

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

October 25, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule			Intention
Sun	Oct 25	9:30am	Rosary led by Knights of Columbus
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy *for the Faithful*
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy
		2:30pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy
Wed	Oct 28	9:00am	Divine Liturgy *+William Hospodar by Converse Family*
Thu	Oct 29	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy *+Petro & +Sonia Lahola by Wallace Family*
Fri	Oct 30	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy *+William Hospodar by Mary Zebula*
Sat	Oct 31	4:00pm	Vespers
Sun	Nov 1	9:30am	Third Hour
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy *for the Faithful*
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

Readings for the week of October 25, 2026

		Epistle	Gospel
Sun	Oct 25	Gal 6:11-18	Luke 16:19-31
Mon	Oct 26	2 Tim 2:1-10	John 15:17-16:2
Tue	Oct 27	1 Thess 1:6-10	Luke 11:1-10
Wed	Oct 28	1 Thess 2:1-8	Luke 11:9-13
Thu	Oct 29	1 Thess 2:9-14	Luke 11:14-23
Fri	Oct 30	1 Thess 2:14-19	Luke 11:23-26
Sat	Oct 31	2 Cor 8:1-5	Luke 8:16-21
Sun	Nov 1	Eph 2:4-10	Luke 8:26-39

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*

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 this week

Sun	Oct 25	11:15am	Parish social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
		3:30pm	Ukrainian Social

OFFICE CLOSED ALL WEEK

Thu	Oct 29	10:00am	Pirohi making
Fri	Oct 30	10:00am	Pirohi making
Sat	Oct 31	4:00pm	Vespers
		6:00pm	Ge'ez Choir practice
Sun	Nov 1	11:15am	Parish social; All Saints party
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED OCTOBER 26-30



TRUNK OR TREAT - CELEBRATION OF SAINTS EVENT will be **Next Sunday, November 1st. Please bring candy for your trunk (or to donate if you cannot stay) and dress up as a saint.** *(There are no classes on this Sunday)* Adults and children are invited to attend Divine Liturgy dressed as their saint. Children will "Trunk or Treat" from car to car with their parents. We encourage adults and children to guess who is which saint. If you are decorating your trunk or just participating in handing out candy - please park in front of the Parish Hall and rectory.



December 12th is our 22nd Christmas Cookie Sale. This is our big fundraiser!
EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED.

We need bakers of cookies and other goodies to sell, people to help make pirohi; nut and poppyseed rolls; baklava; to help set-up and break down the hall and work the sale.

Lisa Sulich, Sale Coordinator, will be contacting everyone regarding the sale and how you can help with baking or volunteering. If you have any questions, or Lisa has not yet contacted you, please contact her directly; **you may email her at lisa.sulich@gmail.com.** You may also call (614-882-7578) or email the church office (stjohnbyz@hotmail.com) and your inquiries will be forwarded to Lisa.

Using Hall Kitchen to bake for Cookie Sale

We offer the use of the parish hall kitchen for those who may need to use the bigger space to bake items for this year's Cookie Sale. **Please email eventstjohn@hotmail.com to request the date(s) and times that you need.** Dates are already being reserved so contact the office as soon as possible.



"The Spirit intercedes for us". The Holy Spirit and Christian prayer

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

The sanctifying action of the Holy Spirit, in addition to the Word of God and the Sacraments, is expressed in prayer, and it is to this that we wish to dedicate today's reflection: prayer. The Holy Spirit is both the subject and object of Christian prayer. That is, he is the One who gives prayer and he is the One who is given by prayer. We pray to receive the Holy Spirit, and we receive the Holy Spirit in order to truly pray, that is, as children of God, not as slaves. Let us think a little about this: pray as children of God, not as slaves. One should always pray with freedom. "Today I have to pray for this, this and this, because I promised this, this and this. Otherwise, I will go to hell". No, that is not prayer! Prayer is free. You pray when the Spirit helps you to pray. You pray when you feel the need to pray in your heart, and when you do not feel anything, stop and ask yourself: "Why do I not feel like praying? What is happening in my life?". But spontaneity in prayer is what always helps us the most. This means praying as sons and daughters, not as slaves.

First of all, we must pray to receive the Holy Spirit. In this regard, Jesus has a very precise word in the Gospel: "If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit" to those who ask him?" (*Lk* 11:13). Everyone, each one of us, knows how to give good gifts to little children, whether they are our children, our grandchildren or our friends. The little ones always receive good gifts from us. And will the Father not give the Spirit to us? This gives us courage and we can move forward. In the New Testament, we see the Holy Spirit always descend during prayer. He descends upon Jesus in the baptism in the Jordan, while he "was praying" (*Lk* 3:21), and he descends at Pentecost upon the disciples, while they "devoted themselves with one accord to prayer" (*Acts* 1:14).

