



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 14th, 2022

Priest: Rev. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.
412-378-0308
frjussell@parma.org

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantor: Pani Mary Hendricks

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



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, August 14, 2022



TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Prophet Micah.

+ Translation of the Relics of our Venerable Fr. Theodosius, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Caves.

Vespers: Wisdom 5:15-6:3 • Wisdom 3:1-9 • Wisdom 4:7-15.

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

1 Corinthians 4:9-16. Matthew 17:14-23a.

8:30am Paraklesis

9:30am First & Third Hour – Reader Service; **Confession** – in the Sacristy

10:00am Divine Liturgy - for the people of the parish

Reader: Daniel

health of Nancy Patterson, from the Richardson Family (8-10)

health of Rich Marie, from the Richardson Family (8-12)

Fellowship & Potluck in the hall after Liturgy.

7:00pm Vigil with the Burial Service of Praise for ⊕ THE DORMITION

– with blessing of flowers

Monday, August 15, 2022

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

Vespers: Genesis 28:10-17 • Ezechiel 43:27-44:4 • Proverbs 9:1-11.

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

for the Dormition: Philipians 2:5-11. Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

for the day: 2 Corinthians 2:3b-15a. Matthew 23:13-22.

10:00am Divine Liturgy for ⊕ THE DORMITION – with blessing of flowers

+*Evelyn Fecko, from George Fecko (8-13)*

Cantor: Mary H

6:00pm Vespers

7:00pm *Come, Follow Me* - online: <https://meet.google.com/njp-zcmn-hok>

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

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Post-festive Day of the Dormition.

⊗. The Translation of the Icon of our Lord, God & Savior Jesus Christ, the Icon not made by human hands, from Edessa to Constantinople (944). The Holy Martyr Diomedes (298).

for the Translation: either Colossians 1:12-18 or 2 Cor. 3:4-11. Luke 9:51-56; 10:22-24.

for the day: 2 Corinthians 2:14-3:3. Matthew 23:23-28.

Wednesday, August 17, 2022



Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Myron (250).

2 Corinthians 3:4-11. Matthew 23:29-39.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

Cantor: Misha

for the health of Wally Maire, from the Richardson Family

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus (2nd Century).

2 Corinthians 4:1-6. Matthew 24:13-28.

Friday, August 19, 2022



Post-festive Day of the Dormition. Holy Martyr Andrew the Tribune and his Companions.

2 Corinthians 4:13-18. Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51.

8:00am Matins

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, August 20, 2022

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. Holy Prophet Samuel. Holy King Stephen of Hungary.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9. Matthew 19:3-12.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Katie

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, August 21, 2022

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 2

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. Holy Apostle Thaddeus. Holy Martyr Bassa.

11th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

1 Corinthians 9:2b-12. Matthew 18:23-35.

8:15am Matins

9:30am First & Third Hour – *Reader Service*; **Confession** – *in the Sacristy*

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

Reader: Vic J

for the health of Wally Maire, from the Richardson Family (8-17)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (8-20)

Fellowship & Potluck in the hall after Liturgy.

7:00pm Vespers *for Monday*

Monday, August 22, 2022

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Agathonicus and his Companions.

The Passing of the Blessed Confessor Simeon Lukac, secret Bishop (1964).

2 Corinthians 5:10-15. Mark 1:9-15.

7:00pm Come, Follow Me - online: <https://meet.google.com/njp-zcmn-hok>

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

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Leave-taking of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Lupus (306).

The Holy Martyr Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons (202).

2 Corinthians 5:15-21. Mark 1:16-22.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Eutyches, Disciple of St. John the Theologian.
The Blessed Martyr and Priest-Monk Dominic Methodius Trcka

2 Corinthians 6:11-16a. Mark 1:23-28.

8:00am Matins

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

Cantor: Misha

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt

Thursday, August 25, 2022

⊗ The Return of the Relics of the Holy Apostle Bartholomew. The Holy Apostle Titus.

2 Corinthians 7:1b-10a. Mark 1:29-35.

6:30pm Parish Councils Meeting

Friday, August 26, 2022

Holy Martyrs Adrian & Natalie. Holy Mother Mary of Jesus Crucified (Mariam Baouardy).

