

Christ and the Law

When Christ says to him, “If you would enter life, keep the commandments,” the man expects Him to add immediately, “my commandments.” “Which ones?” he asks. He was quite deceived in his expectation. For Christ did not answer him as he expected but simply pointed him to the law.

This is not because the law is perfection, for “no one is justified by the law,” as it is written, but because the life lived according to law is a kind of introduction to the eternal life, briefly acquainting trainees to the things above. “For the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ.”

The law is the starting point for social justice. Christ is the perfection. For the beginning of good is to act justly, He says. Just action then is shown by the law, but goodness is shown by Christ. The law taught us to repay those who wish to harm us, as in “eye for eye, tooth for tooth.”

But Christ taught us to let go such balanced vengeance with a view to the greater good, teaching that “if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also; and if anyone would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well.”

St. Cyril of Alexandria

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the 40 Women of Macedonia and Ammon -- September 1st



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Divine Liturgy Schedule: Saturday, August 30th, at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
12 th Sunday After Pentecost 8.31.2025	9:00am	Typika	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners
Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9.7.2025	9:00pm	Divine Liturgy	Health and Salvation For: Family and Friends of Patronage Parishioners From: Maria Esquela
Birth of the Theotokos Tuesday, 9.9.2025	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners

12th Sunday After Pentecost

Today's Propers are on page 135, Tone 3, 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, 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. Thank you to everyone who supports our weekly socials. A basket is on the table with the refreshments for your donation.

PATRONAGE CHURCH CRAB FEAST: Please join us for our annual Crab Feast on **Saturday, September 13th**, beginning with Divine Liturgy at 4:00pm. A flyer with more information is located on the shelf in the Narthex, or on our church's website. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert. **Payment is due no later than next Sunday, September 7th**, because we need to place our crab order soon. Any questions, please contact Dann Karlson (DS.Karlson@gmail.com).

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY/BRUNCH: On **Sunday, September 21st**, Fr. Vasyl will be having **Divine Liturgy at 11:00am**, along with the blessing of teachers and students. This year's catechetical theme is, **“Jesus Christ Our Hope.”** Please remember to register children for our ECF program no later than Sunday, September 7th, so that we can make sure we have books/materials available for our students. Forms can be found on the shelf in the Narthex, or on our website. Completed ECF forms can be placed in the offertory basket, or mailed directly to the rectory. We need Adult volunteers for our program. Any questions regarding ECF should be directed to Kevin Ross (keviross@gmail.com). **Following Liturgy on Catechetical Sunday, there will be a light brunch in our social hall.** We are in need of food donations, so please contact Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net) for a list of menu items that we will be serving. Thank you for your help!

“Always be ready to give an explanation for a reason for your HOPE.” (1 Pet. 3:15)

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 interred there. Everyone is invited to attend this service!

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.

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 be open to members of other parishes.

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!

LITURGY INTENTIONS: If you would like to request 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.

CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY: Carpatho-Rusyn immigrants coming to America in the late 1800s, had no idea to the extent of the nation's widespread obsession with playing and watching competitive sports. Their first-generation American born sons were eager to assimilate into American life, and they quickly immersed themselves into these new activities. George Pawlush's new book, "***They Came to Play***," published last month, is available now on Amazon. The introductory chapters talk about the difficulties 250,000 Rusyns encountered when they immigrated to America between 1880, and 1914.

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: Included in today's bulletin is a flyer with dates and topics for our Adult Enrichment Ministry. Our next session begins **Sunday, September 28th**, following Divine Liturgy in our social hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ST. NICHOLAS MINISTRY:

1. **Patronage Greeters:** We are still 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 your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, in the Narthex, if you would like to volunteer. Thank you to those who have already signed up to volunteer!
2. **Patronage Church Indoor Treasure/Bake Sale:** Thank you to those who have donated items for our Treasure Sale, thus far. If anyone has items they would like to donate (see list below), you can bring them when you come to Liturgy, and place them behind the partition in the social hall. We are also in need of volunteers on the day of our sale, **Saturday, September 20th, from 8:00am – 1:00pm**, and a few days before the sale to set up (dates/time to be determined). We will 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 contact either Sharon Kotula (kotulasharon@gmail.com), or Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net). Proceeds from our Treasure Sale will benefit church/rectory improvements. Thank you for your support!

Acceptable items for our Treasure Sale: 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.

BETHANY MINISTRY: If you would like to get involved in this ministry, please contact either Tim (timothyherder@gmail.com), or Kelley (m_k_wood@yahoo.com). More information will be forthcoming regarding this ministry.

53RD SLAVIC-AMERICAN FESTIVAL: Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, in Annandale, VA, is hosting their festival on **Sunday, September 7th**, from 12:00noon to 5:00pm, and features Slavic specialties such as: Kielbasi, Holupki, Pirohi, and Halushki. Everyone is welcome to attend this event!

Children's Corner

THE LORD'S PRAYER

M P Z K Q F Q Z O W V N G L R
 N O I T A T P M E T E G T E Y
 H S D R W B K E A M C C V A R
 L E V G G E W V A S C E H R O
 V G A O N Z T X R R M Y T L
 M U C V O K G Y O X S M G
 S O W Z E Q R F A T H E R K
 N L Q C V N U O R X A V T Q W
 N B S W L Y G F W E O K U V
 C X I Q I C Y G K I W K V Y B
 K J V G N K E F B R N O T X D
 Z L T T C H U G H E B Y P A U
 F S W P D D D Q A T Q B D
 K U S P A L P R A H W L U A P
 D A E R B L V S H K Y E I S M

AMEN	BREAD	DAILY
EARTH	FATHER	FOREVER
FORGIVE	GLORY	HEAVEN
KINGDOM	POWER	TEMPTATION

Blessed Church New Year



The first day of our Church's Liturgical New Year is September 1st. Start a tradition with your family to celebrate this feast day. It's a way of ringing in the "New Year," and asking for God's blessing over our homes in the upcoming new year. Here are a few ideas:

1. Place an icon outside of your home the eve of the New Church Year. The morning of the New Year, bring the icon into your home to symbolize Christ being the first one to enter your house in the new year.
2. In our Church's New Year, the hymns we sing in church remind us of the gift of Creation. Plant a tree in remembrance of the new year.
3. Make it a goal to attend all of our 12 great feasts days this Liturgical year, along with our other holy day services. Our Liturgical calendar serves as a spiritual roadmap that guides believers through the year. Each feast is not merely a commemoration, but a living participation in the divine mysteries, offering opportunities for spiritual growth, repentance, and joyous celebration.

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.

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: _____

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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.