

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. It is the mother and nurse of eternal life, being in its power and nature pregnant with those things that cause life and lead to life.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea



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

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

June 1, 2025 Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council Schedule of Services

Sunday	1	<u>Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Friday	6	<u>Vigil-5th All Souls Saturday</u> 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy with Panachida - for the deceased members of our parish families
Saturday	7	5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	8	<u>Pentecost Sunday</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	Mike Sheedy
Francis Hughes	Gary Dorencz	Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes
Frank Miko	Ken Hrusosky	Fr. Bernard Danber	Mitchell Stachnik
Aida McManigal-wc	Anna Chagnon-wc	Abbie Sheedy-wc	Jim Forkal
Steve Bieniek	Ned Grabavoy	Paul Kaderabek	

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.



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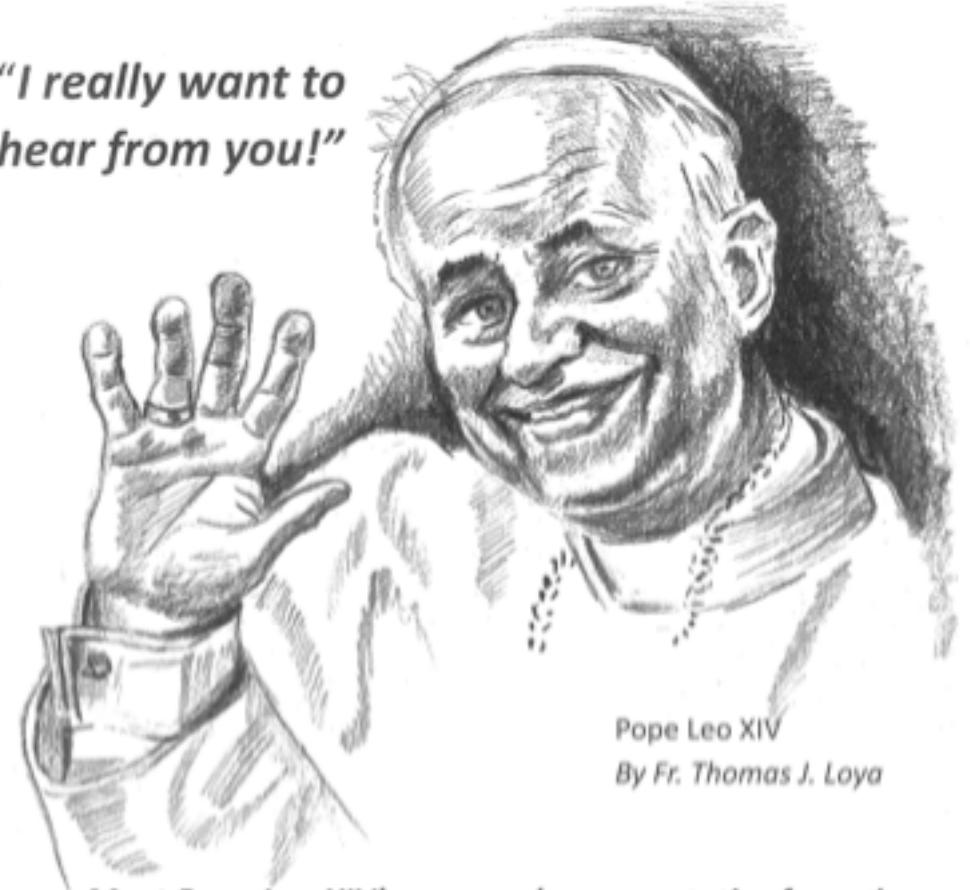
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"I really want to hear from you!"



Pope Leo XIV

By Fr. Thomas J. Loya

Meet Pope Leo XIV's *personal representative* from the Dicastery for the Eastern Catholic Churches as he hears from us about our Eastern Churches and offers insight and counsel.

Wed-Sun July 16-20, 2025 at the

Byzantine Assembly

in Whiting, Indiana

For a list of location, events, and to register go to:

byzantineassembly.org

Mary's Helpers Potluck Tuesday, June 11th - NOON

Mary's Helpers is a group of seniors that have met over the years to enjoy each other's company, share good times and help the church as they are able. In the past, we have had outings that included visits to religious sites, musical programs, and restaurants. The group is open to any member of the church that would like to participate and all are welcome.

Our next event is a Potluck luncheon scheduled for **Tuesday, June 11th** at **Noon** at church. Because after Pentecost the apostles went to all nations, this potluck will have a multi ethnic theme. Bring a dish that has an international theme – something Chinese, Irish, Polish, Greek or even Slovak. Tacos will be served. Your international dish will make it a scrumptious fare. Join us for a meal and to enjoy each other's company.

Sign up sheet in the Narthex



Join us for a trip to the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee Thursday, June 12th

6:00 PM - Byzantine Vespers
6:30 PM - Lecture by Fr. Andrew Summerson

Hymning the Icon of the Invisible God: How the Later Christological Councils Show Us the Christ

"Who do you say that I am?" Jesus asks a heavy question. To get this question wrong, risks getting Christianity itself wrong. In the second half of the first millennium, this query from the gospel still echoed. Christians labored over the right responses to Jesus's words in their theology, prayer, and preaching to draw others more deeply into the mystery of Christ. In this lecture, Fr. Andrew will give an overview of the councils, contexts, and figures that shaped this language and how we are to look upon Christ - God's human face - and praise him with the words and traditions formed in this period from Chalcedon to Nicaea II.

See sign-up sheet in the Narthex to join us for this special trip. We will leave Annunciation around 1:00pm for an early dinner in Milwaukee and a tour of the Basilica before the lecture. We would return to Annunciation around 9:30pm - 10:00pm.



THE EPARCHY OF PARMA PRESENTS
**3RD ANNUAL
Family Liturgy & Life Camp**
Life Transfigured by the Light of the East
3-8 August 2025
CEDAR LAKE MINISTRIES
CEDAR LAKE, INDIANA

Registration is available at parma.org/family-camp

Join us for a prayerfully fun week of activities for all ages. Meet Byzantine Families from around the country while also learning about the riches of our Liturgical Life. This camp is a very affordable option for families of all ages and sizes.

We hope to see you there!

Deepen Your Faith

5th Annual Byzantine Young Adults Retreat
Thurs, July 31th - Sun, Aug 3rd
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