

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

THE PHILLIP'S FAST IS ONGOING THROUGH DEC 24

All those between the ages of 15 and 60, in good health, not pregnant or lactating are expected to observe this fast. Fasting includes abstaining from animal products on Wednesdays and Fridays. Everyone can abstain from something like television, social media, video gaming and spend that time in prayer, service and alms giving.

God bless our Most Reverend Bishop Robert Pipta, sixth Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma

May God grant him many happy and healthy blessed years. Axios!

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.

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

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 kitchen and sold at the various local Farmers' 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 (can be an evening after work). You are needed NOW, before and during the holiday demand, even if it is for a couple of hours.

Between now and Christmas we have increased demand for pierogi and baked goods at the Carmel's Winter Market, Market Wagon, Online Sales and Hall Sales

Sellers are needed for the Saturday Carmel market to free up those who are baking all week (Tues through Sat). Volunteers are also needed to package and mail out online and call-in orders.

- Cookies that sell well at this time of year need to be made.
- Biodegradable birdhouses were donated, and "kits" need to be put together to sell out of the hall and on market wagon.

Pumpkins need to be processed into puree for seasonal pumpkin roll demand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHRISTMAS ON THE PRARIE DEC 9, 2023

St Athanasius families are invited to come and share our Eastern Catholic traditions around the venerable St. Nicholas during this Advent Season. Christmas on the Prairie, Saturday, Dec 9th, 2023 is happening at Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church in Homer Glen, Illinois. This free winter event has quickly become a family favorite in the Southwest Suburbs of Chicago and all in attendance have the opportunity to learn about the real man behind the legend we now know as Santa Claus.

Participants will be able to enjoy live music and choirs from Chesterton Academy as well as Riverside Studio. Also, a true relic of St. Nicholas, on loan from the All Saints Shrine in Livonia, MI, will be available for veneration in the church during the event. Start time is 2 PM and at 4:30 PM the children gather awaiting the arrival of St. Nicholas. After he departs at 6 PM, all will gather for Vespers in the church. The flyer and a letter to parents with additional information is posted in Dormition Hall here at St. Athanasius.

Eleventh Annual Women's Retreat February 16-18, 2024

The Beatitudes: The Way of Life

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, OH

Retreat Master: Fr. Lukas Mitro

Further info contact Susan A. Gallagher 419-626-0375 or e-mail

www.womenretreat2024@yahoo.com

EXTRA COLLECTIONS

In addition to our regular collections we are asking for donations for:

- furnaces (the two in the church have already exceeded their useful life),
- (2) sign for the front of the church

We don't have a "rainy day" fund and no extra money to pay our debts. Thank you to those who've already donated. May God bless you!

Please note that the November Knights of Columbus is next Sunday, Nov 26 after the potluck luncheon.

Thanks to those who helped with product preparation and marketing for the Nov 11 and 18 craft fairs and Carmel Winter's Market. Thanks also to those who helped clean-up late in the day.

Services for the Week of November 17 - November 26, 2023				
Day		Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	November 19 25 th Sunday After Pentecost	8:15 AM 10:00 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy	Eph 4:1-6
Monday	November 20 Gregory the Decapolite Venerable	6:00 PM	Vespers Matins	1 Tim 1:1-7 Lk 17:20-25
Tuesday	November 21 Entrance of the Theotokos – solemn holy day	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy with mirovanje	Heb 9:1-7 Lk 10:38-42 & 11:27-28
Wednesday	November 22 Philemon and Others Apostles	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy for Thanksgiving	1 Tim 1:18-20 & 2:18-15 Lk 18:15-17 & 26-30
Thursday	November 23 Amphilochius and Gregory Bishops		No Services	1 Tim 3:1-13 Lk 18:31-34
Friday	November 24 Catherine Great Martyr	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy with ECF students and teachers	1 Tim 4:4-8 & 16 Lk 19:12-28
Saturday	November 25 Clement and Peter Pope and Bishop	5:00 PM	Vespers Confession	Gal 3:8-12 Lk 10:19-21
Sunday	November 26 26 th Sunday After Pentecost	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 12:30 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy KofC meeting	Eph 4:1-6 Lk 12:16-21

