



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

June 8th, 2025

ststephen@parma.org 313-382-5901

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 Catholic Eparchy of Parma (Ruthenian). Bishop Robert (Pipta) is our Bishop. Archbishop William (Skurla) of Pittsburgh is our Metropolitan. We are in communion with our Holy Father Leo XIV, Pope of Rome.

"We are not intent on emulating the Eastern Orthodox to prove that we are Eastern, nor are we intent on emulating the Latin Rite Catholics to prove our Catholicity. In the true Church of Jesus Christ, neither Catholicity nor Orthodoxy need to be emphasized or minimized, for one can be completely Eastern and still be truly Catholic." +Emil J. Mihalik, First Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma, 1970

LITURGICAL SERVICE TIMES

Sunday & Saturday morning at 10:00am

Wednesday & Friday evening at 7:00pm

7:00pm Great Vespers for Pentecost – followed by Confessions

Cantor: Mary R

Sunday, June 8, 2025

⊕ PENTECOST SUNDAY. Tone 7

⊗ The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit (319).

Blessed Maria Theresa Mankdiyan Chiramel.

Vespers Paramia: Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29 • Joel 2:23-32 • Ezekiel 36:24-28.

Matins Gospel: John 20:19-23.

Acts 2:1-11. John 7:37-52; 8:12.

8:15am Matins for Pentecost

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

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. No Class – Kneeling Vespers for Pentecost

12:15pm Kneeling Vespers for Pentecost

Cantor: Mary H

Monday, June 9, 2025

PENTECOST MONDAY. ⊗ Our Holy Father Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria (444).

Ephesians 5:8b-19. Matthew 18:10-20.

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

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

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Pentecost Tuesday. The Holy Martyr Timothy, Bishop of Prusia (362).

Rom 1:1-7, 13-17. Matthew 4:25-5:12a.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 *no fasting*

Pentecost Wednesday. ✙ The Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas.

Vespers: 1 Peter 1:3-9 • 1 Peter 1:13-19 • 1 Peter 2:11-14.

Matins Gospel: John 21: 15-25.

for the Apostles: Acts 11:19-30. Luke 10:16-22.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Romans 1:18-27. Matthew 5:20-26.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Vespers and Divine Liturgy for Thursday

Cantor: Mary R

+Irene Durisin, from Michael Hudak

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Pentecost Thursday. ☩ Our Venerable Father Onuphry the Great (400).

Our Venerable Father Peter of Mt. Athos (734).

Romans 1:28-2:9. Matthew 5:27-32.

Friday, June 13, 2025 *no fasting*

Pentecost Friday. Holy Martyr Aquilina (293). Holy Fr. Triphyllus, Bishop of Leucosia (370).

Romans 2:14-29. Matthew 5:33-41.

7:00am First and Third Hour

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers for Saturday

Saturday, June 14, 2025

Leave-taking of Pentecost. Holy Prophet Elisha. Holy Fr. Methodius, Patriarch of Constantinople

Romans 1:7b-12. Matthew 5:42-48.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Mary R

+Melvyn & +Josefa, from Sarah Marron

7:00pm Great Vespers for Pentecost – followed by Confessions

Cantor: Mary R

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Father's Day

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS. Tone 8

The Holy Prophet Amos. The Venerable Jerome, Priest of Stridon (420).

Vespers Paramia: Isaiah 43:9-14a • Wisdom 3:1-9 • Wisdom 5:15-6:3.

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

Hebrews 11:33-12:2a. Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30.

