

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Protection of the Theotokos -- October 1st

A Gift From God

It was mother's birthday and the whole family gathered while mother opened her gifts. As she unwrapped the paper and ribbons from her gifts, her four-year-old daughter picked up a discarded bow and placed it on her mother's head. She giggled and said, "Look! Mommy is a gift!" Everyone laughed until the truth of what the little girl said had been indeed realized: that mother is a gift, a gift from God!

Our Lord gives us many gifts during the course of our life. One precious gift that He has given to all mankind from one generation to the next is the gift of His own mother, the Holy Virgin Mary. Just as our own mothers love us, comfort us, and protect us from things that could harm us, so, too, does the Mother of God love us, protect us, and intercede for us

before her Son and our God.

On October 1st we celebrate the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. On this day, the Church remembers and celebrates the occasion when the Mother of God appeared in a vision to Saint Andrew in the church at Blancherinae in Constantinople. In this vision she appeared over the Holy City with her omophorion (mantle) outstretched in a protective manner, promising shelter from harm.

This image of the Holy Virgin has been emblazoned upon the hearts of all Christians since then. We can all turn to the Mother of God in time of distress and know that our prayers will always be heard. She is, indeed, one of our greatest gifts from God!



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

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Patronage of the Mother of God PARISH COUNCIL - 2021

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Facebook Manager: Dann Karlson (email: DS.Karlson@gmail.com)

Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) Program for Children Coordinator: ???
Men's Club Coordinator: ???

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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Fr. Serhii is available 15 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy to hear confession.

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
Next Liturgy: Sunday, October 10th at 3pm

Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

St. Ann Catholic Church
 1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742
Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers: 301-791-0930
Next Liturgy: Saturday, October 2nd at 10am

DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 9.26.2021	11:00am 11:15am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Martha Kostak Rudy Requested by: The Kotula Family
Friday 10.01.2021	9:00am	Divine Liturgy Protection of the Theotokos	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert
Sunday 10.03.2021	8:45am 9:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy	In Memory of: +Fr. Conan Timoney Requested by: Sean Albert

This is the **18th Sunday Pentecost**.
 Propers begin on page 125, Tone 1.

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

CRAB FEAST 50/50: Congratulations to Theresa Kotlar for winning \$40.00, on the 50/50 raffle, at the Crab Feast last Saturday. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards the cost of replacing the bushes in front of the rectory. We want to thank everyone, again, for attending this event. A good time was had by all.

KIELBASI FREEZER SALE: We have a limited supply of frozen “**smoked kielbasi**” for sale and available to take home after Liturgy today. If you are interested in purchasing any, please see Mary Demyan or Sharon Kotula. Price and size vary.

OUR DAILY BREAD: Many thanks to those who recently made a casserole for the September 12th collection for Our Daily Bread and to **Michael Kakalec** for delivering them. Our next collection date will be Sunday, December 5th.

2022 BUS TRIP: *We are trying to see if there would be enough interest in taking a Saturday day trip.* We would be traveling by bus for an approximately 3-hour ride beginning with the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. There would be a ½ hour guided tour with some time on your own to explore the grounds and a visit to the gift shop. Our next stop would be Mt. St. Macrina for a tour of the grounds and a visit to their gift shop. Then, a short drive to Fort Necessity and Jumonville, where there is a large cross that is lit up at night. The cost of this day trip would be approximately \$75.00 (depending on the number of people, the price could decrease). This cost only covers transportation and tip. We are also trying to plan this trip either the end of April or the beginning of May. More details will be worked out if there is enough interest. Please contact Mike Skovran at 410-979-4791, if you are interested.

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Listening to the words of today's Gospel about the calling of the first apostles, we see that Jesus met Peter and his companions during their work. They worked all night, but did not catch any fish, and fishing was their main labor and means of subsistence. Peter and his companions were experienced fishermen and knew when, how, and where to fish well. However, their unsuccessful work that night reminds us of the truth that even a great life experience does not protect human labor from mistakes and failures.

