



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

September 12th, 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, September 12, 2021

SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS.. Tone 7

Leave-taking of the Nativity of the Theotokos. The Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomus (c. 300).

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

for the Cross: Galatians 6:11-18. John 3:13-17.

(for the day: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10. Matthew 25:14-30).

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: Vic Jiompkowski

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (9-8)

+Teresa Bobovski, from Mary Novak (9-7)

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (9-11)

+Robert Butella, from Don & Theresa Butella (9-18)

+Karen Lauffer, from Carson Daniel Lauffer (9-21)

Meeting of Parents after Divine Liturgy in the small hall

7:00pm Vespers *for Monday*

Monday, September 13, 2021

⊗. Pre-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Commemoration of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection of our Lord in Jerusalem (335).

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Cornelius.

Vespers: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 • Proverbs 3:19-34 • Proverbs 9:1-11.

for the Cross: Hebrews 3:1-4. Matthew 16:13-18.

(for the day: Ephesians 1:22-2:3. Mark 10:46-52).

6:00 All-Night Vigil *with the Veneration of the Cross &*

approx. 8:00pm Divine Liturgy for ⊕ THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS.

+Steve Borella

Tuesday, September 14, 2021



⊕ THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS.

The Passing of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.

Vespers: Exodus 15:22-16:1 • Proverbs 3:11-18 • Isaiah 60:11-16.

Matins Gospel: John 12:28-36.

for the Cross: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24. John 19:6-11, 13-21, 25-27, 30-35.

(for the day: Ephesians 2:19-3:7. Mark 11:11-23).

7:30pm Married Priests in the Catholic Church: Online Book Launch (Zoom)

to register, email: sheptytsky@utoronto.ca

Wednesday, September 15, 2021



⊗ Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Holy Great Martyr Nicetas (372).

Our Venerable Father Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

Ephesians 3:8-21. Mark 11:22b-26.

9:30am First & Third Hour

6:00pm *Confessions*

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

Thursday, September 16, 2021

⊗ Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Holy Great Martyr Euphemia (303).

Ephesians 4:14-19. Mark 11:27-33.

Friday, September 17, 2021



Post-festive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Holy Martyr Sophia (Wisdom) and her three Children, Faith, Hope, & Charity (c. 137).

Ephesians 4:17-25a. Mark 12:1-12.

9:30am First & Third Hour

6:00pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Vespers for Saturday

Saturday, September 18, 2021

Saturday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Our Venerable Father Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortyna (7th Century).

for the Cross: 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. John 8:21-30.

(for the day: 1 Corinthians 14:20-25. Matthew 25:1-13).

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Robert Butella, from Don & Theresa Butella

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

Sunday, September 19, 2021

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Tone 8

The Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedont (c. 227).

6th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke 24:36-53.

for the Cross: Galatians 2:16-20. Mark 8:34-9:1.

(for the day: 2 Corinthians 6:16b-7:1. Matthew 15:21-28).

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: Katya

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt (9-15)

+Steve Borella (9-13)

+Robert Butella, from Don & Theresa Butella (9-18)

11:45am First Day of Eastern Christian Formation Classes

7:00pm Vespers *for Monday*

Monday, September 20, 2021

⌘ Postfeast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Holy Martyr Eustace & his Companions (118).

The Holy Martyrs and Confessors, the Great Prince Michael and his Counselor Theodore,
Wonder-workers of Chernigov (1244).

Ephesians 4:25-32. Luke 3:19-22.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: <https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh>

or in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Leave-taking of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

The Holy Apostle Quadratus of Magnesia (c. 130).

Ephesians 5:20-26. Luke 3:23-4:1.

9:30am First & Third Hour

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Wednesday

+Karen Lauffer, from Carson Daniel Lauffer

Wednesday, September 22, 2021



The Holy Martyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope (103). The Holy Prophet Jonah.

Our Venerable Father Jonah the Priest, Father of Theophane the Hymnographer and

Theodore the Artist (9th Century).

Today we also commemorate the Holy Apostle Quadratus, because of the Leavetaking yesterday.

Ephesians 5:25-33a. Luke 4:1-15.

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

+Richard Eusani, from Pani Mary Hendricks

Thursday, September 23, 2021

⊕. The Conception of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.

for John: Galatians 4:22-31. Luke 1:5-25.

(for the day: Ephesians 5:33-6:9. Luke 4:16-22a).

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)

Married Priests in the Catholic Church



September 14, 2021



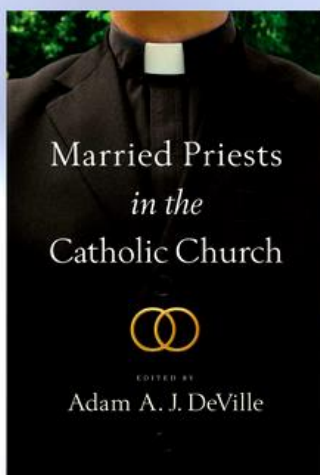
7:30 PM



Online (Zoom)



To register for this book launch, please send an email to sheptytsky@utoronto.ca.



