

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND



SAINT GREGORY OF NYSSA

Byzantine Catholic Church - Washington community

12420 Old Gunpowder Road Spur, Beltsville, MD 20705

www.stgregoryofnyssa.net / Facebook: stgregorybyzcath

Services live-streamed on Facebook

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Email: frsergij@stgregoryofnyssa.net

Fr. Serhii Cell: (240) 644-2661 / Office: (301) 953-9323

Deacon: Deacon William (Bill) Szewczyk

Email: deacon@stgregoryofnyssa.net

PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Byzantine Catholic Church – Baltimore community

1260 Stevens Avenue, Arbutus, MD 21227

www.patronagechurch.com / Facebook: Patronagechurch

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

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Email: frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com / Fr. Serhii Cell: (240) 644-2661

PATRONAGE MISSIONARY CHURCH IN HAGERSTOWN AND ABINGDON

St. Francis Chapel

1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Contact: Deacon Anthony and Theresa Kotlar:

(410) 734-6973 / kotlar@alum.mit.edu

Next Liturgy: Sunday

April 10th at 3pm

St. Ann Catholic Church

1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Pastor: Reverend Serhii Deiak

Contact: Adam and Lauren Myers:

(301) 791-0930 / axxearp@yahoo.com

Next Liturgy: Saturday

March 19th, at 10am

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

Let Us Remember in Prayer: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon restored to their land.

Those who are ill or convalescing: 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.

Please let Fr. Serhii or Fr. Deacon Bill know if there are names to be added or taken away from this list.

St. Gregory Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2442387>) Mar. 6

Offertory: \$1651.00

Lent: \$40.00

Easter Flowers: \$25.00

First Offering: \$2.00

Refreshments: \$16.00

ECL: \$12.00

Missions: \$290.00

All Souls: \$100.00

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Mar. 6

Offertory: \$1205.00

Tith.ly: \$348.00

Flowers: \$50.00

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 or frserhiipatronagechurch@gmail.com. *My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.* (Isaiah 56:7)

Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic
Fasting Regulations for the Great Fast 2022

Abstinence:

- The law of Abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products.
- *All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain.*
- Abstinence is to be observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays during the Holy Season of the Great Fast.

Strict Abstinence:

- The law of Strict Abstinence (Fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products.
- *All the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe Strict Abstinence.*
- Strict Abstinence is to be observed on the First Day of the Great Fast, Pure Monday, February 28 and on Great and Holy Friday, April 15.

Gregory Palamas. St. Gregory Palamas wrote many works, including the most important, "Tomos of Faith". In it, St. Gregory Palamas taught that the image of God in us is first of all not physical light, but the same as the Lord Jesus Christ was illuminated on Mount Tabor during His miraculous Transfiguration. It is the light of God's glory, and the image of God in a person teacher of fasting. I do not understand fasting, which is observed by many of us, but real fasting – abstinence not only from food but also from sins, because fasting alone cannot save those - who keep it, if it does not comply with the law. And the fighter, it is said, will not be crowned if he competes illegally "(2 Tim, 2:5).

So that we, having performed the feat of fasting, do not lose the wreath, let's learn how and in what way this should take place. The Pharisee fasted, but after this fast he left (the church) deprived of the fruits grown by fasting. The publican did not fast, and without fasting, he was ahead of the one who fasted, so that you would know that there is no use in fasting if it is not accompanied by everything else. The Ninevites fasted and attracted God's favor; the Jews also fasted, and not only did they gain nothing, but they were condemned (Isa. 58). But if fasting poses such a danger to those who do not know how to fast, let us study the laws of fasting so that we do not run the race without a victory (1 Cor 9:26).

St. Gregory Palamas writes in his speech on the second Sunday of Lent: "Thus, as the Kingdom of God draws near, by the works of repentance we will make ourselves worthy of it; make an effort over ourselves, rejecting evil desires and skills, because the Kingdom of Heaven is taken by force. Getting it, we will imitate the patience, humility and faith of the God-bearing fathers, renouncing all the evil that exists on earth: debauchery, dirt, passions, evil lusts and greed - especially on these holy days of fasting."

So, dear believers! By fasting and praying, we will be filled with love for one another and, if something has gone wrong in our relationship with one another, we will forgive and restore peace and harmony in our families with good deeds and words.



Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, Mar. 13, 2022

Second Sunday of the Great Fast
The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father Nicephor,
Patriarch of Constantinople
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 16, 2022

The Holy Martyrs Sabinus and Papas
6:00 PM *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts*

SATURDAY, Mar. 19, 2022

Third All Souls' Saturday
The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria
6:00 PM *Vespers followed by Panachida and the reading of the Hramoty/Diptych*

SUNDAY, Mar. 20, 2022

Third Sunday of the Great Fast
Veneration of the Holy Cross
Our Venerable Fathers of the St. Sabbas Monastery,
killed by Saracens (796)
10:00 AM *Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

SUNDAY, Mar. 13, 2022

Second Sunday of the Great Fast
11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert followed by Panachida for All the Faithful Departed*

FRIDAY, Mar. 18, 2022

Our Holy Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem
6:30 PM *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts in memory of +Rev. Conan Timoney as requested by Sean Albert*

SUNDAY, Mar. 20, 2022

Third Sunday of the Great Fast
Veneration of the Holy Cross
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy in memory of +Deacon Robert Keeley as requested by Marilyn Colley followed by Panachida for All the Faithful Departed*

Propers begin on Tone One, page 125, then page 222

The Second Sunday of the Fast: For many centuries the Second Sunday of the Fast was dedicated to the memory of the martyr, St. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (Feb. 23). Polycarp was a disciple of the Apostle and Evangelist John and passed on many of the teachings of John himself. In the fourteenth century, the commemoration of Polycarp was replaced by that of St. Gregory Palamas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Thessalonica. Gregory fought against those who falsely taught that Divine Grace was created; rather, he insisted, Divine Grace is the “uncreated energies” of God, without which, there could be no communion between God and man. These uncreated energies can never be destroyed, even by sin.

This Sunday is a continuation of last week’s “Triumph of Orthodoxy” and reminds us that our Lenten practices need to be grounded in the true faith preached by the Apostles and handed down to us by the Fathers.

Orthodox Scholars Preach: The Orthodox Christian Studies Center is pleased to present the 2022 installment of the Speaker Series: Orthodox Scholars Preach. Every week until Pascha, a different Orthodox Scholar will release a new 10-minute video. This Series provides a platform for Orthodox scholars to reflect on the spiritual themes of each Sunday's liturgical calendar while drawing on their expertise. Last year’s and this year’s videos can be found on their website <https://shrtm.nu/5XTz>

On Fasting: A very readable guide to fasting, *Fasting for Non-Monastics* is offered by the Orthodox Christian Laity website at <https://ocf.org/fasting-for-non-monastics/>.

Synod on Synodality: In October of 2021, Pope Francis announced a two-year process of listening and dialogue in the Catholic Church. His wish is that the voices of *all* the faithful be heard during this time. Therefore, he has instructed every bishop to establish a process to collect the concerns of the people in their diocese. Bishop Kurt has just issued instructions and a timeline for the Eparchy of Passaic.

Food Pantry: Patronage will be collecting food items that we will be donating to Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church’s food pantry. A box will be put in the back of church for donations. We will collect items and will deliver the donations on March 27th.

Items requested: They can only accept: nonperishable goods, which have a long shelf life and do not require refrigeration.

Items in need: Canned fruits, canned meats (spam, chicken etc.), canned pasta (ravioli etc), rice, sugar, dried fruits, nuts, feminine hygiene products, reusable grocery bags.

Patronage Parish Dinner: The next parish dinner will take place on March 27. Parish meetings will also take place that day.

The Patronage Ethnic Food Festival is fast approaching and we will be needing volunteers for several dates to make this a success. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for as many of the following dates as possible in order to keep this wonderful event alive and well. We are planning to return to a traditional festival for this event!

- Wednesday April 6 at 9 am Kolachi making
- Friday April 8 at 9 am Festival Preparation
- Saturday April 9 Festival. 10 am-2 pm

Anyone who has questions can contact Mary Demyan at mdemya1@verizon.net or 410-591-5654.

The Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Dear brothers and sisters!

Today, on the second Sunday of Lent, the Church reminds us of another event in the life of Jesus Christ. On the way to Capernaum, he stops at a house where many people have gathered and, as the evangelist Mark says, "preaches to them by word" (Mk 2: 2). The listeners were thirsty for the word of the Lord, because by the will of God they became witnesses and eyewitnesses of a new miracle, which further strengthened their faith.

The Savior's words and miracles also changed everyone in the house. The scribes and Pharisees, hearing Christ's words, "Son, your sins are forgiven," condemned Him with their thoughts. They believed that Jesus ascribed a deity to himself and thus despised God. But when the Lord confirmed his word with the miraculous healing of the weak, through this sign the Word of God touched their souls. The miraculous healing ended with the common praise of God to all present in the house: "Everyone was amazed, praised God, and said, 'We have never seen such a thing'" (Mark 2:12).

"The scribes say that only God can forgive sins. However, Jesus not only forgives sins, but He does what is unique to God - He reveals the hidden mysteries of the human heart" (St. John Chrysostom). The Apostle John the Theologian says: "If we confess our sins, He, being faithful and righteous, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1: 9). Saint John Chrysostom writes in his speech on the second Sunday of Lent: "Cultivate the field of your soul, cut down thorns, sow the word of piety, plant wonderful plants of wisdom and take care of them with great care - and you will be a farmer. And Paul will tell you: "The working laborer must be the first to taste the fruit"(2 Tim. 2: 6). "Sharpen your sickle, for you have blunted it with satiety - sharpen it with fasting. Step on the path that leads to heaven, step on the narrow path - and follow it." St. Paul adds, "For all this, let us have both a field and a