

# THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

January  
2021



# What's Happening

## JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	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	30
31						

- 1: New Year's Day
- 5: Royal Hours 9 am  
Vespers Divine Liturgy - Eve 6 pm  
of Theophany
- 6: Divine Liturgy - Theophany 10 am
- 7: Divine Liturgy - Synaxis of 10 am  
St. John the Baptist
- 13: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 - 8:15 pm
- 18: Martin Luther King Day
- 21: Dormition Monastery Winter Dinner  
(online)
- 30: Divine Liturgy - Three Hierarchs 10 am

## FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	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						

- 1: Divine Liturgy - Presentation of 6 pm  
the Lord
- 10: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 - 8:15 pm
- 14: Valentine's Day
- 15: President's Day

# **Prosporon Schedule**

## January:

3: Schultze, JoAnne  
10: Sirakis, Kosta & Sofia  
17: Sirakis, Paris & Athena  
24: Stamatis, Tom & Sandra  
31: Stavridis, Tomas & Zoe

## February:

7: Steinhoff, Allen & Olga  
14: Stergiopoulos, Mary  
21: Thornton, Jerry & Demi  
28: Vergos, Nitsa

Please make 3 loaves of Prospora and bring them to church by 9:00 am on the morning of the service. Be sure to include your lists of names, both living and dead, to be read during the Proskimide (Preparation) Service: 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:**

Lucas Paul; Nikolaos Karabinas;  
George Pappadakis; Charlie Paraschos

## **Sunday Reader Schedule**

### **January**

3 John Costa  
10 Cathy Yeotis  
17 John Kaloydis  
24 Debra Chinonis  
31 Tim Welch

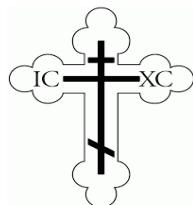
### **February**

7 Ruth Karabina  
14 Tim Welch  
21 Cathy Yeotis  
28 John Kaloydis

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!



## FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL



Beloved Parishioners and Friends of Assumption Church,

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Merry Christmas! Καλά Χριστούγεννα!

We just celebrated the Feast of the Holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and will soon be celebrating the Feast of Theophany! God willing, this Christmas was a wonderful blessing for every member of our Assumption Church family. While our customary celebrations were likely adjusted due to the challenges presented by the coronavirus, we hopefully were able to truly celebrate Christmas in a deep and meaningful way. This Holy Feast allows us to enter into the mystery of Christ entering the world, being born in Bethlehem, bringing salvation to all mankind. The Nativity confirms God's love for His creation and His willingness to condescend to become man for the life of the world.

The upcoming Feast of Theophany further demonstrates our God's love for us in that by receiving baptism at the hands of St. John the Baptist, Jesus Christ sanctifies creation. He did not need baptism as He was completely without sin. Thus, His willingness to be baptized in the Jordan reflects His willingness to do all that is necessary for our salvation. We will be celebrating the Feast of Theophany with the Vespertal Divine Liturgy for the Eve of Theophany on Tuesday, January 5 at 6:00 pm and the Divine Liturgy for Theophany on Wednesday, January 6 at 10:00 am. Both Divine Services will be followed by the Blessings of the



## FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

Waters.

As part of our celebration of Theophany, we will have the traditional blessings of the homes. This newsletter contains a form for the faithful to fill out to schedule a house blessing. If you would like your home blessed, please fill out the form and return it to the church office. Alternatively, the faithful may contact the church office and provide the information needed to schedule the blessing.

Sometimes people will ask why do we sanctify our homes with the waters from Theophany? Fr. Sergei Sveshnikov answered this question beautifully: “The Church teaches us to sanctify everything: dwellings, places of work, all our pursuits, and the fruits of our labor. And just as a temple and sacred vessels, once sanctified and set aside for sacred use, can no longer be used for anything profane, in the same way a Christian washed in the baptismal waters, and his home, and all his works can no longer be the dwelling of sin and the works of satan, but only and always—the temple of the Holy Spirit and the fulfillment of the will of our Heavenly Father. This is why the Church blesses everything that can be found in a Christian home; and if something is not worthy of being blessed, then there should not be a place for it in the home of a Christian.” Our homes are worthy of being blessed, and the faithful are encouraged to have their homes blessed regularly.

