



## SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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, February 6, 2022

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Tone 4

Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Venerable Fr. Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna (2nd Century).

The Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emesa, and his Companions (313).

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople.

*4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke 24:1-12.*

2 Timothy 3:10-15. Luke 18:10-14.

**8:00am Matins**

**9:45am Akathist**

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

Reader: Katya

*intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (2-1)*

*+Eveyn Fecko, from George Fecko (2-1)*

*+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (2-5)*

*11:45am Eastern Christian Formation Classes*

**7:00pm Vespers** *for Monday – in Ann Arbor*

## Monday, February 7, 2022

Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Our Venerable Fr. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus (318).

The Passing of the Martyr and Priest Peter Verhun (1957).

2 Peter 1:20-2:9. Mark 13:9-13.

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

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

## Tuesday, February 8, 2022

⊗ Post-festive Day of the Meeting.

The Holy Great Martyr Theodore (318). The Holy Prophet Zechariah.

2 Peter 2:9-22. Mark 13:14-23.

**7:00am First & Third Hour**

**6:30pm Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy** *for Wednesday*

Reader: Victor Azcuy

*intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt*

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 *no fasting*

Leave-taking of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Nicephor (260).

2 Peter 3:1-18. Mark 13:24-31.

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday**

*+Zack Conley, from Bill & Elaine Bobovski*

Reader: Dominique

Thursday, February 10, 2022

The Holy Martyr Charalampas (203).

1 John 1:8-2:6. Mark 13:31-14:2.

Friday, February 11, 2022 *no fasting*

The Holy Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste (316).

1 John 2:7-17. Mark 14:3-9.

**7:00am First & Third Hour**

*6-7pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers for Saturday**

Saturday, February 12, 2022

Our Holy Father Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch (381).

2 Timothy 3:1-9. Luke 20:45-21:4.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*+Melvyn & Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron*

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

# Sunday, February 13, 2022

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON. Tone 5

Our Venerable Father Martinian (c. 398).

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

1 Corinthians 6:12-20. Luke 15:11-32.

**8:00am Matins**

*9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service*

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

Reader: Misha

*intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt (2-8)*

*+Zack Conley, from Bill & Elaine Bobovski (2-9)*

*+Melvyn & Josefa Marron, from Sarah Marron (2-12)*

*11:45am Eastern Christian Formation Classes*

**7:00pm Vespers for Monday**

## Monday, February 14, 2022

*St. Valentine's Day*

Meatfare Monday. Our Venerable Father Auxentius (5th Century).

✙ Passing of our Venerable Fr. Constantine, whose monastic name is Cyril, Apostle of the Slavs (869).

The Venerable Maron, Hermit and Wonder-worker (c. 423).

*Vespers Paramia: Wisdom 5:15-6:3 • Wisdom 3:1-9 • Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-5:7.*

*Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.*

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

*(for the day: 1 John 2:18-3:10a. Mark 11:1-11).*

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

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

## Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Meatfare Tuesday. The Holy Apostle Onesimus.

1 John 3:10b-20. Mark 14:10-42.

**7:00am First & Third Hour**

## Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Meatfare Wed. Holy Martyrs, the Presbyter Pamphilius, Porphyry, & their Companions (309).

1 John 3:21-4:6. Mark 14:43-15:1.

**7:00am Matins**

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday**

*+Helen Drogowski, from Louise Dalbo*

## Thursday, February 17, 2022

Meatfare Thursday. ☸ The Holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit (306).

1 John 4:20-5:21. Mark 15:1-15.

**1:00pm Divine Liturgy with Holy Redeemer Grade School**

**Reader: Pani Mary**

*+Robert Beraducci, from Pani Mary Hendricks*

## Friday, February 18, 2022

Meatfare Friday. Our Holy Father Leo, Pope of Rome (461).

2 John 1:1-13. Mark 15:22, 25, 33-41.

**7:00am First & Third Hour**

*6-7pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers for Saturday**

### 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)

# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2022

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

Adapted by Bohdan Vasylyv (UGCC) for the Gregorian Calendar

## SUNDAYS

## THEMES / GOSPEL READING

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Fast - Free Week  
**FEBRUARY 6th**



**Publican and the Pharisee**  
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15  
Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Normal Fast Week  
**FEBRUARY 13th**



**The Prodigal Son Returns**  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20  
Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare  
**FEBRUARY 20th**  
FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



**The Last Judgment**  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9; 2  
Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

Cheesefare  
**FEBRUARY 27th**  
FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY



**Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise**  
FORGIVENESS SUNDAY  
Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14; 4  
Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21

Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

1st Sunday of Lent  
**MARCH 6th**



**SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY**  
Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2  
Gospel: John 1:43-51

Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent  
**MARCH 13th**



**ST GREGORY PALAMAS**  
Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3  
Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12

Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today. Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.

3rd Sunday of Lent  
**MARCH 20th**



**VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
HALF WAY TO PASCHA!  
Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6  
Gospel: Mark 8: 34-9:1

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow.

