at the sight of the miracle: "Truly God did not lie when He promised that when we purify ourselves we shall be like Him. Glory to Thee, Christ our God, Who has shown me through this thy slave how far away I stand from perfection." Here the woman asked him to say the Creed and our Father. He began, she finished the prayer and according to the custom of that time gave him the kiss of peace on the lips. Having partaken of the Holy Mysteries, she raised her hands to heaven and sighed with tears in her eyes, exclaiming: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Lord, according to Thy word; for my eyes have seen Thy salvation."

**Changeable Parts of the Divine Liturgy**

**Mar. 14/15 for the Teal Pew Book**

In place of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Antiphons, we will sing the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Typical Psalms Simple Form p. 16-17

followed by the Beatitudes p. 23

Propers: Tone 1 p. 125 & 5th Sun. of the Fast p. 230

Hymn of the Incarnation: C p. 21

Thrice Holy Hymn: D p. 29

Cherubikon: F p. 47

Creed: B p. 53

"Holy Holy Holy": Basil A p. 96

Our Father: Tone 1 p. 66

"We Have Seen": A p. 82

"May Our Mouths Be Filled": A p. 84

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

Closing Hymn, then

Prayers After Receiving Holy Communion p. 95

**THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM**

*to be prayed each weekday of The Fast*

Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter. (*Prostration*)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. (*Prostration*)

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins, and not judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. (*Prostration*)

**LITURGICAL NOTES**

A **bow** is an inclination of the head at the shoulders while making the sign of the cross.

"To make a great bow or prostration" means to make the sign of the cross, kneel, and then touch the forehead to the floor. Those who cannot make a full prostration may make a **profound bow**, touching the floor with the fingers and making a sign of the cross on themselves.



From left to right: a bow, a profound bow, and a prostration



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 27, 2020

To the faithful of the Eparchy of Passaic:

On March 16, all public services in the Eparchy of Passaic were cancelled through March 29, and the people were dispensed from the obligation to attend the Eucharist on Sundays.

Now all the faithful are DISPENSED from the obligation to attend the Eucharist on Sunday through April 12, that is, Pascha or Easter Sunday. Please remember that the Bishop cannot dispense from Divine Law. We are all bound by Divine Law to keep holy the Lord's Day by prayer and avoiding unnecessary work.

From now the PUBLIC SERVICES ARE SUSPENDED INSIDE CHURCHES through April 4, that is, Flowery Sunday or Palm Sunday. However, the parish may livestream a service without the public present. A parish may have a service in the parking lot or a large open area outside, provided that permission is given by the local government, and the recommendations of the medical experts are followed. However, please respect local sentiment as well. In the more densely populated areas, many people are in a state of panic.

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals may be celebrated with the immediate family provided that there are no more than ten people total, as requested by our President.

Priests may celebrate the Eucharist, even with no one in attendance, and the pastor is authorized to move or combine stipends for the good of the faithful.

Please pray for the medical workers and first responders in this very difficult time. Please pray for our civil authorities who are responsible for difficult decisions.

I commend you to the protection of the Archangel Michael, and especially to the care of the all holy Mother of God.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Kurt Burnette  
Eparchial Bishop of Passaic