



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI
313-382-5901

December 5th, 2021

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, December 5, 2021



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 3

✙ Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctified (532).

Vespers Paramia: Wisdom 3:1-9 • Wisdom 5:15-6:3 • Wisdom 4:7-15.

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

Colossians 1:12-18. Luke 17:12-19.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Akathist

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

Reader: David Woods

+Josephine Eusani, from Anna & Elaine Szilagy (11-30)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (12-4)

11:45am – Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All

7:00pm Great Vespers – in Ann Arbor - for ✙ HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS

Readers: Cecilia & Debra

Monday, December 6, 2021

✙ HOLY FR. NICHOLAS THE WONDER-WORKER, ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA (343).

Vespers Paramia: Proverbs 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 34-35, 4, 12, 14, 17, 5-9; 1:23 •

Proverbs 10:31-11:12 • Wisdom 4: 7-15.

Matins Gospel: John 10:9-16.

for Nicholas: Hebrews 13:17-21. Luke 6:17-23a.

(for the day: Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19. Luke 20:27-44).

10:00am Divine Liturgy for ✙ HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS


Reader: Pani Mary

for the health of Barbara Barnes, from Phyllis Humenik

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

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

Tuesday, December 7, 2021


 *Day of Alleluia*

Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (397).

Hebrews 4:1-13. Luke 21:12-19.

7:00am First & Third Hour – *with prostrations*

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

 *Day of Alleluia*

Pre-festive Day of the Maternity. Our Venerable Father Patapius.

Hebrews 5:11-6:8. Luke 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24.

7:00am Matins on a Day of Alleluia

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for  *MATERNITY OF HOLY ANNA*. Reader: Debra
intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

Thursday, December 9, 2021



 THE MATERNITY OF THE HOLY ANNA.

The Holy Hannah, Mother of the Prophet Samuel.

Vespers Paramia: Genesis 28: 10-17 • Ezekiel 43:27 - 44:4 • Proverbs 9: 1-11.

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

for the Maternity: Galatians 4:22-31. Luke 8:16-21.

for the day: Hebrews 7:1-6. Luke 21:28-33.

7:00pm Prayer for the victims at Oxford High School.

Friday, December 10, 2021



The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Eugephus (4th Century).

Hebrews 7:18-25. Luke 21:37-22:8.

7:00am First & Third Hour

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers for Saturday

Saturday, December 11, 2021

 Saturday of Alleluia.

Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite (489).

Ephesians 2:11-13. Luke 13:18-29.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, December 12, 2021



SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS. Tone 4

✠ Our Lady of Guadalupe (1591). ☩ Venerable Fr. Spiridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus.

Vespers Paramia: Genesis 28: 10-17 • Ezekiel 43:27 - 44:4 • Proverbs 9: 1-11.

7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:1-10.

Colossians 3:4-11. Luke 14:16-24.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: Mary Woods

for the health of Barbara Barnes, from Phyllis Humenik (12-6)

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (12-8)

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah Marron (12-11)

11:45am – Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All

7:00pm Great Vespers

Monday, December 13, 2021

✠ The Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius, and Orestes.

The Holy Virgin Martyr Lucy. Our Holy Father Herman of Alaska.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 10:16-22.


for the Martyrs: Ephesians 6:10-17. Luke 21:12-19.

(for the day: Hebrews 8:7-13. Mark 8:11-21).

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

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

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

 *Day of Alleluia.*

The Holy Martyrs Thrysus, Leucas, Philemon, Appolonius, and Callinicus (2nd Century).
The Blessed Priest and Ascetic Father Nimatulla al-Hardini (Joseph Kassab).

Hebrews 9:8-10, 15-23. Mark 8:22-26.

7:00am First & Third Hour – *with prostrations*

Wednesday, December 15, 2021



The Holy Martyr Eleutherius (120). Our Venerable Father Paul of Latra (950).

⊕. Our Holy Father Stephen, Archbishop of Surozh (c. 775).

Hebrews 10:1-18. Mark 8:30-34.

7:00am Matins

10:00am Divine Liturgy


Reader: Pani Mary

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

6:00pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Vespers on a Day of Alleluia – *with prostrations*

Thursday, December 16, 2021

 *Day of Alleluia.*

The Holy Prophet Haggai.

Hebrews 10:35-11:7. Mark 9:10-16.

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)

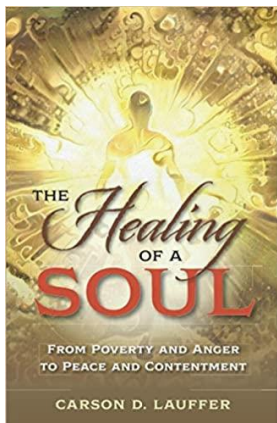
Philip's Fast (*Filipovka*)

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

THE HEALING OF A SOUL

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



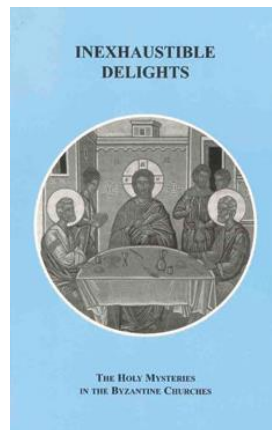
Carson Daniel Lauffer is leading a course for adults using his book, *The Healing of a Soul*. The topic is a study of Theosis or Divinization. We will also study Biblical sources and the great writers Eastern Christianity including especially St. Athanasius and Origen. Mr. Lauffer's book will be available 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: Today! December 5th
December 12th

Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: **November 29th at 7pm**

The Byzantine Book club is reading *Inexhaustible Delights: The Holy Mysteries in the Byzantine Churches*. We are meeting @ the Hendricks Homestead (8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198) or online through Google Meet @ <https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh>.



