

THE TRUE VINE



Beloved in the Lord,

I pray that the change in the seasons has been a joy and blessing to you all; it seems only yesterday that we were gathered in the late summer heat for the Festival, and now, with the cool weather fully arrived and Thanksgiving just around the corner, we know that the darkness of winter, the light of Christmas, and the turn of the New Year are fast approaching. May the Lord sustain you all in the joys and challenges of these days.

As we have taken the opportunity this year to talk about the foundations of a healthy life in Christ, not just as a parish community, but individually in each of our lives, we summed up last time the three pillars of the spiritual life that accompany our regular worship at the Divine Liturgy each week: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. We will take the opportunity here to discuss these in somewhat more depth, as the way in which we can make space for the Lord in our homes and daily life. We will speak of these only in general terms, because each of us is different, and requires a different spiritual medicine, so one person’s rule of prayer or fasting may look very different from another’s. If you have any questions about how to approach these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me; guidance in these questions is one of the primary responsibilities of the parish priest.

Prayer

A rule of prayer is nothing more than the discipline of beginning and ending each day with prayer. This prayer may be brief in the extreme; it is less important that it be long, and far more important that it be consistent. If we have never kept a rule of prayer before, then the place to start is simply to make the sign of the Cross when we first set our feet upon the floor in the morning, and to do the same immediately before we climb into bed.

Once we have established this as a habit, it is appropriate that we should build upon it, and add a period of silence before and after, to inhabit our own self and to stand before God, and a simple prayer. This simple prayer may be as brief as “Lord Jesus, help me!” (or even more simply: “HELP!” if that is indeed the heartfelt cry of our innermost self). It is important that our prayer be honest, and that we do not try to pretend to be other than we are when we stand before God. At this stage, our rule of prayer may look like 5 seconds of silence, then making the sign of the Cross, saying “Help!” to the Lord, followed 5 more seconds of silence, and from there proceeding with the rest of our day.

But once again, what we do and say is less important than that we do it consistently. We need to keep our rule consistently, without fail, no matter what has happened, or what we have done in the course of the day. Even if we have sinned gravely that day, or even that hour...ESPECIALLY if we have done so. When we have fallen, we need to get back up again, and seek the help of the Lord. This is the point of consistency in prayer, so that whatever happens in between, we begin and end the day by turning towards the Lord, by being present with Him (which helps us to remember that He is always present with us). With this as a beginning, we may gradually learn to remain present with the Lord throughout the day.

Over time, as our prayer rule grows, we may find ourselves ready for a prayer book. There are many of these available for the Orthodox Christian, and are available from the book cart operated by our Philoptochos, as well as from every other Orthodox website and store. You can even find a Prayer Book on the App Store! These prayers are often helpful, but they can be distracting as well; it is important, whatever we add on to our prayers, that we never fail to fulfill our rule of prayer.

Finally, we should say a word about family prayer. This is a difficult discipline to begin, but it is very important to do so. We may begin together simply with the Trisagion Prayers, or even with the Lord’s Prayer; over time, families may decide to start praying through the Psalter, perhaps using one Psalm each morning or evening. As with private prayer, it is less important what our family prayers are than that we

November 2022

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At The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church parish, we continue to live out the ancient faith of Orthodox Christianity in a way that is relevant to today. We practice unity in essentials, diversity in non-essentials, and charity in all things. We welcome all to come and worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit with us as it was done in the first days of Christianity, and has now continued for over 2,000 years in our Lord’s One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Orthodox Church.



do them consistently and without fail. Even a short rule of prayer, in which we stand together before the icons in our home and turn our hearts and faces toward the Lord, will be a source of stability and peace to our family life.

Fasting

Fasting is perhaps the most misunderstood discipline of the Christian life. It looks like a simple matter: don't eat certain foods at certain times. That the rule is more complicated, with "oil and wine" days, "fast-free weeks," and so forth, only increases the likelihood that we will misunderstand what the point of the thing is. A great many of us tend to think that God wants us to fast for some obscure, imponderable, and perhaps even arbitrary reason, and that the main point of Christian fasting is simply obedience to and blind faith in God.

