

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

November 15, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule			**Intention**
Sun Nov 15	9:30am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	*for the Faithful*
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Wed Nov 18	8:45am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	*+William Hospodar by the Wallace Family*
Thu Nov 19			
	6:00pm	Akathist to the Nativity	
Fri Nov 20	5:45pm	Akathist to the Nativity	
	6:00pm	Vigil Divine Liturgy	*+William Hospodar by the Powell Family*
For the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos			
Sat Nov 21	4:00pm	Vespers	
Sun Nov 22	9:30am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	*for the Faithful*
	w/Blessing of Children		
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
	2:30pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	
	w/Blessing of Children		

Readings for the week of November 15, 2026

		Epistle		**Gospel**	
Sun	Nov 15	Eph	4:1-6	Luke	10:25-37
Mon	Nov 16	1 Cor	4:9-16	Matt	9:9-13
Tue	Nov 17	1 Tim	1:8-14	Luke	14:25-35
Wed	Nov 18	1 Tim	1:18-20 & 2:8-15	Luke	15:1-10
Thu	Nov 19	1 Tim	3:1-13	Luke	16:1-9
Fri	Nov 20	1 Tim	4:4-8 & 16	Luke	16:15-18 & 17:1-4
Sat	Nov 21	Heb	9:1-7	Luke	10:38-42 & 11:27-28
Sun	Nov 22	Eph	5:9-19	Luke	12:16-21

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.

Upcoming Activites

Sun	**Nov 15**	11:15am	Parish Social
		11:30am	ECF Classes
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Mon	**Nov 16**	9:00am	Office Hours
			Parishioner baking
Wed	**Nov 18**	9:00am	Office Hours
		6:00pm	Adult Education
Thu	**Nov 19**	10:00am	Parishioner Baking
Fri	**Nov 20**	9:00am	Office Hours
Sat	**Nov 21**	3:00pm	Adult Education
		4:00pm	Ge'ez Women's Group mtg
		6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice
Sun	**Nov 22**	11:15am	Parish Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
		3:30pm	Ukrainian Social

Sun	**Nov 22**	11:15am	Parish Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
		3:30pm	Ukrainian Social
Mon	**Nov 23**	9:00am	Office Hours
Wed	**Nov 25**	9:00am	Office Hours
		6:00pm	Adult Education
Thu	**Nov 26**	10:00am	Thanksgiving Day
Fri	**Nov 27**	9:00am	**OFFICE CLOSED**
Sat	**Nov 28**	6:00pm	Ge'ez Youth Thanksgiving Gathering
		6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice
Sun	**Nov 29**	11:15am	Parish Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social



Tune in to the Saint Gabriel Café on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820 on Tuesday, November 24 from 8:00-9:00 a.m. to hear a conversation on Advent with Fr. Robert. Listen live or stream online at stgabrielradio.com.

COATS FOR KIDS –The Knights of Columbus Councils are collecting new or gently used coats for children, sizes toddler through teen, through the end of November. Please drop off the coats in the boxes in front of the St. Tabitha Icon in the church vestibule at any time. One of the Knights will collect them every Sunday. We are very grateful for any donations. Thank you!

Coats will be distributed to parishioners who may need them in December.

The SJC Men's Group and SJC Women's Group are scheduled to meet the first Sunday of every month (except Dec) after Divine Liturgy at 11:45 in the rectory basement classrooms. These groups have begun to encourage community and fellowship among our parishioners and are open to those 18 years and up.

The Knights of Columbus Assumption Council is the St. John Chrysostom council. All men 18 years and older are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings to discover what the Knights are all about. Please refer to the bulletin for dates and times of these meetings.

Pre Christmas Fast - Philip's Fast (Byzantine Advent)

***The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.* (Isaiah 9:1)**

Many people associate Advent with the approach of Christmas. Advent is the title given to the four weeks prior to Christmas in the Latin rite of the Catholic church. But there is another tradition called the Nativity Fast. Nativity Fast is a spiritual practice followed in Byzantine churches and in the Ambrosian Rite (starting on 11/15)

- It is a time set aside to spiritually prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The emphasis is reflecting on the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ and the role & spirituality of Mary, Mother of our God, Jesus Christ.
- The fast period is a full 40 days corresponding to the full 40 days of the Great Lent fast, including Christmas Eve.

