**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, sacredheartlivonia@gmail.com
*website:* https://shbyzantine.com/

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!

## ***Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross (Tone 8)***

Today's changeable parts music, from the teal pew book, are as follows:
**Antiphons 1 and 2** of Exaltation of the Cross (Middle of Page 253, and Top of Page 254).
**Post-festive 3rd Antiphon** (Top of Page 259).
**Post-festive Entrance Hymn** (After "Wisdom Be Attentive"): Middle of Page 259.
**Troparion of the Resurrection**, Tone 8 (Middle of Page 161).
**Troparion of the Cross,** Tone 1 (Bottom of Page 254).
"**Glory....Now and Ever....,**" Tone 4 (Middle of Page 141, or follow cantor).
**Kontakion of the Cross,** Tone 4 (Middle of Page 255).
**Instead of "Holy God"**: "We Bow to Your Cross" (Bottom of Page 32).
**Prokeimenon and Alleluia** of Exaltation of the Cross (Top and Middle of Page 260).
**Instead of "It is Truly Proper...:"** Mag.+Irmos from the Cross (Bottom of 256, top of 257).
**Com. Hymns:** Sunday (Psalm 148:1), Mid. of Page 78,+Cross (Psalm 4:7), Top of p.258

# WALKING WITH THE SAINTS

*On the Path to Holiness*

## St. Francis of Assisi

**October 4**

*Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church*
29125 Six Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan

***Come and walk with the saints.***

Join us as we begin a new journey of discovering the lives, faith, and witness of the saints — and how their example can lead us closer to Christ and to holiness.

Our first journey begins with **St. Francis of Assisi**, a beloved witness of humility, simplicity, peace, and love for Christ.

**OUR DAY TOGETHER**

| | |
|---|---|
| **11:30 AM** | Divine Liturgy |
| **12:30 PM** | Fellowship & Light Refreshments |
| **1:00 PM** | Discovering Sacred Heart & Our 300+ Relics |
| **1:30 PM** | Guided Relic Tour |

***Come, discover the saints.***
***Come, discover their stories.***
***Come, walk with them on the path to holiness.***

## 🌸 LADIES' TEA 🌸

We are happy to announce that **Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church will host our annual Ladies' Tea on November 8!** The Ladies' Tea is **our most important fundraiser of the year**, and we kindly ask for your help to make this special event a success.

### 🎁 We Need Your Help!

We are looking for **donations for gift baskets and prizes**. Some popular basket themes include:

👶 Baby 🏈 Sports Teams – Professional & College 🍳 Cooking 🧁 Baking 🏠 Small Appliances
🎁 Gift Cards 🛒 Grocery Stores 🍽️ Restaurants 🏬 Department Stores 🏦 Local Businesses

If your family is not able to donate an entire basket, **please consider joining with one or two other families** to create a basket together. Every donation, large or small, makes a difference! **Please help us make this year's Ladies' Tea a wonderful and successful event for our parish. Thank you for your generosity and support!**

### Save the Date

**September 25, 2026-** *Vespers and Victuals at Sacred Heart*

***September 26, 2026:*** *A special Hierarchical Divine Liturgy celebrating the Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen will be held on Saturday, September 26th at 3:00pm at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria, IL.*

***October 4, 2026-*** *"Walking with the Saints – On the Path to Holiness."-Feast of St. Francis Assisi at Sacred Heart*

***October 5, 2026*** *– Parish meeting at St. Stephen with Bishop Robert at 7:00PM*

***October 17-19,2026 -*** *Eparchial Assembly,* Columbus

***Readings Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross***

***Gal 2,16-20, Mk 8,34-9,1***

## The Way of the Cross

*34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save their life[b] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? 37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 38 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of themwhen he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."*

## Gospel Reflection

Jesus says in today's Gospel: **"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."**
These words are not easy. To follow Christ means more than simply believing in Him. It means choosing Him, even when it is difficult. It means putting God's will before our own wishes and learning to love when love has a cost.
We all have crosses in our lives: sickness, family difficulties, financial worries, loneliness, disappointments, or difficult relationships. But taking up our cross also means the daily choices we make for Christ: forgiving when we would rather be angry, telling the truth when it is difficult, serving others without expecting anything in return, and remaining faithful when our faith is tested. The world often tells us to protect ourselves, seek comfort, and gain as much as possible. But Jesus asks: **"What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"**

