

# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 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  
ststephenhall123@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.”  
– our former pastor Fr. Joseph Radvansky in *A Brief Explanation of the Eastern Catholic Churches*.

# 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, October 29, 2023

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 5

The Holy Venerable Martyr Anastasia (c. 250). Venerable Father Abraham the Hermit (360).  
Passing of our Venerable Fr. Abraham of Rostov, Archimandrite & Wonder-worker.

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

Galatians 6:11-18. Luke 8:26-39.

**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 W & Cecilia

Reader: Victor

*After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF classes. Bible Discussion in small hall at 12:15*

**7:00pm Vespers** for Monday

## Monday, October 30, 2023

The Holy Martyr Zenobius and his Sister Zenobia (285).

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5. Luke 11:29-33.

7:00pm *Byzantine Book Club* - online: [meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia](https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia)

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

## Tuesday, October 31, 2023

*Hallowe'en*

✚ The Holy Priest-Martyr Theodore Romzha, Bishop of Mukačevo (1947).

The Holy Apostles Stachys, Amplius and their Companions. Holy Martyr Epimachus (250).

*Vespers:* 2 Kings 2:9-14 • Isaiah 26:7-13 • Sirach 2:1-6.

*Matins Gospel:* Luke 12:32-40.

*for Theodore:* Philipians 3:7-11. Luke 22:24-30.

*for the day:* 1 Thessalonians 1:6-10. Luke 11:34-41.

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

**10:00am Third & Sixth Hour**

6-8pm *Hallowe'en Trunk or Treat* (set up at 5pm)

## Wednesday, November 1, 2023

☞ The Holy Unmercenary Wonder-workers Cosmas and Damian.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8. Luke 11:42-46.

**7:00am Matins**

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Vespers & 7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday**

Cantor: Mary R

+*Michael Camilleri, from Maryalice Lukas*

## Thursday, November 2, 2023

The Holy Martyrs Akindynos, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidiphor, and Anempodistus (335).

1 Thessalonians 2:9-14a. Luke 11:47-12:1.

## Friday, November 3, 2023



Holy Martyrs Acepssimas, the Bishop; Joseph, the Priest; and Aeithalas, the Deacon

Dedication of the Church of the Holy Great Martyr George in Lydia, where his precious body is entombed.

1 Thessalonians 2:14-19. Luke 12:2-12.

**9:30am Third & Sixth Hour &**

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

Cantor: Mary R

+*Anna O'Connor*

*6:00pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers for Saturday**

## Saturday, November 4, 2023

Venerable Fr. Joannicus the Great. Holy Martyr Nicander, Bishop of Myra. Priest Hermas.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5. Luke 9:1-6.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

Cantor: Victor A

+*Melyon* & +*Josefa, from Sarah Marron*

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

## Sunday, November 5, 2023

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 6

The Holy Martyrs Galaction and Episteme (253).

The Passing of the Blessed Martyr Gregory Lakota, Auxiliary Bishop of Peremyshl (1950).

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

Ephesians 2:4-10. Luke 8:41-56.

**8:15am Matins** for Sunday

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

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

Cantor: Mary H

Reader: Vic J

*After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF classes. Bible Discussion in small hall at 12:15*

**7:00pm Vespers** for Monday – at St. Francis in Ann Arbor

## Monday, November 6, 2023

☩ Our Holy Father Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople (351).

1 Thessalonians 2:20-3:8. Luke 12:13-15, 22b-31.

7:00pm *Byzantine Book Club* - online: [meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia](https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia)

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

## Tuesday, November 7, 2023

The Holy Thirty-three Martyrs at Melitene (298).

Venerable Fr. Lazarus, the Wonder-worker, who fasted in the hills of Galilee (11th Century).

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13. Luke 12:42-48.

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

**7:00pm Akathist** (*Reader Service*)

Cantors: Lance & Kevin

## Wednesday, November 8, 2023

⊕ THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY ARCHANGEL MICHAEL & ALL ANGELIC POWERS.

*Vespers: Joshua 5:13-15 • Judges 6:7, 11-24 • Isaiah 14:6-20.*

*Matins Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36b-43.*

*for the Angels: Hebrews 2:2-10. Luke 10:16-22.*





*for the day: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12. Luke 12:48b-59*

**7:00pm Vespers** (*Reader Service*)

Cantor: Victor A

## LEGEND

- ⊕ Great Feast
- ⊕ Feast with an All-night Vigil
- + Feast with the Polveleos 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)

## Welcome our New Bishop!

All parishioners are kindly invited to attend the Vespers and Profession of Faith of Bishop-elect Robert Pipta on **November 7, 2023, at 7pm** at Holy Resurrection Parish, 532 Lloyd Road, Euclid, Ohio 44132 (to be followed by an 8:30pm social in the parish hall where desserts and beverages will be served). All are also invited to attend the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on **November 9, 2023, at 10am** at Holy Spirit Church, 5500 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Parma, Ohio 44129. If you wish to attend one or both of these liturgical celebrations, please contact the Chancery at [chancery@parma.org](mailto:chancery@parma.org) or 216-741-8773 x 1221 so that we can make sure we have ample seating and food (for the social following Vespers on November 7).



