



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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To schedule an event, send an email to eventstjohn@outlook.com allow 24-48 hours for reply

February 22, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Feb 22	1st Sunday of the Great Fast	
		9:30am	Akathistos to the Holy Cross
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy
		2:30pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy
Mon	Feb 23	5:45pm	Akathistos to the Holy Cross
		6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)
Wed	Feb 25	9:00am	3 rd Hour w/Isaiah readings
Fri	Feb 27	5:45 pm	Panachida for All Souls
		6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)
Sat	Feb 28	2nd All Souls Saturday	
		6:00pm	All Souls Liturgy
Sun	Mar 1	2nd Sunday of the Great Fast	
		9:30am	Akathistos to the Holy Cross
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

for the faithful

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Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun Feb 22	Heb 11:24-26, 32-12:2	John 1:43-51
Mon Feb 23	Gen 3:21-4:7	Prov 3:34-4:22
Tue Feb 24	Gen 4:8-15 Prov 5:1-15 2 Cor 4:6-15	Matt 11:2-15
Wed Feb 25	Gen 4:16-26	Prov 5:15-6:3
Thu Feb 26	Gen 5:1-24	Prov 6:3-20
Fri Feb 27	Gen 5:32-6:8	Prov 6:20-7:1
Sat Feb 28	Heb 3:12-16	Mark 1:35-45
Sun Mar 1	Heb 1:10-2:3	Mark 2:1-12

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.

Parish Activities

Sun Feb 22	11:15am	Social; ECF
	2:00pm	Ge'ez social
	3:30pm	Ukrainian Social
Wed Feb 25	9:30a	Lenten Preparation
	6:00pm	Lenten Preparation
Sat Feb 28	8:00am	Col's Diocese Men's Conference
	12:00pm	Hall in use
	4:00pm	Ge'ez Women's Club meeting
	6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice in hall
Sun Mar 1	11:15am	Social; ECF
	2:00pm	Ge'ez social

TODAY – The Divine Liturgy will be offered in Ukrainian at 2:30pm. A social will follow in the parish hall.

LENTEN DISCIPLINE

As Byzantine Catholics in the USA the following is our Lenten required observance:

- The first Day of Lent & Good (Holy) Friday are days of strict fasting - no meat and dairy for everyone of 14-65 years of age.
- If you are pregnant or have serious health issues you are exempt.
- Monday, Wednesday and Fridays of Lent - no meat for everyone of 14-65 years of age.
- If you are pregnant or have serious health issues you are exempt.
- You may opt for the full monastic observance - 40 days no dairy and meat.

HELP WITH HOSPITALITY! With the increase in parishioners and visitors at St. Johns, it's important to make sure there are enough refreshments at the Sunday Socials.

The Ladies' Guild provides the beverages, and we all need to donate something to make sure there's food for the social. Please see the sign-up sheet on the food table with suggestions for items to share. If 3 or 4 people would sign up each week, there would be enough to go around. (There's also the option to donate money.) If you like to bake or have a favorite snack to share, please do so. We are asking every family to check this list and sign up for a Sunday to bring some snacks and/or treats to share. More than one family may sign up for a week.

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>

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



The Great Fast of Lent began this past Monday. This solemn and reflective period focuses on repentance, fasting, and spiritual preparation for the resurrection of Christ.

In the Gospel of John, specifically in verses 43-51 of chapter 1, we encounter an intriguing account of Jesus' early ministry and the calling of his disciples. After Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist, he begins to gather followers, and one of the first is Philip. Philip then finds Nathanael and excitedly tells him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Initially skeptical, Nathanael questions, "Can anything good come

from Nazareth?" However, Philip invites him to "come and see." As Nathanael approaches Jesus, Jesus greets him with a profound statement, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false." Astonished, Nathanael asks Jesus how he knows him, and Jesus replies, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." This revelation convinces Nathanael that Jesus is indeed the Son of God and the King of Israel. This passage highlights the power of personal encounters with Jesus and the transformative effect it can have on individuals. It also emphasizes Jesus' divine knowledge and ability to see beyond the surface, illuminating the depths of one's soul.

The First Sunday of the Great Fast is also called the Sunday of Orthodoxy in commemoration of the victory of orthodoxy-true faith in controversy over Holy Icons in the year 843. This day serves as a reminder of the importance of visual representations in worship and the role of icons in connecting believers with the divine. It is a day of rejoicing and thanksgiving for the preservation of our faith and its traditions.



TRANSFORMATIONAL THURSDAYS

Each day is a gift.

