



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

April 28th, 2024

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, Cecilia Hendricks, Pani Mary
Hendricks, Lance Remisoski, Pani Katie Russell, Mary
Russell, David Woods, Mary Woods

Hall Manager: Victor Azcuy
ststephenshall123@gmail.com (239) 895-8931



Christ is risen! 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 Robert (Pipta) is our Bishop. 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, April 28, 2024

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN. Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. Tone 4
The Holy Apostles Jason and Sospater. Holy Martyrs Dadas, Maximus, and Quintillian.
Our Holy Father Cyril, Bishop of Turov (c. 1182).

7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:1-10.

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30. John 4:5-42.

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: Cecilia

for the health of Wally Maire, from the Richardson Family (4-24)

for George Durisin, from Bob & Jane Semak (4-27)

+Manouk (Mike) Mykeloff, from Kathy Mykeloff (4-22)

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF Classes & Adult Catechesis.

5pm Discussion of Joseph and his brothers in Genesis via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89868111655?pwd=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLfIPw8vutasO.1>

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

Cantor: Mary H

Monday, April 29, 2024

Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost. The Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice (3rd Century).

Our Venerable Father Memnon the Wonder-worker (c. 250).

Acts 12:12-17. John 8:42-51.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia (beginning new book!)

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

9:00pm Small Compline

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Post-festive Day of Mid-Pentecost.

✦ The Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian.

Vespers: James 1:1-12 • James 1:13-27 • James 2:1-13.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for James: Acts 12:1-11. Luke 5:1-11.

for the day: Acts 12:25-13:12. John 8:51-59.

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Leave-taking of Mid-Pentecost. Holy Prophet Jeremiah. Passing of Bl. Clement Sheptyckyj.

Acts 13:13-24. John 6:5-14.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm *Confessions*

6:30pm Vespers &

7:00pm Divine Liturgy for Thursday

Cantors: Daniel B & Mary R

+Edward Moritz, from the Dalbo Family

Thursday, May 2, 2024

⊗ Our Holy Father Athanasius the Great (373).

Acts 14:20b-27. John 9:39-10:9.

7:00am *Coffee with Fr. John – a casual meetup on Zoom (now on Thursdays!)*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83054002720?pwd=QzZNMNS9GUE9KTIkxU01DdVdCeTRLZz09>

Friday, May 3, 2024

The Holy Martyr Timothy and his Wife Maura (286).

✦ The Passing of our Venerable Father Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves (1074).

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

Matins Gospel: Luke 6:17-23.

for Theodosius: Hebrews 13:7-16. Luke 6:17-23.

for the day: Acts 15:5-34. John 10:17-28.

7:00am Matins

6:30pm *Confessions*

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, May 4, 2024

The Holy Martyr Pelagia (287).

Acts 15:35-41. John 10:27-38.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantors: Mary W, Mary R, Katie

Thanksgiving for birth of Rosario David Barillas

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

Sunday, May 5, 2024

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND. Tone 5

The Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene.

Our Venerable Father Nicephor, Hegumen of the Medikion Monastery (14th Century).

8th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: John 20:11-18.

Acts 16:16-34. John 9:1-38.

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: Erin H

Thanksgiving for birth of Rosario David Barillas (5-4)

+Edward Moritz, from the Dalbo Family (5-1)

After Liturgy: Guild Meeting. Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. ECF Classes & Adult Catechesis.

5pm Discussion of Joseph and his brothers in Genesis via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89868111655?pwd=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLlPw8vutasO.1>

7:00pm Vespers

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)

Prayer List

Pray for the healing of John Aral, Agustin Azcuy, Barb Barnes,
Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, Emily Czupinski, Lawrence Thomas Dion,
Chris Lauffer, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng,
Ron Ostrowsky, & Edith Santo

Bible Discussion Group

Our Bible discussion is focusing on two biblical figures of the same name: Joseph, one of Jacob's twelve sons (Genesis 37—50), and Joseph, husband of Mary (Matthew 1—2). We will look closely at each man's life and explore the connections between them. Their stories provoke reflection on many aspects of life as we all experience it: conflicts within the family, parental favoritism, sibling envy, compassion and reconciliation, acceptance of God's plans, trust and obedience, and the personal vocation.

