



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

September 27th, 2020

313-382-5901

website: saintstephenbyzantine.church

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



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Prot. No. 111/2020 L

DECREE

In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

After prayerful reflection and consultation with the College of Consultors and other faithful of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, I, Bishop Milan Lach, S.J., decree, effective 1 October 2020, the Feast of the Protection of the Holy Mother of God, the completion of the dispensation granted 31 March 2020 (protocol number 41/2020 L) and extended on 12 May 2020 (protocol number 64/2020 L) in which the faithful of the eparchy were dispensed from the obligation of attending Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The termination of the decree is made out of pastoral concern for the souls entrusted to my spiritual care.

Our faith teaches us through the Catechism of the Catholic Church that “The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship ‘as a sign of his universal beneficence to all.’ Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people (2176). The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church (2177).”

The obligation to participate in the Divine Liturgy is of a serious nature. Failure to observe this precept is objectively sinful. Watching the Divine Liturgy via livestream does not fulfill the obligation.

The elderly and others at increased risk for severe illness and those who care for them, as has been the practice prior to the current health crisis, are not held to the obligation of Sunday worship and are encouraged to use discretion and good judgment in attending Divine Liturgy as well as other activities in which their health or safety may be at risk.

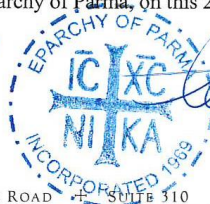
For those not at increased risk of severe illness, the Church has long recognized circumstances in which the faithful may be excused from the obligation of Sunday worship even without a dispensation from the bishop. For example, during a normal influenza season, one who is ill with influenza-like symptoms may, in good conscience, refrain from attending Divine Liturgy due to illness and also as an act of justice towards others in order that the illness is not passed on.

If one wishes to avoid attending Sunday worship in person due to significant fear or some other serious reason, the Church teaches us that we must carefully discern whether the fear is morally justifiable, or whether such fear is inordinate (not reasonable) and, therefore, not based on a prudent examination of reality.

As shepherd and spiritual father, my primary concern is for the eternal salvation of the faithful entrusted to my care. I invite all to join me in praying for the intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos for guidance and protection in the months ahead, that we might all be entrusted to the protection of her holy veil.

Given at the Chancery of the Eparchy of Parma, on this 21st day of September, 2020.

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



Notary

October Reflection

The New Testament and the Holy Eucharist

By Very Rev. Archpriest John M. Fields



During this year of the coronavirus pandemic, for many months, clergy, religious and faithful gathered together on the Lord's Day virtually, participating in the Divine Liturgy through the modern technology of livestreaming. While during these liturgical services, the faithful gave praise, glory and thanksgiving to God and were nourished on the Word through the Gospel and the homily, there was something lacking. Suddenly, except for the limited celebrants at the altar, the parish family was not able to partake of the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In the Last Supper account in the Gospel of Matthew, *"Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, 'Take and eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins.'"* (Mt. 26:28)

During every Divine Liturgy, the humble gifts of bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during the Anaphora, the Eucharistic Prayer.

"Just as Jesus Christ our Savior was made flesh through the Word of God, and took on flesh and blood for our salvation, so too (we have been taught that) through the word of prayer that comes from him, the food over which the thanksgiving has been spoken becomes the Flesh and Blood of the incarnate Jesus in order to nourish and transform our flesh and blood." (St. Justin Martyr)

In the Gospel of John, Jesus clearly teaches us: *"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."* (Jn. 6:53-55).

In several of our Eastern Catholic churches, we are reminded of this belief as the priest prays as he distributes the Holy Mysteries to the faithful, *"The servant of God receives the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and live everlasting. Amen."*

As our churches are now open and our parish families once again gather together on the Lord's Day, let us with fear of God and with faith receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ; let us taste of the Source of Immortality.

LITURGICAL SERVICE TIMES

Sunday & Saturday morning at 10:00am

Wednesday & Friday evening at 7:00pm

Saturday, September 26, 2020

✙ The Passing of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian.