8:15am Matins *for Sunday*

9:30am Moleben *for our Fathers*

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

Cantor: Mary H

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Reader: Mary R

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

7:00pm Vespers *with prostrations – for the first day of the Apostle's Fast*

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 healing of John Aral, Betty Baise, Barb Barnes, Don & Theresa Butella, Pat Carlson, James Chroman, Phyllis Croskey, Lawrence Thomas Dion, George Durisin, 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, Lance Remisoski, Edith Santo, Rex Stein, Debra Warila, Helen Wood

Presentation by
His Grace, the Most Reverend

**ROBERT M.
PIPTA**



Saint Stephen

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

70TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebration

In Celebration of 70 years of serving Allen Park, join us at St. Stephen's for a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Grace, the Most Reverend Robert M. Pipta, Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma Followed by a Celebratory Banquet in our Crystal Ballroom featuring The Woods Family Singers and A Presentation by His Grace, the Most Reverend Robert M. Pipta



Catering to be provided by Veronica's Catering
(DIETARY ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST!)

Sunday, September **21ST** | Liturgy **2:00 PM**
Banquet **4:30 PM**



TICKET PRICES

\$30 - ADULTS

\$12 - CHILDREN 12 & UNDER

FREE FOR BABIES!

WHERE TO PURCHASE:

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://SAINTSTEPHENBYZANTINE.CHURCH](https://saintstephenbyzantine.church)

PHONE: 313-382-5901 / 313-930-0801

**ST. STEPHEN BYZANTINE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

4141 LAURENCE AVENUE
ALLEN PARK, MICHIGAN 48101

We have a new Pope!

AND THE VATICAN WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Caring for the Eastern Catholic Churches was actually one of the TOP QUESTIONS raised by bishops worldwide during the Vatican Synod on Synodality.

Seize this **historic and unprecedented** opportunity to bear witness and make your voice heard before the representatives of **our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV** himself!

**GO TO WWW.BYZANTINEASSEMBLY.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION &
SIGN UP NOW!**



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

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.

Christ God, our Hope

A teaching from Bishop Robert Pipta

Authentic Worship

I have challenged our parish priests to bring their parochial communities to full liturgical observance through a process of instruction and gradual introduction. Such observance should see in our parishes the celebration of Vespers, Matins, and Divine Liturgy for each Sunday, obligatory holyday, and solemn holyday.

When a priest has responsibility for more than one church, creativity and lay leadership are needed to sustain a hope-filled parochial prayer life.

As it is my responsibility to be a good steward of the time and talents of our clergy, I envision a priest who is assigned to two “partnered” church communities being open to scheduling an evening vigil in one location and the morning services in the other. The Vigil Divine Liturgy which includes both Vespers and Divine Liturgy usually lasts approximately one hour and fifteen minutes and is an acceptable observance at the evening vigil throughout the year. At the church where the priest is not available in the morning and where there is a deacon, the deacon can serve the Typika service with the distribution of holy communion in the morning as long as he has the bishop’s permission to do so.

Our lay faithful can also be taught how to serve both Vespers and Matins in the absence of a priest. Such are called “reader’s services” and are commonly served and attended at outreach communities throughout not only our Eparchy but our Metropolitan Church in America. These divine praises are to supersede any private devotions that may have found their way into the ordinary public worship of our communities. As we continue our movement to more authentic worship according to our tradition, we would do well to hear once again the words +Emil J. Mihalik, the First Bishop of Parma, spoke at the Eparchial Convocation in 1970: “We are not intent on emulating the Eastern Orthodox to prove that we are Eastern, nor are we intent on emulating the Latin Rite Catholics to prove our Catholicity. In the true Church of Jesus Christ, neither Catholicity nor Orthodoxy need to be emphasized or minimized, for one can be completely Eastern and still be truly Catholic.”

The fervor of faith, full of the Holy Spirit

In our authentic celebration of the Divine Liturgy, it is required that the deacon, or the priest in his absence, pour a little hot water into the chalice immediately before our reception of the Divine Eucharist. While we can read volumes on the development of this practice in Byzantine Christianity, the warmth of the Eucharist reminds us that we are partaking of the risen and alive Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. A living body is warm and not cold.

I and my clergy share in the grief of too many parents who witness their children’s departure from this life-giving Eucharistic participation. I and my brother bishops throughout the United States are giving focused attention to the departure of youth from the Church at increasingly younger ages.