In truth, what food we do and don't eat is very far from the main point. The eating and not eating of food is not the primary goal of the Christian life, any more than the food that an athlete does and doesn't eat is the primary point of their life. For the Christian, as for the athlete, the food is a means to a greater end. Athletes maintain a certain diet in order to build muscle, to provide energy, and to sustain their training regimen. Christians maintain a certain rule of eating to establish and sustain a life of faithful relationship with God. And as we can break down the "science" of the athletic diet, and comprehend the purpose of each food that is included or excluded in that diet, we can do the same with the Christian Fast.

The first principle of Christian Fasting is "making space." We eat less, creating what we experience as empty space within ourselves, establishing and embracing a sense of hunger. This, by itself, is only the first step, and it is where we very often fail. Once we have created space within ourselves, established a reality of hunger, we experience within ourselves the old adage that "Nature abhors a vacuum," as generally the other appetites rush in to fill the space created by the hunger. Most of us who have attempted to fast have experienced the reality in which we limit our eating all day long, and arrive home at night tired and hungry, and find ourselves watching the television or scrolling through our phone or entertaining ourselves in any number of other ways, trying to fill the void created by our "fasting."

This is why the second principle of the Christian Fast is "filling the space," which is to say, immediately and proactively redirecting our hunger, our desire and yearning to be filled, towards other things...toward the things of God. Fasting is not just limiting what we eat (or else it would be only another diet), but is always completed in prayer, in spiritual reading, and in faithful actions. It is not just an active turning away from one source of sustenance, but is incomplete until we have turned towards the True Source of fulfillment. When we are fasting, we **MUST** be praying more regularly or intensely, reading Scripture, engaging in acts of charity and love for others...or else we will find ourselves doing other things that are unworthy of the Lord Who has called us by His holy Name.

For this reason, the most important thing about Fasting is that we do it in this way, **BOTH** limiting our food intake, and increasing our intake of spiritual nourishment. What this looks like, in practical terms, at a beginner's level, is that we simply eat a little bit less of what we would normally eat, and immediately turn our hearts and minds toward the Lord in prayer, seeking His mercy and immersing ourselves in His truth and love. We might eat only a bite less at dinner, but actively give thanks to God for the good things that we have received from Him, and take a moment to say the Jesus Prayer as we clear our dishes: "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me!"

This is only a beginning, of course, but one who fasts in this way is doing far better than the one who refrains perfectly from meat, fish, dairy, wine, AND oil for weeks on end, but has entirely abandoned any active prayer. And of course, over time, our discipline of fasting will grow, and these two basic principles of "making space" and "filling the space" will see us living more and more deeply in communion with the Lord.

Almsgiving

The third spiritual discipline is almsgiving, and this, like fasting, is very often misunderstood. We tend to think that this is primarily a matter of money, of what we give to those who are in need. Certainly, giving of what we possess to those who possess less is a natural and necessary part of almsgiving, but what we must remember is that the Greek work that almsgiving translates in Scripture is ἐλεημοσύνη, which simply means "merciful action."

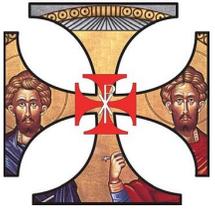
What this means is that "almsgiving" may be anything that we do in the course of our daily lives that is an act of mercy, grace, and love. Almsgiving can be a hug, a look, a word of sympathy or encouragement, the time that we take to listen to someone who is in pain, a favor that we do for a loved one who is overwhelmed, or even silence. It should always be accompanied by prayer, asking for the mercy of the Lord on ourselves and those to whom we are seeking to show mercy. And almsgiving is one of the essential acts by which we can "fill the space" when we are fasting.

Spiritual Direction

In all of these disciplines, it is right and proper that we should have recourse to the guidance of the Church. We can seek this in the many books that are available to guide us in building these disciplines in our lives, but the parish priest is usually the most accessible and appropriate place to begin. We can ask for his suggestions and guidance at any time, but discussion of these matters is a natural and normal part of the sacrament of Confession. As we are now approaching the beginning of the Nativity Fast, it is a good time to schedule a Confession. You can contact the Church office, or reach out to me directly, if you prefer, in order to do so.

May the Lord richly bless you all, and grant you His peace and love, especially in the approaching holiday season!

