

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!

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast, Tone 5

The "Tone of the Week" is Tone 5. The format for today, the Second Sunday of the Great Fast, is on pages 222-223 of the teal pew book. The pages for non-routine music for today are as follows: Per Sacred Heart tradition for Sundays of Lent, for first and second antiphons, sing first and second Typical Psalm A on Pages 16 and 17. Instead of third antiphon, sing the Beatitudes on Pages 23-24.

Troparion of Resurrection, Tone 5 - Middle of Page 146., **Glory...Now and Ever...**, Tone 4 - Middle of Page 141 (or follow cantor)., **Kontakion of Second Sunday of Great Fast**, Tone 4 - Middle of Page 222. **Prokeimenon**: Top of Page 223. **Alleluia**: Middle of Page 148. After start of Anaphora, Page 55, music for the liturgy of St. Basil the Great will be sung, Pages 96-100.

Communion Hymns: For Sunday, Psalm 148:1 (Middle of Page 78), plus for St. Gregory Palamas, Psalm 111:6,7 (Music on Bottom of Page 227)

Support Our Renovation Projects

We invite all parishioners to prayerfully consider **contributing to these necessary projects**. Every gift, large or small, helps preserve the beauty, safety, and dignity of our parish home. Please mark your donation "**Renovation Fund**". Contributions may be made at the parish office, through the Sunday collection, or by mail. Thank you for your generosity, prayers, and support of our Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church community.

SAVE THE DATE

March 8th, 3rd Sunday of Great Fast, *Regional Great Lenten Vespers in Sacred Heart at 4:00pm.*
The Divine Liturgy will celebrate before the Vespers at 2:30pm.

March 15th, 4th Sunday of Great Fast, *Regional Great Lenten Vespers in St. Michaels Church in Oregon, Toledo at 4:00pm.*

March 19th Thursday, *Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete at 6 PM in Sacred Heart*

March 21st Saturday, *Akathistos Saturday, Akathist at 10 AM in Sacred Heart*

March 21st Saturday, *Akathistos Saturday, Akathist at 4 PM in St. Stephen*

March 22nd 5th Sunday of Great Fast, *Ladies meeting in Sacred Heart*

March 22nd 5th Sunday of Great Fast, *Regional Great Lenten Vespers in St. Nicholas, Sterling Heights at 4PM*

March 29th Palm Sunday, *Regional Great Lenten Vespers in St. Michael, in Flushing at 4PM*

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.

October 17-19, Eparchial Assembly in Columbus, Ohio: *A Pre-Assembly, open to all of the faithful of the Eparchy will be held October 17-19, 2026. The formal Assembly will be held October 19-22, 2026, but attendance will be by invitation only.*

Request for Feedback (Eparchial Statutes)

We would like to hear what suggestions you might have for improving, clarifying, or otherwise enhancing our Eparchy's list of statutes. Please see Fr. Marton to obtain a copy of the current statutes if you don't already have one; then read, pray, and reflect upon them, and submit any suggestions in writing to Fr. Marton. Bishop Robert's intention is to finalize the next edition of our statutes at the next Eparchial Assembly in Fall 2026.

Parish Database Update

To better serve our parish family and to ensure that our records are accurate and up to date, we are currently updating our parish database. We kindly ask all parishioners to review and update their household information, including contact details and sacramental records. Even if you believe your information has not changed, please take a moment to complete the parish survey so that we may confirm the accuracy of our records. Printed forms are available at the church entrance. Completed forms may be returned to the parish office. Thank you for helping us maintain accurate parish records and strengthen our parish community.

E.C.F. Classes – Open Enrollment in Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church

We warmly invite children and families to participate in our **Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.) Classes** at Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church. Our E.C.F. program helps our young faithful grow in their knowledge of the Faith, deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and understand the beauty of our Byzantine Catholic tradition. **New students are welcome at any time during the year.** There is no need to wait for a specific start date — families may join whenever they are ready. For more information or to register, please contact the parish office. Let us grow together in faith, wisdom, and love for Christ.

Parish Renovation & Fundraising Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church

Dear Faithful, to properly care for and maintain our beautiful church, several important renovation projects are needed.

Roof Repair

The church roof has developed a leak, which was be repaired this week. The **cost: \$1,675**. Also, we will need to repair the banquet hall roof. We are waiting for the quote.

