

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY
MEMORY OF THE HOLY PROPHETS



Icon of the Holy Images

**St. Nicholas and St. Basil
Byzantine Catholic Parishes
Liturgical Schedule:**

Sat.	Mar	8	Commemoration of the miracle of the Great-Martyr Theodore 3:30 pm Rosary 4:00 pm Divine Liturgy (SB)
Sun.	Mar	9	1 st SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST 9:45 am Divine Liturgy (SB) 10:45 am Moleben/Rosary (SN) 11:30 am Divine Liturgy for the Parishioners (SN), 4:00 pm <u>Great Vespers (St. Stephen, Allen Park)</u>
Mon.	Mar	10	Codratus Martyr
Tue.	Mar	11	Sophronius Patriarch of Jerusalem
Wed.	Mar	12	Theophane Venerable 7:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (SB)
Thurs.	Mar	13	Nicephorus Patriarch
Fri.	Mar	14	Benedict Venerable 7:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (SN)
Sat.	Mar	15	2 nd All Souls Saturday 9:00 am Divine Liturgy (SN) for all souls, Panachyda 3:30 pm Rosary 4:00 pm Divine Liturgy (SB)
Sun.	Mar	16	2 nd SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST 9:45 am Divine Liturgy (SB) 10:45 am Moleben/Rosary (SN) 11:30 am Divine Liturgy (SN) for the Parishioners, 4:00 pm <u>Great Vespers (St. Nicholas, Clinton TWP)</u>

St. Nicholas Parish Weekly Collections 3/2/2025
"My return to the Lord for all His goodness to me"

Offertory	\$ 1580.00	Candles	\$ 20.00
Holy Days	\$ 105.00	E-donations	\$ 155.75
Others	\$ 675.00	Total:	\$ 1927.75
Ladies Tea Event – \$10,093.00 (Gross Income)			

We thank You for Your big generosity! Special "Thank You" to those who prepared, served, or in other manner made the "Ladies Tea" successful!!!

Propers: Ton 1, page 125, of the Sunday - page 220.

1st SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

(Jn 1:43-51)

ABILITY TO SEE ...

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. Encountering Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." Philip came from the same town, Bethsaida, as Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the one about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote—Jesus the son of Joseph, from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip replied, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Behold, a true Israelite, in whom there is no deception." Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip summoned you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael said to him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God. You are the King of Israel." Jesus responded, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than that." Then he added, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

"One thing have I asked of God, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the presence of God all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of God" (Psalm 27:4).

Icons are sacred art that help us see God. They are meant to make us aware that we are in the presence of God and bring the viewer to the holy.

The icons are not there just to be looked at as though the worshipers were in an art museum; they are designed to be doors between this world and another world, between people and the Incarnate God, his Mother, or his friends, the saints.

When eye contact between two people (you and the person in an icon) is initiated and maintained, an invisible energetic circuit is established between the two participants, dissolving the barriers that ordinarily separate them from each other, drawing them ever closer into a shared awareness of union. This experience of union is always pervaded by the feeling tone of love, just as the experience of separation from others, as well as from the larger world we inhabit, tends to breed feelings of fear and alienation.

Is seeing believing? St. John Damascene wrote: "The beauty of the images [icons] moves me to contemplation, as a meadow delights the eyes and subtly infuses the soul with the glory of God". Is believing seeing? The *Catechism* answers that for believers: "sacred images [icons] in our churches and homes are intended to awaken and nourish our faith in the mystery of Christ". Whether an icon sparks belief, or by coming to faith we can fully appreciate the spiritual lessons of icons, we should be thankful for another gift from heaven.

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church
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Phone: (586) 791-1052; Email: stnicksbyzantine@yahoo.com

Pastor: Father Mykhailo Solianyuk

Cantors: George Nagrant, Nicholas P. Nagrant, Ann Pawluszka, Steve Terlescki,
John P. Minarish, Richard Baranko and Subdeacon Phillip Dinsmore

Confessions: Before each Divine Liturgy in the sacristy or by appointment

Baptisms: Arrange six weeks in advance

Weddings: Arrange six months in advance. Bride or groom must be a member of the parish

Communion: Monthly for sick and shut-ins. Call the church for scheduling

Let Your Prayer Come from a Humble Heart

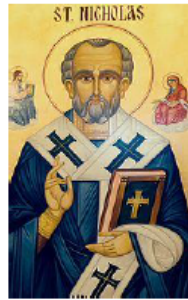
When we pray, our words should be calm, modest and disciplined. Let us reflect that we are standing before God. We should please Him both by our bodily posture and the manner of our speech. It is characteristic of the vulgar to shout and make a noise, not those who are modest. On the contrary, they should employ a quiet tone in their prayer.

Moreover, in the course of His teaching, the Lord instructed us to pray in secret. Hidden and secluded places, even our own rooms, give witness to our belief that God is present everywhere; that He sees and hears all; that in the fullness of His majesty, He penetrates hidden and secret places. This is the teaching of Jeremiah: Am I God when I am near, and not God when I am far away? Can anyone hide in a dark corner without my seeing Him? Do I not fill heaven and earth? Another passage of Scrip-

ture says: The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, observing both good and wicked men.

The same modesty and discipline should characterize our liturgical prayer as well. When we gather to celebrate the divine mysteries with God's priest, we should not express our prayer in unruly words; the petition that should be made to God with moderation is not to be shouted out noisily and verbosely. For God hears our heart not our voice. He sees our thoughts; He is not to be shouted at. The Lord showed us this when He asked: Why do you think evil in your hearts? The Book of Revelation testifies to this also: And all the churches shall know that I am the one who searches the heart and the desires.

