

### *A Link to Baptism*

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man

but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

## SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



*Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind*



## 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

### May 10, 2026 Sunday of the Man Born Blind Schedule of Services

|          |    |   |
|----------|----|---|
| Sunday   | 10 | <b><u>Sunday of the Man Born Blind</u></b><br>9:00 AM Matins<br>10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners                        |
| Thursday | 14 | <b><u>Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord</u></b><br>7:00 PM Divine Liturgy -<br>+Isabelle Gulas by Maria Gulas                                      |
| Saturday | 16 | 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy -<br>+Mark Rosine by family<br>5:00 PM Vespers   |
| Sunday   | 17 | <b><u>Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</u></b><br>9:00 AM Matins<br>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 Home   | Francis Hughes |
| Gary Dorencz     | Michele Lewis  | Kim Hughes      | Joel Super     |
| James Forkal     | Fran Zeimet    | Carrie Thompson | Jim Sima       |
| Bonnie Hughes-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.

# LOVE ONE ANOTHER



6th Annual Young Adult Retreat

THURSDAY JULY 23<sup>RD</sup> -

SUNDAY JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>

506 E Main Street  
Marblehead, OH



If you are interested in attending this year's Family Camp, please register this week. This is a great way to meet other wonderful families from around the Eparchy who hold many similar values. There are many activities for parents and children, it is a great way to spend the last days of summer!

THE EPARCHY OF PARMA'S ANNUAL

## FAMILY LITURGY & LIFE CAMP



Join families from across the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for a week of faith-focused, family-friendly fun! This year's camp programming will focus on the four "ships" described in Bishop Robert's teaching, *Christ God our Hope: Discipleship, Worship, Fellowship, and Stewardship*.

**\$250 PER ADULT (18+)**  
**\$60 PER CHILD (4-17)**  
FREE for children ages 3 & under  
Registration fees include the cost of basic lodging & all meals.

| ACTIVITIES   | EVENT DATE  |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daily Prayer</li><li>• Age-Specific Programming</li><li>• Joyful Fellowship</li><li>• Outdoor Games</li><li>• Campfire</li></ul> | <b>AUGUST 9-14, 2026</b><br>CEDAR LAKE MINISTRIES<br>CEDAR LAKE, IN |



<https://parma.org/family-camp>

# 2024-2025 Impact

The purpose of the Eparchy of Parma Foundation is:

- To make gifts, contributions and grants in support of the Eparchy of Parma, its parishes, agencies, departments and programs, and the Byzantine Catholic Church as a whole;
- To benefit and support charitable purposes and activities of the Eparchy of Parma, its parishes, agencies, departments and programs.

The Foundation is led by a Board of Directors, which includes 3-9 lay members of parishes, priests of parishes, the Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, and CFO of the Eparchy. The Bishop approves all members, besides himself and the CFO. Decisions of what to fund are by majority vote.

## Works of the Apostolate

- \$15,000 grant to offset the cost of Family Camp as well as various Eparchial retreats
- \$6,000 for educational outreach
- Matched a grant to pay for extended training for priests on the healthy marriage initiative

## Active & Retired Clergy

- \$113,000 in grants to pay for the healthcare for retired clergy
- \$20,000 grant to support the Clergy Pension fund
- \$26,000 in emergency aid for clergy and their families during hardship

## Development of Parishes

- \$62,000 in grants to outreaches to help them grow
- \$50,000 grant to assist with the purchase of a rectory

## Seminary & Vocations

- Paid for the mentoring of men discerning priesthood
- Restricted funds support five seminarians by easing the \$100,000 cost of formation—a shared burden between them and the Eparchy. Since seminarians cannot work during this time, financial aid is vital.
- \$7,000 in grants to renew visas for priests serving us from Europe



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



Scan the QR Code  
and make your gift today!



Visit Our Website  
to give electronically at  
[parma.org/stewardship-appeal](http://parma.org/stewardship-appeal)



Mail to  
The Byzantine Catholic  
Eparchy of Parma Foundation  
5000 Rockside Road, #310  
Independence, Ohio 44131

*“The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to bless all the work of your hands.”*

*-Deuteronomy 28:12*

When we live as good stewards, God blesses our work with fruitfulness and peace. Every generous act becomes a seed of grace. A life lived for God always multiplies blessings.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Annual Appeal, and a gentle reminder for those who appreciate one.

**Please consider making a donation of any amount to this appeal. it will be greatly appreciated!**