



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

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

August 2, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Aug 2	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	for the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Wed	Aug 5	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy celebrated by Fr. Ty Carter	
Sun	Aug 9	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	for the Faithful
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of August 2, 2026

		<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun	Aug 2	1 Cor 4:9-16	Matt 17:14-23
Mon	Aug 3	2 Cor 2:4-15	Matt 23:13-22
Tue	Aug 4	2 Cor 2:14-3:3	Matt 23:23-28
Wed	Aug 5	2 Cor 3:4-11	Matt 23:29-39
Thu	Aug 6	2 Pet 1:10-19	Matt 17:1-9
Fri	Aug 7	2 Cor 4:13-18	Matt 24:27-33 & 42-51
Sat	Aug 8	1 Cor 1:3-9	Matt 19:3-12
Sun	Aug 9	1 Cor 9:2-12	Matt 18:23-35

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.

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

Administrator: Bishop Robert Pipta

Chancellor: Rev. Gary Yanus

Chief Finance Officer: Matthew McDonald

Vocations Director: Rev. John Russell

Safe Environment Coordinator: Fr. Andrew Nagrant

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Coordinator: Kathleen McComb

Parish Activities this week

Sun	Aug 2	11:15am	SJC Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Sat	Aug 8	6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice
Sun	Aug 9	11:15am	SJC Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

LITURGY TIME CHANGE THIS WEEK – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5TH DIVINE LITURGY WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 6:00PM

FR. ROBERT IS ON RETREAT THIS WEEK, so there will be no liturgies Thursday, Friday evenings nor vespers on Saturday. If anyone has a pastoral need, please contact Fr. Ty Carter of Holy Resurrection parish at 614-212-3369

DORMITION FAST AUGUST 1-14

The Dormition Fast, as preparation for the Feast of the falling asleep of the Theotokos, Dormition, has one of the most complex and instructive histories.

Unlike Great Lent, whose roots reach back to the early centuries of Christianity with remarkable consistency, the Dormition Fast knew very different forms across churches and eras. The earliest mentions of an August fast connected to the Dormition date to the **9th century**. But at that time, neither the time of year nor the duration was the same from church to church: one day at Antioch, four days at Constantinople, eight days at Jerusalem. Some fasted in August, others in September, some churches did not fast at all, considering that the Dormition was an occasion for great festivity. This fragmented picture reveals how much this fast grew out of a gradual local devotion rather than a universal decree.

It was the local (not ecumenical) **Council of Constantinople of 1166**, under Patriarch Luke Chrysoberges, that definitively established the two-week duration for the Dormition Fast and unified it across the entire Byzantine Church. From that point on, the fast from August 1 to 14 became the norm for all churches of the Byzantine rite — a relatively late decision in the Byzantine liturgical history, which explains the diversity of practices.

Monastics observe the fast as strict as Great Lent. However, for ordinary or parish communities the fast consists of:

No meat on Wednesday and Fridays. You can eat fish though. Fish is an object of fast in the Mediterranean regions, not inland as Central Europe.

Besides that, penitential acts are required: intensified prayers, charity, and volunteering. A special recommendation is to reflect on our own death and prepare for it.

Our parish community will pray the Akathistos of Dormition before every liturgical service. You are invited to do so even at your home. Please, find it on our web.

SAT. AUGUST 15TH - Please join the members of our local Knights of Columbus Council (Assumption Council #3727) and their families for a parish picnic after the **4:00pm Divine Liturgy** as we celebrate our patron feast, the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, on Saturday August 15th.

All parish families and guests are invited. This will be a potluck with the Knights providing the meats for grilling, buns, drinks and some desserts.

Please bring a side dish to share. If you have a special Dormition dessert to share, please feel free to bring that as well. Hope to see you there!

PARISH PILGRIMAGE SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH – We are continuing our visitation of various churches and shrines with a Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Mariapoch.

Divine Liturgy on August 16th will begin at 9:00am. There will be no 3rd Hour and no social following Liturgy so that we can 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



APOSTOLIC FATHERS STUDY GROUP

Have you ever wondered how the earliest Christians understood the teachings of the Apostles? Have you wanted to deepen your knowledge of the faith by reading the writings of those who personally knew—or were taught by—the Apostles themselves?

