

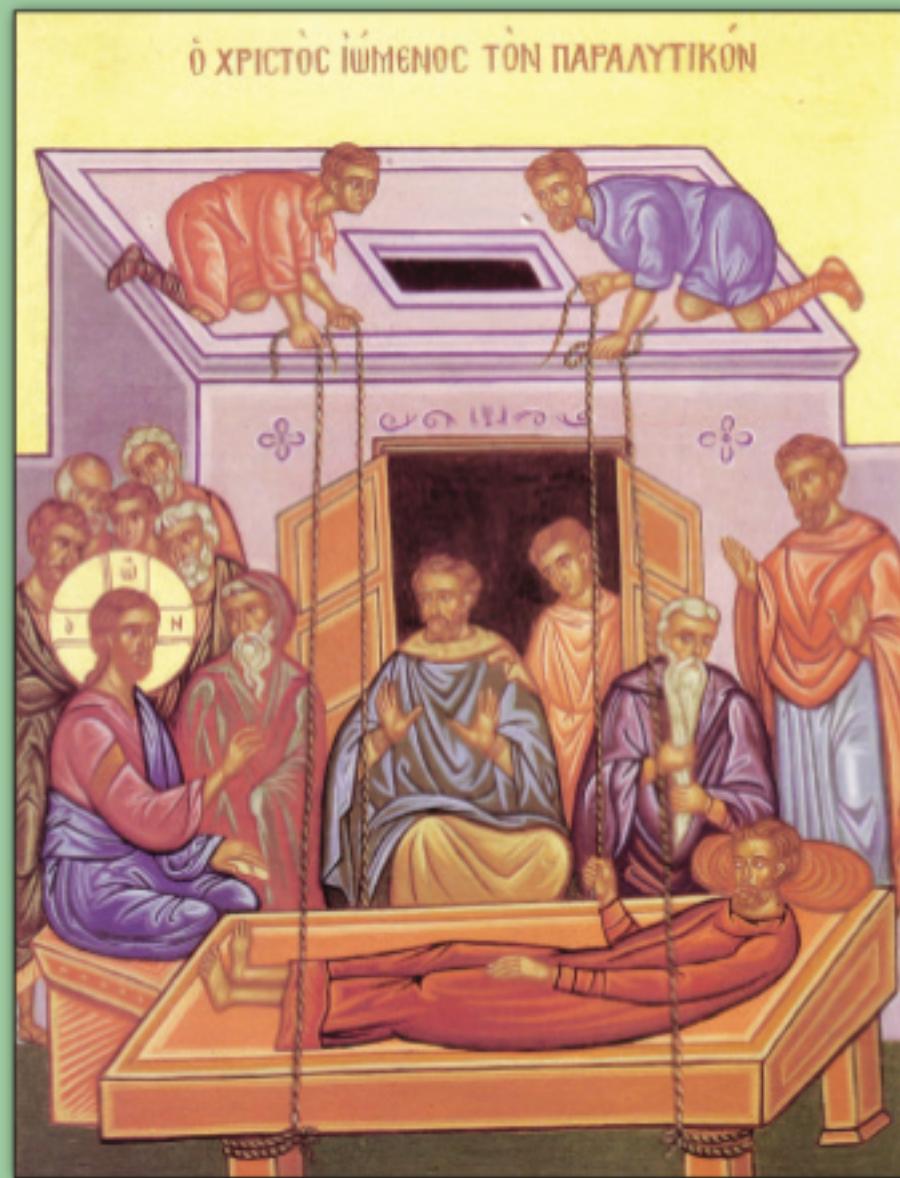
You are Forgiven and Healed

In Capernaum, Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



Icon of Healing the Paralytic



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

March 1, 2026 Second Sunday of the Great Fast Schedule of Services

Sunday	1	<u>2nd Sunday of the Great Fast</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Wednesday	4	7:00 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Claire Chagnon by Ken & Karen Krown *Please Note: No Pre-Sanctified on Friday 3/6 due to Parastas scheduled for +Kenneth Hrusosky
Saturday	7	<u>3rd All Souls Saturday</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy with Panachida - For deceased members of our parish families 10:00 AM Rite of Christian Burial for +Kenneth Hrusosky 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	8	<u>3rd Sunday of the Great Fast-Veneration of the Holy Cross</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	Joel Super
James Forkal	Fran Zeimetz	Katelyn Fuentes-wc	Baby Claire Chagnon

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.



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.



CHICAGO CHURCHES TOUR

Tuesday, March 24th

Join Mary's Helpers for a guided tour of three historical Chicago churches while also stopping for lunch. Further details to follow.

Tour Cost is \$35 (lunch will be on your own)

Annunciation Parish Visioning Luncheon

Looking toward the future and setting a vision for the next 25 years of growth as a faith-filled community of true believers

Sunday, March 15th



Orland Chateau - 14500 LaGrange Rd, Orland Park, IL

Use the signup sheet in the Narthex or call the parish office to register

Jesus Christ our Hope

A catechetical study

Sunday, March 8th



Lamentation, Repentance & Christian Hope

Please note that our Family Catechesis has moved to the 2nd Sunday for March due to the parish luncheon that is taking place on the 3rd Sunday. Family Catechesis is an opportunity for adults and children to grow in their faith as one community. We begin with a **Potluck lunch** following Liturgy. After lunch both adults and children will have a reflection on this month's theme for the 3rd Sunday of Lent in which we venerate the Holy Cross.

All are welcome to attend these sessions, we do ask that attendees try to bring something to share with the community, even if it is something small, or volunteer to help clean up after the class.



St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church | 8103 Columbia Ave, Munster, IN
Saturday, March 7th - 10AM - 4PM

This day long retreat will offer an opportunity for cantors to step back, pray, and prepare spiritually and musically for the feast of the Resurrection. Participants will be led through the service of Resurrection Matins so they are equipped to enter Pascha in a spirit of prayer that can be shared with their parish communities.

*The retreat is open to all cantors, new and old,
 as well as lovers of the Byzantine Liturgy.*

Cost is \$30 and includes meals

Retreat Leader: Dr. Brian Butcher, PhD

Dr. Brian Butcher, PhD, is an author and lecturer in theology and adviser to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on ecumenical and interfaith dialogue. A convert to Eastern Catholicism, he is a subdeacon in the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church and seasoned liturgical musician in the Eastern and Western traditions.

Registration: www.stmarywhiting.org/cantorsretreat

For more information, email: frasummerson@parma.org



Mary's Helpers Prayer Service for the Sick

Thursday, Mar 12th - 11:00AM

Join Mary's Helpers, under the patronage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, for another prayer service for the sick. A light lunch will follow the service and anyone is welcome to join in this prayer meeting.



Lunch and a Movie

Saturday, March 21 - Noon

This intense psychological thriller has a lot to say about questions of right and wrong, faith against reason, euthanasia and abortion, sin, freedom, and even the question of the existence of good and evil.

Join us for this special matinee viewing where we will unpack this ***gripping and educational film that is ideal for the lenten season.***

Lunch and movie will take place in the downstairs activity room. This is a great teen and young adult activity.

Vičnaja Pamjat Eternal Memory

Please keep the Hrusosky family in your prayers this week, as we lay to rest Kenneth Hrusosky.

A Parastas service will be held on Friday evening at Carlson Funeral Home on Black Rd in place of the previously scheduled Pre-Sanctified Liturgy.