

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH 43231

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager

Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin

Phone: 614-882-7578

Email: stjohnbyz@hotmail.com

Website: byzantinecolumbus.com

To schedule an event: eventstjohn@outlook.com



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 29	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Liturgy	
2025				
Wed	Jan 1	11:00am	Liturgy of St. Basil	For the Faithful
Thu	Jan 2	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Fri	Jan 3	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Sat	Jan 4	6:00pm	Pre-festive Vespers (Sunday before Theophany)	
Sun	Jan 5	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Liturgy	
		2:30pm	Ukrainian Liturgy with blessing of water	
Mon	Jan 6	5:30pm	Theophany Liturgy	

Readings

Epistle

Gospel

Sun	Dec 29	Gal 1:11-19	Mt 2:13-23
Mon	Dec 30	2 Tim 2:20-26	Lk 19:37-44
Tue	Dec 31	2 Tim 3:16-4:4	Lk 19:45-48
Wed	Jan 1	Col 2:8-12; Heb 7:26-8:2	Lk 2:20-21 & 40-52; 6:17-23
Thu	Jan 2	Titus 1:5-2:1	Lk 20:9-18
Fri	Jan 3	Royal Hours	
Sat	Jan 4	1 Tim 3:14-4:5	Mt 3:1-11
Sun	Jan 5	2 Tim 4:5-8	Mk 1:1-8

Parish Activities

Sun	Dec 29	11:15am	Parish Social; NO ECF
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Mon	Dec 30	5:30pm	Ge'ez Christmas play rehearsal

2025

Fri	Jan 3	6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice in hall
Sat	Jan 4	4:00pm	Ge'ez Young Mother's meeting w/Fr. Weldit
Sun	Jan 5	11:15am	Parish social; NO ECF

The office will reopen January 3, 2025

Theophany celebration

This year Theophany, Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, falls on Monday, and therefore the liturgy of the Byzantine Church has a specific rhythm. Instead of the usual Royal Hours celebrated on the morning of the 5th of January and Vespers with Basil Liturgy in the evening, the following is the rule.

Fri	01/03	6pm	Royal Hours. This is a day of fasting.
Sat	01/04	6 pm	Pre-festive Vespers (Sunday before Theophany)
Sun	01/05	9:30am	Third Hour
		10:00am	Sunday before Theophany
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Pre Christmas Liturgy
		2:30pm	Ukrainian Liturgy with blessing of water
Mon	01/06	5:30pm	Theophany liturgy
		7:00pm	Ge'ez Christmas Liturgy

If you celebrate the traditional second Vilija Supper, this year meat is allowed, for the fasting is on the previous Friday, 01/03.

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

FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA – Stewardship Appeal 2024/25

The Eparchy of Parma Stewardship Appeal for 2024/25 began November 15. All members of parishes in the Eparchy will be receiving the Stewardship Appeal information in the mail. If you do not receive the mailing, please contact your pastor to verify that your information is correct on the church's roster.

The Stewardship Appeal campaign goal is \$320,000. This year's Annual Stewardship Appeal will support the following important needs in the Eparchy: Support of Mission & Outreach; Development of Parishes; Retreats, Renewals and Family Camp; Works of the Apostolate; Clergy Benevolence Fund; and Support of our Retired and Active Priests.

Visit <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal> for more information and to make a one-time or monthly secure donation through our website.

Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign.

St. John Chrysostom's Goal this year is \$13,050.

Christ is born! Glorify Him! Consider the Father's Gift of the Christ Child and how you can offer your time, talent, and treasure back to God in thanksgiving. Help support the Eparchy of Parma's Annual Stewardship Appeal through a one-time or monthly donation at <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal>. Thank you for your generosity and a blessed Nativity to you!

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 stmarymbhdwomensretreat@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.

ON THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

For you have just heard how Jesus came to John and was baptized by him in the Jordan. Oh, things strange beyond compare! How should the boundless River that makes glad the city of God have been dipped in a little water! The illimitable Spring that bears life to all men, and has no end, was covered by poor and temporary waters! He who is present everywhere, and absent nowhere — who is incomprehensible to angels and invisible to men — comes to the baptism according to His own good pleasure [...]

I am bound by sins, says John, but He is the Remover of sins. I apply the law, but He brings grace to light. I teach as a slave, but He judges as the Master. I have the earth as my couch, but He possesses heaven. I baptize with the baptism of repentance, but He confers the gift of adoption: *He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.* Why do you give attention to me? I am not the Christ.

As John says these things to the multitude, and as the people watch in eager expectation of seeing some strange spectacle with their bodily eyes, and the devil is struck with amazement at such a testimony from John, lo, the Lord appears, plain, solitary, uncovered, without escort, having on Him the body of man like a garment, and hiding the dignity of the Divinity, that He may elude the snares of the dragon. And not only did He approach John as Lord without royal retinue; but even like a mere man, and one involved in sin, He bent His head to be baptized by John. Wherefore John, on seeing so great a humbling of Himself, was struck with astonishment at the affair, and began to prevent Him, saying, as you have just heard, *I have need to be baptized by You, and You come to me?* What are you doing, O Lord? You teach things not according to rule. I have preached one thing (regarding You), and You perform another; the devil has heard one thing, and perceives another. Baptize me with the fire of Divinity; why do you wait for water? Enlighten me with the Spirit; why do You attend upon a creature? Baptize me, the Baptist, that Your pre-eminence may be known. I, O Lord, baptize with the baptism of repentance, and I cannot baptize those who come to me unless they first confess fully their sins. Be it so then that I baptize You, what have You to confess? You are the Remover of sins, and will You be baptized with the baptism of repentance? Though I should venture to baptize You, the Jordan dares not to come near You. *I have need to be baptized by You, and You come to me?* (Hyppolitus, *Discourse on Theophany*, 2-4)



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:

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 Czynnik	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	