Vespers: 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16 • 1 John 4:20-5:5.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for John: 1 John 4:12-19. John 19:25-27; 21:24-25. *(for the day: 1 Cor. 14:20-25. Luke 4:31-36).*

10:00am Divine Liturgy

intention of Br. Tadey, from Melinda Dewitt

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

Sunday, September 27, 2020

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 8

The Holy Martyr Callistratus and his Companions (304).

Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery.

Our Holy Father Vincent de Paul.

6th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke 24:36-53.

2 Corinthians 6:16b-7:1. Luke 5:1-11.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

intention of Br. Tadey, from Melinda Dewitt (9-26)

12:00pm Great Vespers *for +Our Ven. Fr. & Confessor Chariton*

Monday, September 28, 2020

+ Our Ven. Fr. & Confessor Chariton (362). Holy Wenceslaus, Prince of the Czechs (929).

Holy Prophet Baruch. Passing of our Bl. Fr. and Confessor Bishop Nicetas Budka (1949).

Synaxis of the Holy Frs. of the Pecherskaya Lavra who repose near the Venerable Anthony.

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

Matins Gospel: Matthew 4:25-5:12.

for Chariton: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15. Luke 6:17-23.

(for the day: Ephesians 4:25-32. Luke 4:37-44.)

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

⌘ Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite (557).

Ephesians 5:20-26. Luke 5:12-16.

9:30am First & Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Charles & +Mary Burja, from their children

7:00pm Vespers

Wednesday, September 30, 2020



⌘ The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia (332).

Ephesians 5:25-33a. Luke 5:33-39.

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for the ⌘ PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

+Thomas Russell, from his son

Thursday, October 1, 2020

⌘ PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

The Holy Apostle Ananias. Our Venerable Father, Romanus the Melodist (496).

Our Venerable Mother Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1897).

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

for the Protection: Hebrews 9:1-7. Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

(for the day: Ephesians 5:33-6:9. Luke 6:12-19).

8:00am Festal Matins

8:00 p.m. Online Presentation by Erin Walsh on

Syriac Literature and the Study of Early Christianity.

<http://lumenchristi.org/event/2020/10/expanding-archive-syriac-literature-study-of-early-christianity-today-erin-walsh>

Friday, October 2, 2020



⌘ The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian (258). The Holy Martyr Justina (258).
The Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ (911).
Ephesians 6:18-24. Luke 6:17-23a.

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, October 3, 2020

⌘ The Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis the Areopagite.
1 Corinthians 15:39-45. Luke 5:17-26.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

4:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, October 4, 2020

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Our Venerable Fr. Francis of Assisi (1226).
7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:1-10.
2 Corinthians 9:6-11. Luke 6:31-36.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: TBD

+Charles & +Mary Burja, from their children (9-29)

+Thomas Russell, from his son (9-30)

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (10-3)

12:00pm Akathist

Monday, October 5, 2020

The Holy Martyr Charitina (304).
Philippians 1:1-7. Luke 6:24-30.

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

✙ The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.

Vespers: 1 John 1:1-7 • James 1:1-12 • Jude 1-7, 17-25. *Matins Gospel:* John 21:15-25.
for Thomas: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16. John 20: 19-31.

(for the day: *Philippians 1:8-14. Luke 6:37-45*).

8:00am First & Third Hour

6:30pm Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

for priestly vocations & for the sons of Laura Gazdecki, from Judith Ng

Wednesday, October 7, 2020



⌘ The Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus (303).

Philippians 1:12-20a. Luke 6:46-7:1.

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

8:00pm *God With Us: The Art of Catechesis in the Orthodox Tradition*

presented online by Rev. David Anderson

<https://godwithusonline.org/events/god-with-us/>

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Our Venerable Mother Pelagia (457).

Philippians 1:20b-27a. Luke 7:17-30.