Consider:

- Have I acknowledged the blessings of my past couple hours?
- How can I express my thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ today? Gratitude turns our moments into joys.

Today, spend a few minutes dedicated exclusively to thanking God for this day, your day.

WWW.PARMA.ORG/STEWARDSHIP-APPEAL



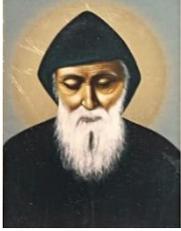
PRAYER AND THE TRINITY (part 2)

Today we will complete the catechesis on prayer as a relationship with the Holy Trinity, in particular with the Holy Spirit. The first gift of every Christian existence is the Holy Spirit. It is not one of many gifts, but rather the fundamental Gift. The Spirit is the gift that Jesus had promised to send us. Without the Spirit there is no relationship with Christ and with the Father, because the Spirit opens our heart to God's presence and draws it into that "vortex" of love that is the very heart of God. We are not merely guests and pilgrims journeying on this earth; we are also guests and pilgrims in the mystery of the Trinity. We are like Abraham, who, one day, welcoming three wayfarers in his own tent, encountered God. If we can truly invoke God, calling him "Abba — Dad", it is because the Holy Spirit dwells in us; he is the One who transforms us deep within and makes us experience the soul-stirring joy of being

loved by God as his true children. All the spiritual work within us towards God is performed by the Holy Spirit, this gift. He works within us to carry Christian life forward towards the Father, with Jesus. The Catechism, in this respect, says: "Every time we begin to pray to Jesus it is the Holy Spirit who draws us on the way of prayer by his prevenient grace. Since he teaches us to pray by recalling Christ, how could we not pray to the Spirit too? That is why the Church invites us to call upon the Holy Spirit every day, especially at the beginning and the end of every important action" (n. 2670). This is the work of the Spirit in us. He "reminds" us of Jesus and makes him present to us — we might say that he is our Trinitarian memory, he is the memory of God in us — and he makes it present to Jesus, so that he is not reduced to a character from the past: that is, the Spirit brings Jesus to the present in our consciousness. If Christ were only far away in time, we would be alone and lost in the world. Yes, we will remember Jesus, there, far away, but it is the Spirit that brings him today, now, at this moment, in our heart. But in the Spirit everything is brought to life: the possibility of encountering Christ is open to Christians of every time and place. The possibility of encountering Christ, not only as a historical figure, is open. No: he attracts Christ to our hearts; it is the Spirit who makes us encounter Jesus. He is not distant, the Spirit is with us: Jesus still teaches his disciples by transforming their hearts, as he did with Peter, with Paul, with Mary Magdalene, with all the apostles. But why is Jesus present? Because it is the Spirit who brings him to us. This is the experience of so many people who pray: men and women whom the Holy Spirit has formed according to the "measure" of Christ, in mercy, in service, in prayer, in catechesis.... It is a grace to be able to meet people like this: you realize that a different life pulsates in them, their gaze sees "beyond". Let us not think only of monks and hermits; they are also found among ordinary people, people who have woven a long history of dialogue with God, sometimes of inner struggle, which purifies faith. These humble witnesses have sought God in the Gospel, in the Eucharist received and adored, in the face of a brother or sister in difficulty, and they safeguard his presence like a secret flame. The first task of Christians is precisely to keep alive this flame that Jesus brought to the earth (cf. Lk 12:49); and what is this flame? It is love, the Love of God, the Holy Spirit. Without the fire of the Spirit, the prophecies are extinguished, sorrow supplants joy, routine substitutes love, service turns into slavery. The image of the lighted lamp next to the Tabernacle, where the Eucharist is reserved, comes to mind. Even when the church empties and evening falls, even when the church is closed, that lamp remains lit, and continues to burn; no one sees it, yet it burns before the Lord. This is how the Spirit, in our heart, is always present like that lamp. Again we read in the Catechism: "The Holy Spirit, whose anointing permeates our whole being, is the interior Master of Christian prayer. He is the artisan of the living tradition of prayer. To be sure, there are as many paths of prayer as there are persons who pray, but it is the same Spirit acting in all and with all. It is in the communion of the Holy Spirit that Christian prayer is prayer in the Church" (n. 2672). Very often it happens that we do not pray, we don't feel like praying, or many times we pray like parrots, with the mouth, but our heart is not in it. This is the moment to say to the Spirit: "Come, come Holy Spirit, warm my heart. Come and teach me to pray, teach me to look to the Father, to look to the Son. Teach what the path of faith is like. Teach me how to love and, above all, teach me to have an attitude of hope". It means calling on the Spirit continually, so he may be present in our lives. It is therefore the Spirit who writes the history of the Church and of the world. We are open books, willing to receive his handwriting. And in each of us the Spirit composes original works, because there is never a Christian who is completely identical to another. In the infinite field of holiness, the one God, the Trinity of Love, makes the variety of witnesses flourish: all are equal in dignity, but also unique in the beauty that the Spirit has willed to emanate in each of those whom God's mercy has made his children. Let us not forget, the Spirit is present; he is present in us. Let us listen to the Spirit, let us call to the Spirit — he is the gift, the gift that God has given us — and let us say to him: "Holy Spirit, I do not know your face — we do not know it — but I know that you are the strength, that you are the light, that you are able to make me go forth and to teach me how to pray. Come, Holy Spirit". This is a beautiful prayer: "Come, Holy Spirit".

