

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

April
2021



What's Happening

APRIL 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	

- 5: Virtual Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 7: Virtual Orthodoxy Explored 11 am
- 10: District Oratorical Festival @ Assumption
- 13: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 19: Virtual Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 21: Virtual Orthodoxy Explored 11 am
- 25: Religious Education in church with Fr. Jarrod following Liturgy 11:45 am following Liturgy

MAY 2021

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
30	31					

- 2: PASCHA!
- 9: Mother's Day
Religious Education in church with Fr. Jarrod following Liturgy 11:45 am
- 12: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 16: Spring General Assembly following Liturgy
- 20: Divine Liturgy Sts. Constantine & Helen 6 pm
- 31: Memorial Day Cemetery Blessings

GREAT LENT 2021 AND HOLY WEEK AT THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Great Lent began on Clean Monday, March 15. We continue to celebrate the Lenten Divine Services at the Assumption Church in addition to the Pan-Orthodox Lenten Divine Services at the other Flint area Orthodox Churches. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 25. The following Lenten and Holy Week Divine Services will be celebrated in April and May at the Assumption Church:

- ♦ **Friday, April 2 at 6:00pm: Salutations to the Theotokos (Third Stanza)**
- ♦ **Friday, April 9 at 6:00pm: Salutations to the Theotokos (Fourth Stanza)**
- ♦ **Wednesday, April 14 at 6:00pm: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts**
- ♦ **Thursday, April 15 at 6:00pm: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete**
- ♦ **Friday, April 16 at 6:00pm: The Akathist Hymn**
- ♦ **Sunday, April 25 at 6pm: Divine Liturgy for Palm Sunday
Bridegroom Service**
- ♦ **Monday, April 26 at 6 pm: Bridegroom Service**
- ♦ **Tuesday, April 27 at 6 pm: Bridegroom Service**
- ♦ **Wednesday, April 28 at 10am: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
at 6pm: Service of Holy Unction**
- ♦ **Thursday, April 29 at 10am: Liturgy of The Mystical Supper
at 6pm: Service of the Crucifixion - The Twelve Gospels**
- ♦ **Friday, April 30 at 9am: Royal Hours
at 3pm: Descent from the Cross
at 7pm: Lamentations Service**
- ♦ **Saturday, May 1 at 10am: Vespereal Divine Liturgy Proto-Anastasis
at 11pm: Vigil of the Resurrection**
- ♦ **Sunday, May 2 at Midnight: *Great & Holy Pascha* - Paschal Divine Liturgy
at Noon: Agape Vespers
at 1pm: Easter Egg Hunt**

Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ♦ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ♦ 810-771-4611
St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ♦ Flint, MI 48507 ♦ 810-732-0720
St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 S. Long Lake Road ♦ Fenton, MI 48430 ♦ 810-750-1401
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ♦ Burton, MI 48519 ♦ 810-744-0070

2021 Great Fast and Bright Week



Pan-Orthodox Divine Services

Great Compline (Mondays, 6:30pm) We will celebrate the Great Compline service together every Monday night at St. George. This beautiful service allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available from 6pm–6:30pm and after the service.

Lenten Hours (Wednesdays, 10:30am) at St. Nicholas.

Presanctified Divine Liturgy (Wednesdays, 6pm) We will celebrate the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation together according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (*no eating or drinking after 12 Noon*). Confessions will only be available prior to the Liturgy from 5:30pm–6pm. Unfortunately, we will not be having Potluck Lenten Meals this year.

March 6th Pre-Lenten Retreat led by Fr. Maximos Constas (*more information to follow*)

March 24th **Presanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene** 6pm

March 25th **Great Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy at Assumption** 10am

April 7th **Presanctified Liturgy at St. Nicholas** 6pm

April 21st **Presanctified Liturgy at St. George** 6pm

April 24th **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy at St. Nicholas** 9:30am

Bright Week (May 2nd–8th)

May 3rd **Paschal Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene** 10am

May 4th **Paschal Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas** 10am

May 5th **Paschal Evening Liturgy & Feast of St. George at St. George** 6pm

May 7th **Paschal Divine Liturgy & Life-giving Font at Assumption** 10am

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*

Prosporon Schedule

April:

4: Wright, Jeff & Kay
11: Yeotis, Art & Susan
18: Yeotis, Catherine
25: Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg

May:

2: Yiannatji, Frank
9: Zaravelis, Fani
16: Zaravelis, George & Genie
23: Allard, Clyde & Georgia
30: Altheide, Dena

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; Afroditi Marks;
George Pappadakis; Charlie Paraschos

