

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 27th, 2023

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

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantors: Dominique Azcuy, Victor Azcuy, Daniel Barillas,
Guillermo Barillas, Debra Grega Beckerman, Cecilia
Hendricks, Pani Mary Hendricks, Pani Katie Russell,
Mary Russell, David Woods, Mary Woods

Hall Manager: Victor Azcuy
ststephenshall123@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 Kurt (Burnette) of Passaic is our apostolic administrator. Archbishop William (Skurla) of Pittsburgh is our Metropolitan. We are in communion with our holy father Francis, the Pope of Rome.

“Eastern Catholics are in [comm]union with Rome. We share the same faith and the same mysteries, however, our way of expressing them follows the same tradition as the Orthodox Churches.”

– Fr. Joseph Radvansky. *A Brief Explanation of the Eastern Catholic Churches, Introduction.*

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

Young Adult Gathering – at the Azcuay residence

Sunday, August 27, 2023

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 4

Our Venerable Father Pimen.

2nd Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Mark 16:1-8.

1 Corinthians 16:13-24. Matthew 21:33-42.

8:15am Matins for Sunday

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

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

Cantors: Mary H & Cecilia

Reader: Victor J

+Robert & +Mary Muntz, from Cathy Pearson (8-23)

+Regina Sestak (8-25)

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (8-26)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF Catechists Meeting. Bible Discussion – 12:15pm

7:00pm Vespers for Monday

Monday, August 28, 2023

Our Venerable Father Moses the Ethiopian. Holy Father Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (430).

The Holy Martyr Gebre Michael, Priest of Ethiopia (1855).

2 Corinthians 12:10-19. Mark 4:10-23.

6:00pm All-Night Vigil for ☩ the Beheading of John

Cantors: Mary H & Guillermo

Tuesday, August 29, 2023



⊕ THE COMMEMORATION OF THE BEHEADING OF THE HOLY PROPHET,
FOREUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN.

Vespers: Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1 •

Malachi 3:1; Mark 1:2; Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12,18,17; 4:4-6 • Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-5:7.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 14:1-13.

for the Beheading: Acts 13:25-33. Mark 6:14-29.

for the day: 2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2. Mark 4:24-34.

7:00am Coffee with Fr. John – a casual meetup on Zoom

10:00am Divine Liturgy for ⊕ *the Beheading of John*

Cantor: Mary R

+Richard De Guili, from Louise Dalbo

Wednesday, August 30, 2023



Post-festive Day of the Beheading of the Holy Baptist John.

Holy Frs. Alexander (340), John (595), & Paul the Younger (784), Patriarchs of Constantinople.

2 Corinthians 13:3-14. Mark 4:35-41.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Great Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for † *the Deposition*

Cantor: Charles

+Sidney, +Bennie, +Mary, & +John Thomas, from Mary Ann Osmond

Thursday, August 31, 2023

† The Deposition of the Venerable Sash of the Theotokos in Calcoprateia (942).

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

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

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

for the day: Galatians 1:1-10, 20-2:5. Mark 5:1-20.

Friday, September 1, 2023



✦ The Indiction (the Beginning of the Church Year).

Venerable Fr. Simeon the Stylite and his Mother (459). Synaxis of the Theotokos of Miasena.
Holy Martyr Aeithalas. 40 Holy Women martyred with their Instructor Ammon the Deacon.
The Holy Martyr Callista and her two Brothers, Evodius and Hermogenes (309).
Joshua the Just, Son of Nun.

Vespers: Isaiah 61:1-9 • Leviticus 26:3-12, 14-17, 19-24 • Wisdom 4:7-15.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 11:27-30.

for the Indiction: 1 Timothy 2:1-7. Luke 4:16-22.

for the day: Galatians 2:6-10. Mark 5:22-24, 35-6:1.

9:30am Third & Sixth Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Mary R

+Manouk Mykeloff, from Kathy Mykeloff

6:00pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers *for Saturday*

Saturday, September 2, 2023

Holy Martyr Mammas (274). Venerable Fr. John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople (595).
1 Corinthians 4:1-5. Matthew 23:1-12.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour & Typika

1:00pm Blessing of Animals – in front of the statue of St. Stephen at 1pm – bring your pets!

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

Sunday, September 3, 2023

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 5

Holy Martyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia (303). Holy Deaconess Phoebe of Cenchreae.

Our Venerable Fr. Theoctist, Companion of our Venerable Father Euthymius the Great (431).

3rd Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Mark 16:9-20.

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4. Matthew 22:1-14.

