

# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 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

Cantor: Lance

**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 W, Cecilia, David

Reader: Dan L

*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=a8EeyCdUVW2zo6PIBoLflPw8vutasO.1>

**7:00pm Vespers** for Monday

## Monday, August 19, 2024

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. Holy Martyr Andrew the Tribune and his Companions.

2 Corinthians 12:10-19. Mark 4:10-23.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

Cantor: Mary R

*+Mary Novak, from Lydia Ann White*

*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 20, 2024

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Prophet Samuel. Holy King Stephen of Hungary.

2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2. Mark 4:24-34.

## Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Apostle Thaddeus. The Holy Martyr Bassa.  
2 Corinthians 13:3-14. Mark 4:35-41.

**10:00am Third & Sixth Hour**

*6:00pm Confessions*

**6:30pm Vespers**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy**

*+Ed Reichbach, from Harry Veryser*

Cantor: Lance

## Thursday, August 22, 2024

Post-festive Day of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Agathonicus and his Companions.  
The Passing of the Blessed Confessor Simeon Lukac, secret Bishop (1964).

Galatians 1:1-10, 20-2:5. Mark 5:1-20.

## Friday, August 23, 2024

Leave-taking of the Dormition. The Holy Martyr Lupus (306).  
The Holy Martyr Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons (202).

Galatians 2:6-10. Mark 5:22-24, 35-6:1.

**9:30am Third & Sixth Hour**

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*+Noah Patrick Semak, from Bob & Jane Semak*

Cantor: Mary R

*6:30pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers**

## Saturday, August 24, 2024

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Eutyches, Disciple of St. John the Theologian.  
The Blessed Martyr and Priest-Monk Dominic Methodius Trcka

1 Corinthians 4:1-5. Matthew 23:1-12.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*for Malina & John Michael Patrick, from Sarah Marron*

Cantor: Mary R

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

Cantor: Mary R

# Sunday, August 25, 2024

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 5

⊗ The Return of the Relics of the Holy Apostle Bartholomew. The Holy Apostle Titus.

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

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4. Matthew 22:1-14.

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

**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  
Reader: Victor J

*for Malina & John Michael Patrick, from Sarah Marron (8-24)*

*+Mary Novak, from Lydia Ann White (8-19)*

*+Ed Reichbach, from Harry Veryser (8-21)*

*+Noah Patrick Semak, from Bob & Jane Semak (8-23)*

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

**7:00pm Vespers** *for Monday*

## 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)



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).

## 90<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:info@sistersofstbasil.org)  
<https://sistersofstbasil.org/>  
724-438-8644

## 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

## 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>

- 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

*“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:**

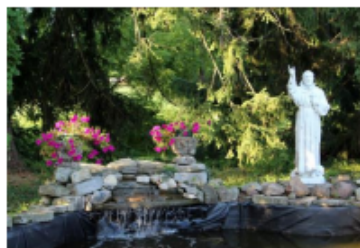
**@Kim\_Kocuba**



**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.

# VALUABLE LESSONS LEARNED FROM STREET FAIRS

by Carson Daniel Lauffer

## #2 Every encounter is arranged by God.

While most encounters are with family and friends and may seem more important than new encounters, all of them are examples of this truth.

