



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

December 26th, 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, December 26, 2021

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY. COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY & JUST JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, DAVID THE KING, & JAMES THE BROTHER OF GOD. Tone 6

Ⲅ. Synaxis of the Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary. Holy Martyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis.

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

Galatians 1:11-19 & for the Synaxis: Hebrews 2:11-18.

for both the Sunday & the Synaxis: Matthew 2:13-23.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

10:00am Divine Liturgy *with Chrismations of Julian, William & Dominic*

– for the people of the parish

Reader: Debra

No Eastern Christian Formation Classes Today – Christmas Break

7:00pm Great Vespers *for our Patron Stephen*

Monday, December 27, 2021

Ⲅ THE HOLY APOSTLE, FIRST MARTYR & ARCHDEACON STEPHEN, OUR PATRON

Venerable Fr. and Confessor Theodore, Brother of Theophane the Hymnographer (845).

for Stephen: Acts 6:8-7:5, 47-60. Matthew 21:33-42.

(for the day: James 2:14-26. Mark 10:46-52).

10:00am Divine Liturgy *for our Patron Stephen – with Patronal Procession*

+Stephen Kastura, from Kathleen Johnston

Reader: Dominique

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

Post-festive Day of the Nativity. The Holy Twenty thousand Martyrs of Nicomedia (302).

The Blessed Martyr Gregory Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanislaviv (1945).

James 3:1-10. Mark 11:11-23.

Wednesday, December 29, 2021 *no fasting!*

Post-festive Day of the Nativity. The Holy Innocents killed by Herod in Bethlehem.
Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Akimetes (486).

James 3:11-4:6. Mark 11:22b-26.

7:00am Matins

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

+Zack Conley, from Victor Jiompkowski

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Post-festive Day of the Nativity. The Holy Martyr Anyisia, Bishop of Thessalonica (406).
The Venerable Zoticus, Priest and Protector of Orphans (4th Century).

James 4:7-5:9. Mark 11:27-33.

Friday, December 31, 2021 *no fasting!*

Leave-taking of the Nativity. Our Venerable Mother Melany of Rome (438).

1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-12, 2:6-10. Mark 12:1-12.

7:00am First & Third Hour

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm All-Night Vigil (*Vespers & Matins*) for ⊕ *Circumcision & Basil*

Saturday, January 1, 2022 *Civil New Year*

Saturday before Theophany. ⊕ CIRCUMCISION OF LORD, GOD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.
HOLY FR. BASIL THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CAESAREA IN CAPPADOCIA (379).

Vespers Paramia: Gen. 17:1-7, 9-12, 14 • Prov. 8:22-30 • Prov. 10:31-11:12.

Matins Gospel: John 10:9-16.

for the Circumcision: Colossians 2:8-12 & *for Basil:* Hebrews 7:26-8:2.

for the Circumcision: Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 & *for Basil:* Luke 6:17-23a.

12:15am Moleben of Thanksgiving

10:00am Divine Liturgy for ⊕ *Circumcision & Basil*

+John Bonacor, from Char Bonacor

4:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday

Sunday, January 2, 2022

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY. Tone 7

Pre-festive Day of the Theophany. Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome (335).

Our Venerable & God-bearing Father Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov.

10th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 21:1-14.

2 Timothy 4:5-8. Mark 1:1-8.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Akathist

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

+Zack Conley, from Victor Jiomkowski (12-29)

+John Bonacor, from Char Bonacor (1-1)

No Eastern Christian Formation Classes Today – Christmas Break

7:00pm Vespers – *in Ann Arbor*

Monday, January 3, 2022

Pre-festive Day of the Theophany. The Holy Prophet Malachi.

The Holy Martyr Gordius (304). Venerable Mother Genevieve of Paris.

Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19. Luke 20:27-44.

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

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

Tuesday, January 4, 2022


Pre-festive Day of the Theophany. The Synaxis of the Holy Seventy Apostles.

Our Venerable Father Theoctist, Hegumen at Cuomo in Sicily (800).

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

7:00am First & Third Hour

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

 *Day of Strict Fast*

Vigil of the Theophany. The Holy Martyrs Theopempt and Theona (c. 350).

Our Venerable Mother Syncletica (4th Century). The Holy Prophet Micah.

1st Hour: Isaiah 35:1-10 • Acts 13:25-33a • Matthew 3:1-11

3rd Hour: Isaiah 1:16-20 • Acts 19:1-8 • Mark 1:1-8

6th Hour: Isaiah 12:3-6 • Romans 6:3-11 • Mark 1:9-15

9th Hour: Isaiah 49:8-15 • Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 • Matthew 3:13-17

10:00am Royal Hours for Theophany Eve

6:00pm Vespers & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

with the Great Blessing of Water

8:00pm *Supper*

Reader: Debra

9:00pm Great Compline & Matins (*All-Night Vigil for Theophany*)

Thursday, January 6, 2022

⊕ THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

Vespers Paramia: (1) Genesis 1:1-13 • (2) Exodus 14:15-18, 21-23, 27-29a •

(3) Exodus 15:22-16:1a • (4) Joshua 3:7-8, 15-17 • (5) IV [II] Kings 2:6-14 •

(6) IV [II] Kings 5:9-14 • (7) Isaiah 1:16-20 • (8) Genesis 32:1-10a •

(9) Exodus 2:5-10 • (10) Judges 6:36-40 • (11) III [I] Kings 18:30-39 •

(12) IV [II] Kings 2:19-22 • (13) Isaiah 49:8-15

1 Corinthians 9:19-27. Luke 3:1-18.

Matins Gospel: Mark 1:9-11

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7. Matthew 3:13-17.

