

Our Faith and Christ's Action

The liturgical service takes place on earth, but it belongs to the realm of heavenly realities. In fact, it was not instituted by a human being or an angel, but by the Spirit himself, so that those who are still living in the flesh should think of performing the service of angels.

O what mercy, O what love of God for human beings! Christ who is seated with the Father in highest heaven is at that moment grasped by the hands of all and does not hesitate to give Himself to anyone who wants to embrace Him and be bound to Him.

He whom the eyes of faith perceive is possessed by everyone.

You remember how Elijah was surrounded by a great crowd and had in front of him the victim for sacrifice placed on the stone (see 1 Kings 18). Everyone stood stock still. The silence was complete. Only the prophet raised a prayer. Suddenly from heaven came down fire on the victim. It was a marvelous spectacle that filled everyone with amazement.

Here, however, something much more than a marvelous spectacle is unfolded. Something is happening that is greater than any marvel. Here the priest draws down not fire but the Holy Spirit Himself.

St. John Chrysostom

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing of the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:12-19)



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

www.patronagechurch.com / Facebook: Patronagechurch
patronage.church@gmail.com

Office: (410) 247-4936

Administrator: Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon Phone: 412-713-4520
 Email: vasyl.symyon@gmail.com Cantor: Michael Kulka
 Rev. Deacon Anthony Kotlar, Sr. Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.
 Email: Kotlar@alum.mit.edu Cantor: Anne Marie Kotlar
 Office Assistant: Sharon Kotula; Email: d.kotula@comcast.net

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Augustine Catholic Church: 32 E. Potomac St., Williamsport, MD 21795

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: (301) 791-0930/axxearp@yahoo.com

Divine Liturgy Schedule: Saturday December 13th, 20th, and 27th; at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Nicholas of Myra – Archbishop Saturday, 12.6.2025	4:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For the Repose of the Soul of: +Very Rev. Conan Timoney Requested by: Patronage Church Parishioners
Maternity of the Holy Anna Monday, 12.8.2025	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners
Sunday of the Forefathers 12.14.2025	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Souls of: +Mary and +John Hardy Requested by: Anna Esquela

Nicholas of Myra - Archbishop

Today's Propers are a handout located on the shelf in the Narthex.

HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE: Confession is available beginning an hour before Divine Liturgy, and ending 15 minutes before the start of services.

HOLY COMMUNION AND VISITATION OF THE SICK: Holy Communion can be brought to parishioners who are ill, in the hospital, or at home. If you would like to receive Communion, or a visit by either Fr. Vasyl or Deacon Tony, you can send the church an email, and let us know, or contact either one personally.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na v'iki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon be restored to their land, our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, and those who cannot make it to church. Also, Fr. Vasyl Symyon, Greg Rudy, Charlie Toth, Larissa Toth, Tony Kotlar, Jr., Mary Hrinda, Michael Demyan, Michael Skovran, Mary Ann Ondrish, Betty Charlock, Elizabeth Hresko, John Hanyok, Ann Marie Elwell, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Joe Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Melanie Copper, Julie Wiegand, Natalie, Edin, +Walter Lourdes Najera Herder, Mark and Betsey Herder, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world. Please help us keep our prayer list up to date. Let us know if we need to remove or add a name by sending an email to our church.

*May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies,
grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

STEWARDSHIP: You honor God and our Church by continuing to tithe each week. An offertory basket is on the table in the back of our Temple for your weekly donation. You may also mail your donation to our church, or donate using Tithe.ly online at: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>. The link is also on the first page of our website.
“Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth” (Dt. 8:18).

NATIVITY FAST RETREAT: Thank you to Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM, for being the presenter at today's retreat, and to everyone who helped plan and organize this event. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION: Please join us after Divine Liturgy today to continue our St. Nicholas celebration in our social hall. Children in ECF will be participating in a play, followed by a visit from St. Nicholas, himself. We will then enjoy a pot-luck dinner. Thank you to those who set up our social hall, the students in ECF who are participating in today's play, and to everyone who prepared a dish for our pot-luck dinner.

