



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

February 7th, 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, February 6, 2021

Meat fare Saturday. 1st Saturday of Souls. Post-festive Day of the Meeting.

Our Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna (2nd Century).

The Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emesa, and his Companions (313).

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople.

1 Corinthians 10:23-28 & *for the Souls*: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.

Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36 & *for the Souls*: John 5:24-30.

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

10:00am Divine Liturgy followed by a *Panachida* for the Souls

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, February 7, 2021

MEAT FARE SUNDAY. The Sunday of the Last Judgment. Tone 3

Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Our Venerable Fr. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus (318).

The Passing of the Martyr and Priest Peter Verhun (1957).

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

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2. Matthew 25:31-46.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

for the healing of Alicia Sottile, from JoAnn Humenik (2-1)

+Joseph Humenik, from Phyllis Humenik (2-3)

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (2-6)

Divine Liturgy will be followed by the Akathist

Noon: Meat fare Potluck & Gift Discernment in the Hall

Monday, February 8, 2021



Cheesefare Monday. ☩ Post-festive Day of the Meeting.
The Holy Great Martyr Theodore (318). The Holy Prophet Zechariah.
3 John 1:1-14. Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club

meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme

Tuesday, February 9, 2021



Cheesefare Tuesday. Leave-taking of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Nicephor (260).
Jude 1-10. Luke 22:39-42, 45b-23:1.

9:30am First & Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Theresa Bobovsky, from Jane Semak

7:00pm Vespers – *with prostrations*

Wednesday, February 10, 2021



Day of Alleluia

Cheesefare Wednesday. The Holy Martyr Charalampas (203).
6th Hour: Joel 2:12-26. Vespers: Joel 3:12-21.

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

for all relatives, living & departed, of Judith Ng

Thursday, February 11, 2021



Cheesefare Thursday. The Holy Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste (316).
Jude 1:11-25. Luke 23:2-34, 44-56.

8:00pm Falling on our Faces - Byzantine Catholic Theology on Tap

Zoom ID: 834 8312 2138 Passcode: 331765

Friday, February 12, 2021



Day of Alleluia

Cheesefare Friday. Our Holy Father Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch (381).

6th Hour: Zachariah 8:7-17. Vespers: Zachariah 8:19-23.

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

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, February 13, 2021



Cheesefare Saturday. Commemoration of Holy Ascetics. Venerable Fr. Martinian (c. 398).

Romans 14:19-23;16:25-27 & for the Holy Ascetics: Galatians 5:22-6:2.

Matthew 6:1-13 & for the Holy Ascetics: Matthew 11:27-30.

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Helen Bobovski, from Irene Jane Semak

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

Sunday, February 14, 2021



CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. The Sunday of Forgiveness. Tone 4

Our Venerable Father Auxentius (5th Century).

✙ The Passing of our Venerable Fr Constantine, whose monastic name is Cyril, Apostle of the Slavs (869).

The Venerable Maron, Hermit and Wonder-worker (c. 423).

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

Romans 13:11b-14:4. Matthew 6:14-21.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

for all relatives, living & departed, of Judith Ng (2-10)


+Theresa Bobovsky, from Jane Semak (2-9)

+Helen Bobovski, Irene Jane Semak (2-13)

In the hall after Divine Liturgy: Simple Food, Pysanky Decorating, Talk on Holy Week Services

7:00pm Vespers in Ann Arbor

Monday, February 15, 2021

 *First Day of the Great Fast*

CLEAN MONDAY. The Holy Apostle Onesimus.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 1:1-20. *Vespers:* Genesis 1:1-13 • Proverbs 1:1-20.

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

Tuesday, February 16, 2021



The Holy Martyrs, the Presbyter Pamphilius, Porphyry, and their Companions (309).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 1:19-2:3. *Vespers:* Genesis 1:14-23 • Proverbs 1:20-33.

7:00pm Great Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wednesday, February 17, 2021



⊕ The Holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit (306).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 2:3-11. *Vespers:* Genesis 1:24-2:3 • Proverbs 2:1-22.

