

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

November 5th, 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.”
– 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

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

Cantor: Victor A

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

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

Cantor: Mary H
Reader: Vic J

+Michael Camilleri, from Maryalice Lukas (11-1)

+Anna O'Connor (11-3)

+Melyvn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (11-4)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF classes.

7:00pm Vespers for Monday

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

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 to St. Michael (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

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Our Venerable Mother Matrona (492). The Venerable Theoctista of Lesbos (881).

1 Thessalonians 5:1-8. Luke 13:1-9.

Friday, November 10, 2023



The Holy Apostles Erastus, Olympas, Rhodion, and their Companions.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-13, 24-28. Luke 13:31-35.

6:00pm Confessions: – in the chapel

7:00pm Vespers *for Saturday – in the chapel*

Saturday, November 11, 2023

The Holy Martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincent (304). The Holy Martyr Stephanis (304).

Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the Studite (826).

2 Corinthians 11:1-6. Luke 9:37-43a.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Mary R

+Mary Muntz, from Sarah Marron

3:00pm Crowning of David & Rachel in Holy Matrimony

7:00pm Great Vespers *for Sunday – followed by Confessions*

Sunday, November 12, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 7

Our Venerable Father John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria. Venerable Father Nilus.

✙ The Holy Martyr Josaphat, Archbishop of Polotsk (1623).

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

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

for Josaphat: Hebrews 5:4-10. John 10:9-16.

for the day: Ephesians 2:14-22. Luke 10:25-37.

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: Debra

+Mary Muntz, from Sarah Marron (11-11)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF classes.

7:00pm Great Vespers for ✙ Our Holy Father John Chrysostom

Monday, November 13, 2023

✙ Our Holy Father John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople (407).

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

for Chrysostom: Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16.

for the day: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-10. Luke 14:1, 12-15.

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

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

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

✙ Holy & Illustrious Apostle Philip. Holy Fr. Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

Vespers: 1 Peter 1:1-6 • 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 • 1 Peter 4:1-11.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for Philip: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16. John 1:43-51.

for the day: 2 Thessalonians 1:10b-2:2. Luke 14:25-35.

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

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

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)

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. 54th Street, Parma, Ohio 44129. If you wish to attend one or both of these liturgical celebrations, please contact the Chancery at 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).

Place your orders before Sunday, November 12th.

The Guild will bake the pies **November 16th and 17th**. 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 19th** after Liturgy. They will be fresh and great for Thanksgiving. Buy two or more and freeze some for Christmas!

How did we get the Bible?

Part 1 - Development of the Old Testament Canon

On Sunday, **November 12th**, there will be a presentation in the small hall of the formation of the Old Testament Biblical canon (how books came to be included or excluded from a list of books considered to be inspired scripture).

Meanwhile, consider which part of the Bible or Biblical theme you might be interested in learning more about for our next series of discussions. Please respond to this email with your suggestions.

Byzantine Book Club

We are 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

[Join by phone](https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia) (US) +1 662-510-4431 PIN: 111 641 182#

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=QzZNM5S9GUE9KTIkxU01DdVdCeTRLZz09>

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 and it provides for the future of the Eparchy. As we go forward with confidence and faith in the Lord, we remember that it not our work but His work. Your generosity will help determine the extent to which the Eparchy can serve the Lord's purpose.

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

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

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.



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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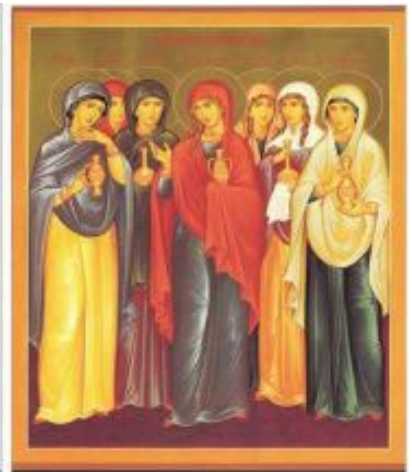
November 10-12, 2023
Reserve your space by **October 1, 2023**

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://venmo.com/Kim-Kocuba)

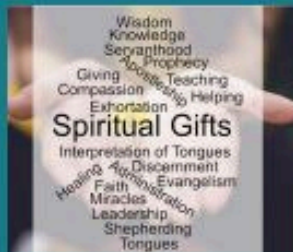
If you are paying online via Venmo, please email your registration information to kimkocuba@ameritech.net

Registration is first come first served!

Where:

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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*

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 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, Louise Dalbo, Lawrence Thomas Dion,
Chris Lauffer, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng, Ron Ostrowsky, Thomas Payeur,
& Edith Santo

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on October 29th was **68**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **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 29th was **\$1,643.67**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,643.67**

Sunday: \$1214; Online: \$377.17; Candles: \$28.50; Horizons: \$24

“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