



# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

5858 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, OH 43231

Pastor: Fr. Robert Jager

Deacon: Fr. Deacon Jeffrey Martin



**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.*

## **BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 17, 2023**

**SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**

### **Liturgy Schedule for the Week**

**Confession/Spiritual Counseling is offered one hour before every Liturgy**

#### **Sunday December 17**

**9:30a** Emmanuel Moleben

**10:00a** Divine Liturgy

*Intention: for the Faithful*

**12:30p** Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

#### **Wednesday December 20**

**9:00 a** Divine Liturgy

*Intention: +*

#### **Thursday December 21**

**7:00p** Divine Liturgy

*Intention: +*

#### **Friday December 22**

**7:00p** Royal hours for Christmas

#### **Sat. December 23**

**7:00p** Vespers; Confessions heard after

### **Sunday December 24**

**9:30a** Emmanuel Moleben

**10:00a** Divine Liturgy

*Intention: for the Faithful*

**12:00p** Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

**10:00p** Christmas Vigil Liturgy

### **Parish Activities this week**

**Sun. Dec. 17**

**11:15a** Parish Social; Christmas Play by the children of ECF

**Fri. Dec. 22**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**Sat. Dec. 23**

**5:30p** Ge'ez Choir practice

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**ALL OF CHRISTMAS WEEK**

**Sat. Dec. 30**

**4:00p** Ge'ez Mother's Meeting

**5:30p** Ge'ez Choir Practice

### **Readings for the Week of December 17<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Sun. Dec. 17**

Epistle, Col 3:4-11

Gospel, Lk 14:16-24

#### **Tues. Dec. 19**

Epistle, Heb 9:8-10 & 15-23

Gospel, Mk 10:2-12

#### **Thu. Dec. 21**

Epistle, Heb 10:35-11:7

Gospel, Mk 10:17-27

#### **Sat. Dec 23**

Epistle, Gal 3:8-12

Gospel, Lk 13:18-29

#### **Mon. Dec. 18**

Epistle, Heb 8:7-13

Gospel, Mk 9:42-10:1

#### **Wed. Dec. 20**

Epistle, Heb 10:1-18

Gospel, Mk 10:11-16

#### **Fri. Dec. 22**

Royal Hours

#### **Sun. Dec 24**

Epistle, Heb 11:9-10, 17-23 & 32-40

Gospel, Mt 1:1-25

**PM Vigil Liturgy**

Heb 1:1-12

Lk 2:1-20

### **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.*

### **St. John Chrysostom Contact Information:**

**Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm**

**Office Phone: 614-882-7578**

**Office E-Mail: [stjohnbyz@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnbyz@hotmail.com)**

**Website: [www.byzantinecolumbus.com](http://www.byzantinecolumbus.com)**

**To schedule an event, send an email to: [eventstjohn@outlook.com](mailto:eventstjohn@outlook.com)**

## **GIVING TREE**

***Feeding the hungry is a greater miracle than raising the dead!***

***~St. John Chrysostom***

ARE YOU GIVING? Throughout the year we collect goods for W.A.R.M. This is the Westerville Area Resources Ministry. They distribute food and other items for those in need. Since this is the time of year when we think more about giving, you are being asked to make a special effort to donate non-perishable food items, toiletries, diapers, feminine hygiene products and paper goods. Place them around the Christmas tree as you enter our church. The goal is to see this area piled high with donations.

Monetary donations may also be made, make checks out to W.A.R.M. and place in the regular collection baskets by the tetrapod. These donations will be forwarded to W.A.R.M.

## **PHILIP'S FAST (CHRISTMAS FAST)**

- 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.
- The Nativity Fast starts earlier than Advent. It begins the day after the feast of St. Philip on the Eastern Catholic liturgical calendar on November 15. This is how the fast became known by another title: Philip's fast. Either title is used.
- The fast period is a full 40 days corresponding to the full 40 days of the Great Lent fast.

REQUIRED ABSTINENCE ON FRIDAYS (NO MEAT), STRONGLY SUGGESTED ABSTINENCE ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, THOUGH NOT OBLIGATORY. SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS NO FASTING. STRONG FASTING FROM DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> UP TO DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, THE VIGIL OF NATIVITY IS STRICT FAST.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE OBSERVANCE**

Since this year Christmas Eve falls on Sunday, there is no fast on this day. In other words, the strict fast is on the previous Friday, 12/22. On 12/24 the Holy Supper can have meat and dairy!

On 12/24 there is the obligation to attend the morning liturgy at 10am which is for the last Sunday before Christmas and the Vigil Liturgy in the evening, which is already part of Christmas!

## **ECF CHRISTMAS PLAY**

Today, there is a Christmas play performed by ECF students in the hall following the Divine Liturgy. Our children would like to offer it as a Christmas gift to our entire community.

## **2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

The collection envelopes for next year are in the church vestibule. The envelopes will have the family name on them.