With love in Christ,
+Fr. Anthony Cook



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Philoptochos Anniversary:

Sunday, November 6 will be the celebration of Philoptochos 91st Anniversary. Baskets for donations for the Patriarchate will be passed. Philoptochos will sponsor a light-lunch coffee hour that Sunday. Suzanne Hambrick-Zonars will have a table for 2023 membership.



Membership: It is time to start thinking about 2023 membership fees.

Membership Chair Suzanne Zonars Hambrick is collecting the \$30 fee. You can put your check in the Membership box in the Community Center lobby, give to Suzanne, or mail to Suzanne Zonars-Hambrick, 322 Kenderton Trail, Beavercreek, Ohio 45430. Please remember to put “dues” on the memo line. A portion of the membership money goes to National and Metropolis Philoptochos. We welcome all ladies 18 or older to join Philoptochos. You may participate as little or as much as your time allows. It’s a great way to get to know people better.

Veteran’s Day: Sunday, November 13, Philoptochos will honor our service men and women. Parishioners who are in church that day will sing “God Bless America.” If you have a current or former military member in your family or a friend, thank them for their commitment and service to our country. We owe our freedom to them. Chairs are Diane Briggs and Ruthann Zavakos.

November Community Care Ministry: Hats and Mittens for Edison School! Philoptochos has been donating hats and mittens to Edison School since 1990! For 32 years, many children have been kept warm through the cold winter months because of your love and generosity. There will be a Christmas tree in the Community Center lobby to hang hats and mittens collected for Edison School. Monetary donations go towards the purchase of school uniforms. You can put your donation in the red box in the lobby of the Community Center or send donations to CCM Treasurer, Michelle Zois at 111 Diamond Drive, Centerville 45458 with “Nov. CCM” in the memo line. Chairs: Katina Tsatalis and Nadine Shamma.

Save the Date: The Philoptochos Christmas luncheon is **Thursday, December 1** at the Moraine Country Club. More information on page 4.

PHILOPTOCHOS

**SCARVES, HATS,
GLOVES & MITTENS**

**BENEFITING
EDISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Kindly drop the items to be put on the Christmas tree at the entrance of the church hall
OR
Monetary Donations are also greatly appreciated!
Mail checks to: *Michelle Zois*
111 Diamond Drive Centerville, OH 45458

Nadine Shamma & Katina Tsatalis
937.266.1910 nadinesshamma@gmail.com
Thank you for your support

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Hannah’s Treasure Chest: Missions and Outreach will be volunteering only on **Thursday, November 10** from 1:00-3:00pm. Join us!

Giving Angels: Sign up today to brighten the holidays of one or more of our local families in need! The Missions and Outreach Committee of our Annunciation community will be sponsoring FOUR families through the Giving Angels program. There are two ways our church members can help:

1. Sponsor a child and buy the wish list gifts
2. Donate money and we will do the shopping!



We will have a table in the community center with all the details about our Giving Angels families on **November 6, November 13 & November 20**. Have questions or need more information? - see Maria McFarland (937) 409-9876.



TIDINGS OF JOY!

PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

December 1st, 2022
Social Hour ~ 11:00
Lunch Served ~ Noon

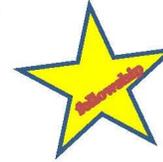
Moraine Country Club

Final Reservations are Sunday, November 20
Cash or Check to "Philoptochos" ~ \$35.00 Child ~ \$12.00
Contact is Mary Caudell ~ Reservation Chair ~ 937-836-7379

*We will collect monetary donations for
Schneider House of Hope and items, to be
announced, for Artemis Domestic
Violence Center
~ 2023 Membership Dues \$30.00*

Featured Menu
*GRIST GNOCCHI
With Local
Mushrooms,
Butternut Squash,
White Wine, Creamy
Brown Butter Sauce,
Tossed with Arugula
and Served with
Parmesan Crisps*

For the Children
*Macaroni and Cheese
Fruit Cup*



PARISH REGISTRY

Baptisms
10/15
Alexander Spyrou

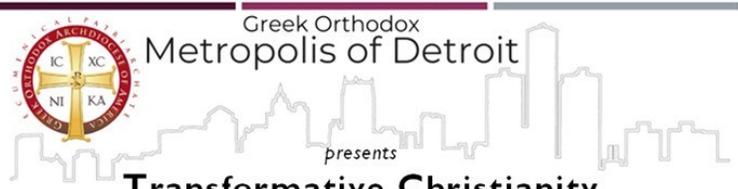
Chrismations
10/9
Michael Sheffer

Funerals
10/26
James Ellis

Memorials
11/20
James Ellis

TRANSFORMATIVE CHRISTIANITY WEBINAR

The next Transformative Christianity Webinar is Wednesday, **November 2 at 7pm**. The topic is: "Look at me! The Trap of Vainglory" A talk about the passion of vainglory with Fr. Angelo Maggos. We will gather in the Athenagoras room just before 7pm to participate. Join us!



