

Welcome to St. Athanasíus the Great Byzantíne 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.

### **TREASURE IN HEAVEN**

Love of money is the worship of idols, a daughter of unbelief, an excuse for infirmities, a foreboder of old age, a harbinger of drought, a herald of hunger ... He who has conquered this passion has cut out care; but he who is bound by it never attains to pure prayer ... Poverty is the resignation of cares, life without anxiety, an unencumbered traveler, alienation from sorrow, fidelity to the commandments. St. John Climacus. The Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 16, 2, 7, and Step 17,1. B#53, pp. 163, 164.

## 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, or 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

Currently, 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 is also a welcome opportunity to serve (can be an evening after work). You are always needed, even if it is for a couple of hours.

The Winter Carmel Market started October 19 and continues every Saturday until March 29, 2025. Bakery activities continue Tuesday through Friday. *Please contact Fr. Mykhaylo* (216) 532-6364, to schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday) for you and/or your family.

## **Opportunities For Service At St. Athanasius**

- This year's Winter Market (Oct 19 March 29) has begun and requires at least one able-bodied volunteer every Saturday morning at 6:40 AM at the church hall to load the van with products, drive the van to the market, unload the van, reload the van with unsold products at market close (noon), drive the van back to the hall, unload the van, take product inventory and store products appropriately in the hall. Additional volunteers, at least 2, are needed to sell products (9:00-noon) at the market. Marcus Loidolt is currently managing this.
- Pierogi pinchers and bakers are always needed (Tuesday through Friday with pierogi making typically on Wednesday).
- 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. Please clean up chairs as well as tables in the hall.
- Items for the food pantry are always needed; (food [cans with pop tops are appreciated], toiletries, cereal, carton milk)
- Bags for the food pantry need to be assembled every week.
- In the garden: soil preparation, fall planting of garlic, leaves for mulching
- Plastic grocery bags are needed for the food pantry and market sales.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### ST. ATHANASIUS CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

Make a tray of holiday cookies and set a price. (The average price for homemade cookies at local farmer's markets is \$1.25 per ounce which is what we price the cookies and biscotti that we sell at the market). Bring the cookie tray to church on Sunday, December 22 to sell. Check the flyer on the website for more details.

#### **FUNDRAISING GRANTS TEAM**

If you are interested in participating with the fundraising grant writing team contact Fr. Mykhaylo or Dawn Montague.

#### THE PHILLIP'S FAST IS ONGOING AND CONTINUES 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.

#### CHRISTMAS ON THE PRARIE DEC 14, 2024

In the spirit of the season of gift and joy, Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church in Homer Glen, Illinois, would like to share the gifts of our St. Nicholas tradition and our prairie in their 9th Annual "Christmas on the Prairie" event. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about the true story of the original St. Nicholas and what Christmas on the prairie might have been like for the early settlers. This indoor/outdoor family event will take place on the Annunciation's rolling ten acres of restored prairie on Saturday, December 14th from 2pm to 6pm.

- Discover the real story of St. Nicholas on the prairie paths
- Frontier era Christmas crafts for children
- Experience the mystical beauty of a Byzantine Church
- Homemade Christmas bake sale items
- Visit with St. Nicholas and get a ride on his horse drawn carriage

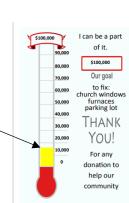
The flyer for the event and letter to parents are posted in Dormition Hall here at St. Athanasius. https://byzantinecatholic.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Christmas-on-the-Prairie-Flyer-2024S.pdf Letter to parents https://byzantinecatholic.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Parents-Letter-2024S.pdf

#### **Thermometer Update for Fundraising**

Tracking our progress:

So far, building fund donations since the National Eucharistic Congress event on July 19 are in the amount of \$16,876.82

Do you know anyone who can help write grants?



|           | Services for the Wee   | k of Decemb  | er 1 – December 8, 2  | 2024  |  |
|-----------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Day       |  | Time Service   |   | Readings  |  |
| Sunday    | December 1 <sup>st</sup><br>28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After<br>Pentecost                       | 8:15 AM<br>10:00 AM<br>11:30 AM<br>12:15 PM<br>1:00 PM | Matins<br>Divine Liturgy<br>Luncheon<br>ECF<br>Ukrainian DL | Eph 6:10-17<br>Lk 18:18-27                                  |  |
| Monday    | December 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Habakkuk - Prophet   |  | No Services   | Heb 3:5-11; 17-<br>19<br>Lk 20:27-44                        |  |
| Tuesday   | December 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Zephaniah - Prophet  |  | No Services   | Heb 4:1-13<br>Lk 21:12-19                                   |  |
| Wednesday | December 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Barbara – Great<br>Martyr  |  | No Services   | Heb 5:11-6:8<br>Lk 21:5-7, 10-11<br>20-24                   |  |
| Thursday  | December 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Sabbas - Venerable   | 6:00 PM  | Vespers   | Gal 5:22-6:2<br>Mt 11:27-30                                 |  |
| Friday    | December 6 <sup>th</sup><br>Nicholas of Myra –<br>Archbishop<br><mark>Solemn Holy Day</mark> | 6:00 PM  | Divine Liturgy w/<br>St. Nicholas Visit                     | Heb 13:17-21<br>Lk 6:17-23                                  |  |
| Saturday  | December 7 <sup>th</sup><br>Ambrose -<br>Archbishop  | 5:00 PM  | Vespers<br>Confessions                                      | Eph 2:11-13<br>Luke 13:18-29                                |  |
| Sunday    | December 8 <sup>th</sup><br>29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After<br>Pentecost                       | 8:15 AM<br>10:00 AM<br>11:30 AM<br>12:15 PM            | Matins<br>Divine Liturgy<br>Luncheon<br>ECF & Vespers       | Col 3:12-16; Ga<br>4:22-31; Lk 17-<br>12-19; Lk 8:16-<br>21 |  |

