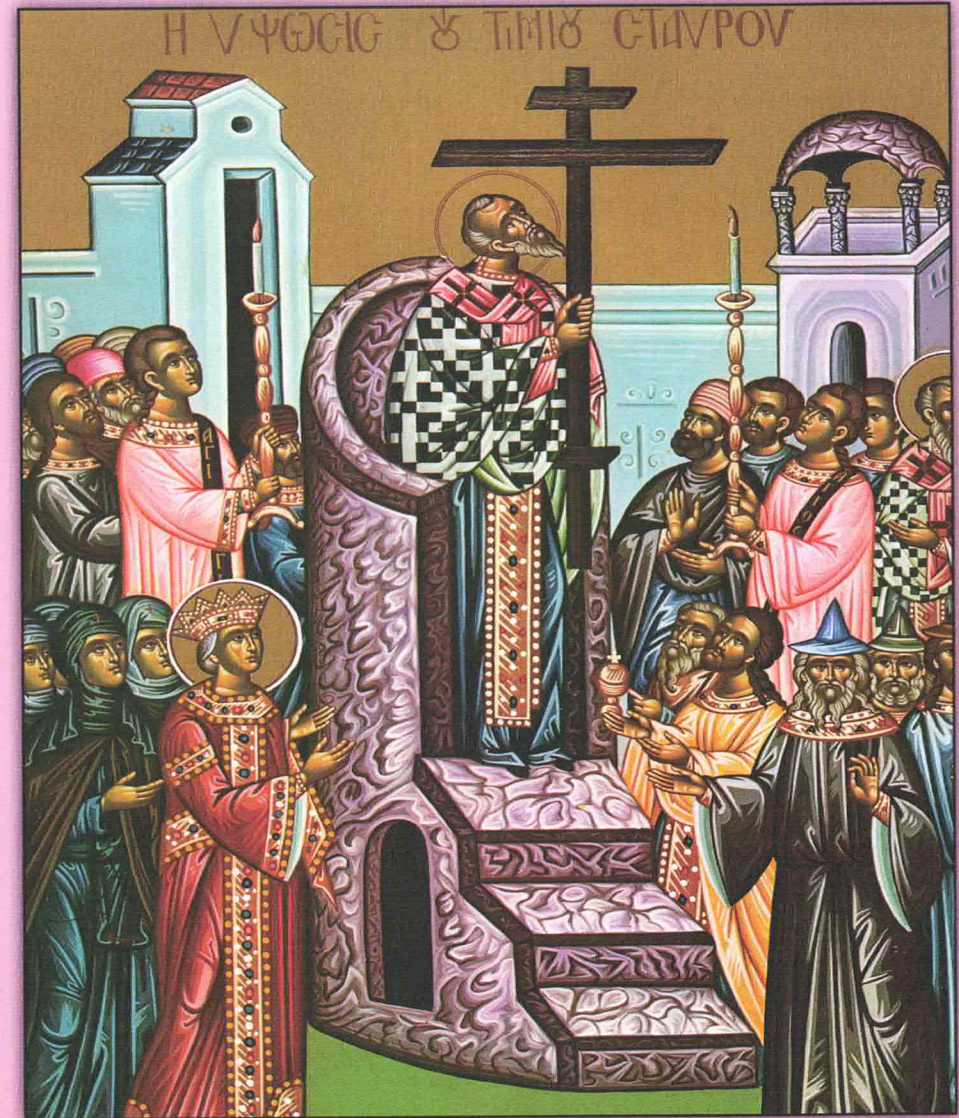


FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Exalting the Cross

Inasmuch as the cross has become as it were the altar of this fearful sacrifice – for on the cross the Son of God died for the fall of man – therefore the cross is justly revered and worshipped and depicted as the sign of the common resurrection of all men, so that those who bow down before the wood of the cross might be delivered from the curse of Adam and receive the blessing and grace of God for the doing of every virtue. For Christians the cross is magnification, glory, and power: for all our power is in the power of Christ who was crucified; all our sinfulness is mortified by the death of Christ on the cross; and all our exaltation and all our glory are in the humility of God, who humbled Himself to such an extent that He was pleased to die even between evildoers and thieves. For this very reason Christians who believe in Christ sign themselves with the sign of the cross not simply, not just as it happens, not carelessly, but with all

heedfulness, with fear and with trembling, and with extreme reverence. For the image of the cross shows the reconciliation and friendship into which man has entered with God.

Therefore the demons also fear the image of the cross, and they do not endure to see the sign of the cross depicted even in the air, but they flee from this immediately knowing that the cross is the sign of the friendship of men with God ...

Those who have understood this mystery and in very fact have known in experience the authority and power which the cross has over demons, have likewise understood that the cross gives the soul strength, power, meaning, and divine wisdom ... To the degree of the reverence which one has toward the cross, he receives corresponding power and help from God. To Him may there be glory and dominion forever. Amen.

