# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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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.



#### 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.

# July 20, 2025

**Confessions:** one hour before liturgy or by appointment

<u>Liturgical</u> <u>Schedule</u>				<u>Intention</u>
Sun	July 20	Feast of St. Elijah		
		9:30am	Third Hour	
		10:00am	Divine Liturgy	For the faithful
		Blessing of wheeled vehicles		urgy
		12:00pm	Ge'ez Divine Liturgy	
Fri	July 25	Feast of the Dormition of St. Anna 6:00pm Divine Liturgy +Patricia Fromhold by McCallister		
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Sat	July 26	6:00p	Vespers	
Sun	July 27	9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 2:30pm	Third Hour Divine Liturgy Ge'ez Divine Liturgy Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	For the faithful

<u>Readings</u>		<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sun	July 20	Rom 12:6-14 & James 5:10-20	Matt 9:1-8 & Luke 4:22-30
Mon	July 21	1 Cor 5:9-6:11	Matt 13:54-58
Tue	July 22	1 Cor 6:20-7:12	Matt 14:1-13
Wed	July 23	1 Cor 7:12-24	Matt 14:35-15:11
Thu	July 24	Rom 8:28-39	John 15:17-16:2
Fri	July 25	Gal 4:22-31	Luke 8:16-21
Sat	July 26	Rom 12:1-3	Matt 10:37-11:1
Sun	July 27	Rom 15:1-7	Matt 9:27-35

#### **Parish Activities**

Sun	July 20	11:15am	Parish Social
		2:00pm	Ge'ez Social
Mon	July 21	7:00pm	Book Study
Sat	July 26	4:00pm 4:00pm	Family Gathering Ge'ez Women's Club mtg.

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**THE BLESSING OF CARS,** in honor of the feast of St. Elijah, will be following Divine Liturgy today.

**SATURDAY, JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> - FAMILY GATHERING AT 4 PM** in the parish hall, we will continue our successful Family Gatherings. There will be prayer, fun - games, sharing with some snacks! All families, especially those with children, are invited and welcome to attend. We ask you to bring salads and sides, the parish will supply hot dogs. This is a great way to get to know your parish family. Please let the office know so we can provide enough hot dogs.

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#### FROM THE EPARCHY OF PARMA

# FIFTH ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT RETREAT Jul 31, 2025, 12:00 PM – Aug 03, 2025, 12:00 PM

Lakeside Marblehead, 506 E Main St, Lakeside Marblehead, OH 43440

Join us for a weekend of service, spirituality, and socializing! Set right on the coast of beautiful Lake Erie, this will be a retreat you won't forget. We can't wait to see you there! The cost for the retreat this year is \$150, we are happy to offer financial assistance to those who need it. Go to byzantineyoungadults.com for more information and to register.

**THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY LITURGY & LIFE CAMP** is scheduled for **August 3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>** at Cedar Lake Ministries in Cedar Lake, IN. Go to parma.org/family-camp for more information and to register.

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OHIO BISHOP'S GOLF CLASSIC, to benefit the Eparchy of Parma Foundation, is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Valleaire Golf Club in Hinkley, OH. For Sponsorship & Golfer information email development@parma.org

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# OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP – ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE- UNIONTOWN, PA

AUGUST 29 @ 8AM - SEPTEMBER 1 @ 5PM

Mount St. Macrina Monastery 500 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 878 Uniontown, PA 15401. Website: sistersofstbasil.org/events-2/annual-pilgrimage-honoring-our-lady-of-perpetual-help/

#### **Hospitality**

In the old country there is proverb: A guest in the house, God in the house. You will find this saying among all the nations of Central and Eastern Europe, Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian, Hungarian... And it refers to St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews 13:2 "Do not neglect, hospitality, for some have welcomed angels without knowing it." He makes reference to Abraham and Sarah as they receive the three strangers. It turned out it was the most holy Trinity. Another example is Tobit, who welcomed a stranger; sent him as a guide for his son. And it was the Archangel Raphael. Another Old Testament example is Lot. Hospitality brings blessings to the one who is received and to the one who receives. Hospitality multiplies joy.

Moreover, God himself is welcoming. It is he who offered his only begotten Son, so we may return, and he always welcomes us. The Father in the parable of the prodigal son (Lk 15:20-24). Jesus in his attitudes reflects the same

welcoming nature of the Father. He always turned to people with 'Come and see!' (Jn 1:39). To name a few examples, see Zaccheus (Lk 19:1-10), Matthew and his sinner friends (Mt 9:9-13); the centurion (Mt 8:5-13) etc. The openness and the attitude of hospitality is part of God's plan of salvation.