5:45pm Confessions

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

Reader: Victor Jiomkowski

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

Thursday, February 18, 2021







Our Holy Father Leo, Pope of Rome (461).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 2:11-21. *Vespers:* Genesis 2:4-19 • Proverbs 3:1-18.

7:00pm Great Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

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)

MEAT FARE & GIFT DISCERNMENT

Today, 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. We'll begin our meal around noon, after the Akathist.

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

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

The Fast of Cheesefare Week

As we continue to prepare for the Great Fast, Cheesefare Week is traditionally a week of fasting from meat. It is called "Cheesefare" because this is our last week of eating dairy until Pascha, so we would traditionally eat or drink all our dairy (and eggs) this week. Cheesefare Week begins **February 8th** (the Monday after Meatfare Sunday) and ends with Cheesefare Sunday on **February 14th**. The forty-days of the Great Fast begin with Clean Monday (**February 15th**).

"Today this fast is considered a part of the Great Fast, a preparation period in which we enter gradually into the asceticism of the Fast. It originated, however, in the Oriental Orthodox (non-Chalcedonian) Churches and was separate from the Great Fast. It was called the Fast of Nineveh, and was observed three weeks before the Great Fast, in what is now the Week after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Byzantine Church would not observe it at the same time as those Churches with which it was not in communion and moved it to the week before the Great Fast." – Fr. David Petras

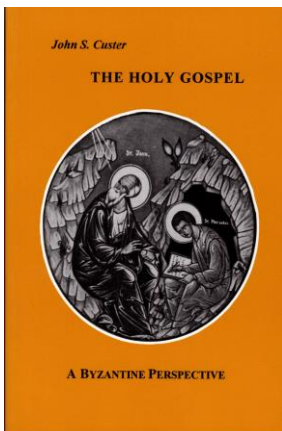
Byzantine Book Club

Our Book Club will next meet on **February 8th 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



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 -

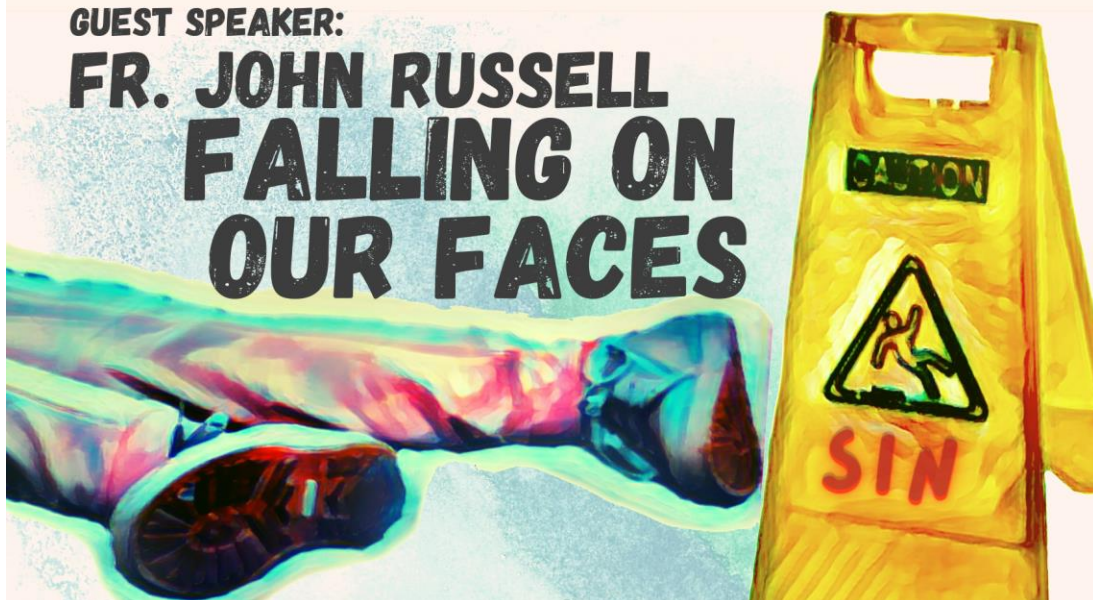
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PASSCODE: 331765



GUEST SPEAKER:

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



Great & Holy Week

Services & Themes

Why is Great & Holy Week different from every other week in our Church?

