



# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

ststephen@parma.org 313-382-5901

website: [saintstephenbyzantine.church](http://saintstephenbyzantine.church)

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

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks

Cantors: Daniel Barillas, Guillermo Barillas, Cecilia  
Hendricks, Pani Mary Hendricks, Lance Remisoski,  
Pani Katie Russell, Mary Russell, David Woods,  
Mary Woods



## **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*

Cantor: Mary R

**Sunday, August 4, 2024**



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 2

The Holy Seven Children of Ephesus. The Holy Venerable Martyr Eudoxia (2nd Century).

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

1 Corinthians 9:2b-12. Matthew 18:23-35.

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

Cantor: Lance

**9:30am Akathist** – *Reader Service*

Cantor: Mary H

**Confessions** – *in the Sacristy*

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

Cantors: Mary W & Cecilia

Reader: Lance

*for Gregory Hendricks, from Sarah Marron (8-2)*

*for Malina & John Michael Patrick, from Sarah Marron (8-3)*

*+Manmohan Badhwar, from Bob & Jane Semak (8-1)*

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

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

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

**7:00pm Paraklesis**

**Monday, August 5, 2024**



⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Martyr Eusignius (362).

2 Corinthians 5:10-15. Mark 1:9-15.

**7:00pm All-Night Vigil** (*Vespers & Matins*) for ⊕ *Transfiguration*

Reader: Debra

Cantors: Mary R, Mary H, & Lance.

Tuesday, August 6, 2024



⊕ THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

*Vespers:* Exodus 24:12-18 • Exodus 33:11-23 • 1 Kings 19:3-9, 11-13, 15-16.

*Matins Gospel:* Luke 9:28-36.

*for the Transfiguration:* 2 Peter 1:10-19. Matthew 17:1-9.

*for the day (not read at Liturgy):* 2 Corinthians 5:15-21. Mark 1:16-22.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy** for ⊕ Transfiguration

Cantor: Lance

*with the blessing of fruits*

*for the good health of Shirley Richardson, from Nancy Patterson*

Wednesday, August 7, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Venerable Martyr Dometius (363).

2 Corinthians 6:11-16a. Mark 1:23-28.

**10:00am Paraklesis**

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy** for Thursday

Cantor: Mary R

*+Mary Novak, from Ceil Burja*

Thursday, August 8, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Confessor Emilian, Bishop of Cyzice (820).

2 Corinthians 7:1b-10a. Mark 1:29-35.

Friday, August 9, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. † The Holy Apostle Matthias.

*Vespers:* Acts 1:15-26 • 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16.

*for Matthias:* Acts 1:12-17, 21-26. Luke 9:1-6.

*for the day (not read at Liturgy):* 2 Corinthians 7:10-16. Mark 2:18-22.

**7:00am Paraklesis**

*6:30pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Office of Holy Repentance**

## Saturday, August 10, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Laurence of Rome.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29. Matthew 20:29-34.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron*

Cantor: Mary R

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

Cantor: Mary R

## Sunday, August 11, 2024



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 3

Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Martyr Euplus (308).

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

1 Corinthians 15:1-11. Matthew 19:16-26.

**8:30am Paraklesis**

Cantor: Lance M

**9:30am First & Third Hour – Reader Service**

Cantor: Mary H

**Confessions – in the Sacristy**

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

Cantors: Mary H, Cecilia, David W

Reader: TBD

*for the good health of Shirley Richardson, from Nancy Patterson (8-6)*

*+Mary Novak, from Ceil Burja (8-7)*

*+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (8-10)*

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

**7:00pm Vespers for Monday**

## Monday, August 12, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Transfiguration. The Holy Martyrs Photius and Anicetus (305).

*Today we remember St. Maximus the Confessor, because of the Leave-taking tomorrow*

2 Corinthians 8:7-15. Mark 3:6-12.

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*

**9:00pm Compline**

## Tuesday, August 13, 2024



Leave-taking of the Transfiguration. Our Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor (662).

2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5. Mark 3:13-19a.

# Wednesday, August 14, 2024

⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Prophet Micah.

✦ Translation of the Relics of Ven. Fr. Theodosius, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Caves.

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

*Matins Gospel:* Luke 6:17-23.

*for Theodosius:* Hebrews 13:7-16. Matthew 11:27-30.

*for the day (not read at Liturgy):* 2 Corinthians 9:12-10:7. Mark 3:20-27.

**10:00am Paraklesis**

**6:00pm All-Night Vigil with the Burial Service of Praise for  Dormition**

*with the blessing of flowers*

Cantors: Mary H, Cecilia, & Lance

# Thursday, August 15, 2024

⊕ THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY.

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

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

*for the Dormition:* Philippians 2:5-11. Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28.

*for the day (not read at Liturgy):* 2 Corinthians 10:7b-18. Mark 3:28-35.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy for  Dormition**

Cantors: Mary R & Lance

*with the blessing of flowers*

## 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)

## Paraklesis

During the Dormition Fast, it is traditional to celebrate the beautiful Office of Supplication to the Theotokos known as the Paraklesis (or Paraklis). Keep an eye on the bulletin for several opportunities to pray this deeply moving service to our Mother, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. Don't let the Dormition Fast go by without coming to the Paraklesis!

