

March 15th, 2026
Fourth Sunday of the Great Lent

SUNDAY, 3/15 **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for special intention
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for all parishioners

MONDAY, 3/16 **7:30 am** Typika

TUESDAY, 3/17 **No** Service

WEDNESDAY, 3/18 **6:15 pm** Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts

THURSDAY, 3/19 **No** Service

FRIDAY, 3/20 **7:15 am** Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts and Sorokousty

SATURDAY, 3/21 **5:00 pm** Divine Liturgy for + Maria Flores

SUNDAY, 3/22 **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) + Alicia Sandoval Cielo
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements

1-Commemoration Of The Deceased: Sorokousty

On Fridays during the Great Fast (Lent), we pray for all those who have fallen asleep in the Lord. If you would like to request that your departed loved ones be remembered by name during the services, please call to the church office.

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent – St. John Climacus

The Fourth Sunday of Great Lent is dedicated to St. John Climacus, a great spiritual teacher and the author of The Ladder of Divine Ascent. His life and writings remind us that the spiritual life is a journey—a gradual ascent toward God through repentance, humility, and perseverance.

St. John describes the Christian life as climbing a ladder that leads to heaven. Each step represents a virtue to be acquired and a passion to be overcome. This image is especially meaningful during Great Lent, when the Church invites us to examine our lives and make steady progress in our relationship with God.

The ladder reminds us that holiness does not come suddenly or without effort. It requires patience, prayer, and daily conversion. Sometimes we may stumble or feel discouraged, but St. John teaches that perseverance and humility allow us to rise again and continue the climb. At the center of this journey is love. The ultimate step of the ladder is not perfection in our own strength, but union with God through love and grace. Through prayer, fasting, and repentance, our hearts are gradually purified so that we may draw closer to Christ.

As we move deeper into Great Lent, the example of St. John Climacus encourages us not to lose heart. The spiritual journey may be difficult, but each step taken with faith brings us closer to the joy of the Resurrection. May his prayers guide us to continue climbing the ladder of virtue with hope and trust in God.

*Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy*
Mar. 25th – Annunciation
March 29th – Palm Sunday
April 3rd – Good Friday

Reflection on the Gospel (Mark 9:17–31)

In this Sunday’s Gospel, a father brings his suffering son to Jesus, asking for healing. The disciples were unable to cast out the evil spirit, and in desperation the father cries out to Christ: “I believe; help my unbelief!” These words express the struggle of many believers—faith mixed with doubt, hope mixed with weakness.

Jesus heals the boy and later teaches His disciples that certain spiritual battles can be overcome only through prayer and fasting. This reminder is especially meaningful during Great Lent. Our spiritual growth and healing require sincere prayer, self-discipline, and trust in God’s power.

The Gospel encourages us not to lose hope when our faith feels weak. Like the father in the story, we can bring our struggles to Christ honestly and ask Him to strengthen our faith. When we rely on prayer and draw closer to God, He gives us the strength needed to overcome the challenges of life.

Reflection on St. Mary of Egypt

During the fifth week of Great Lent, the Church places before us the powerful example of St. Mary of Egypt, whose life is closely connected with the prayerful chanting of the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete. Her story is one of the most striking testimonies of repentance and transformation in the Christian tradition.

St. Mary lived many years in sin, far from God. Yet when she encountered the grace of God in Jerusalem, her heart was completely changed. With deep repentance, she withdrew into the desert, where she spent the rest of her life in prayer, fasting, and repentance. Through God’s mercy, she became a great saint.

Her life reminds us that no one is beyond the reach of God’s forgiveness. The same mercy that transformed St. Mary is offered to each of us. The Great Canon helps us reflect on our own lives and recognize our need for repentance, just as she did.

As we approach the final weeks of Great Lent, the example of St. Mary of Egypt encourages us not to lose hope in our spiritual struggle. God’s mercy is greater than our sins, and sincere repentance always leads to renewal and new life.

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 3/8/26, including envelope offerings - \$816,
donations -\$296, candles -\$34
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1146**

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
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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.*