



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI September 25th, 2022
ststephen@parma.org 313-382-5901
website: saintstephenbyzantine.church

Priest: Rev. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.
 412-378-0308
 frjrussell@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, September 25, 2022

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 7

Our Venerable Mother Euphrosyna (479).

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

2 Corinthians 6:1-10. Luke 5:1-11.

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: Debra

intention of Br. Philip Blazkevych, from Melinda Dewitt (9-21)

intention of Br. Tadey Kherovych, from Melinda Dewitt (9-23)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (9-24)

First Day of ECF!

St. Nicholas Apostolate Meeting in the Meeting Room after Liturgy.

7:00pm Great Vespers for the ☩ *Passing of the Holy Apostle John*

Monday, September 26, 2022

☩ The Passing of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian.

Vespers: 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16 • 1 John 4:20-5:5.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for John: 1 John 4:12-19. John 19:25-27; 21:24-25.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Ephesians 1:22-2:3. Luke 4:37-44.

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

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

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

The Holy Martyr Callistratus and his Companions (304).

Our Venerable Father Nilus, Founder and Hegumen of the Grottaferrata Monastery.

Our Holy Father Vincent de Paul.

Ephesians 2:19-3:7. Luke 5:12-16.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

Wednesday, September 28, 2022



+ Our Venerable Father and Confessor Chariton (362). Wenceslaus, Prince of the Czechs.
The Holy Prophet Baruch. Passing of our Blessed Fr. & Confessor Bishop Nicetas Budka.
Synaxis of the Holy Frs. of the Pecherskaya Lavra who repose near the Venerable Anthony.

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

Matins Gospel: Matthew 4:25-5:12.

for Chariton: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15. Luke 6:17-23.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Ephesians 3:8-21. Luke 5:33-39.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

+Thomas Russell, from his son

Cantor: Mary H

Thursday, September 29, 2022

⊗ Our Venerable Father Cyriacus the Anchorite (557).
Ephesians 4:14-19. Luke 6:12-19.

6:30pm Parish Councils Meeting

Friday, September 30, 2022



⊗ The Holy Martyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia (332).
Ephesians 4:17-25a. Luke 6:17-23a.

9:30am First & Third Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron

Cantor: Dominique

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Great Vespers for the ⊕ PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Saturday, October 1, 2022

⊕ PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

The Holy Apostle Ananias. Our Venerable Father, Romanus the Melodist (496).

Our Venerable Mother Thérèse of the Child Jesus (1897).

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

for the Protection: Hebrews 9:1-7. Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): 1 Corinthians 14:20-25. Luke 5:17-26.

9:00am Matins &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for the ⊕ PROTECTION

Cantor: ?

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

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

Sunday, October 2, 2022

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 8

⊗ Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian. Holy Martyr Justina. Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ (911).

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

2 Corinthians 6:16b-7:1. Luke 6:31-36.

8:15am Matins

9:30am Akathist – Reader Service; **Confession** – in the Sacristy

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

Reader: Victor A

intention of the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron (9-30)

+Thomas Russell, from his son (9-28)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (10-1)

Fellowship & Potluck in the hall after Liturgy

ECF Classes

7:00pm Great Vespers for St. Francis of Assisi – in Ann Arbor

Monday, October 3, 2022

⊗ The Holy Bishop and Martyr Denis the Areopagite.

Ephesians 4:25-32. Luke 6:24-30.

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

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

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

The Holy Martyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens. Venerable Father Francis of Assisi (1226).
Ephesians 5:20-26. Luke 6:37-45.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

Wednesday, October 5, 2022



The Holy Martyr Charitina (304).

Ephesians 5:25-33a. Luke 6:46-7:1.

Pilgrimage to the Sorrowful Mother Shrine in Bellevue, OH

7:00pm Great Vespers for † Thomas – Reader Service

Thursday, October 6, 2022

† The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas.

Vespers: 1 John 1:1-7 • James 1:1-12 • Jude 1-7, 17-25.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for Thomas: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16. John 20: 19-31.

for the day (not read at liturgy): Ephesians 5:33-6:9. Luke 7:17-30.

Services & Times TBD

Friday, October 7, 2022



⊗ The Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus (303).

Ephesians 6:18-24. Luke 7:31-35.

6:00pm 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)

Come, Follow Me

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

Next meeting: **Monday, September 26th, 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.

Come, Follow Me



Justin Rose

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. Nicholas Apostolate

The Councils of St. Stephen decided recently to establish a St. Nicholas Apostolate in our parish. This is a charitable outreach program. It was suggested that we have 3 funds modeled on the three purses of St. Nicholas. (St. Nicholas is often shown holding three purses or three coins which represent that he provided three needed dowries for three impoverished young women):

- 1) for supporting charitable organizations
(such as Day House, Image of God Pregnancy Center & Fish & Loaves)
- 2) for supporting parishioners in need
- 3) for supporting those who come to the parish seeking help.

