

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 1st, 2019

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

Cantors: Pani Mary Hendricks, Theresa Szatkowski



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

LITURGICAL SERVICE TIMES

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

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

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

Philip's Fast (*Filipovka*)

Nov. 15th – Dec. 24th

“During this fast, it was the custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation for wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. The fast is observed more strictly from December 10 (in some traditions) or from December 20 (in other traditions), with daily strict abstinence, and a mitigated abstinence on (wine and oil) on Saturday and Sunday (cf. the Great Fast and the Dormition Fast). The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880, 2). This fast may be observed voluntarily, partially or in its entirety.” –Fr. David Petras

What is a Day of Alleluia?

A few people have asked me, “what is a day of alleluia?” All weekdays during the Great Fast and certain weekdays during the minor fasts, such as the Philip's Fast we are now observing, are sometimes called “Days of Alleluia” because on these days we sing “Alleluia” instead of “the Lord is God” at Matins and instead of the Prokeimenon at Vespers. When these days fall on Monday through Friday, they are penitential days. The vestments worn are dark. We make prostrations and pray the prayer of St. Ephrem at the liturgical services for these days. Perhaps most strikingly, we do not pray the anaphora (the eucharist prayer) on these days. It is good to make an effort to attend services on these days during the fasts because, as Fr. Michael Bezruchka says,

“We are encouraged to pray more, not less, on these days”

a rubric from an Horologion (Book of Hours):



❖ *If Alleluia was chanted in Matins and it is a fast day, we continue here*

Annual Stewardship Appeal



ICXC NIKA

Growing in
FAITH

Investing in
HOPE

Continue to grow in *faith* with the
Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of
Parma by investing in *hope*.

Please give generously.
www.parma.org



The Eparchy of Parma of the Ruthenians
Stewardship Appeal 2019-2020

The Stewardship Appeal helps cover the costs of a variety of programs in the Eparchy including the support of retired priests.

Father Robert Kelly entered the seminary in 1996 at the age of 49. Bishop Schott ordained Father Bob in 2000 and he has served at St. Stephens, St. Gregory, St. Andrews, St. Michaels and the last 6 years at St. Mary's in Marblehead, Ohio. Father Bob was a single man when he adopted his daughter, Nicole. He raised Nicole as a single parent. His grandson, Brayden, serves in the U.S. Navy and is stationed in Coronado, California. At 72 years-old, Father Bob is a retired priest who is actively serving our people until the Eparchy is able to grow the number of active priests. Father Bob believes the care of retired priests should be a very important

aspect of the Stewardship Appeal. He states, "Retired priests are truly deserving of care and support as they have spent their entire life serving our people."

Visit parma.org/2020appeal for more information and to make a one-time or monthly secure donation through our website. Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign.

St. Stephen's goal this year: \$9,200

Sunday, December 1, 2019



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 8

The Holy Prophet Nahum. Our Holy Father Philaret the Merciful.

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

Ephesians 4:1-6. Luke 18:18-27.

8:00am Matins

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

intention of Jeremy Semak, from Jane Semak (11-27)

+Mary Margaret McCormick, from Joe Biltz (11-28)

+Anthony & +Irene Bonacor, from Diane McInchak (11-30)

Reader: Theresa Szatkowski

11:30am ECF

12:30pm Vespers – *with prostrations*

Monday, December 2, 2019



Day of Alleluia. The Holy Prophet Habakkuk.

1 Timothy 1:1-7. Luke 20:27-44.

Tuesday, December 3, 2019



Day of Alleluia. The Holy Prophet Zephaniah.

1 Timothy 1:8-14. Luke 21:12-19.

7:00am First & Third Hour – *with prostrations*

7:00pm Vespers

Wednesday, December 4, 2019



⊗ The Holy Great Martyr Barbara (306). Our Venerable Father John of Damascus (749)

1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2:8-15. Luke 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24.

6:00pm Great Vespers *for St. Sabbas*

7:00pm Divine Liturgy *for St. Sabbas*

+Hazel Percival, on the 40th day, from Louise Dalbo

Thursday, December 5, 2019

✙ Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctified (532).

Vespers Paramia: Wisdom 3:1-9 • Wisdom 5:15-6:3 • Wisdom 4:7-15.

Matins Gospel: Luke 6:17-23.

for Sabbas: Galatians 5:22-6:2. Matthew 11:27-30.

for the day: 1 Timothy 3:1-13. Luke 21:28-33.

Parish Work Day

6:00pm Great Vespers *for St. Nicholas*

7:00pm Divine Liturgy *for St. Nicholas*

intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

Friday, December 6, 2019

✙ OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS THE WONDER-WORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA (343)

Vespers Paramia: Proverbs 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 34-35, 4, 12, 14, 17, 5-9; 1:23

• Proverbs 10:31-11:12 • Wisdom 4: 7-15.

