

THE LIGHT OF THE EAST



ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT **BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1117 South Blaine Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46221

Website: www.saindy.com Email: sabcc@indy.rr.com

Pastor: Very Rev. Protopresbyter Bryan R. Eyman. D. Min. D. Phil.

Pastoral Associate: Father Deacon John Russell, M. Div.

Cantors: John Danovich, Brian Goshorn, Marcus Loidolt,

Business Manager: John Danovich

Phones: Rectory: 317-632-4157; Pastor's Cell Phone: 216-780-2555

FAX: 317-632-2988

Victim Assistance Coordinator: Sharon DiLauro Petrus M.D. : 216-741-8773

WEEKEND DIVINE SERVICES

Sat: 7 PM [Evening Prayer]

Sun: 9 AM [Morning Prayer] 10 AM [Divine Liturgy]

**Mystery of Holy Repentance [Confessions]: AFTER Saturday
Evening Prayer or ANYTIME by appointment**

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 2014

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

**MEMORY OF THE HOLY AND JUST JOSEPH,
HUSBAND OF MARY; OF DAVID, PROPHET &
KING; & THE HOLY APOSTLE JAMES THE
BROTHER OF THE LORD.**

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

**The Holy 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia. The Blessed New
Martyr Gregory Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanislaviv.**

**PLEASE COME FORWARD AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY;
KISS THE HOLY ICONS, KISS THE HAND CROSS [OR RECEIVE
THE HOLY ANOINTING], & PARTAKE OF THE ANTIDORAN
[BLESSED BREAD].**

<u>SAT. DEC. 27</u>	7:00 PM	FESTAL EVENING PRAYER
	8:00 PM	MYSTERY OF HOLY REPENTANCE [CONFESSION]
<u>SUN. DEC. 28</u>	9:00 AM	FESTAL MORNING PRAYER
	10:00 AM	<i>For the People</i>
	11:30 AM	PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON
<u>MON. DEC. 29</u>	<u>Post-Festive Day of Christmas. The Holy Innocents of Bethelhem. Our Ven. Fr. Marcellus, Hegumen of the Akimetes “Sleepless ones”.</u>	
<u>TUE. DEC. 30</u>	NO DIVINE SERVICES ~ FATHER’S DAY OFF	
	<u>Post-Festive Day of Christmas. The Holy Martyr Anysia. The Ven. Fr. Zoticus, Presbyter & Protector of Orphans.</u>	
	7 AM	THE FIRST HOUR

**WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS TO THIS MORNING’S
DIVINE SERVICES. PLEASE LOOK FOR THE
CHANGEABLE PARTS, HYMN NUMBERS, AND
PROPERES ON THE COLORED INSERT.**

WED. DEC. 31

Leave-taking of Christmas. Our Ven. Mother Melany of Rome.

7 AM THE FIRST HOUR

7 PM FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

THU. JAN. 1 2015

FEAST OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD. OUR HOLY FR. BASIL THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CAESAREA IN CAPPADOCIA.

9 AM +Ruth V. Wacker by S. Cooper

FRI. JAN. 2

Pre-Festive Day of the Thephany. Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome. Our Ven. & God-bearing Fr. Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov.

7 AM THE FIRST HOUR

9 AM +Derek Anthony Springer

SAT. JAN. 3

Saturday before Theophany. The Holy Prophet Malachi. The Holy Martyr Gordius. Ven. Mother Genevieve of Paris.

7 AM THE FIRST HOUR

7 PM FESTAL EVENING PRAYER

SUN. JAN. 4

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY. Synaxis of the Holy 70 Apostles. Our Ven. Fr. Theoctist, Hegumen at Cuomo in Sicily.

9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER

10:00 AM FOR THE PEOPLE

11:30 AM PARISH LUNCHEON

12 NOON ECF CLASSES FOR ALL!

CHRIST IS BORN ! GLORIFY HIM!

