

### *Wisdom from St. John Climacus*

"To admire the labors of the saints is good; to emulate them wins salvation; but to wish suddenly to imitate their life in every point is unreasonable and impossible."

"A servant of the Lord is he who in body stands before men, but in mind knocks at Heaven with prayer."

"To judge others is a shameless arrogation of the Divine prerogative; to condemn is the ruin of one's soul."

"In all your undertakings and in every way of life, whether you are living in obedience, or are not submitting your work to anyone, whether in outward or in spiritual matters, let it be your rule and practice to ask yourself: Am I really doing this in accordance with God's will?"

"The Christian is one who imitates Christ in thought, word and deed, as far as is possible for human beings, believing rightly and blamelessly in the Holy Trinity."

"Let your prayer be completely simple. For both the publican and the prodigal son were reconciled to God by a single phrase."

"Do not say, after spending a long time in prayer, that nothing has been gained; for you have already gained something. And what higher good is there than to cling to the Lord and persevere in unceasing union with Him?"

"Some people with a hot temper do not worry about it and ignore the remedies that would heal them. They forget, unfortunately, what is written: 'Surely anger kills the fool, and jealousy slays the simple,' (Job 5:2)."

"A charitable and sensible mind takes careful note of whatever virtues it sees in anyone. But a fool looks for faults and defects. And of such it is said: 'They have searched out iniquity and expired in the search.' Do not condemn, even if you see with your eyes, for they are often deceived."

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST MEMORY OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS



*Icon of the Ladder of Divine Ascent*



## Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

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Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

**March 30, 2025**

### 4th Sunday of the Great Fast - St. John Climacus Schedule of Services

<b>Sunday</b>	30	<b>4th Sunday of the Great Fast - St. John Climacus</b> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
<b>Thursday</b>	3	<b>Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</b> 7:00 PM (See insert for explanation) <i>Confession will be available throughout the service</i>
<b>Friday</b>	4	7:00 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy Health & Salvation of Chris Thompson by Carrie Thompson Followed by the Akathist Hymn to the Theotokos
<b>Saturday</b>	5	5:00 PM Vespers
<b>Sunday</b>	6	<b>5th Sunday of the Great Fast - St. Mary of Egypt</b> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners

#### We pray for the sick and homebound of our parish, especially:

Dot Wochok	Mary Ann Baran	Mary Ann Home	Mike Sheedy
Francis Hughes	Gary Dorencz	Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes
Frank Miiko	Ken Hrusosky	Fr. Bernard Danber	Gary Paczkowski
Aida McManigal-wc	Anna Chagnon-wc	Abbie Sheedy-wc	Mitchell Stachnik
Jim Forkal			

## Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Parish

*In all decisions regarding parish membership and Sacramental life, the pastor exercises the final decision and the confidentiality of the persons involved must be respected.*

**Parish Membership** is determined by three things:

1. Being registered in the parish for a sufficient amount of time
2. Faithful and consistent participation in the liturgical life of the parish especially on Sundays and Holy days.
3. Regular financial support of the parish. Use of offertory envelopes by parish members is required for weekly donations

**The Sacred Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation and Matrimony** are available only to those persons who comply with the above requirements of parish membership.

**A Biblically based stewardship** is part of the vision of Annunciation parish. Parishioners are encouraged to practicing tithing and also to consider Annunciation parish in planned giving such as trust funds, etc.

**Couples who are planning to be married** at Annunciation parish must be free to be married in the Church and must contact the pastor at least six months prior to their proposed wedding date. Persons applying for annulments of a previous marriage should not set a Church wedding date unless their annulment has been granted.

**Couples who are cohabitating or involved in same sex civil unions or so-called same sex "marriages,"** as well as couples who are contracepting are asked to seek the pastor's help in understanding the Church's teaching and in conforming their lives to the moral teaching of the Church. Such persons **cannot receive Holy Communion** until their lives are reconciled with the Church.