Matins Gospel: John 10:9-16.

for Nicholas: Hebrews 13:17-21. Luke 6:17-23a.

for the day: 1 Timothy 4:4-8,16. Luke 21:37-22:8.

7:00pm Vespers - *followed by Confessions*

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Saturday of Alleluia. Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (397).

Galatians 3:8-12. Luke 13:18-29.

9:45am Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Joseph Humenik, from Robert & Helen Dalbo

7:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday - *followed by Confessions*

Sunday, December 8, 2019



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

Pre-festive Day of the Maternity. Our Venerable Father Patapius.

4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke 24:1-12.

Ephesians 5:8b-19. Luke 17:12-19.

8:00am Matins

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

+Hazel Percival, on the 40th day, from Louise Dalbo (12-4)

intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (12-5)

+Joseph Humenik, from Robert & Helen Dalbo (12-7)

Reader: Debra Grega

11:30am ECF

12:30pm Great Vespers *for the Maternity of the Holy Anna*

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)



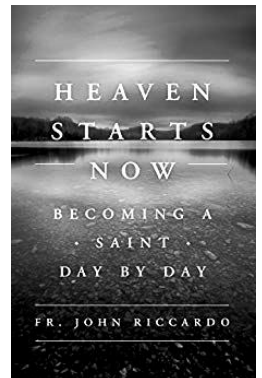
by tradition, a fast day permitting fish, wine, and oil (no meat, dairy, or eggs)



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

Byzantine 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, December 2nd**, at 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198. We are reading a new book: *Heaven Starts Now*. And *Now* is a great time to join the Book Club!





St. Nicholas Day is December 6th.

St. Nicholas is the patron saint of the Byzantine Catholic Church!

FACTS

- St. Nicholas was born during the third century in Turkey in a place called Patara, Lycia
- He was born into a wealthy family and he was raised as a Christian. His parents died when he was a young boy.
- Saint Nicholas gave all his inheritance money to the poor.
- His motto was taken from the Bible: "Sell everything you own and give it to the poor".

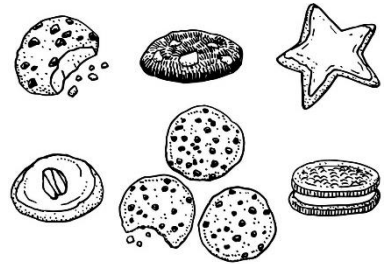
Monthly Chant Practice

“Cherish the beauty of our *prostopinije*, our liturgical chant.
We constantly need to work on it” – Bishop Milan.

Toward this end, we will begin monthly chant practices, to which all are invited! In our Church, the congregation is the choir. You are in the choir, so it’s good to practice. Our next practice will be on Tuesday, **December 10th** at 6pm. We will practice our Christmas carols in anticipation of our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

ANNUAL COOKIE SALE

The Guild’s annual cookie sale will take place on
Sunday, **December 15th** after Divine Liturgy.



We’re Making a New Parish Directory!

You are invited to participate in our upcoming professional photography sessions.

Photography Dates: **December 17th & 18th**

Times: 2p-9p

To schedule your appointment, sign up today in the narthex or after in the hall.

Or, go to: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b30kq7ee/>

Or, call the parish office for assistance @ 313-382-5901

- No sitting fee!
- Complimentary 8x10 and free directory for each family
- Opportunity (with no obligation) to purchase additional portraits with discounts
- First responders, military personnel, and seniors over 60 will receive an additional 20% discount



The Office of Holy Repentance

During this penitential season in preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, we will celebrate the full form of the office of holy repentance on **Thursday, December 19th at 7pm**. This includes private confession to a priest. There should be an additional priest available for confessions as well on this evening. This is a good opportunity for any prepared children to make their first confession, for those who have been a long time away from this holy mystery to return, and for all of us to simply to go to confession as we all must frequently do.

Subdiaconal Ordination

Bishop Milan will be coming to ordain Michael Kunitz to the Subdiaconate at the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, December 29th**



The Guild will hold their annual Soup and Salad Lunch fundraiser on **Sunday, January 26th** after the Divine Liturgy. It's all you can eat, so come hungry!



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
EPARCHY of PARMA

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(216) 741-8773
parma.org

Bishop Milan Lach, S.J.
Bishop of Parma

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

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

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

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

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. All are welcome to join the Guild. They meet next on **Sunday, January 12th**, after Divine Liturgy. Come and see!

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 Raupp 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 \$212

for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, we have collected \$91

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on November 24th was **58**. 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 November 24th was **\$1383.25**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,461.61**
Sunday: \$899.75; Holy Day: \$191; Candles: \$39; Fuel: \$176; Christmas: \$20; Flowers: \$20; Fundraiser: \$37.50

“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