

# THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

February  
2020



MORNING BIBLE STUDY . . . . .	Mondays	10:30 - 11:30 am
PHILOPTOCHOS MEETINGS. . . . .	Bi-Monthly Meetings	
GOYA MEETINGS . . . . .	TBA	
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION .. K-7. . . . .	Resumed September 15, 2019	
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—PREK. . . . .	Resumed September 15, 2019	
PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS. . . . .	2nd Wednesday of the month	6:15 pm
FISH FRY . . . . .	Fridays	3:00—8:30pm
CHOIR PRACTICE . . . . .	TBA	

## FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

- 1: Food Bank of Eastern Michigan 9 am - 12 pm
- PanOrthodox Great Vespers for the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple 5 pm
- 2: Presentation of our Lord into the Temple
- 3: Orthodoxy Explored 6 - 7 pm
- 8: Elvis & Friends .....Social 5:30 Concert 7 - 9 pm
- 12: Parish Council Meeting 6 :15 pm
- 15: Chili Cook-off 6 - 9 pm
- 16: Sunday of the Prodigal Son
- 17: Orthodoxy Explored 6 - 7 pm
- 18: Philoptochos Meeting 1 - 3 pm
- 22: Divine Liturgy-Saturday of Souls 9:30 am
- DOP Glendi 5 - 10 pm
- 23: Judgment Sunday
- 24: Orthodoxy Explored 6 - 7 pm
- 29: Divine Liturgy - Saturday of Souls 9:30 am

## MARCH 2020

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 2: Great Lent Starts
- Great Compline 6 - 7:30 pm
- 4: Ninth Hour 5:30 pm
- Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 6 - 7:30 pm
- 6: Salutations to the Theotokos 6 - 7 pm
- 7: Divine Liturgy-Saturday of Souls 9:30 am
- 8: Parish Oratorical Festival 12 - 1 pm
- 11: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts 9:30 - 11:00 am
- Pan-Orthodox Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts TBD 6-7:30pm
- 13: Salutations to the Theotokos 6 - 7 pm
- 18: Ninth Hour 5:30 pm
- Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 6 - 7:30 pm
- 20: Salutations to the Theotokos 6 - 7 pm
- OCF Meeting 7 - 8 pm
- 25: Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos services TBA
- Greek Independence Day
- 27: Salutations to the Theotokos 6 - 7 pm
- 29: Detroit Greek Independence Day Parade 3 - 5 pm



## FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

Beloved Parishioners and Friends of Assumption Church,

St. John of Damascus advises us “that to search the sacred Scriptures is very good and most profitable for the soul.” These words, written over 1200 years ago, are as true today as they were when the saint first wrote them. Most of us know or have been taught that reading the Bible, especially reading the Bible daily, is extremely beneficial to our spiritual growth.

During a recent sermon, several suggestions were offered for approaching the Bible for the first time. One of those suggestions was a list of five New Testament books recommended by the neomartyr Fr. Daniel Sysoev, a great missionary Priest of our Church, for a person beginning to search sacred Scriptures. That list is now offered as a reminder for those who were present for the sermon and for those who were absent. The first book is the Gospel According to St. John, which describes the divine nature of God. Then we read the Gospel According to St. Mark, which provides a concise account of the life of Christ. The third book is the Gospel According to St. Luke, which contains the most complete account of the early life of Christ. We then turn to the Acts of the Apostles and learn about the birth of the Church. The fifth book is the Gospel According to St. Matthew, which contains an excellent explanation of what it means to be a good Christian. Once we have read these five books, we can then begin our search of the Old Testament, which will be addressed at a later time.

We may also be concerned that we will not understand what we are reading when we begin searching sacred Scripture. St. John addresses this concern: “Let us not knock casually, but with eagerness and persistence, and let us not lose heart while knocking, for so it will be opened to us. Should we read once and then a second time and still not understand what we are reading, let us not be discouraged. Rather, let us persist, let us meditate and inquire.” If we persist in the reading of sacred Scriptures, our souls will receive the promised profit. May the Lord guide us all in searching the sacred Scriptures.

With love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

We will celebrate the first of three Divine Liturgies for the Saturday of Souls in 2020 on February 22. In anticipation of the Saturday of Souls, we offer this reflection from Fr. Stephen Freeman, a priest of the Orthodox Church in America, serving as Rector of St. Anne Orthodox Church in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. As referenced in the reflection, Fr. Stephen served as an Anglican Priest prior to converting to the Orthodox Church. **Please note that Soul Saturday and Memorial Saturday are Russian ways of referring to what we call in the Greek Orthodox Church the Saturday of Souls.**

### **Soul Saturday – Forty Days by Fr. Stephen Freeman**

In my early exposure to Orthodoxy, I became intrigued with the term, “Soul Saturday.” My family would visit an Orthodox monastery not too far away from here for their annual pilgrimage that occurred on one of the weekends of a “Soul Saturday.” This is term from popular parlance – the more proper English title of the event is a “Memorial Saturday.” These occur at a number of times during the year, mostly during Lent. They are days set aside to pray for and remember the departed.

After becoming Orthodox in 1998 these Memorial Saturdays became supremely important in my life. Our congregation suffered two very unexpected deaths (both in car crashes) in the course of our first two years that left all the devastation that grief can wreak. For a congregation that was young, we were suddenly faced with that which faces the old with great frequency.

Had you told me we would have buried our first member within our first year I would never have thought of the young woman taken from us. But such is our power over our own life. We control virtually nothing.

My first two years as an Orthodox Christian I supported myself by being employed in the local home hospice program. Thus I was no stranger to death. Nor had I been in my last Anglican parish, where I had buried over 100 people in my years there. I knew the power of grief and how helpless people can be when it comes.

Thus it was that “Soul Saturdays” became times of deep importance for me. The population of my “grief world” was far larger than I would have expected by that time in life. Praying for the departed, and doing so with such frequency was a part of the Tradition of the Church that seemed in my first introduction – not only wise, but completely essential. I was no stranger to prayers for the departed (I had always prayed for the departed as an Anglican). But never had I prayed so much with such fervency.

