

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH 43231

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager

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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.

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Dec 22	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Liturgy	
Tue	Dec 24	9:00am	Royal Hours	
		10:00pm	Christmas Vigil Liturgy; Myrovanije	For the Faithful
Wed	Dec 25	12:00pm	Christmas Divine Liturgy; Myrovanije	For the Faithful
Thu	Dec 26	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Fri	Dec 27	6:00pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	
Sat	Dec 28	6:00pm	Vespers	
Sun	Dec 29	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Liturgy	

Confessions

one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Readings

	Epistle	Gospel
Sun Dec 22	Heb 11:9-10 & 17-23 & 32-40	Mt 1:1-25
Mon Dec 23	James 2:14-26	Mk 10:46-52
Tue Dec 24	Heb 1:1-12	Lk 2:1-20
Wed Dec 25	Gal 4:4-7	Mt 2:1-12
Thu Dec 26	Heb 2:11-18	Mt 2:13-23
Fri Dec 27	Acts 6:8-7:5 & 47-60	Mt 21:33-42
Sat Dec 28	1 Tim 6:11-16	Mt 12:15-21
Sun Dec 29	Gal 1:11-19	Mt 2:13-23

Parish Activities

Sun	Dec 22	11:15am	ECF; Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
		4:15p	Ukrainian St. Nicholas play & social
Mon	Dec 23	5:30pm	Ge'ez Christmas play rehearsal
Wed	Dec 25	5:30pm	Ge'ez Christmas play rehearsal
Fri	Dec 27	6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice in hall
Sat	Dec 28	4:00pm	Ge'ez Women's Club meeting in hall
Sun	Dec 29	11:15am	Parish social; NO ECF

The office will be closed for the Christmas/New Year holiday from December 24, 2024 through January 2, 2025

The Giving Tree - This year the purpose of the Giving Tree this year is to raise money for the replacement of the hall roof. The total cost of the replacement is \$74,018 and we have paid \$37,009 already. We need to raise the balance. We have envelopes for your donations to this effort on the tree in the vestibule. Put your donation in the envelope and the envelope in one of the collection boxes.

We thank you for all your help in raising money for this greatly needed repair.

2025 Offertory Envelopes – The offertory envelopes for next year are available in the church vestibule. If you wish to use envelopes for 2025 and do not see your name on a set, please contact the office, via email - stjohnbyz@hotmail.com, and one will be issued to you.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members. Many elder religious worked for years for little to no pay, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. At the same time, fewer religious are able to serve in compensated ministry. The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the annual national campaign for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes financial assistance for retirement needs to eligible religious institutes. There are envelopes for this on the table in the vestibule. Your donation may be put in the collection boxes and the money will be forwarded.

Iconography Workshop Feb. 6-8, 2025 - Fr. Marek Visnovsky will be offering an iconography workshop at St. John Chrysostom on Thursday, February 6 from 5 pm to 9 pm. Friday, February 7 from 9 am to 9 pm, and Saturday, February 8 from 9 am to 9 pm. We will paint the icon of the SORROWFUL MOTHER. The cost of the workshop is \$400 and includes boards, paints, brushes, twenty-four karat gold leaf (food and accommodation not included).

Beginners as well as advanced artists are welcome. **DEADLINE to register** is Wednesday, January 15, 2025. For more information, please email Fr. Marek at marekvisnovsky@yahoo.com

BLESSED CHRISTMAS

I wish to all of you and your beloved ones a blessed Christmas time, filled with his peace and hope! As the father of this parish community, I invite you to make sure you enter into silence every day to contemplate what God has done for you. For a few minutes, maybe as you drive to and back from work, school, visits, or early morning or in the evening.

*"⁴But when the fullness of time had come, **God sent forth his Son**, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ **to redeem** those who were under the law, so **that we might receive adoption as sons**. ⁶ **And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit** of his Son into our hearts, **crying, Abba! Father!** ⁷ So you are **no longer a slave, but a son**, and if a son, then an heir through God." (Gal 4:4-7)*

He indeed redeems us! Here and now, leading us to see the true meaning of life, what is really important and to acknowledge we are created for eternity! "Mary treasured all these things in her heart and pondered them." (cf. Lk 2:19). The more often we spend time doing the same thing, the more we see! The more we understand. The more we enter into his peace and hope!

May the Lord be born - enter your life. The day-to-day routine so you may experience He is Emmanuel - God with us! God with you!

Fr. Robert, Rose, Sofia and Mike

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT ON NATIVITY

"On all days and at all times, dearly beloved, does the birth of our Lord and Saviour from the Virgin-mother occur to the thoughts of the faithful, who meditate on divine things, that the mind may be aroused to the acknowledgment of its Maker, and whether it be occupied in the groans of supplication, or in the shouting

of praise, or in the offering of sacrifice, may employ its spiritual insight on nothing more frequently and more trustingly than on the fact that God the Son of God, begotten of the co-eternal Father, was also born by a human birth. But this Nativity which is to be adored in heaven and on earth is suggested to us by no day more than this when, with the early light still shedding its rays on nature, there is borne in upon our senses the brightness of this wondrous mystery. For the angel Gabriel's converse with the astonished Mary and her conception by the Holy Ghost as wondrously promised as believed, seem to recur not only to the memory but to the very eyes. For today the Maker of the world was born of a Virgin's womb, and He, who made all natures, became Son of her, whom He created. Today the Word of God appeared clothed in flesh, and That which had never been visible to human eyes began to be tangible to our hands as well. Today the shepherds learned from angels' voices that the Saviour was born in the substance of our flesh and soul; and today the form of the Gospel message was pre-arranged by the leaders of the Lord's flocks, so that we too may say with the army of the heavenly host

Glory in the highest to God, and on earth peace to men of good will."

(Gregory the Great, Sermon 26)

FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA - SAVE THE DATES

- The 12th Annual Women's Retreat is March 7 through March 9, 2025.

Contact Joan Washburn for further information – 865-696-7809 or stmarybhdwomensretreat@gmail.com.

- The 4th Annual Men's Retreat is March 14-16, 2025.

Contact Karl Busam for further information – karl.busam.77@gmail.com or 419-626-6811.



Prayer to Saint Charbel Makhlof

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:

Hussein Abdi	Gordon Kaercher	Beauetta Parks	Nicholas Zvansky
William Brake	Susan Kaiser	Cathy Pitt	Sandra Zvansky
Charles Branham	James Kester	Maksym Popadyn	Abby
Mary Carroll	Kathy Krofcheck	Maria Rakowsky	Carol
Maria Czyrnik	Regina Lee	Terry Rasor	Charyton Intentions
Cindy Cox	Christin Leon	Nadia Ritchey	DeClue Intentions
Will Culver	Christine Long	Charles Roddy	Dock Family
Ron Doctor	Jessie Madzia	Trey Shearon	Hagos
Jack Figel	Ilya Mandebur	John Sikora	Jackson Family
Sarah Frye	Bill Martin	Kathy Slonka	Kathy
Christopher Gehman	Joe Martin	Kim Snow	Lippert Family
Dillon Gomolak	Joy Mersch	Helen Stephens	Mara
Deborah Gordon	Angela Merva	Dennis Stinich	Mech Intention
Charlene Grabner	Katie Nann	Josh Taylor	Melissa
Nataly Grace	Ed Nyahay	L.T. Tekle	Special Intentions
John Griffen	Anne O'Halloran	Ruth Turanchik	Steve
Evelyn Hoehstetter	Mic O'Halloran	Owen Ward	
Esther Imhoff	John Oshinski	Claudette Weber	
Dora Johnson	Paula Oshinski	Curtis Weber	