





# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI     Palm Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
313-382-5901

*website: saintstephenbyzantine.church*

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

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

---

\* "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

## 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 – 6:45pm *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\***

---

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

# 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<sup>†</sup>**

*after Vespers: Guarding the Tomb until Midnight*

# 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<sup>‡</sup>**

### **10:00am Hours of Great & Holy Saturday**

---

\* "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

‡ "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

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

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)

---

\* 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*

## **Anointing on Great & Holy Wednesday Postponed**

After consultation with the Protospresbyters 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 30<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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/>

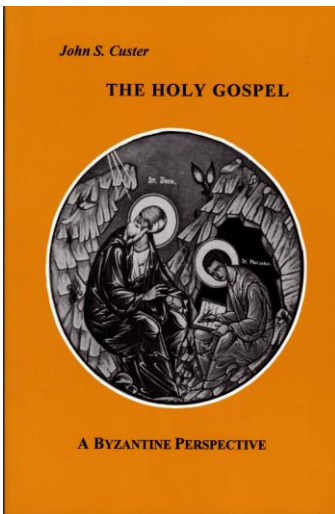
## Byzantine Book Club

Our Book Club will next meet on **April 5<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.

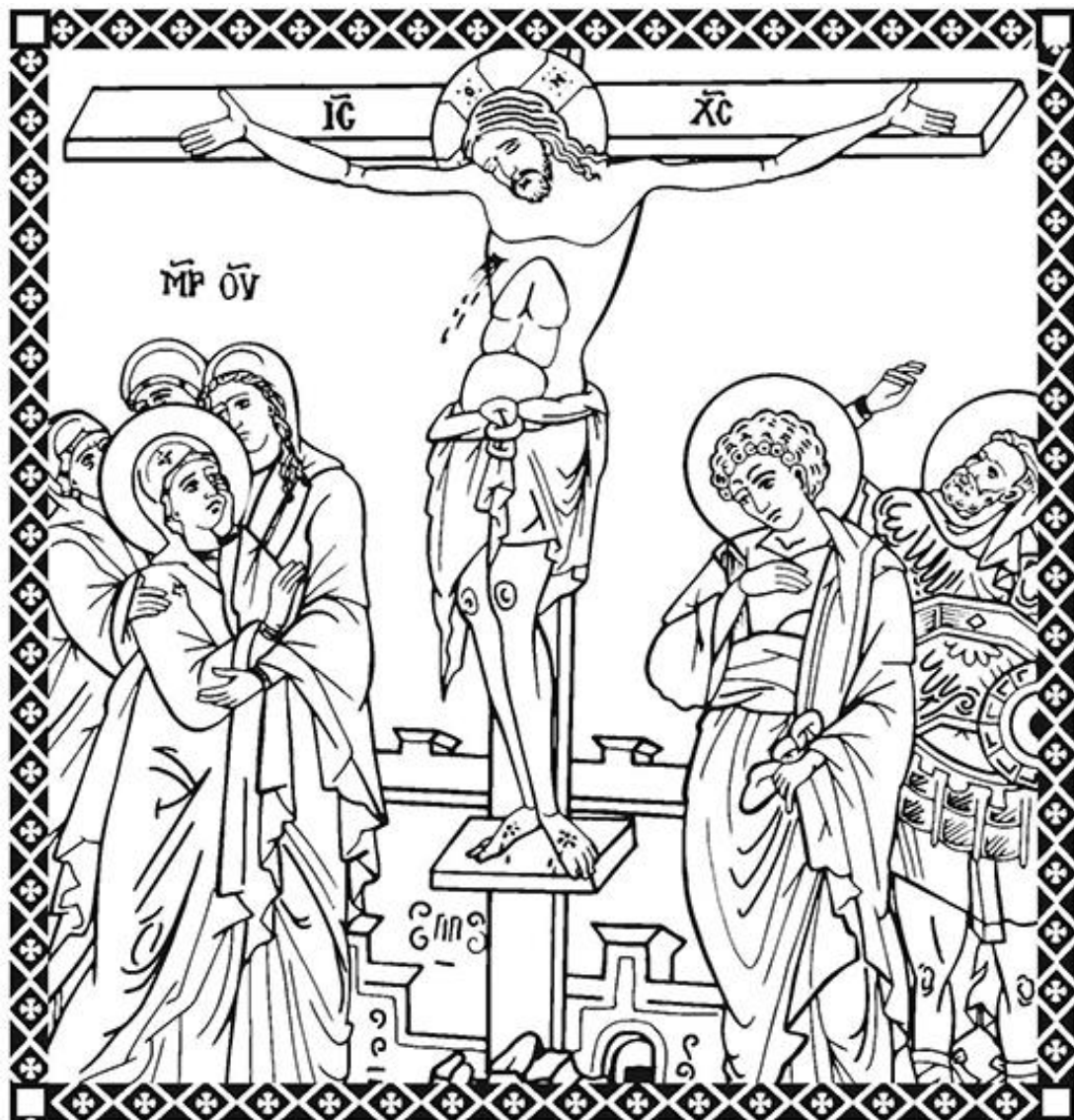
We have books available for any who would like to participate. Copies are available in the narthex.

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)







## The Crucifixion of Christ

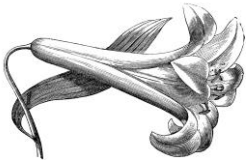
One of the worst things that can happen is for a person to be punished when he or she is innocent. It is even harder to understand when this happens to God. Jesus, the Son of

God, was put on a cross and died for everyone else's sins, but He had no sin. This sacrifice, though, is turned to joy at the Resurrection.

*See Saint John 19:17-30*

## 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. Phyllis Humenik, Char Bonacor, & Ceil Burja have 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 28<sup>th</sup>, Dan & Chris Lauffer will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, Char Bonacor will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, Ceil Burja will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, Andrew Yatcko will take home the icon.
- Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Helen Wood will take home the icon.
- Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 \$154

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](mailto:rmsijburns@gmail.com).



How are we using our gifts to build up the Kingdom of God? What treasure do we have stored here on earth that could be offered for the Kingdom? Thankfully, we have an opportunity this Holy Week to help build the Kingdom of God in a particular way: by supporting the Eparchy's Stewardship Appeal. The Stewardship Appeal provides critical support for God's Church in four ways: 1) supporting parishes and missions; 2) evangelization and ministries; 3) caring for retired priests; and 4) helping those in need.

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

Please contribute to the Appeal today to help the Church and your fellow human beings, who are in need at this time. You may visit [parma.org/2021appeal](http://parma.org/2021appeal) to make a one-time or monthly secure donation through the website.

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

Attendance on March 21<sup>st</sup> was **38**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **31**

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 21<sup>st</sup> was **\$1,517.52**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1611.70**

Sunday: \$944; Holy Day: \$16; Pascha: \$20; Children: \$1; Online: \$309.52; Fuel: \$40; Candles: \$27; Icons: \$160

“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