



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

March 13th, 2022

ststephen@parma.org 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, March 13, 2022



SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. ST. GREGORY PALAMAS. Tone 1

The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Fr. Nicephor, Patriarch of Constantinople (846).

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

Hebrews 1:10-2:3 & for St Gregory: Hebrews 7:26-8:2.

Mark 2:1-12 & for St Gregory: John 10:9-16.

8:15am Matins

9:30am Hours *(Reader Service) & Confessions*

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

Reader: Victor Azcuy

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt (3-11)

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron (3-12)

+Rebecca Funni, from Emily Czupinski (3-9)

11:45am Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All (Praying the Psalms with Jesus)

7:00pm Vespers *for 3rd Monday of the Great Fast*

Monday, March 14, 2022



Our Venerable Father Benedict (550).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 8:13-9:7. Vespers: Genesis 6:9-22 • Proverbs 8:1-21.

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

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

Tuesday, March 15, 2022



The Holy Martyr Agapius and his Companions (303).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 9:9-10:4. Vespers: Genesis 7:1-5 • Proverbs 8:32-9:11.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Wednesday, March 16, 2022



The Holy Martyrs Sabinus and Papas (287).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 10:12-20. *Vespers:* Genesis 7:6-9 • Proverbs 9:12-18.

5:45pm *Confessions*

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

for the health of Paul Baize, from Betty Baize

Thursday, March 17, 2022



St. Patrick's Day

Our Venerable Father Alexis, Man of God (411). Holy Fr. Patrick, Enlightener of Ireland.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 11:10-12:2. *Vespers:* Genesis 7:11-8:4 • Proverbs 10:1-22.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Friday, March 18, 2022



Our Holy Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem (386).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 13:2-13. *Vespers:* Genesis 8:4-21 • Proverbs 10:31-11:12.

5:45pm *Confessions*

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Evelyn Fecko, from George Fecko

followed by: **Parastas for All Souls**

Saturday, March 19, 2022



3rd Saturday of the Great Fast. Soul Saturday. Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus & Daria (c. 253).

Hebrews 10:32-38a & *for the departed:* 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

Mark 2:14-17 & *for the departed:* John 5:24-30.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, March 20, 2022



THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST. VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS. Tone 2
Our Venerable Fathers of the Saint Sabbas Monastery, killed by Saracens (796).

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

Hebrews 4:14-5:6. Mark 8:34b-9:1.

8:15am Matins with the Veneration of the Cross

9:45am Third Hour (*Reader Service*) & Confessions

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

Reader: TBD

for the health of Paul Baize, from Betty Baize (3-16)

+ Evelyn Fecko, from George Fecko (3-18)

+ Melvyn & Josefa, from Sarah Marron (3-19)

11:45am Eastern Christian Formation Classes for All (Praying the Psalms with Jesus)

7:00pm Vespers *for Monday*

Monday, March 21, 2022



Our Venerable Father and Confessor James, Bishop of Catania (8th Century).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 14:24-32. Vespers: Genesis 8:21-9:7 • Proverbs 11:19-12:6.

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

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

Tuesday, March 22, 2022



The Holy Martyr Basilides, Priest of Ancyra (363).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 25:1-9. Vespers: Genesis 9:8-17 • Proverbs 12:8-22.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Wednesday, March 23, 2022



Mid-Lent. The Holy Venerable-Martyr Nikon and his Students martyred with him (250).
Our Holy Mother Rafka.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 26:21-27:9. Vespers: Genesis 9:18-10:1 • Proverbs 12:23-13:9.

5:45pm Confessions

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

for the health of Carol, from Joe Biltz

Thursday, March 24, 2022



⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Annunciation. Our Venerable Father Zachary.
Our Holy Father Artemon, Bishop of Seleucia of Pisidia.
Our Holy Father Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 28:14-22.

