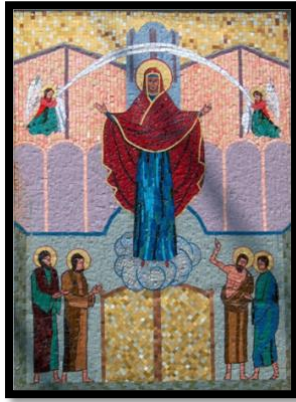


EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of Jesus Feeding the Five Thousand*



## PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Rev. Deacon: Anthony Kotlar, Sr.  
 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](mailto:axxearp@yahoo.com)

Next Liturgy: TBD

### PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Time	Service	Intention
8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 7.23.2023	3:00pm	Divine Liturgy Panachida	In Memory of: +William & +Martha Rudy (would have been their 65 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on 7.12.2023) Requested by: M/M Dennis Kotula
9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 7.30.2023	9:30am	Hymns from Matins followed by the Typika and Panachida	In Memory of: +Marge Dulina Requested by: M/M Jack Russell

This is the **8th Sunday After Pentecost.**

We will be using the green Divine Liturgy books today located in the pews.

Handouts with the Propers for today can be found on the table in the back of our Temple.

**Saint Gregory of Nyssa Church:** Sunday, July 23<sup>th</sup>, at 10am Matins, 10:15am Typika  
 Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10am Divine Liturgy

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**FAMILY RETREAT DAY:** Families are welcome to join us for a day full of personal reflection and fun for the whole family. This family retreat day will be held on **Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>**, at the Carpathian Village in Cresco, PA. There will be presentations for parents and children. There will also be games and crafts. Cost for this retreat is \$50 per family with 2 parents and 2 children. Each additional person is \$10 each. Please RSVP to Jon Aponick by emailing him at [passaicfamilycamp@gmail.com](mailto:passaicfamilycamp@gmail.com).

**THE DISCALCED CARMELITES OF SUGARLOAF, PA:** Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla and Most Revered Kurt Burnette have both graciously accepted to officiate at a Pontifical Divine Liturgy, principal Service of our proposed Pilgrimage honoring Saint Therese of Lisieux. We hope for your presence at the *First Pilgrimage to Saint Therese of Lisieux*, **Saturday, September 30, 2023**, Holy Annunciation Monastery Grounds, 403 West County Road, Sugarloaf, PA. For more information, please call 1-800-882-0028, or email [gifffromthenuns@ptd.net](mailto:gifffromthenuns@ptd.net). You can also check out their website at [www.byzantinediscalcedcarmelites.com](http://www.byzantinediscalcedcarmelites.com), then click on the "Pilgrimage" page.

**METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY:** Most Rev. William Skurla, Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh, have invited all clergy and faithful to the Assembly of the Byzantine (Ruthenian) Metropolitan Church at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 1900 Brooks Boulevard, Hillsboro, NJ, 08844, **November 2-5, 2023**. The theme of this Assembly is "Living Our Faith, Moving Forward, Appreciating Our Past." *Registration is now open*. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The fee includes meals, breaks, presentations, materials, and the gala on Saturday evening. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between the ages of 18 and 35. Special rates for hotel accommodations have been arranged at the Hilton Garden Inn, 500 Promenade Boulevard, Bridgewater, NJ, 08807, and is a 15-minute drive to St. Mary's Church. *Hotel registration deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup>*. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is [byzantineassembly2023.org](http://byzantineassembly2023.org), and the email is [byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com](mailto:byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com).

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN:** Don't miss this trip of a lifetime. Hosted by Fr. Ed Cimbala. Visit Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Mt. Nebo, Madaba, Amman, Petra, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem, **January 21-31, 2024**. For more information, please contact Fr. Ed at 908-872-2928 or [fredcimbala@gmail.com](mailto:fredcimbala@gmail.com).

**HERSHEY PARK, PA:** GCU members can purchase discounted single visit tickets that can be used any day during the 2023 operating season at Hersheypark now through December 29, 2023. Tickets are \$35 and can be ordered at [www.gcuusa.com](http://www.gcuusa.com). Any questions can be directed to Chris Chamberlain, at the GCU Home Office, at 1-724-495-3400 or [cchamberlain@GCUusa.com](mailto:cchamberlain@GCUusa.com).

**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.

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

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How much time do we spend in our cars (or other modes of transportation)? We travel every day of our lives – work, school, grocery store, errands, and hopefully, to Church! We offer prayers for those traveling at every liturgical service, and include special petitions during our daily private prayers. Everything we do (even driving in our car) we can be reminded of God's blessing and pray for safety and salvation!

The glorious Prophet Elias is, therefore, known as the Patron Saint of Vehicles, reminding us that we must demonstrate holiness in our lives, especially when we travel.