Sunday Reader Schedule

April

4 Ruth Karabina
11 John Kaloydis
18 Debra Chinonis
25 John Costa

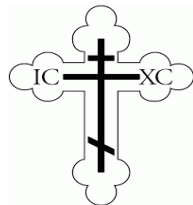
May

2 Cathy Yeotis
9 Tim Welch
16 Debra Chinonis
23 John Kaloydis
30 Ruth Karabina

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



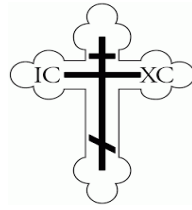
Beloved parishioners and friends of Assumption Church,

We are now at the halfway point of Great and Holy Lent. The Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross, which marks the halfway point of Great Lent, is April 4. As we approach this point of the fast, what should we do to prepare ourselves to continue our spiritual efforts? First and foremost, we should evaluate how we have approached Great Lent so far. In other words, we ask ourselves this question: have we increased the amount of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving compared to our efforts during Great Lent in 2020? Ideally, this is an evaluation that we would conduct with the guidance of our confessor or spiritual father. If we answer the question with a “yes”, we should then increase our efforts more. If we answer that question with a “no”, we should seek to meet the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of Great Lent.

As the halfway point of Great Lent, the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross reminds us to renew our efforts to complete the fast with sincerity and purpose. Sometimes, people will ask why there is so much fasting during Great Lent. The foundational answer is we fast in obedience to God. The Lord commands that we fast, and the Church outlines the basic parameters of fasting. As just one of many examples, our Lord Jesus Christ directed us, “when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites.” (Matthew 6:16) Our Lord did not even contemplate us not fasting so He gave us guidance for when we fast. The spiritual prac-



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL



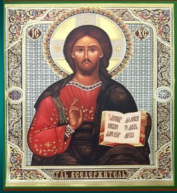
tice of fasting goes back to the very beginning of time. St. Basil the Great wrote about fasting as follows: “Fasting is as old as mankind itself. It was given as a law in paradise. The first commandment Adam received was: ‘From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil do not eat.’ Now this command, ‘do not eat,’ is the divine law of fasting and temperance.” From the very beginning, the Lord has commanded mankind to fast.

The Church has outlined for us how we are to fulfill the Lord’s direction that we fast. Most of us are familiar with the basic Church guidelines for fasting. If we are not, the Church calendar outlines how we should fast. Personal questions about fasting should be directed to our confessor or spiritual father. If we do not have a confessor or spiritual father, we should talk to our parish priest about specific fasting guidance. If we have not fasted in the past, we will need assistance to develop a plan for fasting in a way that we can both succeed and grow spiritually. We have to approach fasting as we do all spiritual exercises, with discernment and guidance.

As we are at the halfway point of Lent, it is not too late for us to renew and increase our fast to prepare for the Resurrection. The most important point is that we are fasting and will continue to fast following the Lord’s commandment. May our Lord and Savior continue to guide and bless us as we approach Holy Week and Pascha!

With love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The etymology of the word “April” comes from the word “aperire” (verb) which means to open, referring to the season of the trees and flowers beginning to bloom or “open”. The month of April is known for its beautiful spring weather, many sun and rain filled days, the migration of birds coming north for the summer, meteor showers, and generally the celebration of Easter or Pascha (Greek: Πάσχα). This year, Pascha falls on different dates for the Western and Orthodox churches. Orthodox Christians around the world will celebrate Pascha on Sunday, 2 May while the Western church will celebrate on Sunday, 4 April. Some may ask why there is a four week difference in the celebration commemorating Christ’s resurrection. The simple answer: a *Greek mother talking to her children*, “επειδή το είπα”. Actually, Pascha is a moveable holiday.

Pascha or Easter falls on the Sunday immediately after that year’s Paschal full moon, (first full moon after Spring Quinox) which is based on historical tables instead of lunar events. But this may not fully answer the question as to why Paschal full moon, referring to the ecclesiastical full moon, is used to determine the date of Easter. The word “Pascha” is an Aramaic word meaning Passover, or a Jewish festival. “Paschal” is a derivative of “Pascha”. Passover fell on the date of the Paschal full moon in the Jewish calendar, and Holy Thursday or the Last Supper, occurred on the Passover. Therefore, the death, burial, and the day Jesus Christ rose from the dead, was the Sunday after the Passover or the very first Pascha Sunday. This is why Orthodox Christians always celebrate Pascha after the Passover.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic our church was closed last year. With advances in vaccines, maintaining social distancing and the wearing of masks, new Covid cases and deaths are going down. If this trend continues, more Orthodox Christians will spend time in church in thought, prayer and the celebration of Jesus Christ’s life. Pascha services include: the Great Compline, the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Salutations to the Theotokos, Great Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy, Vigil of the Resurrection, Paschal Divine Liturgy and followed by Bright Week. Celebrate Pascha with hearts filled with peace and love towards your friends and enemies.

