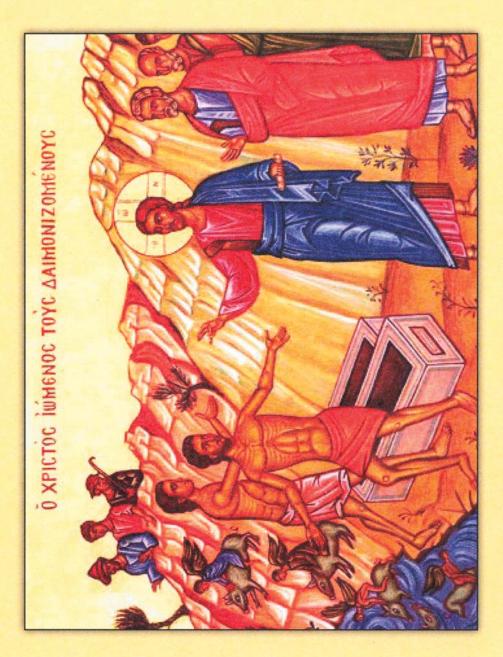
SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST TWENTY-THIRD



lcon of the Healing of the Gerasenes (Luke 8:26-39)

Jesus Casts Out the Demons

What have I to do with You... I beg You, do not torment me! This was the demonic spirit within the possessed man, not the man himself. The demon did not want to leave the body he inhabited.

- 1. Demonic possession is when a demonic spirit resides in a human body, and at times will exhibit its own personality through the personality of the host body. Demonic possession is a reality today, though we must guard against either ignoring demonic activity or over-emphasizing supposed demonic activity.
- 2. We are not told specifically how a person becomes demon possessed, other than the inference that it must be by some sort of invitation, whether offered knowingly or not.
- 3. Superstition, fortunetelling, so-called harmless occult games and practices, spiritism, New Age deception, magic, drug taking and other things open doors of deception to the believer, and real

demonic danger to the unbeliever.

- 4. People often get involved in the occult or demonic things because there is something there that seems to work. Unfortunately it is not something at work, but a someone at work a demonic spirit.
- 5. We can say that demons want to inhabit bodies for the same reason why the vandal wants a spray can, or a violent man wants a gun a body is a weapon that they can use in their attack against God. Demons also attack men because they hate the image of God in man, so they try to mar that image, by debasing man and making him grotesque.
- 6. Demons have the same goal in Christians (to wreck the image of God) but their tactics are restricted; in regard to Christians, demonic spirits were disarmed by Jesus' work on the cross (Colossians 2:15), though they can both deceive and intimidate Christians, binding them with fear and unbelief.

Eastern Christian Bulletin Service -- PO Box 3909 -- Fairfax, VA 22038-3909 www.ecbulletin.com Ph: 703-691-8862 Fax: 703-691-0513



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE 1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644 www.patronagechurch.com / Facebook: Patronagechurch patronage.church@gmail.com

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com

Cell: (240) 644-2661 Office: (410) 247-4936 Deacon: Anthony Kotlar kotlar@alum.mit.edu Cantor: Michael Kulka Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.

Patronage Church at Abingdon:

Church of St. Francis (Stone Chapel)

1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009

Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar: 410-734-6973

Next Liturgy: Sunday, November 7th, at 3pm

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Ann Catholic Church

1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: 301-791-0930 **Next Liturgy**: Saturday, November 27th, at 10am

DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	ce Intention				
Sunday	8:45am	Matins	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney				
10.31.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	Divine Liturgy Requested by: Sean Albert				
Tuesday	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Herb Markowski				
11.02.2021			Requested by: Mrs. Cathy Johnson				
Friday	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney				
11.05.2021			Requested by: Sean Albert				
Sunday	11:00am	Matins	Veteran's Day Commemoration:				
7.07.2021	11:15am	Divine Liturgy	+Deceased and Living Military Veterans				

This is the *23rd Sunday After Pentecost*. Propers begin on page 152, Tone 6.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Please make a note, that with more than a month of fall in the books, **Daylight Saving Time officially ends at 2am on November 7**th, when the clock will "fall back" one hour.

CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY: Manifesting Carpatho-Rusyn culture and history – the mission of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society is to preserve and perpetuate the distinct culture, history, language, and heritage of the Carpatho-Rusyn people. The Society offers many educational programs online at Carpatho-Rusyn Society You Tube. Also, offered are genealogy presentations on Zoom and expert help in finding your roots. Their new addition is their Heritage Store, where you will find educational materials, maps, flags, and accessories. If you want to become a member, visit the Carpatho-Rusyn Society's website at www.c-rs.org and click on "Get Involved." For more information, you can contact Bonnie Burke, Southeast Coordinator at bb@c-rs.org, or call 440-729-2045.

GCU (GREEK CATHOLIC UNION): Just to let you know, the latest October issue of the GCU Magazine can be found in the book rack in the Narthex. There are limited copies, but you are welcome to take one home!

BYZANTEEN YOUTH RALLY 2022: Don't forget to mark your calendar! Next year's youth rally is scheduled for June 30th through July 3rd, 2022, and will take place at Mt. St. Mary University in Emmitsburg, MD. You can find the rally registration form, and additional information, on the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh's website at www.archpitt.org.

2022 BUS TRIP: We are trying to see if there would be enough interest in taking a Saturday day trip. We would be traveling by bus for an approximately 3-hour ride beginning with the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. There would be a ½ hour guided tour with some time on your own to explore the grounds and a visit to the gift shop. Our next stop would be Mt. St. Macrina for a tour of the grounds and a visit to their gift shop. Then, a short drive to Fort Necessity and Jumonville, where there is a large cross that is lit up at night. The cost of this day trip would be approximately \$75.00 (depending on the number of people, the price could decrease). This cost only covers transportation and tip. We are also trying to plan this trip either the end of April or the beginning of May. More details will be worked out if there is enough interest. Please contact Mike Skovran at 410-979-4791, if you are interested.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS: "Joyful Light" is the seminary's newsletter, and is a semi-annual publication. If you would like to receive this newsletter, electronically, you can email your request to: development@bcs.edu. We also just received a limited number of their Fall 2021, issue, and you can pick one up in the book rack in the Narthex.

OUR DAILY BREAD CASSEROLE DONATIONS: Our next casserole collection date is Sunday, December 12th. Casseroles need to be dropped off at our church and can be put into the freezer after our church festival (November 20th). Aluminum pans, for the casseroles, are available on the table, in our church hall, to use for this project. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Skovran.

VETERAN'S DAY COMMEMORATION: Next Sunday, November 7th, Fr. Serhii will be having a Veteran's Day commemoration during Divine Liturgy. If you would like to include living or deceased names of veterans, that will be read aloud during the commemoration, please fill out the form (located on the shelf in the Narthex or on our website included with our online bulletins), and **return it no later than today**. These names will also be listed in next week's bulletin.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

HOLY HUMOR: A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father when they could discuss his use of the car? His father said he would make a deal: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car." Done! After about six weeks, his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut." The boy said, "You know, Dad, I thought about that, and I noticed in my studies of the bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair." "Yes," replied his father, "But did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

PRINTER CARTRIDGES: If anyone has used printer cartridges, we will happily accept them. You can leave them in the Narthex. We plan on recycling them and earning rewards to put towards new cartridges for use in the church office. Thank you to those who have already donated!

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).

7



23rd Sunday After Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Today, we heard a gospel reading about how the Lord, and his disciples, sailed to the land of Gadara and when they came ashore, the Lord met a man who had long been possessed by demons.

