

# TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



*Icon of the Transfiguration of Our Lord*



## PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Next Liturgy: TBD

### PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Transfiguration of Our Lord 8.6.2023	3:00pm	Divine Liturgy and Blessing of First Fruits	In Memory of: +Marge Dulina Requested by: M/M Jack Russell
11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 8.13.2023	9:30am	Hymns from Matins followed by the Typika and Panachida	In Memory of: +Marge Dulina Requested by: M/M Emmerra Wheeler

Today is the **Transfiguration of Our Lord.**

Propers for today can be found beginning on page 346 in the green books.

**Saint Gregory of Nyssa Church:** Sunday, August 13th, at 10am Matins, 10:15am Typika  
 Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 10am Divine Liturgy

**EPARCHY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** Bishop Kurt will be celebrating a Divine Liturgy for the intention of couples celebrating a wedding anniversary of five-year increments. These have a wedding year ending in an eight or a three. ***This celebration will take place in mid-November.*** The specific date has not been determined. A liturgy will be celebrated in Annandale, VA, at Epiphany of our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, followed by a sit-down dinner. Please let us know if you would like to receive an invitation by either adding your name to the sheet in the Narthex, or sending the church an email at [patronage.church@gmail.com](mailto:patronage.church@gmail.com), no later than Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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!

**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. More details to follow.

**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).

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



You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, revealing as much of your glory to your disciples as they could behold. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, let your everlasting light also shine upon us sinners. O Giver of Light, glory to you!

## Sermon on the Transfiguration of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

I congratulate you all on the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. On this day, Pope Paul VI said, "The Transfiguration throws a dazzling light on our daily life and directs our thoughts to the immortal destiny to which this event points. On Mount Tabor, the Lord momentarily reveals the radiance of His divinity and reveals to the chosen witnesses Who He really is. He is the Son of God, the reflection of the Father's glory, the image of His being, but at the same time, Christ allows us to see that our human nature, which He accepted for our salvation, is also saved. She is saved by the sacrifice of His unchanging love and is destined to participate in the fullness of life, in the destiny of the saints, in the light of incorruption. The body that is transfigured before the eyes of the chosen apostles is the body of Christ, our brother, but also our body, called to glory. This light that fills Him will be part of our heritage and radiance. We are called to become partakers of this glory, because we have become partakers of God's nature."

The Apostle Peter was so fascinated by what was happening there on the mountain that he said, "...Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" (Mt. 17:4). What Peter and the other disciples experienced was something extraordinary. Here we see how a simple fisherman knows how to admire God's glory and his presence. The more such moments of Transfiguration there are in our lives, the more God's light will work on us. We should try to climb the mountain with Jesus. Because Jesus wants to constantly change each of us.

Once a man in church noticed the great mathematician Andre-Marie Ampere, who was praying for a long time on his knees. This man waited for the professor at the door and asked, "Professor, is it possible to be such a great scholar and still kneel and pray?" To which he replied, "Son, I am great only when I pray. My greatness depends on how much the Lord will be in me." And the Italian writer and journalist Giovanni Panini said the following words, "In order for a person to stand up, one must first kneel down. The more I kneel in prayer, the more I experience encounters with Christ, the more I become a complete person, a free person."

Therefore, today's Feast of the Transfiguration calls each of us to climb the mountain. We must remember that there is a road leading to every mountain, every person.

The Georgian director Ambuladze has a film called "Repentance" in which the following question sounds, "Does this road lead to the temple?" The answer to this question is, "No, this road does not lead there." The traveler notes, "If the road does not lead to the Temple, then it does not lead anywhere."

Why did Jesus Christ show the glory of His Divinity to only these three disciples? According to St. John of Damascus, Christ took Peter with him so that the one who publicly acknowledged Christ's Divinity would hear confirmation of his recognition from the Heavenly Father, as well. The Lord took Jacob to Mount Favor, because he was to be the first Bishop of Jerusalem and the first of the apostles to give his life for Christ. In the end, the Savior also made the Apostle John a witness to His transformation, **3**

because he was His beloved disciple. Having realized Christ's Divinity at Favor, he later wrote in his Gospel, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

Dear believers! A high mountain is a symbol of closeness to God. And in order to climb the mountain, or, as we used to say, to conquer the mountain, you need to make a lot of effort. It is the same in spiritual life. When climbing a mountain, a climber takes with him only what is most necessary, what he needs only for this journey. In spiritual life, when climbing the mountain of perfection, we need to take with us only what we need most. Some things need to be discarded. Those things that are secondary are immediately dropped, those things that do not lead to a meeting with the Lord are dropped. We must leave the superfluous things at the foot of the mountain in order to slowly climb to this perfection. So, may the Light of Favor illuminate our souls and permeate our lives with this Light of God's love.

