



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

February 13th, 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 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 Sunday 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 All Souls Saturday

Saturday, February 19, 2022

Meatfare Saturday. Saturday of Souls. The Holy Apostle Archippus.

1 Corinthians 10:23-28 & *for the Souls*: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.

Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36 & *for the Souls*: John 5:24-30.

10:00am Divine Liturgy followed by a Panachida for the Souls

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

4:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, February 20, 2022

MEATFARE SUNDAY. The Sunday of the Last Judgment. Tone 6

Our Venerable Father Leo, Bishop of Catania (c. 787). Holy Fr. Agathon, Pope of Rome.

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

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2. Matthew 25:31-46.

8:00am Matins

9:45am Third Hour – Reader Service

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

Reader: David

+Helen Drogowski, from Louise Dalbo (2-16)

+Robert Beraducci, from Pani Mary Hendricks (2-17)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (2-19)

11:45am Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All

7:00pm Vespers *for Cheesefare Monday*

Monday, February 21, 2022



Cheesefare Monday. Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola (795).

Our Holy Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Great Antioch (c. 338).

3 John 1:1-14. Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39.

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

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

Tuesday, February 22, 2022



Cheesefare Tuesday. The Finding of the Venerable Relics of the Martyrs at Eugenia.

Jude 1-10. Luke 22:39-42, 45b-23:1.

morning Liturgical Services to be determined

7:00pm Vespers – *with prostrations*

Wednesday, February 23, 2022



Day of Alleluia.

Cheesefare Wednesday. Holy Martyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (c. 155).

6th Hour: Joel 2:12-26. Vespers: Joel 4:12-21.

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy *for + the 1st & 2nd Finding of the Head of John the Forerunner*

+Evelyn Fecko, from the Camilleri Family

Thursday, February 24, 2022



Cheesefare Thurs. + 1st & 2nd Finding of the Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, & Baptist John.

Vespers Paramia from the Common of the Forerunner

for the Forerunner: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15. Matthew 11:2-15.

(for the day: Jude 1:11-25. Luke 23:2-34, 44-56).

Friday, February 25, 2022



Day of Alleluia.

Cheesefare Friday. Our Holy Father Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806).

6th Hour: Zachariah 8:7-17. Vespers: Zachariah 8:19-23.

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

6-7pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers *for Cheesefare Saturday*

Saturday, February 26, 2022



Cheesefare Saturday. Commemoration of the Holy Ascetics. Holy Fr. Porphyry, Bishop of Gaza. The Holy Great Martyr Photina the Samaritan.

Romans 14:19-23; 16:25-27 & for the Holy Ascetics: Galatians 5:22-6:2.

Matthew 6:1-13 & for the Holy Ascetics: Matthew 11:27-30.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Melvyn & Josefa, from Sarah Marron

4:00pm Great Vespers

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

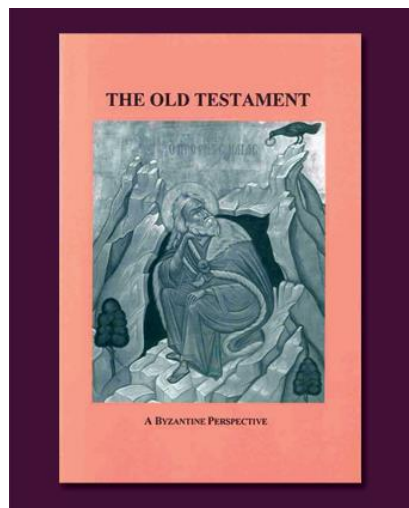
SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 6th		TRIDION WEEKS Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal 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		GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS 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		GREAT AND HOLY WEEK 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!		BRIGHT WEEK 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 14th 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.

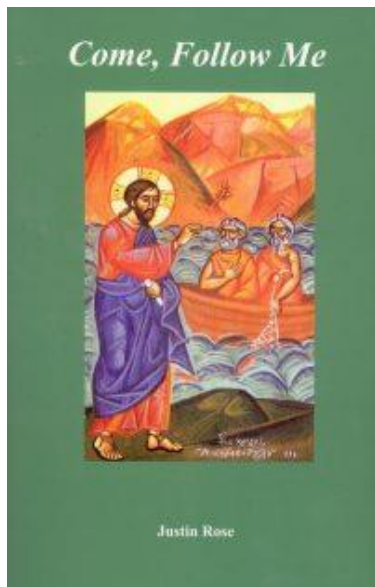
Email Pani Katie Russell at katiersll@gmail.com for more information and to join us.

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.

