

SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Mary 4th, 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/>



Christ is risen! 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.

“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 – Reader Service

Cantors: Lance

Sunday, May 4, 2025

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN. Tone 2

The Holy Martyr Pelagia (287).

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

Acts 6:1-7. Mark 15:43-16:8.

8:15am Matins for Sunday

9:30am Akathist (Reader Service)

Cantor: Mary H

Confessions – in the Sacristy

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

Cantor: Mary H

Reader: Lance

+Manouk Mykeloff, from Kathy Mykeloff (4-28)

+Irene Durisin, from Jane & Bob Semak (5-2)

+Carl Czupinski, from Sam & Emily Czupinski

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. Guild Meeting. ECF Classes. Adult Catechesis

7:00pm Vespers for Monday

Monday, May 5, 2025

The Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene.

Our Venerable Father Nicephor, Hegumen of the Medikion Monastery (14th Century).

Acts 6:8-7:5a, 47-60. John 4:46b-54.

7:00pm Byzantine Book Club - online: meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia

or in person: 8461 Barrington Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

The Holy and Just Job the Long-suffering.

Acts 8:5-17. John 6:27-33.

9:00pm Litany of Peace Prayer Group – via Zoom

Wednesday, May 7, 2025



⊗ The Appearance of the Sign of the Cross in the heavens at the third hour of the day in Jerusalem, before the Emperor Constantius (357). The Holy Martyr Acacius (303).

Acts 8:18-25. John 6:35-39.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour & Typika

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Great Vespers & Divine Liturgy for ☩ Holy Apostle John

intention of Wally Maire, from Richardson Family Cantor: Mary R

Thursday, May 8, 2025

☩ The Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian. Venerable Fr. Arsenius the Great.

Vespers: 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16 • 1 John 4:20-5:5.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for John: 1 John 1:1-7. John 19: 25-27; 21:24-25.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Acts 8:26-39. John 6:40-44.

3:00pm Parastas for +Carl Czupinski on the 9th day of his repose

Friday, May 9, 2025



The Holy Prophet Isaiah. The Holy Martyr Christopher (249).

✦ The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father Nicholas to Bari (1087).

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9.

Acts 8:40-9:19a. John 6:48-54.

7:00am First and Third Hour

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Great Vespers for ✦ The Holy Apostle Simon

Saturday, May 10, 2025

✦ The Holy Apostle Simon the Zealot. Repose of the Blessed Bishop Martyr Vasile Aftenie.

Vespers: 1 John 3:21-4:6 • 1 John 4:11-16 • 1 John 4:20-5:5.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for Simon: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16. Matthew 13:54-58.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Acts 9:19-31. John 15:17-16:2.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Mary R

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

7:00pm Great Vespers for Sunday – Reader Service

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Mother's Day

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN. Tone 3

The Foundation of Constantinople (330). The Holy Priest-Martyr Mocius (250).

⊕ Our Holy Fathers Cyril and Methodius, Apostles of the Slavs (9th Century).

The Blessed Martyr Basil (Hopko), Bishop of Midila (1976).

Vespers Paramia: Proverbs 10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 34-35, 4, 12, 14, 17, 5-9; 1:23; 15:4

• Proverbs 10:31-11:12 • Wisdom 4: 7-15.

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

Acts 9:32-42. John 5:1-15.

8:15am Matins for Sunday

9:30am Moleben for our Mothers

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

Cantor: Mary H

Cantors: Mary H, Cecilia

Reader: Cecilia

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

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)

Prayer List

Pray for the repose of +Carl Czupinski +Irene Durisin

Pray for the healing of John Aral, Betty Baise, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, James Chroman, Phyllis Croskey, Lawrence Thomas Dion, Maria Frendo, Julia Frendo, Gregory Hendricks, Fr. Deacon Lawrence Hendricks, Chris Lauffer, Maryalice Lukas, Brandon Macias, John Marron, Sarah Marron, Shirley Mead, Kathy Mykeloff, Michael Mykeloff, Judith Ng, Ron Ostrowsky, Edith Santo, Rex Stein, Debra Warila, Helen Wood

Save the Date

BYZANTINE ASSEMBLY 2025

JULY | 16-20 | 2025
WHITING, INDIANA

COME LET US
WORSHIP,
AND BOW
BEFORE CHRIST



The 4th Metropolitan Assembly will take place July 16-20, 2025 at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Whiting, Indiana. The theme for this event is “Come let us worship and bow before Christ.”

