



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

November 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



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, November 7, 2021

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 7

The Holy Thirty-three Martyrs at Melitene (298).

Our Venerable Fr. Lazarus, the Wonder-worker, who fasted in the hills of Galilee (11th Century).

2nd Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Mark 16:1-8.

Ephesians 2:14-22. Luke 8:41-56.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Akathist

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

Reader: Dan Lauffer

intention of Judith Ng, from anonymous (11-2)

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah Marron, from Sarah Marron (11-6)

+Steve Borella, from anonymous (11-3)

11:45am – Eastern Christian Formation Classes

7:00pm Vespersal Divine Liturgy *in Ann Arbor*

Readers: Debra & Cecilia

for ☩ THE SYNAXIS OF MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych

Monday, November 8, 2021

☩ THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY ARCHANGEL MICHAEL & ALL ANGELIC POWERS.

Vespers: Joshua 5:13-15 • Judges 6:7, 11-24 • Isaiah 14:6-20.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36b-43.

for ☩ Michael: Hebrews 2:2-10. Luke 10:16-22.

for the day: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-10. Luke 12:13-15, 22b-31.

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

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

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Our Venerable Mother Matrona (492). The Venerable Theoctista of Lesbos (881).

2 Thessalonians 1:10b-2:2. Luke 12:42-48.

7:00am First & Third Hour

7:00pm Vespers *for Wednesday*

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 

The Holy Apostles Erastus, Olympas, Rhodion, and their Companions.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. Luke 12:48b-59

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy *for Thursday*

intention of all living & +departed family of Judith Ng, from Judith Ng

Thursday, November 11, 2021

The Holy Martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincent (304). The Holy Martyr Stephanis (304).

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the Studite (826).

2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5. Luke 13:1-9.

7:00pm Great Vespers *for ☩ The Holy Martyr Josaphat*

Friday, November 12, 2021

Our Venerable Father John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria. Venerable Father Nilus.

☩ The Holy Martyr Josaphat, Archbishop of Polotsk (1623).

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

for Josaphat: Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16.

for the day: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18. Luke 13:31-35.

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Great Vespers *for ☩ Holy Father John Chrysostom*

Saturday, November 13, 2021

✙ Our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (407).

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

for Chrysostom: Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16.

(for the day: Galatians 1:3-10. Luke 9:37-43a.)

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, November 14, 2021

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 8

✙ The Holy and Illustrious Apostle Philip.

Our Holy Father Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

Vespers: 1 Peter 1:1-6 • 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 • 1 Peter 4:1-11.

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

Ephesians 4:1-6. Luke 10:25-37.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

intention of all living & +departed family of Judith Ng, from Judith Ng (11-10)

+Melvyn & +Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (11-13)

11:45am – Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All

7:00pm Vespers – *with prostrations – for the first day of the Philip's Fast*

Monday, November 15, 2021



Day of Alleluia

1st day of the Philip's Fast

The Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas, and Habib (322).

1 Timothy 1:1-7. Luke 14:12-15.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: <https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh>
or in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Tuesday, November 16, 2021



✦ The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew.

Vespers: 1 Peter 1:1-6 • 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 • 1 Peter 4:1-11.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for Matthew: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16. Matthew 9:9-13.

(for the day: 1 Timothy 1:8-14. Luke 14:25-35).

9:30am First & Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

7:00pm Vespers *for Wednesday*

Wednesday, November 17, 2021



Our Holy Father Gregory the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Neocaesarea (270).

1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2:8-15. Luke 15:1-10.

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy *for Thursday*

+Steve Borella, from anonymous

Thursday, November 18, 2021



The Holy Martyrs Plato and Romanus (303).

1 Timothy 3:1-13. Luke 16:1-9.

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)

Philip's Fast (*Filipovka*)

Nov. 15th – Dec. 24th

"According to the forty-day tradition, the Philip's Fast in preparation for Christmas begins on Monday, November 15th. During this fast, it was the custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation for wine and oil) on Tuesday and Thursday. The fast is observed more strictly from December 10 (in some traditions) or from December 20 (in other traditions), with daily strict abstinence, and a mitigated abstinence (wine and oil) on Saturday and Sunday (cf. the Great Fast and the Dormition Fast). The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880, 2). This fast may be observed voluntarily, partially or in its entirety." –Fr. David Petras

What is a Day of Alleluia?

