

# BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND

**PASTOR: REVEREND SERHII DELAK**

## SAINT GREGORY OF NYSSA BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - WASHINGTON COMMUNITY

12420 Old Gunpowder Road Spur, Beltsville, MD 20705

[www.stgregoryofnyssa.net](http://www.stgregoryofnyssa.net) / Facebook: stgregorybyzcath

Email: [frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net](mailto:frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net) / Office: (301) 953-9323

Deacon: Deacon William (Bill) Szewczyk - [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](http://www.patronagechurch.com) / Facebook: Patronagechurch

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

Deacon: Deacon Anthony Kotlar - [kotlar@alum.mit.edu](mailto:kotlar@alum.mit.edu)

## PATRONAGE MISSIONARY CHURCH IN HAGERSTOWN AND ABINGDON

St. Francis Chapel

1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009

Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar:

(410) 734-6973 / [kotlar@alum.mit.edu](mailto:kotlar@alum.mit.edu)

Next Liturgy: Sunday May 8th at 3pm

St. Ann Catholic Church

1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers:

(301) 791-0930 / [axxearp@yahoo.com](mailto:axxearp@yahoo.com)

Next Liturgy: Saturday May 7th, at 10am

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

# CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Schedule of Divine Services:

## **SAINT GREGORY CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**, May 1, 2022 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women  
The Holy Prophet Jeremiah  
The Passing of Blessed Clement Sheptyckyj (1951)  
10:00 AM Matins  
11:15 AM Divine Liturgy

**WEDNESDAY**, May 4, 2022 The Holy Martyr Pelagia  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by recitation of the Holy Rosary

**SUNDAY**, May 8, 2022 Sunday of the Paralytic Man  
The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian  
Our Venerable Father Arsenius the Great  
8:45 AM Hymns from Matins  
9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy for our living and deceased mothers**

## **PATRONAGE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**, May 1, 2022 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women  
The Holy Prophet Jeremiah  
The Passing of Blessed Clement Sheptyckyj (1951)  
8:45 AM Hymns from Matins  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert

**FRIDAY**, May 6, 2022 The Holy and Just Job the Long-suffering  
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert

**SUNDAY**, May 8, 2022 Sunday of the Paralytic Man  
The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian  
Our Venerable Father Arsenius the Great  
11:00 AM Hymns from Matins  
11:15 AM **Divine Liturgy for our living and deceased mothers**

## **SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN**

Christ is Risen!

Dear brothers and sisters!

Today we remember with special reverence all the holy myrrh-bearing women. The ministry of women in the Ancient Church took on a special form. It was expressed in caring for the good upbringing of children and caring for orphans and the sick. Known for their righteous lives, deaconesses helped elders prepare people for the sacrament of Baptism.

The first Christian communities already had women around them who performed charity, cared for the needs of others, and aided in Christian preaching. Their feat of evangelism aroused the approval of the Gentiles. Yes, one of them, the teacher of St. John Chrysostom, in a fit of approval, exclaimed: "What women are Christians!"

On that first Easter morning, as they approached the tomb, the myrrh-bearing women saw the Heavenly Herald in white robes, who said, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus crucified. He is not here. He is risen. Come up, look at the place where the Lord lay." (Matthew 28:5-6) "But go and tell his disciples and Peter that he will be before you in Galilee; there you will see Him." (Mk.16:7)

Many people surrounded the Savior. He had many disciples, but in the last moments of His earthly life very few were near Him. Holy women, from different places, all had one thing in common - this is love for God! Love is so strong, so overflowing in their hearts, that from the point of view of an ordinary person, not engulfed in the flame of love for God, their actions had no meaning. Even from the point of view of everyday life they are devoid of any meaning.

And in today's Gospel, regarding our heart, which is the image of the tomb of the Lord, there is one main question: Who will roll away the stone from the doors of our tomb? Who will make it so that in our heart, as in that very tomb, Christ dwells? The Angel of the Lord was there, and the myrrh-bearing women saw him, and he gave them the good news of the Resurrection of Christ. Here, with us, the Savior Himself strives to enter into our hearts, but only our will is that stone that is very difficult to roll away; we must open our own will towards the Risen Christ.

Once a family spent a vacation by the sea. Parents sunbathed, and children bathed in the sea and built sand castles. Suddenly a grandmother appeared nearby. She was very poorly dressed and untidy, her gray hair fluttering in the wind. She constantly whispered something about herself and leaned over again and again, lifting something out of the sand and putting it in her bag. The parents called the children to them and told them to stay away from her. Grandmother passed by, collecting something on the sand, nodded her head and smiled, but the man replied rudely: "Go your own way. Don't come near us." That evening, their son wounded his leg severely with a piece of broken glass on the beach. At the hospital, they learned that this grandmother had been collecting the remains of broken glass on the beach for many years, so that the children who play there would not cut themselves.

We often do this: we insult and persecute those who do us mercy, because charity seems to us something strange and meaningless. Meanwhile, it is charity that gives our lives a true and profound meaning.

Congratulations today to all our Myrrh-bearing women on this holiday, which is rightly called the day of Christian women. A low bow to those women who, despite the hard working week, hurry to the temple of God on Sundays and holidays. Great praise to the mothers and grandmothers who patiently instilled love for the Church in their children and grandchildren. We wish you, dear women, health, peace, joy, family comfort and blessings for all your good deeds.

### UPCOMING DATES FOR PATRONAGE !!!

May 15: The 50th anniversary of the marriage of Bill and Dana Tomcanin!

May 22: Baptism for Isla Alexandra, child of Alexandra and Jonathan Mariotti!

June 19: Baptism for Elliot Isaiah, child of Claudia and Greg Hrinda!

July 20: The birthday of Anna Esquela!

August 13: Wedding of Grayson Kershner and Natasha Kotula!

#### **Let Us Remember in Prayer:**

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

Those who are ill or convalescing: 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, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, Sandra Suseck, and especially those who are afflicted with Covid-19.

*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>) Apr. 24

Offertory: \$1530.00

Easter: \$310.00

Candle Box: \$556.00

Refreshments: \$35.00

## PATRONAGE CHURCH:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Apr. 24

Offertory: \$675.00

Easter: \$100.00

Tithe.ly: \$235.00

Festival: \$45.00

## HAGERSTOWN MISSION:

Stewardship: Apr. 23

Offertory: \$147.00

Easter: \$20.00

**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. We hope you will become an active part of our parish community. 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)*

Becoming Byzantine is a free video and webinar series on Byzantine Catholic faith, worship, and life based on the Christ Our Pascha catechism. Their videos are available on the Becoming Byzantine YouTube channel at <https://shrtm.nu/hxJH>.

*O Christ, you abolished the curse of the tree by Your Cross; You have destroyed the power of Death by your Burial, and You have enlightened the world by Your Resurrection. Therefore we cry out to You: O God and Benefactor, glory be to You!*

*O Lord, the gates of Death opened before You in defeat, and the gatekeepers of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass and crushed the posts of iron. Then You burst our chains asunder and led us out from the darkness, away from the shadow of death.*

*Christ descended into the Abyss and announced to those confined there: Take courage, for today I have conquered Death. In the Resurrection, the One who will set you free. I have shattered the gates of the realm of Death.*

[Lamplighting Sticheri from Bright Week]