



# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

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

Cantor: Pani Mary Hendricks

Director of Evangelization: Carson Daniel Lauffer



## **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, 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

## Saturday, January 23, 2021

The Holy Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra (c. 296). The Holy Martyr Agathangel (c. 296).  
Commemoration of the Sixth Ecumenical Council.

2 Timothy 2:11-19. Luke 18:2-8a.

*9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service*

### **10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*for priestly vocations & for the sons of Laura Gazdecki*

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

## Sunday, January 24, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Tone 1

Our Venerable Mother Xenia of Rome. Our Holy Mother Xenia of St. Petersburg.

The Holy Martyrs in Pidlashia, the Blessed Vincent Lewoniuk and his companions.

*1st Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20.*

2 Timothy 3:10-15. Luke 18:10-14.

### **8:00am Sunday Matins**

*9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service*

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

Reader: Debra Grega

*for priestly vocations,*

*for Laura Gazdecki & for her sons from Judith Ng (1-19 & 23)*

*+Sidney, +Bennie, +Mary, & +John Thomas, from Mary Ann Osmond (1-20)*

*+Elizabeth Russell, from Rev. John Russell (1-21)*

*After Divine Liturgy: Parish Advisory Councils Meeting*

**1:00pm Great Vespers**

## Monday, January 25, 2021

✠ Our Holy Father Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople (389).

*Vespers Paramia: Proverbs 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 32, 34, 4, 12, 14 17, 5-9; 1:23*

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

*Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.*

*for Gregory: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. John 10:9-16. (for the day: 2 Peter 1:20-2:9. Mark 13:9-13.)*

*7:00pm Byzantine Book Club*

[meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme](https://meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme)

## Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Venerable Fr. Xenophon & his Wife Mary (520). Holy Fr. Joseph, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

2 Peter 2:9-22. Mark 13:14-23.

**9:30am First Third Hour**

**6:00pm Great Vespers**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy**

*+Michael & +Irene Hrubciak, from Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Dennis Hrubciak*

## Wednesday, January 27, 2021 *no fasting*

✙ The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrysostom (438).

*Matins Gospel:* John 10:1-9.

*for the Relics:* Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16.

*(for the day: 2 Peter 3:1-18. Mark 13:24-31).*

*6:00pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers**

*8:00pm PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE: A Patristic Study of Deification*

<https://godwithusonline.org/events/partakers-of-the-divine-nature/>

## Thursday, January 28, 2021

⌘ Our Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh (378).

Our Venerable Father Issac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh.

The Passing of our Venerable mother Olympia Bida (1952).

1 John 1:8-2:6. Mark 13:31-14:2.

## Friday, January 29, 2021

*no fasting*

⌘ The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop & Martyr Ignatius of Antioch (6th C.).

1 John 2:7-17. Mark 14:3-9.

**9:30am First Third Hour**

*6:00pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Great Vespers**

## Saturday, January 30, 2021

✙ THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS: BASIL THE GREAT, GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN AND JOHN CHRYSOSTOM. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Hippolytus (235).

*Vespers Paramia:* Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 • Deuteronomy 10:14-21 • Wis. 3:1-9.

*Matins Gospel:* John 10:9-16.

*for the Hierarchs:* Hebrews 13:7-16. Matt. 5:14-19. *(for the day:* 2 Tim 3:1-9. Lk 20:45-21:4).

*9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service*

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*+Helen Bobovski, from Irene Jane Semak*

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

## Sunday, January 31, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON. Tone 2

⌘ The Holy Wonder-workers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John (311).

Our Holy Father the Priest Don Bosco.

*2nd Resurrectional Matins Gospel:* Mark 16:1-8.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20. Luke 15:11-32.

**8:00am Sunday Matins**

*9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service*

**10:00am Divine Liturgy** - *for the people of the parish* Reader: Carson Daniel Lauffer

*+Michael & +Irene Hrubiak, from Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Dennis Hrubiak*

*+Helen Bobovski, from Irene Jane Semak*

**12:30pm Vespers**

## Monday, February 1, 2021

Meatfare Monday. ⌘ Pre-festive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Tryphon (250).