Have a blessed Pascha.

Helen Dalbo
Council President

SAVE THE DATE

»»» SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING – SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 «««

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

Hope, Joy, & GOYA Corner

On Sunday, March 21st we celebrated the Sunday of Orthodoxy with our annual Icon procession with our children holding their icons while standing in the pews. Our children also participated in the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. We had 2 junior level contestants, Anna Photiou & Alexander Photiou. We are so proud of all of them for going out of their comfort zone, preparing wonderful speeches, and presenting. We will be hosting the District level competition on Saturday, April 10h here at our church.

Total sales for the month of February bake sales were \$331.50. 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
4/2/2021	Batsios	Carpenter
4/9/2021	Federick	Grousopoulos
4/16/2021	Haralambous	Holland
4/23/2021	Karakitsos	Kovanis-Wilson
5/7/2021	Kraemer	Leighton
5/14/2021	Mavrikos	O'Bee
5/21/2021	Panos	Paraschos

We are encouraging our children to attend as many of the Holy Week services as possible. Please see the Holy Week Schedule.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, April 25th Palm Sunday – RE Session with Father in Church following Liturgy (Facebook Live)

Sunday, May 2nd PASCHA! Agape Service

Sunday, May 9th – Last RE Session with Father in Church following Liturgy (Facebook Live)

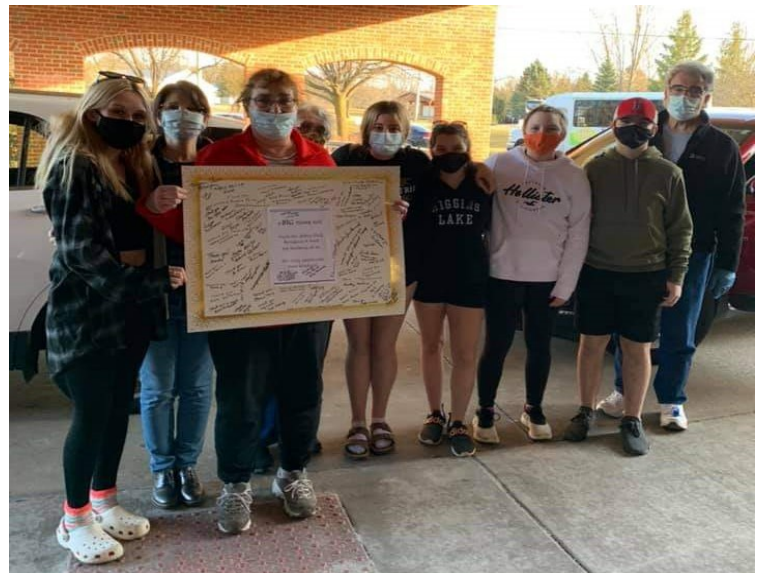
Sincerely,

Religious Education Committee

Lori Photiou and Ageliki Carpenter



On Saturday, March 13th, our Fish Fry crew cooked and delivered 140 dinners to the residents at Abby Park. The cost of this event was 100% donated by several of our faithful parishioners. The residents created a very personal Thank You card and each signed it. Thank you to all that participated in helping make the residents day.



Lenten/Paschal Items Needed

Items listed are needed for the celebration of the special services during Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha. Contributions should be called in to the Church Office as soon as possible. We suggest that families share the cost of an item with one or more other families so that those wishing to contribute, may be able to. **This list is current as of March 10, 2021.**

Service:	Cost:	Donated
1st Salutation – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
2nd Salutation – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
3rd Salutation – Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
3rd Sun. of Lent (Veneration of the Cross) Daffodils	\$85.00	_____
4th Salutation –Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	__X__
Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$55.00	__X__
Akathish Hymn – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	__X__
Palms for Palm Sunday	\$165.00	_____
Nymphios Icon Flowers (2 Sets)	\$55.00	_____
Oil for Holy Unction Service	\$20.00	_____
Cotton for Holy Unction Service	\$10.00	_____
Pascha Red Eggs (35 dozen)	\$45.00	__X__
Rose Petals – Holy Friday	\$20.00	__X__
Rose Water – Holy Friday	\$20.00	__X__
Resurrection Icon Flowers (1st)	\$55.00	_____
Resurrection Icon Flowers (2nd)	\$55.00	_____
Resurrection Banner	\$90.00	_____
Large Resurrection Candle for Father	\$55.00	__X__
Oil for Altar Candles	\$55.00	_____
Cross Wreath for Holy Thursday	\$90.00	_____
Vase Set for Palm Sunday	\$60.00	_____
Vase Set for Easter Sunday	\$60.00	_____
Palm Sunday Icon	\$55.00	_____
Large Icon Screen (2 total)	\$235.00 ea	_____
Bay Leaves	\$225.00	__X__
Lilies (6 total)	\$35.00 ea	_____
Gardenias (12 total)	\$182.00	__X__
Votive Candles (25 total) for Kouvouklion	\$ 5.00 ea.	_____