2 Corinthians 7:10-16. Mark 2:18-22.

9:30am Third & Sixth Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Dominique





intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm 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)



There is a potluck each Sunday after the Divine Liturgy in the Crystal Room. Join us to have a communal experience with our fellow parishioners and enjoy delicious food. A donation of food, drinks, or other refreshments are always welcomed and encouraged, but never required. Please also stay and help clean the hall and kitchen afterwards. Thank you to all of those who have already donated food, time, and services. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Blessing of Flowers

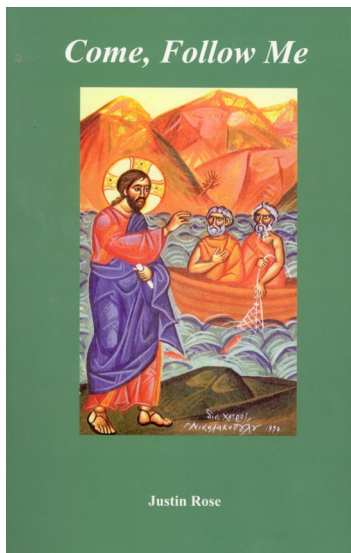
On the Great Feast of the Dormition, the Church blesses flowers. We will offer this blessing after the Ambon Prayer at the Divine Liturgy for the Feast at **10am on Monday, August 15th**. Bring your flowers to Liturgy that morning and place them on the table for the blessing.

Come, Follow Me

A program of parish renewal and scripture study for discipleship with weekly exercises and homework.

Next meeting: **Monday, August 8th, 2022.**

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.



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

Meetings will be both online: <https://meet.google.com/njp-zcmn-hok> and in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

St. Stephen Community Picnic!

We're planning to have our Parish Community Picnic this year after the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, August 28th**. We'll need lots of help with set up, take down, food donations, etc. Sign up for what you'll bring and how your help and contact Victor Azcuy with any questions: vazcuy1@gmail.com or (239) 895-8931.

Day House | Detroit Catholic Worker

THURSDAY POTLUCK

Thursdays at 6:30 PM

All are welcome.

Those who can are encouraged
to bring something to share



2640 TRUMBULL ST.
DETROIT, MI

From the Protomartyr Stephen Evangelization Society:

Was the Street Fair "evangelical"?

I'm of the belief that all things we do as a Church and as individual members need to have an evangelical purpose. In fact, studies show that lay members are the principal evangelists. Ninety percent of all new Christians say that they came to Christ and His Church because of the kindness and honesty of a friend or relative. In other words, the main reason the Church grows and people come to Christ is because of your witness to them. Could that be the key to our future growth as a parish?

We've tried a few things these past three years to evangelize. All have born some fruit. Some were more visible than others. Look at the work many have done to attract young adults. We made a film which will soon be released that feature this very thing. Watch for the entries online. Eighteen-year-old Lance has been instrumental in this effort. Look at the many young adult events that have taken place and the new altar servers we have.

But what of the Allen Park Street Fair?

A total of 15 volunteers from St. Stephen's answered questions and gave witness to hundreds of people on two of the hottest days of the year.

We have seen some profound benefits to the Kingdom of God already. Some benefits will be seen over time. We may not ever see some others, but God knows.

Here are some of the benefits we already see and may well see over time:

First, it gave and gives Christ and His Church exposure to the city and the surrounding areas.

Second, the participation of a significant number of our members in the event inspires others to share the message of Christ and His Church with their own friends and neighbors and may well inspire a larger number of participants in next year's street fair and perhaps other events.

Third, the discussions themselves help those who participated become more aware of the needs and desires of others for the Gospel.

Fourth, participation in such events helps the participants to be integrated further into the Body of Christ.

Fifth, our goal is always to help others find their way to joining the saints and angels in heaven to praise and worship our Maker and Sovereign, the Holy Trinity. That is always preeminent in our thinking and it is why we evangelize.

