

THE TRUE VINE

Beloved in the Lord,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Christ is Risen!

Last month we wrote to you from the midst of the Lenten Fast, with our minds and hearts full of the sober reflections and quiet services of that period. We knew that the great celebration of the Lord's Resurrection was coming, but for us all, the time for joy was not yet come. Now we write from the aftermath of His glorious triumph over death, with our memory full of the singing of *Christ is Risen!*, the smells of the flowers of the Kouvouklion Holy Friday and the bay leaves of His triumph on Holy Saturday, and the sight of the Church filling with candlelight at Pascha itself, as we received the light of the Lord's victory in the middle of the darkness. There is no joy in life that is quite like that of Pascha; we pray that this joy has been full for all of you, and that the hope and assurance of our Lord's Life and Resurrection will sustain all of us in the months and years to come, so that we may all remain always with the Lord, and united with one another in the joy of the Lord.

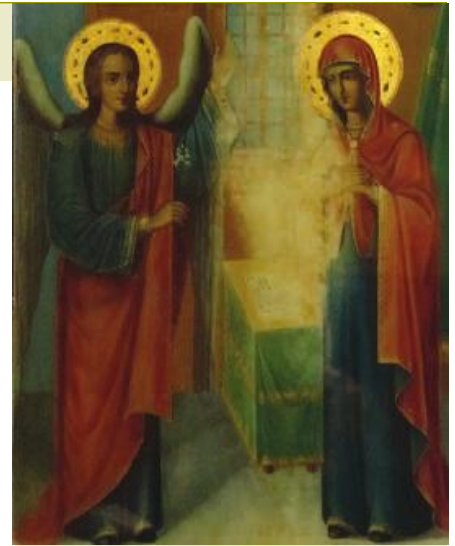
Spring Drive-Thru

Our parish community remains very active. Preparations for the coming Spring Drive-Thru May 5-7 have kept the community center buzzing with the shaping and baking of all our favorite pastries, and our hallways are filled now with equipment for the Drive-Thru. We have been blessed with a strong response from the parish community for all of these preparations, but we still need more volunteers to run the actual Drive-Thru. As with our normal Fall Festival, participating in this work is an opportunity for us to work together and laugh together, building more strongly the bonds of our parish family, and I ask you all to come and join us in this blessed labor. You can contact Andrea Casey or any of the booth chairs to volunteer, and I look forward to seeing you there!

Informational Booklet Project

We continue our work to create an informational booklet for our parish, a guide to the services and sacraments, ministries and organizations of the Church, and how our Faithful can request and participate in the grace and blessings of the Lord throughout our lives. It will also provide a glimpse into the Priest's Prayer Book, and what our clergy are able to offer, including prayers and services beyond the basics of Baptism & Marriage. In this space, then, we will publish draft versions of the planned elements of this booklet, for the information of the Faithful, and also to help us identify any changes that need to be made before we go to press.

In April, we talked about the Sacrament of Baptism, by which we are initiated into life in Christ in His Holy Church, and how it is for each of us a personal Pascha, our participation in the death and resurrection of our Lord. In May, then, we will talk about the other Sacrament that completes that initiation and makes us fully members of the Body of Christ: the Sacrament of Chrismation.



May 2023

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Chrismation - the Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit

The Sacrament of Chrismation is one that every Orthodox Christian has seen and experienced, but often without being aware that it has happened. In our most normal experience of Baptism, the baptism of infants, Chrismation is integrated into that service, and it happens so quickly that it is easy to miss it, placed as it is in direct sequence with the hullabaloo of the baby's immersion, drying off, and dressing. So - Chrismation is the anointing of the newly baptized child with "The Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit," after which everyone present is asked to affirm "Amen," several times, while the priest anoints the child's face, senses, hands, and feet with this fragrant anointing oil of the Church.

We see the Sacrament of Chrismation more visibly and prominently when we bring into the Orthodox Church those who have previously been baptized in other Christian confessions, such as Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, Reformed Christians, or Baptists. Those who have been previously baptized in water in the name of the Trinity, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, are by ancient tradition not brought into the Church by baptism. Rather, after a period of faithful attendance at the regular services of the Church, of catechetical instruction and study, and engagement in the spiritual disciplines of the Church, such "converts" are brought into the Church with the sacrament of Chrismation, and thus become full members of the Body of Christ, and full participants in the Eucharistic life of the Church.

