

The Cross Raised for All the World to See

The cross is raised and appears above the earth, which until recently malice had kept hidden. It is raised, not to receive glory (for with Christ nailed to it what greater glory could it have?) but to give glory to God who is worshiped on it and proclaimed by it.

It is not surprising that the church rejoices in the cross of Christ and robes herself in festal clothes, revealing her bridal beauty as she honors this day. Nor is it surprising that this great throng of people has gathered together today to see the cross exposed aloft and to worship Christ whom they see raised upon it. For the cross is exposed in order to be raised and is raised to be exposed.

What cross? The cross, which a little while ago was hidden in a place called "The Skull" but now is everywhere adored. This is what we rejoice over today; this is what we celebrate; this is the point of the present feast; this is the manifestation of the mystery.

For this hidden and life-giving cross had to be exposed, set on high like a city on a hill or a lamp on a stand, for all the world to see.

Saint Andrew of Crete

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SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Elevation of the Holy Cross



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

14610 S. Will-Cook Road Homer Glen, IL 60491

Office: (708) 645-0241 Fax: (708) 645-0243

Email: AnnuncByzChurch@aol.com

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

Deacons: J. Timothy Tkach John Evancho

September 10, 2023 - Sunday Before The Exaltation of The Holy Cross Schedule of Services

Sunday	10	Sunday Before The Exaltation of The Holy Cross 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Thursday	14	Exaltation of The Holy Cross 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - +George Gulas & +Charles Brown by Maria Gulas
Saturday	16	Saturday After The Exaltation of The Holy Cross 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Judith Feltner by Connie Purcell 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	17	Sunday After The Exaltation of The Holy Cross 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners

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

Kim Hughes	Ken Hrusosky	Jean Rusnak
Dot Wochok	Mary Ann Baran	Mary Ann Horne
Francis Hughes	Gloria Paulson	John Oreluk
Fr. Bernard Danber	Frank Miko	Sally Hughes
William Horne	William Davis	Claire Resuta

We pray for our Catechumens of our parish:

Lea Rodbarry	Kate Colome
Anthony Mazzeo	Stephen Beardsley

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

Grand Raffle Update

1st Early Bird Drawing - Sunday, October 8th
2nd Early Bird Drawing - Sunday, November 12th

Grand Drawing - Sunday, December 10th
Countdown - 92 Days

Grand Prize - \$5,000

RAFFLE TICKET SALES UPDATE

Keep up the good efforts...

Dont' stop now!

	# of Tickets	Amount	%
Goal	350	\$35,000	100%
Sold	(93)	(9,300)	26.57%
Unsold	257	\$25,700	73.43%

NEED MORE TICKETS?...SEE ROBERT PALASZ

“TICKET WARRIORS” - Parishioners who have already SOLD tickets

Kathleen Andrews, Dennis & Gerry Davis, Gary & Sharon Dorencz, Jim Forkal, Linda Gaydos, Anne Gazzolo, Catherine Gazzolo, Bill Gulas, Maria Gulas, Bob & Sheila Horne, Mary Ann Horne, Marianne Horvath, Ken & Donna Hrusosky, Mary Kenes, Marilyn Lopez, Patrick & Teri Manaher, Diane Zelnick Milmont, Dennis Mrowca, Cecelia Okonski, John & Mary Oreluk, Johnny & Hazel Oreluk, Justin Orenic, Richard Palasz, Robert & Jean Palasz, Betty Pawlowski, Georgia Peceniak, Joe Schudt, Matthew & Abbie Sheedy, Michael Sheedy, Daniel Snidauf, Mike Triggs, Bill & Nancy Withers, Daryl & Mary Jean Wuske

Exultation of the Cross September 14th

The Exultation of the Cross, celebrated on September 14th, commemorates the finding of Christ’s Cross by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century; and, after it was taken by the Persians, of its recovery by the Emperor Heraclius in the seventh century at which time it was “elevated” in the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. From this latter event the “universal elevation” of the Cross was celebrated annually in all of the churches of the Christian Empire.

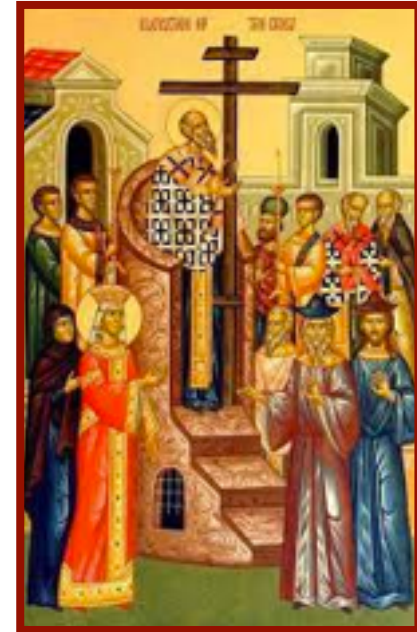
The day of the Exultation of the Cross became, as it were, the national holiday of the Eastern Christian Empire similar to the Fourth of July in the United States. The Cross, the official emblem of the Empire which was placed on all public buildings and uniforms, was officially elevated on this day by the bishops and priests. They blessed the four directions of the universe with the Cross, while the faithful repeated the chanting of “Lord have mercy.” This ritual is still done in the churches today after the solemn presentation and elevation of the Cross at the end of the Vigil service of the holy day following the Great Doxology of Matins.

