

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

December 18th 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

December 3rd, 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: Wayne Roach, Lector Joseph and Marie Repasi, John Sekura, Charity Sweeney, Madeline Bender, Richard Cooley, 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, 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.

St. Gregory Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2442387>) Nov. 13

Offertory: \$1498.00

Christmas Flowers: \$100.00

Kolachi sales: \$3170.00

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Nov. 13

Offertory: \$1150.00

Tithe.ly: \$110.00

Hagerstown Mission:

Stewardship: Nov. 13

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 or frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com.

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. (Isaiah 56:7)

Thank You Letter

On Thanksgiving Day, one successful entrepreneur, watching football on TV, thought about his life, thought about the people who made him the way he is. And he decided to write everyone a card of gratitude for everything that they had done for him.

He thought of a teacher who emphasized in the fourth grade that he and his classmates should strive for perfection in everything they do. She constantly instilled this in her students, whether it was homework, tests, or group work. So he sent her a postcard.

One day, right after the New Year, he received an answer from his former teacher. She apologized for not writing back earlier. The letter came to her late, as she was just moving in with her daughter after retiring following sixty-six years at the school.

The teacher expressed her gratitude for the card and wrote how happy she was to know that he had learned the lessons of striving for excellence so well. Then the teacher wrote: "For sixty-six years in the teaching field, I have never received a thank-you card, and I am extremely pleased that you did remember me."

So, let's think about who should receive a Thanksgiving card from us.

Everyone can die unexpectedly, but this does not mean that you need to give up all your work. When a person plants a tree, can he be sure that he will live to see it rise and bear fruit? But still we plant, still we work. And for each of us there is a lesson in this. We must understand that only then will we have a normal life, a normal state of mind, a normal course of our entire life path, when we try to give our work to people. After all, this is how the Lord arranged that everything in the world is connected by ties of mutual work. Someone does something for us, and we, doing our work, give someone our strength, time and abilities. It's the same in our church: someone worked hard, built the building, someone painted it, someone cleans it, the choir sings, you make your contribution - we all always work together for the church, for the house, and for the people around us.

Thus, human life and work is a return, and if we forget about it, then we forget about the main vocation of a person in life. And if we forget, it means we are sleeping, and we can sleep like that for the rest of our lives, even if it will be long. That rich man unfortunately died on the second day after he finished his construction. And another can live a long time, but still sleeping, sleeping spiritually, not thinking about life, not remembering the Lord, not living before His face, but just eating, drinking and having fun. A whole day, or even a week, or even half a lifetime can pass like this. You look around - and there is nothing.

And today the Church calls us through the mouth of the apostle: "Arise, sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will enlighten you" (Eph. 5:14). Precious words addressed to each of us.

Dear believers! The rich is not the one who has a lot, but the one who knows how to share with others. On the example of St. Nicholas, the benevolent bishop, we see how God's gifts can be used for the good of others, and earthly happiness will continue for all eternity. Right now, during the Christmas fast, walking this way to the manger of the newborn Jesus, we have a wonderful opportunity to do good deeds. Because: "Nothing makes a person so similar to God as good deeds" (St. Gregory the Theologian). is, but also how we should love our neighbors.

Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, Nov. 20, 2022

Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Prefestive Day of the Entrance of the Mother of God
Our Blessed Mother Josaphata Hordashevskia
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Michael and +Juliana Dolgash*

MONDAY, Nov. 21, 2022

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos Into the Temple
 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, Nov. 27, 2022

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Martyr James the Persian
Our Venerable Father Palladius
The Holy Icon of the Mother of God, called "the Sign"
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Scott M. Dennis as requested by Christine Dennis, followed by Mirovanije*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

SUNDAY, Nov. 20, 2022

Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Prefestive Day of the Entrance of the Mother of God
 11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Larry, +Betty, and +Dean Helms as requested by Lisa and Rich Guba*

SUNDAY, Nov. 27, 2022

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
The Holy Martyr James the Persian
 8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
 9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Stefan and +Melania Karabinos as requested by Karabinos family, followed by Mirovanije*

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Phillip's Fast/Christmas Lent: We continue our preparation for the *Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord* by observing Phillip's Fast. While there is no obligation to fast during this time, as during Great Lent, this is still considered a penitential time in the Metropolia of Pittsburgh. The faithful are asked to observe the fast in the best way possible.

