

Wisdom from the Bishop of Lyons

One should not seek among others the truth that can be easily gotten from the Church. For in her, as in a rich treasury, the apostles have placed all that pertains to truth, so that everyone can drink this beverage of life. She is the door of life.

He who shall preserve the life bestowed upon him, and give thanks to Him Who imparted it, shall receive also length of days forever and ever. But he who shall reject it, and prove himself ungrateful to his Maker, inasmuch as he has been created, and has not recognized Him Who bestowed the gift upon him, deprives himself of the privilege of continuance forever and ever. And, for this reason, the Lord declared to those who showed themselves ungrateful towards Him: 'If you have not been faithful in that which is little, who will give you that which is great?' (cf. Lk. 16:11) in-

dicating that those who, in this brief temporal life, have shown themselves ungrateful to Him Who bestowed it, shall justly not receive from Him length of days forever and ever.

We have learned the plan of our salvation from no one else other than from those through whom the gospel has come down to us. For they did at one time proclaim the gospel in public. And, at a later period, by the will of God, they handed the gospel down to us in the Scriptures-to be the 'ground and pillar of our faith.'

He who was the Son of God became the Son of man, that man ... might become the son of God.

The glory of God is the human person fully alive.

St. Irenaeus of Lyons

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Saints Irenaeus, Lupus and Callinicus -- August 23rd



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

14610 S. Will-Cook Road Homer Glen, IL 60491
 Office: (708) 645-0241 Fax: (708) 645-0243
 Email: AnnuncByzChurch@aol.com
 Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA
 Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

August 23, 2026 13th Sunday After Pentecost Schedule of Services

Sunday	23	<u>13th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Friday	28	<u>Vigil of the Feast of the Beheading of John the Baptist</u> 7:00 PM Vespers w/ Divine Liturgy - +Ruth Hull-Chatelaine by George & Ellen Koskinas and Rita Chatelaine
Saturday	29	5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	30	<u>14th 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.

Parish Yard Sale

Sept 11th & 12th
8am - 3pm



**Annunciation Byzantine
Catholic Church**

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

The POD is now available for donations. Please no adult clothes, furniture, and only three boxes of books per family.

For more information please contact:

Aida McManigal - 773-885-3717

The Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John

The liturgy describes this tragic end of the Forerunner. St. John Damascene in his sticheras tells in brief the story of the feast: "As the birthday of the impudent Herod was being kept, the object of the dissolute dancer's oath was achieved: first, the head of the Forerunner was cut off and offered on a platter as food for those reclining. What a loathsome banquet, replete with wickedness and horrible murder!"

According to a creditable tradition, the body of St. John was buried by his disciples in Samaria, outside the borders of Herod's tetrarchy and under the jurisdiction of the Roman governor. In 362 A.D., pagans desecrated the grave and burned his remains. Only a small portion of his relics was saved by monks and carried to Alexandria, where St. Athanasius deposited the remains in his church. The saint's head, however, is venerated at various places.

With regard to the head, in fact, there are two quite different accounts. According to the one, given by Sozomen, it is said to have been found in Jerusalem in the possession of monks belonging to a Macedonian sect. They guarded the holy relic until the reign of Theodosius, (379-395) who brought it to Hebdomen, a suburb of Constantinople, where he ordered a church to be erected in honor of the saint. The paschal chronicle makes mention of this translation of the relic in 391 A.D. According to another tradition of which Rufinus speaks in his Ecclesiastical History, the head was brought from Machaerus to Jerusalem and there buried. In the time of Constantine, it was taken to Emesa and hidden in a cave. Here it was discovered by a priest named Marcellus, the superior of a local monastery, who was acting in a response to a series of dreams. Marcellus informed Bishop Uranius of Emesa of his discovery and the bishop solemnly removed the relic on February 24, 452 A.D., and placed it in his cathedral. There are actually three separate findings of the head of St. John recorded in various traditions and each of these is commemorated in the Byzantine rite by a special holy day. These precious relics were lost more times. Apart from the Mother of God, there is no saint who is honored by more feasts than St. John the Baptist.



Red vestments are worn on August 29th, in honor of this feast day. By tradition, a strict fast is observed. Local traditions also include such practices as not eating food from a plate or anything in the form of a head, such as cabbage, lettuce, apples, etc.



92nd Annual Pilgrimage In honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**Sat, Sept 5th &
Sun, Sept 6th**

**Theotokos:
Beacon of Hope**

Mount Saint Macrina
Uniontown, PA
www.sistersofstbasil.org

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



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
EPARCHY OF PARMA

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 Flotilla" of DiscipleSHIP, WorSHIP, 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.

Presentations:

- Benjamin Auton - eparchial synodality
- Jonathan Shellnut - fellowship and the lay-apostolate
- Dr. Kieran McNulty - proclaiming the Gospel of God's wonder
- Bishop Robert - authentic worship, personal prayer, and liturgical chant
- Laura Ieraci-Summerson - stewardship and tithing



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

