



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 2nd, 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



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

5 Tips for a successful Dormition Fast...

Go to Church.

Pray.

Fast.

Read.

Confess.



FMS

The Dormition Fast: August 1 - August 14

from St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, New Haven, CT:

“Father,” someone once asked their priest, “I have a difficult time observing the Dormition Fast. What should I do?”

“Well,” the priest responded, “just keep the first week, and then keep the second week, that should be enough.”

Is this acting a bit smart?

But there is much truth here. As we know, the Dormition Fast is just a total of two weeks. It’s an intense and necessary two weeks as the Church gathers together at the death bed of Mary, the ever-Virgin Mother of God.

Our Holy Church teaches us, that the gesture of those whom we love is near death: we ought to stop in our tracks and gather at their bedside. Today, we find ourselves at a nursing home, hospice or even the hospital.

The Apostles (except Thomas) and those with them had been scattered across the world spreading the Gospel were miraculously gathered together at the bedside of the Church's Mother to bid her farewell from this life.

This is good spiritual advice: "We ought to keep this fast as carefully and attentively as possible because we love God's Mother. She helps us, she loves us, and with the boldness of a mother she intercedes on our behalf to her Son and our God. It is not that Christ does not know our needs, but, because that is what a loving mother does!"

Are you convinced to keep the Dormition Fast? Here are a few tips:

Go to Church. Run to Church. We will be open for business. The feast of our Lord's Transfiguration always falls in the midst of the fast.

Pray. Yes, pray. That you come to Church you will surely be praying, but, consider intensifying your daily devotions. Look in your prayer books for special prayers that you can add to God's Mother during this season. Maybe even keep it up after the 14 days!

Fast. We got the whole way to #3 without even mentioning food. Do your best to abstain from meat and dairy as you are able. The Church provides strict directives as they always do, but, work together as a family to come up with a plan. At the least, do more than you have done in the past.

Read. Pick up for meditation the Bible; read a few paragraphs of the Catechism, "Christ Our Pascha", read a biography of a saint: Metropolitan Sheptytsky, St. Nectarios, St. Mary of Paris; read a spiritual book like, "How to Be a Sinner" by Peter Bouteneff; read an account of the Virgin Mary's passing and bodily assumption to heaven: "The Orthodox Veneration of the Mother of God" by Saint John Maximovitch. It is short - only 70 pages.

Confess. If you have not been to the Mystery (Sacrament) of Confession in more than a month, then it is time to be confessed of your sins. This is the perfect opportunity to renew your relationship with Jesus Christ through sacramental confession.

This is a short but prayerfully intense season and our participation in it has the potential to greatly enhance our spiritual life. Do not allow this special time with God's Mother to pass by without a thought, it is time to be with her, and to pray with her to her Son, and our God.

- from St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, New Haven, CT

LITURGICAL SERVICE TIMES

Sunday & Saturday morning at 10:00am
Wednesday & Friday evening at 7:00pm

Sunday, August 2, 2020



*Celebration of Fr. Dcn.
Lawrence's 25th anniversary*

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 8

⊗ The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (c. 415).

Our Venerable Father Basil, Fool for Christ.

9th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:19-31.

1 Corinthians 3:9-17. Matthew 14:22-34.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

+Michael Borella, from Judith Ng (7-28)

+Anne Borella, from Judith Ng (7-29)

+Manmohan Badhwar, from Jane Semak (8-1)

12:30pm Vespers – *with prostrations*

Monday, August 3, 2020



Day of Alleluia

Our Venerable Frs. Isaac, Dalmatus, & Faustus (5th Century). Holy Myrrh-bearer Salome.

1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Matthew 21:18-22.

Tuesday, August 4, 2020



Day of Alleluia

The Holy Seven Children of Ephesus. The Holy Venerable Martyr Eudoxia (2nd Century).

1 Corinthians 15:29-38. Matthew 21:23-27.

9:30am First & Third Hour – *with prostrations*

7:00pm Vespers

Wednesday, August 5, 2020



⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Martyr Eusignius (362).
1 Corinthians 16:4-12. Matthew 21:28-32.

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for ⊕ THE TRANSFIGURATION

intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

The Blessing of Fruit follows the Ambon Prayer

Thursday, August 6, 2020



⊕ THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

Vespers: Exodus 24:12-18 • Exodus 33:11-23 • 1 Kings 19:3-9, 11-13, 15-16.

Matins Gospel: Luke 9:28-36.

for the Transfiguration: 2 Peter 1:10-19. Matthew 17:1-9.

