



## SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## SACRED HEART BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Deacon: **Lawrence Hendricks**



**Glory to Jesus Christ! – Dicsőség Jézus Krisztusnak! Слава Ісусу Христу!**

### 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!

### *This Sunday's Hymns and Propers - Tone 3 - Sunday of Cheese-Fare*

The prescribed formula for the Sunday of Cheese-Fare is on Pages 218-219 of the Teal Pew Book.

Thus the prescribed music is located as follows:

**Troparion of the Resurrection**, Tone 3 - Bottom of Page 135

**Glory...Now and Ever...**, Tone 6 - Middle of Page 152 (or follow cantor)

**Kontakion of Cheese-Fare Sunday**, Tone 6 - Bottom of Page 218

**Prokeimenon**: Middle of Page 219; **Alleluia**: Near Bottom of Page 219

**Communion Hymn**: Psalm 148:1 - Middle of Page 78

## SAVE THE DATE

**February 22., 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast**, after the Liturgy we will bless koliva

**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)

**March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Great Fast**, Great Lenten Vespers in St. Stephen at 4:00pm. The Divine Liturgy will celebrated before the **Vespers at 2:30pm.**

### May 2-3, 2026, Pre-Cana weekend

The Marriage and Family ministry of the Eparchy of Parma, in collaboration with the Tabor Life Institute, will be offering a Pre-Cana weekend on May 2-3, 2026. This marriage preparation course, following the Byzantine Rite, will be held at St. John's Byzantine Catholic Church, located at 36125 Aurora Rd, Solon, OH. The cost for the two-day program is \$200 per couple, which includes the program fee and meals.

### GREAT LENTEN PRAYER CHAIN

During this holy season of the Great Fast, we invite all parishioners to commit to daily prayer and to offer these prayers for **peace in the world, for our Church, for our families, and for the sick and suffering.** Please pray the following each day during Great Lent:

O Theotokos and Virgin, rejoice, O Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls. **(Prostration)**

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

O Baptist of Christ, be mindful of us all, that we may be delivered from our iniquities, for unto thee is given the grace to pray on behalf of us all. **(Prostration)**

*Now and ever, and forever, Amen.*

Pray for us, holy apostles and all the saints, that we may be delivered from perils and afflictions: for our fervent supplicants before the Savior. **(Prostration)**

We take refuge beneath thy tender mercy, O Theotokos: despise not our supplications in distress, but deliver us from perils, for thou alone art pure and blessed. **(No prostration)**

Lord, have mercy. **(40 times).** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever Amen. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

### Ingredients

- boiled wheat
- honey
- ground walnuts
- raisins, mixed dried fruit, **dried apricots**
- powdered sugar/ shredded coconut (for decoration)



Koliva is more than food—it is a **prayerful offering and a confession of faith**, reminding us that our fasting leads to purification, renewal, and new life in Christ.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – KOLIVA PREPARATION

We warmly invite volunteers to help prepare koliva. Your time and helping hands are greatly appreciated!

#### **Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church**

Saturday morning after the Divine Liturgy around 11:00am

#### **St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church**

Saturday beginning at 4:00 PM

No special skills are needed—just a willing heart and joyful spirit. Thank you for your generosity and support!

### 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, Marielies, George, Paul, Richard and Elaine Baranko.*

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.

## Sundays Gospel

**Mt6,14-21**

“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

## Schedule of Services

February 16-22, 2026

**Monday, February 16., 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Great Fast., Pampphilius&Others Martyrs, Gen1,1-13, Prov1,1-20**

**6:00pm Confession in St. Stephen**

**6:30pm Presanctified Liturgy in St. Stephen**

**Wednesday, February 18., Leo the Great Pope, Gen1,24-2,3., Prov 2,1-21**

**1:00pm-4:00pm Silent Prayer & Visit the Shrine in Sacred Heart**

**4:30pm-6:00pm Soup&Salad in Sacred Heart**

**6:00pm confession in Sacred Heart**

**6:30pm Presanctified Liturgy in Sacre Heart**

**Friday, February 20. Leo of Catania Bishop, Gen2,20-3,20., Prov3,19-34**

**6:00pm Confession**

**6:30pm Presanctified Liturgy in St. Stephen and young adults meeting (V&V)**

**Saturday, February 21.** Commemoration of the Miracle of the Great Martyr Theodore., Heb1,1-12., Mk2,23-3,5

**10:00am** *Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart, Preparation of Koliva in the Hall*

**11:00am-12:00pm** *Silent Prayer & Visit the Shrine in Sacred Heart*

**5:00pm** *Adult Catechism in St. Stephen*

**6:00pm** *Confession in St. Stephen*

**6:30pm** *Vespers in St. Stephen*

**Sunday, February 22.,** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast, Heb11,24-26,32-12,2., Jn 1,43-51., Tone 4.

**8:30am** *Confession*

**8:40am** **3<sup>rd</sup> Hour**

**9:00am** *Divine Liturgy & Blessing the Koliva., Agape in the hall in St. Stephen*

**11:00am** *Bible study with Kevin Perrotta*

**10:00am** **E.C.F. classes in Sacred Heart**

**11:30am** *Divine Liturgy & Blessing the Koliva., Agape in the hall in Sacred Heart*

**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

**Heartfelt Thanks and Gratitude**

Dear Parishioners in Sacred Heart! With grateful hearts, we sincerely thank everyone who contributed in any way to the organization and successful celebration of our Ball. We are especially grateful to the dedicated organizers, the many volunteers who offered their time and service, and to all our generous donors for their kind support. May God reward you abundantly for your sacrifice, generosity, and love.

**Baby bottles to benefit AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center in Sacred Heart**

Baby bottles to benefit AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center are available in the vestibule. Each family is asked to take one home and fill it with coins or paper money. They need to be returned to church by Sunday, February 22 so they can be returned to the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center. The money will benefit the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center, here in Livonia. If you have any questions, see Maryellen. Thank you!

**Koliva – First Friday of the Great Fast**

**Koliva (also called kollyva)** is a traditional liturgical food made from boiled wheat, prepared and blessed in the Eastern Christian tradition. It is especially associated with the **First Friday of the Great Fast**, when the Church remembers God’s providence and proclaims the hope of the Resurrection.

**History of Koliva**

The tradition of koliva is connected with **Saint Theodore the Recruit (St. Theodore Tiron)**. In the 4th century, during the first week of the Great Fast, Emperor Julian the Apostate attempted to defile the fasting of Christians by ordering food in the markets to be sprinkled with meat sacrificed to idols. Saint Theodore appeared in a dream to the bishop of Constantinople and warned him not to allow the faithful to buy food from the markets. Instead, he instructed them to prepare and eat **boiled wheat (koliva)**. Through this divine intervention, the faithful were protected, and the Church has remembered this miracle ever since by blessing koliva on the First Friday of the Great Fast.

**Spiritual Meaning**

Koliva recalls the words of Christ:  
*“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”* (John 12:24) For this reason, koliva symbolizes **death and resurrection**, as well as the Christian hope of **eternal life**.

### **PASTORAL MINISTRY AND SACRAMENTS:**

**SACRAMENT of CONFESSIONS:** on Weekdays, Sundays and Feast Days: 30 min. before

Divine Liturgy and other days, by appointment

**HOLY COMNIUNION;** 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 **February 8<sup>th</sup>** was **53 in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **February 7<sup>th</sup>** was **60 in St. Sacred Heart**

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

### **COLLECTION**

Weekly Donation **was \$ 1,524 in St. Stephen**

Weekly Donation **was \$ 7,080.5 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)*