## 8th Sunday after Pentecost

"...They need not go away; you give them something to eat" (Mt. 14:16).

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today's Gospel reading describes to us the Lord's great mercy to people and the manifestation of His divine power. We have heard many times in the Holy Scriptures how the Lord takes care of people, especially all those who were neglected, weak, poor, despised, or forgotten. We cannot list all the miracles that Christ performed on the sick, crippled, and possessed. And yet, today, we again hear the story of God's extraordinary care and mercy when we read how Jesus fed the crowd of people with only five loaves and two fish.

The evening was approaching, and no one was in a hurry to leave. Then the apostles suggested to the Savior to let the people go, so that they would not remain hungry and be able to buy bread and food for themselves. However, the Lord acted in a different way. Those who were so in need of spiritual bread received earthly bread, as well.

The Fathers of the Church say that the people should not remain mere spectators in this case, giving everyone the opportunity to receive this gift, making them participants in this miracle. Multiplying the loaves was one of the steps that the future Messiah, the King of Israel, would have to take. This act was somewhat in line with the mentality of a simple Jew, who constantly heard about those things from synagogue officials, in which the Scribes and Pharisees described what the Messiah would do. Christ saw this undisguised joy of ordinary people, who were ready even now for Him to become a leader among their people. That is why Jesus, "... made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds" (Mt. 14:22). We remind ourselves that before going out for a public sermon, Jesus was in the desert, where the devil tempted Him. The offer to turn a stone into bread would have made Christ much more popular among the Jewish people. But the Lord rejected this proposal, arguing, "Man shall not live by bread alone..." (Mt. 4:4). Making it clear that we should be guided by much higher values in life.

Another important point of today's passage of the Gospel is that in this story of the Apostle Matthew, the image and structure of the Church emerges. Christ is its founder and head, the apostles are appointed spiritual shepherds who spiritually take care of their faithful, and another critical component of this structure is the people of God. It is not by chance that Jesus says in the Gospel, "...you give them something to eat" (Mt. 14:16). He himself takes the bread, blesses it, and hands it to His apostles, and they give it to the people. Literally all this works even until today. At the Holy Last Supper, the Lord commanded, "Do this in remembrance of Me." This is why today we call our Church apostolic, because the faithful receive all the gifts in the church through persons authorized by the Church hierarchy, priests, who receive everything from their Heavenly Lord.

Saint John Chrysostom says, "Seek what is God's, and what is human will follow easily." How many examples do we have from life that the Lord gives first to those who ask for the Kingdom of God, and despite these great gifts, He also gives what we need for our lives. An example comes from the life of the monks of the Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra during the rectorship of Venerable Theodosius of Pechersk. When the brothers serving in the kitchen informed their abbot about the lack of food, Venerable Theodosius, who was constantly engaged in prayer, assured them that the Lord would not leave them without food. And it really happened like that. One good man in a short time brought a lot of products for the monastery.

God's mercy is endless. In order to feed human sons and daughters, the Son of God blesses and breaks simple bread, multiplying it -- this is a great miracle. However, a little time will pass and the Savior, for the sake of all of us, will break His Immaculate Body on the cross, offering Himself as a sacrifice for our sins and yours, giving the Bread of Eternal Life.

Our love and loyalty to God is tested outside the walls of the Temple, where we meet with human grief, with human weaknesses and needs, with human evil and treachery, meanness and betrayal. Here the Lord calls us to act as He Himself acted among people. In our daily affairs, we should draw strength and take an example from Christ Himself, imitating Him in everything.

Dear believers! Each time, approaching the Holy Mysteries of Christ, we pray that the Lord will give us the strength to be good Christians in this world, where Christian values are forgotten by many people, and where the Gospel Commandments are unknown to many people. We ask the Lord to fill our hearts with that grace and that love that will help us carry our life's cross, not forgetting to help our neighbor in carrying his or her heavy cross, so that we act in life as a true Christian should.

**EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION (ECF) PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN:** Catechetical Sunday is September 17<sup>th</sup>. Parents, we are encouraging you to register your children. Registration forms can either be found on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website. Please either mail your registration form(s) to the church, or place it in the offertory basket. More details to follow in upcoming bulletins.

**ANNUAL PATRONAGE CHURCH CRAB FEAST:** Mark your calendars – Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Join us for some fellowship and great food! We will also be having a church service prior to the Crab Feast. More details to follow in upcoming bulletins! If you would like to volunteer to assist with this event, please contact Dann Karlson at [DS.Karlson@gmail.com](mailto:DS.Karlson@gmail.com), and let him know.

