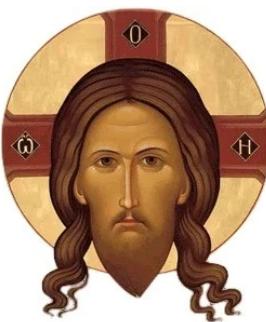


## SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI 48101  
(313)-382-5901, saintstephenbyzantine@gmail.com  
website: <https://saintstephenbyzantine.church/>



## SACRED HEART BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

29125 6 Mile Rd, Livonia, MI, 48152  
[\(734\) 522-3166](tel:7345223166), [sacredheartlivonia@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartlivonia@gmail.com)  
website: <https://shbyzantine.com/>

Priest: Fr. Márton Egressy, (419) 269-7585, [egressy.marci@gmail.com](mailto:egressy.marci@gmail.com)

Deacon: Lawrence Hendricks



### WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're glad you're with us today. If you are looking for God, have a prayer request, looking for more information about the Eastern Catholic Church, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr. Marton he will be happy to talk to you. Please join us for our potluck Agape in the Parish Hall following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!

## Schedule of Services

### December 29 - January 4, 2025/26

**Monday, December 29.** *Holy Innocents Martyrs, Heb 8,7-13, Mk 10,46-52*

6:30pm *Divine Liturgy in St. Stephen for + Robert Dubensky*

7:00pm *Byzantine Book Club – online: [meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia](https://meet.google.com/xuc-eiuo-sia)*

**Wednesday, December 31.** *Melany Venerable, Heb 10,1-18, Mk 11,23-26*

10:00am *Divine Liturgy (St Basil) for The Circumcision & St Basil in St. Stephen*

4:00pm *Divine Liturgy (St Basil) for The Circumcision & St Basil in Sacred Heart*

## Becoming Byzantine

Come and see.

**“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”** (Psalm 34:8)

Discover the Beauty of the Byzantine Catholic Faith

Have you ever wondered what it means to be **Byzantine Catholic?**

The Byzantine Catholic Church is fully Catholic and in communion with Rome, while living the ancient Christian tradition of the East. Our spirituality, worship, and theology are deeply rooted in the early Church and expressed through rich liturgy, sacred chant, icons, and a strong sense of community.

### What Does It Mean to Be Byzantine?

- **Worship** centered on the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
- **Prayer with the whole Church** – body, mind, and soul
- **Theology sung, not just spoken**
- **Icons as windows into heaven**
- **A lived faith** passed down through tradition and daily prayer

### Who Is This For?

- Those curious about the Byzantine Catholic Church
- Anyone seeking to grow in faith and understanding of the early Church

### What You Will Learn

- The history and identity of the Byzantine Catholic Church
- The Divine Liturgy and the Sacraments
- Eastern Christian spirituality and prayer
- How to become Byzantine Catholic (canonical transfer, if applicable)

 **Classes from January**

 **Contact:** 419-269-7585

(I see a strange...). **Communion Hymns** - Top of Page 305. Then Middle of Page 305. And finally, top of Page 294. Note: All same melody as carol used for Cherubic Hymn (Wondrous News). Note: *It is traditional to sing carols before liturgy, after prescribed Communion hymns, and after liturgy, during this joyous season.*

### Pilgrim Vocation Icon Program



Everyone in the parish is invited to pray for and encourage others within the Church that they might respond generously to God's call in their lives. God relies on generous men and women to minister among us as priests, deacons, monks, and nuns. The Church needs people like you to pray for and encourage them. Sign up today to have the Pilgrim Vocation Icon "The Call of the Disciples" in your home for one week. You will be greatly blessed. Please sign up on the sheet that is posted in the parish hall on the table.

### The Sacred Heart choir

If you would like to be part of the choir, but cannot be due to timing conflicts, please talk to Michael Nagrant about other times during the week, as rehearsal patterns may need to shift due to the changed liturgy time. Our focus at present is learning English translations of Byzantine-Ruthenian Christmas carols (koljádý).

