

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

January 22nd, 2023

Priest: Rev. John R.P. Russell, M.Div.
412-378-0308
jrprussell@gmail.com

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*

Cantor: Mary R

Sunday, January 22, 2023

THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS. Tone 8

The Holy Apostle Timothy. The Holy Venerable-Martyr Anastasius the Persian (628).

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

1 Timothy 4:9-15. Luke 19:1-10.

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: Dan Lauffer

good health of Wally Maire, from Richardson Family (1-17)

+Sidney, +Bennie, +Mary, & +John Thomas, from Mary Ann Osmond (1-18)

Elizabeth Russell, from her son (1-21)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (1-24)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF for all

7:00pm Vespers *for Monday*

Monday, January 23, 2023

The Holy Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra (c. 296). The Holy Martyr Agathangel (c. 296).

Commemoration of the Sixth Ecumenical Council.

1 Peter 2:21b-3:9. Mark 12:13-17.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: <https://meet.google.com/njp-zcmn-hok>

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

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Our Venerable Mother Xenia of Rome. Our Holy Mother Xenia of St. Petersburg.

The Holy Martyrs in Pidlashia, the Blessed Vincent Lewoniuk and his companions.

1 Peter 3:10-22. Mark 12:18-27.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

Wednesday, January 25, 2023



✙ Our Holy Father Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople (389).

Vespers: Prov. 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 32, 34, 4, 12, 14 17, 5-9; 1:23 • Prov. 10:31-11:12 • Wis. 4: 7-15

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

for Gregory: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. John 10:9-16.

for the day: 1 Peter 4:1-11. Mark 12:28-37.

8:00am Matins

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

Cantor: Katya

+Mary Washko, from the Zukows

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Venerable Fr Xenophon and Wife Mary (520). Holy Fr. Joseph, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

1 Peter 4:12-5:5. Mark 12:38-44.

7:30pm Great Vespers at the Day House – (Potluck at 6:30pm)

2640 Trumbull St. Detroit, MI

Cantors: Misha & Katya

Friday, January 27, 2023



✙ The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrysostom (438).

Vespers Paramia: Common 6. *Matins Gospel:* John 10:1-9.

for the Relics: Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16. *for the day:* 2 Peter 1:1-10a. Mark 13:1-8.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Dominique

descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers for Saturday

Saturday, January 28, 2023

✙ Our Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh (378).

Venerable Fr. Issac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh. Venerable Mother Olympia Bida (1952).

2 Timothy 2:11-19. Luke 18:2-8a.

10:00am Divine Liturgy – followed by Panachida

Cantor: Katie

Thanksgiving for the birth of Emmanuella Barillas

+Bettina Muelling Barnes, from Martin & Alice Barillas

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

Sunday, January 29, 2023

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Tone 1

⊗ The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop and Martyr Ignatius of Antioch.

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

2 Timothy 3:10-15. Luke 18:10-14.

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: Daniel

descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron (1-27)

Thanksgiving for the birth of Emmanuella Barillas (1-28)

+Bettina Muelling Barnes, from Martin & Alice Barillas (1-28)

+Mary Washko, from the Zukows (1-25)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF for all

7:00pm Great Vespers for ⊕ THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS

Monday, January 30, 2023

⊕ THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS: BASIL, GREGORY, AND JOHN CHRYSOSTOM.

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Hippolytus (235).

Vespers Paramia: Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 • Deuteronomy 10:14-21 • Wis 3:1-9.

Matins Gospel: John 10:9-16.

for the Hierarchs: Hebrews 13:7-16. Matthew 5:14-19.

for the day: 2 Peter 1:20-2:9. Mark 13:9-13.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Dominique

health of Paul Baize, from Betty Baize

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: <https://meet.google.com/njp-zcmn-hok>

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

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

⊗ The Holy Wonder-workers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John (311).

Our Holy Father the Priest Don Bosco.

2 Peter 2:9-22. Mark 13:14-23.

8:00am First & Third Hour

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Tryphon (250).
2 Peter 3:1-18. Mark 13:24-31.