Transformative Christianity Webinar Series

*Join us for a 10-part webinar series to find out what
Orthodox Christianity
really has to offer to us and to the world!*

Wednesday, November 2, 2022
7:00 PM ET / 6:00 PM CT

Session 9 ~ "Look at Me! The Trap of Vainglory"
A talk about the passion of Vainglory
with Fr. Angelo Maggos



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE & AHEPA NEWS

It's time to place your order for tsourekia! Our tsourekia, in partnership with Boosalis Baking, is the perfect addition for your Christmas gathering, as a gift for a friend, to snack on, or even to make french toast! Please see below for details.

We welcome two new members initiated in October: Athie Zavakos and Sophia Blessing. Athie serves as a Parish Council member and is our DOP Liaison with PC. Sophia is a past Maids of Athena District Governor and now has "dual-membership" with DOP along with her MOA membership.

Daughters of Penelope would love to welcome back previous members and new members! The Mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence. We are a part of the Order of AHEPA, in other words, the AHEPA Family; this also includes our junior order, the Maids of Athena. For returning members, your reinstatement fee is waived during the month of November and your dues of \$45 will cover for 2022 and 2023! Please contact Alexis Brun, Chapter President, agrkblsng22@gmail.com, (937)219-0463 - daughtersofpenelope.org/history.html

DOP is a part of the national Order of AHEPA (men's group), this also includes our junior order, the Maids of Athena (young ladies); thus we are the AHEPA Family. The Mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence. We strive to fulfill the mission in a variety of ways. Each month we volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House preparing breakfast and dinner for the families staying there. We actively partner with our Maids of Athena in order to strengthen relationships, mentor, and empower them. Our support of the Buckeye Scholarship Foundation results in helping our youth achieve their dreams through college scholarships. We certainly value the bond of family and friends, including those with our DOP Sisters and Brother AHEPans. And we continue to promote the awareness of historical Hellenic contributions to our society in the past and well as now, which continues to help fulfill the ambitions and dreams of the immigrant forbearers that worked so hard while carrying Hellenism in their heart. This is just a small sample of what we accomplish with our Dayton Chapter, but we are a part of something much bigger; the AHEPA Family continues to make positive impacts across the United States and around the world.

Next DOP meeting is **Thursday, November 10**, at church. Please feel free to arrive as early as 5:30pm, we will have light refreshments and our meeting at 6:15pm.

Daughters of Penelope Christmas Tsoureki or Cranberry Bread Sale!

In partnership with Boosalis Baking and Café we are offering tsoureki or cranberry bread for \$8.00 each (lb. loaf). The deadline for orders is December 11th.

Orders may be picked up at the:
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
**Saturday, December 17th or Sunday,
December 18th from 11am-1pm**

To place an order, please contact:
Charrie Regopoulos at 937-623-2794 or email:
charrie.rego@aol.com
Please make checks payable to DOP.

MAIDS OF ATHENA FUNDRAISER

Please join us for a fundraiser DIY class at AR Workshop Centerville on **Sunday, December 4 from 4pm-6pm**. There are several wood or canvas projects to choose from. During the workshop, we will walk you through color selection and techniques with your choice of designer paints and non-toxic stain colors. Let's Raise Money for the MAIDS of ATHENA! 20% of all registrations go back to your organization. To register for this event, visit arworkshop.com/event/?loc=centerville&ev=341182 and use the passcode "DIY."



