



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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

5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH 43231

Office Phone: 614-882-7578

Office Email: stjohnbyz@hotmail.com

Office Hours M-W-F 9:00a – 1:00p

Website: www.byzantinecolumbus.com Facebook: St. John Chrysostom Church

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

April 26, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Apr 26	Sunday of the Paralytic Man	
	9:30am	Paschal Hour	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Wed Apr 29 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Thu Apr 30 6:00pm Divine Liturgy

Fri May 1 6:00pm Divine Liturgy

Sat May2 6:00pm Vespers

Sun	May 3	Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
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9:30am Paschal Hour

10:00am Divine Liturgy

12:00pm Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

Readings for the week of April 26, 2026

		<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun	Apr 26	Acts 9:32-42	John 5:1-15
Mon	Apr 27	Acts 10:1-16	John 6:56-69
Tue	Apr 28	Acts 10:21-33	John 7:1-13
Wed	Apr 29	Acts 14:6-18	John 7:14-30
Thu	Apr 30	Acts 12:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Fri	May 1	Acts 10:44-11:10	John 8:21-30
Sat	May 2	Acts 12:1-11	John 8:31-42
Sun	May 3	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30	John 4:5-42

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	Apr 26	11:15am	Parish social, ECF; Byzantine Brotherhood meeting; Holy Land Family sale of Olive wood Products
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Sat	May 2	4:00pm	Ge'ez Young Mother's prayer group w/Fr. Weldit
		6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice
Sun	May 3	11:15am	Parish social, ECF
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

TODAY - BYZANTINE CATHOLIC BROTHERHOOD MEETING - All men in our Parish are invited to participate in our 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. Please contact Jerry Stasek (jstasek01@gmail.com) or Andrew Wisniewski (andrew.wisniewski@live.com) if you are interested.

TODAY, a representative of Holy Land Family will be in the hall selling beautiful hand carved religious artwork made from olive wood and mosaics to help the Christian families in the Holy Land who rely on the selling of their religious work to make a living. These families' livelihoods have been largely affected due to the political conflict in the region. The Christian population in Bethlehem is decreasing and with the support to help these families continue their work, will help maintain their employment so that they stay in their homeland. We invite you to come and browse after each mass, and we greatly thank you for your support! God Bless You. For more information on Holy Land Family, go to holylandfamily.com.

COMING UP IN MAY

PDHC Baby Bottles for Life – We will again participate in Pregnancy Decision Health Centers' Bottles for Life fundraising program to help raise money for their ministry. This program will run from Mother's Day, May 10th through Father's Day, June 17th. We will have baby bottles supplied by PDHC for you to collect change for this period or write a check to PDHC. ALL bottles need to be back here to St. John by Father's Day, June 17th. A representative of PDHC will pick them up after.



May 9 8:45am K of C carpool to pray Rosary in front of Planned Parenthood downtown
4:00pm Families Gathering in hall

May 16 9:30am Beautification - Removal of trees, branches, mulching and planting.
Lunch provided by parish. **Please mark your calendars**

May 22 7:00pm Decorate church for Pentecost with branches

May 23 1:00pm Women's Ministry @ Schimmoeller's

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.



**EPARCHY OF PARMA FOUNDATION'S
2025-2026 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
TIME – TALENT – TREASURE**

This Year's appeal runs from November 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026

A Little Makes a Lot, as do the generous gifts of those blessed to give more.

Every gift matters. Some can give a little, some can give more—but when each of us offers what we are able, God weaves our generosity together into something far greater than any one of us could accomplish alone. This is how the Church has always been sustained: through the faithful giving of God's people, each according to their blessings.

"For if the willingness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has..." — 2 Corinthians 8:12

If you'd like help planning your giving, consider spending some time with the budgeting tool and reflection summary online at parma.org/stewardship-appeal. A topic as common and real as budgeting deserves the time.

If you're seeking encouragement and understanding, definitely consider listening to the replay of Laura Ieracci's Faith and Finances for a faith centered, heartfelt perspective on stewardship.

Thank you to all who have given—and to those who have given multiple times! Your generosity provides for the beautiful Byzantine Catholic faith we cherish and the many people we are blessed to serve.



**The Ninth Miracle of Mariapoch Gala
on Saturday, May 16, 2026 6–9:30 p.m.**

Venue 81 Eleven

St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church

8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, Ohio

\$50 per person for full dinner, two alcoholic beverages

Entertainment, raffle baskets

For tickets, visit <https://parma.org/shrine-of-mariapoch>

Questions? Email: shrine@parma.org or call 216-272-6790.

Proceeds benefit capital improvements at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch, Burton, Ohio

CHURCH TEACHER OF PRAYER

The Church is a great school of prayer. Many of us learned how to whisper our first prayers while on our parents' or grandparents' laps. We might, perhaps, cherish the memory of our mommy and daddy who taught us to say our prayers before going to bed. These moments of recollection are often those in which parents listen to some intimate secret from their children and can give their advice inspired by the Gospel. Then, while growing up, there are other encounters, with other witnesses and teachers of prayer (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2686-2687). This is good to remember.

The life of a parish and of every Christian community is marked by liturgical moments and moments of community prayer. We become aware that that gift we received with simplicity in childhood is a great heritage, a rich inheritance and that the experience of prayer is worth deepening more and more (cf. *ibid.*, 2688). The garment of faith is not starched, but develops with us; it is not rigid, it grows, even through moments of crisis and resurrection. Actually, there is no growth without moments of crisis because crises makes you grow. Experiencing crisis is a necessary way to grow. And the breath of faith is prayer: we grow in faith inasmuch as we learn to pray. After certain passages in life, we become aware that without faith we could not have made it and that our strength was prayer — not only personal prayer, but also that of our brothers and sisters, and of the community that accompanied and supported us, of the people who know us, of the people we ask to pray for us.

For this reason too, communities and groups dedicated to prayer constantly flourish in the Church. Some Christians even feel the call to make prayer the primary action of their day. In the Church there are monasteries, convents, hermitages where persons consecrated to God live. They often become centres of spiritual light. They

are communities of prayer that radiate spirituality. They are small oases in which intense prayer is shared and fraternal communion is constructed day by day. They are cells that are vital not only for the ecclesial fabric, but for society itself. Let us think, for example, of the role that monasticism played in the birth and growth of European civilization, and other cultures as well. Praying and working in community keeps the world going. It is a driving force!

Everything in the Church originates in prayer and everything grows thanks to prayer. When the Enemy, the Evil One, wants to fight the Church, he does so first by trying to drain her fonts, preventing them from praying. For example, we see this in certain groups who agree on moving ecclesial reforms forward, changes in the life of the Church... There are all the organizations, there is the media that informs everyone... But prayer is not evident, there is no prayer. "We need to change this; we need to make this decision that is a bit tough...". The proposal is interesting. It is interesting, only with discussion, only through the media. But where is prayer? Prayer is what opens the door to the Holy Spirit, who inspires progress. Changes in the Church without prayer are not changes made by the Church. They are changes made by groups. And when the Enemy — as I said — wants to fight the Church, he does it first of all by trying to drain her fonts, preventing prayer and [encouraging] these other proposals to be made. If prayer ceases, for a little while it seems that everything can go ahead like always — by inertia — but after a short time, the Church becomes aware that she has become like an empty shell, that she has lost her bearings, that she no longer possesses her source of warmth and love.

Holy women and men do not have easier lives than other people. Indeed, they too have their own problems to address, and, what is more, they are often the objects of opposition. But their strength is prayer, which they always draw from the inexhaustible "well" of Mother Church. Through prayer they nourish the flame of their faith, as oil would do for lamps. And thus, they move ahead walking in faith and hope. The saints, who often count for little in the eyes of the world, are in reality the ones who sustain it, not with the weapons of money and power, of the communications media, and so forth, but with the weapon of prayer.

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus poses a dramatic question that always makes us reflect: "When the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Lk 18:8), or will he find only organizations, like groups of "entrepreneurs of faith", everyone well organized, doing charitable works, many things ... or will he find faith? "When the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?". This question comes at the end of a parable that demonstrates the need to pray with perseverance, without tiring (cf. vv. 1-8). Therefore, we can conclude that the lamp of faith will always be lit on earth as long as there is the oil of prayer. The lamp of the Church's true faith will always be lit on earth as long as there is the oil of prayer. It is this that leads faith forward, and leads forward our poor, weak, sinful life, but prayer leads it securely forward. The question that we Christians need to ask ourselves is: Do I pray? Do we pray? How do I pray? Like parrots or do I pray with my heart? How do I pray? Do I pray, certain that I am in the Church and that I pray with the Church? Or do I pray somewhat according to my ideas and make my ideas become prayer? This is pagan prayer, not Christian. I repeat: We can conclude that the lamp of faith will always be lit on earth as long as there is the oil of prayer.

And this is the Church's essential task: to pray and to teach how to pray. To transmit the lamp of faith and the oil of prayer from generation to generation. The lamp of faith that illuminates, that sets things as they truly are, but that can only go forward with the oil of faith. Otherwise, it is extinguished. Without the light of this lamp, we would not be able to see the path of evangelization, or rather, we would not be able to see the path in order to believe well; we would not be able to see the faces of our brothers and sisters to draw near and serve; we would not be able to illuminate the room where we meet in community... Without faith everything collapses; and without prayer faith is extinguished. Faith and prayer together. There is no other way. For this reason the Church, which is the house and school of communion, is the house and school of faith and prayer.

Pope Francis, 4/14/2021

GREATER COLUMBUS RIGHT TO LIFE: SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

From now through Christmas, we are inviting our supporters to join us in a Spiritual Adoption program. The premise of the program is that each participant "spiritually adopts" an unborn child at risk of abortion and prays for that child over the next nine months.

We have a limited supply of pray cards that are available on a first come first served basis. An image of the Holy Family is on one side and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's prayer for spiritual adoption is on the back with a space for you to write the name of your unborn spiritual adoptive child.

Prayer for Spiritual Adoption – "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much and ask you to spare the life of the preborn baby who I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion. May he/she grow strong and healthy, keep his/her mother in your care, and may they both be blessed with a beautiful and happy birth. Amen."

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" Jer 1:5

_____ *Adopted baby's name*

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		

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.



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

