

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Sunday of the Forefathers**

**SUNDAY, 12/14** 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

**MONDAY, 12/15** 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

**TUESDAY, 12/16** NO Divine Liturgy

**WEDNESDAY, 12/17** 6:15 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

**THURSDAY, 12/18** NO Divine Liturgy

**FRIDAY, 12/19** 7:30 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

**SATURDAY, 12/20** 4:00 pm Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners

**SUNDAY, 12/21** 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

**Announcements**

**1- Divine Liturgy on Nativity of Our Lord Jesus**

**Christ**

Divine Liturgy on the day of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ will be at 9am. Vigil Divine Liturgy will be at 4pm.

**2-New Year Divine Liturgy and St. Basil the Great**

**On December 31<sup>st</sup>**, we will have New Year Divine Liturgy at **11:00 pm** for the blessings received during the year and to be blessed in the coming year and at **10:30 pm** we will have also Akaphist service to the Holy Mother of God.

**3-Office of Holy Oil – December 19**

St. John Chrysostom Melkite Greek Catholic Church will host a multi-parish Office of Holy Oil on Friday, December 19 at 7:00 PM.

This beautiful and prayerful service is especially fitting during this penitential season as we prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord. The service includes multiple prayers, Gospel readings, and the anointing with holy oil. Sacramental Confession will also be available. All are warmly invited to attend.

**Sunday of the Forefathers – Faith That Prepares the Way**

On this Sunday, the Church commemorates the Holy Forefathers of Christ—the righteous men and women of the Old Testament who lived by faith and prepared the way for the coming of the Savior. From Adam and Eve to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and the prophets, they awaited the fulfillment of God’s promise with trust and perseverance.

Though they lived centuries before Christ, the Forefathers believed in God’s saving plan and remained faithful even when the promise seemed distant. Their lives remind us that salvation history is a story of patience, hope, and obedience. As the Apostle teaches, they were justified not by sight, but by faith.

The Sunday of the Forefathers invites us to reflect on our own spiritual heritage. We are heirs to their faith, called to remain steadfast in hope as we await the celebration of Christ’s Nativity. Just as they prepared the world for the Messiah, we too are called to prepare our hearts—through repentance, prayer, and trust in God’s promises.

May the example of the Holy Forefathers strengthen us to live faithfully in our own time, so that Christ may be born anew in our lives.

**Reflection on the Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths**

On December 17, according to the Gregorian calendar, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church commemorates the Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths—Ananias, Azarias, and Misael. Their witness shines brightly during this season of preparation for the Nativity of Christ, reminding us that faithfulness to God often demands courage, perseverance, and trust. Daniel and the Three Youths lived in exile, far from their homeland and surrounded by a society that pressured them to abandon the commandments of God. Yet they refused to compromise their faith. The Three Youths would not bow before false idols, even when threatened with death in the fiery furnace. Daniel remained faithful to prayer and trust in God, even when it led him to the lions’ den. In both cases, God’s saving power was revealed—not because His servants sought miracles, but because they remained loyal to Him.

Their lives teach us that true faith is not shaped by circumstances, comfort, or public approval. Instead, it is rooted in a deep relationship with God and a willingness to remain obedient even when doing so is costly. The miracle of their deliverance shows us that God never abandons those who place their trust in Him, even in moments of extreme trial.

By commemorating the Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths, the Church places before us models of integrity and hope. They challenge us to examine our own faith: Are we willing to remain faithful when our beliefs are tested? Do we trust God when the outcome is uncertain? Their witness calls us to live with spiritual courage in our own time, resisting the subtle pressures to compromise our Christian values.

As we honor them on December 17, may their prayers strengthen us to stand firm in faith, deepen our trust in God, and prepare our hearts to receive Christ at His coming. The same Lord who saved Daniel and the Three Holy Youths continues to guide and protect His people today.

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**Sunday collections for the weekend of 12/07/25, including envelope offerings - \$980, donations - \$375, candle - \$58, online - \$250**  
**Weekly budget: \$1250, Income 1663**  
**St. Andrew’s Pence Collection - \$316**

Support Mother of God  
Ukrainian Catholic Church



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

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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 REMEMBE YOUR PARISH AND THE EPARCHY OF SAINT JOSAPHAT IN PARMA IN  
YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.*