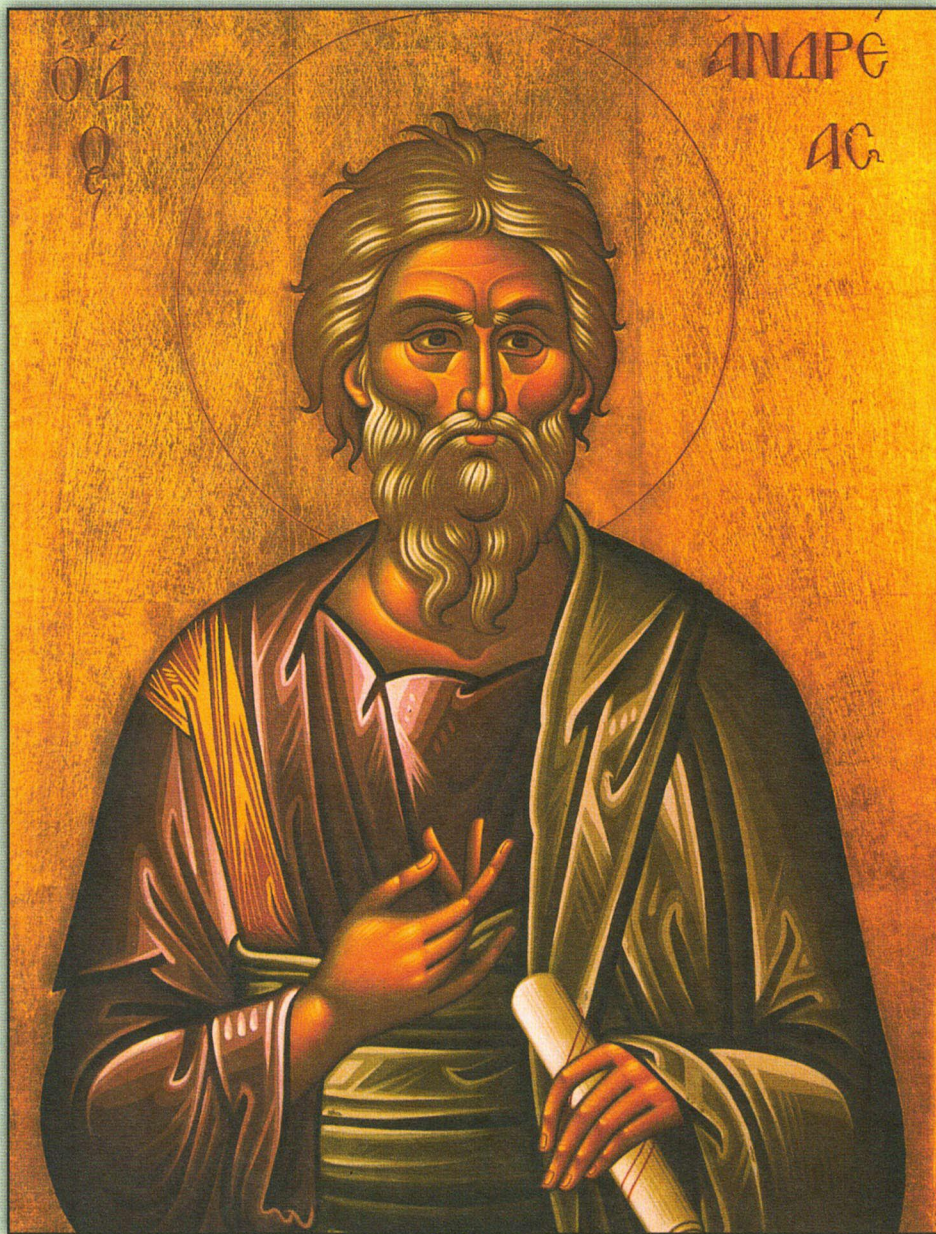


TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saint Andrew -- November 30th



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227-2644

www.patronagechurch.com / Facebook: [Patronagechurch](https://www.facebook.com/patronagechurch)
patronage.church@gmail.com

Office: (410) 247-4936

Administrator: Very Rev. Vasyl Symyon

Email: vasyl.symyon@gmail.com

Phone: 412-713-4520

Rev. Deacon Anthony Kotlar, Sr.

Assistant: Sharon Kotula

Email: d.kotula@comcast.net

Cantor: Michael Kulka

Cantor: Joseph Kotlar, Sr.

