

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
BEHEADING OF THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS PROPHET,  
FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN



Icon of the Beheading of John the Baptist

*The Prophet and Forerunner*

Now although the principle stands that “We all offend in many ways” (James 3:2), which of us dare to say that blessed John sinned in act or word or dress or food, when the gospel history praises the harshness of his clothing and the frugality of his meals; when everything he said either rendered testimony to the truth or refuted those who spoke against him; when even those who did not like him held in veneration his works of justice? What place could there have been in his inmost heart for sin, when the coming of the Holy Spirit consecrated him even before his birth, when not even in comparison with the ordinary way of human life could he be turned aside from the path of virtue, who from his boyhood on led an entirely solitary life?

And yet a man of this sort, one who

was so preeminent, reached the end of his earthly life by shedding his blood after a long period of affliction in chains. He who brought the good news of the freedom of heaven was thrust into chains by wicked people; he who “came to bear testimony to the light” (John 1:8), and who merited to be called “a burning and shining lamp” by the very light which is Christ (John 5:35), was shut up in the darkness of prison; he who was greater than all those born of women (Matt. 11:11; Luke 7:28) was punished by being beheaded at the request of the basest of women; and he to whom it was granted to baptize the world’s Redeemer, to hear the Father’s voice above him, and to see the grace of the Holy Spirit descending upon him, was baptized in his own blood.

Venerable Bede, *Homily II.23*



## PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

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Cantor: Michael Kulka  
Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.

### 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, September 12th 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 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am

### DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 8.29.2021	11:00am 11:15am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Tuesday 8.31.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Friday 9.03.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Sunday 9.05.2021	8:45am 9:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert

This is the **14th Sunday After Pentecost – Beheading of John the Baptist.**  
Propers begin on page 146, then 355, Tone 5.

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

## The Beginning of the New Church Year

Dear brothers and sisters of our Ruthenian community! As we begin the new church year, we reflect, again, on the state of God's creation. Last year, was a period of great uncertainty for the whole world. We need to bring love into all our affairs, a love that evokes courage and compassion.

The image we have for ourselves is reflected in our attitude towards creation. If we believe that we are only consumers, then we strive for self-affirmation through the consumption of all creation. However, if we believe that we are created in the image of God, then we have to show care and mercy in our actions and try to become what we were created to be.

With its diversity, our liturgical year shows the living and active Church on earth. The liturgical year is the union of many hearts in fervent prayer and glorification of the Creator and the Mother of Heaven. This is the time when thousands of voices sound powerful hymns of thanksgiving sung by the whole Church.

Dear believers! Each of you goes to work, to grocery stores, you visit hospitals, and you visit your relatives. I invite you to spend the next liturgical year together. Do not leave the church, because she is our mother, and we are all one big family.

"Creative of all creation, who by His power established times and years! Through the prayers of the Mother of God, bless, Lord, this year of Your grace, peacefully protecting the holy Church and Your faithful people, and save us" (Troparion of the holiday).

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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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**PANACHIDA SERVICE:** Fr. Serhii will be having a Panachida service for those, from our parish, who are interred at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cemetery, Elkridge, MD, after Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. the cemetery is only a few miles from our church. We hope you can join us! **There will be no Liturgy at the Abingdon Mission on this date.**

***O Lord, our God, who are good and full of love for all mankind: Give rest to our departed servants in the mansions of the just, and keep us, here on earth, free from sin, enabling us to lead a truly Christian life to the end of our days.***

**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.

**HOLY HUMOR:** The children were lined up in the cafeteria for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted it on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

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**ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN JESUS!**

Be satisfied with nothing less than the Lord Jesus abiding in your life.

He is the Light of the World.  
He is the Life of the World.  
He is the Savior, your Lord, and your Friend.

He has promised to come to you and abide with you.

Then accept nothing less than Jesus in your life.

Invite Him into your heart.  
Embrace Him.  
Talk often with your Friend, and

*His Light Will Fill Your Life!*

## 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Beheading of John the Baptist

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today, in the Gospel, we hear about the parable of the wedding feast. "One sabbath when he went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him" (Luke 14:1). It is known from tradition that this was the house of the wealthy Simon the Pharisee. At this meal, Jesus saw what the Jews who had accepted the law of Moses were doing. The law of Moses was kept by the Pharisees only superficially, that is, only for the eye. They used it as a means of power and self-respect. While visiting, Christ wanted to evaluate the behavior of the Pharisees, and for this He chose a simple story that touched on the theme of reward for a perfect life. And today, through the parable of those called to the wedding and the man who came to the feast in inappropriate clothing, Jesus warns us that as a result of our earthly life and our earthly journey, we do not come to the wedding in non-festive clothes, do not appear before Him with a soul contaminated with sins and wasted spiritual treasures.