8:00am First & Third Hour

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for the ⊕ MEETING

Cantor: Mary H

+Mary Washko, from Donald & Gloria Scott

Thursday, February 2, 2023

⊕ MEETING OF OUR LORD, GOD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST WITH SIMEON & ANNA

Vespers Paramia: (1) Ex. 12:51, 13:1-3, 10-16, 22:29; Num. 8:16; Lev. 12:1-4, 12:6, 8;

Numbers 8:16-17 • (2) Isaiah 6:1-12 • (3) Isaiah 19:1-5, 12. 16, 19-21.

Matins Gospel: Luke 2:25-32.

for the Meeting: Hebrews 7:7-17. Luke 2:22b-40.

for the day: 1 John 1:8-2:6. Mark 13:31-14:2.

8:00am Matins for the ⊕ MEETING

Friday, February 3, 2023

⊗ The Synaxis of the Holy Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna.

for Simeon & Anna: Hebrews 9:11-14. Luke 2:25-38.

for the day: 1 John 2:7-17. Mark 14:3-9.

Morning Services TBD

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)

Nine Days of Prayer for the Sanctity of Life

During this month of January, there is a special focus on preserving the sanctity of human life. The Catholic Bishops of America have called for nine days of prayer for the various intentions regarding the sanctity of Life. We are being asked to pray for the daily intentions listed below. You can pray any part of our Byzantine Divine Office for these intentions. In addition, we are being asked to fortify our prayer through some form of abstinence, either fasting from meat and dairy or in any other way you choose (foregoing a dessert or that second cup of coffee, less time on social media or television, etc.)

Thank you for your prayerful participation in these nine days of prayer for the sanctity of life:

Daily Prayer Intentions:

1. Monday, January 23: For the tragic action of abortion to END.
2. Tuesday, January 24: May each person suffering from participation in abortion find forgiveness, hope and healing,
3. Wednesday, January 25: May all who defend life find strength and renewal in the Holy Spirit.
4. Thursday, January 26: May all who support or participate in abortion experience a conversion of heart to seek and receive the Lord's boundless mercy.
5. Friday, January 27: May all the unborn children be protected in law and welcomed in love.
6. Saturday, January 28: May every expectant mother receive compassionate care and support as she nurtures the life in her womb.
7. Sunday, January 29: May expectant fathers lovingly support the mothers of their children in welcoming new life.
8. Monday, January 30: May expectant mothers choosing adoption receive Grace and support in embracing this loving option.
9. Tuesday, January 31: May civil leaders work for the protection of all human life, in every stage and circumstance.



Invitation to Byzantine Book Club

We are reading and discussing *Two Views of the Cross: Orthodoxy and the West* by Frederica Mathewes-Green. The next discussion will be **Monday, January 23rd, 2023**. You may join in person

@ the Hendricks Homestead (8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198)

or through the link: <https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia?authuser=0&hs=122>

Two Views of the Cross: Orthodoxy and the West clearly shows some important theological differences between the East and the West. The author carefully begins by talking about what words mean. This is so important because if you and I both use the same word, but have a different idea of what it means, we cannot effectively communicate what we are thinking or believe. Step by careful step she talks about the views of ransomed, redeemed, delivered, and saved. She goes into forgiveness and mercy, sacrifices and offerings. Halfway through the book she begins to talk about the crucifixion - something one would think she'd start with given the title. But she needed to lay a foundation so the reader could properly understand the Byzantine view of the crucifixion and what it did for us. She goes into sin and righteousness, the problem of evil, mercy and repentance, free will, the assurance of salvation, the incarnation (so important to understanding). She ends with theosis and how theology should be a part of our everyday lives.

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

Adult Eastern Christian Formation Opportunities

Reflections on the Divine Liturgy

We will gather most Sundays in the coming few months after the Divine Liturgy to reflect upon the Divine Liturgy together. Our next class is today **Sunday, January 22nd** Fr. John will present information about the Divine Liturgy and there will also be the opportunity for each of us to share our own thoughts and experiences of Divine Liturgy.

The Holy Land & Biblical Archaeology

On Meatfare Sunday – **February 12th** – Daniel Lauffer will offer us a presentation on his experiences in the Holy Land and of Biblical Archaeology. These reflections will help strengthen our awareness of the real humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, who really lived and died and rose again in a real time and place of history. This is especially good to reflect on as we prepare for the Great and Holy Week which will lead into our celebration of Pascha.

