



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

March 21th, 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

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

Sunday, March 21, 2021



FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST.

MEMORY OF OUR VENERABLE MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT. Tone 1

Our Venerable Father and Confessor James, Bishop of Catania (8th Century).

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

Hebrews 9:11-14 & for St. Mary: Galatians 3:23-29.

Mark 10:32b-45 & for St. Mary: Luke 7:36-50.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: Victor Jiompkowski

+Frank Vitagliano, from Judith Ng (3-18)

+Roberta Kadlec, from Judith Ng (3-19)

+Elsie Grega, from Debra Grega (3-20)

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

7:00pm Vespers *–in Ann Arbor*

Monday, March 22, 2021



The Holy Martyr Basilides, Priest of Ancyra (363).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 48:17-49:4. Vespers: Genesis 27:1-41 • Proverbs 19:16-25.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme

Tuesday, March 23, 2021



The Holy Venerable-Martyr Nikon and his Students martyred with him (250).

Our Holy Mother Rafka.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 49:6-10. Vespers: Genesis 31:3-16 • Proverbs 21:3-21.

9:30am First Hour & Terce-Sext

8:00pm Byzantine Catholic Theology on Tap on Zoom

Wednesday, March 24, 2021



⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Annunciation.

Our Venerable Father Zachary. Our Holy Father Artemon, Bishop of Seleucia of Pisidia.

Our Holy Father Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 58:1-11. *Vespers:* Gen 43:26-31; 45:1-16 • Proverbs 21:23-22:4.

Vespers Paramia for Annunciation: Genesis 28:10-14 • Ezekiel 43:27-44 • Prov 9:1-11.

5:45pm *Confessions*

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Basil Kovtun, from Maryalice Lukas

Thursday, March 25, 2021



⊕ THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

Matins Gospel: Luke 1:39-49, 56.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 65:8-16.

Vespers: Genesis 46:1-7 • Proverbs 23:15-24:5.

Vespers Paramia for Annunciation: Exodus 3:1-8 • Proverbs 8:22-31.

for the Annunciation: Hebrews 2:11-18. Luke 1:24-38.

8:00am Festal Matins

7:00pm Vespers with Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation

Readers:

+Roberta Kadlec, from Judith Ng

Cecilia Hendricks
& Debra Grega

Friday, March 26, 2021*



Leave-taking of the Annunciation. ⊗ The Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 66:10-24. *Vespers:* Genesis 49:33-50:26 • Proverbs 31:8-32.

5:45pm *Confessions*

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

Reader: Cecilia Hendricks

+Frank Vitagliano, from Judith Ng

* "Today ends the forty-day fast before Pascha.... The Great and Holy Week remains as a period of six days of even more intense penance as an immediate preparation for Pascha.... The Paschal Fast of Holy week is more ancient than that of the Great Forty-day Fast." -Fr. David Petras

Saturday, March 27, 2021



LAZARUS SATURDAY.

Hebrews 12:28-13:8. John 11:1-45.

9:45am Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Eugene & +Angeline Dalbo, from Louise Dalbo

4:00pm Great Vespers for Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 28, 2021



PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY. Tone 2

Vespers: Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12 • Zephaniah 3:14-19 • Zachariah 9:9-15.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17.

Philippians 4:4-9. John 12:1-18.

8:00am Matins *with the Blessing of Palms and Pussywillows**

9:45am Procession with the Palms and Pussywillows†

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

Reader: Carson Daniel Lauffer

+Basil Kovtun, from Maryalice Lukas (3-24)

+Roberta Kadlec, from Judith Ng (3-25)

+Frank Vitagliano, from Judith Ng (3-26)

+Eugene & +Angeline Dalbo, from Louise Dalbo (3-27)

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

7:00pm Vespers – *in Ann Arbor*

* "Palms and pussywillows are blessed. They may then be distributed during the kissing of the Gospel Book. There is no anointing with oil. The palms and pussywillows **are then carried** for the rest of Matins and for the Divine Liturgy." -Typikon

† "A procession with the priest and faithful carrying the newly blessed palms and willows may take place after Matins and before the Liturgy.... The procession proceeds around the church, with the singing of the Palm Sunday Troparion and Kontakion. The Divine Liturgy begins immediately after the procession." -Typikon

Monday, March 29, 2021



GREAT & HOLY MONDAY.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 21:18-43. *Third Hour:* Matthew 1:1-16:12.

