

SUNDAY AFTER THE
EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Exalting the Cross

For each of us, salvation means no more and no less than taking up daily the same cross of Christ, accepting each day what it brings as the will of God, offering back to God each morning all the joys, works, and sufferings of that day. But those are abstract words. What it means, in practice, is spelled out as always by the poor old body. It means getting up each morning and going to bed exhausted. It means the routine, not the spectacular. It can mean drudgery, pain, putting aside pleasures, happiness, or the love the human heart craves until another time, so that what is necessary at the moment can be done.

It means working for others, touching the lives of others, through the medium of the body. How many times, tired and worn

out and near collapse from the slave labor conditions of the camps, did I think I could not ask another step of the body, did I think in pain and irony of those words “The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak”? Truly, man is a creature composed of body and soul, and we work out our salvation in this vale of tears through the medium of the flesh.

It is the first gift God and our parents fashion for us; it sustains and supports us through a long life and makes possible both joys and sorrows; and when at last we are parted from it in death, it surely deserves whatever rest it can get before it rises to be glorified at the last judgment.

Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J.

Icon of the Holy Apostle Codratus and Jonah the Prophet -- September 21st



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Divine Liturgy Schedule: Every Saturday at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9.21.2025	11:00am	Divine Liturgy	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners
16 th Sunday After Pentecost. 9.28.2025	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners
Protection of the Theotokos Tuesday, 9.30.2025	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije	For: Health and Salvation of Parishioners

Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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, 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, Natalie, Edin, and +Walter Lourdes Najera 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. 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: Today we are pleased to celebrate an important event in our parish life as we begin our new catechetical year. What does the word “catechetical” mean? The root word “catechesis” is from a Greek word meaning “to echo or resound.” The role of every baptized person is to share and become witnesses of their faith. We thank, honor, and bless all those who have responded to God’s call to grow in a deeper understanding of their commitment to the Lord Jesus. May God grant them many happy and blessed years! **Classes will officially begin on Sunday, October 12th, following Divine Liturgy.**

SUNDAY BRUNCH: Following Divine Liturgy today, there will be a brunch in our social hall. Everyone is welcome to attend! Thank you to those who provided food for this event – your efforts are greatly appreciated!

ANNUAL PANACHIDA AT HOLY TRINITY CEMETERY: Following today’s brunch, Fr. Vasyl will be celebrating a Panachida Service, followed by the Blessing of Graves, at Holy Trinity Cemetery, 6480 Elibank Drive, in Elkridge, for parishioners who have family members interred there. Everyone is invited to attend this service!

PATRONAGE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION: Please join us on **Sunday, October 5th**. Our church will be celebrating its feast day, Protection of the Theotokos. Following Divine Liturgy, we will have a pot-luck luncheon in our social hall. To ensure we have enough food and seating for everyone, please contact Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net), and let her know how many people from your family will be attending along with what dish you will be providing. We also need volunteers to help set up, and clean up.

THE PILGRIM VOCATION ICON PROGRAM: The seeds of God’s grace are planted in our hearts hoping to find fertile fields that will bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit and, in particular, ministerial service in the Church. Prayer is integral in the process of nurturing Church vocations. On **Sunday, October 5th**, the entire Byzantine Catholic Church in America is beginning a Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program. Each week, the icon, along with a prayer booklet, is taken by a household in the parish. Those who accept the icon agree to pray during that time for religious and priestly vocations. Everyone in the parish is invited and encouraged to have this icon in their home for one week. Please sign up on the sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. For more information, please contact Fr. Vasyl.

PATRONAGE CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY: We are in need of volunteers for a clean-up day at Patronage on **Saturday, September 27th, beginning at 9:00am.** In preparation for our upcoming ECF classes, we need to clean the rectory basement, and the social hall kitchen for our upcoming festival in November. Please bring a bucket and rags. Your efforts would be greatly appreciated! If you are able to volunteer, please contact Kevin Ross (keviross@gmail.com).

PATRONAGE CHURCH INDOOR TREASURE SALE: Thank you to everyone who helped support this fundraiser for our church by your donations, setting up for the event, volunteering on the day of the sale, and cleaning up. We appreciate the generosity and those that volunteered to make this event yesterday a success. Proceeds will benefit improvements in our church.

ADULT ENRICHMENT MINISTRY: Our next session will take place next **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!

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!

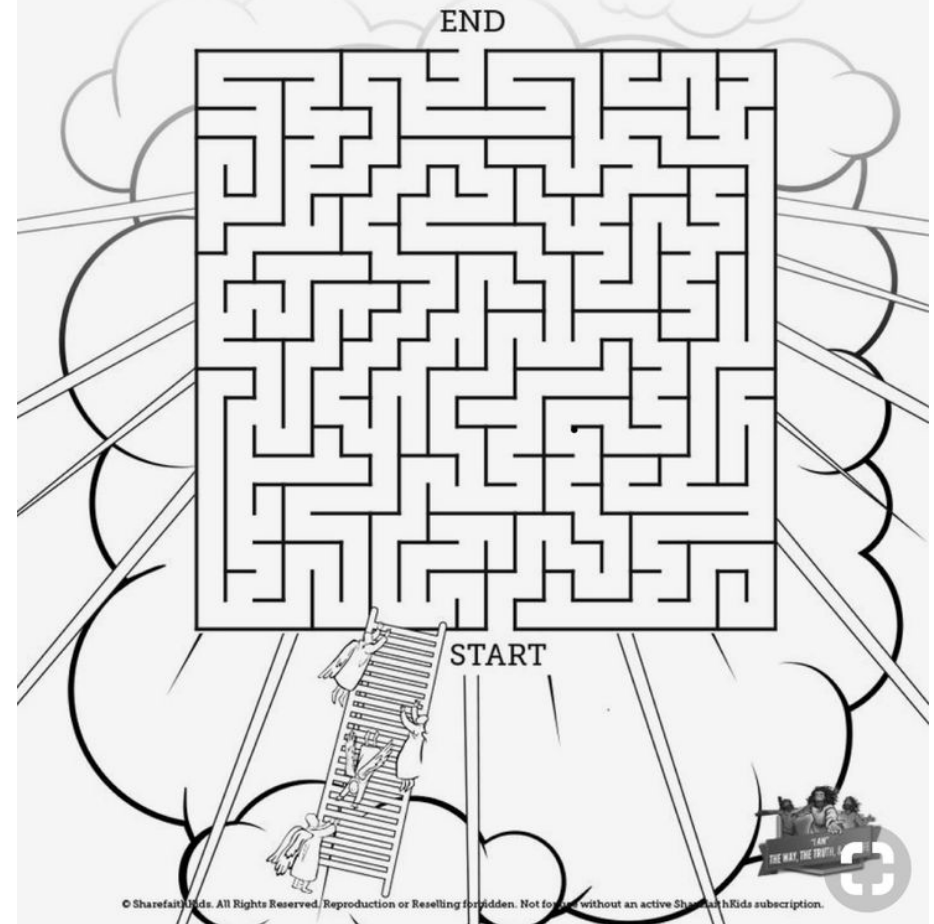
BETHANY MINISTRY: The booklets we will be using to establish the Bethany Ministry have arrived! Please contact Kelley Wood (m_k_wood@yahoo.com) or Tim Herder (timothyherder@gmail.com) to borrow a copy. If there is interest, we will start a "reading group" to discuss a few chapters at a time. Those discussions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

Children's Corner

"I AM" THE WAY, TRUTH, & THE LIFE

Guide the angels to heaven.



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.

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."*

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).