Chrismation - a Personal Pentecost

The above outlines what Chrismation is, when it happens, and who receives this anointing, but it leaves out what Chrismation means. As baptism is inextricably connected with Pascha, with Passover in the Old Testament and the Lord's Death and Resurrection in the New Testament, so too Chrismation is connected with Pentecost, with the sealing of the people of God as His "priestly people" in the Old Testament upon their arrival at Mount Sinai, and with the descent of the Holy Spirit to ordain and empower the Apostles on the day of Pentecost in the New Testament, as described in the book of Acts.

To consider this in full would be more lengthy than this space allows, but in brief, we may say that Passover leads God's people *out* of slavery, while Pentecost leads God's people *in* to a new life of communion and participation in God's work of salvation in this world. In the Old Testament, Pentecost celebrates the arrival of the newly freed Israelites at Mount Sinai 50 days after the Passover (hence "Pentecost," which means "50th" in Greek). In particular, Pentecost celebrates the Covenant that God makes with them there, sealing them as His priestly people, as the means by which He will reconcile all nations with Himself, first with a sprinkling and anointing with the blood of a sacrifice, and eventually with the consecration of the House of God and the priesthood to serve in it, accomplished with the anointing with a "chrism," the fragrant anointing oil of the Covenant.

In the New Testament, Pentecost serves the same role. By His death and resurrection, our Lord Jesus Christ has delivered all of humankind out of slavery to death and sin, and from the domination of evil spiritual powers. But at Pentecost, with the anointing and overshadowing of the nascent Church in the Upper Room by the Holy Spirit, He brings His Faithful *in* to the fulfillment of that ancient purpose, so that St. Peter can speak of the Church as "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people set apart by God, so that they should show forth the praises of the Lord, Who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

For the one who has been baptized, then, Chrismation does the same thing. In our Baptism, passing through the waters of baptism, we are brought through the valley of the shadow of death, led out of slavery to sin and death by the Lord Who has trampled down death by death. In our Chrismation, we are anointed and overshadowed and

empowered by the Holy Spirit, by means of the Chrism, the anointing oil of the Church, and are thus led into the full life of Christ in the world. We thus become partakers of the divine nature, communicants in the Holy Eucharist, recipients of the grace and love of the Lord...and not just recipients, but bearers of that grace, vessels of that love, and instruments of the Lord's salvation in the world.

Planning a Chrismation

In the case of infants, there is no special planning that is required for the sacrament of Chrismation; it is an integral part of the Baptismal service.

For adults, however, who wish to enter the Church, and have been baptized previously in another Christian confession, the course of preparing for Chrismation is simply engaging in the process of Catechesis, under the guidance and direction of the parish priest. That process, as we noted when discussing Baptism, generally takes several months, and ideally not less than a year. The first step is simply to begin attending the Sunday Divine Liturgy regularly; ultimately, the process includes regular attendance at the services of the Church, weekly participation in the Adult Catechesis class on Monday evenings, a course of study (including books, podcasts, and other media) that is tailored to each individual's needs under the guidance of the priest, and a series of meetings with the parish priest.

The next sacrament to discuss is the Eucharist, and along with it, the preparation of Prosfora, the offering bread of the Church. In the meantime; please volunteer for the Drive-Thru, and have a blessed May!

With love in Christ,

+Fr. Anthony Cook

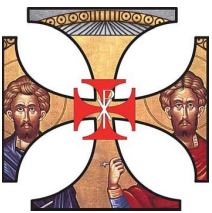
PARISH REGISTRY

Chrisimations

4/8—Jordan Johnson

4/15—Bill Temple

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



May Membership Meeting

Thursday, **May 4th** meeting will be held at 10am in the Athenagoras Room. Board elections will be held for the 2023-2025 term. Refreshments will be served. A Board Meeting of the newly elected Board Members will be held after the regular meeting in the Athenagoras room.