St. Cyprian of Carthage



St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church

Clinton Township, MI

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вѣки!

Announcements for Sunday, March 9, 2025

This Sunday (March 9th) is Icon Sunday, also known as the Sunday of Orthodoxy. To commemorate this, our ECF students and anyone else that would like to participate will take part in a procession with icons as part of the Little Entrance during the 11:30am Divine Liturgy. All are welcome!

SPIRITUAL FRIENDLY REMINDER! Following our last talk to adults that was a few weeks ago about Jubilee Year and especially about confession, please remember: **IF YOUR LAST PERSONAL CONFESSION WITH PRIEST WAS MORE THAN ONE YEAR AGO, PLEASE DO NOT GO TO RECEIVE THE HOLY COMMUNION! Do your confession and then receive the Holy Communion!!!**

Stational Vespers on the Sunday Evenings of the Great Fast- for the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate: Like last year, on each Sunday evening of the Great Fast at 4:00pm, we will celebrate Vespers at a different parish of the Great Lakes Protopresbyterate (aka Deanery). A different priest will serve and preach a brief sermon at each Vespers, other **priests will be available for confession**; and the hosting parish will provide a simple Lenten meal after the service. All deanery parishioners are encouraged to participate. In addition to being an opportunity for prayer and repentance during the Great Fast, this is also a chance for us to visit the other parishes of our region and for us to all be together and get to know each other better. **Please note that our parish will be hosting next Sunday, March 16th.** The full schedule is as follows:

March 9	1 st Sunday of Lent- Sunday of Orthodoxy (Icon Sunday)	St. Stephen, Allen Park
March 16	2 nd Sunday of Lent- Holy Fr. Gregory Palamas	St. Nicholas, Clinton Twp
March 23	3 rd Sunday of Lent- Veneration of the Holy Cross	Sacred Heart, Livonia – <u>HEALING SERVICE</u>
March 30	4 th Sunday of Lent- Holy Fr. John Climacus	St. Michael, Oregon, OH
April 6	5 th Sunday of Lent- Holy Mother Mary of Egypt	St. Basil, Sterling Heights
April 13	Palm Sunday	St. Michael, Flushing

Friday Fish Fry Fundraiser: Our Lenten Fish Fry fundraiser started this past Friday, and will continue every Friday throughout Lent, **from 5:00-6:45pm in the Church Hall.** All are welcome! If you would like to help out as a volunteer cooking, serving, or setting/cleaning up— or if you would be interested in donating a dessert from time to time for us to sell—please see George Nagrant. The Fish Fry is co-sponsored by the GCU (Greek Catholic Union), and is a “matching funds” fundraiser (up to \$3,000) to raise money for our parish. Donations by cash or check are also accepted.

Save the Date: On Sunday, April 6th, we will host a **Lenten Day of Reflection.** We will start the day with **Divine Liturgy at 11:00am**, followed by lunch and special presentations/talks. More details will be announced in the coming weeks. All are invited!

Presanctified Liturgies will be split between St. Nicholas and St. Basil locations this year (7:00pm): As usual during Lent, we will be having the special *Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts* every Wednesday and Friday evening at 7:00pm. However, please note that each Wednesday the Liturgy will be celebrated at St. Basil Church in Sterling Heights, and each Friday the Liturgy will be celebrated here at St. Nicholas Church. We invite you to include these Liturgies, and also other prayer and celebration in our church, as part of your Lenten observations this year.

Reminder: Contribution Statements for your 2024 donations are available in the vestibule. Please pick yours up at your convenience. We thank you for your generous donations of time, talent, and treasure to St. Nicholas Church!

Non-perishable Food Collection: To assist those in need within our own community, we are accepting donations of canned and other non-perishable foods. Please place any donations in, on, or next to the black plastic bin that is located in the vestibule. Thank you!

Eparchy of Parma Stewardship Appeal 2024-25 (Parish Goal: \$7,950; Status as of 03/03/25: \$3,667.88): This year's Stewardship Appeal will support the following important needs in the Eparchy: Mission and Outreach; Development of Parishes; Retreats, Renewals, and Family Camp; Works of the Apostolate; Clergy Benevolence Fund; and Support for our Retired and Active Priests. Please visit <https://parma.org/stewardship-appeal> for more information and to make secure, one-time or monthly donations through the website. Thank you for your past support and for your continued generosity with this year's campaign. The overall Stewardship Appeal campaign goal is \$320,000. Thank you for your generosity!!!

Happy Birthday to Joel Schwark (3/8), Sarah Dinsmore (3/9), Duane Vancil (3/9), and Emily Marszalec (3/12)! May God grant to each of you many more years of peace, health, and happiness!

From elsewhere within the Eparchy of Parma:

The 4th Annual Men's Retreat will take place **March 14-16, 2025**, at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in Fremont, OH. The retreat master will be Fr. Lukas Mitro, the administrator of Holy Resurrection Byzantine Catholic Parish in Euclid, OH. The topic is "The Beatitudes: The Way of Life." For further information or to register, please contact Karl Busam at 419-626-6811 or karl.busam.77@gmail.com.

Save the Date (July 16-20, 2025): **The 4th Byzantine Assembly** will take place July 16-20, 2025, at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, in Whiting, IN, under the name and calling, "Come let us worship and bow before Christ." The goal of the Assembly is to together discern ways to live our worship of Christ today in a real and practical manner while learning from the past and looking to the future. The Assembly will include formal presentations, interviews, panel discussion and roundtable exercises. More information will be published later, in our bulletins and online at the Assembly website: byzantineassembly.org.

For more info: Please see our bulletin, LIKE us on Facebook or visit our website: stnicksdetroit.com