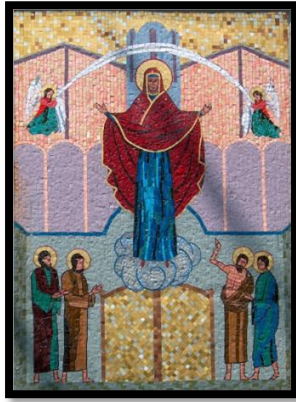


SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD,  
GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST



*Icon of Theophany -- January 6th*



## PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

[www.patronagechurch.com](http://www.patronagechurch.com) / Facebook: Patronagechurch  
[patronage.church@gmail.com](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com)

Office: (410) 247-4936

Administrator: Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon Phone: 412-713-4520  
 Email: [vasyl.symyon@gmail.com](mailto:vasyl.symyon@gmail.com) Cantor: Michael Kulka  
 Rev. Deacon Anthony Kotlar, Sr. Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.  
 Email: [Kotlar@alum.mit.edu](mailto:Kotlar@alum.mit.edu) Cantor: Ann Marie Kotlar  
 Office Assistant: Sharon Kotula; Email: [d.kotula@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:axxearp@yahoo.com)

Next Liturgy: TBD

### PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Theophany of Our Lord/Sunday After Theophany 1.7.2024	11:00am	Divine Liturgy Great Blessing of the Water Mirovanije/Anointing	For: +Pauline Przybocki From: Laura Bissonette
Sunday of Zaccheus 1.14.2024	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Michael & +Margaret Konik From: Dan & Nancy Bobby

The Propers for today are on page 156, tone 7, then page 316, 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.

**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 contact either one.

CHRIST IS BAPTIZED! IN THE JORDAN! CHRISTOS KREŠČAJETSJA! VO JORDANI!

**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.

**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.

**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](mailto:passaiccathedral@gmail.com).

**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](http://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.

**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. If you are using Tithe.ly to make donations to our church and no longer need envelopes, please let us know, as well. Thank you for your assistance in helping us update our parish records!

**2024 PATRONAGE CENSUS:** If you have not completed a parish census form, or have any changes to make to the 2023 form you submitted last year, the 2024 form is available on the bookrack in the Narthex. You can mail your completed form to our church, or drop it in the offertory basket. Thank you for your assistance in helping us to keep our parish records updated!

**EASTERN CATHOLIC LIFE (ECL):** If you would like to subscribe to the ECL, or change/update your subscription, please email the church, and let us know no later than **January 28, 2024.** We need to send an updated list to the Eparchy, and this information is needed to do so. The subscription cost is \$15/year and will be mailed to your home each month. Thank you for your assistance in helping us update our parish records!

**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.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** Everyone will be receiving a financial statement for the year 2023, within the next few weeks. We will keep you posted when they are available.

## ***My Parish***

My parish is composed of people like me.

I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am.

It will be holy, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work.

It will be prayerful, if I pray.

It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into worship,

if I invite and bring them in.

It will be a place of loyalty and love,

of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy,

if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God,

I now dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be.

Amen

7

**HELP NEEDED:** Next Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, after our 9am Liturgy, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. Everyone is asked to help.

**THANK YOU:** We appreciate the efforts of **Dr. Alex Demyan** for cleaning and polishing a silver chalice set our church had in storage. No repairs were necessary. Many thanks!

**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 to those who have contributed – we’ve collected 40 cartridges, so far!**

**GREEK CATHOLIC UNION (GCU) 2024 ART & PHOTO CONTEST:** The theme is, “Family Fun!” The contest runs from January 1<sup>st</sup>– April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. For more information, you can contact Chris Chamberlain at 724-495-3400, x3810 or [events@GCUusa.com](mailto:events@GCUusa.com). Entries should be mailed to: GCU Art Contest, 5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009. **There is a limit of one entry per member, and all contestants must have been a GCU member for one year. Winners will receive a gift card from either Walmart, Target, Amazon, or Best Buy!**

1. If you are 12 or younger, enter your artwork! Submission must be original on paper or art board (maximum size 12’X18”). Include a short description of your art, name, age, address, phone number, and email address on the back of your submission. Age divisions are: age 6 & under, ages 7-9 and ages 10-12.
2. If you are 13 and up (age divisions are: 13-21 and age 22 and older) enter your photo! Include a short description, name, age, address, phone number, and email address with your submission. Photos that include identifiable people require a model release. The model release form is available for download at [GCUusa.com/events](http://GCUusa.com/events).