May God continue to bless and guide the Assumption Church in 2021!

With love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

## Hope, Joy, & GOYA Corner

Happy New Year!

Totals sales for the month of November bake sales were \$190.50. Make sure to mark your calendars for the week you are assigned to bring baked goods in. If you have any questions please contact Lori Photiou at 810-444-1967 or lori-photiou@gmail.com. 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
1/8/2021	Mavrikos	O'Bee
1/15/2021	Panos	Paraschos
1/22/2021	Photiou	Smith
1/29/2021	Stavridis	Batsios
2/5/2021	Carpenter	Federick
2/12/2021	Grousopoulos	Haralambous
2/19/2021	Holland	Karakitsos
2/26/2021	Kovanis-Wilson	Kraemer
3/5/2021	Leighton	Mavrikos
3/12/2021	O'Bee	Panos
3/19/2021	Paraschos	Photiou
3/26/2021	Smith	Stavridis

Please watch the AGOC RE Facebook page and your email for class information as we receive further direction from the Metropolis.

Sincerely,

Religious Education Committee

Lori Photiou and Ageliki Carpenter

## The Feast of Theophany

*The following homily was offered by St. John (Maximovitch) of Shanghai and San Francisco while he was a teacher at the seminary in Bitol, Serbia. It helps us to understand in a more profound manner the meaning of the upcoming Major Feast of Theophany.*

When celebrating the Theophany, we call to remembrance both that God was made known to people as Trinity and that Jesus was revealed to people as Christ. Where was Christ revealed? Where was His work begun? Did He go to a great city to be revealed there in His Glory? Did He ascend a high mountain, with a crowd of many thousands standing below and looking up at Him like a wonder? No! Christ went into the desert, to the River Jordan, where John was baptizing the people. John preached repentance, calling upon sinners to be baptized in the Jordan as a sign of repentance. Christ, Who has no sin, now comes and asks for baptism as a sinner. John was fearful: “You should baptize me!” Jesus replies: “Let it be so now: for this is how we should fulfill all righteousness” [cf. Matthew 3:13-15].



Adam sinned through pride. He wanted to be exalted, to become like God. But Christ came to fulfill the righteousness of God and to expiate Adam's pride by His humility. Adam wanted to exalt himself before God, but God humbled Himself before man. Christ descended into the waters, receiving baptism from His servant. John, trembling, placed his hand on His Master and God, while Christ humbly bowed His head before him. Christ's humility unlocked the heavens. The heavens were then opened and the voice of God the Father was heard: “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased. This is My Son, Who humbled Himself in order to accomplish My will; this is My true Son Who abases Himself in order to elevate man.” The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus, confirming the word of the Father. Thus, by His

humility, Christ opened the heavens, revealing to people the mystery of the Tri-hypostatic Godhead.

Why did He accomplish this in the waters, and not in some other place? Let us recall how God created the world. When God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was without form and void; the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Then God divided the earth from the waters, but in such a way that water still remained everywhere. Water is essential to every kind of creation. Neither man nor any kind of animal can live without water. There is water (humidity) in the air. Pick up a handful of earth from absolutely anywhere: there will be water there. There is water in stone: it might seem to us that there is none there, but when God so wills, He can draw it out, as occurred in the time of Moses. *The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world, and all that dwell therein. He hath founded it upon the seas, and upon the rivers hath He prepared it, as the Psalmist says (Psalm 23:1-2). By the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water, the Apostle Peter writes, Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished (2 Peter 3:5-6).*

When man sinned, he incurred the wrath of God not only upon himself, but upon all of nature. Man is the crown of God's creation; he was made nature's king. But when this king became the enemy of another King, his entire kingdom became an enemy kingdom. The penalty was incurred not only by man, but by all of creation. We know *that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now (Romans 8:22). But the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same (Romans 8:20).* Therefore, the forgiveness of the offender also frees creation from the bondage of corruption. This corruptible nature will be destroyed, being transformed into *new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness (2 Peter 3:13).* It was in order to make this transformation possible, and to prepare nature for the incorruption that will occur after the dread day, that Christ came to the waters of Jordan.

