



# SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

website: <https://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

Hall Manager: Blaise Northop  
(313-637-4555 or 24crystalballroom@gmail.com)

Hall Website: <https://www.thecrystalballroom.net/>



## **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

**7:00pm Great Vespers** *for Sunday – followed by Confessions*

**Sunday, January 26, 2025**

THIRTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 3

Venerable Fr. Xenophon & his Wife Mary (520). Holy Fr. Joseph, Archbishop of Thessalonica.

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

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1. Matthew 15:21-28

**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: Lance

*for the health of Wally Maire, from the Richardson Family (1-22)*

*+Joann Humenik (1-20)*

*+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron (1-25)*

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

*5:00pm Bible Discussion – Gospel of John – via Zoom:*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84569257502?pwd=UVeGgiYPLjE5FsqNitcgE72LHB4bxP.1>

*Meeting ID: 845 6925 7502 Passcode: 025083*

**7:00pm Great Vespers** *for † the Relics of our Holy Fr. John Chrysostom*

**Monday, January 27, 2025**

† The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrysostom (438).

*Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.*

*for the Relics: Hebrews 7:26-8:2. John 10:9-16.*

*for the day (not read at Liturgy): James 2:14-26. Mark 10:46-52.*

*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, January 28, 2025

⊗ Our Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh (378).

Venerable Fr. Issac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh. Our Venerable Mother Olympia Bida.

James 3:1-10. Mark 11:11-23.

## Wednesday, January 29, 2025



⊗ Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop and Martyr Ignatius of Antioch (6th Century).

James 3:11-4:6. Mark 11:22b-26.

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

**6:00pm Great Vespers &**

**7:00pm Divine Liturgy for ⊕ Three Holy Hierarchs:**

*for the health of Richard Stros, from the Richardson Family*

## Thursday, January 30, 2025

⊕ Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian & John Chrysostom.

The Holy Bishop-Martyr Hippolytus (235).

*Vespers Paramia:* Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 • Deuteronomy 10:14-21 • Wisdom 3:1-9.

*Matins Gospel:* John 10:9-16.

*for the Hierarchs:* Hebrews 13:7-16. Matthew 5:14-19.

*for the day (not read at Liturgy):* James 4:7-5:9. Mark 11:27-33.

## Friday, January 31, 2025



⊗ The Holy Wonder-workers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John (311).

Our Holy Father the Priest Don Bosco.

1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-12, 2:6-10. Mark 12:1-12.

**7:00am First & Third Hour**

*6:30pm Confessions*

**7:00pm Vespers for Saturday**

## Saturday, February 1, 2025

⊗ Pre-festive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Martyr Tryphon (250).

1 Thessalonians 5:14-23. Luke 17:3-10.

**10:00am Divine Liturgy**

*for the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron*

**7:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday & ⊕ the Meeting – followed by Confessions**

# Sunday, February 2, 2025

THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS. THIRTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 4  
⊕ MEETING OF OUR LORD, GOD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST WITH SIMEON & ANNA

*Vespers Paramia:* (1) Ex 12:51, 13:1-3, 10-16, 22:29; Num. 8:16; Lev. 12:1-4, 12:6, 8; Num. 8:16-17  
• (2) Isaiah 6:1-12 • (3) Isaiah 19:1-5, 12. 16, 19-21. Matins Gospel: Luke 2:25-32.

*4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:* Luke 24:1-12.

1 Timothy 4:9-15 & *for the Meeting:* Hebrews 7:7-17.

Luke 19:1-10 & *for the Meeting:* Luke 2:22b-40.

**8:15am Matins** for Sunday & ⊕ the Meeting

**9:30am Akathist** – Reader Service

**Confessions** – in the Sacristy

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

Cantor: Mary H & Cecilia

Reader: Dan Lauffer

*for the health of Richard Stros, from the Richardson Family (1-29)*

*for the descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron (2-1)*

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

*5:00pm Bible Discussion – Gospel of John – via Zoom:*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84569257502?pwd=UVEGgiYPLjE5FsqNitcgE72LHB4bxP.1>

*Meeting ID: 845 6925 7502 Passcode: 025083*

**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)

## Discussion of the Gospel of John

St. Stephen's ongoing Bible discussion is an opportunity to explore Scripture in the company of the parish priest and fellow parishioners. This winter and spring we are reading and talking about the Gospel of John.

