

September 14th, 2025
The Feast Exaltation of the Holy Cross

SUNDAY, 9/14 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

MONDAY, 9/15 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

TUESDAY, 9/16 NO Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, 9/17 6:15 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

THURSDAY, 9/18 NO Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, 9/19 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

SATURDAY, 9/20 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy (English) for special intention

SUNDAY, 9/21 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements

Parish Feast Day Celebration — Pokrova

While the liturgical feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (Pokrova) falls on Wednesday, October 1st, we will celebrate our Parish Feast Day together on **Sunday, October 5th**.

On that day, we will have ONE bilingual Divine Liturgy, bringing our whole parish family together in prayer and unity.

After the Liturgy, we warmly invite everyone to stay for a potluck lunch! If you are able, please bring a dish to share — homemade or store-bought — and let’s celebrate together in the spirit of fellowship and gratitude.

“Under Your protection, O Mother of God, we take refuge!”

Let’s make this day a joyful celebration of our faith, community, and spiritual family.

All are welcome — we hope to see you there!

Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy
Sep. 14th – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Reflection on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is one of the most solemn and powerful days in the Church calendar. On this day, we do not merely remember the wood upon which Christ died — we lift it high, exalt it, and worship Him who was crucified upon it.

This feast teaches us something central to Christian life:

that suffering can become salvation,

that defeat can become victory,

and that what once was a symbol of shame — the Cross — is now the banner of glory and hope.

A Paradox That Saves

In the ancient world, the cross was the most humiliating instrument of execution. It was meant to degrade, to destroy, and to silence.

But through Christ, the Cross becomes the gateway to eternal life. He transforms an instrument of torture into a throne of mercy. He takes the worst humanity could offer — cruelty, violence, betrayal — and overcomes it with divine love.

“We preach Christ crucified... the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

— 1 Corinthians 1:23–24

A Cross in Our Own Lives

This feast also reminds us that we, too, are called to carry our crosses. Not with resentment or bitterness, but with trust — believing that even in suffering, God is working out His plan.

Every hardship we carry in love — illness, grief, injustice, rejection — can become a path to union with Christ if we unite it to His Cross.

Let us ask ourselves:

Do I see the Cross as a punishment — or as a path to deeper holiness?

Do I carry my burdens with Christ, or do I try to avoid the cost of discipleship?

A Cross for the World

Today’s world often glorifies power, comfort, and instant gratification. The Cross challenges all of that. It tells us that truth sometimes wounds before it heals, that sacrifice is essential for love, and that real freedom comes through surrender to God.

As Christians, we are called not to hide the Cross, but to exalt it — in our homes, our families, our communities. We lift it high not as a relic of the past, but as a radical sign of hope for the present.

Final Thought

Let us kneel before the Cross today not in defeat, but in awe.

Let us cling to it, not as a burden, but as our only true anchor in the storm.

And let us remember:

By the Cross, joy entered the whole world. By the Cross, death was defeated. By the Cross, we are saved.

"We bow before Your Cross, O Christ, and we glorify Your holy Resurrection!"

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
Sunday collections for the weekend of 9/7/25, including envelope offerings - \$1065,
donations -\$296, candle -\$64
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1425

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.***