

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 FEBRUARY 11, 2024

SUNDAY OF CHEESE-FARE

Liturgy Schedule for the Week

Confession/Spiritual Counseling is offered one hour before every Liturgy

Sunday February 11

Sunday of Cheese-Fare

9:30a Third Hour

10:00a Divine Liturgy; Blessing of married couples

Intention: for the Faithful

12:00p Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

1:30p Forgiveness Vespers

Monday Feb 12 *1st day of the Great Fast*

7:00p Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Intention: +Dave Zaroka

Wednesday February 14

9:00a 3rd Hour w/Isaiah readings

Friday February 16

7:00p Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

Intention: +Marta

Saturday February 17

6:00p Divine Liturgy in Ukrainian / English

Sunday February 18

Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:30a Third Hour

10:00a Divine Liturgy

Intention: for the Faithful

12:00p Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

Parish Activities this week

Sun. Feb. 11

11:15a Meatless Potluck Luncheon

2:00p Ge'ez Social

Wed. Feb. 14

6:00p Eucharist Study Group

Thurs. Feb. 15

10a Pirohi making

Fri. Feb. 16

10a Pirohi making

Sat. Feb. 17

10:00a Men & Women Scripture Study

10:00a Pascha baking

5:30p Ge'ez choir practice

Readings for the Week of February 11th

Sun. Feb. 11

Epistle, Rom 13:11-14:4

Gospel, Mt 6:14-21

Tues. Feb. 13

Gen 1:14-23

Prov 1:20-33

Thu. Feb. 15

Gen 2:4-19

Prov 3:1-18

Sat. Feb. 17

Epistle, Heb 1:1-12

Gospel, Mk 2:23-3:5

Mon. Feb. 12

Gen 1:1-13

Prov 1:1-20

Wed. Feb. 14

Gen 1:24-2:3

Prov 2:1-21

Fri. Feb. 16

Gen 2:20-3:20

Prov 3:19-34

Sun. Feb. 18

Epistle, Heb 11:24-26, 31-12:2

Gospel, Jn 1:43-51



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

Website: www.byzantinecolumbus.com

To schedule an event, send an email to: eventstjohn@outlook.com

TODAY IS WORLD MARRIAGE DAY and CHEESE-FARE SUNDAY. Immediately following Divine Liturgy will be the blessings of couples in church. Our Lenten Luncheon, will be in the hall following this. Everyone is welcome to share in this meal as we begin our Lenten fast. Forgiveness Vespers follow in the church at 1:30pm.

The office is closed tomorrow, February 12th, for the First Day of the Great Fast.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL - STUDY GROUP

On Wednesday evenings during the Great Lent, we will study those passages from the Scriptures that talk directly about the Eucharist and those that talk indirectly or are Old Testament Prefigures of the Eucharist. We will learn how we know what Jesus really did and said. What it means for my personal life and faith.

When? 02/14-03/6 and 03/20 from 6pm - 7pm

Where? Parish Hall

Bring your Bible and your questions!

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18TH IS THE NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE. For those who have a set of offertory envelopes, there is an envelope for this collection. For those who would like to make a donation for this effort, there are envelopes on the table in the vestibule. You may also use a plain envelope marked "*For the Church in Central & Eastern Europe*". These donations will be forwarded to Parma to send on to the Office of National Collections of the USCCB.

PASCHA SALE MARCH 23RD

The Pascha Foods Sale is March 23rd from 11am until 1pm. We are in need of volunteers to help bake the Pascha loaves and rolls for the sale on the following Saturdays, February 10th, 17th, and 24th. Lisa Sulich is coordinating these volunteers and will be contacting parishioners. If you are available on these dates and do not hear from Lisa, please contact the office with your availability.

Pirohi Making will be on the following dates, February 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd. Pat Papai is coordinating this and you are available and wish to help please contact her.

FOR THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Begins this Saturday February 24, 2024, all the ladies are invited to join a Women's Bible Study. A schedule of definite dates will be given at this first meeting. 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!