St. Symeon the New Theologian

Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- September 14th



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

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patronage.church@gmail.com

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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, September 20th, at 4:00pm; and September 27th, at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Exaltation of the Holy Cross Saturday, 9.13.2025	4:00pm	Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For the Repose of the Soul of: +Fr. Francis Gera From: Deacon Tony & Theresa Kotlar & Family
Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9.21.2025	11:00am	Divine Liturgy	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Today's Propers are on page 253 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, Charlie Toth, Larissa Toth, Tony Kotlar, Jr., Clyde Wood, Mary Hrinda, Michael Demyan, Michael Skovran, 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).

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY: Next **Sunday, September 21st, at 11:00pm**, an important event will take place in our parish. The importance of religious education will be emphasized. Special prayers for the beginning of the catechetical year will be included in the Divine Liturgy. Special blessings will be given to our catechists and students. All those involved are asked to be present as we implore God's wisdom upon them. This year's catechetical theme is, **“Jesus Christ Our Hope.”** *“Christian hope is like an anchor that grounds our hearts in the promise of the Lord Jesus. The theme of HOPE encourages us to be prepared to share the basis of our faith, the Lord, and the HOPE he provides. Sharing should be done with gentleness and respect”* (Pope Leo XIV). If you have not already submitted your registration form, please do so by today, so that we can make sure we have books/materials available for our students. Forms can be found on the shelf in the Narthex, and placed in the offertory basket. Any questions regarding ECF should be directed to Kevin Ross (keviross@gmail.com).

SUNDAY BRUNCH – SEPTEMBER 21st: Following Divine Liturgy on Catechetical Sunday, there will be a brunch in our social hall. We are in need of mini-muffins, donut holes, pastries, croissants, fruit platter, veggies/dip, mini sandwiches, mini quiches, individual yogurt cups, breakfast casseroles, orange and apple juice, and juice boxes. Please contact Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net), and let her know what you will be able to provide, and how many from your family will be attending. Thank you for supporting our parish!

ANNUAL PANACHIDA AT HOLY TRINITY CEMETERY: Following our 11:00am Divine Liturgy/Brunch on **September 21st**, Fr. Vasyl will be celebrating a Panachida service at Holy Trinity Cemetery, 6480 Elibank Drive, in Elkridge, for parishioners who have family members interred there. Everyone is invited to attend this service!

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.”*

ALTAR SERVER CANDLESTICKS/STANDS: We received our new altar server candlesticks from Ukraine, and have 2 custom made wooden stands to display them. Thank you, again, to those who made this possible for our altar servers, and our church!

MYSTERY ANGEL: Many thanks to our mystery angel who repaired the crack in our sidewalk in front of the steps to our church. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

EASTERN CATHOLIC PUBLICATIONS (ECP): ECP has 5 books available commemorating the 100th anniversary last year of the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church in America, and the arrival of the first Bishop, Basil Takach in 1924. To order, visit www.ecpubs.org. The 5 books include:

1. *Basil Takach, The Good Sheppard*, by: Basil Shereghy
2. *The Byzantine Catholics*, by: Basil Shereghy
3. *History of the Greek Rite*, by: John Slivka
4. *History of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America*, by: Christopher Zuger
5. *Byzantine Rite Rusins*, by: Walter Warzeski

ADULT ENRICHMENT MINISTRY: Our next session will take place on **Sunday, September 28th**, following Divine Liturgy in our social hall. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board, in the Narthex, listing dates/topics for this ministry. Everyone is welcome to attend!

BETHANY MINISTRY: The booklets we will be using to establish the Bethany Ministry have arrived! Please contact Kelley Wood (m_k_wood@yahoo.com) or Tim Herder (timothyherder@gmail.com) to borrow a copy. If there is interest, we will start a "reading group" to discuss a few chapters at a time. Those discussions will guide us on deciding how we will support our homebound parishioners.

ICONOGRAPHY CLASS: If you are interested in participating in our Iconography Class on **February 27th, 28th, and March 1, 2026**, at Patronage Church, please contact Kevin Ross (keviross@gmail.com), as soon as possible. There is limited space available, and spots are quickly filling up. Priority will be given to Patronage parishioners, after which registration will be open to members of other parishes. Beginner students will create an Icon of the Theotokos, while more advanced students may choose to work on an Icon of Christ.

PATRONAGE FLASH FREEZER SALE: We are currently selling **cheesecakes** - \$15/each (only 1 left); **specialty pirohi** - \$7.00/dozen, and **kolachi (nut and poppyseed)** - \$15/each. If you would like to purchase any of these items, please see Mary Demyan after Liturgy. Please help us clear out our freezer!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLUPKI MAKING: Please join us in making Holupki on **Friday, October 10th, and Saturday, October 11th, beginning at 9:00am**, for our upcoming Slavic Food Festival scheduled on November 22nd. No experience necessary. We will teach you! Please contact Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net), if you are able to volunteer.