8:15am Matins for Sunday

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

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

Cantors: Mary H & Cecilia

Reader: Debra

+Richard De Guili, from Louise Dalbo (8-29)

+Sidney, +Bennie, +Mary, & +John Thomas, from Mary Ann Osmond (8-30)

+Manouk Mykeloff, from Kathy Mykeloff (9-1)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. Bible Discussion – 12:15pm

7:00pm Vespers for Monday

Monday, September 4, 2023

The Holy Martyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch (283). The Holy Prophet Moses, who saw God.

Galatians 2:11-16. Mark 5:24b-34.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia

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

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)

Summer Bible Discussion – 1 Corinthians

This summer the parish Bible discussion is focused on Paul's first letter to the Christians in Corinth. When Paul writes to them, the Corinthian Christians are enthusiastic new believers who have a lot to learn about how to live Christian life together. In 1 Corinthians, Paul answers their questions and straightens them out in some areas where they're going wrong. His instructions to them speak to us today.

The reading and discussions will continue on **Aug. 27; Sept. 3, 17, 24; Oct. 1, 22, 29; Nov. 5**

Everyone is welcome. You don't need to take part in all the sessions. Drop in when you can. The group is using a brief guide to 1 Corinthians in the Six Weeks with the Bible series by Kevin. Free copies are available.

We meet at 12:15 pm in the small hall.

Coffee with Fr. John

a casual meetup on Zoom

Perhaps you have questions and haven't been able to find a moment to ask. Or perhaps you'd just like to hang out for a while in the morning before work. You're invited to share some time as we journey together through this life in Christ. This will be an online meeting through Zoom at 7am on Tuesdays. You can join with or without video.

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83054002720?pwd=QzZNM59GUE9KTIkxU01DdVdCeTRLZz09>

Meeting ID: 830 5400 2720

Passcode: 389460

Blessing of Animals

On Saturday, September 2nd, the Feast of St. Mammias, protector of animals, we will bless animals in front of the statue of St. Stephen at 1pm. Bring your pets for this special blessing!

Spaghetti Dinner

On September 17th at 4pm, all the parishioners of our Great Lakes region are invited to a Spaghetti Dinner prepared and served by your priests in the hall at St. Basil's Church in Sterling Heights.

2023 LIFE CONFERENCE:

Life: The Political, Medical, Moral and Philosophical.

Saturday, September 30, 2023 at the Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church Hall. Marblehead, Ohio. Registration at 8:00 AM. Conference 9:00 AM-5:00 PM with continental breakfast and lunch included. Tickets \$60.00/adult. \$30.00/student. Scholarships available. Speakers: Doctor George Delgado, Father Thomas J. Loya, Mr. Peter Range, Professor Janet Smith. Deadline to register: Wednesday, September 27, 2023. Call 419-626-0375 or Email: lifconference2023@yahoo.com for info or tickets. Additional Info: www.stmarymarblehead.com or www.facebook.com/@stmarybyzantine
Please call if any questions or concerns 1-419-357-3758 (cell phone) or 1-419-626-0375 (landline).

Historic Gathering of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America You are invited to Participate!

Metropolitan Archbishop William, Bishop Kurt, and the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church invite YOU to attend the “Metropolitan Assembly” at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey, on Friday, November 3 through Sunday, November 5, 2023! The theme of the Assembly is to “learn about our past and to prepare for our future!” Guest speakers include Dr. Paul Magosci, noted Author and Historian; Bishop Nil Lushchak of the Eparchy of Mukachevo; Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York; as well as other clergy and lay leaders. The Assembly includes lectures, discussions, fellowship, and a gala dinner with folk music and dancing. The fee includes meals, breaks, presentations, materials, and the gala on Saturday evening. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between 18 and 35. For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimballa, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is <https://www.byzantineassembly2023.org/> and the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com. Hope to see YOU there!

Parish Library

Please note that we have been growing a parish library, housed in the cabinets of the small hall. Parishioners are welcome to peruse and borrow the books, many of which have been donated for our continuing education and edification. Please contact Fr. John to arrange a visit to the parish library.

**LITURGY
INSTRUCTION
§ 98
SACRED
CONGREGATION
FOR THE
EASTERN
CHURCHES**

The Eastern Catholic Churches have often run the risk of omitting the communal and solemn celebration of the Divine Praises, substituting it with individual recitation of the Divine Office, on the part of the clergy, while the daily celebration of the Eucharist has remained often almost the only form of communal liturgy. Where such practice of celebrating the Divine Praises with the people has diminished, if not completely disappeared, the ancient tradition should be restored without delay, so as not to deprive the faithful of a privileged source of prayer, nourished by treasures of authentic doctrine.

