



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

August 9, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun Aug 9	9:30am	3 rd Hour	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Mon Aug 10	10:00am	Funeral Liturgy for William Hospodar	
Wed Aug 12	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>Wedding Anniversary of Thomas Marco & Myroslava Mudrak</i>
Thu Aug 13	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	
Fri Aug 14	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy for Dormition	<i>+Estalita Fontanila by Mr. & Mrs William Mnich</i>
Sat Aug 15	<i>Dormition of the Theotokos</i>		
	4:00pm	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
Sun Aug 16	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
			<i>Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch following Liturgy</i>
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of August 9, 2026

	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun Aug 9	1 Cor 9:2-12	Matt 18:23-35
Mon Aug 10	2 Cor 5:10-15	Mark 1:9-15
Tue Aug 11	2 Cor 5:15-21	Mark 1:16-22
Wed Aug 12	2 Cor 6:11-16	Mark 1:23-28
Thu Aug 13	2 Cor 7:1-10	Mark 1:29-35
Fri Aug 14	Heb 13:7-16	Matt 11:27-30
Sat Aug 15	Phil 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28
Sun Aug 16	1 Cor 15:1-11	Matt 19:16-26

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 9	11:15am	SJC Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Wed	Aug 12	6:00pm	Apostolic Fathers Study Group
Sat	Aug 14	5:00pm	Knights of Columbus picnic at hall
		6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice in church
Sun	Aug 16	Following Liturgy, Parish Pilgrimage to Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch in Burton, OH	
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

ETERNAL MEMORY - We extend our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the Hospodar family on the death of their husband and father, Bill.

Visitation will be Sunday, August 9th, between 2:00pm and 4:00pm at Schoedinger Funeral home, 1740 Zollinger Rd., Columbus, 43221. The Panachida will be at 3:30pm.

The funeral liturgy will be at 10:00am Monday August 10th here at St. John Chrysostom.

Grant rest, O Lord, to the soul of Your servant, William, and make his memory to be eternal.



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 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.

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.

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.

Anyone 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. the people of God towards Jesus our hope.

1. *The Spirit of God was hovering over 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*" (Ps 104:30).

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

Pope Francis, 5/29/2024



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

Eparchial Assembly 2026

The 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

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.