Interior Lighting Replacement

We have received a proposal to **completely replace the interior lighting**. The total cost is **\$90,000**, divided into three areas:

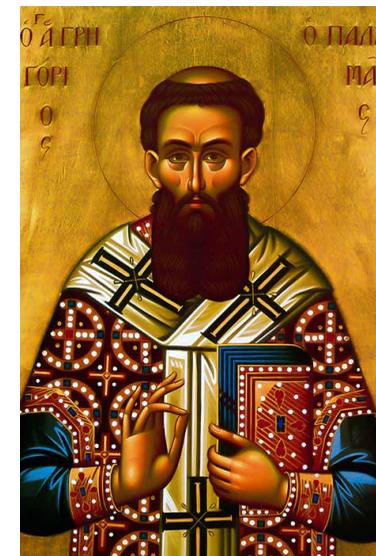
1. **Entrance Area – \$12,000**-Lobby, nearby rooms, and back rooms behind the altar
2. **Pews Area – \$60,000**-All lighting above and around the pews, including pendant fixtures
3. **Altar Area – \$18,000**- High ceiling area behind the altar and above the steps

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

On the Second Sunday of Great Lent, the Church commemorates our Holy Father Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica and Wonderworker (also celebrated on November 14). The Church honors him on this Sunday because his defense of Orthodox faith in the 14th century was proclaimed as a second Triumph of Orthodoxy—affirming the true teaching about our participation in the life of God.

Born in 1296 in Constantinople to a noble and deeply pious family, Gregory received a brilliant education and showed remarkable intellectual promise. Yet he turned away from worldly success and embraced the monastic life on Mount Athos. There he devoted himself to prayer, fasting, obedience, and inner stillness (hesychia). Through the practice of the Jesus Prayer and purification of heart, he experienced the uncreated light of God—the same divine light revealed at Christ's Transfiguration on Mount Tabor.



In his time, a learned monk named Barlaam of Calabria challenged the spiritual practices of the Athonite monks. He argued that God could only be known intellectually and denied the possibility of a real experience of God's grace. Saint Gregory responded by explaining the Church's ancient teaching: while God's essence remains beyond all comprehension, we truly participate in His uncreated energies—His grace, light, and life. This participation is not symbolic, but real. It is the path of theosis, our transformation and union with God by grace. Several Councils held in Constantinople between 1341 and 1351 affirmed Saint Gregory's teaching and condemned his opponents. Despite persecution, false accusations, and even imprisonment, he remained steadfast. In 1347 he became Archbishop of Thessalonica, faithfully shepherding his flock with humility, wisdom, and pastoral love until his repose in 1359. Saint Gregory's life reminds us that Great Lent is not only a season of external discipline, but a call to inner transformation. Through repentance, prayer, and the sacramental life of the Church, we are invited even now to share in the light and life of Christ. Through his holy prayers, may we grow in faith and be illumined by the uncreated light of our Lord.

Schedule of Services

March 2-9, 2026

Monday, March 2., *3rd Week of Great Fast., Theodotus Bishop-Martyr., Gen 6,9-22., Prov 8,1-21*

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

Wednesday, March 4., *Gerasimus Venerable., Gen 7,6-9, Prov 9,12-18*

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

5:00pm-6:00pm *Soup&Salad in Sacred Heart*

6:00pm *Confession in Sacred Heart*

6:30pm *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts in Sacred Heart (+John Orlyk)*

Thursday, March 5., *Conon Martyr, Gen 7,11-8,4, Prov 10,1-22*

6:00pm *Confession*

6:30pm *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts in St. Stephen (+ Melvyn&Sarah)*

Saturday, March 7., *3rd All Souls Saturday Heb 10,32-38, Mk 2,14-17*

10:00am *Divine Liturgy&Panachida in Sacred Heart for All Souls*

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

3:30pm *Confession in St. Stephen*

4:00pm *Divine Liturgy& Panachida in St. Stephen for All Souls*

Sunday, March 8., *3rd Sunday of the Great Fast, Heb 4,14-5,6, Mk 8,34-9,1*

8:30am *Confession*

8:45 *3rd Hour*

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

2:30pm *Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart*

4:00pm *Great Lenten Vespers in Sacred Heart & Agape in the hall*

(We kindly ask you to bring soup, salad, or another Lenten dish to share at this Sunday's agape meal.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us make this time of fellowship a blessing for all.)

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

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 Sugars, Richard and Elaine Baranko, Guillermo, Christine, Rosario, Nicodemus.*

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.

Sacred Heart Choir Practice

3/8 1:00 Rehearsal, 2:30 Liturgy with choir pieces, 4:00 Great Lenten Vespers (Deanery event at Sacred Heart)

3/15 10:30 Rehearsal, 11:30 Liturgy cantor-led

Stewardship 2025-2026

This year's Stewardship Appeal officially started on November 1 and runs through May 31, 2026. All parishioners within the Eparchy of Parma should have received Stewardship Appeal information in the mail by now. If you did not receive the mailing, please contact Fr. Marton so that he can provide you with the pertinent information, and confirm that your address information is listed correctly with the Eparchy. This year's Stewardship Appeal will support the following important needs in the Eparchy: Sustaining our Parishes; Caring for our Clergy; Nurturing Vocations; Preserving our Faith for the Future; and Extending Christ's Love and Renewal as we continue our Lord's mission. Please visit parma.org/stewardship- appeal for more information and to make secure, one-time or monthly donations through the website. Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign. Bishop Robert's goal is 100% household participation.

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 22nd** was **31 in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **February 22nd** was **35 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 \$ **935.69** in **St. Stephen**

Weekly Donation was \$ **2,659** 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)