Every time we come to the temple, we come to the wedding feast and it is very important that we can say to God, "Lord! Here we come at Your call, at Your invitation. We are ready to take part in this celebration. And our wedding clothes are bright and festive."

A very rich man died in France. He had no close relatives. Everyone was wondering who would inherit his millions? The deceased left two wills. One had to be opened immediately after his death, and the other, after the funeral. The first testament said, "I want to be buried at four o'clock in the morning." This strange wish was fulfilled. When the man was buried, only five people followed him. After the funeral, a second will was opened and it said, "I want all my property to be divided equally among those who were present at my funeral." Only these five true friends were lucky!

As today's parable tells, God calls everyone to eternal life, gives opportunities for salvation. The choice depends on the person, on his faith. Faith should bring grace to a person, strengthen the spirit, manifest itself in acts of love and mercy, find application in life, "...You have faith and I have works' Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith" (James 2:18), said the Apostle James. Some Christians justify themselves and say, I believe in God in my heart, I will pray in my soul and apologize to God, so I do not have to go to church or to confession, and the Apostle James answers, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe – and shudder" (James 2:19).

The importance of the host at each feast points us to the main purpose of our life and spiritual work - to know and love Christ, as the only and reliable guide to heaven, to this wedding room. The Apostle Paul wrote about this, "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all..." (1 Tim. 2:5-6). One of the opportunities to experience eternal life and happiness here on earth is the Holy Liturgy. It gives us the opportunity to be united personally and most closely with Jesus Christ in the Blessed Eucharist. In this bloodless sacrifice, the Son of God comes to us on earth to lead us on a sure path to the Heavenly Father. Through the hands of the priest, Jesus comes to us and gives us his body and blood under the guise of bread and wine, as a special sign of love for us.

Alexander Monzoni, a famous Italian poet, often went to church in his old age. When he went to church one very cold winter Sunday, his family began to persuade him to stay at home. The poet replied, "If any of you had won the lottery a hundred thousand lire, and today was the deadline to pick them up, would you not have run after them in such bad weather?" "The service of God cannot be compared to a hundred thousand lire," someone replied. "The service of God is much more valuable than a hundred thousand lire," said the poet. For you, money has a greater value, for me - no. The value of one Divine Service is incomparably greater than all the gold in the world." For true pious Christians, the service of God is worth more than all the treasures and riches of the world.

Dear believers! Let us pray to the Lord that the parables of the Gospel touch the strings of our souls and our hearts more often. That they make us think deeply about the true meaning of our lives, especially today, when there is so much spiritual indifference among people. Let us hasten to God's feast, which He makes for us in the Service of God, to be not only called but also chosen!

**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: 8.22.2021 - \$539.10    Hagerstown Mission: 8.2.2021 - \$172.00

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 bring any questions you may have to our next parish meeting scheduled for **Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**, immediately after Divine Liturgy. We will also be having a pot-luck luncheon. Please join us for parish fellowship!

**"COME AND SEE" WEEKEND OF DISCOVERY:** A **free** retreat weekend hosted by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, is scheduled for November 5–7, 2021 for men, ages 18-35, single or married, who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church. The retreat will be conducted in a "no pressure, no hard-sell" environment. The atmosphere will be prayerful, positive, and fraternal. All registrants must be fully COVID vaccinated to attend. **For more information and to register, no later than October 13, 2021, please visit [www.bcs.edu](http://www.bcs.edu).**

**CARPATHO-RUSYN SOCIETY – EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT:** A virtual **free** event entitled, Let's Talk Rusyn Genealogy, **"Travel to Ukraine,"** will be held Wednesday, September 8, 2021, from 7:30pm – 9:00pm. This event will be hosted by: Sharon Jarrow, Karen Varian, and Zlata Nouire. The presenters will introduce you to an overview of the preparation needed prior to making an ancestral home visit to Ukraine through what it's like once being in the country and meeting family. Zlata will take you on a journey to eye catching sites you won't want to miss. You must register by September 7<sup>th</sup>. Visit Patronage Church's website, under events, and click on the link for this event, or you can click on: **[C-RS Virtual Series LET'S TALK RUSYN GENEALOGY "Travel to Ukraine"](#)**.

