



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND

SAINT GREGORY OF NYSSA

Byzantine Catholic Church - Washington community

12420 Old Gunpowder Road Spur, Beltsville, MD 20705

www.stgregoryofnyssa.net / Facebook: stgregorybyzcath

Services live-streamed on Facebook

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Email: frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net

Fr. Serhii Cell: (240) 644-2661 / Office: (301) 953-9323

Deacon: Deacon William (Bill) Szewczyk

Email: deacon@stgregoryofnyssa.net

PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Byzantine Catholic Church – Baltimore community

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227

www.patronagechurch.com / Facebook: Patronagechurch

Email: patronage.church@gmail.com / Office: (410) 247-4936

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Email: frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com / Fr. Serhii Cell: (240) 644-2661

PATRONAGE MISSIONARY CHURCH IN HAGERSTOWN AND ABINGDON

St. Francis Chapel

1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar:

(410) 734-6973 / kotlar@alum.mit.edu

Next Liturgy: Sunday

May 8th at 3pm

St. Ann Catholic Church

1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers:

(301) 791-0930 / axxearp@yahoo.com

Next Liturgy: Saturday

May 21st, at 10am

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

Let Us Remember in Prayer: The soul of **+Rev. Robert Carl**, a priest of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, who died this past week. Among his many achievements in his six decades of ministry, Fr. Bob was instrumental in starting our parishes in Irving and Houston, Texas. The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon restored to their land.

Those who are ill or convalescing: Michael Fitzgibbon, Suzanne Krofchik, Mary Jane Bodner, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Robert P. Pipta, Christine Pipta Svitana, Ann Dardzinski, Doreen Dardzinski, David Chekan, Anna Rae Brabston, Keith Hay, Walter Krofchik, Sylvia Rusnock, Nickolette Dobrovoczky, Irene Simi, John Cahill, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, Sandra Suseck, and especially those who are afflicted with Covid-19.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years.

Please let Fr. Serhii or Fr. Deacon Bill know if there are names to be added or taken away from this list.

St. Gregory Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2442387>) May 1

Offertory: \$875.00

Tithe.ly: \$627.38

Ascension: \$25.00

Easter: \$150.00

Seminary: \$25.00

Refreshments: \$34.00

A total of \$7702 was sent to the Eparchy for Ukrainian relief

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) May1

Offertory: \$1116.00

Tith.ly: \$660.20

Ascension: \$10.00

Ss. Peter & Paul: \$10.00

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. We hope you will become an active part of our parish community. If you would like to be added to our parish email list, send an email to us at frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net or frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com.

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. (Isaiah 56:7)

O Christ, you abolished the curse of the tree by Your Cross; You have destroyed the power of Death by your Burial, and You have enlightened the world by Your Resurrection. Therefore we cry out to You: O God and Benefactor, glory be to You!

O Lord, the gates of Death opened before You in defeat, and the gatekeepers of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass and crushed the posts of iron. Then You burst our chains asunder and led us out from the darkness, away from the shadow of death.

Christ descended into the Abyss and announced to those confined there: Take courage, for today I have conquered Death. am the Resurrection, the One who will set you free. I have shattered the gates of the realm of Death. [Lamplighting Sticheri from Bright Week]

seeks a sick man and miraculously heals him, seeing in his heart an unquenchable ray of hope for God's help.

In the biographies of the fathers in the deserts of Thebes there is a story about a young monk who, motivated by the lust of the world, could not bear the harshness of monastic life and fled back into the world. When he came to Egypt, one day he saw a beautiful girl there, who was the daughter of a pagan priest; he fell in love with her and asked his father to give her to him for a wife. However, the father, as usual, stood before his idol and asked for advice on what to do. And through the mouth of the goddess the devil answered him: "You must not give him your daughter until he renounces his God and Holy Baptism, because he is a Christian!" And the boy publicly denied Christ. He did so three times. "You must not give your daughter for him, for although he has denied God, God has not forsaken him and is watching over him!" said the devil again. When the monk heard these words, though his eyes had been blinded by passion, he fell to his knees and wept bitter tears: "Is this possible, good God! I have forsaken You completely, and You are still standing by me and not leaving me? Oh no, passing and useless world, away from me all the luxuries of the world, I return again to the desert, and there to death I will mourn my sins, by which I have so grievously offended God, so good and merciful!"

If we believe in God and His omnipotence, we always rely on Him in various life situations. The event of healing the paralytic once again teaches us that only with God's help we will be able to confidently and successfully solve even the most difficult matters of life. The words of the psalmist convince us of this: "Do not put your trust in princes, in the sons of men, for there is no salvation in them; Blessed is he who is helped by the God of Jacob, who has hope in the Lord his God" (Ps. 145: 3-6). And a man who trusts in God will never be ashamed, because the only God is eternal, true, not mistaken; He is always faithful in His words. "Trust in the Lord always: for the Lord God is an everlasting stronghold" (Isa. 26: 4).