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)

LUMEN CHRISTI INSTITUTE

presents

Eastern Catholic Theology in Action

The 23 Eastern Catholic Churches are distinct in their liturgy, theology, spirituality, and discipline of Church life. The Second Vatican Council urged the Eastern Catholic Churches to cultivate and promote their unique share of the tradition. This series responds to that mandate and features leading scholars in the field to offer their theological perspectives drawn from the wisdom of Christian East. In view of broadening our understanding of the Catholic intellectual tradition, this series draws attention to the vantage points of Christians who worship, think, and pray in continuity with the first 1,000 years of the undivided Church.

<http://lumenchristi.org/>

Series Lectures

Thursday, October 1, 8 p.m.

Expanding the Archive: Syriac Literature and the Study of Early Christianity Today

| Erin Walsh (University of Chicago)

<http://lumenchristi.org/event/2020/10/expanding-archive-syriac-literature-study-of-early-christianity-today-erin-walsh>

Thursday, November 12, 8 p.m. CDT

Quo Vadis: the Direction of Eastern Catholic Theology, a Pastoral Perspective for the 21st Century | Archbishop Borys Gudziak (Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA)

<http://lumenchristi.org/event/2020/11/Quo-Vadis-Eastern-Catholic-Theology>



Byzantine Book Club

The Book Club will begin discussing *The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective* by Fr. Jack Custer on **September 28th at 7pm**. This book is a great introduction to the study of the Gospels employing the perspective of the Greek Fathers and the liturgical usage of the Byzantine churches with reference to some conclusions of contemporary scholarship. We have books available for any who would like to participate.

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



GOD WITH US

The Art of Catechesis in the Orthodox Tradition

Rev. David Anderson

Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21 and 28 @ 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET

As an old saying goes, the law of prayer is the law of belief. The foundation and authority of Orthodox Catholic catechesis is and always has been the Divine Liturgy of the Church. Rooted in prayer and looking to the Lord, we discover the Orthodox Faith in the face of Christ.



CROWNED WITH GLORY

Understanding the Marriage Covenant

Rev. Stephen Freeman

Wednesday, November 11 @ 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. ET

"The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together... Because when harmony prevails, the children are raised well, the household is kept in order, and neighbors, friends, and relatives praise the result. Great benefits, both of families and states, are produced. When it is otherwise, however, everything is thrown into confusion and turned upside-down." - St. John Chrysostom



SEVEN AGES OF THE KINGDOM

A Study of Salvation History

Rev. Daniel Dozier

Mondays, November 30, December 7 & 14 @ 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET

The Church as God's Holy People is at the heart of His unfolding plan of salvation that is ultimately fulfilled in Christ. Join us as we explore how this plan for a universal covenant kingdom unfolds in Scripture through particular stages in the history of God's People.



PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE

A Patristic Study of Deification

Rev. Nathan Symeon Adams

Wednesdays, January 13, 20, & 27 @ 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET

God has called his people to become partakers of His Divine Nature (2 Peter 1:4). Join us for this three-part series as we explore this process of participating in the Sacramental and moral life of Christ by which each individual and the whole Church are transformed into the mystical body of Christ.

All courses are offered as live webinars, free of charge. Live participation is highly encouraged for a full experience, including opportunities for discussion with fellow students and instructors.

For those unable to participate live, lectures are recorded and available on-demand, free of charge, in our event library, currently offering many hours of adult faith formation in the Eastern Christian tradition.

Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events

Generous Scholarships Available!

