



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

September 6, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule

Intention

Sun	Sep 6	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy <i>Figler Baptism</i>	<i>for the Faithful</i>
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Tue	Sep 8	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy for Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos	
Wed	Sep 9	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	
Thu	Sep 10	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	<i>+Estalita Fontanila by Mnich family</i>
Fri	Sep 11	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy	<i>In memory of all who died on this date in 2001</i>
Sat	Sep 12	4:00pm	Vespers	
Sun	Sep 13	9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	<i>for the Faithful</i>
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

Readings for the week of September 6, 2026

		<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun	Sep 6	2 Cor 4:6-15	Matt 22:35-46
Mon	Sep 7	Gal 4:28-5:10	Mark 6:54-7:8
Tue	Sep 8	Phil 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28
Wed	Sep 9	Gal 6:2-10	Mark 7:14-24
Thu	Sep 10	Eph 1:1-9	Mark 7:24-30
Fri	Sep 11	Eph 1:7-17	Mark 8:1-10
Sat	Sep 12	1 Cor 2:6-9	Matt 10:37-11:1
Sun	Sep 13	Gal 6:11-18	John 3:13-17

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 - safeenvironment@parma.org

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Coordinator: Kathleen McComb - kmccomb@parma.org

Parish Activities this week

Sun	Sep 6	11:15am	Parish social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Mon	Sep 7	LABOR DAY – OFFICE CLOSED	
Wed	Sep 9	6:00pm	Apostolic Fathers Study Group
Thu	Sep 10	6:00pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting following Liturgy
Sat	Sep 12	6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice
Sun	Sep 13	11:15am	Parish social-ECF Kickoff
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

VESPERS TIME CHANGE – Vespers on Saturdays is now going to be at 4:00pm.

Thank you to everyone who donation to our Ukrainian Relief effort during the month of August. We raised \$1,503.00 which will be given to the UACO (Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio) for their efforts in purchasing tourniquets and hemostatic agents for the medics on the front lines.

2026-27 ECF YEAR

ECF - As the new school year approaches, we are thrilled to launch the new ECF cycle with prayer and much fun! **ECF Kickoff is September 13th and the first day of classes is September 20th.**

ECF enrollment forms have been sent out via email, if you have not received a digital copy there will be hard copies available in the church vestibule every Sunday. If you wish a digital copy, please email the office at stjohnbyz@hotmail.com.

Make sure you fill them out with all the required details.

PARENTS: we ask you to volunteer as an aide during the ECF lessons. Each group requires one aide; therefore, we ask the parents to sign up. Aides help the children with the in-class activities, oversee behavior, help the teacher, and help with cleaning up after the class. The aide is not teaching!!!



Incarnate by the work of the Holy Spirit, from the Virgin Mary.

How to conceive and bear Jesus

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

With today's catechesis, we enter into the second phase of salvation history. After contemplating the Holy Spirit in the work of Creation, we will contemplate it for a few weeks in the work of Redemption, namely of Jesus Christ. So, let us move on to the New Testament, and see the Holy Spirit in the New Testament.

Today's theme is the Holy Spirit in the Incarnation of the Word. In the Gospel of Luke, we read: *"The Holy Spirit will come upon you" — to Mary — "and the power of the Most High will overshadow you"* (1:35). The evangelist Matthew confirms this fundamental fact that regards Mary and the Holy Spirit, saying that Mary *"was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit"* (1:18).

The Church took up this revealed fact and very soon positioned it at the heart of her Symbol of faith. In the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople, in 381 — which defined the divinity of the Holy Spirit — this article enters into the formula of the "Creed", the Nicene-Constantinople Creed, which we recite in every Mass. It states that the Son of God *"by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man"*.

It is therefore an *ecumenical* fact of faith, because all Christians profess together that same Symbol of faith. Catholic piety, since time immemorial, has drawn from it one of its daily prayers, the Angelus.