This article was submitted by Nancy Chinonis, our Choir Director. The article can be found on the Orthodox Church Musicians Facebook page.

The Great Doxology: A Brief History and Explanation

By Emanuel H. Creekus

There are several doxologies in use in our services today. The Great Doxology and the Thoxa Patri (“Glory to the Father...”) are merely two of them, but they are perhaps the most important and most recognizable.

The word “doxology” derives from two Greek words: *δοξα* (doxa), which means “glory” or “worship”, and *λογια* (logia), meaning “words”. Glory words. Worship words. An apt description of their purpose. Let’s remind ourselves of the text as it is used in the Orthodox Church, as we will be referring to it in the explanation below:

1. Glory to You who has shown us the light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men.
2. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for your great glory.
3. Lord, King, heavenly God, Father, almighty; Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit.
4. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You who take away the sins of the world.
5. Receive our prayer, You who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.
6. For You only are holy, only You are Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
7. Each day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and to the ages of ages.
8. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
9. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever, Amen.
10. Let Your mercy, Lord, be upon us as we have put our hope in You.
11. Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes. (3)
12. Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.
13. Lord, I have fled to You; teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.
14. For with You is the fountain of life, and in Your light we shall see light.
15. Extend Your mercy to those who know You.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages,

Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Great Doxology is an example of what we call «ψαλμοι ιδιοτικοι» (psalmoi idiotikoi) or “private psalms”. These were compositions that were popular in the 2nd to 3rd centuries, written by individuals for their private devotions in imitation of the Biblical Psalter. The venerable and ancient hymn Φως Ιλαρον (Gladsome Light) is also an example of this. **The Great Doxology became part of Orthros in the 4th Century**, and the present form of the Thoxa Patri also dates from that time.

Commentary

The Great Doxology can be broken down into three sections: First, quotes from and allusions to the New Testament; second, beginning with verse 7, quotes from the Old Testament; and third, the Trisagion.

The “light” in verse 1 has a dual meaning. Have you ever noticed that during Vespers and other evening services, when we recite what is known as the Lesser Doxology, that sentence is omitted? Of course, we all should know that ‘light’ refers to Christ, but at one time the priests and chanters would time the beginning of the Doxology with the rising of the sun! In many Slavic churches and monasteries, especially ones that still celebrate the All-Night Vigil, this is still true.

In many OCA parishes, it is the priest, after putting on the phelonion (chasuble), who proclaims the first sentence, “Glory to You who has shown us the light”, and the choir or chanters follow with the remainder of the hymn. So just as the hymn Fos Ilaron of Vespers proclaims “...now that we have come to sunset, now that we have seen the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God”, we proclaim the morning light with the Great Doxology; the point being that we should always be praising and thanking God no matter what time of day it is. The second part of this line is of course from Luke 2:14, the doxology the angels sang at the birth of Christ.

Verse 2 is not a direct quote from Scripture, but is a reference to Revelation 4:9-10, which will be explained in greater detail when we talk about the hymn Se Imnumen (We Praise Thee), which shares much of the same text, and the other hymns (several!) that come out of Revelation chapter 4 and the parallel Scripture, Isaiah chapter 6. The explanation would take way too much space to be included here.

Verse 3 is also not a quote from Scripture, but refers to the Trinity in much the same way and with similar wording as the Creed does. One of the reasons why the Great Doxology and the pre-

sent form of *Thoxa Patri* (“Glory to the Father...”) were put into our services back in the 4th century was to combat Arianism, the belief that Jesus Christ was not equal to God the Father, and at one time did not exist, essentially believing that He was a created being. This will be explained further when we discuss the origins of *Thoxa Patri*.

Verse 4 is a reference to John 1:29, the words of John the Forerunner’s testimony to Christ when John baptized Him, and also later in verse 36 when John told the same thing to two of his disciples (Andrew and possibly John the Evangelist), who then began following Jesus.