### Request a Divine Liturgy for Your Intentions

Divine Liturgy is the Church's most sacred prayer offered for the faithful. You may request a Liturgy for: **The living** (for health, thanksgiving, or guidance), **the sick**, **the departed**. Please feel free to contact Fr. Marton if you would like a Liturgy offered for a special intention. "Pray for one another, that you may be healed." (James 5,16)

### Prayer for Vocations

O Lord Jesus Christ, instill in the hearts of men and women a willingness to joyfully give their lives for the sake of souls, and call them to your service. Hear my prayer and the prayers of your Church: send us good, faithful, and holy priests, deacons, monks, and nuns to lead your people to their eternal happiness. Amen

### Now enrolling! St. Anselm Catholic School

We are a small close-knit community and offer a faith-based education for students in Preschool to 8th grade. With individualized attention in our core and special subjects, our students are well-prepared to attend any of the top high schools in the area. Our school is committed to maintaining a strong Catholic identity with weekly all school mass,

and a comprehensive religious education program to prepare students for sacraments during school hours.

To schedule a building tour for your family, and a shadow day for your student, please call our main office at 313-563-3430 or email Principal Brian Owens at [bowens@saintanselmschool.org](mailto:bowens@saintanselmschool.org)

### Words of Thanks

With grateful hearts, we sincerely thank our dear parishioners for the kind words, greeting cards, and thoughtful gifts. Your love and generosity are a true encouragement to us. May God reward you abundantly and grant His blessings to every one of you.

### Thank You

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who helped with the cleaning of the church and the preparation for the feast. We are especially grateful to those who assisted with the flowers, the purchase of the Christmas trees, and to all who supported these efforts through their generous contributions. May God bless and reward everyone for their time, work, and generosity.

### Please remember in your prayers:

"*Prayer is the gentle embrace of those who suffer, even from afar.*" (Pope Francis)

Please remember the following members of our parish in your prayers:

*Chris Lauffer, Dan Lauffer, Donald and Theresa Butellai, Deacon Laurence Hendricks, Abigel Egressy, Gregory Hendricks, Nancy Patterson, Paul and Betty Baise, Luella, Nella, James Wilkins, Betty, Julia*

Please pray also for all our benefactors, friends, neighbors and anyone we may have forgotten. Please let Fr. Marton know if you would like to add new names to the prayer list and notify him about any sick and/or hospitalized parishioners and family members.

### Theophany (Blessing of Homes)

Dear Brothers and Sisters! In the **Byzantine tradition**, it is customary around the Feast of **Theophany** to bless our homes. During this holy season, we ask God's blessing upon our houses and families, praying for peace, health, and protection throughout the coming year. We warmly invite those who wish to have their homes blessed to **please sign up** on the designated list / in the sacristy. Kindly register in advance so that visits may be scheduled accordingly. May the blessing of the Lord remain upon your homes and families.

## SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, January 11 Parish meeting in Sacred Heart

Sunday, January 18 the Ladies will meet after the Social

Saturday, February 7, Charity Ball in Sacred Heart, beginning at 4:00 PM with Divine Liturgy. Details will be posted soon!

January 30 - February 1 5th Annual Men's Retreat to be held at the Jesuit Retreat Center, 5629 State Road, Parma, Ohio. Deadline to register is January 9. Retreat Master is Fr. Jan Maturkanic. Contact Karl Busam at [karl.busam77@gmail.com](mailto:karl.busam77@gmail.com) for brochure and schedule.

