



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

***Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres!***

**TO OUR HOLY FATHER LEO XIV POPE OF ROME ON THE
OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION, GRAND, O LORD, MANY
BLESSED AND HAPPY YEARS.**

The man who was blind from birth asked him: Was I born blind because of the sin of my parents, or am I a living sign of unbelief to the nations? I am not content to ask if it is night or day; my feet can no longer endure tripping upon the stones. I have not seen the bright-ness of the sun, nor have I seen my Creator's image and likeness. Yet I beseech you, O Christ our God, to look up - on me and have mercy on me.

(Stichera of the Sunday of the Man Born Blind from Vespers)

1 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!

2 SUMMER MARKET

We start the summer market on May 3 till September 27 in Carmel
From 6 am – 11:30 am, which is every Saturday.

Come to buy and help, address: 2 Carter Green, Carmel, IN. 46032

We will appreciate any help from 7 am time for set up than at 11:30 am tear down

3 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.

4 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.

5 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.

6 2025 Byzantine Assembly in Whiting, Indiana.

Come let us worship and bow before Christ! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Last Chance for Early Bird Rates! Assembly 2025 – July 16-20

Time is running out! Early bird registration for Assembly 2025 is closing soon—don't miss your chance to secure discounted rates for this incredible gathering of faith, fellowship, and reflection.

Join us as we worship and walk alongside our bishops, hear inspiring discussions on faith and mission, and connect with fellow Byzantine Catholics from across the Metropolia.

Register now at ByzantineAssembly.org before the early bird rates expire! You can also ask your local pastor for a paper registration form to mail in.
We look forward to seeing you in July—may God bless you and your loved ones!

Services for the Week of May 25 – June 1, 2025				
Day		Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	May 25 Sunday of the Man Born Blind	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Jn 20:11-18 Act 16:16-34 Jn 9:1-38
Monday	May 26 Holy Apostles Carpus	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Act 17:1-15 Jn 11:47-56
Tuesday	May 27 The Holy Bishop- Martyr Therapont		No service	Act 17:19-28a Jn 12:19-36a
Wednesday	May 28 Leave-taking of Pascha	6:00 PM	Vespers	Act 18:22-28 Jn 12:36-47
Thursday	May 29 The Ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Act 1:1-12 Lk 24:36-53
Friday	May 30 Postfestive day of Ascension	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Act 19:1-8 Jn 14:1-11
Saturday	May 31 Postfestive day of Ascension	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	Act 20:7-12 Jn 14:10b-21
Sunday	June 1 Sunday of the Man born blind	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Jn 21:1-14 Act 20:16- 18.28-36 Jn 17:1-13
Financial update: 5/18/2025				
Bakery	Lawnmower	Candles	Ukrainian Liturgy	Sunday Tithes
\$1,796.41	\$190	\$91	\$245	\$729.50
Totals \$3,051.91				

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO OUR PARISH

Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Acts 16:16-34

In those days: As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house.

And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

John 9: 1-38

At that time, as Jesus walked along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. Disciples asked Jesus, His "Rabbi, was it his sin or that of his parents that caused him to be born blind?" "Neither," answered Jesus: "It was no sin, either of this man or of his parents. Rather, it was to let God's works show forth in him. We must do the deeds of him who sent me while it is day. The night comes on when no one can work. While I am in the world I am the light of the world." With that Jesus spat on the ground, made mud with his saliva, and smeared the man's eyes with the mud. Then he told him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam. ‘This name means "One who has been sent." So the man went off and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and the people who had been accustomed to see him begging began to ask, "Isn't this the fellow who used to sit and beg?" Some were claiming it was he; others maintained it

