

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI 48101

September 8th, 2019

313-382-5901

website: saintstephenbyzantine.church

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

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantor: Pani Mary Hendricks



Glory to Jesus Christ! Welcome to St. Stephen!

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 – to proclaim 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.

“We are Catholics with the common heritage of our Orthodox brothers but in unity with the Holy Father in Rome.” – Bishop Milan

REGULAR LITURGICAL SERVICE TIMES

Saturday & Sunday **Divine Liturgy** at 10:00am

Wednesday evening **Divine Liturgy** at 7:00pm

Friday & Saturday evening **Vespers** at 7:00pm, followed by **Confession**

HOLY MYSTERIES

Holy Baptism and Chrismation

All you who have been baptized into Christ have been clothed in Christ. Alleluia!

Those who are not yet baptized and/or chrismated, contact Fr. John. Your life depends on it! A period of preparation and instruction (catechumenate) of at least one full year may precede adult baptisms and/or chrismations.

If you are expecting a child, please contact Fr. John to arrange for the child's baptism, chrismation, and communion (traditionally forty days after birth).

Holy Communion

Unless we eat the body and drink the blood of the Lord, we have no life in us.

Holy Communion is first received when we are baptized and chrismated. Thereafter, we receive frequently to nourish and sustain us in our life in Christ. Before we receive, we must prepare according to our ability with prayer (traditionally including Vespers & Matins), fasting (traditionally from midnight or from Vespers), and holy repentance.

Those unable to attend Divine Liturgies should contact Fr. John to arrange for him to bring them holy communion.

Holy Repentance

All of us sin and fall short of the glory of God. As often as we fall, let us get up again! Never despair of our salvation, for God loves us and forgives us as often as we repent. Opportunities for confession are scheduled most Fridays and Saturdays after Vespers and other times by appointment.

Four times a year, once during each of the penitential seasons, we celebrate the full Office of Holy Repentance, which includes psalms, readings, prayers and the opportunity for private confession and absolution. We will next celebrate this during the Philip's Fast, **Thursday, December 19th at 7pm.**

Holy Anointing

Holy anointing is offered to all in need of healing every year on Holy Wednesday. If anyone is sick, call Fr. John (412-378-0308), and he will come pray over you and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. This is not only for the dying, but for all who are in need of healing. Whenever we are to undergo surgery of any kind, we should first be anointed.

Monasticism

Monks and nuns are witnesses to the gospel carrying on the spirit of martyrdom and prophecy in the Church today. Inquire at these monasteries to pursue this vocation:

Holy Resurrection Monastery

300 S 2nd Ave, PO Box 276, St. Nazianz, WI 54232
(920) 881-4009
monks@hrmonline.org
hrmonline.org

Christ the Bridegroom Monastery

17485 Mumford Rd. Burton, OH 44021
440-834-0290
christthebridegroom@gmail.com
christthebridegroom.org

Holy Matrimony

We rejoice with those preparing to be crowned in marriage. They are an icon of Christ and his Church. Contact Fr. John at least six months in advance of your wedding date to begin marriage preparation (and before you rent a hall!).

Holy Orders

For the sake of holy order, the Church needs deacons, priests, and bishops (and also readers, cantors, and subdeacons). Contact Fr. John to discuss the possibility of serving the Church in ordained ministry. The eparchy's Director of Vocations is the Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Marek Visnovsky 216-741-8773 ext. 6; frmvisnovsky@parma.org

Funerals

Brothers and sisters, we are going to die. It is good to remember this daily and to always be prepared for it. We know not the hour.

Death does not end our relationship with those who have died. We venerate the bodies of our departed saints and loved ones, because we believe in the resurrection. It is a work of mercy and a sign of faith in the coming resurrection to bury the dead and to pray for them.

The Church understandingly permits but does not prefer or encourage cremation, because we expect the resurrection of the body. The funeral must be celebrated in the church with the body prior to the cremation.

The funeral is the last service we celebrate together with our departed loved one in the church. The departed attend the funeral with us and are not closed off from us. Therefore, when possible, the casket is traditionally open until the end of the funeral.

Sunday, September 8, 2019

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Tone 4

⊕ THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

Nativity Vespers: Genesis 28:10-17 • Ezechiel 43:27-44:4 • Proverbs 9:1-11.