CHURCH DECORATIONS: Thank you to everyone who volunteered last Sunday, and decorated our church and social hall for St. Nicholas and Christmas. We also appreciate the children in ECF who made ornaments, over the course of several weeks, that are displayed on the tree in our social hall. Great job!

“GIFT FROM ST. NICHOLAS:” Thank you to those who made a donation to benefit the Seminarians in Uzhhorod, Ukraine. Your generosity was greatly appreciated!

ECF ST. NICHOLAS SERVICE PROJECT: Today is the last day we are accepting donations to benefit the Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots” organization. You can place your donation in the large boxes located in the social hall near the Christmas tree. Thank you to those who have already made a donation!

FREEZER SALE: Help us clear our church freezer. For sale are: a variety of Pirohi at \$7/bag; smoked and fresh Kolbassi at \$6/bag, 1 cheesecake for \$15; and nut, poppy, and raspberry Kolachi at \$16/each. Please see Mary Demyan after Liturgy if you are interested in purchasing any. Quantities are limited!

“THE CALL OF THE DISCIPLES” PILGRIM VOCATION ICON PROGRAM: Week #10 – Every family is encouraged to sign-up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. By welcoming the icon into your home for one week, you become part of a powerful movement of prayer and discernment. Be a source of inspiration and grace in our parish community. Remember to bring the icon and prayer booklet to church the following week, and place it on the Tetrapod for the next family on the list. Any questions, please contact Fr. Vasyl.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: If your child would like to take part in our annual Christmas Eve program on **Wednesday, December 24th** at 4:00pm, please contact Sharon Kotula (d.kotula@comcast.net), and let her know no later than Sunday, December 14th. Practice will take place after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 21st.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER SALE: Our parish is once again sponsoring a Christmas Poinsettia sale. This is a fundraiser, and each Poinsettia plant is \$14.00. The flowers will be placed within the church and altar for Christmas Divine Liturgy. Each commemoration will be published in a special insert. Plants may be taken by the giver after Christmas Liturgy. An order form can be found on the shelf in the Narthex, or on our website. The deadline to place an order is next **Sunday, December 14th**, so that the insert for our Christmas bulletin can be prepared. You can place your completed form either in our offertory basket, or mail it to the church. Please make checks payable to: Patronage Church. Cash will also be accepted. Thank you for your support!

"OUR DAILY BREAD" TOILETRY DONATIONS: Many thanks to those who donated toiletries to benefit "Our Daily Bread." Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

ST. NICHOLAS MINISTRY – PATRONAGE GREETERS: A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you would like to volunteer to be a parish greeter welcoming new faces to our church community. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

EASTERN CATHOLIC LIFE (ECL): For those who are not familiar with the ECL, this is our Eparchy of Passaic's newspaper. We are in the process of updating our ECL subscription list for 2026. If you would like to either newly subscribe or renew your subscription to the ECL, please send the church an email, and let us know by **Sunday, January 4th**, so that we can send our updated parish list to the Eparchy of Passaic. The cost is \$20/year, and checks should be made payable to: Patronage Church (please mark on the memo of your check that this is for the ECL). Cash will also be accepted. Those that receive church envelopes, can find a pink ECL envelope in the packet you received in the mail.

