

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

August 14th 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

August 20th, at 10am

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

Let Us Remember in Prayer: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon restored to their land.

Those who are ill or convalescing: Michael Gray, Ken Demianchik, 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>) July 10

Offertory: \$853.00

Tithe.ly: \$393.90

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) July 10

Offertory: \$1135.00

Tithe.ly: \$1027.30

Hagerstown Mission:

Stewardship: July 2

Offertory: \$339.00

Tithe.ly: \$15.00

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.

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. 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)

Ruthenian Church Martyrs: The season of Summer has four holydays of our blessed martyrs of the 20th century. The translation of the relics of Blessed Theodore Romzha is observed at Uzhorod on June 28\ . This feast commemorates the return in 2003 of his bodily remains from Budapest to Uzhorod and is celebrated in the Eparchy of Mukachevo. The passing to eternal life of Blessed Paul Gojdich, bishop of Presov, Slovakia, is observed every year on July 17. Blessed Paul, a holy saintly bishop-monk of the Order of St. Basil the Great, prayed that he would die on his birthday and that he would have a priest to hear his final confession and give him the last rites and blessing. Despite being held in the Leopoldo prison, both prayers were answered by God. Blessed Paul Gojdich's auxiliary bishop, Blessed Basil Hopko's passing to eternal life is commemorated July 23. Although his mother worked in New Brunswick, NJ at Johnson & Johnson, he never left Czechoslovakia. He was released from prison during the Prague Spring but eventually succumbed from his abusive treatment and tortures. The commemoration of Blessed priest-martyr Dominic Methodius Trcka, CSsR. is observed on August 24. Blessed priest-monk Dominic was Czech and originally a member of the Latin Church and a priest of the Redemptorist order. Following formation in L'viv in the Byzantine rite, he began to minister to the Greek Catholic Faithful in Slovakia and established the Redemptorist house and church in Mihalovce, Slovakia, for Redemptorists to minister to Byzantine Catholics. Like Blessed Paul Gojdich, he also was imprisoned in the Leopoldo prison in Prague where, after tortures and hardships, he was placed in solitary confinement for the high crime of singing our Christmas carols in the prison cell. He died of pneumonia contracted in solitary confinement.

can do a lot of good on earth. One feels needed by someone and ready to help in trouble. That is why the ancient Romans had a catchphrase: “A healthy spirit in a healthy body.”

Last Sunday, you and I heard that Jesus was traveling to heal two demon-possessed people. Today, the apostle Matthew shows us how Jesus returns to His home, to the city of Capernaum. And this miracle, which we are talking about today, shows us that God can forgive sins. We see that a paralyzed man is brought to Jesus, and in the Bible, paralysis is very often identified with sinfulness, because in the same way sin paralyzes us, sin enslaves us. Sin, one might say, chains us to our bed.

Jesus sees the faith of these people who brought the paralyzed man to Him. And God sees their faith and heals them. Jesus said to the paralytic, “Cheer up, son, your sins are forgiven.” This patient is still confined to bed, and he hears the words, “Cheer up, cheer up, because today salvation has come to you; cheer up, because today your sins are forgiven.”

The scribes clearly say, “He blasphemes.” Blasphemy in the time of Christ was a terrible sin. This sin was punishable by death and this accusation of Jesus that He had blasphemed is constantly repeated. And even when Jesus is condemned to death, He is condemned for blasphemy. The Pharisees and scribes cannot believe in God's mercy, cannot believe that the Lord Jesus forgives sins.

The words of Jesus about the forgiveness of sins cause anger in those people who considered it the mission of God himself. This, according to their conviction, had to happen through the mediation of the servants of the Jerusalem Temple. They were not prepared for the fact that one day God might delegate this authority to the Son of Man. All those whose power was undermined by Jesus turned against Him, and this struggle came to an end just when Jesus stood before the high priest and spoke about the power of the Son of Man. After that, death awaited Jesus, which He accepted for all our sins. And the resurrection of Jesus Christ, without a doubt, is for each of us a sign that God gave Him the power to heal and restore the world.

Dear believers! According to John Chrysostom, the Lord sent that man home because He wanted to heal the sins of those who did not come to Him. He sends him as a witness to encourage others to repent. Therefore, it is important to come to church and receive healing from Christ for the soul and body. Let's repent of our sins, let's heal the soul, thereby restoring health to our body. May our merciful Savior give us the gift of understanding His love and mercy for every person.

Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, Jul. 17, 2022

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
Memory of the Fathers at the First Six Ecumenical Councils
The Holy Great Martyr Marina
The Blessed Martyr Paul Gojdich, Bishop of Presov
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Marinela David as requested by Alain Tarroza*

WEDNESDAY, Jul. 20, 2022

Feast of the Holy and Glorious Prophet Elijah
6:00 PM *Divine Liturgy followed by Mirovanije*

SUNDAY, Jul. 24, 2022

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Great Martyr Christine
The Holy Martyrs Boris and Gleb, baptized Roman and David
11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Norman Dennis, Jr. with Panachida as requested by Christine Dennis followed by Mirovanije the blessing of cars*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

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11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert*

WEDNESDAY, Jul. 20, 2022

Feast of the Holy and Glorious Prophet Elijah
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy for Anna Esquela's 80th birthday as requested by Aurora Kerscher followed by Mirovanije*

SUNDAY, Jul. 24, 2022

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Great Martyr Christine
The Holy Martyrs Boris and Gleb, baptized Roman and David
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy followed by Mirovanije and the blessing of cars*

Support of the Pastor: Dear friends, a big thank you to everyone who financially supports Father Serhii, especially to one family who makes monthly assistance for their priest and his family. *Blessed are the merciful because they will receive mercy.*

Church of St. Gregory: In September-October, we start work on landscape design around our church. Our plans include planting flowers, bushes and building decorative areas. Larry Queen is responsible for the project, his email is Larryqueen6290@gmail.com. We invite everyone to participate in this project. Also, Saturday, July 23 will be a work day around the church starting at 9:00 AM. For more information, please contact Dale Purich at dpurich@comcast.net.

Patronage Church: Volunteers needed after Liturgy today to help take religious pictures and some furniture over to the rectory, for storage, from the crying room. Please consider lending a hand to help us clean up our cry room. Also, in the future, any donations collected at Patronage, for other organizations, must be left in the church hall in an appropriate marked container, and not in the crying room. Whoever is organizing that collection will take care of delivering those items. Coffee and donuts will also be available in the church hall today.

Patronage Church - Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) Program for Children: It is that time of year, again, to begin registering your children for our upcoming ECF Program. Catechetical Sunday is scheduled for September 18th, with the blessing of teachers and students, under the coordination of Loui Villanueva. This year's ECF Program will be held in the church hall. More details regarding the schedule and time will be forthcoming. You can pick up a registration form in the back of church or you can download one on our church's website. Registration forms are due no later than Sunday, September 4th so books and supplies can be organized. You can either email or mail your completed registration form to the church or drop it in the collection basket. We are in need of teachers, and if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions, please email Loui at villanuevaluxmundi@yahoo.com and let him know. Also, if anyone has any books from this past school year, kindly leave them on the counter in the church hall and Loui will collect them. "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

Patronage Church - Parish Meeting: Everyone is invited to attend, including members of the Hagerstown and Abingdon Missions, a parish meeting on July 31st, immediately following Divine Liturgy in the church hall. We will be discussing future activities including the festival, our annual Crab Feast, gathering new ideas for upgrading the kitchen in the church hall and bathrooms, and restarting the Men's Club. We would also like to have a pot-luck luncheon that day, so bring a dish to share, and join us along with any ideas or suggestions you would like to talk about to help get these projects started.

Pastor's Messages: Father Serhii has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email addresses it might be because we do not have your email address, or you have changed your email address and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when some parishioners are remaining safe at home. Simply email the parish office at: frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net or patronage.church@gmail.com

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear brothers and sisters!

One young mother was expecting the birth of her second child. After learning that it was a girl, she taught her first-born son, Michael, to put his head on her stomach and sing a lullaby with her to the baby who was about to be born. The boy really liked the song that began with the words: "Little star, little star, the night is near..." and sang it often.

The birth was premature and difficult. The little girl was placed in an incubator, where she was under constant medical care. The frightened parents were prepared for the worst: their daughter had little chance of survival. Little Michael begged them, "I want to see her! I finally have to see her!"

In a week, the child got worse. Then the mother decided to bring Michael to the intensive care unit. The nurse tried to prevent this, but the mother resolutely led the boy to the nurse's bed, which was connected to numerous devices that kept her alive. Approaching the incubator, Michael, as usual, began to softly sing: "Star, star, night is near..."

The girl reacted immediately. She began to breathe evenly, without shortness of breath. The mother, excited to the point of tears, asked: "Sing, sing more, Michael!"

And Michael sang. The girl began to move her little hands. Mother and father were crying and laughing. The nurse watched in amazement, not believing her eyes.

In a few days, the parents were able to take the child home. Michael's joy knew no bounds.

Doctors, surprised by the improvement in the condition of the newborn, tried to scientifically explain this event. Mother and father knew that this was a miracle. The miracle of the brother's love for the sister he was waiting for!

What a great story! The moral is that we can only experience life when we know that someone is waiting for us.

Many people in the world value physical health and consider it the greatest gift on earth. Health is also called the basis of earthly happiness. There is even a common saying among people that there is no greater happiness on earth than health. To be healthy is to be happy. And there is some truth in this. Bodily health is truly a precious gift of God to a person.

A healthy person can easily realize his or her dreams, ideas and plans, create many things, easily solve various problems, protect himself or herself from dangers. Having good health, a person