John's is the most profound of the gospel portraits of Jesus, but it is written so as to enable all of us to encounter Jesus. "These things are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Nourish your own faith by joining us for prayer, reading, questioning, and sharing.

We will be using a short guide for study, reflection, and discussion in the Six Weeks with the Bible series from Loyola Press. Get your free copy from Father John and drop in! We meet most Sunday afternoons (see the Bulletin each week) at five o'clock online. Here is the link to the Zoom meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84569257502?pwd=UVeGgiYPLjE5FsqNitcgE72LHB4bxP.1>

Meeting ID: 845 6925 7502

Passcode: 025083

## Byzantine Book Club

The Byzantine Book Club is reading *Theotokos - Mary, Mother of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ* by Archbishop Joseph Raya

Meeting **Mondays at 7pm**

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).

## Prayer List

*Pray for the healing of* Anonymous, John Aral, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, Phyllis Croskey, Elizabeth Czupinski, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Maria Frendo, Julia Frendo, Gregory Hendricks, Fr. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks, Chris Lauffer, John Marron, Shirley Mead, Kathy Mykeloff, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng, Ron Ostrowsky, Edith Santo, Rex Stein, Debra Warila, Helen Wood

## Upcoming Retreat Opportunities

We encourage you to check for more opportunities!

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

### 12th Annual Women's Retreat

March 7, 2025 - March 9, 2025

Location: [Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center - Fremont, OH](#)

Our Lord Jesus Christ -  
The Path to the Father

Retreat Master: Fr. Jan Maturkanic

Contact Joan Washburn for further

information 865-696-7809 or [stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com](mailto:stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com)



### 4th Annual Men's Retreat



March 14, 2025 - March 16, 2025

Location: [Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center - Fremont, OH](#)

The Beatitudes: The Way of Life

Retreat Master: Fr. Lukas Mitro

Contact Karl Busam for further information 419-626-6811

or [karl.busam.77@gmail.com](mailto:karl.busam.77@gmail.com)

## 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.

## 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](mailto:v.jiomkowski1111@att.net)) so he can help make the arrangements. 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 all who clean!

## Annual Stewardship Appeal

**The Stewardship Appeal helps cover the costs of a variety of programs in the Eparchy including the support of our retired and active priests.** Ever-increasing costs related to health insurance and Medicare for our active and retired clergy must remain a significant part of our goal. Let's provide care and support to our retired priests, who have spent their lives serving our people.

Visit us online at <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal> to submit your one-time or monthly donation to the Stewardship Appeal. Thank you for your generosity!

St. Stephen's goal is \$10,650. So far, 11 households have contributed \$3,804. Let's make that all 71 households! Give what you can. Thank you for your generosity!

## Special Collections

Mark your calendars and plan accordingly for the following Special Collections in 2025.

Please see <https://parma.org/specialcollections> for more information.

**March 8-9, 2025** – The Church in Central & Eastern Europe

**April 19-20, 2025** – The Holy Land & Our Christian Brethren

**April 26-27, 2025** – The Catholic Home Missions

**May 31-June 1, 2025** – Catholic Communication Campaign

**June 28-29, 2025** – Peter's Pence

**December 13-14, 2025** – Retirement Fund for Religious

## 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 Peter's Pence, we have collected \$10

## Building Fund

2024 Building Expenses: \$53,398.27

Building Fund Running Total: \$6,113.60



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

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on January 19<sup>th</sup> was **50**. 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 January 19<sup>th</sup> was **\$634.17**. Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,139.08**

Sunday: \$376; Online: \$154.17; Building: \$50; Candles: \$9; Fuel: \$45

“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