Fr. Serhii Deiak

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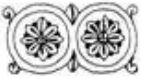
**BYZANTINE ICON PAINTING WORKSHOP:** Patronage Church is planning a Byzantine Icon Painting Workshop with Iconographer, Wayne Hajos, sometime in the beginning of 2024. Wayne was the Iconographer who wrote the icons in our Holy Place and below our choir loft many years ago. The class will be 4 days long (9am - 4:30pm). The class fee will be \$275 with all supplies and lunch provided. No art experience necessary, and we will paint/write the icon of the Virgin Mary. We'd love to have our teenage parishioners (recommended minimum age is 15) participate in this great opportunity! At the moment, we are trying to pin down exact dates for the class, but are looking at a JAN, FEB, or MAR timeframe. We would also like to hear if you have a preference for doing the class in a single week (Wednesday - Saturday) or would prefer four consecutive Saturdays? Please email Kevin Ross at [keviross@gmail.com](mailto:keviross@gmail.com) if you are potentially interested, along with any preference on dates/timing. Class size is limited to 20 students. More details regarding payment, will be forthcoming.

**INTENTIONS:** You now have a few options, if you would like to request an Intention:

1. On days Fr. Yuriy comes to Patronage Church, you can request a Liturgy Intention. Please make your check payable to: Fr. Yuriy Oros. Intention forms can be found on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our church website. Please either place your request in the offertory basket, or mail it to the church rectory.
2. 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 Ukrainian 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.
3. You can also request to have a Panachida or Moleben at Patronage Church. A form can be found 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 rectory, or you can place your request in our offertory basket.

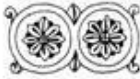
# CHILDREN'S CORNER

Unscramble the words to answer the questions.



## TRANSFIGURATION

### WORD SCRAMBLE



1. Who did Jesus take up to the mountain?    \_ e t P r e    \_ m s e a J    \_ h n J o
2. What was the name of the mountain?        \_ t o M n u    \_ b o T r a
3. Who became as white as the light?        \_ s u e J s    \_ o S n    \_ f o    \_ G d o
4. Who appeared to the left of Jesus, to represent the Prophets?        \_ j l a E h i
5. Who appeared to the right of Jesus, to represent the Law?                \_ o s M s e
6. Who spoke from the cloud above?        \_ o d G    \_ e h t    \_ a h F r t e
7. What did the voice say?        \_ h i s t    \_ s i    \_ y m    \_ e l b v e d o    \_ o S n
8. Who does God want to become radiant with the Holy Spirit?                \_ u o Y

**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, Matthew Skovran, 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 30, 2023):        Hagerstown Mission (July 30, 2023):**

Offertory: \$1,745.00

Tithe.ly: \$19.00

Tithe.ly: \$156.00

Dormition of the Theotokos: \$10.00

**BLESSING OF THE FIRST FRUITS:** The feast of the Holy Transfiguration is celebrated late in summer, at the time of the first fruits, which remind us of God's great goodness and His infinite bounty. To express our recognition and gratitude to God for His generosity, we bring some of these first fruits to the church for blessing. *Fr. Yuriy will be blessing the first fruits during Divine Liturgy today.*

**PARISH DINNER FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD:** *Please join us after Divine Liturgy today for a parish dinner provided by our church.* A donation basket will be set out to help defray the cost of dinner. Please be generous.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** On days that Fr. Yuriy comes to Patronage Church, he is available 20 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy to hear confessions.

**PARISH MEETING/POT-LUCK LUNCHEON:** Next **Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**, we will be having a meeting and a pot-luck luncheon following our 9:30am Typika Service. Please bring a dish, your ideas, or any questions you may have, and join us! Deacon Bill will be attending our meeting.

**DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS:** Next **Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**, for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15<sup>th</sup>), please feel free to bring flowers and place them in front of the Iconostasis.

**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).        2*

## *It is good for us to be here*

Upon Mount Tabor, Jesus revealed to his disciples a heavenly mystery. While living among them he had spoke of the kingdom and of his second coming in glory, but to banish from their hearts any possible doubt concerning the kingdom and to confirm their faith in what lay in the future by its prefiguration in the present, he gave them on Mount Tabor a wonderful vision of his glory, a foreshadowing of the kingdom of heaven.

These are the divine wonders we celebrate today; this is the saving revelation given us upon the mountain; this is the festival of Christ that has drawn us here. Let us listen, then, to the sacred voice of God so compellingly calling us from high, from the

summit of the mountain, so that with the Lord's chosen disciples we may penetrate the deep meaning of these holy mysteries, so far beyond our capacity to express. Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow him with all speed, yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in his radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into his own likeness, making us for ever sharers in his Godhead and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of.

*Sermon of St. Anastasius of Sinai*

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