

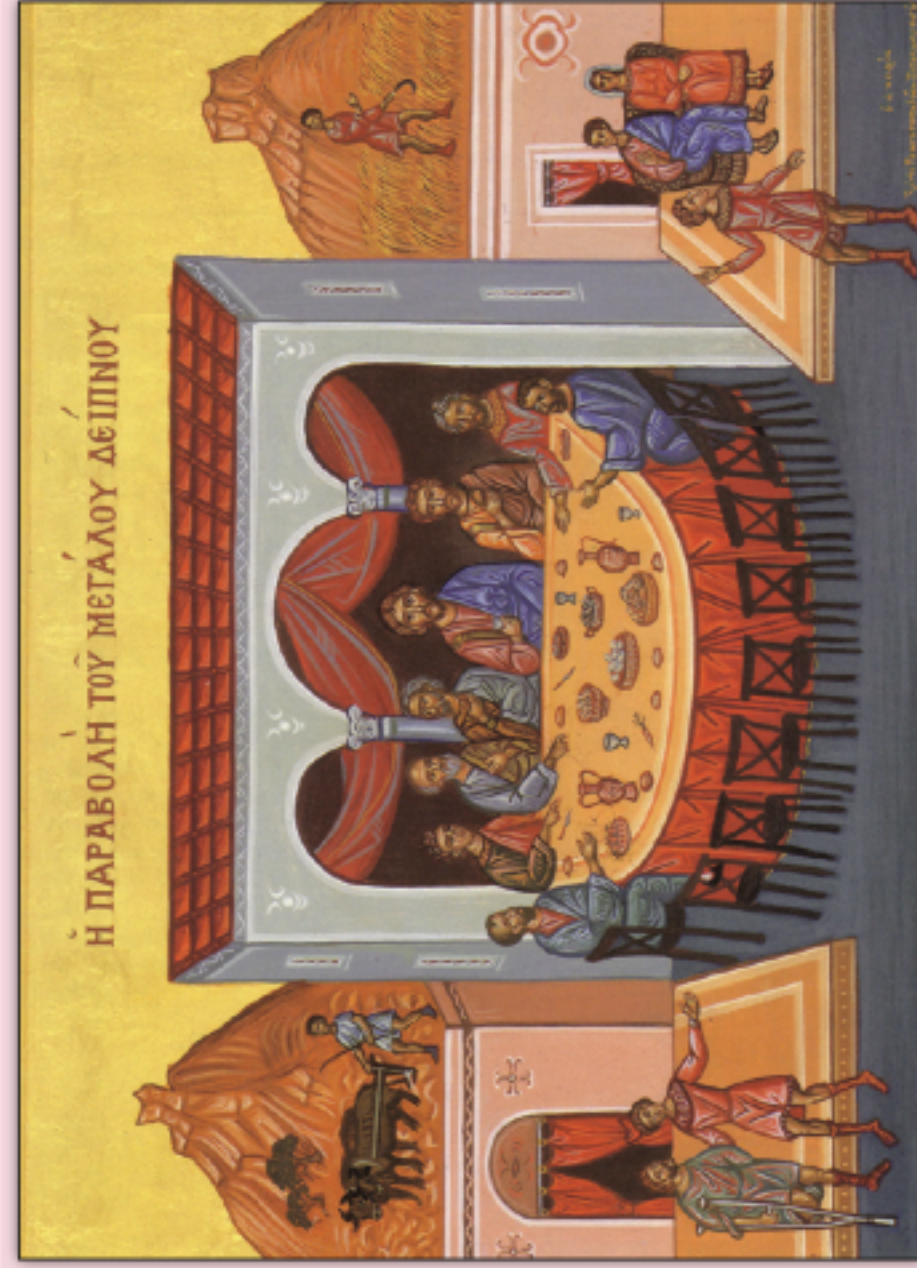
The Great Feast

This familiar parable is read in the Church each year just two Sundays before the feast of our Lord's Nativity. In it we are reminded of the great care with which God prepared the way of His incarnation. All of the Law and the Prophets look forward to this moment, the moment when the God-man Jesus Christ comes into the world. He is, in fact, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets – the goal towards which they were all aiming. The whole world was prepared by them for this great event. As the parable tells us the King – that is God – has prepared a great feast for us and has invited us to come and enter into the joy that He has prepared for us.

Today we begin in earnest to move toward the

feast of the birth of our Incarnate Savior Jesus Christ. Today we are called to see the great preparation that has gone into this event, to marvel at the great love and care of God for us that He would labor so long and with such great care for us. Today we look back at the whole of the history of the people of God and see that it is the history of God's preparation all leading to the moment when He would take flesh, become incarnate and enter the world as a child. We have been given an invitation to come and join the feast, to abandon the world and enter the Kingdom of God, to leave our own life and receive instead the Life of Christ. We have been invited, chosen by God – will we then accept the invitation and choose Him?