You are warmly invited to join our **Apostolic Fathers Study Group**, where we will read and discuss the writings of the earliest generations of the Church. Together, we will explore the lives, teachings, and spiritual wisdom of figures such as **St. Clement of Rome, St. Ignatius of Antioch, St. Polycarp of Smyrna, the author of the Didache, the Epistle of Barnabas, the Shepherd of Hermas**, and others.

This study group is open to anyone who desires to grow in faith, whether you are new to the writings of the early Church or have studied them before. No prior knowledge is required—only a willingness to read, learn, ask questions, and participate in thoughtful discussion.

Starting from August 12 through September 16, on Wednesday evenings from 6pm -7pm, in the Hall.

Our first session will concentrate on the relation between the New Testament and the writings following that time, methods and rules of studying. The first book to read will be the Didache. If you would like to have a pdf copy, please, reach out to the Office.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING - Saint John Chrysostom would like to invite the boys and young men of the parish to consider becoming altar servers. This is a profound and honored tradition in the church to grow deeper in faith by serving the clergy directly in the sanctuary. Altar servers aide the clergy, ensure the Eucharistic liturgy is celebrated with reverence and assist the congregation to pray the liturgy with attention and fervor. Any young man in the parish aged 9 or above is welcome to become a server. Adults are encouraged also to serve.

Any one or their parents that are interested please contact the parish office, so we have an accurate count. You may also reach out to Drew or Keith as well for more information. We would like to have a training session on Saturday, August 29th following the 4PM liturgy for the Beheading of John the Baptist.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!



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**".



The Holy Spirit Guides to Jesus Our Hope. The Spirit Was Hovering Above the Waters.

Today, with this catechesis we begin a series of reflections with the theme, "The Holy Spirit and the Bride" — the Bride is the Church — "The Holy Spirit guides God's people towards Jesus our hope". We will make this journey

through the three great stages of salvation history: the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the time of the Church. Always keeping our gaze fixed on Jesus, who is our hope.

In these first catecheses on the Spirit in the Old Testament, we will not do “biblical archaeology”. Instead, we will discover that what is given as a promise in the Old Testament has been fully realised in Christ. It will be like following the path of the sun from dawn to noon.

Let us begin with the first two verses of the entire Bible: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and *the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters*” (Gen 1:1-2). The Spirit of God appears to us here as the mysterious power that moves the world from its initial formless, deserted, and gloomy state to its ordered and harmonious state, because the Spirit makes harmony, harmony in life, harmony in the world. In other words, it is He who makes the world pass from chaos to the cosmos, that is, from confusion to something beautiful and ordered. This, in fact, is the meaning of the Greek word *kosmos*, as well as the Latin word *mundus*, that is, something beautiful, something ordered, clean, harmonious, because the Spirit is harmony.

This still vague hint of the Holy Spirit’s action in creation becomes more precise following the revelation. In a psalm we read: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and *all their host by the breath of his mouth*” (Ps 33:6); and again: “*When thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the ground*” (Ps104:30).

This line of development becomes very clear in the New Testament, which describes the Holy Spirit’s intervention in the new creation, using precisely the images that one reads about in connection with the origin of the world: the dove that hovers over the waters of the Jordan at Jesus’ baptism (cf. Mt 3:16); Jesus who, in the Upper Room, breathes on the disciples and says: “Receive the Holy Spirit” (Jn 20:22), just as in the beginning God breathed His breath on Adam (cf. Gen 2:7).

The Apostle Paul introduces a new element into this relationship between *the Holy Spirit and creation*. He speaks of a universe that groans and suffers as in labour pains (cf. Rom 8:22). It suffers because of man who has subjected it to the bondage of corruption (cf. vv. 20-21). It is a reality that concerns us closely and dramatically. The Apostle sees the cause of the suffering of creation in the corruption and sin of humanity that has dragged it into its alienation from God. This remains as true today as it was then. We see the havoc that has been done, and that continues to be wrought upon creation by humanity, especially that part of it that has greater capacity to exploit its resources.

Saint Francis of Assisi shows us a way out, a beautiful way, to return to the harmony of the Creator Spirit: the way of contemplation and praise. He wanted a canticle of praise to the Creator to be raised by the creatures. We recall, “*Praised be You, my Lord...* ”, the canticle of Francis of Assisi.

