

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 3rd, 2022

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI ststephen@parma.org 313-382-5901 *website:* saintstephenbyzantine.church

Priest: Rev. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.

cell phone: 412-378-0308

email: frjrussell@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, April 3, 2022



5th SUN. OF THE GREAT FAST. OUR VENERABLE MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT. Tone 4 Our Venerable Father and Confessor Nicetas, Hegumen of Medikion (824).

1st Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20.

Hebrews 9:11-14 & for St. Mary: Galatians 3:23-29.

Mark 10:32b-45 & for St. Mary: Luke 7:36-50.

8:15am Matins

9:30am Akathist (Reader Service) & Confessions

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

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (4-1)

Reader: Cecilia

+Olga Kovtun, from Maryalice Lukas (3-31)

+Ernie Semak, from Bob & Jane Semak (4-2)

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

7:00pm Vespers in Ann Arbor for Monday

Monday, April 4, 2022



Our Venerable Fathers, Joseph the Hymnographer (883) & George of Maleon (9th Century). *Sixth Hour:* Isaiah 48:17-49:4. *Vespers:* Genesis 27:1-41 • Proverbs 19:16-25.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: https://meet.google.com/eyn-qwkv-vrh
or in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Tuesday, April 5, 2022



The Holy Martyrs Theodulus and Agathopodes and their Companions (303).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 49:6-10. Vespers: Genesis 31:3-16 • Proverbs 21:3-21.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

7:00pm Office of Holy Repentance

Wednesday, April 6, 2022



Our Holy Father Eutyches, Archbishop of Constantinople (582).

+ The Passing of our Holy Father Methodius, Teacher of the Slavs (885).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 58:1-11. Vespers: Gen 43:26-31; 45:1-16 • Proverbs 21:23-22:4.

5:45pm Confessions

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika 7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Eugene & +Angeline Dalbo, from Louise Dalbo

Thursday, April 7, 2022



Our Venerable Father George, Bishop of Mitylene (816).

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 65:8-16. Vespers: Genesis 46:1-7 • Proverbs 23:15-24:5.

7:00am First Hour & Terce-Sext

Friday, April 8, 2022*



The Holy Apostles Herodian, Agabus, Rufus, Asyncritus, Phlegon, and Hermes.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 66:10-24. *Vespers:* Genesis 49:33-50:26 • Proverbs 31:8-32.

4:00pm Parastas for +Faith Himick – at Martenson Funeral Home in Trenton

5:45pm Confessions

6:20pm Ninth Hour & Typika

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Frank & +Mary Kovtun, from the family

Reader: Debra

Saturday, April 9, 2022



LAZARUS SATURDAY.

Hebrews 12:28-13:8. John 11:1-45.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

12 noon Funeral *for* +*Faith Himick*

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

^{* &}quot;Today ends the forty-day fast before Pascha that runs from the Monday after Cheesefare Sunday until the day before Lazarus Saturday." (Annual Typicon)

Sunday, April 10, 2022



PALM (FLOWERY) SUNDAY.

The Holy Martyrs Terence, Pompey, and their Companions (250).

Vespers: Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12 • Zephaniah 3:14-19 • Zechariah 9:9-15.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17.

Philippians 4:4-9. John 12:1-18.

8:15am Matins with the blessing of Palms & Pussywillows*

9:30am Procession with the Palms & Pussywillows[†]

10:00am Divine Liturgy – for the people of the parish Reader: Victor Jiompkowski

+Eugene & +Angeline Dalbo, from Louise Dalbo (4-6)

+Frank & +Mary Kovtun, from the family (4-8)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (4-9)

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

7:00pm Vespers – First Service of Holy Week

Monday, April 11, 2022



GREAT & HOLY MONDAY.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 21:18-43. *Third Hour:* Matthew 1:1-16:12.

Sixth Hour: Ezekiel 1:1-20 • Matthew 16:13-28:20.

Ninth Hour: Mark 1:1-9:16.

Vespers: Exodus 1:1-20 • Job 1:1-12. *Presanctified Liturgy*: Matthew 24:3-35.

