

Responses in Ukrainian

Some parts of the Divine Liturgy in our parish are said in Ukrainian. The typical responses are:

Lord, have mercy. **Hospody, Pomilui.**
(Господи, помилуй.)

Grant this, O Lord. **Podai, Hospody.**
(Подай, Господи.)

To You, O Lord. **Tobi, Hospody.**
(Тобі, Господи.)

Seasonal Greeting and Responses

In the Ukrainian Catholic Church, greetings and responses change with the Liturgical Calendar. These can be heard being exchanged between parishioners or at the start and end of Father's homily.

During most times of the year

Glory to Jesus Christ! **Glory Forever!**
Slava Isusu Khrystu! **Slava Na Viky!**
(Слава Ісусу Христу!) (Слава на віки!)

From Easter Sunday (Pascha) to the Feast of the Ascension

Christ is Risen! **Indeed He is Risen!**
Khrystos Voskres! **Voistynu Voskres!**
(Христос Воскрес!) (Воістину Воскрес!)

During Christmas (from 25 December to 2 February)

Christ is Born! **Glorify Him!**
Khrystos Rozhayet'sya! **Slavite Yoho!**
(Христос Рождається!) (Славіте Його!)

During the Theophany (6 February)

Christ is Baptized! **In the Jordan!**
Khrystos khrestyvya! **Oo Yordani!**
(Христос хрестився!) (У Йордані!)

During special occasions (birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) the parish will sing 'Многая літа!' ('Many years!', Многая літа!).

Contact Information

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Please see www.stmarysbyz.com for Liturgy and Confessions times.



In the event of an emergency or death, when a priest is needed, please ask the hospital to contact the local Catholic priest responsible for the hospital or call Fr. Alexander at (301) 421-1739.

New to a Byzantine Parish?

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church Manassas, Virginia

“ Today is the crown of our salvation, and the unfolding of the eternal mystery; the Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel brings the good tidings of grace. With him let us also cry to the Mother of God: Rejoice, Full of grace! The Lord is with you.

Troparion for the Feast of The Annunciation ”



Our Community

St. Mary's Parish provides for the spiritual needs of Eastern Christians in the Manassas area. All are welcome to worship with us without regard to ethnic heritage or ecclesial ascription. As members of the same parish, not only do we worship God together, but we strive to help one another in other ways, both spiritually and practically.

The Byzantine Rite

✙ The Byzantine Rite, a tradition of prayer, liturgy, and devotion is used by the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Some marks of this tradition are the three-bar cross, like the one atop our church; frequent bowing and signs of the cross during liturgy; and icons throughout the church and in the home.

Sign of the Cross

Byzantine Catholics cross themselves from right-to-left with the thumb, index, and middle fingers touching (representing the Holy Trinity) and the ring and little fingers touching the palm (representing Christ's human and divine natures). The sign of the cross is used often during the liturgy (each time the Holy Trinity is named) and prayer.



The Divine Liturgy

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is used during most of the year (during the Great Fast (Lent) and Feast of St. Basil, the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is celebrated). The entire liturgy is chanted/sung.

The text of the liturgy can be found in the small, black books in the pews. During the liturgy, hymns called the Troparion and Kontakion are sung, as are other responses that may change with the feast day celebrated. These can be found on printed handouts at the entrance.

The Eucharist

The Eucharist is given under both the consecrated bread (leavened) and wine. When approaching:

- Tell Father your name
- Tilt your head back and opening your mouth wide
- Father will use the Communion Spoon to place the precious Body and Blood of Jesus in your mouth
- Please do not touch the spoon with your lips or tongue
- There is no spoken response after receiving communion

You may notice that small children and infants also receive communion. This is permitted in the Ukrainian Catholic Church when the child has been baptized and received Chrismation (Confirmation), which occur together for infants.

Parish History

In 1918, Catholic immigrants of Byzantine and Latin rites built a church to worship together in Minnieville.

- 1925 St. Mary's parish is founded.
- 1929 St. Mary's Church is built.
- 1949-1955 Confessional and sacristy built.
- 1950 Church property deeded to the Philadelphia Exarchate.
- 1953 Cemetery cross dedicated.
- 1955-1968 Iconostas built and altar donated.
- 1968-1971 Brick exterior is applied; choir loft and interior entrance renovated.
- 2017-2018 New steeple cross raised and sacristy renewed.
- 2020 Church interior and floors renovated.

Throughout St. Mary's history, the faith, love, and care of the faithful have built and sustained this parish. We are grateful for the dedication of the clergy, who have travelled, and continue to, across Virginia and Maryland to minister to those who worship here.

The Iconostas



The iconostas is a screen that separates the sanctuary from the nave of the church. There are three doors: the Royal Doors, in the middle (which only the priest may use), and the two deacon doors. There is much meaning in the iconostas, both in the icons and the use of the doors. On the iconostas, there are four large icons (from left to right):

- St. Nicholas
- The Theotokos (Mary, Mother of God) with Christ
- Christ Pantocrator (Ruler of All)
- Patron Icon (Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

There are 12 icons along the top of the iconostas, which depict the Twelve Great Feasts. On the Royal Doors, there are four small icons of the Evangelists.

The Tetrapod

In front of the Royal Doors is a small table called a 'tetrapod,' upon which are candles, a crucifix, and an icon of the Annunciation (or the major feast being celebrated). Parishioners, upon entering and leaving the church, may reverence the icon and crucifix by crossing themselves, bowing, and kissing them.