Cantor: Ann Marie Kotlar

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Ann Catholic Church: 1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: (301) 791-0930 / axxearp@yahoo.com

Next Liturgy: TBD

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
26 th Sunday After Pentecost 11.26.2023	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For: +Loretta Kotula From: M/M Dennis Kotula & Family
27 th Sunday After Pentecost 12.3.2023	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Intention of the Giver

Today is the **26th Sunday After Pentecost**.

The Propers for today are on page 125, Tone 1,
in the teal Liturgy book located in the pews.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confession is available beginning an hour before Divine Liturgy, and ending 15 minutes before the start of services.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

1

HOLY COMMUNION AND VISITATION OF THE SICK: Holy Communion can be brought to parishioners who are ill, in the hospital, or at home. If you would like to receive Communion or a visit by either Fr. Vasyl, or Deacon Tony, you can send the church an email or call either one. Their contact information is on page 1 of this bulletin.

MT. ST. MACRINA CEMETERY, UNIONTOWN, PA, ANNOUNCEMENT: Dormition East and West Sections are now open for single or double plot purchase. Current pricing for each Dormition plot is \$1,500.00 through November 30, 2023. The required minimum down payment per plot is \$500.00. Full payment must be made 2 years from initial contract date, and prior to burial in plot(s). If interested in making a plot(s) purchase, please visit www.mtstmacrinacemetery.org, Menu; Offerings: Dormition. If you are in agreement with the policies, contact Sr. Seraphim at 412-559-8861 for purchase arrangements.

ATTENTION GREEK CATHOLIC UNION (GCU) MEMBERS: Dennis Kotula is Patronage Church's GCU Parish Coordinator, and is working on compiling a list of Patronage Church parishioners who are GCU members. If you are a member, please send him an email at dennis.kotula@gmail.com, and let him know.

LITURGY INTENTIONS: Liturgy intention books and forms have been updated, and are now available on the bookrack in the Narthex. Forms can also be found on our website. If you would like to request an Intention, please either call, or email Fr. Vasyl, and let him know. **Checks should be made payable to: Fr. Vasyl Symyon.** You can either mail your Intention request to the rectory, or place it in the offertory basket in the back of our Temple.

MOUNT ST. MACRINA HOUSE OF PRAYER EVENTS: The following events will take place at Mount St. Macrina, 510 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA. To register for programs or for more information, please call 724-438-7149 or email hpmsm@verizon.net.

1. **"Christmas Preparation Retreat Morning,"** will take place on Saturday, December 9th from 9:30am - 1pm, and presented by Fr. Valerian Michlik. The offering is \$40, and includes the conference, Sacrament of Reconciliation, reflection times, prayer service, and lunch. Registration is due by December 4th.
2. **"Sanctuary Sessions for Sanity,"** will take place from 10:30am – noon on Tuesdays, December 12th, and 19th. Guided prayer and quiet medication time in the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Free-will offering. No registration required.

2023 BISHOP'S APPEAL: You will be receiving information in the mail shortly regarding this year's Appeal. Pledges and payments will be accepted through June 30, 2024. Any contributions received after December 31, 2023, must be attributed to the 2024 tax year. All checks must be made payable to: Eparchy of Passaic, and not Patronage Church. You may also pledge/donate online at: www.eparchyofpassaic.com. Our parish goal is \$9,800.00, and if we achieve or exceed this amount, our parish will receive a 40% refund of the total received. Contributions from the Hagerstown Mission will also be attributed to Patronage Church's total.

BECOMING BYZANTINE (BYZANTINE CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS): *Becoming Byzantine* series is a FREE online introduction to Byzantine Catholic faith. This is a series of pre-recorded online presentations (webinars and lessons) for those interested in learning more about the Byzantine Catholic Church, are considering formally joining the Church through baptism or transfer, or already are a Byzantine Christian who desires to go deeper into his or her faith and practice or to learn how to share this faith with others. Please visit www.becomingbyzantineupdates.church for more information, and access to the webinars and lessons.

ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION: Please mark your calendar with the following dates -

1. We will be ***decorating our church after Divine Liturgy next Sunday, December 3rd*** in preparation for our St. Nicholas celebration.
2. On ***Sunday, December 10th, Divine Liturgy will begin at 11am (note change of Liturgy start time for this event)***, for our parish celebration for the Feast of St. Nicholas. We will be having a presentation by the children in ECF, a special visit from St. Nicholas, himself, along with a parish pot-luck luncheon, in our social hall, immediately following Divine Liturgy. *To make our St. Nicholas event more festive, we are encouraging everyone to wear a holiday sweater or shirt.*

A GIFT FROM ST. NICHOLAS: This fundraiser is for the seminarians in Uzhhorod, Ukraine. ***A special collection will be taken up through next Sunday, December 3rd.*** Envelopes marked, "A Gift from St. Nicholas," can be found at the entrances to our church, and all donations can either be mailed to our church, or placed in the offertory basket. Checks should be made payable to: Patronage Church. Cash is also acceptable. Thank you for your support!