10:00am Bridegroom Matins

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

^{* &}quot;Palms and pussywillows... [are] held by the faithful during [the] celebration as a symbol of the people who welcomed our Lord into Jerusalem as their King." (Annual Typicon).

[†] "A procession with the priest and faithful carrying the newly blessed palms and willows may take place after Matins and before the Liturgy. The priest, preceded by candles and incense, processes through the Northern Door of the icon screen. The procession then proceeds around the church, with the singing of the Palm Sunday Troparion, Kontakion, [and Stichera]. The Divine Liturgy begins immediately following the procession." (Annual Typicon).

Tuesday, April 12, 2022



GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 22:15-23:39.

Third Hour: Mark 9:17-16:20.

Sixth Hour: Ezekiel 1:21-2:1 • Luke 1:1-8:39.

Ninth Hour: Luke 8:40-16:18.

Vespers: Exodus 2:5-10 • Job 1:13-22. *Presanctified Liturgy:* Matthew 24:36-26:2.

10:00am Bridegroom Matins

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Presanctified Divine Liturgy

+Helen Hudak, from Bob & Jane Semak

Wednesday, April 13, 2022



GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY.

Matins Gospel: John 12:17-50. Third Hour: Luke 16:19-24:53.

Sixth Hour: Ezekiel 2:3-3:3 • John 1:1-7:36.

Ninth Hour: John 7:37-13:32.

Vespers: Exodus 2:11-22 • Job 2:1-10. *Presanctified Liturgy:* Matthew 26:6-16.

10:00am Bridegroom Matins

5:00pm Confessions

6:00pm Holy Anointing* & Presanctified Divine Liturgy Reader: Debra +John & +Maria Lukas and +John & +Mary Strach, from Maryalice Lukas

^{*} We will celebrate *The Office of Holy Oil for Anointing of the Sick* before Presanctified Divine Liturgy begins. Bishop Milan has indicated that the former pastoral provision of incorporating the blessing and anointing into the Presanctified Divine Liturgy is not to be followed. Holy Anointing is for all the ill and infirm and none who are baptized and who freely request it will be denied. "The general Anointing of the Sick may be done for all baptized Christians present at the Liturgy." (*Annual Typicon*). This is one of the holy mysteries, a sacrament, and should not be confused with mirovanije. Note that the Anointing is not a replacement for Confession. Confession will be offered before the Office of Holy Oil begins. Note also that all who receive this holy mystery are to be sincerely contrite. A recent confession is a necessary part of preparing to receive the Holy Anointing of the Sick.

Thursday, April 14, 2022



GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY.

Matins Gospel: Luke 22:1-39. First Hour: Jeremiah 11:18-12:5, 9-11, 14-15.

Vespers: Exodus 19:10-19 • Job 38:1-23; 42:1-5 • Isaiah 50:4-11.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32.

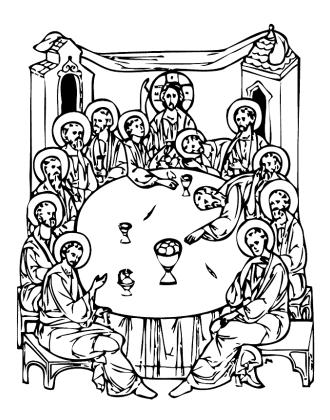
Composite Gospel: Matt 26:1-20; John 13:3-17; Matt 26:21-39; Luke 22:43-45; Matt 26:40-27:2.

10:00am Matins for Holy Thursday

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy for Holy Thursday +Faith Himick, from Louise Dalbo

10:00pm Strasti – Service of the Twelve Gospels for Holy Friday



Friday, April 15, 2022



GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY.

Matins: The Twelve Passion Gospels: (1) John 13:31b-18:1 • (2) John 18:1-28 •

(3) Matthew 26:57-75 • (4) John 18:28-19:16 • (5) Matthew 27:3-32 •

(6) Mark 15:16-32a • (7) Matthew 27:33-54 • (8) Luke 23:32-49 • (9) John 19:25-37 •

(10) Mark 15:43-47 • (11) John 19:38-42 • (12) Matthew 27:62-66.

