

**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Sunday before Theophany**

**SUNDAY, 1/4**      **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
                         **10:30 am** Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention  
**MONDAY, 1/5**      **4:30 pm** Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of the Water  
**TUESDAY, 1/6**      **Theophany**  
                         **9:30 am** Divine Liturgy for all parishioners  
**WEDNESDAY, 1/7**      **No service**  
**THURSDAY, 1/8**      **No service**  
**FRIDAY, 1/9**        **7:30 am** Divine Liturgy + for souls in Purgatory  
**SATURDAY, 1/10**      **4:00 pm** Divine Liturgy + for souls in Purgatory  
**SUNDAY, 1/11**      **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners  
                         **10:30 am** Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

**Announcements**

**1-Liturgy on Theophany**

**On January 6<sup>th</sup>**, we will be having bilingual service at 10am with the Great blessing of the Holy water after Divine Liturgy.

**2-Blessing of the House**

If you wish your house to be blessed with Jordan water call to parish office.

**Sunday Before Theophany – Prepare the Way of the Lord**

On the Sunday before the Feast of Theophany, the Church turns our attention to St. John the Baptist, the Forerunner of the Lord. His voice echoes through the Gospel with a clear and urgent message: prepare the way of the Lord.

John did not call people to celebration, but to repentance—a change of heart and direction. As Christ was about to be revealed to the world at His Baptism in the Jordan, the people were first invited to examine their lives, turn away from sin, and make room for God’s presence. This Sunday reminds us that Theophany is not only a historical event, but a living mystery. Christ enters the waters to sanctify creation and to reveal Himself as the Son of God. Our task is to prepare ourselves to receive this revelation—not outwardly only, but inwardly, through humility, repentance, and renewed faith.

As we approach Theophany, let us ask: What needs to be straightened in my life? What obstacles prevent Christ from being fully revealed in my heart?

May the voice of the Forerunner lead us to deeper conversion, so that when Christ is manifested, we may recognize Him and rejoice in the light of His divine glory.

*Upcoming Events  
in Parish & Eparchy*

*Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – Theophany  
Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Encounter  
Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – Great Lent begins*

**Jordan Blessing of the Father and Head of the UGCC His Beatitude  
Sviatoslav**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

Having completed the Jubilee Year 2025, we continue to remain “pilgrims of hope,” open to every blessing that comes from on high. In this festive season, when your priest and pastor comes to bless your home with Jordan water, please allow me as well to visit your home and bestow upon you a heartfelt blessing.

When the Lord Jesus comes to the waters of the Jordan to be baptized by John, heaven is opened, the Spirit of God descends upon Him in the form of a dove, and from above a voice resounds: “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.” This is the moment in which Jesus receives confirmation from His Father for His mission—to reveal God’s mercy to all humanity and to give each person the opportunity to encounter God Himself.

Jesus prepared for this mission for a long time in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth, where He “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him” (Luke 2:40). In the same way, in our own homes we learn to discern God’s will. Every Christian family, as a “domestic Church,” is called to be a hearth of faith, holiness, and love—a community that comes to know the “hope to which the Lord calls us,” a “place of encounter with the living Christ.” I especially encourage parents to take as their example Mary and Joseph, raising their children in prayer and in openness to God’s grace. I pray that every household today may be cleansed of all evil and protected from every danger.

I wish you the joy of coming to know how deeply the Lord loves you. I assure you of my fatherly love and prayerful closeness. I bless this home and all who live in it—in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

+ *Sviatoslav*

**Safe Environment Notice**

*It is important, from time to time, to remind the people of our Eparchy that if anyone has been the victim of sexual abuse by the clergy or laity, he or she should come forward and make that known either to the bishop, to one’s pastor, or to a member of the special Review Board that handles such cases. The bishop can be reached at his Chancery at: 1-440-888-1522 or by writing at: Most Rev. Bishop Bohdan J. Danylo, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat, P.O. Box 34780, Parma, OH 44134*

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**Sunday collections for the weekend of 12/28/25, including envelope offerings - \$830,  
donations -\$623, candles -\$140  
**Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1593**  
**Christmas Collection: \$ 2639****

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

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