The Gospel tells us that this demon-possessed man did not put on clothes, did not live in a house, but lived among the tombs (Luke 8:26-27). When the Lord asked the name of the demon, he replied, "Legion," which meant that a large number of evil spirits were in the body of the sick man. Demons constantly tortured the possessed and kept the inhabitants of that land in fear. The demons, sensing the presence of God, begged Jesus Christ not to drive them into the abyss, but to allow them to enter the herd of pigs.

When the Lord allowed the demons to enter the swine, the flock immediately rushed down the cliff into the lake and drowned. The healed man became completely healthy. A man who had a beast-like nature and an encounter with which made him tremble with fear, became a good man again, restored in himself the image and likeness of God. But the inhabitants of the Gadarene region did not appreciate the miracle of God, but instead watched with fear as once possessed. Only the man that was freed of the demons who was now healthy, clothed, and sane, sat quietly at the Savior's feet and listened to His teachings.

Saint Theophylact, of Bulgaria, speaks of such actions of a demon, as follows: "It is all for the benefit of those who listen, so that they understand how much evil spirits hate God's creation, so much so that having gained power over animals - they have come up with nothing better than to destroy them." But why didn't the Lord stop them? The teacher of the Church, St. John Chrysostom, continues: "It was allowed for us to understand and draw conclusions for ourselves. If evil spirits treated pigs like that, they would probably do the same to people."

The Apostle Peter wrote, "Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). From these few examples, it was clear that the devil and evil spirits are real spiritual beings who had mind and will. The Fathers and teachers of the Church unanimously testified that there was a kingdom of Satan, there are evil spirits who were once light angels. They are angry with themselves and full of hatred for God and people. They tried to harm the soul and body.

We all need to know that the devil enters our souls only by taking possession of our minds and thoughts. In some, he sows doubts, steals faith from the heart and mind; in others, his disgusting breath burns the fear of God; and, struck by vanity, he leads into captivity to various passions and vices that open the door to all evil spirits.

The place of the devil's struggle with God was, is, and will be - the human heart. It contains both the abyss of hell and the deep faith that protects man from hostile evil influence. The heart gives birth to the fire of Divine love and is a container of eternal joy.

The inhabitants of the Gadarene region were "seized with great fear" (Luke 8:37), not with great joy. Because the revealed miracle of casting out demons prompted them to change their own lives, it called for repentance. But they did not want to change and drove the Savior out of their land (Matt. 8:34).

Dear believers! Our lives today urge us all to be very careful about the existence of the devil and evil spirits. Because our ignorance, shy silence, or even rejection of the existence of this terrible force, makes us completely unarmed before it. It can lead us, like sheep, to slaughter and death.

BLESSED THEODORE ROMZHA (1911-1947): On this day we also commemorate the Blessed Martyr Theodore Romzha. He was born in the Subcarpathia region of what is now the Ukraine on April 14, 1911. He studied as a seminarian in Rome and was ordained a priest on December 25, 1936. At age 33, he was consecrated a Bishop and became Administrator of the Eparchy of Mukachevo. Because of his tireless work to minister to his congregations, Communist officials wanted to assassinate him. Unfortunately, a plot to kill him succeeded after an initial motor vehicle accident and eventual poisoning by a relief nurse when hospitalized. He was beatified a Martyr for Faith by Pope John Paul II on June 27, 2001, with November 1st, being his feast day. If you would like a booklet about Blessed Theodore Romzha, complements of Mike Skovran, there is a limited supply on the shelf next to the bulletins. You are welcome to take one!

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN: After Divine Liturgy, this morning, a fall craft is planned for our ECF children. A snack will also be available in the church hall, if anyone would like to join us!

Also, visit www.godwithusonlineorg, and be sure to click on "Ruthenian," for this week's catechetical resources, including the Gospel summary and discussion questions, that you can use in your catechesis. If you would like to register a child for our ECF Program, please send Fr. Serhii an email and let him know.

"A Church without youth is a Church without a future.

Moreover, youth without a Church is youth without a future!"

-Author Unknown

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Fr. Serhii is available 15 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy to hear confession.