	October 30-November 5	November 6-12	November 13-19
Sunday	30 6th Sunday of Luke ✘ <i>Galatians 1:11-19 Luke 8:26-39</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Catechism School Coffee Hour	6 7th Sunday of Luke ✘ Youth Sunday <i>Galatians 2:16-20 Luke 8:41-56</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Catechism School Coffee Hour GOYA Book Club	13 8th Sunday of Luke ✘ <i>Hebrews 7:26-28;8:1-2 Luke 10:25-37</i> Orthros, 8:15a/Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Veteran's Day Remembrance/Catechism School Coffee Hour/Greek Festival Town Hall Mtg. Parish Council Elections Feather Party, 5p
Monday	31 Stachys, Andrew, Amplias, Apelles, Urban, Aristobulus & Narcissus of the 70 <i>Romans 16:1-16, Luke 11:29-33</i> Adult Catechism, 7p	7 33 Martyrs of Melitene <i>Colossians 2:13-20 Luke 12:13-15, 22-31</i> Greek school, 5:30p Adult Catechism class, 7p	14 Phillip the Apostle <i>I Corinthians 4:9-16 John 1:43-51</i> Greek school, 5:30p Adult Catechism, 7p
Tuesday	1 Cosmas and Damian the Holy Unmercenarys of Asia, and their mother Theodota <i>I Corinthians 12:27-31;13:1-8 Matthew 10:1, 5-8</i>	8 Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, & Barachiel <i>I Corinthians 12:27-31;13:1-8 Matthew 10:1, 5-8</i>	15 Guria, Shamuna, & Habib Martyrs of Edessa Nativity Fast Begins <i>I Thessalonians 1:6-10 Luke 14:25-35</i>
Wednesday	2 St. The Holy Martyrs Acindynos, Pegasios, Aphthonios, Elpidophoros, etc <i>Col. 1:18-23; Luke 11:42-46</i> Transformative Christianity Webinar 7p	9 St. Nektarios <i>Ephesians 5:8-19 Matthew 4:25, 5:1-12</i> Orthros & Typika w/Communion @ 9:00a Zoom Bible Study, 7p	16 Matthew the Apostle ↵ <i>Romans 10:11-21;11:1-2 Matthew 9:9-13</i> Parish Council Meeting, 6:30p Zoom Bible Study, 7:30/8p?
Thursday	3 Acepshimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter, & Aeithalas <i>Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1 Luke 11:47-54; 12:1</i> Philoptochos Meeting, 10a Choir rehearsal, 6p	10 Erastus, Olympas, Rodion, Sosipater, Quartus, & Tertios, Apostles of the 70 ✘ <i>Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1 Luke 11:47-54; 12:1</i> Young at Heart Luncheon, 11:30a DOP/AHEPA Meeting, 6pm Choir rehearsal, 6p	17 Gregory the Wonderworker & Bishop of Neo-Caesarea ↵ <i>Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1 Luke 11:47-54; 12:1</i> Choir rehearsal, 6p
Friday	4 Joannicius the Great <i>Colossians 2:1-7 Luke 12:2-12</i>	11 Meanas of Egypt <i>II Corinthians 4:6-15 Luke 13:31-35</i>	18 Plato the Great Martyr of Ancyra <i>I Thessalonians 2:14-20 Luke 16:15-18; 17:1-4</i>
Saturday	5 Bishop Raphael of Brooklyn <i>II Corinthians 3:12-18 Luke 9:1-6</i>	12 John the Merciful <i>II Corinthians 9:6-11 Matthew 5:14-19</i> GOYA @ Kettering Backpack, 11am HOPE/JOY Fall Event, 3pm	19 Obadiah the Prophet ↵ <i>II Corinthians 8:1-5 Luke 9:57-62</i>

Fast days are shaded ✘Liturgy ❖Other Service ↵fish/wine/oil allowed ↵wine/oil allowed