Safe Environment Program: The Eparchy of Parma and St. Athanasius the Great Parish are committed to provide a safe environment for all of the minors in our community. If you are aware of any issues of the Abuse of Minors by members of the clergy or Parish Volunteers please contact the Eparchy's Victim Assistance Coordinator Sharon Di Lauro Petrus M.D. at 216-741-8773 x 246

~YOUR GIFT TO THE LORD ~THE MONTH OF DEC. 2014

Sunday Collection	Candles	Holy Day	Fund Raising	Weekly Totals
12/7/14	\$894.22	\$45.72	\$00.00	\$595.25 \$1,535.19
12/14/14	\$1,706.64	\$83.00	\$10.00	\$1,176.25 \$2,975.89
12/21/14	\$981.32	\$58.91	\$625.00	\$ 964.77 \$2,630.00
TOTAL	\$3,582.18	\$187.63	\$635.00	\$ 2,736.27 \$7,141.08

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE!

Thank you for all of your support!

2014-2015 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL PLEDGES TO DATE: \$2400.00

ST. ATHANASIUS STEWARDSHIP GOAL: \$1400.00

AMOUNT SURPASSING OUR GOAL \$1000.00 [PLEDGED]

AMOUNT COLLECTED TO DATE \$2400.00

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAVE PLEDGED OR CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS OUR GOAL! BUT TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET PLEDGED, YOUR PLEDGE AND SUPPORT IS STILL NEEDED! NOW THAT WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL, WE RECEIVE BACK FROM THE EPARCHY A LARGER PERCENTAGE OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

Please turn in your pledge card and initial payment check made out to "St. Athanasius Byzantine Catholic Church". You can pay your pledge over a 5 month period. You may also donate online at www.parma.org and go to the donate tab. If every family pledge \$200.00 we would be able to continue to surpass our goal, and we receive back the remainder. St. Athanasius the Great Parish has received much support of the Eparchy, we al should show our appreciation for this support by contributing to the Stewardship Appeal. Any amount is welcome!

MANY THANKS~ Father Bryan wishes to express his thanks for everyone who sent him Christmas Greetings, gave him a Christmas card, or a Christmas present. Your support and appreciation is most uplifting.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: our parishioners, family



members, friends and others who are ill or infirm:
AMY CHIAPPE, ETHAN EYMAN, CULVER
“RED” EYMAN, MARGARET EYMAN, BOBBI
SPAK, JAY MURTAUGH, BJ NOVAK, ELAINE
WILSON, DR. CHARLOTTE NEUMANN,
SONIA DOUGLAS-STANTON, RON ZELLER,
NICHOLE RICHARDS, BR. JAMES BROWN
S.M., WILLIS WILLIAMS, BELINDA DORNEY,
DAVID BLEVINS, FR. DEACON MICHAEL

GEORGE, MONICA KING GILBRECH, KATHERYN LOIDOLT,
PAUL SUVAK, GLEN GRABOW, EVIE KOBUS, JOHN BORGERT,
LAUREN FIORELLI, CLARE HUNTER, IGNATIO ROMERO,
MAGDELINA CHAUBY, ROBERT SUVAK.

<u>Candles Available</u>	<u>Monthly Donation</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Eternal Lamp	\$40.00	Thanksgiving	Karen Ybarra
Icon Screen (6)	\$40.00	Allison Hendricks	Judy Ernst
Tetrapod (2)	\$30.00	Healing	Dan & Olga Vaughn
Nativity Icon	\$25.00	Jesus, Mary, Joseph	Richard Medwig
Theotokos of Vladimir Icon	\$25.00	Special Intention	Glen Grabow
Resurrection Icon	\$25.00	Special Intention	Father Bryan
St. Athanasius Icon	\$25.00	Ukraine	Dan & Olga Vaughn
Holy Table	\$40.00	Special Intention	Al Macek

Give a spiritual Gift to someone in need. We have candle Gift Cards you can send or give to a loved one, friend or someone in need of prayers. A single 6-day candle is \$5. For an entire month the cost is \$25. When giving your donation use the candle envelope in the back of the Church. Paired with it, take the candle card to give as a gift. In addition to the name on the candle, please specify a start date if you would like the Church to light the candle[s] in front of the Icons of our Lord or the Theotokos for you on a future date.

Thank you for your support of St Athanasius the Great Parish.