BECOMING BYZANTINE: The Eparchy of Phoenix and Vineyard of the Lord Catholic Ministries are sponsoring a free webinar and video series on Byzantine Catholic faith, worship, and life based upon the "Christ Our Pascha Catechism." Are you a Western Christian (Catholic or Protestant) who is interested in exploring the Byzantine Catholic faith for your own development in faith? Are you contemplating joining or have you recently joined a Byzantine or Greek Catholic parish? Are you a Byzantine Christian who wants to learn more about your own rich tradition? Visit <u>BECOMING BYZANTINE: An Introduction to Byzantine Catholicism</u> for more information. Sessions will be held on the 4th Sunday of the month beginning September 26, 2021 through August, 2022, from 7-8:30pm.

ASSEMBLY OF THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CHURCH 2021: The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education has announced an in-person event entitled, "One Body in Christ: Re-emerging from the Pandemic." This event will take place November 5-6, 2021, at the Cathedral in Munhall, PA. Visit www.archpitt.org for more information.

- **GOD WITH US ONLINE:** The third webinar of this curriculum year will be "Genesis; An Eastern Christian Perspective." This is a free program and takes place on Wednesdays, November 3-17, from 8-9pm. Andrew Hayes, Ph.D., will be the presenter. Join us as we immerse ourselves in the study of Genesis, which St. Ephrem the Syrian called "the treasure house of the Ark, the crown of the Law." With Saints Ephrem, John Chrysostom, Basil the Great & Gregory of Nyssa, as our guides, we will dive deeply into the Sacred Word which created the world in the beginning. To register, visit www.godwithusonline.org.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket

INTENTIONS - PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, those who cannot make it to church, also: Fr. Serhii, and his family, Arlene Duda, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Paul Ruszin, Sr., Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, Fr. Joseph Borodach (he is a priest in the Pittsburgh Diocese and recovering from surgery – Uncle of Alex Demyan), Greg Rudy, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!

CONTRIBUTIONS: Patronage: 10.24.2021 - \$1,184.00 Abingdon: 10.24.2021 - \$100.00

2021 "FALL" SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL – Saturday, November 20th from 10am – 2pm: If you would like to place a festival food order, forms are available on our website, or you can pick one up on the shelf, in the Narthex, next to the bulletins. Orders can either be submitted on our church website, mailed to the church rectory, or left in the collection basket, in the back of our Temple. The pre-order date deadline is Monday, November 8th.

In order to make this festival a success, **we need many volunteers**. Please consider helping out with the various tasks that need to be done. On the day of the festival, we need at least 12 volunteers. When we bake kolachi, we need as many that can volunteer. Please contact Mary Demyan, mdemya1@verizon.net or 410-591-5654, if you are able to volunteer. This is a big fundraiser for our parish, and we would appreciate any help you can give. Please add the following dates to your calendar:

Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 9am – kolachi making (we plan on making 400+ kolachi and need as many volunteers as possible to help roll, bake, package them up, and help in clean-up)

Friday, November 19, 2021, at 9am – volunteers needed to peel potatoes, cut onions, and set the hall up for the festival

Saturday, November 20, 2021, from 10am-2pm – volunteers needed to work the festival, as well as help is needed to clean up after the festival

BAKED GOOD DONATIONS NEEDED: Gather up your favorite recipes and get the whole family involved! **We will be having a bake table, at our upcoming festival next month**. We welcome all kinds of baked goods. Please wrap/package your baked goods in sellable portions. **We still need someone to manage the bake table.** You can contact Mary Demyan, and let her know you will take on this task. Thank you in advance for your help!

KIELBASI FREEZER SALE: We have a limited supply of frozen "**smoked kielbasi**" for sale and available to take home after Liturgy today. If you are interested in purchasing any, please see Mary Demyan or Sharon Kotula. Price and size vary.

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. If you would like to be added to our parish email list, send us an email at patronage.church@gmail.com.

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7).

GCU

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