16th Annual Spring Charity Luncheon, Saturday, May 13th

The luncheon will be held at the Presidential Banquet Center located at 4348 Presidential Way, Kettering, 45429. May 1st is the final day for reservations - no exceptions, please. Raffle and Social hour begins at 11:00am. Please arrive no earlier than 11:00am to shop the auction. Raffle tickets will be sold at the event. Cash and credit cards will be accepted. Lunch will be served at 12:15pm. Doors open at 11:00am with one hour before lunch to decide what auction items you love! Please ensure your invitation RSVP is received no later than May 1st. Please respect the May 1st deadline so our reservation chairs can prepare the seating chart.

Palm Sunday Luncheon

Thank you to Linda Bouris, Tina Day and Missy Fote for chairing the Palm Sunday luncheon, April 9. It was a lovely event enjoyed by all.

2023 Annual Dues

Remember to pay your \$30 annual dues to Suzanne Zonars-Hambrick, at 322 Kenderton Trail Beavercreek, OH 45430. Make your check out to Philoptochos and put "2023 dues" in the memo line on your check.

Summer Break

There will be no meetings in June and July.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

We will be volunteering at Hannah's Treasure Chest on **Thursday, May 11**(1:00-3:00) & **Thursday, May 25** (9:00-11:00). Join us if you can. Questions- Maria McFarland 937-409-9876



YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

Hope to see everyone on **Thursday May 18, 2023** at 11:30am for fun, food and fellowship. Sponsored by AIF.

SPRING GREEK DRIVE THRU

We will be having a Spring Drive Thru on **Friday, May 5, and Saturday, May 6, 11:00am to 8:00pm; and Sunday, May 7, Noon to 5:00pm**. This will be as previous drive-thrus, where all orders will be pre-ordered on line with pick-up on the weekend.

We are looking for volunteers who would be available to work the weekend in many capacities. If you are able to volunteer your time, please contact Maria Powers, makapo1971@gmail.com, or 937.562-1094, and let her know your availability and your preference of where you want to work. Stay tuned, there will be more information forthcoming in the near future.

It is a fun weekend of fellowship and we cannot be successful without your help!



FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023
11:00am-7:00pm
SATURDAY, May 6, 2023;
11:00am-7:00pm
SUNDAY, May 7, 2023;
12:00pm-5:00pm

Orders can be placed 4/18 through 5/7.

Pick-up at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church; 500
Belmonte Park N. Dayton, Ohio 45405
937.224.0601

Order at daytongreekfestival.com

 Find us on Facebook: Dayton Greek Festival

MENU:

Chicken Dinner, Gyros, Dolmathes, Spanakopita, Tiropita
Greek Salad, Hummus Plate, Sausage Plate
Pastry Variety Box, Various Pastries, Greek Salad Dressing

AHEPA & DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

Thank you to our community for your monetary donations to support our DOP Polydama #111 Scholarship – This award was established on January 12, 2008 by the Daughters of Penelope Polydama #111 Dayton Chapter, with stipulations that it be awarded to a Dayton, Ohio scholarship recipient with financial need. If there are no eligible recipients from the Dayton area the scholarship can be awarded to a student at the discretion of the Trustees.

This Scholarship was presented starting in June, 2010. Our goal each year is to contribute \$1000 to fund this scholarship. Thank you so much for helping us to reach this goal!

Thank you for supporting our Easter Tsourekia and/or Cranberry Bread Sale in partnership with Boosalis Baking, Matt Boosalis being a local baker and a Brother AHEPAn. We will back again with this sale for Christmas!

It was our pleasure to host the YAH luncheon on **April 20**. Featuring a helpful presentation on wellness, that included chair fitness and keeping our minds engaged. Local Dayton resources were also shared on where to find classes to support our health and mental health wellness.

Our Daughters prepared breakfast and dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on April 22 for the families staying there. Please contact Maria McFarland if you are interested in volunteering in the future.

Our Maids had a successful Lenten Fundraiser, selling the decorative Lambadas. Thank you for supporting their efforts. In turn our Dayton Maids of Athena support Hannah's Treasure Chest, Ronald McDonald House and Giving Angels.

We welcome new members to join our Daughters of Penelope, becoming our Sister in our AHEPA Family. The Mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence (daughtersofpenelope.org). 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.



Questions, please feel free to contact Alexis Brun, Chapter President, agrkbalsng22@gmail.com or (937) 219-0463.