	November 20-26	November 27-December 3	December 4-10
Sunday	20 9th Sunday of Luke ✕↔ <i>Ephesians 2:4-10 Luke 12:16-21</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Catechism School Coffee Hour	27 13th Sunday of Luke ✕↔ <i>Ephesians 2:14-22 Luke 18:18-27</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Coffee Hour	4 10th Sunday of Luke ✕↔ Youth Sunday <i>Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 Luke 13:10-17</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a Catechism School Coffee Hour GOYA Book Study
Monday	21 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple ✕↔ <i>Ephesians 2:4-10 Luke 12:16-21</i> Orthros, 8:15a Liturgy, 9:30a Greek school, 5:30p	28 Stephen the New ✕↔ <i>Ephesians 2:4-10 Luke 12:16-21</i> Greek school, 5:30p Adult Catechism, 7p	5 Sabbas the Sanctified ✕↔ <i>Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2 Matthew 11:27-30</i> Greek school, 5:30p Adult Catechism, 7p
Tuesday	22 Archippus the Apostle, Philemon the Apostle & his wife, Apphia, Onesimos the Disciple of Paul ↔ <i>Philemon 1:1-25 Luke 17:26-37; 18:8</i>	29 Paramonus, Philumenus, and their 370 Companion Martyrs in Bithynia ↔ <i>II Thessalonians 1:10-12; 2:1-2 Luke 19: 45-48</i>	6 Nicholas the Wonder-worker ✕↔ <i>Hebrews 13:17-21 Luke 6:17-23</i> Orthros, 8:15a Divine Liturgy, 9:30a
Wednesday	23 Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium <i>I Thessalonians 4:1-12 Luke 18:15-17, 26-30</i>	30 Andrew the First-Called ✕↔ <i>I Corinthians 4:9-16 John 1:35-51</i> Orthros & Typika w/Communion @ 9:00a Zoom Bible Study, 7p	7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan <i>I Timothy 1:18-20; 2:8-15 Luke 21:5-8, 10-11, 20-24</i> Zoom Bible Study, 7p
Thursday	24 Our Holy Father Clement, Pope of Rome ↔ <i>Philippians 3:20-21; 4:1-3 Luke 18:31-34</i> Choir rehearsal, 6p	1 Nahum the Prophet ↔ <i>II Thessalonians 2:13-17; 3:1-5 Luke 20:9-18</i> Philoptochos Christmas Party @ Moraine CC, 10a Choir rehearsal, 6p	8 Forefeast of the Conception by St. Anna of the Theotokos ↗ <i>I Timothy 3:1-13 Luke 21:28-33</i> Young at Heart Luncheon, 11:30a Choir rehearsal, 6p
Friday	25 Catherine the Great Martyr of Alexandria <i>Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 Mark 5:24-34</i>	2 Habakkuk the Prophet <i>Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 Mark 5:24-34</i> GOYA Christmas Party @ Washington Twp. RecPlex, 5pm	9 Conception by St. Anna of the Theotokos <i>Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 8:16-21</i>
Saturday	26 Alypius the Stylite ↔ <i>II Corinthians 11:1-6 Luke 10:19-21</i>	3 The Holy Prophet Sophonias (Zephaniah) ↔ <i>Galatians 1:3-10 Luke 12:32-40</i> Greek Holiday Market	10 Means, Hermogenes & Eugegraphos ↔ <i>Galatians 3:8-12 Luke 13:19-29</i> GOYA @ Kettering Backpack, 11am

CATECHISM SCHOOL NEWS

The
Dayton Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Catechism School and Greek School
present...

The Annual Christmas Program
Co-Directed by Rebecca James and Margarita Ronayne

Join us immediately after Divine Liturgy on
Sunday, December 18, 2022
for a luncheon and in-person performance

Fire Drill

Thank you to David Casey, our Dayton Fire Department liaison, who facilitated our fire drill.

Your Home: The Little Church

November Ideas for families to Live Orthodoxy from Catechism School

The Nativity Fast begins on November 15th!

- **Watch:** Be the Bee "Fasting & Feasting with Thanks"
- Begin decorating and start a 40-day Advent Calendar

Other ideas for your family

Saints are our heroes...share their stories!

- November 1 - SS. Cosmas and Damian (The Holy Unmercenaries)
- November 8 - Feast day of the Archangels Gabriel and Michael
- November 9 - St. Nektarios the Wonderworker (the patron saint of those afflicted with cancer)
- November 17 - St. Gregory the Wonderworker
- November 25 - St. Catherine the Great Martyr
- November 30 - St. Andrew the First Called

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

Our staff, students, parents and even some grandparents enjoyed the 15th Annual Fall party at Hills and Dales park. It is always fun to start the school year with the opportunity to meet, enjoy the fellowship and welcome our new students to our Greek school family. Last week we learned about and celebrated OXI Day, (October 28th, National Holiday) with a play and a parade on the school premises. Our staff is extremely grateful to the Annunciation Investment Fund committee for making it possible to purchase smart TVs for our classrooms. Both Greek and Catechism schools are enjoying the new learning opportunities.



