

# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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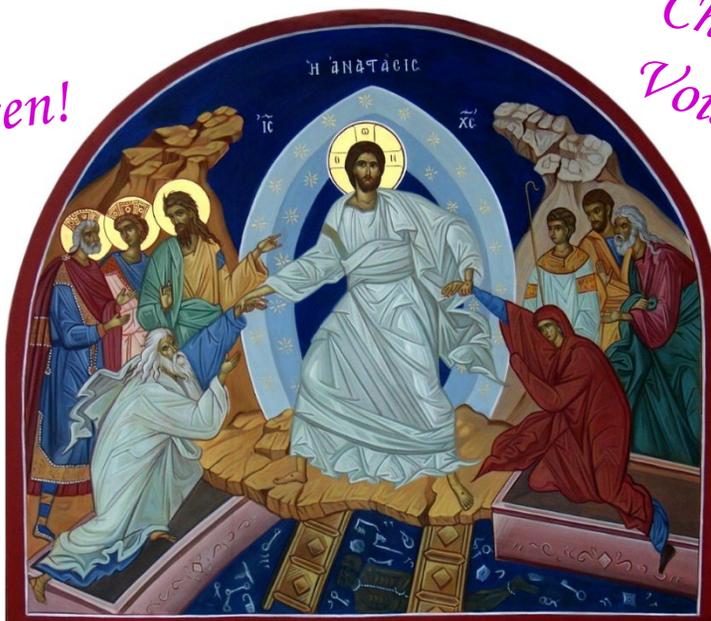
To schedule an event, email - eventstjohn@outlook.com



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.

*Christ is Risen!  
Indeed He is Risen!*

*Christos Voskrese!  
Voistinu Voskrese!*



*Krisztus feltámadt!  
Valóban feltámadt!*

*Христос Воскрес!  
Воістину Він Воскрес!*

## 2025 Bright Week Schedule

### Sunday, April 20

#### **PASCHA!**

**9a** Ge'ez Paschal Celebration

**12p** Byzantine Resurrection Matins and  
Divine Liturgy; Blessing of baskets

### Monday, April 21

**5:45p** Paschal Hour

**6p** Ukrainian Divine Liturgy

### Tuesday, April 22

**5:45p** Paschal Hour

**6p** Divine Liturgy

### Wednesday, April 23

**8:45a** Paschal Hour

**9a** Divine Liturgy

### Thursday, April 24

**5:45p** Paschal Hour

**6p** Divine Liturgy

### Friday, April 25

**5:45p** Paschal Hour

**6p** Divine Liturgy

### Saturday, April 26

**6p** Vespers

### Sunday, April 27

#### **St Thomas Sunday**

**9:30a** Third Hour

**10a** Divine Liturgy

**12p** Ge'ez Divine Liturgy

### Readings

Sun Apr 20  
 Mon Apr 21  
 Tue Apr 22  
 Wed Apr 23  
 Thu Apr 24  
 Fri Apr 25  
 Sat Apr 26  
 Sun Apr 27

### Epistle

Acts 1:12-17 & 21-26  
 Acts 1:12-17 & 21-26  
 Acts 2:14-21  
 Acts 2:22-36 & 12:1-11  
 Acts 2:38-43  
 Acts 3:1-8  
 Acts 3:11-16  
 Acts 5:12-20

### Gospel

John 1:1-17  
 John 1:18-28  
 Luke 24:12-35  
 John 1:35-51 & 15:17-16:2  
 John 3:1-15  
 John 2:12-22  
 John 3:22-33  
 John 20:19-31



### Parish Activities

Sun Apr 20	1:15pm	Blessing of Baskets; NO ECF
Sat Apr 26	4:00pm	<b>Splendor of Love</b> Young Adult Workshop
Sun Apr 27	11:15am	ECF Easter play; Children's Easter Egg Hunt; parish social
	2:00pm	Geez social
Mon Apr 28	9:00am	Office reopens, normal hours
Sat May 3	4:00pm	Ge'ez Young Mothers meet with Fr. Weldit



**NEXT SUNDAY IS ST. THOMAS SUNDAY** – We will have a Parish meal beginning with the blessing and sharing of the Artos Bread. We ask everyone to please bring Pascha meats and veggies to share. The ECF children will present their Pascha Play, followed by the children's Easter Egg hunt.



