

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
SUNDAY OF KING DAVID, JOSEPH AND JAMES



Icon of the Nativity of Our Lord



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

Office: (410) 247-4936

Administrator: Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon Cantor: Michael Kulka
 Email: vasyl.symyon@gmail.com Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.
 Phone: 412-713-4520 Cantor: Ann Marie Kotlar
 Rev. Deacon Anthony Kotlar, Sr.
 Assistant: Sharon Kotula; Email: d.kotula@comcast.net

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Ann Catholic Church: 1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: (301) 791-0930 / axxearp@yahoo.com

Next Liturgy: TBD

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday After Christmas – David, Joseph and James 12.31.2023	9:00am	Diving Liturgy	For: +Michael, +Mary, & +Matthew Loncaric From: Anna Esquela
Circumcision of Our Lord, Feast of St. Basil Monday, 1.1.2024	11:00am	Divine Liturgy Mirovanije/Anointing	For: Living and Deceased Members of our Parish
Theophany of Our Lord/Sunday After Theophany 1.7.2024	11:00am	Divine Liturgy Great Blessing of the Water Mirovanije/Anointing	For: Living and Deceased Members of our Parish

The Propers for today are on page 152, tone 6, then page 302 in the Divine Liturgy book.

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

Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Christós Raždájetsja! Slávite Jeho!

EPISTLE READERS: If you are interested in chanting the Epistle, please see Joe Kotlar or Mike Kulka after Divine Liturgy. A schedule will be created, and the reading can be made available to you to practice ahead of time.

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 or call either one.

LITURGY INTENTIONS: It is a beautiful part of our Byzantine Catholic tradition to have the Divine Liturgy celebrated for a special intention or for health and God's blessings upon a living person, or for the repose of the soul of a deceased person. *Liturgy intention books and forms have been updated, and are now available on the bookrack in the Narthex. Forms can also be found on our website.* A donation or stipend is an offering made to the priest for the Divine Liturgy for such a request. **Checks should be made payable to: Fr. Vasyl Symyon.** You can either mail your Intention request to the rectory, or place it in the offertory basket in the back of our Temple. A special date may be requested, but they may not always be available. The date is assigned on a first come, first served basis, and are reserved upon receipt of the offering.

PATRONAGE FREEZER SALE: We have bags of a dozen pirohi of potato and cheese for sale at \$7.00 and 4 dozen bags at \$25.00. We also have bags of a dozen pirohi of farmer's cheese, sauerkraut, and cabbage for sale at \$7.00 each. Nut, poppy, and raspberry kolachi are available for \$15.00 each. Please see Mary Demyan, if you are interested in purchasing any.

2023 BISHOP'S APPEAL: The Passaic Eparchy will accept pledges and payments through June 30, 2024. Any contributions received after December 31, 2023, must be attributed to the 2024 tax year. **All checks must be made payable to the Eparchy of Passaic,** and mailed to: Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, 445 Lackawanna Avenue, Woodland Park, NJ 07424. You may also pledge/donate online at: www.eparchyofpassaic.com. Our parish goal is \$9,800.00, and if we achieve or exceed this amount, our parish will receive a 40% refund of the total received. Contributions from the Hagerstown Mission will also be attributed to Patronage Church's total.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES: We are collecting used printer cartridges to recycle, and earn rewards to help pay for new cartridges we use to print our weekly bulletins and Liturgical information. You can place your cartridges in the labeled box in the cry room. Many thanks for your contribution!

BYZANTINE ICON PAINTING WORKSHOP (UPDATED INFORMATION): Patronage Church is planning a Byzantine Icon Painting Workshop with Iconographer, Wayne Hajos. Wayne wrote many icons in our church. This workshop is an excellent opportunity for spiritual growth in our faith! Take advantage of this opportunity! **The class will be held on Saturday, February 3rd and 10th, from 9am – 5pm, and Sunday, February 4th and 11th, from 11:30am – 7:30pm.** The class fee will be \$250 with all supplies included. No art experience is necessary, and we will paint an icon of our church's patron, the Theotokos to register, please send a deposit of \$50, by check, along with your name, and mail it to: Wayne Hajos, 400 Symphony Circle #555, Hunt Valley, MD 21030. The balance of \$200 will be due on the first day of class. Class size is limited to 20 students max, and will be first come, first serve! **Registration deadline is Monday, January 1st, 2024!** If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Ross at keviross@gmail.com, or by text/phone at 570-561-6540.

