

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 **March 1st was 36 in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **March 1st was 48 in St. Sacred Heart**

Devote yourselves "to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers"

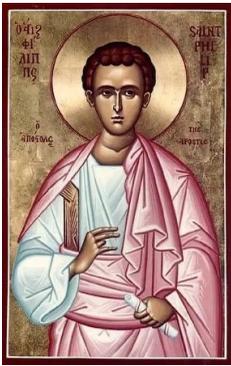
(Acts 2:42).

COLLECTION

Weekly Donation **was \$ 8,822 in St. Stephen**

Weekly Donation **was \$ 3,625.3 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)



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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(313)-382-5901, saintstephenbyzantine@gmail.com
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SACRED HEART BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest: **Fr. Márton Egressy**, (419) 269-7585, egressy.marci@gmail.com
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!



3rd Sunday of the Great Fast, Tone 6; Veneration of the Cross

The "Tone of the Week" is Tone 6. The format for today, the Third Sunday of the Great Fast, is on Pages 223-225 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 6 - Top of Page 152

Troparion of the Cross, Tone 1, Bottom of Page 223

Glory...Now and Ever..., Tone 7 - Middle of Page 157 (or follow cantor)

Kontakion of the Cross, Tone 7 - Near top of Page 224

Instead of "Holy God..." - "We bow to Your Cross...", Bottom of Page 32

Prokeimenon: Bottom of Page 224. **Alleluia**: Top of Page 225.

After start of Anaphora, Page 55, music for the liturgy of St. Basil the Great will be sung, Pages 96-100. **Communion Hymns**: For the Cross, Psalm 4:7 (Music on Middle of Page 225)

Pastoral Visits for the Homebound

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Our parish would like to reach out to those who are elderly, sick, or unable to come to church. If you or someone you know cannot attend the Divine Liturgy but would like a visit from the priest, we would be happy to come and visit, pray together, and bring Holy Communion. Please help us care for our parish family by letting us know about those who may benefit from a pastoral visit. Please feel free to contact **Fr. Marton** with confidence to arrange a visit: ☎ **419-269-7585**. Let us remember that no member of our parish family is forgotten.

Easter Flowers in Memory of

John Grega, Bertha Grega, Mary Polifko, Michael Grega, Joseph Humenic, Maria&Ferenk Gribb, Akkina&Roman Zukow, John&Maria Lukas, John&Mary Stroch, Frank&Mary Kovton, Alexandria&Luck Trach, Lillian Parshall, Andrew Yatcko, Helen Yatcko

SAVE THE DATE

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.*

3rd Sunday of the Great Fast
Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross

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. The banquet hall roof has developed a leak, which will be repaired when the weather improves. The **cost: \$2,875.00**. Thank you very much for your support so far.

Encouragement Card for Our Seminarians: How to Participate

During the Great Fast, join the entire Eparchy in supporting our seminarians — **Father Deacon Joseph Hnat, David Varga, James Hartung, and Patrick Kilroy** — as they continue their formation and discernment. Visit <https://parma.org/seminarian-appreciation> to write a **message of prayer, encouragement, or gratitude** today! If you feel moved, you may also speak to your parish priest about sending a modest donation or “pocket money” to help support their daily needs during formation. This is entirely optional but deeply appreciated. Another option is to donate to the Eparchy's Society of Blessed Hieromartyr Theodore Romzha which aims to inspire, support, and nurture vocations <https://parma.org/investinvocations>. The card will be sent to the seminarians **in time for Pascha**, reminding them that their Eparchy walks with them in faith and love. The card will close 3/23.

The commemoration and ceremonies of the Third Sunday of Lent are closely parallel to the feasts of the Veneration of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). Not only does the Sunday of the Holy Cross prepare us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ. As we have “crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24), and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression. The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion - being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory. As they who walk on a long and hard way and are bowed down by fatigue find great relief and strengthening under the cool shade of a leafy tree, so do we find comfort, refreshment, and rejuvenation under the Life-giving Cross, which our Fathers “planted” on this Sunday. Thus, we are fortified and enabled to continue our Lenten journey with a light step, rested and encouraged. Or, as before the arrival of the king, his royal standards, trophies, and emblems of victory come in procession and then the king himself appears in a triumphant parade, jubilant and rejoicing in his victory and filling those under him with joy, so does the Feast of the Cross precede the coming of our King, Jesus Christ. It warns us that He is about to proclaim His victory over death and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection. His Life-Giving Cross is His royal scepter, and by venerating it we are filled with joy, rendering Him glory. Therefore, we become ready to welcome our King, who shall manifestly triumph over the powers of darkness. The present feast has been placed in the middle of Great Lent for another reason. The Fast can be likened to the spring of Marah whose waters the children of Israel encountered in the wilderness. This water was undrinkable due to its bitterness but became sweet when the Holy Prophet Moses dipped the wood into its depth. Likewise, the wood of the Cross sweetens the days of the Fast, which are bitter and often grievous because of our tears. Yet Christ comforts us during our course through the desert of the Fast, guiding and leading us by His hand to the spiritual Jerusalem on high by the power of His Resurrection. Moreover, as the Holy Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is placed in the middle of the Fast, as the ancient tree of life was placed in the middle of the garden of Eden. By this, our Holy Fathers wished to remind us of Adam's gluttony as well as the fact that through this Tree has condemnation been abolished. Therefore, if we bind ourselves to the Holy Cross, we shall never encounter death but shall inherit life eternal.



Schedule of Services

March 9-15, 2026

Monday, March 9., *4th Week of Great Fast., 40 Martyrs of Sebaste, Gen8,21-9,7, Prov11,19-12,6*

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

Wednesday, March 11., *Sophronius Patriarch of Jerusalem, Gen9,18-10,1, Prov 12,23-13,9*

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 (+Paul Sugars)*

Friday, March 13., *Translation of the Relics of Nicephorus Patriarch, Gen 12,1-7, Prov 14,14-26*

5:00pm *Catechism for Adults in St. Stephen*

6:00pm *Confession*

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

Saturday, March 14., *4th All Souls Saturday Heb 6,9-12, Mk 7,31-37*

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 15., *5th Sunday of the Great Fast John Climacus Venerable, Heb 6,13-20, Mk9,17-31*

8:30am *Confession*

8:45 *3rd Hour*

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

11:00am *Bible Study with Kevin Perrotta*

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

11:30am *Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart & Agape in the hall*

4:00pm *Great Lenten Vespers in St. Michaels Church in Oregon, Toledo*

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:

Living and Sick: *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, Sugars, Richard and Elaine Baranko, Guillermo, Christine, Rosario, Nicodemus, Mary Alice, Virginia Thome Weber.*

Deceased + *Paul +Helen Moehler, +Edith Santo.*

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.