

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

May 8th 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

April 23rd, 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: Suzanne Krofchik, 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>) Apr. 10

Offertory: \$623.00

Easter: \$400.00

Kolachi sales: \$1366.00

Refreshments: \$15.00

Ukraine Relief \$1700.00

Patronage Church:

Stewardship: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>) Apr. 10

Offertory: \$1293.00

Flowers: \$24.00

Gift Shop: \$20

Abingdon Mission:

Stewardship: Apr. 10

Offertory: \$152.00

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)

O Christ, you abolished the curse of the tree by Your Cross; You have destroyed the power of Death by your Burial, and You have enlightened the world by Your Resurrection. Therefore we cry out to You: O God and Benefactor, glory be to You!

O Lord, the gates of Death opened before You in defeat, and the gatekeepers of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass and crushed the posts of iron. Then You burst our chains asunder and led us out from the darkness, away from the shadow of death.

Christ descended into the Abyss and announced to those confined there: Take courage, for today I have conquered Death. In the Resurrection, the One who will set you free. I have shattered the gates of the realm of Death. [Lamp-lighting Sticheri from Bright Week]

remember that there is always hope, and that hope is Jesus Christ.

In these difficult times, let us show our Christian vocation, support each other so that no one feels humiliated, abandoned, poor, offended. I wish you all to strive for heaven in all thoughts, deeds and intentions, remembering the apostolic words: "Therefore, if you have risen with Christ, seek the highest, where Christ sits at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1).

Easter is a celebration of the celebrations that await children, parents and elders. We gather for Easter breakfast, share a sacred egg, sing a hymn of triumph: "Christ is risen from the dead!"

Dear believers, I wish you all a living faith in the risen Jesus, faith in eternal life, eternal joy that never fails. Christ brought us joy! He said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even when he dies. Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die forever." I wish you blessed and joyful holidays of the Resurrection of Christ!



Christ is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Schedule of Divine Services:

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

SUNDAY, Apr. 17, 2022

PASCHA: The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ
10:00 AM *Resurrection Matins followed by Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Paschal Foods*

MONDAY, Apr. 18, 2022

–Solemn Holyday–
Bright Monday
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy followed by the Reading of the Four Gospels and Mirovanije*

SUNDAY, Apr. 24, 2022

Thomas Sunday
8:45 AM *Hymns from Matins*
9:00 AM *Divine Liturgy*

PATRONAGE CHURCH

SUNDAY, Apr. 17, 2022

PASCHA: The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ
8:00 AM *Resurrection Matins followed by Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Paschal Foods*

MONDAY, Apr. 18, 2022

–Solemn Holyday–
Bright Monday
11:30 AM *Divine Liturgy followed by Mirovanije*

SUNDAY, Apr. 24, 2022

Thomas Sunday
11:00 AM *Hymns from Matins*
11:15 AM *Divine Liturgy*

Propers begin on 164

ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!

The Great Fifty Days: After 40 days of fasting and penance we are now in the Great Fifty Days (*Pentecost*) of the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. This 50-day celebration culminates in the *Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit*.

During the period of Pentecost there is **no kneeling** during any Liturgical Services. The time of penance and fasting the Great Fast is over. As a jubilant symbol of the Resurrection of Christ we stand throughout the Divine Services to the extent that we are able. Further, we also stand whenever "Christ is risen / Christos voskrese" is sung. If you are unable to stand for longer periods of time, please feel free to be seated, but please **do not kneel** during the celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection.

All of Bright Week is one continuous celebration of Pascha, so there is no fasting during this week.

Bright Monday is considered a solemn holy day and liturgy is traditionally concluded with the reading of the four Resurrection Gospels from the four corners of the church, symbolizing the proclamation of the Resurrection to the four corners of the world. Liturgy and the reading of the four Gospels will be celebrated that day, April 18, at 9:00 AM at St. Gregory Church and 11:30 AM at Patronage Church.

Parish Potlucks: Patronage Church will have its next potluck lunch on Sunday, April 24 (St. Thomas Sunday) following the liturgy. This will be a potluck lunch, with the parish providing holupki. There will be no liturgy at the Abingdon Mission that day.

The next potluck for St. Gregory Church will be the following Sunday, May 1 (Sunday of the Myrrhbearers) following liturgy.

Please plan to bring a dish and join us for an afternoon of food and fellowship!

Patronage Church's Slavic Food Festival: An initial tally from last week's festival show a gross sales amount of \$10,083.80. A net income figure will be available once all the expenses are accounted for. An additional \$602.75 in donations was collected for relief efforts in Ukraine..

Crafts to Support Ukraine: Father Serhii is selling decorated eggs left over from last year to help support a priest in Ukraine who is giving refuge to displaced families. A minimum suggested offering for the small eggs is \$5 and the large eggs is \$10. There are also hand-beaded images of Christ and the Mother of God with the Infant Jesus available.

"O Death, where is thy sting?" The next offering of God With Us Online will be a reflection on the Biblical roots of the Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom. It will be offered on April 27 at 8 PM. Register by visiting their website, <https://godwithusonline.org/events/o-death-where-is-thy-sting/>.

Föltámadt Krisztus! Valóban föltámadt!

Easter

Dear brothers and sisters!

Christ is Risen!

Today, we are addressing each other again with this joyful greeting. Easter joy fills our hearts, because the Resurrection of Christ is the basis of life, which overcame death, sinfulness and decay. We are called to experience Easter as a celebration of life not only today: every Sunday reveals to us the greatness of the Savior's deed, who freed us from death and broke the bonds of sin that separate people from God. Moreover, every minute of a true Christian's life must be filled with the joy of Easter.

"I am the resurrection and the life," said the Lord, "whoever believes in me will live, even when he dies" (John 11:25). The resurrection of Christ gave us true freedom and filled human existence with meaning and hope. But most importantly, it opened the way to Eternal Life for everyone who believes in Christ and is in the Church. Therefore, there is no reason for despair or fear in those who love Christ and follow Him in all the circumstances of their earthly journey, because "Christ rose from the dead, the firstborn from the dead" (1 Cor 15:20).

The Risen Jesus, when he appeared to the myrrh-bearing women, said, "Do not be afraid, it is I." But what was the road to joy? That road ran through Mount Golgotha. The closest people who surrounded Him for three years saw He endured trials, sufferings and humiliations. But was Christ alone? Never! He was always with His Father, always turned and trusted in the Lord God. And the handful of faithful people when Jesus died on Mount Calvary, whom did they trust, whom did they trust, whom did they trust? Maybe the Roman army, authority or law? No, they trusted the Lord God. And on this solemn day they rejoice and rejoice. To them: "Rejoice, and I say again: rejoice." We must stop: what was the sweetness, how great was the peace of those people who were faithful to Christ on the day of the Resurrection from the dead. What prevailed? The pain and sorrow they experienced, the humiliation and omission, or the word, "Rejoice!"? Undoubtedly, the word "rejoice." Therefore, when we feel lonely and forsaken, unable to cope in this life with various worries, family troubles, or financial problems, let us