The bright sorrow of the Russian tune, “Memory Eternal,” that closes a memorial service, took up a place in my heart that no other song will ever have. I often couple it with “Christ is risen from the dead,” lest I be lost in my own grief.

But in a world where so little is remembered it is of supreme comfort that the Church pauses these many Soul Saturdays and says: “Remember.” And not only to us but to God, “May their memory be eternal.”

There is no purgatorial teaching in Orthodoxy, just the simple assurance that our prayers “are of benefit” to those who have died. Of this I have no doubt. But I also know just how great the benefit is for those who are still remembering from here.

Grief is strange stuff. I was taught, when I was doing hospice work, that each grief is really every grief – that one small grief will open up the vast pool of grief that lies within us. Thus none of us is ever just grieving one person or event. Blessedly, it is all in the hands of the good God who loves

mankind and who Himself bore our grief.

This weekend (on the New Calendar) is the weekend of a Soul Saturday, according to Russian usage. Saturday also happens to be the 40th day of my mother's passing – an event that is always marked with a memorial service. Something is completed and something begun in that mystical number of forty days. I bought flowers today for this evening's service, and immediately remembered the many occasions on which I gave my mother flowers (or failed to). And the tears of 40 days greeted the thought.

Tonight (Friday) I will have gathered in the Church to sing Vespers, and to offer the memorial service. In the morning we will offer the Divine Liturgy for the blessed repose of those who have gone before. We will sing again "Memory eternal," and know that there is a deep promise at the heart of our prayer, a promise that was ratified at the resurrection of Christ.

I know as well, that our feeble prayers here are joined to the mighty chorus that ascends to God from those who have gone before us and remember and pray for us. That "great cloud of witnesses" sustains the living though we too easily forget this. How is it that the living pass their days with no thought of those who stand witness before God?

Memory Eternal for us all, until the battle is done and everything has found its rest.

It is this kind of rhythm, found in the liturgical life of Orthodoxy, that has been lost from so much of Christianity, where the grief is certainly as great. I know that I could not bear the weight of all I remember were I not able to stand with others and pray God's eternal remembrance. There are times as an Orthodox Christian that I am not just grateful for the grace God has given, but wonder how I ever tried to live without it.

Source: <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/glory2godforallthings/2009/10/23/soul-saturday-and-forty-days/>

**SERVICE DATES:**

Saturday, February 22 9:30  
Saturday, February 29 9:30  
Saturday, March 7 9:30



**Please remember to fill out the form below for the deceased and bring it with you.**

ΤΕΘΝΗΣΤΩΝ  
ὑπὲρ ἀναπαύσεως καὶ συγχωρήσεως  
τῶν ψυχῶν τῶν προκοιμηθέντων  
δούλων τοῦ Θεοῦ:

**WE PRAY**

**for the souls of the Servants of God departed this life:**

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## **Prosporon Schedule**

### February

- 2: Livaditis, Argie & Angela
- 9: Liveratos-Dobbins, David & Dr. Maria
- 16: Lowe, Ted & Ann
- 23: Mandelaris, John & Pauline

### March

- 1: Manousos, Joan
- 8: Manutes, Demitra & Thornton, Jerry
- 15: Manutes, Nick & Maria
- 22: Margaritis, George & Sofia
- 29: Marks, Achilles & Afroditi

Please make 3 loaves of Prospora and bring them to church by 9:30 am on the morning of the service. Be sure to include your lists of names, both living and dead, for Father to read the proskomide prayers: one list is for those who are living and the other for those who have died. If you choose not to make Prospora, please send a check to the church for \$20 made payable to "Assumption Greek Orthodox Church" with a note stating it is for Prospora. Be sure to include your list of names. If you have questions, please contact the church office, 810-771-4611.

*Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. — James 5:16*

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Anna Chuleas-Williams; Lucas Paul; Nikolaos Karabinas;  
Ted Lowe; Achilles Marks; George Pappadakis; Charlie Paraschos

### **Sunday Reader Schedule**

#### **February**

- 2 Ruth Karabina
- 9 John Costa
- 16 Tim Welch
- 23 Nick Holland

#### **March**

- 1 John Kaloydis
- 8 Cathy Yeotis
- 15 John Mandelaris
- 22 Debbie Chinonis
- 29 Tim Welch

If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please contact the church office, 810-771-4611 so we can find a replacement. Thank you!

## Hope, Joy, & GOYA Corner

Total Sales for the month of December bake sales were \$243.50. Thank you to the families that generously contributed items to be sold in December. Please remember we are assigning weeks for all Hope, Joy, & GOYA parents to bake items for the Bake Sale. Items need to be at church by Friday at 2:00 pm. If you are unable to bake on your assigned week please make a \$20 donation for supplies and we will bake for you. It is also **very imperative** that you let us know the week before that you are unable to bake so that we can plan for the baking. The schedule again is as follows:

Date	Name 1	Name 2
2/7/2020	Kovanis-Wilson	Kraemer
2/14/2020	Leighton	Mavrikos
2/21/2020	O'Bee	Panos
2/28/2020	Paraschos	Photiou
3/6/2020	Smith	Stavridis
3/13/2020	Batsios	Carpenter
3/20/2020	Federick	Grousopoulos
3/27/2020	Haralambous	Holland
4/3/2020	Karakitsos	Kovanis-Wilson
4/10/2020	Kraemer	Leighton
4/17/2020	Mavrikos	O'Bee
4/24/2020	Panos	Paraschos

The 2019 Kalanda visits were again fun & successful this year. Over the 3 days we visited a total of 20 houses. We are sorry if we did not make it to your house this year but look forward to singing for you next year.

On Saturday, January 11th we had our 4th annual RE Family Night @ the Flint Firebirds game. Even though the weather threatened a Winter Ice Storm we still had 6 of our RE children with a total of 25 in attendance. The kids had so much fun getting to be in the first row by the ice to see all the action up close. Our own, Mason Holland was able to ride the Zamboni during the 1st intermission and got to watch the warm-ups from the Firebirds bench. He also got pictures with all the players. The rest of our kids were asked to play broom ball on the ice during the 1st intermission. The teams were split girls vs. boys and ended in a 0-0 tie. It was so heartwarming to see our kids building lifelong friendships.