Special Collections 2023

This year we are grouping the collections so that they happen on one weekend each quarter.

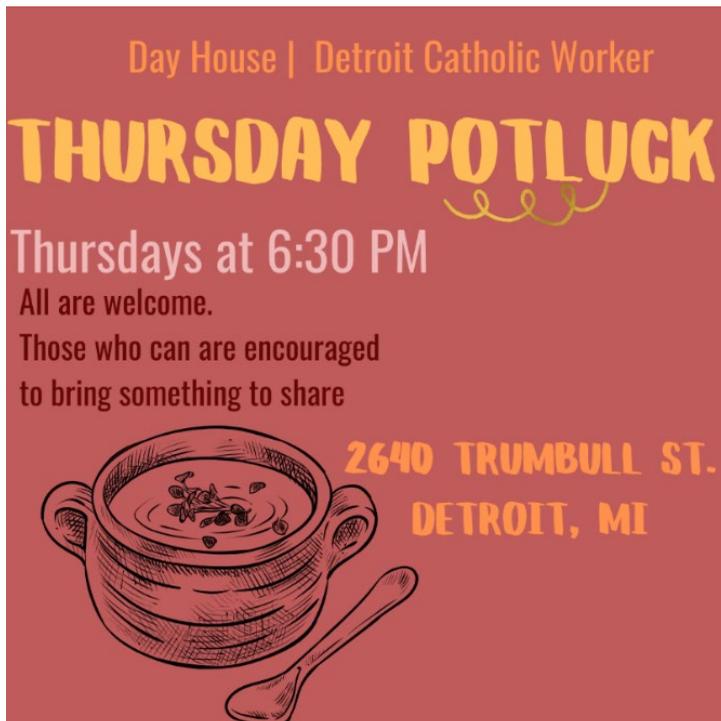
September 23-24, 2023: **Catholic Communication Campaign**

- Catholic Communication Campaign: The Eparchy of Parma directly benefits from this USCCB Collection as 50% of the funds collected in our churches remain in the Eparchy to support Horizons and other media communications of the Eparchy. The Eparchy of Parma also benefits from the other 50% that goes to the USCCB, as we receive grants from them which financially assist us in our communication efforts within the Eparchy.

December 9-10, 2023 (*use envelopes dated Aug 27, 2023*):

Retirement Fund for Religious

- Retirement Fund for the Religious: The Sisters of St. Basil the Great in Uniontown benefit directly from this USCCB Collection for their retired nuns. As they were active and provided ministry to our Eparchy in the past, we wish to help them by participating in this collection. This collection is not for our retired priests but will only benefit the retired nuns of the community of St. Basil the Great.



Upcoming Retreat Opportunities

Women within our Eparchy are invited to attend the 2023 Eparchial Women's Renewal: "The Courage to be Myrrh-bearers" scheduled to take place **November 10-11** in Whitehouse, OH. Join us as we find our courage in God and learn how to take the steps to share our gifts with others.

We encourage you to check for more opportunities! <https://www.parma.org/retreats>

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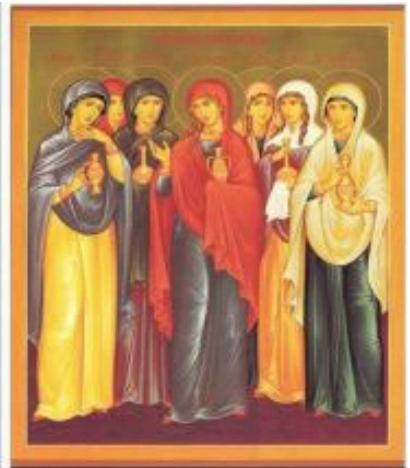
The Eparchy of Parma and
Dormition of the Mother of
God Byzantine Catholic
Church are proud to sponsor
a women's renewal.
A weekend of empowerment,
spiritual reflection and
community fellowship.

