

St. Thomas the Apostle

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as "Doubting Thomas" ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: "My Lord and My God!" (see John 20:24-28) and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29).

Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous – since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown – but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to

Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of His enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, "Let us also go to die with him" (John 11:16b).

Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the "sons of thunder," Philip and his foolish request to see the Father – indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation; it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting and loving one.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Holy Apostle Thomas -- October 6th



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

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

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

October 5, 2025 17th Sunday After Pentecost Schedule of Services

Sunday 5 17th Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 AM Matins
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners

No services scheduled this week:

Fr. Tom will be attending the Eparchy of Parma's Clergy Retreat with all the clergy, please keep them all in your prayers

Saturday 11 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy -
+Geraldine Riebe by Ned & Lynn Grabavoy
5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday 12 Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council
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	Francis Hughes
Gary Dorencz	Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes	Ken Hrusosky
Mitchell Stachnik	Marilyn Lopez	Bill Davis	

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 5th

2nd Early Bird Drawing - Sunday, November 16th

Grand Drawing - Sunday, December 14th

Countdown - 69 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	(161)	(16,100)	46.00%
Unsold	189	\$18,900	54.00%

NEED MORE TICKETS?...SEE ROBERT PALASZ

“TICKET WARRIORS” - Parishioners who have already SOLD tickets

Richard & Bonnie Adamowski, Kathleen Andrews, Larry & Lisa Bergman, David & Anne Bzdill, Mary Cimbalista, Dennis & Gerry Davis, Dennis Dombrowski, Gary & Sharon Dorencz, Audrey Doshi, Jim Forkal, Linda Gaydos, Ned & Lynn Grabavoy, Drs. Nicholas & Cynthia Grabavoy, Jim & Lois Greybar, Bill Gulas, Maria Gulas, Bob & Sheila Horne, MaryAnn Horne, Marianne Horvath, Ken & Donna Hrusosky, Bill & Susan Izquierdo, Ken & Karen Krown, Marilyn Lopez, John Meseke, Dennis & Cynthia Mrowca, Angelica Nolan, Cecelia Okonski, Johnny & Hazel Oreluk, Mary Oreluk, Gary & Diane Paczkowski, Richard Palasz, Robert & Jean Palasz, Jack & Jamila Pawchak, Sonny Pawchak, Betty Pawlowski, Georgia Peceniak, Frank & Kathy Reinhardt, Joseph & Jean Schudt, Joan Senko, Matthew & Abbie Sheedy, Michael Sheedy, Gloria Smee, Joel & Madeleine Super, Catharine Thelen, Mike Triggs, Bill & Nancy Withers, Andrew Wood, Daryl & Mary Jean Wuske



Sunday, October 5
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Tinley / Orland Park
Our spot is on the North side of 159th St
by Home Depot, west of the stop light

Please join us
today for this
very important
visual
reminder and
witness to the
importance of
Life!



Tuesday, October 7th
Marcus Orland Park Cinemas
6:50pm

If you signed up to view “Broken Mary”, please meet in the lobby of Marcus Theater by 6:40pm. There are not individual tickets but we will need to be accounted for and scanned in as a group.



Fall Grounds Keeping Day!

Saturday, October 11th

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, with 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.



A Living Sacrifice

It is natural for human beings to offer sacrifice - that is, to make an offering of some good thing to another person. A sacrifice may be a sign of honor and respect; it might be made in thanks to the other, or to seal a breach in a relationship. The Eucharist or Divine Liturgy is a true sacrifice: we take God's gifts, formed by human labor into bread and wine, and offer them to God, along with our prayers and thanksgiving.

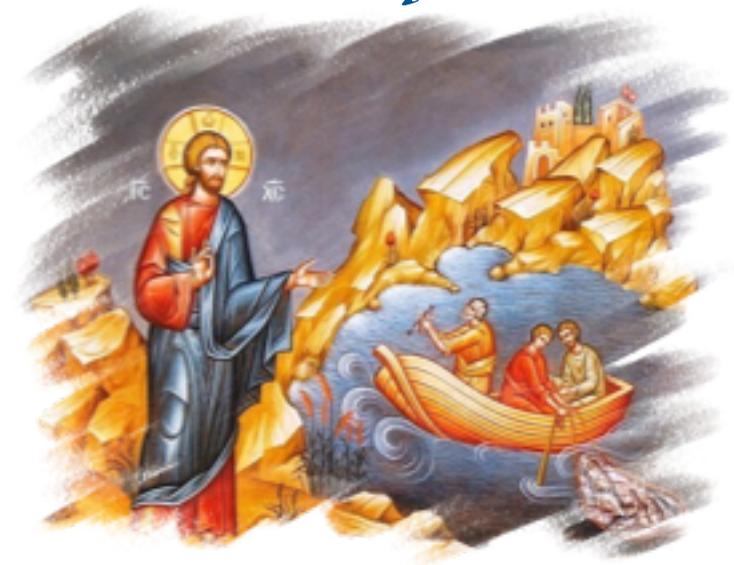
As part of this true sacrifice, the priest will in a special way offer our personal intentions at each Divine Liturgy. What better way to honor a loved one than by offering a Divine Liturgy in their honor or memory. To submit your intentions,

visit the office and fill out a short form with your personal intention. You can even request a certain day that has special meaning or importance.

The customary donation for this offering is \$20 and is given to the priest to support his mission of serving God and His faithful in a special way.

A Bishop's Call to Prayer

Bishop Robert has asked the parishes to pray as a community and as individuals for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. As part of this initiative, he has asked parishioners to sign up for a week of prayer in the home. You can find the sign up sheet in the narthex to be a part of this special initiative. When it is your designated week of prayer, pick up the special prayer booklet that will be placed on the tetrapod and then return it to the same place the following Sunday. Since the icon being used for this intention, The Miraculous Catch, is the same one we used for our 25th Anniversary, every home should already have an icon. If you did not obtain one, please see the office and we can supply you with one.



Arboretum Visit

Tuesday, October 14th
10:00AM

Anyone interested in a visit to Morton Arboretum? We will have a drive through the grounds and then have lunch in the café. Never sure how the colors will be but the visit is always fun. There is a fee for entrance and lunch is on your own. There will also be time for a walk, if you're interested.

See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Georgia for more information about this trip.

Jesus Christ our Hope A catechetical study



First class will be Sunday, October 19th

Family/Adult Catechesis

The third Sunday of each month following Divine Liturgy

11:30AM - Family Potluck
12:15PM - Catechesis for Adults and Children

All adults are welcome to join these classes, you do not need to be married or have children to participate.

Monthly Themes

- Oct - What is the Virtue of Hope?
- Nov - Icons of Hope in the Old Testament
- Dec - How is Christ Our Hope?
- Jan - The Church is the Hope of the Nations
- Feb - The Liturgical Year & The Christian Meaning of Time
- Mar - Lamentation, Repentance & Christian Hope
- Apr - Monasticism and Hope
- May - The Virgin Mary as Icon of Hope
- Jun - The Return of Christ and Christian Hope