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

EPHESIANS 4

1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to have a walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all loneliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

ENDEAVORING TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT

What is this 'unity of Spirit?'... To this end was the Spirit given, that He might unite those who are separated by race and by different manners; at for old and young, rich and poor, child and youth, woman and man, and every soul become in a manner one, and more entirely so then if there were one body. For this spiritual relation is far higher than the other natural one, perfectness of the union more entire; because the conjunction of the soul is more perfect, inasmuch as it is both simple and uniform. And how then is this unity preserved? 'In the bond of peace'... Not simply that we should be at peace, not simply that we should love one another, but that all should be only even one soul. A glorious bond is this; with this bond let us bind ourselves together with one another and unto God... Now then, what impairs this bond? Love of money, passion for power, for glory, and the like loosens them, and severs them asunder...

Now what is this one body? The faithful throughout the whole world, those who are, and those who have been, and those who will be. And again, those who before Christ's coming pleased God, are 'one body.' How so? Because they also knew Christ. How does this appear? 'Your father Abraham,' He says, 'rejoiced to see My day, and saw it, and was glad' (John 8: 56). And again, 'If you had believed Moses,' He says, 'You would have believed Me, for he wrote of Me' (John 5: 46)... If there is one head, then there is one body. The body is composed of members both honorable and dishonorable...

THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT

The love which Paul requires of us is no common love, but that which cements us together, and makes us cleave inseparably to one another, and effects as great and as perfect a union as though it were between limb and limb. For this is that love which produces great and glorious fruits. Hence, he says, there is 'one body;' one, both by sympathy, and by not opposing the good of others, and by sharing their joy, having expressed all at once by this figure. He then beautifully adds, 'and one Spirit,' showing that from the one body there will be one Spirit... God has called you all on the same terms. He has bestowed nothing upon one more than upon another. To all He has freely given immortality, to all eternal life, to all immortal glory, to all brotherhood, to all inheritance. He is the common Head of all; 'He has raised us up together and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Jesus Christ' (Eph. 2: 6). You then, who in the spiritual world have such great equality of privileges, how is it that you are high – minded?

St. John Chrysostom. Homilies IX, X, XI, on Ephesians IV. B#57 PP. 94, 96, 97, 99, 102.



LUKE 12

16 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17 "And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' 18 "So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and all my goods. 19 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry."' 20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' 21 "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

YOU FOOL! THIS NIGHT YOUR SOUL WILL BE REQUIRED OF YOU; THEN WHOSE WILL THOSE THINGS BE WHICH YOU HAVE PROVIDED

I cannot be silent about the story of Hesychius the Horebite. He passed his life in complete negligence, without paying the least attention to his soul. Then he became extremely ill, and for an hour he left his body. And when he came to himself, he begged us all to leave him immediately. And he built up the door of his cell, and he stayed in it for twelve years without ever uttering a word to anyone, and without eating anything but bread and water. And, always remaining motionless, he was so wrapped in spirit in what he had seen in his ecstasy that he never changed his place but was always as if out of his mind, and silently shed hot tears. But when he was about to die, we broke open the door and went in, and after many questions this alone was all we heard from him: 'Forgive me! No one who has acquired the remembrance of death will ever be able to sin.' We were amazed to see that one who had before been some negligent was so suddenly transfigured by this blessed change and transformation. We reverently buried him in the cemetery near the fort and after some days we looked for his holy relics but did not find them. So, by his true and a praiseworthy repentance the Lord showed us that even after long negligence He accepts those who desire to amend.

Though remembrance of death and sins precedes weeping and mourning...

The remembrance of death is a daily death...

The thought of death is the most necessary of all works...

He who hourly yields himself to it is a saint...

Insensibility of heart dulls the mind, and abundance of food dries the fountains of tears

Just as the Fathers lay down that perfect love knows no sin, so I for my part declare that a perfect sense of death is free from fear...

The St. John Climacus. *Ladder of Divine Ascent*. Step 6: On Remembrance of Death, 18, 1, 2, 4, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21. B#53, PP. 110 – 113.



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins 10 AM Divine Liturgy

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