

Our Faith and Christ's Action

The liturgical service takes place on earth, but it belongs to the realm of heavenly realities. In fact, it was not instituted by a human being or an angel, but by the Spirit himself, so that those who are still living in the flesh should think of performing the service of angels.

O what mercy, O what love of God for human beings! Christ who is seated with the Father in highest heaven is at that moment grasped by the hands of all and does not hesitate to give Himself to anyone who wants to embrace Him and be bound to Him.

He whom the eyes of faith perceive is possessed by everyone.

You remember how Elijah was surrounded by a great crowd and had in front of him the victim for sacrifice placed on the stone (see 1 Kings 18). Everyone stood stock still. The silence was complete. Only the prophet raised a prayer. Suddenly from heaven came down fire on the victim. It was a marvelous spectacle that filled everyone with amazement.

Here, however, something much more than a marvelous spectacle is unfolded. Something is happening that is greater than any marvel. Here the priest draws down not fire but the Holy Spirit Himself.

St. John Chrysostom

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Healing of the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:12-19)



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

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Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA
Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

December 7, 2025 26th Sunday After Pentecost Schedule of Services

Sunday	7	26th Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Monday	8	<u>Feast of the Maternity of Holy Anna (Immaculate Conception)</u> - 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Mary Ellen Haber by the Thompson family
Thursday	11	<u>Vigil for Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</u> 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - +Joseph E. Loya by the Loya family
Saturday	13	8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - +Sr. Lucia by Steve Bieniek *6:00 PM Vespers *Note special time due to Christmas on the Prairie
Sunday	14	<u>Sunday of the Forefathers</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.

Grand Raffle Update

Grand Drawing - Sunday, December 14th

Grand Prize - \$5,000

RAFFLE TICKET SALES UPDATE

Keep up the good efforts...Don't stop now!

	# of Tickets	Amount	%
Goal	350	\$35,000	100%
Sold	(275)	(27,500)	78.57%
Unsold	75	\$7,500	21.43%

NEED MORE TICKETS?...SEE ROBERT PALASZ



Congratulations to all of our Early Bird Winners!

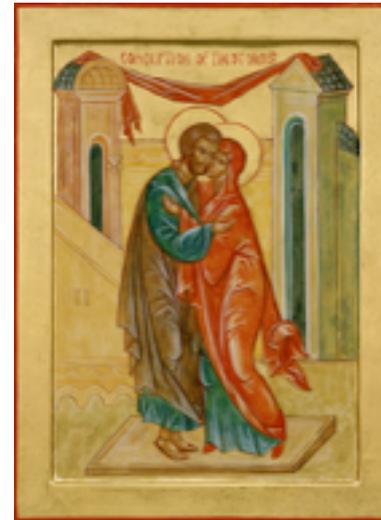
\$250 - Bob Horne / Julian Jankowski

\$150 - Mary Orelus / Niko Paris

\$100 - Kathleen Reinhardt / Geroge & Kim Gulas

"TICKET WARRIORS" - Parishioners who have already SOLD tickets

Richard & Bonnie Adamowski, Kathleen Andrews, Catherine Baranko, Larry & Lisa Bergman, Steve & Roberta Bieniek, David & Anne Bzdill, Anna & Mark Chagnon, Mary Cimbalista, Bill & Sandy Davis, Dennis & Gerry Davis, Dennis Dombrowski, Tim Dominick, Gary & Sharon Dorencz, Audrey Doshi, Jim Forkal, Linda Gaydos, Anne Gazzolo, Catherine Gazzolo, Ned & Lynn Grabavoy, Drs. Nicholas & Cynthia Grabavoy, Jim & Lois Greybar, Bill Gulas, George & Kim Gulas, Maria Gulas, Mary Ellen Haber, Bil & Mary Horne, Bob & Sheila Horne, MaryAnn Horne, Marianne Horvath, Ken & Donna Hrusosky, Kim & Sally Hughes, Bill & Susan Izquierdo, Paul Kaderabek, Laura Kizior, Shirley Kotek, Ken & Karen Krown, Keith Landovitz, Larry & Debby Lattuca, Jeremy & Michele Lewis, Deborah Loftus-Erthum, Marilyn Lopez, Theo & Aida McManigal, Thomas Mega, Lisa Melnik, John Meseke, Maria Meseke, Cathy Miller, Dennis & Cynthia Mrowca, Angelica Nolan, Stephen & Susan O'Brien, Cecelia Okonski, Johnny & Hazel Oreluk, Mary Oreluk, Gary & Diane Paczkowski, Richard Palasz, Robert & Jean Palasz, Jack & Jamila Pawchak, Sonny Pawchak, Betty Pawlowski, Georgia Peceniak, Jeremy Pinowski, Dan & Lea Popek, Frank & Kathy Reinhardt, Joseph & Jean Schudt, Joan Senko, John Senko, Matthew & Abbie Sheedy, Michael Sheedy, Georgia Smee, Jason & Courtney Smee, Joel & Madeleine Super, Chris & Elizabeth Susco, Catharine Thelen, Easter Thomas, Mike Triggs, Larry & Mary Ventrella, Bill & Nancy Withers, Andrew Wood, Daryl & Mary Jean Wuske, Robert Zavada



The Maternity of the Holy Anna December 8th

The Eastern and Western Churches put an accent on different aspects of the feast. In the East, we celebrate the miracle of God taking away the barrenness of Anna's womb. The Western Church, on the other hand, puts the accent on Mary's purity from all sin from her conception, defined by Pope Bl. Pius IX in 1848 as the Immaculate Conception.

In both cases, the conception of the Theotokos in the womb of Anna today is our preparation for Christmas.

For God took away the barrenness of one couple in a conception that would have a cosmic dimension for every one of us: the coming into the world of its Creator, who would take away the curse on Adam and Eve by the birth of his Son with the power to bring us all into sinlessness. The Hymn of Light at Matins thus proclaims: "Today Anna conceives the One who will give birth to the Light which illumines all creation. Therefore, let us all gather together, for the one who delivers us from the judgment of Eve now comes forth."

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)**

Charity begins at HOME



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.



Christmas on the Prairie Saturday, December 13th



Only 6 days until St. Nicholas Arrives!!

Calling all bakers... we are looking for cookies and small breads that we can sell at the cookie sale!

- +Make a couple dozen of your favorite Christmas cookie.
- +Please mark the type of cookie and if they have nuts in them.
- +Cookies can be dropped off in the downstairs kitchen.
- +We will make mixed boxes of the cookies to sell at the event.



Please have all cookies delivered by Wednesday evening!



Volunteers

If you have volunteered to work a particular area, we ask that you arrive by 1pm. We will have lunch available in the kitchen for all volunteers.

Teens

We ask the TEENS to arrive at noon so we can go over skits one last time and get you set up at your station, so you have enough time to eat before we get started.

Sunday, December 21st Bishop Robert Pipta's Pastoral Visit & Family Catechesis

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 having been thinking about checking out this service, this would be a great weekend to do so.

St. Nicholas, Pray for us!!