PATRONAGE CHURCH SHOPPING BAGS FOR SALE: If you haven't purchased the church's new shopping bag, with the logo on it yet, they are \$5 per bag. Please see Mary Demyan, or Sharon Kotula, if you would like to purchase any.

CROWNED IN LOVE – A Byzantine Pre-Cana Program: This is a zoom event scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2024, from 9am – 4pm. Couples planning to marry before spring 2025, are urged to attend. The cost is \$75.00 payable to St. Michael's Cathedral Syncellate at time of registration. For more information, contact St. Michael's Cathedral Office at 973-777-2553 or passaiccathedral@gmail.com.

CHURCH ENVELOPES 2024: If you do not have church envelopes, and would like to receive them, please send the church an email, and let us know. Envelopes are mailed out bi-monthly.

EASTERN CATHOLIC LIFE (ECL): If you would like to subscribe to the ECL, or change your subscription, please email the church, and let us know no later than **January 28, 2024**. The subscription cost is \$15/year and will be mailed to your home each month.

2024 LITURGICAL CALENDAR: Next year's calendar can be found on the table in the back of our Temple. Please take only one calendar per family. Thank you!



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, Sandy Sabo Rabuse, Matthew Skovran, Mike Skovran, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Albert Ondrish, 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!*

STEWARDSHIP: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733> – the link is also on our website)

Patronage Church:

December 23, 2023
Offertory: \$365.00
Christmas: \$400.00
Flowers: \$24.00
ECL: \$15.00
Theophany: \$10.00
Initial Offering: \$8.00
Tithe.ly: \$180.00

December 24, 2023 (Christmas Eve)
Offertory: \$335.00
Christmas: \$1,395.00
Flowers: \$48.00
ECL: \$15.00
Initial Offering: \$8.00

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 in your donation or donate online at: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>. The link is also on our website. *“Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth” (Dt. 8:18).*

HAPPY NEW YEAR: May God grant His protection, grace, and blessings in the New Year to all of us.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: *Next Sunday, January 7, 2024, Divine Liturgy is at 11am.* We will also have the Great Blessing of the Water, and Mirovanije/Anointing. Please bring a bottle for your holy water. We will have a limited number of holy water bottles for sale. Following Liturgy, we will be having a pot-luck dinner in our social hall. Please plan on joining us!

NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE: This event will be held from Thursday afternoon, January 18th, through Friday morning, January 19, 2024, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Opening Liturgy begins Thursday, January 18th, at 5pm, followed by a Holy Hour for Life starting at 7pm. The Closing Liturgy begins Friday at 8am. Please visit the 2024 National Prayer Vigil for Life website and the Frequently Asked Questions section on the USCCB website for complete information on the schedule and additional details.

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.

