



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin

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

March 8, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Mar 8	3rd Sunday of the Great Fast; Veneration of the Holy Cross	
	9:30am	Akathistos to the Holy Cross	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Mon	Mar 9	6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)
Wed	Mar 11	9:00am	3 rd Hour w/Isaiah readings
Fri	Mar 13	5:45 pm	Panachida for All Souls
	6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)	
Sat	Mar 14	4th All Souls Saturday	
	6:00pm	All Souls Liturgy	
Sun	Mar 15	4th Sunday of the Great Fast; Venerable John Climacus	
	9:30am	Akathistos to the Holy Cross	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of March 8, 2026

	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun Mar 8	Heb 4:14-5:6	Mark 8:34-9:1
Mon Mar 9	Gen 8:21-9:7; Heb 12:1-10	Prov 11:19-12:6; Mat 20:1-16
Tue Mar 10	Gen 9:8-17	Prov 12:8-22
Wed Mar 11	Gen 9:18-10:1	Prov 12:23-13:9
Thu Mar 12	Gen 10:32-11:9	Prov 13:19-14:6
Fri Mar 13	Gen 12:1-7	Prov 14:14-26
Sat Mar 14	Heb 6:9-12	Mark 7:31-37
Sun Mar 15	Heb 6:13-20	Mark 9:17-31

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	Mar 8	11:15am	Social; ECF
		2:00pm	Ge'ez social
Wed	Mar 11	6:00pm	Lenten Preparation in hall
Sat	Mar 14	8:45am	Meet in parking lot for Rosary @ PP
		10:00am	Pascha Bread making
		6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice in hall
Sun	Mar 15	11:15am	Social; ECF
		2:00pm	Ge'ez social

Lenten activity for kids and youth: MY LENTEN JOURNEY. It's very simple. On Monday 2/16, first day of Lent, we set up and decorated the cross in the church. There are little signs for prayer, charity, fasting-renouncing. Each Sunday the kids and ECF students will pick up a sign of a good deed they have done during the week and put it to the cross after the liturgy with the ECF teachers. In this way we remind ourselves we are saved and called to live this salvation, new life, through constant growth in love toward God and neighbor!

FROM OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

The Knights are having a membership drive this week and next. We truly encourage the men of the parish to join. Together we form a bond of brothers united around Christ and the service of our parish. We have done many good things and need more good men to help us grow in our service.

The Knights are selling March Madness tickets at the social. This is a fundraiser for us to continue our charitable works in the parish. The tickets are \$5 each.

Some of the things that the Knights have helped with at St. John's: Pancake Breakfasts, donations to our ECF program for materials, donations to replace hall refrigerator and some of the freezers, organizing a children's coat drive, offering help where and whenever needed.

CALLING ALL "BROTHERS IN CHRIST":

All men in our Parish are invited to participate in our **Byzantine Catholic Brotherhood** inaugural gathering on **Sunday, March 22nd at 11:45 in the church hall.** This introductory meeting will focus on fellowship development within our Parish, to help address issues relevant to Christian men in an increasingly secular world. Open to men 21 years of age and older.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another! (Hebrews 10:24-25)

MARCH 25TH BISHOP ROBERT PIPTA will be in Columbus to celebrate Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos. This will take place at the Newman Center on the OSU Campus, with Liturgy beginning at 5:45pm.

MARCH 26TH AT 6:00PM we will pray the Akathistos to the Theotokos. This will be followed by a biblical patristic study of the Annunciation - "**Let It Be to Me": The Annunciation and the Beginning of Our Salvation.** On the Feast of the Annunciation, the Church proclaims: "*Today is the summit of our salvation.*" But why is this hidden moment in Nazareth called the summit? In this workshop, we will explore the mystery of the Incarnation through Scripture, the liturgical hymns, and the icon of the Annunciation. Drawing on the insights of the Church Fathers, we will reflect on Mary as the New Eve, the Burning Bush that bears the divine fire without being consumed, and the model of true freedom before God. Celebrated in the midst of the Great Fast, the Annunciation reveals how God's self-emptying love awaits our free "yes," and how Christ desires to dwell within us.

Deacon John Harden is the director of Eastern Catholic formation and evangelization for the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma and the manager of small group programs at Ascension Press. He has a bachelor's in theology from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, and a master's in theology



from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He, his wife, and their children live in Kansas City, Missouri.

PASCHA FOODS SALE – Lazarus Saturday, March 28th, 11:00am-1:00pm. This sale is open to the public and is first come, first sold. We will have loaves of Pascha bread, pirohi, nut and poppyseed rolls and other goodies as well.

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>

TRANSFORMATIONAL THURSDAYS

We often wait to share our talents until we're "good enough." But God asks us for a perfection which is our willingness to constantly grow in the good

Consider:

- Am I withholding my gifts because they're not polished enough?
- What would happen if I offered what I have, exactly as it is today?

The loaves and fishes were ordinary; it was the offering that made them miraculous through Jesus.

**Today, share an imperfect gift.
Let God do the multiplying.**



THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

On the Third Sunday of the Great Fast we commemorate the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The ceremonies are very similar to the feasts of the Exaltation of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). While the Veneration of the Cross on this Third Sunday of Lent is a reminder of Christ's Crucifixion and our being Crucified with Him during Lent, the stronger theme of this Sunday is that the Cross becomes a banner of encouragement and victory. This is why we "wave it in front of us" and to the world, so to speak, by the veneration of it. Seeing the Cross before us in this victorious way, serves to "goad us on" in the rigors of the Fast if indeed we might begin at this point to weaken in those rigors. It is much like in a battle where soldiers never let the flag fall and remain on the ground but to always have it raised in front of the troops in battle as a means of encouragement. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory.



In Mark 8:34-9:1, Jesus speaks to his disciples about the cost of following him. He emphasizes the need to deny oneself, take up their cross, and follow him. This passage highlights the importance of prioritizing spiritual growth and commitment to Jesus above all else. Jesus also promises that those who lose their life for his sake will save it.

This teaching challenges believers to consider the sacrifices and challenges that come with being a follower of Christ. It reminds us that true discipleship requires a willingness to let go of our own desires and ambitions in order to fully submit to God's will. Jesus' words serve as a reminder that the path of discipleship may not always be easy, but the rewards of eternal life and a deep

relationship with God are worth any sacrifice.

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	Ron	Doctor	Charyton	Intentions	Mary Ann	McCallister	MaryBeth	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		