The time of year has arrived that our children need to start preparing for the 2020 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. The 2020 Junior and Senior division topics can be found at <https://www.goarch.org/-/2020-st-john-chrysostom-oratorical-festival-topics?inheritRedirect=true>. The Junior Division is for students in grades 7-9. The Senior Division is for students in grades 10-12. If you have a student that will be competing in the Junior or Senior Division please let us know. As in years past, we will also have our children grades PreK-6 participate at our Parish level to earn the experience for when they are able to compete in the Junior and Senior Divisions.

### Upcoming Events:

Monday, March 2nd - LENT BEGINS

Saturday, March 7th @ 9:00 am - Children prepare Koliva and attend 3rd Saturday of Souls Liturgy.

Sunday, March 8th - Sunday of Orthodoxy (Icon Procession) & Parish Level Oratorical Festival

Sincerely,

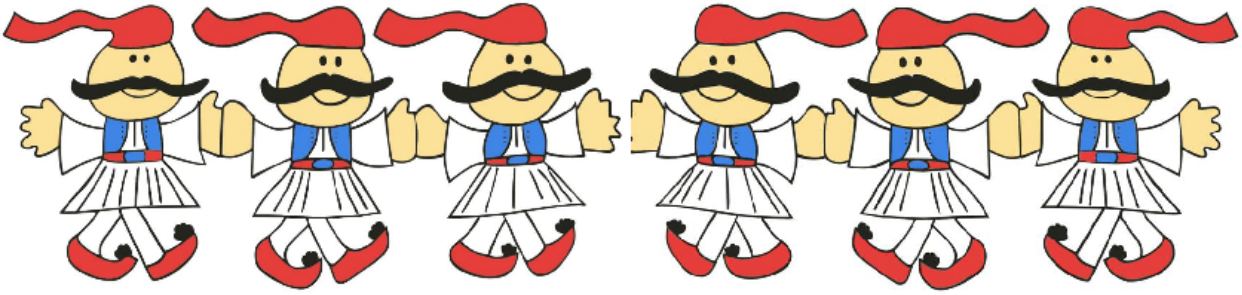
Religious Education Committee

Lori Photiou and Ageliki Carpenter

# Flint Firebirds Game







# Greek Glendi

**Come join us & celebrate Apokries**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020**

**5:00 - 10:00 PM**

**Dinner, Cash Bar, Greek & American Dancing  
Music by DJ Manolakis**

**Adults: \$20.00**

**Teenagers: \$10:00**

**12 yrs. and under free**

**Buffet Style Dinner:**

**Medley of Pastas, Meatballs, Greek Dishes,  
Greek Salad, Appetizers and Desert**

**Sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope  
Iris Chapter 242**

**Reservations: 810-241-6725**



**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
2245 E. Baldwin Road  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
810-771-4611**





Do you have the best chili recipe?

Do you like eating good chili?

Then we are looking for you!

Show off your chili making skills and/or vote for

Assumption's Best Chili

by joining us for the

## **6th Annual Chili Cook Off**

**Saturday, February 15th**

**6:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

Donation of \$10.00 per person



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

2245 E. Baldwin Road

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**VOTED BEST OF THE BEST FOR  
2016, 2017, & 2018**



**Parishioner – John Panos – Owner/Manager**

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**Hours – Monday thru Sunday 7am to 9pm**

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## Philoptochos Society — Friends of the Poor!

First of all I would like to thank the Panos Family of the Liberty Family Restaurant for a beautiful Holiday Luncheon. As usual John and his crew go out of their way to provide us with a great luncheon.

The Executive Board and Board of Directors would again like to thank all of the ladies that bake and help with the Tsoureki Bread Baking and the Holiday Luncheon and Pastry Sale. We will continue our National commitments for the year 2020. Don't forget your 2020 Dues are to be given to Agape Kallis.

Our Durant Tuuri Mott donation project will continue this year. There will be a box put out for the collection of the items below. Thankyou in advance for your continued support of the teachers and students of the classrooms at Durant Tuuri Mott school.

Teacher's "Wish List"

1. Glue Sticks (not bottles, too messy)
2. Seasonal Stickers
3. KLEENEX
4. Mr Clean Magic Erasers)
5. Dry Erase Markers (black and assorted Colors)

Thank you again from the Philoptochos Membership

Diana Panos-Lillar,

President

**\*\* See page 31 for Philoptochos Dues form. Please fill out and return. Thank you!**



Keep using your **Kroger Community Rewards card**. Thanks to all those who have shopped in these stores. Our last check was in December 2019 was \$32.21!

# *Daughters of Penelope*

Iris Chapter 242

**Hellenism, Philanthropy, and Sisterhood**

On December 21, 2019, at our regular meeting we initiated and welcomed two new members, Carolyn Hagler and Kathy Michaelou Walker. We are very pleased and happy that you have joined our sisterhood.

**On February 1, 2020** we will be working at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan from 9:00 am until noon. Non-members are welcome to volunteer and join us in assisting in this wonderful agency that helps so many needy people in our area. If you will be able to volunteer, please contact Marian Hagler so that we have an accurate count.

Dates to remember:

- **Sunday, February 9, 2020** is our next regular meeting right after coffee hour.
- **Saturday, February 22, 2020** is our annual Greek Glendi in the church hall from **5:00 pm to 10:00 pm** See flyer in this newsletter for more details.
- **Thursday, May 7, 2020** is the tentative date for the Spring Salad Luncheon.
- **Saturday, May 30, 2020** we are hosting the District 10 AHEPA Convention. The banquet will be held at the Ascension Genesys Banquet Center. Reservations will be required.

Cathy Yeotis,

President

## **DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE INITIATION ON DECEMBER 21, 2019**



## Iconography Fund

As you know, we have begun our Iconography Project. We want to thank those who have purchased an icon or just donated a little to help with this. There are still icons available for purchase. If you would like to purchase an Icon or even just donate a little to the project, please contact John Hountalas (810-701-5164) or Father Jarrod.

