

Lower Your Net

Can you imagine the look on Peter's face when he realized how many fish were in his net? No wonder he dropped to his knees! He realized that he was in the presence of someone totally "other," someone he felt compelled to call "Lord" (Luke 5:8). From that moment on, Peter's life was changed. Now he was going to fish with a spiritual net, catching men and women for the Lord.

Jesus is still calling his disciples to lower their nets for a catch. But practically speaking, what does lowering our nets look like? First and foremost, it means acting and speaking in such a way that we shine the light of Christ into others' lives.

Picture yourself carrying a big, invisible fishing net beside you and asking the Lord to sweep as many people as possible into it. Remember, He is the One who does all the

catching. Your part is to let your net down by practicing the kind of actions and behaviors that will attract people to Him. In other words, you are the "bait" that can draw others into the kingdom. As people see the light of Christ in you, they will be drawn toward it, so that Jesus can sweep them into the large net of God's kingdom.

Peter was fairly skeptical when Jesus first asked him to let down his nets. The best response he could conjure up was something along the lines of: "I'm just doing this because you asked me to." And look how miraculously Jesus worked! So even if you feel like you have been "fishing" for a long time with few results, go ahead and throw that net out one more time today. You may just be amazed at the results!

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Call of the Apostles (Luke 5:1-11)



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

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

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Bruce Riebe

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

September 22, 2024 18th Sunday After Pentecost Schedule of Services

| | | |
|-----------------|----|---|
| Sunday | 22 | <u>18th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners |
| Monday | 23 | <u>Feast of the Conception of St. John the Baptist</u> 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy +John Oreluk by Kathleen Andrews |
| Thursday | 26 | <u>Feast of the Passing of St. John the Apostle-Evangelist</u> 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - +Thomas J. Withers by Bill & Nancy Withers |
| Saturday | 28 | <u>Feast of Chariton-Venerable-Confessor</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy +Stephen DiBiase by Denise DiBiase 5:00 PM Vespers |
| Sunday | 29 | <u>19th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 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 | Mary Ellen Haber |
| Reba Lyon-wc | Angela LaBanca-wc | Francis Hughes | Gary Dorencz |
| Michele Lewis | Jean Rusnak | Frank Miko | Ken Hrusosky |
| Fr. Bernard Danber | Kim Hughes | George Gulas | Mike Sheedy |

We Pray for the Catechumens in our parish:

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Patrick Doogan | Jeremy Pinkowski |
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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.

Grand Raffle Update

1st Early Bird Drawing - Sunday, October 6th

2nd Early Bird Drawing - Sunday, November 10th

Grand Drawing - Sunday, December 15th

Countdown - 85 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 | (114) | (11,400) | 32.57% |
| Unsold | 236 | \$23,600 | 67.43% |

NEED MORE TICKETS?...SEE ROBERT PALASZ

“TICKET WARRIORS” - Parishioners who have already SOLD tickets

Stephen & Karen Beardsley, Lisa & Larry Bergman, Mark & Anna Chagnon, Dennis & Gerry Davis, Dennis Dombrowski, Jim Forkal, Ned & Lynn Grabavoy, Anne Gazzolo, Bill Gulas, Maria Gulas, Bob & Sheila Horne, MaryAnn Horne, Ken & Donna Hrusosky, Paul Kaderabek, Marilyn Lopez, Patrick & Teri Manaher, Lisa Melnik, John Meseke, Maria Meseke, Dennis Mrowca, Cecelia Okonski, John & Hazel Oreluk, Mary Oreluk, Richard Palasz, Robert & Jean Palasz, Betty Pawlowski, Georgia Peceniak, Joseph & Jean Schudt, Matthew & Abbie Sheedy, Michael Sheedy, Jason & Courtney Smeed, Daniel Snidauf, Justin & Suzanne Stawychny, Joel & Madeleine Super, Esther Thomas, Larry & Marry Ventrella, Bill & Nancy Withers, Andrew Wood, Daryl & Mary Jean Wuske

Catechetical Sunday

Sunday, September 22nd

“We Are Stewards of God’s Creation”



God, enthroned in glory above creation, has entrusted humanity - made in His image and likeness - with His gifts of creation, reflecting His wisdom, truth, beauty, and goodness as our Creator!

As stewards of all of these gifts, we are called to the royal and priestly task of caring for them and offering them back to God, most especially *through the liturgy*. In Jesus Christ, we are to offer back to God through praise and stewardship both our lives and the gifts of His creation which He loves and sees as very good!

Today we are pleased to celebrate an important event in our parish life as we prepare to begin our new catechetical year. The children and the adults who teach them are here to pray together and to be blessed at the start of the new School Year, helping all to realize how Christ lives in each one, and the Church as a whole. This sentiment is not merely a group of word, but an incentive for all the faithful to grow in faith. We join in this ceremony today to ask God to grant to his servants, our students, our teachers' nd ourselves “many happy years!”

Family/Adult Catechesis

The third Sunday of each month following Divine Liturgy

11:30AM - Family Potluck

12:15PM - Catechesis for Adults and Children

First class will be Sunday, October 20th

ByzanTEENS

The first & third Tuesdays of each month

6:30PM - 8:00PM

First meeting will be Tuesday, October 8th

We are also working on launching several other official ministry programs this year, including...

A Marriage Ministry,
Altar Boy Training Camps,
Young Adult Ministry

Fall Grounds Keeping Day! Saturday, October 5th 10:00AM - 3:00PM

Join us as we tackle a few areas on the property that need some extra tender-loving care! Help us prepare the property for the coming winter months, do a little clean up. This would be a great father-son activity as the big project we have scheduled is going to need a little muscle. We will also have some fall food favorites on hand for a hardy lunch.



One of the many things that make our faith astounding is found in the reality that God has made himself known to us. Not as a distant, anonymous, unknowable God, but as an intimate God who yearns to share in every triumph and tragedy of our lives, and even more so, in our mundane daily routines and rituals. This is where we find the three “ordinary” voices most active. These voices are: need, talent, and desire. These three voices will teach us many things, but first and foremost, they will demonstrate that God speaks to you. And the more we understand how God speaks to us through our needs, talents, and desires, the more we will understand that he has been speaking to us our whole lives.

An excerpt from Matthew Kelly’s new book:
The Three Ordinary Voices of God

Faithful JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR FINAL HOLY DIVINE LITURGY

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 6, 2024
2:00 PM

All clergy and faithful of the Eparchy of Parma are invited to this very solemn occasion as we mark the closing of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist with a final Holy Divine Liturgy at the Carlton Rd. location. This will be followed by a reception at Holy Spirit Party Center.

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
1900 Carlton Rd, Parma, OH 44134

RSVP
Please send an email to rsyokovichs@stmarybyzantine.com or call 216-749-7980 by October 1st, so we are prepared for liturgy and the reception. Thank you!



Octoberfest

Sunday, October 13th
11:30AM - 2:30PM

St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church
557 W 57th Ave - Merrillville, IN 46410

Menu

Stuffed Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes or Cabbage & Noodles,
Green Beans, Bread/Butter/Dessert

Adult Menu Donation - \$15 | Children 12 & under - \$7.50

Music by John Pruzin Jr. & His Tamburitza Band

Please join us for good food, dancing, and pure wholesome fun!

Proceeds to benefit the less fortunate
through the work of the St. Nicholas Apostolate



See sign-up sheet in the Narthex to save your spot on the Annunciation Bus. We will leave directly after the Divine Liturgy that Sunday and will return by 4PM.