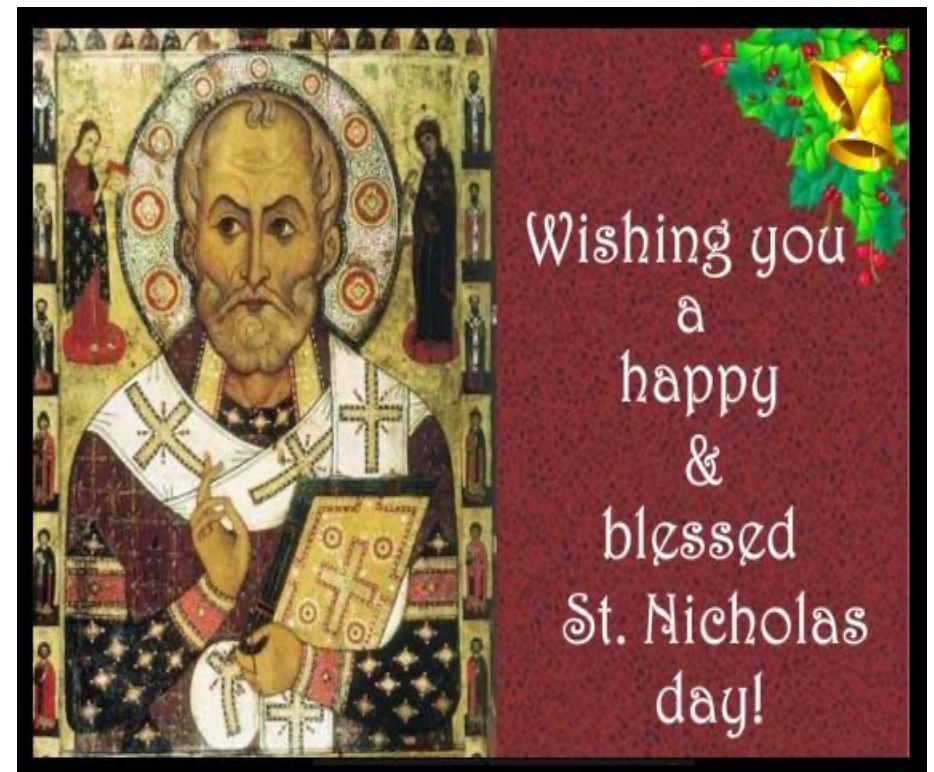
ADULT ENRICHMENT MINISTRY: Our next session will take place on **Sunday, December 14th**. Everyone is welcome to attend!

ICONOGRAPHY CLASS: There are only a few slots left for our Iconography Class scheduled for **February 27th, 28th, and March 1, 2026**, at Patronage Church. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kevin Ross (keviross@gmail.com), as soon as possible. The total cost for this Iconography class is \$250, with \$50 due immediately to hold your registration, and \$200 due on the date of the first class.

GCU - 2025-2026 SCHOLARSHIP: The GCU is now accepting applications for the GCU Scholarship Awards. All applications must be completed online, and applicants must be a GCU member as of December 31, 2024, with a permanent life insurance certificate or annuity with a balance of \$2,000 or more, to be considered for the award. For complete information on scholarships available, requirements and to apply for the award, please visit www.gcuusa.com, and click on "Scholarships-Learn More" link. Applications for the 2025-26 scholarship will be available through December 31, 2025.

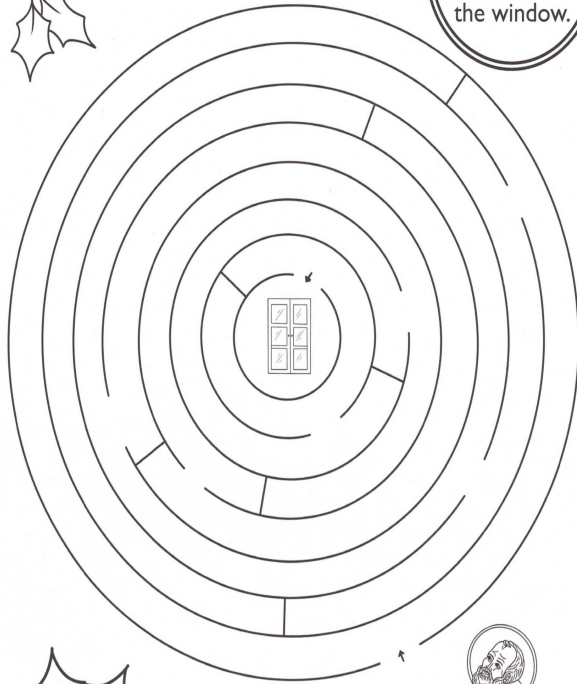
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Children's Corner

Help St.
Nicholas bring
gold coins to
the window.