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



Icon of the Parable of the Great Feast (Luke 14:16-24)



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

14610 S. Will-Cook Road Homer Glen, IL 60491
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Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Bruce Riebe
Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

December 15, 2024 Sunday of the Forefathers Schedule of Services

Sunday	15	<u>Sunday of the Forefathers</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Thursday	19	7:00 PM <u>Penance Service and Confessions</u> Fr. Tom & Abott Nicholas will be available for Confessions
Saturday	21	<u>SATURDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - +George Peceniak by Family 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	22	<u>SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS - GENEALOGY OF CHRIST</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
Francis Hughes	Gary Dorencz	Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes
Jean Rusnak	Frank Miko	Ken Hrusosky	Fr. Bernard Danber
Mike Sheedy	Bob Home		

We Pray for the Catechumens in our parish:

Patrick Doogan Jeremy Pinkowski

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.



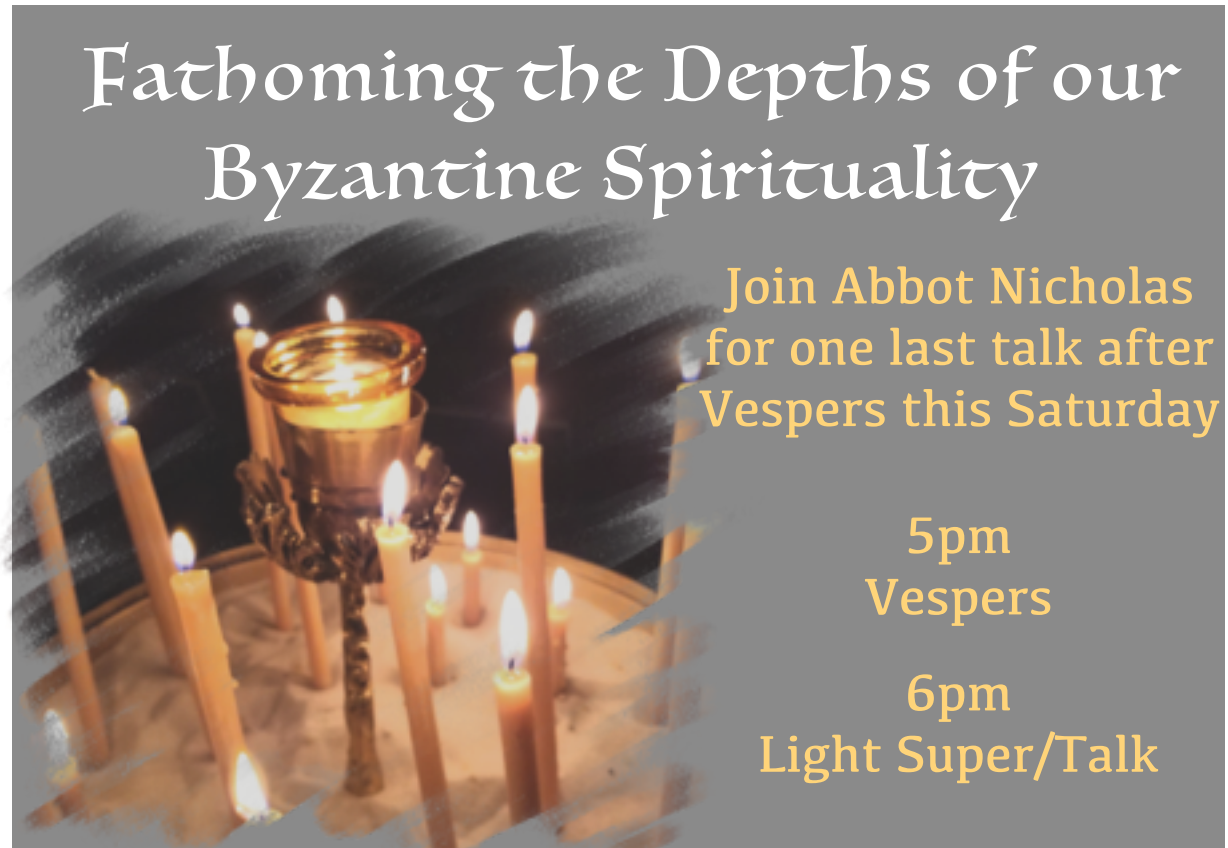
**A BIG
Thank You
to our 2024
Sponsors**



**In memory of
John Oreluk**



**R & K
Maintenance**



Fathoming the Depths of our Byzantine Spirituality

Join Abbot Nicholas
for one last talk after
Vespers this Saturday

5pm
Vespers

6pm
Light Super/Talk



Fr Tom & Abbot Nicholas will be
offering a Penance Service along with
confessions on Thursday @ 7pm

Now that the decorations have been
hung and the shopping is done,
come prepare **your** house for the
coming of Our Lord and Savior on
Christmas Day!

Another Christmas on the Prairie in the Books!

Thank you to everyone who did something for this special day - either big or small - your contribution made a lot of children (big & small) very happy!



Holy Father, Nicholas!



O who serves Nicholas the Saintly!



O who loves Nicholas the Saintly!



Him will Nicholas receive and give help in time of need.