## The Dormition Fast

PROCLAIM A HOLY FAST! (Joel 1:14). Sometimes called “Mary’s Lent,” the Dormition Fast is much shorter than the Great Fast, but equally intense in its traditional observance. This helps prepare us to celebrate the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, which remembers and celebrates the death, burial, resurrection, and bodily translation or assumption of God’s Mother into heaven, in perfect imitation of her Son. These events parallel those of Holy Week, but just as Mary’s Lent is 2 weeks rather than 40 days, so also her death, burial, resurrection, and assumption are all celebrated on one day, rather than over the course of many days.

“The traditional rule for the Dormition Fast is a strict abstinence [abstinence from meat, fish, dairy products, eggs, alcohol, and foods cooked in oil] **from August 1 to 14**, with the usual mitigations (permitting wine and oil) for Saturday and Sunday and the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6). It is, therefore, observed as the Great Fast. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season (Canon 880). The observance of this fast is voluntary” - from the Typicon arranged by Archpriest David M. Petras, S.E.O.D. for use in the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolia of Pittsburgh.

Traditional fasting during the two-week Dormition fast is like that of the Great Fast:

<b>Monday-Friday:</b>	<b>Strict Fast</b> ( <i>one meal – no meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, or oil</i> )
<b>Saturday and Sunday:</b>	<b>Wine and Oil permitted.</b>
<b>Holy Transfiguration:</b>	<b>Fish, Wine, &amp; Oil permitted.</b>

## Blessing of Fruit

On the Great Feast of the Transfiguration, the Church blesses the first fruits, especially grapes and apples. We will offer this blessing after the Ambon Prayer at the Divine Liturgy for the Feast at **10am on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**. Bring your fruits to Liturgy that morning and place them on the table for the blessing.

## 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.

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



HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
7533

*Celebrate the Byzantine  
New Year with us!*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

6 PM Vespers

6:45 PM Confession

7:30 PM Party

ST. STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
PARISH HALL | ALLEN PARK, MICHIGAN

## 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).

### Save the Date! Focus on Life Dinner

**Wednesday, September 18**

Grecian Center, Southgate

Speaker: **Steve Ray**, author,  
speaker and travel guide; *Swimming  
Upstream: Living a Christian Life in a  
Pagan World*

Also speaking will be the winner of the  
Downriver High School Oratory Contest

Invite your friends and family.

Buy a Table of 8 for \$320 before August 5; or \$360 after.

Individual tickets are \$45 before August 5 and \$50 after

[focusonlifedownriver.com](http://focusonlifedownriver.com) or 734-282-6100



## Eparchial Events 2024

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>.



# Shrine of Mariapoch

## **Workday**



The Shrine needs some work to get ready for the Aug 17-18 pilgrimage.

**August 10, starting at 10 AM.**

Bring garden tools and a water bottle.

A light lunch will be provided. We will end with a Moleben for the Living.

For details, contact Deacon Greg Loya

216-272-6790, [gregloya@yahoo.com](mailto:gregloya@yahoo.com)



Shrine of Mariapoch 17486 Mumford Road, Burton, OH <https://parma.org/shrine-of-mariapoch>

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

### **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.

## **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).

*“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:

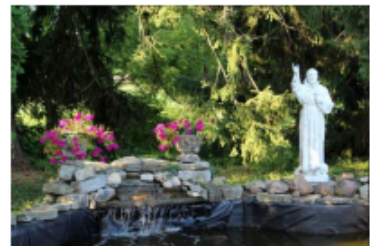
**@Kim Kocuba**



**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.





The Byzantine Catholic  
**Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh**

Office of the Archbishop  
66 Riverview Avenue Pittsburgh PA 15214  
(412)231-4000 Phone (412)231-1697 Fax

**Assembly 2025 – Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh**

July, 10, 2024

Preparations are underway for our Church – Bishops, Clergy, Monastics, Religious, and Laity - to come together in Assembly next year - from July 16-20, 2025. The gathering will convene at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Whiting, Indiana under the name and calling, “Come let us worship and bow before Christ”

Worship of the Lord includes our personal prayer and our liturgical prayer life. It is reflected in our relationships with each other and in the ways we live our faith as Byzantine Catholics of the Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh.

The goal of the Assembly is to together discern ways to live our worship of Christ today in a real and practical manner while learning from the past and looking to the future. The Assembly will include formal presentations, interviews, panel discussion and round table exercises.

Special emphasis will be given to the distinctive contributions Byzantine Catholic have made to their Metropolitan Church.

The Assembly is a time to celebrate the unique contributions of each region and Eparchy while at the same time acknowledging the unity of the Byzantine Catholic Church in North America.

More information will appear in your parish bulletins and online at the Assembly website: [byzantineassembly.org](http://byzantineassembly.org)

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

*+William C Skurla*

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D. D.

*Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh*

## 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.

## Prayer List

*Pray for the healing of* John Aral, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, Emily Czupinski, Elizabeth Czupinski, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Fr. Dcn. Lawrence Hendricks, Mary Hendricks, Chris Lauffer, John Marron, Shirley Mead, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng, Ron Ostrowsky, Edith Santo, Rex & Ann Marie Stein

## 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. Thank you to Mary Ann Reardon for cleaning this 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 \$144 to Peter's Pence.

*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 Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$100

### *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: \$49,949.27

Building Fund Running Total: \$3,000.00

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

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on July 28<sup>th</sup> was **50**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **61**

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 July 28<sup>th</sup> was **\$820.67**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,256.76**

Sunday: \$495; Online: \$307.17; Candles: \$18.50

“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