



**St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church**  
 5858 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, OH 43231  
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 Website: [www.byzantinecolumbus.com](http://www.byzantinecolumbus.com)

**Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin**  
**Office Hours: M-W-F 9:00am – 1:00pm**

**Liturgy Schedule for the Week**

*Confession/Spiritual Counseling is offered one hour before every Liturgy*

**Sunday, May 7**

**9:30a** Third Hour  
**10:00a** Divine Liturgy  
*Intention: for the Faithful*  
**12:00p** Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, May 10**

**9:00a** Divine Liturgy  
*Intention: +Bill Poellet*

**Thursday, May 11**

**7:00p** Divine Liturgy  
*Intention: +Viola Kinsel*

**Friday, May 12**

**7:00p** Divine Liturgy  
*Intention: +Thaddeus Jadwisiak*

**Saturday, May 13**

**7:00p** Vespers w/OT readings

**Sunday, May 14**

**9:30a** Third Hour  
**10:00a** Divine Liturgy  
*Intention: for the Faithful*  
**12:00p** Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

**Readings for the Week of May 7**

**Sunday, May 7**

Epistle, Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30  
 Gospel, John 4:5-42

**Monday, May 8**

Epistle, 1 John 1:1-7  
 Gospel, John 19:25 & 21-24

**Tuesday, May 9**

Epistle, Acts 12:25-13:12  
 Gospel, John 7:1-13

**Wednesday, May 10**

Epistle, 1 Cor 4:9-16  
 Gospel, Matt 13:54-58

**Thursday, May 11**

Epistle, Heb 13:17-21  
 Gospel, John 10:9-16

**Friday, May 12**


Epistle, Acts 15:5-34  
 Gospel, John 10:17-28

**Saturday, May 13**

Epistle, Acts 15:35-41  
 Gospel, John 10:27-38

**Sunday, May 14**

Epistle, Acts 16:16-34  
 Gospel, John 9:1-38



**Mission Statement of St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church:** *To give thanks to God continually, as Byzantine Catholics, through our spirituality, our service, and preaching the Risen Christ through our everyday life.*

**Abortion Amendment Information Meeting:** Proponents of abortions are collecting signatures for a ballot issued entitled "The Right to Reproductive Freedom and Safety with Protections for Health and Safety." They hope to get it on the November 2023 ballot. Should it pass, it will amend the Ohio Constitution and would provide for abortion on demand through all nine months of pregnancy, for any reason. The proposed Constitutional Amendment would remove safeguards that are currently in place to protect women and would remove parents from critical medical decisions that impact their children. We can't let this happen! We will be hosting representatives from the Greater Columbus Right to Life, the Diocese of Columbus' Office for Social Concerns, and the Catholic Medical Association on **Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 PM.** I invite you to join with others to learn more about the proposed ballot initiative, what it would do, and what we can do to prevent this from becoming part of Ohio's Constitution. In the meantime, please visit [gctrl.org/stop.html](http://gctrl.org/stop.html) or call (614) 241-2540 for additional information.

**HELP PROTECT THE DIGNITY OF LIFE IN OHIO**

Life in its earliest and most vulnerable stages is threatened by groups proposing an amendment to the Ohio Constitution for the November 2023 ballot to expand and enshrine abortion at the expense of protections for preborn children and women. The Catechism of the Catholic Church proclaims that "human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception." The Church accompanies and supports women facing unexpected pregnancies and mothers through programs like Walking with Moms in Need and the services of Catholic Charities.

The bishops of Ohio strongly encourage Catholics statewide to unite in prayer and work to defeat this proposed amendment and its grave consequences for women and preborn children in Ohio. Starting this week, the following **Protect Them Both** materials about the proposed amendment are available in Ohio parishes:



- **Protect Them Both Prayer Card:** Unite with Catholics across Ohio in asking God to strengthen us as we defend and accompany mothers and preborn children
- **Dignity of Life Threatened in Ohio Flyer:** Learn more about the proposed amendment and what you can do now

These are the first of many resources that will be available to help defeat the proposed amendment. Learn more about the **Protect Them Both** campaign and access resources online at: [ohiocathconf.org/protect](http://ohiocathconf.org/protect)



All materials created by the Catholic Conference of Ohio (CCO), in collaboration with the dioceses across Ohio. CCO is the official voice of the Catholic Church in Ohio on public policy, advocating for the dignity of life at all stages, immigrants, Ohioans in need, and Catholic education. [www.ohiocathconf.org](http://www.ohiocathconf.org)

### **BOTTLES FOR LIFE – PDHC BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

Let's remember in our prayers all the women who are especially abortion-vulnerable today as they face unplanned pregnancies during these frightening and uncertain times.