By His immersion in the Jordan, Christ sanctified not only the waters of the Jordan, but the whole nature of the waters, as the Church cries out in its hymns: "Christ hath appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters" (troparion of the forefeast); "Today the nature of the waters is sanctified" (troparion at the Blessing of the Waters). Since there is water everywhere, by sanctifying the waters, Christ thereby sanctified all of creation and the entire universe. Christ prepared nature that it, too, might experience the beneficial consequences of the sacrifice that He came to offer. But this was not yet everything. He gave the waters the power to cleanse human sin. The baptism of John was only a sign of repentance. Christian Baptism is a new birth and the forgiveness of all sins. God punished the sin of the first world with water, destroying it in a flood of waters. Now God saves people with water in the Mystery of Baptism.

Thus, as we sing in the hymns of the Church, Christ crushed the head of the serpent in the waters of the Jordan, the head of that same serpent that deceived Adam and Eve but was defeated by the humility of Jesus. He made known to people that God is

Trinity and He sanctified the waters, preparing all of creation, along with the waters, to receive the word of forgiveness and to prepare it for incorruption. Then, having withstood another battle with the devil in the wilderness, Christ went to prepare people for the kingdom to come. He began His preaching with these words: *Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (Matthew 4:17); or, as another Gospel puts it: *The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel* (Mark 1:15).

Until that time, John the Baptist had been preaching repentance, preparing the way for the Lord. Now the Lord Himself cries out to people: “Repent!” This voice is not addressed only to the people who lived in the time of Christ; rather, by these words, Christ addressed all people of every time and age. We, too, have heard these words in the Gospel. So long as the festal hymns of the Theophany have not gone silent, they will remind us that the time of repentance is drawing near.

Let us be attentive! For these are the words not of a prophet or an angel, but of the Lord Himself. Let us repent and, in the approaching fast, let us strive to conquer our passions and to receive remission of sins, that in the age to come we might enter the imperishable kingdom prepared by the Lord. Amen.

*Bitol, Serbia. 1928*

Source: <https://www.pravmir.com/homily-on-the-feast-of-the-lords-theophany/>





## Philoptochos Society — Friends of the Poor !

Dear Philoptochos,

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and wishing you all a Happy New Year. Especially during this time, hopefully everyone continues to wear masks and observe social distancing. We have to remember to protect ourselves and our families from the virus.

We did not have the Holiday Luncheon and Holiday Bake Sale in the usual manner. This year due to restrictions placed on our state we held a Holiday Pre-Order Bake Sale. Our ladies of the Philoptochos stepped up and baked for our sale. We also baked Tsoureki for this sale. These ladies step up without fail every year or whenever they are called upon. Our sale was a complete success. Baking Tsoureki was Mary Stergiopoulos, Susan Kallis, Alexandra Frantzis, Margo Levas, Spiridoula Panos and Mary Kottalis. Pastry bakers were Susan Kallis, Spiridoula Panos, Carol Photiou, Olga Steinhoff, Voula Pagonis, Agape Kallis. Also assisting in filling orders were Cathy Yeotis, Diane Foraker, JoAnne Schultze, Ruth Karabina, and Georgie and Clyde Al-lard. If I have forgotten anyone I deeply apologize. Oh I was there also.

Please don't forget to pay your dues, and hopefully we can resume having our meetings. We will be forming an Election Committee for the Board of Directors. From this board, your officers will be elected. Our four officers, President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will be up for election in 2021.

Please stay safe and may our New Year be healthy and bring us back together as our Philoptochos Society.

Diana Panos-Lillar  
President



*Daughters of Penelope*  
Iris Chapter 242  
**Hellenism, Philanthropy, and Sisterhood**



Dear Daughters,

The Daughters of Penelope Iris Chapter #242 hope you all had a Glorious Christmas and we wish you a very Happy New Year. Although the year 2020 has left a lot to be desired, as it comes to a close we pray that the new year will allow us to focus on good health, staying safe and a more positive outlook on things to come.

The Daughters have held two virtual meetings, one with just the officers and one open to all the membership. At the last meeting the membership voted to raise the yearly dues by \$5, making the dues \$40 dollars for 2021. All members, please pay your 2021 dues as soon as possible. You may pay directly on line at the National DOP website or send your check to our secretary, Marian Hagler at 6075 Caitlin Landing, Grand Blanc, MI 48439. Please indicate the year 2021 on your check.