JOY/HOPE EVENT

Join us on **Saturday, November 12** from 3:00-5:00pm at the church for a talk on charity, some arts and crafts, some games AND bring canned goods to donate to our local food pantry. Hope to see everyone! Questions? Call Maria at 937-409-9876.



UPCOMING GOYA EVENTS

November 6—Meeting and book club right after Sunday school

November 12—Kettering Backpack, 11a

December 2—Christmas party @ Washington Twp Rec Center and Woodland Lights, 5p

December 4—Meeting and book club after Sunday school

December 10—Kettering backpack program



BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER

The mountains are calling me....

I take an annual hike to Mt. LeConte Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park with my daughter. It's our gift to each other for all of the holidays for the year. It's really about the time we spend together more than anything. The only way to reach the lodge is by hiking up one of five different trails. The shortest is 5 miles one way. The longest? About 9 miles one way. The lodge is open for overnight hikers from mid-March to late November, closing the day before Thanksgiving for the winter.



I was lucky to get an additional single night reservation for the week of Thanksgiving. I'm happy that my high school Senior granddaughter will be hiking with me. She has joined the Air Force and this will be the last trip for us to spend dedicated time together for a few years. We will hike up and have dinner in the dining hall with the other overnight hikers, hike to Cliff Tops to see the sunset, sleep overnight in our cabin (rustic with no hot or cold running water, wool blankets and a propane heater for warmth) and then have breakfast in the dining hall the next morning before hiking back down the mountain. I can't wait and she says that she is excited about going. I'm in training for that steep climb. Life is good.

Stewardship

Stewardship has many names. Tithing, Giving, Pledging, Stewardship, Monthly or Annual Church Dues - they all mean the same thing. As a Steward your family makes a commitment to the church to pay a certain amount of money annually to help defray the costs of running the parish. You decide what that amount is. You can pay weekly, monthly semi-annually or annually. The choice is yours with what works for you and your family financially.

Please make every effort to pay what you owe for your 2022 Stewardship Pledge as soon as you can. Don't know what your balance is? Just give me a call at 937-224-0601 or send me an email to accountant@daytonannunciation.org I'm happy to send you an itemized statement.

Your continued support of the parish community is greatly appreciated!

In Closing...

Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean...

- John Muir quoted by Samuel Hall Young in *Alaska Days with John Muir* (1915)

YOUNG AT HEART THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

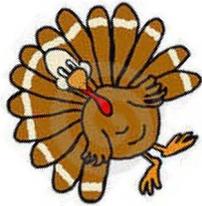
We will have our Thanksgiving luncheon prepared by The Spot and sponsored by AIF on **Thursday, November 10** at 11:30am. Karin Nevius from the Area Agency on Aging will speak to us about "Living a healthy life with chronic health conditions." Looking forward to seeing everyone!

GREEK HOLIDAY MARKET DRIVE-THRU

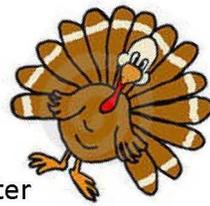
**Saturday December 3rd 2022
from 10am-6pm**

Questions? See Christina Stephens-Panagouleas or Maria Powers.

If interested helping during this whole event, please contact Maria Powers 937-562-1094 or makapo1971@gmail.com. More info to come.



Feather Party



Church Memorial Center

(Dayton – Annunciation Greek Church)

Sunday, November 13th at 5:00 pm SHARP!

PRIZES



A fun filled, casual night for all



Free Admission – As little as \$5.00 to play most of the evening



Food/Baked Goods/ Pop Available for purchase



Prizes given throughout the night to game winners...including:

- Turkeys and Hams
- Pies from THE SPOT
- Wine from THE MARKET
- Gift Certificates
- Other Prizes include:
Large Screen TV, Electronic Tablet and many more

Church Fundraiser

Fellowship

Family Fun

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CLERGY, STAFF & PARISH COUNCIL

Clergy

Rev. Fr. Anthony Cook
Presiding Priest
franthy@daytonannunciation.org

Parish Council

Jim Haubrock
President

Isidora Tsonis-Margioras
Vice President

Stavro Ververis
Secretary

Demetri Inempolidis
Treasurer

Members:

