



*Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great
Byzantine Catholic Church
"Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!"
"Glory to Him Forever! Slava Naviki Bohu!"*

We welcome all to the Divine Services at our parish. Our restrooms are in the Dormition Hall behind the Rectory next door. On Sundays, after Divine Liturgy, our potluck luncheon is open to everyone, especially our guests. Come join us for fellowship.

Need to request an appointment with Father?

Father is available for confession or spiritual direction by appointment, and he welcomes you to contact him whenever you need him.

Prayers for the sick or other intentions:

If you have a special intention for the sick, birthdays, deceased, need to request a Liturgy or other service to be offered for someone please give a note, text or call Father at 216-532-6364.

ECF Class

We welcome kids of all ages from our parish to participate in ECF class on Sundays after Liturgy and Lunch for 30 minutes.

An adult ECF class will be held on Sundays in our church as well. Please bring your friends to help build our church community.

Announcements:

This year's Eparchial Pilgrimage will take place August 19-20 at the Shrine of Our Lady Mariapoch in Burton, Ohio. On Saturday, there will be the Blessing of Water and Moleben to the Theotokos, Divine Liturgy and an evening campfire and chat. Sunday will include Matins, activities for children and teens, and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. No registration is required.

Visit: <https://www.parma.org/pilgrimage>

Vacation Bible School is coming soon!

Save the date: July 20, 21, 22, 23.

All kids are welcome! This was very popular last year.

Let's make it even better this year.

Contact persons: Rev. Mykhaylo Shkyndya, Suzanne and Brian Goshorn

Fill the Pantry

The needs of the homeless in our area brings people to our church each week. The food supply is getting low. In your generosity please bring any these items: peanut butter, jelly, crackers, juice, water, canned or dried fruit, cereal, soup, canned meat, tuna, vegetables, protein bars or whatever the Holy Spirit guides you. Your prayers for the homeless are also very important. We request that a couple people each week fill bags with food from the pantry so they are ready to be handed out.

Stewardship Appeal

Please consider making a sacrificial gift to this year’s Appeal that reflects the importance of the Church in your life and in the lives of those close to you. The Eparchy needs your support. Your gift will make a positive difference, such as: Development of Parishes, Vocations and Seminarian Education, The Works of the Apostolate and Retired Priests of the Eparchy.

METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY

When: November 2 – 5, 2023

Theme: Living Our Faith, Moving Forward, Appreciating Our Past. For more details visit: byzantineassembly2023.org.

PROTECT THEM BOTH

A proposed amendment to Ohio’s Constitution for a vote on the November 2023 ballot expands and enshrines abortion at the expense of protections for preborn children and women. Every parish is asked to unite in prayer, distribute educational materials, and encourage voter registration to Vote NO on the abortion expansion amendment. All campaign materials and other helpful resources can be found on the Protect Them Both campaign site: www.ohiocathconf.org/protect

Services for the Week of May 28-June 4, 2023				
Day		Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	May 28 Pentecost Sunday	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:15 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Moleben to the Theotokos ECF Class	Acts 2:1-11 Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12
Monday	May 29 Pentecost Monday	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Eph 5:8b-19 Mt 18:10-20
Tuesday	May 30 Isaac, Venerable	6:00 PM	Moleben to the Theotokos Divine Liturgy Youth meeting	Rom 1:1-7 & 13-17 Mt 4:25-5:12
Wednesday	May 31 Hermas, Apostle Hermeas, Martyr	6:00 PM	Moleben to the Theotokos Divine Liturgy	Rom 1:18-27 Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	June 3 Lucillian and Others	5:00 PM	Vespers	
Sunday	June 4 Sunday of All Saints	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 12:20 AM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy ECF Class Ukrainian Liturgy	Rom 6:18-23 Mt 8:5-13

PENTECOST and OUR BAPTISM BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Acts of the Apostles recounts the story of the original Pentecost Sunday (Acts 2). Jews "from every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5) were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish feast of Pentecost. On that Sunday, ten days after the Ascension of Our Lord, the Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary were gathered in the Upper Room, where they had seen Christ after His Resurrection:

And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. [Acts 2:2-4]

Christ had promised His Apostles that He would send His Holy Spirit, and, on Pentecost, they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit (*Wisdom, Counsel, Understanding, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of God*). The Apostles began to preach the Gospel in all of the languages that the Jews who were gathered there spoke, and about 3,000 people were converted and baptized that day.

That is why **Pentecost is often called "the birthday of the Church."** On Pentecost Sunday, with the descent of the Holy Spirit, Christ's mission is completed, and the New Covenant is inaugurated.

The word *Pentecost* comes from the Greek word *pentecoste*, meaning 50th. Pentecost occurs 50 days after Easter and, coincides with the Jewish feast Shavu'ot that follows 50 days after Passover. (Shavu'ot is the festival of weeks, for the 7 weeks that pass between Passover and Shavu'ot). The Feast of Pentecost is also called Descent of the Holy Spirit, especially in iconography. This is the feast day of the third person of the Trinity.

The celebration of Pentecost is similar in the East and West. The focus is on the Holy Spirit, and priests wear the liturgical color representing the Holy Spirit. Only, in the Western Church, red is the color used to represent the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire. In the East, green is the color of the Holy Spirit. This is

because green is the color of life, and the Holy Spirit gives us new life in Baptism and Confirmation.

In the East, many people bring flowers or green branches to church to represent this new life. This also ties in with the Jewish feast celebrated at Pentecost, since it was a feast to thank God for the harvest. Jews decorated their homes with greenery and flowers from the harvest fruits for this feast. We do the same, but the flowers and greenery represent the Holy Spirit and the new life given to us; the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Eastern Churches also have two other names for the feast of Pentecost, "Green Holidays" and "Feast of Roses." These stem from the tradition of decorating homes and bringing flowers and green foliage to church.

You can celebrate Pentecost, either by yourself or with your family, by reading Acts 2:1-41, which is an account of Pentecost. Then, you could go on to read about the biblical symbols of the Holy Spirit. There are seven symbols: anointing (Luke 4:18-19), cloud and light (Exodus 40: 34-38), dove (Matthew 3:16), finger (Exodus 31:18), fire (Acts 2:3-4), hand (Acts 8: 17-19), seal (Ephesians 1: 13-14), and water (John 7:38).

Green is the color! Wear green on Pentecost Sunday and also on the post feast days. Work green into your meal plan for the week, making sure there is something green to eat at every meal. Light a candle at the supper table to represent tongues of fire. Buy or grow a new plant for your home. This follows the ancient tradition of decorating your home in greenery. Buy flowers or roses to honor the Holy Spirit for this feast day.

Since the Holy Spirit is espoused to the Theotokos, don't forget Mary during your prayers this Pentecost!

"Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of truth, You are, everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord".



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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