Everyone is welcome to join in the reading and discussion. The meetings are now taking place on Sunday evenings at five o'clock on Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89868111655?pwd=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLfIPw8vutas0.1>

We will be using a short book in the Six Weeks with the Bible series: *Genesis 37—50: Joseph the Dreamer*, as well as a portion of a book on St. Joseph. Ask Kevin Perrotta for a free copy of *Joseph the Dreamer* if you're interested in taking part.

Byzantine Book Club

*The Book Club will begin a new book on Monday, April 28th:
It is the Day of Resurrection: the Forty Days of Pascha* by Jack Custer

Meet online: meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia

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

Contact Fr. Deacon Lawrence with any questions
at (734) 255-4099 or frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com.



The Seventh **MIRACLE OF MARIAPOCH GALA**

SATURDAY, May 25, 2024

6-9:30 P.M. VENUE 81 ELEVEN

ST. JOSEPH BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

8111 BRECKSVILLE ROAD, BRECKSVILLE, OHIO

Small plate buffet; wine and beer included

Raffle baskets and silent auction

\$40 per person; \$220 table of six

Call (216) 272-6790, or order online at:

www.parma.org/shrine-of-mariapoch

Proceeds benefit capital improvements at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch, Burton, Ohio



*We are a center of prayer for peace in the world and in each life,
offering the healing refuge of Our Lady of Mariapoch.*

Raffle Baskets for the Mariapoch Gala.

The Guild is collecting items for Raffle Baskets for the Mariapoch Gala.

There is be a box in the narthex for these donations.

Donate items that will fetch a high bid!

*“Come to me, all
you who labor and
are burdened, and
I will give you
rest.”*

Annual Byzantine
Eparchial Women’s
Renewal



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 rest, prayer,
reflection, creation and
community.*

When:

October 25-27, 2024

*Reserve your space by
September 25, 2024 for
discounted rate.*

Early fee by Sept 25 = \$200

After Sept 25 fee = \$225

For questions:

Kim Kocuba

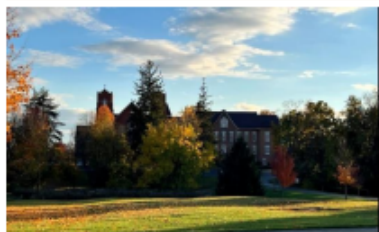
@ 216-337-2673 or

kimkocuba@ameritech.net

Where:

New location!

**St. Francis
Spirituality Center
200 St Francis Ave.
Tiffin, OH 44883**



Registration:

**Online registration form
available**

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

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:

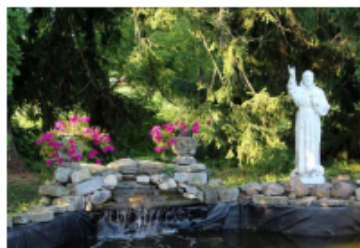
@Kim Kocuba



Spiritual Leader:

Rev. Jerome Wolbert, OFM

Fr Jerome Wolbert, OFM, is a
Byzantine Catholic priest,
Franciscan friar, and native of the
Eparchy of Parma (St Michael’s in
Flushing, MI). He is a National
Spiritual Assistant to the Secular
Franciscan Order in addition to
serving at the Franciscan Monastery
of the Holy Land in Washington, DC,
where he lives (myfranciscan.org),
and at Epiphany Byzantine Catholic
Mission in Gaithersburg, MD.



Eparchial Events 2024

Pre-Cana Weekend – May 4-5, 2024 – St. John the Baptist, Solon, Ohio

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally – June 27-29, 2024 – San Diego, California

2nd Annual NW Indiana Bishop's Golf Classic – August 5, 2024 – Lost Marsh Golf Course, Hammond, Indiana

Family and Cantor Camp 2024: Liturgy and Life. Join Byzantine Catholic families from across the Eparchy of Parma from August 11th through August 16th in Cedar Lakes, IN to have some faith-focused, family-friendly fun! This year's camp will feature Fr. Andrew Summerson and special guests, who will lead a Cantor Camp for both children and adults. Cantor Camp will bring families together to build up our rich tradition of Byzantine Catholic worship and enrich the spiritual lives of our families through singing. Alongside Cantor Camp, there will be daily Liturgy and community prayer, as well as plenty of outdoor activities. This year's camp will be hosted at Cedar Lakes Ministries, which has an abundance of on-site facilities for families to have fun together outdoors, including a private beach, playground, campfire sites, and multiple fields and courts for sports. Find out more and register at <https://parma.org/family-camp>.