THE AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS,
THE INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP, HEALER
OF ALCOHOLICS



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14TH 7 PM

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18TH 7 PM

FRIDAY MARCH 20TH 7 PM

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8TH 7 PM

WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH 7 PM

ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1117 S. BLAINE AVE. INDIANAPOLIS.

**DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS TROUBLED BY THE DISEASE OF
ALCOHOLISM OR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY?**

**PLEASE GIVE THEIR FIRST NAME TO FR. BRYAN AND JOIN US FOR
THIS LIFE-CHANGING AND HEALING AKATHIST.**



ST. ATHANASIUS THE
GREAT PARISH
COMMUNITY MEAL~

Many thanks to all who helped and
participated watch this space for
further announcements

As part of our call to participate
actively in the Holy Father's call for
the "New Evangelization", we need

to truly reach out to the Neighborhood Community
surrounding our Parish Facilities. One way for us to do this is to
provide a Free Community Meal on a regular basis.

Daun Hughey has come forward to coordinate this effort. But
she will need everyone's cooperation to connect with the
Community to make this meal a success. If you are willing to
help with this effort, please see Daun or Father Bryan.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES 2014-2015



Our Eastern Christian Formation Classes will continue **NEXT SUNDAY** after the Parish Luncheon. There will be no Classes **TODAY**. **PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN OUR ECF PROGRAM.** The Children are divided by age and grade. Currently the Pre-K and Kindergarten and Primary Grade classes have begun.

Parents please commit to have themselves and their children here each week to make the classes.

We expect **EVERY ADULT** to participate in the Adult Enrichment Class. Sadly all too many of you have **NOT** been faithful in attending and participating in Eastern Christian Formation Classes. Please recommit yourself to growing in the Holy Spirit and Faith. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Second Annual traditional Christmas Eve Supper~

Did you have any fun at the Holy Night Supper on Christmas Eve? Your Pastor certainly did! He wants to thank everyone who attended, cooked or provided the traditional food for this traditional Supper. If you missed it, please consider coming in 2015! Invite your family members to come and eat with us and to pray with us!

Can You Help? The Hall Kitchen Dishwasher is disparately in need of repair. Father has been told that it is in need of a new "drain filter" [if he remembers correctly]. A usable Dishwasher will help simplify clean up after various Parish projects and meals. If you can help please tell John Danovich and schedule a time to assess the situation and make a repair. Thanks!

The Cupboard is almost bare! It would be a great help if every family would bring a few non-perishable food items to Church. We especially need cereals, canned fruit and vegetables, canned and boxed soups, canned meats, and canned soups. But any non-perishable food items would be most welcomed!

Please bring them to Church or bring them to the Church hall and place in the food bank box.

**Upcoming celebrations of the Paraclis to the Theotokos
and Mystery of Holy Anointing "Ancient Healing Service" at 7 PM.**

Wednesday January 14 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday February 11 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday March 11 Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts & Holy Anointing

Wednesday April 29 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday May 27 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Wednesday June 24 Paraclis & Holy Anointing

Please invite your friends and join us for this beautiful Healing Service!

Father has a question for YOU: *Why is it so hard for some of you to invite and bring your relatives to events and Divine Services at St. Athanasius?*

Our Holy Night Supper Christmas Eve was a perfect time for you to invite and bring your family to St. Athanasius the Great. Yet, when Father asked if you were coming, some of the perennial excuses were "Well, Father, we have relatives over on Christmas Eve." "Father, our family goes to our relatives for Christmas Eve." Or "Father, we always open our presents on Christmas Eve, so we can't come." These excuses bring to mind the Gospel from a couple of weeks ago of all the excuses people had for not coming to the man's banquet.

It appears some of you have forgotten that Christmas Eve is a day of abstinence in the Byzantine Catholic Church. That is why the Holy Night Supper is meatless. So if you were eating meat or meat products at your Christmas Eve meal, you were not observing the Simple Fast. It is a sign that one does not have a proper understanding of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.

Next year on Christmas Eve, why not get your priorities in order? Why not center the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord, like it should be! Invite your relatives to join us for the Holy Night Supper. Bring them if you have to do so! Have them join us for Great Compline. This is a perfect time to invite your non-Catholic and non-Orthodox friends to join us, since there is no Eucharist. We should never lose an opportunity to invite and bring someone to our events and Divine Services. They may be saved!