What are the services like? Why should we participate in them? What do they mean to us?

Starting on Cheesefare Sunday (**February 14th, 2021**), Fr. John will give a series of brief talks on the services of Great & Holy Week and try to address these questions and more. After the Divine Liturgy for each Sunday of the Great Fast, we will provide simple Lenten food in the hall and Fr. John will give a brief presentation. Questions welcome.



Pysanki Decorating!

Materials for making pysanki will be available in the hall each Sunday of the Great Fast after the Divine Liturgy. Pani Katie will try to be available with her experience and advice. We also have other knowledgeable and experienced parishioners who may be able to help if needed. Come and learn the ancient Slavic art of wax-resist egg decoration. These are a wonderful and traditional way to beautify your Easter baskets for Pascha! The egg represents the tomb of Christ, from which new life comes.

Pysanky make beautiful gifts and are rich in symbolism. The eggs may be taken to the church on Pascha to be blessed, after which they may be given away. Some may be given to the priest. They may be taken to the cemetery and placed on graves of the family. They may be given to your children or godchildren. They were often exchanged by the unmarried girls with the eligible men in the community. Several were saved to place in the coffin of loved ones who might die during the year. Remember that the eggs symbolize life coming out of the tomb. Young people were traditionally given pysanky with bright designs; dark pysanky were given to older people. A bowl full of pysanky may be kept in every home.

Lenten Sunday Evening Vespers in Ann Arbor

We will celebrate our Sunday evening Vespers during the Great Fast in Ann Arbor rather than Allen Park. Please join us there **each Sunday at 7pm**, starting on Cheesefare Sunday (**February 14th**) for Forgiveness Vespers. St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Ann Arbor has kindly invited us to celebrate Vespers in their church:

2250 E Stadium Blvd.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

<https://www.stfrancisa2.com/>

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.



DYING TO SIN

The First Steps in Askesis


Mondays, February 22, March 1 & 8 @ 8 - 9 p.m.

Are we all called to askesis, or asceticism, or is it only the calling of a select few? Join us this Great Lent as we learn from the great ascetics of the Church, discovering how to apply the practice of askesis in our own lives.

Instructor: Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses serves as a deacon at Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Greek Catholic Church in Manchester, NH, where he lives with his wife and daughter. He is a graduate of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary and now works as a full-time high school theology teacher at Bishop Guertin High School and a per diem chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital, both in nearby Nashua, NH. Some of his written work can be found on Catholic Exchange.

<https://godwithusonline.org/events/dying-to-sin/>



An eagle is depicted in flight, its wings spread wide, against a background of soft, painterly blue and white clouds. The eagle is rendered in dark blue and black tones, with some lighter blue highlights on its wings and tail. The overall style is artistic and inspirational.

COME TO THE BYZANTEEN YOUTH RALLY WITH THE EPARCHY OF PARMA

SOAR AS ON EAGLE'S WINGS
ISAIAH 40:30-31

**JULY 1 - 4, 2021
MOUNT ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY**

16300 Old Emmitsburg Road |
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Keynote Address by Superbowl
Champion Matt Birk

More information at www.parma.org

On Cheesefare Sunday and the Sunday of Forgiveness

On the eve of the Great Fast, on the day called Cheesefare Sunday and Forgiveness Sunday, we sing of Adam's exile from paradise. We identify ourselves with Adam, lamenting our loss of the beauty, dignity and delight of our original creation, mourning our corruption in sin. We also hear on this day the Lord's teaching about fasting and forgiveness, and we enter the season of the fast forgiving one another so that God will forgive us.

If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses (Mt 6.14-18).

