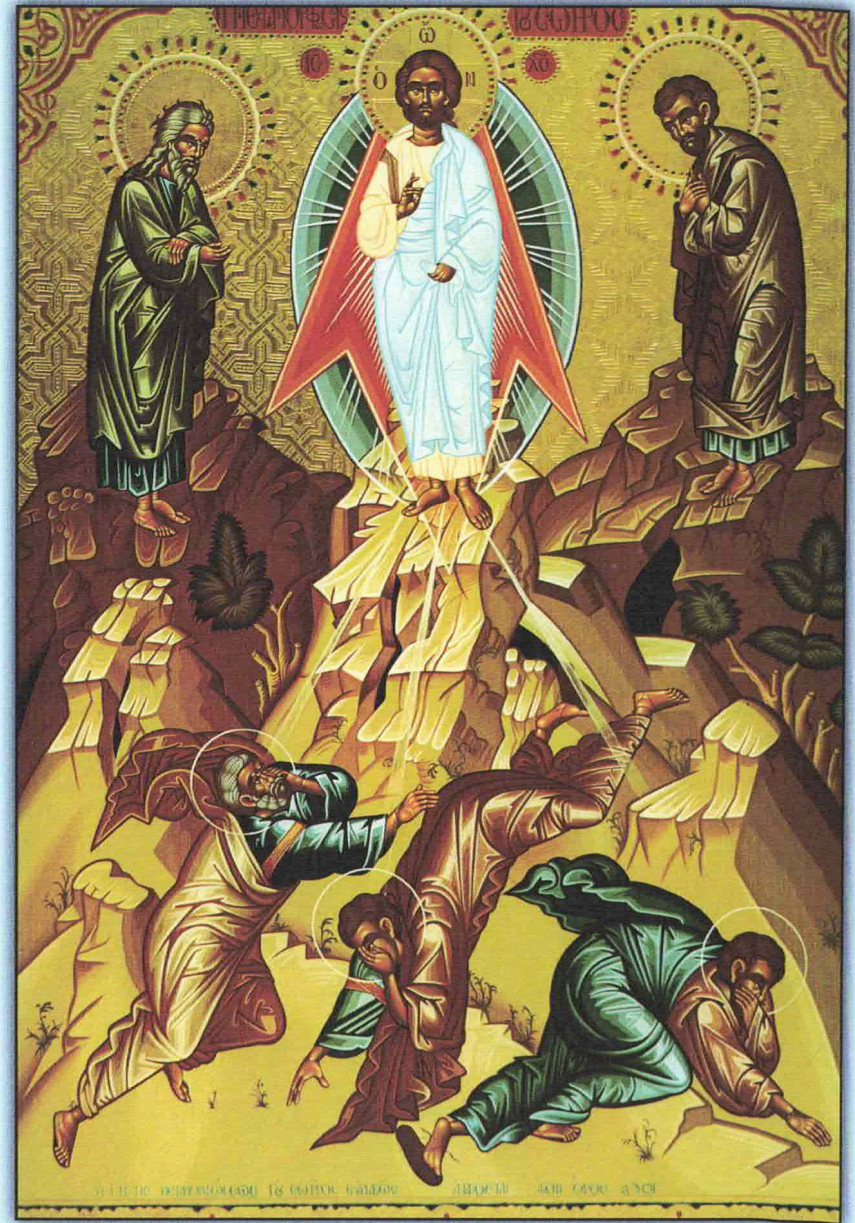


EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Holy Transfiguration -- August 6th

From the Acts of the Apostles

Then the apostles and presbyters, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them: "The apostles and the presbyters, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number [who went out] without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is

the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell.'"

And so they were sent on their journey. Upon their arrival in Antioch they called the assembly together and delivered the letter. When the people read it, they were delighted with the exhortation. Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, exhorted and strengthened the brothers with many words. After they had spent some time there, they were sent off with greetings of peace from the brothers to those who had commissioned them. (Acts 15:22-33)

Visit www.ecpubs.com for more publications.