The following individuals/families have contributed to the Iconography Project:

Peter and Alice Anastor	Ann and Ted Lowe
Steve and Anita Arsman	William Lymperis
Dennis and Alexis Branoff	Lamprine Lymperopoulos
Debra and Dennis Chinonis	Spiridoula Panos
Katie Chinonis	John and Irene Panos
Linda Chinonis	Elaine and Dean Pappas
James and Liz Christopher	Evan Pappas
John and Laura Costa	Barbara Santee
Helen Dalbo	JoAnne Schultze
Bill & Joann Dau	Allen and Olga Steinhoff
Daughters of Penelope	Michael Stevens
Monica Dragan	Bill and Lesley Stickley
Catherine Fechick	Swartz Funeral Home
Greg and Sia Garceau	Peter and Susie Vergos
John and Marlo George	Cathy Yeotis
Camilla Greenberg	Memorial - Lazaros & Vasiliki Batsios
Pamela Heos & Jeff Brancheau	Memorial - Androulla Kyprianou
Nicholas & Jennifer Holland	Memorial - Eugenia Routsis
Hountalas Family	Memorial - Giorgio Mirtsopoulos
Athena Kalatzis	Memorial - Kathryn Menoutes
Agape Kallis	Memorial - Kosta Zaravelis
Susan Kallis	Memorial - Marika Kalafatis
Tessie Komodromos	Memorial - Niki Panos
Dimitri and Jacqueline Kontorousis	Memorial - Theodora Stevens
Dean and Joyce Kossaras	Memorial - Tom Lamberson
Maria Koutsoukos	Memorial - Michael Michaelou
Jeff and Nancy Lauster	

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Yanni's OPA Bar and Karaoke  
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**Autumn**  
**LOUNGE**

**KARAOKE 7 DAYS A WEEK!! 9PM - CLOSE!!**

3473 Fenton Rd  
Burton, MI 48529  
(810) 232-8811

<u>MONTHLY INCOME - DECEMBER 2019</u>		<u>MONTHLY EXPENSES - DECEMBER 2019</u>	
<u>INCOME CATEGORY</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Stewardship	\$ 11,638.00	Accounting Fees	\$ 450.00
Candles and First Tray	\$ 1,954.00	Alarm	\$ 80.85
Fish Fry Income (gross)	\$ 5,117.55	Allocation	\$ 2,363.38
Bookstore		Aprons & Towels	\$ 79.87
Christmas Offering	\$ 510.00	Bulletin Jackets	\$ 49.66
Miscellaneous	\$ 958.03	Copy Machine Rental	\$ 428.59
Newsletter Advertising	\$ 50.00	Fish Fry	\$ 3,293.33
Memorial Donation	\$ 50.00	Fish Fry Sales Tax	\$ 756.67
		Health Insurance	\$ 1,505.00
		Heating & Cooling	\$ 412.00
		Lawn & Snow	\$ 693.00
		Mortgage Payment	\$ 4,165.69
		Pension Plan	\$ 650.00
		Pest Services	\$ 100.00
		Postage	\$ 520.00
		Salaries	\$ 8,311.64
		Trash Pickup	\$ 170.57
		Utilities: Cable	\$ 281.64
		Utilities: Electric	\$ 1,009.75
		Utilities: Gas	\$ 574.50
		Utilities: Water	\$ 314.93
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME - DECEMBER 2019</b>	<b>\$ 20,277.58</b>	<b>TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES - DECEMBER 2019</b>	<b>\$ 26,211.07</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME DURING DECEMBER NOT USED FOR MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>			
Second Tray Income for Friends during December	\$ 355.00	OTHER EXPENSES NOT INCLUDED IN MONTHLY EXPENSES	
Fundraiser Elvis & Friends - Event Night	\$ 1,592.25	Donation to Friends of the Metropolis	\$ 500.00
Fundraiser Jewelry Sales	\$ 793.00	Additional Mortgage Principal payments	762.75
Donations for Mortgage Reduction (Donations, 2nd tray, food sales, memorial donations)	\$ 762.75		
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 3,503.00</b>	<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,262.75</b>



**the red baron**  
Burton, Michigan

TAP ROOM & BREWPUB

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BURTON, MI 48519  
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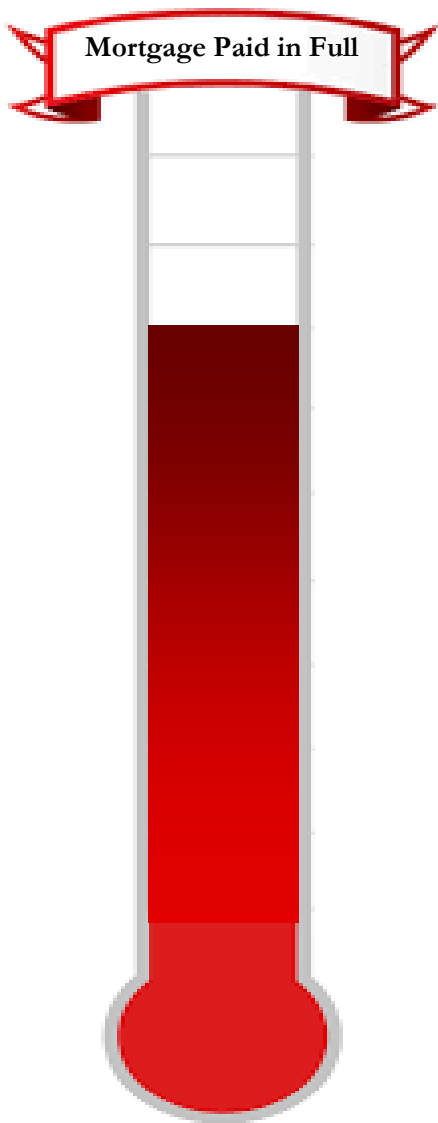
**CHURCHILL'S**  
FOOD & SPIRITS

340 S. Saginaw St • Flint, Michigan 48502

## Mortgage Drive:

This past March, it was 6 years since we started our Mortgage Drive. We have been able to lower our Mortgage by more than \$475,000 during this time. Approximately \$330,000 of this amount has been from fundraisers, your generous donations and from the Endowment Fund. The remainder is from our Monthly Mortgage Payment. Thank you for your continued support, we are almost there. Our goal is to pay the mortgage in full by the end of 2021. That is also the 100th Anniversary of our Church.