First Hour: Zachariah 11:10-13 • Galatians 6:14-18 • Matthew 27:1-56.

Third Hour: Isaiah 50:4-11 • Romans 5:6-11 • Mark 15:16-41.

Sixth Hour: Isaiah 52:13-54:1 • Hebrews 2:11-18 • Luke 23:32-49.

Ninth Hour: Jeremiah 11:18-12:5, 9-11, 14-15 • Hebrews 10:19-31 • John 18:28-19:37.

Vespers: Exodus 33:11-23 • Job 42:12-17 • Isaiah 52:13-54:1 •

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:2

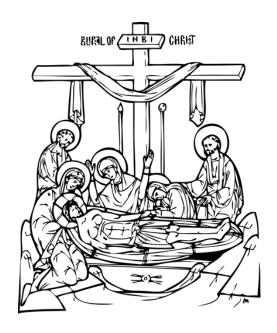
Composite Gospel: Matt 27:1-38; Luke 23:39-43; Matt 27:39-54; John 19:31-37; Matt 27:55-61.

10:00am Royal Hours for Holy Friday

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Burial Vespers

- after which, we Guard the Tomb all night long



7

^{*} A strict fast is prescribed for this day.

Saturday, April 16, 2022



GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY.

Matins: Ezekiel 37:1-14 • 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8, Galatians 3:13-14 • Matthew 27:62-66. *Vespers:* (1) Genesis 1:1-13 • (2) Isaiah 60:1-16 • (3) Exodus 12:1-11 •

(4) Jonah 1:1-4:11 • (5) Joshua 5:10-15 • (6) Exodus 13:20-15:19 • (7) Zephaniah 3:8-15

• (8) 1 [3] Kings 17:8-24 • (9) Isaiah 61:10b-62:5 • (10) Genesis 22:1-18 •

(11) Isaiah 61:1-10a • (12) 2 [4] Kings 4:8-37 • (13) Isaiah 63:11-64:5 •

(14) Jeremiah 31:31-34 • (15) Daniel 3:1-88 (LXX)

Romans 6:3-11. Matthew 28:1-20.

10:00am Jerusalem Matins for Great & Holy Saturday

4:00pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great - Paschal Vigil

+Helen Hudak (40th day), from Bob & Jane Semak (4-12)



^{*} Holy Saturday is a day of fast, with a mitigation for wine, until midnight.

Sunday, April 17, 2022

① PASCHA! THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, GOD, & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST Acts 1:1-8. John 1:1-17.

9:00am Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

followed by the Blessing of Easter Baskets in the hall

Reader: Katya

7:00pm Agape Vespers

- Great Feast
- 🕁 Feast with an All-night Vigil
- + Feast with the Polyeleos at Matins
- **③**. Feast with the Great Doxology at Matins
- Feast with Six Stichera at Vespers

LEGEND



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)



Paschal Flowers have been offered in memory of

Robert Barnes Victoria Barnes Guillermo Barillas Caroline Barillas Burja Family John Fech Susanna Fech Maria & Ferenc Griba Helen Hudak Helen Humenik Peter Humenik Manouk Mykeloff Rosen Family Joseph Sutyak Ruth Thomas Andrew Yatcko Helen Yatcko Roman & Akilina Zukow

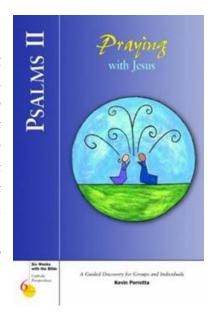
& in honor of

Robert & Susan Druga

for their 40th anniversary

Praying the Psalms with Jesus – Adult ECF

After Divine Liturgy today **Sunday, April 3**rd, 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.





Thank you to everyone who participated in our Synodal process, especially our facilitators, Victor Azcuy & Cecilia Hendricks. The final step is to complete the survey, if you have not already done so.