The troparion of the feast which was, one might say, the “national anthem” sung on all public occasions in the Christian Empires of Byzantium and Russia, originally petitioned God to save the people, to grant victory in war and to preserve the empire “by the virtue of the Cross.” Today the troparion, and all the hymns of the day, are “spiritualized” as the “adversaries” become the spiritually wicked and sinful including the devil and his armies, and “Church” replaces the names of ruling officials of the Empire.

The holy day of the Exultation of the Cross, although it has an obviously “political” origin, has a place of great significance in the Church today. It remains with us as a day of fasting and prayer, a day when we recall that the Cross is the only sign worthy of our total allegiance, and that our salvation comes not by “victories” of any earthly sort but by the only true and lasting victory of the crucifixion of Christ and our co-crucifixion with him.

When we elevate the Cross and bow down before it in veneration and worship to God, we proclaim that we belong to the Kingdom “not of this world,” and that our only true and enduring citizenship is with the saints in the “city of God.”

Thus, at the Exultation of the Cross the Christians make their official rededication to the crucified Lord and pledge their undivided allegiance to Him by the adoration of His holy feet nailed to the life-creating Cross. This is the meaning of this holy day of fasting and repentance in the Church today.





METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY

Art | History | Presentations | Prayer | Dancing

NOVEMBER 2 - 5, 2023

**LIVING OUR FAITH
Moving Forward
Appreciating Our Past**



- \$250 per person
- \$400 per family
- Young Adult (18-35)*
*registration underwritten by The Maria Theresa Foundation



**St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church,
Hillsborough, NJ**

Assembly Coordinators

Fr. Edward Cimbala 212-677-0516 | Fr. Yuriy Oros 609-394-5004

Email: byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com | Web: byzantineassembly2023.org

Are you new to our church or have you been here your entire life? Either way, consider being a part of history by attending this first ever Metropolitan Assembly in November. There are all types of activities and events planned for this weekend. You can learn more about the assembly by checking out the website:

byzantineassembly2023.org

Speakers and Topics

- Fr. Edward Cimbala** - "We Knew not Whether We Were in Heaven or on Earth" Young Adults and Their Motives for Joining the Byzantine Catholic Church: A Case Study of St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in New York City - St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, New York, NY
- Timothy Keams** - From Light to Light: A Theological Cosmology for Our Times and a Renewed Christian Life - St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church - Danbury, Connecticut
- Adam Kemner** - Small But Mighty: Why Small Parish Size is the Byzantine Catholic Church's Biggest Potential Way Forward - Iowa Outreach, Muscatine IA
- Fr. Thomas Leys** - A Blueprint for the Growth of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America - Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church, Homer Glen, IL
- Dorothy Mayernik** - Bethany Ministry: Caring for the Sick, Homebound, and Grieving in the Parish Family - St. Gregory of Nazianzus Byzantine Catholic Church - Upper Saint Clair, PA
- Dr. Jeffrey Mierzwinski** - All Creation Should Sing: What Our Chant Teaches Us and What Our Church Singing Can Offer to a Fractured and Anxious World - Metropolitan Cantor Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
- Lynn Wandach** - Introducing ByzMoms and ByzKids - St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church - Taylor, PA
- Fr. Thomas Shuback and Fr. Simeon, OFM** - Frustrated: The New Evangelization in the Light of the Byzantine East, a new and evolving outreach to young adults of Theosis in Action - St. Nicholas Church, Dunellen, NJ; St. George Church, Linden, NJ and College Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Seton Hall University.
- Fr. Andrew Summerson** - What's a Byzantine Catholic Culture - St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church - Whiting, IN
- Rev. Paul B. Varchola West** - You Will Know Them by Their Fruits: Rooting Parishes in the Fertile Soil of the Divine Office - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church - Levittown, PA
- Phil Yevich** - Antinomical Expectations of Presbyterian Ministry: How to Please ALL Your Parishioners... NOT! - St. John Byzantine Catholic Church - Scranton, PA
- Seminarians of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius**, Pittsburgh, PA

Special Guests

- Cardinal Timothy Dolan**, Archbishop of New York, will offer the keynote address at the opening dinner on Friday evening.
- Bishop Nil Lushchak, O.F.M.**, Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Mukachevo, the Mother Church of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh.
- Dr. Paul Magocsi** - The cultural aspect of the Assembly will be addressed by Dr. Paul Magocsi, focusing on the history of the founders of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America. His influential book, *Our People: Carpatho-Rusyns and Their Descendants in North America*, has just been released in a new and expanded edition. Dr. Magocsi will also present on the art and culture of this community. His book on the artists of the Transcarpathian School will be published shortly.
- Fr. Christopher Zagger** - Fr. Christopher Zagger will explore the history of the foundation of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America. Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the arrival of Basil Takach, the first bishop of the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church in America. Fr. Zagger is the author of *The Forgotten: Catholics of the Soviet Empire from Lenin through Stalin and Finding a Hidden Church*. His third book, which focuses on the history of the Byzantine Ruthenian Church from its founding to the present, will be released in November.