



*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.

The Courage to be Myrrh Bearers Women’s Renewal

A weekend of empowerment, spiritual reflection, and community fellowship, **November 10-12, 2023**, at the Lial Retreat Center in Whitehouse, OH. Keynote Speaker is Lynne Wardach, ByziMom of <https://www.byzimom.com>. Rev. Dennis Hrubciak is the spiritual director. Registration fee is **\$200 by September 1, 2023**. Online registration form available @ <https://www.parma.org/retreats>

Fill the Pantry

The needs of the homeless in our area bring people to our church each week. **We request that a couple people each week fill bags with food from the pantry, so they are ready to be handed out.** This is a great activity for families.

Gardeners are Needed – Make it a Family Project

Last year some improvements were made to our church campus grounds. We need to continue to beautify them. Some ways include:

- Maintain the existing flower beds and church garden with regular watering/weeding
- Donate and plant seeds, new flowers/ferns that can be picked and arranged to enhance our worship space
- Keep the lawn mowed and trimmed; remove weeds from cracks in sidewalks

PROTECT THEM BOTH

A proposed amendment to Ohio’s Constitution for a vote on the November, 2023 ballot expands and enshrines abortion at the 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: <https://www.ohiocathconf.org/protect>

Announcements:

Life Conference: Life: The Political, Medical, Moral and Philosophical Saturday, Sept 30, 2023 at the St Mary Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, Marblehead, Ohio, 9 AM-5 PM; registration at 8 AM, continental breakfast and lunch included. Tickets \$60 (adult), \$30 (student), scholarships available. Speakers: Dr. George Delfado, Fr. Thomas Loya, Mr. Peter Range, Prof. Janet Smith. Deadline to register: Wed, Sept 27. Call 419-626-0375 or email: lifconference2023@yahoo.com for info or tickets. Additional info: www.stmarymarblehead.com or www.facebook.com/stmarybyzantine. Any questions or concerns, call 419-357-3758 (cell) or 419-626-0375 (landline).

Historic Gathering of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America

You are invited to Participate!

Metropolitan Archbishop William, Bishop Kurt, and the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church invite YOU to attend the “Metropolitan Assembly” at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey, on Friday, November 3 through Sunday, November 5, 2023! The theme of the Assembly is to “learn about our past and to prepare for our future!” Guest speakers include Dr. Paul Magosci, noted Author and Historian; Bishop Nil Lushchak of the Eparchy of Mukachevo; Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York; as well as other clergy and lay leaders. The Assembly includes lectures, discussions, fellowship, and a gala dinner with folk music and dancing. The fee includes meals, breaks, presentations, materials, and the gala on Saturday evening. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between 18 and 35. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is <https://www.byzantineassembly2023.org/> and the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com. Hope to see YOU there!

Opportunities to Help with Fundraising...we are called into service

At this time, our parish is unable to exist without fundraising initiatives. Our most successful venture over the years has proved to be the traditional pierogi and European baked goods made in our commercial bakery kitchen and then sold at the various local Farmer's Market venues. **Volunteers are always needed to help with the baking and selling. Cleaning the work areas and equipment are also welcomed opportunities to serve.** Please contact John Danovich and schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday).

Services for the Week of August 20 – August 27, 2023				
	Day	Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	August 20 12th Sunday after Pentecost	8:15 AM 10:00 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Moleben	1 Cor 15:1-11 Mt 19:16-26
Monday	August 21 Thaddeus - Apostle		No Services	2 Cor 8:7-15 Mk 3:6-12
Tuesday	August 22 Agathonicus and Others - Martyrs		No Services	2 Cor 8:16-9:5 Mk 3:13-19
Wednesday	August 23 Lupus-Martyr	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy Moleben	2 Cor 9:12-10:7 Mk 3:20-27
Thursday	August 24 Eutyches Bishop - Martyr		No Services	2 Cor 10:7-18 Mk 3:28-35
Friday	August 25 Return of the Relics of Bartholomew - Apostle	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy Moleben	2 Cor 11:5-21 Mk 4:1-9
Saturday	August 26 Adrian and Natalie - Martyrs	5:00 PM	Vespers Confession	1 Cor 2:6-9 Mt 22:15-22
Sunday	August 27 13th Sunday after Pentecost	8:15 AM 10:00 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Moleben	1 Cor 16:13-24 Mt 21:33-42

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

I CORINTHIANS 15

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you- -unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins of according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day of according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. 8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I but the grace of God which was with me. 11 Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

HE WAS SEEN BY CEPHAS, THEN BY THE TWELVE. AFTER THAT... BY MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED BRETHREN AT ONCE... LAST OF ALL HE WAS SEEN BY ME ALSO

Having finished the discourse on spiritual gifts, he passes all on to the most necessary of all: the subject of the resurrection. For in this, too, they were very unsound. And as in men's bodies, when the fever lays actual hold on their solid parts – I mean the nerves and the veins and the primary elements – the mischief becomes incurable unless it receives much attention, at that time something very similar was likely to happen. The mischief was proceeding to the very elements of godliness. This is why Paul also uses great earnestness. For his discourse was not of morals... but about the very sum of all good things. They were at variance touching the resurrection itself. The devil was taking a vehement stand against the resurrection because this was our great hope... Paul, writing to Timothy, called it gangrene... saying, 'Of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus, who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already, and overthrow the faith of some' (II Tim. 2:17,18). At one time they spoke this way, but at another time they said that the body does not rise again but the resurrection is the purification of the soul. But these things that wicked demon persuaded them to say... To show that all the things done for our sakes are a fable. For if they were persuaded that there is no resurrection of bodies, he would have gradually persuaded them that neither was Christ raised... Paul puts this before us with much exactness, going over all of it...

MATTHEW 19

16 Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" 17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." 18 He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 19 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" 20 The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" 21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." 22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. 23 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of." 25 When His disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, "Who then can be saved?" 26 But Jesus looked at them and say to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

NO ONE IS GOOD BUT ONE, THAT IS, GOD

Why then does Christ reply to him in this manner, saying, 'There is none good?' Because He came to Him as a mere man, and one of the common sort, and a Jewish teacher; for this cause then He discourses with him as a man. Indeed, in many instances He replies to the secret thoughts of those who come to Him.

St. John Chrysostom. *Homily LXIII on Matthew XIX*, 1. Eight B# 54, P. 387.

GOOD TEACHER, WHAT GOOD DEED MUST I DO TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE?

To the youth's stirring and awesome question of the Savior, as though angrily, answers, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good except the One God.' If I am just a teacher, then I am not sufficiently good, divinely good and powerful, to be able to solve the question of eternal life. Only someone who has eternal life and can give eternal life can solve that question. If I am just a teacher – and that means just a man, and not God and Lord – then I am not in a position to solve your question... No one is sufficiently good to be able to give the greatest good: eternal life. Only the Perfect Good – and this is God, the God-Man – knows and has the Perfect Life, Eternal Life, and can give it – and solve in every way the problem of eternal life on earth.

Archimandrite Justin Popović. *Commentary on St. Matthew*. B# 18.