All weekdays during the Great Fast and certain weekdays during the minor fasts, such as the Philip's Fast we are now observing, are sometimes called "Days of Alleluia" because on these days we sing "Alleluia" instead of "the Lord is God" at Matins. When these days fall on Monday through Friday, they are penitential days. The vestments worn are dark. We make prostrations and pray the prayer of St. Ephrem at the liturgical services for these days. Perhaps most strikingly, we do not pray the anaphora (the eucharist prayer) on these days. It is good to make an effort to attend services on these days during the fasts because, as Fr. Michael Bezruchka says,

"We are encouraged to pray more, not less, on these days"

37th Annual Eleanor Malburg Eastern Churches Seminar

now online

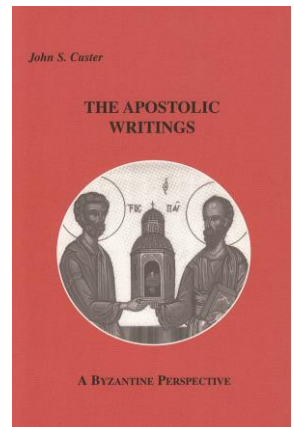
Most Rev. John Michael Botean, bishop of the Romanian Eparchy of St. George in Canton presents this year's seminar, "After the Deluge: What it Will Mean to Be Church in Post-Pandemic Times." The virtual seminar is available on the Notre Dame College YouTube Channel and is co-sponsored by the Eparchy of Parma. Our own Deacon John Petrus, M.D., serving at St. Emilian Parish in Brunswick, Ohio, is one of the responders to Bishop Botean's talk. To view the presentation, go to: [YouTube.com/NotreDameCollege](https://www.youtube.com/NotreDameCollege) or [NotreDameCollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar](https://www.ndcollege.edu/EasternChurchesSeminar).

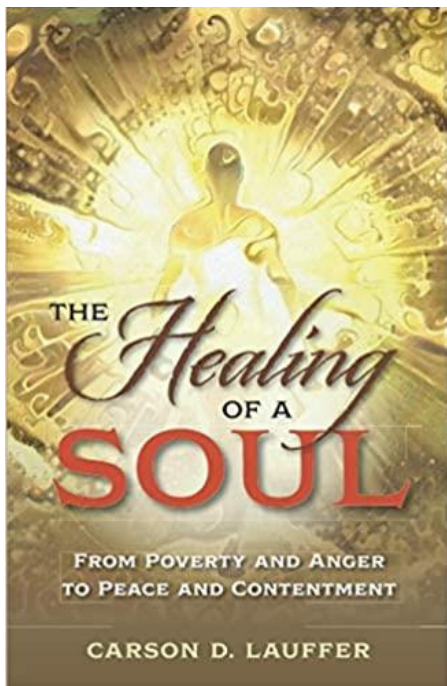
Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: **November 8th at 7pm**

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. *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.





THE HEALING OF A SOUL

Eastern Christian Formation for Adults
after Sunday Divine Liturgy during the Philip's Fast.

Starting at 11:45am on **Sunday, November 14th**, Carson Daniel Lauffer will lead a 5 session course for adults using his book, *The Healing of a Soul*. The topic is a study of Theosis or Divinization. We will also study Biblical sources and the great writers Eastern Christianity including especially St. Athanasius and Origen. Mr. Lauffer's book will be available beginning Sunday October 24 from Mr. Lauffer or from the book rack. Offerings are always welcome. Please register as soon as possible to enable us to have enough books available. All adults are invited to attend.

