

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin

5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH 43231
Office Phone: 614-882-7578 Office Email: stjohnbyz@hotmail.com
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

November 22, 2026

Confessions: one hour before liturgy or by appointment

Liturgical Schedule			**Intention**
Sun Nov 22	9:30am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy w/myrovanije *Blessing of Children*	*for the Faithful*
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
	2:30pm	Ukrainian Divine Liturgy w/myrovanije *Blessing of Children*	
Wed Nov 25	8:45am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	9:00am	Divine Liturgy	*+William Hospodar by the Wallace Family*
Sun Nov 29	9:30am	Akathist to the Nativity	
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy	*for the Faithful*
	12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	

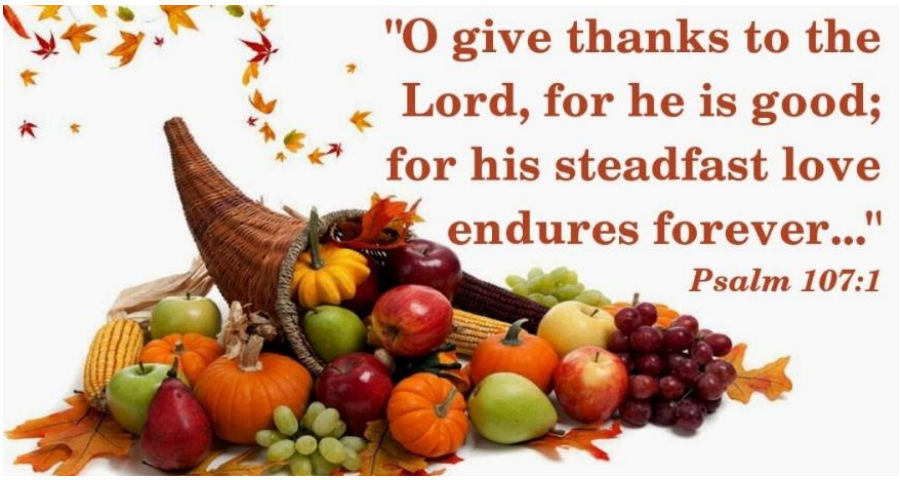
Readings for the week of November 22, 2026

		Epistle		**Gospel**	
Sun	Nov 22	Eph	5:9-19	Luke	12:16-21
Mon	Nov 23	1 Tim	5:1-10	Luke	17:20-25
Tue	Nov 24	1 Tim	5:11-21	Luke	17:26-37
Wed	Nov 25	1 Tim	5:22-6:11	Luke	18:15-17 & 26-30
Thu	Nov 26	1 Tim	6:17-21	Luke	18:31-34
Fri	Nov 27	2 Tim	1:1-2 & 8-18	Luke	19:12-28
Sat	Nov 28	Gal	5:22-6:2	Luke	10:19-21
Sun	Nov 29	Eph	6:10-17	Luke	13:10-17

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*

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 OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THE FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING.

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. You may also make a monetary donation for this effort, please make checks out to Knights of Columbus Council 3727 and put "Coasts for Kids" on the memo line. We are very grateful for any and all donations. Thank you!

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

Wednesday December 2nd Breakfast with the Pastor is scheduled following the 9:00am Divine Liturgy.

Saturday December 5th is the Church all Clean. Please arrive at 10:00am to clean the church for Christmas. Many hands make light work.

Saturday December 5th - Families Gathering at 3 pm. Children will rehearse with Rose Jager for the Christmas Play. Parents are invited to join for a lecture on Byzantine Preparation for Christmas. This is a joined session with Adult Edu.

Sunday December 6th we will need help setting up the tables for the Cookie Sale.

Cookie Sale Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available in the church vestibule. You may also email or call the office with your availability.