*He has risen*

**PASCHA SALE** - \$3,328.00

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will be selling their annual **Cash Bonanza Raffle Tickets** after the liturgy in the Hall, until May. You will have the opportunity to participate in the raffle. Tickets are \$5.00 a piece, and the proceeds benefit the Charitable efforts of the Knights in the State of Ohio. Proceeds from the raffle support Catholic High School Education, Vocations, Religious Education and Evangelization, Veterans, and a variety of other charities in each diocese in the state. Assumption Council uses funds to support Seminarians, the Pregnancy Decision Health Center, and various food banks in our local area. Likewise, to support the faith building activities at St. John Chrysostom

### THE SPLENDOR OF LOVE

All Single Catholics are invited to a special evening of worship, talk and dinner dance at St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church (5858 Cleveland Ave, Columbus) on **April 26, 2025**. Talk given by **Dr. Perry Cahall** from the Pontifical College Josephinum on the nature of true love (Eph 5:2) **Walk in love, just as Christ also loved you.**

The seminars for Catholic singles began to promote the teaching of the Church on love and to help singles to recognize love when it presents itself, cherish it when they find it, and appreciate it as they experience it. According to the Church's teaching, human love as Christianity presents it is not, as many believe, a set of harsh rules and punishments that imprison people and control their consciences. Nor is it an emotional upheaval. On the contrary, it is the release of God's gift to us, awakening us to who we are and blossoming into the fullness of self (cf. Gaudium et Spes 22). The seminars aim to introduce Catholic singles to the Splendor of Love so that their love will never cease to shine despite the difficulties that the bonds of partnership inevitably entail.

**Early bird until 04/10 \$35. After 04/10 \$50. Registration link:**

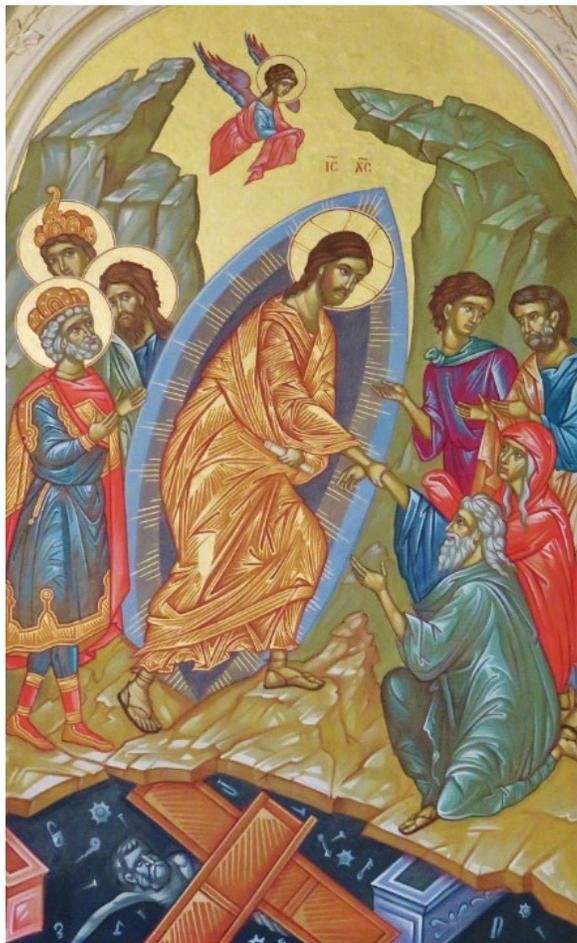
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EAAAC28A6FBC70-54130263-thesplendor>

### **FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA**

**STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2024/25: Christ is Risen!** Thank you to everyone who participated in the Annual Stewardship Appeal to date. Your generosity is deeply appreciated! A blessed Pascha to all!

Please contribute to the Appeal today. You may visit <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal> to make a one-time or monthly secure donation through the website.

**St. John Chrysostom's goal for this year is \$13,050. Amount contributed to date: \$14,920.**  
**Remember,** any amount over the assigned goal for our parish is returned to us.



*There are two icons in Byzantine and Orthodox churches associated with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Neither icon represents the actual Resurrection event, which truly cannot be represented. The two icons venerated during the Paschal season illuminate events that occurred in conjunction with the Resurrection.*

*One icon is the "Descent into Hades" (pictured here) and the other (not shown) is the "Icon of the Myrrh Bearing Women". Since the Descent into Hades icon is so closely associated with Pascha (Easter), it is equally referred to as the Icon of the Resurrection.*

As you look at the icon, it is easy to see why. Jesus Christ is depicted in His Glorified Body, resplendently clothed in gold garments (in contrast to the red/blue garments normally seen in icons of Christ). The Greek abbreviation of "IC XC" identifies this figure as Jesus Christ.

*The magnificent radiance of Christ's Divinity and Glory is represented by the rays of light emanating from his figure. This brilliance is also expressed in the almond-shaped mandorla that symbolizes the incomprehensible qualities of Christ's Divine nature. No one can ever represent in any art form the intensity of Divine Light that is God.*

Upon looking again at this icon, we see Christ holds a small scroll in his left hand, representing the good news of salvation, and with his right hand, Christ is pulling a figure out of an abyss.

This abyss is called Hades (Greek) or Sheol (Hebrew) which is the place of the deceased, not solely the place of the condemned, but the place also where the prophets and saints of the Old Testament awaited their just reward. The main figure being "freed" is Adam, and next to him is Eve. Adam and Eve, our first parents are the sources of our human condition and frailties for which Christ's act of redemption for all humanity is necessary.