We will have a call-out meeting for all parishioners interested in helping with this on **Sunday, September 25th** after the Divine Liturgy in the small hall.

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

Pilgrimage to Sorrowful Mother Shrine

On **October 5th**, all the people of the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate are invited to participate in a day long pilgrimage to the Sorrowful Mother Shrine in Bellevue, OH.

(4106 OH-269, Bellevue, OH 44811)

We will celebrate a Divine Liturgy at 12:30 am and a Moleben at one of the Shrines. Please inform Fr. John if you will be participating. If we get enough participants, we will rent a van. Lunch is \$15. On the way back, we'll make 4 stops:

- Toft's Ice Cream
- St. Mary's in Marblehead
- St. Michael's in Oregon
- Dinner at Tony Packo's

Catechetical Sunday

Today, we joyfully celebrate an important event in our parish: the beginning of the catechetical school year. The children, and the adults who teach them, gather together to receive a blessing for the start of the new catechetical school year. The theme this year is “The Gift of Christ: Poured Out for the Life of the World.” May their good work help us all to realize the profound gift that is our Lord Jesus Christ who gave Himself up for us that we may have life in Him, now and forever. Together, we ask God to grant His servants, our students, their parents, and their teachers, many years in health and happiness!

Catechists who attended the September 17-18 weekend meeting dates were commissioned by Bishop Milan and received their certificates. Catechists who were not present will be commissioned by their respective parish pastor/administrator on Sunday, September 25th, at their home parishes. The blessing of each parish’s ECF students will also take place on September 25th.

The Guild of St. Stephen

The first meeting reinstating the Guild of St. Stephen was a success. Eight ladies came and joined or rejoined the Guild. (Both women and men are welcome!) If you didn’t make the meeting, you can still join the Guild. You can also help with various Guild activities even if you’re not a member. Watch this space in the bulletin for information about upcoming events. They will meet on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting is **Sunday, October 9th** after the Divine Liturgy in the small hall. The Guild of St. Stephen has a long and storied history. Come and be a part of its future! The mission of the Guild is primarily fundraising for the parish, which has many needs.



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

b. The Fall

2) *The Fall of Humankind*

- 145 Holy Scripture recounts the story of the Fall of humankind in Paradise, utilizing the image of the serpent: “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made” (*Gn* 3:1). The Holy Fathers perceived in the image of the serpent the enemy of God and humankind—Satan. The serpent proposed a *false divinization*¹²⁶ to humankind, suggesting the thought of becoming like God but without God, by means of one’s own effort. The devil in Paradise “lured Adam with a vain hope for divinization,”¹²⁷ proposing that he consider the measure of goodness resides not in God but within himself.
- 146 The craftiness of the serpent consists in twisting the words of God’s commandment: “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’ ” (*Gn* 3:1, see *Gn* 2:16-17). The insidious question of the tempter draws Eve into a dialogue with him, which gives birth to doubt within her about the truthfulness of God. The Evil One takes advantage of this doubt within Eve in order to deceive: “You will not die ... you will be like God, knowing good and evil” (*Gn* 3:4-5). The deceit of the Evil One is based on the premise that God is deceiving humankind with his commandment, thereby undercutting their freedom, and that by eating from the tree of good and evil, they will become like God.
- 147 The deception of the serpent becomes a temptation for Eve: “The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise” (*Gn* 3:6). Eve submits to the temptation: “She took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate” (*Gn* 3:6). In this way, our first parents transgressed God’s commandment, and through this, sin and evil entered into the world: “Sin came into the world through one man” (*Rom* 5:12). With the *eating of the forbidden fruit* the illusion of self-deification vanishes, and instead of the expected good, evil and emptiness emerge: “Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked” (*Gn* 3:7). The sin of our first parents resulted in severing humankind from God, the Source of life—humankind then became mortal. “As the body becomes a corpse when the soul leaves it destitute of its own vital energy, so also does the soul then become a corpse when the Holy Spirit leaves it destitute of spiritual energy.”¹²⁸

¹²⁶ *Octoechos*, Tone 6, Sunday, Matins: Resurrection Canon, Ode 4.

¹²⁷ Basil of Seleucia, *Third Oration: About Adam*, 3: PG 85, 57.

¹²⁸ John Chrysostom, *Homilies on Ephesians*, 18, 3: PG 62, 124.



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 narthex of the church. Thank you to Betty Sutyak & LeAnn Osentoski for cleaning this past 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 \$295.

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 September 18th was **39**. 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 September 18th was **\$1,861.85**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,889.94**

Sunday: \$961; Online: \$484.35; Holy Day: \$150; Candles: \$36.50; Fuel: \$230

“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