

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS



*Icon of the Sunday of the Holy Cross*



## PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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### 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)

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

### PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> All Souls Friday, 3.8.2024	6:00pm	Presanctified Liturgy Followed by a Panachida	Reading of the Hramoty List
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast - St. John Climacus 3.10.2024	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For living and deceased parishioners of our church
Friday 3.15.2024	6:00pm	Presanctified Liturgy	For living and deceased parishioners of our church

Today's Propers can be found on page 156, Tone7, then page 223, in our Divine Liturgy book.  
 Anaphora responses for the Liturgy of St. Basil are on page 100.

**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 or contact 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 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.

**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 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 10:00am – 2:00pm.** To help reduce the expenses for our festival, we are currently looking for donations, and need the following: *cases of bottled water, Coke minis, Sprite minis, and Diet Coke minis.* 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](mailto:mdemya1@verizon.net). We will also need volunteers for the following dates (please let Mary know if you are able to volunteer):

- Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am** – cooking for the festival
- Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am** - kolachi baking, packaging, filling orders, and clean-up
- Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00am** - festival preparation and set-up
- Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00am – 2:00pm** - festival and clean-up

**DONATED ITEMS FOR OUR FESTIVAL:** Many thanks to the following for their donation towards our upcoming Slavic Food Festival this month. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

1. **Barbara Breeze** – donated walnuts for kolachi
2. **Sara Jane & Zachary Roberts** – donated walnuts for kolachi, 25lbs of sugar and 25lbs of flour for baking, a case of coke, and 2 cases of water

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

# 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 12<sup>th</sup>, and on Great and Holy Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

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***Having Suffered the Passion for Us  
Jesus Christ, Son of God  
Have Mercy, Have Mercy, Have Mercy on us***

***Preterpivjy za nas strasti,  
Isuse Christe, Syne Bozij,  
Pomiluj, pomiluj, pomiluj nas.***

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## Third Sunday of the Great Fast – Veneration of the Cross

Fill in the blanks using these words:

**Resurrection strength Church Passion Cross Lenten courage Christ**

The Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross takes place during the \_\_\_\_\_ season

to remind us that we are not alone in our spiritual struggle – our Lord is here, with us,

and His \_\_\_\_\_ gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to continue

“the good fight” in anticipation of His \_\_\_\_\_ and the glory of His

\_\_\_\_\_.

We wear a cross and make the sign of the cross to show that we love \_\_\_\_\_ and we belong to His \_\_\_\_\_.

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### The Byzantine Catholic Sign of the Cross

The sign of the cross is one of the earliest Christian traditions. In the Byzantine Catholic tradition, our sign of the cross is made by touching the tips of the thumb, index, and middle finger of your right hand (symbolizing the Holy Trinity) and tucking the ring and pinky finger into your palm (symbolizing Jesus' two natures, Divine and human) then slowly and reverently touching your forehead while referencing the Father, your chest while referencing the Son, and then your right shoulder then left shoulder, respectively, while referencing the Holy Spirit.

The sign of the cross is made during various rituals:

1. When you first walk into the Temple
2. When you stand before an icon, cross, or Gospel
3. At the beginning of a liturgical service
4. At the beginning and end of the reading of the Gospel
5. While making a small bow (inclining the head and shoulders slightly)
6. When the Persons of the Trinity are mentioned together
7. When you receive a blessing from a priest or bishop
8. Prayers that are repeated three times; such as, “Holy God, Holy and Mighty...”
9. When a personally referenced Saint or intention is referenced in a prayer or hymn
10. Any other time a sign of the cross is prescribed in the rubrics (liturgical guides)
11. While making a prostration performed at specific times during the Great Fast (Lent), and during the Presanctified Divine Liturgy
12. During penitential private prayer

**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 and Joe 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 25, 2024**

**Hagerstown Mission: February 24, 2024**

Offertory: \$624.50      Tithe.ly: \$675.00  
Initial Offering: \$8.00      Easter Flowers: \$58.00  
Freezer Sales: \$55.00      Religious Articles: \$47.00

Offertory: \$190.00

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).**

**VENERATION OF THE CROSS:** Fr. Vasyl will be Blessing crosses this morning for the feast day.

**PARISH SOCIAL:** All are welcome to join us after Divine Liturgy this morning for refreshments in our social hall. If you would like to provide some snacks for one of our upcoming socials, please contact Mary Demyan or Sharon Kotula.