Christ got into Peter's boat and commanded him to set sail from the earth, and like seeds, the words of Jesus were shed and filled the souls of men. And it came to pass, when the Lord had said unto him, "Cast the net into the sea," that when he had gathered so many fish and the ship was full, suddenly, there appeared before him the image of him that sowed the seed. Simon saw this as an extraordinary, unnatural phenomenon, and so he fell on his knees before Christ and began to pray, "Lord, depart from me, for I am a sinful man!" Horror gripped him and everyone who was with him on the boat. Christ reassured him and said, "...Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men" (Luke 5:10).

"To catch men," means to convert them to Christ God. When the 70 apostles returned from preaching, they joyfully boasted to the Lord that the demons also obeyed them. "Do not rejoice that the demons obey you," Christ said, "Your names are written in heaven."

Jesus Christ also endowed the apostles with this authority. Before ascending to heaven, sending the apostles to preach, Jesus Christ said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation" (Mark 16:15). "And these signs will accompany those who believe in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover" (Mark 16:17-18).

A father and son were walking down an unfamiliar path at night holding a flashlight in their hand. The son was a little scared, because the flashlight was not bright enough and illuminated only a small section of the road, and he wanted it to illuminate the whole road. "Look son," said the father, "If you go all the way forward, the flashlight illuminates the road farther and farther until you reach the goal."

So, in our spiritual life, God does not enlighten us all at once through life, but little by little, as needed. For if the Lord revealed to us all the way from beginning to end, we, seeing all the difficulties on it, could be frightened, discouraged, and when we approach those difficulties gradually, strengthened by life experience and hardened in the spiritual struggle, we easily overcome them.

Dear believers! This Sunday's Gospel assures us that only hope in God, and trusting in His mercy, can strengthen us physically and spiritually, giving us courage to overcome various difficulties in life, and helping us to walk the path of our lives with confidence.

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SUNDAY OBLIGATION: Bishop Kurt revoked the dispensation, regarding the Sunday precept or obligation to assist at Divine Liturgy, on June 6, 2021. Watching the live stream no longer fulfills the obligation to assist at Divine Liturgy. However, the Bishop reminds everyone that "just as before the pandemic, anyone is relieved of the obligation for serious reason such as sickness, immobility, fear, caring for someone else, to protect your own health, or the health of others."

INTENTIONS – PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, those who cannot make it to church, also: Fr. Serhii, and his family, Arlene Duda, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, Paul Ruszin, Sr., Georgianna Kostak, Betty Rankin, 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!*

CONTRIBUTIONS: Patronage: 9.19.2021 - \$1,455.00 Hagerstown: 9.18.2021 - \$95.00

Thank you to those who continue to support our church and for your dedication to our parish. If you would like to make a donation, using our online giving account, please visit our church's website and click on the Tithely link. **"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).**

2021 "FALL" SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL: Please mark your calendar for our next food festival – Saturday, November 20th, from 10am-2pm. Our festival will be for pre-orders/take-out only. **We need volunteers to help make our festival a success.**

- Sunday, October 3, 2021**, after Liturgy – stuff envelopes for mailing with festival information
- Saturday, October 23, 2021**, at 9am – holupki making (volunteers are needed to help roll, cook, and clean-up)
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021**, at 9am – kolachi making (we plan on making 400+ kolachi and need as many volunteers as possible to help roll, bake, package them up, and help in clean-up)
- Saturday, November 20, 2021**, from 10am-2pm – volunteers needed to work the festival, as well as help is needed to clean up after the festival

Please contact Mary Demyan, mdemya1@verison.net or 410-591-5654, if you are able to volunteer. Festival order forms, and more information regarding pre-order dates, will be available shortly, and will also be posted on our church's website and in our upcoming bulletins.