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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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, August 9th, at 4:00pm; and August 23rd, at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
8 th Sunday After Pentecost 8.3.2025	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Souls of: +Philip and +Esther Kotula From: Dennis and Sharon Kotula, their Children and Grandchildren
Transfiguration of Our Lord Tuesday, 8.5.2025	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Blessing of Fruit	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners
9 th Sunday After Pentecost 8.10.2025	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners

8th Sunday After Pentecost

Today's Propers can be found on page 156, Tone 7, in the teal Divine Liturgy book.

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, Tony Kotlar, Jr., Clyde Wood, Nicholas Kotula, Tommy Kotula, Mary Hrinda, Michael Demyan, Michael Skovran, Georgianna Kostak, Sandra Suseck, Mary Ann Ondrish, Betty Charlock, Elizabeth Hresko, John Hanyok, Ann Marie Elwell, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline and Joe Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Melanie Copper, Julie Wiegand, 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. Thank you for your help! 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. A collection 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).*

PATRONAGE SOCIAL: Please join us in our social hall after Divine Liturgy today for some light refreshments, and parish fellowship.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD – BLESSING OF FRUIT: The Lord Jesus was transfigured on Mount Tabor. The voice of God the Father was heard, and the Holy Spirit was seen as a bright cloud. The mystery of the Transfiguration reveals three truths: God is revealed as Holy Trinity; Jesus is revealed as True God and True Man; and grace is seen by human eyes and proven to be real. Fruit is blessed on this feast day as a material sign of God's spiritual bounty through grace, and "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." (Galatians 5:22-23). **This is a solemn holyday, and Fr. Vasyl will be blessing fruit during Divine Liturgy on Tuesday evening at 6:00pm.** When you come to Liturgy, you can place your fruit basket on the table in front of the first pew. Please join us!

DECREE ON THE HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE: Bishop Kurt Burnette issued a Decree, dated May 1, 2025, regarding cell phones and electronic devices in locations where the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession) is held. The Bishop's order: "All cell phones, both belonging to the priest or to a penitent must be left outside the confessional or be powered off. It is not enough to have it silenced. The same care should be exercised around other electronic devices that respond to audio commands or contain microphones such as smart speakers and other devices. Speakers that respond to verbal commands should never be near the confessional. A sign stating this rule will be prominently posted where the Mystery is celebrated with regularity."

ADULT ENRICHMENT MINISTRY: Our next session will take place on **Sunday, September 28th**, following Divine Liturgy in our social hall. The topic will be: "Divine Liturgy follow up – Part One." Hope you can join us! If you have any questions, please see Nancy Bobby.

MID-ATLANTIC STATES SYNCCELLATE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION UPDATE: The wedding anniversary celebration for married couples observing their five-year anniversary, i.e., 5th, 10th, 15th, etc., will be held on **Saturday, October 11, 2025**, at Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church in Annandale, VA. A banquet will follow in Epiphany's Parish Center. If you are celebrating one of these five-year anniversaries, and would like to receive an invitation for this event, please send an email to our church confirming your address, phone number, and marriage date no later than Sunday, August 10th.

BYZANTEEN YOUTH RALLY: ByzanTeen provides Eastern Catholic faith formation and fraternity for all teens (ages 13-18) growing up in the Byzantine Catholic tradition. Together with their peers, ByzanTeens actively engage in living, growing in, and promoting the Byzantine Catholic tradition. All ByzanTeens are given the opportunity to gather from across the country for our biennial national ByzanTeen Youth Rally. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, form lasting relationships, pray, grow spiritually, listen to inspiring talks from our Byzantine leaders, support one another in the Faith, and just have fun. **The next ByzanTeen Youth Rally will take place July 9-12, 2026, in Cleveland, Ohio.** Save the date! More information to follow.