Upcoming Dates:

- Membership meeting Thursday, **May 11** at church beginning at 6:00 pm.
- Dinner with AHEPA and spouses, Thursday, **June 8** (location to be determined)
- Buckeye District Convention in Warren, Ohio, **June 23-24**
- AHEPA Supreme Convention, Las Vegas, NV **July 23-29**
- No meeting in July or August
- Membership meeting, Thursday, September 14 (details TBA)



	April 30-May 6	May 7-13	May 14-20
Sunday	30 The Myrrh-Bearing Women ✱ <i>Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School after Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 12:30pm Iconography Class	7 Sunday of the Paralytic ✱ <i>Acts 9:32-42; John 5:1-15</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy NO Catechism School/Coffee Hour/ GOYA Book Club 12p-5p Spring Greek Drive Thru	14 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman ✱ <i>Acts 11:19-30; John 4:5-42</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 11am Catechism School following communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 12:30pm Iconography Class
Monday	1 3rd Monday after Pascha <i>Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60</i> <i>John 4:46-54</i> 5:30pm Greek school NO Adult Catechism	8 Synaxis of the Holy Powder (or manna) <i>John 21:15-25; 1 John 1:1-7; John 19:25-28, 21:24-25</i> 5:30pm Greek school 7:00pm Adult Catechism	15 Pachomius the Great <i>Acts 12:12-17</i> <i>John 8:42-51</i> 5:30pm Greek school exams 7:15pm Adult Catechism
Tuesday	2 Removal of the Relics of St. Athanasius the Great <i>Hebrews 13:7-16</i> <i>Matthew 5:14-19</i>	9 4th Tuesday after Pascha <i>Acts 10:21-33</i> <i>John 7:1-13</i>	16 Theodore the Sanctified <i>Acts 12:25; 13:1-12</i> <i>John 8:51-59</i> 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday	3 3rd Wednesday after Pascha <i>Acts 8:18-25 John 6:35-39</i> 7pm Transformative Christianity Webinar w/ Fr. Anthony	10 4th Wednesday after Pascha- Mid-Pentecost <i>Acts 14:6-18</i> <i>John 7:14-30</i> 7pm Zoom Bible Study	17 5th Wednesday after Pascha ☞ <i>Acts 13:13-24</i> <i>John 6:5-14</i> 7pm Zoom Bible Study
Thursday	4 3rd Thursday after Pascha <i>Acts 8:26-39; John 6:40-44</i> 10am Philoptochos Meeting 6pm Choir rehearsal	11 Renewal of Constantinople <i>Acts 10:34-43</i> <i>John 8:12-20</i> 6pm AHEPA/DOP Meeting 6pm Choir rehearsal	18 5th Thursday after Pascha <i>Acts 14:20-28; 15:1-4</i> <i>John 9:39-10:9</i> 11:30am Young at Heart Luncheon 6pm Choir rehearsal
Friday	5 3rd Friday after Pascha <i>Acts 8:40; 9:1-19</i> <i>John 6:48-54</i> 11am-8pm Greek Spring Drive Thru	12 Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus ☞ <i>Acts 10:44-48; 11:1-10</i> <i>John 8:21-30</i>	19 Patrick the Hieromartyr and Bishop of Prusa and His Fellow Martyrs ☞ <i>Acts 15:5-12</i> <i>John 10:17-28</i>
Saturday	6 3rd Saturday after Pascha <i>Acts 9:19-31</i> <i>John 15:17-27; 16:1-2</i> 11am-8pm Greek Spring Drive Thru	13 The Holy Martyr Glyceria <i>Acts 12:1-11; John 8:31-42</i> 11am Philoptochos Charity Lunch (Presidential Banquet Center) 11am GOYA @ Kettering Backpack	20 The Holy Martyr Thalleus <i>Acts 15:35-41</i> <i>John 10:27-38</i>

Fast days are shaded. ✱Liturgy ✧Other Service ➡fish/wine/oil allowed ☞wine/oil allowed