Since we have not been able to hold any of our regular activities, we formed a committee to look into fundraising ideas. If you have any ideas to share with us, please submit them to one of the following individuals: Pam Heos, Helen Dalbo, or Cathy Yeotis.

We still plan on honoring graduates, but we don't have yet all the logistics worked out for the 2020 graduates nor the 2021 graduates.

We will keep you posted as plans develop.

**Happy New Year to all and may 2021 be  
one of good health, peace, and love**

Cathy Yeotis, President



Catholic Charities  
Center For Hope  
Soup Kitchen  
Adopt A Day

Anyone interested in sponsoring one of our Catholic Charities Center For Hope lunch days can do so by donating \$300 to Assumption to cover the food costs. Please see John Hountalas or Lori Photiou to schedule.



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



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## **Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs**

*We will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs on Saturday, January 31, 2021 beginning at 10:00 am. The following sermon by Fr. Leonidas Ioannou will help us appreciate the significance of this feast and the three saints who are commemorated.*

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Feast of the Three Holy Fathers, Great Hierarchs and Ecumenical Teachers Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom is an annual commemoration of our Holy Orthodox Church on which we honor the unwavering faith and spiritual brilliance of three Saints who offered the entirety of their lives and abilities in the service of God and humankind. As selfless archbishops and pastors they led the faithful in worship and ministry. As loving teachers they offered guidance in the path of holiness. As divinely-inspired theologians they used their intellectual skills to confront error and defend truth. As holy men they lived in a manner that showed to all the grace and blessings of communion with God.

The life and work of the Three Hierarchs emphasized the essential relationship of each and every person to God through faith in Christ. They affirmed that this relationship was nurtured unto salvation and eternal life within the community of believers, the Church. The Church was first and foremost a spiritual home where the needs and yearnings of the soul could be met. It was also a place of renewal, where the people of God received a new covenant through the offering and victory of Christ. In addition, the Three Hierarchs each taught that life experienced in the Church was a means of completion, leading the faithful toward the perfection of their faith, and the fulfillment of all things in the heavenly kingdom of God.

First, the Three Hierarchs acknowledge the spiritual nature of the Church, often calling her the “Church of God” or the “Church of Christ” and seeing the Church as a spiritual society consisting of spiritual beings. (Gregory Nanzianzen, Basil the Great). The origin of the Church

is divine and heavenly, reflecting the wisdom and design of God. Further, the Church is united to God through Christ, who became incarnate to renew, sanctify, and perfect the people of God within a fallen world. It is also within the Church that the heavenly and earthly are united. The gathering of the faithful in worship and for the work of ministry is joined in a spiritual manner with the “myriads of angels and thousands of martyrs, and the legions of apostles and the assemblies of the just and the various groups of all those who have pleased God.” (John Chrysostom). Together we offer worship, intercession, and ministry; and together we await the coming of the New Jerusalem when this unity will be complete.

Second, the Three Hierarchs taught that the Church is a place of healing and renewal. “For the Church is a spiritual bath, which wipes away not filth of body, but stains of soul by its many methods of repentance,” preached Saint Chrysostom. Through the Holy Sacraments and the grace of God, and through teaching and pastoral guidance, the soul could be cured of the sickness of sin, healed of the effects of unholy passions and desires, and restored to the image and likeness of God. Further, these holy fathers taught that this spiritual healing and transformation was made possible in the Church through Jesus Christ. Just as Christ has joined the divine and human through His Incarnation; so also does the Church, the Body of Christ, now join humankind to the healing power and presence of God.

Third, these great teachers and theologians directed the faithful to the Church as the means of preparation for completion and perfection in the Kingdom of God. Through life and growth in the earthly Church the faithful receive a foretaste of the Kingdom of God to come. There, the will of God is completely and perfectly fulfilled. Here, the earthly Church directs our hearts and minds to the “image of Jerusalem above” in preparation for that day when all things will be made new.