Verse 5 is a petition, in the same vein as the petitions chanted by the Deacon during the Divine Liturgy; and just as our response during the Liturgy is, “Lord, have mercy”, we entreat the Lord here to have mercy on us when He receives our prayer. This is one of several reasons why the priest censes during the time the Great Doxology is sung, and at other times as well, that our prayers may be sent up and received by Christ (see Psalm 141 (140):2). Notice that here is another wording similar to the Creed: “...and ascended on the third day, and is seated at the right hand of the Father...”

Verse 6 is virtually identical to the hymn we chant (“*Eis Ayios*”—“One is Holy”) at the Fraction (Breaking) of the Amnos or Lamb (the consecrated Body of Christ), when the priest exclaims, “Holy things unto the holy people.” St. Maximus the Confessor explains that this signifies the future gathering and unity, beyond reason or understanding, of those who have been mystically and wisely fulfilled by God, gazing with the heavenly powers upon the light of God’s invisible and ineffable glory. This verse, along with the hymn “One is Holy”, is therefore a looking forward to or an anticipation of the reception of Holy Communion. St. Germanus of Constantinople (+733) says that we sing this knowing that instead of Moses sprinkling the blood at the first Passover and saying that it was the blood of the covenant of God, that now Christ has given His own Body and Blood, and it is with this understanding that we receive Holy Communion.

Verse 7 is where we begin the quotes from the Old Testament. This verse is a direct quote of Psalm 145 (144):2. The Church blesses the Son of God for all His works every day, and will continue to do so until the end of time.

Verse 8 is another petition, asking the Lord to keep us this day without sin. For a very short line, this has a very deep meaning that we can only barely touch on here. How does God help us to keep ourselves sinless? It is through our “synergia” or working together with Him, of our own free will. This is a reference to the Orthodox doctrine of theosis or deification. It is the process by which man is restored to the union or communion we had with God before the fall of Adam and Eve, or, in the words of St. Athanasius, “God became man that we may become gods.” It is how we become “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4). This is the final goal to which all Christians must strive.

See the May Newsletter for Part 2

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



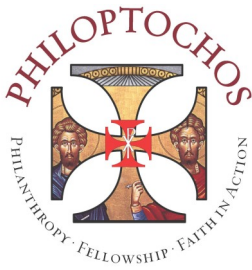
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Hours – Monday thru Sunday 7am to 9pm

Our advertisers help to make our Newsletter possible by sponsoring it with their advertising. Won't you please patronize their businesses — and mention that you saw their ad in this Newsletter?



Philoptochos Society

Friends of the Poor !

Ladies,

Just a reminder, we are now collecting dues for 2021. Please send in your dues to the church. We would like to have a membership meeting sometime in April. I will send out notifications if we can. We are still under restrictions in the church and hall, but we will try. We will be collecting money for the Epitaphio for Easter. Donations can be given to Agape Kallis or sent to the church. Please write on your checks Dues or Epitaphio. Also Election Information will be coming soon.

Thank you,

Diana Lillar
President

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY 2021 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: \$35.00

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!



Daughters of Penelope

Iris Chapter 242

Hellenism, Philanthropy, and Sisterhood



On March 7 Iris Chapter held a formal meeting virtually on Zoom. Eighteen members attended. It was so nice to see people on Zoom that we hadn't seen in months. Below are dates to remember.

- **Thursday, April 8** is the District 10 virtual craft project. Please let me know if you would like to participate.
- Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 18** . We will let you know if it will be virtual or in person.
- Hydrangea plants purchased from our fundraiser for Mother's Day can be picked up from the church **May 6, 2021**
- The Virtual District 10 AHEPA/Daughters of Penelope convention will be held virtually on **Saturday, May 22, 2021.**
- In **June** we would like to honor both high school and college **graduates** , so be sure to give us the names of any graduates you are aware of within our church community.
- **Saturday, August 21** is the tentative date for the event that will include the presentation of the District Scholarships. Attendance to this event must be by prepaid reservations only.
- If you are interested in joining the Daughters of Penelope, please contact any member.