Pope Francis, 3/17/2021

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:

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

Pregnancy Support Resources



Pregnancy Decision Health Center: 614-444-4411

Birthright: 614-221-0844

Mommies Matter: 614-723-9308

Option Line: <https://optionline.org/> 1-800-712-4357

Women's Care Center: 614-251-0200

Stowe Mission, Columbus: 614-445-8400

Pregnancy Resources of Delaware County: 740-417-9358



JOIN OUR PARISH'S "BAND" GROUP! This is a group page for parishioners and regular attendees to grow in faith, build meaningful connections and deepen our Byzantine Catholic faith. Stay up-to-date on liturgies, feast days and parish events while sharing prayer intentions and encouragement with fellow parishioners. You can go online to <https://www.band.us/en> or scan the QR code to download and join.



St. John Chrysostom Calendar for March 2026

Please see current week's bulletin for any changes to this schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 2nd Sun/Fast	2	3	4 	5	6 	7 3rd All Souls
9:30a Akathistos-Holy Cross 10a Div Lit-Social-ECF 12p Ge'ez Lit-Social	9a Office Hours 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory		9a 3 rd Hour w/Isaiah Readings 9a Office Hours 6p Lenten Study	10a Pirohi making	9a Office Hours 10a Pirohi making 6p Lit of St. Gregory-Panachida for All Souls	4p Ge'ez Young Mothers w/Fr. Weldit 6p All Souls Liturgy 6p Ge'ez choir practice
8 3rd Sun/Fast Veneration/Cross	9	10	11 	12	13 	14 4th All Souls
9:30a Akathistos-Holy Cross 10a Div Lit-Social-ECF 12p Ge'ez Lit- Social Daylight Saving begins @ 2am	9a Office Hours 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory		9a 3 rd Hour w/Isaiah Readings 9a Office Hours		9a Office Hours 6p Lit of St. Gregory-Panachida for All Souls	8:45a K/C rosary carpool to PP 6p All Souls Liturgy
15 4th Sun/Fast St. John Climacus	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 	19	20 	21 Akathistos Saturday
9:30a Akathistos-Holy Cross 10a Div Lit-Social-ECF 12p Ge'ez Lit-Social	9a Office Hours 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory		9a 3 rd Hour w/Isaiah Readings 9a Office Hours		9a Office Hours 6p Akathistos and Lit of St. Gregory	1p Women's Ministry @ Schimmollers 4p Ge'ez Women's Club mtg in hall 6p Akathistos and Vespers 6p Ge'ez choir practice
22 5th Sun/Fast St Mary of Egypt	23	24	25 Annunciation of Theotokos 	26	27 	28 Lazarus Saturday
9:30a Akathistos-Holy Cross 10a Div Lit-Social-ECF 12p Ge'ez Lit-Social 2:30p Ukrain Lit-Social	9a Office Hours 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory	6p Vigil Divine Liturgy for the Feast	9a Office Hours 5:45p Div Lit w/Bishop Robert @ Newman Center-OSU Campus		9a Office Hours 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory	9a Divine Liturgy 10a Church ALL CLEAN 11a Pascha Sale 6p Ge'ez choir practice
29 Palm Sunday	30 Holy Mon	31 Holy Tues	 = days of simple Abstinence from meat			
9:30a Akathistos-Holy Cross 10a Div Lit-Social NO ECF-Easter Egg Hunt 12p Ge'ez Lit-Social	9a Office Hours 5p Confession 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory	5p Confession 5:45p Akathistos-Holy Cross 6p Lit of St. Gregory w/Anointing of sick				