Finally, we recognize this long association of Greek Letters with the Three Hierarchs which, highlight's the emphasis these holy fathers gave to learning, intellectual ability and discipline, and to their use of the Greek language and thought for the message and mission of the Church and the Gospel of Christ. Combining their love of language and knowledge with faithful and sacrificial service to others and the Church, they provided an example of the beautiful ministry the Church must offer at all times in all places. Spiritual renewal and formation are accomplished through the cultivation of both the mind and the soul. It is also enhanced through the knowledge of language, the arts, science and any elements of culture and our world that are beneficial to our life and our relationship with God. Within the Greek Orthodox Church we have this unique opportunity to follow the example of the Three Hierarchs, synthesizing and sharing language, thought, faith, and the calling to lead others to God and to greater levels of understanding and being.

In our commemoration of the Three Holy Fathers, Hierarchs, and Ecumenical Teachers of our Church, Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, I pray that we may affirm their divine wisdom through a deeper commitment to our life in the Church, the Body of Christ. May we also imitate their love of learning and use every means to strengthen education in our parish and to give our younger generations a faith and heritage that will prepare them for a fulfilled life on earth and a foretaste of the coming kingdom of God. Amen.

Source: <https://orthochristian.com/44702.html>



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

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

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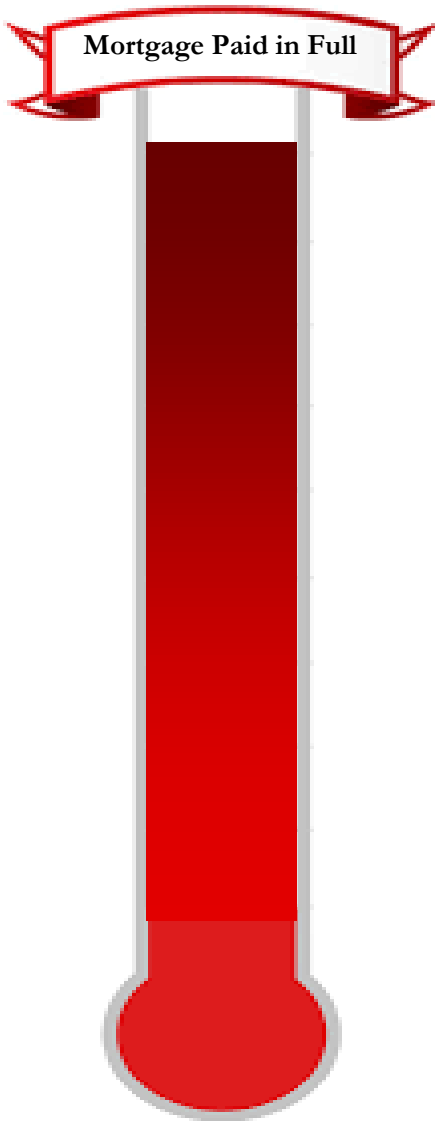
**Flint, MI 48507**

**810-239-7650**

## Mortgage Drive:

This past March, it was 7 years since we started our Mortgage Drive. We have been able to lower our Mortgage by more than \$665,000 during this time. Approximately \$393,000 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 11-30-2020  
our balance is:  
**\$66,791.77**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT OF OUR  
MORTGAGE RECUCION  
DRIVE!**

# **MORTGAGE DRIVE**

## **(FROM 1-1-2020 TO 12-1-2020)**

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. Jeff & Nancy Lauster
29. George & Margot Levas
30. Yanni & Aspasia Mavrikos
31. Taso & Mitra Pagonis
32. Tim & April Paraschos
33. Carol Photiou
34. Lucas & Lori Photiou
35. Mike Potsos
36. Steve & Martha Poulos
37. Ken & Kathy Richards
38. JoAnne Schultze
39. Allen & Olga Steinhoff
40. Robert & Micheline Wilson
41. Art & Susan Yeotis
42. Catherine Yeotis
43. Hon. Thomas & Meg Yeotis
44. In Memory of Presvytera Nikie Artemas
45. In Memory of Photis Antonaras
46. In Memory of Jerry Apostle
47. In Memory of Helen Anagnos
48. In Memory of Christ & Margaret Anastor
49. In Memory of Theodore Bachakes, Jr.
50. In Memory of Andrew Bageris
51. In Memory of Elaine Bakris
52. In Memory of Tim Bograkos
53. In Memory of John & Christine Caris
54. In Memory of Elias Chinonis
55. In Memory of Gabriella Chinonis
56. In Memory of Gus Chinonis
57. In Memory of John Chinonis
58. In Memory of Maria Contagianni
59. In Memory of Athena Chuleas
60. In Memory of James & Chryssee Daros
61. In Memory of Evangelos Douros
62. In Memory of Douglas Edmonds