Nativity Matins Gospel: Luke 1:39-49, 56.

for the Cross: Galatians 6:11-18 & *for the Nativity:* Philippians 2:5-11.

for the Cross: John 3:13-17 & *for the Nativity:* Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

8:00am Matins

10:00am Divine Liturgy – *for the people of the parish*

+ Ernest Semak, *from Paula & Mike Varga (9-4-2019)*

+ Mary Strach, *from Irene Zbikowski (9-7-2019)*

Reader: Elizabeth Druga

After Divine Liturgy: Guild Meeting

12:30pm Vespers



Monday, September 9, 2019

Post-festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

⊗ The Synaxis of the Holy and Just Grandparents of God Joachim and Anna.

The Holy Martyr Severian (320).

2 Corinthians 12:10-19. Mark 4:10-23.

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Post-festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

The Holy Martyrs Menodora, Mitrodora and Nymphodora (306).

2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2. Mark 4:24-34.

7:00am First & Third Hour

7:00pm Vespers

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Post-festive Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

Our Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria (490).

Today we also remember St. Autonomous, because of the leave-taking tomorrow.

Remembrance of the Acts of Terrorism committed in 2001.

2 Corinthians 13:3-14. Mark 4:35-41.

6:00pm Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

special intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Leave-taking of the Nativity of the Theotokos.

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomus (c. 300).

Galatians 1:1-10, 20-2:5. Mark 5:1-20.

9:00am Third Hour

Parish Work Day

Friday, September 13, 2019

⊗. Pre-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Commemoration of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem (335).

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cornelius.

Vespers: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 • Proverbs 3:19-34 • Proverbs 9:1-11.

for the Cross: Hebrews 3:1-4. Matthew 16:13-18.

for the day: Galatians 2:6-10. Mark 5:22-24, 35-6:1.

7:00am First & Third Hour

7:00pm All-Night Vigil with the Veneration of the Cross

followed by Confessions

Saturday, September 14, 2019 ○ 🍇

⊕ THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS.

The Passing of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.

Vespers: Exodus 15:22-16:1 • Proverbs 3:11-18 • Isaiah 60:11-16.

Matins Gospel: John 12:28-36.

for the Cross: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24. John 19:6-11, 13-21, 25-27, 30-35.

for the day: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5. Matthew 23:1-12.

9:45am Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+David Himick, from Faith Himick

7:00pm Vespers - *followed by Confessions*

Sunday, September 15, 2019

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Tone 5

⊗ Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Holy Great Martyr Nicetas (372).

Our Venerable Father Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

3rd Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Mark 16:9-20.

for the Cross: Galatians 2:16-20. Mark 8:34-9:1.

for the day: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4. Matthew 22:1-14.

8:00am Matins

10:00am Divine Liturgy—*for the people of the parish*

special intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (9-11)

+David Himick, from Faith Himick (9-14)

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

11:30am ECF

12:30pm Vespers



LEGEND

- ⊕ Great Feast
- ⊕ Feast with an All-night 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 (no meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, or oil)



by tradition, a fast day permitting wine and oil. (no meat, dairy, eggs, or fish)



by tradition, a fast day permitting fish, wine, and oil (no meat, dairy, or eggs)



by tradition, a fast day permitting dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil (no meat)

Byzantine Cycle of Daily Liturgical Services

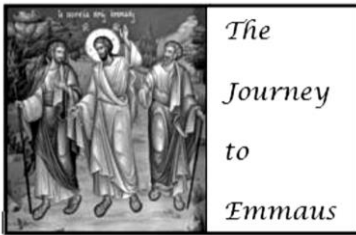
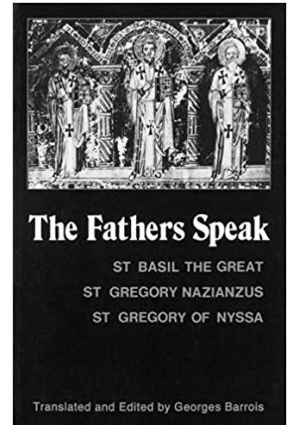
Name of service	Traditional time	Themes
Vespers	sunset	Creation, which began in the evening, the Fall, Repentance, and Hope
Compline	before bed	Death, of which sleep is an image, illumined by Christ's decent into Hades and freeing the captives
Midnight Office	midnight	Christ's midnight prayer in Gethsemane, & the coming of Christ the Bridegroom in the middle of the night
Matins <i>or</i> Orthros	ending at sunrise	Resurrection, of which the rising sun is an image
First Hour	7:00 AM	Christ, the true light
Third Hour	9:00 AM	The descent of the Holy Spirit, which happened at this hour on Pentecost
Sixth Hour	noon	Christ's crucifixion, which happened at this hour
Ninth Hour	3:00 PM	Christ's death, which happened at this hour
Typica	after 6th <i>or</i> 9th hour	The Typica is served if the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated.

JOIN THE GUILD!