Vespers: Gen 10:32-11:9 • Prov 13:20-14:6. • Gen 28:10-14 • Ez 43:27-44 • Prov 9:1-11.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Friday, March 25, 2022



⊕ THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

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

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 29:13-23.

Vespers: Genesis 12:1-7 • Proverbs 14:15-26. • Exodus 3:1-8 • Proverbs 8:22-31.

for the Annunciation: Hebrews 2:11-18. Luke 1:24-38.

7:00am Festal Matins for ⊕ ANNUNCIATION

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespertal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrys. for ⊕ ANNUNCIATION

+John Danko, from Mary Camilleri

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)



Special Collection for Ukrainians in Need

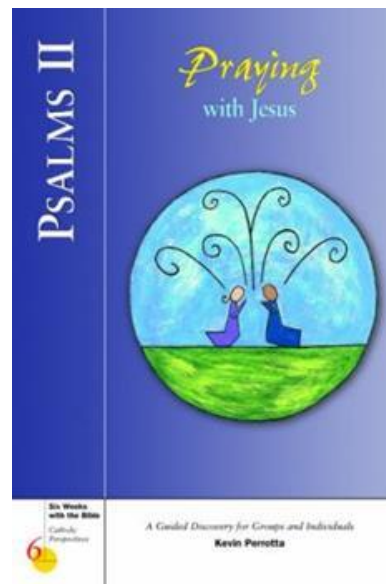
Pray for Ukraine and Donate to Help Support Ukrainians in Need

Bishop Milan Lach and the Eparchy of Parma express sincere compassion for the people of Ukraine, especially as they are now in the throes of war and are actively being attacked by Russia. Bishop Milan asks and encourages us to pray for the Ukrainian people and for the swift end of conflict upon them.

During the weeks of **March 13 and March 20, 2022**, a special collection is being taken by the Eparchy of Parma to help support the suffering people of Ukraine. The money we collect as an Eparchy will be given to Bishop Nil Lushchak, Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Mukachevo in Ukraine, and he will distribute it to those in most need. You can use the envelope in this bulletin to donate to this cause. Or, you can mail a check made payable to "The Eparchy of Parma" to 5000 Rockside Road, Suite 310, Independence, Ohio 44131 with the memo: Ukrainians in Need. Thank you for your support of this collection for our suffering brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Praying the Psalms with Jesus – Adult ECF

After Divine Liturgy today **Sunday, March 13th**, we are going to begin exploring 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.



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. Our parish's meetings will alternately be online and in person. This week's meeting will be in person in the small hall on **Thursday, March 15th** at 7pm. To participate in one of the meetings, please sign up on the sign up sheet in the narthex and/or contact the facilitators directly:

Victor Azcuy
vazcuy1@gmail.com
(239) 895-8931

or

Cecilia Hendricks
cecilia.hendricks@gmail.com
734-255-4178

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.

Survey for Synodal Process

As a part of the Synodal Process in the Eparchy of Parma, we are taking a survey provided to us by the Catholic Leadership Institute. This survey is open to all our parishioners and is an anonymous way for you to share with Bishop Milan Lach and your parish priest your assessment of your faith life, your parish, and the Eparchy.

There are paper surveys and a drop box in the narthex of the church.

Or, you can take the survey online at <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/y43x33>
For any technical issues, contact onlinesupport@catholicleaders.org

More information about the survey is available at <https://parma.org/>

Make Pysanki!



Come and learn the ancient Slavic art of wax-resist egg decoration. These are a wonderful and traditional way to beautify your Easter baskets for Pascha! Learn both Rusyn & Ukrainian techniques. The egg represents the tomb of Christ, from which new life comes.

Pani Katie will lead pysanki classes on:

Saturday, March 19th from 11:30am to 1:30pm

Saturday April 9th from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

The materials for making pysanki will continue to be available in the hall each Sunday of the Great Fast after the Divine Liturgy.