PRINTER CARTRIDGES: We are collecting used printer cartridges to recycle, and earn rewards to help pay for new cartridges we use to print our weekly bulletins and Liturgical information. You can place your cartridges in the labeled box in the cry room. Many thanks for your contribution!

Reflection from Mount St. Macrina, Uniontown, PA

By: Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM

“Worshipping as a Community”

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As we continue looking at the Commandments – we’re on the third one now: “Thou shall keep holy the Lord’s day.” In fact, we Christians celebrate the Lord’s Resurrection on Sundays.

The worship of God set at a particular time began with the Old Testament – with the giving of the Commandments. Remember that the Commandments are part of our Covenant relationship with God. God’s promises to us are followed by our promises to God. Church law says that Sundays are to be observed as the foremost Holy Day of Obligation.

Yes, it says you must come together to workshop the living God – Sundays, and now it extends also to Saturday evenings – because we are God’s children. We come together to focus on that relationship; we seek to be renewed so that all together we focus on Christ; we bring the strength of our Christ relationship to build up one another. We come to offer our common worship to our living God. This is why it’s an obligation rather than just an invitation.

We are God’s children. This relationship with God needs to remain central and transforming. It’s meant to strengthen us in a way of life so that even our moral decisions would be coming out of this God relationship. It’s easy to separate the two, but as we come together in community on a Sunday in communal worship – in hearing the Word of God together, in praising God together – the desire, the hope is that our mentality, our decisions, our love for one another, is formed and transformed.

When we cannot worship in community nonetheless the call to remember the Covenant, to be faithful in praise and worship is still there. Therefore, if we have to, a time of serious prayer and an overflow in love and service will make holy the Lord’s day.

A good way to spend a Sunday after attending Liturgy, is putting aside work that isn’t necessary, is to bring family together or the parish community in a time of socialization. Other suggestions – make time to focus on cultural development or experiences; create a time that builds people up even by the change of schedule, the change of activity that in some way strengthens and enriches us and the Body of Christ.

So let us come together. And let us offer our time of service to assist the elderly, the sick; to visit with them; to build up one another in some way That’s also the message of a Sunday.

Let us keep the sacred; an important element that balances and strengthens our lives.

God bless you!

“COME AND SEE:” Produced by the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, this is a resource which aims to share the “Good News” – the transforming message of the Gospel within the context of the Byzantine Catholic tradition, and was designed with a two-fold goal in mind: 1) to be beneficial to all the existing Byzantine Catholics, and serve as the ABCs about our church and tradition, and 2) it is also an invitation to all those who are in search of a new spiritual home, who want to learn more about God and build a lasting personal friendship with Him. It is an introduction about who are and what we believe and it aims to grow awareness and participation in the great Christian richness of our Byzantine tradition and speak about its practices. It is an invitation to a journey to experience the Mystery of God. The cost of this book is only \$5.00, and is located on the book rack in the Narthex. You can place your money in the marked envelope next to the books. Any questions, please contact Sharon Kotula.

ALL-OCCASION CARDS FOR SALE: Sister Seraphim Olsafsky, OSBM, from the Sisters of St. Basil, has turned some of her paintings into all-occasion cards and are being sold in a package of ten. 4 Birthday (2 of 2 designs), 2 Wellness, 2 Congratulations, and 2 Sympathy. Inside each card is an inspirational message and a verse from the Bible. *Vicnaja Pamjat!* is on the back of the sympathy card, and *Mnohaja L’ita! Blahaja L’ita!* is on the back of the wellness card. The cost is \$14.50 + shipping & handling. Each card is 4 1/4” X 5 1/2”. The order form can be found at <https://sistersofstbasil.org/greeting-cards/>. Please consider purchasing some of these beautiful cards to benefit the Sisters of St. Basil.