Although celibacy is often seen as a distinctive feature of the Catholic priesthood, both Catholic and Orthodox Churches in fact have rich and diverse traditions of married priests. The essays contained in *Married Priests in the Catholic Church* offer the most comprehensive treatment of these traditions to date. These essays, written by a wide-ranging group that includes historians, pastors, theologians, canon lawyers, and the wives and children of married Roman Catholic, Eastern Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox priests, offer diverse perspectives from many countries and traditions on the subject, including personal, historical, theological, and canonical accounts.



Presenter:
Dr. Adam DeVille, *Editor*



METROPOLITAN ANDREY SHEPTYTSKY INSTITUTE OF
EASTERN CHRISTIAN STUDIES
University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto



UNIVERSITY OF
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



The Byzikids Homeschool Co-op seeks to provide support and encouragement in an in-person setting to Eastern Christian families as they live out their faith. By utilizing the readily available resources of Byzikids magazine, our Byzikids Co-op will meet monthly to support each other, pray for and with each other, and share crafts and activities that enrich our homeschool education. It is our desire for Eastern Christian families to find local fellowship and support for our way of life.

All are welcome in our group, with the understanding that the intent of our group is to support homeschool families that belong to a Byzantine Tradition (Catholic or Orthodox) and therefore our activities will be geared toward these goals. To participate, each family will need to purchase a subscription to Byzikids magazine for \$100. If this is a financial burden, arrangements will be made for anyone who needs them.

We meet monthly on the 3rd Friday of each Month

We meet next

on Friday, September 17th at 11am

at St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church (*in the chapel & small hall*)

4141 Laurence Ave, Allen Park, MI 48101

Email Pani Katie Russell at katierrssl@gmail.com
for more information and to join us!

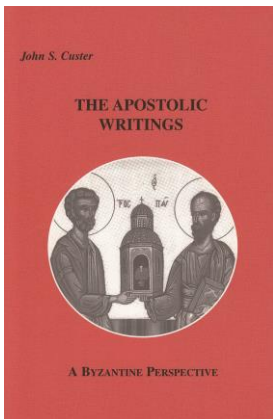
Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: September 20th, 2021 from 7-9 pm

We are meeting @ the Hendricks Homestead (8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198) or online through Google Meet @ <https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh>. We want to make it convenient for all Parishioners of St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church to attend.

Our current book is written by the Very Rev. John Custer, SSL, STD from the Eparchy of Passaic, College of Consultors and New Jersey Syncellate.

The Apostolic Writings: A Byzantine Perspective. This is a companion to *The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective* by the same author, this volume seeks to be useful both as preparation for studying the Apostolic Writings or as a sort of commentary to be consulted while reading the biblical texts.





CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2021

EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF AMERICA

Next Sunday, **September 19th**, an important event will take place in our parish. The ceremony will emphasize the importance of Eastern Christian Formation; a responsibility not only of catechists, but parents as well. During the Divine Liturgy, we will pray for our catechists and students as they begin the new catechetical school year. After the Ambon Pryaer, the priest will bless them in their good work. Let us ask the Lord our God to grant them wisdom, knowledge, understanding and holiness! We ask that all catechists and students be present.

ATTENTION ALL WEDDING JUBILARIANS OF THE GREAT LAKES PROTOPRESBYTERATE

Those married couples who will be celebrating their 25th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th, 80th + Wedding Anniversaries this year, are Cordially invited by His Grace Bishop Milan Lach, SJ, to attend a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and Dinner to be held at Saint Michael Byzantine Catholic Parish in Flushing, MI.

on **Sunday, November 14th, 2021**. The Hierarchical Liturgy will be celebrated at 4:00pm followed by a Dinner in Honor of the Wedding Jubilarian Couples. Family members are also welcome to attend the dinner at the cost of \$15.00 per person. The registration form is available in the narthex.



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, September 12th, Ceil Burja will take home the icon.
- Sunday, September 19th, Char Bonacor 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. No one has signed up yet to clean this week.

Special Donations

You will occasionally see special donations listed with our weekly collections information. For example, this week there is a special donation of \$2489.99. Lately, these special donations have been generated from the sale of collectible bills donated to our parish years ago. Thank you so much to Mary Camillieri and Jim Humenik for their help with the sale of these bills! Jim says, "Mary was instrumental at the beginning of the project with guidance and information for me. She was a great person to lean on who had experience with this kind of transaction."

