

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 11th, 2024

website: 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

Sunday, August 11, 2024

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Cantor: Mary R

Cantor: Lance M

Cantor: Mary H

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

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: Dan L

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

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

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

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

② 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.

Cantors: Mary R & Lance

10:00am Divine Liturgy for *Dormition* with the blessing of flowers

Friday, August 16, 2024



Post-festive Day of the Dormition.

②. The Translation of the Icon of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Icon not made by human hands, from Edessa to Constantinople (944). The Holy Martyr Diomedes (298).

Vespers: Deuteronomy 4:1, 6-7, 9-15 •

Deuteronomy 5:1-7, 9-10, 23-26, 28; 6:12-2, 4-5, 13, 18 • 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30.

Matins Gospel: Luke 9:51-56; 10:22-24.

for the Translation: either Col. 1:12-18 or 2 Cor. 3:4-11. Luke 9:51-56; 10:22-24.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): 2 Corinthians 11:5-21a. Mark 4:1-9.

7:00am First & Third Hour

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers

Saturday, August 17, 2024

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Myron (250).

1 Corinthians 2:6-9. Matthew 22:15-22.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

for the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron

4:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday – followed by Confessions Sunday, August 18, 2024

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 4

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus (2nd Century).

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

1 Corinthians 16:13-24. Matthew 21:33-42.

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 W, Cecilia, David

Reader: Dan L

Cantor: Mary H

Cantor: TBD

for the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron (8-17)

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=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLfIPw8vutas0.1

7:00pm Vespers for Monday

- Great Feast
- 🕁 Feast with an All-night Vigil
- + Feast with the Polyeleos at Matins
- **3.** Feast with the Great Doxology at Matins
- Feast with Six Stichera at Vespers

LEGEND

- 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)



HAPPY NEWYEAR

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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

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 perfection 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:

Monday-Friday: Strict Fast (one meal – no meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, or oil)

Saturday and Sunday: Wine and Oil permitted. Holy Transfiguration: Fish, Wine, & Oil permitted.

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=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLfIPw8vutas0.1

Meeting ID: 898 6811 1655

Passcode: 564524

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

or in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 Contact Fr. Deacon Lawrence with any questions at (734) 255-4099 or 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 or 734-282-6100

Eparchial Events 2024

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





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

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

90th Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is a special ministry of the Sisters of St. Basil. It has been held every Labor Day weekend since 1934. It was that year that the Sisters and pilgrims celebrated the blessing of the then newly acquired Monastery for the Sisters.

The Pilgrimage is a source of ongoing renewal and provides for the diverse spiritual needs of the many pilgrims who frequent this major unifying event in the life of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Its participants include clergy and faithful from across the country. The Pilgrimage offers the celebration of Divine Liturgy; opportunities for the Mystery of Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick; Adult Enrichment Programs; activities for children, teens, young adults; and pastoral counseling.

The Pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings.

500 West Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 info@sistersofstbasil.org https://sistersofstbasil.org/ 724-438-8644

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.

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

Annual Byzantine Eparchial Women's Renewal

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



Spiritual Leader: Rev. Jerome Wolbert, OFM



Where:

New location!

St. Francis Spirituality Center

200 St Francis Ave. Tiffin, OH 44883



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. 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.

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





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

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D. D.

Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh

+ William C Sturla

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) for more information.

VALUABLE LESSONS LEARNED FROM STREET FAIRS

by Carson Daniel Lauffer

During the next few weeks, I wish to share some lessons on witnessing gleaned from our street fair experiences at Wyandotte and Allen Park.

Lesson #1: Know how far to keep an encounter going, significantly if visitors only push their agenda while ignoring a reasonable discussion.

Two rather loud persons approached the booth with tracks attacking the Catholic Faith by claiming "there is no salvation in a cup." They pushed tracts at us as they did so, "proving" that salvation comes only by faith in Christ.

Despite their interruptions and refusal to accept our tracts, we persisted in our attempt to engage in a reasonable discussion. We naturally agreed that salvation comes through faith, but also through following Christ's teachings. We tried to point out Scriptures like John 6:53, where Christ Himself emphasized the importance of partaking in His body and blood for eternal life. We returned the tracts to them and told them we're not here to argue but offered our prayers for them.

In other words, if someone effectively blasphemes Christ and His Church and will not listen to a calm, honest witness, wish them God's grace and walk away, or if you cannot walk away, welcome them to do so.

They can still be prayed for, but the hardness of the heart means that there are limits to what we can do at any given time. It is, after all, the Lord "who adds to the Church daily those who are being saved." Acts 2:47

Distribution of Holy Communion with Individual Spoons

Following the instruction of our Bishop Robert, we will be changing the way we distribute holy communion with multiple spoons. The use of multiple spoons for distributing holy communion is not to be the norm in our Eparchy. However, there are good and rational reasons why someone might require an individual spoon. For the sake of privacy, no one needs to provide a reason to exercise this option. Therefore, Bishop Robert will allow the availability of individual spoons if there is need. The individual spoons will be placed behind the tetrapod as the faithful approach the chalice. Should you require one, you may take it up as you approach to receive holy communion and bring it to the person distributing the Eucharist, who will then use it to give you holy communion. You may approach along with everyone else rather than waiting to receive at the end. At St. Stephen, this change will begin on Sunday, August 18th, 2024.

Prayer List

Pray for the healing of John Aral, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, Emily Czupinski, Elizabeth Czupinski, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Julia Frendo Fr. Dcn. Lawrence Hendricks, Mary Hendricks, Chris Lauffer, John Marron, Shirley Mead, Kathy Mykeloff, 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 Jiompkowski (313-930-0801 / v.jiompkowski1111@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 Jiompkowski 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 \$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: \$3,100.00

ATTENDANCE – Thank you for praying with us.

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on August 4th was **62**. 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 August 4th was \$3,951.97. Average Weekly Collection: \$2,307.24 Sunday: \$3047; Holy Day: \$20; Online: \$753.97; Candles: \$31; Building Fund: \$100

"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).