	May 21-27	May 28-June 3	June 4-10
Sunday	21 Sunday of the Blind Man ✕ <i>Acts 26:1,12-20; John 9:1-38</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 9:30am Last Day of Catechism School 11am Catechism School Graduation 11:30am Coffee Hour 12:30pm Iconography Class	28 Fathers of the 1st Council ✕ <i>Acts 20:16-18,28-36;</i> <i>John 17:1-13</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 11:30am Coffee Hour 12:30pm Iconography Class	4 Holy Pentecost ✕ <i>Acts 2:1-11; John 7:37-52; 8:12</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 11:30am Coffee Hour 12pm GOYA Book Club 12:30pm Iconography Class
Monday	22 6th Monday after Pascha <i>Acts 17:1-9</i> <i>John 11:47-54</i> 5:30pm Greek School Awards Dinner 7pm Adult Catechism	29 Theodosia the Virgin-Martyr of Tyre <i>Acts 21:8-14</i> <i>John 14:27-15:7</i> Memorial Day —Office Closed No Adult Catechism Class	5 Monday of the Holy Spirit <i>Ephesians 5:8-19</i> <i>Matthew 18:10-20</i> 7pm Adult Catechism Class
Tuesday	23 Michael the Confessor, Bishop of Synnada <i>Acts 17:19-28</i> <i>John 12:19-36</i> 11:30am Lunch Bunch (The Chop House)	30 Isaacius, Abbot of the Monastery of Dalmatus <i>Acts 21:26-32</i> <i>John 16:2-13</i>	6 1st Tuesday after Pentecost <i>Romans 1:1-7,13-17</i> <i>Matthew 4:23-25;5:1-13</i>
Wednesday	24 Apodosis of Pascha ➡ <i>Acts 18:22-28</i> <i>John 12:36-47</i> 7pm Zoom Bible Study	31 Hermias the Martyr at Comana 🐾 <i>Acts 23:1-11</i> <i>John 16:15-23</i> 7pm Zoom Bible Study	7 1st Wednesday after Pentecost <i>Romans 1:18-27</i> <i>Matthew 5:20-26</i> 7pm Transformative Christianity Webinar
Thursday	25 Holy Ascension <i>Acts 1:1-12</i> <i>Luke 24:36-53</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 6pm Choir rehearsal	1 Justin the Philosopher and Martyr and his Companions <i>Acts 25:13-19; John 16:23-33</i> 10am Philoptochos Meeting 6pm Choir rehearsal	8 Removal of the Relics of Theodore the Commander <i>Ephesians 2:4-10</i> <i>Matthew 10:16-22</i> 6pm AHEPA/DOP Meeting (off site) 6pm Choir rehearsal
Friday	26 3rd Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the Baptist 🐾 <i>II Corinthians 4:6-15</i> <i>Matthew 11:2-15</i>	2 The Apodosis of the Feast of the Holy Ascension 🐾 <i>Acts 27:1-44;28:1</i> <i>John 17:18-26</i>	9 1st Friday after Pentecost <i>Romans 2:14-28</i> <i>Matthew 5:33-41</i>
Saturday	27 The Holy Hieromartyr Helladius <i>Acts 20:7-12</i> <i>John 14:10-21</i>	3 The Saturday of Souls ✕ <i>I Thessalonians 4:13-17</i> <i>John 21:14-25</i> 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Divine Liturgy 3pm HOPE/JOY Event (Young's Jersey Dairy)	10 The Apodosis of Holy Pentecost ❖ <i>Romans 1:7-12</i> <i>Matthew 5:42-48</i> 5:30pm Great Vespers

CATECHISM SCHOOL NEWS

Christ is Risen!

As we come to the end of another school year, we want to thank all of the parents and grandparents who made it a priority to bring their children to Catechism school each week.

Our volunteer teachers lovingly spend their time and treasure preparing lessons to teach your children about our Orthodox faith and traditions. Please take the time to thank your child's teacher!

Dates to Remember:

Sunday, May 7th - NO CLASS (Drive-through Greek Festival)

Sunday, May 14th - Class as usual

Sunday, May 21 - 9:30 early start (last day of class & Awards)

MEET OUR TEACHERS: ARIANA MILANESE & LEAH DERKSEN

How long have you been attending Dayton Annunciation? If you attended a different church in the past, which one and where?

Ariana: I have been attending Dayton Annunciation my entire life (31 years since 1992).

Leah: I have been in the Dayton area since March 1963 and a member for 60 years. I was born in Melbourne Australia and my family were nominated here for my father's employment.

Is there anything you want us to know about your history at Dayton Annunciation?