ST. NICHOLAS MINISTRY – PATRONAGE GREETERS: We have some openings on our sign-up sheet for volunteers who would like to be a greeter, and 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 your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, in the Narthex, if you would like to volunteer. Many thanks!

PATRONAGE CHURCH INDOOR TREASURE/BAKE SALE: Next Saturday, **September 20th, from 8:00am – 1:00pm**, we will be having our indoor Treasure Sale to benefit improvements to our church. Volunteers are needed to help set up on Monday, September 15th, and Tuesday, September 16th, both beginning at 9:00am. It is not too late to donate items to our church. You can drop them off on either of these days in the morning. We also need volunteers to work at the Treasure Sale on Saturday.

Items acceptable for our Treasure Sale include: gently used or new toys/games, puzzles, sports equipment, knickknacks, 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, bicycles, and small furniture. All items must be in clean/ workable/usable condition.

We will also have a bake table set up at our Treasure Sale, and would love to sell your pre-packaged baked goods. If you can donate any baked goods, or can volunteer, please let us know. Contact either Sharon Kotula (kotulasharon@gmail.com), or Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net).

Thank you for supporting our church!

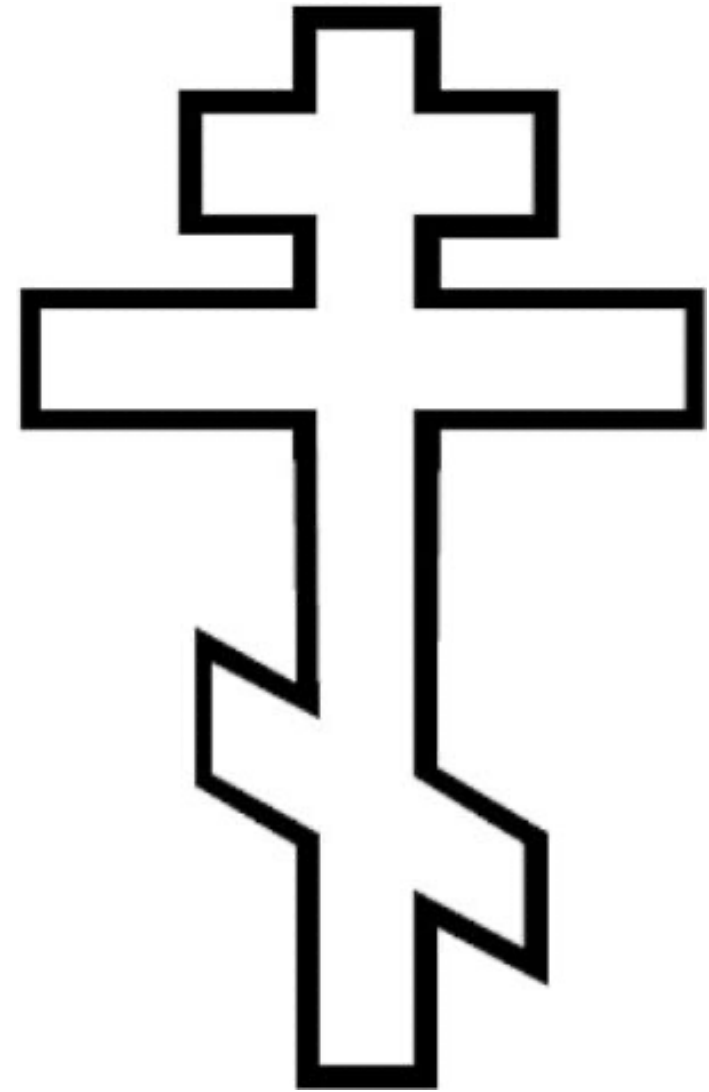


Children's Corner



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14th



PATRONAGE CHURCH'S ANNUAL CRAB FEAST: Thank you to everyone who assisted with our annual Crab Feast. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

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).

Mark Your Calendars!

Adult Enrichment is Returning to Patronage This Fall



Please join us this fall as we continue exploring aspects of our faith and worship on Sunday mornings after the 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

Adult enrichment sessions are open to all adults and no prior experience or background is needed! Come to one session or come to them all – we look forward to spending time together learning more about the rich and beautiful traditions and practice of our Byzantine church.

Dates and topics currently scheduled are:

- **September 28:** Deacon Tony will start our fall session with a presentation on *Iconography and Scripture*, especially how these relate to our Divine Liturgy.
- **October 5 (Parish Festal Luncheon):** Kevin Ross will share his presentation from the Metropolitan Assembly in July: *Improving Our Parishes' Online Presence*.
- **October 12:** Deacon Tony will continue his discussion on the *Divine Liturgy*
- **October 19:** Deacon Tony will wrap up his presentation on the *Divine Liturgy*
- **November 9:** Nancy Bobby will present an *Introduction to Iconography*
- **November 16:** Deacon Tony will continue discussing *Iconography and Scripture*
- **December 14:** Deacon Tony will do an in-depth discussion on a selected passage from *Scripture*

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.

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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.