**PIROHI 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.

**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 a program, or more information, please call 724-438-7149, or email [hpmsm@verizon.net](mailto: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 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, and March 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Offering: \$20 per session. Registration due: February 19<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Overnight Silent Retreat for Women** with Sister Carol, OSBM. In-person event will take place 7pm, Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, till after lunch, Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Offering: \$40 per session. Registration due: February 19<sup>th</sup>.
3. **Men’s Evening of Recollection**, Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00pm. In-person event. Offering: \$35 per session. Registration due: February 19<sup>th</sup>.
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 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>. Offering: \$20 per session. Registration due: April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**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: Patronage Church

December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day)	December 31, 2023	January 1, 2024
Offertory: \$759.00	Offertory: \$465.00	Theophany: \$75.00
	Christmas: \$10.00	Flowers: \$50.00
	Tithe.ly: \$240.00	ECL: \$15.00
	ECL: \$60.00	Initial Offering: \$16.00
	Initial Offering: \$34.00	Religious Articles: \$14.00

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).**

**GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATER/MIROVANIJE AND ANOINTING:** In the Byzantine Catholic Church, the Solemn Blessing of the Water commemorates Christ’s baptism in the River Jordan. It is customary to drink of the Holy Water for the “purification of your soul and body, and cure of any weakness.” Taking Holy Water to your home is to have in it a fount of continued blessings and protection against all evil. **Fr. Vasyl will have the Blessing of the Water during Divine Liturgy today, and will be available for you to take some home.** You can use this Holy Water when you are sick, or bless things in your home. Please do not pour last year’s Holy Water down the drain, it is consecrated. Either continue to use it, or pour it on the ground, where it won’t be walked on. There are a limited number of Holy Water bottles for sale if you need to purchase one. Prices are marked on the container. You can leave your payment for the water bottle in the basket. **At the conclusion of Liturgy today, we will also have Mirovaniye and Anointing.**

**PARISH SOCIAL:** Following Divine Liturgy today, we will be having a pot-luck dinner in our social hall. Everyone is welcome to attend, so please join us!

**NEW ADDITION TO OUR PARISH:** Krissy and Oswain Venzen welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Eden Maya, on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Olivia is so excited to have a little sister. May God grant the Venzen family, many Blessed years! Mnohaja i Blajaha Lita!

**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](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com).

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

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## Theophany of Our Lord



Fill in the blanks by using these words:

**John**            **dove**            **3**            **Christ**            **ministry**            **6<sup>th</sup>**            **Theophany**  
**Trinity**            **12**            **Christ's**            **Jordan**            **son**            **Holy Spirit**

The Feast of \_\_\_\_\_ is celebrated in the Church \_\_\_\_\_ days after Christmas on

January \_\_\_\_\_, and is when Jesus was baptized by \_\_\_\_\_ the Baptist in the River \_\_\_\_\_.

The events of this feast are a Theophany because it was the beginning of Christ's earthly \_\_\_\_\_, but also

because it was a revelation of the Trinity. The Father's voice was heard saying, "This is My beloved \_\_\_\_\_, in

whom I am well pleased," and the \_\_\_\_\_ appeared in the form of a \_\_\_\_\_, above \_\_\_\_\_

head. The \_\_\_\_\_ rays of light below the dove, represents the three persons of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE BYZANTINE RITE LITURGICAL PRACTICE OF OBSERVING ALL SOULS SATURDAYS:** In the Byzantine Liturgical Year there are five All Souls Saturdays – namely, Meat Fare Saturday, the Second, Third, and Fourth Saturdays of the Great Lent, and Pentecost Saturday. Our first All Souls service will be held on Friday, February 2, 2024. *Every year, we request that parishioners submit a list of their departed loved ones called a "Hramoty."* These lists will be put into a booklet form, and the names will be mentioned at the services held for the deceased on All Souls Saturday. *Please remember to write the names legibly.* Members of the family are encouraged to attend these services on the All Souls Saturdays, for by your presence and personal prayers, it strengthens the bond with your departed loved ones, and indeed keeps their memory eternal! **VIČNAJA PAMJAT!** *A "Hramoty" form is included with this bulletin.* If you receive church envelopes, you can also use the envelope that was mailed to you. All forms and/or envelopes can either be mailed to our church, or dropped in the collection basket. **Please submit your "Hramoty" list no later than Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, in order to have them included in the booklet.**