Ariana: At Dayton Annunciation, I was baptized and married in the church. I was also in Catechism school every year. I was in GOYA and Maids of Athena. In Maids, I served as chapter secretary and president. I also served on the Maids district lodge as secretary and governor. I was in Greek school for a little bit. I am currently a member of the Daughters of Penelope and Philoptochos. I volunteer at the festival and other events every year as well.

Leah: I attended Catechism school, Greek school, on Parish Council as secretary for one term, volunteer including Greek Festival salad chair. This year, will serve on Nominating committee. I am a member of the Daughters of Penelope and Philoptochos. I was married in our church, and my children were baptized and married in our church.



How long have you been teaching Catechism School?

Ariana: I have been teaching Catechism school, specifically Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten, since fall of 2010 (my freshman year of college), so 13 years now, with my mother, Leah Derksen.

Leah: 28 years - from 2 year olds to Kindergarten level.

What inspired you to teach?

Ariana: I got inspired to teach from my mother, Leah Derksen, who has been teaching Catechism school for many years. I was also inspired by all of the teachers who taught me in Catechism school. As well, I wanted to teach Catechism school because I went to Wright State University to study early childhood education. Education is very important to me, and I want to instill the orthodox faith and values in our young children as they are the future of our church. I love and enjoy working with this age group. I find teaching very worthwhile and fulfilling to reinforce the word of God and to help the children learn and grow in their Christian faith.

Leah: I have a Masters degree in Counseling from U.D. and had a career focusing on at risk children. I love and enjoy working with this age group. I find teaching very worthwhile and fulfilling to reinforce the word of God and to help the children learn and grow in their Christian faith.

What are you teaching about this year?

Ariana & Leah: We focus on Bible stories, Saints, Namedays, Divine Liturgy, making the Cross, Icons, and lesson coloring pages. We read books, sing songs, and complete lesson crafts. We change the curriculum every year due to children staying with us for two years.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with our parish community?

Ariana: I am married to Christopher Milanese for almost six years now, and we live in Beaver Creek. I have my bachelor of science in early childhood education and my masters in education/literacy. I teach kindergarten at Primrose School of Beaver Creek. I have been teaching at my school since we opened in 2015 (first six years teaching PreK and two years teaching kindergarten). I enjoy reading, singing, doing puzzles, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. I love the orthodox faith and our church very dearly and consider it a second home. Commitment to regular church attendance and being involved is the key to strengthening our sense of belonging and growth of our parish, therefore, being a part of the Catechism school has helped me to meet so many other parishioners.

Leah: Commitment to regular church attendance and being involved is the key to strengthening our sense of belonging and growth of our parish, therefore, being a part of the Catechism school has helped me to meet so other parishioners.

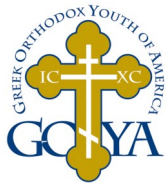
THANK YOU TO OUR MYRRH-BEARING GIRLS!

We want to thank our beautiful young ladies who served as Myrrh-bearers at the Great Friday Lamentations service: **Evelyn Coleman, Sophia and Mary Lander, Ellie Pitychoutis, Nia and Lucy Poeppelman, Alex Stephens and Lula Ziehler.**



UPCOMING GOYA EVENTS

- **May 7** - Meeting & book study
- **May 13** - @ Kettering Backpack



UPCOMING HOPE/JOY EVENT

Our next event will be on **June 3** at Young's Jersey Dairy. Details will follow.



BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER

May...

Five months into the year. Time flies doesn't it. Just like the birds in and around our house. The cat cannot contain herself most days. Those birds are interlopers as far as she is concerned. She runs from the chair to the door to the front window and back. It makes me tired just watching her. For some odd reason she hates cardinals. Whenever one is around, male or female, she is beside herself. I think she may have been attacked as a kitten. Or the pointy feathers on their head just stand out as odd. Nevertheless, we feed the birds and we've seen Cardinals, Robins, and multiple woodpecker species. And one of these days he's going to break the birdfeeder by just landing on it!



Where is my money...

When anyone requests to be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses, a reimbursement form is filled out and approved by the event chairperson. Once it gets to my office, I ask for further approval and then send out a check which is done through an online banking system. It is best if you request your check be mailed to your home rather than to the church. Banks are prone to putting more than one check in an envelope so every time one of those checks is sent to the office the staff has to open it up to make sure there is only one check, then call you to let you know it has arrived, then make arrangements for you to pick it up. Our office staff does not work 8-5 Monday through Friday and we all have varying hours. Having your reimbursement money sent to you home eliminates all of the confusion. Thank you for your consideration!