CHRIST – OUR PASCHA

Part One

THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH

I. REVELATION OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

C. The Holy Scriptures

3. Reading and Explanation of Holy Scripture

51 Inasmuch as Holy Scripture is the Word of God expressed in human words, the efforts of the human mind alone are insufficient for its interpretation. It is necessary to read and explain it in the Spirit, by whom it was written.³⁹ Therefore, to discern the true meaning of the sacred texts, it is necessary to pay attention to the content and unity of all Scripture, taking into account the living Tradition of the entire Church and the analogy of faith.⁴⁰ Saint Athanasius the Great warns us that quoting individual passages, torn from the wholeness of Holy Scripture with no regard for the general context, can lead one astray.⁴¹ Saint Jerome professes that the content of the Gospel cannot be reduced to mere words:

We should not suppose that the essence of the Gospel is in the words rather than in the actual meaning of Scripture, or on the surface rather than in the inmost parts, or in the leaves of mere words rather than in the root of reason ... Scripture is advantageous to its hearers when it is spoken with Christ, when it is proclaimed with the Father, and when the preacher introduces it with the Spirit.⁴²

52 The criterion for understanding the Word of God is the reading and interpretation of the Holy Scriptures by the Church: “First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God” (2 Pt 1:20- 21). Christ entrusted the Church with the authentic interpretation of Holy Scripture in her teaching ministry to God’s word. “This teaching office [of the Church] is not above the word of God, but serves it, teaching only what has been handed on ... it draws from this one deposit of faith everything which it presents for belief as divinely revealed.”⁴³

³⁹ See Benedict XV, Encyclical *Spiritus Paraclitus* [Spirit Comforter] (September 15, 1920); Jerome, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*, 5, 19-21.

⁴⁰ See Vatican Council II, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation *Dei Verbum* [The Word of God], 12.

⁴¹ Athanasius the Great, *Against the Arians, Discourse I*, 53: PG 26, 121; see *Against the Arians, Discourse II*, 73-82: PG 26, 299-322; see *First Letter to Serapion*: PG 26, 580-581.

⁴² Jerome, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*, 1, 11: PL 26, 322.

⁴³ Vatican Council II, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation *Dei Verbum* [The Word of God], 10.

Some thoughts on “holy days of obligation”

Fr. John Riccardo says he calls them, “Holy Days of Opportunity.”

Fr. Dcn. Anthony Dragani writes,

“Here's the case for restoring our Eastern understanding of liturgy as opportunity, as opposed to obligation:

“The use of the term ‘obligation’ dramatically alters how people approach and perceive the liturgy. Instead of approaching it as a blessing and gift, it becomes an obligation to be fulfilled. That has far reaching consequences, and ultimately results in liturgical minimalism.

“Yes, obligation can be a source of motivation. The negative effect, though, is that many people become concerned with meeting an obligation as efficiently as possible. This can lead to an abbreviated, minimalist approach to liturgy... which is a serious problem in Eastern Catholicism today.

“As Catholic Christians, we must follow the guidance of the Catholic Church, which says that we Eastern Catholics must restore our authentic Eastern traditions. The concept of ‘obligation,’ whatever merits it has, is not applied to liturgy attendance in Eastern Christianity. Vatican II requires us to do the following:

“6. All members of an Eastern Rite should know and be convinced that they can and should always preserve their legitimate liturgical rite and their established way of life, and that these may not be altered except to obtain for themselves an organic improvement. All these, then, must be observed by the members of the Eastern rites themselves. Besides, they should attain to an ever greater knowledge and a more exact use of them, and, if in their regard they have fallen short owing to contingencies of times and persons, they should take steps to return to their ancestral traditions.”
(*Orientalium Ecclesiarum*)”

He also writes,

“Instilling a love of the Liturgy is, by far, the most important step. Understanding and loving the liturgy of the Church is a far more powerful motivator than obligation.”

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

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

Since our last contributions,

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

for the Churches in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$150

for the Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$125

for the retirement of Religious Sisters, we have collected \$205

for disaster relief in Haiti, we have collected \$30

Disaster Relief for the People of Haiti

Archbishop Gomez, President of the USCCB, has requested that all parishes in the United States take up a collection for the disaster relief of the people of Haiti, who have recently suffered much devastation from natural disasters. We will make this next offering on **September 26**, and donations for this until then will be added to that offering.

Image of God Pregnancy Center

Our parish helps to support Image of God Pregnancy Center (4151 Seminole St., Detroit), a place of hope for disadvantaged women on the city's east side for the past 11 years. Their facility provides vital resources at no cost to current and expecting mothers, from pregnancy testing to professional counseling, in Detroit's most underserved area.

We can currently assist them by providing the following donations: **diapers** (sizes 4-6), **Pull-Ups** (2T-3T, 4T-5T), **baby wipes**, **baby lotion**, **baby shampoo**, **baby powder** (no talc), **pacifiers/teethers**, and **diaper bags**. Please bring donations to the designated area in the narthex. Due to Covid-19 precautions, they have asked that our volunteer efforts be limited to bringing the parish's donations and organizing materials between 5:00 and 6:30PM on Thursdays, or 10:00 and 11:30AM on Saturdays. If you are interested in volunteering in this capacity, reach out to Ryan Coffey-Burns at (847) 477-6624 or rmsijburns@gmail.com for more information. You can also contact the center directly at (313) 923-8018.

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance on September 5th was **57**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **43**

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.*

Collection for September 5th was **\$4,211.51**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,721.07**

Sundays: \$1115; Holy Day: \$66; Online: \$484.52; Special Donation: \$2489.99; Candles: \$56

“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