



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

February 14th, 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 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 Cheesefare 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

Friday, February 19, 2021



The Holy Apostle Archippus.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 3:1-14. *Vespers:* Genesis 2:20-3:20 • Proverbs 3:19-34.

5:45pm Confessions

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

Saturday, February 20, 2021



First Saturday of the Great Fast. The Miracle of St. Theodore the Recruit.

Our Venerable Fr. Leo, Bishop of Catania (c. 787). Our Holy Fr. Agathon, Pope of Rome.

Hebrews 1:1-12 & *for the martyr*: 2 Timothy 2:1-10.

Mark 2:23-3:5 & *for the martyr*: John 15:17-16:2.

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

10:00am Divine Liturgy

For the children of Melvyn & Sarah Marron, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, February 21, 2021



FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY.

MEMORY OF THE HOLY PROPHETS. Tone 5

Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola (795).

Our Holy Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Great Antioch (c. 338).

5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke 24:12-35.

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2a. John 1:43-51.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Procession with the Holy Icons & the Synodikon of Orthodoxy

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

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

for the children of Melvyn & Sarah Marron, from Sarah Marron

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

7:00pm Vespers *in Ann Arbor*

Monday, February 22, 2021



The Finding of the Venerable Relics of the Martyrs at Eugenia.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 4:2-6; 5:1-7. *Vespers*: Genesis 3:21-4:7 • Proverbs 3:34-4:22.

8:00pm DYING TO SIN: The First Steps in Askesis

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

Tuesday, February 23, 2021



The Holy Martyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (c. 155).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 5:7-16. *Vespers:* Genesis 4:8-15 • Proverbs 5:1-15.

9:30am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Wednesday, February 24, 2021



✙ The First & Second Finding of the Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, & Baptist John.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 5:16-25. *Vespers:* Genesis 4:16-26 • Proverbs 5:15-6:3.

2 Corinthians 4:6-15. Matthew 11:2-15

5:45pm *Confessions*

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

Thursday, February 25, 2021



Our Holy Father Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 6:1-12. *Vespers:* Genesis 5:1-24 • Proverbs 6:3-20.

9:30am First Hour & Terce-Sext

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)

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA!

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Cheesefare FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! FORGIVENESS SUNDAY Reading: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent	 SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Reading: Hebrews 11: 24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1: 43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHAI</i> Reading: Hebrews 4: 14-5: 6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9: 1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bowl
4th Sunday of Lent	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Reading: Hebrews: 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent	 ST MARY of EGYPT Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-14 & Heb 2:11-18 Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45 & LK 1:24-38	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet, & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! NO FASTING!	 HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1: 1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

Talks on 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.



Make Pysanki!

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.

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

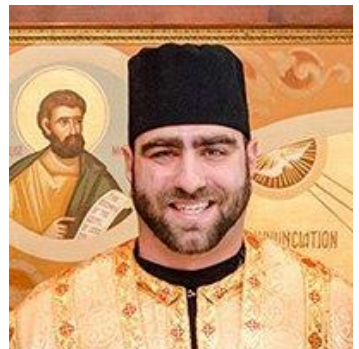
The First Steps in Askesis

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/>



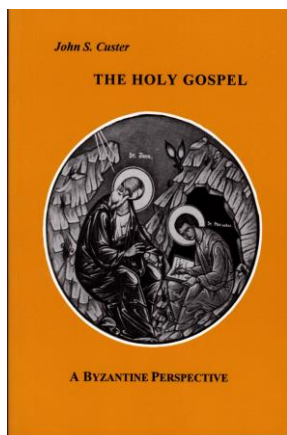
Byzantine Book Club

Our Book Club will next meet on **March 15th 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



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

The Sunday of Orthodoxy



The first Sunday of the Great Fast is called the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. It is a historical feast commemorating the return of the icons to the churches in the year 843 after the heresy of iconoclasm was overcome. The spiritual theme of the day is first of all the victory of the True Faith. “This is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith” (1 Jn 5.4). Secondly, the icons of the saints bear witness that man, “created in the image and likeness of God” (Gen 1.26), becomes holy and godlike through the purification of himself as God’s living image. ***Bring your favorite icon to church for a procession at 9:45am***

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

GIFT DISCERNMENT

What a joy to finally get to sit down in a safe place for a nice meal with our Church family. All the chairs and table were sanitized and the food was served with great care.

The Seminar went very well in both the live and video format. The discernments were most helpful and give us a clearer understanding of the gifts that God has given our people for our church.

More reports are coming in. If you participated online and wish to fully participate send your results of the five strongest gifts to the Church office.

Already we are making plans for ministries that will build up the Church both at the Temple at in people's daily lives.

Be thinking about summer programs to attract and minister to families. Through your prayers ask how God can use you in welcoming, visitation, street evangelism, art, and so many other areas.

The future looks very exciting.

Vegetarian Vegetable (Barley, Bean or Rice) Soup

(Good for strict fast days)

courtesy of Fr. Michael Hayduk

- 1 cup of chopped celery
- 1 cup of diced carrots
- 1 cup of shredded cabbage
- 1 small can (6 oz.) tomato juice
- 1 cup of diced potatoes with peels on
- 1 diced parsnip
- 1 small can (8oz.) stewed tomatoes
- About ¼ cup of chopped parsley
- 1 small chopped onion
- 1 bay leaf
- About 2 quarts of cold water
- 2 tablespoons of salt (more or less to taste)

Add all ingredients to a large pot with a lid. Bring to a slow boil and cook until vegetables are tender: (about 2 hours by stove or 4 – 6 hours in a crock pot). May be served as is or over barley, beans or rice already prepared according to package directions.



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 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 Ryan and Catherine Coffey-Burns for cleaning this week. Phyllis, Char & Ceil 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.



During this first week of the Great Fast, we consider ways in which we can share our faith in Christ for all to see. One way to do that is by contributing to the needs supported by the Stewardship Appeal.

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.

Have you made your pledge or payment yet? If so, thank you! If not, there is still time! Visit us online at parma.org/2021appeal to submit your one-time or monthly donation.

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on February 7th was **36**. Average Sunday attendance \approx **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 February 7th was **\$1,763.02**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1608.73**

Sun.: \$1142; Holy Day: \$170; Candles: \$25.50; Children: \$1; Fuel: \$55; Initial Offering: \$30; Flowers: \$30; Online: \$309.52

“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