4th Sunday of Lent  
**MARCH 27th**



**ST JOHN OF THE LADDER**  
Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20  
Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

5th Sunday of Lent  
**APRIL 3rd**



**ST MARY OF EGYPT**  
Epistle: Hebrews 9: 11-14  
Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY  
**APRIL 10th**  
GREAT WEEK BEGINS



**ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM**  
Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9  
Gospel: John 12: 1-18

Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car.

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY  
**APRIL 15th**



**GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY**  
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS  
CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS!  
**APRIL 17th**  
NO FASTING!



**HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)**  
Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and good night.

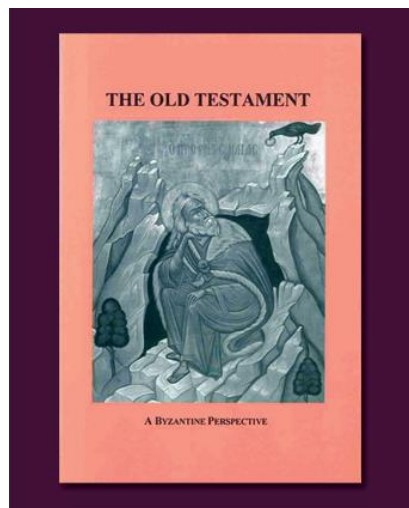


# Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: **Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

The Byzantine Book club is reading *The Old Testament: A Byzantine perspective*. For more than 1500 years, the Old Testament has been studied, prayed over and proclaimed liturgically by Christians of the Byzantine Tradition. The Old Testament has nourished the artistry of our iconographers, church architects and hymnographers. In its pages our preachers and teachers have found foreshadowings of the the New Covenant, moral and ethical challenges, and models for pious living.

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.

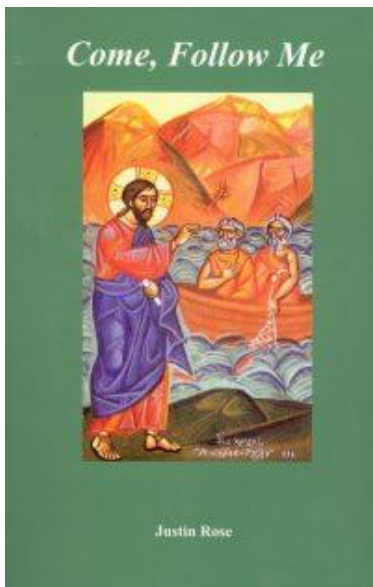
Email Pani Katie Russell at [katiersll@gmail.com](mailto:katiersll@gmail.com) for more information and to join us.

## Invitation to Come, Follow Me

Jesus called his closest followers and apostles to "Come, follow me." We, too, are called to be disciples of Jesus, but this call is often drowned out by the "noise" of our lives. This is an opportunity to reconsider our call to discipleship. We will begin by finding a time/place to meet regularly, to examine our lives, to make choices for the Gospel, and to hold one another accountable for our choices. In time, we will form smaller groups (if our numbers make that appropriate) for discussion, prayer, and support. Finally, we will be given the challenge to share what we are learning with our friends, family, and fellow parishioners.

This 160 page book by Father Justin Rose contains a 20-week program of parish renewal and scripture study for discipleship. Illustrated with weekly exercises and homework.

If you would like to investigate this opportunity, contact Fr. Deacon Lawrence at (734) 255-4099 or [frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com](mailto:frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com)



## HOLY BISHOP MARTYR THEODORE ROMZHA RELIGIOUS FREEDOM LECTURES

Join us for the first annual “Holy Bishop Martyr Theodore Romzha Religious Freedom Lecture.” Bishop Theodore’s courage stands in a long line of Christians who have freely given their lives for the love of Christ and the world that starts with the first martyr of the Christian Church, St. Stephen.

The Religious Freedom Lecture has been postponed due to circumstances beyond our control. The new date is **September 25, 2022** and will continue to be held in the Crystal Room at St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church..

The inaugural lecture in that series will be presented by Dame Juliana Taimoorazy who with much of her family fled Iran in 1989 and has founded the Iraqi Christian Relief Council. Through the council’s efforts thousands of suffering Christians in Iraq (Assyria) have been saved and given assistance. Moreover, Juliana has testified before the US Congress and has visited many countries with families who have needed their help. In 2021 she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. You can learn more about her and also see the work of the Relief council here:

<https://iraqichristianrelief.org/>

You can be part of this exciting event through sponsorship, advertising, and offering. Here is how:

1. **Sponsorship:** We need several people and Churches to step forward with gifts of \$100-\$249 (Silver); or \$250-\$499 (Gold); or \$500 and above (Diamond). All donors may be recognized by name in the program, if they would like.
2. **Advertisement:** If you have a business or you are acquainted with people who have a business you or they will be able to place an advertisement in the program. 1/8 page for \$100-\$249; ¼ page for \$250-499; ½ page for \$500 and above. If you know people who wish to include an ad please ask them if we might call them and please contact the Church office or Carson Daniel Lauffer 248-309-1552 or [Carsonlauffer0903@comcast.net](mailto:Carsonlauffer0903@comcast.net)
3. A **donation** of \$25.00 for each participant will pay for lunch, and the expenses for our guest lecturer.

