



**St. John the Baptist
Byzantine Catholic Church**

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Solon, Ohio 44139

Parish Office: 440-248-0417

Office hours: Mon. and Fri., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Eparchy of Parma: <https://parma.org>

Father Jan Maturkanic, administrator

(440-526-0016)

Parish coordinator: Lory Nemeth

The Propers for today: Troparion of Resurrection, Tone 6 (page 152); Kontakion of the Resurrection, Tone 6 (page 152); Prokeimenon and Alleluia of the Resurrection, Tone 6 (page 153).

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to him forever!

Scripture readings: Epistle: 2 Cor 4:6-15 Gospel: Mt 22:35-46

Sunday, Sept. 6 15th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Mon., Sept. 7 Vigil of Birth of the Theotokos
at Holy Resurrection, Euclid
6 p.m. Vespers
7 p.m. Liturgy

Tues., Sept. 8 Birth of the Theotokos (solemn holy day)
at St. Joseph, Brecksville
9 a.m. Matins
10 a.m. Liturgy

Sunday, Sept. 13 Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross
8:30 a.m. +Chengyou Zheng, by the Nemeth family



You can now donate
online directly to St.
John Parish using
the QR code above.

The feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated on September 8, belongs on the list of the Twelve Major Feasts of the Byzantine rite liturgical year (cf. Gospel of Sinai, 715 A.D.) We usually do not celebrate the birthday of the saints, but rather their “birthday to heaven,” that is, the anniversary of their death, considered as the beginning of their blessed life with God. Nevertheless, there are two exceptions, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist, since we commemorate not only their birthday to heaven, but also their nativity, their coming to this earth.

Welcome to new parishioners and visitors: The faithful of St. John the Baptist Parish would like to welcome new parishioners and visitors. We are happy that you have joined us on our spiritual journey and we hope that you feel welcome.

Please remember in prayer all parishioners of St. John Parish, especially sick and shut-in parishioners and friends: Christine Boros, Steve Boros, Bob Dirda, Chris Hannes, Daryl Hannes, Linda Hritz, Mike Hritz, George Homa, Father Michael Huszti, Frances Koleszar, Lynn Ann Lepole, Mark Lepole, Mary Jane Molnar, Jonna Nesbella, Linda Parker, Allen Potoma, Mitzi Sauvinsky, Pat Schabel and Bunny Stanislaw. And please pray for Bishop Robert Pipta and our administrator, Father Jan Maturkanic.

PRAYERS TO OUR BEATIFIED BISHOPS: Please use the handout prayer cards in the bookrack for text.

Nut roll baking dates: The dates for our fall nut roll bakings are Saturdays, Sept 19; Oct 10 and 31; Nov 21; and Dec 5. Help is needed all day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Holy Gospel records but a few incidents from the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It says nothing about her parentage, her nativity, or her childhood. All such information comes to us from the early tradition of the church, which was recorded in the middle of the second century (about 175 A.D.) in the apocryphal book, called – the Protoevangelium of St. James.

From the Protoevangelium we learn that the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Joachim and Anna, were righteous and greatly devoted to God. Her father was a descendant from the royal house of David, while Mary’s mother came from the priestly line of Aaron. Their one great sorrow was that they had no children. In the Old Testament when God blessed his chosen people, he always promised to bless them with numerous offspring. Thus, among the Jews childlessness was considered as a sign of God’s rejection, a “public disgrace” (Lk. 1 :25).

But God, in his divine providence, was actually preparing Joachim and Anna for “great things” (Lk. 1 :49). He was to show them a unique favor, for the child to be born to them was to become the Mother of the Messiah, the promised Savior of the world.

The birth of Mary has taken away not only the “public disgrace” from her parents, but also became a source of great joy for them, according to the

words of the Angel to Joachim: “Joachim, rejoice! God has heard your prayer and your wife Anna shall conceive and give birth to a daughter, whose nativity will become joy for the entire world.” Consequently, the feast is celebrated in the spirit of general rejoicing and exaltation.

As happened with other Marian feasts, at the beginning the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated only locally and without any major solemnity. Only later, in the sixth and the seventh centuries, the Marian feasts were gradually spread throughout the entire East and were celebrated with greater solemnity. At the time of St. Andrew of Crete (+ 740) the feast was already universally observed and celebrated like other major feasts of the Byzantine rite.

The solemn celebration of Mary’s nativity spread to Rome in the seventh century and then, during the following centuries, it became diffused throughout the entire West. The celebration of Mary’s nativity was established on September 8, since on that day the basilica in honor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was dedicated in Jerusalem.

(Excerpted from Byzantine Seminary Press; Byzantine Leaflet Series: *The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary According to Byzantine Rite Tradition*)

Weekly Collection 8,	
Offertory	\$385.00
Holy days	\$15.00
Candles	\$19.00
Visitors	\$12.00
USCCB/Communicat	\$40.00
Total	\$471.00
Thank you to the generous supporters and benefactors of our parish.	