Bible Study

As we enter the Great Fast itself, Kevin Perrotta will again lead us in study and discussion of Holy Scripture. Please continue to share with us what particular books or themes you'd most appreciate.

Daily Prayer in the Byzantine Tradition

Also as we are increasing our life of prayer during the Great Fast, Fr. John will teach and lead discussion on the Byzantine tradition of daily prayer, both in terms of daily liturgical prayer and also in terms of developing our own rules of prayer for private prayer in our homes. This course will be offered on a weeknight during the Great Fast.

✠ | GOD WITH US

PRESENTS

LIFTING *the* VEIL

A Mystical Understanding of the Divine Liturgy



LIVE WEBINAR

Wednesdays, January 11th - 25th
8 - 9 p.m. ET

Presented by Rev. Thomas Moses

The Divine Liturgy makes present the events of salvation history and allows us to participate in the worship of God along with the whole cosmos. In this series, guided by Scripture and saints such as Maximus the Confessor and Symeon of Thessaloniki, we will explore the Church's mystical interpretation of the Divine Liturgy and how it draws us to participate in the entirety of salvation.



REGISTER @
EASTERNCATHOLIC.ORG

GOD WITH US is an outreach project of the Eparchial Directors of Religious Education (ECED) and the Eastern Catholic Associates (ECA) and is dedicated to the catechetical renewal of Eastern Catholics in the United States in accord with the Church's call for a new evangelization. *All programs are offered free of charge.*

Register here: <https://godwithusonline.org/events/lifting-the-veil/>

PREPARE FOR THE GREAT FAST
WITH A PRESENTATION ON
THE LAND THAT JESUS WALKED

In our Eastern Christian tradition, Lent, or the Great Fast, begins on Clean Monday - February 20th. To help prepare for this season, join us for a special event on Meatfare Sunday – **February 12th** – which is the last Sunday that we eat meat until Pascha/Easter Sunday, April 9.

This year, Meatfare Sunday is marked by a presentation by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lauffer: “The Land that Jesus walked.” This presentation is based on their work in archaeology in Israel. It will reveal places highlighting Roman influence upon cities and government in Galilee and Judea. It will show actual places where Jesus taught, performed miracles, was tried, crucified, and rose again in the holy city of Jerusalem. It will be capped off with time for questions and answers.

“The Land that Jesus Walked” will begin shortly after the Divine Liturgy and will be in the Crystal Room. Worship begins that morning in church with Matins at 8:15 a.m., followed by the Hours and an opportunity for Confession. Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00am. The meal and presentation will begin at about **11:30 a.m.** and last until 1 p.m.

A potluck meal will be provided for all with an offering requested. There is a signup sheet in the narthex for you to let us know if you’re coming, how many, and what you’re bringing to share. (Hopefully, there will be plenty of meat!) Drop off all your food items in the hall before Liturgy. The Guild has graciously agreed to keep warm or cool items as needed. If you choose not to bring a dish, please make a monetary donation on the day of the event. Please let us know if you’re coming so we’re prepared with enough food and materials to hand out.

Everyone is invited. This will be a great opportunity for all adults. Classes for children will also be available. We encourage everyone to bring family and friends to this event.

For information:

contact the church office by phone: 313-382-5901 or email: ststephen@parma.org

or contact Dan Lauffer by phone: 248-309-1552 or email: carsonlauffer0903@comcast.net

St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church, 4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, Michigan 48101

The Guild of St. Stephen

The Guild meets on the second Sunday of each month. The next meeting is **Sunday, March 12th** 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 to help enable our many ministries of worship, service, and evangelization.

SAVE THE DATE

The Tenth Annual Women's Retreat

**From Fallen Passions to Apatheia:
Pursuing the Virtuous Life**

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center
Fremont, Ohio

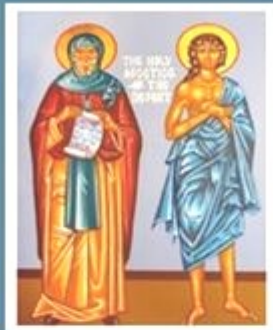
February 24, 2023 - February 26, 2023

Retreat Master
Father Thomas J Loya, STB, MA.