**A TRADITION IN THE BYZANTINE CHURCH - THE BLESSING OF CANDLES ON THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE:** *On Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will also have The Blessing of Candles.* In our churches today, the Presence of a burning vigil-light indicates the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist on the altar. St. John the Evangelist presented Our Lord Jesus Christ to us in his gospel as the "Light of Life." The burning candle presented to us at Baptism is a symbol of the new spiritual life we receive through the sacrament. Burning candles held by our altar servers, one on each side of the Gospel during the reading, reminds us that the teaching of Christ should enlighten us and guide us on our way to salvation as indicated by the words of Our Lord Himself. "I am the light of the world; anyone who follows Me will not be walking in the dark, but will have the light of life." The burning candles in front of our holy icons should remind us of the light of the exemplary lives they lived and inspire us to model our lives after theirs in imitation of their "good works." The ritual of the Church also prescribes that at least two candles be lit on the altar at all liturgical services. Burning candles in our churches remind us that our prayers should come from a heart burning with love of God and they should be directed toward heaven, where God abides in the "inaccessible light." In this manner, candles make a positive contribution to the fervor of our prayers. The burning of a votive candle in church, besides its sacrificial value (donation), has also a symbolic meaning, namely, the continuation of our prayers after we leave the church.

The custom of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation was introduced to fill the "needs of the people." In homes, the blessed candles are lighted and placed before a holy icon in time of serious sickness, distress, or the threat of a storm to implore Divine protection, as the family is gathered in prayer. The burning candle symbolizes the abiding presence of Jesus Christ in the midst of the Christian community as He, Himself, had promised: "Where two or three are gathered in My Name, there I am in their midst."

You are, therefore, welcome to bring your own candle(s) from home to have blessed, or we will have candles available for purchase. More details to follow.

**NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE:** This event will be held from Thursday afternoon, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 18<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**2024 LITURGICAL CALENDAR:** Our new calendar can be found on the table in the back of our Temple. Please take only one calendar per family. Thank you!

# HRAMOTY

## "All Souls" Services - 2024

*Please list the names of your deceased relatives and friends. These names will be read during the Petitions of the Litany.*

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks can be made payable to: Fr. Vasyl Symyon



# FREE ONLINE WEBINARS

JAN-MAR 2024

*Formed for Life!*



## FORMING SAINTS THE BYZIKIDS WAY

Come and explore the way to make saints the ByziKids Way! Join Fr. Dn. Robert Klesko as he hosts ByziMom, Lynne Wardach, and the Melkite Momma, Kh. Jocelyn Abyad, about their work in catechesis and curriculum, forming hearts and minds to be faithful to the Gospel as Eastern Catholics.

60 MIN WEBINAR ON FRI 1/12 - 4PM EST

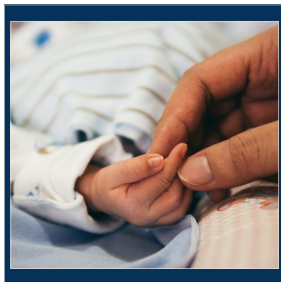
JANUARY 2024



## THEOPHANY & CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Want to learn more about the relationship between the Baptism of Jesus Christ and our own Mysteries of Christian Initiation? Fr. Daniel Dozier and Fr. Dn. Robert Klesko discuss Archbishop Joseph Raya's *Theophany and Sacraments of Initiation*. Join us as we explore our salvation in Christ!

90 MIN WEBINAR ON MON 1/29 - 7PM EST



## SPRINGS IN THE DESERT

### THE CHALLENGE OF INFERTILITY FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES

One of the Spiritual Works of Mercy which we focus on during Great Lent is "comforting the afflicted." Many struggle with the difficulty of infertility while affirming the goodness of their marriage and living according to the principles of faith. Join Ann Koshute, MTS as we discuss this important life-affirming topic.

60 MIN WEBINAR ON 2/12, 2024 - 2PM EST

FEBRUARY 2024



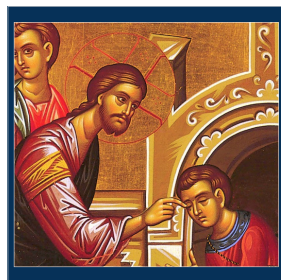
## NOW THE POWERS OF HEAVEN

### THE LENTEN LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

Every Great Lent the Byzantine Churches celebrate a unique form of weekday liturgy known by the name "The Presanctified Liturgy of Saint Gregory the Great." But what is the meaning of this rite, especially in the context of the Fast? Join Fr. James Bankston as we explore Fr. David Petras' new book!

FOUR 90 MIN WEBINARS ON 1ST & 3RD THURS OF FEB/MAR - 7PM EST

MARCH 2024



## COMPANIONS OF THE CROSS

### COMPASSION AND SUFFERING IN MINISTRY TO THE SICK

"Visiting the sick" is an important Corporal Work of Mercy that involves sharing in the suffering of others. How do we bring and find Christ in our service to the sick? Join full time staff chaplain and Melkite seminarian, Subdeacon Riley Wonstead, as we discuss this important ministry to the sick and the dying.

