

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

November
2021



What's Happening

NOVEMBER 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				

- 2: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 3: Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 7: Fall General Assembly
Parish Council Elections
- 9: Divine Liturgy - St. Nektarios 10 am
- 10: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 13: Craft Show 10 - 3 pm
- 14: God Parent Sunday
- 16: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 17: Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 20: Combined Great Vespers (Assumption) 5 pm
- 23: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 24: Divine Liturgy - St. Katherine the Great Martyr 6 pm
- 25: Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)
- 26: Office Closed
- 30: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am

DECEMBER 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	

- 1: Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 4: DOP/AHEPA Christmas Party 5 - 8 pm
- 6: Combined Divine Liturgy @
St. Nicholas, Burton 10 am
- 7: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 8: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 9: Philoptochos Bake Sale 11:00 - 4 pm
- 13: Combined Divine Liturgy - St. Herman @
St. Mary Magdalene, Fenton 10 am
- 14: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 15: Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 24: Royal Hours - Christmas 9 am
Vesperal Divine Liturgy - Christmas 5 pm
Office Closed
- 25: Divine Liturgy - Christmas 10 am
- 31: New Year's Eve - Office Closed

Prosporon Schedule

November:

- 7: Daros, Christine
- 14: Dau, Bill & Joanne
- 21: Davis-Kirksey, Linda
- 28: Davlantes, Alex & Alexis

December:

- 5: Delbridge, Ray & Carol
- 12: Demps, Crystal
- 19: Drolet, Mark & Penelope
- 26: Duffy, David & Joynt, Elaine

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:

Sandra Birtsas; Alexis Davlantes; Alexandra Grivakis;
Stephanos Hatzigeorgiou & Family; Voula Helton; Charlie Paraschos;
Lucas Paul; Felicia Welch

Sunday Reader Schedule

November

- 7 Debra Chinonis
- 14 John Costa
- 21 Cathy Yeotis
- 28 John Kaloydis

December

- 5 Tony Pappadakis
- 12 Debra Chinonis
- 19 John Costa
- 26 Cathy Yeotis

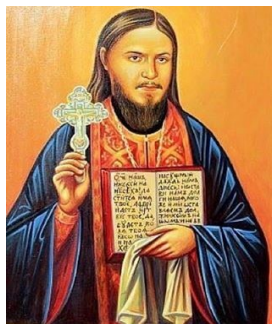
If you are unable to make your assigned reading date, please contact the church office, 810-771-4611 so we can find a replacement. Thank you!



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

Beloved parishioners and friends of Assumption Church,

“The blood of martyrs is the seed of the church.” Tertullian, an early church writer from the third century, was the first person to recognize this principle. Throughout church history to the present, martyrs have inspired the faithful and their example has encouraged others to join the Orthodox Church. A new martyr of our Church is the missionary priest, Fr. Daniel Sysoev. He was shot by a Muslim in the Church of St. Thomas in Moscow on November 19, 2009 and subsequently fell asleep in the Lord during the early morning hours of November 20.



Fr. Daniel was a very active missionary priest. Following his ordination, he would fearlessly preach to Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike, including Muslims. Fr. Daniel offered regular talks on the Bible in the Church of St. Thomas, which he had founded himself. He also offered missionary courses to teach young Orthodox how to spread the faith among atheists, Protestants, Muslims, and others. Many of the converts brought home to the Church would join Fr. Daniel in his missionary work. Due to his success among Muslims, Fr. Daniel received many death threats. The man who murdered him had previously threatened to execute him.

From his youth, the new martyr Fr. Daniel was drawn to the priesthood. He would play preaching as a child. As with most saints, he loved hearing the lives of the saints. Two stories from Fr. Daniel's early life merit attention. First, Fr. Daniel was baptized with his parents in the late 1970's. “During the service, as they were being led around the baptismal font, he saw an angel in the appearance of a man in fiery garments, standing beside the font. He asked his parents if they saw him, but they did not. He spoke of this many times later in his life.” (<https://orthochristian.com/117356.html>)



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

The second event happened when he was in school in the then atheistic communist Soviet Union in the 1980's. "One day his teacher set the young Daniel before the entire class and asked him, 'Do you believe in God and do you know any prayers?' His classmates, educated in atheism, began to laugh loudly, saying that the astronaut Yuri Gagarin had been to outer space and had not seen God. After a short pause, Daniel said, 'Yes, I believe in God, and I know many prayers.'" (Ibid.) Even as a child, the future martyr was willing to be a witness for Christ.

