

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS



Icon of Healing the Paralytic



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Divine Liturgy Schedule: March 9th at 7:00pm; and March 23rd, at 7:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
2 nd Sunday of the Great Fast 2.25.2024	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Souls of: +Michael & +Catherine Bluey From: Carol & Tim Herder
3 rd All Souls Friday, 3.1.2024	6:00opm	Presanctified Liturgy Followed by a Panachida	Reading of the Hramoty List
3 rd Sunday of the Great Fast Veneration of the Cross, 3.3.2024	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Repose of the Soul of: +Lisa Marie Helms Guba From: Richard Guba
4 th All Souls Friday, 3.8.2024	6:00pm	Presanctified Liturgy Followed by a Panachida	Reading of the Hramoty List

Today's Propers can be found as an insert in this bulletin.
 Anaphora responses for the Liturgy of St. Basil is on page 96.

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

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ, Glory forever! 1

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.

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 already contributed – we've now collected 68 cartridges, so far, and have earned \$120.00!*

PIROHI and KOLACHI SALE: We have bags of a dozen Pirohi of potato and cheese for sale at \$7.00 each, and 4 dozen bags at \$25.00 each. We also have bags of a dozen Pirohi of farmer's cheese, sauerkraut, and cabbage for sale at \$7.00 each. Several varieties of Kolachi are available for \$16.00 each. *Please see Mary Demyan if you are interested in purchasing any.* Please help us clear our freezer!

PATRONAGE CHURCH SHOPPING BAGS FOR SALE: Please consider purchasing our church's new shopping bag. They are \$5 per bag. Please see Mary Demyan, or Sharon Kotula, if you would like to purchase any.

PATRONAGE CHURCH SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL: Please mark your calendar. Our next festival is scheduled for **Saturday, March 23rd, from 10:00am – 2:00pm.** To help reduce the expenses for our festival, we are currently looking for donations, and need the following: 35lbs of walnuts, 2 cases of bottled water, 2 cases of Coke minis, 2 cases of Sprite minis, 2 cases of Diet Coke minis, flour, sugar, and books of stamps. If you purchase any of these items, please turn in your receipt, so that we can have a more accurate accounting of our festival costs, as well as a fair representation of your individual donations. We will also accept any amount of cash donations. Any questions, please email Mary Demyan at mdemya1@verizon.net. We will also need volunteers for the following dates:

Sunday, February 25th, after 9:00am Divine Liturgy – stuff envelopes for our festival mailing
Friday, March 1st, 9:00am - cabbage preparation for holupki
Saturday, March 2nd, 9:00am - holupki making
Saturday, March 16th, 9:00am – cooking for the festival
Wednesday, March 20th, 9:00am - kolachi baking, packaging, filling orders, and clean-up
Friday March 22nd, 9:00am - festival preparation and set-up
Saturday, March 23rd, 10:00am – 2:00pm - festival and clean-up

FESTIVAL DONATION THANK YOU: Many thanks to **Regina Yackanicz** for her monetary donation towards our Slavic Food Festival. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

1. We are looking for a volunteer(s) to assist in the sale and removal of a freezer in our social hall, which was replaced in November. The freezer is believed to be in repairable condition. Please see Dennis Kotula or Alex Demyan, if you can help.
2. We also need a volunteer(s) to polish the icon banners, before Pascha, that are attached to our 1st pews. Please let Fr. Vasyl know, if you are able to do this.

*Do things for people not because of who they are or what they do in return,
 but because of who you are. – Mother Theresa* 6

Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic Fasting Regulations for the Great Fast 2024

Abstinence: The law of Abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products. All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain. Abstinence is to be observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays during the Holy Season of the Great Fast.

Strict Abstinence: The law of Strict Abstinence (Fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products. All the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe Strict Abstinence, and is to be observed on the First Day of the Great Fast, Pure Monday, February 12th, and on Great and Holy Friday, March 29th.

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THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM:

Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter.

Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love.

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins and not judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen.

PICK UP YOUR PANS FOR “OUR DAILY BREAD” CASSEROLE DONATIONS:

For those that are not familiar with the program, casseroles are prepared by many churches in the area for donation to "Our Daily Bread," a Catholic Charities facility in Baltimore which serves 250,000 hot meals each year to homeless and needy persons. Our Daily Bread relies on churches like ours to help with this important mission by supplying premade casseroles.

How can I help? -

- If you can donate your time, ingredients, and supplies (**pans and recipes will be available at Patronage Church on the kitchen counter**), take pans home and prepare the casseroles per the recipe provided. There are many recipes available to make. Why not make it a family event?
- Please use ½ size aluminum pan, which is 10x12 inches and 2 9/16 inches deep.
- The casseroles need to be dropped off at Patronage (put in the freezer at Patronage) and then they will be delivered (frozen) to Our Daily Bread
- Please Cover the tray completely with aluminum foil and FREEZE – (NO plastic wrap)
- Write the Name of Casserole (i.e., Zippy Beef), Patronage Church, and Date on a label and place on foil**

The recipes are listed in the attached link as well as in the church kitchen.

PLEASE DO NOT SUBSTITUTE. <https://qrco.de/benOKj>

Churches that participate in this program offer 2.0 service hours for students who need volunteer hours. If your son or daughter needs volunteer hours, they can make the casserole to donate. Greg Calvitt or Mike Skovran can sign off on volunteer hours.

Questions? - email Greg Calvitt (gregcalvitt@gmail.com) or Mike Skovran (michaelskovran@gmail.com).

First casserole collection date for 2024 will be on Sunday, April 21.

Tentative dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:
Sunday, June 9th, Sunday, August 11th, and Sunday October 20th

Thank you for helping to feed our neighbors at Our Daily Bread!

“COME AND SEE” PAPERBACK BOOK: Produced by the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, this is a resource which aims to share the “Good News” – the transforming message of the Gospel within the context of the Byzantine Catholic tradition, and was designed with a two-fold goal in mind: 1) to be beneficial to all the existing Byzantine Catholics, and serve as the ABCs about our church and tradition, and 2) it is also an invitation to all those who are in search of a new spiritual home, who want to learn more about God and build a lasting personal friendship with Him. It is an introduction about who are and what we believe and it aims to grow awareness and participation in the great Christian richness of our Byzantine tradition and speak about its practices. It is an invitation to a journey to experience the Mystery of God. **The cost of this book is only \$5.00**, and is located in the book rack in the Narthex. You can place your money in the marked envelope next to the books.

EASTER FLOWERS: We will once, again, be selling flowers for Easter, and they will be used to decorate our Temple on Pascha. Please find the order form either in this bulletin or on the church’s website. Deadline for placing an order is Palm Sunday, March 24th. Details are included on the order form.

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, 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 – February 18, 2024

Offertory: \$1,770.00	Lent: \$45.00	Tithe.ly: \$311.00
Frozen Pirohi: \$20.00	ECL: \$15.00	Religious Articles: \$185.00
Initial Offering: \$20.00		

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).**

PARISH SOCIAL: Please join us after Divine Liturgy this morning for refreshments in our social hall. All are welcome! **Many thanks to Sarah and Zachary Roberts for providing donuts last Sunday for our social.** Their generosity was greatly appreciated! If you would like to provide some snacks for one of our socials, please contact Mary Demyan or Sharon Kotula.

HELP NEEDED AFTER DIVINE LITURGY TODAY: We need volunteers to help stuff envelopes for our Slavic Food Festival mailing after Divine Liturgy today. Please considering helping us out!

PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS: The Servant of God, **Charlotte Mary Kershner**, daughter of Grayson and Natasha (Kotula) Kershner, and granddaughter of Dennis and Sharon Kotula, received the Holy Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist yesterday, February 24th, in our church. God grant Charlotte Mary many blessed years! Mnohaja I’ita!

VENERATION OF THE CROSS: Next Sunday, March 3rd, is the 3rd Sunday of the Great Fast, and the Veneration of the Cross. If you would like to bring a cross to church, and have blessed, Fr. Vasyl will be doing so before the start of Divine Liturgy. You can leave the cross you want to have blessed on the table in front of the first pew, and can pick it up at the end of Liturgy. The cross can be either one that is displayed in your home/car, or one that you wear. It is recommended to put your name on the back of the cross.

