

August 23rd, 2026

13th Sunday after the Pentecost

SUNDAY, 8/23

9:00 *am* Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners

10:30 *am* Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

MONDAY, 8/24

7:00 *am* Divine Liturgy for special intention

TUESDAY, 8/25

NO Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, 8/26

6:15 *pm* Divine Liturgy for special intention

THURSDAY, 8/27

NO Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, 8/28

7:00 *am* Divine Liturgy for special intention

SATURDAY, 8/29

Passion (Beheading) of Saint John the Baptist

5:00 *pm* Divine Liturgy for special intention

SUNDAY, 8/30

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 **September 4th**, 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.

2-First Confession & Solemn Holy Eucharist

On Sunday, September 13, the children of our parish will celebrate their First Holy Confession and Solemn Holy Eucharist. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they prepare for this beautiful and important step in their life of faith.

3-Reminder: Living the Liturgical Year From Parish to Home

The Eparchy’s Office of Religious Education will offer a short online workshop, “Living the Liturgical Year From Parish to Home,” on September 1 from 7:00–7:30 PM. The session will share practical ideas for helping families bring the feasts, fasts, saints, icons, and traditions of our Ukrainian Catholic Church into everyday home life. Please register by August 31 at ucmcanton.com

13th Sunday After Pentecost – The Vineyard Entrusted to Us

Gospel: Matthew 21:33–42

On the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Christ tells the parable of the vineyard. A landowner carefully plants a vineyard, surrounds it with a hedge, prepares everything needed for it to bear fruit, and then entrusts it to tenants. Yet when the time comes to receive the fruit, the tenants reject the servants sent to them and finally kill the landowner’s own son.

Upcoming Events

in Parish & Eparchy

Sep 1st – New Church Year

Sep 4th – First Friday

Sep. 8th – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This parable is a serious reminder that everything we have is ultimately entrusted to us by God. Our life, faith, family, abilities, time, and even our parish community are gifts that are meant to bear fruit. God does not ask us simply to possess these gifts, but to use them faithfully through prayer, charity, service, and love.

The tenants wanted the vineyard without the owner. This is also a temptation in our own lives—to enjoy God’s blessings while forgetting the One who gave them. Christ challenges us to examine whether we are truly giving God the fruit of our lives or simply keeping everything for ourselves.

The Gospel ends with the image of the rejected stone becoming the cornerstone. Christ Himself is that cornerstone. When our lives are built on Him, they become stable and fruitful. When He is pushed aside, even good things can lose their proper purpose.

As we reflect on this Gospel, let us ask ourselves: What fruit is God expecting from the vineyard of my life? May we be faithful stewards of all that He has given us, keeping Christ at the center and allowing our lives to bear fruit for His Kingdom.

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist – Courage to Stand for Truth

Commemorated on August 29

On August 29, the Church commemorates the Passion, or Beheading, of Saint John the Baptist, one of the most solemn feasts dedicated to the Forerunner of Christ. Saint John was imprisoned and ultimately put to death because he refused to remain silent in the face of sin and injustice. His fidelity to God’s truth cost him his life.

Saint John’s witness reminds us that truth is not always comfortable, and faithfulness to God can require courage. He did not seek conflict, but he would not compromise what was right in order to protect himself or gain approval. His life challenges us to ask whether we are willing to stand for the Gospel when it is difficult or unpopular.

At the same time, this feast is not only about martyrdom; it is also about humility. John’s entire mission was to point others toward Christ. He famously declared that Christ must increase while he himself must decrease. Even in death, his life remained a witness to the One he had come to prepare the way for.

As we commemorate his Passion, let us ask Saint John the Baptist to help us speak truth with courage, live with integrity, and keep Christ at the center of our lives. May his example strengthen us to remain faithful even when discipleship demands sacrifice.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for the weekend of 8/16/26, including envelope offerings - \$ 855, donations -\$ 249, candle -\$ 52, online -\$ 50

Weekly budget: \$1500, Income \$ 1206

Support Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church



Protection of the Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church
Byzantine Rite
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Fr. Deacon Michael Guerrucci

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Emergency phone 224-400-0558
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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.***