



*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.

During the Great Lent, Christians prepare themselves through fasting, confession, prayer, almsgiving, frequent services, and all spiritual struggles, to be resurrected from their passions and sins.

Food served at the Sunday luncheons during Lent are meatless.

On Willow or Palm Sunday we recall the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem before His passion. This day is considered one of the twelve Major Feasts of the liturgical year in the Byzantine Rite. It is always celebrated on the Sunday before Easter and includes the blessing of willow branches.

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.

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 always needed, even if it is for a couple of hours.**

There will be no Carmel Market during the month of April. Bakery activities will continue however, to build inventory for the Summer Market which begins in May.

Please contact John Danovich, (317) 538-7444, to schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday) for you and/or your family.

Opportunities For Service At St. Athanasius

- **Next Saturday, March 30, we need to bring all the marketing items back from the Carmel Market to the church hall. There are multiple tables, chairs, shelves, signs, etc. that we haven't been bringing back to church each week. So we need 2 extra people at the end of the market, which closes at noon.**
- **Pierogi pinchers and bakers are always needed (Tues through Friday). Pascha bread, kolachy and potica roll baking, making hrudka, chrin and lamb butters for Easter Baskets are activities ongoing Monday through Thursday of Holy Week; dying Easter eggs on Holy Saturday.**
- **Our worship space needs to be kept maintained; plants watered, candles filled, carpet vacuumed.**
- **Our social space needs to be kept clean and organized, including bathrooms.**
- **Items for the food pantry are always needed; (food, cans with pop tops, toiletries, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, hand warmers).**
- **Bags for the food pantry need to be assembled.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE GREAT FAST BEGAN MONDAY FEB12 AND CONTINUES TO PASCHA.

These directives are from <https://parma.org/news/directives-for-lent>

Canon 880: 2. **Strict abstinence** is to be observed on **the first day of the Great Fast and on Good Friday**. **Simple abstinence** is to be observed on **Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast**.

Strict abstinence forbids the use of meat and dairy products, including eggs.

Simple abstinence forbids the use of meat and meat products. The laws of strict and simple abstinence bind all the faithful of the Eparchy of Parma.

Expectant and nursing mothers, infants, those with serious health conditions, and those under physician's orders are exempt from the laws of strict abstinence.

Read more: THE GREAT LENT A TRADITIONAL CUSTOM OF THE BYZANTINE

RITE <https://archpitt.org/the-great-lent-a-traditional-custom-of-the-byzantine-rite/>

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.

2024 ByzanTEEN Rally

The Rally will take place in San Diego on **June 27-30, 2024**. Registration for the event will be open on Jan 20th, and we are thrilled to invite all teens in your parish ages 13-17. The price for the event weekend is \$380.

Thank you to those who donated the willow branches and palms for today's Blessing and flowers for the Veneration of the Holy Cross two weeks ago as well as for upcoming Holy Week. All are welcome to bring additional flowers throughout Holy Week to decorate our worship space as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord next Sunday. May God grant you many blessings for your charity.

Financial Report 3/17/2024

Date	Bakery Sales	Building Fund	Candle	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes	Weekly Total
3/17	\$997.42		\$201.00		\$1,004.11	\$2,202.53

Services for the Week of March 24 – March 31, 2024				
Day	Time	Service	Readings	
Sunday	March 24 Palm Sunday	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM 1:30 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon Vespers Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	Phil 4:4-9 Jn 12:1-18
Monday Holy Week	March 25 Annunciation – solemn feast day	6:00 PM	Vespers with Divine Liturgy	
Tuesday	March 26 Holy Tuesday	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	
Wednesday	March 27 Holy Wednesday	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy then Holy Anointing	
Thursday	March 28 Holy Thursday	5:00 PM	Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St Basil & Matins with Reading of 12 Gospels	
Friday	March 29 Good Friday	9:00 AM 7:00 PM 9:00 PM	Royal Hours Good Friday Vespers Jerusalem Matins	
Saturday	March 30 Holy Saturday	5:00 PM	Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil	Rom 6:3-11 Mat 28:1-20
Sunday	March 31 Pascha Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ	midnight 8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Paschal Midnight Office Ukrainian Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Baskets Procession & Resurrection Matins Divine Liturgy Blessing of Easter Baskets Easter Luncheon Agape Vespers	Acts 1:1-8 Jn 1:1-17 Acts 1:1-8 Jn 1:1-17

