



# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager

Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin

## PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE WHOLE WORLD

*We thank You, Master and Lover of mankind, King of the ages and giver of all good things, for destroying the dividing wall of enmity and granting peace to those who seek your mercy. We appeal to You to awaken the longing for a peaceful life in all those who are filled with hatred for their neighbors, thinking especially of those at war or preparing for war. Grant peace to your servants. Implant in them the fear of You and confirm in them love one for another. Extinguish every dispute and banish all temptations to disagreement. For You are our peace and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

## **November 23, 2025**

**Confessions:** one hour before liturgy or by appointment

### Liturgical Schedule

### Intention

|     |        |               |                                                     |                         |
|-----|--------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sun | Nov 23 | 9:30am        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour                                | <i>for the faithful</i> |
|     |        | 10:00am       | Divine Liturgy<br>with Blessing of Children         |                         |
|     |        | 12:00pm       | Ge'ez Divine Liturgy                                |                         |
|     |        | 6:00pm        | Holodomor Panachida<br>@ Franklin Park Conservatory |                         |
| Wed | Nov    | <b>6:00pm</b> | Divine Liturgy                                      | <i>in Thanksgiving</i>  |
| Sun | Nov 30 | 9:30am        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour                                | <i>for the faithful</i> |
|     |        | 10:00am       | Divine Liturgy                                      |                         |
|     |        | 12:00pm       | Ge'ez Divine Liturgy                                |                         |
|     |        | 2:30pm        | Ukrainian Liturgy                                   |                         |

## **Readings for the week of November 23, 2025**

|     |        | <u>Epistle</u>  | <u>Gospel</u>         |
|-----|--------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Sun | Nov 23 | Eph 2:14-22     | Luke 12:16-21         |
| Mon | Nov 24 | 2 Thes 1:1-10   | Luke 17:20-25         |
| Tue | Nov 25 | 2 Thes 1:10-2:2 | Luke 17:26-37         |
| Wed | Nov 26 | 2 Thes 2:1-12   | Luke 18:15-17 & 26-30 |
| Thu | Nov 27 | 2 Thes 1:13-3:5 | Luke 18:31-34         |
| Fri | Nov 28 | 2 Thes 3:6-18   | Luke 19:12-28         |
| Sat | Nov 29 | Gal 1:3-10      | Luke 10:19-21         |
| Sun | Nov 30 | Eph 4:1-6       | Luke 13:10-17         |

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Website: [www.byzantinecolumbus.com](http://www.byzantinecolumbus.com)

Facebook: St. John Chrysostom Church

To schedule an event, send an email to [eventstjohn@outlook.com](mailto:eventstjohn@outlook.com) allow 24-48 hours for reply

## Parish Activities

|      |        |                         |                                                  |
|------|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Sun  | Nov 23 | 11:15am                 | Parish Social; ECF                               |
|      |        | 2:00pm                  | Ge'ez social                                     |
|      |        | 6:00pm                  | Holodomor Panachida @ Franklin Park Conservatory |
| Mon  | Nov 24 | 9:00am                  | Hall kitchen in use                              |
| Tue  | Nov 25 | 9:00am                  | Hall kitchen in use                              |
| Wed  | Nov 26 | <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>    |                                                  |
| Thur | Nov 27 | <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> |                                                  |
| Fri  | Nov 28 | <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>    |                                                  |
| Sat  | Nov 29 | 4:00pm                  | Ge'ez Young Mothers meet with Fr. Weldit         |
| Sun  | Nov 30 | 11:15am                 | Parish Social; NO ECF                            |
|      |        | 2:00pm                  | Ge'ez social                                     |
|      |        | 3:30pm                  | Ukrainian Social following Divine Liturgy        |

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## PHILIP'S FAST

The Byzantine Catholic Church prepares for the feast of the Nativity of the Lord by a fast, which is also known as Philip's Fast or Pre-Christmas Fast (Byzantine Advent). The purpose of this forty-day period is the spiritual preparation for Nativity of the Lord and the Theophany. In the Byzantine Church, this fast was definitively established sometime between the 6th and 8th centuries, although there are references to it in the 4th century. It is called Philip's because it begins the day after the feast of St. Philip the Apostle (November 14) on November 15 and lasts until December 24. It is one of the four fasting periods in the Byzantine tradition (Great Lent, Apostolic or Peter and Paul Fast in June, and Dormition Fast in August). The fasting regulations for Filipovka were somewhat milder than the rules for the Great Lent before Easter.

Abstain from meat on Fridays. Participate in Charity works. Increase your participation in liturgical services besides Sundays & Holy Days of Obligation. Read daily the Scripture. Receive the Mystery of Reconciliation more frequently.

### Tonight at 6:00pm – Holodomor Panachida

Please join us at the Ukraine Tree, planted in the Nationalities Arbor of Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. We will gather at 6:00 pm on Sunday, November 23rd, for Panachida (candlelight vigil).

**The office will be closed this week on Wednesday and Friday in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

**ATTN. ECF PARENTS** – There is **St. Nicholas Play practice on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** at 12 noon in the hall. Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Nicholas is at 11:00am.