BYZANTINE ICON PAINTING WORKSHOP (UPDATED INFORMATION): Patronage Church is planning a Byzantine Icon Painting Workshop with Iconographer, Wayne Hajos. Wayne wrote many icons in our church. This workshop is an excellent opportunity for spiritual growth in our faith! Take advantage of this opportunity! **The class will be held on Saturday, February 3rd and 10th, from 9am – 5pm, and Sunday, February 4th and 11th, from 11:30am – 7:30pm.** The class fee will be \$250 with all supplies included. No art experience is necessary, and we will paint an icon of our church’s patron, the Theotokos to register, please send a deposit of \$50, by check, along with your name, and mail it to: Wayne Hajos, 400 Symphony Circle #555, Hunt Valley, MD 21030. The balance of \$200 will be due on the first day of class. Class size is limited to 20 students max, and will be first come, first serve! Registration deadline is January 1st, 2024! If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Ross at keviross@gmail.com, or by text/phone at 570-561-6540.

PARISH CENSUS: We are still missing a few census forms. If you have not completed one, please do so as soon as possible, so that we can update our church records. You can locate a census form on our website, or on the bookrack in the Narthex. Thank you for your assistance!

“JOYFUL LIGHT:” If you would like to receive the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius’ electronic newsletter, “Joyful Light,” please email your request to development@bcs.edu. The Seminary also welcomes online donations. Those who wish to donate may visit www.bcs.edu, and click on “Giving.”

CHILDREN'S CORNER

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



© SharefaithKids. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction or Reselling forbidden. Not for use without an active SharefaithKids subscription.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM: Please mark your calendar with these additional upcoming dates.

- **Sunday, December 10th** - St. Nicholas visit and presentation
- **Sunday, December 17th** - ECF Confession opportunity before Christmas
- **Sunday, December 24th** – Christmas Eve Nativity presentation

Any questions, please contact Loui Villanueva at villanuevaluxmundi@gmail.com.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon be restored to their land, our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, and those who cannot make it to church. Also, Fr. Vasyl Symyon, Matthew Skovran, Mike Skovran, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Missy Kakalec, Albert Ondrish, Robin Sevachko, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world.

*May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies,
grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

STEWARDSHIP: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733> – the link is also on our website)

**Patronage Church:
November 19, 2023**

Offertory: \$2,205.00

Tithe.ly: \$230.00

Candles: \$66.25

“Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth” (Dt. 8:18).

PARISH SOCIAL: Please join us in our social hall after Divine Liturgy today for some refreshments.

PATRONAGE CHURCH SHOPPING BAGS FOR SALE: If you haven't gotten our new shopping bag with the church's logo on it yet, they are \$5 per bag. Please see Mary Demyan, or Sharon Kotula if you would like to purchase any.

BELATED THANK YOU: We accidentally left off Joe H. and Rich G.'s names from our list who volunteered at our Kolachi baking day for the festival. Many belated thanks to the both of you!

SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL PROCEEDS: We are gathering all of our receipts, and will soon let you know what the outcome of our festival was.

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FOR SALE: We have a variety of religious articles available for immediate purchase. If you are interested, please see Sharon Kotula.

PATRONAGE FREEZER SALE: We have a few things leftover from our festival that were put into our freezer. Please see Mary Demyan, if you are interested.

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 and hope you will become an active part of our parish community. If you would like to be added to our parish email list, send us an email at patronage.church@gmail.com.

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

Many Calls for the Chosen

The first call that shaped St. Andrew's life was the very timing and place of his birth. The second call that shaped Andrew's life came through John the Baptist. Andrew must have been an alert young man longing for the coming of the Messiah when he first heard the preaching of John. Andrew's third call came from Jesus himself. The fourth call that shaped Andrew's life was to follow Jesus, to be his disciple, a student in daily contact with Jesus, walking and talking with him, listening and learning from the Master, as from a Rabbi. The fifth call that changed Andrew's life was his selection by Jesus as one of the twelve apostles, to give witness, to preach, to bring others to Christ. Andrew, the student, was chosen to become a teacher sent by Christ. His sixth call came through pious Greeks at the Passover in Jerusalem. They wanted to see Jesus, to be introduced to him. The boy from Bethsaida began using his language skills, his un-

derstanding of Greek and Roman culture, to bring Gentiles to Jesus. St. Gregory Nazianzen, St. Jerome, and St. Paulinus tell us that after Pentecost Andrew became an apostle to people in the land of Greece, the bordering lands, and as tradition tells us, ultimately to Byzantium. The final call in Andrew's life was to martyrdom by crucifixion on an X shaped cross at Patras in Achaia.

Saint Andrew's vocation, and ours as well, wasn't given all at once, but gradually. Seven calls from the Lord built one upon the other throughout the course of his life. Andrew's response to each call gave new shape to his life and prepared him for the next gift of God. This courageous young man, by purity of heart and docile obedience to God's will became in St. Bede's words, "The Introducer to Christ." He introduced his brother to Jesus, and the Greeks and Scythians.