



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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**

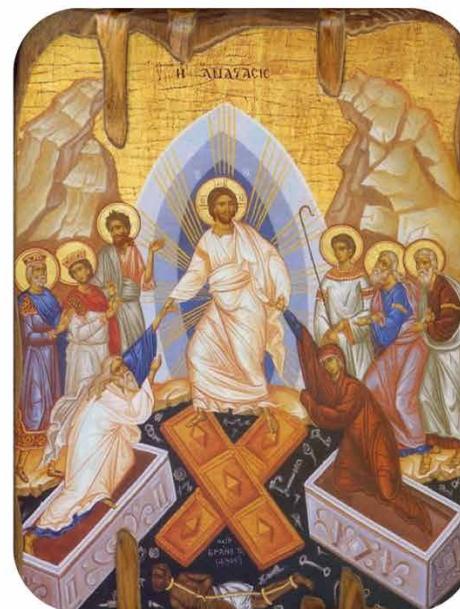


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4141 Laurence Avenue, Allen Park, MI

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Dear brothers and sister in Christ!
We warmly invite all parishioners and friends to join us in the sacred celebrations of Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord.



"Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life!" (PASCHAL TROPARION)

In the light of the Resurrection, we wish all our dear brothers and sisters a blessed and joyful Easter!
Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Lazarus Saturday • March 28th

- 10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart
- 3:00PM- Mothers prayer in St. Stephen
- 4:00 PM – Divine Liturgy in St. Stephen

Palm Sunday • March 29th

- 8:30 AM Confession in St. Stephen
- 8:45 AM – Procession with Palms & Pussywillows
- 9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy& Blessing Palms&Pussywillows in St. Stephen
- 11:30AM – Divine Liturgy& Blessing Palms&Pussywillows in Sacred Heart
- 4:00 PM – Vespers at St. Michael (Flushing, MI)

Great & Holy Monday • March 30th

- 9:00AM-13:30 PM-Visiting the Homebounds in St. Stephen
- 6:00 PM – Confessions
- 6:30 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Anointing of the sick in St. Stephen

Great & Holy Wednesday • April 1th

- 9:00AM-13:30 PM-Visiting the Homebounds in Sacred Heart
- 6:00 PM – Confessions
- 6:30 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Anointing of the sick in Sacred Heart

Great & Holy Thursday • April 2nd

- 9:00AM-14:00PM- Visiting the Homebounds in Sacred Heart
- 6:00 PM – Vespers with Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of St. Basil & Washing of Feet in St. Stephen

Great & Holy Friday • April 3rd

- 8:00 AM – Strasti Matins in St. Stephen
- 3:30 PM – Confessions in St. Stephen
- 4:00 PM – Burial Vespers for Great & Holy Friday in St. Stephen
- 6:00 PM – Burial Vespers for Great & Holy Friday in Sacred Heart with Bishop Robert
- 8:00PM-10:00PM- Visiting the Tomb in Sacred Heart
- 8:00PM- Akathist to the Divine Passion of Christ in Sacred Heart

Great & Holy Saturday • April 4th

- 8:30 AM – Jerusalem Matins in Sacred Heart
- 6:30 PM – Resurrection Matins in Sacred Heart

Pascha • April 5th

- 8:00 AM – Resurrection Matins
- 9:00AM – Divine Liturgy for Pascha in St. Stephen
- 10:30 AM –Blessing of Easter Baskets & Fellowship in the hall in St. Stephen
- 11:30AM – Divine Liturgy for Pascha and Blessing of Easter Baskets & Fellowship in the hall in Sacred Heart

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!

5th Sunday of the Great Fast, Tone 8; Memory of Holy Mother Mary of Egypt

The "Tone of the Week" is Tone 8. The format for today, the 5th Sunday of the Great Fast, is on Pages 230 - 232 of the teal pew book. The pages for non-routine music for today are as follows. Per Sacred Heart tradition, for Sundays of Lent, instead of first and second antiphon, 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 8 - Middle of Page 161. **Troparion of Venerable Woman**, Tone 8 - Top of Page 230. **Glory...Now and Ever...**, Tone 3 - Middle of Page 136 (or follow cantor)

Kontakion of Venerable Woman, Tone 3 - Bottom of Page 230

Prokeimenon: Bottom of Page 162 plus verse, then Middle of Page 231. **Alleluia**: Top of Page 163 After start of Anaphora, Page 55, music for the liturgy of St. Basil the Great will be sung, Pages 96-100

Communion Hymns: Psalm 148:1 - Page 78. Then Psalm 111: 6,7 - Top of Page 232



Schedule of Services

March 23-29, 2026

Monday, March 23., 6th Week of the Great Fast., Nicom and others Venerable-Martyrs, Gen27,1-41, Prov 19,16-25

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

Wednesday, March 25., *Annunciation of the Theotokos*, Heb2,11-18, Lk1,24-38

10:00am *Divine Liturgy in St. Stephen*

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

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

6:00pm *Confession*

6:30pm *Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Annunciation of the Theotokos*

Friday, March 27., *Matrona Venerable*, Gen49,33-50,26, Prov31,8-31

6:00pm *Confession*

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

Saturday, March 28., *Saturday of Lazarus*, Heb 12,28-13,8 Jn11,1-45

10:00am *Divine Liturgy in Sacred Heart*

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

3:00pm *Mothers prayer in St. Stephen*

3:30pm *Confession in St. Stephen*

4:00pm *Divine Liturgy in St. Stephen*

Sunday, March 29., *Palm Sunday*, Phil4,4-9, Jn12,1-18

8:30am *Confession*

8:45 *Procession with Palms and Pussypillows*

9:00am *Divine Liturgy&Blessing Palms 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 &Blessing Palms in Sacred Heart & Agape in the hall*

4:00pm *Great Lenten Vespers in St. Michaels Church in Flushing*

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)

Pray for Peace and Our Church's Future

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us join in prayer **for peace in the world**, especially for countries affected by war, that peace may come swiftly. We also ask the Holy Spirit to guide **our Church and parish in the days ahead**, strengthening our faith and unity. These intentions will be included in every Divine Liturgy, so that we may all share in God's mercy and guidance.

