

### *He Will Separate Them*

"And he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." So then, people on earth are intermingled, and not only intermingled in that the righteous live side by side with the wicked, but they are also indistinguishable. Between the righteous and the wicked there is no apparent difference. Even as in wintertime you cannot tell the healthy trees apart from the withered trees but in beautiful springtime you can tell the difference, so too each person according to his faith and his works will be exposed.

The wicked will not have any leaves or show any fruit, but the righteous will be clothed

with the leaves of eternal life and adorned with the fruit of glory. In this way they will be separated by the heavenly shepherd and Lord. The earthly shepherd separates animals by their type of body, whereas Christ separates people by their type of soul. The sheep signify righteous people by reason of their gentleness, because they harm no one, and by reason of their patience, because when they are harmed by others, they bear it without resistance. He refers to sinners as goats, however, because these vices characterize goats: capriciousness toward other animals, pride and belligerence.

*From a Homily,  
Incomplete Work on Matthew*

## MEATFARE SUNDAY -- JUDGMENT SUNDAY



*Icon of the Last Judgment*



## 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](mailto:AnnuncByzChurch@aol.com)

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

Deacons: J. Timothy Tkach John Evancho

### February 4, 2024 - Sunday of Meat-Fare Schedule of Services

|          |    |  |
|----------|----|--|
| Sunday   | 4  | <b>Sunday of Meat-Fare</b><br><i>(Last day to eat meat)</i><br>9:00 AM Matins<br>10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners  |
| Thursday | 8  | 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy -<br>Health & Salvation of Teddy McManigal by Marianne Horvath  |
| Saturday | 10 | <b>Feast of All Holy Ascetical Fathers and Mothers</b><br>8:00 AM Divine Liturgy -<br>+Chris Rohan by Anne & Cathy Gazzolo<br>5:00 PM Vespers  |
| Sunday   | 11 | <b>Sunday of Cheese-Fare</b><br><i>(Last day to eat cheese or dairy products)</i><br>9:00 AM Matins<br>10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners<br><b>1:30 PM</b> Forgiveness Vespers <i>(Lent begins)</i> |

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

|                 |                |                |                    |               |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Dot Wochok      | Mary Ann Baran | Mary Ann Horne | Mary Ellen Haber   | Bob Zavada    |
| Francis Hughes  | Gloria Paulson | John Oreluk    | Abbie Sheedy-wc    | Michele Lewis |
| William Davis   | Linda Tkach    | Sally Hughes   | Fr. Bernard Danber | Frank Milko   |
| Kim Hughes      | Ken Hrusosky   | Jean Rusnak    | Steve Bieniek      | Gloria Selvy  |
| Teddy McManigal | Mary Kenes     | Martha Loya    | Diane Paczkowski   |               |

### 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.

## Directives for Lent Regarding Fasting

The fast of the liturgical year are to be kept in accordance with the *Norms of Particular Law of the Byzantine Metropolitan Church sui iuris of Pittsburgh*.

**Canon 880: 2.** **Strict abstinence** is to be observed on the first day of the Great Fast and on Great Friday. **Simple abstinence** is to be observed on Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

**Strict abstinence** forbids the use of meat and dairy products, including eggs. **Simple abstinence** forbids the use of meat and meat products. The laws of strict and simple abstinence bind all the faithful of the Eparchy of Parma.

Expectant and nursing mothers, infants, those with serious health conditions, and those under physician's orders are exempt from the laws of strict abstinence.

Parish priests and monastic superiors, for a just cause, may grant to individuals and families a dispensation of the prescribed strict abstinence or simple abstinence or a commutation to another equivalent penance.

Clerics, catechists, and parents are to see to it that minors are educated in the authentic sense of penance.



## Forgiveness Vespers

Sunday, Feb 11th

1:30PM

This service marks the beginning of the Great Fast where we commemorate the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise, entering into the Lenten fast in remembrance of mankind's separation from God through disobeying his commandment to fast from the fruit of the tree.

Before we enter the Lenten fast, we are reminded that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. A fast without mutual love is a fast of demons. We do not travel the road of Lent as isolated individuals but as members of a family.

## A Super Day to be Super Generous for a Super Boy & His Family

Sunday, February 11th



### Event #1

#### Souper Bowl Luncheon

*All you can eat Soup & Salad Lunch*

Adults: \$20

Children: \$5

(10 & under)

Hosted by:  
The ByzanTEENS

### Event #2

#### Super Bowl Watch Party

5:00 PM

Watch the BIG game  
on our 85" BIG screen TV while  
enjoying game-time food.

Cost: \$30



All proceeds from both of these events will be given to help the McManigal Family as they continue to care for baby Teddy who remains at Lurie Children's Hospital.



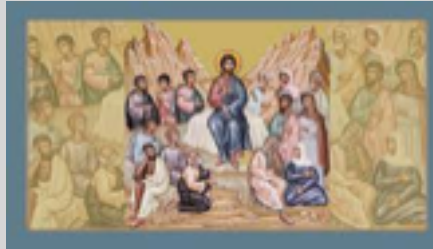


## ByzanTEENS

Sunday, February 4th  
11:30am to 1:00pm

## Family Catechesis

Sunday, February 18th  
Noon - 1:30pm



## The Eleventh Annual Women's Retreat

### *The Beatitudes: The Way of Life*

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center  
Fremont, Ohio

**February 16, 2024 - February 18, 2024**

Retreat Master: Fr. Lukas Mitro

Contact Susan A. Gallagher for further information  
womenretreat2024@yahoo.com  
419-626-0375

Sponsored by:  
St Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

***Full retreat schedule and registration forms  
are now available in the business office.***

## Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving

*An excerpt from Bishop Robert Pipta's teaching*

The teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Last Judgment according to the gospel of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew is heard in our Byzantine Christian tradition each year on the Sunday of Meat-fare, which falls one week before the beginning of the Great Fast. It presents the corporeal works of mercy as having the greatest importance when it comes to our salvation. Indeed, when we do works of righteousness for those who are hungry, thirsty, estranged, naked, or imprisoned - "for one of these least brothers" of Christ, we do it for Him (Matthew 25:40).

If the Sunday of Meat-fare (farewell to meat ro carnival) reminds us to consider how our fasting and abstinence will increase in the days of Lent, it may be good to consider the importance of fasting and prayer vis-à-vis our Lord's teaching on works of mercy and the Last Judgment.

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While the Lord's awesome judgment at his second coming will be based on our merciful works, this does not minimize the importance of fasting and prayer. If acts of righteousness for those in need are truly Christian, they are inspired by and flow from a true communion with God and neighbor which is our life of prayer and worship. In order to pray with humility and a true sense of complete dependence on God, we must fast and abstain so that our hunger and thirst are for righteousness (Matthew 5:6) and for intimate communion with God.

*Bishop Robert's full teaching on Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving will be emailed out this week to parishioners.*

## The Third Annual Men's Retreat

### *From Fallen Passions to Apatheia: Pursuing the Virtuous Life*

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center  
Fremont, Ohio

**March 15, 2024-March 17, 2024**

Retreat Master: Fr. Thomas J Loya, STB, MA

Contact Karl Busam for further information  
karl.busam.77@gmail.com  
419-626-6811

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