One of the psalms (19:1) says, “*The heavens are telling the glory of God*”, but they need men and women to give voice to this mute cry of theirs. And in the “*Sanctus*” of the Mass we repeat each time: “Heaven and earth are full of your glory”. They are, so to speak, “pregnant” with it, but they need the hands of a good midwife to give birth to this praise of theirs. Our vocation in the world, Paul again reminds us, is to be “*praise of his glory*” (Eph 1:12). It is to put the joy of contemplating ahead of the joy of possessing. And no one has rejoiced in creatures more than Francis of Assisi, who did not want to possess any of them.

Brothers and sisters, the Holy Spirit of God, who in the beginning transformed chaos into cosmos, is at work to bring about this transformation in every person. Through the prophet Ezekiel, God promises: “*A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you... And I will put my spirit within you*” (Ez 36:26-27). For our heart resembles that deserted, dark abyss of the first verses of Genesis. Opposed feelings and desires stir within it: those of the flesh and those of the spirit. We are all, in a sense, that kingdom “divided against itself” that Jesus talks about in the Gospel (cf. Mk 3:24). We can say that there is an external chaos around us — social chaos, political chaos. Think of wars, think of so many boys and girls who don’t have enough to eat, about so many social injustices. This is the external chaos. But there is also an internal chaos: internal to each of us. The former cannot be healed unless we begin to heal the latter! Brothers and sisters, let us do a good job of making our internal confusion a clarity of the Holy Spirit. It is the power of God that does this, and we open our hearts so that he can do it.

May this reflection stir in us the desire to experience the Creator Spirit. For more than a millennium, the Church has put on our lips the cry to ask for it: “*Veni creator Spiritus!* Come, O Creator Spirit! Visit our minds. Fill with heavenly grace the hearts you have created”. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to come to us and make us new persons, with the newness of the Spirit. Thank you.

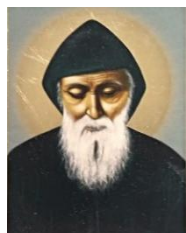
Pope Francis, 5/29/2024



Please join Birthright of Columbus for our Annual Luncheon and Silent Auction on August 29th at Immaculate Conception Parish, 414 E.N. Broadway St. We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate and support Birthright being a friend to moms-to-be in Columbus for 50+ years. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$25 for 4 children. Please RSVP to Mary Jo Mayhan, 291 S. Viginialee Rd. Columbus, OH 43209 or call 614-668-6421. The deadline for reservations is August 17, 2026.

We appreciate your continued support as Birthright depends solely on donations and does not accept any government funds.

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	Czyrnik	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	Charlene	Grabner	Angela	Merva	Mary Beth	Rogers	Conley	Family
William	Nataly	Grace	Dcn Jeff	Mierzejewski	Trey	Shearon	Jackson	Family
Charles	John	Griffen	Ed	Nyahay	Kathy	Slonka	Lippert	Family
Anna	Dora	Johnson	Anne	O'Halloran	Monica	Smith	Mazon	Family
John	Susan	Kaiser	Mic	O'Halloran	Scott	Smith	Mech	Intention
Vernal	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.



Eparchial Assembly 2026

AboutThe Eparchy of Parma has set sail on an exciting journey of mission, vision, and strategic planning—revisiting the same creative, daring, visionary, charismatic, and evangelical spirit that shaped our founding in 1969 and the early 1970s. This journey calls all clergy and faithful to courageously and selflessly board the “**Holy Flotilla**” of **Missionary DiscipleSHIP, Authentic WorSHIP, Godly FellowSHIP, and Sacrificial StewardSHIP**.

In this spirit, the Eparchy calls its faithful to the **2026 Eparchial Assembly**, where clergy, monastics, and lay members will gather to pray, listen, and discern the pastoral needs of our Church. Rooted in synodality and hope, the Assembly strengthens our unity and helps guide the future of our Eparchy as we renew Christ’s mission in our communities. Intentionally designed to foster genuine, prayerful interaction among all who participate, offering a blessed

opportunity for praying, listening, and learning together as the convoked Assembly prepares for its canonical gathering immediately afterward.

Don’t miss this opportunity to gather as one Eparchy—listening to the Holy Spirit, strengthening our bonds, and renewing our shared mission in Christ.