This article of faith is the foundation that enables us to speak of Mary as the quintessential *Bride*, who is a *figure of the Church*. Indeed, Jesus, as Saint Leo the Great writes, *"born of a virgin mother by the action of the Holy Spirit, Christ keeps his Church spotless and makes her fruitful by the inspiration of the same Spirit"* (12th Sermon on the Passion, 3, 6: PL 54, 356). This parallelism is taken up in the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium* of Vatican II, which says: *"By her belief and obedience, [Mary] brought forth on earth the very Son of the Father, showing an undefiled faith, not in the word of the ancient serpent, but in that of God's messenger..."*

The Church indeed, contemplating her hidden sanctity, imitating her charity and faithfully fulfilling the Father's will, by receiving the Word of God in faith becomes herself a mother. By her preaching she brings forth to a new and immortal life the sons who are born to her in baptism, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of God" (no. 63-64).

Let us conclude with a practical reflection for our life, suggested by the Scripture's insistence on the verbs "to conceive" and "to bear". In the prophecy of Isaiah we hear: "*Behold a young woman shall conceive and bear a son*" (7:14), and the Angel says to Mary, "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son" (Lk 1:31). Mary first conceived, then bore Jesus: first she welcomed him into herself, in her heart and her flesh, then she gave birth to him.

This happens also for the Church: first she welcomes the Word of God, letting it "speak tenderly to her" (cf. Hos 2:14), and "fill [her] stomach" (cf. Ez 3:3), in accordance with two Bible expressions, and then she gives birth to it with her life and preaching. The second operation is sterile without the first.

"How shall this be, since I have no husband?", Mary asks and the angel answers, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you" (Lk 1:34-35). When she is faced with tasks beyond her strength, the Church spontaneously asks the same question: "How is this possible?". How is it possible to proclaim Jesus Christ and his salvation to a world that seems to seek only well-being, in this world? The answer is also the same as then: "*You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you*"... "and you shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). This is what Jesus told the Apostles after he had risen, using almost the same identical words. Without the Holy Spirit, the Church cannot move forward, the Church does not grow, the Church cannot preach.

What is said about the Church in general also applies to us, to every baptized person. All of us sometimes find ourselves, in life, in situations beyond our strength and ask ourselves: "How can I cope with this situation?". It helps, in such cases, to remember and repeat to ourselves what the angel said to the Virgin: "*With God nothing will be impossible*" (Lk 1:37).

Brothers and sisters, let us too always resume our journey, with this comforting certainty in our hearts: "With God nothing will be impossible". And if we believe this, we will perform miracles. With God nothing will be impossible. Thank you.

Pope Francis, 8/7/2024



Eastern Churches Seminar: The 41st Eastern Churches Seminar will begin with a keynote lecture by Father Radu Bordeianu, Ph.D., professor of theology at Duquesne University, titled "***Yours or Mine: Why Do We Have Different Dates for Easter?***" The opening session will take place from 5–7 p.m. at St. Francis Chapel on the John Carroll University campus and will be followed by a complimentary pizza reception in the Lombardo Student Center Atrium.

The seminar will continue the following morning at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church in Brecksville, beginning at 10 a.m. with a solemn liturgical service followed by Father Bordeianu's presentation, "***Virtual Community? The Parish in a Technological Age,***" exploring the opportunities and challenges of cultivating Christian community in an increasingly digital world.

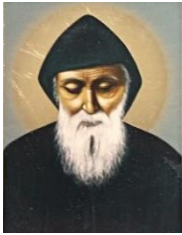
The seminar is presented by the Tuohy Center for Interreligious Understanding at John Carroll University, St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, and the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. The program is free and open to the public. Registration is requested at jcu.edu/easternchurches.

NOTE that the Saturday portion of the seminar will take place at our very own St. Joseph Church, Brecksville, OH.



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.



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
Abdi	Nataly	Grace	Dcn Jeff	Mierzejewski	Trey	Shearon	Jackson	Family
William	John	Griffen	Ed	Nyahay	Kathy	Slonka	Lippert	Family
Charles	Dora	Johnson	Anne	O'Halloran	Monica	Smith	Mazon	Family
Anna	Susan	Kaiser	Mic	O'Halloran	Scott	Smith	Mech	Intention
John	James	Kester	John	Oshinski	Kim	Snow	Charyton	Intentions
Vernal							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 email the Parish Office BY September 4th**. Our Parish will cover your meal expenses. You don't need to sign up using the official link.

After September 4th, you will need to use the Parma link to sign up and pay.

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

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.