This event wasn't our first effort and certainly won't be our last. Think of the church picnic, the All Hallows Eve Trunk or Treat, the VBS effort of 2021, the welcoming work on Sunday mornings, etc.

The effort put toward these and all our events is inspiring.

Finally, a special thanks must be given to Victor Jiompkowski who organized and ran this program. Thanks also to Lance Remisoski and all who participated. Thanks also to Father John and Father Deacon Lawrence who encouraged and encourages these efforts. Give them a thank you when you see them.

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*

4) *The Freedom and Responsibility of Humankind*

- 136 The Creator, having fashioned humanity freely out of love, calls us to love—the highest creative expression of a person. For this God grants us freedom. Human love flows from God as from a wellspring, for “God is love” (1 Jn 4:8). Freedom belongs to God’s image in humankind; therefore, his grace does not abolish our freedom.¹¹⁷
- 137 The most profound dimension of human freedom consists in being able to freely choose God and to be with him. This is the good. Yet with this same freedom, we can also reject our relationship with God—and this is evil. To be free is to possess the capacity for unfettered self-determination. ¹¹⁸ Evil, in fact, does not belong to creation; it only appears when humanity renounces the choice for good, and thus abuses its freedom. As God’s gift, freedom is strengthened through every free choice of the good. On the other hand, it is limited when humanity becomes dependent upon evil¹¹⁹ which is a consequence of its renouncing the good.
- 138 A human being is responsible for his or her free choice: “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die” (Gn 2:16-17). This commandment of God does not limit human freedom nor does it interfere in our choice. God gives the commandment as a gift to strengthen us in all that is good. By breaking the commandment, a human being rejects God and by this very means introduces sin into the world, and through sin death (see Rom 5:12). By eating of the fruit of the “tree of knowledge of good and evil,” one forfeits access to the “tree of life” and loses ties to God: “Communion with God is life and light ... But separation from God is death.”¹²⁰
- 139 When Adam and Eve transgressed the commandment, they severed their bond with God. Their choice became the cause of death, and the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” became its instrument. The cross was also such an instrument of death, prepared on Golgotha for the Son of God, Jesus Christ. However, by accepting death on the cross, he transformed the instrument of death, the cross, into a “tree of life:” “Truly, O Christ, the tree of life has blossomed. For the cross, planted in the earth, fed with blood and water from your pure side, has put forth life for us.”¹²¹ It has become a *life-giving cross*.
- 140 The Church witnesses liturgically to this in the Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross (September 14/27), when we contemplate the Life-Giving Cross in the light of Holy Pascha: “To your Cross, O Master, we bow in veneration; and we glorify your holy Resurrection.” The Lord voluntarily took upon himself the sin of the world and transfigured the cross of death into a sign of the Resurrection, having trampled death by death, and granted us eternal life.

¹¹⁷ See John Chrysostom, *Homilies on the Gospel of Matthew*, Homily 45, 1: PG 58, 471.

¹¹⁸ See Gregory of Nyssa, *On the Making of Man*, 16; PG 44, 184. ¹¹⁹ See Gregory of Nyssa, *Great Catechism*, 5: PG 45, 21.

¹²⁰ Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, V, 27, 2: PG 7, 1196.

¹²¹ See *Octoechos*, Tone 6, Sunday Matins, Canon of the Resurrection, Ode 4



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 the Day House for cleaning last week! Oscar & Sarah Obando have signed up to clean this week.

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

We donate \$50 per month to Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry

Since our last contributions,

For the Churches in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$155
for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, we have collected \$138
for the Iraqi Christian Relief: we have collected \$890 (\$400 has been donated so far)
for Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$85.
For the retirement of our nuns, we have collected \$100.

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.

Ukrainians in Need

Through your generous support of our brothers and sisters in need in Ukraine during this time of war, the Eparchy of Parma has raised \$84,166.72 to date for our special collection, Ukrainians in Need. Thank You For Your Generosity!

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on August 7th was **49**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **50**

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 August 7th was **\$3,170.85**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,888.69**

Sunday: \$1299.25; Online: \$384.35; Holy Day: \$85; Stewardship Refund: \$1371; Candles: \$31.25

“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