10:00am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for Theophany

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)



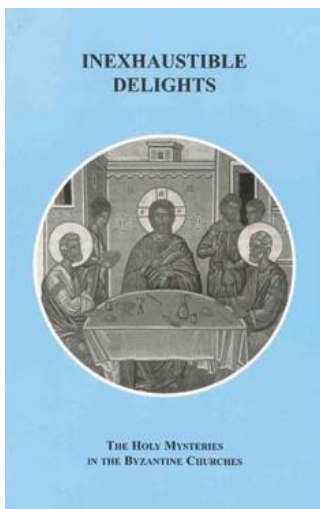
by tradition, wine and oil are permitted (no meat, dairy, eggs, or fish)



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)



Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: **December 27th 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>.



The ByziKids Homeschool Co-op meets monthly at different parishes of the region.

Email Pani Katie Russell at katierrssl@gmail.com

for more information and to join us.

HOUSE BLESSINGS

House Blessings will begin on Theophany (January 6th) and ideally be finished before its leavetaking on January 15th. It's not too soon to start thinking about what day would be best to invite the priest for this annual blessing. There are envelopes for this purpose in your boxes for 2022. Or, you can sign up for House Blessing on the sign-up sheet in the narthex

NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS & DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION

The terms of our parish councils & also of our director of evangelization end on **January 31st**. Please pray and discern whether you or someone you know should serve our parish in this way and volunteer or nominate accordingly. Fr. John must appoint a director of evangelization and up to five members to each council. All his appointments must then be approved by the bishop. Council members are appointed for a two year term and must have been active parishioners for at least three years.

Christmas Flowers Offered

in memory of:

Abe & Ruth Attee

Robert Barnes

Anthony & Irene Bonacor

John Bonacor

Don Bonezzi

Mary Ann Bonezzi

Joe Bonezzi

Mr. & Mrs. M. Borilla

Charles & Mary Burja

Lisa Reardon

Barbara & Peter Sutyak

Joseph Sutyak

Andrew Yatcko

Helen Yatcko



The Didache – The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles

5. And the way of death is this: First of all it is evil and accursed: murders, adultery, lust, fornication, thefts, idolatries, magic arts, witchcrafts, rape, false witness, hypocrisy, double-heartedness, deceit, haughtiness, depravity, self-will, greediness, filthy talking, jealousy, over-confidence, loftiness, boastfulness; persecutors of the good, hating truth, loving a lie, not knowing a reward for righteousness, not cleaving to good nor to righteous judgment, watching not for that which is good, but for that which is evil; from whom meekness and endurance are far, loving vanities, pursuing revenge, not pitying a poor man, not laboring for the afflicted, not knowing Him Who made them, murderers of children, destroyers of the handiwork of God, turning away from him who is in want, afflicting him who is distressed, advocates of the rich, lawless judges of the poor, utter sinners. Be delivered, children, from all these.

CHRIST – OUR PASCHA

Part One

THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH

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

C. We Believe in the Holy Spirit

*And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.*

(Symbol of Faith)

*Through him the Holy Spirit was made manifest, the Spirit of truth,
the grace of sonship, the pledge of the inheritance to come,
the first fruit of the eternal good things,
the life-giving power, the source of sanctification.
(Anaphora of the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great)*

- 91 The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person and proceeds from the Father (see *Jn* 15:26). This procession [i.e., coming forth] of the Holy Spirit can be explained through an image, making use of an analogy: the Father is the source, the Son is the stream, the Holy Spirit is the water. There is only one source for the stream and the water, only one Father for the Son and for the Holy Spirit, which like water flows from the source and fills the river-bed and stream.⁷¹ The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person that is equally worshipped and glorified with the Father and the Son, proceeding from the Father, coming to rest in the Word, and expressing the Word.⁷²
- 92 The Holy Spirit is often compared to *breath*, by which the spoken word resounds. Appropriately, within the Most Holy Trinity, the Father speaks the Word (begets the Son) by the Holy Spirit: “And it is this [Breath] which in the moment of utterance becomes the articulate word, revealing in itself the force of the word.”⁷³

⁷¹ See Tertullian, *Against Praxeas*, 8: PL 2, 163.

⁷² See John of Damascus, *Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, I, 7: PG 94, 805.

⁷³ John of Damascus, *Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, I, 7: PG 94, 805.



Annual Stewardship Appeal

Christ is born! Glorify Him! Consider the Father's Gift of the Christ Child and how you can offer your time, talent, and treasure back to God in thanksgiving. Help support the Eparchy of Parma's Annual Stewardship Appeal through a one-time or monthly donation at parma.org. Thank you for your generosity and a blessed Nativity to you!

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$6,600.



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 MaryAnn Reardon for cleaning last week. Thank you to Betty Sutyak & LeAnn Osentoski for cleaning last week. The Coffey-Burns have 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

We donated \$305 for the Retirement of the Religious Sisters in Uniontown

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

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 December 19th was **50**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **45**

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 December 19th was **\$2,300.35**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,797.40**

Sun.: \$1630; Christmas: \$120; Online: \$139.35; Candles: \$71; Flowers: \$115; Fuel: \$225

“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