Christ freeing Adam and Eve out of Hades depicted in this icon can be seen as a visual metaphor for the mercy that God offers to all people, to all sinners who in genuine repentance and humility are lifted up out of darkness. Christ pulling up Adam is symbolic of our own dependence upon God, of our reliance on Him for everything, especially our salvation. We have no strength to “free” ourselves by our own means, but rather we need God’s helping hand. The source of our strength is always with God. God offers us hope and never fails to love us, no matter how long we may remain estranged from Him or fail in our weaknesses, even when we have fallen in as much as Adam and Eve.

This is the “story” written into this icon. It is the story central to all Christian belief. Christ is victorious over death, death that is both physical and spiritual. When we celebrate Pascha in Eastern churches, we sing repeatedly: “Christ is risen from the dead, by death he trampled (conquered) death, and to those in the tombs (graves) he granted life!”

The darkness of those tombs is symbolized in the icon with the depiction of crypts; and with a colorless human form bound up (devoid of life). Seen also are the symbols of the burden of sin and its imprisonment on souls ... locks, nails, chains, and keys.

The icon and the words we sing during Pascha illustrate distinctively how the prophesized Messiah — Our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus – restored to life and unchained the holy souls of the Old Testament world, suspended and waiting in immeasurable time. For a description of this, refer to the footnote.

The icon displays the gates of Hades opened but now in the form of a cross. In some icons of this type, you may actually see Christ dramatically straddling the gates, his feet solidly trampling on them. No one can look at this icon and not have an appreciation of the mighty power of God.

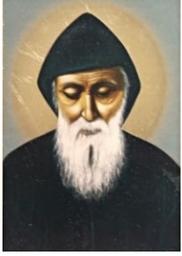
*During the Resurrection Matins Services of Eastern churches, the priest represents this same action of Christ opening the gates (sealed doors to the church), pounding on the gates/doors in a final gesture of triumph over darkness as all proclaim “Christ is Risen ... ” This is another example of the richness of tradition in Eastern churches. Symbols are incorporated to such a degree there is an integral harmony to all aspects of faith and worship, all of which is founded on sacred Scripture, wisdom of the saints and early disciples, and beliefs established by the Ecumenical Councils.*

Throughout the sacred texts of the Old Testament the promises of a Messiah were foreshadowed. These promises are fulfilled through Jesus Christ, etched unquestionably in a historic moment in time, forming the content of the New Testament. The Descent into Hades or Resurrection Icon so effectively puts to form the high point of this salvation history.

The continuity of Old to New Testament is seen in the selection of the figures on the left. Those 3 figures are: King David, King Solomon, and John the Baptist. The figures on the right behind Adam and Eve may represent either other prophets or any of those who have placed their hope in the prophecies of the Old Testament.

The icon of the Descent into Hades might even be viewed as an icon of reconciliation, mercy, and icon of promise. It is an icon of God’s infinite plan, a plan that is timeless in both its completion and final Judgement yet to come. As we look at it, we can feel consolation that our hope is with Our Lord who loves us always.

## 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	Schimmoeller Family	Christine Leon	Charles Roddy
Carol	Jack Figel	Jeanne Lombardi	Sandra Roddy
Hagos	Sarah Frye	Christine Long	Justin Rogers
Kathy	Christopher Gehman	Jessie Madzia	Lillian Rogers
Mara	Deborah Gordon	Ilya Mandebur	Mary Beth Rogers
Melissa	Charlene Grabner	Bill Martin	Trey Shearon
Steve	Nataly Grace	Joe Martin	John Sikora
Hussein Abdi	John Griffen	Mary Ann McCallister	Kathy Slonka
William Brake	Evelyn Hoehstetter	Joy Mersch	Kim Snow
Charles Branham	Eddie Hospodar	Angela Merva	Helen Stephens
John Brown	Esther Imhoff	Katie Nann	Dennis Stinich
Vernal Brown	Mech Intention	Ed Nyahay	Josh Taylor
Mary Carroll	Charyton Intentions	Anne O'Halloran	L.T. Tekle
Cindy Cox	DeClue Intentions	Mic O'Halloran	Ruth Turanchik
Will Culver	Special Intentions	John Oshinski	John Wagner
Maria Czynnik	Dora Johnson	Paula Oshinski	Owen Ward
Ron Doctor	Gordon Kaercher	Beauetta Parks	Curtis Weber
Dock Family	Susan Kaiser	Maksym Popadyn	Nicholas Zvansky
Jackson Family	James Kester	Maria Rakowsky	Sandra Zvansky
Lippert Family	Kathy Krofcheck	Terry Razor	
Mazon Family	Regina Lee	Nadia Ritchey	

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## **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.*