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, Debra Grega.*

Deceased + *Paul Sugars +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.

PARISH DATABASE UPDATE REMINDER

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 your cooperation and for helping us strengthen our parish community

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD – EASTER BAKING

The St. Stephen's Guild will be baking traditional **Paska Bread** and making **Butter Lambs** for Easter. **Paska Bread:** \$20 each (Plain, with Raisins). **Butter Lambs:** \$5 each. **Order Deadline:** Sunday, March 22. **Pickup:** Palm Sunday, March 29, after the Divine Liturgy. Thank you for supporting the St. Stephen's Guild and our parish community!

Pastoral Visits for the Homebound before Easter

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.

SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

With great joy, we announce that on **Palm Sunday** our parish will celebrate the Holy Mystery of Baptism. **Nicodemus Milan Barillas** will be received into new life in Christ through the waters of Baptism. Let us keep him and his family in our prayers as he begins his journey of faith. On the same day, three of our faithful will receive the Holy Mystery of Chrismation (Confirmation): **Dominic Tramontana, Benjamin Lawrence Tramontana, and Anthony Roy Tramontana**. We pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit may strengthen them and guide them in their Christian life. May God grant them many blessed years!

SAVE THE DATE

March 23rd Monday, Council meeting in St. Stephen at **6:45PM**

March 28th Saturday, Mothers prayer in St. Stephen at **3:00PM**

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

April 4th, Saturday, Resurrection Matins in Sacred Heart at **6:30PM**

April 5th Easter Sunday, Resurrection of Our Lord-Pascha, **8:00AM** Resurrection Matins, 9:00am Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Basket in St. Stephen

April 5th Easter Sunday, Resurrection of Our Lord-Pascha, **11:30AM** Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Basket in Sacred Heart

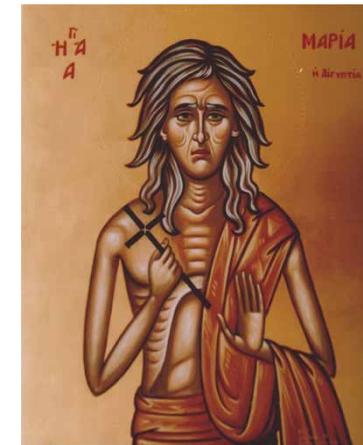
May 2-3, 2026, Pre-Cana weekend The Marriage and Family ministry of the Eparchy of Parma, in collaboration with the Tabor Life Institute, will be offering a Pre-Cana weekend on May 2-3, 2026. This marriage preparation course, following the Byzantine Rite, will be held at St. John's Byzantine Catholic 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.

5th Sunday of the Great Fast

Memory of Holy Mother Mary of Egypt

During this week of Great Lent, the Church commemorates Saint Mary of Egypt, whose life stands as a powerful witness to repentance and transformation. Her story is that of a woman who lived a deeply sinful life from a young age and journeyed to Jerusalem more out of curiosity than devotion for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. However, when an unseen force prevented her from entering the church, she became aware of her sins and cried out to God and to the Mother of God for mercy. In that moment of awakening, she repented and resolved to dedicate the rest of her life to prayer and repentance in the desert. Her story was later revealed through the monk Zosimas.



Her life speaks first about hope. Although her former life seemed satisfying on the surface, it had no real future—only emptiness and eventual abandonment. By turning to God, she discovered not only a renewed purpose in this life but also the promise of eternal life. Her example reminds us that no one is beyond redemption and that there is always a way back to God. It is also a story about dignity. The world often misunderstands repentance as weakness or humiliation, yet it is sin that robs a person of true dignity. Through repentance, Saint Mary regained her true identity and worth. Her life shows that turning back to God restores the dignity that sin takes away.

Her story is also about love. She did not embrace a life of repentance out of despair alone, but because she encountered true and lasting love—the love of God. Realizing that she was deeply and personally loved by God gave her the strength to leave everything behind and seek a new life.

Finally, her life reveals the meaning of freedom. Society often labels people by their past and offers little hope for change. But God does not see us this way. Even when a person falls, he or she is not condemned to remain fallen. As Scripture says, “If a man falls, does he not rise again? If one turns away, does he not return?” (Jeremiah 8:4). A person is always free to change direction and begin anew.

Especially during Great Lent, the life of Saint Mary of Egypt reminds us that we are never trapped by our past. We are always free to repent, to turn back to God, and to begin again. Her story assures us that God's mercy is open to all who seek Him.

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 15th was 38 in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **March 15th was 92 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 **\$ 7,545.19 in St. Stephen**

Weekly Donation was **\$ 3,646.3 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)