

December 31st, 2023
Sunday after Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

SUNDAY, 12/31 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

New Year Eve and The Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ

10:30 pm Akathist to the Blessed Virgin Mary
 11:00 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

TUESDAY, 1/2 8:00 am Divine Liturgy for special intention
WEDNESDAY, 1/3 8:00 am Divine Liturgy for special intention
THURSDAY, 1/4 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention
FRIDAY, 1/5 4:00 pm Vespers with the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with Great Blessing of the Water

SATURDAY, 1/6 **Theophany**
 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 11:00 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

SUNDAY, 1/7 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements
1-Blessing of the House

If you wish your house to be blessed with Jordan water call to parish office.

2-New Year Divine Liturgy and St. Basil the Great
On December 31st, we will have New Year Divine Liturgy at **11:00 pm** for the blessings received during the year and to be blessed in the coming year and at **10:30 pm** we will have also Akaphist service to the Holy Mother of God.

*Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy*
Jan. 6th – Theophany
Feb. 2nd – Encounter
Feb. 13th – Great Lent begins

Statement of Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk
regarding "Fiducia Supplicans"
Unofficial English Translation

22 December 2023 of the year of our Lord
Communiqué regarding the reception in the UGCC of the Declaration of the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith “Fiducia supplicans” on the pastoral meaning of blessings.
In response to numerous appeals from bishops, clergy, monastics, church movements and individual laity of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church regarding the Declaration of the

Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith “Fiducia Supplicans” (18 December 2023) on the pastoral meaning of blessings, after consulting with relevant experts and competent institutions, I wish to inform you of the following:

1. The above-mentioned Declaration interprets the pastoral meaning of blessings in the Latin Church, not in the Eastern Catholic Churches. It does not address questions of Catholic faith or morals, nor does it refer to any prescriptions of the Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches, nor does it mention Eastern Christians. Thus, on the basis of Canon 1492 of the CCEO, this Declaration applies exclusively to the Latin Church and has no legal force for the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

2. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is one of the Eastern Catholic Churches, therefore it has its own liturgical, theological, canonical, and spiritual heritage, which all the faithful are obliged to observe and cherish (CCEO, canons 39-41). The meaning of “blessing” in the UGCC and the Latin Church is different.

3. According to the liturgical practice of our Church, the blessing of a priest or bishop is a liturgical gesture that cannot be separated from the rest of the content of the liturgical rites and reduced to the circumstances and needs of private piety (Catechism of the UGCC “Christ – our Pascha”, paras. 505-509).

4. According to the traditions of the Byzantine rite, the concept of “blessing” means approval, permission, or even a spiritual directive for a certain type of action, prayer or ascetic practice, including certain types of fasting and prayer. Obviously, the blessing of a priest always has an Evangelical and Catechetical dimension, and therefore can in no way contradict the teaching of the Catholic Church about the family as a faithful, indissoluble, and fruitful union of love between a man and a woman, which Our Lord Jesus Christ raised to the dignity of the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony. Pastoral prudence urges us to avoid ambiguous gestures, expressions and concepts that would distort or misrepresent God’s word and the teaching of the Church.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you!

† SVIATOSLAV

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for 12/24/23, including envelope offerings - \$811, donations - \$414, candles - \$48
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1273
Christmas Collection - \$1715
Special Donation - \$1194
Support Ukraine - \$1000

**Protection of the Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church
Byzantine Rite**
2880 Highway 138 NE
Conyers, GA 30013

Father Volodymyr Petrytsya

Parish office phone 770-760-1111
Emergency phone 224-400-0558
Email: motherofgodch@aol.com
www.motherofgodatlanta.com

Confession before or after Divine Liturgy.

Confession is recommended as a regular monthly practice. The graces received from confession are an excellent way to help us become closer to Jesus.

*THE CHURCH WAS A MOTHER TO YOU IN LIFE, PROVIDING FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS;
PLEASE REMEMBE YOUR PARISH AND THE EPARCHY OF SAINT JOSAPHAT IN PARMA IN
YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.*