



# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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



**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 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, June 2, 2024**



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

Our Venerable Father Nicephor the Confessor (771).

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

Romans 2:10-16. Matthew 4:18-23.

**8:15am Matins** for Sunday

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

**10:00am Divine Liturgy** – for the people of the parish Cantors: Mary H, Cecilia, David W  
with the baptism of Rosario David Barillas Reader: Lance

*in thanksgiving for the birthday of Irene Durisin, from Bob & Jane Semak (6-1)*

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

*5:00pm – Bible Discussion Group – Joseph – via Zoom:*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89868111655?pwd=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLflPw8vutasO.1>

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

**Monday, June 3, 2024**



*Day of Alleluia (without Divine Liturgy)*

The Holy Martyr Lucillian and his Companions (273).

Romans 7:1-13. Matthew 9:36-10:8.

**4:30pm Vespers &**

**5:00pm Divine Liturgy** for Tuesday

Cantors: Victor A, Lance, Mary R

*for the healing of Ann Marie Stein, from Lance Michael Remisoski*

*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, June 4, 2024**



Holy Fr. Metrophane, Patriarch of Constantinople. Holy Myrrh-bearers Martha and Mary.

Romans 7:14-8:2. Matthew 10:9-15.

Wednesday, June 5, 2024  *Day of Alleluia (without Divine Liturgy)*

The Holy Martyr Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre. The Holy Martyr Cosmas, an Armenian Priest.  
Romans 8:2-13. Matthew 10:16-22.

**10:00am Third & Sixth Hour** – *with prostrations*

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Ninth Hour & Typika**

**7:00pm Vespers & Compline** *for Thursday – with prostrations*

Thursday, June 6, 2024  *Day of Alleluia (without Divine Liturgy)*

Our Venerable Father Bessarion the Wonder-worker (446).

Venerable Father & Confessor Hilary the Younger, Hegumen of the Dalmatian Monastery.

Romans 8:22-27. Matthew 10:23-31.

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83054002720?pwd=OzZNMNS9GUE9KTIkxU01DdVdCeTRLZz09>

Friday, June 7, 2024  *Day of Alleluia (without Divine Liturgy)*

The Holy Martyr Theodotus, Bishop of Ancyra. Holy Martyrs Cyriaca, Valeria, and Maria.

Romans 9:6-19. Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1.

**7:00am Matins** – *with Alleluia and prostrations*

*6:30pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers** *for Saturday*

Saturday, June 8, 2024 

⊗ The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit (319).

Blessed Maria Theresa Mankdian Chiramel.

Romans 3:28-4:3. Matthew 7:24-8:4.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

Cantor: Lance, Mary R

*+Mary Novak, from Louise Dalbo*

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

Sunday, June 9, 2024



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 2

⊗ Our Holy Father Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria (444).

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

Romans 5:1-10. Matthew 6:22-33.

**8:15am Matins** *for Sunday*

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

**10:00am Divine Liturgy** – *for the people of the parish* Cantors: Mary H, Cecilia, David W  
Reader: Zac

*for the healing of Ann Marie Stein, from Lance Michael Remisoski (6-3)*

*+Mary Novak, from Louise Dalbo (6-8)*

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

**7:00pm Vespers** *for Monday – with prostrations*

**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)

**The Raffle Basket raised \$90 for the Shrine of Mariapoch.**

**Thank you to the Guild and to all who donated!**

**The Apostle's Fast**

The Apostle's Fast begins after the Sunday of All Saints (which this year falls on May 26<sup>th</sup>) and lasts until June 28<sup>th</sup>, ending with the Great Feast of the Holy Preeminent Apostles Peter and Paul (which is always on June 29<sup>th</sup>). The Typikon prescribes strict abstinence from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, with a mitigated abstinence permitting wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Metropolia of Pittsburgh has identified this period as a penitential season (canon 880, 2). This Fast may be observed voluntarily.