## **COOKIE SALE**

Gross income for the cookie sale was \$28,362.00, Expenses were \$6,525.18. These include the purchase of the trays and lids, ingredients for the pirohi, rolls and baklava, reimbursements to parishioners for cookie ingredients, PayPal fees and advertising. We have applied for and expect to receive up to \$3,000.00 from the GCU matching funds program. This would go towards offsetting some of our expenses. The net income figure for the sale is \$21,836.82. Thank you everyone for your hard work and dedication! ~Fr. Robert

## **'COME AWAY TO THE MANGER'**

On Sunday, 12/24, after the 10am liturgy our parishioner Mary Parker will give a talk on one aspect of our Christmas spirituality. It will take place in the church right after the liturgy. Let us focus together on the most important thing of Christmas - Christ himself!!!

## **'WHO DOESN'T KNOW THE SCRIPTURE, DOESN'T KNOW CHRIST'**

*(St. Jerome)*

All are invited to join a five-week study on the Scriptures, Wednesdays, January 17 through February 10, 2024. St. Jerome, Father of the Church, insists that the ignorance of Scripture is the ignorance of Christ himself. Let us dive deeper into the Word of God then together!

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Where?          | In the Parish Hall                                 |
| When?           | 10am - 11.30am                                     |
| What do I need? | Bible (if you don't have, the Parish will provide) |

Coffee & snack will be provided. The study program is very interactive. We will cover themes such as 'what is really the Bible? - Book, Books, THE Book?'; how to read it for spiritual growth; 'what do we learn from the Fathers of the Church?'; 'How reliable is the Bible?'; 'Is it all true?'; Individual and communal reading.

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**



*"Faithful friends are a life-saving medicine; those who fear God will find them." Sirach 6:16*

Starting during Lent, Saturday February 17, 2024, all the ladies are invited to join a Women's Bible Study on Saturdays from 10am. No experience is required! Theme of the year: *Touching the Divine*. This Bible study is a study focused on the many qualities of Jesus revealed through the Gospel of John. This study draws us into a deeper, loving relationship with Jesus as we reflect on His life and personality. Saint John referred to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." Through John's eyes, we learn how much Jesus deeply loves us, and how His love is the true satisfaction of our souls. Knowing Christ more intimately, as John did, will touch your heart and fill you with hope!

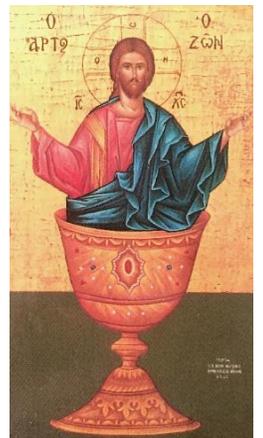
Learn about Christ's divine qualities:

- Our source of fulfillment for all that we need
- The ultimate gift giver
- Our model of fidelity
- Our redeemer and restorer

A series of talks accompanies this 22-lesson Bible study. Let us know if you are interested in! Book will be purchased as bulk for a discounted price!

### **ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP** **DURING THE GREAT FAST (LENT) 2024**

Fr. Marek Visnovsky will be offering an iconography workshop at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43231. This class will be held on Thursday, February 29, and Friday, March 1, from 5 pm to 10 pm, then class will continue on Saturday, March 2 from 9 am to 6 pm, and Sunday, March 3, from 1 pm to 6 pm. There will be time for prayer, talk, discussion, personal instructions, reflections and a hands-on demonstration. We will paint the Icon of Christ the Bread of Life. The cost is \$400 (includes icon boards and painting material). Beginners as well as advanced artists are welcome. The deadline for registration is Sunday, February 18, 2024. For the registration form and any further information please email Fr. Marek at [marekvisnovsky@yahoo.com](mailto:marekvisnovsky@yahoo.com)



*Fr. Marek is a married Byzantine Catholic priest, serving the Eparchy of Parma. With his wife Miriam they raise three children. For 23 years he has been teaching iconography classes in the USA and Europe. He has painted over 750 icons which are venerated in churches and private homes around the world.*

### **SAVE THE DATES**

#### **THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT**

*The Beatitudes: The Way of Life*

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, Ohio

February 16, 2024-February 18, 2024

Retreat Master: Father Lukas Mitro

for further information

contact Susan A. Gallagher @ 419-626-0375

or e-mail [www.womenretreat2024@yahoo.com](mailto:www.womenretreat2024@yahoo.com)



#### **THE THIRD ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT**

*From Fallen Passions to Apatheia: Pursuing the Virtuous Life*

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, Ohio

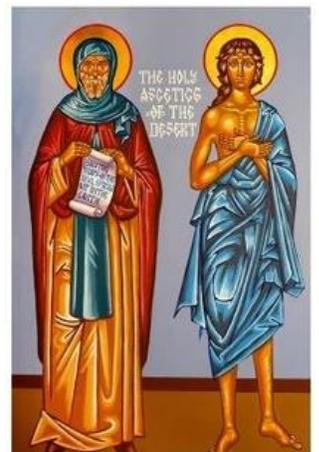
March 15, 2024-March 17, 2024

Retreat Master: Father Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA.