Sixth Hour: Ezek 1:1-20 • Matt 16:13-28:20. *Ninth Hour:* Mark 1:1-9:16.

Vespers: Ex 1:1-20 • Job 1:1-12. *Presanctified Liturgy:* Matthew 24:3-35.

8:00am Bridegroom Matins

6:00 – 6:45pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Frank Vitagliano, from Judith Ng

Tuesday, March 30, 2021



GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 22:15-23:39.

Third Hour: Mark 9:17-16:20. *Sixth Hour:* Ezekiel 1:21-2:1 • Luke 1:1-8:39.

Ninth Hour: Luke 8:40-16:18. *Vespers:* Exodus 2:5-10 • Job 1:13-22

Presanctified Liturgy: Matthew 24:36-26:2.

8:00am Bridegroom Matins

6:00 – 6:45pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Roberta Kadlec, from Judith Ng

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY.

Matins Gospel: John 12:17-50. *Third Hour:* Luke 16:19-24:53.

Sixth Hour: Ezekiel 2:3-3:3 • John 1:1-7:36. *Ninth Hour:* John 7:37-13:32.

Vespers: Exodus 2:11-22 • Job 2:1-10. *Presanctified Liturgy:* Matthew 26:6-16.

8:00am Bridegroom Matins

5:00 – 5:45pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Mary Strach, from Kris & Phil Babuska

Thursday, April 1, 2021



GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY.

Matins Gospel: Luke 22:1-39. *First Hour:* Jeremiah 11:18-12:5, 9-11, 14-15.

Vespers: Exodus 19:10-19 • Job 38:1-23; 42:1-5 • Isaiah 50:4-11.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32.

Matt 26:1-20; John 13:3-17; Matt 26:21-39; Luke 22:43-45; Matt 26:40-27:2.

8:00am Matins

4:00pm Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

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

7:00pm Strasti – Matins for Great & Holy Friday*

Friday, April 2, 2021



GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY.

Matins: The Twelve Passion Gospels: (1) John 13:31b-18:1 • (2) John 18:1-28 •

(3) Matt 26:57-75 • (4) John 18:28-19:16 • (5) Matt 27:3-32 • (6) Mark 15:16-32a •

(7) Matthew 27:33-54 • (8) Luke 23:32-49 • (9) John 19:25-37 • (10) Mark 15:43-47 •

(11) John 19:38-42 • (12) Matthew 27:62-66.

First Hour: Zachariah 11:10-13 • Galatians 6:14-18 • Matthew 27:1-56.

Third Hour: Isaiah 50:4-11 • Romans 5:6-11 • Mark 15:16-41.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 52:13-54:1 • Hebrews 2:11-18 • Luke 23:32-49.

Ninth Hour: Jeremiah 11:18-12:5, 9-11, 14-15 • Hebrews 10:19-31 • John 18:28-19:37.

Vespers: Exodus 33:11-23 • Job 42:12-17 • Isaiah 52:13-54:1 • 1 Cor. 1:18-2:2. •

Matt 27:1-38; Luke 23:39-43; Matt 27:39-54; John 19:31-37; Matt 27:55-61.

9:00am Royal Hours

6:00 – 6:45pm Confessions

7:00pm Burial Vespers†

after Vespers: Guarding the Tomb until Midnight

* “The tomb should be set up before Matins” – Typikon. This will require the assistance of two strong and sturdy people.

† “A strict fast is prescribed by law for this day” - Typikon

‡ “Taking the shroud upon his shoulders, and preceded by the Processional Cross, candles, and incense, [the priest] goes around the Holy Table and... the church is circled three times with the singing of the Troparion. (option: one procession around the church may be made) and the burial shroud is placed in the Tomb. The procession is made outside the Church if possible.” -Typikon

Saturday, April 3, 2021



GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY.

Matins: Ezekiel 37:1-14 • 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8, Galatians 3:13-14 • Matt 27:62-66.

Vespers: (1) Genesis 1:1-13 • (2) Isaiah 60:1-16 • (3) Ex 12:1-11 • (4) Jonah 1:1-4:11 • (5) Josh 5:10-15 • (6) Ex 13:20-15:19 • (7) Zephaniah 3:8-15 • (8) 1 [3] Kings 17:8-24 • (9) Isaiah 61:10b-62:5 • (10) Genesis 22:1-18 • (11) Isaiah 61:1-10a • (12) 2 [4] Kings 4:8-37 • (13) Isaiah 63:11-64:5 • (14) Jeremiah 31:31-34 • (15) Daniel 3:1-88 (LXX) • Romans 6:3-11. • Matthew 28:1-20.

