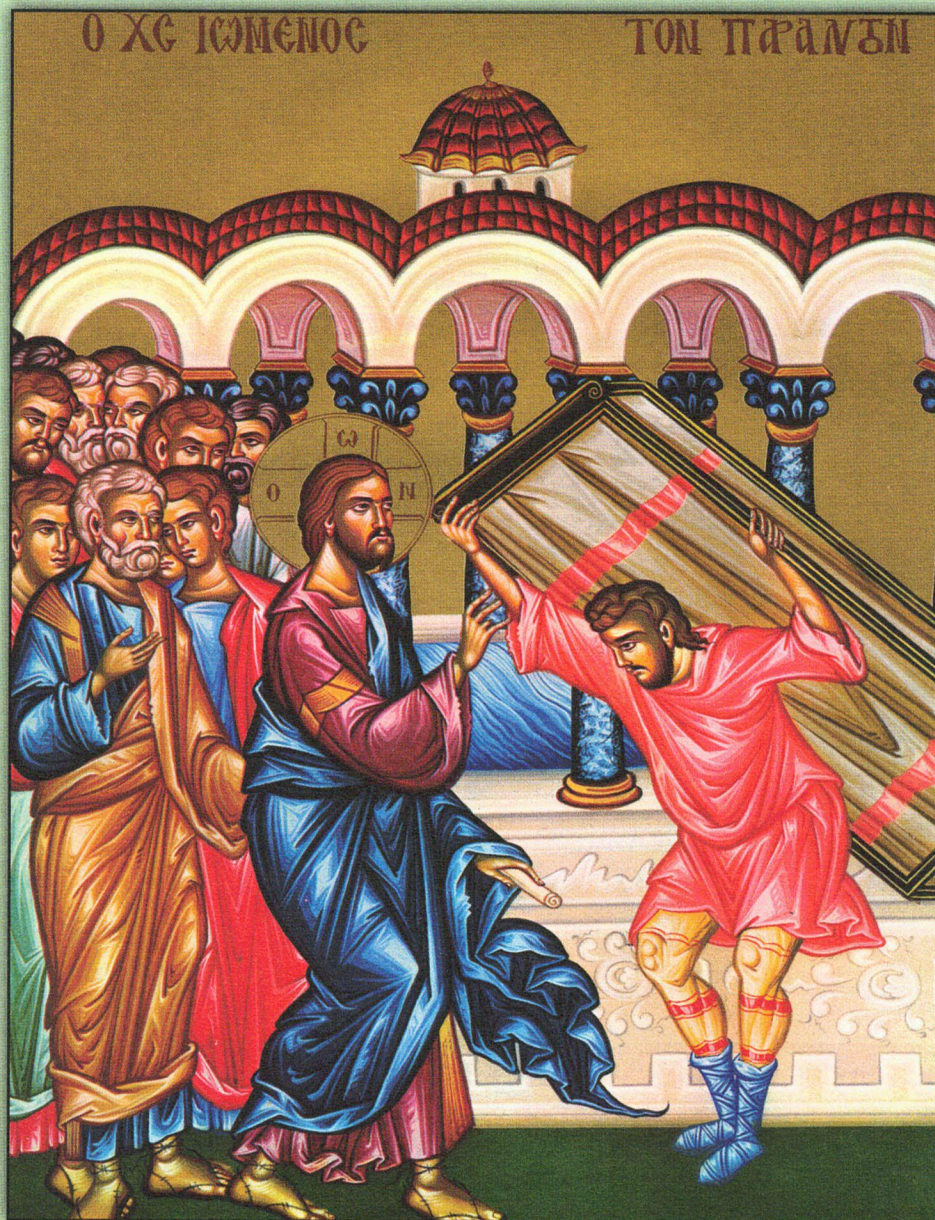


SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN



Icon of the Paralytic Man



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

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Deacon: Anthony Kotlar
 Cantor: Michael Kulka
 Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.
 Cantor: AnnMarie Kotlar

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: Saturday, May 6th, at 10am

DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday of the Paralytic Man 4.30.2023	11:00am 11:15am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Lisa Guba Requested by: Patronage Parishioners
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman 5.7.2023	8:45am 9:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy	For: Living and Deceased Members of Our Parish

This is **Sunday of the Paralytic Man.**

The *Divine Liturgy During Pascha* booklets, with Propers, are located in the pews.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Christós Voskrése! Voístinnu Voskrése!

CONFESSION: Fr. Serhii is available 20 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy. 1

GOD WITH US +ONLINE+: The next free virtual program entitled, *“The Doidache, The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles,”* presented by Rev. Christiaan Kappes, will take place this **Wednesday, May 3rd, from 8-9pm.** The Didache, a brief text dating to the first century of the Church, was one of the very first written catechisms. Rev. Christiaan will shed light on the origins and original audience of this important document in the Early Church, and introduce us to its contents, which range from Christian ethics, the celebration of the Holy Mysteries, and the structure of the Church hierarchy. For more information and to register for this program, visit godwithusonline.org.