## What is a Day of Alleluia?

All weekdays during the Great Fast and certain weekdays during the minor fasts, such as the Apostle's Fast we are now observing, are sometimes called "Days of Alleluia" because on these days we sing "Alleluia" instead of "the Lord is God" at Matins. When these days fall on Monday through Friday, they are penitential days. The vestments worn are dark. We make prostrations and pray the prayer of St. Ephrem at the liturgical services for these days. Perhaps most strikingly, we do not pray the anaphora (the eucharist prayer) on these days. It is good to make an effort to attend services on these days during the fast. We are encouraged to pray more, not less, on these days

## Stay Connected with Our Weekly E-Newsletter!

Did you know that our eparchy offers a weekly e-blast—a convenient way to stay informed about upcoming events, spiritual reflections, and community news? Whether you're a long-time member or new to our parish, we encourage you to sign up via our homepage at [www.parma.org](http://www.parma.org).

## 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=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLfIPw8vutasO.1>

Meeting ID: 898 6811 1655

Passcode: 564524

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.

Class Dates: 2 June, 16 June, 23 June, 30 June, 7 July, 14 July, 21 July

## Byzantine Book Club

The Book Club is reading

*It is the Day of Resurrection: the Forty Days of Pascha* by Jack Custer

Meet online: [meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia](https://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](mailto:frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com).

*“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

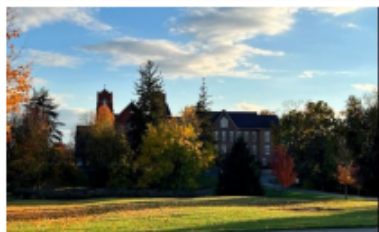
@ 216-337-2673 or

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:

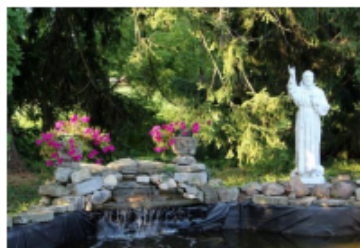
**@Kim Kocuba**



**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](http://myfranciscan.org)),  
and at Epiphany Byzantine Catholic  
Mission in Gaithersburg, MD.





## Eparchial Events 2024

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

2<sup>nd</sup> 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>.

4<sup>th</sup> 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

### 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.

### September 14-15, 2024 - 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 7-8, 2024 – Retirement Fund for 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.

## **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 the Image of God Pregnancy Center and 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 "give to the one who asks" (Matt 5:42) is through monetary donations. A donation box next to an icon of St. Nicholas has been 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. We also hope to organize volunteer opportunities 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.



## 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 support!

### **Recent Building Expenses**

3/01/24	Miscellaneous Work	\$5,612.68
3/08/24	Rectory Kitchen Sewer Repair	\$7,934.08
3/15/24	Miscellaneous Work	\$2,221.50
4/20/24	Concrete outside Nursery Fire Exit	\$7,999.88
5/16/24	Concrete outside Church Fire Exit	\$7,944.00
5/17/24	Bell Recovery from St. John	\$3,777.72
5/18/24	Downspout Storm Drain Extension	\$7,843.50

Building Expenses Running Total: \$43,333.36

Building Fund Running Total: \$725.00

## 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, John Marron, Shirley Mead, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng, Ron  
Ostrowsky, Edith Santo, Rex & Ann Marie Stein

*Pray for the repose of* Mary Novak

## Rides to Church

If you need a ride or would like to offer a ride to others, please contact Victor Jiomkowski (313-930-0801 / v.jiomkowski1111@att.net) so he can help make the arrangements. We are 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 Jiomkowski or Father 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.

## 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).  
We donated \$40 to Catholic Home Missions*

*Since our last contributions,*

for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, we have collected \$225.

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

for Peter's Pence, 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.

Building Expenses Running Total: \$43,333.36

Building Fund Running Total: \$725.00

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

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on May 26<sup>th</sup> was **52**. 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 May 26<sup>th</sup> was **\$1,452.19**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,206.27**

Sunday: \$618; Online: \$590.19; Candles: \$44; Building Fund: \$200

“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