Patronage Church - Decorating Our Church: For Christmas: Fr. Serhii would like to have our Temple decorated before we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas (December 4th), so we will be decorating after Liturgy on Sunday, November 27th. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

St. Gregory St. Nicholas Potluck will be December 11 after liturgy. St. Gregory will provide the main course, so please sign up in the hall for a side dish or dessert. We will need volunteers on Saturday, December 3 to help clean and decorate the church for St. Nicholas Day and Christmas. Work will begin at 10 AM. Please see Peggy or Dale to volunteer.

Patronage Church - Chalice Repair: A donation was made by James D. Tinnick II, in the amount of \$345.00 to pay for the repair of our chalice. We wish to thank him for his very generous donation.

St. Stephen the Protomartyr Byzantine Catholic Church's 130th Anniversary Book: If anyone is interested in purchasing an anniversary book from St. Stephen's Church in Lessening PA, you can send a check or US Money Order for \$20.00 to: "Theresa Karaffa/St. Stephen Book," P.O. Box 128, Lessening, PA, 15455. St Stephen's was founded in 1892, by Fr. Alex Dzubay. This was the first Byzantine Catholic Church in western Pennsylvania and the first brick Byzantine Catholic Church in the United States. This anniversary book consists of 196 pages of photographs and text outlining the spiritual and physical growth of St. Stephen's parish from its earliest days in 1892, with Fr. Alex Dzubay the notable priest who began numerous Byzantine Catholic Churches as far west as Illinois. For questions, please email: ststephenbook@gmail.com.

St. Nicholas Project: This year, Patronage will be sponsoring a family that currently lives at Sarah's Hope, a homeless shelter run by St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore. We are collecting items on the family's wish list. You can sign up to donate an item for the family at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0949ABAC22A13-angel>. Please bring donated items and put them in the upstairs room by the elevator. We kindly ask that donations be in by Sunday, November 27th as they have to be delivered to Sarah's Hope by November 29th. Sarah's Hope asks that donations not be wrapped. Feel free to include a Christmas card with your gift - just put your first names down. Thank you for your generosity for bringing hope and joy to a family this "Merry Christmas"!

Patronage Christmas Cards: On the bulletin board, in the Narthex, is a list of parishioners we would like to send some holiday cheer to. Some of these parishioners are either homebound or they sometimes have a difficult time getting to Patronage Church for Liturgy. You are welcome to take a copy of the list home and write out your Christmas cards, with your personal message, to as many on the list as you can. Please drop off your Christmas cards no later than Sunday, December 18th, and place them in the marked basket in the Narthex. We will gather all of the cards that have been written out to these parishioners, and package them up in a large envelope filled with holiday cheer. If you are unable to obtain a list of these parishioners' names at church, please email the church and a list will be emailed back to you. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Kotula at d.kotula@comcast.net. Let's make this Christmas a little merrier for those in our parish we do not want to forget about! God Bless all of your efforts for this project!

Our Daily Bread Casseroles: We are collecting Casseroles for Our Daily Bread in Baltimore on Sunday, Dec 11th. Please mark your casserole with "Name of Casserole, Date Made and Patronage Church on it". Recipes, pans and labels are located next to the stack of empty casserole pans in the basement at Patronage for you to pickup to take home to make your casserole. Our Daily Bread also accepts premade store bought, frozen Mac & Cheese trays (such as Stouffer's Macaroni & Cheese) if you are in a rush to make something. For questions, please email Mike Skovran or Lisa Guba.

Again, thank you again for donating your time, supplies and talent to help those in need at Catholic Charities "Our Daily Bread Mission". Over 15 Casseroles were collected in October for Our Daily Bread. We appreciate everyone's assistance and especially kudos to Mike & Karen Kakalec for dropping off the casserole to Our Daily Bread.

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear brothers and sisters!

Human life is the most precious gift that man received from God. In order to preserve it, mankind is constantly inventing ways by which we can best secure our life: great stores of earthly goods are often made, but it is forgotten what true wealth consists of. The time of human life on earth passes very quickly, as we heard from today's Gospel. The Savior tells a parable about how well a rich man's field grew. And he asked himself what he should do: there is no place to gather his fruits. So, he said: "I will destroy my granaries and build others, and I will gather all my good things there and I will say to my soul: 'Soul, you have many good things that lie with you for many years. Consume, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him: "Fool! This night your soul will be taken from you; who will get what you prepared?" A person thinks one thing, and another is prepared for him.