Practices:

- daily reading of the Scripture, taking up one thing from the Scripture and practicing it on that day. Letting thus the Word of God become part, incarnate, in my daily life
- practicing silence in which we share our heart's thoughts, desire, and motion with the Lord, following the example of the Theotokos, Virgin Mary (Lk 1:26-38)
- asking for and patiently waiting for the Lord to let himself reveal to me personally
- intensified attendance of liturgical services
- no meat on Wednesdays and Fridays
- almsgiving & volunteering



"O awaited one of the peoples! Those who await you will not be disappointed. Our fathers awaited you; all the righteous men from the beginning of the world have hoped in you and have not been confounded. Indeed, when your mercy was received in the heart of your temple, the joyful choruses made heard their praises and sang, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' (Mk 11:9). I have tirelessly awaited the Lord, and he has turned his gaze toward me. Then, recognizing divine majesty in the lowliness of flesh, they said, 'Here is our God! We have awaited him; he will save us! He is the Lord; we have awaited him patiently, and we will exult and rejoice in his salvation!' ...While others trouble themselves seeking their happiness down here, rushing to hoard the spoils, the world offers them without waiting for the fulfillment of the Lord's design. The blessed man who has placed his hope in the Lord and has not set his sights on vanity and deceptive folly keeps far from their ways.... And in thinking to himself, he consoles himself with these words: 'My inheritance is the Lord, says my soul; that is why I will wait. The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good to wait in silence for God's salvation'"

Hilary of Poitiers, *Discourses,* I, 1

The Bride's gifts. The charisms, gifts of the Spirit for common use

In the last three catecheses, we talked about the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit which is implemented in the sacraments, in prayer and by following the example of the Mother of God. But let us listen to what a famous text from Vatican II says: "It is not only through the sacraments and the ministries of the Church that the Holy Spirit sanctifies and leads the people of God and enriches it with virtues, but, 'allotting his gifts to everyone according as He wills'" (cf. *1 Cor* 12:11) (*Lumen gentium*, 12). We too have personal gifts that the Spirit gives to each one of us.

Therefore, the moment has arrived to talk also about this second way the Holy Spirit works, which is charismatic action. Two elements contribute to defining what charism is. A somewhat difficult word, I will explain it. First, the charism is the gift given "for the common good" (*1 Cor* 12:7), to be useful to everyone. It is not, in other words, destined principally and ordinarily for the sanctification of the person, but for the "service" of the community (cf. *1 Pt* 4:10). This is the first aspect. Secondly, the charism is the gift given "to one", or "to some" in particular, not to everyone in the same way, and this is what distinguishes it from sanctifying grace, from the theological virtues and from the sacraments, which instead are the same and common to all. The charism is given to a specific person or community. It is a gift that God gives you.

The Council explains this too. The Holy Spirit, it says, "distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank. By these gifts He makes them fit and ready to undertake the various tasks and offices which contribute toward the renewal and building up of the Church, according to the words of the Apostle: 'The manifestation of the Spirit is given to everyone for profit'" (*1 Cor* 12:7).

The charisms are the "jewels" or the ornaments that the Holy Spirit distributes to make the Bride of Christ more beautiful. One can thus understand why the Conciliar text ends with the following exhortation: "These charisms,

whether they be the more outstanding or the more simple and widely diffused, are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation for they are perfectly suited to and useful for the needs of the Church" (*LG* 12).

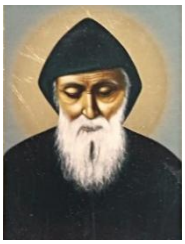
Pope Benedict XVI affirmed: "Anyone who considers the history of the post-conciliar era can recognize the process of true renewal, which often took unexpected forms in living movements and made almost tangible the inexhaustible vitality of the holy Church". And this is the charism given to a group, through a person.

We must rediscover the charisms, because this ensures that the promotion of the laity, and of women in particular, is understood not only as an institutional and sociological fact, but also in its biblical and spiritual dimension. Indeed, the laity are not the least, no, they laity are not a form of external collaborator or auxiliary troops of the clergy, no! They have their own charisms and gifts with which to contribute to the mission of the Church.

Let us add another thing: when we talk about the charisms, we must immediately dispel a misunderstanding: that of identifying them with spectacular or extraordinary gifts and capabilities; instead, they are ordinary gifts – each one of us has his or her own charism – that assume extraordinary value if inspired by the Holy Spirit and embodied with love in situations of life. Such an interpretation of the charism is important, because many Christians, when they hear talk of charisms, experience sadness or disappointment, as they are convinced that they do not possess any, and feel they are excluded or second-class Christians. No, they are not second-class Christians, no, each person has his or her own personal, and also community charism. Saint Augustine responded to these in his time with a very eloquent comparison: 'If you love,' he told his people, "If you love, it is not nothing that you have: if you love unity, whoever has anything in that unity has it also for you. In the body, the eye alone sees; but is it for itself alone that the eye sees? It sees both for the hand and the foot, and for all the other members". [1]

This reveals the secret of why charity is defined by the Apostle as "a still more excellent way" (*1 Cor* 12, 31): it makes me love the Church, or the community in which I live and, in unity, all charisms, not just some, are "mine", just as "my" charisms, little though they may seem, belong to all and are for the good of all. Charity multiplies charisms; it makes the charism of one, of one individual person, the charism of all.

Pope Francis, 11/20/2024



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



December 12th is our 22nd Christmas Cookie Sale.
This is our big fundraiser! **28 Days to Cookie Sale!**

EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED

We need volunteers to: Bake cookies and other goodies to sell; Help to make the baklava; Help to set-up and break down the hall and work the sale. There will be volunteer sign-up sheets on the table in the vestibule and on a table by the office in the hall.

Please contact Lisa Sulich, Sale Coordinator, directly if you have any questions. **You may email her at lisa.sulich@gmail.com.** You may also contact the church office; phone - (614-882-7578) or email - (stjohnbyz@hotmail.com) and your inquiries will be forwarded to Lisa.

Online ordering is now available

Quantities are Limited, so order early

To place an order for trays, rolls, pirohi or baklava go to the Cookie Sale page on our website, **www.byzantinecolumbus.com** or scan the QR code to the right. You are able to prepay through that page or you can pay at the time you pick up your order. If you are picking up orders for multiple people, please order ALL through your name as one order. Flyers and paper order forms *(for your use only)* are available in the back of the church and the table by the church office in the hall. Any questions, contact Teresa in the office.

ADULT EDU 2026-27

Catechumenate is not simply an introduction to Christian doctrine or a preparation course for receiving the Sacraments/Mysteries of Initiation. It is a process of *conversion* and *incorporation* into the life of Christ and His Church.

Its purpose is to lead the catechumen from an initial encounter with Christ toward a mature understanding of the Christian faith, living as witness of Christ and missionary discipleship. In our approach we will emphasize several interconnected dimensions:

- Biblical: Encountering God's revelation through Scripture.
- Mystagogical: Discovering the mystical experience in worship and sacramental life.
- Sacramental: Understanding the Mysteries as encounters with the living Christ.
- Ascetical: Developing a life of prayer, repentance, fasting, and virtue.
- Doctrinal: Understanding the faith of the Church as expressed in the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed.
- Liturgical: Learning to worship and live the daily life according to the Byzantine tradition.
- Ecclesial: Becoming a living member of the Body of Christ and missionary disciple

Each 60-minute session covers a presentation, Q/A session and readings from Scripture and Fathers of the Church.

Themes: Lost Paradise - Sin and Yearning for Happiness; Salvation - Incarnation & New Adam; New Life in Christ - Faith, Transformation of the Old Self; Theosis, Repentance and Mysteries; Life of the Church etc.

ADULT EDU 2026-27 SCHEDULE

11/14	Saturday	3pm
11/18	Wednesday	6pm
11/21	Saturday	3pm
12/2	Wednesday	6pm
12/5	Saturday	3pm
12/16	Wednesday	6pm
12/19	Saturday	3pm
1/9	Saturday	3pm
1/16	Saturday	3pm
1/20	Wednesday	3pm
1/23	Saturday	3pm
1/27	Wednesday	3pm
1/30	Saturday	3pm

ECF - Discover the Faith. Experience the Tradition. Encounter Christ!

Do you want to discover more about Jesus, grow in your faith, make new friends, and experience the richness and beauty of our Eastern Christian tradition? We invite all children and teens to join us for **Eastern Christian Formation as we continue our journey through this year!**

This is more than just learning about our faith—it is an opportunity to experience it, live it, and make it your own!

Together, we will:

- Discover the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.
- Explore the beauty and meaning of our Byzantine traditions, prayers, and liturgy.
- Learn about the Bible, the saints, and the great stories of our Christian faith.
- Grow in prayer and develop a personal relationship with God.
- Discover what it means to live as followers of Christ every day.
- Make new friends, share experiences, and have fun along the way!

Our faith is a beautiful gift—come discover it, celebrate it, and make it part of your life! **SEE THE SCHEDULE!**

2026-2027 ECF Year

SUN	Nov 08	Classes
SUN	Nov 15	Classes
SUN	Nov 29	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	Dec 06	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	Dec 13	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	Dec 20	Christmas Play; Sunday social

SUN	Jan 10	Classes
SUN	Jan 17	Classes
SUN	Feb 14	Classes *(1st Sunday of the Great Fast)*
SUN	Feb 21	Classes
SUN	Mar 14	Classes *(5th Sunday of the Great Fast; St. Mary of Egypt)*
SUN	Mar 21	Classes *(Palm Sunday)*
SUN	Apr 11	Classes
SUN	Apr 18	Classes
SUN	Apr 25	Classes
SUN	May 16	Classes *(Pentecost)*
SUN	May 23	Classes *(Sunday of All Saints)*
SUN	**Jun 13**	**ECF End of year/Parish picnic**