**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT/CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED:** Mark your calendar - all children of our parish are invited to participate in our annual Easter Egg Hunt on ***Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>***. The hunt for eggs will take place following the Divine Liturgy. Weather permitting, we will be outside. We are hoping that all the children will be able to participate. Parishioners are invited to be spectators. ***We are also in need of wrapped candy donations for this event. If you would like to donate towards our Easter Egg Hunt, please give your donation to Kevin Ross no later than Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.***

**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](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com). If you want to make us your home church, parish registration is the OFFICIAL way we join a church. Simply complete a census form that is located either on the bookrack in the Narthex, or can be found on our website, and either mail it to the church, or place it in the collection basket in the back of our Temple. 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).***

## 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. This needs to be taken care of before our upcoming festival.
2. We have an **old ceiling light that was replaced in our social hall that needs to go to the dump**, as soon as possible. Please see Dennis Kotula, if you are able to take care of this.
3. The **rubber baseboard, in the entrance way to our social hall, needs to be re-glued**. If you are able to do the repair, please see Dennis Kotula. This needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.
4. A parishioner is needed to **manage the inspections that are required for our church/rectory**. Please see Dennis Kotula if you would like to be responsible for this task.

**CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY FREE ONLINE ZOOM EVENT:** “Learn how to make mushroom holupky (stuffed cabbage)!” This event is scheduled for **Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00pm**. You can register at [www.c-rs.org](http://www.c-rs.org), and spacing is limited. A recipe and instructions will be sent to you after you register. You will have to do basic ingredient prep before the program starts, and then assemble and make the Holupky rolls together. All chefs, beginner to expert, are invited to share their questions and secrets. Registration deadline is Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**PICK UP YOUR PANS FOR “OUR DAILY BREAD” CASSEROLE DONATIONS:** You can find aluminum pans and recipes on the kitchen counter in our social hall for this project. Additional information can be found in last week’s bulletin (on our website), or a flyer is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex, and in our social hall. Any questions, please contact either Greg Calvitt ([gregcalvitt@gmail.com](mailto:gregcalvitt@gmail.com)) or Mike Skovran ([michaelskovran@gmail.com](mailto:michaelskovran@gmail.com)). **The first casserole collection date is Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**BISHOP’S 2023 ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE:** Our goal for this campaign is \$9,800.00. As of February 23, 2024, Patronage parishioners have pledged or donated \$1,900.00. Visit [www.eparchyofpassaic.com](http://www.eparchyofpassaic.com), click on “Giving,” then “Bishop’s Appeal 2023,” to submit your online donation or you can mail a check to: Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, 445 Lackawanna Avenue, Woodland Park, NJ 07424. All donations need to be received by our Eparchy no later than the first week of June, 2024. Please note on your check our church number is #198. Many thanks to those parishioners who have already made a donation!

**“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 we 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.

**PRINTER CARTRIDGES:** We continue to collect 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 71 cartridges, so far, and have earned \$120.00!**

3

## 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 Fourth service for “All Souls,” will be held at 6:00pm, on **Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**, after Presanctified Liturgy
- The Fifth service for “All Souls,” will be held at 6:00pm, on **Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>**

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 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm
- Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm
- Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00pm

**GOD WITH US - FREE ONLINE WEBINARS:** You can register for the following events, or if you missed an event, there are hundreds of hours of free pre-recorded webinars, series, conferences, and lectures for inquirers, the faithful, and catechists which are available in video and audio format. Please visit [www.godwithusonline.org](http://www.godwithusonline.org), click on “online,” and choose which webinar you would like to register for, or view one of the archived events.

- 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 we 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 **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of February and March, at 7:00pm.**
- “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 Winstead, as we discuss this important ministry to the sick and the dying. This live webinar, **“Companions of the Cross – Compassion and Suffering in Ministry to the Sick,”** will be held on **Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, and 7:00pm.**

**2024 EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM:** **Classes will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month through Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.** 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](mailto:keviross@gmail.com), or Loui Villaneuva, [villanuevaluxmundi@yahoo.com](mailto:villanuevaluxmundi@yahoo.com).

**THANK YOU:** We appreciate everyone who sees trash on the grounds of our church and rectory, and picks it up. We also appreciate those who help to neaten the Liturgical books in the bookracks in the pews, and removes any old bulletins or handouts for the next person who will be praying in that place.

*“The Lord said: ‘If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross*

*and follow me’” (Mark 8:34).*

4

## *The Cross, Our Victory*

Have you seen the wonderful victory? Have you seen the splendid deeds of the Cross? ... Who can tell the Lord's mighty deeds? By death we were made immortal: these are the glorious deeds of the Cross.

Have you understood the victory? Have you grasped how it was wrought? Learn now, how this victory was gained without any sweat or toil of ours. No weapons of ours were stained with blood; our feet did not stand in the front line of battle; we suffered no wounds; witnessed no tumults; and yet we obtained the victory.

The battle was the Lord's, the crown is ours. Since then victory is ours, let us imitate the soldiers, and with joyful voices sing the songs of victory.

Let us praise the Lord and say, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?"

The Cross did all these wonderful things for us: the Cross is a war memorial erected against the demons, a sword against sin, the sword with which Christ slew the serpent.

The Cross is the Father's will, the glory of the Only-begotten, the Spirit's exultation, the beauty of the angels, the guardian of the Church. Paul glories in the Cross; it is the rampart of the saints, it is the light of the whole world.

*St. John Chrysostom*

**For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)**