4th Annual Ohio Bishop's Golf Classic – August 12, 2024 - Sleepy Hollow Golf Course, Brecksville, Ohio

Pilgrimage to Shrine of Mariapoch, Burton, Ohio – August 17-18, 2024

New Horizons – September 28, 2024 – Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, Illinois

Jubilee Weekend Celebration of Metropolitan Church - October 12-13, 2024 – Washington DC and Annandale, Virginia

Evening of Hope - October 19, 2024 – Holiday Inn, Independence, Ohio

Eparchial Clergy and Staff Conference – October 21-25, 2024 – St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center, Detroit, Michigan

Eparchial Women's Renewal – October 25-27, 2024 – St. Francis Spirituality Center, Tiffin, Ohio

Special Collections 2024

May 18-19, 2024 - Catholic Home Missions Appeal

The Eparchy of Parma benefits from this USCCB Collection through the financial support of our Chancery, and Eparchial Offices' support for our parishes, missions, Shrine, and religious education programs.

June 29-30, 2024 - Peter's Pence

This collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world – those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

Fire Exits for St. Stephen Campus

Dear Parishioners,

We need your financial help. St. Stephen's needs to update and/or re-install four fire exits. Two for the church, one for the nursery, and one for the rectory. One church fire exit and the nursery fire exit both exist but need modification to become be accessible and safe; A second church exit needs to be created to comply with the building code. The rectory does not have a fire exit so it is a high priority to create one there. We also need to create a fire exit for the rectory.

The parish *does* have the money to address these needs, however, we have been depleting these resources and need to replenish the funding to be prepared for other needs which are arising.

We are asking for your help and generosity. Please donate and designate the funding for of this appeal on the memo line of your check or on the envelope as "Building Fund."

Your contribution will help ensure the continuing viability of our parish community, as well as the future sustainability of our campus structures.

Thank you for your anticipated support!

Some Parish Financial Information

As of March 31st, 2024 we had a total of \$693,143.02 in all of our accounts combined.

Since 2020, that total has fluctuated but remained between \$680,000 and \$725,000.

However, five years ago, on March 31st, 2019, that total was \$791,459.03 and on August 31st, 2018 (my first month here), that total was \$812,233.43.

The large depletion in 2019 was due to large capital projects (including a new drainage system, rectory floor replacement due to flood damage, and asbestos removal). Our total income from all sources has been enough to pay our operating costs, but there has not yet been enough to recover our losses in any substantial way.

We are now facing a new series of large capital projects, beginning with the re-installation of fire exits that were previously removed and needed improvement to other fire exits. Without additional funding, these capital projects will further deplete our total holdings.

-Fr. John

Church Cleaning

Please sign up in the narthex 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 Betty and LeAnn for cleaning this week!

Annual Stewardship Appeal

This weekend marks the end of the promotion for this year's Eparchial Stewardship Appeal. Payments may continue to be made through the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2024. Visit parma.org to make your donation. Thank you to everyone who participated with their **time, talent, and treasure**. Your participation has allowed our Eparchy of Parma to continue to provide funds to support four important needs in the Eparchy: Development of Parishes; Vocations and Seminarian Education; Works of the Apostolate; and Retired Priests. God Bless you!

CHARITABLE GIVING

from St. Stephen Parish

*Through our St. Nicholas Apostolate, we donate \$50 per month
to Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry
and to the Image of God Pregnancy Center (4151 Seminole St., Detroit).*

Since our last contributions,

for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$105.

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

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

for Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$40.

An Easy Way to help Fish and Loaves:

Google the Fish and Loaves Community Food Pantry

Click on Instructions on linking your Kroger Card to Fish and Loaves

A portion of your total will go to Fish and Loaves at NO cost to you.

You can also click on Meijer Simply Give and help that way as well.

Gift from the GCU

The Greek Catholic Union one of the premiere Catholic fraternal societies in the country has gifted our parish with one thousand dollars to be used as needed to keep our community stable and growing. Since 1892, one of the goals of the Union has been the building and growth of our churches. This continues their long history of support. In the future, we will be participating in a matching funds program for one of the projects to help bring our facility up to 21st century standards.

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on April 21st was **67**. 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 April 21st was **\$2,651.17**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,202.32**

Sunday: \$1077; Online: \$477.17; Special Donations: \$80; Candles: \$17

“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