For further information

contact Karl Busam @ 419-626-6811

or e-mail [karl.busam.77@gmail.com](mailto:karl.busam.77@gmail.com)



#### **STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2023/24**

**St. John Chrysostom's goal for this year is \$9,700**

*As of November 3, 2023 \$3,285 has been pledged and \$3,285 has been received in Parma*

**The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord is this week** and through the liturgies of the Church we have been called to focus on the miracle of the *Incarnation* in the cave of Bethlehem. God the Father will give us the greatest gift in His Son this Christmas. How are you responding to God's gracious gift to us? How will you show your gratitude for the infant Christ?

As you complete your preparations for the Christmas Feast, please remember the Eparchy of Parma and the Church's needs by contributing to the annual Stewardship Appeal. Visit [parma.org](http://parma.org) to make your one-time or monthly donation through our secure website. Thank you for your generosity!



### **CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**Friday, December 22**

*(Day of Strict Fasting)*

**7:00pm** Royal Hours for Christmas

**Saturday, December 23**

**7:00pm** Vespers & Confessions

**Sunday, December 24**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**10:00pm** Vigil Divine Liturgy for Christmas - Myrovanije

**Monday, December 25**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**12:00pm** Christmas Divine Liturgy; Myrovanije

**Tuesday, December 26**

**SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**7:00pm** Divine Liturgy in Ukrainian

**Wednesday, December 27**

**ST. STEPHEN, PROTOMARTYR**

**9:00am** Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, December 30**

**7:00pm** Vespers

### **THEOPHANY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

**Monday, January 1, 2024**

**CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD;**

**ST. BASIL THE GREAT**

**11:00am** New Year's Divine Liturgy

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

**9:00am** Divine Liturgy

**Thursday, January 4, 2024**

**7:00pm** Royal Hours for Theophany

**Friday, January 5, 2024**

**EVE OF THEOPHANY** *(Day of Strict Fasting)*

**7:00pm** Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil – Blessing of water - Myrovanje

**Saturday, January 6, 2024**

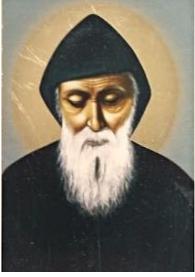
**THEOPHANY** *(No Fast)*

**10:00am** Divine Liturgy for Theophany – Blessing of water - Myrovanie



***Come, O Jesus, Our Savior,  
Redeem and save us!***

### 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.

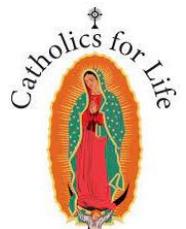
We beseech You to grant us the grace of loving and serving You, following his example. Almighty God, Who has manifested the power of St. Charbel's intercession through his countless miracles and favours, grant us... (State your intention(s) here...) through his intercession. Amen.

***For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:***

Abby	Charlene Grabner	Jessie Madzia	Maksym Popadyn
Hussein Abdi	Nataly Grace	Mara	Maria Rakowsky
Adrian	John Griffen	Bill Martin	Terry Rasor
William Brake	Hagos	Joe Martin	Nadia Ritchey
Charles Branham	Evelyn Hoechstetter	Mech Intention	Trey Shearon
Carol	Esther Imhoff	Melissa	John Sikora
Mary Carroll	Dora Johnson	Joy Mersch	Dennis Stinich
Charyton Intentions	Jackson Family	Angela Merva	Josh Taylor
Cindy Cox	Gordon Kaercher	Katie Nann	L.T. Tekle
Will Culver	Susan Kaiser	Ed Nyahay	Ruth Turanchik
Maria Czyrnik	Kathy	Rosemary Nyahay	Owen Ward
DeClue Intentions	James Kester	Anne O'Halloran	Steve
Ron Doctor	Kathy Krofcheck	Mic O'Halloran	Nicholas Zvansky
Jack Figel	Regina Lee	John Oshinski	Sandra Zvansky
Elizabeth Gamez	Christine Leon	Paula Oshinski	Special Intention
Christopher Gehman	Christine Long	Beauetta Parks	
Deborah Gordon	David Lonzrick	Cathy Pitt	

### **CATHOLICS FOR LIFE: EQUIPPING CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES FOR LIFESAVING ACTIVISM**

Catholics for Life is a Columbus-based apostolate organizing pro-life and evangelization events (we represent the local St. Paul Street Evangelization team). Our efforts are anchored in the Eucharist and Mary's intercession. Our events include:



1. Every weekday starting at 9am and ending between 2-7pm (depending on the day): Join us and our volunteers for prayer, counseling, and evangelization on the sidewalk outside Columbus's two abortion facilities.

1. Monthly on the Second Tuesday & Fourth Friday: Join a group for training, Mass, reconciliation, street evangelization, sidewalk counseling, and adoration.

For more information contact Gabriel Vance at 740-972-2570 and **Gabriel@CatholicsForLife.us** or visit **www.CatholicsForLife.us**

### **Pregnancy Support Resources**

**Pregnancy Decision Health Center: 614-444-4411**

**Birthright: 614-221-0844**

**Mommies Matter: 614-723-9308**

**Option Line: <https://optionline.org/> 1-800-712-4357**

**Women's Care Center: 614-251-0200**

**Stowe Mission, Columbus: 614-445-8400**

**Pregnancy Resources of Delaware County: 740-417-9358**

