

# 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](mailto:frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net)

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

**Deacon: Deacon William (Bill) Szewczyk**

Email: [deacon@stgregoryofnyssa.net](mailto: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](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com) / Office: (410) 247-4936

**Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak**

Email: [frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:kotlar@alum.mit.edu)

**Next Liturgy: Sunday**

August 28th 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](mailto:axxearp@yahoo.com)

**Next Liturgy: Saturday**

September 10th, at 10am

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

**Let Us Remember in Prayer:** The soul of **+Albert Russin** who died this past Tuesday. The *Office of Christian Burial* will be held on Monday, August 29 at 12 noon, at St. Gregory of Nyssa Church followed by internment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon restored to their land.

Those who are ill or convalescing: Kathleen Lynch, 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>) Aug. 21

Offertory: \$699.00

Dormition: \$140.00

### Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Aug. 21

Offertory: \$1008.00

**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](mailto:frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net) or [frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com](mailto:frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com). *My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.* (Isaiah 56:7)

### **Compassion of the hero**

Chicago Tribune journalist Bob Green told a story about how one cold evening after the game, the superstar of the Chicago Bulls team, Michael Jordan, walked through the crowds of fans to his car. Jordan had already opened the car door when he saw a boy in a wheelchair about seven yards away. That boy had an unnaturally twisted neck, besides, from a distance it was noticeable that he was squinting. Jordan approached the patient and sat down next to him. The boy was so excited that he started to get up from the cart. Michael calmed him, spoke a few words and put his hand on the frail child's shoulder.

The boy's father tried to photograph this moment, but for some reason the camera did not work. Jordan noticed this and, although no one asked him to, continued to sit by the cart until his father succeeded in doing what he intended. Only after that Michael returned to the car. Tears of joy glistened in child's eyes. The father showed his son photos with the basketball star. Even if nothing good happens in that boy's life, he will still know that there was an evening when Michael Jordan paid attention to him and let him into his life.

There lived two friends, faithful to each other since school. But over time, their paths diverged. One stayed with his wife, became a farmer, and the other went to the city, where he received a higher education, and lived there. They did not see each other for a long time. Finally, the one from the city visited his friend in the village. Both were very happy to meet. They talked, asked each other about everything, but the guest noticed that even during the conversation, his friend was always busy with his horse, praising it, stroking it, cleaning it. "I see that you like horses." "Oh, yes, that's my life." "And how much time do you devote to your horse?" "I'll tell you the truth, in order for a horse to look good, it is necessary to devote up to two hours every day to it, more than once. I like to be with the horse, feed it and clean it." "You have very good preferences. And how much time do you devote to your immortal soul?" asked the guest after a wave of silence. He lowered his head and said, "As you know, a person often does not think about the fact that he has a soul." Then the friend from the city said to him, "Forgive me, my friend, but if you devoted as much time to your soul as to your horse, you would be truly happy. But as things are right now, I would rather be your horse than your soul." Dear believers! Considering all that has been said, let's decide not to leave Christ sad, like this Gospel boy, but let's approach Him with full joy, so that one day we will inherit the eternal life that the Gospel boy sought so much!



Schedule of Divine Services:

**SAINT GREGORY CHURCH**

SUNDAY, Aug. 28, 2022

**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Our Venerable Father Moses the Ethiopian**  
**Our Holy Father Augustine, Bishop of Hippo**  
**The Holy Martyr Gebre Michael, Priest of Ethiopia**  
**The Passing of our Venerable Mother Laurentia Herasymiv (1952)**  
 8:45 AM Hymns from Matins  
 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy in memory of *+Berniz Weaver* as requested by *Fatoumata B. Balde*

MONDAY, Aug. 29, 2022

**The Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John**  
 12 Noon Office of Christian Burial for *+Albert Russin*

SUNDAY, Sep. 4, 2022

**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**The Holy Martyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch**  
**The Holy Prophet Moses, who saw God**  
 11:00 AM Hymns from Matins  
 11:15 AM Divine Liturgy followed by *Mirovanije*

**PATRONAGE CHURCH**

SUNDAY, Aug. 28, 2022

**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Our Venerable Father Moses the Ethiopian**  
**Our Holy Father Augustine, Bishop of Hippo**  
**The Holy Martyr Gebre Michael, Priest of Ethiopia**  
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**The Beheading of John the Forerunner:** On Monday, August 29, we commemorate the death of John the Forerunner. In the past this day had been observed as a day of strict fast, but today, only simple abstinence is required. Because of the manner of his death, as described in the bible (Matt. 14:1–12) pious customs, such as not eating anything shaped like a head, or eating from a plate have arisen.