## Financial Update 11/24 – 12/1

| Date  | Bakery<br>Sales | Building<br>Fund | Candles | Holy Day | Sunday<br>Tithes | Weekly Total |
|-------|-----------------|------------------|---------|----------|------------------|--------------|
| 11/24 | \$2,585.79      | \$6,110.82       | \$20.00 | \$45.00  | \$1,212.96       | \$9,974.57   |

# 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

# Ephesians 6:10-17

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having fastened the belt of truth around your waist, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the Evil One. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

## PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE WILES OF THE DEVIL

He does not speak against the fighting, nor against the hostilities, but against the 'wiles.' For this enemy is at war with us, not simply, nor openly, but by 'wiles.' To use 'wiles' is to deceive and to take by artifice or contrivance... and stratagems in the case of those who seduce us. The Devil never proposes to us sins in their proper colors...Our conflict is with one skilled in the arts of war...'For you were once darkness' (Eph. 5:8); so naming that wickedness which is in this present life; for beyond it, it will have no place, not in Heaven, nor in the world to come...By 'evil day' he means the present life, and also calls it 'this present evil world' (Gal. 1:4)...How then, you may say, are we to wrestle with the darkness? By becoming light. How with the spiritual hosts of wickedness? By becoming good...No, if we have a mind, neither will we wrestle at all, for it is because we choose it, that there is a struggle, since so great is the power of Him who dwells in us, as He said, 'Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy' (Luke 10: 9). All power He has given us, both of wrestling and of not wrestling. It is because we are slothful, that we have to wrestle with them... Then let us trample underfoot the power of the devil; let us trample under foot our sins, I mean everything that pertains to this life: wrath, lust, vainglory, every passion.

St. John Chrysostom. Homely XXII on Ephesians V. B#57, PP. 159 -162

### Luke 18:18-27

At that time one of the ruling class asked Jesus, "Good teacher, what must I do to share in everlasting life?" Jesus said to him, "Why call me 'good'? None is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not commit adultery. You shall not kill. You shall not steal. You shall not bear dishonest witness. Honor your father and your mother. "The man replied, "I have kept all these since I was a boy." When Jesus heard this he said to the man: "There is one thing further you must do. Sell all you have and give to the poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me." On hearing this the man grew melancholy, for he was a very rich man. When Jesus observed this he said: "How hard it will be for the rich to go into the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven." His listeners asked him, "Who, then, can be saved?" to which Jesus replied, "Things that are impossible for men are possible for God."

### WHY DO YOU CALL ME GOOD?

Now he, who is here called a Ruler, and who fancied himself to be learned in the law, and supposed that he had been accurately taught therein, imagined that he could convict Christ of dishonoring the commandment spoken by the most wise Moses, and of introducing laws of His own. For it was the object of the Jews to prove that Christ opposed and resisted the former commandments, to establish, as I said, new laws, of His own authority, in opposition to those previously existing, so that their wicked conduct towards Him might have a specious pretext. He draws near, therefore, and makes pretense of speaking kindly; for he calls Him Teacher, and styles Him Good, and professes himself desirous of being a disciple. And what does the Omniscient reply, 'Who, as it is written, takes the wise in their craftiness?' (Job 5:13) Why do you call Me good? None is good but one, God. You see how He proved at once that he was neither wise nor learned, though the ruler of a synagogue of the Jews. For if, He says, you did not believe that I am God, and the clothing of the flesh has led you astray, why did you apply to Me epithets suitable to the supreme nature alone, while still you suppose Me to be a mere man like yourself, and not superior to the limits of human nature? In the nature that transcends all, only in God, is found the attribute of being by nature, and unchangeable good; but the angels, and we on earth, are good by resembling Him, or rather by participation in Him. But those whose minds are perverted by sharing in the wickedness of Arius will probably not assent to the correctness of this explanation. For they make the Son inferior to the supremacy and the glory of God the Father...For they assert, as though they had obtained a reason for their blasphemy from the passage now before us, 'Behold, He has clearly and expressly denied that He is good, and set it apart as something appropriate only to God the Father; but verily, had He been equal to Him in substance, and sprung from Him by nature, how would He not also be good, being God?' Let this, then, be our reply to our opponents. Since all correct and exact reasoning acknowledges a son to be consubstantial with the father, how is He not good, as being God? For He cannot but be God, if He is consubstantial with Him Who is by nature God ... We have the Savior's own testimony, Who says this: 'A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruits' (Matt. 7:18). How from a good root has there shot forth an evil sprout? Or how from a sweet fountain can there flow a bitter river? Was there ever a time when there was no Father, seeing that He is the Father eternally? ... We conclude, therefore, that the fruit of the good God is the good Son.

St. Cyril of Alexandria. Commentary on the Gospel of St. Luke, Homily B#42, pp. 486-488.



Weekend Divine ServicesSaturday: 5 PM VespersSunday:8:15 AM Matins10 AM Divine Liturgy

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