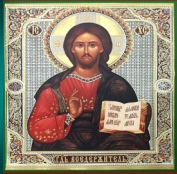
Many of Fr. Daniel's writings and talks are being translated into various languages and read throughout the world. For example, the current Bible Study is using Fr. Daniel's commentary on the First Letter to the Corinthians. That noted, Fr. Daniel's complete commitment to Christ and His Church, from his youth until his death as a martyr, continue to inspire Orthodox Christians throughout the world. As we approach the twelfth anniversary of his martyrdom, we give thanks to God for blessing His Church with the new martyr Fr. Daniel!

With love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

FR. DANIEL TEACHING THE YOUNG ADULTS





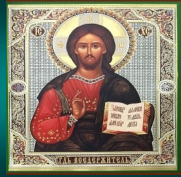
FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Do Greeks celebrate Thanksgiving? Of course Greeks celebrate Thanksgiving. Greeks will find just about any excuse to celebrate or throw a large gathering for family and friends. Depending on the particular month or season Greeks might celebrate a personal occasion such as a name day or feast day; they may celebrate a personal accomplishment, such as a promotion or graduation; or they may celebrate the harvest season, εὐγνώμων or εὐγνώμονας, grateful for gathering up of the crops, or 'karpós' to pluck the fruit. If you saw the movie, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding", then you will remember the famous quote by Toula's father, Mr. Gus Portokalos, "Give me a word, any word, and I will show you that the root of that word is Greek". Ετυμολογικός, or etymological comes from the Greek word etymon, defined as the "literal meaning of a word according to its origin; tracing a word back to its Greek roots".

Greek Orthodox Christians will celebrate two feast days during the fall harvest. The first feast day is a liturgical feast, one of the most important events in the History of Salvation, the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple; the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, into the Holy of Holies. Tradition tells us that Saints Joachim and Anna, parents of the Virgin Mary, were childless. They prayed for an end to their childless life; if they were blessed with a child, they made a sacred promise that this child would be dedicated to the service of God. When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, Saints Joachim and Anna chose to mark their gratitude for their blessing and fulfill their promise. The Most Holy Virgin was taken to the Temple and was greeted by the High Priest and other priests. The High Priest was inspired from above and led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where she lived for twelve years. All Orthodox Churches around the world celebrate the Entrance of the Mother of God, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, into the Holy of Holies.



The second feast day of the fall harvest is Thanksgiving, an annual national holiday in the United States and Canada (celebrated in different months and days). Thanksgiving celebrates the fall harvest and other blessings from the past year with gratitude (εὐγνωμοσύνη), a positive emotion; it is a celebration of giving thanks for a bountiful harvest, something that the ancient Greeks also did thousands of years ago. I believe Mr. Gus Portokalos would agree, don't you?



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Many of us will direct our attention on what's good in our lives; others will pause to focus and appreciate the things we so often take for granted: a comfortable bed, a warm home, the abundance and availability of food and clean water, having family and friends, free to worship, to receive an education, to medical attention and too many more to list.

