

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, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, Sandra Suseck. 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 17

Offertory: \$922.00

Tithe.ly: \$125.00

Sts. Peter & Paul: \$25.00

Easter: \$20.00

Peter's Pence: \$25.00

Kolachi sales: \$12.00

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) July 17

Offertory: \$733.00

Tithe.ly: \$145.00

Hagerstown Mission:

Stewardship: July 16

Offertory: \$350.00

Tithe.ly: \$58.65

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)

Go instead of me

One man said to his wife every Sunday, "Go, woman, to church and pray for both of us." And he boasted to his friends, "I don't have to go to church every Sunday, because my wife does it for both of us."

Once he had a dream. He was standing with a woman in front of the gates of heaven and was waiting for them to be opened and let them in.

Finally, the gate slowly opened and the man heard a voice addressed to the woman, "You can enter for both of you!"

The woman entered; the gate immediately closed. The man felt so bad that he immediately woke up.

The wife was very surprised when, on the following Sunday, going to church, she saw that her husband was already waiting for her. "Today I will go to church with you."

Don't expect someone to pray or go to church for you.

usually adhere to a "dogmatic" faith in life and rarely a "living" faith. It is because of this that the Lord asks the blind, do you believe that I can do this to you? Do you profess your faith with your heart or your mind? Living faith is acquired by the feat of constant prayer and purification of the heart. That is why so many people, not knowing about these things in the spiritual life, spend their whole lives waiting for a miracle without doing anything for it on their part. Some of the fathers say that if a stagnant lake is not cleaned, it gradually overgrows and becomes a swamp. Similarly, a lazy soul destroys all living things and dies itself. A hardworking soul is similar to a small stream, which gradually turns into a full-flowing, large river, which overcomes all obstacles on its way in order to connect with its final goal – the sea or the ocean. In a spiritual sense, it is important for every Christian to go through the whole earthly life and to prepare worthily to enter a happy Eternity.

Dear believers! Today, Christ seeks to touch each of us, cleanse our sins, dispel our doubts, heal our infirmities and support us in our sufferings.



Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

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 and the blessing of cars*

WEDNESDAY, Jul. 27, 2022

The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon
Memory of our Holy Father Clement, the Wonder-worker, Archbishop of Ohrid
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy followed by recitation of the Holy Rosary*

SUNDAY, Jul. 31, 2022

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Prefestive Day of the Procession of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross
The Holy and Righteous Eudocimus
The Holy Joseph of Arimathea
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Delores "Dee" Kissel as requested by David Kissel*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

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*

WEDNESDAY, Jul. 27, 2022

The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon
 4:00 PM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert*

SUNDAY, Jul. 31, 2022

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Prefestive Day of the Procession of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Phyllis Skovran as requested by Michael Skovran*

The Prophet Elijah and the Blessing of Cars: In the second chapter of the *Second Book of Kings* in the Old Testament we read how the prophet Elijah was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot in front of his disciple, the prophet Elisha. Since he did not die, it was prophesized in the book of *Malachi* that Elijah would return to announce “the great and terrible” day of the Lord (Mal. 3:23). John the Baptist appeared in the spirit of Elijah to announce the coming of the Savior to fulfill the prophesy of Malachi.

Since Elijah was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot, it is customary to bless cars and other means of conveyance on or near his feast day (July 20). We will do so after liturgy today.

Patronage Pirohi Sale: In preparation for the upcoming Fall food festival, Patronage has pirohi available for sale to clear the freezer. We will be offering single dozen bags for \$4.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing, please see Mary Demyan after Liturgy. Thank you!

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.

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

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear brothers and sisters!

Many people were always with Christ. There were crowds who always wanted something from Him. It was probably quite difficult for these two blind men, mentioned in today's Gospel reading, to approach Jesus. There was only one thing left for them: to cry out loud in order to attract Jesus' attention. And it was because of their insistence, because of their cry, that they got what they asked for. These two blind men turned to Jesus with the words, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" (Matthew 9:27).

This Gospel passage teaches us constancy in prayer. When we have a request, we turn to God with it. When we see that we are not getting what we want, we may simply retreat. And instead of being persistent in these requests of ours, so that, like these blind men, persistently cry for help, we stop. Very often we do not immediately receive from God what we ask for. This happens so that we can understand whether we really need what we are asking for.

Christ touches these people and they receive healing. Christ is able to touch each of us as well. And He touches each of us when we participate in the Holy Liturgy, and especially when we receive the Holy Eucharist. Christ touches our eyes so that we can see. He touches our ears so that we can hear those who need help. He touches our heart – and then we begin to love, we begin to be good Christians.

"The light of the body is the eye. As, therefore, your eye is healthy, your whole body will be bright. And when your eye is evil, your whole body shall be in darkness. If the light that is in you is darkness, then how great the darkness will be!" From these words of Christ, we can conclude that the level of our life depends on our spiritual vision, that is, on the level of our faith.

A wise man asked his disciples: "How can you tell when the night ends and the day comes?" The students began to think, but could not find an answer. Then one of them stood up and said, "Probably when you can already distinguish one tree from another, when you can already recognize people." "No," replied the sage. "So how can we recognize it?" the disciples asked the sage. And he said, "When you meet a person and see your brother or sister in their face, it will be a sign that the night has ended and the day has come, that the night of sin has ended in your soul and the light of God's grace has dawned."

The church fathers, preaching about the miraculous healing in this Gospel story, say that people