

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue
Allen Park, MI 48101
313-382-5901

February 24th, 2019

Priest: Fr. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.
cell phone: 412-378-0308
email: jrprussell@gmail.com

Deacon: Fr. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantors: Peter Raupp, Pani Mary Hendricks



Welcome and Glory to Jesus Christ!

You are welcome here. Join us in prayer and worship of
almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

About the Parish

St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church, led by the Holy Spirit, is called to evangelize by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to welcoming and caring for all of God's children.

We are a parish of the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Eparchy of Parma, an eparchy of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church *sui iuris* of Pittsburgh. Bishop Milan (Lach) of Parma is our bishop.

Archbishop William (Skurla) of Pittsburgh is our Metropolitan. We are in communion with our holy father Francis, the Pope of Rome.

"On the one hand, the East [should not] oppose as heretical the developments that took place in the West in the second millennium and [should] accept the Catholic Church as legitimate and orthodox in the form she [has] acquired in the course of that development, while, on the other hand, the West [should] recognize the Church of the East as orthodox and legitimate in the form she has always had." - **Joseph Ratzinger**, *Principles of Catholic Theology*, p. 199



5000 Rockside Rd. Suite 310, Independence, OH 44131
(216) 741-8773; parma.org

Bishop Milan Lach, S.J., *Bishop of Parma*

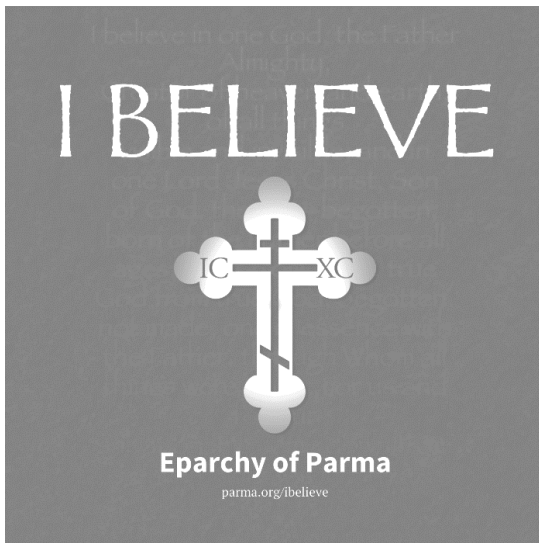
Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Marek Visnovsky: ext. 6; frmvisnovsky@parma.org
Protosyncellus, Director of Vocations

Laura Ieraci: ext. 3; horizons@parma.org
Editor of Horizons Newspaper

John J. Popp: ext. 2; jpopp@parma.org
Director of Religious Education and Catechesis

Fr. Deacon William Fredrick: 216-469-1425; wfredrick@parma.org
Safe Environment Coordinator

Dr. Sharon DiLauro Petrus: ext. 7; 330-958-9630
Victim's Assistance Coordinator



As our minds look to the Great Fast with today's celebration of Meat-fare, let us remember the how Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us. How can we repay Him? What can we do to strengthen His Church on earth? The Stewardship Appeal is just one of many ways we can give back and show our appreciation. Please also consider the many ways that you can help at your local parish to strengthen and build up your community. One thing Spread the word and bring a friend to our weekly faith formation sessions.

Our parish's goal is \$9,200.

As of Jan. 29th, the Eparchy had received **\$8,455.00** (with \$8,535.00 pledged) from 38 contributors. However, we have it on good authority that we have now met our goal! Thank you!

Call for Readers

At St. Stephen, we want to develop a rotation of Readers to chant the Epistle at the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Please let us know if you would be willing to commit to learning how to do this and then being placed in the rotation. I would be eager to meet and practice with you – just let me know when would be a good time for you. – Fr. John



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Join the Guild! The Guild is dedicated to caring for and beautifying our holy place and all the appointments for our Divine worship. Their next meeting is on **Sunday, March 10th**.

Join the workers! All are welcome to join the workers every Thursday after Third Hour at 9:00 AM for our weekly parish work day.

Join the cleaners! Please contact Louise Dalbo to volunteer to clean the church for any particular week you're able. Or, get your name put in the rotation of regular church cleaners.

The Raupp Family is scheduled to clean the church this week. Many thanks to **the Dalbo Family** and to all who worked and cleaned this past week. May God grant them many years!

Sunday, February 24, 2019

MEATFARE SUNDAY. The Sunday of the Last Judgment. Tone 7.

✠ The First & Second Finding of the Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, & Baptist John.

Vespers Paramia: Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 • Malachi 3:1;

Mark 1:2; Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 18, 17; 4:4-6 • Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-5:7

7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:1-10

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2. Matthew 25:31-46.