Next Sunday, we are launching a Baby Bottle Fundraising Campaign to help those women and families who are in need! Let's help Pregnancy Decision Health Centers continue providing life-giving services. Now more than ever, moms in crisis need our prayers and support.

The city-wide average of a baby bottle filled with coins, cash or checks is \$25. Talk with your family about how much each would like to give, involve the kids!

This campaign will run from Mother's Day through Father's Day, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** who made last night's fundraising dance a success! A big thank you to Tom Katrenich and his orchestra and the Croatian Dance Troupe, Selo for their participation.

**The May 2023 monthly calendar** is available for you to pick up on the table in the church vestibule. Any changes to this calendar will be posted in the weekly bulletin.

### **PASCHA SALE**

**Total Income:** \$5,635.38    **Total Expenses:** \$733.89    **Net Sale:** \$4,901.19

### **PARKING LOT RENOVATION**

Thank you for all your help in raising money for this greatly needed repair. We have currently raised **\$172,029.00**, this includes the net proceeds from the Pascha sale. We still have way to go so please continue to help with this.

### **Parish Activities this week**

#### **Sun. May 7**

**11:15a** Social in hall; Last ECF class for school year; making something for mothers

**2:00p** Ge'ez Social following Ge'ez Liturgy

#### **Fri. May 12**

**5:30p** Ge'ez Choir practice in hall

#### **Sat. May 13**

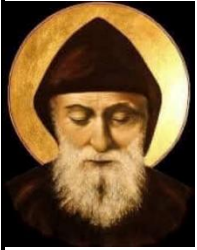
**10:00a** Women's Bible Study in hall; *Parish is providing snacks*

#### **Sun. May 14 – Mother's Day**

**11:15a** Social in hall

**2:00p** Ge'ez Social following Ge'ez Liturgy

### Prayer to Saint Charbel Makhlouf



Lord, infinitely Holy and Glorified in Your Saints, You have inspired Charbel, the saint monk, to lead the perfect life of a hermit. We thank You for granting him the blessing and the strength to detach himself from the world so that the heroism of the monastic virtues of poverty, obedience, and chastity, could triumph in his hermitage.

We beseech You to grant us the grace of loving and serving You, following his example. Almighty God, Who has manifested the power of St. Charbel's intercession through his countless miracles and favours, grant us... (State your intention(s) here...) through his intercession. Amen.

**For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:**

Abby	Frye Intentions	Susan Kaiser	Anne O'Halloran	L.T. Tekle
Hussein Abdi	Elizabeth Gamez	Kathy	Mic O'Halloran	Ruth Turanchik
Adrian	Weyni Girmay	James Kester	John Oshinski	Owen Ward
Bob Atha	Deborah Gordon	Kathy Krofcheck	Paula Oshinski	Stelmack Intentions
Paula Balcarcel	Charlene Grabner	Regina Lee	Beauetta Parks	Steve
Louis Bambick	Nataly Grace	Christine Leon	Cathy Pitt	Williams family
Charles Branham	John Griffen	Christine Long	Keith Pope	Steven Woryk
Carol	Hagos	Jessie Madzia	Maria Rakowsky	Dave Zaroka
Mary Carroll	Gerri Herald	Bill Martin	Terry Rasor	Rita Zaroka
Charyton Intentions	Jeanette Hill	Joe Martin	Nadia Ritchey	Nicholas Zvansky
Donald Clark	Tim Hill	Judy Martin	Stephanie Salerno	Sandra Zvansky
Will Culver	Evelyn Hoehstetter	Dave Martz	Trey Shearon	Intentions of Fr. Robert
Maria Czynnik	Esther Imhoff	Madelyn Martz	Rosemary Steinbauer	
DeClue Intentions	Tad Imhoff	Melissa	John Sikora	
Ron Doctor	Dora Johnson	Joy Mersch	Dennis Stinich	
Aimeé Evans	Jackson Family	Angela Merva	Josh Taylor	
Joseph Evans	Gordon Kaercher	Rosemary Nyahay		