It is the only "power" we have over the Spirit of God. The power of prayer: He cannot resist prayer. We pray, and he comes. On Mount Carmel, the false prophets of Baal — remember that passage from the Bible — were frantic about invoking fire from heaven on their sacrifice, but nothing happened because they were idolators. They worshipped a god that does not exist. Elijah began to pray, and the fire descended and consumed the offering (cf. *1 Kings* 18:20-38). The Church follows this example faithfully: Every time she turns to the Holy Spirit, she implores, "Come, Come". Come! And she does this especially at Mass, so that he may descend like dew and sanctify the bread and wine for the Eucharistic sacrifice.

But there is another aspect, which is the most important and encouraging for us: the Holy Spirit is he who gives us true prayer. Saint Paul affirms this: "the Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness because we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will" (cf. *Rom* 8:26-27).

It is true, we do not know how to pray, we do not know. We have to learn every day. The reason for this weakness in our prayer was expressed in the past with just one word, used in three different ways: as an adjective, as a noun and as an adverb. It is easy to remember, even for those who do not know Latin, and it is worth keeping in mind, because it contains an entire treatise in itself. We human beings, according to the saying, "*mali, mala, male petimus* ", which means, being bad (*mali*), we ask for the wrong things (*mala*) and in the wrong way (*male*). Jesus says, "Seek first his kingdom… and all these things shall be yours as well" (*Mt* 6:33). Instead, we seek the extra, namely, our interests — many times — and we completely forget to ask for the kingdom of God. Let us ask the Lord for the kingdom, and everything comes with him.

Yes, the Holy Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness. He does something more important still: He testifies to us that we are children of God and puts on our lips the cry: "Father!" (*Rom* 8:15; *Gal* 4:6). We cannot say "Father, *Abba* " without the strength of the Holy Spirit. Christian prayer is not man at one end of the telephone, speaking to God on the other end; no, it is God who prays in us! We pray to God through God. To pray means to place oneself inside God, so that God enters into us.

It is precisely in prayer that the Holy Spirit is revealed as the "Paraclete", that is, advocate and defender. He does not accuse us before the Father, but defends us. Yes, he defends us. He convinces us of the fact that we are sinners (cf. *Jn* 16:8), but he does so in order to make us able to savour the joy of the Father's mercy, not to destroy us with fruitless feelings of guilt. Even when our heart reproaches us for something, he reminds us that "God is greater than our hearts" (*1 Jn* 3:20). God is greater than our sin. We are all sinners, but think: perhaps some of you — I don't

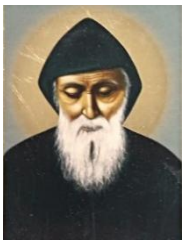
know — are very afraid because of the things they have done, afraid of being reproached by God, afraid of many things and unable to find peace. Pray, call to the Holy Spirit, and he will teach you how to ask for forgiveness. And do you know something? God does not know much grammar, and when we ask for forgiveness, he does not let us finish! "For…" and there, he does not let us finish saying the word *forgiveness*. He forgives us first, he always forgives, and he is always beside us to forgive us, even before we complete the word *forgiveness*. We say "for…" and the Father always forgives us.

The Holy Spirit intercedes and he also teaches us how to intercede, in turn, for our brothers and sisters — he intercedes for us and teaches us how to intercede for others. He teaches us the prayer of *intercession* : praying for this person, praying for that sick person, for the one who is in prison, praying… even praying for one's mother-in-law! And pray, always. Always. This prayer is particularly pleasing to God because it is the most gratuitous and altruistic. When someone prays for everyone — as Saint Ambrose used to say — everyone prays for someone; prayer multiplies (*De Cain et Abel*, I, 39.). This is how prayer is. This is a task that is so precious and necessary in the Church, particularly during this time of preparation for the Jubilee: to unite ourselves to the Paraclete who "intercedes for all of us according to God's plans".

But do not pray like parrots, please! Do not say, "Blah, blah, blah…". No. Say, "Lord", but say it with your heart. "Help me, Lord", "I love you, Lord". And when you pray the Lord's Prayer, pray "Father, You are my Father". Pray with the heart, not the lips; don't be like parrots.

May the Holy Spirit help us in prayer, which we need so much. Thank you.

Pope Francis, 11/6/2024



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	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
Brian	Wade	Shannon	Williams					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.