Parish Council



As of 1-10-2020  
our balance is:  
**\$142,918.97**

**Thank You!**

# **MORTGAGE DRIVE**

## **(FROM 2-1-2019 TO 1-1-2020)**

The following individuals and organizations have contributed this year to the Mortgage Drive:


1. Clyde & Georgia Allard
2. Rev. Fr. John & Presvytera Artemas
3. Karen Begley
4. Dennis & Alexis Branoff
5. Dennis & Debra Chinonis
6. Linda Chinonis
7. Katie Chinonis
8. James & Liz Christopher
9. Helen Dalbo
10. Mark & Penelopi Drolet
11. Toula Edmonds
12. Pam Heos & Jeff Brancheau
13. Nick & Jennifer Holland
14. Rick & Tina Holland
15. Dimitri & Brittany Hountalas
16. John & Tasia Hountalas
17. Yanni Hountalas
18. Efstratia Janis
19. David Duffy & Elaine Joynt
20. Athena Kalatzis
21. Agape Kallis
22. Penny Kallis
23. Susan Kallis
24. John & Karen Kaloydis
25. Nikolaos & Stephanie Karabinas
26. Pavlos & Ruth Karabinas
27. Dean & Joyce Kossaras
28. Paul & Pat Ladas
29. Jeff & Nancy Lauster
30. George & Margot Levas
31. Yanni & Aspasia Mavrikos
32. Taso & Mitra Pagonis
33. Tim & April Paraschos
34. Carol Photiou
35. Lucas & Lori Photiou
36. Mike Potsos
37. Steve & Martha Poulos
38. Ken & Kathy Richards
39. JoAnne Schultze
40. Allen & Olga Steinhoff
41. Robert & Micheline Wilson
42. Catherine Yeotis
43. Hon. Thomas & Meg Yeotis
44. In Memory of Jerry Apostle
45. In Memory of Helen Anagnos
46. In Memory of Christ & Margaret Anastor
47. In Memory of Theodore Bachakes, Jr.
48. In Memory of Andrew Bageris
49. In Memory of Elaine Bakris
50. In Memory of Tim Bograkos
51. In Memory of John & Christine Caris
52. In Memory of Elias Chinonis
53. In Memory of Gabriella Chinonis
54. In Memory of Gus Chinonis
55. In Memory of John Chinonis
56. In Memory of Maria Contagianni
57. In Memory of James & Chryssee Daros
58. In Memory of London Eisenbeis
59. In Memory of George Giannouris
60. In Memory of John Helton
61. In Memory of Tom & Goldie Heos
62. In Memory of John Jimos

# MORTGAGE DRIVE

## (FROM 2-1-2019 TO 1-1-2020)

The following individuals and organizations have contributed this year to the Mortgage Drive:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>64. In Memory of James (Giannakopoulos) Johnson</p> <p>65. In Memory of Harold Kallis</p> <p>66. In Memory of Tony Karakitsos</p> <p>67. In Memory of Nick Kondyles</p> <p>68. In Memory of Anne Kossaras</p> <p>69. In Memory of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer</p> <p>70. In Memory of Tom Lamberson</p> <p>71. In Memory of Suzanne Lauster</p> <p>72. In Memory of Marianne Chardoul Mair</p> <p>73. In Memory of Kathryn Menoutes</p> <p>74. In Memory of Mike Michaelou</p> <p>75. In Memory of Nicholas Mighion</p> <p>76. In Memory of Aristoteles Panos</p> <p>77. In Memory of Niki Panos</p> <p>78. In Memory of Ida Payne</p> <p>79. In Memory of Dr. George Politis</p> <p>80. In Memory of John Siambis</p> <p>81. In Memory of Tommy Stergiopoulos</p> <p>82. In Memory of Cleo Tarlas</p> <p>83. In Memory of Betty Vlahakis</p> <p>84. In Memory of Gus Vergos</p> <p>85. Daughters of Penelope</p> <p>86. DOP Kafi Night</p> <p>87. DOP Mardi Gras Bar Tips</p> | <p>88. Endowment Fund</p> <p>89. Religious Education</p> <p>90. Weeping Icon Service &amp; Hall Rental</p> <p>91. V.I.P.'s</p> <p>92. Assumption Catering</p> <p>93. Blessing of the Buses</p> <p>94. Chili Cook-Off</p> <p>95. Food Sales for Mortgage Reduction</p> <p>96. GFS Rebate</p> <p>97. Hall Rental Bar Tips</p> <p>98. Hall Rental Dishwasher &amp; Linens</p> <p>99. Hall Rental Linens &amp; Liquor Add On</p> <p>100. Heos Hall Rental &amp; Bar</p> <p>101. Makaria of Nick Kondyles</p> <p>102. Makaria of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer</p> <p>103. Merrill Lynch</p> <p>104. Sunday Brunch</p> <p>105. 2nd Tray</p> <p>106. ABC Auto Repair</p> <p>107. McCredie Insurance</p> <p>108. MJ Auto Inc</p> <p>109. Swartz Funeral Home</p> <p>108. Yanni's Opa Bar &amp; Grill</p> |
|--|--|



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**Need of the Month**  
**Genesee County**

**January:**  
**Toilet**  
**Paper**

# FISH FRY FRIDAY

3—8:30 PM

Come and see why our Fish Fry was voted #1 in the Flint area. We use only Icelandic Cod



Our varied menu also offers these delicious choices:  
Baked Fish \* Baked Potato \* Plaki \* Pastitsio \* Clam Strips  
Chicken Strips \* Fish Sandwich \* Baked Chicken \* Gyros  
Mac and Cheese \* Shrimp Basket \* Greek Salad  
Rice Pudding

We welcome volunteers. Call John Hountalas (810) 701-5164 or  
Lori Photiou (810) 444-1967 if you would like to volunteer to  
help on a Friday night.