**COOKIE SALE** – Our 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas Cookie Sale is fast approaching. This is our major fundraiser, and **everyone's** help is needed. **Please sign up to volunteer for that Friday and Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Sign-up sheets are on the table in the church vestibule.**

**NEW ADULT EDUCATION SESSIONS** - The new cycle of Adult Education - Christ Our Pascha - will resume on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. All the sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 6pm-7pm in the hall.

## GUIDED TOUR AT ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM - PHILIP'S FAST

On Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 11:15 a.m. and Sunday, December 21, 2025, there will be a guided tour Spirituality of the Philip's Fast (Byzantine Advent). Come to explore how to deepen your preparation for Christmas with the treasures of the Byzantine tradition. Participation in the 10:00 a.m. liturgy is highly recommended. The tour

is located at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church (5858 Cleveland Ave Columbus United States 43231). For further details, contact [stjohnbyz@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnbyz@hotmail.com).



**"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."** Lord, I thank You for Your unending goodness in my life. Amen.

We wish everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

~Fr. Robert, Rose, Zofia and Mical

**Vocations Icon** - Each family is encouraged to sign up for a weeklong prayer chain, using the booklets. Every Sunday there will be a beautiful little ritual of handing over the icon to the next family. Sign up online using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EAAAC28A6FBC70-59910986-weekly>

### **FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA**

#### **2025 EVENING OF HOPE COVENANT CARD –**

We have cards available on the table in the vestibule of the church. Please complete both sides of the card and return to the church. Put them in the collections boxes and we will send all that are collected to Parma in one envelope.

#### **The Persevering Prayer**

We continue the catecheses on prayer. Someone said to me: "You talk too much about prayer. It is not necessary". Yes, it is necessary. Because if we do not pray, we will not have the strength to go forward in life. Prayer is like the oxygen of life. Prayer draws down upon us the presence of the Holy Spirit who always leads us forward. For this reason, I speak a lot about prayer. Jesus gave us the example of continual prayer, practiced with perseverance. Constant dialogue with his Father, in silence and in recollection, was the fulcrum of his entire mission. The Gospels also report his exhortations to the disciples, that they pray insistently, without growing tired. The Catechism recalls three parables contained in the Gospel of Luke that underline this characteristic of Jesus' prayer (cf. CCC, 2613). First of all, prayer must be tenacious: like the character in the parable who, having to welcome a guest who arrived unexpectedly in the middle of the night, goes to knock on the door of a friend and asks him for some bread. The friend responds, "No!", because he is already in bed — but he insists and insists until he forces his friend to get up and give him some bread (cf. Lk 11:5-8). A tenacious request. But God is more patient than we are, and those who knock with faith and perseverance on the door of his heart will not be disappointed. God always responds. Always. Our Father knows well what we need; insistence is necessary not to inform him or to convince him, but rather it is necessary to nurture the desire and expectation in us. The second parable is that of the widow who goes to the judge so that he may help her obtain justice. This judge is corrupt; he is a man without scruples, but in the end, exasperated by the insistence of the widow, he decides to please her (cf. Lk 18:1-8)... He thought: "But, it is better to resolve this problem and get her off my back rather than she continuously come before me to complain". This parable makes us understand that faith is not a momentary leap, but a courageous disposition to call on God, even to "argue" with him, without resigning oneself to evil and injustice. The third parable presents a pharisee and a publican who go to the Temple to pray. The first turns to God boasting of his merits; the other feels unworthy even to enter the sanctuary. God however does not listen to the prayer of the first, that is, of the proud ones, while he does grant the prayer of the humble (cf. Lk 18:9-14). There is no true prayer without a spirit of humility. It is precisely humility that leads us to ask in prayer. The teaching of the Gospel is clear: we need to pray always, even when everything seems in vain, when God appears to be deaf and mute and it seems we are wasting time. Even if heaven

is overshadowed, the Christian does not stop praying. A Christian's prayer keeps stride with his or her faith. And many days of our life, faith seems to be an illusion, a barren struggle. There are moments of darkness in our life, and in those moments, faith seems to be an illusion. But the practice of prayer means accepting this struggle too. "Father, I pray and do not feel anything... I feel like my heart is dry, that my heart is arid". But we have to continue, with this struggle in the tough moments, the moments in which we feel nothing. Many saints experienced the night of faith and God's silence — when we knock and God does not respond — and these saints were persevering. During these nights of faith, those who pray are never alone. Indeed, Jesus is not only a witness and teacher of prayer; he is more. He welcomes us in his prayer so that we might pray in him and through him. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit. This is why the Gospel invites us to pray to the Father in Jesus' name. Saint John provides these words of the Lord: "Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son" (14:13). And the Catechism explains that "the certitude that our petitions will be heard is founded on the prayer of Jesus" (n. 2614). It gives the wings that the prayer of mankind has always desired to possess. How can we fail to recall here the words of Psalm 91, laden with trust, springing from a heart that hopes for everything from God: "he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday" (vv. 4-6). It is in Christ that this stupendous prayer is fulfilled, it is in him that it finds its complete truth. Without Jesus, our prayer risks being reduced to human effort, destined most of the time to failure. But he has taken on himself every cry, every groan, every jubilation, every supplication ... every human prayer. And let us not forget the Holy Spirit who prays in us; it is he who leads us to pray, he leads us to Jesus. He is the gift that the Father and the Son gave us to foster an encounter with God. And the Holy Spirit, when we pray, is the Holy Spirit who prays in our hearts. Christ is everything for us, even in our prayer life. Saint Augustine used to say this with an enlightening expression that we also find in the Catechism: Jesus "prays for us as our priest, prays in us as our Head, and is prayed to by us as our God. Therefore let us acknowledge our voice in him and his in us" (n. 2616). This is why the Christian who prays fears nothing, he or she trusts in the Holy Spirit who was given to us as a gift and who prays in us, eliciting prayer. May the Holy Spirit himself, Teacher of prayer, teach us the path of prayer.

