



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

June 28, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	June 28	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Mon	June 29	<i>Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, Prime Apostles</i>		
		6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Wed	July 1	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	
Thu	July 2	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Health of Karen Eckenrode</i>
Fri	July 3	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Sun	July 5	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of June 28, 2026

		<u>Gospel</u>	<u>Epistle</u>
Sun	June 28	Rom 10:1-10	Matt 8:28-9:3
Mon	June 29	2 Cor 11:21-12:9	Matt 16:13-19
Tue	June 30	1 Cor 4:9-16	Mark 3:13-19
Wed	July 1	1 Cor 2:9-3:8	Matt 13:31-36
Thu	July 2	Heb 9:1-7	Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28
Fri	July 3	1 Cor 4:5-8	Matt 13:44-54
Sat	July 4	Rom 9:1-5	Matt 9:18-26
Sun	July 5	Rom 12:6-14	Matt 9:1-8

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	June 28	11:15am	Social; Knights of Columbus presentation @ social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Wed	July 1	10:00am	Breakfast with the Pastor
Fri	July 3	OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY	
Sat	July 4	1:00pm	Ge'ez celebration-150 th Anniversary of Debre Yesus Parish Wasdamba
Sun	July 5	11:15am	Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

ALL PDHC AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BABY BOTTLES MUST BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Please turn in the bottles to the plastic container on the table in the vestibule, or bring to the office, filled or empty all must be returned.



TODAY, DURING THE PARISH SOCIAL - Gary Anderson, a financial representative from Knights of Columbus will be providing a presentation to the parish during the social. Gary will offer the parishioners at St. John Chrysostom an introduction into the products the Knights offer. These products are pro-life and will never invest in organizations that promote anything contrary to Church teaching.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY ON FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE AUGUST 16TH – We are continuing our visitation of various churches with a Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Mariapoch. We will meet at Mariapoch during the Annual pilgrimage on August 16th. The schedule is as follows

- 12 Noon Sixth Hour, followed by lunch at the Café (individual payment)
- 1:30 PM Children Activity – Tent area
- 1:30 PM Guest Speaker Talk, Nicholas Boros, History of Mariapoch
- 3:00 PM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Bishop Robert Pipta
- 5:00 PM Café opens for dinner

MYSTERY OF RECONCILIATION AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE PILGRIMAGE

VOLUNTEER TO BE ON THE MOWING CREW - We invite gentlemen to join the mowing crew. Currently, the property is mowed 2 times a week. You can mow any time during the week (except Sundays). Notify the Office via email, including your mobile phone number for scheduling.

HELP WITH HOSPITALITY! - Please see the sign-up sheet on the food table with suggestions for items to share. 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.

ORIENTALE LUMEN XXX CONFERENCE - The 30th Orientale Lumen Conference will take place on July 13-15 at the St. John Paul II Shrine and Retreat House in Washington, DC. The theme will be “Ecumenical Crossroad: Consensus Achieved – What’s Next?” Speakers will include Cardinal Sean O’Malley, Archbishop Flavio Pace from the Vatican, Bishop John Michael Botean (Romanian Greek Catholic), Bishop Anthony Vrame (Greek Orthodox), and Lector Jack Figel, Founder of the Conferences. The new papal nuncio, Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, and Metropolitan Tikhon, primate of the Orthodox Church in America, will attend some sessions. Video lectures will also be shown by Archbishop Borys Gudziak (Ukrainian Greek Catholic), Metropolitan Job of Pisidia (Ecumenical Patriarchate) and Archimandrite Cyril Hovorun (Orthodox Church of Ukraine). Register for this in-person event and get to mingle with high Church officials here: <https://olfoundation.net/upcoming-events/orientale-lumen-xxx/>

FAMILY LITURGY & LIFE CAMP - Experience a week filled with joy, prayer, and unforgettable memories at our Eparchy's Annual Family Liturgy & Life Camp. The videos below beautifully capture what makes this gathering so special—families praying together, playing together, learning together, and growing together in a vibrant, faith-filled community.

This year's camp held August 9–14, 2026, promises the same spirit of connection and renewal that so many have come to love. Below, hear firsthand from parishioners Jon and Alison Sedlak and Laura Ustanovska, whose testimonials reflect the deep impact this week has on families across the Eparchy.

Come be part of a community where faith comes alive, friendships flourish, and families encounter Christ in a joyful and meaningful way!

Registration will be open until July 9, 2026. If registration has closed, and you are still interested in participating in this year's camp, please contact familycamp@parma.org to see if there is any last-minute availability.

Annual Eparchial Pilgrimage

The Shrine's annual Cleanup Day/Pilgrimage Preparation will take place August 8, 2026.



Annual Eparchial Pilgrimage 2026 – Shrine of Mariapoch

“Theotokos: Our Advocate for Peace”

Saturday, August 15th through Sunday, August 16th

12:00pm Opening/water blessing – Main Chapel. The opportunity for Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Repentance (Confession) will be available throughout the pilgrimage.

Tent camping IS permitted by the southern tree line. Food will be available for purchase at the listed times only. Please bring a chair/blanket, and a friend.

Visit out *Eastern Treasures Gift Shop* behind the Café

Questions? Ask Deacon Greg Loya, Administrator: gregloya@yahoo.com, or 216-272-6790 Our website: <https://parma.org/shrine-of-mariapoch>

THE CERTAINTY OF BEING HEARD

There is a radical objection to prayer, which derives from an observation that we all make: we pray, we ask, and yet sometimes our prayers seem to go unheard: what we have asked for — for ourselves or for others — is not fulfilled. We often have this experience. If the reason for which we prayed was noble (such as intercession for the health of a sick person, or for the end of a war, for instance), the non-fulfilment seems scandalous. For example, for wars: we are praying for wars to end, these wars in so many parts of the world. Think of Yemen, think of Syria, countries that have been at war for years, for years. Countries ravaged by wars; we pray, and they do not come to an end. But how can this be? “Some even stop praying because they think their petition is not heard” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2734). But if God is Father, why does he not listen to us? He who assured us that he gives good things to his children who ask for them (cf. Mt 7:10), why does he not respond to our requests? We have all experienced this: we have prayed, prayed, for the illness of a friend, of a father, of a mother, and then they were gone. But God did not grant our request! It is an experience we have all had.

The Catechism offers us a good summary of the matter. It puts us on guard against the risk of not living an authentic experience of faith, but of transforming the relationship with God into something magical. Prayer is not a magic wand: it is a dialogue with the Lord. Indeed, when we pray we can fall into the risk that it is not we who serve God, but we expect it to be He who serves us (cf. 2735). This is, then, a prayer that is always demanding, that wants to direct events according to our own design, that admits no plans other than our own desires. Jesus, on the other hand, had great wisdom in teaching us the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer of questions only, as we know, but the first ones we utter are all on God's side. They ask for the fulfilment not of our plan, but of his will for the world. Better to leave it to him: “Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done” (Mt 6:9-10).

And the Apostle Paul reminds us that we do not even know what is appropriate to ask (cf. Rm 8:26). We ask for our necessities, our needs, things that we want: “But is this more appropriate or not?” Paul tells us, we do not even

know what we ought to ask. When we pray, we need to be humble: this is the first attitude for going to pray. Just as there is the habit in many places that, before going to pray in a church, women don a veil or people use holy water as they begin to pray, so too we must tell ourselves before praying what is most appropriate; may God give me what is most appropriate. He knows. When we pray we must be humble, so that our words may actually be prayers and not just idle talk that God rejects. We can also pray for the wrong reasons: such as to defeat the enemy at war, without asking ourselves what God thinks of such a war. It is easy to write "God is with us" on a banner; many are eager to ensure that God is with them, but few bother to check whether they are actually with God. In prayer, it is God who must convert us, not we who must convert God. It is humility. I go to pray but You, Lord, convert my heart so that it will ask for what is appropriate, for what will be best for my spiritual health.

However, the scandal remains: when people pray with a sincere heart, when they ask for things that correspond to the Kingdom of God, when a mother prays for her sick child, why does it sometimes seem that God does not listen to them? To answer this question, we have to meditate calmly on the Gospels. The accounts of Jesus' life are full of prayers: many people wounded in body and in spirit ask him to be healed; there are those who pray for a friend who can no longer walk; there are fathers and mothers who bring him their sick sons and daughters. They are all prayers imbued with suffering. It is an immense chorus that invokes: "Have mercy on us!"

We see that at times Jesus' response is immediate, whereas in some other cases it is delayed: it seems that God does not answer. Think of the Canaanite woman who begs Jesus for her daughter: this woman has to insist for a long time to be heard (cf. Mt 15:21-28). She even has the humility to hear a word from Jesus that seems a little offensive towards her: we must not throw bread to the dogs, to the pooches. But humiliation does not matter to this woman: her daughter's health is what matters. And she goes on: "Yes, but even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table", and Jesus likes this. Courage in prayer. Or think of the paralytic brought by his four friends: Jesus initially forgives his sins and only later heals his body (cf. Mk 2:1-12). On some occasions, therefore, the solution to the problem is not immediate. In our life too, each one of us has this experience. Let us look back a little: how many times have we asked for a grace, a miracle, let's say, and nothing has happened. Then, over time, things have worked out but in God's way, the divine way, not according to what we wanted in that moment. God's time is not our time.

From this point of view, the healing of Jairus' daughter is worthy of particular attention (cf. Mk 5:21-33). There is a father who is rushing, out of breath: his daughter is ill and for this reason he asks for Jesus' help. The Master immediately accepts, but on their way home another healing occurs, and then news arrives that the girl has died. It seems to be the end, but instead Jesus says to the father: "Do not fear, only believe" (Mk 5:36). "Continue to have faith": because it is faith that sustains prayer. And indeed, Jesus will awaken that child from the sleep of death. But Jairus had to walk in the dark for some time, with only the flame of faith. Lord, give me faith! May my faith grow! Ask for this grace, to have faith. Jesus, in the Gospel, says that faith moves mountains. But, having real faith. Jesus, before the faith of his poor, of his people, is won over; he feels special tenderness, before that faith. And he listens.

The prayer that Jesus addresses to the Father in Gethsemane also seems to go unheard. "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me". It seems that the Father does not listen to him. The son must drink fully from the cup of the passion. But Holy Saturday is not the final chapter, because on the third day, Sunday, is the Resurrection. Evil is lord of the penultimate day: remember this well. Evil is never lord of the last day, no: the penultimate, the moment when the night is darkest, just before the dawn. There, on the penultimate day, there is temptation, when evil makes us think it has won: "Did you see? I won!". Evil is lord of the penultimate day: on the last day there is the Resurrection. But evil is never lord of the last day: God is the Lord of the last day. Because that belongs to God alone, and it is the day when all human longings for salvation will be fulfilled. Let us learn this humble patience, of waiting for the Lord's grace, waiting for the final day. Very often, the penultimate day is very hard, because human sufferings are hard. But the Lord is there. And on the last day, he resolves everything

Pope Francis, 5/26/2021



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



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



The Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma: 216-741-8773

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