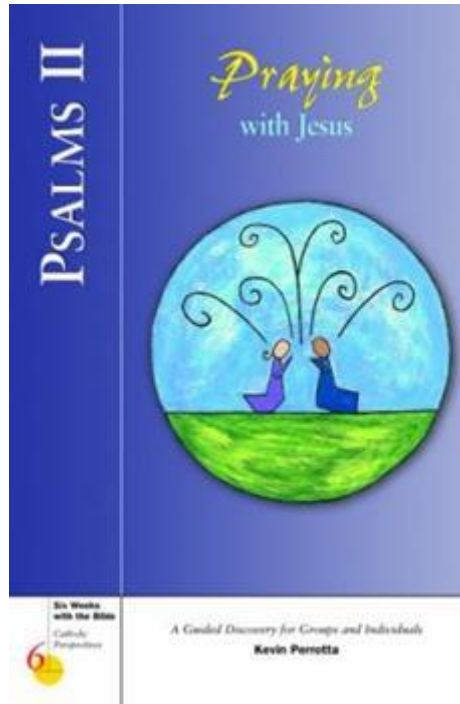
If you would like to investigate this opportunity, contact Fr. Deacon Lawrence at (734) 255-4099 or frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com





As part of the ongoing Synod, we are asking all parishioners to participate in at least one meeting with our facilitators, Victor Azcuy and Cecilia Hendricks. These meetings take about two hours and focus on the weekly meditations on the Beatitudes from the bulletin. The remainder of our parish meetings will be held on Thursday evenings. This week's meeting will be online via Zoom. Next week's meeting will be in person in the small hall. If you would like to participate in one of these meetings, please sign-up after Liturgy or contact the facilitators directly. Please be aware that these meetings have a limit of ten attendees per session, so they will be first come, first signed-up. In order to prepare for the meeting, please spend some time praying with and reflecting on the Beatitudes handout from today's bulletin.

Praying the Psalms with Jesus – Adult ECF



On upcoming Sundays, starting after the Divine Liturgy on February 20th (Meatfare Sunday), we are going to explore a few of the psalms that Jesus prayed, in order to understand and pray the psalms ourselves and to enter into Jesus' prayer. We will use a study guide that provides brief background and explanation about the psalms and how Jesus used them, along with questions that will help us explore the biblical texts and reflect on what these prayers mean for us. The format of our sessions will be mainly a moderated discussion led by Kevin Perrotta, who is also the author of the study guide. The study guide is *Psalms II: Praying with Jesus*. Chicago: Loyola Press, 2002.

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 will be on **September 25, 2022** 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
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 or

Victor Jiompkowski at 313-930-0801 or v.jiompkowski1111@att.net

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

a. The Freedom of the Creator

- 103 Holy Scripture begins the account of the creation of the world with these words: “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (*Gn* 1:1). God was, is, and remains always “in the beginning” of everything created, and all that comes forth in time. The evangelist John writes about God as the beginning of everything: “ ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (*Rev* 1:8). Saint Irenaeus of Lyons writes that all things came forth from the hands of God, by the Word and the Holy Spirit.⁸²
- 104 God realizes his plan for the creation of the world through his Word: “Let there be light ... let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters” (*Gn* 1:3, 6). This creative Word reveals himself in Holy Scripture as the Son of God, begotten of the Father: “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation ... he is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (*Col* 1:15-17).
- 105 God creates freely; nothing limits his creative freedom. God’s creativity is expressed in *creation*, in bringing forth being from non-being. God calls forth into being that which did not exist, and did not necessarily have to exist. In other words, what God called into existence did not come into being out of any necessity. Holy Scripture does not tell us *how* the world came to be. Instead, it speaks about the *who* (the Father), *through whom* (the Word, the Son), and *in whom* (the Holy Spirit) God called this world into existence.
- 106 God *is* the Creator. This means that God not only created the world, but that he is always present in his creation, and that he is always creating. Hence, creation is a sign and expression of God’s creative love. Through human beings, creation is called to respond to love with love, and to long for God as God longs for them: “God desires that he might be desired and he loves that he might be loved.”⁸³

⁸² See Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, IV, 20, 1, 3-4: PG 7, 1031. See also *Against Heresies*, V, 1, 3: PG 7, 1122-1123

⁸³ Maximus the Confessor, *Ambigua*, 31: PG 91, 1280.

Annual Stewardship Appeal

The **2021/22 Annual Stewardship Appeal** continues. Visit parma.org to make a one-time or monthly donation using our secure website.

In response to the faith we profess in the Nicene Creed, consider the ways that you can be more fully involved in the life of your parish and the Eparchy:

- Spend time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit for guidance.
- Consider the gifts God has given to you and share those talents, skills, or knowledge with the parish.
- Contribute financially to the workings of the Eparchy and to our parish through the financial appeal.

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!



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. The Coffey-Burns and Day House have signed up to clean the church 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 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 for more information. You can also contact the center directly at (313) 923-8018.

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on February 6th was **55**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **46**

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 February 6th was **\$2,063.35**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,818.89**

Sunday: \$1477; Holy Day: \$50; Online: \$404.35; Candles: \$32; Initial Offering: \$30; Fuel: \$50; Flowers: \$20

“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