Contact Joan Washburn for further information
865-696-7809

Further details will follow

Sponsored by Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church



SEE BACK OF CARD



Father Thomas J Loya, STB, MA.

Fr. Thomas J Loya, is currently the pastor of Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Parish in Homer Glen, IL. He is also the host of the long running radio program, "Light of the East" which can be heard in more than 60 cities across the United States on several Catholic radio networks including EWTN Radio. He is also a regular guest on the Dr. Gregory Popcak radio show.

Before entering the seminary Fr. Loya earned a degree from the Cleveland Institute of Art and pursued a career in commercial art and design. He later completed his studies for the priesthood in both Pennsylvania and Rome where he attended the North American College earning an STB from the Angelicum University. During his time in Rome, Fr. Loya first heard St. Pope John Paul II's monumental teaching on the human person when he attended his weekly audiences about The Theology of the Body. Fr. Loya was ordained in 1982 and later added to his Bachelor of Fine Arts by earning a Masters in Counseling and Human Services in 1993. He has directed many retreats and has been a guest speaker at several conventions including World Youth Day 2002. Using his background in art, counseling, and Eastern Catholic spirituality, Fr. Loya applies the principles of The Theology of the Body and Liturgy to the mystical understanding of the human experience.

Stational Vespers

On the Sunday Evenings of the Great Fast

For the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate

On each Sunday evening of the Great Fast at 4:00 pm, we will celebrate Vespers at a different parish of the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate. A different priest will serve and preach a brief sermon at each Vespers after the Great Prokeimenon. Meanwhile, other priests will be available for confession. The hosting parish will provide a simple meatless Lenten meal of soup and bread after Vespers. All our parishioners are encouraged to participate. In addition to being an opportunity for prayer and repentance during the Great Fast, this is also a chance for us to visit the other parishes of our region and for us to all be together and get to know each other better.

Here is the schedule:

| Date | Sunday of the Great Fast | Parish | Celebrant & Preacher |
|--------|---|--|---------------------------|
| 19-Feb | Cheesefare Sunday | <i>Each parish to have its own Forgiveness Vespers</i> | |
| 26-Feb | Sunday of Orthodoxy | St. Michael, Oregon | Fr. Bob Stash |
| 5-Mar | Sunday of our Holy Fr. Gregory Palamas | St. Stephen, Allen Park | Fr. Mykhailo Solianyuk |
| 12-Mar | Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross | Sacred Heart, Livonia | Fr. Mychail Rozmarynowycz |
| 19-Mar | Sunday of our Holy Fr. John Climacus | St. Nicholas, Clinton Township | Fr. John Russell |
| 26-Mar | Sunday of our Holy Mother Mary of Egypt | St. Basil, Sterling Heights | Fr. Joseph Marquis |
| 2-Apr | Palm Sunday Flowery Sunday | St. Michael, Flushing | Fr. Jim Batcha |

St. Nicholas Apostolate

The St Nicholas Apostolate had several successful meetings, and we welcome all parishioners interested to attend future meetings! A monthly meeting will be held every third Tuesday at 7:30 pm via Zoom. Email Fr Deacon Lawrence at frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com.

The St. Nicholas Apostolate is a means for members in our parish to practice Christian love through giving charitable donations and volunteering. The St. Nicholas Apostolate is facilitating donations from the parish for three funds modeled after the three purses of St. Nicholas. He was a wealthy man before he became a priest and bishop, and he chose to use his wealth to save three impoverished women from slavery by giving each of them a sack of gold coins for a dowry. St. Nicholas is often shown holding three purses or three coins. The three purses of the St. Nicholas Apostolate will be used to support the following:

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

One way that parishioners are encouraged to practice Christ's command to "help those that ask" is through monetary donations. Someday soon, a basket next to an icon of St. Nicholas will be placed in the narthex with envelopes for parishioners to donate to a purse of their choosing or simply to make an unrestricted gift. Donations for the first purse, charitable organizations, are given directly to the organizations. Donations for the second and third purses, our parishioners and our neighbors, are distributed by Fr. John Russell as seen fit. All donations are tax deductible. In the near future, volunteer opportunities will also be organized for the parish to participate in.

The St. Nicholas Apostolate is not a philanthropic club, but rather is a vehicle for the parish community to respond to God's commandment to love our neighbor, especially our neighbors in need.