Keep an eye on the official website www.byzantineassembly.org for further details as they become available. May this assembly be a time of inspiration, fellowship, and deepening faith for all who attend!

Byzantine Book Club

The Book Club is reading *Bogoroditza* by Catherine Doherty
Catherine Doherty presents Mary as someone close to us, more able than anyone to teach us about her Son. Spouse of the Holy Spirit, mother of Jesus and of all men and women, she is both ordinary and sublime, someone we can emulate and one whose praises we sing. She shows us what it is to be fully human. Just as God came to us through her, she opens for us the way that is Jesus, back to the Father.

All are welcome to join the Byzantine Book Club

Meeting **Mondays at 7pm**

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.

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!

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. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Victor Jiompkowski.

LITANY OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP
ON ZOOM

BEGINNING 9-10 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 6th

From its beginning, the Church of Jesus Christ has been under attack by Satan, his demons, and even by governments. Trying to ignore that reality has only distracted Christianity from its primary evangelical calling. We are all to pray for and witness God's extraordinary grace so that we and others may find peace. We do that at every liturgy but are taught to pray without ceasing. This Church has taught me much about this, but now it is time to move beyond the walls of our church building. The opportunity begins with prayer.

Pentecost is the story of God's movement upon the world through prayer. It was prompted by the Holy Spirit (See Romans 8:26), and through obedience, the 120 prayed in the upper room in Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit came with the sound of "a mighty rushing wind" and with "tongues of fire" and miraculous speech (See Acts of the Apostles chapters 2-4). Pascha is fulfilled with the birth of the Church at Pentecost.

On May 6th at 9 p.m., after the children and grandchildren are in bed, we will launch our Litany of Peace Prayer group on Zoom.

First, you will need a pomyannyk, which the parish will provide. This is a booklet for keeping the names of those for whom you are praying.

Second, you will need a copy of *The Pillars of St. Stephen*, a prayerbook to the saints recently published in commemoration of 70 years of our parish serving Allen Park.

These will be available in the Narthex on Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m.

Please consider an offering to defray expenses.

Third, you will need a copy of the book by Carson D Lauffer, *The Healing of a Soul*. Please consider an offering for these, or you may purchase a copy for \$12.99 from Amazon.

God, the Holy Spirit, speaks to everyone. Some need a prayer and a witness from those who recognize Him. Let us learn to pray for them without ceasing,

Don't hesitate to contact Carson Daniel Lauffer for further information. You can find me at Church, or you may contact me through email:

CarsonLauffer0903@comcast.net or by phone: 248-309-1552.

Carson Daniel Lauffer

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 the parish priest 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 Dcn. Lawrence (frdeaconlawrence@yahoo.com) for more information.

Annual Stewardship Appeal

We are now in our final month for promoting the 2024-2025 Stewardship Appeal. The Stewardship Appeal campaign goal is \$320,000. This year's Annual Stewardship Appeal will support the following important needs in the Eparchy: Support of Mission & Outreach; Development of Parishes; Retreats, Renewals and Family Camp; Works of the Apostolate; Clergy Benevolence Fund; and Support of our Retired and Active Priests.

Your generosity is appreciated and thanks to everyone for their contributions. We hope to finish this year's campaign strong! If you have not made a gift, please do so today! Visit us online at <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal> to make your donation.

St. Stephen's goal is \$10,650. So far, 29 of our 71 households have contributed \$9,227. Each household should be able to give something. 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.

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

for Catholic Home Missions, we have collected \$114.

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

Building Fund

Building Fund Balance: \$34,090

April 2025 Building Fund Donations: \$160

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on April 27th was **48**. 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 April 27th was **\$3,357.86** Average Weekly Collection: **\$2,038.89**

Sun: \$1675; Pascha: \$150; Online: \$328.36; Candles: \$19.50; Fuel: \$185; Special Donation - GCU: \$1000

Our weekly operating expenses average out to about \$3,500.

“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