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. The survey closes on April 4th.

There are paper surveys and a drop box in the narthex of the church. However, please take the survey online if you're capable of that. Anonymity is better that way and it makes the process less labor intensive for those compiling the data.

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! The egg represents the tomb of Christ, from which new life comes.

Due to a Funeral, the Pysanki Class is postponed. We will make edible pysanki on Holy Saturday after Jerusalem Matins. Bring your hard boiled eggs!

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



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

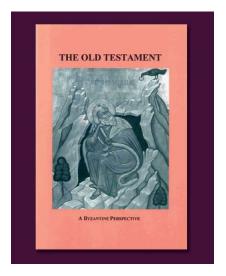
Email Pani Katie Russell at katierssll@gmail.com
for more information and to join us.

Byzantine Book Club

Next meeting: Monday, April 4th 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.





1:00 p.m. – Hymns led by St. Nicholas Church Choir followed by presentations given by

Fr. Deacon Robert Cripps & Fr. Deacon Gregory Loya

Each presentation will be approximately 1/2 hour in length with a break in between.

3:00 p.m. (approx.) - Conclusion: Praying the Hours

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

23300 King Drive, Clinton Township • (586) 791-1052



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; ½ 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

- 3. Humankind—the Crown of Creation
 - a. Humankind—in the Image and Likeness of God
 - 1) Growth of the Person from Image to Likeness of God
- Jesus Christ—*in the image* of whom the human being was created—is the incarnate Son of God, the Second Person of God, who took on human nature. Like Christ, human beings are persons. The growth of the human being from the image to the likeness of God is a personal growth. It takes place in the context of a free relationship between human beings and God. From the state of the *first Adam*, described in the book of Genesis, the human being grows to the state of the *new Adam*—Christ the God-man. "The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit ... The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven" (1 *Cor* 15:45-49).
- Created good, humankind was supposed to achieve gradually perfection. For this reason Saint Irenaeus compares the condition of the first Adam in Paradise with the innocence of a child: "It was possible for God himself to have made the human being perfect from the first, but the human being could not receive this perfection, being as yet an infant."108 To grow into the second Adam—Christ—is to receive the grace of the Holy Spirit to the point of our permanent abiding in it, "until all of us come to the *unity of the faith* and of the *knowledge of the Son of God*, to maturity, to the measure of the *full stature of Christ*" (*Eph* 4:13; emphasis added).
- In accordance with God's eternal plan, the divinization of human beings is possible. It is possible because of the incarnation of God's Son, through which we receive the gift of becoming partakers in the nature of God (see 2 *Pt* 1:4) as *gods by grace*, and attain to eternal life. "We have not been made gods from the beginning, but at first merely human beings, then finally gods; for God has adopted this course out of his pure benevolence, that no one may impute to him invidiousness or grudgingness [i.e., envy or reluctance]."109 It is precisely because God has loved us that he desires for us to become like him: "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (*Mt* 5:48; see 1 *Pt* 1:16).

¹⁰⁸ Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, IV, 38, 1: PG 7, 1105. ¹⁰⁹ Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, IV, 38, 4: PG 7, 1101-1102.

Annual Stewardship Appeal

As we move closer to the great Feast of Pascha, we continue in our process to identify the gifts given to us by God and ponder the ways in which we can respond to His generosity. Please remember the annual Stewardship Appeal as you prepare for the upcoming Feast of Pascha.

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.

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$6,600. So far, 30 parishioners have donated a total of \$5575.87, putting us at over 84% 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. Thank you to Phyllis, Char, & Ceil for cleaning last week. Victor & Dominique Azcuy are 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 Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$125 for the Religious Freedom Lecture (Iraqi Christian Relief): we have collected \$890 for Ukrainians in need, we collected \$2,095

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 27th was 58. Average Sunday attendance ≈ 49

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 27th was \$1,033.60. Average Weekly Collection: \$1802.07 Sunday: \$809; Holy Day: \$40; Online: \$139.35; Candles: \$35.25; Flowers: \$10

"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).