Ron Doctor	Rachel Figler	Michael Jager	Fiahd Lyons	Paula Oshinski
Kimberly Karasneh	Sarah Frye	Amelia Kristof	Paula Martin	Michael Papai

James & Rachel Figler  
4 years Crowned in Marriage



Marty & Dina Hodovanich  
31 years Crowned in Marriage



John & Paula Oshinski  
43 years Crowned in Marriage

Jim & Cathy Pitt  
36 years Crowned in Marriage

Tom & Stephanie Smith  
24 years Crowned in Marriage

Jim & Irena Wallace  
52 years Crowned in Marriage

### FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA 2022-2023 Annual Stewardship Appeal St. John Chrysostom's Goal is \$9,500

As of March 30, 2023; \$10,035.00 has been pledged; \$9,985.00 has been received by Parma. We are at 105% of our goal! Remember: Any amount over our goal is returned to the parish

Gifts to the Stewardship Appeal may continue to be made through the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2022. Visit [parma.org](http://parma.org) to make your donation.

**Catechetical conference: MARRIAGE: THE FORETASTE OF HEAVEN, PLUMBING THE DEPTHS OF THE SACRAMENTAL MYSTERY OF HOLY MATRIMONY** at Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church 506 East Main Street, Marblehead, Ohio 43440. Saturday, May 20, 2023. Speaker Father Thomas J. Loya. All adults, young adults and older teenagers are invited. Registration at 8:00 AM. Conference 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Continental breakfast and lunch included. Tickets \$25.00/student tickets \$ 15.00.

Deadline to register, Wednesday, May 17, 2023. Call 419-626-0375. Please leave name and number. Flyer with information is posted on bulletin board in church vestibule.

### FROM THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

**Night at the Museum (May 20, 5-9 p.m.):** Have you seen the movie *Night At The Museum*? Come Join us for a fun night of experiencing history come alive. Learn about the Catholic Church throughout the centuries through art and stories. You may be surprised at who you will meet. Located downtown Columbus near St. Joseph Cathedral at 257 E. Broad St., Columbus. We hope to see you there! For more information, contact the Museum at 614-618-4030 or [info@catholicmuseum.org](mailto:info@catholicmuseum.org).

**Bus Tour of Seven Catholic Churches in Columbus:** Join this fun and educational tour of several churches in Columbus. Learn about their fascinating histories as vital places of Catholic worship, evangelization, and learning in our Diocese. This event is May 13 and is \$70 per person (lunch is included in the price). There are 40 spots

available. RSVP email is [museumtours@catholicmuseum.org](mailto:museumtours@catholicmuseum.org). For more information, contact the Museum at 614-618-4030 or [info@catholicmuseum.org](mailto:info@catholicmuseum.org).

**A Family for Every Child!** Come learn about the forgotten 15,000 children in foster care in Ohio and the role each of us can play in showing them God's love. Springs of Love, in partnership with The Office of Marriage and Family in the Diocese of Columbus, invites you to learn more about the foster care crisis, and the many ways YOU can help. Join us on Thursday, May 18, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, at St. Patrick Church for dinner and an evening of prayer, talks, and fellowship to learn about the many ways we can support vulnerable children, their families, and the foster families who step into the gap to provide a loving home for them. **Even if you are not able to foster at this time, there are many other ways to help!** Additional information and RSVP at <https://springsoflove.org/a-family-for-every-child/>.

**Catholics for Life-Columbus:** Our Third Friday event is May 19, 2023 from 7:00am-12:00pm. Our next Torchbearers event is Tuesday, June 2, 2023 from 9:30am-4:00pm.