Investments made in Catholic education, the weekly drives of even an hour one way to get to our Byzantine Catholic parishes, robust Eastern Catholic Formation (E.C.F.) programs, the parents' commitment to stability in their marriage, and the like were all seen as failsafe ways of preserving the faith of their children.

A recent CARA study has shown the most important factor in determining whether children would be faithful Catholic adults was how the faith was viewed as contributing to warm and close family relationships. External faith activities were only impactful to the degree that these activities inspired and motivated the family's efforts to live the faith at home.

I ask our parents to consider if the risen Christ is the significant source of warmth and fervor in the home or does all that was experienced and celebrated and learned at the church stay there until it is continued the following week?

Building up the domestic Church through regular family prayer, discipline focused on teaching good behavior, manners, and virtue, keeping all electronic devices away from prayer and mealtime, and being intentional about family time are all effective ways to experience the warmth of Christ in the home.

Certainly, our Eparchy and parish churches must be vibrant enough to support parents in their responsibilities. Increasingly our parishes are including family catechesis as part of their E.C.F. programs. Parents no longer send their children to class but engage in some classes along with their children. This allows them to be better equipped to bring what is learned about the faith back home. It also inspires an evangelizing catechesis that welcomes friends and neighbors into their family of formation.

Our annual Family Liturgy and Life Camp brings families from all over the Eparchy together for prayer, learning, fun, and mutual support.

An expansion of our Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry with local young adult liaisons explores unique ways to engage our youth but also empowers our young adults to be a Christian, hope-filled presence to their peers who are finding their way back to Christ or who have never known Christ. This eparchial demographic is especially poised to serve as the Eucharistic missionaries envisioned in this third and final year of Eucharistic revival in the U.S. Inspired by an encounter with Christ in the Divine Eucharist and fueled by this spiritual nourishment, these missionaries allow God to use them as instruments of his grace as they step-out in joy to share their experience of the Gospel.

Indeed, a multitude of avenues for Godly fellowship throughout our Eparchy reflect the synodality of our Church and provide practical ways to experience that needed warmth of Christ on a day to day basis.

Read the rest of this teaching: [Christ God, our Hope](#)

Updates on Clergy Assignments & Appointments

A number of important changes to pastoral assignments will soon be happening within the Eparchy of Parma. These updates reflect our commitment to serving our communities with dedication and spiritual guidance according to Bishop Robert's teachings and his strategic vision. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who have served faithfully and welcome those who will be taking on new roles.

- Fr. Michael Lee relieved of assignment to St. Luke in Sugar Creek, Missouri and appointed rector of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Parma, Ohio (Dormition Parish, Cleveland) effective 1 July 2025.
- Fr. John Russell relieved of assignment to St. Stephen in Allen Park, Michigan and appointed pastor of St. Luke in Sugar Creek, Missouri and its outreaches effective 1 July 2025.
- Fr. Marton Egressy appointed to be in residence at St. Stephen Church in Allen Park, Michigan and to serve the faithful of St. Stephen Church in Allen Park effective 1 July 2025 and the faithful of Sacred Heart in Livonia, Michigan effective 1 August 2025.
- Fr. Joseph Marquis relieved of assignment to Sacred Heart in Livonia, Michigan and granted retirement effective 1 August 2025 with sincere thanks for his active priestly ministry.

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.

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

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!

Special Collections

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

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

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)

We donated \$154 to the Catholic Home Missions

Since our last contributions,

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

for Peter's Pence, we have collected \$30

for the Churches in Eastern Europe, we collected \$105

Building Fund

Building Fund Balance: \$32,377.06

May 2025 Building Fund Donations: \$210

June 2025 Building Fund Donations: \$50

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on June 1st was **71**. Average Sunday attendance \approx **63**

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 June 1st was **\$1,143.86** Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,967.76**

Sunday: \$297; Holy Day: \$130; Online: \$678.36; Candles: \$38.50

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).