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

Email Pani Katie Russell at katierrussll@gmail.com

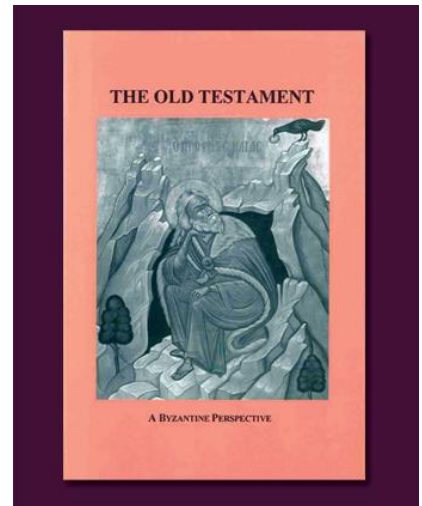
for more information and to join us.

Byzantine Book Club

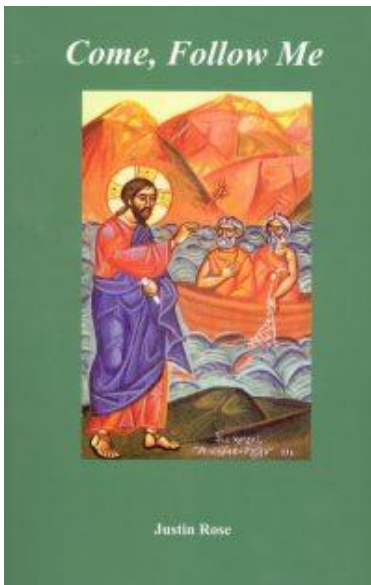
Next meeting: **Monday, March 14th at 7pm**

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>.