As family members have moved further apart, Thanksgiving becomes a time to gather together. Thanksgiving typically means turkey, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, cranberries, pumpkin pie, parades and football. However, many Greeks believe that turkey (γαλοπούλα or galopoula) is only for Christmas (sort of). The point of Thanksgiving isn't to eat turkey; it's to be thankful to have such a great meal. Adopting many of the traditional foods from western Thanksgiving can sometimes be problematic in some Greek households. In my household and maybe in yours, it's not uncommon to merge Greek foods alongside American foods. Sometimes I serve roasted leg of lamb (a family favourite). When I do serve turkey, I stuff it with seasoned dried bread cubes or maybe a nice alternative of rice, chopped meat and nuts (pine nuts or chestnuts). My table wouldn't be complete without Kalamata olives, feta cheese and a Greek salad. Sometimes a relative will bring dolmades, or Tyropitakia, or Spanakopita or maybe even Pastitsio. If green beans are to be served, generally they will be stewed in olive oil, tomato, onions and herbs. Regardless of lamb or turkey, dessert is an assortment of Greek, Italian and American pastries and sweets. The dessert table will be laden with baklava, kourabiedes, koulourakia, melomacaroni, krema karamela, diples, Tiramisu, and cheese-cake, served with strong Greek coffee.




As you celebrate both feast days, remember they are about Thanksgiving. The Biblical meaning for Thanksgiving is to respond to God's goodness and grace with gratitude (ευγνωμοσύνη). The western feast day of the fall harvest is Thanksgiving; it is about family, food and hearts full of gratitude (ευγνωμοσύνη). And yes, I do believe Mr. Gus Portokalos would have told me the root word of many more words of Greek origin!

In Christ,
Helen Dalbo
Parish Council President

AGENDA – FALL General Assembly 2021

Sunday, November 7, 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 2022 Budget | JoAnne Schultze |
| 8. Ministry and Organization Reports | |
| A. Iconography Project Report | |
| B. Stewardship Report | Committee Chair |
| C. Fund Raising Events | Chairs of Events |
| 1. Golf Outing | John Kaloydis |
| 2. Indoor Craft Show - November | Susan Kallis |
| 3. Raffles | |
| a. Cash Raffle - September | Joanne Dau & Cathy Yeotis |
| b. Super Draw Raffle | |
| 4. Other – Open for Suggestions | |
| D. Religious Education |  |
| E. Philoptochos | |
| F. VIPs | |
| G. Choir | |
| H. GOYA | |
| I. Daughters of Penelope | |
| J. AHEPA | |
| 9. New Business | |
| A. Audit Board Election (minimum 3 persons) | GA Chairperson |
| 10. Old Business | |
| 11. Call for Questions | |
| 12. Remarks | |
| 13. Call for Adjournment | GA Chairperson |
| 14. Closing Prayer | Father Jarrod |

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.

Parish Council Election: Sunday, November 7

Nominations are now being accepted for three positions on the Parish Council. If you are interested in running for the Parish Council, please contact Fr. Jarrod or the Board of Elections, John Kaloydis, to discuss the requirements and obligations. Nominations must be received by Friday, October 15th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL





Philoptochos Society- Friends of the Poor!

WE MISS YOU LADIES:

Hope everyone is well and you all are staying safe. We all hope and pray that the year 2022 will be safer for everyone and the Assumption parishioners will return to church, and we will see a normalcy in our community and the world. We are beginning to have Philoptochos monthly meetings. We are meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 1:00. Meeting cards will continue to be sent out to remind everyone. These meetings are a chance to regroup and come together for our organization and church, and re-establish our presence in the community.

Just a reminder, 2022 dues are being collected by our Treasurer Agape Kallis and are \$35 for the year. We have several projects starting this month, School Supplies for Durant-Turi Mott, a Sock, Cap and glove collection for the homeless. We are also planning on a December Pre-Order Bake Sale. There is a Bake Sale Pre-Order form in this newsletter, an order form for the Christmas Card and a Dues form. If you need any other information, feel free to contact me or any of the current Board members. Hope to see new faces at our next meeting on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Diana Panos-Lillar
President

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY 2022 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!



**Philoptochos Society
Annual Christmas Card**

(\$15.00 Minimum)

For the small donation of \$15.00 per family listing, your name will appear on our beautiful Community Christmas Card.

**Deadline for Registration:
Sunday, December 5, 2021**

May you all have a most blessed Christmas!

Please fill out the form below, cut and mail or bring it personally with your check to the Church Office.

