

Heirs of God

Whosoever fears God and keeps His commandments, is the servant of God. And in this service is not perfection, but the righteousness which leads to adoption. For this cause the prophets also and the apostles, the holy band whom God chose, entrusting to them the apostolic preaching, by the goodness of God the Father became prisoners in Christ Jesus. For Paul says, "Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle" (Eph 3: 1; Rom 1: 1): so that the written law works with us in a good servitude, until we are able to master every passion, and to become perfect in the good ministry of virtue through this apostolic state.

For if a man draws near to grace, then Jesus will say to him, "I will no longer call you servants, but I will call you my friends and my brothers: for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you" (Jn 15: 15). For those who have drawn near, and have been taught by the Holy Spirit, have known themselves according to their intellectual substance. And in their

knowledge of themselves they have cried out and said, "For we have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but the spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abba, Father" (Rom 8: 15): that we may know what God has given us - "If we are sons, then are we heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with the saints" (Rom 8: 17).

My dear brothers and sisters, and joint heirs with the saints, not foreign to you are all the virtues, but they are yours, if you are not under guilt from this fleshly life, but are manifest before God. For the Spirit enters not the soul of one whose heart is defiled, nor the body that sins; a holy power it is, removed from all deceit.

Truly, my beloved, I write to you as to reasonable people, who have been able to know yourselves. For he who knows himself, knows God: and he who knows God, is worthy to worship Him as is right.

St. Cyril of Alexandria

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of the Holy Napkin



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

August 16, 2026 12th Sunday After Pentecost Schedule of Services

Sunday	16	<u>12th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Saturday	22	5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	23	<u>13th Sunday After Pentecost</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	Gary Dorencz
Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes	Marilyn Lopez	
Bonnie Hughes-wc	Lea Popek - wc	Claire Resuta - wc	Abbie Sheedy - 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.

Renewed Eparchial Midwest Pilgrimage 2026

St. Mary, Whiting, Indiana

"For those who are burdened, come take rest beneath the veil of Our Lady of the Protection."

Friday, October 2, 2026

6 PM Candlelit Compline — Shrine of the Protection
7-9 PM Bonfire Chat — with Bishop Robert at the Byzantine Café
Snacks included | Come share your conversion story!

Saturday, October 3, 2026

9 AM Moleben to the Mother of God — Searcher for the Lost Prayer Garden
Bring names of fallen away Christians to pray for their return!
10 AM Adult Speaker & Children's Activity
12 PM Lunch
1-6:30 PM Confessions
2 PM Adult Speaker & Children's Activity
4-6:30 PM All-Night Vigil (Vespers & Matins)
6:30-8 PM Ethnic Dinner
8 PM Family Square Dancing

Sunday, October 4, 2026

9-10:30 AM Confessions
9:45 AM Akathist to the Mother of God
10:30 AM — Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Procession of the Four Gospels
12:30 PM Lunch



Additional Information

- Provisional schedule as of July 1
- Host families available for out-of-town guests
- Discounted hotel rates available
- stmarywhiting@parma.org

Annunciation Parish Picnic

Sunday, August 23rd

Enjoy a fun afternoon with family and friends following Divine Liturgy.

We will have food, music, games and a Giant dual lane Slip & Slide!

We will also have a special wet bouncy house just for the little ones.

Get ready to have some fun and get a little wet!



Please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex so we can get a count for the food.

Charting the Course:

Renewing Byzantine Catholic Life in the Heartland

OCTOBER 17-19, 2026 • ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM • COLUMBUS, OHIO

The Eparchy of Parma invites all clergy and faithful to take part in the open Preparatory Gathering of the 2026 Eparchial Assembly — a shared moment of praying, listening, and learning as we set sail on a renewed journey of mission and vision. The first, public phase welcomes everyone aboard the "Holy Fleets" of DiscipleSHIP, WeeSHIP, FellowSHIP, and StewardSHIP, and will provide the spiritual and pastoral grounding that informs and orients the formally convoked members as they continue into the invitation-only canonical sessions that follow.

Participation in all liturgical services, presentations, and discussions is FREE. Meal tickets are available for those who wish to join the community meals, though attendees may also choose to dine off-site.



REGISTER by September 7:
www.parma.org/eparchial-assembly



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
EPARCHY OF PARMA

Annunciation's 2026 Raffle

Sunday, December 13th

Grand Prize: \$5,000

Early Bird Drawings

Sundays, October 11th & November 15th

All tickets have been mailed to parishioners, please start selling your tickets as soon as possible. Remember, each ticket has three chances to WIN, if returned by October 11th.

Parish Yard Sale

Sept 11th & 12th
8am - 3pm



**Annunciation Byzantine
Catholic Church**

14610 S Will Cook Rd - Homer Glen, IL
byzantinecatholic.com

We will start collecting items for the yard sale next weekend. Please no adult clothes, furniture, and only three boxes of books per family. For more information please contact: **Aida McManigal - 773-885-3717**

The Icon of our Lord Jesus Christ Not-made-with-hands

August 16th

In the time that our Lord was preaching the Gospel and healing every disease and every infirmity among people, there was in the city of Edessa, on the banks of the Euphrates, a certain Prince Avgar, who was riddled with leprosy. He heard of Christ, the Healer of every pain and sickness, and sent a

portrait-painter, Ananias, to Palestine with a letter to Christ, in which he begged the Lord to come to Edessa and heal him of his leprosy. In the event of the Lord's not being able to come, the prince commanded Ananias to paint His likeness and bring it, believing that the portrait would heal him. The Lord replied that he could not come, as the time of His Passion was at hand, and He took a napkin and wiped His face, leaving a perfect reproduction of His most pure face on the napkin. The Lord gave this napkin to Ananias, with a message to say that the prince would be healed by it, but not entirely, and He would therefore send him later an envoy who would rid him of the remainder of the disease. Receiving the napkin, Avgar kissed it and the leprosy fell from his body, with just a little remaining on his face. Later, the Apostle Thaddaeus, preaching the Gospel, came to Avgar, healed him secretly and baptised him. Then the prince smashed the idols that stood at the city's gateway and placed the napkin with the face of Christ above the entrance, stuck onto wood, surrounded with a gold frame and ornamented with pearls. The prince also wrote above the icon on the gateway: 'O Christ our God, no-one who hopes in Thee will be put to shame'. Later, one of Avgar's great-grandsons restored idolatry, and the Bishop of Edessa came by night and walled-in the icon above the gateway. Centuries passed. In the time of the Emperor Justinian, the Persian King, Chozroes, attacked Edessa, and the city was in great affliction. The Bishop of Edessa, Eulabius, had a vision of the most holy Mother of God, who revealed to him the secret of the icon, walled-in and forgotten. The icon was found, and by its power the Persian army was defeated.