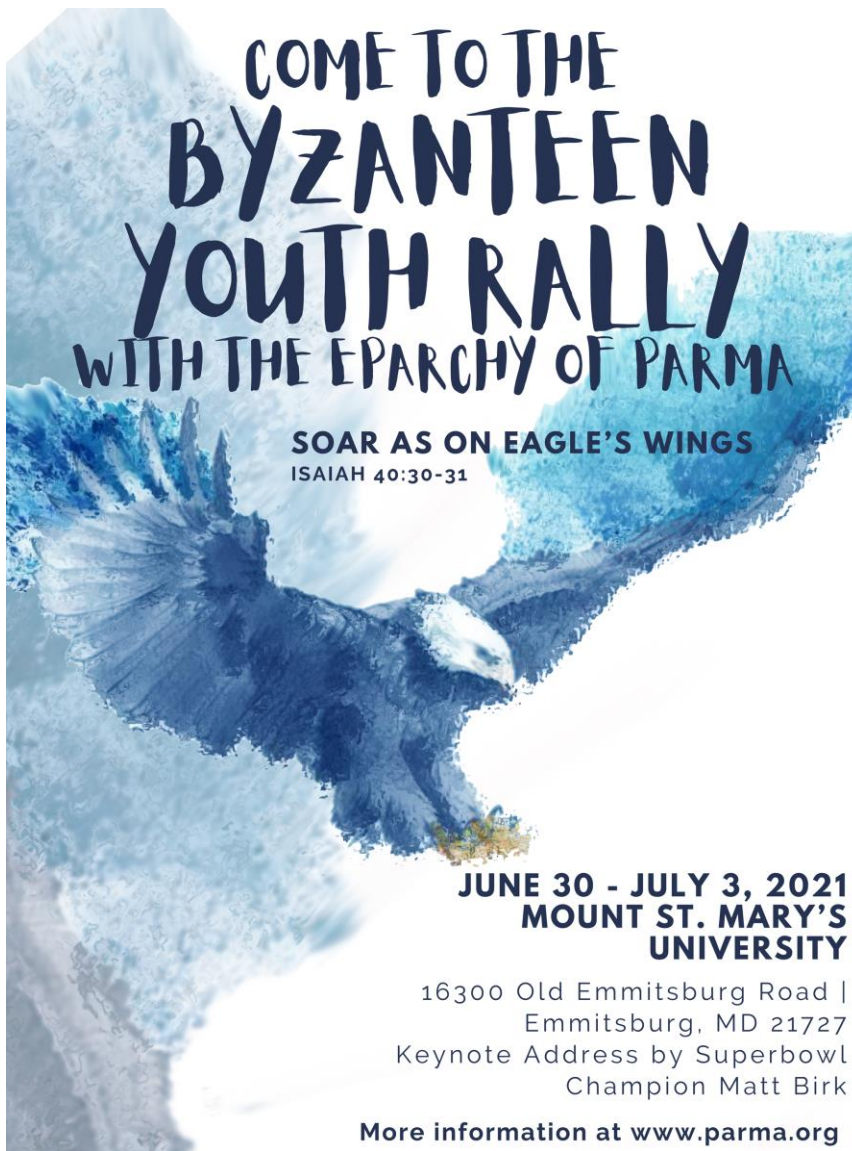
Invitation to Come, Follow Me



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



ByzanTEEN Rally 2022 - After two years of the COVID-19 pandemic preventing teens of the Metropolitan Church from meeting at the biannual ByzanTEEN Youth Rally, we are happy to announce that **we will finally meet again this year, June 30 - July 3, 2022 in Emmitsburg, MD.** We are so excited to gather **at Mount St. Mary's University** with the youth of the Metropolitan Church and we hope you will join our Eparchial Youth Committee and travel with us to the Rally! For more information see: <https://parma.org/rally2022>

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). Diamond Sponsors receive four free registrations; Gold and Silver receive two free registrations. 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.

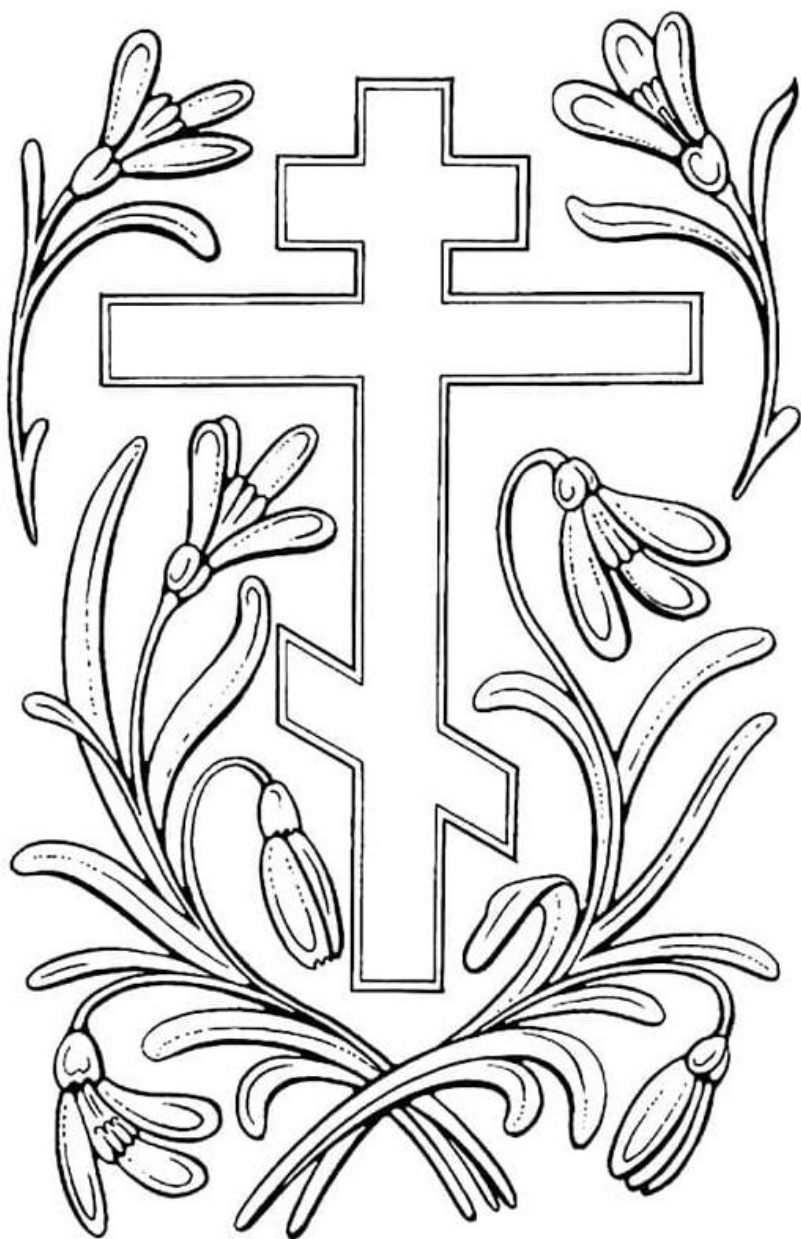
All donations, sponsorships, and advertisements should be sent to the Church office. Make checks payable to St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church with reference “religious freedom lectures”. You may also donate online at <https://saintstephenbyzantine.church/donations/>

