

The Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women ... reminds us that the love and faithfulness of a few individuals shone brightly in the midst of hopeless darkness. It calls us to ensure that in this world love and faithfulness do not disappear or die out. It judges our lack of courage, our fear, our endless and servile rationalizations. The mysterious Joseph and Nicodemus, and these women who go to the grave at dawn, occupy so little space in the gospels. Precisely here, however, is where the eternal fate of each of us is decided.

Today, I think, we are especially in need of recovering this love and basic human loyalty. For we have entered a time when even these are being discredited by harmful concepts of the person and human life now prevailing in this world. For centuries, the world still had the weak, but still

flickering and shining, glow from that faithfulness, love and co-suffering which was silently present at the sufferings of the Man cast aside by all. And we need to cling, as if to a last thread, to everything in our world that still thrives on the warm light of simple, earthly, human love. Love does not ask about theories and ideologies, but speaks to the heart and soul. Human history has rumbled along, kingdoms have risen and fallen, cultures have been built and bloody wars fought, but what has remained unchanging on earth and in this troubled and tragic history is the bright image of the woman. An image of care, self-giving, love, compassion. Without this presence, without this light, our world, regardless of its successes and accomplishments, would be a world of terror.

Father Alexander Schmemmann

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



Icon of the Myrrh-bearing Women



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
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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, May 2nd; at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday of the Ointment-Bearers 4.19.2026	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Soul of: +Dorothy Gaydos Offered by: Thomas and Chris Gaydos
George Great-Martyr Thursday, 4.23.2026	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For the Health and Salvation of: Parishioners
Sunday of the Paralytic Man 4.26.2026	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Souls of: +Eugene Kakalec, Sr., +Elizabeth Kakalec, +Eugene Kakalec, Jr., and +Paul Kakalec Offered by: The Kakalec Family

Resurrection of our Lord - Pascha

Today's Propers can be found in the Pascha Liturgy booklet.

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

HOLY EUCHARIST AND VISITATION OF THE SICK: Eucharist can be brought to a parishioner who is ill, in the hospital, or at home. You can request a visit by either sending our church an email, or contacting either Fr. Vasyl or Deacon Tony, personally.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Christós Voskrése! Voístinnu Voskrése!

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., 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, and +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).**

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF): Our next class for children will be held after Divine Liturgy today.

ECF LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT: ECF students will be visiting Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA, next **Saturday, April 25th**. This year’s ECF Lenten Service Project will benefit this monastery of Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Nuns, and is accepting monetary donations through today. Please place your donation (cash or check made payable to: Patronage Church) in the white labeled wooden box, located in the back of our church. Thank you for your generosity, and we appreciate everyone who has made a donation thus far!

PLANNING MEETING FOR PATRONAGE CHURCH’S 3RD ANNUAL PICNIC: A brief planning meeting will be held after Divine Liturgy next **Sunday, April 26th**. All are welcome to attend! We need many volunteers to help organize our picnic, which will be held at Holy Trinity (Cathedral Gardens) pavilion in Elkridge, on **Sunday, May 17th**. Divine Liturgy will begin at 11:00am, followed by food, games for children and adults, “Baba’s Auction,” and lots of parish fellowship. To help offset the cost of our parish picnic, we are asking each household to donate an item or two (or how many items you would like to donate) for the auction. Auction item ideas can be gift cards; religious, handmade, household, or garden items; toys; games; plants; or anything else you can think of – be creative! Any questions, please see Sharon Kotula. More details to follow.

ADULT ENRICHMENT: Our next session is scheduled after Liturgy on **Sunday, May 3rd**. Deacon Tony will be discussing, “Why are the dates different,” when it comes to Western Easter and Orthodox Pascha. Please join us!

2025 BISHOP’S APPEAL: Please consider making a donation towards the Bishop’s Appeal now through **June 30, 2026**. 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.” Thank you to those who have already donated to support our Eparchy!

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC LITURGICAL PRACTICE OF OBSERVING “ALL SOULS”
SATURDAYS: Please join us for our 5th and final “All Souls” service for the year, with the reading of the “Hramoty,” on **Friday, May 22nd, at 6:00pm.**

Children's Corner



Fill in the blanks using these words:

stone garments apostles angel story
Lord empty spices tomb

This icon depicts the biblical _____ of the eight Myrrh-Bearing Women. In the icon, it shows the Myrrh-Bearers had arrived at the _____, and had brought funeral _____ to anoint the body of Christ. The _____ is seated upon the _____ that covered the tomb, and he is pointing to the empty _____ showing that Christ has risen from the dead. The Myrrh-Bearers were the first to see the _____ tomb and were instructed by the risen _____ to bring the joyful news to the _____.

Special Intention for
Living and Deceased Mothers
will be Remembered at the Divine Liturgy on
Sunday, May 10, 2026

Living Mothers:

Deceased Mothers:

Your Name: _____

Donation: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Very Reverend Vasyl Symyon

Kindly return your Intention form by: Sunday, May 3, 2026

MOTHER'S DAY: Our church will be having a special Intention for Mother's Day (form included in this insert) during Divine Liturgy, along with a social, on **Sunday, May 10th**. Please join us! Tim Herder will be organizing the social. Please *contact Tim* (timothyherder@gmail.com or 301-741-2278), if you would like to assist.

