

I was Hungry

You see, my beloved, there is no excuse for it. They knew what they had to do in this world. But greed and ill-will prevented them, so they laid up for themselves not treasures for the future but the world of the dead. Neither were they condemned because of the active wrong they did, nor did the Lord say to them: depart from me, you wicked, because you committed murder or adultery or theft. But instead: because I was hungry and thirsty in my servants, and you did not minister to me. If those who did no wrong are thus condemned, what must be said of those who do the works of the devil? Will not the prophecy of blessed David come upon them: "The wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous?" Not that they will not rise, but that neither in judgment [nor in] the congregation of the righteous do they deserve to enter. They will stand, however, so that from

punishment they may enter into punishment." And they will go into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.⁸ Whatever will be is everlasting. Sinners will have everlasting punishment; and the righteous, everlasting life.

St. Epiphanius the Latin

Do you wish to honor the body of Christ? Do not ignore Him when He is naked. Do not pay Him homage in the temple clad in silk, only then to neglect Him outside where He is cold and ill-clad. He who said: "This is my body" is the same who said: "You saw me hungry and you gave me no food" and, "Whatever you did to the least of my brothers you did also to me." ... What good is it if the Eucharistic table is overloaded with golden chalices when your brother is dying of hunger? Start by satisfying his hunger and then with what is left you may adorn the altar as well.

St. John Chrysostom

MEATFARE SUNDAY



Icon of the Last Judgment



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

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

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

February 8, 2026 Sunday of Meat Fare Schedule of Services

Sunday	8	<u>Sunday of Meat Fare</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Thursday	12	7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Saturday	14	<u>All Holy Ascetical Fathers and Mothers & Death of Cyril Apostle to the Slavs</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - +Mary Gaydos by Jim Forkal & family 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	15	<u>Sunday of Cheese Fare</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners 1:30 PM Forgiveness Vespers (Lent Begins)

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	Marianne Horvath	Katelyn Fuentes-wc	Joel Super

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.

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.

Sunday, February 8th - Meat Fare Sunday - The Last Judgment

Today we eat meat products for the last time as we approach Lent. The theme today is also the Last Judgment when Christ will come again to judge the living and the dead. The criterion for our judgment will be the rule of love. Did we love as God loved? Did we forgive others as God forgave us?



Sunday, Feb 15th - Cheesefare Sunday

Having given up meat products last week, today we eat dairy products for the last time as we enter the "Great Fast" (Lent) in stages.

At the start of the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption. On this Sunday, we should consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Above all we focus on forgiveness and officially begin Lent with the Forgiveness Vespers, which includes a ceremony of mutual forgiveness.

Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, to restore a more sacramental vision and approach to physical things (food, etc.), and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, Confession, participation in church services, and partaking of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

Forgiveness Vespers
Sunday, Feb 15th
1:30pm

Clean Week

The First Week of Great and Holy Lent has been traditionally called Clean Week in the Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox Churches. It is a time for us to "kick start" our Lenten Journey where we fast from foods and from sin in order to prepare ourselves to fully enter into Christ's saving death and resurrection. Join us this week as we begin our Lenten Journey with some communal penitential prayer. For the first three evenings of Clean Week, starting at 7pm, we will pray a portion of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, which will set the tone for the rest of our Lenten Journey. This service will be done again but in its entirety on the Thursday of the 5th week of Lent. The services each evening during this first week of Lent will last about an hour.

Monday, February 16th - Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (Part 1)

Tuesday, February 17th - Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (Part 2)

Wednesday, February 18th - Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (Part 3)



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

2026 Eparchial Assembly

Join us for a conversation of the Spirit—a time of walking together, listening together, and renewing our shared commitment to vibrant pastoral action and faithful stewardship across the Eparchy.

Pre-Assembly
October 17-19

All clergy, monastics & faithful of the Eparchy are welcome to participate. Lodging and meals at participants' own expense.

Assembly
October 20-22

By invitation only.

Further details are forthcoming.
 Recommendations for additional subjects may be submitted to bishop@parma.org.



Mary's Helpers Announces New Ministry

Under the patronage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Mary's Helpers will meet quarterly to pray for the sick of our parish. These quarterly meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 11:00AM and will be followed by a light lunch. Anyone is welcome to join in this prayer meeting.

Wednesday, Feb 11
11:00AM

The Great Fast as Our Annual Renewal Renewing our understanding of the Old Testament

During the forty days before baptism, the catechumens received daily instruction in the Faith - particularly readings from the Old Testament, with an explanation of God's works among the Jewish people, their expectation of a Messiah, and how this expectation was fulfilled in the coming of Jesus Christ. They were taught how to pray, and how to conduct themselves according to Christian ideals. The rest of the faithful were encouraged to take part in these spiritual exercises as well.

This is why the Great Fast is not only a renewal of our respect for baptism, but also of our connection with the Old Testament. Each day, at Vespers, we hear lessons from the historical and wisdom books of the Old Testament (particularly Genesis, Exodus, and Proverbs). At the Sixth Hour (noonday prayer), we listen to prophecies of the Messiah (from Isaiah and Job) and his suffering and eventual glorification.

You can find the readings for each day of the Great Fast on your Byzantine calendar or consider purchasing the book "Journey Through the Great Fast" from Eastern Christian Publications for daily reflections on the readings and prayers for each day of the Great Fast.

Jesus Christ our Hope

A catechetical study
Sunday, February 15th

Feb - The Liturgical Year &
The Christian Meaning of Time



Forgiveness Vespers Sunday, February 15th 1:30PM

This service marks the beginning of the Great Fast where we commemorate the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise, entering into the Lenten fast in remembrance of mankind's separation from God through disobeying his commandment to fast from the fruit of the tree.

Before we enter the Lenten fast, we are reminded that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. A fast without mutual love is a fast of demons. We do not travel the road of Lent as isolated individuals but as members of a family.