Dear believers! We ask Jesus Christ today to warn us of misfortune and not to leave us in the midst of temptations of hopelessness and disappointment, to send us a Guardian Angel in time to protect us in all the ways of our lives.

Upcoming Dates for Patronage

May 15: The 50th anniversary of the marriage of Bill and Dana Tomcanin

May 22: Baptism for Isla Alexandra, child of Alexandra and Jonathan Mariotti

June 19: Baptism for Elliot Isaiah, child of Claudia and Greg Hrinda

July 20: The birthday of Anna Esquela

August 13: Wedding of Grayson Kershner and Natasha Kotula!

Christ is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, May 8, 2022

Sunday of the Paralytic Man
The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian
Our Venerable Father Arsenius the Great
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy for our living and deceased mothers*

WEDNESDAY, May 11, 2022

Mid-Pentecost
The Holy Priest-Martyr Mocius
Our Holy Fathers Cyril and Methodius, Apostles of the Slavs
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Gladys Zelno as requested by June Schmitz followed by recitation of the Holy Rosary*

SUNDAY, May 15, 2022

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost
Our Venerable Father Pachomius the Great
Our Venerable Father Isaiah the Wonderworker, Bishop of Rostov
11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

SUNDAY, May 8, 2022

Sunday of the Paralytic Man
The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian
11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy for our living and deceased mothers*

FRIDAY, May 13, 2022

Postfestive Day of Mid-Pentecost
The Holy Martyr Glyceria
10:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert*

SUNDAY, May 15, 2022

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy for the 50th anniversary of the marriage of Bill and Dana Tomcanin*

Propers begin on 181

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!

Mid-Pentecost: This Wednesday marks the halfway point between Pascha and Pentecost. The Gospel for that day, John 7:14-30, 10:9-16, begins with the words, “When the feast was already half over...” because it takes place halfway through the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, after the healing of the paralytic in today’s Gospel. The feast of Mid-Pentecost ties together the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles at Pascha and to the world on Pentecost.

Arbutus Arts Festival will be held next Sunday, May 15. Streets around Patronage Church (mostly East Road and surrounding streets) will be closed, so access to the church may be affected. More details may be found at <https://arbutusartsfestival.com/>.

Schedule Change: There will be no Matins next Sunday at St. Gregory’s. Services will begin with *Hymns from Matins* at 11:00 AM.

Charitable Outreach: Patronage will be continuing to participate in donating Casseroles for "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 to help with this important mission by supplying premade casseroles. The casseroles are due May 15th.

How it works:

- If you are able to donate your time, ingredients and supplies (pans will be available at Patronage in the kitchen) you would take pans home and prepare the casseroles per the recipes supplied
- 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 and Date on a label and place on foil

The recipes are listed in the attached PDF- please don’t substitute.

<http://www.catholiccharities-md.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/casserolerecipes.pdf>

For questions, please contact Mike Skovran or Lisa Guba.

Becoming Byzantine is a free video and webinar series on Byzantine Catholic faith, worship, and life based on the *Christ Our Pascha* catechism. Their videos are available on the Becoming Byzantine YouTube channel at <https://shrtnu.com/hxJH>.

St. Gregory Lector Signup: A signup sheet for lectors for Sunday's Divine Liturgies is on the table in the back of the hall. Please consider signing up for this important service. If you have never chanted the Epistle, the cantors will be happy to work with you to make you feel comfortable.

Föltámadt Krisztus! Valóban föltámadt!

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

Christ is Risen!

Dear brothers and sisters!

The Evangelist John writes: “When Jesus saw the paralyzed man near the bath of Bethesda, learning that he had been ill for a long time, he asked the paralytic, ‘Do you want to recover?’” (Cf. 5: 1-6).

This seems to be an illogical question, because which patient can say: I want to stay sick; which patient will be able to refuse recovery; which patient may want to continue to be ill? To this strange question, we hear an equally strange answer: "I have no one, sir," replies the sick man, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me” (John 5: 7). Where there is no mercy, there is no man. This unfortunate man found neither man nor mercy.

Jesus asks the paralyzed person, not to hear the man’s opinion, because a sick person would obviously want to be healthy, but to show the cruelty of his healthy compatriots, because they did not lend him a hand to dip in that pool.

For 38 long years, this unfortunate man had searched for man and mercy – and did not find it. Instead, we see that Jesus Himself found this sick man. The modern world also needs people, it needs what we call humanity.

Regardless of our achievements, regardless of our academic degrees, regardless of our ups and downs: let us not forget that we are all called to remain, first and foremost, human.

In the story of the healing of the paralytic we see how God reveals even more deeply the mystery of His mercy. The Son of God not only meets those who seek Him, but He Himself