# MORTGAGE DRIVE

## (FROM 1-1-2020 TO 12-1-2020)

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

63. In Memory of London Eisenbeis
64. In Memory of John Helton
65. In Memory of Tom & Goldie Heos
66. In Memory of John Jimos
67. In Memory of James (Giannakopoulos) Johnson
68. In Memory of Harold Kallis
69. In Memory of Tony Karakitsos
70. In Memory of Alex Karatza
71. In Memory of Irimi Kontorousis
72. In Memory of Anne Kossaras
73. In Memory of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer
74. In Memory of Tom Lamberson
75. In Memory of Ted Lowe
76. In Memory of Dena (Yeotis) McCollum
77. In Memory of George Margaritis
78. In Memory of Achilles (Ike) Marks
79. In Memory of Kathryn Menoutes
80. In Memory of Mike Michaelou
81. In Memory of Nicholas Mighion
82. In Memory of Aristoteles Panos
83. In Memory of Niki Panos
84. In Memory of Dr. George Politis
85. In Memory of John Siambis
86. In Memory of Tommy Stergiopoulos
87. In Memory of Cleo Tarlas
88. In Memory of Betty Vlahakis
89. In Memory of Gus Vergos
90. In Memory of Heather Williamson
91. Daughters of Penelope
92. DOP Kafi Night
93. DOP Mardi Gras Bar Tips
94. Endowment Fund
95. Religious Education
96. V.I.P.'s
97. Assumption Catering
98. Blessing of the Buses
99. Food Sales for Mortgage Reduction
100. GFS Rebate
101. Hall Rental Bar Tips
102. Hall Rental Dishwasher & Linens
103. Hall Rental Linens & Liquor Add On
104. Heos Hall Rental & Bar
105. Makaria of Nick Kondyles
106. Makaria of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer
107. Sunday Brunch
108. 2nd Tray
109. ABC Auto Repair
110. McCredie Insurance
111. MJ Auto Inc
112. Swartz Funeral Home
112. Yanni's Opa Bar & Grill



**FRANK L. YIANNATJI**

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CRIMINAL LAW SPECIALIST

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810-233-5347

sportlite@comcast.net



## 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. Thank you for your generosity.

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

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

## Assumption Church Community Update

Our Church newsletter is one of the ways we keep in touch with one another. Each month there are special events in the life of the Church that should be shared with our entire community. This is especially true in terms of baptisms, weddings, and funerals. We will now be dedicating space in each newsletter to announce baptisms, weddings, and funerals that occur at Assumption Church as well as those involving community members that are celebrated at other Orthodox Churches. If you would like to submit an announcement regarding a baptism, wedding, or funeral that has been celebrated at an Orthodox Church other than the Assumption Church, please send it directly to Fr. Jarrod ([fjarrod@gmail.com](mailto:fjarrod@gmail.com)).

### December:

Marriage Blessing of Marc and Alixandria Blancke

Baptism of Mela Katina Blancke

Funeral of Irimi Kontorouisis (celebrated at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Baltimore, Maryland)



Due to HIPAA privacy rules, hospitals no longer provide a list of Orthodox patients to us. Therefore, if you or a loved one are, or will be, in the hospital, please contact Fr. Jarrod or the church office for a pastoral visit. Also, please notify Fr. Jarrod or the office if a friend or family member is in a rehab center, nursing home, assisted living facility or under hospice care.

**MONTHLY CHURCH EXPESSES - NOVEMBER 2020**

These are the operating expenses we incur every month. These amounts do not include any repairs or maintenance to church property or equipment. Any questions regarding the monthly expenses should be directed to the Parish Council President or Treasurer.