UPCOMING HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES

AT ST. ATHANASIUS THE GREAT CHURCH

Circumcision of our Lord and St. Basil the Great Celebration

Wed. December 31 7 PM

FESTAL VESPERS

Thu. January 1 9 AM

FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday before the Theophany Celebration.

Sat. January 3 7 PM

FESTAL VESPERS

[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]

Sun. January 4 9 AM

FESTAL MATINS

10 AM

DIVINE LITURGY

11:15 AM

PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON

12 NOON

ECF CLASSES FOR ALL

Theophany of our Lord Celebration

Mon. January 5 7 PM

**VESPERS AND LITURGY OF ST.
BASIL WITH THE
CONSECRATION OF THE JORDAN
WATER**

Tue. January 6 9 AM

FESTAL MORNING PRAYER

Sunday after the Theophany Celebration.

Sat. January 10 7 PM

FESTAL VESPERS

[FOLLOWED BY CONFESSIONS]

Sun. January 11 9 AM

FESTAL MATINS

10 AM

DIVINE LITURGY

11:15 AM

PARISH SOCIAL LUNCHEON

12 NOON

ECF CLASSES FOR ALL

UPCOMING HOLY DAYS IN JANUARY 2015!



Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord and St. Basil the Great

Wed. Dec. 31

7 PM: Festal Evening Prayer

Thu. Jan. 1

9 AM: Festal Divine Liturgy



Feast of the Theophany Celebration

Mon. Jan. 5

7 PM: Vespers and Liturgy consecration of the Jordan water

Tue. Jan. 6

9 AM: Festal Morning Prayer

Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

Thu. Jan. 29

7 PM: Festal Evening Prayer

Fri. Jan. 30

7 AM: First Hour

7AM: Festal Divine Liturgy

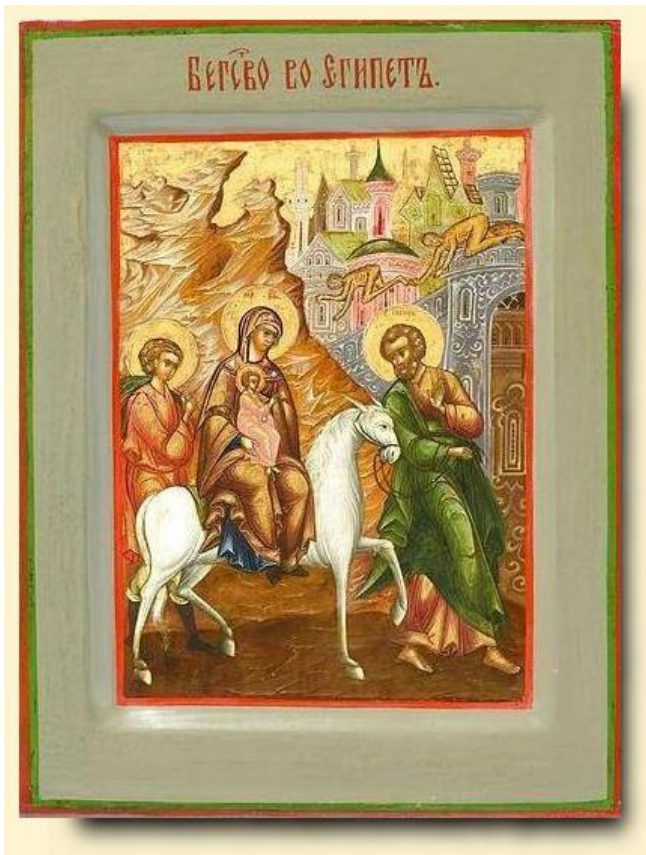
Feast of the Encounter of our Lord with Simeon and Anna

Mon. Feb. 2

7 AM: First Hour

7:30 AM: Divine Liturgy

Please plan now to share in celebrating these joyous Holy Days!