## PUMPKIN PIES!

The Guild will be baking and selling pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving! These will be 9 inch pies and sell for \$15 per pie. Please place your orders with Louise Dalbo (313-382-6788 or [louisedalbo@gmail.com](mailto:louisedalbo@gmail.com)).

**Place your orders before Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

The Guild will bake the pies **November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Kathy Sabula (734-308-3169) to let her you know you can come and help with the baking, boxing, & cleaning. You don't have to be a member of the Guild to help! Pies can be picked up in the hall on **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** after Liturgy. They will be fresh and great for Thanksgiving. Buy two or more and freeze some for Christmas!

## **Bible Discussion – 1 Corinthians**

Our ongoing 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 **Oct. 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.

## **Invitation to Byzantine Book Club**

We have begun reading and discussing *Poustinia: Encountering God in Silence, Solitude, and Prayer* by Catherine Doherty. Meetings are most Mondays at 7pm.

You may join in person at the Hendricks Homestead

(8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198)

or online through the link: [meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia](https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia)

[Join by phone](tel:+16625104431) (US) +1 662-510-4431 PIN: 111 641 182#

### ***Poustinia: Encountering God in Silence, Solitude, and Prayer***

The author states “It is important, I think, for the reader to understand that much of this book was originally in the form of talks given to Madonna House, the community God formed through me, and that therefore it has a conversational tone.”

In the noise and confusion of our age, Poustinia (Russian for “desert”), opens a door into a vista of our own hearts where the presence of God dwells. Since its first publication almost 50 years ago, Catherine's teaching on prayer has been translated into 16 languages and hailed as a spiritual classic.

If you have any questions, contact Fr. Deacon Lawrence at (734) 255-4099 or [frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com](mailto:frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com)

## 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.

## 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. (*No meeting on 10-17*). You can join with or without video.

Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 830 5400 2720

Passcode: 389460

## Annual Stewardship Appeal

**The Stewardship Appeal helps cover the costs of a variety of programs in the Eparchy including the support of charity.** Funds raised through the Stewardship Appeal will provide charitable help for the poorest people in our communities and abroad. This includes supporting poor priests and their families.

If you have not already made your pledge or donation, please visit [parma.org](http://parma.org) and consider a donation to the Eparchy to help financially with the many needs we face. Thank you for your generosity!

***Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign.***

St. Stephen's goal this year is \$7,300. So far, 10 contributors have donated \$904.

Join us at Saint Stephen for  
our 4<sup>th</sup> annual



October 31<sup>st</sup> 6-8pm (setup at 5pm)

- ~ Free event for the whole family
- ~ Visit with old friends and new
- ~ Free Chili, Cider, & Soul Cakes
- ~ Donations welcome!
- ~ Sign up to assist or donate items

**Saint Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church**  
**4141 Laurence Avenue Allen Park, MI 48101**  
**(In the Parish Office Lot)**



## Special Collections 2023

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.

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

# 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**

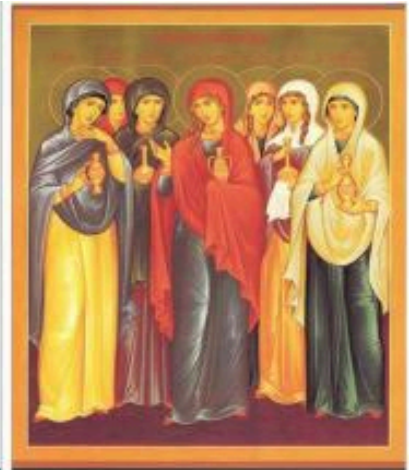
### When:

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**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

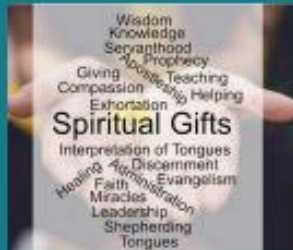
**Venmo link for online payment:**  
[@Kim-Kocuba](https://www.venmo.com/@Kim-Kocuba)

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

### Where:

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



## THE COURAGE TO BE MYRRH BEARERS

.....

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](mailto: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:**

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**Address:**

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**Email address:**

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**Phone #:**

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**Payment method:**

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**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*



# 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](mailto:byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com) | **Web:** [byzantineassembly2023.org](http://byzantineassembly2023.org)

## 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](mailto: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 have revived 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.

## 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 \$475.

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 John Aral, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella,  
Dorothy Brooks, Pat Carlson, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Chris Lauffer,  
Michael Mykeloff, Ron Ostrowsky, Thomas Payeur, & Edith Santo*

**ATTENDANCE** – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> was **66** & on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> was **114**. Avg. ≈ **60**

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 October 15<sup>th</sup> was **\$3,762.82** & for October 22<sup>nd</sup> was **\$5,483.95**. Avg: **\$2,145.31**

Sunday: \$1635.25; Online: \$877.17; Special Donation: \$2852.28; Candles: \$47.25; Horizons: \$72

“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