ST. NICHOLAS MINISTRY:

- 1. Patronage Greeters:** We are looking for greeters to welcome new faces to our church. If you would like to volunteer, or have any questions, please contact Carol Herder (carolherder@msn.com), or Dan Bobby (dnmbobby@aol.com). You can also write you name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, in the Narthex, if you would like to volunteer.
- 2. Patronage Church Indoor Treasure Sale:** If you are cleaning out your house or garage, and would like to donate some items to our Treasure Sale, we would be happy to take them off of your hands. Our sale will take place on **Saturday, September 20th**, from 8:00am-1:00pm, in our social hall. Volunteers are needed to help set up a few days before, and work the day of our Treasure Sale. You can bring your donation when you come to Liturgy, and leave it behind the partition in the social hall. Proceeds will benefit church/rectory improvements. Any questions, please contact Sharon Kotula (kotulasharon@gmail.com), or Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net).

Acceptable items for our Treasure Sale: gently used or new toys/games, sports equipment, knick knacks, linens, purses, dishes, silverware, bakeware, miscellaneous kitchen items, serving pieces, tools, garden items, small countertop appliances, clocks, storage containers, indoor/outdoor seasonal decorations, storage containers, jeans, t-shirts, jewelry, baskets, lamps, candles, framed pictures, new craft items/supplies, children's clothing, baby essentials, and small furniture. All items must be in clean/workable/usable condition.

MAINTENANCE MINISTRY MEETING: Our next Zoom meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 13th, at 8:00pm**, to discuss preparations for the upcoming Liturgical year. If you haven't received an invitation for this meeting, but are interested in joining, please email Kevin Ross at keviross@gmail.com. Everyone is welcome!

ICONOGRAPHY CLASS: Our church is, once again, offering an Iconography Class on **February 27th, 28th, and March 1, 2026**. The last icon class at Patronage Church was three days long, but a fourth day, March 2nd, will be available this session, if

needed. Beginners will create an Icon of the Theotokos, while more advanced students may choose to work on an Icon of Christ. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kevin Ross at keviross@gmail.com, as soon as possible. Priority will be given to Patronage parishioners, after which registration will open to members of other parishes.

ECF TEACHERS NEEDED: ECF begins Catechetical Sunday, with the blessing of teachers and students, on **September 21st**. Kevin Ross will be our ECF coordinator this year, and we are in need of a few more teachers for our program. If you are interested in teaching, or have any questions, please contact Kevin (keviross@gmail.com). The 2025-2026 ECF registration form is included in this bulletin, and completed forms should be either placed in the offertory basket, or mailed to the rectory by Sunday, September 7th, so that we can make sure we have all of the materials for this year's program. Also, if you borrowed any ECF books/materials from this past school year, can you kindly bring them to church and give them to Kevin, so that they could be used, again. Thank you for your help!

GCU MEMBERS: *Are you a GCU member?* If so, please email the church and let us know. We would like to make sure we have every member on our church's list. Your attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Dennis Kotula (dennis.kotula@gmail.com).

LITURGY INTENTIONS: Dates are currently available if you would like to have a Liturgy intention. Forms are available either on our website, or on the bookrack in the Narthex. Completed forms can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to our church. Checks should be made payable to: Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon. Cash will also be accepted.

OUR DAILY BREAD CASSEROLE COLLECTION: Our next casserole collection will be next **Sunday, August 10th**. Aluminum pans are available in the social hall on the kitchen counter to use for this project. Any questions, please contact Greg Calvitt (gregcalvitt@gmail.com).

PATRONAGE FLASH FREEZER SALE: Help us clear out our freezer - we have **cheesecakes** - \$15/each; **specialty pirohi** - \$7.00/dozen, and **kolachi (nut and poppyseed)** - \$15/each. If you would like to purchase any of these items, please see Theresa Kotlar after Liturgy. Cash or check (payable to: Patronage Church) will be accepted. Quantities are limited!

HOLUPKI MAKING WORK DAYS FOR OUR FESTIVAL: We will be making Holupki on **Friday, October 10th, and Saturday, October 11th**, beginning at 9:00am, for our upcoming Slavic Food Festival scheduled for November 22nd. Please contact Mary Demyan for more details.

BETHANY MINISTRY: Please join us after Divine Liturgy next **Sunday, August 10th**, to discuss forming a Bethany Ministry at Patronage Church using guidance from St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church in Upper St. Clair, PA. The following was extracted from their Facebook page:

"Our mission is to reach out in friendship to those in our parish family who are sick, homebound, recovering from surgery, going through a difficult time, or grieving the loss of a loved one.