**INTENTIONS:** If you would like to request a Liturgy Intention, the Eparchy of Passaic is accepting Stipends for Ukrainian priests. Stipend forms can be found on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our church website. Make checks payable to: "Eparchy of Passaic." Our Eparchy will pay the administrative costs, so that 100% goes to a priest and his family who needs the help. Mail the Stipend sheet and your check to: Eparchy of Passaic, 445 Lackawanna Ave., Woodland Park, NJ 07424.

You can also request to have a Panachida or Moleben at Patronage Church. A form can be found in this bulletin, on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website. Donations help benefit our church. Checks can be made payable to: Patronage Church, and you can either mail your request to our church, or you can place a note in our offertory basket.

**FREE BOOKS:** We have 2 paperback books available in the Narthex: "Do Something Beautiful for God – The Essential Teachings of Mother Theresa," and "Holy Moments – A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life." You are welcome to take home a copy of each.

**PATRONAGE FREEZER SALE:** We have kolbassi available for purchase after church services today. Please see Mary Demyan, if you would like to purchase any. Kolbassi tastes great cooked on the grill!

**PARISH CENSUS:** We are asking all parishioners to complete a census form. Please help us! Forms can either be found on the shelf in the Narthex, or on our website. We need to have accurate contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address. You can either place your completed census form in the offertory basket, or mail it to the church. If any of your information changes, at any time, please also let us know. Thank you, again, to those who have already completed a form.

**"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 in the book rack in the Narthex. You can place your money in the marked envelope next to the books.

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## Blessing of Vehicles at the Feast of Prophet Elijah (Elias)



Fill in the blanks using these words:

God                      horses                      Heaven                      July 20                      Sobach  
Elijah                      bless                      prayer                      Prophet

We celebrate the Feast of the \_\_\_\_\_ Elijah on \_\_\_\_\_. When \_\_\_\_\_ was born, his father \_\_\_\_\_ saw in a vision angels of \_\_\_\_\_ around him. Elijah dedicated himself to God, and spent his life in strict fasting, meditation, and \_\_\_\_\_. In this icon, the Prophet Elijah is depicted ascending to \_\_\_\_\_ in a fiery chariot surrounded with flames, and harnessed to four-winged \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore, we \_\_\_\_\_ our modes of transportation on his feast-day with the hope of safe travels.

**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. Serhii Deiak, and his family, Mike Skovran, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, 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 (July 16, 2023):**

Offertory: \$645.00  
Tithe.ly: \$156.00  
Intentions: \$25.00

**Hagerstown Mission (July 16, 2023):**

Tithe.ly: \$19.00

**WELCOME FR. YURIY OROS:** Fr. Yuriy will be celebrating Divine Liturgy today at Patronage Church, followed by the traditional blessing of vehicles for the Feast of the Prophet Elijah (Elias). Please join us after services for a pot-luck dinner. We welcome Fr. Yuriy to Patronage Church!

**EPARCHY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** Bishop Kurt will celebrate a Divine Liturgy for the intention of couples celebrating a five-year anniversary of a wedding year ending in an eight or a three. ***This will take place in mid-November.*** The specific date has not been determined. The liturgy will be celebrated in Annandale, VA, at Epiphany of our Lord, followed by a sit-down dinner. If you were not married at Patronage and were married in a year ending with a 3 or an 8, please let Deacon Bill know so that you can receive an invitation.

**PILGRIMAGE PREPARATION DAY:** The Sisters of St. Basil the Great are in need of volunteers on **Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 9:30am, at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, PA., to help with the final preparations of the grounds for the September 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage. Volunteers are asked to bring brooms, weed whackers, blowers, weeding tools, rakes, and clippers. Lunch will be provided. For further information or to register, please call Sister Joanne at 724-438-8644. The rain date is Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**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](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com).

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

## *They All Ate and Were Satisfied*

Our Lord in a desert place changed a few loaves into many, and at Cana turned water into wine. Thus before the time came to give men and women His own Body and Blood to feed on, He accustomed their palates to His bread and wine, giving them a taste of transitory bread and wine to teach them to delight in His Life-giving Body and Blood. He gave them things of little value for nothing to make them understand that His supreme gift would be given yet more freely. He gave them for nothing what they could have bought from Him, what in fact they wanted to buy, to teach them that He asked them for no payment. When it was not permitted them to give Him the price of bread and wine, which they could have

done, they certainly could not pay Him for His Body and Blood.

Moreover, as well as giving freely He lovingly coaxed us, offering us these small things without charge to attract us and cause us to go and receive something greater and beyond all price. He awakened our desire by things pleasing to the palate in order to draw us to that which gives life to the soul. He gave a sweet taste to the wine he created to show how great is the treasure hidden in His Life-giving Blood.

*St. Ephrem the Syrian*

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To view over 300 videos, visit [www.oltv.tv](http://www.oltv.tv)