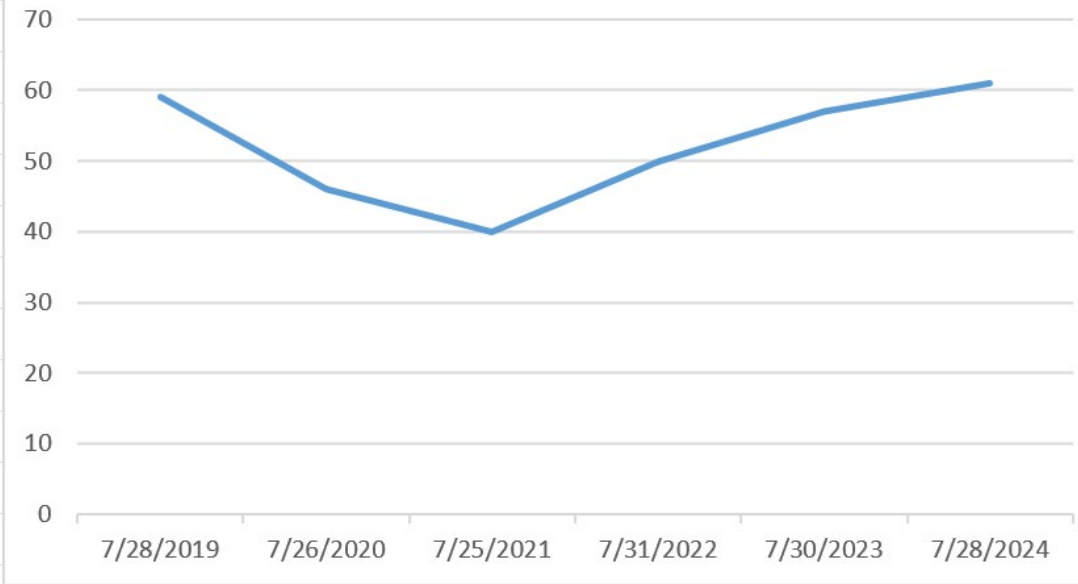
“Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20). This is true even when it doesn’t seem like it is. We had a visit last Sunday from a man we met at the Wyandotte Fair. I didn’t think the encounter went very far at the time. However, the young man prayed with us last Sunday. We have also met people looking for a Church for various needs.

Always treat every encounter as a meeting God has arranged. Our kindness and witness play a crucial role in these encounters, as they may begin a chain of encounters leading to salvation, or the encounter may be the last in a chain of witnesses that brought another to Christ. The encounter may also be to teach *us* something beautiful about our lives with God.

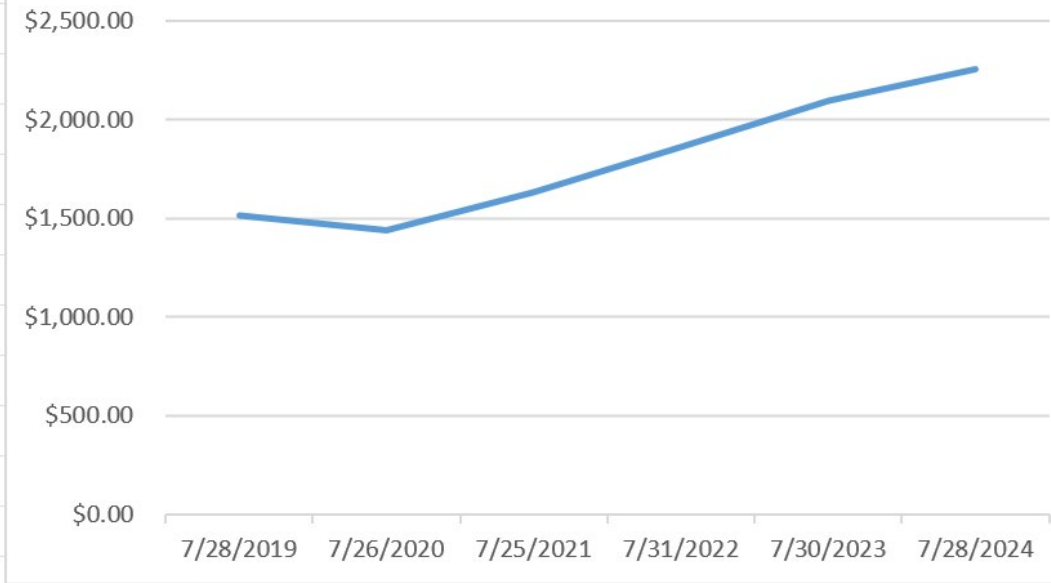
## Distribution of Holy Communion with Individual Spoons

