



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

June 15th, 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 All Saints – 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

Cantor: Mary H

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

Cantor: Mary H

Reader: Mary R

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

7:00pm Vespers with prostrations – for the first day of the Apostles Fast

Monday, June 16, 2025



Day of Alleluia - 1st Day of the Apostles Fast

Our Holy Father and Wonder-worker Tychon, Bishop of Amathis (c. 425).

Romans 2:28-3:18. Matthew 6:31-34; 7:9-11.

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

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



Tuesday, June 17, 2025

The Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ishmael (c. 633).

Our Venerable Father Hypatius, Hegumen of the Rufenianos Monastery.

Romans 4:4-12. Matthew 7:15-21.

Wednesday, June 18, 2025



The Holy Martyr Leontius (c. 73).

Romans 4:13-25. Matthew 7:21-23.

10:00am Third & Sixth Hour

6:00pm Confessions

6:30pm Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy for †Jude

Cantor: Mary R

+Irene Durisin, from Medjugorje Family

Thursday, June 19, 2025



† The Holy Apostle Jude, Brother of the Lord.

Vespers: Jude 1-10 • Jude 11-16 • Jude 17-25.

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25.

for Jude: Jude 1-10. John 14:21-24.

for the day (not read at Liturgy): Romans 5:10-16. Matthew 8:23-27.

Friday, June 20, 2025



Day of Alleluia

The Holy Martyr Methodius, Bishop of Patara (311). Our Holy Father Nicholas Cabasilas.

Romans 5:17-6:2. Matthew 9:14-17.

7:00am First and Third Hour for a Day of Alleluia

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Vespers for Saturday

Saturday, June 21, 2025



The Holy Martyr Julian of Tarsus (290).

Romans 3:19-26. Matthew 7:1-8.

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Cantor: Mary R

descendants of Melvyn & Sarah, from Sarah Marron

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

Cantor: Mary R

Sunday, June 22, 2025



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Tone 1

The Holy Martyr Eusebius, Bishop of Samosata (379).

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

Romans 2:10-16. Matthew 4:18-23.

8:15am Matins *for Sunday*

9:30am First & Third Hour – *Reader Service*

Cantor: Mary H

Baptisms – *in the Chapel*

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

Cantor: Mary H

Reader: Dan Lauffer

After Liturgy: Fellowship & Potluck in the hall. No Class

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)

The Apostle's Fast

The Apostle's Fast begins after the Sunday of All Saints (which this year falls on June 15th) and ends with the Great Feast of the Holy Preeminent Apostles Peter and Paul (which is always on June 29th). The Typikon prescribes strict abstinence from meat, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, and oil on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, with a mitigated abstinence permitting wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Metropolia of Pittsburgh has identified this period as a penitential season (canon 880, 2). This Fast may be observed voluntarily.

Prayer List

Pray for the repose of +George 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, Lance Remisoski, Edith Santo, Rex Stein, Debra Warila, Helen Wood

Upcoming Clergy Assignments to St. Stephen:

Starting on July 1st, 2025:

Fr. Marton Egressy (egressy.marci@gmail.com) will be priest in residence at St. Stephen to serve the faithful of St. Stephen. He will serve the liturgies and holy mysteries for the people of St. Stephen.

Fr. Mykhailo Solianyk (msolianyk@gmail.com) will serve as the administrator of St. Stephen, fulfilling for now the administrative and financial needs of the parish.

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.

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!**



2025 BYZANTINE ASSEMBLY

JULY | 16-20 | 2025
WHITING, INDIANA

EARLY BIRD RATES
EXTENDED UNTIL 6/1!

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!

Christ God, our Hope

A teaching from Bishop Robert Pipta

Hope of the Hopeless

Our eparchial mission includes what Pope Francis calls missionary discipleship. As missionary disciples we live in such a way that we draw people to the Church. At our baptism we were made Christian disciples and began to follow Christ on a journey of continual learning. Being a follower and student of Christ never ends for the faithful Byzantine Catholic. Neither does it prevent us from sharing our faith with others. I find that it is in our uncertainties, vulnerabilities, and imperfections that we can become the most effective missionaries or evangelizers by openly and honestly conveying our experience of hope in Christ, despite our sinfulness. Such reveals the blessing of being poor in spirit as we recognize that our hope is not ourselves but is Christ our God.

Sixty years ago, the Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World was promulgated. It emphasized the Church's solicitude for the vulnerable and countered any false notion of a "gospel of prosperity." *Gaudium et spes* (Joys and hopes) is its given title and begins: "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts."