A special thank you to everyone who gave toward the matching funds for our church from the **Omega AHEPA Chapter.**

Cathy Yeotis, President



SPRING



Save the Date

Sunday
May 16, 2021

General Assembly Meeting
following Divine Liturgy



AGENDA – Spring General Assembly 2021

Sunday, May 16, 2021– Immediately Following the Divine Liturgy

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Call to Order | Helen Dalbo |
| 2. Opening Prayer | Father Jarrod |
| 3. Election of General Assembly Chairman and Secretary | |
| 4. Opening Remarks | Helen Dalbo |
| 5. Approval of previous General Assembly Minutes | GA Chairperson |
| 6. Priest's Report | Father Jarrod |
| 7. Treasurer Report and Approval of 2021 Budget | JoAnne Schultze |
| 8. Ministry and Organization Reports | |
| A. Iconography Project Report | John Hountalas |
| B. Stewardship Report | Committee Chair |
| C. Fund Raising Events | Chairs of Events |
| 1. Fish Fry | John Hountalas |
| 2. Golf Outing - TBD | John Kaloydis |
| 3. Indoor Craft Show - November | Susan Kallis |
| 4. Outdoor Craft Show -TBD | Laura Mersinas |
| 5. Raffles | |
| a. Cash Raffle - September | Debbi Chinonis |
| b. Super Draw Raffle | |
| 6. Other – Open for Suggestions | |
| D. Religious Education | } <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">In the interest of time and to allow ample time for a full and open discussion all ministry updates will be provided as a hard copy at the General Assembly meeting from which questions can then be asked.</div> |
| E. Philoptochos | |
| F. VIPs | |
| G. Choir | |
| H. GOYA | |
| I. Daughters of Penelope | |
| J. AHEPA | |
| 9. New Business | |
| A. Appoint an Election Committee Chairperson | GA Chairperson |
| B. Elect 2 Delegates to attend Detroit Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly-TBD (UPR's Art. 11 sec. 5c) | GA Chairperson |
| 10. Old Business | |
| 11. Call for Questions | |
| 12. Call for Adjournment | GA Chairperson |
| 13. Closing Prayer | Father Jarrod |

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT

This is the operating income we received for the noted month and the operating expenses we incur on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis.

Any questions regarding the monthly income and/or expenses should be directed to the Parish Council Treasurer.

OPERATING INCOME FEBRUARY 2021		EXPENSES FEBRUARY 2021	
Stewardship	\$14,184.00	Monthly Bills Paid	\$18,677.94
Trays/Candles	\$701.00	Quarterly Bill Paid	\$3,996.00
Fundraiser Income for Operating Expenses	\$8,538.30	Annual Bills Paid	\$649.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$374.44	Miscellaneous Bills Paid	\$4,292.64
Total Operating Income for Month	\$23,797.74	Total Bills Paid for Month	\$27,615.58

ACCOUNT BALANCES FEBRUARY 28, 2021		PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE	
General Checking (used for Operating Expenses)	\$10,439.12	Maintenance bills paid out of Property Improvement/Maintenance Savings Account	\$1,432.53
Property Improvement/Maintenance Savings Account	\$6,691.55		



We have started the 2nd phase of our LED Light project in the Church. For this phase, we will be replacing the lights in the Narthex. Please consider a donation to help defray the cost of the LED lights. Any amount is greatly appreciated. If you wish to make a donation, please contact John Hountalas at 810-701-5164

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 (frjarrod@gmail.com).

March

Funeral: Argie Livaditis

NANCY CHINONIS BECOMES SHAREHOLDER IN THE LAW FIRM OF CLINE CLINE AND GRIFFIN

Cline, Cline and Griffin announced that Nancy Chinonis is one of two attorneys who became shareholders in the firm on January 1, 2021. Both attorneys bring valuable experience and expertise in their respective areas of law.



Attorney Chinonis maintains a practice in the area of litigation including general, hospital and medical malpractice defense, and employment law. Attorney Chinonis works closely with clients regarding preparation of employment handbooks, disciplinary actions, claims of discrimination, harassment, retaliation and whistleblowing, as well as pre- and post-termination issues.

Attorney Chinonis has been named a Super Lawyers Rising Star for the past four years, presently maintains the position of Treasurer for the Genesee County Bar Association, President of the Flint Trial Lawyers Association and was recently appointed to the State Bar of Michigan Character & Fitness Committee.

CONGRATULATIONS NANCY!