Description	Amount				
Accounting Fees	\$ 100.00				
Allocation	\$ -	2 month deferral by <b>Metropolis</b>			
Payroll Taxes	\$ 746.15				
Goyette	\$ 206.00				
Guardian Alarm	\$ 90.85				
Insurance: Church/Building	\$ 465.25	\$1861 quarterly			
Insurance: Health (Priest)	\$ 1,599.00				
Insurance: Workman's Comp	\$ 53.50	\$642 annually			
Jet Stream (Sprinkler sys)	\$ 11.67	\$140 annually			
Lawn/Snow	\$ 750.00				
Lush Lawn	\$ 52.63	\$6231 annually			
Maurer's (Towels & Aprons)	\$ 42.47				
Mortgage Payment	\$ 2,566.15				
Parish Software Subscription	\$ 39.15				
Pension Plan	\$ 700.00				
Pest Control	\$ 50.00				
Salaries	\$ 7,284.36				
Toshiba copier/printer	\$ 456.75				
Trash Removal	\$ 153.57				
Utilities: Cable	\$ 359.88				
Utilities: Consumers Electric	\$ 1,060.30				
Utilities: Consumers Gas	\$ 359.57				
Utilities: Water	\$ 338.04				
	<b>\$ 17,485.29</b>				

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**Autumn**  
**LOUNGE**

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

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(810) 232-8811

# FISH FRY FRIDAY

3—8:30 PM

RESUMED SEPTEMBER 11TH

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:

Fried & Baked Fish \* Plaki \* Pastitsio \* Moussaka \* Clam Strips  
Chicken Strips \* Fish Sandwich \* Baked Chicken \* Triopitas \* Gyros  
Spanakopita \* Greek Fries \* Mac & Cheese \* Greek Salad  
Dolmathes \* Shrimp \* Onion Rings \* Rice Pudding

And don't forget to support the Bake Sale to benefit  
Hope, Joy & GOYA and Catholic Charities!

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 total sales for November 2020 were \$4,429.22



**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 November 30, 2020 is \$6,961.78.

#### **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 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS**

**(JAN 1 - NOVEMBER 30)**

**Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell**

**Assumption Church**

**Chinonis, Dennis & Debra**

**Chinonis, Linda**

**Kalatzis, Athena**

**Kaloydis, John & Karen**

**Mersinas, George & Laura**

**Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra**

**Yeotis, Catherine**

**Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg**



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THANK YOU!!

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BRING YOUR EMPTY RETURNABLE BOTTLES AND CANS  
TO ASSUMPTION CHURCH  
(DROP-OFF IN BACK BY KITCHEN DOOR)  
AND LET US TAKE THEM BACK.**

**PROCEEDS OF THIS FUNDRAISER SUPPORT  
ASSUMPTION CHURCH**

# 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.

Allard, Clyde & Georgie	Fahoome, Calliope
Altheide, Dena	Falaras, Mary
Asa, Darwin & Barbara	Federick, Curt & Vivian
Bachakes, Katheryn	Ferich, Andrew & Voula
Bachakes, Vicki	Foraker, Walt & Diane
Bakris, Dr. Chris	Garceau, Greg & Sia
Bakris, Dr. Nicholas	Gintsis, Nick & Dorothy
Batsios, Christos & Ashley	Grousopoulos, Lambros & Lena
Batsios, Efthya	Hagler, Gary & Marian
Batsios, Evangelos	Haralambous, Frank & Vania
Birtsas, Sandra	Helton, Voula
Bistolaridis, Antonios & Maria	Heos, James & Cassie
Bograkos, Tim & Sandy	Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey
Bograkos, Vera	Herzog, Mary Caris
Brown Jr., Andy	Holland, Nick & Jennifer
Buterakos, Jim & Roxanne	Holland, Rick & Tina
Carmean, Mike & Denise	Hountalas, Dimitri & Brittany
Carpenter, Rob & Angie	Hountalas, John & Tasia
Chiatalas, Andrew & Kelly	Hountalas, Yanni
Chiavaras, Lucille	Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki
Chinonis, Dennis & Dr. Debra	Iordanou, Bill & Lisa
Chinonis, Elias	Johnson, Denise
Chinonis, Katie	Joseph, Patti
Chinonis, Linda	Joynt, Elaine & Duffy, David
Chinonis, Richard	Kalatzis, Athena
Chinonis, Sandi	Kallis, Agape
+Chuleas-Williams, Anna	Kallis, Nick
Clinton, Mike & Kathy	Kallis, Penny
Costa, John & Laura	Kallis, Susan
Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilia	Kaloydis, John
Dalbo, Helen	Kapellas, Katina
Daros, Christine	Karabinas, Pavlos & Ruth
Dau, Bill & Joanne	Karakitsos, Peter & Litsa
Davlantes, Alex & Alexis	Karay, Sr., Nicholas
Delbridge, Ray & Carol	Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula
Demps, Crystal	Komodromos, Tessie
Drolet, Mark & Penelopi	Kondyles, Chryssoula