1 John 2:18-3:10a. Mark 11:1-11.

**6:00pm Great Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy** *for ⌘ THE MEETING*

*for the healing of Alicia Sottile, from JoAnn Humenik*

## Tuesday, February 2, 2021

⊕ THE MEETING of Our Lord, God & Savior Jesus Christ with Simeon & Anna

*Vespers Paramia:* Ex 12:51, 13:1-3, 10-16, 22-29; Num 8:16; Lev 12:1-4, 6-8; Num 8:16-17

• Isaiah 6:1-12 • Isaiah 19:1-5, 12, 16, 19-21.

*Matins Gospel:* Luke 2:25-32.

*for the Meeting:* Hebrews 7:7-17. Luke 2:22b-40. (for the day: 1 Jn 3:10b-20. Mk 14:10-42).

**8:00am Festal Matins for ⊕ THE MEETING**

**7:00pm Vespers**

## Wednesday, February 3, 2021



Meatfare Wednesday. ⌄ The Synaxis of the Holy Prophet Simeon & the Prophetess Anna.

*for Simeon & Anna:* Hebrews 9:11-14. Luke 2:25-38

(for the day: 1 John 3:21-4:6. Mark 14:43-15:1).

6:00pm Confession

**6:30pm Vespers**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy**

+Joseph Humenik, from Phyllis Humenik

## Thursday, February 4, 2021

Meatfare Thursday. Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Venerable Fr. Isidore of Pelusium.

1 John 4:20-5:21. Mark 15:1-15.

### 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)

## Byzantine Book Club

John S. Custer

### THE HOLY GOSPEL



A BYZANTINE PERSPECTIVE

Our Book Club will next meet on **January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** and continue discussing *The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective*, by Fr. Jack Custer, (rector of the Byzantine Catholic Cathedral in Passaic). The book looks at the Gospels from the perspective of the Greek Fathers and the liturgical usage of the Byzantine Churches with reference to contemporary scholarship.

We have books available for any who would like to participate. Copies are available in the narthex.

Fr. Deacon Lawrence & Pani Mary host the Byzantine Book Club from their home. You can join through Google Hangouts at the following link:

[meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme](https://meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme)

God With Us  
✠ ONLINE ✠

FALL / WINTER EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

EASTERN CATHOLIC.ORG



### 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.

# MEAT FARE & GIFT DISCERNMENT

Something very special is coming for members of St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church on Meat Fare Sunday. As you know, we Eastern Catholics begin our preparation for Pascha in some very special ways. This year is really special.

Meat Fare Sunday (**February 7, 2021**) is traditionally the last day we eat meat until Pascha. This year, we will have a potluck on Meat Fare Sunday. (Fr. John says, “luck is a heresy” – where he’s from they call this a “pitch-in”). Sign up with what you plan to bring on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule of the church. (Hopefully we get plenty of meat dishes – but also a good variety). We’ll begin our meal around noon.

But then we’ll get to the real “meat” of the event: at around 1pm, we will do a Spiritual Gift Discernment exercise. Dan Laufer, our Director of Evangelization, will present about spiritual gifts and then we will do a personal gift discernment which will help you discern what the Holy Spirit has gifted you with and will help the Church to understand better what gifts our members have for the upbuilding of the Church.

**In preparation, read Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; and Ephesians 4.**

Begin now to plan for your favorite foods to offer to our other members and bring them to Church on February 7 for Meat Fare. For further information contact the Church office 313-382-5901 or Director of Evangelization, Carson Daniel Laufer 248-309-1552 or [carsonlaufer0903@comcast.net](mailto:carsonlaufer0903@comcast.net).