60 MIN LIVE WEBINAR ON THURS 3/14 - 7PM EST

**GOD WITH US - EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION  
EDUCATE, EQUIP, INSPIRE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES**

The Official Catechetical Apostolate of the US Eastern Catholic Churches



*www.godwithusonline.org*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1260 Stevens Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227

Parish Census: 2024

*please print legibly*

**FAMILY LAST NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ Married: \_\_\_ Single: \_\_\_ Widowed: \_\_\_ Separated: \_\_\_ Divorced: \_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**HUSBAND'S or SINGLE MALE'S GIVEN NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <p><i>(please check One)</i></p> <p>___ Byzantine Ruthenian</p> <p>___ Byzantine Ukrainian</p> <p>___ Byzantine Melkite</p> <p>___ Other Eastern Catholic Please specify: _____</p> <p>___ Eastern Orthodox Please specify: _____</p>	<p><i>Eastern Rite Tradition</i></p> <p><i>Western Rite Tradition:</i></p> <p>___ Roman Catholic</p> <p>___ Protestant Please specify: _____</p> <p>___ Other Please specify: _____</p> <p>Transfer of Rite Date: _____</p> <p>Transfer of Rite Place: _____</p>
---	--

**WIFE'S or SINGLE FEMALE'S GIVEN NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <p><i>(please check One)</i></p> <p>___ Byzantine Ruthenian</p> <p>___ Byzantine Ukrainian</p> <p>___ Byzantine Melkite</p> <p>___ Other Eastern Catholic Please specify: _____</p> <p>___ Eastern Orthodox Please specify: _____</p>	<p><i>Eastern Rite Tradition</i></p> <p><i>Western Rite Tradition:</i></p> <p>___ Roman Catholic</p> <p>___ Protestant Please specify: _____</p> <p>___ Other Please specify: _____</p> <p>Transfer of Rite Date: _____</p> <p>Transfer of Rite Place: _____</p>
---	--

**MARRIAGE:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

If widowed, give date of death of spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

If separated, give date of separation: \_\_\_\_\_

If divorced, give date of divorce: \_\_\_\_\_ Previously Married to: \_\_\_\_\_



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME (please attach another sheet of paper, with the following information, if you need to add additional names):**

(1) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Chrismation/Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of First Communion: \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Chrismation/Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of First Communion: \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Chrismation/Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of First Communion: \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Chrismation/Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of First Communion: \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILDREN NOT LIVING AT HOME (please attach another sheet of paper, with the following information, if you need to add additional names):**

(1) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Married Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Married Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Church of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Married Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEMOGRAPHICS:**

Do you receive the Eastern Catholic Life (ECL) (Y or N): \_\_\_\_\_ Do you utilize Offertory Envelopes (Y or N): \_\_\_\_\_

Tithe.ly (Y or N): \_\_\_\_\_ Check/Cash Donation (Y or N): \_\_\_\_\_

If you circled "N" for the ECL or Offertory Envelopes, would you like to receive them? Please list which one(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Member of Church Organizations (list): \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest for involvement at Patronage Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Let Us Venerate Today the Baptism of Christ ... Wash Yourselves and Be Clean*

I cannot restrain my joy; my heart is deeply moved and filled with delight. Forgetting my weakness, I long to undertake the mission of the great John the Baptist; though I am not the Forerunner, I have indeed come from the desert!

Christ receives the sacrament of enlightenment, or rather He enlightens us with His brilliance. He is baptized; let us go down into the water with Him so that we may also come up with Him. John is baptizing, and Jesus comes to him. Christ certainly sanctifies the man who now baptizes Him, but His purpose is chiefly to bury the old Adam in the waters and, above all, to sanctify the waters of the Jordan by His baptism in them so that just as He was spirit and flesh, those who would later be baptized might be sanctified by the power of the Spirit and by water.

John refuses; Jesus insists. "It is you that should be baptizing me!" says John. The torch addresses the Sun, the voice speaks to the Word. Jesus comes out of the water, drawing the world with Him, as it were, and raising it up when it had hitherto been sunk in the abyss. He sees the heavens not being rent, but opening of their own accord.

The first Adam had of old closed heaven to himself and us, just as he had seen the earthly paradise being closed to him, with a fiery sword barring access. The Holy Spirit bears witness. Here all is in perfect harmony, for the testimony comes from heaven, just as He to whom the Spirit bears witness has come from heaven.

*St. Gregory the Theologian*