

# 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**

October 23rd 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**

October 1st and 15th, 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: 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>) Sep. 25

Offertory: \$625.00

Kolachi sales: \$40.00

Refreshments: \$14.00

In memory of

Albert Russin: \$50.00

### Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Sep. 25

Offertory \$1315.00

Tithe.ly: \$260.00

### Hagerstown Mission:

Stewardship: Sep. 25

Tithe.ly: \$19.00

**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)

### **Age and attitude**

No one gets old by living for a few years. A person grows old by giving up his or her ideals. Years can wrinkle the skin, but by giving up the creative zeal, the soul will be covered with wrinkles. Experiences, doubts, self-doubt, fear and despair – all this intertwines in long years, which bend our heads and turn our souls to ashes.

It doesn't matter whether you are seventy or seventeen, in every heart there lives a fascination with wonder, a sincere admiration for the stars and everything that resembles them... the challenges that daily events present before us, an unchanging childlike curiosity for what will happen next in the game that called life. A person is as young as his or her faith, and as old as his doubts. One is as young as her confidence and as old as her fears, as young as her hope and as old as her despair.

church. He also speaks about this in another place: "I would rather say once in church: 'Lord have mercy' than to read the whole psalter at home." This is the understanding of common prayer. If we understand this, then the position of some people who do not want to go to a church service and pray there is surprising. We see that there is a significant difference between praying at home and praying with our community. At home we pray alone, while in the temple we join together with the Heavenly Intercessor and the saints. Great ascetics, who had considerable success in private prayer, never shied away from prayer in the temple. It is said that a man who wanted to get a reception with the king brought him delicious grapes from his garden. Busy with business, the king ordered that he should not be allowed into his chamber. Then this man went to the king's mother and asked her to give the gift to her son. His mother fulfilled his request. When the king tasted the grapes brought by his mother, he asked where such a delicious treat came from. After learning about everything, he ordered her to invite this man to come in. He then listened to him carefully and rewarded him generously. Thus, through Mary it is easier for us to approach her Son in order to offer Him our love and loyalty. Let us thank God for giving us such a great Patroness, who in the history of the salvation of the human race became a living ark of God and a ladder that connected heaven and earth... a rescue ship for the drowning. Through this living ladder we have easier access to heaven; it makes it easier for us to get closer to God. Dear believers! Jesus Christ chose Mary as his Mother to come into this world through her. Through her, He takes care of us and protects us. Therefore, let us be grateful to God for giving us the Most Pure Virgin Mary as a Mother, who aids us with Her powerful Protection. And let us always trustingly turn to Her in prayer with the words: "Holy Mother of God, save us!"



Schedule of Divine Services:

**SAINT GREGORY CHURCH**

SUNDAY, Oct. 2, 2022

**Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian**  
**The Holy Martyr Justina**  
**The Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ**  
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*  
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy followed by Mirovanije*

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 5, 2022

**The Holy Martyr Charitina**  
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*

SUNDAY, Oct. 9, 2022

**Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**The Holy Apostle James Alpheus**  
**Our Venerable Father Andronicus and His Wife Athanasia**  
**Our Righteous Forefather Abraham and his Nephew Lot**  
**The Holy Martyr Denis, Bishop of Paris**  
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*  
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*

**PATRONAGE CHURCH**

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**The Lucan Jump:** The continuous reading of the Gospel of the Holy Evangelist Luke begins on the Monday following the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The four Gospels are all read in their entirety in the Byzantine Church and the reading of each begins with a great Feast. The Gospel of St. John the Theologian begins the Pascha of our Lord and is read until Pentecost. The Gospel of St. Matthew begins with the Feast of Pentecost and is read until the Feast of the Holy Cross. The Gospel of St. Luke, then, begins with the Feast of the Holy Cross and is read until the Great Fast. The Gospel of St. Mark is read during the Holy and Great Fast, but since the Divine Liturgy is celebrated only on Saturday and Sunday, the remaining sections are read in the last six weeks of the Matthean and Lucan cycles. This is why, no matter where we are in the cycle of Sundays after Pentecost, we begin the course reading of the Gospel of St. Luke on the Monday that comes after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.

**Welcome** to the Young Adult Group from the Catholic Community of Ascension and St. Augustine who is joining us for liturgy today at St. Gregory. We hope that your time praying with us will be uplifting for all of us.

**Patronage Church 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 next Sunday, October 9. 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 abode 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.*

**St. Gregory ECF:** Eastern Christian Formation for the children will be held on October 30, November 13, and December 11. All of these Sundays are weeks when we have the later liturgy. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

**Patronage Food Festival:** In preparation for our upcoming festival, we will be having the following preparation dates: Saturday October 8 at 9 AM, holupki making and envelope stuffing; Wednesday November 16 at 9 AM, kolachi making; Friday November 18 at 9 AM. Festival set-up. The festival will be Saturday November 19 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Volunteers will be needed during the festival and for clean-up afterwards as well. Additionally, we are in need of someone to drive to Johnstown PA to pick-up kielbasa the week prior to the festival. Please contact Mary Demyan at 410-591-5654 (text preferred) or [mdemya1@verizon.net](mailto:mdemya1@verizon.net) with questions or for information. Thank you!  
We also have many dozens of pirohi in our freezer that will need to be removed prior to the

purchase of the supplies for our upcoming festival in November. If anyone is interested in getting pirohi, or knows of a place that may take some for use, please let Mary Demyan know. The product is still good for use but will pass the “sell by” date before our next festival, so cannot be sold to the public!

**Speaking Truth to Power:** The next offering of God With Us Online, a presentation on the Old Testament prophets will be held on Wednesdays from October 5 through 19 starting at 8 PM. To register, please visit their website at <https://shrtm.nu/NxPt>.

### **Protection of the Holy Mother of God**

Dear brothers and sisters!

The Feast of the Intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos can be safely called the feast of Mary - our spiritual Mother. Today's holy day indicates an important feature of her spiritual motherhood - mercy. The Church calls Mary the Mother of Mercy. Today, the Church addresses Her with the following words: "Most Pure Mother of God! You are a great intercessor for the grieving, an immediate helper, the salvation and support of humanity, a sea of grace, a source of God's wisdom, a cover for the world." And later: "Therefore, cover the Church and the whole nation with the veil of your mercy."

When we recall the history of today's holy day, we will see that this feature of the Mother of God became the basis of the Intercession holiday. According to legend, it was preceded by an event that took place in the city of Constantinople, where a great Christian relic – the robe of the Mother of God – was kept. The inhabitants of the city of Constantinople were surrounded by Turkish troops and their lives were under great threat. Then the whole community of the city gathered in the local church and prayed to the Mother of God for help and protection. Saint Andrew prayed together with the people. During the prayer, the saint saw in a bright light the Mother of God together with John the Baptist and John the Apostle, who appeared in the sanctuary of the temple. Mary prayed for a long time in front of the throne, and then took off a large scarf – the omophorus – and spread it widely over the people in the temple. With this, she proved her help and care for people and the whole city. The rumor about this miracle quickly spread throughout the city. After that, the enemies retreated from the city. It was a sign of her guardianship, spiritual motherhood and mercy over people. Here, we can say, the testament of Jesus Christ on the cross was clearly manifested: "Son, here is your mother" (Jn. 19, 27). The Church confirms this truth in its prayers for the Feast of the Intercession: "He gave her, the only blessed one, to his people as a helper, so that she would guide and protect his servants from all trouble" (vespers verse).

"A Christian without a church, like a fish without water, cannot live a true life, because the church is his element." This is how the famous saint John of Kronstadt compares prayer in the