"On the subject of mutual charity you have no need for anyone to write you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another.... Nevertheless, we urge you... to progress even more." (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10).

Rides to Church

The St. Nicholas Apostolate is looking for someone interested in coordinating rides to church for people having trouble getting to services. This could be something very simple, such as a group text with an address to a group of volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Father John.

Thank you to all those who gave generously.

You may recall that before Christmas a woman asked our parish for help providing her family with Christmas gifts. Parishioners were invited to contribute toward her request, and a member of the St. Nicholas Apostolate collected donations and purchased the requested gifts. Fr. John was able to deliver the gifts to the woman before Christmas. This was a great blessing to her and to her family and she has expressed her gratitude for your generosity.

Parishioners' donations went beyond what was needed. It shows your understanding of the need to "love your neighbor" and to act in the Spirit of St. Nicholas. Certainly, other requests will come in the days to come. Thank you for your willingness to meet this woman's needs.

"On the subject of mutual charity you have no need for anyone to write you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another. . . . Nevertheless, we urge you . . . to progress even more." (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10).

Synodal Process

From the survey and the conversations with parishioners in the context of reflections on the Beatitudes, we have formulated some goals for St. Stephen's.

*** Develop opportunities for adult religious education**

In the survey, parishioners expressed some reservations about their readiness to share the Christian faith with others. It seems that further education would be helpful. In order to develop something that will best meet parishioners needs, we need to ask more specific questions to discover areas in which they would most like to learn and formats they would find most helpful.

Action: we will create some ways of inquiring into educational needs in the parish during the fall. In the new year we will begin to present new educational opportunities.

Our goal is to involve at least 20 percent of the active adults in the parish in new educational experiences by Pascha next year.

*** Encourage and help parishioners to go on retreats**

Most parishioners report that they do not often or ever go on retreats. Taking retreat time is a normal practice in Christian life. While retreats in the eparchy are routinely brought to parishioners' attention, more could be done to encourage and help them.

Action: we will give more attention to helping parishioners see the value of taking retreats and will work to identify and promote retreats and help people attend them (transportation, etc.).

We would like to see 10 percent of the active adults in the parish attend a retreat by the end of 2023.

*** Develop outreach opportunities**

In conversation over the Beatitudes, parishioners expressed the need for ways of serving neighbors in need and also for deepening community life within the parish. Developing outreach opportunities in a way that also deepens parishioners relationships with each other would help to meet this need.

Action: We will revive the long defunct St. Nicholas Apostolate as a way of involving parishioners in service to needy neighbors—and to each other in the parish. The apostolate will encourage donations for help to individuals outside and inside the church and will help parishioners learn about, support, and participate in selected local nonprofit organizations.

Our goal is to involve at least 20 percent of the active adults in the parish in this apostolate.

Please continue to let us know your thoughts about the parish and about these initiatives in particular. You may always call or write:

313-382-5901

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI 48101

ststephen@parma.org

Prayer List

Pray for Barb Barnes, Michael Camilleri, Robert Dalbo, Michael Hudak, Chris Lauffer, Edith Santo and for the healing of all who suffer.

Stewardship Appeal

When you walk in faith you continue the work of God. The Eparchy's future is marked by one thing above all: hope. This is said with certainty because the Eparchy's future has the same foundation as its past: Jesus Christ. What better foundation is there? Thankfully, we have an opportunity to help build the Kingdom of God in a particular way: by supporting the Eparchy's Stewardship Appeal. Won't you please show your support with a gift today? Visit us online at parma.org to submit your donation.

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$6,900. So far, 21 donors from St. Stephen have donated \$4015, putting us at roughly 58% of our goal. Thank you! If our parish exceeds its goal, a rebate will be paid equal to 100% of the amount by which we exceed our goal. Rebates paid will be exempt from the 10% eparchial assessment. This rebate plan will help to strengthen the parishes and provide an opportunity to raise additional funds that are not subject to assessment.

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 the church this week. Ceil, Char, & Phyllis are signed up to clean this week.

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

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

We donated \$200 to the Image of God Pregnancy Center

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 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 January 15th was **49**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **54**

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 January 15th was **\$1,262.35**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,018.62**

Sun.: \$672; Online: \$569.35; Candles: \$21

“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