



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 15, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

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	
Mon	Mar 16	6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)
Wed	Mar 18	9:00am	3 rd Hour w/Isaiah readings
Thu	Mar 19	6:00pm	Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Fri	Mar 20	5:45 pm	Akathistos
	6:00pm	Liturgy of St. Gregory (<i>Presanctified</i>)	
Sat	Mar 21	Akathistos Saturday	
	6:00pm	Akathistos - Vespers	
Sun	Mar 22	5th Sunday of the Great Fast; St. Mary of Egypt	
	9:30am	Akathistos to the Holy Cross	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
	2:30pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of March 15, 2026

	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun Mar 15	Heb 6:13-20	Mark 9:17-31
Mon Mar 16	Gen 13:12-18	Prov 14:27-15
Tue Mar 17	Gen 15:1-15	Prov 15:7-19
Wed Mar 18	Gen 17:1-9	Prov 15:20-16:9
Thu Mar 19	Gen 18:20-33	Prov 16:17-33
Fri Mar 20	Gen 22:1-18	Prov 17:17-18:5
Sat Mar 21	Heb 9:24-28	Mark 8:27-31
Sun Mar 22	Heb 9:11-14	Mark 10:32-45

Parish Activities

Sun	Mar 15	11:15am	Social; ECF
		2:00pm	Ge'ez social
Sat	Mar 21	10:00am	Nut roll making
		1:00pm	Women's ministry @ Schimmoller's
		4:00pm	Ge'ez Women's club mtg in hall
		6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice in hall
Sun	Mar 22	11:15am	Social; ECF
		11:45am	Men's Ministry meeting in hall
		2:00pm	Ge'ez social
		3:30pm	Ukrainian Social

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.

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!

GOOD FRIDAY VIGIL AT THE TOMB - "Can you not watch one hour with me..." *Matt 26:40* The sign-up sheet for the Good Friday Vigil at the Tomb is on the table in the vestibule. We would like to have at least one person or family sign up for every hour. More than one is most welcome. The vigil times begin following Holy Friday Burial Vespers on April 3rd.

FROM OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL - The Knights are having a membership drive this week. 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 **TODAY 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.

Thu, March 19th	6pm	The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete in the church
Sat, March 21st	1pm	Women's Ministry at Schimmoeller's
Sun, March 22nd	2:30pm	Divine Liturgy in Ukrainian followed by a social
Tue, March 24th	6pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos
Wed, March 25th	5:45pm	Bishop Robert Pipta celebrates the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation at the Newman Center on the OSU campus
Thu, March 26th	6pm	Akathistos to the Theotokos followed by a biblical patristic study of the Annunciation by Dcn John Harden.
Sat, March 28th	9am	Divine Liturgy
	10am	All Clean Church
	11am	Pascha Sale
Sun, March 29th	9:45am	Blessing of Palms in hall, process to church
	11:15am	Children's Egg Hunt; parish social

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>

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.

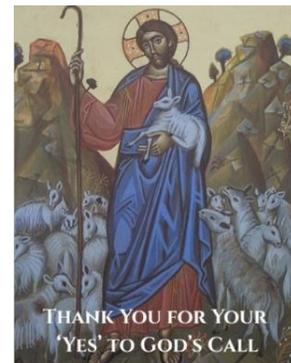
The Ladies' Guild provides the beverages, and we all need to donate something to make sure there's food for the social. Please see the sign-up sheet on the food table with suggestions for items to share. If 3 or 4 people would sign up each week, there would be enough to go around. (There's also the option 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.

FROM PARMA: Encouragement Card for Our Seminarians: How to Participate - During the Great Fast, join the entire Eparchy in supporting our seminarians —

Father Deacon Joseph Hnat, David Varga, James Hartung, and Patrick Kilroy — as they continue their formation and discernment. Visit <https://parma.org/seminarian-appreciation> to write a **message of prayer, encouragement, or gratitude** today!

If you feel moved, you may also speak to your parish priest about sending a modest donation or “pocket money” to help support their daily needs during formation. This is entirely optional but deeply appreciated. Another option is to donate to the Eparchy’s Society of Blessed Hieromartyr Theodore Romzha which aims to inspire, support, and nurture vocations – please go online to <https://parma.org/investinvocations>

The card will be sent to the seminarians **in time for Pascha**, reminding them that their Eparchy walks with them in faith and love. The card will close 3/23.



