



# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

*website: saintstephenbyzantine.church*

Priest: Rev. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.  
cell phone: 412-378-0308  
email: frjussell@parma.org

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantors: Pani Mary Hendricks, Theresa Szatkowski, Nick Wood



## **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 morning at 10:00am  
Wednesday & Friday evening at 7:00pm

## Sunday, May 24, 2020

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS AT THE 1ST NICEAN COUNCIL. Tone 6

⊗ Our Venerable Father Simeon of the Wondrous Mountain (596).

⊗ Our Venerable Father Nicetas the Stylite, the Wonder-worker of Perejaslav.

*Vespers Paramia:* Genesis 14:14-20 • Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 • Deut. 10:14-21.

*10th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:* John 21:1-14. Acts 20:16-18a, 28-36. John 17:1-13.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour

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

+Mary & +John Strach & +John & +Maria Lukas from Maryalice Lukas (5-22)

+Anthony & +Irene Bonacor, from Diane McInchak (5-23)

12:00pm Panachida for the repose of those who died in service to our country

## Monday, May 25, 2020

*Memorial Day*

+ The Third Finding of the Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John.

*for the 3rd finding:* 2 Corinthians 4:6-15. Matthew 11:2-15.

*(for the day:* Acts 21:8-14. John 14:27b-15:7)

## Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Holy Apostle Carpus, one of the 70. Holy Fr. Augustine of Canterbury, Enlightener of England.

Acts 21:26-32. John 16:2b-13a.

9:30am First & Third Hour

6:30pm Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

*health of Paul Baize, from Betty Baize*

## Wednesday, May 27, 2020



The Holy Bishop-Martyr Therapont (259).

Acts 23:1-11. John 16:15-23.

6:00-6:45pm *Confessions*

7:00pm The Office of Holy Anointing

## Thursday, May 28, 2020

Our Venerable Father Nicetas, Bishop of Chalcedon (836).

Acts 25:13-19. John 16:23b-33a.

9:30am First & Third Hour

## Friday, May 29, 2020



Leave-taking of Ascension. The Holy Venerable Martyr and Virgin Theodosia (730).

Acts 27:1-44. John 17:18-26.

9:30am First & Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

*intention of Irene Durisin, from George Durisin*

6:00-6:45 Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

## Saturday, May 30, 2020

Saturday of Souls. Our Venerable Fr. Isaac, Hegumen of the Dalmatian Monastery (383).

Acts 28:1-31 & *for the departed*: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

John 21:15-25 & *for the departed*: John 5:24-30.

10:00am Divine Liturgy – *followed by Panachida for the souls*

*+Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron*

4:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday – *followed by Confessions*

## Sunday, May 31, 2020

⊕ PENTECOST SUNDAY. Tone 7

The Holy Apostle Hermes. The Holy Martyr Hermeas (c. 160).

*Vespers Paramia*: Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29 • Joel 2:23-32 • Ezekiel 36:24-28.

*Matins Gospel*: John 20:19-23.

Acts 2:1-11. John 7:37-52; 8:12.

8:00am Matins

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

*health of Paul Baize, from Betty Baize (5-26)*

*intention of Irene Durisin, from George Durisin (5-29)*

*+Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (5-30)*

12:00pm Kneeling 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, wine and oil are permitted (no meat, dairy, eggs, or fish)



by tradition, fish, wine, and oil are permitted (no meat, dairy, or eggs)



by tradition, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil are permitted (no meat)

## Sacraments

I am available to offer the holy mysteries (baptism, chrismation, communion, confession, anointing, marriage, funerals) to those in need. If needed, please contact me and we will arrange to give them to you. - Fr. John

If you are prudently unable to go to confession at this time, confess and express your sorrow for your sins to the Lord and prayerfully resolve to go to confession as soon as it becomes prudent. We are forgiven the moment we repent, which includes the intention to confess.

## Holy Anointing

On Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, we will celebrate the public liturgical service of Holy Anointing, which we would have celebrated on the evening of Holy Wednesday. Bishop Milan wants us all to remember also that this holy anointing must be preceded by a recent confession. Therefore, confession will be available starting at 6pm that same evening.

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the presbyters of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.” (James 5:14)

## Public Liturgical Services

Liturgical services are now being celebrated publically, but there is still no obligation to attend.

Whenever you do not pray the Divine Liturgy, it is traditional to pray the Typika instead. There are also many other services we may pray at home as well, including Vespers, Matins, and the Hours. To help with this, the Metropolitan Cantor Institute has many wonderful resources available at <https://mci.archpitt.org/>

If you would like to watch a live broadcast of liturgical services happening in our churches all over the country (and the world), here is an excellent resource: <http://liveliturgy.com/>

## St. Stephen has a YouTube channel,

where we continue to live stream our liturgical services:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC86ljGrag2QVhQ\\_2-ZmHfgQ/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC86ljGrag2QVhQ_2-ZmHfgQ/)

Please subscribe to our YouTube channel!

If we reach 100 subscribers (so far, we have 92), we can change the address to something intelligible.



## THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Prot. No. 64/2020 L  
May 12, 2020

### DECREE

I, Bishop Milan Lach, S.J. **dispense all the faithful of the Eparchy of Parma from the obligation of attending Sunday Divine Liturgy as well as Divine Liturgy for Holy Days of Obligation effective today and until further notice.** You are not dispensed from prayer on Sunday, the day of prayer and rest.

After discussion with the College of Consultors of the Eparchy of Parma, and in consideration of the situations in all three regions of our Eparchy, I give permission to resume the public celebration of Divine Liturgies and other liturgical services effective Monday, May 18, 2020, for the parishes of the Ohio Region and the Great Lakes Region.

I also give permission for the parishes of the Mid-West Region (Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Iowa) to resume the public celebration of Divine Liturgies and other liturgical services. However, this must be handled at the discretion of the pastors and administrators who, after monitoring the situation in their respective states, believe it is safe for the public to attend.

I ask all pastors and administrators to discuss with their respective parish councils the more detailed instructions that will be sent to them, and that these instructions be communicated to all parishioners via parish bulletins, websites or any other parish social media.

Every joyful celebration is anticipated with good preparation and so I would like to encourage you, knowing that soon we will be able to joyfully celebrate together again, to prepare yourselves for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and reception of the Holy Eucharist. Even during this pandemic, God is inviting us to think more deeply about ourselves, about Him, about our spiritual life, and about the spiritual meaning of our lives. During this time, God is giving us a great opportunity for a new beginning, a fresh restart. I encourage you and invite you to prepare yourselves by making arrangements with your priest to receive the Mystery of Holy Reconciliation. Please take advantage of this time of grace to spiritually prepare yourselves (an examination of conscience is available at [www.parma.org](http://www.parma.org)).

I believe that due to the effort of our parishes to prepare our churches in the best way possible our churches are safe places in which to worship. However, out of respect for the fact that some people may not yet feel safe attending services at church, divine services will continue to be livestreamed at <http://parma.org/live> or may be available through your parish website. All other non-liturgical activities, fundraisers, and social gatherings remain suspended for the public. Baptisms, funerals, and weddings can be celebrated with precautionary measures.

Brothers and sisters, I as your father and bishop continue to offer every Sunday Divine Liturgy and pray to the Most Holy Theotokos for all of you, the faithful of the Eparchy of Parma. Please continue to pray with your families during this month of May, especially praying the Moleben, Akathist, and Paraklesis to the Theotokos (texts are available at [www.parma.org](http://www.parma.org)) for her protection, and for those who are infected and dying from this virus in our country and throughout the world. Please also pray for the health care workers and our government as they work to protect our lives.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J.  
Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma

Notary

## **Guidelines for Reopening**

- We are to clean & sanitize the church before each public service – especially areas that are commonly touched (railings, doors, backs of pews, light switches, etc.) Please consider volunteering to assist with this and/or donating cleaning supplies
- The Holy Water containers are removed. Containers of holy water are available by request
- All the pew books are removed.
- The doors from the narthex into the nave will be kept open at all times.
- Every other pew is blocked off with ribbon and there are marks in the pews 6 feet apart. In the aisle is a single file row of marks 6 feet apart for your approach to receive Holy Communion.
- You may sit close to the members of your own household, but keep 6 feet away from others.
- You are encouraged to wear a mask.
- You may venerate the icons, etc. by bowing rather than by kissing.
- All other types of gatherings, such as our coffee social, ECF, and adult classes remain cancelled.
- If you are ill/fevered, please stay home. There is never an obligation to come to church when ill.
- If you approach for holy communion, tilt your head back, open your mouth wide, do not say anything, and do not close your mouth upon the spoon. The priest will wear a mask and use a separate spoon for each communicant. The spoons will be sanitized with pure alcohol.
- The ushers will not take up the collection, but there is a basket near the entrance where you can leave your offering. Please continue to support St. Stephen financially at this time.
- Celebration of baptisms, weddings, and funerals are allowed, following these precautions.
- To help with keeping physical distance between people, please consider alternately attending Vespers or Matins or Divine Liturgy, rather than only the Divine Liturgy. Even in ordinary times, any of these three services fulfills your Sunday “obligation.”
- If you do not feel safe, remember that there is no obligation to attend church at this time. Rather, keep the day holy with prayer at home.
- Live streams of our liturgical services will continue.

## **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,

the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$94

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 \$138

## **Support St. Stephen's**

Please remember the ongoing financial needs of St. Stephen during this pandemic.

You can mail in your contributions here: 4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, Michigan, 48101

You can also support the work and ministry of St. Stephen with online giving. You can set up recurring giving or make a one time donation. Just click the "Give to St. Stephen" button on our website: <https://saintstephenbyzantine.church/donations/>

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance on May 17<sup>th</sup> was **8**. Average Sunday attendance  $\approx$  **49**

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

## COLLECTION

The collection for May 17<sup>th</sup> was **\$2316**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1383.82**

Sunday: \$1845; Easter: \$50; Holy Day: \$70; Children \$10; Fuel: \$40; Candles: \$11; Online: \$290

“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