The Guild is dedicated to caring for and beautifying our holy place and all the appointments for our Divine worship. All are welcome to join the Guild. They meet **today Sunday, September 8th**, after Divine Liturgy. Come and see!

Byzantine Book Club

You are invited to join a book club! Most Mondays from 7 – 9 pm at Fr. Deacon Lawrence & Pani Mary Hendricks' home. This group has been meeting for several years to read and discuss books on Byzantine and Eastern Christianity. Our next meeting is **tomorrow Monday, September 9th**, at 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198. We are reading *The Fathers Speak: St Basil the Great, St Gregory of Nazianzus, St Gregory of Nyssa*.



Next Sunday, an important event will take place in our parish. The importance of religious instruction will be emphasized. Special prayers for the Beginning of the School year will be included during the Divine Liturgy. We will give authority to our catechists and implore God's Wisdom upon them and their students, for whom we will also pray and bless. All instructors and students are asked to be present.

Icon Glass



Fr. Damian Higgins is scheduled to teach his annual icon class at St. Basil Byzantine Catholic Church in Sterling Heights, MI from **September 16th to 20th**. This icon workshop will teach the traditional Byzantine style of iconography. Students will learn the traditional methods and materials of egg tempera. This course is limited to 16 participants. The cost is \$350 per person. All materials will be provided. Register by phone by **September 2, 2019**. To register please contact Fr. Mychail from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 586-268-1082. Please leave a message if Father is unable to answer the phone.

Discernment Retreat

Single Catholic women ages 18-35
September 20-22, 2019

Single Catholic women, ages 18-35, who would like to take a weekend to pray about a possible vocation to the monastic life, are invited to inquire about attending the upcoming discernment retreat at Christ the Bridegroom Monastery, **Sept. 20-22**. Experience the life of prayer at the monastery, listen to talks on prayer and discernment, make use of the opportunity to get to know the nuns, and receive healing through the Mystery of Holy Repentance (Confession). If you are interested in this retreat, or a future discernment opportunity, visit www.christthebridegroom.org, click on the “Discerning?” tab, and fill out the online Vocation Inquiry Form. Please fill out the form by Sept. 6 for this retreat. Space is limited. Mother Theodora will call you to talk about availability. With questions, call 440-834-0290 or email christthebridegroom@gmail.com.



Eparchial Women’s Retreat

Whitehouse, Ohio – The annual eparchial women’s retreat will take place **Sept. 27-29**, at the Lial Renewal Center, 5908 Davis Road. The theme of the retreat is taken from the Paraklesis Office of Consolation to the Most Holy Theotokos, “Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear.” The retreat facilitator will be Father Robert Jager, a priest of the Eparchy of Parma. Cost of the retreat is \$125 by Aug. 30; after that, the fee is \$150. Watch for registration materials in your parish or on this website soon.

Craft & Vendor Show

Saturday, October 12th

St. Basil Byzantine Catholic Church

St. Macrina Guild is looking for crafters and vendors for their 1st annual Craft & Vendor show! Please email them at macrinaguild@gmail.com for more information.

Please come to the 1st annual Craft & Vendor show hosted by the St. Macrina Guild on October 12th from 10am to 4pm. Free admission!

The Bridegroom's Banquet

Saturday, October 19

St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, Brecksville, Ohio

You're invited to the "Bridegroom's Banquet," a benefit dinner for the nuns of Christ the Bridegroom Monastery, on Saturday, October 19, at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church in Brecksville, Ohio. There is no cost to attend the dinner, but registration is required (by October 7). Adults 21 and older may attend. Enjoy a buffet dinner, entertainment, and an evening with the nuns and their guests. Learn more about & support the nuns and their life of prayer and hospitality. Donations given at the event or designated ahead of time will be doubled by matching donors. For more information and to register, please visit www.christthebridegroom.org or call 440-834-0290.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Join the workers! Please join the workers every Thursday 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 Russell Family is scheduled to clean the church this week. Many thanks to **the Dalbo Family** and to all who worked and cleaned these past two weeks. May God grant them many years!

CHARITABLE GIVING

"I command you, You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy,
and to the poor" (Deut. 15:11).

Since our last contributions,

for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$71

for the Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$146

for the retirement of our religious sisters, we have collected \$192

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on September 1st was **60**. Average Sunday attendance \approx **58**

Devote yourselves “to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42).

COLLECTION

The collection on September 1st was **\$1444.50**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1518.47**

Sunday: \$1281.50; Holy Day: \$76; Children: \$1; Candles: \$66; Fuel: \$20

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7).



Saint Stephen

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH