



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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

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Office Hours M-W-F 9:00a – 1:00p

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

July 5, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun July 5	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Wed July 8	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>+Esther Imhoff by Jirles family</i>

NO LITURGY THURSDAY OR FRIDAY; NO VESPERS SATURDAY

Sun July 12	9:30am	Intro to Byzantine Spirituality	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of July 5, 2026

			<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun	July	5	Rom 12:6-14	Matt 9:1-8
Mon	July	6	1 Cor 5:9-6:11	Matt 13:54-58
Tue	July	7	1 Cor 6:20-7:12	Matt 14:1-13
Wed	July	8	1 Cor 7:12-24	Matt 14:35-15:11
Thu	July	9	1 Cor 7:24-35	Matt 16:24-28
Fri	July	10	Gal 5:22-6:2	Luke 6:17-23
Sat	July	11	Rom 12:1-3	Matt 10:37-11:1
Sun	July	12	Rom 15:1-7	Matt 9:27-35

Parish Activities

Sun	July	5	11:15am	Social
			2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Thu-Sat July 9-11 ByzanTEEN Catholic Rally in Cleveland				
Sat	July	11	8:00am	Church in use
			8:45am	K of C meet in parking lot; Rosary @ PP downtown
			6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice
Sun	July	12	11:15am	Social
			2:00pm	Ge'ez 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.

NO SERVICES THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY, JULY 9TH-11TH FATHER ROBERT AND DEACON JEFF ARE OUT OF TOWN.

INTRO TO BYZANTINE SPIRITUALITY – SUNDAY JULY 12TH

We invite all of you to join a short Intro to Byzantine Spirituality based on the celebration of the Liturgy. Sunday 7/12 before the liturgy at 9.30am. There will be no 3rd Hour! No prep required!

HELP FOR UKRAINE: Last year's summer collection allowed our Parish to send tourniquets and other medical aids to Ukraine. We invite you to share again some spare cents for the same purpose. You can use our PayPal option on the Parish website, checks (written to St. John Chrysostom Church) or cash put in the collection boxes in church. Your prayers and generous help are highly appreciated! Mark your donation with "**HELP FOR UKRAINE**".

PARISH PILGRIMAGE AUGUST 16TH – We are continuing our visitation of various churches and shrines with a Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Mariapoch. We will meet at Mariapoch during the Annual pilgrimage on Sunday, 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.

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.

Questions? Ask Deacon Greg Loya, Administrator: gregloya@yahoo.com, or 216-272-6790

Our website: <https://parma.org/shrine-of-mariapoch>

JESUS MODEL AND SOUL OF ALL PRAYER

The Gospels show us how prayer was fundamental in the relationship between Jesus and his disciples. This can already be seen in the choice of those who would later become the Apostles. Luke places their election in a precise context of prayer, and he says: “In these days he went out to the mountain to pray; and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when it was day, he called his disciples, and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles” (6:12-13). Jesus chooses them after a night of prayer. It seems that there is no criterion in this choice other than prayer, the dialogue of Jesus with the Father. Judging from how those men were to behave, it would seem that the choice was not the best, as they all fled, they left him alone before the Passion; but it is precisely this, especially the presence of Judas, the future betrayer, that demonstrates that those names were inscribed in God’s plan.

Prayer on behalf of his friends continually resurfaces in the life of Jesus. The Apostles sometimes become a cause of concern for him, but as he had received them from the Father, after prayer, Jesus carries them in his heart, even in their errors, even when they fall. In all this we discover how Jesus was both teacher and friend, always willing to wait patiently for the disciple’s conversion. The highest point of this patient waiting is the “web” of love that Jesus weaves around Peter. At the Last Supper He says to him: “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren” (Lk 22:31-32). It is impressive to know that at that moment, during the time of weakness, Jesus’ love does not cease. “But father, if I am in mortal sin, does Jesus love me?” — “Yes” — “And does Jesus continue to love me?” — “Yes” — “But if I have done worse things, and committed many sins ... does Jesus continue to love me?” — “Yes”. Jesus’ love and prayer for each one of us does not cease, it does not cease, but rather becomes more intense, and we are at the centre of his prayer! We must always keep this in mind: Jesus prays for me, he is praying now before the Father and makes him see the wounds he carried with him, to show the Father the price of our salvation, it is the love that he holds for us. But in this moment, let each one of us, let us think: in this moment, is Jesus praying for me? Yes. This is a great certainty that we must have.

Jesus’ prayer returns punctually at a crucial time of his journey, that of the verification of his disciples’ faith. Let us listen again to the evangelist Luke: “As [Jesus] was praying alone, the disciples were with him; and he asked them, ‘Who do the people say that I am?’ And they answered, ‘John the Baptist; but others say, Eli’jah, and others, that one of the old prophets has risen’. And he asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ And Peter answered, on behalf of them all, ‘The Christ of God’. But he charged and commanded them tell this to no one” (9:18-21). The great turning points of Jesus’ mission are always preceded by prayer, but not just in passing, but rather by intense, prolonged prayer. There is always prayer in those moments. This test of faith seems to be the goal, but instead it is a renewed starting point for the disciples, because from then on, it is as if Jesus took on a new tone in his mission, speaking openly to them of his passion, death and resurrection.

With this prospect, which gives rise instinctively to repulsion, both in the disciples and in we who read the Gospel, prayer is the only source of light and strength. It is necessary to pray more intensely, every time the road takes an uphill turn.

And indeed, after announcing to the disciples what awaits him in Jerusalem, the episode of the Transfiguration takes place. Jesus “took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And as He was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white. And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Eli’jah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem” (9:28-31), that is, the Passion. Therefore, this anticipated manifestation of the glory of

Jesus took place in prayer, while the Son was immersed in communion with the Father and fully consented to his will of love, to his plan of salvation. And out of that prayer came a clear word for the three disciples involved: “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him” (Lk 9:35). From prayer comes the invitation to listen to Jesus, always from prayer.

From this quick journey through the Gospel, we learn that Jesus not only wants us to pray as he prays, but assures us that, even if our attempts at prayer are completely vain and ineffective, we can always count on his prayer. We must be aware of this: Jesus prays for me. Once, a good bishop told me that in a very bad moment in his life, a great trial, a moment of darkness, he looked up in the Basilica and saw this phrase written: “I, Peter, will pray for you”. And this gave him strength and comfort. And this happens every time that each of us knows that Jesus prays for him or for her. Jesus prays for us. In this moment, in this very moment. Do this memory exercise, repeat this. When there is a difficulty, when you feel the orbital pull of distractions: Jesus is praying for me. But, father, is this true? It is true! He said it himself. Let us not forget that what sustains each of us in life is Jesus’ prayer for every one of us, with our first and last name, before the Father, showing him the wounds that are the price of our salvation.

Even if our prayers were only stuttering, if they were compromised by a wavering faith, we must never cease to trust in him: I do not know how to pray but he prays for me. Supported by Jesus’ prayer, our timid prayers rest on eagle wings and soar up to Heaven. Do not forget: Jesus is praying for me. Now? Now. In the moment of trial, in the moment of sin, even in that moment, Jesus is praying for me with so much love.

Pope Francis, 6/2/2021

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	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

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

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