Pope Francis, 11/11/2020



### 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    | Maria       | Czyrnik      | Mech      | Intention  | Joe      | Martin      | Justin    | Rogers   |
| Carol   | Ron         | Doctor       | Charyton  | Intentions | Mary Ann | McCallister | Lillian   | Rogers   |
| Hagos   | Laura       | Eckenrode    | DeClue    | Intentions | Angela   | Merva       | Mary Beth | Rogers   |
| Kathy   | Jackson     | Family       | Dora      | Johnson    | Ed       | Nyahay      | Trey      | Shearon  |
| Mara    | Lippert     | Family       | Gordon    | Kaercher   | Anne     | O'Halloran  | Kathy     | Slonka   |
| Melissa | Mazon       | Family       | Susan     | Kaiser     | Mic      | O'Halloran  | Kim       | Snow     |
| Steve   | Jack        | Figel        | James     | Kester     | John     | Oshinski    | Helen     | Stephens |
| Hussein | Sarah       | Frye         | Kathy     | Krofcheck  | Paula    | Oshinski    | Dennis    | Stinich  |
| William | Christopher | Gehman       | Regina    | Lee        | Maksym   | Popadyn     | Josh      | Taylor   |
| Charles | Deborah     | Gordon       | Christine | Leon       | Maria    | Rakowsky    | L.T.      | Tekle    |
| Anna    | Charlene    | Grabner      | Jeanne    | Lombardi   | Kristi   | Ralston     | John      | Wagner   |
| John    | Nataly      | Grace        | Christine | Long       | Terry    | Rasor       | Owen      | Ward     |
| Vernal  | John        | Griffen      | Jessie    | Madzia     | Nadia    | Ritchey     | Curtis    | Weber    |
| Mary    | Evelyn      | Hoechstetter | Ilya      | Mandebur   | Charles  | Roddy       | Nicholas  | Zvansky  |
| Will    | Esther      | Imhoff       | Bill      | Martin     | Sandra   | Roddy       | Sandra    | Zvansky  |



## 20 Days to Cookie Sale!

**December 13<sup>th</sup> is our 21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Cookie Sale.**

**This is our big fundraiser!**

**EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED!**

- We need volunteers to bake cookies and other goodies to sell.
- We need help **especially on Friday evening** to finalize the set-up of the cookies sold in the "pit" and finishing hall set-up.
- We need people to work the sale and break down the hall after.
- **Please Sign up to volunteer – Sign-up sheets are on the table in the church vestibule**

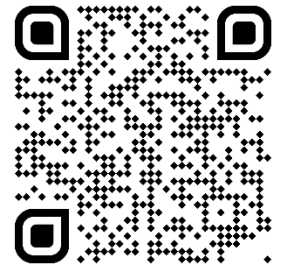
To volunteer to bake, or with questions, please **contact Lisa Sulich, Sale Coordinator at [lisa.sulich@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.sulich@gmail.com)**. You may also contact the church office; phone - (614-882-7578) or email - ([stjohnbyz@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnbyz@hotmail.com)) and your inquiries will be forwarded to Lisa.

**Online ordering is now available (*preferred ordering method*)**

**Quantities are Limited, so order early**

**(*Baklava and pirohi are sold out*)**

To place an order for trays, rolls, go to the Cookie Sale page on our website, **[www.byzantinecolumbus.com](http://www.byzantinecolumbus.com)** or scan the QR code to the right. You may prepay through that page, or you may pay at the time you pick up your order. If you are picking up orders for multiple people, please order ALL through your name as one order. Flyers are available in the back of the church. Any questions, contact Teresa in the office.



### **Shop Unique Ukrainian Souvenirs for your Christmas Gifts this Year!**

From handcrafted jewelry, traditional pysankas and tree decorations to handmade toys and original artwork — a beautiful selection of Ukrainian souvenirs will be available at the UCAO table during the Cookie Sale on Saturday, December 13th!

✦ Every purchase supports a cause that matters — proceeds go directly to humanitarian aid for Ukraine.

✦ Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio (UCAO) is a registered 501(c)3. non-profit.