**Parish members entering the hospital or who are home-bound** should contact the pastor or parish business office.

**Prior to undergoing surgery or going under anesthesia** parish members should contact the pastor.

**No eulogies** or public addresses by laity are permitted during funeral services.

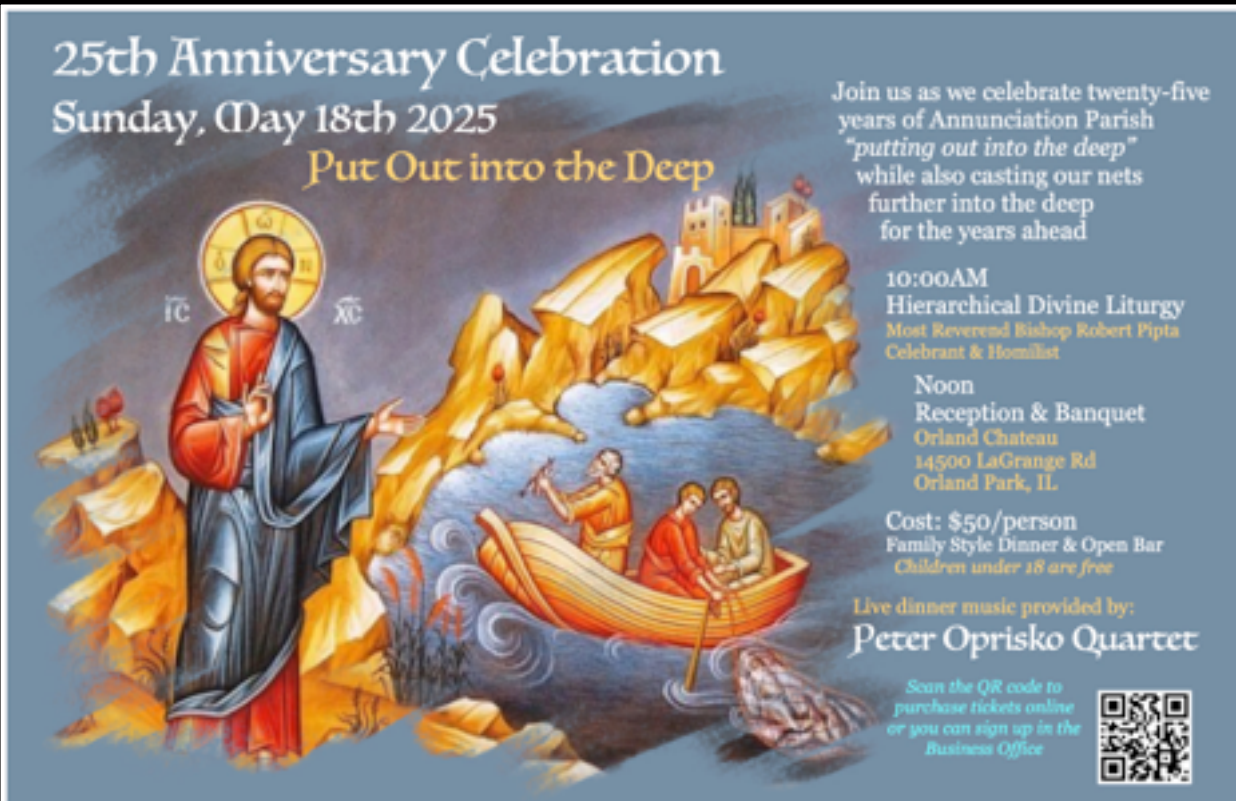
**Cremation is permitted but not encouraged.** Ashes are not permitted in the church. Funeral services with the body of the deceased in the church must take place prior to cremation. Ashes are to be buried according to the burial rite of the Church. Ashes cannot be scattered or kept in homes.

**Appropriate behavior and dress** are required for all liturgical services. No audible conversations, or waving across the church. Electronic devices must be turned off. No food, candy, or gum chewing. Dress code is formal and modest for all services.

**Abstinence from meat is to be observed every Friday.** If this is not possible an equivalent penitential practice is to be observed.

# Online Registration is now Available

Scan the QR code on the poster or visit our parish website:  
<https://byzantinecatholic.com/25th-anniversary-celebration/>



**25th Anniversary Celebration**  
Sunday, May 18th 2025  
*Put Out into the Deep*

Join us as we celebrate twenty-five years of Annunciation Parish "putting out into the deep" while also casting our nets further into the deep for the years ahead


10:00AM  
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy  
Most Reverend Bishop Robert Pipta  
Celebrant & Homilist

Noon  
Reception & Banquet  
Orland Chateau  
14500 LaGrange Rd  
Orland Park, IL

Cost: \$50/person  
Family Style Dinner & Open Bar  
Children under 18 are free

Live dinner music provided by:  
Peter Oprisko Quartet

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets online or you can sign up in the Business Office



## Annunciation's 25th Anniversary Cookbook

We are collecting family favorite recipes for our very own 25th Anniversary cookbook!

These can be old family favorites, Lenten, Ethic, Christmas, Pascha, etc. If you like it, I am sure we will too!

Send recipes to Shelia Horne: [horne\\_sheila@msn.com](mailto:horne_sheila@msn.com) or you can drop them off in the Business Office.

## Chocolate Cross Sale

The teens will again be selling Byzantine Chocolate Crosses for Pascha. The crosses will be available in White, Milk and Dark chocolate. Please see the sign up sheet in the narthex to place your order.



Crosses will be available starting on Palm Sunday

## Young Adult Gathering

**Saturday, April 5th**

Join us for *Vespers at 5pm* followed by a simple meal and fellowship

## Mary's Helpers Trip

**St. Michael's Pirohi/Fish Fry  
& Albanese Factory Story**

**Friday, April 11th**

**Depart - 2:00PM**

Join us for the Sweet and Savory trip to Indiana. We will leave church at 2PM and head to the Albanese Gummy Factory Store in Merrillville. Once we have satisfied our sweet tooth, we will venture over to St. Michael's for their *savory* Pirohi & Fish Fry that starts at 4PM. After dinner, we will head back to Annunciation, hopefully, to return in time for Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at 7PM.

If you plan on purchasing a carry out order, please fill out an order form.

**All pre-orders must be in by April 5th!**

# 2025 Schedule for the Week of the Bridegroom

*(also called Holy Week or Great Week)*

## Great and Holy Monday — April 14

**Theme:** Story of Joseph (Genesis 37) as a pre-figurement of Christ's suffering.

**8:00am** Bridegroom Matins

**7:00pm** Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

## Great and Holy Tuesday — April 15

**Theme:** Parable of the Ten Virgins (Mt 24:36-26:2) and our readiness for Judgment Day.

**8:00am** Bridegroom Matins

**7:00pm** Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

## Great and Holy Wednesday — April 16

**Theme:** The repentant woman who anointed Christ's feet is contrasted with the agreement by Judas to betray Christ. The anointing at the evening service is for the healing of our soul and body in preparation for the commemoration of the Mystical Supper the next day.

**8:00am** Bridegroom Matins

**7:00pm** Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

## Great and Holy Thursday — April 17

**Theme:** Four events: Jesus washes the feet of His disciples; the Institution of the Holy Eucharist; Christ's agony in the garden and the betrayal of Christ by Judas.

**8:00am** Bridegroom Matins

**7:00pm** Vespers with Liturgy of St. Basil

**Church remains open until 1:00am for the 7 churches visits - Tours of the church are provided by the teens**



## Great and Holy Friday — April 18

***This is a day of Strict Fast***

**Theme:** Christ's suffering and death on the Cross and His burial in a tomb.

**9:00am** Matins with reading of 12 passion Gospels

**1:00pm** Royal Hours

**7:00pm** Vespers with Procession of Burial Shroud

**Confession available after Vespers.**

**Church remains open throughout the night for prayer.**

## Great and Holy Saturday — April 19

**Theme:** At the Jerusalem Matins we commemorate Christ's descent into Hades anticipating the moment when Christ will conquer Satan's power of death and rise out of Hades taking fallen humanity with Him. There is a baptismal theme to this service because throughout Church history this evening was the primary time for people to be baptized into Christ.

**9:00am** Jerusalem Matins with Procession of Shroud

**7:00pm** Vespers with Liturgy of St. Basil

## Resurrection Sunday (Pascha!) — April 20

**Theme:** "Christ comes forth from the tomb like a bridegroom from the bridal chamber and fills the women with joy!" *-Resurrection Matins*

**9:00am** Resurrection Matins with Procession

**10:00am** Divine Liturgy