was not but someone who looked like him. The man himself said, "I am the one." They said to him then, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered, "That man they call Jesus made mud and smeared it on my eyes, telling me to go to Siloam and wash. When I did go and wash, I was able to see." "Where is he?" they asked. He replied, "I have no idea." Next, they took the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Note that it was on a Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud paste and opened his eyes. The Pharisees, in turn, began to inquire how he had recovered his sight. He told them, "He put mud on my eyes. I washed it off, and now I can see." This prompted some of the Pharisees to assert, "This man cannot be from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others objected, "If a man is a sinner, how can he perform signs like these?" They were sharply divided over Jesus. Then they addressed the blind man again: "Since it was your eyes he opened, what do you have to say about him?" "He is a prophet, he replied. The Jews refused to believe that he had really been born blind and had begun to see, until they summoned the parents of this man who now could see. "Is this your son?" they asked, "and if so, do you attest that he was blind at birth? How do you account for the fact that now he can see?" The parents answered: "We know this is our son, and we know he was blind at birth. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we have no idea. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself." His parents answered in this fashion because they were afraid of the Jews, who had already agreed among themselves that anyone who acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, "He is of age—ask him." A second time they summoned the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Give glory to God! First of all, we know this man is a sinner." "I do not know whether he is a sinner or not," he answered. "I know this much: I was blind before; now I can see." "They persisted: "Just what did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" "I have told you once, but you would not listen to me," he answered them. "Why do you want to hear it all over again? Do not tell me you want to become his disciples too?" They retorted scornfully: "You are the one who is that man's disciple. We are disciples of Moses. We know that God spoke to Moses, but we have no idea where this man comes from." The man came back at them: "Well, this is news! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not hear sinners, but that if someone is devout and obeys his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever gave sight to a person blind from birth. If this man were not from God, he could never have done such a thing." "What!" they exclaimed, "You are steeped in sin from your birth, and you are giving us lectures?" With that they threw him out bodily. When Jesus heard of his expulsion, he sought the man out and asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "Who is he, sir that I may believe in him?" Jesus replied, "You have seen him, and he is speaking to you now." "I do believe, Lord, he said, and bowed down to worship him.

Dear perishioners-friends,visitors,

It is no coincidence that last Sunday we recalled Christ's conversation with the Samaritan woman. These two evangelical people, with their pure hearts and sincere faith, saw God. Why does the Savior heal this man born blind? Why did God's miracle and His omnipotence appear precisely on this man, and not on the crowd of the same unfortunate, rejected, sick people who were next to him? Two weeks ago we heard a similar story about the Savior's healing of the paralytic. But at least he had been waiting for healing and had hoped for it for 38 long years. And the man born blind did not even have faith, so he did not know in whom to believe – he did not see the Lord, did not see the One who said to him: "Go to Siloam and wash" (John 9:11). That is why the Savior, seeing his courageous confession of the Truth before his enemies, reveals His Divinity.

Why are some people healed and others not? Why does the Savior, passing by a large number of the poor, the disabled, the paralyzed, choose only one and heal him? Why, out of millions and billions of us, born blind, only a small flock becomes spiritually sighted? Why, out of hundreds of nations living in the world, only a few confess the faith of Christ? Are you and I any better than the millions of our brothers and sisters in this world who are not enlightened by the light of faith, love and hope? Of course not.

Before His suffering, at the Last Supper, Christ says to His disciples: "I have chosen you out of the world" (John 15:16). And then in His prayer, Christ turns to the Heavenly Father: "Holy Father, keep them for your name's sake, those whom you have given me that they may be one, as we are!" (John 17:11). Who are they? Rich, famous, influential and prominent people? Of course not. Are they only the poor, the weak, the crippled, the rejected, the despised? And again – no. Among God's chosen ones were people of different statuses. There were rich and poor, intelligent and foolish, great sinners, and rich in faith, with a pure heart and sacrificial love. All of them were able to reject themselves and become the dwelling place of God. Therefore, it is not surprising that the apostle Paul said: "It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20).

"It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20) – these are the words that we should fulfill in our lives. And in order for Christ to begin to live in our lives, we must realize that we are great sinners, full of evil, betrayal, pride, hatred. And to begin to repent, and to begin to see in the world not evil and injustice, but God's great mercy for all of us, for all of humanity born blind. And to ask God for forgiveness of our sins, and to beg Him to have mercy on us and on the entire impoverished world. Amen.

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Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

1117 Blaine Avenue, Indianapolis,
IN 46221

Website: www.saindy.com

Email: admin@saindy.com

Administrator: Rev. Mykhaylo
Shkyndya

Cantors: Brian Goshorn, John
Danovich, Suzanne Goshorn

Phones: Office 317-632-4157

Cell Phone (Fr. Mykhaylo):
216-532-6364