Teens: This is a great opportunity to earn your Community Service  
Hours for school.

Fish Fry Sales for December 2019 were 4,811.86



**Here is your chance to support our  
Assumption Fish Fry and promote  
your business at the same time!**

**Advertise in our continuous video  
loop!**

**\$100 for a 1 year ad!**

**Contact John Hountalas for details**

**810-701-5164**



As we look around our church and her property, we see things that may need repair in the next few years. To that end, the Parish Council has started a **Property Improvement Fund**, initially funded by Fish Fry donations. The Property Improvement Fund gives everyone another option for your generous donations. Property Improvement Fund Balance as of January 10, 2020 is 7,250.37.

#### **NEW PROCEDURE FOR RECEIPTS**

Due to the rising cost of mailing receipts for every donation received by the church, the Parish Council has established the following procedure for receipts:

When you mail in a donation to the church, or drop it off in the office, a receipt will not be mailed or given to parishioners of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. Your cancelled check can be used as proof of your payment, as well as the contribution statement you receive from the church at the end of the year. This includes donations for stewardship, mortgage reduction, iconography, festival, cash raffle, golf outing, memorials, miscellaneous, etc.

If you require a receipt, please contact the church office during normal business hours (Tuesday – Friday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM) or see a Parish Council member on Sunday's.

Receipts will continue to be mailed to non-parishioners.

## **FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS** (JAN 1 - NOVEMBER 30)

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

Assumption Parish

Chinonis, Dennis & Debra

Chinonis, Linda

Hountalas, Dimitri & Brittany

Hountalas, Ioannis & Tasia

Hountalas, Yanni

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Lauster, Jeff & Nancy

Mandelaris, John & Pauline

Mersinas, George & Laura

Schultze, JoAnne

Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra

Yeotis, Catherine

# STEWARDSHIP 2019

**STEWARDSHIP LIST:** Your name will only appear on the Stewardship List if a filled out and signed stewardship card and a payment have been received.

Allard, Clyde & Georgie	Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki	O'Bee, Matthew & Marialena
Altheide, Dena	Iordanou, Bill & Lisa	O'Keefe, Derek & Michelle
Anagnostopoulos, Nick & Anna	Iordanou, Ilias & Joann	Pagonis, Taso & Mitra
Asa, Barbara	Johnson, Denise	Pagonis, Voula
Bachakes, Katheryn	Joseph, Patti	Panos, John & Irene
Bachakes, +Theodore & Vicki	Joynt, Elaine & Duffy, David	Panos, Spiridoula
Bakris, Dr. Chris	Kalatzis, Athena	Pappadakis, Nikki
Bakris, Dr. Nicholas	Kallis, Agape	Pappas, Dean & Elaine
Batsios, Eftyhia	Kallis, Penny	Paraschos, Sam & Sandra
Batsios, Evangelos	Kallis, Nick	Pavlis, John & Pat
Birtsas, Sandra	Kallis, Susan	Peters, Jeff & Maria
Bistolaridis, Antonios & Maria	Kaloydis, John	Petropoulos, Diana
Bograkos, Tim & Sandra	Kapellas, Katina	Photiou, Carol
Bograkos, Vera	Karabinas, Niko & Stephanie	Photiou, Lucas & Lori
Brown, Jr., Andy	Karabinas, Pavlos & Ruth	Photiou, Maroulla
Carmean, Mike & Denise	Karay Sr., Nicholas X.	Politis, +Dr. George & Rita
Carpenter, Rob & Ageliki	Kitsonas, William	Potsos, Dimitrios & Stergoula
Chiavaras, Lucille	Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula	Poulos, Eleanor
Chinonis, Dennis & Dr. Debra	Komodromos, Tessie	Poulos, Steve & Martha
Chinonis, Katie	Kondyles, Chryssoula	Richards, Ken & Kathy
Chinonis, Linda	Kontorousis, Dimitre & Jacqueline	Rivette, Matthew & Lori
Chinonis, Richard	Kosmanopoulos, Christos & Kelly	Rogind, Sally
Chinonis, Sandi	Kossaras, Dean & Joyce	Russell, Rev. Fr. Jarrod
Chuleas-Williams, Anna	Kottalis, Lemonia	Schultze, JoAnne
Clark, Natalie	Kottalis, Mary	Sirakis, Paraskevas & Athena
Clinton, Mike & Kathy	Kovanis-Wilson, Todd & Loukea	Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra
Costa, John & Laura	Kraemer, Mark & Family	Steinhoff, Amanda
Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias	Kus, Michael & Alexis	Steinhoff, Olga
Dalbo, Helen	Kuzmanovsky, Kosta & Cheng, Shao-Chi	Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Dau, Bill & Joanne	Lauster, Jeff & Nancy	Stergiopoulos, Mary
Davlantes, Alex & Alexis	Leighton, Matt & Argyro	Stickley, Bill & Lesley
Delbridge, Ray & Carol	Lillar, Diana	Stone, Paula & Family
Demps, Crystal	Livaditis, Argie & Angela	Trifon, Nick
Douros, Evangelos	Liveratos-Dobbins, Dr. Maria & Dobbins, David	Vakalopoulos, Petros & Iordana
Drolet, Mark & Penelopi	Lowe, Ted & Ann	Vergos, Frank
Fahoome, Calliope	Mandelaris, John & Pauline	Vergos, Nitsa
Falaras, Mary	Manos, Dr. M. Michele	Vergos, Dr. Peter & Susie
Ferich, Andrew & Voula	Manousos, Joan	Vitaros, Nick & Effie
Foraker, Walt & Diane	Manutes, Demi	Walker, Bruce & Kathy
Garceau, Greg & Sia	Manutes, Nicholas & Maria	Welch, Timothy & Yianna
Gintsis, Nick & Dorothy	Margaritis, George & Sofia	Wright, Jeff & Kay
Gravanis, Effie	Marks, Achilles & Afroditi	Yeotis, Art & Susan
Grousopoulos, Lambros & Lena	Martorelli, Michael	Yeotis, Catherine
Hagler, Gary & Marian	Martorelli, Sophia	Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg
Haralambous, Frank & Vania	Menoutes, George	Yiannatji, Frank
Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey	Mersinas, George & Laura	Yiannatji, Helen
Holland, Nick & Jennifer	Michaelou, Sevesti	Yiannatji, Irene
Holland, Rick & Tina	Neofotistos, John & Julie	Zaravelis, Fani
Hountalas, Dimitri & Brittany	Nitsos, Emma	Zaravelis, George & Genie
Hountalas, John & Tasia	Nitsos, George & Candy	
Hountalas, Yanni	Nikolakeas, John & Politis	

# STEWARDSHIP 2020

**STEWARDSHIP LIST:** Your name will only appear on the Stewardship List if a filled out and signed stewardship card and a payment have been received.