Linda Bouris
Christina Day
Mary Haritos
Linda Kididis
Matt McAlpine
Chris Pulos
Nick Regopoulos
Kenya Smith
Stacey Tipler
Athena Zavakos

Office Staff

Erin Caldwell
Office Manager/Rental Coordinator
erin.caldwell@daytonannunciation.org

Brenda Day
Bookkeeper
accountant@daytonannunciation.org

Deborah Stringfield
Parish Administrative Assistant
office@daytonannunciation.org

Building Staff

Ty Lambert
Facilities Specialist

Renda Humphreys
Housekeeping

Bernie Clair
Housekeeping

TALK ON EVENING WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S

St. Paul's is hosting a talk entitled "EVENING WORSHIP IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH" on **November 18 at 7pm.**

The talk is free and a light reception will follow. The presenter is Fr. Steven Kostoff. Fr. Steven is an Archpriest of the Orthodox Church in America. He's the dean of the Indianapolis deanery in the diocese of the Midwest. Since 1989, he has served as the pastor of Christ the Savior – Holy Spirit Orthodox Church in Norwood, Ohio, and as a member of the adjunct faculty at Xavier University, in Cincinnati. He and his wife, Presvytera Deborah, have three children and four grandchildren.



To register, visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/3Ntz09C>

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

This year’s Parish Council Election will be held on **November 13, 2022**. There are five candidates running for five open positions on the council; biographical information on the candidates was emailed to the parish on 10/31.



The election will be held in-person in the Athenagoras Room in the Church Memorial Center from 11:30am-2:00pm. Only parishioners in good standing as defined by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Regulations and the Parish By-Laws will be permitted to vote.

Thank you!
Sue Bacas, Mary McDonald, Connie Zavakos—*Election Committee*

CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

We are happy to introduce our new Facilities Specialist Ty Lambert! Please introduce yourself when you see him around the building. Welcome, Ty! Ty’s email address is maintenance@daytonannunciation.org. Please continue to use the maintenance request form found on the church website for maintenance needs.

PHILOPTOCHOS GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

Philoptochos has a Good Samaritan fund to help members of our church community who are in need. If you, or a family member, need help please know that this is all kept confidential between the Priest, Philoptochos president and Philoptochos treasurer. Please contact Philoptochos president, Cindy Keilholz, at cinlamkeil@gmail.com or 937-974-8841 or Philoptochos treasurer, Libby Stamas at lstamas54@yahoo.com or 937-416-0886 for any questions or needs.

2022 CHRISTMAS CARD & FLOWERS

Community Christmas Card

The parish is preparing a Community Christmas Greeting Card to offer you the opportunity to share your wishes for a spiritually rewarding Christmas season and a blessed New Year with your church friends. We invite every family to participate and have your name included in this year’s Community Christmas Card. A minimum donation of \$20 is required to include your name on this attractive card.



Christmas Flowers

Also, many of you look forward to donating flowers for the Nativity/Christmas season. We are accepting donations of \$20 for flowers. Thank you!

Sign up forms are available on the information table in the Community Center and one is included below:

Christmas Flowers/Christmas Card Donations

Fresh Flower Donation:	Christmas Card Donation
(\$20) _____	(\$20) _____
Total: _____	



Names to be listed in the Christmas Card:



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

MAKE AN IMPACT BY JOINING THE FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS END-OF-YEAR APPEAL

WHY OUR FRIENDS MATTER?

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation. The devoted stewards of the Friends program become coworkers in Christ's vineyard - assisting in the development of ministries and initiatives which strengthen our faith and our joint ministry of service.

If you are not already a Friend of the Metropolis, I invite you to join us in supporting the ongoing ministries of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit.

Thank you for your kind and generous response.
With paternal blessings and prayers, I remain,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

MORE INFO AT: WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE



NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL

MOBILE NO.

PARISH NAME

CITY/STATE

CREDIT CARD

CHECK

MONEY ORDER

CREDIT CARD NO.

EXP. DATE

CVC NO.

TOTAL DONATION IN \$

SIGNATURE

Make checks payable to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit. Fill out this card and send it with payment to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit - 2560 Crooks Road - Troy, MI 48084