(for the day: 2 Corinthians 1:1-7. Matthew 21:43-46).

8:00am Festal Matins

6:00pm Paraklis

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

+Teresa Bobovsky, from Jane Semak

Friday, August 7, 2020



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Venerable Martyr Dometius (363).
2 Corinthians 1:12-20. Matthew 22:23-33.

6:00pm – 7:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, August 8, 2020



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. Holy Confessor Emilian, Bishop of Cyzice (820).
Romans 15:30-33. Matthew 17:24-18:4.

9:00am Paraklis

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, August 9, 2020



TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. † The Holy Apostle Matthias.

Vespers: Acts 1:15-26 • 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16.

10th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 21:1-14.

1 Corinthians 4:9-16. Matthew 17:14-23a.

8:00am Matins

9:45am *Third Hour – Reader Service*

10:00am Divine Liturgy - for the people of the parish Reader: Theresa Szatkowski

intention of Br. Philip Blazhkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (8-5)

+Teresa Bobovsky, from Jane Semak (8-6)

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (8-8)

12:00pm 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)

The Dormition Fast

PROCLAIM A HOLY FAST! (Joel 1:14) "The traditional rule for the Dormition Fast is a strict abstinence [abstinence from meat, fish, dairy products, eggs, alcohol, and foods cooked in oil] **from August 1 to 14**, with the usual mitigations (permitting wine and oil) for Saturday and Sunday and the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6). It is, therefore, observed as the Great Fast. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880). The observance of this fast is voluntary" - from the Typicon arranged by Archpriest David M. Petras, S.E.O.D. for use in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolia of Pittsburgh.

Public Liturgical Services

Liturgical services are now being celebrated publically. There is still no obligation to attend. Whenever you do not pray the Divine Liturgy, it is traditional to pray the Typika instead. We are also encouraged to pray Vespers, Matins, and the Hours at home. 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/c/SaintStephenByzantineCatholicChurch>

Byzantine Book Club

Fr. Deacon Lawrence & Pani Mary host the Byzantine Book Club from their home. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we have been hosting the meeting through Google Hangouts through the following link: <https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh?authuser=0>

We will continue reading & discussing the book, “A Stream of Living Water: An Introduction to Holy Tradition” on **Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 7 pm.**

We will discuss the following topics:

- What is Holy Tradition?
- The Bible: Inspired Word of God
- Format of the Bible
- Fathers of the Church
- Creeds and Councils
- Liturgy and Iconography



The Bridegroom's Banquet

Save the date for Christ the Bridgroom Monastery's annual benefit dinner, the “Bridegroom's Banquet,” on **Saturday, November 7**, at a new location: St. Elias Melkite Catholic Church in Cleveland. There is no cost to attend the dinner, but **registration is required (by October 26)**. Adults 21 and older may attend. Enjoy a buffet dinner, entertainment, and an evening with the nuns and their guests. Learn more about and 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! If an in-person event is not possible, a live online event may be held. For more information at to register, please visit www.christthebridegroom.org or call 440-834-0290.

**The Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma
Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch
Annual Eparchial Pilgrimage**

Sunday, August 16, 2020



Schedule . . .

1:30pm - Moleben to the Mother of God

2:00pm - Talk given by Fr. Cyril Pinchak, SJ

3:00pm - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

The Most Rev. Kurt Burnette,
Bishop of the Eparchy of Passaic,
main celebrant and homilist

The opportunity for Holy Repentance
(Confession) will be available from
1pm to 4pm.

The Eastern Treasures Gift Shop will be open.

