



*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.

Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance. Grant victory to your Church over evil, and protect your people by your cross.

(Troparion of the Cross)

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 (laying down cardboard & cover with leaves)
- Plastic grocery bags are needed for the food pantry and market sales.

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!

It could be me

We are creating an activity area in Dormition Hall for our toddlers and preschoolers. A small table and chairs and a rug have been donated. Other items like a small bookcase, floor pillows, books, puzzles and drawing supplies will be needed and welcomed donations.

Pilgrimage of Hope
 "For we walk by faith, not by sight" 2
 Corinthians 5:7

Saturday, April 5th
SACRED HEART BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Relic Tour
 We will be given a special tour of the All Saints Shrine located at the parish!

Prayer
 We will pray the Akathist and celebrate Liturgy as a group!

Food
 Snacks and dinner will be provided!

REGISTER TODAY!

To register, or for more info visit byzantineyoungadults.com!

Services for Fifth Week of Great Fast

Tuesday of April 1 – Sixth Hour

Wednesday of April 2 - Vespers and Presanctified Liturgy.

Thursday of April 3 - The Great Canon of our Holy Father Andrew of Crete.

Friday of April 4 - Vespers and Presanctified Liturgy &

Saturday of April 5 – Akathistos Saturday

Services for the Week of March 23 – March 30, 2025				
Day	Time	Service	Readings	
Sunday	March 23 Third Sunday of the Great Fast Veneration of the Holy Cross	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM Matins Divine Liturgy Blessing of Crosses Luncheon Vespers Ukrainian Liturgy	Jn 21:15-25 Heb 4:14-5:6 Mk 8:34-9:1	
Monday	March 24 Our Venerable Father Zachary	6:00 PM Vespers & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom	Heb 2:11-18 Lk 1:24-38	
Tuesday	March 25 Annunciation of the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary	No service	Isaiah 25:1-9	
Wednesday	March 26 Mid-Fast. Leave-taking of Annunciation. Synaxis of Gabriel	6:00 PM Vespers and Presanctified Liturgy	Genesis 9:18-10-1 Proverbs 12:23-13:9	
Thursday	March 27 Our Venerable Mother Matrona of Thessalonica	6:00 PM Sixth Hour	Isaiah 28:14-22	
Friday	March 28 Our Venerable Father Hilary the Younger.	6:00 PM Vespers and Presanctified Liturgy Panachida & Hramoty	Genesis 12:1-7 Proverbs 14:15-26	
Saturday	March 29 Fourth All Souls Saturday	5:00 PM Vespers Confessions	1Thess 4:13-17 Jn 5:24-30	
Sunday	March 30 Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast Holy Father John Climacus	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon Vespers	Jn 28:16-20 Heb 6:13-20 Mk 9:17-31	

Financial update: 3/16/2025

Bakery	Building Fund	Candles	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes
\$480,16	\$13	\$40	\$0	\$353,73

Totals \$886.89

Third Sunday of the Great Fast – Veneration of the Holy Cross

Hebrews 4:14-5:6

A reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews. Brethren: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sinning. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

Mark 8: 34-38, 9: 1

At that time Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them: "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps. Whoever would preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's sake will preserve it. What profit does a man show who gains the whole world and destroys himself in the process? What can a man offer in exchange for his life? If anyone in this faithless and corrupt age is ashamed of me and my doctrine, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes with the holy angels in his Father's glory." He also said to them: "I assure you, among those standing here there are some who will not taste death until they see the reign of God established in power."

"The Cross is the proof of the love of God. The Cross is the unshaken wall, the unconquered weapon, the Kingdom of virtue. The Cross has torn asunder our mortgage and rendered useless. The prison of death. The Cross has opened Paradise; it has admitted the thief and has guided the human race from impending disaster to the Kingdom of God."

St. John Chrysostom

This Sunday is the halfway point in Lent. Midway on our journey to Holy Week and Pascha, many of us are tiring of our spiritual disciplines. What we approached with joy the first week has now turned into a chore. We have become aware how little love we have in our hearts, which can be very discouraging. For this reason, the Church uses this Sunday to direct our attention to the Cross. The Cross is our strength and our salvation. We look to it and pray to Christ to give us strength to complete this journey. The Gospel passage for this Sunday challenges us again to commit our whole lives to Christ. As Christ was crucified for our salvation, we are called to take up our meager cross and follow Christ by crucifying our sinful desires and surrendering our will to His.

Jesus extends His invitation to us once again to "deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him." According to accepted English dictionaries, "deny" means to refuse, reject, repudiate and/or to declare something untrue. If we limit ourselves to these definitions, we do an injustice to the deeper meaning of Christian self-denial.

There are those of us who have a narrow and limited understanding of self-denial. We pick and choose at random what we will give up and what we will do in the name of Christianity. We proceed to label them "Our little crosses we must bear." "I'll give up movies and/or TV during lent." Thus we end up with a list of trivialities that have no bearing on the "self-denial" Jesus speaks about in our gospel lesson for today. Christ-like self-denial goes much deeper. It penetrates the facade which hides our hidden sins, our shortcomings and our faults.

Utter denial does not mean depriving ourselves of the necessities of life, nor does it mean we must become paupers and live in rags. Neither does it mean we must lose our individuality, personality and identity. When Jesus speaks of total and utter denial of self, He means we must subordinate our clamoring ego that prohibits us from being the Children of God we were intended to be. Good intentions are not enough. This is why Jesus says, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

"Take up your cross and follow me" means to get started on our journey to salvation. If the road we are on does not have God's Eternal Kingdom as its destination, then we had better make a U-turn and find the right one!

"Taking up our cross and following Jesus" means trying harder when those moments of calamity, tragedy, sorrow and loss and grief beset us. It means bringing under control our uncontrollable anger, our undue insensitivity, our impatience and impetuosity. It means subduing our temperament and disposition so that we can master them rather than their mastering us.



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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