Please print or type your name and family members **EXACTLY** as you wish it to be printed on the card.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City & Zip Code _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Cash _____ Check# _____

Payable to: Philoptochos Society

Assumption Church, 2245 E. Baldwin Road, Grand Blanc, MI 48439



*** Philoptochos Society's Annual
2021 Holiday Pastry Sale ***



Thursday, December 9th

PICKUP FROM 11:A.M. TO 4 P.M.

**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church of Grand Blanc
2245 E. Baldwin Road Tel: 810-771-4611 (Between Holly & Fenton Roads)**

***Will be offering PRE-ORDER Sales Only . DEADLINE FOR PRE-ORDERS
IS NOVEMBER 28,2021***

***ALL ORDERS SHOULD BE PRE-PAID
Credit Card payments can be made the day of pickup.***

MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Baklava	\$2.50	_____	_____
Sweet Bread (Tsoureki)	\$8.00	_____	_____
Spinach Pita (Frozen 15 pieces)	\$25.00	_____	_____
Cheese Triangles (Frozen)	6 for \$9.00	_____	_____
Baklava (30 pieces)	\$50.00	_____	_____
Melomacaronna(Honey-spiced cookie)	3 for \$5.00	_____	_____
Kourambiethes (with almonds)	3 for \$5.00	_____	_____
Koulourakia (Butter Twist)	6 for \$3.00	_____	_____
Variety Gift Box	\$15.00	_____	_____

TOTAL: _____

**Please make checks payable to Philoptochos Society and mail to the church
Philoptochos Society, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 2245 E. Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439
For more information, please contact the church at 810-771-4611**



Daughters of Penelope

Iris Chapter 242

Hellenism, Philanthropy, and Sisterhood



On Saturday, August 21, 2021, together with the AHEPA Flint Chapter, we hosted the AHEPA District 10 Educational Foundation Scholarship Event. Cathy Yeotis and her committee did an outstanding job. Members of the committee were Olga Steinhoff, Father Jarrod, John and Laura Costa, Clyde and Georgie Allard, Diana Lillar, JoAnne Schultze, Nick Kallis, Marian Hagler, Elaine Joynt, and David Duffy who did a fantastic job as our Master of Ceremonies.

Future Activities:

Next Chapter Meeting - Sunday, October 31 following coffee hour.

God Parents Sunday - November 14. We will be hosting coffee hour and providing a light lunch. Any monetary donations will go to support our church's Religious Education.

Daughters/AHEPA Potluck Christmas Party - Saturday, December 4 at 5:00 pm.

If you would like to join the Daughters of Penelope, please contact me or any other member.

Joanne Dau
President

Virtual Cash Raffle Report

Thank you to all who supported the event by purchasing tickets, selling tickets and a very special thanks to our #1 ticket seller Steve Poulos (White Horse Tavern). We also want to thank our Facebook Live volunteers Diana Lillar, Crystal Demps, Laura Mersinas, JoAnne Schultze, Lori Photiou, Bill Chuleas, and Bill Dau.

Ticket Sales: \$50,000

Expenses:

Prizes: \$21,800

License: \$50

Ticket and flyer printing: \$115

Net Profit: \$28,035

Joanne Dau and Cathy Yeotis
Co-Chairpersons

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

CRAFTS & ARTS

Presents
**2nd Annual Holiday
Craft & Arts Show**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021
10 AM - 3 PM**



Assumption Church Hall

2245 E. Baldwin Road, Grand Blanc

(Located on Baldwin Road between Fenton & Holly Roads)



Several tables of unique items
Holiday, jewelry, crochet, fabrics, toys, bakery, etc.



FREE ADMISSION

Lunch Available



Come to look for something special, visit with crafters, and spend time with friends while you enjoy wonderful company, great food and beverages!



ST MARK ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

AUTUMN RETREAT 2021

ACQUIRING THE MIND OF CHRIST

Ancient Spirituality for Modern Times

Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery, will be the guest speaker at St. Mark's Autumn Retreat this year. He will present on topics from his book, *Acquiring the Mind of Christ*. Father Sergius will be traveling with the Miraculous Icon of St. Anna which will be at the church.



