



*Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great
Byzantine Catholic Church*

**“Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him forever!”
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava naviky Bohu sviatomu!**

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, all of you are welcome for luncheon.

Radiant with spiritual virtues, O Holy Father Xenophon, you shone with faith and charity. You gave alms joyfully, distributing your goods to the poor. As a just man you shall be remembered forever, for you have earned the never setting light. In it, we see your venerable children and their mother dwelling in the celestial city.

Stichera of our Venerable Father Xenophon

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 Father Mykhaylo, 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. Someone is needed to manage 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, crackers, peanut butter)
- 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.

FUNDRAISING GRANTS TEAM

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

The Twelfth Annual Women's Retreat

SAVE THE DATE

Our Lord Jesus Christ The Path to the Father Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center Fremont, Ohio

March 7, 2025 - March 9, 2025

Retreat Master: Father Jan Maturkanic

Contact Joan Washburn for further information 865-696-7809 atmarvnbhdwomensrvtrvat@gmail.com

Further details will follow Sponsored by Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

The Fourth Annual Men's Retreat

SAVE THE DATE

The Beatitudes: The Way of Life Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center Fremont, Ohio March 14, 2025

March 16, 2025 Retreat Master: Father Lukas Mitro

Contact Karl Busam for further information karl.busam.77@gmail.com

1-419-626-6811

Further details will follow Sponsored by Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

THE EPARCHY OF PARMA

PRESENTS 3RD ANNUAL Family Liturgy & Life Camp Life Transfigured by the Light of the East

3-9 August 2025 CEDAR LAKE MINISTRIES CEDAR LAKE, INDIANA

STAY TUNED TO PARMA.ORG FOR DETAILS!

Please, let's take a few minutes and say a pray for those who ask us to pray for them, for our family and friends. May the Lord touch them and heal them.

PRAYER: Almighty Master, physician of souls and bodies, you humble and raise up, you chastise and then heal. In your mercy visit your (servant/servants) who are sick. Extend your hand, full of healing and care, and heal then, raising (Him, Her, Them from their sick bed and sickness; rebuke the spirit of infirmity, cast out from (Him, Her, Them) all maladies, all pain, all scourges, all fever, and if (He, She, They) have any sins or offenses, remit, pardon and forgive (Him, Her, Them) in your merciful loving kindness. Yes, Lord, spare your creatures, in Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom you are blessed, with your all-holy, good, and life creating Spirit, now and ever and forever. **AMEN!**

Services for the Week of January 26 – February 2, 2025				
	Day	Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	January 26 36th Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Mk 16:9-20 2 Cor 6:16-7:1 Mt 15:21-28
Monday	January 27 Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrysostom		No service	Jas 2:14-26 Mk 10:46-52
Tuesday	January 28 Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Jas 3:11-4:6 Mk 11:11-23
Wednesday	January 29 Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop & Martyr Ignatius of Antioch	6:00 PM	Vespers	Jas 3:11-4:6 Mk 11:23-26
Thursday	January 30 Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil the Great; Gregory the Theologia; John Chrysostom	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Heb 13:7-16 Mt 5:14-19
Friday	January 31 Wonderworkers & Healers Cyrus & John	6:00 PM	Moleben for the sick	1 Pet 1:1-2, 10-12; 2:6-10 Mk 12:1-12
Saturday	February 1 Pre-festive Day of the Feast of the Encounter	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	1 Thess 5:14-23 Lk 17:3-10
Sunday	February 2 Sunday of Zacchaeus, The Encounter of Our Lord with Simeon & Anna	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM 1:00PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Blessing of candles Mirovanije Luncheon ECF Ukrainian Divine Liturgy Blessing of candles	Lk 2:25-32 1 Tim 4:9-15 Heb 7:7-17 Lk 19:1-10 Lk 2:22-40
Financial update: 1/19/2025				
Bakery	Building Fund	Candles	Holy Days	Sunday Tithes
\$814.49	\$100	\$277	\$0	\$504.50
Totals \$1695.99				

36th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

A reading from the second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians. Brethren: What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Matthew 15: 21-28

At that time Jesus left that place and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. It happened that a Canaanite woman living in that locality presented herself, crying out to him, "Lord, Son of David, have pity on me! My daughter is terribly troubled by a demon." He gave her no word of response. His disciples came up and began to entreat him, "Get rid of her. She keeps shouting after us." Jesus replied, "My mission is only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." She came forward then and did him homage with the plea, "Help me, Lord!" But he answered, "It is not right to take the food of sons and daughters and throw it to the dogs." "Please, Lord," she insisted, "even the dogs eat the leavings that fall from their masters' tables." Jesus then said in reply, "Woman, you have great faith! Your wish will come to pass." That very moment her daughter got better.

The Gospel about the healing of the daughter of a Canaanite woman with a demon appears at first sight to be about national or cultural differences between Jews and Gentiles. Jesus Christ himself even emphasizes that he was "sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt. 15:24), who therefore have privileged access to salvation. However, before that, the Lord explains that he does not mean external ritual impurity, but rather an internal moral problem (see Matt. 15:1–20). This "impurity" is the sin that resides in a person's heart (see Matt. 15:18–20). It is worth noting here that in the case of demon possession, the unclean spirit only enslaves the person's body until the person is converted, through which his healing occurs. Similarly, the Apostle Paul is not referring to ritual differences when he quotes the Old Testament: "Therefore come out from among them and be separate, and do not touch the unclean thing" (2 Cor. 6:17; cf. Is. 52:11). For here, "uncleanness" primarily means the sin of idolatry (cf. 2 Cor. 16:16).

If we look at the following two quotations from the Old Testament, we can see God's plan of salvation in a very condensed form. The prophetic words: "I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (2 Cor. 16:16) are part of God's promise to the patriarch Abraham (see Gen. 17:8). On the other hand, the words: "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters" (2 Cor. 6:18) are very reminiscent of the prophecy about the son of King David: "I will be his father, and he shall be my son" (2 Sam. 7:14). Since these two prophecies were fully fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, who as a man was a direct descendant of the kings of Judah, the Gospel calls him "the son of David, the son of Abraham" (see Matt. 1:1). We see the same thing in the Canaanite woman of the present passage, who implored Him: "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David!" (Mt 15:22). For she firmly believed that through Him, even though she was not a Jew, she would receive the grace she needed (see Mt 15:27). But her hope was not in vain, "and her daughter was healed from that very hour" (Mt 15:28).



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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