Liturgy for the feast will be celebrated at 9:00 AM at Patronage of Our Lady Church.

**The Indiction:** September 1 marks the beginning of the Church Year (7531 in the Byzantine reckoning). Since September is harvest time in the Northern Hemisphere, the propers for the day thank God for the abundance of the past year and ask for blessings upon the earth for the coming year. The Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrius I made September 1 a special day of prayer for the environment. Pope Francis, following his lead, has done the same for the Catholic Church.

**Uniontown Pilgrimage:** The 88<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pa. will be held this year from Friday, September 2 through Monday, September 5. A message from Sr. Elaine Kisinko, OSBM welcoming the pilgrims can be found at <https://archpitt.org/annual-pilgrimage-message/>.

**The Carpatho-Rusyn Research Center** is pleased to invite you to the 2022 Summer Seminars, presented by the John and Helen Timo Foundation. This year's exciting series features interactive presentations sharing new work in Carpatho-Rusyn Studies. The Summer Seminars will take place the week of August 29, 2022 from Monday to Friday. These are all live events that will include the opportunity to ask questions to the presenters. All of the presentations will also be recorded and shared later on YouTube. The seminars are free to attend, and this year, no registration is required, please visit <https://shrtm.nu/c31o> for more information.

**Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) Program for Children:** It is that time of year, again, to begin registering your children for our upcoming ECF Program.

- St. Gregory Church: Jacob Szewczyk has graciously accepted the position of ECF coordinator for the coming year. Sessions will be held once a month in the church hall after liturgy. Please see Jacob or email him at [jacob.n.szewczy@gmail.com](mailto:jacob.n.szewczy@gmail.com) for more information.
- Patronage Church: Catechetical Sunday is scheduled for September 18th, with the blessing of teachers and students, under the coordination of Loui Villanueva. Registration forms are due no later than Sunday, September 4. You can either email or mail your completed registration form to the church or drop it in the collection basket. Loui would also like to assemble the furniture for the ECF classes after liturgy on today.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience (WWME):** A WWME will be held at St. Mark's Catholic Church in Catonsville the weekend of October 7-9. This is a non-residential event. More information can be found at [moments4marriage.org](https://moments4marriage.org).

**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.*

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear brothers and sisters!

What an instructive lesson the Church offered us in the Gospel reading today! We heard the Gospel about how a young man approached the Lord Savior and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what good can I do to have eternal life?" Christ said to him, "Keep the commandments." He said, "I have preserved them from my youth." To this Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go sell your goods and give to the poor; and you will have treasure in heaven; and come and follow me." But the young man was rich...

We do not know about the further fate of the young man: whether he came back to the Teacher of life or not, we do not know. But this case shows how poorly a person knows himself. No wonder, in ancient times, a rather wise saying was written on the wall of some pagan temple: "Know thyself." And it often turns out that even Christians do not know themselves. This young man came with a good impulse, but when he met with what the Lord showed him, he could not overcome his main passion, which, as it turned out, was hidden in the depths of his heart. He himself did not even suspect how much power this passion had over him, and when it was necessary to give it up, he could not do it.

Looking at the young man who was mentioned in the Holy Scriptures today, we see that his problem was not so much his wealth, but his personal attachment to possessions. He asked what must be done to gain eternal life, and received a clear answer. And this answer puzzled him, revealed his disordered essence, because in reality he was not looking for Salvation. In the depths of his soul, he kept an idol that he was not ready to part with for the sake of a higher goal. It is interesting that the Savior did not immediately touch on the subject of his possessions, suggesting that he start by obeying the commandments. And only when the young man decided to show himself sinless in front of everyone, he received what he was not ready for.

Many people believe that happiness requires good health, good earnings, and prosperity. They see themselves in a favorable position, popular, with a beautiful appearance. If such things make a person perfect, then why do we still need faith in God? Whoever sees his dignity and love in external things or ornaments, reduces his value from a person to the level of a material thing that can be bought and sold.