RETREAT SCHEDULE

**Friday,
November 5TH**

6:30pm, Molieben
(Service of Supplication)
to St. Anna followed by
presentation by
Father Sergius

**Saturday,
November 6th**

11:00am, Session One
12:30pm, Lunch &
Fellowship
1:30pm, Session Two
3:30pm, Confessions
4:00pm, Vespers

ST MARK ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

400 W. Hamlin Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 656-1630
stmarkrochester.org

Father John Baker
fjbaker317@gmail.com

Life of St. Catherine the Great Martyr



The Holy Great Martyr Catherine was the daughter of Constus, the governor of Alexandrian Egypt during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-313). Living in the capital, the center of Hellenistic knowledge, and possessed of a rare beauty and intellect, Catherine received an excellent education, studying the works of the greatest philosophers and teachers of antiquity. Young men from the most worthy families to the empire sought the hand of the beautiful Catherine, but she was not interested in any of them. She told her parents that she would enter into marriage only with someone who surpassed her in nobility, wealth, comeliness and wisdom.

Catherine's mother, a secret Christian, sent her to her own spiritual Father, a saintly Elder living in a cave outside the city, for advice. After listening to Catherine, the Elder said that he knew of a Youth who surpassed her in everything. "His countenance is more radiant than the shining of the sun, and all of creation is governed by His wisdom. His riches are given to all the nations of the world, yet they never diminish. His compassion is unequalled."

This description of the Heavenly Bridegroom produced in the soul of the holy maiden an ardent desire to see Him. "If you do as I tell you," said the monk, "you will gaze upon the countenance of this illustrious man." In parting, the Elder handed Catherine an icon of the Theotokos with the divine Child Jesus on Her arm and told her to pray with faith to the Queen of Heaven, the Mother of the Heavenly Bridegroom, and She would hear Catherine and grant her heart's desire.

Catherine prayed all night and was permitted to see the Most Holy Virgin, Who said to Her Divine Son, "Behold Thy handmaiden Catherine, how fair and virtuous she

is.” But the Child turned His face away from her saying, “No, she is ugly and unbelieving. She is a foolish pauper, and I cannot bear to look at her until she forsakes her impiety.”

Catherine returned again to the Elder deeply saddened, and told him what she had seen in the dream. He lovingly received her, instructed her in the faith of Christ, admonished her to preserve her purity and integrity and to pray unceasingly. She then received the Mystery of holy Baptism from him. Again Saint Catherine had a vision of the Most Holy Theotokos with Her Child. Now the Lord looked tenderly at her and gave her a beautiful ring, a wondrous token of her betrothal to the Heavenly Bridegroom (this ring is still on her hand).

At that time the emperor Maximian was in Alexandria for a pagan festival. Therefore, the celebration was especially splendid and crowded. The cries of the sacrificial animals, the smoke and the smell of the sacrifices, the endless blazing of fires, and the bustling crowds at the arenas defiled the city of Alexandria. Human victims were brought, the confessors of Christ, those who would not deny Him under torture. They were condemned to death in the fire. The saint’s love for the Christian martyrs and her fervent desire to ease their sufferings compelled Catherine to speak to the pagan priest and to the emperor Maximian.

Introducing herself, the saint confessed her faith in the One True God and with wisdom exposed the errors of the pagans. The beauty of the maiden captivated the emperor. In order to convince her and to show the superiority of pagan wisdom, the emperor ordered fifty of the most learned philosophers and rhetoricians of the Empire to dispute with her, but the saint got the better of the wise men, so that they came to believe in Christ themselves. Saint Catherine made the Sign of the Cross over the martyrs, and they bravely accepted death for Christ and were burned alive by order of the emperor.

