

### *Knowledge of the True God Nurtures Us to Eternal Life*

Are we saying that knowledge is eternal life? Are we saying that to know the one true and living God will suffice to give us complete security for the future without need of anything else? Then how is "faith apart from works dead?" When we speak of faith, we mean the true knowledge of God and nothing else, since knowledge comes by faith. The prophet Isaiah tells us this: "If you do not believe, neither shall you understand." But he is not talking about a knowledge that consists in barren speculations, which is entirely worthless. For one of the holy disciples said, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder." What then shall we say to this? How is it that Christ speaks the truth when He says that eternal life is the knowledge of God the Father, the one true God, and with Him of the Son? I think, indeed, we must answer that the saying of the Savior is completely true. For this knowledge is life, laboring as it were in birth of the whole meaning of

the mystery and granting to us participation in the mystery of the Eucharist, whereby we are joined to the living and life-giving Word. And for this reason, I think, Paul says that the Gentiles are made fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of Christ, inasmuch as they partake in His Blessed Body and Blood. And our members may in this sense be conceived of as being members of Christ. This knowledge, then, which also brings to us the Eucharist by the Spirit, is life. For it dwells in our hearts, reshaping those who receive it into son-ship with Him and molding them into incorruption and piety toward God through life, according to the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ, then, knowing that the knowledge of the one true God brings to us and promotes our union with the blessings of which we have spoken, says that it is eternal life.

*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)

### SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



*Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea*




## 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  
 Parochial Vicar: Fr. Bruce Riebe  
 Deacons: J. Timothy Tkach John Evancho

**May 12, 2024**

### Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council Schedule of Services

<b>Sunday</b>	12	<b><u>Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</u></b> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
<b>Monday</b>	13	<b><u>Vigil for the 24th Anniversary of the Consecration of Annunciation Church</u></b> 7:00 PM Vespers with Divine Liturgy - Intention for all living and deceased members of Annunciation Church
<b>Thursday</b>	16	7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - +Terry Trend by Chris Thompson
<b>Saturday</b>	18	<b><u>5th All Souls Saturday</u></b> 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy at Annunciation <b><i>Panakhida service for deceased family members will be at Mt. Calvary Cemetery immediately following Divine Liturgy</i></b> 5:00 PM Vespers
<b>Sunday</b>	19	<b><u>Pentecost Sunday</u></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 Horne	Mary Ellen Haber	Reba Lyon-wc
Francis Hughes	Gloria Paulson	John Oreluk	Michele Lewis	William Davis
Jean Rusnak	Frank Miko	Gloria Selvy	Ken Hrusosky	Fr. Bernard Danber
Ken Hrusosky	Kim Hughes	Lois Greybar	George Gulas	
Dcn. John Evancho	Michaleen 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.

# A BYZANTINE CATHOLIC RETREAT & PILGRIMAGE TO GUADALUPE, MEXICO

**NEW DATES  
& PRICE**

**NOVEMBER 9-15, 2024**

## JOIN US

We are celebrating the 125th anniversary of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Whiting, Indiana, with a seven-day retreat & pilgrimage to Mexico in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**\$2,950 per person  
double occupancy**

Book by September 15, 2024

## INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare from Chicago
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Entrance fees as per scheduled visits
- Private Divine Liturgies and services
- Four-star hotels in historic districts
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Land travel in air-conditioned motor coach
- Pilgrim prayer pack
- All tips and gratuities

Journey and pray with:



**PILGRIMAGE LEADERS**  
Laura Ieraci & Fr. Andrew Summerston



**RETREAT LEADER**  
Fr. Thomas J. Loya

Fr. Andrew and Laura have been serving at St. Mary Church in Whiting since 2018 and have led three other pilgrimages. Fr. Tom is a renowned speaker and host of Light of the East.

*Regina  
Tours*

**CONTACT:**  
Regina Tours  
1-800-CATHOLIC (228-4654)  
or Angelica Villegas  
avillegas@groupist.com  
(212) 594-8787, ext. 250



**Mount Calvary  
All Souls Picnic  
Sat, May 18th**

**Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex**  
All are welcome to attend this event where you can honor those who came before you and laid the foundation of what is now Annunciation

## Event Schedule

- 9AM - Divine Liturgy at Annunciation
- 10AM - Depart Annunciation for Mount Calvary (*transportation will be provided with our new bus*)
- 11AM - Panachida Service
- Mount Calvary Cemetery
- Followed by a short ECF class, a light picnic lunch and some recreation
- 1PM - Return to Annunciation



**Mary's Helpers Potluck  
Friday, May 17th - Noon**

Join us for a picnic style potluck lunch with hotdogs and hamburgers as the main course. Your favorite dish will make it a scrumptious fare. All are welcome!

**Spring is in Full Swing  
at Annunciation**



# ByzanTEEN Yard Sale

June 14th & 15th  
8am - 3pm

*Spring is in the air!* A perfect time to do some spring cleaning and collect items we can sell during our Summer Fundraiser. The POD is now available for all donations!



 **Choir Practice**  
Tuesday evenings  
7pm to 9pm



**Eparchy of Parma  
Stewardship Appeal**

**We exceeded our goal!!**

Parish Goal  
\$16,500

**Amount Pledged**  
**\$17,115**

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated to the Eparchial Stewardship Appeal!

## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for a couple of people to help with the weekly church cleaning and to organize and prepare Agape (cake/coffee) following the Sunday Divine Liturgy. **Please contact the parish office for more information.**



## Can You Walk the Walk?

4th Annual Byzantine Young Adults Retreat  
Thurs, July 25th - Sun, July 28th

St Mary's Byzantine Church  
Marblehead, OH

Open to young adults between 18-35 years of age. Brochures are available in the office. Transportation will be provided by the parish bus and registration fee will be covered for parishioners. [byzantineyoungadults.com](http://byzantineyoungadults.com)

**"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, \* and I will give you rest"**

Matthew 11:28



**Annual Byzantine Eparchial  
Women's Renewal**

**October 25-27, 2024**

St. Francis Spirituality Center  
Tiffin, OH 44883

**Cost: \$200**

Brochures are available  
in the Business Office



The Eparchy of Parma will be hosting another Family Camp this summer. It will be held in nearby Cedar Lake, IN.

Please stay tuned for more information but make the dates as this is a great way to meet other Byzantine Catholic families from within our Eparchy!