CHILDREN'S CORNER



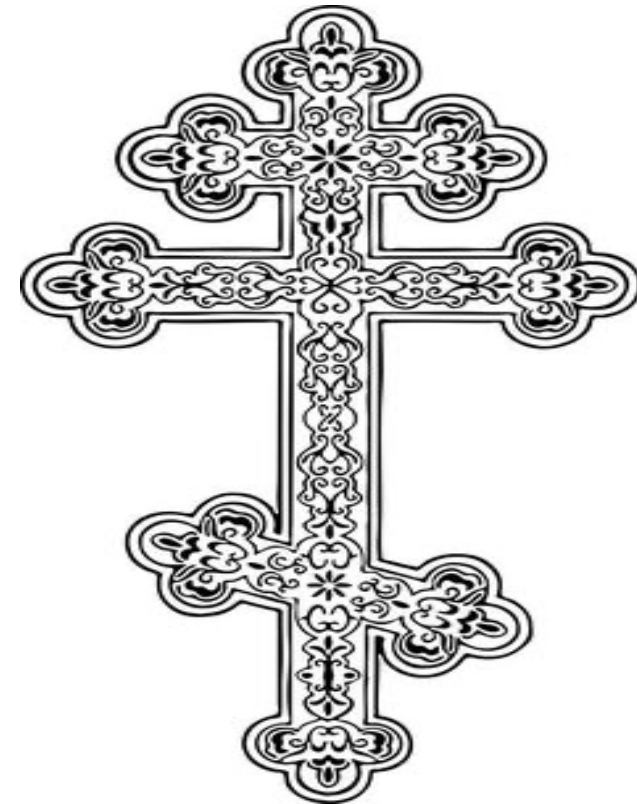
UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE HOUSE OF PRAYER: The following events will take place at Mount St. Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA. To register for programs or more information, call 724-438-7149, or email hpmsm@verizon.net.

1. **Thursday Morning Bible Study: "Identifying Lesser Known Prophets of the Passion"** with Sister Melita Marie, OSBM. In-person and virtual event will take place 10:30am – noon, February 22nd and 29th, and March 7th and 14th. Offering: \$20 per session. Registration due: February 19th.
2. **Overnight Silent Retreat for Women** with Sister Carol, OSBM. In-person event will take place 7pm, Friday, February 23rd, till after lunch, Saturday, February 24th. Offering: \$40 per session. Registration due: February 19th.
3. **Men's Evening of Recollection**, Thursday, February 29th from 6:30 – 8:00pm. In-person event. Offering: \$35 per session. Registration due: February 19th.
4. **Tuesday Morning Reading Series: "Living in an Icon"** with Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM. In-person event, and will take place 10:30am – 11:30am, April 9th, 17th, 23rd, and 30th. Offering: \$20 per session. Registration due: April 2nd.
5. **Icon Workshop: "Our Lady of Tenderness"** taught by Marylyn Barone. In-person event, and will take place 3pm, Friday, April 26th to 4pm, Sunday, April 28th. Offering: \$350 and for commuters is \$325. Materials included. Registration is limited to 15 people, and is due by April 19th.
6. **Mother-Daughter Retreat** with Sister Ruth Plante, OSBM. In-person event, and will take place 10am – 1pm, Saturday, May 18th. Offering: \$40. Registration due: May 13th.

Nativity of Jesus Christ - fill in the blanks by using these words:

gold angel manger myrrh devil donkey shepherds frankincense David Magi

Joseph and Mary traveled on a _____ to the City of Bethlehem. Jesus was born in a stable and was placed in a _____. Joseph believed in the Virgin birth, despite being tempted by the _____. An _____ appeared to the _____ announcing the coming of the Messiah, and the sky was filled with the hosts of heaven proclaiming God's peace on earth. Three _____ came to worship the baby Jesus and brought gifts of _____, _____, and _____. Jesus was the true Son of _____ and the Messiah-King of Israel!



Celebrate and Be Glad

Let us strive to comprehend the mystery. The reason God is in the flesh is to kill the death that lurks there. As diseases are cured by medicines and assimilated by the body, and as darkness in a house is dispelled by the coming of light, so death, which held sway over human nature, is done away with by the coming of God. And as ice formed on water covers its surface as long as night and darkness last but melts under the warmth of the sun, so death reigned until the coming of Christ; but when the grace of God our Savior appeared and the Sun of Justice rose, death was swallowed up in victory, unable to bear the presence of true life. How great is God's goodness, how deep his love for us!

Let us join the shepherds in giving glory to God, let us dance with the angels and sing: Today a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ the Lord. The Lord is God and He has appeared to us, not as God, which would have been terrifying for our weakness, but as a slave so as to free those who live in slavery. Who could be so lacking in sensibility and so ungrateful as not to join all here present in our gladness, exultation, and radiant joy? This feast belongs to the whole of creation. Let everyone join in and be grateful. Let our voices too ring out in songs of jubilation!

St. Basil the Great

**For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.ecpubs.com**