

# Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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**June 25, 2017 + 3rd Sunday after Pentecost: Tone 2**

<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
<b>Collection</b>	Last week: <b>\$2,826.00</b> . God bless you for your continued generosity.
<b>Sunday Readings</b>	Romans 5:1-10 + Matthew 6:22-33
<b>Sacramental Needs</b>	Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

## The Light of the East ...

*"He who receives Communion is made holy and Divinized in soul and body in the same way that water, set over a fire, becomes boiling... Communion works like yeast that has been mixed into dough so that it leavens the whole mass; ...Just as by melting two candles together you get one piece of wax, so, I think, one who receives the Flesh and Blood of Jesus is fused together with Him by this Communion, and the soul finds that he is in Christ and Christ is in him."*

*Saint Cyril of Alexandria (376-444 AD)*

**Feast of Saints Peter and Paul.** This coming **Thursday, June 29**, is the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul. For all Byzantine Catholics, it is a day of **solemn precept** (holy day of obligation). Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 7:30 PM.

**Welcome Juliana Marie.** With joy and thanksgiving to Almighty God, we welcome to our family in Christ, **Juliana Marie Fuchko**, born June 14, 2017. May God grant to Juliana, her loving parents, and all her brothers and sisters, peace, health and happiness for many blessed years!

**Steeple Repairs.** The steeples are almost finished. It is a such a joy to see them, restored and repainted, now rising again to the heavens to proclaim the glory of God. The repair work was

extensive and a major expense for us. Please continue to remember this important capital project in the second collection. Your generosity in helping to defer this cost is truly appreciated.

**Altar Lamp.** During the month of June, the Divine Presence Altar Lamp burns continuously before Our Lord in memory of **+Ernest and +Irene Russo**, the parents of Nick Russo.



**Fortnight for Freedom 2017: Freedom for Mission.** Since 2011 the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops sets aside June 21 to July 4 as a time of prayer, fasting, reflection and action for all Catholics. The purpose of the **Fortnight for Freedom** is to raise awareness about the importance of religious freedom and to serve as a vital channel for promoting the preservation and protection of our religious liberty across the country.

This year's focus is the importance and value of our freedom to be a witness to the Catholic faith in how we pray and serve others. Religious freedom, a major focal point today, is a fundamental right. It means that government cannot coerce people into acting against their consciences. In this time of increasing polarization, our Catholic tradition has much to contribute to a better understanding in a way that respects all people. Religious liberty is not only about our ability to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday or to teach our children to pray both at home and in public. It is also about doing what our faith calls us to do, about believing in the absolute dignity of every human life from the moment of conception until the time of natural death, without having to ever compromise that very same faith.

We are Catholics. We are Americans. We are proud to be both, grateful for the gift of faith which is ours as Christian disciples, and grateful for the gift of liberty which is ours as American citizens. To be Catholic and American should mean not having to choose one over the other. Our allegiances are distinct, but they need not be contradictory, and should instead be complementary. We are called to follow Christ as missionary disciples by seeking the truth, serving others, and living our faith in all that we do. Let us as a parish set aside these fourteen days of the **Fortnight for Freedom** as a time of fasting and prayer ... to beseech our heavenly Father to bless our beloved country, to send down upon us the grace, courage and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, and to grant us a new birth of freedom in Christ Jesus.

For more information on the **Fortnight for Freedom**, visit the US Catholic Bishops website at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/our-first-most-cherished-liberty.cfm>.

**Founders Day, Sunday October 1, 2017: Our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Honoring our past ... Building our future!**

*If you can be on the steering committee, please see Fr. Deacon Michael. The committee will meet in the next weeks to share ideas and to put together a final program to present to Fr. Deacon James and the parish. This is Our Day ... let's make it great!*

Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!