Stewardship...

Like I said in the opening sentence of this month's True Vine, we are five months into the year. If you have already paid your 2023 Stewardship in full, we thank you. If you made a pledge and have been making regular weekly, monthly or quarterly payments, again we thank you. For those that have not made a pledge or have not made a payment on their pledge, please consider making your pledge now. Your pledge dollars go towards the day-to-day expenses of your parish. Those dollars are also used when an emergency arises and we need to pay for repairs. Your elected officers on Parish Council make every effort to see that those monies are put to the very best use and not wasted, but the fact remains that the parish needs your support. If you cannot pay your entire pledge we are happy to accept regular payments. Why not look over your budget and work that into your monthly expenses. Every little bit helps!

In Closing...

Oh my this is so true! It's happened to me more often than I can say.....Happy Mother's Day to all of the wonderful, inspirational, and loving moms, here and now, near or far, gone but not forgotten. You are loved.

Brenda Day, Bookkeeper
accountant@daytonannunciation.org - 937-224-0601

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CLERGY, STAFF & PARISH COUNCIL

Clergy

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

Parish Council

Jim Haubrock
President

Andrea Casey
Vice President

Stavro Ververis
Secretary

Nick Regopoulos
Treasurer

Members:

Linda Bouris
Louis Castleman
Christina Day
Mary Haritos
Vassilios Karras
Linda Kididis
Dirk Lackovich Van-Gorp
Matt McAlpine
Stacey Tipler
Isidora Tsonis
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
maintenance@daytonannunciation.org

Renda Humphreys/Bernie Clair
Housekeeping

SEPTEMBER FESTIVAL POSTPONEMENT

Dear Parishioners,

In October the Festival Board of Directors began their search for the need of certain critical festival leadership positions. Despite numerous meetings and communications, these roles still remain unfilled. In December the Festival Board of Directors sent out a Festival update to the entire community, in that update, the Board was clear that if we cannot fill these roles, we will make the recommendation that we will not be able to support a Festival in 2023.

Unfortunately, these roles remain unfilled. In addition, the critical infrastructure challenge that was discussed at the Fall General Assembly in October, remains unresolved. Finally, we have not yet been able to identify replacements for the essential equipment, especially the refrigerator trucks, which our food supplier are no longer available able to provide.

For these three reasons, the Parish Council has accepted the recommendation of the Festival Board of Directors to delay our next Dayton Greek Festival until 2024. To replace the lost revenue, maintain our volunteer base, and retain our claim to our Fall Festival date, we are planning on two Drive-Thru Festivals, one from May 5-7, and once we have identified drive-thru chairs, we would to do another drive-thru on September 8-10.

If you can help us to solve any of the challenges that must be resolved before September 2024, please contact the Parish Council or the Festival Board of Directors. Regardless, please volunteer for the preparation and execution of these two Drive-Thrus.

Signed,

Parish Council Members & Festival Board of Directors

TABLE DONATION: THANK YOU!

You may have noticed we have new 8 ft tables courtesy of the former GAPA ladies. Their donation helped to purchase 22 new white resin tables to replace some of the very heavy, older tables. Our sincere appreciation to the GAPA ladies for their donation!



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of Detroit
presents
**Transformative Christianity
Webinar Series**
*Join us in 2023 to continue learning what
Orthodox Christianity
really has to offer to us and to the world!*
Wednesday, May 3, 2023
7:00 PM ET / 6:00 PM CT
**Session 13 ~ "I Will Take the Cup of Salvation - the
Ministry of Christian Marriage"**
with Father Anthony Cook

TRANSFORMATIVE CHRISTIANITY WEBINAR

The next webinar is **Wednesday, May 3** at 7pm and the speaker is our very own Fr. Anthony! The topic is, "I Will Take the Cup of Salvation - The Ministry of Christian Marriage." See the information below to join.

Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/2p96eepw>
Meeting ID: 880 9611 8808
Passcode: 3



**Annunciation Greek
Orthodox Church**
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