

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

November - 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

November 5th - 19th, 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: Christine Szewczyk, 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>) Oct. 9

Offertory: \$671.00

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Oct. 9

Offertory: \$1843.00

Tithe.ly: \$130.00

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)

A Drunkard and an Artist

An itinerant artist decided to stop for a few days in a small town, because he hoped to make some extra money. The first to turn to him was a local drunkard, dirty, unshaven, ragged. He posed with all the dignity he could muster. The artist worked a little longer than usual, and then he pulled the portrait from the easel and showed it to the unfortunate man.

“It's not me,” muttered the dazed drunkard, staring at the image of a decently dressed gentleman, who was smiling at him from the portrait.

The artist saw that behind that man's battered exterior lay an inner beauty and majestic dignity, so he now answered: “That's exactly what you can become.”

Jesus Christ is the artist who paints our portraits and shows us what we can become.

righteous, each sowing seeds in his [or her] own field The gracious word of God." Saints said this about spiritual struggle: "Pray as if everything depended on God, and work as if everything depended on you." With every word of the Gospel, Christ calls us both to hope in him and to personal work in the field of life.

One traveler got lost in the desert. He had already run out of water; he was beginning to feel thirsty. Now he thought of nothing else but water. And suddenly he saw an object not far away. It seemed to him that it was a vessel with water, and he rushed to it with all his might. But how he was disappointed when it turned out to be a bag of gold coins. Upset, the traveler went on without taking a single coin with him. Gold could not quench his thirst and save him from death. He needed water! Just like us, to quench our spiritual thirst, we need living water – the Word of God – an eternal source of eternal life. How happy are those people whose hearts have become similar to the good earth, which is generously watered by the Word of God! And, probably, everyone would like it to be his heart. But in order for our desire to come true, everything depends on us... how we perceive the Words of Christ - the Words of eternal life.

Dear believers! Today we learned what benefit the Word of God brings and how we should listen to it so that it does not go to waste. For although the dew falls equally on the field and on the thorn, and the sun warms them equally, yet there will be wheat on the field, and the thorn will remain a thorn. Thus, the Word of God is equally preached from the Church among all the faithful, but we need to open our hearts and accept it sincerely, as the voice of God himself, and then it will bring a rich harvest!

·THE SOWER OF GOOD SEEDS·



Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, Oct. 16, 2022

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Memory of the Fathers at the Seventh Ecumenical Council
The Holy Martyr Longinus the Centurion
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy*

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 19, 2022

The Holy Prophet Joel
The Holy Martyr Varus
Our Venerable Father John of Rila
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy for peace in the world and in our families,*
followed by Prayer of Supplication to the Most Holy Theotokos

SUNDAY, Oct. 23, 2022

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Mary and +John Pipta as requested by*
Mary Jane Bodner

PATRONAGE CHURCH

SUNDAY, Oct. 16, 2022

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Memory of the Fathers at the Seventh Ecumenical Council
The Holy Martyr Longinus the Centurion
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*

SUNDAY, Oct. 23, 2022

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy for the health of Anne Gupman as requested*
by Ann Marie Elwell

Propers begin on page 130 followed by page 263

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. Jacob has also created a new email account, just for ECF news and announcements, StGregoryofNyssaECF@gmail.com.

Patronage ECF: Patronage will hold its first ECF session after the 9am Liturgy on Sunday, October 30. We will discuss this year's catechetical theme, "The Gift of Christ Poured Out for the Life of the World." The following sessions will be held on: November 13: Small age groups: God With Us Lessons; November 27: St. Nicholas: history, traditions, group activity; December 11: Small age groups: The Nativity Fast, traditions, group activity. We are asking for volunteer teachers and donations for drinks and snacks during each session. Please contact Loui Villanueva at villanuevaluxmundi@yahoo.com if you wish to volunteer, donate, or if your child cannot attend a session.

Patronage Food Festival: In preparation for our upcoming festival, we will be having the following preparation dates: 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 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.

Becoming Byzantine: All the webinars and lessons from this series, based on the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Catechism, *Christ, Our Pascha* are available on their YouTube channel, *Becoming Byzantine* at <https://shrtm.nu/HXF0>. This is a very enlightening set of talks for people who want to become more aware of our Byzantine spiritual heritage.

Epiphany of our Lord parish, Annandale, VA, will observe the fiftieth anniversary of canonical establishment Sunday, **October 23, 2022, at 2:00 PM**, with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy offered by the Most Reverend Kurt R. Burnette, Eparchial Bishop of Passaic with the Most Reverend William C. Skurla, Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh, presiding. Following the Divine Liturgy, a festive dinner will be held at Epiphany Parish Center. Epiphany parish began as a mission of St. Gregory of Nyssa church, Washington, DC. The parishioners and pastor of Epiphany parish cordially invite the clergy, and parishioners of St. Gregory of Nyssa church,

and Patronage of the Mother of God Church to join them in thanksgiving to God at the Divine Liturgy and at the dinner. The price of the dinner is \$50 per person. Please reply to Epiphany 703-573-3986 or epiphanyoffourlord3420@gmail.com.

The Parable of the Sower

Dear brothers and sisters!

Today, on this Sunday, our Church offers for our attention the Gospel reading from which we hear how the Lord told His listeners the parable of the sower. It should be noted that the Savior often taught the people with parables and instructive stories.

A sower went out to sow grain, and when he sowed, one fell by the wayside, and was trampled, and the birds of the air pecked at it. Another fell on stony ground, where there was little earth, it rose, but soon dried up, because there was not enough moisture and roots. Another seed fell beside a thorn, but a thorn grew up and choked it. Also, there was such a grain that fell on good ground, and when it came up, it bore fruit a hundredfold. After finishing the parable, the Lord said: "...he who has ears to hear, let him listen!" (Luke 8:8).

Grain is the word of God. Earth is the human heart. Under the ground by the road should be understood people who are inattentive; the word of God does not have access to their hearts. The enemy of the human race easily steals and carries it away from them, so that these people do not believe and are not saved. Under stony soil should be understood people who are unstable and weak-hearted. They willingly listen to the word of God, but it is not strengthened in their souls, and such people fall away from the faith at the first temptation or sorrow or persecution of the Word of God. There are also such people whose worldly cares, wealth and various vices drown out the Word of God in their souls. They symbolize a thorn. Good fertile soil means people with a good heart. They listen attentively to the Word of God, diligently keep it in their souls, and patiently seek to fulfill all that it teaches.

Saint Theophilus the Confessor, Archbishop of Bulgaria, teaches: "He came out of the bosom of the Father, from invisibility, and became visible. He who always sows came out. Because the Son of God does not stop always sowing in our souls. The Lord sows through preachers who proclaim the truth, not their own, but inspired by the Spirit of Truths, sowing the seeds of the saving teaching of Christ. The apostles sent by the savior to preach went all over the world announcing the Gospel of the Kingdom to all creation. They did not announce their own teaching, but announced to everyone the Divine teaching, announced to them by the Lord Himself, who guided them to all truth, making them mystics. The work of the preaching of Christ's apostles was continued by the holy martyrs and confessors, who glorified the crucified and risen Christ not only with their prayers, but also with their pious deeds. Their banner was taken up by the saints of Christ, the holy fathers and teachers of the Church... the holy and the