Today there is another important thing to keep in mind: cultural change. High-tech and individualism broke the natural ties among people. Many suffer loneliness and disconnection. They feel uprooted. People today miss authentic human relations that create the sensation of home. There is much to discuss and analyze. But this is the bottom line, people are alone and abandoned. They search for a community, home, a place to belong to. If 50 years ago the paradigm was *believe*, *behave*, *belong*, today the paradigm is rather *belong*, *believe*, *behave*. If a person is welcomed, and he/she is given the chance to be heard, to be supported, to be accepted, then that person will want to stay and belong. Belonging to the community: being part of a family, where acceptance and welcoming is experienced. This is the basis to change; then comes to believe and behave.

Welcoming is a deliberate choice, and all are expected to practice it. Here are some simple steps.

- When you see a new face, welcome the person
- Ask whether it is the first time with the Byzantines. If so, simply say "do not worry about the liturgy and propers; let the liturgy happen to you. Enjoy it"
- If the person has questions try to answer them. If you do not feel comfortable answering, refer them to the parish priest
- Make sure you invite the person to come over for the social and let them know the parish priest wants to greet them
  - Walk with the new people over to the hall
  - You may invite the person to sit with you and help him/her to navigate in the books
  - Make sure the person gets the bulletin and invite him/her to send us an email

### Feast of St. Elijah, the Prophet

In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "He who receives a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward" (*Mt* 10:41). The word "prophet" appears three times. But who is the prophet? There are some who imagine a prophet as some type of magician who foretells the future. But this is a superstitious idea, and a Christian does not believe in superstitions, such as magic, tarot cards, horoscopes and other similar things. Incidentally, many, many Christians go to have their palms read. Please! Others depict a prophet only as a [biblical] figure from the past, who existed before Christ to foretell his coming. And yet, Jesus himself speaks today of the need to welcome prophets. Therefore, they still exist. But who are they? Who is a prophet?

Each one of us, brothers and sisters, is a prophet. In fact, with Baptism, all of us received the gift and mission of prophecy (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1268). A prophet is the one who, by virtue of Baptism, helps others read the present under the action of the Holy Spirit. This is very important: to read the present not like news but under the action of the Holy Spirit, who helps to understand God's plans and



conform to them. In other words, the prophet is the one who shows Jesus to others, who bears witness to him, who helps live today and build the future according to his designs. Therefore, we are all prophets, witnesses of Jesus, "so that the power of the Gospel might shine forth in [our] daily social and family life" (*Lumen Gentium*, 35). A prophet is a living sign who points God out to others. A prophet is a reflection of Christ's light [that shines] on the path of brothers and sisters. And so, we can ask ourselves: Do I, who am "a prophet by election" through Baptism, speak, and above all, live, as a witness of Jesus? Do I bring a little bit of his light into the life of another person? Do I evaluate myself on this? Do I ask myself: How am I doing with bearing witness? How am I prophesying?

In the Gospel, the Lord also asks to welcome the prophets. So it is important to welcome each other as such, as bearers of God's message, each one according to his or her status and vocation, and to do it right where we live —

that is, in the family, in the parish, in religious communities, in other spheres of the Church and society. The Spirit has distributed gifts of prophecy to the holy People of God. This is why it is good to listen to everyone. For example, when an important decision needs to be made, it is good to pray first of all, to call on the Spirit, but then to listen and dialogue, trusting that each person, even the littlest, has something important to say, a prophetic gift to share. Thus, the truth is sought and a listening environment that is attentive to God and our brothers and sisters is fostered, where people feel welcome not because they say what I like, but where they feel accepted and valued as gifts for who they are.

Let us reflect on how many conflicts could be avoided and resolved in this way, listening to others with the sincere desire to understand each other! So, finally, let us ask ourselves: Do I know how to welcome my brothers and sisters as prophetic gifts? Do I believe that I need them? Do I listen to them respectfully, with the desire to learn? Because each one of us needs to learn from others. Each one of us needs to learn from others.

May Mary, Queen of Prophets, help us see and welcome the good that the Spirit has sown in others.

Pope Francis, Angelus, 07/02/2023

**JOIN OUR PARISH'S "BAND" GROUP!** This is a group page for parishioners and regular attendees to grow in faith, build meaningful connections and deepen our Byzantine Catholic faith. Stay up-to-date on liturgies, feast days and parish events while sharing prayer intentions and encouragement with fellow parishioners. You can go online to <a href="https://www.band.us/en">https://www.band.us/en</a> or scan the QR code to download and join.





<u>Pregnancy Support Resources</u> 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** 