The SJC Men's Group and SJC Women's Group are scheduled to meet the first Sunday of every month (except December) 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

Jesus was born two thousand years ago. This is a historical fact for everyone, and it is the starting point and destination of salvation history for those who believe. So what are we waiting for? We await the coming of Christ on the last day, which will be the beginning of the never-ending celebration. Yet the way we wait is also important. Here are some fitting words: gladness, hope, poverty in spirit, thoughts directed to God, and everlasting treasures. In this context Preparation for Christmas and Christmas itself are propitious moments for freeing the heart of anything that prevents us from aiming for the highest place and setting sail.

"We await the Savior." In truth, the righteous man's waiting is gladness, for he awaits the blessed hope and advent of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. "What then am I awaiting," says the righteous man, "if not the Lord?"... Poor in spirit, be happy you have stored up your treasure in heaven in accordance with the advice of the heavenly Counselor, for fear that your heart, like your treasure, would come to know corruption if left on earth! Indeed, the Lord says, "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be" (Mt 6:21). May your hearts therefore follow their treasure! Set your thoughts on heavenly things, and may your expectation hold fast to God, so that you may say as the Apostle says, "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil 3:20).

Hilary of Poitiers, Discourses, I, 1ff.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit. Joy

After speaking about sanctifying grace and then charisms, today I would like to take a look at a third reality. The first, sanctifying grace; second, charisms; and what is the third? A reality linked to the action of the Holy Spirit: the "fruits of the Spirit". Something strange. What is the fruit of the Spirit? Saint Paul offers a list of them in the Letter to the Galatians. He writes this, listen carefully: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (5:22). Nine: these are the "fruits of the Spirit". But what is this "fruit of the Spirit"?

Unlike the charisms, which the Spirit gives to whom He wants and when He wants for the good of the Church, the *fruits* of the Spirit, I repeat - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control – are the result of cooperation between grace and our freedom. These fruits always express the creativity of the person, in which "faith works through love" (cf. *Gal* 5:6), sometimes in a surprising and joyful way. Not everyone in the Church can be an apostle, not everyone can be a prophet, not everyone can be an evangelist, not everyone; but all of us, without distinction, can and must be charitable, patient, humble workers for peace, and so on. But all of us, yes, must be charitable, must be patient, must be humble, workers for peace and not war.

Among the fruits of the Spirit listed by the Apostle, I like to highlight one of them, recalling the initial words of the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Jesus joy is constantly born anew" (no. 1). There will be sad moments at times, but there is always peace. With Jesus there is joy and peace.

Joy, fruit of the Spirit, has in common with any other human joy a certain feeling of fullness and fulfilment, which makes one wish it would last forever. We know from experience, however, that this is not the case, because everything here passes quickly. Everything passes quickly. Let us think together: youth, youthfulness – it passes quickly; health, strength, well-being, friendships, loves... They last a hundred years, but then… no more. They soon pass. Besides, even if these things do not pass quickly, after a while they are no longer enough, or even become boring, because, as Saint Augustine said to God: "You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You" [1]. There is the restlessness of the heart to seek beauty, peace, love, joy.

The joy of the Gospel, evangelical joy, unlike any other joy, can be renewed every day and become contagious. "Thanks solely to this encounter – or renewed encounter – with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. ... Here we find the source and inspiration of all our efforts at evangelization. For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 8). It is the dual characteristic of joy as fruit of the Spirit: not only is it not subject to the inevitable wear of time, but it multiplies when it is shared with others! A true joy is shared with others; it even spreads.

Five centuries ago, a saint called Philip Neri lived in Rome – here in Rome. He has passed into history as the saint of joy. Listen to this carefully: the saint of joy. He used to say to the poor and abandoned children of his Oratory: "My children, be cheerful; I do not want qualms or melancholy; it is enough for me that you do not sin". And again: "Be good, if you can!". Less well known, however, is the source from which his joy came. Saint Philip Neri had such love for God that at times it seemed his heart might burst in his chest. His joy was, in the fullest sense, a fruit of the Spirit. The Saint participated in the Jubilee of 1575, which he enriched with the practice, maintained thereafter, of the visit to the Seven Churches. He was, in his time, a true evangelizer through joy. And he had this, like Jesus who always forgave, who forgave everything. Perhaps some of us might think: "But I have committed this sin, and this will not be forgiven…". Listen to this carefully. God forgives everything, God always forgives. And this is joy: being forgiven by God. And I always say to priests and confessors: "Forgive everything, do not ask too many questions; but forgive everything, everything, and always".

The word "Gospel" means glad tidings. Therefore, it cannot be communicated with a long face and somber countenance, but with the joy of those who have found the hidden treasure and the precious pearl. Remember Saint Paul's exhortation to the believers of the Church of Philippi, which he now addresses to us all, and which we heard at the beginning: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near" (*Phil* 4:4-5).

Pope Francis, 11/27/2024

Upcoming Activites

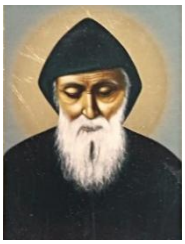
Sun	**Nov 22**	11:15am	Parish Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
		3:30pm	Ukrainian Social
Mon	**Nov 23**	9:00am	Office Hours
		10:00am	Parishioner baking
Wed	**Nov 25**	9:00am	Office Hours
Thu	**Nov 26**		**Thanksgiving Day**
Fri	**Nov 27**		**OFFICE CLOSED**
Sat	**Nov 28**	6:00pm	Ge'ez Youth Thanksgiving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

COMING UP IN DECEMBER

Mon	**Nov 30**	9:00am	Office Hours
Wed	**Dec 02**	9:00am	Office Hours
		10:00am	Breakfast w/the Pastor
		6:00pm	Adult Education
Thurs	**Dec 03**	1:00pm	St. Nicholas Cookie baking
Fri	**Dec 04**	9:00am	Office Hours
		9:00am	Parishioner baking
Sat	**Dec 05**	9:00am	Hall Kitchen-Baking
		10:00am	**CHURCH ALL CLEAN**
		3:00pm	Children's Play Rehearsal
		3:00pm	Adult Education
		4:00pm	Ge'ez Young Mothers Prayer Group
		6:00pm	Ge'ez choir practice
Sun	**Dec 06**	11:15am	Parish Social
			Begin Hall set-up for sale
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social



Together, the early Church devoted themselves to prayer, fellowship, and caring for one another (Acts 2:42-47). As our Stewardship Appeal begins, we invite you to join in sustaining the ministries that strengthen our Eparchy. Give today: www.parma.org/stewardship-appeal



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	Rachel	Hanna	Patty	Jakosh	DeClue	Intentions



21 Days to Cookie Sale!

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

- We need volunteers to bake cookies and other goodies to sell.
- We need help **especially on Friday evening** to finalize the set-up of the cookies sold in the "pit" and finishing hall set-up.
- We need people to work the sale and break down the hall after.
- **Please Sign up to volunteer – Sign-up sheets are in the church vestibule**

To volunteer to bake, or with questions, please **contact Lisa Sulich, Sale Coordinator 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
(preferred ordering method)
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 may prepay through that page, or you may 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 are available in the back of the church. Any questions, contact Teresa in the office.

ADULT EDU 2026-27 SCHEDULE

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

2026-2027 CHILDREN'S ECF Year

SUN	November 29	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	December 06	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	December 13	Christmas Play Rehearsal
SUN	December 20	Christmas Play; Sunday social
	2027	
SUN	January 10	Classes
SUN	January 17	Classes
SUN	February 14	Classes *(1st Sunday of the Great Fast)*
SUN	February 21	Classes
SUN	March 14	Classes *(5th Sunday of the Great Fast; St. Mary of Egypt)*
SUN	March 21	Classes *(Palm Sunday)*
SUN	April 11	Classes
SUN	April 18	Classes
SUN	April 25	Classes
SUN	May 16	Classes *(Pentecost)*
SUN	May 23	Classes *(Sunday of All Saints)*
SUN	**June 13**	**ECF End of year/Parish picnic**