God dwells in the hearts of his believers and so the needs of God's beloved resonate within. The natural reflex, then, is outstretched arms lovingly incarnating the hope that is Christ in apostolic outreach. While our Eparchy will continue in its commitment to use modern means of media and communication for its apostolic work, it remains part of our baptismal calling to holiness to cooperate with God's grace for growth in Christian perfection while remaining down to earth enough to relate to the poorest of the poor, the least of our brothers and sisters, and the enemies we are called to love. "Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it." (Pope Francis in his Bull of Indiction)

Conclusion

In his Bull of Indiction for the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis reminds us that "in the heart of each person hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring." He continues "Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love."

While the optimist says "all will turn out well," the hopeful person lives with confidence that the realities faced by people of faith actually make sense. We're not called to give honor to an unlivable ideal nor focus on an unreachable optimism. Rather, we are called to grow in hope.

Our Christian hope is for the eternal happiness of heaven. Our Church's forebears who have gained paradise are no longer troubled by changes in those priestly assignments, churches, and other resources that were significant to the faith-life of their earthly pilgrimage. I suspect that they smile upon us with love recognizing the sometimes unnecessary energy we put into preserving that which is passing.

When we celebrated our 50th Anniversary, the U.S. Apostolic Nuncio challenged the Eparchy of Parma "to renew its commitment to be in a permanent state of mission." He envisioned an Eparchy on the move and an Eparchy at peace knowing that the growing pains of its dynamism were necessary for its obedience to our Lord's Great Commission (Matthew 28:19,20).

I ask for your willing and prayerful help in my work to steward the human resources of our clergy and laity and steward the material resources of our properties and funds in a manner that is pleasing to God. As I witness the faithful of our Cathedral doing their utmost to repurpose bells, icon screens, and the like, I have established locations both in Cleveland, Ohio and Merrillville, Indiana to house sacred items no longer needed in one location so that they may be used in the areas of our Eparchy where we find amazing spiritual vibrancy in nascent parishes.

I implore all of our faithful to prayerfully see and care about things beyond their own parish. If a hope-filled Eparchy will journey through a creative, visionary, and evangelical pilgrimage, it will need its clergy, its monastics, its parishioners, its students, and its benefactors to have a developed sense of being part of a larger body. As has been often stated in our Office of Missions and Outreach, a consciousness of the plight of fellow Byzantine Catholics in parishes, missions, and outreaches in far-flung areas of the Eparchy is critical to a truly effective evangelical plan.

In closing I ask that you join me in praying that the Lord continue sending his All-Holy Spirit upon our eparchial Church. I desire that this teaching on hope be according to a strategic vision and evangelical plan for the fulfillment of our eparchial mission to make present in America's heartland the salvific grace of our Lord Jesus Christ by embracing our citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven and by committing to friendship with God and utmost respect for all human life. As we sail the sometimes turbulent waters of our earthly pilgrimage, we find ourselves not abandoned but part of a holy "flotilla," bearing witness to the riches of our Byzantine Catholic Church through missionary discipleship, Godly fellowship, authentic worship, and sacrificial stewardship.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Glory to You, O Christ God, our hope, glory to You!

+Robert

Bishop of Parma

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

**Fr John and Russell Family Farewell
and
Baptism Celebration!**

Please join us for a farewell celebration for Fr John and the Russell Family as they begin their journey in Missouri! We will also celebrate the baptism of Wyatt and Luke Lenoir! There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex (the entrance of the church) to help with food and set and clean up. Please consider rearranging your schedule to join us for this event as we wish Fr John and the Russell family 'farewell' and to welcome Wyatt and Luke into the body of Christ.

PLEASE NOTE: Please prayerfully consider offering a contribution to the Russell Family as they prepare to move to Missouri. There will be a collection box at the celebration for gifts and offerings.

When: June 22nd after Divine Liturgy (Fr John's last Sunday at Stephen Parish)

Where: In the Parish Hall (Crystal Room)

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Barillas

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: \$100

ATTENDANCE – *Thank you for praying with us.*

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on June 8th was **69**. Average Sunday attendance ≈ **62**

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 8th was **\$1,644.76** Average Weekly Collection: **\$1,964.92**

Sunday: \$826.40; Holy Day: \$150; Online: \$558.36; Candles: \$30; Fuel: \$80

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).