Charting the Course – Renewing Byzantine Catholic Life in the Heartland

October 17-19, 2026 – St. John Chrysostom – Columbus, Ohio

The Eparchy of Parma invites all clergy and faithful to take part in the open **Preparatory Gathering of the 2026 Eparchial Assembly** – a shared moment of praying, listening and learning as we set sail on a renewed journey of mission and vision. All are welcome to board the “**Holy Flotilla**” of **DiscipleSHIP, WorSHIP, FellowSHIP, and StewardSHIP** as we chart the course forward for our church.

This public first phase offers the whole Eparchy a blessed opportunity to gather as one, strengthening our unity and deepening our synodal spirit. It also provides essential formation and context for those who have been formally convoked and will continue into the invitation-only canonical gathering that follows.

Registration is required. Participation in the liturgical services, presentations, and discussions is offered free of charge to all attendees. Meal tickets may be purchased for those who wish to join the community meals; otherwise, participants are welcome to make their own dining arrangements off-site.

www.parma.org/eparchial-assembly

PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, COLUMBUS - if you plan on attending, please reach out to the Parish Office. Our Parish will cover your participation expenses. You don't need to sign up using the official link.

If you would like to volunteer with the organization of the event, please let us know.

AGENDA FOR PUBLIC SESSIONS

Saturday, October 17

- 5PM Great Vespers
- 6PM Dinner (*Meal ticket purchase required*)
- 7PM **Presentation: Eparchial Synodality with Benjamin Auton**
- 7:45PM **Presentation: Fellowship and the Lay-Apostolate with Jonathan Shellnut**
- 8:30PM **Discussion: Walking Together as Missionary Disciples**
- 9PM Social (Interactive Dance & Music)

Sunday, October 18

- 9AM Festal Matins (Bishop Robert with Bishop Fernandez of Columbus concelebrating)
- 10AM Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (Bishop Robert preaches; Bishop Fernandez of Columbus concelebrates)
- 12PM Lunch

- 1:30PM **Presentation: Sharing the Gospel of God's Wonder with Kieran McNulty, Ph.D.**
- 3PM **Presentation: Return to Authentic Worship and a Rule of Personal Prayer with Bishop Robert**
- 4:30PM **Presentation: Stewardship and Tithing with Laura Ieraci-Summerson**
- 6PM Dinner (*Meal ticket purchase required*)
- 7PM Chat on Liturgical Chant with Bishop Robert

Monday, October 19 – Thursday, October 22 – By invitation - clergy, monastics, and designated delegates

St. John Chrysostom August 2026 Calendar

Please see current week's bulletin for any changes made to this schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						12p Ge'ez St Stephen Mass & Celebration 6p Vespers
2	3	4	5	6 <i>Transfiguration</i>	7	8
9:30a 3 rd Hour; Divine Liturgy; Social 12:00p Ge'ez Liturgy; Social	9a Office Hrs		9a Office Hours 6p Divine Liturgy w/ Fr. Ty Carter		9a Office Hours	6p Ge'ez choir pract
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Dormition</i>
9:30a 3 rd Hour; Divine Liturgy; Social 12:00p Ge'ez Liturgy; Social	9a Office Hrs		9a Office Hours 9a Divine Liturgy	6p Divine Liturgy	9a Office Hours 6p Vigil Divine Liturgy for Dormition	4p Divine Liturgy & K of C picnic 6p Ge'ez choir pract in church
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00a Divine Liturgy; NO Social 12:00p Parish Pilgrimage at Mariapoch 12:00p Ge'ez Liturgy; Social	9a Office Hrs		9a Office Hours 9a Divine Liturgy	6p Divine Liturgy	9a Office Hours 6p Divine Liturgy	4p Ge'ez Women's Club mtg 6p Vespers 6p Ge'ez choir pract
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>Beheading/John the Baptist</i>
9:30a 3 rd Hour; Divine Liturgy; Social 12:00p Ge'ez Liturgy; Social 2:30p Ukrain Liturgy; Social			9a Divine Liturgy	6p Divine Liturgy	6p Divine Liturgy	4p Divine Liturgy 5p Altar server training 6p Ge'ez choir pract
			← OFFICE IS CLOSED THIS WEEK →			
30	31					
9:30a 3 rd Hour; Divine Liturgy; Social 12:00p Ge'ez Liturgy; Social	9a Office Hrs 6p Finance Brd mtg					