Maximian, no longer hoping to convince the saint, tried to entice her with the promise of riches and fame. Receiving an angry refusal, the emperor gave orders to subject the saint to terrible tortures and then throw her in prison. The Empress Augusta, who had heard much about the saint, wanted to see her. She prevailed upon the military commander Porphyrius to accompany her to the prison with a detachment of soldiers. The empress was impressed by the strong spirit of Saint Catherine, whose face was radiant with divine grace. The holy martyr explained the Christian teaching to them, and they were converted to Christ.

On the following day they again brought the martyr to the judgement court where, under the threat of being broken on the wheel, she was urged to renounce the Christian Faith and offer sacrifice to the gods. The saint steadfastly confessed Christ and She herself approached the wheels; but an angel smashed the instruments of execution, which shattered into pieces with many pagans standing nearby.


Having beheld this wonder, the Empress Augusta and the imperial courtier Porphyrius with 200 soldiers confessed their faith in Christ in front of everyone, and they were beheaded. Maximian again tried to entice the holy martyr, proposing marriage to her, and again he was refused. Saint Catherine firmly confessed her fidelity to the heavenly Bridegroom Christ, and with a prayer to Him she herself laid her head on the block beneath the executioner's sword.

The relics of Saint Catherine were taken by the angels to Mount Sinai. In the sixth century, the venerable head and left hand of the holy martyr were found through a revelation and transferred with honor to a newly-constructed church of the Sinai monastery, built by the holy Emperor Justinian (November 14).

Saint Catherine is called upon for relief and assistance during a difficult childbirth. Pilgrims to her monastery on Mt Sinai are given souvenir rings as a remembrance of their visit.

Source: <https://www.oca.orgsaints/lives2021/11/24/103382-great-martyr-caterine-of-alexandria>

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

PERSONAL INJURY
CRIMINAL LAW SPECIALIST

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Flint, MI 48502

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Fax (810) 233-0781



JEFF LAUSTER
Real Estate Professional



Michigan Real Estate
2359 W. Shiawassee
Fenton, MI 48430
Cell: 810-771-8396
Office: 810-593-1408
jefflauster@bhhsmi.com
jefflauster.bhhsmi.com

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. Operating Income and Expenses do not include income received or expenses paid for Fundraising events such as Golf Outing, Cash Raffle, etc. These funds are held in our Special Events Checking account and net profit will be transferred to the General Checking account after all fundraiser expenses are paid. Any questions regarding the monthly income and/or expenses should be directed to the Parish Council President or Treasurer.

OPERATING INCOME SEPTEMBER 2021		EXPENSES SEPTEMBER 2021	
Stewardship	\$5,074.00	Monthly Bills Paid	\$16,679.08
Trays/Candles	\$1,006.00	Quarterly Bill Paid	\$51.24
Miscellaneous Income	\$674.50	Annual Bills Paid	\$726.00
Golf Outing Income for Operating Expenses	\$21,424.75	Miscellaneous Bills Paid	\$886.70
Cash Raffle Income for Operating Expenses	\$28,600.00		
Total Operating Income for Month	\$56,779.25	Total Bills Paid for Month	\$18,343.02

ACCOUNT BALANCES SEPTEMBER 30, 2021		PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE	
General Checking (used for Operating Expenses)	\$51,707.41	Maintenance bills paid out of Property Improvement / Maintenance Savings Account	None
Property Improvement/Maintenance Savings Account	\$6,218.72		

We also received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan from the Small Business Administration (SBA) on 4-21-21 of \$26,867. This loan is to be used for payroll costs and utility expenses. If we abide by the rules and use most of the loan for payroll costs, the loan will be forgiven. As of May 31, 2021, we have used all the loan (87% for payroll costs and 13% for utilities. When notified by the Bank we will apply for forgiveness of the loan.

FUNDRAISING INCOME/EXPENSES

GOLF OUTING

Total Income Collected-Golf Outing	\$43,796.00	Total Income Collected-Cash Raffle	\$49,800.00
Expenses – Golf Outing	\$22,086.19	Expenses – Cash Raffle (Tickets, mailing, payouts)	\$21,965.10
Net Income – Golf Outing	\$21,709.81	Net Income – Cash Raffle	\$27,834.90

CASH RAFFLE

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



Parishioner – John Panos – Owner/Manager

6277 W. Pierson Rd., Flushing, MI 48433

810-867-4768

Hours – Monday thru Sunday 7am to 9pm

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TIRED OF THE LONG BOTTLE RETURN LINES?