Registration

When:
.....
November 10-12, 2023
Reserve your space by
October 1, 2023

Early fee by Sept 1 = \$200
After Sept 1 fee = \$225
*Registration is first come first served
if needed, we will start a waiting list.*

**For questions
& online registration:**
Kim Kocuba
kimkocuba@ameritech.net
216-337-2673



Send registration and checks:
Women's Renewal
4600 State Rd,
Cleveland, OH 44109

Make checks payable to:
Dormition of the Mother of God
Byzantine Catholic Church

Venmo link for online payment:
[@Kim-Kocuba](https://venmo.com/Kim-Kocuba)

If you are paying online via Venmo, please
email your registration information to
kimkocuba@ameritech.net
**Registration is first come first
served!**

Where:
.....
The Lial Retreat Center
5908 Davis Rd,
Whitehouse, OH 43571

**THE COURAGE
TO BE
MYRRH BEARERS**

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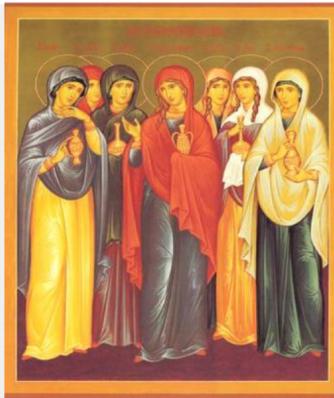
**Parma Eparchial Women's
Renewal 2023**

THE COURAGE TO BE MYRRH BEARERS

.....

Where:

The Lial Retreat Center
5908 Davis Rd,
Whitehouse, OH 43571



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The Eparchy of Parma and
Dormition of the Mother of
God Byzantine Catholic
Church are proud to sponsor
a women's renewal.
A weekend of empowerment,
spiritual reflection and
community fellowship.

Registration:

Send **Paper** registration and **checks** to:

Women's Renewal, 2023 4600 State Rd, Cleveland,
OH 44109

If mailing a check, please send in registration with it.

Make checks payable to: Dormition of the Mother of
God Byzantine Catholic Church

Online payment: Venmo link @Kim-Kocuba

Online registration form available @

<https://www.parma.org/retreats>

Contact Kim @ kimkocuba@ameritech.net or

216-337-2673 with questions.



Keynote: Lynne Wardach:

The ByziMom

<https://www.byzimom.com/byzikids>

ByziMom's Guide to Great Fast Meals.

She is also the creator and executive editor of
ByziKids Magazine, and is an oblate and
Coordinator of the Myrrhbearing Lay Sisters of
St. John the Beloved at Holy Annunciation
Byzantine Catholic Monastery.

Name:

Address:

Email address:

Phone #:

Parish:

Payment method:

.....

Check #

Venmo ID

Dietary restrictions:

Mobility restrictions:



Spiritual Leader:

Rev. Dennis Hrubciak

Retired - Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of
Parma

You have gifts to offer!

*Join us as we find our courage in
God and learn how to take the step
to share our gifts with others.*

*Registration is first come first
served. Don't miss your chance,
register by September 1, 2023*

The Courage to be Myrrh Bearers Women's Renewal

You have gifts to offer the world. Join us as we find our courage in God and learn how to take the steps to share our gifts with others.

The Eparchy of Parma and The Dormition of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church are proud to sponsor a women's renewal.

A weekend of empowerment, spiritual reflection, and community fellowship.

The weekend will take place November 10-12, 2023, at The Lial Retreat Center in Whitehouse, OH.

Our Keynote Speaker is Lynne Wardach, ByziMom of <https://www.byzimom.com>. Rev. Dennis Hrubiak is the spiritual director.

Early registration fee is \$200. Registration is first come first served. Don't miss your chance, register by September 1, 2023.

Registration:

Online registration form available @ <https://www.parma.org/retreats> Online payment: Venmo link @Kim-Kocuba

Send Paper registration and checks to: Women's Renewal, 2023 4600 State Rd, Cleveland, OH 44109

Make checks payable to: Dormition of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church

See brochure at the entrance of the church, for more information.

Contact Kim @ kimkocuba@ameritech.net or 216-337-2673 with questions.

FAQ:

1 Can I carpool with someone or is there a bus?

A We are working on a solution, please sign up and in make a note that you would need a ride to the event. We will get back to you.

2 Can I pay later?

A Yes. Please sign up if you are interested and when the time comes, you can send a check or Venmo online, no later than 30 days before. If we are selling out, we can reach out to you to send in payment to secure your spot.

3 Can I pick my own room?

A No, but if you let us know if you have special needs, we can try to accommodate.

4 I sent in my registration online or by mail, am I signed up?

A No, you need to pay to complete your registration and hold your spot. If you send in your information, we can reach out as we fill up to check on your payment.

5 Are you offering vouchers or discounts?

A No, we are already extending a great value due to the support of the Eparchy and their generous donation to the event.



METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY



Art | History | Presentations | Prayer | Dancing

NOVEMBER 2 - 5, 2023

**LIVING OUR FAITH
Moving Forward
Appreciating Our Past**

- \$250 per person
- \$400 per family
- Young Adult (18-35)*
*registration underwritten by
The Maria Theresa Foundation



**St. Mary Byzantine
Catholic Church,
Hillsborough, NJ**

Assembly Coordinators

Fr. Edward Cimbala 212-677-0516 | Fr. Yuriy Oros 609-394-5004

Email: byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com | **Web:** byzantineassembly2023.org



METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY

NOVEMBER 2 - 5, 2023

LIVING OUR FAITH
Moving Forward
Appreciating Our Past

Art | History | Presentations | Prayer | Dancing

A gathering for all Byzantine Catholic faithful to learn about their past and plan for growth in the future.

Schedule



Special Guests

Thursday, November 2, 2023	Clergy Day
9:30 AM-Noon	Registration Vendors Throughout Assembly
Noon	Lunch
1:30 PM to 6:00 PM	Welcome and Presentations
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM	Presentation
9:00 PM	Compline
9:30 PM to 10:30 PM	Social
Friday, November 3, 2023	Clergy Days Continue
8:00 AM	Morning Prayer
8:30 AM to 9:15 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:30 AM to Noon	Presentations
10:00 AM to Noon	Laity Registration
Noon to 1:30 PM	Lunch
	Clergy and Laity
1:30 PM to 7:00 PM	Presentations to Clergy and Laity
7:30 PM to 9:45 PM	Dinner and Keynote
10:00 PM	Compline
Saturday, November 4, 2023	Clergy and Laity
8:00 AM	Morning Prayer
8:30 AM to 9:15 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:30 AM to Noon	Presentations
Noon to 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM to 5:30 PM	Presentations
6:00 PM	Vespers
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM	Gala Dinner & Dancing to the Music of Pajtáši
Sunday, November 5	
8:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
10:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet
11:00 AM to 1:30 PM	Final Presentation, What's Next?, Wrap-up, and Farewell



The cultural aspect of the Assembly will consist of presentations by **Dr. Paul Magocsi** on the history of the founders of the Byzantine Catholic Church in America. His influential book, *Our People: Carpatho-Rusyns and Their Descendants in North America*, has just been released in a new and expanded edition. Dr. Magocsi will also present on the art and culture of this community. His book on the artists of the Transcarpathian School will be published shortly.



Bishop Nil Lushchak O.F.M. is an Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Mukachevo. Previously served as Auxiliary Bishop of the same eparchy since 19 November 2012 until 20 July 2020.



Cardinal Timothy Dolan will offer the keynote address at the opening dinner on Friday evening.

All other speakers will be announced soon!

Gala evening

As music and dancing play a significant part in the cultural heritage of Carpatho-Rusyns, attendees will have an opportunity to enjoy music, food, and fellowship at a gala Saturday evening. Pajtáši – a noted Rusyn/Slovak Band, will be the musical entertainment, and the dinner menu will feature a variety of ethnic foods.

PAJTÁŠI



Registration Now Open!

Registration deadline is October 1, 2023



Get in touch

Fr. Edward Cimbala @ 212-677-0516
Fr. Yuriy Oros @ 609-394-5004

Email: byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com
Website: byzantineassembly2023.org



Accommodations

Hilton Garden Inn Bridgewater
500 Promenade Boulevard
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

Location

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church
1900 Brooks Boulevard,
Hillsborough, NJ, 08844



St. Nicholas Apostolate

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 donation box 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 he deems appropriate. 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).

Contact Fr Deacon Lawrence (frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com) for more information.

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

Rides to Church

If you need a ride or would like to offer a ride to others, please contact Victor Jiompkowski (313-930-0801 / v.jiompkowski1111@att.net) so he can help make the arrangements. The St. Nicholas Apostolate is still looking for a second person to help coordinate rides to church for people having trouble getting to services. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Victor Jiompkowski or Father John.

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. Thank you to Phyllis, Ceil, and Char for cleaning last week. has 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 Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$85.

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

for the retirement of our nuns, we have collected \$395.

for Peter's Pence, we have collected \$40

for Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$40

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.

Prayer List

Pray for the healing of Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Dorothy Brooks, Pat Carlson, Misha & Katya Coffey-Burns, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Chris Lauffer, Michael Mykeloff, Thomas Payeur, & Edith Santo

And for the repose of Mary Muntz, Ilya Serafim Noach Coffey-Burns & Lev Vassily Moyshe Coffey-Burns

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on August 20th was **53**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **57**

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 20th was **\$3,089.17**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,095.57**

Sunday: \$1,771; Holy Day: \$925; Online: \$302.17; Candles: \$81; Initial Offering: \$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).



Saint Stephen

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH