



St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church
 5858 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, OH 43231
 Phone: 614-882-7578 E-Mail: stjohbyz@hotmail.com
 Website: www.byzantinecolumbus.com

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin
Office Hours: M-W-F 9:00am – 1:00pm

Liturgy Schedule for the Week

Confession/Spiritual Counseling is offered one hour before every Liturgy

Sunday, April 30

9:30a Third Hour
10:00a Divine Liturgy
Intention: for the Faithful
12:00p Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, May 3

9:00a Divine Liturgy
Intention: +James & +Catherine Kocak

Thursday, May 4

7:00p Divine Liturgy
Intention: +Michael Davino

Friday, May 5

7:00p Divine Liturgy
Intention: for the Sick of the Parish

Saturday, May 6

7:00p Divine Liturgy w/OT readings

Vespers Cancelled

Sunday, April 30

9:30a Third Hour
10:00a Divine Liturgy
Intention: for the Faithful
12:00p Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

Readings for the Week of April 30

Sunday, April 30

Epistle, Acts 9:32-42
 Gospel, John 5:1-15

Friday, May 5

Epistle, Acts 10:44-11:10
 Gospel, John 8:21-30

Monday, May 1

Epistle, Acts 10:1-16
 Gospel, John 6:56-69

Saturday, May 6

Epistle, Acts 12:1-11
 Gospel, John 8:31-42

Tuesday, May 2

Epistle, Acts 10:21-33
 Gospel, John 7:1-13

Sunday, April 30


Epistle, Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30
 Gospel, John 4:5-42

Wednesday, May 3

Epistle, Acts 14:6-18
 Gospel, John 7:14-30

Thursday, May 4

Epistle, 10:34-43
 Gospel, John 8:12-20



Mission Statement of St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church: *To give thanks to God continually, as Byzantine Catholics, through our spirituality, our service, and preaching the Risen Christ through our everyday life.*

Abortion Amendment Information Meeting: Proponents of abortions are collecting signatures for a ballot issued entitled "The Right to Reproductive Freedom and Safety with Protections for Health and Safety." They hope to get it on the November 2023 ballot. Should it pass, it will amend the Ohio Constitution and would provide for abortion on demand through all nine months of pregnancy, for any reason. The proposed Constitutional Amendment would remove safeguards that are currently in place to protect women and would remove parents from critical medical decisions that impact their children. We can't let this happen! We will be hosting representatives from the Greater Columbus Right to Life, the Diocese of Columbus' Office for Social Concerns, and the Catholic Medical Association on **Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 PM.** I invite you to join with others to learn more about the proposed ballot initiative, what it would do, and what we can do to prevent this from becoming part of Ohio's Constitution. In the meantime, please visit gctrl.org/stop.html or call (614) 241-2540 for additional information.

ECF CLASS SCHEDULE

04/30 – ECF

05/07 – ECF

- Children and students of ECF **must be in the hall by 11:30pm for the snack; otherwise, no snack and they go directly to classes!**
- We ask parents to supply **pre-packaged** snacks and water. Please, see Lisa Sulich or Emma Ricketts.
- Parent volunteers are needed for clean-up in the classrooms and hall after classes.

Parish Activities this week

Sun. April 30

11:15a Social & ECF classes following Liturgy

2:00p Ge'ez Social following Ge'ez Liturgy

Sat. May 6

6:30p Dance in hall

Fri. May 5

5:30p Ge'ez Choir practice in hall

Sun. May 7

11:15a Social in hall; Last ECF class for school year; making something for mothers

2:00p Ge'ez Social following Ge'ez Liturgy

SLAVIC EVENING MAY 6TH

This Saturday, May 6th, we are having a dance. Come join us for some music, dancing, food and fun!

Tickets are \$15 at the door; children under 13 are FREE. There will be plenty of food and drink available for sale during the evening, multiple raffles, music by the Tom Katrenich Orchestra and a performance by Selo, a Croatian Dance Troop.

PARKING LOT RENOVATION

Thank you for all your help in raising money for this greatly needed repair. We have currently raised **\$166,949.00**. We still have way to go so please continue to help with this.

POPE FRANCIS ON JESUS THE LIGHT

This passage from the Gospel of John (cf. 12:44-50) shows us the intimacy there was between Jesus and the Father. Jesus did what the Father told Him to do. And therefore, He says: "He who believes in me, believes not in me but in Him who sent me" (v. 44). He then explains His mission: "I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness" (v. 46). He presents himself as *light*. Jesus's mission is to enlighten: light. He himself said: "I am the light of the world" (*Jn* 8:12). The Prophet Isaiah prophesied this light: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" (9:1). The promise of the light that will enlighten the people. And the mission of the Apostles too was to bring light. Paul said to King Agrippa: "I was chosen to enlighten, to bring this light – which is not mine, but another's – but to bring light" (cf. *Acts* 26:18). It is Jesus's mission: to bring light. And the mission of the Apostles was to bring the light of Jesus. *To enlighten*. Because the world was in darkness.

But the tragedy of Jesus's light is that it was rejected. From the beginning of the Gospel, John said it clearly: "He came to His own home, and His own people did not welcome Him. They loved darkness more than light" (cf. *Jn* 1:9-11). Being accustomed to darkness, living in darkness: they did not know how to accept the light, they could not; they were slaves to darkness. And this would be Jesus's continuous battle: to enlighten, to bring the light that shows things as they are, as they exist; it shows freedom, it shows truth, it shows the path on which to go with the light of Jesus.

Paul had this experience of the passage from darkness to light, when the Lord encountered him on the road to Damascus. He was blinded. Blind. The Lord's light blinded him. And then, when a few days had passed, with baptism, he regained the light (cf. *Acts* 9:1-19). He had this experience of passing from darkness, in which he was, to the light. And our passage too, which we received sacramentally in Baptism: for this reason, Baptism was called, in the first centuries, the *Illumination* (cf. Saint Justin, *Apology* I, 61, 12), because it gave you the light, it "let it enter" you. For this reason, in the ceremony of Baptism we give a lit blessed candle, a lit candle to the mother and father, because the little boy or the little girl is enlightened.

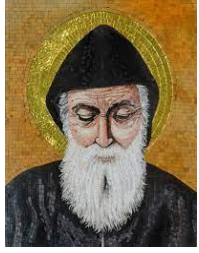
Jesus brings light. But the people, His people rejected it. They were so accustomed to the darkness that the light blinded them; they did not know where to go... (cf. *Jn* 1:1-11). And this is the tragedy of our sin: sin blinds us and we cannot tolerate the light. Our eyes are sick. And Jesus clearly states it in the Gospel of Matthew: "If your eye is not sound, your whole body will be unsound. If your eye sees only darkness, how great is the darkness within you!" (cf. *Mt* 6:22-23). Darkness... And conversion is passing from darkness to light.

But what are the things that sicken the eyes, the eyes of faith? Our eyes are ill: what are the things that "drag them down", that blind them? *Vices*, the *worldly spirit*, *pride*. The vices that "drag you down" and also these three things – vices, pride, the worldly spirit – lead you to associate with others in order to remain secure in the darkness. We often speak of "mafias": this is it. But there are "spiritual mafias"; there are "domestic mafias", always, seeking someone else so as to cover yourself and remain in darkness. It is not easy to live in the light. The light shows many ugly things within us that we do not want to see: vices, sins... Let us think about our vices; let us think about our pride; let us think about our worldly spirit: These things blind us; they distance us from Jesus's light.

But if we start to think about these things, we will not find a wall, no. We will find a way out, because Jesus Himself says that He is the light, and also: "I have come into the world not to condemn the world, but to save the world" (cf. *Jn* 12:46-47). Jesus Himself, the light, says: "Take courage: let yourself be enlightened; let yourself see what you have within, because I have come to lead you forth, to save you. I do not condemn you. I save you" (cf. v. 47). The Lord saves us from the darkness we have within, from the darkness of daily life, of social life, of political life, of

national, international life... There is so much darkness within. And the Lord saves us. But He asks us to *see them*, first; to have the courage to see our darkness so that the Lord's light may enter and save us.

Let us not fear the Lord: He is very good; He is meek; He is close to us. He has come to save us. Let us not be afraid of the light of Jesus.



Prayer to Saint Charbel Makhlof

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	Frye Intentions	Susan Kaiser	Anne O'Halloran	L.T. Tekle
Hussein Abdi	Elizabeth Gamez	Kathy	Mic O'Halloran	Ruth Turanchik
Adrian	Weyni Girmay	James Kester	John Oshinski	Owen Ward
Bob Atha	Deborah Gordon	Kathy Krofcheck	Paula Oshinski	Stelmack Intentions
Paula Balcarcel	Charlene Grabner	Regina Lee	Carol Osifchin	Steve
Louis Bambick	Nataly Grace	Christine Leon	Beauetta Parks	Christopher Williams &
Charles Branham	John Griffen	Christine Long	Cathy Pitt	the Williams Family
Carol	Hagos	Jessie Madzia	Keith Pope	Steven Woryk
Mary Carroll	Gerri Herald	Bill Martin	Maria Rakowsky	Dave Zaroka
Charyton Intentions	Jeanette Hill	Joe Martin	Terry Razor	Rita Zaroka
Donald Clark	Tim Hill	Judy Martin	Nadia Ritchey	Nicholas Zvansky
Will Culver	Evelyn Hoehstetter	Dave Martz	Stephanie Salerno	Sandra Zvansky
Maria Czynnik	Esther Imhoff	Madelyn Martz	Trey Shearon	Intentions of Fr. Robert
DeClue Intentions	Tad Imhoff	Melissa	Rosemary Steinbauer	
Ron Doctor	Dora Johnson	Joy Mersch	John Sikora	
Aimeé Evans	Jackson Family	Angela Merva	Dennis Stinich	
Joseph Evans	Gordon Kaercher	Rosemary Nyahay	Josh Taylor	



Ron Doctor	Rachel Figler	Michael Jager	Fiahd Lyons	Paula Oshinski
Kimberly Karasneh	Sarah Frye	Amelia Kristof	Paula Martin	Michael Papai
Jim & Irena Wallace			Marty & Dina Hodovanich	
<i>Celebrating 52 years Crowned in Marriage</i>			<i>Celebrating 31 years Crowned in Marriage</i>	
Jim & Cathy Pitt			James & Rachel Figler	
<i>Celebrating 36 years Crowned in Marriage</i>			<i>Celebrating 4 years Crowned in Marriage</i>	
Tom & Stephanie Smith			John & Paula Oshinski	
<i>Celebrating 24 years Crowned in Marriage</i>			<i>Celebrating 43 years Crowned in Marriage</i>	

PDHC Current Volunteer/Employment Needs

Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) is looking for a Full-time and Part-time Nurse. Ultrasound training provided. Send inquiries to Jenns@pdhc.org. PDHC is also in need of volunteers to help with our 24/7 crisis hotline, material aid help and Family Advocates for the Family Empowerment Center, and Greeters and Chaperones for our pregnancy centers. If interested, please contact Andreas@pdhc.org.

More information can be found at SupportLifePDHC.org

PDHC 2023 PDHC Golf Outing

Please save the date for our Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) Golf for Life Outing May 22, 2023 at the Lakes Golf and Country Club. We are registering golfers and sponsors if you know anyone who might be interested in golfing and supporting life! Please check the following link for more information or to register: <https://www.supportlifepdhc.org/golf.html>. For any other questions, please reach out to Anne Marie Weakley at annemariew@pdhc.org.

FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA
2022-2023 Annual Stewardship Appeal
St. John Chrysostom's Goal is \$9,500

*As of March 30, 2023; \$10,035.00 has been pledged; \$9,985.00 has been received by Parma. We are at 105% of our goal!
Remember: Any amount over our goal is returned to the parish*

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our Eparchy with their *time, talent, and treasure*. Your participation has allowed our Eparchy of Parma to continue to provide funds to support four important needs in the Eparchy: Development of Parishes; Vocations and Seminarian Education; Works of the Apostolate; and Retired Priests. God Bless you!

Gifts to the Stewardship Appeal may continue to be made through the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2022. Visit parma.org to make your donation.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

Night at the Museum (May 20, 5-9 p.m.): Have you seen the movie *Night At The Museum*? Come Join us for a fun night of experiencing history come alive. Learn about the Catholic Church throughout the centuries through art and stories. You may be surprised at who you will meet. Located downtown Columbus near St. Joseph Cathedral at 257 E. Broad St., Columbus. We hope to see you there! For more information, contact the Museum at 614-618-4030 or info@catholicmuseum.org.

Bus Tour of Seven Catholic Churches in Columbus: Join this fun and educational tour of several churches in Columbus. Learn about their fascinating histories as vital places of Catholic worship, evangelization, and learning in our Diocese. This event is May 13 and is \$70 per person (lunch is included in the price). There are 40 spots available. RSVP email is museumtours@catholicmuseum.org. For more information, contact the Museum at 614-618-4030 or info@catholicmuseum.org.

Catholics for Life-Columbus: Our next Torchbearers event is Tuesday, May 2, 2023 from 9:30am-4:00pm. Our Third Friday event is May 19, 2023 from 7:00am-12:00pm.

For more information or to RSVP please email: Gabriel Vance at gabriel@catholicsforlife.us or call/text him at 740-972-2570.