# 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.

Kontorouisis, Dimitre & Jacqueline	Peters, Jeff & Maria
Kossaras, Dean & Joyce	Photiou, Carol
Kottalis, Mary T.	Photiou, Lucas & Lori
Koutrouvidas, John & Nina	Photiou, Maroulla
Kraemer, Mark & Family	Politis, Rita
Kus, Michael & Alexis	Potsos, Dimitrios & Stergoula
Kuzmanovsky, Kosta & Shaochi	Poulos, Chris & Debra
Lauster, Jeff & Nancy	Poulos, Eleanor
Lebessis, Serena	Poulos, Steve & Martha
Livaditis, Argie & Angela	Richards, Ken & Kathy
Livieratos-Dobbins, Dr. Maria, David, & Nicholas	Rivette, Matthew & Lori
Lowe, +Ted & Ann	Rogind, Sally
Mandelaris, John & Pauline	Russell, Rev. Fr. Jarrod
Manutes, Nicholas & Maria	Schultze, JoAnne
Margaritis, +George & Sofia	Sirakis, Kosta & Sofia
Marks, +Achilles & Afroditi	Sirakis, Paris & Athena
Marks, Jean	Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra
Martorelli, Matt & Jill	Stavridis, Tomas & Zoe
Martorelli, Michael	Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Martorelli, Sophia	Steinhoff, Amanda
Menoutes, George	Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Mersinas, George & Laura	Stergiopoulos, Mary
Michaelou, Sevasti	Thornton, Jerry & Demi
Nikolakeas, John & Polin	Van Dyke, Ryan & Amy
Nitsos, Emma	Vergos, Nitsa
Nitsos, George & Candy	Vergos, Dr. Peter & Susie
O'Keefe, Derek & Michelle	Vitinaros, Nick & Effie
Pagonis, Taso & Mitra	Walker, Bruce & Kathy
Pagonis, Voula	Welch, Tim & Joann
Palmer, Diane	Wright, Jeff & Kay
Panos-Lillar, Diana	Yeotis, Art & Susan
Panos, John & Irene	Yeotis, Catherine
Panos, Spiridoula	Yeotis, Dean & Lynda
Pappadakis, Nikki	Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg
Pappas, Dean & Elaine	Yiannatji, Frank
Paraschos, Sam & Sandra	Zaravelis, Fani
Paraschos, Tim & April	
Pavlis, John & Pat	

# 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 — \$9.00

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

## PHYLLO DOUGH

1 pound package — \$2.50

Effective 12-1-2020

To order call John Hountalas  
810-701-5164

---

Philoptochos Sweet Bread Sale  
**TSOUREKI**

\$6.50

(Proceeds for Tsourekis go to the Philoptochos)

# 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.

## 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.

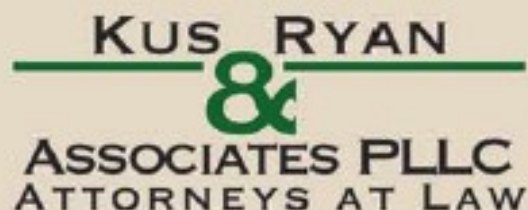
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**Stewardship Policy** - Only cash, check or credit card can be accepted as payment of stewardship. Donations of items or services cannot be accepted for stewardship in lieu of monetary payment.



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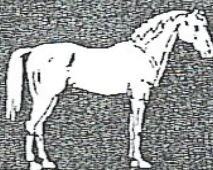
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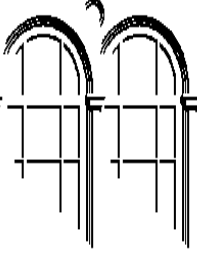
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• NL Half Page & TV Ad..... \$200/yr.	TV Ad cycles continuously every Friday during the Church Fish Fry - 3pm - 8:30pm
• NL Full Page..... \$250/yr.	For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar
• NL Half Page..... \$150/yr.	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	

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

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.

## **2020 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-Officio 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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