

November 9th, 2025
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, 11/9 **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for + Myroslav Kozak

MONDAY, 11/10 **7:30 am** Divine Liturgy for Dariya

TUESDAY, 11/11 **NO** Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, 11/12 **6:15 pm** Divine Liturgy + Yuriy and family

THURSDAY, 11/13 **NO** Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, 11/14 **7:30 am** Divine Liturgy for Lidiya and family

SATURDAY, 11/15 **4:00 pm** Divine Liturgy for + Jackie and John

SUNDAY, 11/16 **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for Daryna and family

Announcements

1 - Philip's Fast Begins

This Saturday (Nov 15th) begins the Philip's Fast (Pylypivka) — a time of spiritual preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. Though fasting is not obligatory in our Church, we are encouraged to deepen our prayer, charity, and, if possible, make small personal sacrifices to prepare our hearts for Christmas.

2-Divine Liturgy and Panakhyda Service

On Saturday, November 15th, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy offered for the repose of the souls of **John and Jackie Harber**.

Immediately following the Liturgy, a Panakhyda (memorial service) will be served in their memory. Let us gather in prayerful remembrance, entrusting them to the boundless mercy and love of our Lord.

Reflection on the 22nd Sunday After Pentecost

“Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.” (Lk 8:50)

In this Gospel, two stories intertwine — a desperate father pleading for his dying daughter, and a woman silently reaching out to touch the hem of Jesus' garment. Both encounter the same truth: faith opens the door to God's healing power.

Jesus meets each of them personally — the woman trembling in faith, and Jairus whose hope seems lost when he hears, “Your daughter is dead.” Yet Jesus says the words that every heart needs to hear: “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

In moments when life feels fragile and hope grows weak, this Gospel reminds us that Christ is always near. His power is not limited by time, distance, or circumstance. He restores life where there seems to be none, and peace where fear has taken hold.

Let us reach out to Him with the same faith — quietly, sincerely — and allow His presence to bring healing to our hearts, our families, and our world.

*Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy*

***Nov. 8th** – Synaxis of Michael the Archangel
and Other Heavenly Powers*

***Nov. 21st** – Entrance of the Theotokos to
the Temple*

Philip's Fast - Reflection

1. Spiritual Perspective – Preparing the Heart for the Incarnation

The Philip's Fast, beginning on November 15 (the day after the feast of St. Philip), is a time of inner preparation for the coming of Christ. Unlike the penitential character of Great Lent, this fast emphasizes hope, joy, and spiritual renewal.

It reminds us that the birth of Christ is not simply a past event, but a living mystery renewed in every heart that makes room for Him. The Church calls us to quiet the noise of the world and cultivate virtues that reflect the humility of Bethlehem — fasting in food, in speech, and in thought, so that we may hunger more deeply for God's presence. “Christ is born — glorify Him! Christ comes from heaven — go to meet Him!” — St. Gregory Nazianzen

2. Historical Perspective – Ancient Roots and Meaning

The Philip's Fast developed gradually in the Eastern Church between the 4th and 9th centuries. Originally shorter, it eventually became a 40-day fast, mirroring the Great Lent before Pascha, though with a more joyful tone.

It was seen as a “little Lent”, a time of moderation, prayer, and almsgiving, helping the faithful to balance the material and the spiritual before celebrating the feast of the Nativity. Historically, it also reflected the agrarian rhythm of life — a time when people completed harvests and began to focus on spiritual “harvest,” preparing their souls for the Light of the world. “As we prepare the manger of our hearts, let us cleanse it from the straw of sin.” (Extract from homily)

3. Practical Perspective – Living the Fast Today

In our modern world, Philip's Fast invites us to reclaim simplicity and focus.

Fasting from excess food or entertainment opens space for gratitude and awareness of others' needs. Prayer deepens our relationship with Christ and helps us perceive His presence in daily life. Charity (almsgiving) transforms fasting into active love — a way to “make Christ present” to those in need.

The challenge of Philip's Fast is not just abstaining from meat or dairy, but learning to fast from indifference, impatience, and self-centeredness — so that when Christmas comes, Christ will not find a closed inn, but a heart made ready. “If you cannot fast from food, fast from anger. If you cannot fast from drink, fast from judgment.” — St. John Chrysostom

The Philip's Fast is not about restriction but transformation. It teaches us that joy is born not from abundance but from expectant faith. Just as the shepherds kept watch in the stillness of the night, so too are we called to keep spiritual vigil — waiting for the dawn when “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (Jn 1,14).

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**Sunday collections for the weekend of 11/02/25, including envelope offerings - \$964,
donations -\$750, candle -\$56, online -\$30
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1800**

Support Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church



**Protection of the Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church
Byzantine Rite**

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Conyers, GA 30013

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

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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.*