Sunday after the Nativity

*Joseph, Spouse of the Theotokos, David
the King, James, the Lord's Brother*

Infants Harvested Like Wheat

ALL THE HISTORIC CHURCHES – Greek, Latin and Syriac – include in their liturgical observance of Christ's nativity (although on different days) a remembrance of the cruel slaughter of the Holy Innocents, the young boys of Bethlehem and the surrounding area

slain on the orders of King Herod the Great. In our calendar December 29 is devoted to commemorating this tragic event.

This episode is described in the Gospel of St Matthew as a result of the visit of the wise men who came seeking the newborn king of the Jews. After King Herod had consulted with the chief priests and scribes, he sent the wise men to Bethlehem “...and said, ‘Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also’”(Mt 2:8). The wise men found the Child, offered Him their gifts, but “...being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way” (Mt 2:12).

The Gospel continues: “*Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: ‘A voice was heard in Ramah - lamentation,*

Sunday after the Nativity [Page 2]

weeping, and great mourning - Rachel weeping for her children refusing to be comforted, because they are no more” (Mt 2:16-18).

This passage in Matthew is the only reference in the Scriptures or in other records of the time to the slaughter of these children. This led many in the past two centuries to deny the historical character of the story. Others have pointed out that the tale perfectly reflects the character of Herod. At the beginning of his reign he had executed his second wife Mariamne, her brother and her mother as threats to his reign. In 7 BC Herod killed his own sons Alexander and Aristobolus for the same reason. In 4 BC his son Antipater suffered the same fate. In his *Saturnalia* the late pagan writer Macrobius (c.395-423) attributed the following remark on Herod's reputation to the Emperor Augustus, “It is better to be Herod's pig than his son.”

One reason why contemporary accounts do not mention the slaughter of the Innocents may be the insignificant number of boys killed. Although later descriptions number these victims in the thousands – one Coptic source refers to 144,000 – scholars today reckon the number to be no more than twenty or thirty, based on the estimated population of the area in the first century. We cannot imagine that the death of two or three dozen children would have attracted attention in an age in which thousands routinely died in earthquakes, invasions and the like.

The Tears of Rachel

Matthew connects the death of the Innocents with “*Rachel weeping for her children,*” a reference which many today would not readily understand. Rachel, the wife of Jacob, was connected with Bethlehem in Jewish lore. She died giving birth to her son Benjamin “*...and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem). And Jacob set a pillar on her grave, which marks Rachel's grave to this day*” (Gen 35:19-20).

Sunday after the Nativity [Page 3]

Rachel's son Benjamin survived, and so Rachel did not weep for him. Rather the verse from Jeremiah quoted in the Gospel refers to Ramah, the area near Rachel's grave from which in the sixth century BC to which Jews were driven for deportation to Babylon. Rachel "wept" for the children of Israel lost in the Babylonian exile; now she "weeps" for the Innocents.

The Flight into Egypt

The Gospel tells us that, warned in a dream by an angel, Joseph took the Child and His Mother to Egypt, thus escaping Herod's wrath (see Mt 2:13-15). By way of commentary, Matthew closes his mention of their stay in Egypt with the words of Hosea 11:1, "*Out of Egypt I called My Son.*"

Again, there is no other Scriptural mention of the Child Jesus in Egypt. Later writings describe in detail an elaborate itinerary through Gaza and Sinai and along the Nile to Old Cairo where the Lord and His family reputedly lived until the death of Herod. In some versions they are accompanied by St James, the Lord's Brother; in others by Salome, His midwife. Many of the details of the journey of the Holy Family in Egypt are chronicled in a manuscript by Pope Theophilus of Alexandria (AD 384-412), who is said to have received these details during an apparition of the Holy Virgin. The Coptic Orthodox Church continues to distribute an "official map" marking the places they visited on their journey.

Most famous of the many shrines along this route are the Abu Sergha (St. Sergius) Church and the St Mary's Church in Old Cairo. A nearby cave is reputedly the place which housed the Infant and His family.

A number of apocryphal writings from later periods describe this journey as a series of miracles wrought as the Lord passed through Egypt. Demons were expelled, the sick healed and idols shattered at the sight of Him. In one of these works, the sixth-century *Arabic Gospel of the Infancy of Christ*, an idol testifies before falling to the ground, "The unknown God is come, the One who is truly God; nor is there any one besides Him who is

Sunday after the Nativity [Page 4]

worthy of divine worship; for He is truly the Son of God” (*Arabic Gospel* 4:11).

