

**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**SUNDAY, 10/19** 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for + Igor Sushanskiy  
**MONDAY, 10/20** 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention  
**TUESDAY, 10/21** NO Divine Liturgy  
**WEDNESDAY, 10/22** 6:15 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention  
**THURSDAY, 10/23** NO Divine Liturgy  
**FRIDAY, 10/24** 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention  
**SATURDAY, 10/25** 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention  
**SUNDAY, 10/26** 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

**Announcements**

**1 - Nighttime Prayers**

Join us for Nighttime Prayers on *November 7th*, from 9:30 PM to Midnight, in our church. These prayers are a powerful offering to the Lord, as we set aside time normally reserved for rest to unite in sacrifice and devotion. Let us come together in prayer, seeking God's grace and blessings

**Reflection for the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*Gospel: Luke 8:5–15*

Jesus tells the parable of a sower who scatters seed—some falls on the path, some on rocky ground, some among thorns, and some on good soil. The seed, He explains, is the Word of God, and the soil represents the human heart that receives it.

*The Word That Gives Life*

Christ, the Divine Sower, never stops sowing. His Word is generous, abundant, and constant. Yet the fruit depends not on the sower but on the soil of the soul—on how open we are to receive His grace.

St. John Chrysostom reminds us: “The fault is not in the sower, but in the ground where the seed falls.”

If our hearts are hard, distracted, or shallow, the Word cannot take root. But when we listen with humility and perseverance, God’s grace bears fruit—thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold.

*The Obstacles Within*

The path represents the hardened heart that hears but doesn’t let the Word sink in.

The rocky ground symbolizes enthusiasm without depth—faith that fades in hardship.

The thorns stand for the cares and pleasures of life that choke the Spirit.

Each of us carries a bit of each soil type within. Conversion is the lifelong process of turning our hearts into good soil, ready to receive the Word and let it grow.

*A Call for Spiritual Cultivation*

*Upcoming Events  
in Parish & Eparchy*  
*Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> – Synaxis of Michael the Archangel  
and Other Heavenly Powers*  
*Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> – Entrance of the Theotokos to  
the Temple*

The parable invites us to till the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and the sacraments. Like a farmer, we must patiently uproot weeds and soften the ground so that God’s Word can flourish.

St. Ephrem the Syrian wrote: “The seed of Your Word, Lord, falls everywhere; grant that it may bear fruit in me.”

*Reflection Prayer*

Lord Jesus, Divine Sower, plant Your Word deep within my heart. Remove the stones of indifference and the thorns of distraction, that I may bear fruit in patience and faithfulness to Your will. Amen.

**Catechetical Instruction from We Walk with Christ:**

True peace is inner peace. Yet we cannot attain inner peace on our own; it is a gift of God. Peace among neighbors and nations cannot always be maintained, because of a failure to live by the commandments. Too often, conflicts in the world cannot be resolved through peaceful means and war is the result. Guided by the Lord, Christians must do everything they can to avoid war, which causes suffering, ruin, and death. At the same time, Christians must be ready to defend their homes, families, and nations against aggressors in a way that is aligned with God's will. Christians can serve in the military, but those who do must be guided by the Lord and his commandments. They will then serve honorably in an honorable profession. St. Gregory of Nyssa writes: Let us first consider what peace is. Surely it is nothing else but a loving disposition towards one's neighbour. Now what is held to be the opposite of love? It is hate and wrath, anger and envy, harboring resentment as well as hypocrisy and the calamity of war. Do you see for how many different diseases this single word is an antidote? For peace is equally opposed to every one of the things mentioned, and wipes out these evils by its own presence. Just as illness vanishes when health supervenes, and as no darkness is left when light begins to shine, so also when peace appears, all the passions connected with its opposite are eliminated. Therefore, Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Who are these? Those who imitate Divine Love of men, who show forth in their own life the characteristic of the Divine energy. The Lord and Giver of good things completely annihilates anything that is without affinity and foreign to goodness. This work He ordains also for you, namely to cast out hatred and abolish war, to exterminate envy and banish strife, to take away hypocrisy and extinguish from within resentment of injuries smouldering in the heart. Instead, you ought to introduce whatever is contrary to the things that have been removed.

I think the man is called peacemaker par excellence who pacifies perfectly the discord between flesh and spirit within himself and the war that is inherent in nature, so that the law of the body no longer wars against the law of the mind, but is subjected to the higher rule and becomes a servant of the Divine ordinance.

*(St. Gregory of Nyssa, The Lord's Prayer, The Beatitudes, trans.*

*Hilda C. Graef, Paulist Press, Mahwah, New Jersey, 1954 We Walk with Christ: Youth Catechism, Chapter Three, We Love, Theme*

*19, "Blessed Are the Peacemakers," amended.*

*You can purchase copies through the Eparchy's website.*

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**Sunday collections for the weekend of 10/12/25, including envelope offerings - \$670,  
donations -\$301, candle -\$39, online - \$150  
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1160**

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](mailto:parish@mogchurch.com)  
**Website:** [www.mogchurch.com](http://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.*