Palm Sunday

Philippians 4:4-9

Final Exhortations ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

John 12:1-18

Jesus Anointed at Bethany ¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." ⁹ Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, ¹¹ for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King ¹² The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" Blessed is the king of Israel!" ¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: ¹⁵ "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." ¹⁶ At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. ¹⁷ Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. ¹⁸ Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him.

Behold, the Bridegroom Is Coming WHEN DOES A DAY BEGIN? The clock says that a new day starts at 12:01 AM, which most people see as the middle of the night. For others a new day begins when the sun rises and reveille (or the alarm clock) is sounded. The Eastern Churches follow the pattern set in the Book of Genesis: "the evening and the morning were the first day" (Gen 1:5). The liturgical day begins with Vespers and continues through the night. Matins (Orthros) at dawn followed by the hours and the Divine Liturgy complete the daily cycle of prayer, and the next day begins with vespers. Based on this pattern the Great and Holy Week begins at sunset, with Vespers, in the evening of Palm Sunday. There are a great number of services appointed for this week. A few important points should be noted about them: Fast Days – Every day of this week (including Saturday) is a fast day, as every day (except Holy Friday) is a Eucharistic day. Either the Presanctified Liturgy or the Liturgy of St Basil is celebrated at vespers. Holy Friday is a strict (i.e. day-long) fast in memory of Christ's saving death. Focus of these services – Some of these services are "thematic": focusing on the meaning of the Paschal Mystery in our lives. These include the reconciliation of penitents, holy unction and the baptism of catechumens. Other services are historical, focusing on the events of this week in Christ's life: the Last Supper, the Crucifixion and His burial. These historical services became popular after shrines were erected in Jerusalem in the time of St Constantine the Great (fourth century). Today several of our services combine both thematic and historical aspects. Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – The Gospel story of Christ's teaching in the temple during these days is read at each Matins and Presanctified Liturgy. The troparion sung on these days is based on the parable of the wise and foolish virgins (see Mt 25:1-13), particularly appropriate for this time: "Behold the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night – blessed is the servant He shall find awake! But the one He shall find neglectful will not be worthy of Him. Beware, therefore, O my soul. Do not fall into a deep slumber lest you be delivered to death and the doors of the kingdom be closed on you. Watch instead and cry out, 'Holy holy, holy are You, O our God...'" This parable is such a powerful image of the Paschal Mystery that the services themselves are popularly called "Bridegroom matins" or "Bridegroom Services" and the icon of Christ displayed for veneration on these days is called "the Bridegroom." Holy Wednesday – The story of Christ's anointing by Mary at Bethany "for the day of my burial" (see Jn 12:1-11) is read at the Presanctified Liturgy. The Mystery of Holy Unction is often served as well, preparing us to die and rise with Christ at Pascha. Holy Thursday – The betrayal by Judas is remembered: "While the glorious disciples were enlightened at the supper by the washing of their feet, Judas the wicked betrayer, fell into darkness and betrayed You..." (troparion). The bishop reenacts the washing of the feet and the institution of the Eucharist is commemorated at the Vesper-Liturgy of St Basil. Holy Friday – The arrest and passion of Christ is remembered at Orthros/Matins and at the Royal Hours as the passion Gospels are read and the cross is venerated. Christ's body is taken down from the cross and wrapped in the holy shroud at Vespers. Holy Saturday – The burial of Christ by Joseph of Arimathea and the sealing of the tomb by Roman soldiers is observed at Orthros. "The noble Joseph took Your most pure body from the tree, wrapped it in clean linen with aromatic spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb" (troparion). The Vesper liturgy of St. Basil is the time when (adult) catechumens would be baptized, hear the first proclamation of the Resurrection and share for the first time in the Eucharist.



Pastor: Rev. Mykhaylo Shkyndya
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Weekend Divine Services

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

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