For more information or to RSVP please email: Gabriel Vance at [gabriel@catholicsforlife.us](mailto:gabriel@catholicsforlife.us) or call/text him at 740-972-2570.

### POPE FRANCIS ON JESUS THE LIGHT

This passage from the Gospel of John (cf. 12:44-50) shows us the intimacy there was between Jesus and the Father. Jesus did what the Father told Him to do. And therefore, He says: "He who believes in me, believes not in me but in Him who sent me" (v. 44). He then explains His mission: "I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness" (v. 46). He presents himself as *light*. Jesus's mission is to enlighten: light. He himself said: "I am the light of the world" (*Jn* 8:12). The Prophet Isaiah prophesied this light: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" (9:1). The promise of the light that will enlighten the people. And the mission of the Apostles too was to bring light. Paul said to King Agrippa: "I was chosen to enlighten, to bring this light – which is not mine, but another's – but to bring light" (cf. *Acts* 26:18). It is Jesus's mission: to bring light. And the mission of the Apostles was to bring the light of Jesus. *To enlighten*. Because the world was in darkness.

But the tragedy of Jesus's light is that it was rejected. From the beginning of the Gospel, John said it clearly: "He came to His own home, and His own people did not welcome Him. They loved darkness more than light" (cf. *Jn* 1:9-11). Being accustomed to darkness, living in darkness: they did not know how to accept the light, they could not; they were slaves to darkness. And this would be Jesus's continuous battle: to enlighten, to bring the light that shows things as they are, as they exist; it shows freedom, it shows truth, it shows the path on which to go with the light of Jesus.

Paul had this experience of the passage from darkness to light, when the Lord encountered him on the road to Damascus. He was blinded. Blind. The Lord's light blinded him. And then, when a few days had passed, with baptism, he regained the light (cf. *Acts* 9:1-19). He had this experience of passing from darkness, in which he was, to the light. And our passage too, which we received sacramentally in Baptism: for this reason, Baptism was called, in the first centuries, the *Illumination* (cf. Saint Justin, *Apology* I, 61, 12), because it gave you the light, it "let it enter" you. For this reason, in the ceremony of Baptism we give a lit blessed candle, a lit candle to the mother and father, because the little boy or the little girl is enlightened.

Jesus brings light. But the people, His people rejected it. They were so accustomed to the darkness that the light blinded them; they did not know where to go... (cf. *Jn* 1:1-11). And this is the tragedy of our sin: sin blinds us and we cannot tolerate the light. Our eyes are sick. And Jesus clearly states it in the Gospel of Matthew: "If your eye is not sound, your whole body will be unsound. If your eye sees only darkness, how great is the darkness within you!" (cf. *Mt* 6:22-23). Darkness... And conversion is passing from darkness to light.

But what are the things that sicken the eyes, the eyes of faith? Our eyes are ill: what are the things that "drag them down", that blind them? *Vices*, the *worldly spirit*, *pride*. The vices that "drag you down" and also these three things – vices, pride, the worldly spirit – lead you to associate with others in order to remain secure in the darkness. We often speak of "mafias": this is it. But there are "spiritual mafias"; there are "domestic mafias", always, seeking someone else so as to cover yourself and remain in darkness. It is not easy to live in the light. The light shows many ugly things within us that we do not want to see: vices, sins... Let us think about our vices; let us think about our pride; let us think about our worldly spirit: These things blind us; they distance us from Jesus's light.

But if we start to think about these things, we will not find a wall, no. We will find a way out, because Jesus Himself says that He is the light, and also: "I have come into the world not to condemn the world, but to save the world" (cf. *Jn* 12:46-47). Jesus Himself, the light, says: "Take courage: let yourself be enlightened; let yourself see what you have within, because I have come to lead you forth, to save you. I do not condemn you. I save you" (cf. v. 47). The Lord saves us from the darkness we have within, from the darkness of daily life, of social life, of political life, of national, international life... There is so much darkness within. And the Lord saves us. But He asks us to *see them*, first; to have the courage to see our darkness so that the Lord's light may enter and save us.

Let us not fear the Lord: He is very good; He is meek; He is close to us. He has come to save us. Let us not be afraid of the light of Jesus.