Ave Maria Fall Fest, Sat., October 10

Outdoor Pavilion of the Monaghan Residence, Ann Arbor

3:00 pm Tailgate & Livestream Ave Maria Football Game

4:00 pm Dinner / 5:00 pm Program

meet with admissions representatives & alumni

High School Juniors & Seniors Ave Maria University

Michigan / Toledo
Scholarship

*\$7,000/year
up to 4 years*

Michigan / Toledo
Homeschool Faith
Scholarship

*\$9,000/year
up to 4 years*

plus additional Academic and Athletic Aid Available

College Seniors & Post-Grads Ave Maria School of Law

Michigan / Toledo Scholarship

Full-tuition + Stipend

Free Event - Registration is Required

by October 5th at

AveMariaFoundation.org

(734) 930-3441

Metanoia

HOW THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
BAPTIZED THE PAGAN WORLD



OCT 24 - NOV 28
SATURDAYS
1:00 PM (EDT)



Course Instructor: Rachelle Haddad, M.A.

Fee: \$100 CAD

To register: melkitemusings@outlook.com



The annual Notre Dame College Eastern Churches Seminar will be online this year. This is an opportunity for us who are outside of the Greater Cleveland area to participate. Our own **Father Mike Hayduk** will be one of the participants on the panel discussion following Father Garklavs' presentation.

Notre Dame College and co-sponsors present
the 36th Eleanor Malburg Eastern Churches Seminar:
Eucharist in Art and Life



Very Reverend Alexander Garklavs

In the Christian traditions of East and West, Eucharist and art hold much in common. Both have sensory and spiritual dimensions. Both bring people together. Both transform minds and hearts. Both feed the soul's hunger for personal meaning and interpersonal communion. Both express praise and thanks to God. And both the Eucharist and the arts are about living *life* to the full.

The Eucharist has inspired countless masterpieces of visual, musical, and literary art. In turn, the arts have added beauty and joy to the celebration of Eucharist. The interplay of Eucharist, art, and life is the focus of Father Alexander Garklavs' presentation for this year's Eastern Churches Seminar.

Father Garklavs is currently pastor of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Parma, Ohio. He formerly served as chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

As the first virtual presentation in its 36-year history, this year's seminar will debut on YouTube on **October 25, 2020**, at [YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege](https://www.youtube.com/NotreDameCollege) or [NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar](https://www.NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar)

For more information, contact (440) 279-9348 or kivancic@ndc.edu.

The Bridegroom's Banquet

Save the date for Christ the Bridegroom 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 or to register, please visit www.christthebridegroom.org or call 440-834-0290.



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 Phyllis Humenik, Char Bonacor, & Ceil Burja for cleaning last week. Veronica & Fr. Dcn. Lawrence have signed up to clean this week.



St. Stephen has a YouTube channel

We continue to live stream our liturgical services:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintStephenByzantineCatholicChurch>

God With Us
✠ ONLINE ✠
— at —
EASTERNCATHOLIC.ORG

GOD WITH US ONLINE is a collaborative outreach of the Eastern Catholic bishops and eparchies of the United States to provide educational resources for the faithful in our Eastern Christian traditions.

Go to **EASTERNCATHOLIC.ORG** to find many excellent talks, the opportunity to sign up for live educational webinars and other resources! *All resources are offered free of charge.*

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

**“WHERE ALMS ARE, THE DEVIL DARES NOT
APPROACH, NOR ANY OTHER EVIL THING.”**

- St. John Chrysostom

Because of the pandemic, many churches have postponed the following collections. Please prayerfully consider supporting these important causes. Donations can be given to your local church or mailed directly to the Eparchy of Parma, 5000 Rockside Rd., Suite 310, Independence, Ohio 44131. Thank you for your charity!



Peter's Pence Collection
OCTOBER 3 & 4

Assists our Holy Father in humanitarian initiatives, social promotion projects, and helps support the Holy See

Learn more at www.peterspence.va/en.html

Since our last contributions,

for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$119

for the retirement of our religious sisters, we have collected \$322

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

for Peter's Pence, we have collected \$125

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on September 20th was **44**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **43**

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

COLLECTION – *Thank you for supporting your parish.*

The collection for September 20th was **\$1430.75**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1418.89**

Sunday: \$1195; Candles: \$46.50; Holy Day: \$60, Children: \$1; Fuel: \$65; Horizons: \$15; Online: \$48.25

“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