The New Moses, the New Israel

The passages in Matthew’s Gospel which speak of the slaughter of the Innocents and the flight into Egypt form what the Jews call a *Midrash*, or homiletic story: here, a kind of commentary on the identity of Christ. He is the King of the Jews, feared by the tyrant Herod but recognized by the Persian sages. He is the new Israel brought out of Egypt. He is the new Moses saved from slaughter as an infant as Moses was (see Ex 1:22 ff.). Then He was sent home when the danger was past, as Moses was, “*Go, return to Egypt...for all the men who sought your life are dead*” (Ex 4:19, all but reproduced in Mt 2:20). This prepares us to see the adult Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount as the new Lawgiver, giving added depth to the Law of Moses. Thus in Matthew 5:21 we see Jesus redefine Exodus 20:13 and

Deuteronomy 5:17. “*You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.*”

How much of the story of Christ in Egypt is theological meditation and how much is history? It is certainly prudent to reject the medieval elaborations to the biblical narrative. As to the Gospel core, we can, along with Pope Benedict XVI, accept it as both history and reflection until proven otherwise.

Seeking the hidden Treasure, the impious tyrant today sacrificed innocent children, and Rachel was left without comfort. Seeing the unjust slaughter and premature death of those whom she bewailed, her heart was broken. But now she is consoled, seeing them in the bosom of Abraham.

From the Vespers of December 29

Our venerable and God-bearing father Seraphim of Sarov was a Russian ascetic who lived at the Sarov Monastery in the 18th century, and is considered a wonder-worker. The Church commemorates St. Seraphim on January 2, and the opening of his relics on July 19.

St. Seraphim was born Prokhor Moshnin on July 19, 1754. His parents, Isidore and Agathia Moshnin, lived in Kursk, Russia; Isidore was a merchant. At the age of 10, Prokhor became seriously ill. During the course of his illness, he saw the Mother of God in his sleep, who promised to heal him. While at a young age, he needed to help his parents with their shop, but business had little appeal for him. Young Prokhor loved to read the lives of the saints, to attend church, and to withdraw into seclusion for prayer. At the age of 18, Prokhor firmly decided to become a monk. His mother blessed him with a large copper crucifix, which he wore over his clothing all his life. After this, he entered the Sarov monastery as a novice.

Monastic Life

From day one in the monastery, exceptional abstinence from food and slumber were the distinguishing features of his life. He ate once a day, and little. On Wednesdays and Fridays he ate nothing.

His taking of the monastic vows occurred in 1786, when he was 27 years old. He was given the name Seraphim, which in Hebrew means "fiery," or "burning." He was soon made a hierodeacon. He justified his name by his extraordinarily burning prayer. He spent all of his time, save for the very shortest of rests, in church. Through such prayer and the labors of religious services, Seraphim became worthy to see angels, both serving and singing in church.

In 1793, St. Seraphim was ordained a hieromonk, after which he served every day and received Eucharist for a year. St. Seraphim then began to withdraw into his "farther hermitage"—the forest wilderness about five km from Sarov Monastery. He achieved great perfection at this time. Wild animals—bears, rabbits, wolves, foxes and others—came to the hut of the ascetic. The staritsa, i.e., eldress, of the Diveevo monastery, Matrona

Plescheeva, witnessed how St. Seraphim fed a bear that had come to him out of his hand:

The miraculous transfiguration of the starets' face was described by a close admirer and follower of St. Seraphim: Motovilov. This happened during the winter, on a cloudy day. Motovilov was sitting on a stump in the woods; St. Seraphim was squatting across from him and telling his pupil the meaning of a Christian life, explaining for what we Christians live on earth.

"It is necessary that the Holy Spirit enter our heart. Everything good that we do, that we do for Christ, is given to us by the Holy Spirit, but prayer most of all, which is always available to us," he said.

"Father," answered Motovilov, "how can I see the grace of the Holy Spirit? How can I know if He is with me or not?"