**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).*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Fr. Serhii is available 15 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy to hear confession.

**KIELBASI FREEZER SALE:** We have a limited supply of frozen “smoked kielbasi” for sale and available to take home after Liturgy today. If you are interested in purchasing kielbasi, please see Mary Demyan or Sharon Kotula. Price and size vary. This kielbasi was just recently purchased for our “Summer Festival” in June.

**UNIONTOWN PILGRIMAGE:** The Sisters of St. Basil the Great have announced that the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mt. St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA, will be held Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. After consulting with the CDC, the Sisters will have the in-person pilgrimage with certain limitations. They request those with compromised immune systems and those unvaccinated to participate by live-stream. Since some people with illness and needs go to the Lady of Perpetual Help asking for a cure, possibly these petitions could have someone go in their place to pray before her icon.

**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.

**PATRONAGE CRAB FEAST:** Our crab feast is back and scheduled for **Saturday, September 18, 2021**. Divine Liturgy will be at 5:00pm and the crab feast will immediately follow. The price is \$30 (all you can eat and drink) for adults, and children under 12 eat and drink free. Please bring a side dish or a dessert.

**RSVP by September 12th** to Dann Karlson at: [ds.karlson@gmail.com](mailto:ds.karlson@gmail.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

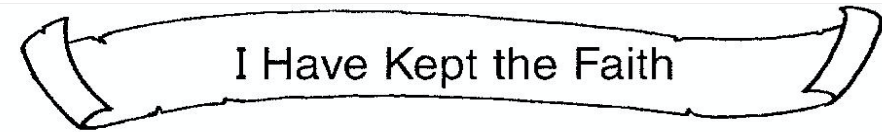
Number of Children under 12 \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:** Patronage Byzantine Catholic Church. You can mail your payment 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](mailto:d.kotula@comcast.net).

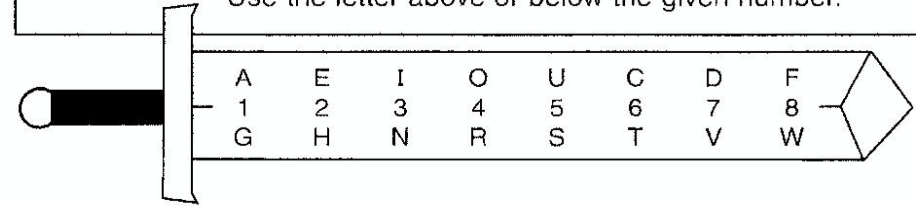
**ASSEMBLY OF THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CHURCH 2021:** The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education has announced an in-person event entitled, “**One Body in Christ: Re-emerging from the Pandemic.**” This event will take place November 5-6, 2021, at the Cathedral in Munhall, PA. Visit [www.archpitt.org](http://www.archpitt.org) for more information.

**CHILDREN’S CORNER**



Paul compared his Christian life to a runner who has finished a race or to a soldier who has fought well.

Use the letters on the sword to complete Paul's statement.  
Use the letter above or below the given number.



“

↑	2	↑	7	↑	↑	↑	↑	1	2	6
3	↓	1	↓	2	8	4	5	↓	↓	↓

	6	2	↑	1	↑	↑	↑
	↓	↓	2	↓	4	4	7

↑	↑	1	2	6	↑	2	↑	7	↑
8	3	↓	↓	↓	3	↓	1	↓	2

↑	↑	3	↑	5	2	↑	↑
8	3	↓	3	↓	↓	2	7

”

6	2	↑	4	↑	↑	↑
↓	↓	2	↓	1	6	2

**EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION (ECF) FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM:** We are looking for someone to be the coordinator for the upcoming ECF 2021-2022, academic year. Please let Fr. Serhii know if you can help. Catechetical Sunday is September 19<sup>th</sup> and registration forms can be found on our website under “ECF,” or on the book rack in the Narthex. Completed registration forms are due by September 1<sup>st</sup>, and can either be placed in the collection basket, emailed to the church, or mailed to the rectory. Also, please all textbooks from this past school year. **“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it” (Proverbs 22:6).**