Altheide, Dena	Kossaras, Dean & Joyce
Asa, Darwin & Barbara	Kottalis, Mary T.
Bakris, Dr. Nicholas	Lauster, Jeff & Nancy
Batsios, Christos & Ashley	Livieratos-Dobbins, David & Dr. Maria
Batsios, Efthya	Lowe, Ted & Ann
Batsios, Evangelos	Mandelaris, John & Pauline
Birtsas, Sandra	Manutes, Nicholas & Maria
Bograkos, Tim & Sandy	Nitsos, George & Candy
Chinonis, Katie	Panos, John & Irene
Chuleas-Williams, Anna	Paraschos, Sam & Sandra
Costa, John & Laura	Paraschos, Tim
Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias	Pavlis, John & Pat
Dalbo, Helen	Photiou, Lucas & Lori
Davlantes, Alex & Alexis	Politis, Rita
Ferich, Andrew & Voula	Poulos, Steve & Martha
Foraker, Walt & Diane	Russell, Rev. Fr. Jarrod
Garceau, Greg & Sia	Schultze, JoAnne
Holland, Nick & Jennifer	Sirakis, Kosta & Sofia
Holland, Rick & Tina	Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki	Vergos, Nitsa
Joynt, Elaine & Duffy, David	Vergos, Dr. Peter & Susie
Kallis, Agape	Vitinaros, Nick & Effie
Kaloydis, John	Walker, Kathy
Karabinas, Pavlos & Ruth	Welch, Tim & Joann
Karay, Nicholas	Wright, Jeff & Kay
Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula	Yeotis, Art & Susan
Kondyles, Chryssoula	Yeotis, Catherine
	Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg

# Mortgage Reduction Food Sales:

Pastitsio OR Moussaka **Half Pan — Serves 9-12 — \$25.00**  
*(made by Jimmy)*

Jimmy's Plaki **Tray — \$25.00**

Spinach Cheese Pie **Tray — 15 pieces — \$25.00**

Greek Feta **2 1/2 pounds—\$8.00**

Tiropita (Cheese Triangle) **12 Pieces — \$10.00**

Lamb Shanks **2 Shanks cooked w/sauce \$15.00**

Greek Olives **3 LB Container \$16.00**

Dolmathes **25 for \$20.00**

## Grecian Style:

**Green Beans**  
**\$15**

**Peas**  
**\$15**

**Rice Pilaf**  
**\$10**

**To order, call John Hountalas**  
**810-701-5164**

---

**Philoptochos Sweet Bread Sale**

**TSOUREKI**

**\$6.50**

**PHYLLO DOUGH**

**1 pound package — \$2.00**

# CHURCH USAGE / HALL RENTAL FEES

(Approved by Parish Council Effective November 10, 2015)

For the Sacraments of Holy Marriage and Holy Baptism (there is no charge for Funeral or Memorial Services)

## CHURCH USAGE FEE

Member in good standing of Assumption Church Grand Blanc – Minimum \$500 paid-up stewardship for previous year and up-to-date present year stewardship	Non-member at Assumption Church Grand Blanc
No fee for use of the church for sacraments	<b>\$250</b> fee for use of the church for sacraments

**Any deviation from this policy must be approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Council President and must be presented to them at least one month prior to the proposed sacrament date.**

## HALL RENTAL FEES

Member in good standing of Assumption Church Grand Blanc – Minimum \$500 paid-up stewardship for previous year and up-to-date present year stewardship	Non-member at Assumption Church Grand Blanc
Flat Fee of <b>\$600</b> for Hall Rental (includes clean-up)  If church dishes are used, dishwasher will be supplied at a cost of <b>\$\$50</b> (cannot bring own dishwasher)	Flat fee of <b>\$1,100</b> for Hall Rental (includes clean-up)
<b>Members in good standing only</b> <b>Sunday – Thursday Hall Rental:</b> \$300 minimum for 3 hours - \$100 each additional hour up to a maximum of \$600 Renter responsible for hall clean-up (no kitchen usage)	If church dishes are used, dishwasher will be supplied at a cost of <b>\$\$50</b> (cannot bring own dishwasher)

### PAYMENT IN FULL DUE 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE.

If you pay your stewardship using the offering envelopes provide in the church you must write “stewardship” on the envelope to ensure processing as stewardship. Unmarked envelopes will be considered a contribution only.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
**LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**  
2020 DUES

The benevolent works of Philoptochos are a continuation of Christ's ministry on earth. I humbly accept the opportunity to return to God a portion of the time, talents and resources with which He has gifted me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum Member Dues: \$30.00**

**Checks payable to Philoptochos Society**

**\$15.00 is distributed to National Philoptochos**

**\$6.00 is distributed to Metropolis Philoptochos  
and the balance remains in our chapter.**

**We rely on your Stewardship to help fund  
our many efforts to help those in need.**

**Our hope and goal is for every woman in  
our Assumption Parish to join!**

**Please give or send your dues to Agape  
Kallis. Thank you!**



### COFFEE HOUR

Each week, the Parish Council provides refreshments for Coffee Hour, and the women of the VIPs help with set up, serving and clean up afterwards as they have been doing for many years.

However, anyone (family, individual, group) can sponsor a coffee hour, be it for a birthday, anniversary, memorial, or just because, for a small fee. If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please contact a parish council member, or let the church secretary know during regular office hours.

