

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Parable of the Evil Vineyard Workers (Matthew 21:33-43)



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Believers!

Caring for the well-being of Patronage Church, and our Mission parishes in Hagerstown and Abingdon, I consider it appropriate to appoint two new trustees and a bookkeeper for Patronage Church, two other trustees and a bookkeeper for Hagerstown, and two trustees and a bookkeeper for Abingdon. We already have separate accounts for both the Hagerstown and Abingdon Missions. More information will be provided in upcoming bulletins.

Fr. Serhii

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The Patronage of the Mother of God Crab Feast is Back!

Saturday, September 18, 2021

Divine Liturgy at 5:00 P.M. Crab Feast Immediately Following

Price: \$30 all you can eat and drink

Children 12 and under eat free

Please bring a side dish or a dessert

RSVP by September 12th to Dann Karlson at: ds.karlson@gmail.com

Name _____

Number Adults & Children over 12 _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

Number of Children under 12 _____

Make checks payable to: Patronage Byzantine Catholic Church. You can mail it to the rectory or drop it in the collection basket.

NEW EVENT: We will be having a 50/50 raffle along with **"Baba's Auction!"** We are looking for donations of new items for our auction. Some ideas can be gift cards, a handmade craft, toys, pet items, household items, gardening supplies, plants, crafting supplies, etc. – be creative! **Please bring your donation(s) when you come to the Crab Feast.** Tables will be set up to display your item(s). Tickets, for the 50/50 raffle and auction, will be available at the Crab Feast. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Kotula at: d.kotula@comcast.net.

Patronage Church at Abingdon:

Church of St. Francis (Stone Chapel)
 1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009
Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar: 410-734-6973
Next Liturgy: Sunday, August 29th at 3pm

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Ann Catholic Church
 1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742
Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: 301-791-0930
Next Liturgy: Saturday, September 4th at 10am

DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 8.22.2021	8:45am 9:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Dean Helms Requested by: Lisa Guba
Tuesday 8.24.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Friday 8.27.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Sunday 8.29.2021	11:00am 11:15am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert

This is the **13th Sunday After Pentecost.**
 Propers begin on page 141, Tone 4.

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

Where to look in the Bible when you...

need rest and peace.....Matthew 11:28-30
worry.....Matthew 6:19-34
are lonely or fearful.....Psalm 23
need peace of mind.....John 14-27, Philippians 4:6-8
are disappointed by people.....Psalm 27
grow bitter or critical.....1 Corinthians 13
have sinned.....Psalm 51, 1 John 1
are discouraged.....Psalm 34
feel God seems far away.....Psalm 139
think the world seems bigger than God.....Psalm 90
are sick.....Psalm 41
feel sorrowful.....John 14, Psalm 46
are in danger.....Psalm 91
want courage.....Joshua 1:1-9
need assurance.....Romans 8
forget your blessings.....Psalm 103
are looking for joy.....Colossians 3
leave home to travel.....Psalm 121
think of investments.....Mark 10:17-31
need guidelines for living.....Matthew 5-7, Romans 12
need rules of conduct.....Exodus 20:1-17
need to know God's will for your life.....Proverbs 3:1-6

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today, we heard the parable of the wicked vinedressers told by Jesus Christ to His disciples. Very often the Lord spoke to His disciples, and ordinary listeners in parables, to make it easier for them to know the profound truths and mysteries of the Kingdom of God in the images of their ordinary lives.

The Lord spoke this parable after the Pharisees asked by what authority He performed all miracles. Each word of the parable has a special meaning. The Great Vineyard protected the vineyard's life from death with reliable protection - the Law of God and the commandments, so that no one could steal a man from God. He erected a watchtower - conscience - not a corrupt and indefatigable guardian of purity and truth of soul. But man, by his fall, violates this wonderful harmony of God.

Saint Theophanes, the Hermit, wrote, "The wisdom of the Christian life lies in practical action." Every one of our deeds, whether great or small, must be remembered to do so before the eyes of God.

Another of the modern elders draws our attention to the cornerstone. We know from the Scriptures that the cornerstone is God. Therefore, if we take Him from the foundation, the whole structure will fall. The Lord has given man power. He gives him the ability to manage, cultivate, grow a variety of fruits, and enjoy life. Let's look around and into the vineyard of our soul, because each of us received it at birth. Let's look at our fruits. Is God in our vineyard?