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-stand and prepared. 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).

CHILDREN'S CORNER



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

LENTEN WORD SEARCH

Adam	Compline	Confession	Cross
Eucharist	Eve	Faith	Fasting
Forty	Glory	Heaven	Humility
Icon	Life	Liturgy	Pascha
Prayer	PreSanctified	Prostration	Repentance
Resurrection	Saints	Salutations	Savior
Sinner	Soul	Theotokos	Trinity
Unction	Worship		

2024 EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM: Please mark your calendar -

- **February 25th – Immediately after Divine Liturgy (around 10:15am) today**, students will learn the recipe and practice creating Prospora. Ruthenian Catholic families have a wonderful tradition of making the Prospora at home, and offering the bread as a gift to the church. Please email Kevin Ross at keviross@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Classes will take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month through Sunday, June 9th. We will break for summer, and resume on Catechetical Sunday, September 15, 2024. We currently have 15 students enrolled in our program. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Ross, keviross@gmail.com, or Loui Villaneuva, villanuevaluxmundi@yahoo.com.

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC LITURGICAL PRACTICE OF OBSERVING ALL SOULS SATURDAYS:

Please mark your calendar, and join us for the Second through Fifth “All Soul” services:

- The Third service for “All Souls,” will be held at 6:00pm, on **Friday, March 1st**, after Presanctified Liturgy
- The Fourth service for “All Souls,” will be held at 6:00pm, on **Friday, March 8th**, after Presanctified Liturgy
- The Fifth service for “All Souls,” will be held at 6:00pm, on **Friday May 17th**

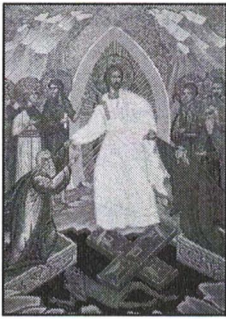
Parishioners are encouraged to attend these services, for by your presence and personal prayers, it strengthens the bond with your departed loved ones, and indeed keeps their memory eternal! **VICNAJA PAMJAT'!**

PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE: Please join us for our Presanctified services during Lent:

- Friday, March 1st, at 6:00pm
- Friday, March 8th, at 6:00pm
- Friday, March 15th, at 6:00pm
- Friday, March 22nd, at 6:00pm

GOD WITH US - FREE ONLINE WEBINAR: Every Great Lent the Byzantine Churches celebrate a unique form of weekday Liturgy known by name as, “The Presanctified Liturgy of Saint Gregory the Great.” But what is the meaning of this rite, especially in the context of the Fast? John Fr. James Bankston as they explore Fr. David Petras’ new book! This Byzantine bookshelf series, **“Now the Powers of Heaven – The Lenten Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts,”** is a 90-minute webinar, and will be held the **1st and 3rd Thursdays of February and March, at 7:00pm.** Please visit www.godwithusonline.org, click on “online,” to register.

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 are 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 it may not always be available. The date is assigned on a first come, first served basis, and are reserved upon receipt of the offering.



EASTER FLOWERS

Our parish is once again sponsoring a flower sale for Easter. The flowers will be used to decorate the church and altar for Divine Liturgy on Pascha. Each donated flower will be published in a special insert of the Easter Bulletin. Plants may be taken by the giver after Resurrection Liturgy.

Please place the order form and payment in the offering basket or mail to the rectory by **Palm Sunday, March 24th**. Make checks payable to *Patronage Church*.

Name of Giver: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Type of flower (*check one*): \$14.00 each

Easter Lily _____ Tulip _____ Hyacinth _____ Daffodil _____

Name of Giver: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Type of flower (*check one*): \$14.00 each

Easter Lily _____ Tulip _____ Hyacinth _____ Daffodil _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ORDERED _____ x \$14.00 = \$ _____

You are Forgiven and Healed

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."

**For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.ecpubs.com**