*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 Jiomkowski at 313-930-0801 or v.jiomkowski1111@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

2. The Visible and Invisible World

- 115 The existence of the invisible angelic realm attests to the wealth and diversity of the world created by God. Both the visible and invisible belong to one creation, which God looks upon as *good*. Human beings and angels, as persons, have the opportunity to build personal and spiritual relationships with God and with one another: “Today things above keep feast with things below, and things below commune with things above.”⁹²
- 116 The Anaphora of the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great mentions nine angelic orders. We read: “Angels, Archangels, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Authorities, Powers, and the many-eyed Cherubim praise you; around you stand the Seraphim.” The angelic orders are called “choirs” because of their communion with God and with one another. Unceasingly, the angels offer “praise to God” as they abide in the light of God’s glory.
- 117 In Holy Scripture, angels manifest the presence of God in the world, announcing to human beings the will of God. Holy Scripture refers to some of them by name: Michael (see *Rev* 12:7; *Jude* 1:9), Raphael (see *Tob* 12:15), Gabriel (see *Lk* 1:19, 26). Angels assist human beings in their spiritual growth (see *Heb* 1:14). The Tradition of the Church teaches that God grants every human being a guardian angel: “You appointed angels as guardians.”⁹³ The unity of the visible and invisible creation—human beings and angels—becomes manifest in the Divine Liturgy, where the earthly expresses the heavenly, and humans serve together with angels: “Let us who mystically represent the cherubim and sing the Thrice-holy Hymn to the life giving Trinity...” and “Holy, holy, holy, Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”⁹⁴

⁹² *Trebnik*, Rite of the Great Blessing of Water for the Feast of Theophany, Second Prayer.

⁹³ *Liturgicon*, The Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father Basil the Great, Anaphora.

⁹⁴ *Liturgicon*, The Divine Liturgy of our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Cherubic Hymn, Anaphora.

Annual Stewardship Appeal

The Stewardship Appeal is in its fourth month, and we have a few more months to reach this year's goal! 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. Have you made your contribution yet? Visit us online at parma.org to submit your donation. As we profess our faith through the Nicene Creed, let us also profess it with our actions and our gifts of time, talent, and treasure!

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.

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

St. Stephen Parish donates \$50 per month to Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry

We donated \$150 to the Churches in Central & Eastern Europe

Since our last contributions,

for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, we have collected \$138

for the Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$125

for the Religious Freedom Lecture (Iraqi Christian Relief): we have collected \$865

for Ukrainians in need, we have collected \$55

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 at Divine Liturgy on March 6th was **60**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **47**

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 March 6th was **\$1,810.35**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,806.49**

Sunday: \$1345; Online: \$404.35; Candles: \$36; Flowers: \$25

“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