Midnight: Jerusalem Matins*

10:00am Hours of Great & Holy Saturday

4:00pm The Paschal Vigil - Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil†

11:30pm The Midnight Office of Pascha‡

Sunday, April 4, 2021

⊕ PASCHA.

Acts 1:1-8. John 1:1-17.

8:45am Paschal Matins§ & Divine Liturgy**

Followed by the blessing of the Paschal Foods in the Hall

12:30pm Agape Vespers

* "At the singing of 'Holy God...', a procession is made with the Burial Shroud [as at Burial Vespers]. 'Holy God...' is sung as often as necessary, according to the funeral melody. To process outside the church is preferable." -Typikon

† At the Paschal Vigil, we change from dark to bright vestments and proclaim the Gospel of the Resurrection.

‡ At the Midnight Office of Pascha, the Burial Shroud is brought from the Tomb to the Holy Table, where it remains until the Ascension.

§ "At the beginning of Matins, the Resurrection Procession [a.k.a. the Rush Procession] is held. The priest open all the doors of the icon screen. They remain open throughout Bright Week. The priest then lights the candles of the faithful. They are to be held for the Resurrection Matins. The procession goes around the church during the singing of the sticheron. The service of Matins begins before the closed exterior doors of the church. At the final singing of "Christ is risen..." in the opening Troparia, the priest makes the sign of the cross on the doors with the hand cross. The doors are opened and all enter the church and the service continues" -Typikon

** "By tradition in ths Slav recensions, the Gospel at this Liturgy ['In the beginning was the Word...'] is read in various languages." -Typikon

Monday, April 5, 2021

BRIGHT MONDAY.

Agape Vespers Gospel: John 20:19-25.

Acts 1:12-17, 21-26. John 1:18-28.

8:00am Paschal Matins* & Divine Liturgy[†]

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - meet.google.com/woh-kxmx-pme

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

BRIGHT TUESDAY. + The Passing of our Holy Fr. Methodius, Teacher of the Slavs (885).

Acts 2:14-21. Luke 24:12-35.

8:00am Paschal Matins

7:00pm Agape Vespers

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

BRIGHT WEDNESDAY.

Acts 2:22-36. John 1:35-51.

6:00pm *Confessions*

6:30pm Agape Vespers

7:00pm Divine Liturgy

+Ernest Semak, from Bob & Jane Semak

Thursday, April 8, 2021

BRIGHT THURSDAY.

Acts 2:38-43. John 3:1-15.

* "Resurrection Matins, but without the opening procession." -Typikon

† "After the Ambon Prayer, a procession may take place around the church, with the singing of the Paschal Troparion and Kontakion. A Gospel is read at each side of the Church. This procession is more ancient than the Paschal Procession for Resurrection Matins on Sunday.

Friday, April 9, 2021

BRIGHT FRIDAY.

Acts 3:1-8. John 2:12-22.

8:00am Paschal Matins

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Agape Vespers

Saturday, April 10, 2021

BRIGHT SATURDAY.

Acts 3:11-16. John 3:22-33.

9:45am Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Frank & Mary Kovtun, from the family

4:00pm Great Vespers for Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 11, 2021

THOMAS SUNDAY. The Holy Martyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum in Asia (c. 92).

1st Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20. Acts 5:12-20. John 20:19-31.

8:00am Sunday Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (4-5)

+Ernest Semak, from Bob & Jane Semak (4-7)

+Frank & Mary Kovtun, from the family (4-10)

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)

PASCHA BREAD & BUTTER LAMBS!



St. Stephen Guild will be baking pascha bread and making butter lambs for Pascha. These are must-have foods for your Easter basket. The Pascha bread is \$10, with or without raisins and the butter lambs are \$2. You may place your orders with Louise Dalbo (313-382-6788 or louisedalbo@gmail.com), or sign up in the narthex.

Anointing on Great & Holy Wednesday Postponed

After consultation with the Protopresbyters of all three respective regions, as well as consultation with some medical doctors, Bishop Milan Lach, SJ has asked us to postpone the Mystery of Holy Anointing, which is traditionally done on Great & Holy Wednesday with multiple faithful attending. We will choose an alternate date for this later this year.

