



*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.

O faithful, let us not pray as the Pharisee, for those who exalt themselves shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with the Publican let us say: “Lord have mercy on me a sinner.”
(Stichera of the Publican and the Pharisee)

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.

MARK IN CALENDAR March 2, 2025 at 10AM

Everyone is invited and welcome to participate on Mystery of Chrismation for **Jasmine Marie Mansfield & Jack Winn Mansfield III**
Please, let us pray for them and their family.

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 stmarybhdwomensretreat@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 February 9 – February 16, 2025				
	Day	Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	February 9 Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. Leave-taking (otdanije) of the Encounter	8:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Mirovanije Luncheon ECF	Lk 24: 12-35 2 Tim 3:10-15 Lk 18: 10-14
Monday	February 10 Holy Martyr Charalampas		No service	2 Pet 1:20-2:9 Mk 13:9-13
Tuesday	February 11 The Holy Martyr Blaise		No service	2 Pet 2: 9-22 Mk 13: 14-23
Wednesday	February 12 Our Holy Father Meletius	6:00 PM	Vespers	2 Pet 3: 1-18 Mk 13: 24-31
Thursday	February 13 Our Holy Father Martinian	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	1 Jn 1: 8-2;6 Mk 13: 31-14,2
Friday	February 14 Our Venerable Father Auxentius	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	1 Jn 2: 7-17 Mk 14: 3-9
Saturday	February 15 Holy Apostle Onesimus	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	2 Tim 3: 1-9 Lk 20: 46-21:4
Sunday	February 16 Sunday of the Prodigal Son	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon ECF	Lk 24: 36-53 1 Cor 6: 12-20 Lk 15: 11-32
<u>Financial update: 2/2/2025</u>				
Bakery	Building Fund	Candles	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes
\$1013,62	\$500	\$85	\$0	\$1165,25
Totals \$2763,87				

Sunday of Publican and Pharisee

2 Timothy 3:10-15

A reading from the second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy. My son, Timothy: Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Ico'nium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the Sacred Writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Luke 18: 10-14

The Lord told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a publican. The Pharisee with head unbowed prayed in this fashion: 'I give you thanks, O God, that I am not like the rest of men-grasping, crooked, adulterous or even like this publican. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on all I possess. The other man, however, kept his distance, not even daring to raise his eyes to heaven. All he did was beat his breast and say, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Believe me, this man went home from the temple justified but the

other did not. For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled while he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

SPIRITUAL MEANING OF THE PARABLE

This parable shows that the Lord God does not look at a person or his condition, but looks at his heart and soul. Here we understand the truth of the words of the Holy Scripture, which say: "...God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (1 Pet. 5:5).

So it is clear that God did not accept the prayer of the boastful and proud Pharisee, but He heard the prayer of the humble tax collector. Pride is one of the main sins and is the greatest obstacle to conversion and repentance, and humility is the beginning of true conversion and the basis of true repentance and fasting.

Therefore, the Holy Church desires that we, as we approach Great Feasting, prepare for it with great humility and awareness of our sinfulness, because only then will we have the good will for contrition of heart, fasting and repentance. Without humility there is no conversion, no regret for sins and no turning to God.

Our liturgical services and prayers for the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee are composed in this spirit. The service troparions, sticheras and the canon at Matins many times emphasize and praise the virtue of humility, and reproach Pharisaic pride. ***"My soul,"*** we sing in the vespers stichera: ***"The Pharisee, overcome with his pride, and the Publican, bent down in repentance, came before you, the only Lord; the first trusted in himself and was deprived of your blessings; the other spoke but a few words and received your blessings in abundance. Behold my tears and strengthen me, O Christ our God, for you are indeed the Lover of us all.."***

As Kontakion of the Publican and the Pharisee says: ***"Let us offer the Lord sighs like the publican. As sinners, let us fall before him, our Master; for he wills the salvation of everyone. He grants forgiveness to all who repent for, while remaining God, coeternal with the Father, he took flesh for our sake."***



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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