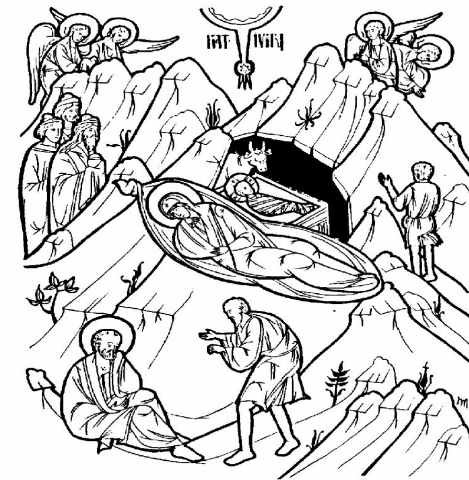


Schedule of Christmas Services 2025

The Feast of the Nativity

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Christos Razdajetsja! Slavite Jeho!



Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Christmas Eve –

Compline with St. John Chrysostom Liturgy: 4pm

Thursday, December 25, 2025 – Nativity of Our Lord –

Divine Liturgy: 9am

UPDATE - BISHOP'S APPEAL 2025: The Bishop's Appeal 2025, began in October. Congratulations! We have now exceeded our goal of \$9,800.00! ***God bless you for your generosity to our Eparchy.*** You can still pledge to the Bishop's Appeal, and payments will be accepted through June 30, 2026. Any contributions received after December 31, 2025, must be attributed to the 2026 tax year. Checks must be made payable to: *Eparchy of Passaic*, and mailed to: 445 Lackawanna Avenue, Woodland Park, NJ 07424-2969. You can also pledge online at: www.eparchyofpassaic.com, then click on "Giving." Pamphlets are still available on the shelf in the Narthex.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: We welcome all new visitors, to our parish family, and are happy you are joining us to share in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and hope you will become an active part of our parish community. We receive the Body and Blood of Christ in our mouth by spoon; please DO NOT stick out your tongue. All Catholics may receive the Eucharist if you are in good standing and prepared. If you would like to be added to our parish email list, send us an email at patronage.church@gmail.com. ***If you want to make us your home church, registration is the OFFICIAL way to join our church.*** Simply complete a census form that is located on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website, and either mail it to the church, or place it in the offertory basket in the back of our Temple. On-line donation information can be found under "Stewardship" in this bulletin.

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7).

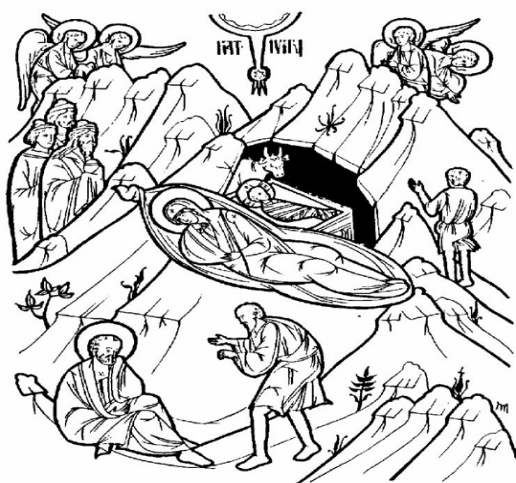
Patronage of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church

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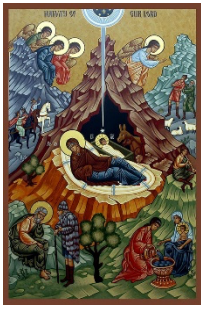


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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Our parish is once again sponsoring a Christmas poinsettia sale. The flowers will be placed within the church and altar for Christmas Divine Liturgy. Each commemoration will be published in a special insert of the Christmas Bulletin.

Plants may be taken by the giver after Christmas Liturgy. Please place the order form and payment in the offering basket or mail to the rectory by **Sunday, December 14th**. Make checks payable to *Patronage Church*.

Name of Giver: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Type of poinsettia (*check one*): \$14.00 each

Red ____ White ____ Pink ____ Marble ____

Name of Giver: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Type of poinsettia (*check one*): \$14.00 each

Red ____ White ____ Pink ____ Marble ____

TOTAL AMOUNT ORDERED ____ x \$14.00 = \$ _____