February 20-22 13th Annual Women's Retreat to be held at Maria Stein Retreat Center 2365 St Johns Rd, Maria Stein, OH 45860 The Retreat Master is Fr. Joseph Loya, OSA, PhD. Details to follow when announced. contact Joan Washburn at [stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com](mailto:stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com)

### Save the Date The Fifth Annual MEN'S RETREAT

Our Lord Jesus Christ -  
The Path to the Father

Retreat Master: Father Jan Maturkanic  
Jesuit Retreat Center - Parma, Ohio  
January 30, 2026 - February 1, 2026

Contact Karl Busam for further information  
[karl.busam.77@gmail.com](mailto:karl.busam.77@gmail.com)  
419-626-6811

Further details will follow

Sponsored by Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

SEE BACK OF CARD



### SAVE THE DATE

The Thirteenth Annual Women's Retreat  
"Luke 2:19: Mary Kept Everything in Her Heart"

Maria Stein Retreat Center  
2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein, OH 45860  
February 20, 2026 - February 22, 2026

Retreat Master: Father Joseph Loya, OSA, PhD

To register contact Joan Washburn  
865-696-7809  
[stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com](mailto:stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com)

Further details will follow  
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Saturday, January 3. Saturday Before the Theophany, 1 TIM 3,13-16 & 4,1-5, Mt 3,1-6

10:00am Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart

4:00pm Vespers for Sunday in St. Stephen

Sunday, January 4, Sunday before the Theophany, Synaxis of the seventy Disciples – Father Theoktistos, 2 Timothy 4,5-8, Mark 1, 1-8

8:30am Confession

8:40am 3rd Hour

9:00am Divine Liturgy for the parishioners, founders, donors., & Agape in the hall in St. Stephen

11:30am Divine Liturgy for the parishioners, founders, donors., & Agape in the hall in Sacred Heart

### This Sunday's Hymns and Propers - Tone 4

Sunday After the Nativity, Commemorations of Saints Joseph, David the King, and James - Tone 4. A summary of the prescribed liturgical hymns is on Pages 302-305 in the teal pew book. Specific instructions and printed music are as follows:

**First and Second Antiphons** - Top of Page 289. **Post-festive Third Antiphon** - Top of Page 295.

*The priest intones, "Wisdom Be Attentive!" Respond with the following series of hymns, without pausing:*

**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** - Middle of Page 295

**Resurrectional Troparion**, Tone 4 - Top of Page 141

**Troparion of Nativity**, Tone 4 - Top of Page 290

**Troparion [of Saints]**, Tone 2 - Middle of Page 303

**Glory...Now and Ever...**, Tone 3 - Middle of Page 136 (or follow cantor)

**Kontakion [of Saints]**, Tone 3 - Bottom of Page 303

**Prokeimenon** - Middle of Page 142 with verse, then Prokeimenon - Middle of Page 304

**Alleluia** - Middle of Page 304 with verses.

**Tradition After Gospel: Troparion of Nativity, Tone 4** - Top of Page 290

**Cherubic Hymn** - Middle of Page 292. Note: Melody same as carol "Wondrous News to All the Earth..." After Words of Institution after priest intones, "Offering you your own, from your own, always and everywhere," sing Anamnesis Acclamation - Top of Page 293. Note: Same melody as above carol. **Instead of "It is Truly Proper..."** - Middle of Page 293: Magnification (Extol...) and Irmos

## **PASTORAL MINISTRY AND SACRAMENTS:**

SACRAMENT of CONFESSIONS: on Weekdays, Sundays and Feast Days: 30 min. before Divine Liturgy and other days, by appointment  
HOLY COMMUNION; for the sick, by appointment, anytime.  
BAPTISMS - by appointment.  
MARRIAGES - by appointment, at least 6 months in advance.  
FUNERALS - by appointment.  
ANOINTING of the sick, hospital visits - by appointment, anytime.

### **ATTENDANCE in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **December 21<sup>th</sup>** was **58 in St. Stephen**

*“Devote yourselves “to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”  
(Acts 2:42).*

### **COLLECTION**

Collection for **December 21<sup>th</sup>** was **\$ 4,330 in St. Stephen**

Collection for **December 21<sup>th</sup>** was **\$ 7,018.13 in Sacred Heart**

*“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)*