REPENTANCE AND HEALING **(Christ Our Pascha, 447-455)**

447 As a consequence of our first parents’ fall, human will became weakened. The capacity to recognize and choose the good was also enfeebled. In their relations with God and neighbour and in their attitude towards themselves and their environment, human persons began to be guided not by love and self-giving but by an egotistic exploitation of the other for personal and consumeristic gain. A consequence of the Fall is the loss of every person’s wholeness. This manifests itself in physical and spiritual suffering, in sickness and death.

448 Christ came into the world to heal and save the human race, to renew the wholeness lost by human persons. During his earthly life, Christ, the healer of human souls and bodies, remitted sins and healed the sick. After his Ascension, he continues to do this in his Church by the power of the Holy Spirit in the Holy Mysteries of Repentance and Holy Anointing.

449 The Holy Mystery of Repentance (or Confession) is a marvellous manifestation of God’s love and mercy towards us sinners. This is because the Lord does not reject us and does not turn away from us when we, having been washed of our sins in Baptism and endowed with divine grace, sin again through malice or weakness. Indeed, the Lord awaits our repentance. He forgives us if we repent and confess our sins (see Lk 15:12-32).

450 In the celebration of the Holy Mystery of Repentance, the Church actualizes the words of the Lord to the apostles: “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained” (Jn 20:22-23). Every priest continues the apostolic ministry in the Mystery of Repentance when he absolves the faithful of their sins and reconciles them with the Church. The priest pronounces the prayer of absolution (the loosing from the bondage of sin) and every penitent thereby receives Christ’s forgiveness. 1) Spiritual Struggle and Repentance

451 The vocation of the Christian to share in the life of Christ and to participate in his mission requires unceasing efforts in the spiritual struggle with passions and sins: “For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” (Eph 6:12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian begins with the public renunciation of the devil and the joining to Christ in the Holy Mystery of Baptism. Subsequently, the strengthening of the Christian in his or her spiritual growth is realized through participation in the Mysteries of Repentance and the Eucharist.

452 In the spiritual struggle, the Christian is not ‘left to fend for himself.’ Rather, by the power of the Holy Spirit the Christian acts together with Christ (in synergy) under the Church’s maternal care. Even though we have been called to grow gradually “to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (Eph 4:13), through human weakness we often go astray, lose hope in God’s love, or freely and consciously cooperate with the powers of evil. Nevertheless, God does not turn away from the person who sinned. Instead, in his love and mercy he grants the possibility of repenting—that is, to return to the life that flows from Baptism:

“Remember, then, from what you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first” (Rev 2:5).

453 To repent means to come to know and confess one’s faults, and to renounce sin: *Those who confess their sins and accuse themselves for them already work with God. God accuses your sins: and if you also accuse them, you are united to God ... And when your own deeds will begin to displease you, from that time your good works begin, as*

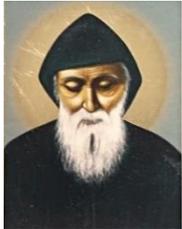
you find fault with your own evil works. The confession of evil works is the beginning of good works: You are doing the truth and coming to the light. (St. Augustine, Commentary on the Gospel of John, 12,13. Pl 35)

454 Ongoing repentance is not about focusing on one's faults and offenses. It is first of all about discovering God's love. In the light of God's love, we realize to what extent sin separates us from him and prevents us from abiding in his love. "The one who sins does so because they do not appreciate the value and importance of God's grace. To bring someone to repentance one must first of all clearly and fundamentally show them the magnitude of God's gift, which they lose through grave sin."344

455 Frequent Confession allows us to know not only our faults and offenses, but also our weaknesses and inclinations to sin. Through the grace of the Mystery of Repentance, the Christian overcomes sins and the tendency to sin. This grace also raises up the Christian after a fall and strengthens him or her in the virtues. The fruits of repentance are good works, almsgiving, purity of heart, and sacrificial love. The gift of the Mystery of Repentance is forgiveness from God and reconciliation with him: "[Give] thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Col 1:12-14).



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		