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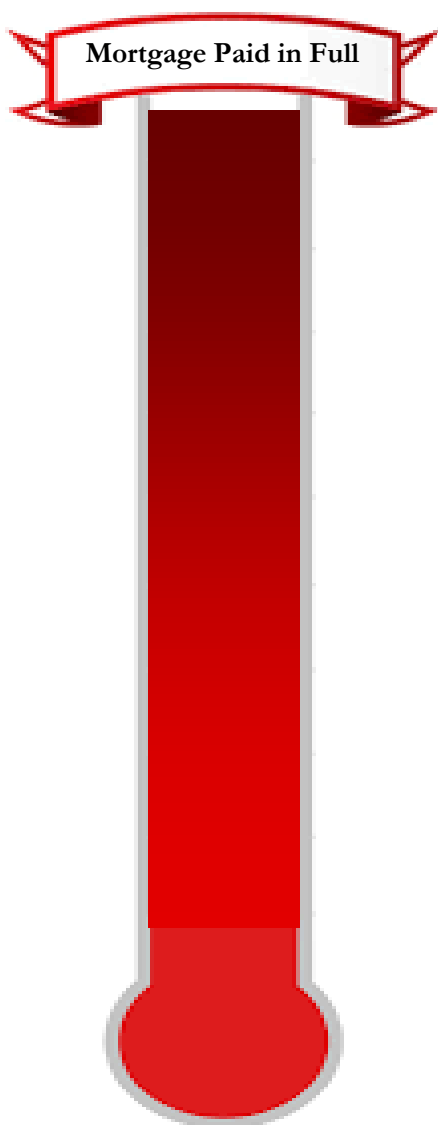
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810-239-7650

Mortgage Drive:

March 2021 will mark 8 years since we started our Mortgage Drive. We have been able to lower our Mortgage by more than \$685,000 during that time. Approximately \$410,000 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 in 2021 which is also the 100th Anniversary of our Church.



As of 2-28-2021
our balance is:
\$42,267.97

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

MORTGAGE DRIVE

(FROM 3-1-2020 TO 4-1-2021)

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

MORTGAGE DRIVE

(FROM 3-1-2020 TO 4-1-2021)

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

65. In Memory of Evangelos Douros
66. In Memory of Douglas Edmonds
67. In Memory of London Eisenbeis
68. In Memory of John Helton
69. In Memory of Tom & Goldie Heos
70. In Memory of John Jimos
71. In Memory of James (Giannakopoulos) Johnson
72. In Memory of Tony (Giannakopoulos) Johnson
73. In Memory of Harold Kallis
74. In Memory of Tony Karakitsos
75. In Memory of Alex Karatza
76. In Memory of Irini Kontorousis
77. In Memory of Anne Kossaras
78. In Memory of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer
79. In Memory of Tom Lamberson
80. In Memory of Ted Lowe
81. In Memory of Dena (Yeotis) McCollum
82. In Memory of George Margaritis
83. In Memory of Achilles (Ike) Marks
84. In Memory of Kathryn Menoutes
85. In Memory of Mike Michaelou
86. In Memory of Nicholas Mighion
87. In Memory of Aristoteles Panos
88. In Memory of Niki Panos
89. In Memory of Dr. George Politis
90. In Memory of John Siambis
91. In Memory of Tommy Stergiopoulos
92. In Memory of Cleo Tarlas
93. In Memory of Betty Vlahakis
94. In Memory of Gus Vergos
95. In Memory of Heather Williamson
96. Daughters of Penelope
97. DOP Kafi Night
98. DOP Mardi Gras Bar Tips
99. Endowment Fund
100. Religious Education
101. V.I.P.'s
102. Assumption Catering
103. Blessing of the Buses
104. Food Sales for Mortgage Reduction
105. GFS Rebate
106. Hall Rental Bar Tips
107. Hall Rental Dishwasher & Linens
108. Hall Rental Linens & Liquor Add On
109. Heos Hall Rental & Bar
110. Makaria of Nick Kondyles
111. Makaria of Sandy Bachakes Kraemer
112. Sunday Brunch
113. 2nd Tray
114. ABC Auto Repair
115. McCredie Insurance
116. MJ Auto Inc
117. Swartz Funeral Home
118. Yanni's Opa Bar & Grill



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

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We welcome volunteers. Call John Hountalas (810) 701-5164 or
Lori Photiou (810) 444-1967 if you would like to volunteer to
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Teens: This is a great opportunity to earn your Community Service Hours for
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Fish Fry total sales for February 2021 were \$8,049.47.





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(JAN 1 - FEBRUARY 28)

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

Assumption Church

Chinonis, Dennis & Debra

Chinonis, Linda

Dalbo, Helen

Kalatzis, Athena

Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra

Thank you!

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.