8:45am Third Hour

9:00am Divine Liturgy – *for the people of the parish*

+*Jack Bonacor, from Charolet Bonacor (2-20-2019)*

10:30am ECF

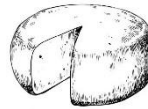
Monday, February 25, 2019



Cheesefare Monday. Our Holy Father Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806).

3 John 1:1-15. Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019



Cheesefare Tuesday. Our Holy Father Porphyry, Bishop of Gaza (421).

The Holy Great Martyr Photina the Samaritan.

Jude 1-10. Luke 22:39-42, 45b-23:1.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019



Cheesefare Wednesday.

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Procopius the Decapolite (741).

Our Holy Father Gregory of Narek.

6th Hour: Joel 2:12-26. *Vespers:* Joel 3:12-21.

9:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

+*Jack Bonacor, from Chuck Skiba*

Thursday, February 28, 2019



Cheesefare Thursday. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Basil, Fellow Ascetic of Procopius (741).

Jude 1:11-25. Luke 23:2-34, 44-56.

9:00am Third Hour

Parish Work Day

Friday, March 1, 2019



Cheesefare Friday. The Venerable Martyr Eudoxia (2nd Century).
Our Holy Father David, Enlightener of Wales.

6th Hour: Zechariah 8:7-17. Vespers: Zechariah 8:19-23.

9:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Vespers – *followed by Confessions*

Saturday, March 2, 2019



Cheesefare Saturday. Commemoration of Holy Ascetics.
The Holy Martyr Theodotus, Bishop of Cyrene (302).

Romans 14:19-23; 16:25-27. Galatians 5:22-6:2.

Matthew 6:1-13. Matthew 11:27-30.

8:45am Third Hour

9:00am Divine Liturgy

+Joseph Humenik, from Peter & Donna Raupp

5:00pm Confessions

6:00pm Vespers

7:00pm 2nd "I Believe" Faith Formation Session – *on the Resurrection*

Sunday, March 3, 2019



CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. The Sunday of Forgiveness. Tone 8.

The Holy Martyr Eutropius and his Companions, Cleonicus and Basiliscus (308).

8th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:11-18

Romans 13:11b-14:4. Matthew 6:14-21.

8:45am Third Hour

9:00am Divine Liturgy

+*Jack Bonacor, from Chuck Skiba (2-27-19)*

+*Joseph Humenik, from Peter & Donna Raupp (2-2-19)*

Guild Pancake Breakfast after Divine Liturgy!

10:30am ECF

12:00 noon Forgiveness Vespers

Legend

⊕ Great Feast

⊕ Feast with a Vigil

⊕ Feast with the Polyeleos at Matins

⊕ Feast with the Great Doxology at Matins

⊕ Feast with Six Stichera at Vespers



by tradition, a strict fast day



by tradition, a fast day permitting wine and oil.



by tradition, a fast day permitting fish, wine, and oil



by tradition, a fast day permitting dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil.

The Fast of Cheesefare Week

As we continue to prepare for the Great Fast, Cheesefare Week is traditionally a week of fasting from meat. It is called “Cheesefare” because this is our last week to eat dairy until Pascha, so we would traditionally eat or drink all our dairy (and eggs) this week. Cheesefare Sunday (March 3rd) ends Cheesefare Week and the forty-days of the Great Fast begin with Clean Monday (March 4th).

“Today this fast is considered a part of the Great Fast, a preparation period in which we enter gradually into the asceticism of the Fast. It originated, however, in the Oriental Orthodox (non-Chalcedonian) Churches and was separate from the Great Fast. It was called the Fast of Nineveh, and was observed three weeks before the Great Fast, in what is now the Week after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Byzantine Church would not observe it at the same time as those Churches with which it was not in communion and moved it to the week before the Great Fast.” – Fr. David Petras

Rediscover your Roots

LORAIN, Ohio — St. Nicholas Parish, 2711 W. 40th St., will host an evening themed, “Rediscover Your Roots: A Journey Through Central Europe,” **March 1**, 6 p.m.-9. The event will begin with Vespers, celebrated by Bishop Milan Lach, SJ, of Parma, followed by an ethnic dinner and the screening of a film on the cultural and spiritual roots of the Byzantine Catholic Church, produced by Horizons Media and based on Horizons’ “Mariapoch to Mariapoch” pilgrimage to Europe last fall. Screening to be followed by a Q&A. Tickets cost \$20; \$10 for children aged 6-12. Free admission for children aged 5 and under. RSVP by Feb. 25 at (440) 282-7525 or info@stnicks.org. Proceeds to benefit the parish.