Source: <https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/sundays-of-lent>



Cheesy Recipe for Cheesefare Week: **MARGHERITA PIZZA**

serves 3 to 4

The classic Italian pizza is made with Pita bread so it cooks quickly & is easy to prepare. There are many possibilities for adding vegetables; keep in mind that with the short baking time toppings should be pre-cooked.

Ingredients:

4 each	Pita Bread (pocket-less)
12 ounces	Fresh Mozzarella
1 can	Crushed Tomatoes (14 ounces)
1 teasp	Corn Oil
1 teasp	Oregano (dried)
1 teasp	Sugar
1 teasp	Garlic (granulated)
1 teasp	Salt
1 teasp	Black Pepper
1/8 teasp	Parmesan Cheese (grated)
8 leaves	Fresh Basil

Method:

- Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
- In a small bowl, stir together the Crushed Tomatoes, Corn Oil, Oregano, Sugar, Garlic, Salt & Black Pepper until combined. Set aside.
- Cut the Mozzarella into ¼ inch slices and then into ¼" cubes. Roll the Basil leaves into a tight tube and cut into thin strips (chiffonade).
- Spread 2 tablespoons of the sauce mixture evenly over each Pita Bread. Add an extra tablespoon if desired. Sprinkle each with a teaspoon of Parmesan, then top each with the cubed cheese using about 11-13 cubes per; no need to make it look even, this is a rustic style pizza. Finally, add the basil to each pita.
- Place two of the prepared pizza on a cookie sheet and place on the center rack of the oven. Cook for 7-9 minutes, or until the cheese is melted and beginning to bubble. Actual cooking time will depend on your oven (I found it best to cook 2 at a time, instead of all 4 on different racks).
- Remove from oven & allow to cool slightly before serving.
- If you are going to add vegetables, try to limit them to 2 and use sparingly.

from Lenten Cookbook, by Arestedis Laftsidis, pp. 6-7



The Visitation Icon

Prayer for Life & an End to Abortion

As a parish, let's pray all year long for life and for an end to abortion.

We have an icon of Mary while she was pregnant with God visiting her cousin Elizabeth while she was pregnant with John the Forerunner. Please sign up to take this icon home with you one week of this year and bring it back the following week to give to another home. While the icon is in your home, may it

inspire meditation on the mystery of life and prayer for life and an end to abortion.

- Sunday, February 7th, the Coffey-Burns Family will take home the icon.
- Sunday, February 14th, Louise Dalbo will take home the icon.
- Sunday, February 28th, Michael & Mary Camilleri will take home the icon.
- Sunday, March 7th, Cecilia Hendricks will take home the icon.
- Sunday, March 14th, Harrison Capron will take home the icon.

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 Fr. Dcn. Lawrence for cleaning this week. Ryan and Catherine Coffey-Burns have signed up to clean this week.



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

The Day House Detroit:

As a part of our almsgiving for this Great Fast, let's support the Day House.

The Day House (2640 Trumbull St., Detroit) is a community shelter in the heart of Corktown, following in the tradition of the Catholic Worker movement started by Servant of God Dorothy Day. They provide transitional housing for the destitute and strive to meet the needs of the disadvantaged metro Detroit community, both physical and spiritual.

The Day House Detroit is currently in need of the following: **water bottles, microwave, vacuum cleaner, projector screen, and cash donations.** Please place items, checks or cash for donation in the basket in the narthex. For any further questions, please contact the Day House at (313) 974-7752, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DayHouseDetroit> or Ryan & Catherine Coffey-Burns at rmsijburns@gmail.com.



Our Annual Stewardship Appeal continues this month. We are almost half way through this year's campaign.

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$7,000. As of February 2nd, 29 contributors have donated \$5660.53, which puts us at almost 81% toward our goal.

If you have not already made your pledge or donation, please visit parma.org/2021appeal and consider a monthly donation to the Eparchy to help financially with the many needs and expenses we face. Thank you for your generosity!

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on January 31st was **27**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **34**

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 31st was **\$1,164.52**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1595.54**

Sun.: \$1120; Candles: \$24; Children: \$1; Fuel: \$25; Initial Offering: \$40; Online: \$44.52

“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