

July 20th, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost and
Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah

SUNDAY, 7/20

9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
10:15 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

MONDAY, 7/21

NO Divine Liturgy

TUESDAY, 7/22

NO Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, 7/23

7:00 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

THURSDAY, 7/24

NO Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, 7/25

7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

SATURDAY, 7/26

5:00 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

SUNDAY, 7/27

9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements

1-Mothers in Prayer

Mothers in Prayer invite all mothers to join in prayer for our children on the last Saturday of the month (July 26th) after the Divine Liturgy. Together, we entrust our sons and daughters to God’s loving care, seeking His guidance, protection, and blessings for their lives. All are welcome!

Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy

July 25th – Dormition of St. Ann
Aug. 6th – feast of Transfiguration

2-Bible Study

Join us for our next Bible Study session on Thursday, July 24th at 7:00 PM online. Let’s grow in faith together through the Word of God!

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost – The Healing of the Soul

“Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.” (Mt 9:2)

This Sunday’s Gospel presents one of the most striking moments in Christ’s public ministry: the healing of a paralyzed man—not just in body, but in soul. Before restoring his physical movement, Jesus first speaks to the deeper wound: “Your sins are forgiven.” In doing so, Christ reveals the true priority of divine healing: it begins not with the body, but with the heart.

Sin as Spiritual Paralysis

The man in the Gospel was carried by others, unable to move on his own. This is an image of the soul burdened by sin—powerless to rise, to walk, to reach God. But Jesus, seeing the faith of those who brought him, acts with compassion and authority. St. John Chrysostom writes: “The Lord did not look at the faith of the paralyzed man, but at those who carried him. He heals not only for our own faith, but also for the faith of others.” This is a powerful reminder of the role of intercession and community in our journey to Christ.

Forgiveness Unlocks New Life

Christ’s words scandalize the scribes, who think He blasphemes by claiming to forgive sins. But to show that He has authority over both body and soul, Jesus tells the man to rise—and he does. Healing and forgiveness are never separate in the Christian life. The sacraments of the Church continue this same power today: reconciliation, Eucharist, anointing—these are how we rise again and again through grace.

Reflection Question: Where am I paralyzed by fear, sin, or shame—and how is Jesus inviting me to rise?
Prayer: Lord Jesus, You came not only to heal bodies but to restore souls. Forgive me, lift me, and help me walk again in Your mercy. Strengthen my faith and the faith of those around me, that we may bring each other to You.

Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah – July 20

On July 20, the Church honors one of the greatest prophets of the Old Testament—Holy Prophet Elijah (Elias)—a man of fiery zeal, unwavering faith, and deep intimacy with God. He was a prophet not only of words but of deeds, confronting false gods and calling a straying nation back to the covenant of the Lord.

A Man of Fire and Silence

Elijah’s life is full of dramatic encounters: he calls down fire from heaven on Mount Carmel, raises the dead, multiplies food in famine, and even parts the Jordan River. Yet perhaps his most profound moment comes not in thunder or flame, but in the “still small voice” (3 Kings 19:12)—when God reveals Himself not through might, but through gentle presence. St. Ambrose of Milan writes: “Elijah teaches us that to see God, we must enter silence. The fire will pass, the earthquake will fade, but God speaks in stillness.”

The Zeal of the Prophet

Elijah’s name means “My God is the Lord”—and his whole life witnessed to this truth. He confronted kings, challenged idols, and endured persecution—all for the sake of truth. His fiery ascent into heaven in a chariot of flame is a sign of the glory that awaits those who burn with love for God.

A Forerunner of Christ

In the New Testament, Elijah is seen as a type of John the Baptist, and he appears beside Christ at the Transfiguration, representing the prophetic witness. His mission continues in every soul called to speak God’s truth in a world of confusion.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for the weekend of 7/13/25, including envelope offerings - \$465,
donations -\$602, candle -\$36, online giving - \$150
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1253
With Gratitude for the Special Gift from the Vasquez Family - 2000

Support Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church



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

Father Volodymyr Petrytsya
Fr. Deacon Michael Guerrucci
Fr. Deacon Christopher Todd

Parish office phone 770-760-1111
Emergency phone 224-400-0558
Email: parish@mogchurch.com
Website: www.mogchurch.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 REMEMBER YOUR PARISH AND THE EPARCHY OF SAINT JOSAPHAT IN PARMA IN
YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.***