



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH - BALTIMORE

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Patronage Church at Abingdon:

Church of St. Francis (Stone Chapel)
1450 Abingdon Road, Abingdon, MD 21009

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Patronage Church at Hagerstown:

Chapel of St. Ann's Church
1525 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742

Contact: Joseph and Marie Repasi: 301-797-5847

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location	Intention
Sunday 8/02	11:30am Confession	Arbutus	In memory of +Phyllis Skovran Requested by: Marge Dulina
Thursday 8/06	6:00pm Confession	Arbutus	In memory of +Michael Stashinko Requested by: The Esquela Family
Friday 8/07 (Slavonic)	6:00pm Confession	Arbutus	In memory of +Philip and +Esther Kotula Requested by: M/M Dennis Kotula, Grandchildren, and Great Grandson
Sunday 8/09	11:30am Confession	Arbutus	In memory of +Elizabeth Bobby Requested by: M/M Tim Herder

This week is the **9th Sunday After Pentecost**. Propers begin on page 161.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: We welcome all new visitors, to our parish family, 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 and include your contact information.

DEAR BELIEVERS: Thank you all who contributed to the bishop's appeal. In 2019, we contributed \$5,135.00 of the \$9,800.00 assessment from the diocese.

We are working to resume our missionary work in Hagerstown and Abingdon. I pray that we return to our normal routine as soon as possible.

Fr. Serhii Deiak

MOLEBEN TO THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY: A Moleben will take place immediately after the Slavonic Liturgy on Friday, 8/7/20 at 6pm.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD: It is customary in the Byzantine Catholic Church that there is a Blessing of Fruit on this Solemn Feast Day. You are welcome to bring a basket of fruit, and place it in front of the Iconostasis, to be blessed, when you come to Liturgy on Thursday, 8/6/20 at 6pm.

PRAYER INTENTIONS – PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Fr. Sam Lupico, Keiko Suseck, Arlene Duda, Betty Mastrounni, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Andy Turian, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Anna Martin, Marge Dulina, and Paul Ruszin, Sr.

*May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies,
grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

CONTRIBUTIONS: 7/26/2020 - \$878.00 **NUMBER OF BELIEVERS:** 46
Many thanks to all who have contributed to our church and for your dedication to our parish. May God continue to bless you and your families!

IMPROVEMENT TO OUR TEMPLE: Parts of our Temple are in need of painting and we have already started this project. ***If you would like to donate, to help us offset the cost of this project, please make a note on your donation and either drop it in the collection basket, when you come to Liturgy, or mail it to the rectory.*** Your generosity is truly appreciated!

ECF AT HOME: Learn the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner." The Jesus Prayer proclaims our faith and humbles us by asking mercy for our sinfulness. The Jesus Prayer is thought to be as old as the Church itself.

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Bishop Kurt has announced that the Wedding Anniversary Celebration, for the Middle States Syncellate, for married couples observing their 5th anniversary and every five-year anniversary after that, is postponed until 2021 when 2020 and 2021 anniversaries will be celebrated together.

“ASK THE DEACON” – THIS WEEK’S QUESTION: *Why is there a blessing of fruit on August 6th, the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration?*

ANSWER: This is an excerpt from the *Byzantine Leaflet Series*: 4. 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. The custom to bless the first fruits passed to us from the Old Testament, since the Jews at the very beginning of their exodus were ordered by Almighty God: “You must bring the best of the first-fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord, your God.” (Ex. 23:19) ... The Christian practice to bless the fruits in church can be traced back to Apostolic times.... The sixth Ecumenical Council, celebrated in Constantinople (680-681), prescribed that the new “wheat and grapes” were to be blessed in church on the feast of the Holy Transfiguration (canon 28).

In the land of our ancestors, in Subcarpathia, the fruits of the season were apples, plums, and pears. These usually were brought to the church and blessed. In the United States grapes are also added. You can read the entire leaflet, *Feast Of The Holy Transfiguration And Blessing Of The Fruits According To Byzantine Rite Tradition*, here: <https://www.archpitt.org/feast-of-the-holy-transfiguration-and-blessing-of-the-fruits-according-to-byzantine-rite-tradition/>