## *The Eighth Annual Women’s Retreat: Our Lord’s Mercy*

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in Fremont, Ohio

**Friday, February 19th through Sunday, February 21, 2021**

*(the first weekend of the Great Fast)*

The retreat master is Rev. John (Ivan) Freishyn-Chirovsky

*Physical distancing and mask-wearing will be observed according to the guidelines of the State of Ohio. The fee is \$200 for a single or \$225 for a single with private bath. More information is available in the pamphlet in the vestibule of the church.*



02.11.  
2021

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC  
**THEOLOGY  
ON TAP**  
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

8PM  
EST

HOSTED BY MOTHER GABRIELLA

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DRINK  
(BEER, WINE, TEA, CHOCOLATE MILK - WHATEVER)  
AND JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL THEOLOGY ON TAP

USE THE QR CODE

- OR THE MAGNIFIER -

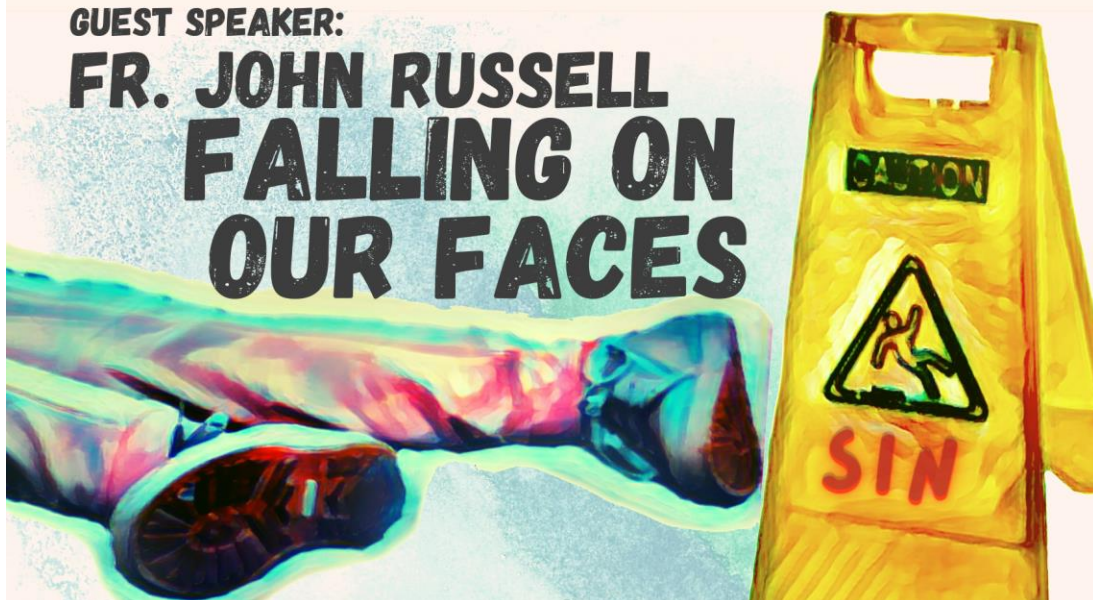
DETAILS: ID: 834 8312 2138

PASSCODE: 331765



**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**FR. JOHN RUSSELL**  
**FALLING ON**  
**OUR FACES**





## Church Cleaning

Please sign up to clean our church. Sign up for any week you're available to clean and clean the church on any day of that week. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. Thank you to Betty Sutyak & LeAnn Osentoski for cleaning this week. Nick & Ashley Sabula have signed up to clean this week.



When you walk in faith you continue the work of God. The Eparchy's future is marked by one thing above all: hope. This is said with certainty because the Eparchy's future has the same foundation as its past: Jesus Christ. What better foundation is there?

Thankfully, we have an opportunity to help build the Kingdom of God in a particular way: by supporting the Eparchy's Stewardship Appeal.

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$7,000. As of January 5<sup>th</sup>, 25 contributors (about 29% of our households) have donated \$3973.75, which puts us at almost 57% toward our goal.

Won't you please show your support with a gift today? Visit us online at [parma.org/2021appeal](http://parma.org/2021appeal) to submit your donation.

## CHARITABLE GIVING *from St. Stephen Parish*

*St. Stephen Parish donates \$50 per month to Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry*

*Since our last contributions,*

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

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

# THREE HIERARCHS



**ATTENDANCE** – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on January 17<sup>th</sup> was **46**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **35**

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 January 17<sup>th</sup> was **\$7,608.26**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1603.15**  
Sun.: \$2279; Candles: \$49; Children: \$2; Fuel: \$35; Holy Day: \$70; Initial Offering: \$20;  
Online: \$360; Special Donation: \$4793.26

“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