Those sponsoring a coffee hour are responsible for providing the food items or snacks. Coffee, water, milk and/or juice will be provided by the Parish Council. There will be a donation tray. The family that is sponsoring the coffee hour can donate \$50 IN LEIU OF THE DONATION TRAY, to cover the expenses of the church. Please let us know, IN ADVANCE.

If you would like the assistance of the VIPs in setting up, serving and clean up, please let Voula Pagonis know IN ADVANCE.

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

“Donations made at an Orthodox Funeral service in memory of the departed are typically collected by the church, which then presents the names and final donation amount to the designated surviving family member. At that time the family has the opportunity to decide on distribution of those funds and can determine if they would like to use memorial funds to purchase an item for the church in memory of the departed from a published list of approved items. (This list will be posted in the church office). We ask that should the family desire to purchase an item they indicate this to the priest and Parish Council by the time of the 40 day memorial, otherwise those funds will be released to the operating fund of our church. Any memorial donation checks not marked “*Assumption Church*” will be distributed for the purpose indicated on the check.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES

### Scheduling of Memorial Services

All Memorial Services must be **scheduled through Fr. Jarrod** so that they may be placed on the church calendar.

### Koliva

If anyone is in need of Koliva, please contact Diana Lillar (of Philoptochos) for the names of those available to make it. The standard rate is \$150. **It is the responsibility of the family to arrange for Koliva.**

## ASSUMPTION GOC MEMBER POLICY

The current approved policy for Parishioner Status of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (AGOC) of Grand Blanc, Michigan is as follows:

**Parishioner** - Person Baptized and Chrismated according the rites of the Orthodox Church. and attending the AGOC.

### **Parishioner - Member in Good Standing:**

- Person in compliance with Section 1 and 2 of Article 18 of the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.
- Person with an AGOC pledge card on file and current in pledges for active and preceding year.

**In-Active Parishioner** - Person not in compliance with requirements for Parishioner or Member in Good Standing as defined above.

Parishioners and In-Active Parishioners can receive all sacraments at AGOC but are required to pay church usage fee as per Page 19.

Any deviations from this policy must be approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Council President and must be presented to them at least one month prior to the proposed sacrament date.

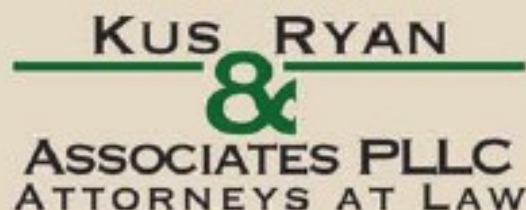
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**Stewardship Policy** - Only cash, check or credit card can be accepted as payment of stewardship. Donations of items or services cannot be accepted for stewardship in lieu of monetary payment.



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*Michael T. Scully, Jennifer Sharp Scully, Roger L. Sharp,  
Stephanie Sharp Foster, Roger L. Sharp II*

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sharpfuneralhomes.com

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*Roger L. Sharp, Manager*  
8138 Miller Road • Swartz Creek  
(810) 635-4411

**Linden Chapel**

*Stephanie Sharp Foster, Manager*  
209 E. Broad St. • Linden  
(810) 735-7833

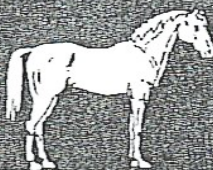
**Fenton Chapel**

*Michael T. Scully, Manager*  
1000 Silver Lake Rd • Fenton  
(810) 629-9321

**Funeral Home & Cremation Center**

*Jennifer Sharp Scully, Manager*  
6063 Fenton Road • Flint  
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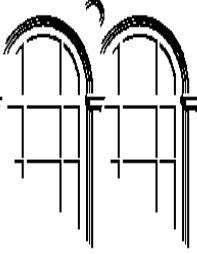
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FAX 810/694-6910  
Claims 800/222-6424  
dechinonis@aaamichigan.com

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• NL Full Page & TV Ad..... \$300/yr	Newsletter is printed 11 months per year as the June/July is a combined newsletter
• NL Half Page & TV Ad..... \$200/yr	TV Ad cycles continuously every Friday during the Church Fish Fry - 3pm - 8:30pm
• NL Full Page..... \$250/yr	For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar
• NL Half Page..... \$150/yr	Emailed ads must be 600 dpi or greater PDF
• NL Business Card..... \$ 75/yr	Please include or email artwork
• TV Ad ..... \$100/yr	
• NL Business Card & TV Ad..... \$150/yr	

Thank you for your support of our Church.

**EMAIL ADS TO: [chsecagoc@gmail.com](mailto:chsecagoc@gmail.com)**

## **Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell**

Orthros: 9:00 am  
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am

Weekdays and Feast Days:  
See Calendar

### **Office Hours**

Tuesday — Friday  
10 am — 3 pm

### **Fish Fry Hours**

3-8:30 pm

Telephone: 810-771-4611

Secretary: Laura Mersinas

### **E-Mail**

Secretary: [chsecagoc@gmail.com](mailto:chsecagoc@gmail.com)

### **Website**

[www.assumptiongrandblanc.org](http://www.assumptiongrandblanc.org)

Please check the website for  
up to date events.

## **2019 Parish Council**

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell - Priest  
John Hountalas — President  
Tom Stamatis — V. President  
Ruth Karabina — Secretary  
JoAnne Schultze — Treasurer  
Helen Dalbo — Co-Treasurer

Andy Brown, Jr.

Debra Chinonis

Nick Holland

Susan Kallis

George Nitsos

John Panos

Diana Lillar - Ex-Oficio Member

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

ACOLYTES: JOHN KALOYDIS

CHOIR: NANCY CHINONIS

CHANTERS: CRYSTAL DEMPS & BILL ROUFOS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

LORI PHOTIOU & ANGIE CARPENTER

PHILOPTOCHOS: DIANA LILLAR

GOYA: TBD

VIPS: VOULA PAGONIS

AHEPA: JOHN COSTA

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE: CATHY YEOTIS



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Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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JOHN HOUNTALAS 810-701-5164

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THE CHURCH OFFICE: 810-771-4611