A series of talks accompanies this 22-lesson Bible study. **Please contact office email by February 14th if you are planning to attend and if you wish to order the book (\$40).** Books will be purchased as bulk for a discounted price!

Volunteers are needed to provide a light snack, please contact the office to let us know what date you will provide it.

FOR THE MEN OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive!

Starting on March 2, 2024, in the Hall every Saturday morning for 60 minutes only!

7:45am Light Breakfast and coffee

8:00am Opening prayer followed by video

8:30am Group sharing

8:55am Closing prayer

Join us to build fraternity and grow! That Man is You! truly accompanies men and their families on the pathway to holiness.

Volunteers are needed to provide a light snack, please contact the office to let us know what date you will provide it.

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

FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA

The Third Annual Eparchy of Parma Men's Retreat: *From Fallen Passions to Apatheia: Pursuing the Virtuous Life*

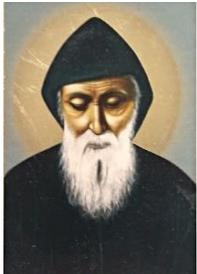
To be held at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, Ohio on **March 15 - 17**. Retreat Master: Father Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA.

For further information contact Karl Busam @ 419-626-6811 or e-mail karl.busam.77@gmail.com

FROM THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

27TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE *Called to be Saints-The Eucharist: Go Deeper.* **Saturday, February 24,** Kasich Hall, Ohio Expo Center. For registration and information please go to www.CatholicMensMinistry.com

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	Helen Stephens
Charyton Intentions	Jackson Family	Angela Merva	Dennis Stinich
Cindy Cox	Gordon Kaercher	Katie Nann	Josh Taylor
Will Culver	Susan Kaiser	Ed Nyahay	L.T. Tekle
Maria Czynnik	Kathy	Rosemary Nyahay	Ruth Turanchik
DeClue Intentions	James Kester	Anne O'Halloran	Owen Ward
Ron Doctor	Kathy Krofcheck	Mic O'Halloran	Steve
Jack Figel	Regina Lee	John Oshinski	Nicholas Zvansky
Elizabeth Gamez	Christine Leon	Paula Oshinski	Sandra Zvansky
Christopher Gehman	Christine Long	Beauetta Parks	
Deborah Gordon	David Lonzrick	Cathy Pitt	

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.

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR LENT 2024**

Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom

Dear brothers and sisters!

When our God reveals himself, his message is always one of freedom: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (*Ex 20:2*). These are the first words of the Decalogue given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Those who heard them were quite familiar with the exodus of which God spoke: the experience of their bondage still weighed heavily upon them. In the desert, they received the "Ten Words" as a thoroughfare to freedom. We call them "commandments", in order to emphasize the strength of the love by which God shapes his people. The call to freedom is a demanding one. It is not answered straightaway; it has to mature as part of a journey. Just as Israel in the desert still clung to Egypt – often longing for the past and grumbling against the Lord and Moses – today too, God's people can cling to an oppressive bondage that it is called to leave behind. We realize how true this is at those moments when we feel hopeless, wandering through life like a desert and lacking a promised land as our destination. Lent is the season of grace in which the desert can become once more – in the words of the prophet Hosea – the place of our first love (cf. *Hos 2:16-17*). *God shapes his people, he enables us to leave our slavery behind* and experience a Passover from death to life. Like a bridegroom, the Lord draws us once more to himself, whispering words of love to our hearts.

The exodus from slavery to freedom is no abstract journey. If our celebration of Lent is to be concrete, the first step is to desire to *open our eyes to reality*. When the Lord calls out to Moses from the burning bush, he immediately shows that he is a God who sees and, above all, hears: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey" (*Ex 3:7-8*). Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? All too many things keep us apart from each other, denying the fraternity that, from the beginning, binds us to one another.