Presbyteral Ordination

By the grace of God, his eminence, Metropolitan William (Skurla) of Pittsburgh has called the deacon Michael Kunitz to priestly ordination. The ordination will take place on Sunday, **December 11th** at 9:45am at the St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral in Munhall, PA. There will be a livestream of the ordination at

<https://www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com>

HOSTED
BY
**MOTHER
GABRIELLA**

GUEST SPEAKER:

FR. DAVID ANDERSON

FEAST AS HARD AS YOU HAVE FASTED

**PHILIP'S FAST: A TIME OF
REPENTANCE BEFORE THE NATIVITY**



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC ONLINE
**THEOLOGY
ON TAP**



**DECEMBER 7
7.30PM EDT**

USE THE QR CODE

- OR THE MAGNIFIER -

DETAILS ID: 862 6994 5382

PASSCODE: 045102

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.



The ByziKids Homeschool Co-op meets monthly on the 3rd Friday of each month at different parishes of the region. Our next meeting is on Friday, December 17th beginning at 11am.

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

The Didache – The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles

3. My child, flee from every evil thing, and from every likeness of it. Be not prone to anger, for anger leads to murder. Be neither jealous, nor quarrelsome, nor of hot temper, for out of all these murders are engendered. My child, be not a lustful one, for lust leads to fornication. Be neither a filthy talker, nor of lofty eye, for out of all these adulteries are engendered. My child, be not an observer of omens, since it leads to idolatry. Be neither an enchanter, nor an astrologer, nor a purifier, nor be willing to look at these things, for out of all these idolatry is engendered. My child, be not a liar, since a lie leads to theft. Be neither money-loving, nor vainglorious, for out of all these thefts are engendered. My child, be not a murmurer, since it leads the way to blasphemy. Be neither self-willed nor evil-minded, for out of all these blasphemies are engendered.

Rather, be meek, since the meek shall inherit the earth. Be long-suffering and pitiful and guileless and gentle and good and always trembling at the words which you have heard. You shall not exalt yourself, nor give over-confidence to your soul. Your soul shall not be joined with lofty ones, but with just and lowly ones shall it have its intercourse. Accept whatever happens to you as good, knowing that apart from God nothing comes to pass.

CHRIST – OUR PASCHA

Part One

THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH

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

B. We Believe in the Only-Begotten Son

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. (Symbol of Faith)

You are without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, uncircumscribed, unchangeable, the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ ... he is the image of your goodness, the perfect seal of your likeness—revealing you, the Father, in himself— living Word, true God, Wisdom before the ages, Life, Sanctification, Power, and the true Light. (Anaphora of the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great)

85 God the Father begets the Son in freedom and love. The invisible love of the Father, from which the Son is begotten, becomes visible in the Son: “The Father is the invisible [Revelation] of the Son, and the Son is the visible [Revelation] of the Father.”⁶⁴ In this love, the Father and the Son are one. The begotten Son is at the same time hypostatically (as Person) different from the Father. The Father begets Someone other than himself, revealing himself completely within the Son, as Other.⁶⁵

86 The Son of God is a reflection of “God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being” (*Heb* 1:3). His personal generation from the Father is a begetting of “Light from Light, true God from true God.” The Son of God, “reveals in himself the Father.” He is the “living Word,”⁶⁶ who was in God “from all ages” and was God (see *Jn* 1:1). This Son of God is “the image of [the Father’s] goodness, the perfect seal of [the Father’s] likeness,”⁶⁷ “the image of the invisible God” (*Col* 1:15). Therefore, the Son of God is simultaneously the Word and Image of God.

⁶⁴ Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, IV, 6, 6: PG 7, 989.

⁶⁵ See Athanasius the Great, *First Letter to Serapion*, 16: PG 26, 568.

⁶⁶ See *Liturgicon*, The Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father Basil the Great, Anaphora.

⁶⁷ See *Liturgicon*, The Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father Basil the Great, Anaphora.

Annual Stewardship Appeal

The Eparchy of Parma Stewardship Appeal for 2021/22 begins December 4th. All members of parishes in the Eparchy will be receiving a Stewardship envelope in the mail. If you do not receive an envelope, please contact Fr. John for a replacement and to verify that your information is correct on the church’s roster.

The Stewardship Appeal campaign goal is \$220,000. St. Stephen’s goal is \$6,600. This year’s Annual Stewardship Appeal will support four important needs in the Eparchy: Development of Parishes; Vocations and Seminarian Education; Works of the Apostolate; and Retired Priests.

Visit parma.org 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.*

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, prayer for life and an end to abortion.



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 Phyllis, Char, & Ceil for cleaning last week. No one has 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 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 basket in the narthex. To volunteer in this capacity, contact 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 November 28th was **35**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **44**

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 November 28th was **\$3,006.65**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,821.12**

Sun.: \$2259; Holy Day: \$100; Online: \$516.15; Candles: \$31.50; Fuel: \$100

“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