Class Dates:

November 14th

November 21st

no class November 28th – Thanksgiving Weekend

December 5th

December 12th

December 19th

Online Benefit Event for the Nuns of Christ the Bridegroom Monastery

If you are not able to attend the Bridegroom's Banquet benefit dinner (in Parma, Ohio) in person, you can still join us online on **Sunday, November 14**, the day after the banquet, for a live-streamed greeting from us and the online premier of our new video, "Be poor with Me: reflections on poverty." More information about the time of this online event will be available at www.christthebridegroom.org closer to the date of the banquet. You can also donate toward the matching funds even if you cannot attend either the in-person or online events. More information is available on the "Bridegroom's Banquet" tab on our website. The registration deadline for the in-person event was **Oct. 29**. Thank you so much for your support of our monastic life! We are praying for you.



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 at different parishes of the region.

We meet next

on Friday, November 19th at 11am

at St. Basil the Great Byzantine Catholic Church in Sterling Heights

Email Pani Katie Russell at katierrssl@gmail.com

for more information and to join us



St. Joseph, the Strong, Silent Type

A Gathering of the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate

at the Solanus Casey Center

1780 Mt Elliott St, Detroit, MI 48207

on November 20th, 2021

from 9:00am until 2:00pm

To conclude this Year of St Joseph as a Protopresbyterate, all the parishes of the region are invited to participate in a day of reflection, repentance, healing, and worship.

At 9am, we will show the film, *Joseph of Nazareth*. At the same time, our priests will be available for confessions starting at 9am. At 11am, we will offer the Anointing of the Sick, followed by Divine Liturgy. We will then have lunch and a presentation on St. Joseph by Fr. Joseph Marquis. At the conclusion, there will be a blessing with a relic of St. Joseph's robe.

There is a cost of \$12 per participant to cover lunch. **Contact Fr. John by Sunday, November 14th to register.** Please join us!

Discernment Retreat at Christ the Bridegroom Monastery

Single Catholic women, ages 18-35, who would like to take a weekend to pray about a possible vocation to the monastic life, are invited to inquire about attending the upcoming discernment retreat at Christ the Bridegroom Monastery, December 17-19, 2021. Experience the life of prayer at the monastery, listen to talks on prayer and discernment, make use of the opportunity to get to know the nuns, and receive healing through the Mystery of Holy Repentance (Confession). If you are interested in this retreat, or a future discernment opportunity, visit www.christthebridegroom.org, click on the “Discerning?” tab, and fill out the online Vocation Inquiry Form. Please fill out the form by Dec. 6 for this retreat. Space is limited. Mother Theodora will contact you to talk about availability. With questions, call 440-834-0290 or email christthebridegroom@gmail.com.

from the Catechism

CHRIST – OUR PASCHA

Part One

THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH

II. WE BELIEVE IN THE TRINITY, ONE IN ESSENCE AND UNDIVIDED

A. We Believe in God the Father

1. God the Father Revealed in the Holy Scriptures

- 75 God reveals himself as Person: “I am who I am,” or “the One-Who-Is” (*Ex* 3:14). This God-who-is-Person is the only one who really *is*. Everything else exists only inasmuch as God wills it to exist. God is holy, that is, totally different from all creation. There is no other like God. He is unique. Thus, it is not possible to imagine him with our thoughts, or to portray him in any material way: “You shall not make for yourself an idol” (*Ex* 20:4). In contrast to lifeless idols, the true God *lives*. Lacking appropriate words to express the mystery of God’s life, Holy Scripture often makes use of anthropomorphisms, thereby applying to God the behavioural traits of a living human being: *God loves, converses, assists, pities, is sad, becomes angry, does battle, punishes...*
- 76 In the Old Testament, God reveals himself through various images and events that witness to his presence: in the three travellers whom Abraham received; in the vision of the ladder joining heaven and earth in the dream of the patriarch Jacob; before Moses in the burning bush that was not consumed; in the pillars of fire and cloud (see *Ex* 13:21); over the Ark of the Covenant (see *Ex* 25:22); and as a quiet and gentle breeze (see 1 *Kgs* 19:12).

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. Ceil Burja has signed up to take home icon on November 14th.



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 the Coffey-Burns for cleaning 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 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 \$305

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. 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 October 31st was **43**. 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 October 31st was **\$1,239.31**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,741.54**

Sunday: \$720; Online: \$417.31; Candles: \$31; Icons: \$25; Fuel: \$10; Horizons: \$36

“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