It is a way for us to follow the commandment to "Love thy neighbor" and to put our faith into action

We pray for the needs of each and also reach out in person to extend caring and concern with cards, phone calls, visits, holiday gifts, and short-term practical assistance. These simple works are so appreciated...it really doesn't take much to make a person feel that they're cared about, valued, and haven't been forgotten.

In Bethany Ministry, we seek to emulate the model of friendship of Jesus with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany by following the examples in John 11:17-36 & Luke 10:38-42:

JESUS loved his friends and spent time with them. At the news of Lazarus' death, Jesus wept. We are to be caring and spend time with our church friends, especially in their time of need.

MARY sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to his words. We must listen to the Word of God and also be a listening ear to our friends, to be a source of comfort and support.

MARTHA focused on the tasks of hospitality. Offering practical help when someone is in a weakened condition is another way to "Love thy neighbor."

LAZARUS was prey to illness, just like us. We need one another on our journey through this life. Prayer and caring play a powerful role in bringing healing and hope."

We will begin our discussion with a 12-minute video St. Gregory's produced in February 2020, based on the first 19 years of their ministry. We'll then discuss how we might establish a similar ministry at Patronage. We look forward to a lively discussion. Please contact Tim Herder (timothyherder@gmail.com), if you would like additional information.

Children's Corner - TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Read Matthew 17:1-9. Check out the list below for some ideas to help you make this day extra meaningful, and even begin some new traditions in your home!

1. **Attend Divine Liturgy:** The most important way to celebrate this feast day is to attend Divine Liturgy. This is how we connect our lives at home with our lives in the church.
2. **Take fruit to church to be blessed:** On this feast day, the faithful bring grapes and/or other fruit to church to be blessed. It is a reminder of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ where all of creation will be transformed by the glory of the Lord. For dinner, you can create a Charcuterie board using the fruit you have blessed. Add veggies, crackers, nuts, dried fruits, and hummus!
3. **Shadow Play:** The story of the Transfiguration brings our attention to the light of Christ. It is written in Matthew 17, "...His Face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light." Playing with shadows/light is a great tool to talk about the difference between light and darkness and the light of Christ.
4. **Holy Transfiguration Icon:** Color the icon below.



OTPUST – 91ST ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP: Save the date – this yearly Pilgrimage (Otpust) at Mount Saint Macrina, in Uniontown, PA, will take place Labor Day weekend. It is home to the monastery of the Byzantine Catholic Order of Sisters of St. Basil. The Pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country. The Pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling. This event is the oldest and largest Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings. More information to follow in an upcoming bulletin.

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, parish, 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 CHURCH
ANNUAL
CRAB FEAST

Price:

\$40

\$20 teens (13-17)

\$10 non-crab eaters

Free for kids 12
and under



Saturday, September 13, 2025
4:00pm Divine Liturgy
Crab Feast Afterwards

All you can eat Maryland steamed crabs!!

(soda, beer, & wine included)

Please bring a side dish or dessert

Payment due Sept. 7th to Dennis Kotula. Make checks payable to Patronage Byzantine Catholic Church. You may also place in offertory basket or mail to the rectory.

PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN REGISTRATION
2025-2026

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

TODDLER/PRE-K THRU 12TH GRADE

Parent's Name(s): _____ Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone # _____ Mother's Cell # _____ Father's Cell # _____

Parents, would you like to be an ECF teacher or substitute (please check one)? Yes ___ or No ___ Teacher or Substitute (please circle)
 Teachers/Substitutes are required to complete the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic Safe Environment on-line program, which is valid for 5 years after completion.

+++++

Student's Full Name	Date of Birth	Grade	Name/County of School Attending
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Allergies or Other Information: _____

(continued – page 2 of 2)

Student's Full Name	Date/Place of Baptism	Date/Place of Chrismation	Date/Place of Eucharist
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Emergency Contact (Name/Phone #): _____

Please return this registration form to Patronage Church by September 7th.