

August 3 rd , 2025	
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	
SUNDAY, 8/3	<u>9:00 am</u> Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners <u>10:30 am</u> Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention
MONDAY, 8/4	<u>7:30 am</u> Divine Liturgy for + souls in purgatory
TUESDAY, 8/5	<u>NO</u> Divine Liturgy
WEDNESDAY, 8/6	<i>Feast of Transfiguration</i> <u>6:00 pm</u> Divine Liturgy for special intention
THURSDAY, 8/7	<u>NO</u> Divine Liturgy
FRIDAY, 8/8	<u>7:30 am</u> Divine Liturgy for + souls in purgatory
SATURDAY, 8/9	<u>5:00 pm</u> Typica Service
SUNDAY, 8/10	<u>9:00 am</u> Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners <u>10:15 am</u> Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) with Baptism

Announcements

1-Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord – This Wednesday

We joyfully invite all parishioners to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord this *Wednesday, August 6th, with Divine Liturgy at 6:00 PM.*

Following the Liturgy, we will have the traditional blessing of fruits and vegetables, symbolizing the transfigured gifts of God’s creation and our offering of thanksgiving.

Let us come together in prayer and awe before the Lord who was transfigured in glory on Mount Tabor—revealing His divine light and inviting us to be transformed by His grace.

*Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy*

Aug. 6th – feast of Transfiguration

Aug. 15th – feast of Dormition

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost – The Compassion That Multiplies

“They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” (Mt 14:16)

In today’s Gospel, we witness one of the most well-known miracles of Jesus—the feeding of the five thousand. But more than a miracle of multiplication, this is a moment that reveals the heart of Christ: a heart filled with compassion, attentiveness, and trust in the generosity of the Father.

Christ Sees and Feels

When Jesus sees the crowd, He doesn’t view them as a burden, but with compassion—a word that in Greek expresses a deep, gut-level empathy. He heals their sick and then feeds them, showing that God cares for both body and soul.

St. Cyril of Alexandria teaches: “In His great love, Christ meets not only our spiritual hunger, but our human needs as well.”

A Lesson in Trust and Generosity

The disciples suggest sending the crowd away, but Jesus responds: “You give them something to eat.” He asks for the little they have—five loaves and two fish—and blesses it, breaks it, and gives it back to be shared. And it becomes enough for everyone. This teaches us that God can do great things with our small offerings, if we trust Him and are willing to give.

St. John Chrysostom writes: “The miracle was not only that they ate, but that they were satisfied—and still, much was left over. Such is the abundance of grace.”

Reflection Question: Where in my life is God asking me to offer what I have—even if it feels like too little?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You saw the hunger of the crowd and fed them with love. Teach me to trust You with what I have and to offer it freely. Bless my small gifts and make them signs of Your abundance in the world.

Reflection: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Take note that eyes with natural vision are blind to that light. It is invisible, and those who behold it do so not simply with their bodily eyes, but with eyes transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. The apostles were transformed, therefore, and saw that transformation which our human clay had undergone, not at that time, but from the moment in which it had been assumed, when it was deified through union with the Word of God. That is why the Virgin, who mysteriously conceived and bore him, recognized her child as God incarnate, as did Simeon, when he took him up in his arms as infant, and the aged Anna, who came to meet him. The power of God shone out visibly as if through thin glass to people who had had the eyes of their hearts purified.

"On the Transfiguration I," The Saving Work of Christ, The Sermons of Saint Gregory Palamas, edited by Christopher Veniamin, Mount Tabor Publishing

Why Do We Bless Fruits on the Feast of the Transfiguration?

On August 6, we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration, when Jesus revealed His divine glory on Mount Tabor. In many Eastern Catholic and Orthodox traditions, this feast includes the blessing of fruits and vegetables—especially grapes.

This tradition began as a way for Christians to give thanks for the first harvest, offering the “first fruits” back to God in gratitude. But the meaning is also spiritual: just as Christ was transfigured, so we too are called to be changed by His grace.

Grapes are especially meaningful, as they are used to make wine, which becomes the Blood of Christ in the Eucharist—reminding us of our hope for transformation and new life in Him. Bringing fruit to church is more than a custom—it is a beautiful symbol of thanksgiving, and a reminder that all creation is destined to share in Christ’s glory.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for the weekend of 7/27/25, including envelope offerings - \$720, donations -\$484, candle -\$53

Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1257

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.***