17486 Mumford Road, Burton, Ohio

216-469-1425

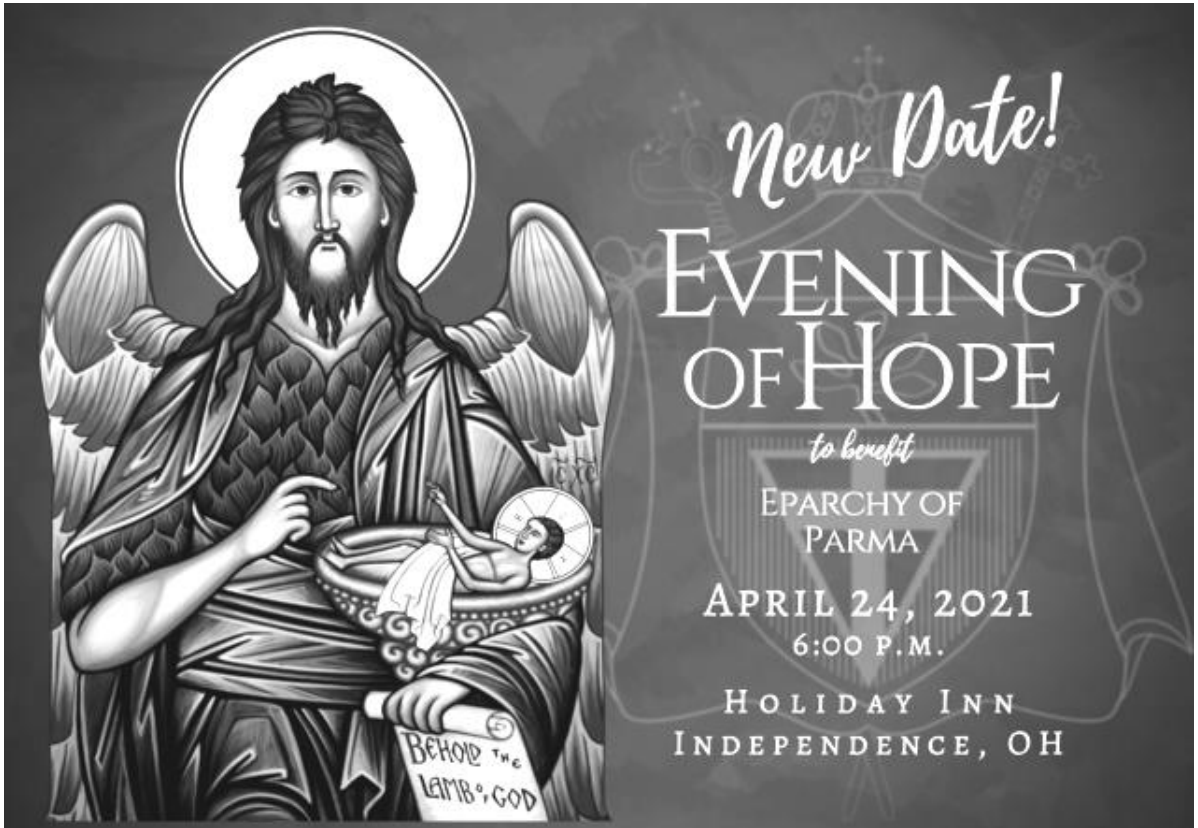
www.shrineofmariapoch.com

wfredrick@parma.org

Deacon William V. Fredrick, Director

Due to the COVID-19 situation, there have been some changes to the typical pilgrimage schedule:

- no camping of any kind is permitted
- food will not be available for purchase at the cafeteria so you are welcome to bring your own food
- masks are encouraged but will not be furnished
- bring your own chair to maintain social distancing (folding chairs will not be available)
- bottled water will be provided



On Saturday, April 24, 2021, the Eparchy of Parma will host the “Evening of Hope” at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South Independence. Father Mitch Pacwa, SJ will be the Keynote speaker. Father Pacwa is a host on EWTN Live, a scripture scholar and a bi-ritual priest also celebrating with the Maronite Church. Your support through this event will help our Eparchy accomplish its goals. Please consider becoming a sponsor for our event. All sponsorships will include parking, dinner, cocktails, live auction, fund-a-need and more. Your gift will directly impact the four established eparchial funds for 1) development of parishes; 2) promotion of vocations and seminary education; 3) the eparchial pension fund for priests; and 4) works of the apostolate. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please don’t hesitate to contact contact Judith Matsko at 216.741.8773 x1225 or jmatsko@parma.org. Learn more about the Eparchy of Parma at www.parma.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration of the sponsorship proposal and your generosity.

Church Cleaning

We have resumed our regular weekly rotation of church cleaning. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. Please sign up for any week you're available to clean. Thank you to Mark Tamisea for cleaning last week. Betty Sutyak and Leann Osentoski have signed up to clean this week.



Stewardship Appeal

38 of our approximately 85 households have so far contributed a total \$6550, bringing us to approximately 71% of our goal of \$9200. Thank you! Let's all contribute something to help support our seminarians, retired priests, and the many ministries of our eparchy. You can contribute at parma.org.

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 \$119

for the Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$236

for the retirement of our religious sisters, we have collected \$212

for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, we have collected \$138

for Peter's Pence, we have collected \$75

Support St. Stephen's

Please remember the ongoing financial needs of St. Stephen.

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 July 26th was **35**. Average Sunday attendance \approx **46**

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

COLLECTION

The collection for July 26th was **\$860.74**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1438.73**

Sunday: \$560.75; Children: \$1; Candles: \$18; Online: \$280.99

“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