I BELIEVE
Faith Formation Program

Weekly Lessons:

Great Fast
Begins Week of February 24

Lesson 1: Crucifixion
Lesson 2: Resurrection
Lesson 3: Ascension
Lesson 4: The Second Coming
Lesson 5: The Final Judgement
Lesson 6: Everlasting Kingdom
& the General Resurrection
Lesson 7: The Church
Lesson 8: Baptism – Part 1
Lesson 9: Baptism – Part 2

 Office of Religious Education
Eparchy of Parma

Our second meeting to learn and discuss the Nicene Creed will be on **Saturday, March 2nd** at **7:00pm** after Vespers. Our session will be on the Resurrection of Christ. It may seem odd to prepare for the Great Fast with a lesson on the Resurrection, but we are Resurrection People and we look toward the great Feast of Pascha at the end of our spiritual exercise of Lent. Join us for this religious education program and delve deeper into our Byzantine Catholic faith!

GUILD PANCAKE BREAKFAST

After Divine Liturgy on Cheesefare Sunday, **March 3rd** (the last day for dairy before the Great Fast), enjoy an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet put on by St. Stephen's Guild. The menu will include pancakes, eggs, hash browns, fruit, coffee, juice, and milk. The price is \$6 for adults or \$3 for children under 12. Children 5 and under eat FREE. Carry outs will be available.



Women's Retreat

CAREY, Ohio — Retired Bishop John Kudrick of Parma will be the retreat master of the Seventh Annual Women's Retreat, **March 15-17**, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation Retreat Center. The theme is, "How Does Penance Heal?" Bishop Kudrick will lead retreatants to understand the purpose of penance and how it can be meaningful in healing one's relationship with God. The retreat is sponsored by St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Parish in Marblehead, Ohio. More details to come. Info: Joan Washburn (865) 696-7809.

Lenten Day of Reflection

Sunday, **March 17th** at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, 23300 King Drive, Clinton Township, MI. Special guest speaker is Sr. Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM. Sr. Mihalchick is a member of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great located in Uniontown, Pa. All are invited to begin the day by attending the Divine Liturgy at 11 a.m., which will be followed by a luncheon. Sr. Barbara's presentations will speak of the teachings of Jesus at the Last Supper. There will be time for group discussion. The Sacrament of Repentance (Confession) will be available. The day will end with a Lenten prayer service. All are welcome to experience this special time of reflection and prayer during Great Lent.

Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick is the Program Director of Mount St. Macrina House of Prayer, Uniontown, Pa. After teaching in the parochial schools for several years, Sister earned a Master's in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. Sister served at the House of Prayer and in parish ministry. Beginning in 1989, Sister Barbara Jean was for twelve years the Assistant General Superior of the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great with residence in Rome and frequent ministry among the Basilian Sisters in Eastern Europe. Sister is the Vocation Director for her religious community. Sister Barbara Jean regularly gives retreats and offers spiritual direction. Sister is a member of the Fayette County Anti-Trafficking Task Force.

Pysanki Classes



Pani Katie will be leading two Pysanki classes during the Great Fast. The first will be after the Divine Liturgy and Panachida for All Souls on **Saturday, March 30th** and the second will be after the Divine Liturgy on **April 6th**. Come and learn the ancient Slavic art of wax-resist egg decoration. These are a wonderful and traditional way to beautify your Easter baskets for Pascha! The Easter egg represents the tomb of Christ, from which new life comes.

Pysanky make beautiful gifts and are rich in symbolism. The eggs should be taken to the church on Easter Sunday to be blessed, after which they may be given away. Some may be given to the priest. They may be taken to the cemetery and placed on graves of the family. They may be given to your children or godchildren. They were often exchanged by the unmarried girls with the eligible men in the community. Several were saved to place in the coffin of loved ones who might die during the year. Remember that the eggs symbolize life coming out of the tomb. Young people were traditionally given pysanky with bright designs; dark pysanky were given to older people. A bowl full of pysanky may be kept in every home.

PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

Our next joint meeting of both councils will be on **Thursday, April 11th at 6:00 pm**. If you have any questions, concerns, or items for us to discuss, please submit these in writing to Fr. John or a member of the appropriate council.



Horizons has organized a 10-day pilgrimage to Rome in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Eparchy of Parma, **May 13-22**. Pilgrims will be led by Bishop Milan Lach, SJ, of Parma in prayer and in the discovery of the Byzantine Catholic facets of the Eternal City. Other highlights will include a General Audience with Pope Francis and visits to the Vatican Museums and other historic sites. Cost: \$3,725. Deadline: March 15. Info: www.parma.org/romepilgrimage or (216) 470-3287.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on Sunday, February 17th, 2019 was **61**. Average Sunday attendance \approx 62
Thank you for coming and worshipping God with us, and for inviting others to join us!

COLLECTION

The collection on February 17th, 2019 was **\$1387.00**

Average Weekly Collection: \$1831.71

Sunday: \$1387; Holy Day: \$36; Candles: \$49; Children: \$1; Initial Offering: \$10; Fuel: \$11;
Special Donation: \$200

Thank you for your generous and sacrificial tithes and offerings!



Saint Stephen
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH