

Invited to the Banquet

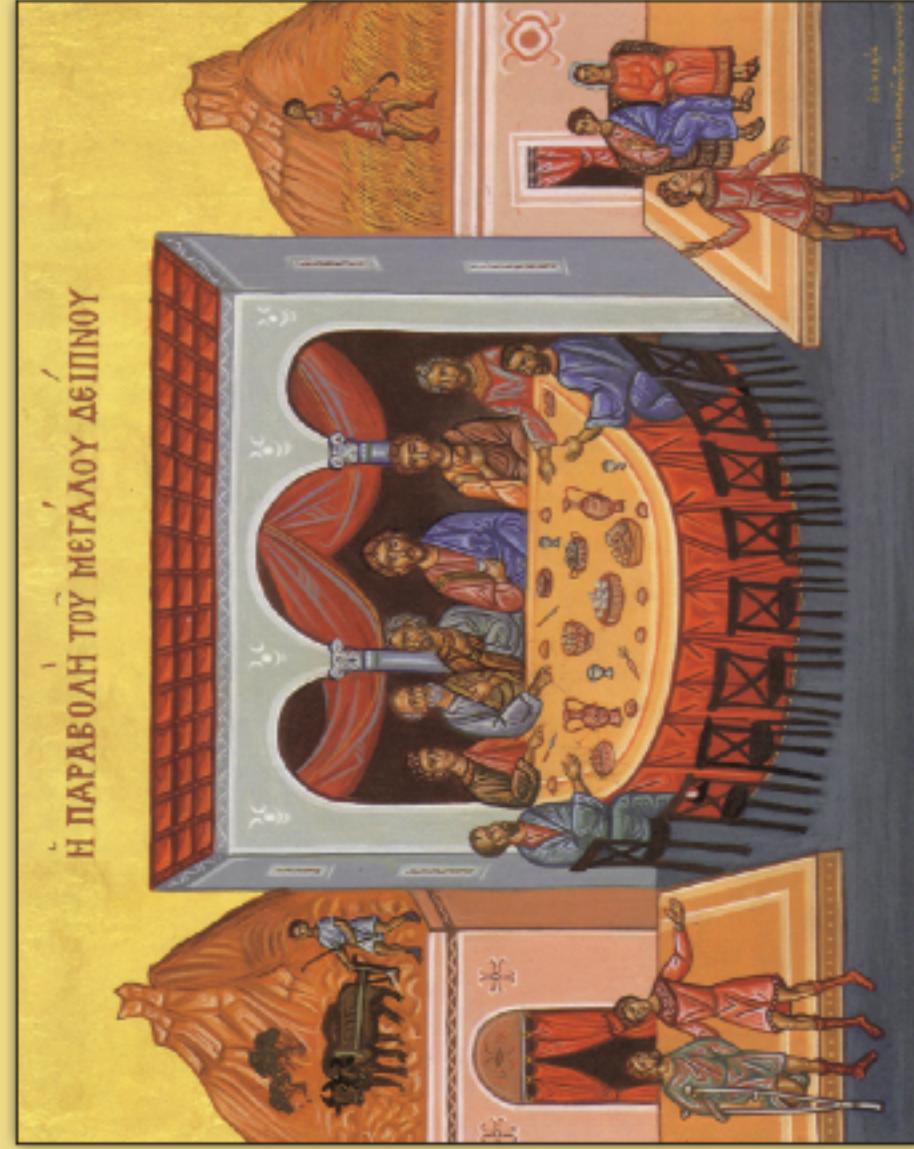
It is written in the Gospel: The Master sent out his servants to call them who wish to come, inviting them: "My banquet is ready." But those who were called began to excuse themselves, one saying: "I bought some yoke of oxen." Another: "I have married" (Luke 14:16ff). You see, he was ready who called, but the invited refused. They themselves were alone responsible in the way they answered.

Thus, so great is the dignity of Christians. Consider, the Lord has prepared for them the Kingdom and has called them to enter, but they have refused.

Concerning the gift that Christians will receive by way of their inheritance, one could rightly say that if anyone, from the time of Adam's creation to the end of the world, should battle against Satan and put up with afflictions, it would be nothing in comparison to the glory which he is to obtain. For he will reign forever together with Christ. Glory to Him who so loved such a person that He gave himself and His grace and entrusted himself to Him. Glory to His greatness!

Pseudo-Macarius

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



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



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

14610 S. Will-Cook Road Homer Glen, IL 60491
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 Email: AnnuncByzChurch@aol.com
 Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA
 Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

December 14, 2025 Sunday of the Forefathers Schedule of Services

Sunday	14	<u>26th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Thursday	18	7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - +Alan Carrescia by Mary Ann Baran After Divine Liturgy Fr. Tyler will be available for Confessions
Saturday	20	<u>SATURDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - +Michaelen Forkal by Bernard Venardi 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	21	<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 Horne	Francis Hughes
Gary Dorencz	Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes	Ken Hrusosky
James Forkal	Richard Adamowski	Katelyn Fuentes-wc	

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.



In memory of John Oreluk



R & K Maintenance



JONDEC PRINTING



Mary's Helpers Christmas Event

Wed, Dec 17th
12:15pm



Join us for a showing of the classic movie, "White Christmas" at the Marcus Theater in Orland Park. We will depart from church at 12:20pm. Following the 2 hr movie we will head back to church for some cookies and hot chocolate along with some fellowship and fun. **Cost - \$6 (for the movie)**



A BIG thank you to all of the volunteers who made this Christmas on the Prairie very special for all who attended. From the bakers who knocked it out of the park this year with their cookie selections, to the electrical set up crew, the kitchen staff, and the crafting girls who froze their fingers off tying knots and threading needles, we know the weather this year changed all of us. But our hats go off to the parking lot guys who braved the bitter cold at their posts making sure all who attended arrived and departed safely.

All of you are a testimony to the community we have built at Annunciation and what a true Christian Community has to offer to the world!

Thank you!



Jesus Christ our Hope

A catechetical study

Sunday, December 21st



Bishop Robert Pipta's Pastoral Visit

Bishop Robert will be visiting Annunciation the weekend of Dec 20 & 21 for his official pastoral visit. On Sunday, we will have our normal Potluck lunch after Divine Liturgy followed by our December Family Catechesis. Please consider staying to participate in these events. **We will have a sign up sheet for the Potluck in the Narthex.** Also, if you have never attended Saturday evening Vespers or have been thinking about checking out this service, this would be a great weekend to do so.

This is our weekend to be with our Bishop, please consider making it a priority to attend these events. It takes extra effort for the Bishop to visit all of his communities in our twelve state eparchy, we should be grateful for his willingness to be with us and extend the same effort.



EPARCHY OF PARMA FOUNDATION'S

2025-2026

**STEWARDSHIP
APPEAL**

TIME. TALENT. TREASURE.

THIS YEAR'S APPEAL WILL RUN FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2025 TO MAY 31, 2026



Donations to the Bishop's Stewardship Appeal help to support the activities of parishes, outreaches, missions, and eparchial events.

The goal for this stewardship drive is to increase the number of participants giving to the fund. The Bishop is therefore suggesting a one-time donation of \$175 per household.



Consider making a donation to the Annunciation Charity Fund. This fund helps to directly support members of our own community in their time of need.



The Fifth Annual Men's Retreat SAVE THE DATE

Our Lord Jesus Christ: The Path to the Father

Jesuit Retreat Center - Parma, OH

January 30, 2026 - February 1, 2026

Retreat Master: Fr. Jan Maturkanic

Contact Karl Busam for further information
karl.busam.77@gmail.com
419-626-6811

Sponsored by:
St Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

Schedule of Services for the Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24th

Day of Strict Fast - No Meat or Dairy Products

- 9:00AM Royal Hours
 - 9:30PM Caroling
 - 10:00PM Vespers w/ Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
- *Confessions available 9:00pm - 9:45pm*

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th

- 9:00AM Matins
- 10:00AM Divine Liturgy



Friday, December 26th

Feast of the Synaxis of the Theotokos

- 7:00PM Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 27th

Feast of Stephen - Protomartyr

- 8:00AM Divine Liturgy