Most of you have probably heard of St. Ignatius the Godbearer. He was a holy man of the early apostolic Church. The holy tradition says that Ignatius the Godbearer was brought to Christ the Savior by his very young parents, and it was the Lord who took him in his arms and said, "...Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God (Mark 10:14). The Savior held him in His arms, which is why Ignatius was called the Godbearer. When this saint was executed (he was attacked by wild beasts), he kept repeating the name of Christ. He explained to the astonished mocking watchman, I have the name of Jesus Christ written in my heart, because I confess with my mouth the One whom I always carry in my heart. He was torn to pieces by the beasts, but by God's providence his heart remained intact among the remains. Then, out of curiosity, his tormentors cut his heart in half and to his surprise saw there was an inscription in gold letters, "Jesus Christ". This episode in life, from the life of Ignatius the Godbearer, most clearly shows us that we must be Godbearers, we are able to build the Kingdom of God in ourselves.

One believing salesman was asked, "Why do you try to weigh and measure everything you sell so accurately?" "Because," he replied, "God has given me only one life, and I must go forward all the time, and I must never go back to correct my mistakes and shortcomings." If all people valued time and performed their duties so much, then much good would be done in the world, and fewer mistakes and fruitless deeds would be done.

So, dear believers! There is no person who does not have a conscience. However, not everyone listens to it. Another voice of God is the Holy Scriptures, which indicate what we should do and what we should renounce. Prayer, humility, and repentance are the means God gives us so that we can bear spiritual fruit, so that we may inherit the Kingdom that the Lord has prepared for those who love Him.

PRAYER INTENTIONS – PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, those who cannot make it to church, also: Fr. Serhii, and his family, Arlene Duda, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Paul Ruszin, Sr., Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, our first responders, and all 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!*

CONTRIBUTIONS: Patronage: 8.15.2021 - \$749.00 Abingdon Mission: 8.15.2021 - \$175.00
July Tithely: \$1,502.30

While you are traveling over the summer, please do not forget to donate to our church. We continue to serve Liturgies, pray for each and every one of you, and maintain our church. We wish you safe and happy travels! Thank you to those who continue to support our church and for your dedication to our parish. If you would like to make a donation, using our online giving account, please visit our church's website for the Tithely link. **"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).**

PARISH MEETING/POT-LUCK LUNCHEON: Please mark your calendar, we will be having a parish meeting along with a pot-luck luncheon after Liturgy on **Sunday, September 12th**. Please join us!

LITURGY INTENTION BOOKS: Liturgy intention books are now available, in the Narthex, for your use. A mailing envelope is included with the book along with an intention form to complete with your request. You can either mail your request to the rectory, or place it in the collection basket in the back of our Temple.

E-BULLETIN: Some parishioners have told us that they would prefer not to receive a bulletin in the mail because they can just visit the church's website to view it. We now have another option, if you would like us to email you a bulletin, called e-Bulletin, please let us know by sending the church an email where you would like it sent. Our on-line bulletin and eBulletin will now include the front and back covers, as well.

WE MISS YOU! For those who are reading this bulletin either online or a copy you received in the mail, and if you have not been attending Liturgy here since the onset of COVID, we hope you will join us once again. Bishop Kurt revoked the dispensation on June 6th, regarding the Sunday precept or obligation to assist at Divine Liturgy. Watching the live-stream no longer fulfills the obligation to assist at Divine Liturgy. However, the Bishop reminds everyone that "just as before the pandemic, anyone is relieved of the obligation for serious reason such as sickness, immobility, fear, caring for someone else, to protect your own health, or the health of others."

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.

The Vineyard is the Kingdom

The kingdom of God upon earth is here compared to a vineyard, furnished with all things requisite to an advantageous management and improvement of it. He planted this vineyard. The church is the planting of the Lord, Isaiah 61:3. The forming of a church is a work by itself, like the planting of a vineyard, which requires a great deal of cost and care. It is the vineyard which his right hand has planted (Psalms 80:15), planted with the choicest vine (Isaiah 5:2), a noble vine, Jeremiah 2:21. The earth of itself produces thorns and briars; but vines must be planted. The being of a church is owing to God's distinguishing favour, and his manifesting himself to some, and not to others.

He hedged it round about. Note, God's church in the world is taken under his special protection. It is a hedge round about, like that about Job on every side (Job 1:10), a wall of fire,

Zechariah 2:5. Wherever God has a church, it is, and will always be, his peculiar care. The covenant of circumcision and the ceremonial law were a hedge or a wall of partition about the Jewish church, which is taken down by Christ; who yet has appointed a gospel order and discipline to be the hedge of his church. He will not have his vineyard to lie in common, that those who are without, may thrust in at pleasure; not to lie at large, that those who are within, may lash out at pleasure; but care is taken to set bounds about this holy mountain.

He dug a wine-press and built a tower. The altar of burnt-offerings was the wine-press, to which all the offerings were brought. God instituted ordinances in his church, for the due oversight of it, and for the promoting of its fruitfulness. What could have been done more to make it every way convenient?