2026 "OUR DAILY BREAD" CASSEROLE DONATIONS: Thank you to everyone who made a casserole for today's first collection of 2026, to benefit "Our Daily Bread." Greg Calvitt will be delivering these casseroles to "Our Daily Bread" on behalf of our church. Everyone's efforts are greatly appreciated!

EASTERN CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS (ECPUBS):

1. Thousands of people have downloaded a smartphone APP for Apple and Android devices simply called ECPUBS from the Apple Store or Google Play. It contains the daily prayer services from above along with two sets of daily reflections, one Catholic and one Orthodox lay person, a few selected lectures, audio of portions of the Daily Office, and other information. It's all FREE – check it out!
2. ECPUBS offers an email prayer service – your inbox reminds you to pray daily – with the Byzantine Daily Office and Daily/Great Vespers EVERYDAY for FREE! Subscribe on the website at https://ecpubs.com/product-category/subscription_electronic/. Following the Gregorian Calendar, ECP inserts the changeable parts into the complete text for every saint and feast day throughout the year.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY ANNUAL LECTURE: In honor of the 380th anniversary of the Union of Uzhorod, our 26th annual academic lecture is to be delivered by Paul Robert Magocsi, PhD at 7:00pm, on **Tuesday, May 12th**. Dr. Magocsi's presentation will focus on how the Byzantine Ruthenian/Greek Catholic Church has been able to survive for nearly four centuries in the face of political, social, and cultural challenges placed before it by the different societies which it has had to function in Europe and North America. All are welcome to attend this lecture virtually via the Seminary website at www.bcs.edu. The lecture can also be accessed live or at a later time from archives on the B.C.S. YouTube channel. Don't miss this informative lecture!

2026 EPARCHY OF PASSAIC YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS: Our Eparchy is currently accepting applications for its summer camps located at the Carpathian Village in Cresco, Pennsylvania. Registration and other information is available by visiting www.eparchyofpassaic.com, and clicking on "Youth and Young Adult Ministries," then "Youth Summer Camps." **Please let Fr. Vasyl know if your child would like to attend any of these camps as soon as possible.**

1. **Altar Server Congress:** July 19-23, 2026 – open to Altar Servers ages 6-17
2. **Camp Theotokos:** August 9-13, 2026 – open to girls ages 6-17

ADULT ENRICHMENT: We will continue Adult Enrichment with a few more sessions this spring before summer begins. On **May 3rd**, Deacon Tony will discuss, "Why are the dates different?" when it comes to Western Easter and Orthodox Pascha. On **May 31st**, the Bobbys and the Herders will share some of their experiences from their recent trip to Greece - including a peek into some of the churches they were able to visit while there. Our last session before we break for the summer will be led by Deacon Tony on **June 14th**. Please plan to join us after Liturgy - all are welcome!

2026 BYZANTINE CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT CONVOCATION: This summer, encounter "*The Heart of the God-Bearer*," on **July 31st to August 2nd**, at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey. **Young adults ages 18-35** will gather for fellowship, communal praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, and talks from speakers like Mother Natalia of *Christ the Bridegroom Monastery* and co-host of the *What God Is Not* podcast and Very Rev. Paul Varchola West, MFA, MDiv of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Levittown, PA; host of the "*Building Athos in Our Hearts Podcast*;" and "*Spiritual Father of the Springs in the Desert ministry*." Join us for three days of faith, friendship, and transformation. For more information and regular updates, go to <https://www.heartofthegodbearer.org/>. Online registration is open from now until June 30th! Not a young adult? Contact us if you're interested in helping sponsor scholarships to help the young adults in our Church grow and share their faith!

GREEK CATHOLIC UNION (GCU) – KENNYWOOD SUMMER DISCOUNT TICKETS: The 2026 Summer Season is coming Soon! Opening Day for Kennywood Amusement Park, 4800 Kennywood Blvd. West Mifflin, PA, is **Saturday, April 18th, from 8:00am – 7:00pm**. Discounted tickets for GCU members are available for \$32/person. Non-members are \$39/person. More info can be found at www.gcuusa.com, or call (855) 306-0607.

2026 GCU ANNUAL ART & PHOTO CONTEST: The theme for 2026 is "My Favorite Place." **Now through June 5, 2026**, the GCU is accepting artwork and photos for this contest. For the rules and more information, visit www.gcuusa.com, and click on "Events." You must be a GCU member for at least one year to participate.

THANK YOU: The chair in our St. Nicholas Chapel was recently recovered by **Kathy Hanyok** with beautiful fabric in our St. Nicholas Chapel. We appreciate her efforts!

HELP NEEDED: We encourage our younger parishioners to enjoy the books in the cry room. However, due to safety concerns, parents, please make sure all books are put neatly back on the bookshelf. Thank you for your help!

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 will be a spiritually nourishing experience. All Catholics may receive the Eucharist if you are in good standing and prepared. We receive the Body and Blood of Christ in our mouth by spoon. Please DO NOT stick out your tongue. ***If you would like to become an active part of our parish community, be added to our email list, and register as a parishioner,*** please complete a “Census” form. Forms are located on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website, and can either be mailed to our church, or placed 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).

