



**PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD**  
**BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE**  
**1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644**  
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**Patronage Church at Abingdon:**

Church of St. Francis (Stone Chapel)  
1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009  
Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar: 410-734-6973

**Patronage Church at Hagerstown:**

Chapel of St. Ann's Church,  
1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742  
Contact: Joseph and Marie Repasi: 301-797-5847

Dear parishioners of Patronage of the Mother of God, Byzantine Catholic Church,  
We are being held hostage by this severe coronavirus epidemic. Each of you, every day hear the number of patients growing rapidly. I, your priest, ask that you all take care of yourselves. Take care of your families and friends. I also send to you the prayer of Pope Francis, filled with great trust in our Mother, the Holy Mother of God.

I will pray for all of you. It will be difficult for me to serve Divine Liturgies with closed doors, but I am aware of the seriousness of the danger of the virus. I promise to pray to each of you.

Pray also for me.

Fr. Serhii Deiak

**THE ENVELOPE STORY: Arbutus - 3/15-18/20 - \$ 1133.00**

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Fr. Sam Lupico, Betty Mastroinni, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi of Hagerstown, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Paul Ruszin Sr.

Pope Francis Prayer:

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain,  
with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the old People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that,  
as you did at Cana of Galilee,  
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the Father's will  
and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,  
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O  
glorious and blessed Virgin.

Dear Patronage Friends,

In light of recent developments to the Covid 19 virus, and the regulations surrounding it, there are some changes being made to the parish festival for Saturday, April, 4, 2020. The current plan, at this time, is to fill all pre-orders only and have them available for pick-up during the regular festival hours of 10am - 2pm. There will be no other sales available that day. Every effort will be made to maximize social distancing and minimize time involved in pick-up.

It will be necessary to have a baking day of April 1, 2020, starting at 9am, and we will be making a minimal number of kolachi just to fill orders and a few extras for church. Help will be appreciated, but please consider, carefully, your own status, before deciding to attend.

Given these changes, it is imperative that everyone submit their kolachi, pirohi, pascha and hrudka pre-orders by Sunday, March 22nd. Order forms can be found on the Patronage website. (www.patronagechurch.com) Please email completed order forms to patronage.church@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please email the church.

On the day of the festival pick-up, we will still need a few volunteers to both distribute and deliver orders to people in their vehicles, and to collect money.

Should Governor Hogan put a "shelter in place" order in effect prior to April 4, 2020, the festival will be postponed indefinitely, with further information to follow. Thank you for your support and prayers in this trying time. God Bless!

Mary Demyan  
Festival Chair

## Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic Fasting Regulations for the Great Fast 2020

### Abstinence:

- The law of Abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products.
- All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain.
- Abstinence is to be observed on all *Wednesdays* and *Fridays* during the Holy Season of the Great Fast.

### Strict Abstinence:

- The law of Strict Abstinence (Fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products.
- All the *adult* faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe Strict Abstinence.
- Strict Abstinence is to be observed on the First Day of the Great Fast, Pure Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, and on Great and Holy Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

These are just the minimum regulations. The faithful are encouraged to go beyond these minimums to the best of their abilities.