Let us still prepare ourselves for Pascha by receiving the healing Mystery of Repentance, especially before Pascha and before receiving the Mystery of Holy Anointing.

This postponement is only of the Mystery of Holy Anointing on Great & Holy Wednesday due to health and safety concerns. Any who are sick or shut-in are strongly encouraged to call Fr. John to bring them individually the Mysteries of Holy Confession and Holy Anointing.

An Update on the Byzan-Teen Youth Rally 2021

Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions on out-of-state travel the Byzan-Teen Youth Rally has been forced to reschedule to June 30th through July 3rd 2022. The location of the Rally will remain the same – Mt. St. Mary University in Emmitsburg, MD.

The exciting news is that a virtual Rally will be held on Saturday, July 3rd, of this year. A brand new website for the Rally is presently under construction and should soon be finished. The next update will include the link to the new Rally site with more information on the virtual Rally.

The Intereparchial Youth Commission appreciates your patience and understanding during these difficult times, but we are very excited about the programs and events being planned that will allow all our teens throughout our Metropolia to participate without the worry and concerns of travel this year.

- *Intereparchial Youth Commission*

Our Eparchial Youth Committee has nonetheless agreed to hold a meeting for the Byzanteens of the Eparchy of Parma at the Shrine of Mariapoch on July 22nd-25th.

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?

Fr. John is giving a series of brief talks on the services of Great & Holy Week to address these questions and more. Come to the hall after the Divine Liturgy to learn and ask questions.

Lenten Sunday Evening Vespers in Ann Arbor

We are celebrating our Sunday evening Vespers during the Great Fast in Ann Arbor rather than Allen Park. Please join us there **each Sunday at 7pm**. 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/>

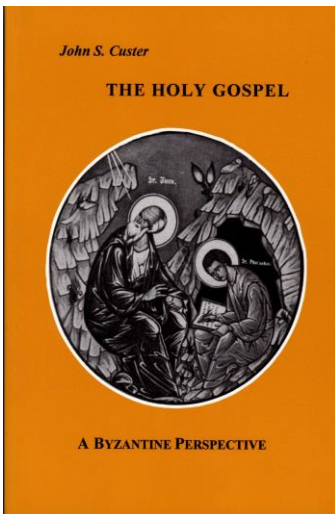
Byzantine Book Club

Our Book Club will next meet on **March 22nd 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



**03.23.
2021**

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

**8PM
EDT**

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: 841 5584 7356

PASSCODE: 207790

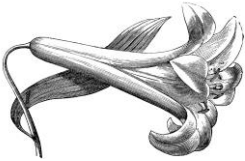


GUEST SPEAKER: **Fr. Michael O'Loughlin**

**Not Ready: Control,
Surrender, and Being
Ready for the Unknown**

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 and Leann Osentoski for cleaning the church last week. No one has signed up to clean this week.



Paschal Flowers have been offered in memory of

Mr. & Mrs. M. Borella
the Butella Family
Dawn
Mr. & Mrs. Ferenc Griba
the Gutkowski Family

Helen Humenik
Peter Humenik
Roberta Kadluz
Mary
Angela Ng
Sid Osmond

Joseph Sutyak
Mr. Frank Vitagliano
Ng Chok Wah & 2 wives
Andrew Yatcko
Helen Yatcko
Mr. & Mrs. Roman Zukow



The Visitation Icon

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, March 21st, Mark Tamisiea will take home the icon.
- Sunday, March 28th, Dan & Chris Lauffer will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 4th, Char Bonacor will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 11th, Ceil Burja will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 18th, Andrew Yatcko will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 25th, Helen Wood will take home the icon.
- Sunday, May 2nd, Marcus Halcomb will take home the icon

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 \$144

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.



As we move closer to the Great Feast of Pascha, we continue in our process to identify the many gifts given to us by God, and ponder the ways in which we can respond to His generosity. Please remember the annual Stewardship Appeal as you prepare for the upcoming Feast of Pascha.

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$7,000. As of March 2nd, 29 contributors have donated \$5886.31, which puts us at 84% toward our goal.

Visit parma.org/2021appeal for more information and to make a one-time or monthly secure donation through our website. Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign.

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on March 14th was **21**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **32**

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 March 14th was **\$1925.52**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1593.28**
Sunday: \$1525; Children: \$2; Online: \$44.52; Candles: \$24; Flowers: \$10; Icons: \$320

“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