PANACHIDA SERVICE: Fr. Serhii will be having a Panachida service for those, from our parish, who are interred at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cemetery, Elkridge, MD, after Divine Liturgy, **Sunday, September 26th**. The cemetery is only a few miles from our church. We hope you can join us! **There will be no Liturgy at the Abingdon Mission on this date. O Lord, our God, who are good and full of love for all mankind: Give rest to our departed servants in the mansions of the just, and keep us, here on earth, free from sin, enabling us to lead a truly Christian life to the end of our days.**

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).

PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATION: Please mark your calendar – we will be celebrating our church's feast day, Protection of the Theotokos, **on Sunday, October 10th, with a Slavonic Liturgy followed by an ethnic potluck dinner in our parish hall.** Please sign up, on the flyer posted on the bulletin board, in the Narthex. Any questions, please contact Mary Demyan. There will also be Slavonic prayer books, in the pews, so you can sing along.

RECTORY MAILBOX REPAIR NEEDED: We are looking for someone to volunteer to stabilize the rectory mailbox post. If you would like to volunteer to repair it, please let Fr. Serhii know.

BECOMING BYZANTINE: The Eparchy of Phoenix and Vineyard of the Lord Catholic Ministries are sponsoring a free webinar and video series on Byzantine Catholic faith, worship, and life based upon the *“Christ Our Pascha Catechism.”* Are you a Western Christian (Catholic or Protestant) who is interested in exploring the Byzantine Catholic faith for your own development in faith? Are you contemplating joining or have you recently joined a Byzantine or Greek Catholic parish? Are you a Byzantine Christian who wants to learn more about your own rich tradition? Visit [BECOMING BYZANTINE: An Introduction to Byzantine Catholicism](#) for more information. Sessions will be held on the 4th Sunday of the month beginning September 26th through August from 7-8:30pm.

GOD WITH US ONLINE: The second webinar of this curriculum year will be **“Singing our Faith; Music as Catechesis in our Eastern Christian Tradition.** This is a free program and takes place on Wednesday, October 13th, from 8-9pm. Rev. David Anderson will be the presenter. Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. To register, visit www.godwithusonline.org.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION PROGRAM (ECF) FOR CHILDREN: Please visit www.godwithusonline.org and be sure to click on “Ruthenian,” for weekly catechetical resources, including Gospel summary and discussion questions, that you can use in your catechesis.

A reminder that ECF will continue as a homeschool program. Textbooks are now available and you can pick them up in the church hall. They are marked with your family’s name on them. **It is also not too late to register, a child, for our ECF Program. Please send Fr. Serhii an email and let him know. “Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it” (Proverbs 22:6).**

ASSEMBLY OF THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN CHURCH 2021: The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education has announced an in-person event entitled, **“One Body in Christ: Re-emerging from the Pandemic.”** This event will take place November 5-6, 2021, at the Cathedral in Munhall, PA. Visit www.archpitt.org for more information.

“COME AND SEE” WEEKEND OF DISCOVERY: A *free* retreat weekend hosted by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, is scheduled for November 5 –7, 2021 for men, ages 18-35, single or married, who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church. The retreat will be conducted in a “no pressure, no hard-sell” environment. The atmosphere will be prayerful, positive, and fraternal. All registrants must be fully COVID vaccinated to attend. **For more information and to register, no later than October 13, 2021, please visit www.bcs.edu.**

Psalms 23

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      A P N           K W G
    X D X E P       L L E W D
  O K K S W A       E F P D R R
U H T A E D T T   W R S A R E E L
U D O R I G H T E O U S N E S S I
Y C R E M L E A D D T E O H T U V
Z J L Y E L L A V A S N I P O O E
  I I H N I B F B H A D N E R H
    O L E T A O L S P O T H E
      I P G S T R O F M O C S P
        J W A T E R F J G E G
          G M I V D A H J P
            A E Q T L
              R R S
                V
    
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anoint	Lord	staff
comfort	mercy	still
death	oil	table
dwelt	pasture	valley
enemies	path	water
evil	restore	
forever	righteousness	
goodness	rod	
house	shadow	
lead	Shepherd	