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. Please approach along with everyone else rather than waiting to receive at the end. At St. Stephen, this change will begin on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. If you have any questions or requests, please contact Fr. John: 412-378-0308; [jrprussell@gmail.com](mailto:jrprussell@gmail.com)

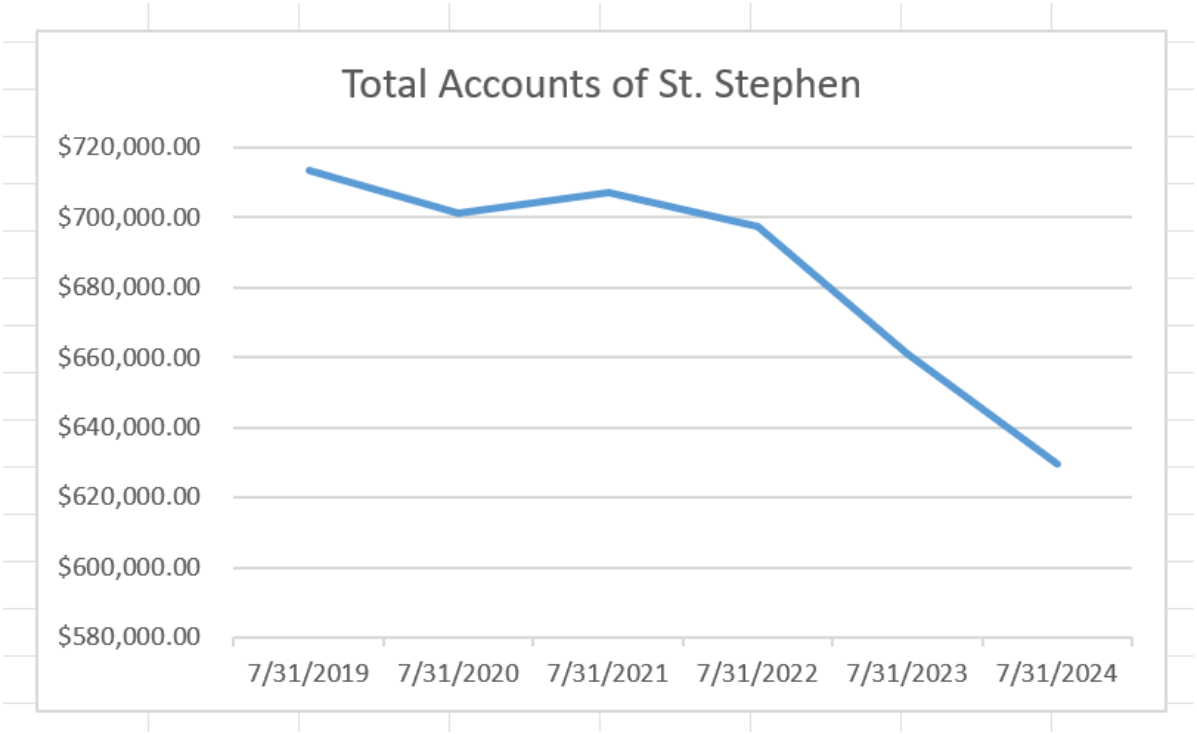
### Average Sunday Attendance at St. Stephen



### Average Weekly Collections at St. Stephen







## 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).

## 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, JoAnn Humenik, 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 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)*

*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  
For the Retirement Fund for Religious: \$50

## Building Fund

Building Expenses Running Total 2024: \$52,911.27  
Building Fund Running Total 2024: \$3,100.00

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

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on August 11<sup>th</sup> was **46**. 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 August 11<sup>th</sup> was **\$936.42**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,272.45**

Sunday: \$487.50; Holy Day: \$73; Online: **\$319.17**; Candles: \$46.75; Fuel: \$10

“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