All donations, sponsorships, and advertisements should be sent to the Church office. Make checks payable to St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church with reference “religious freedom lectures”. You may also donate online at <https://saintstephenbyzantine.church/donations/>

*Click the green button that says “Give to St. Stephen”  
select “Religious Freedom Lectures” from the drop-down menu.*

For answers to questions contact

Carson Daniel Lauffer at 248-309-1552 or [carsonlauffer0903@comcast.net](mailto:carsonlauffer0903@comcast.net) or

Victor Jiomkowski at 313-930-0801 or [v.jiomkowski1111@att.net](mailto:v.jiomkowski1111@att.net)



# The Triodion

We begin using the Triodion this Sunday (the Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee) 22 days before Clean Monday (the first day of the Great Fast, beginning with Forgiveness Vespers). The Great Fast is 40 days (from Clean Monday through the Friday before Lazarus Saturday). We continue using the Triodion for another 8 days (Lazarus Sat., Palm Sunday, & all of Holy Week). The last service in the Triodion is the Midnight Office of Pascha. Thus the Triodion covers 70 days (from the Sun. of the Publican & the Pharisee through Holy Sat.). Speaking in terms of weeks, it is 3 weeks of preparation for the Great Fast, 6 weeks of the Great Fast, and Holy Week, for a total of 10 weeks.

In the Byzantine tradition, the Great Fast is 40 days, \*counting Sundays,\* from Clean Monday through the Friday before Lazarus Saturday. Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday, & Holy Week are not part of the 40 days. At Vespers for Lazarus Saturday, the first stichera begins, “Having come to the end of the forty days....”

*from the Catechism*

## CHRIST – OUR PASCHA

### Part One

### THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH

#### III. WE BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND IN OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, AND IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE LORD, THE GIVER OF LIFE

##### A. The Creator and His Creation

##### 1. The Father Creates through the Son in the Holy Spirit

- 101 In loving humankind, God moved forth from the unapproachable light of his inner divine life and revealed himself in the world created by him: “Today the Sun that never sets has risen and the world is filled with splendour by the light of the Lord.”<sup>79</sup> The foundation of the world is “the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit”<sup>80</sup> (see 2 *Cor* 13:13). On the participation of the three Persons of the Most Holy Trinity in the creation of the world, Saint Basil teaches: “When you consider creation, I advise you to first think of him who is the first cause of everything that exists: namely, the Father, and then of the Son, who is creator, and then of the Holy Spirit, the perfecter.”<sup>81</sup> Created in love, this world becomes a *temple*, the place and environment of God’s relationship with humanity. The presence of God in the world, as if in a temple, is a prefigurement of the entry of the Son of God into human flesh, the incarnation (see *Heb* 10:5).
- 102 The Incarnation of the Son of God reveals the purpose of the created world. At the appointed moment of history, the Son of God descends into creation in order to raise creation to God. This is accomplished by the action of the Holy Spirit. In the six days of creation, the Holy Spirit prepares an environment for humanity (see *Gn* 1). In the Old Testament, God prepares humanity for the encounter with the incarnate Son of God, so that through Jesus Christ all creation might be brought to the Father, and “that God may be all in all” (1 *Cor* 15:28).

<sup>79</sup> *Trebnnyk*, Rite of the Great Blessing of Water for the Feast of Theophany, Second Prayer.

<sup>80</sup> *Liturgicon*, The Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Anaphora.

<sup>81</sup> Basil the Great, *On the Holy Spirit*, 16, 38: PG 32, 136.

## Annual Stewardship Appeal

The Stewardship Appeal helps cover the costs of a variety of programs in the eparchy including seminarian formation and education, active and retired priests, and youth ministry. Please respond with your pledge and payments today! You may use the forms mailed to you in December or visit us online at [parma.org](http://parma.org) to make your one-time or monthly donation.

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

So far, 22 parishioners have donated a total of \$4100.87,  
putting us at over 62% of our goal. Thank you!

Remember, if our parish exceeds its goal, a rebate will be paid equal to 100% of the amount by which we exceed our goal. The overall eparchial goal does not need to be met in order for our parish to earn its rebate. Rebates paid will be exempt from the 10% eparchial assessment. This rebate plan will help to strengthen our parish and provide an opportunity to raise additional funds that are not subject to assessment.



## 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 Dominique & Victor Azcuy for cleaning last week. The Coffey-Burns and Day House have signed up to clean the church next 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 Religious Freedom Lecture (Iraqi Christian Relief): we have collected \$500

## Image of God Pregnancy Center

Our parish helps to support Image of God Pregnancy Center (4151 Seminole St., Detroit), contact Ryan Coffey-Burns at (847) 477-6624 or [rmsijburns@gmail.com](mailto: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 Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> was **35**, & on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> was **54**. 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 Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> was **\$1,467.35** for Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> was **\$6,742.57**. Avg. Weekly Collection: **\$1,801.93**

Sun.: \$3,701.50; Holy Day: \$10; Online: \$518.70; Special Donation: \$3,801.22; Candles: \$96.50; Initial Offering: \$20; Fuel: \$50; Horizons: \$12

“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