

September 20th, 2026
17th Sunday after the Pentecost

SUNDAY, 9/20 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

MONDAY, 9/21 7:00 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

TUESDAY, 9/22 NO Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, 9/23 6:15 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

THURSDAY, 9/24 NO Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, 9/25 7:00 am Divine Liturgy for special intention

SATURDAY, 9/26 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy for special intention

SUNDAY, 9/27 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements

1-Parish Feast Day Celebration – Pokrova

Although the liturgical Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (Pokrova) falls on October 1, our parish will celebrate its Feast Day together on Sunday, October 4.

On that day, we will have one bilingual Divine Liturgy, bringing our entire parish family together in prayer and unity.

Following the Liturgy, everyone is warmly invited to stay for a potluck lunch.

*Upcoming Events
in Parish & Eparchy*

Oct. 1st –Protection of the Mother of God

Oct. 2nd – First Friday

Oct. 4th –Parish Feast

2-Nighttime Prayers

Join us for Nighttime Prayers on **October 2nd**, 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.

Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me

Gospel: Mark 8:34–9:1

In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus speaks very clearly about what it means to be His disciple: “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.”

To follow Christ means more than believing in Him with our words. It means allowing Him to shape the way we live, the choices we make, and the priorities we set. Self-denial does not mean rejecting everything good in life. Rather, it means learning not to make ourselves the center of everything.

Jesus also tells us to take up our cross. Every person carries some kind of cross: difficulties, responsibilities, disappointments, sacrifices, or struggles known only to God. The Christian

response is not simply to complain about these burdens, but to carry them with faith, patience, and trust in Christ.

Jesus then asks a powerful question: “What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?” We can spend much of our lives pursuing success, comfort, recognition, or possessions, but none of these can replace a living relationship with God.

The Gospel invites us to examine what truly matters. Following Christ may require sacrifice, but it leads us to the life that is truly worth living.

As we reflect on this Sunday’s Gospel, let us ask ourselves: What am I holding onto that prevents me from following Christ more freely? May the Lord give us courage to take up our cross each day and follow Him with faith, humility, and love.

Saints Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love – A Family Rooted in Christ

Commemorated September 17

On September 17, the Church commemorates the holy martyrs Sophia and her daughters Faith, Hope, and Love. Their story is a powerful witness to what it means for a family to place Christ at the center of life.

Sophia raised her daughters not simply to know about God, but to belong to Him. Even while they were still young, Faith, Hope, and Love showed extraordinary courage and remained faithful to Christ despite persecution and suffering. Their strength did not come from age or worldly power, but from the faith that had been planted in their hearts.

Their names also remind us of the foundations of Christian life. Faith teaches us to trust God even when we do not understand everything. Hope keeps us from despair when life becomes difficult. Love gives meaning to everything we do, because without love even our greatest sacrifices become empty.

Saint Sophia also speaks especially to parents and grandparents. One of the greatest gifts we can give our children is not success, comfort, or possessions, but a living faith. Children learn faith not only from what we tell them, but from the way they see us pray, forgive, trust God, and remain faithful during difficult moments.

The witness of these saints invites every family to ask: What are we planting in the hearts of our children? May Saints Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love intercede for our families, especially for our young people, that they may grow in courage, hope, and a deep love for Christ.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for the weekend of 9/11/26, including envelope offerings - \$ 435, donations -\$ 451, candle -\$ 31, online -\$ 60

Weekly budget: \$1500, Income \$ 977

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

Parish office phone 770-760-1111
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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.***