During my visit to Lampedusa, as a way of countering the globalization of indifference, I asked two questions, which have become more and more pressing: "Where are you?" (*Gen 3:9*) and "Where is your brother?" (*Gen 4:9*). Our Lenten journey will be concrete if, by listening once more to those two questions, we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharaoh. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides and robs us of a future. Earth, air and water are polluted, but so are our souls. True, Baptism has begun our process of liberation, yet there remains in us an inexplicable longing for slavery. A kind of attraction to the security of familiar things, to the detriment of our freedom.

In the Exodus account, there is a significant detail: it is God who sees, is moved and brings freedom; Israel does not ask for this. Pharaoh stifles dreams, blocks the view of heaven, makes it appear that this world, in which human dignity is trampled upon and authentic bonds are denied, can never change. He put everything in bondage to himself. Let us ask: Do I want a new world? Am I ready to leave behind my compromises with the old? The witness of many of my brother bishops and a great number of those who work for peace and justice has increasingly convinced me that we need to combat a deficit of hope that stifles dreams and the silent cry that reaches to heaven and moves the heart of God. This "deficit of hope" is not unlike the nostalgia for slavery that paralyzed Israel in the desert and prevented it from moving forward. An exodus can be interrupted: how else can we explain the fact that humanity has arrived at the threshold of universal fraternity and at levels of scientific, technical, cultural, and juridical development capable of guaranteeing dignity to all, yet gropes about in the darkness of inequality and conflict.

God has not grown weary of us. Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which he reminds us: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (*Ex 20:2*). Lent is *a season of conversion, a time of freedom*. Jesus himself, as we recall each year on the first Sunday of Lent, was driven into the desert by the Spirit in order to be tempted in freedom. For forty days, he will stand before us and with us: the incarnate Son. Unlike Pharaoh, God does not want subjects, but sons and daughters. The desert is the place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery. In Lent, we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.

This, however, entails *a struggle*, as the book of Exodus and the temptations of Jesus in the desert make clear to us. The voice of God, who says, "You are my Son, the Beloved" (*Mk 1:11*), and "You shall have no other gods before me" (*Ex 20:3*) is opposed by the enemy and his lies. Even more to be feared than Pharaoh are the idols that we set up for ourselves; we can consider them as his voice speaking within us. To be all-powerful, to be looked up to by all, to domineer over others: every human being is aware of how deeply seductive that lie can be. It is a road well-travelled. We can become attached to money, to certain projects, ideas or goals, to our position, to a tradition, even to certain individuals. Instead of making us move forward, they paralyze us. Instead of encounter, they create conflict. Yet there is also a new humanity, a people of the little ones and of the humble who have not yielded to the allure of the lie. Whereas those who serve idols become like them, mute, blind, deaf and immobile (cf. *Ps 114:4*), the poor of spirit are open and ready: a silent force of good that heals and sustains the world.

It is time to act, and in Lent, *to act also means to pause*. To pause *in prayer*, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan *in the presence of a wounded brother or sister*. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this

reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God's dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

The Church's synodal form, which in these years we are rediscovering and cultivating, suggests that Lent is also *a time of communitarian decisions*, of decisions, small and large, that are countercurrent. Decisions capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods, such as the ways we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon. I invite every Christian community to do just this: to offer its members moments set aside to rethink their lifestyles, times to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment. Woe to us if our Christian penance were to resemble the kind of penance that so dismayed Jesus. To us too, he says: "Whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting" (Mt 6:16). Instead, let others see joyful faces, catch the scent of freedom and experience the love that makes all things new, beginning with the smallest and those nearest to us. This can happen in every one of our Christian communities.

To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: "Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth, not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. We need courage to think like this" (*Address to University Students*, 3 August 2023). Such is the courage of conversion, born of coming up from slavery. For faith and charity take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward. [1]

I bless all of you and your Lenten journey.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 3 December 2023, First Sunday of Advent.

Pope FRANCIS

Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter. (Prostration)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. (Prostration)

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins and not judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. (Prostration)

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