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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 & Georgia

Altheide, Dena

Anagnostopoulos, Nick & Anna

Asa, Darwin & Barbara

Bakris, Dr. Nicholas

Batsios, Christos & Ashley

Batsios, Eftyhia

Batsios, Evangelos

Batsios, Vasilios & Maria

Birtsas, Sandra

Bistolaridis, Antony & Maria

Bograkos, Tim & Sandy

Bograkos, Vera

Brown, Jr., Andy

Carpenter, Rob & Ageliki

Chiavaras, Lucille

Chinonis, Dennis & Dr. Debra

Chinonis, Katie

Chinonis, Linda

Christopher, Jim & Liz

Clinton, Mike & Kathy

Costa, John & Laura

Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias

Dalbo, Helen

Daros, Christine

Dau, William & Joanne

Davis-Kirksey, Linda

Davlantes, Alex & Alexis

Delbridge, Ray & Carol

Demps, Crystal

Duffy, David & Joynt, Elaine

Ferich, Andrew & Voula

Foraker, Walter & Diane

Frantzis, Kanellos & Alexandra

Garceau, Greg & Sia

Hagler, Gary & Marian

Heos, James & Cassie

Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffery

Herzog, Mary Caris

Holland, Nick & Jennifer

Hountalas, Ioannis & Tasia

Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki

Jimos, Anita

Johnson, Denise

Joseph, Patti

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kallis, Nick

Kallis, Penelope

Kallis, Susan

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Karabinas, Pavlos & Ruth

Kitsonas, William

Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula

Komodromos, Tessie

Kondyles, Chryssoula

Kontorousis, Dimitre & Jacqueline

Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

STEWARDSHIP 2021

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Kottalis, Lemonia	Peters, Jeff & Maria
Kottalis, Mary	Photiou, Carol
Koutrouvidas, John & Nina	Photiou, Lucas & Lori
Kraemer, Mark & Family	Politis, Rita
Kus, Michael & Alexis	Potsos, Emmanouil
Kuzmanovsky, Kosta & Cheng, Shaochi	Poulos, Eleanor
Lauster, Jeff & Nancy	Poulos, Steve & Martha
Livaditis, +Argie & Angela	Richards, Ken & Kathy
Livaditis, Nick & Evie	Roufos, Vasilios & Mary
Livieratos, Dr. Maria & Dobbins, David & Nicholas	Russell, Fr. Jarrod
Lowe, Ann	Salutes-Rogind, Sally
Mandelaris, John & Pauline	Schultze, JoAnne
Manutes, Nicholas	Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia
Margaritis, Sofia	Stamatis, Tom & Sandra
Marks, Afrodit	Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Martorelli, Sophia	Steinhoff, Amanda
Menoutes, George	Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Mersinas, George & Laura	Stergiopoulos, Mary
Nikolakeas, John & Polin	Stone, Paula & Family
Nitsos, George & Candy	Vergos, Dr. Peter & Sue
Pagonis, Taso & Mitra	Vitinaros, Nick & Effie
Pagonis, Voula	Welch, Timothy & Joann
Panos, John & Irene	Wilson, Todd, Loukea & Zoe
Panos, Spiridoula	Wright, Jeff & Kay
Panos-Lillar, Diana	Yeotis, Art & Susan
Pappadakis, Nikki	Yeotis, Catherine
Pappas, Dean & Elaine	Yeotis, Dean & Lynda
Paraschos, Sam & Sandra	Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg
Paraschos, Tim & April	

Mortgage Reduction Food Sales:

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Dolmathes 25 for \$20.00

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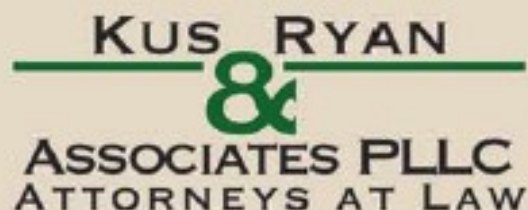
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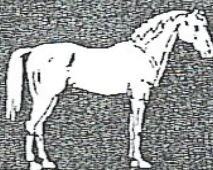
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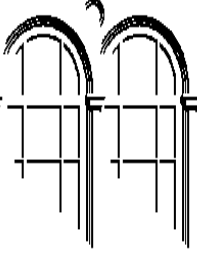
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• NL Full Page..... \$250/yr.	For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar
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• NL Business Card..... \$ 75/yr.	Please include or email artwork
• TV Ad \$100/yr.	
• NL Business Card & TV Ad..... \$150/yr	

Thank you for your support of our Church.

EMAIL ADS TO: chsecagoc@gmail.com

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

Website

www.assumptiongrandblanc.org

Please check the website for
up to date events.

2021 Parish Council

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell - Priest
Helen Dalbo — President
George Nitsos — V. President
Ruth Karabina — Secretary
JoAnne Schultze — Treasurer
Debra Chinonis — Co-Treasurer

Nick Holland
Susan Kallis
Joyce Kossaras
Lori Photiou
Tim Welch
Diana Lillar - Ex-Officio Member

ORGANIZATIONS

ACOLYTES: JOHN KALOYDIS

CHOIR: NANCY CHINONIS

CHANTERS: CRYSTAL DEMPS & ATHENA KALATZIS

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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