GCU ANNUAL HELPING HANDS DAY AT MT. ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA: To assist the Sisters of St. Basil, they are looking for volunteers to work both inside and outdoors on **Saturday, June 3rd, from 9:30am – 2pm.** You can bring your own garden tools, if you would like. Lunch will be served. Please visit www.gcuusa.com, click on “Events,” and then “Helping Hands Day at Mt. St. Macrina,” to register. If you can’t volunteer, but would still like to help, you can make a donation to help purchase supplies and flowers for the event at the above noted website. The GCU will be matching total donations made by Tuesday, May 30th, up to \$2,000. Please consider helping out this great cause! You do not have to be a GCU member to volunteer or make a donation.

2023 GCU BYZANTINE FAMILY DAY AT KENNYWOOD AMUSEMENT PARK – 101 YEARS: Join the GCU on Thursday, **July 27, 2023**, from 11am – 9pm for unforgettable fun. The park is located in West Mifflin, PA. For tickets, or more information, please contact the Fraternal Communications Department at 1-800-722-4428 X3927, or email mkullen@GCUusa.com. You can also visit the GCU’s website – www.gcuusa.com.

HERSHEY PARK, PA: GCU members can now purchase discounted single visit tickets that can be used any day during the 2023 operating season at Hersheypark now through December 29, 2023. Tickets are \$35 and can be ordered at www.gcuusa.com. Any questions can be directed to Chris Chamberlain, at the GCU Home Office, at 724-495-3400 or cchamberlain@GCUusa.com.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN: Don’t miss this trip of a lifetime. Hosted by Fr. Ed Cimbala. Visit Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Mt. Nebo, Madaba, Amman, Petra, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem, **January 21-31, 2024.** For more information, please contact Fr. Ed at 908-872-2928 or fredcimbala@gmail.com.

The icon of the Sunday of the Paralytic depicts the biblical story of Christ healing a man who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years. Our Lord, accompanied by His disciples, is shown blessing the paralytic. The man has risen and taken up his bed as commanded by Christ. The paralytic is bowing toward the Lord in reverence and in gratitude for the great miracle that has been done. In the background of the icon is the pool where the infirmed came for healing.

Sunday of the Paralytic

Dear Brothers and Sisters! Christ is Risen!

On the third Sunday after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, we read the story of Jesus healing a man in Jerusalem who had been paralyzed for 38 years. After his recovery, Jesus met this man in the Jerusalem temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you" (John 5:14).

Every Sunday after Easter has the task of affirming our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, faith in our salvation and eternal life. On these Sundays, the Church reads the Gospel stories about Jesus' miraculous healing of the sick, the conversion of sinners, which are proof of His divinity. The greatest proof of the divinity of Jesus Christ was His Resurrection from the dead, as a sign of the victory of life over death.

Today, two passages of Scripture show us two paralytics, one of whom was healed by the apostle Peter, and the other by Jesus Himself. Why are these two passages chosen for us on the same Sunday? Probably so that each of us realizes how important it is to help one's neighbor, thus fulfilling one of the commandments of love. Both paralytics waited a long time for their recovery. Many sick people in the realities of this world are waiting for their healing for a very long time. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, we learn that the Apostle Peter puts Aeneas on his feet, who was bedridden by his illness for 8 years. In the Gospel, from the Apostle John, we read about a paralytic who waited for 38 years for a simple thing, to enter the water, which the angel of the Lord would move with healing power. Deprived of the opportunity to walk from one place to another, these paralytics were always waiting for help during their illness.

As in the past, so today, Jesus Christ wants to cleanse and heal us in His divine baptismal font of repentance, to bestow His mercy on us. But, first of all, He asks, "Do you want to be healthy?" We must answer Him not only with words, but with our lives. Because in such a state, which the Evangelist describes, our soul very often has possibly been lying in sins for a long time, mortally ill. We Christians, living in today's time, also have a miraculous font - the Holy Mystery of Confession and Communion. May this spiritual baptism heal us and our lives through Jesus.

Dear believers! We Christians, unlike the evangelical paralytic, have received church holy mysteries that have healing properties. We don't need to wait for someone to bring us to this water in life's troubles, but we need to dive into the source of the holy mysteries that the Lord established and left for us in the Church. Therefore, the Holy Church, in contrast to the font mentioned in the Gospel, becomes a "new font" for all the weak and needy.

MOTHER'S DAY COMMEMORATION: On *May 14th*, we will be remembering living and deceased mothers during Divine Liturgy. If you would like to include names for this commemoration, please complete the enclosed form, in this bulletin, and you can either place it in the offertory basket in the back of church, or mail it to the rectory.

PATRONAGE NOW HAS PUSSYWILLOW TREES: We would like to thank Dan and Nancy Bobby for their generous donation of 2 Pussywillow trees. Dan planted them yesterday, on our church property, and included some spring plants/mulch, and plans on adding daffodil bulbs in the fall. Dan and Nancy's goal was to provide Patronage Church with pussywillows for many future Palm Sundays to come, and were planted in memory of their parents, Michael and Elizabeth Bobby, and Michael and Margaret Konik. Dan and Nancy, God grant you many Blessed Years! Mnohaja i Blajaha Lita!

METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY: Most Rev. William Skurla, Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh, has invited all clergy and faithful to the Assembly of the Byzantine (Ruthenian) Metropolitan Church at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsboro, NJ, **November 2-5, 2023**. The theme of this Assembly is "*Living Our Faith, Moving Forward, Appreciating Our Past*." Registration begins June 15th. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between the ages of 18 and 35. Special rates for hotel accommodations have been arranged at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bridgewater, NJ. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is byzantineassembly2023.org, and the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com.

2023 BYZANTEEN EPARCHIAL YOUTH RALLY: This year's rally will take place on **Thursday, June 22nd – Sunday, June 25th** at the Carpathian Village in Cresco, PA. We are waiting on more details, but ByzanTeen Rally 2023 participants must be age 13 by November 1, 2023, and not have reached the age of 18 by June 27, 2023. You can find both the rally's Teen and Chaperone Registration forms on the Eparchy's website at eparchyofpassaic.com, click on "Youth and Young Adult Ministries," then "Byzanteens Youth Ministry." If you are interested in attending this rally, please let Fr. Serhii know so he can make sure you receive any updates that he receives. If you are enrolled in ECF, our church will cover the registration fee.

2023 EPARCHIAL ALTAR SERVER CONGRESS: Registration for this year's Altar Server Congress, is now open! It will take place at the Carpathian Village, 802 Snow Hill Road, Cresco, PA, from Sunday, **July 16th - Thursday, July 20th**. Please visit eparchyofpassaic.com, click on "Youth and Young Adult Ministries," then "Altar Server Congress," for camper registration forms and further information. You can also contact Fr. Michael Salnický at 570-595-3265, if you have any further questions. Please let Fr. Serhii know as soon as possible, if you are interested in attending. If you are enrolled in ECF, our church will cover the registration fee.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

One day some men brought their friend who was paralyzed to Jesus. Jesus told the man, "Your sins are forgiven." Some teachers of the law didn't like what Jesus said, so instead Jesus said, "Get up, take your mat and walk." Why did Jesus heal the man?

Use the code to find the letters that fit in the blank. Match the arrangement of the lines with those in the code. The first one is done for you.

JULOL OUBOUE

TOU NBU LU

TOBT UBUBOU

OUOUE EUUO

OU OUE

UBUOU TU

OUOUBU LUUL.

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

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. Serhii, and his family, Marge Dulina, Mike Skovran, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Anna Martin, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Georgianna Kostak, Sandra Suseck, Howard Guba, 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 (April 23, 2023):

Offertory: \$1,586.00
 Tithe.ly: \$ 250.00
 Easter: \$ 50.00
 Ascension: \$ 20.00
 Mother Day Flowers: \$ 20.00

Hagerstown Mission (April 23, 2023):

Offertory: \$19.00

Slavic Food Festival (April 1, 2023) Final Report:

Sales: \$14,929.95
 Expenses: \$ 4,986.83
 Net Income: \$ 9,943.02

CONDOLENCES: +Lisa Guba fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday, April 25th. We offer our condolences to Rich and Theo. A viewing is scheduled on Wednesday, May 3rd, from 2-5pm, at Ambrose Funeral Home in Arbutus, followed by a funeral Liturgy and Parastas at Patronage Church at 6:30pm. Snacks and refreshments will be available in our social hall between the viewing and funeral Liturgy, and dinner food after the funeral Liturgy and Parastas. Interment, with a Panachida, will be at Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery (11501 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, MD) on Thursday, May 4th, at 10:00am. May God grant His departed servant, +Lisa, peaceful repose. Vičnaja jej pamjat'. Eternal Memory.

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).*

Learn From Me

What does Jesus say himself, after all, to the weak and infirm, so that they may recover that kind of sight and to some extent at least attain to or brush against the Word through which all things were made? "Come to me, all you who toil and are overburdened, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, because I am meek and humble of heart." What is the Master, the Son of God, the Wisdom of God through whom all things were made, addressing to us? He is calling the human race and saying, "Come to me, all you who toil, and learn of me." You were thinking, no doubt, that the Wisdom of God was going to say, "Learn how I made the heavens and the stars; also, since in me all things, even before they were made, had been numbered,

how in virtue of their unchangeable ideas even the hairs of your head have been numbered." Is that the sort of thing you were thinking He would say? No; but first this: "that I am meek and humble of heart."

There is what you have got to get hold of, brothers and sisters, and it's certainly little enough. We are striving for great things; let us lay hold of little things, and we shall be great. Do you wish to lay hold of the loftiness of God? First catch hold of God's lowliness. Deign to be lowly and humble on the same account, yours, not His own. So catch hold of Christ's humility, learn to be humble, don't be proud.

St. Augustine of Hippo

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