St. John Chrysostom reminds us that the Cross is not the end of the Christian life. Through the Cross, Christ leads us to life. The Cross may bring suffering, but when we carry it with Christ, it can also become a path to deeper faith and holiness. The Christian life is not about avoiding every cross. **It is about discovering Christ in the midst of the cross.** We do not carry our crosses alone. Christ walks with us.
Let us ask ourselves: **What is Christ asking me to surrender? What cross am I called to carry faithfully today?**

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Your holy Resurrection we glorify.

# Schedule of Services

**September 21-27, 2026**

**Monday, September 21th ,** *18th Week after Pentecost, Codratus-Apostle, Eph 4,25-32, Lk 3,19-22*

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

**Wednesday, September 23th ,** *Conception of John the Baptist, Gal 4,22-31, Lk 1,5-25*

**1:00 pm-4:00 pm *Silent Prayer & Visit the Shrine in Sacred Heart***
**5:30 pm Confession at Sacred Heart**
**6:00 pm Divine Liturgy at Sacred Heart**

**Friday, September 25th ,** *Euphrosyna Venerable, Eph 6,18-24, Lk 4,22-30*

**6:00pm Confession at Sacred Heart**
**6:30pm Vespers and Young Adult Event at Sacred Heart**

**Saturday, September 26th ,** *The Passing of John Apostle-Evangelist, 1Jn 4,12-19, Jn 19,25-27&21,24-25*

**10:00 am-12:00 pm *Silent Prayer & Visit the Shrine in Sacred Heart***
**5:00 pm *Great Vespers for Sunday at Sacred Heart***

**September 27th ,** *18th Sunday after Pentecost, 2Cor 9,6-11, Lk 5,1-11*

***8:30 am Confession at St. Stephen***
***8:45 am 3rd Hour at St. Stephen***
***9:00 am Divine Liturgy for Sunday at St. Stephen & Agape meal***
***10:00 am E.C.F. classes at Sacred Heart***
***10:00 am Matins at Sacred Heart***
***11:30 am Divine Liturgy for Sunday at Sacred Heart & Agape meal***

## *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)

## 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, Nancy Patterson, Paul and Betty Baise, Luella, Nella, James Wilkins, Betty, Julia, Marielies, George, Elaine Baranko, Mary Alice, Virginia Thome Weber, Debra Grega, John Michalski, Sarah Maron, Tim Nausiedas, Susan*** **Edwards-Haesler, Gloria Scott.**

*Deceased* ***+ Paul Sugars +Helen Moehler, +Edith Santo + David Hindenburg, +Richard Baranko, +Barbara Barnes, +Helen Stulock, +John Orlyk***

Please pray also for all our benefactors, friends, neighbors and anyone we may have forgotten. Pray for:

- Monastic, diaconal & priestly vocations for the Byzantine Catholic Church in the USA and throughout the world; St. Sabbas Monastery

The restoration of families, renewal of monastic, religious life & priesthood, and the conversion of Russia; peace in Ukraine; people of the United States, and whole world.

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.

## *"Walking with the Saints – On the Path to Holiness."*

**October 4 – Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**

Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church is pleased to begin a new series of special parish gatherings: **"Walking with the Saints – On the Path to Holiness."**
Our first gathering will take place on **October 4**, the Feast of **St. Francis of Assisi**. Join us as we discover the lives, faith, and witness of the saints and reflect on how their example can lead us closer to Christ and inspire us on our own journey toward holiness.
Sacred Heart is blessed to have **more than 300 relics of the saints**, and this special day will offer an opportunity to learn more about these sacred treasures and the saints to whom they belong. **Come and walk with the saints. Come and discover their stories. Come and join us on the path to holiness.**

## 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 **September 13th was 36 in St. Stephen**

Attendance at Divine Liturgy on **September 13th was 78 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 $2,460.19 in St. Stephen *(Rent:- $, Collection/Candles:$ 2071.50 E-donations: $388.69 )***

Weekly Donation **was $1,816.3 in Sacred Heart*(Collection/Candles:$ 1,721.3 E-donations: $95)***

*"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)*