St. Seraphim began to give him examples from the lives of the saints and apostles, but Motovilov still did not understand. The elder then firmly took him by the shoulder and said to him, "We are both now, my dear fellow, in the Holy Spirit." It was as if Motovilov's eyes had been opened, for he saw that the face of the elder was brighter than the sun. In his heart Motovilov felt joy and peace, in his body a warmth as if it were summer, and a fragrance began to spread around them. Motovilov was terrified by the unusual change, but especially by the fact that the face of the starets shone like the sun. But St. Seraphim said to him, "Do not fear, dear fellow. You would not even be able to see me if you yourself were not in the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Thank the Lord for His mercy toward us."

St. Seraphim of Sarov fell asleep in the Lord on January 2, 1833 [O.S.]. Seraphim was glorified (canonized) by the Russian Orthodox Church in 1903. His biographer Nicholas Motovilov was one of his "spiritual children". Pope John Paul II referred to him as a saint.

"Acquire a peaceful spirit, and around you thousands will be saved."

St. Seraphim of Sarov

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY ESPECIALLY THOSE SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ.

Lt. COL. CRAIG M. EYMAN D.O.~ is Fr. Bryan's 2nd youngest brother. He has reentered the Army Reserve and is currently serving with the 848th FST [Forward Surgical Team] stationed in Twinsburg, OH. He has returned to his family in Solon, OH.

CAPT. BRIAN HEWKO USA~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan and a parishioner of St. Anne Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church in Austinburg, OH. He is a 2008 graduate of West Point. Brian has been deployed to the Emirate of Kuwait on the Persian Gulf.

CAPTAIN CHRISTINA MOMONIER~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan. Christina is from Baltimore, MD is a Byzantine Catholic. She is currently serving at Ft. Benning, GA.

CAPTAIN [FATHER] JOSEPH BRANKATELLI USA ~ is a friend of Fr. Bryan and a priest of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Fr. Joseph is posted in Washington, DC.

AIRMAN MICHAELA and AIRMAN FIRST CLASS JOHANN WELLER USAF ~ are friends of Fr. Bryan and members of St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church in Harrisburg, PA. Before entering the Armed Forces they were active with the BYZANTEEN Youth Rallies.

PRIVATE CODY ROMERO USA, STAFF SERGEANT NIKO ROMERO, and STAFF SERGEANT RORY ROMERO Sons of Sonia Stanton. Cody received the Military Blessing at our Church and is currently serving at Fort Bragg, NC. His brother Rory has been deployed to Afghanistan. Their brother Niko serves as an Army recruiter in Anderson, IN.

PRIVATE JACKSON RUANE USA~ Jackson is formerly from St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Parish in Ashtabula, OH. He is currently serving at Ft. Polk, LA since September, 2014. He thanks you for your prayers.

PRIVATE ABIGAIL BROWN USA~ is the Grand Niece of parishioner Belinda Dorney. She was recently promoted to PFC and has completed training in Army Intelligence at a base in Arizona. She is serving in Oklahoma.

2ND LT. AARON JACOBSON~ from Mounds View, MN is a friend of Fr. Bryan. He is a 2013 West Point graduate, who has just completed his special training as a platoon leader. He is serving in Ft. Drum, NY.

May God, in His infinite Love and Mercy, guide and protect all of those serving our Republic in the Armed Forces.

Welcome to St. Athanasius Byzantine Catholic Church of Indianapolis, IN. We are a Byzantine Catholic Community that, as part of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy [Diocese] of Parma, is in Communion with Pope Francis I and the other Catholic Churches. If you remain until the end of the Divine Liturgy; you will fulfill your Sunday Obligation. We welcome to Holy Communion all Orthodox and Catholic Christians, who are able to receive Holy Communion in their own parish Church. **In the Byzantine Catholic Church we give Holy Communion to infants and young children. If you bring your child forward at Communion time he or she will be given Holy Communion. If you do not wish your child to receive Holy Communion, please do not bring the child forward at Communion time.** At the conclusion of the Liturgy, all should come forward to kiss the Holy Cross, or be anointed with blessed oil, and share in the Blessed Bread. Then join us in our St. Mary Hall for our Coffee Social. **THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!**