**BRING YOUR EMPTY RETURNABLE BOTTLES AND
CANS**

TO ASSUMPTION CHURCH

(DROP-OFF IN BACK BY KITCHEN DOOR)

AND LET US TAKE THEM BACK.



**Need of the Month
Genesee County**

**November:
Dish Soap**

Family Bowling Day at Galaxy Bowling on October 9, 2021



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.

Iconography Fund

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	Joann and +Tim 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 - Dr. Chris Bakris
Pamela Heos and Jeff Brancheau	Memorial - Lazaros & Vasiliki Batsios
Nicholas and Jennifer Holland	Memorial - Thomas P. Chiavaras, Jr.
Hountalas Family	Memorial - Marika Kalafatis
Athena Kalatzis	Memorial - Androulla Kyprianou
Agape Kallis	Memorial - Tom Lamberson
Penny 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

PARKING LOT PLEDGE

For the last few years, a volunteer group has been sealing the parking lot during the summer months to help extend the life of our parking lot. In the next few years we will need to completely replace our parking lot. We are looking to start the fundraising for this very large project now in order to have the funds collected and ready when it comes times to pay for it. The anticipated cost for this project is upwards of \$300,000. Please faithfully pledge to assist our church in maintaining our beautiful property.

PLEASE NOTE: This gift/pledge is above and beyond your regular offering.

Gifts of any size are appreciated!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

PLEDGE INFORMATION

i/We pledge a total of \$ _____ to be paid:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarterly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annually
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Total Length of pledge: ___one time ___ 1 yr ___ 2 yrs ___ 3yrs ___ other _____

I/We plan to make this contribution in the form of:

___Cash ___Check ___Credit Card ___ Other _____

Credit Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Print Name As Shown On Card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Please use the following name(s) in all acknowledgements:

_____I/We wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

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Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

Chinonis, Dennis & Debra

Chinonis, Linda

Dalbo, Helen

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Stamatis, Thomas & Sandra

Yeotis, Catherine

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, iconography, cash raffle, golf outing, memorials, miscellaneous, etc. For credit card charges, please allow 24 hours to process your payment.

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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Anagnostopoulos, Nick & Anna	Foraker, Walter & Diane
Asa, Darwin & Barbara	Frantzis, Kanellos & Alexandra
+Bakris, Dr. Chris	Garceau, Greg & Sia
Bakris, Dr. Nicholas	Gintsis, Nick & Dorothy
Batsios, Christos & Ashley	Grousopoulos, Lambros & Lena
Batsios, Eftyhia	Hagler, Gary & Marian
Batsios, Evangelos	Haralambous, Frank & Vania
Batsios, Vasilios & Maria	Helton, Voula
Birtsas, Sandra	Heos, James & Cassie
Bistolaridis, Antony & Maria	Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffery
Bograkos, Tim & Sandy	Herzog, Mary Caris
Bograkos, Vera	Holland, Nick & Jennifer
Brown, Jr., Andy	Hountalas, Ioannis & Tasia
Carmean, Mike & Denise	Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki
Carpenter, Rob & Ageliki	Iordanou, Bill & Lisa
Chiavaras, Lucille	Jimos, Anita
Chinonis, Dennis & Dr. Debra	Johnson, Denise
Chinonis, Elias	Joseph, Patti
Chinonis, Katie	Kalatzis, Athena
Chinonis, Linda	Kallis, Agape
Chinonis, Richard	Kallis, Nick
Christopher, Jim & Liz	Kallis, Penelope
Clinton, Mike & Kathy	Kallis, Susan
Costa, John & Laura	Kaloydis, John & Karen
Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias	Kapellas, Katina
Dalbo, Helen	Karabinas, Pavlos & Ruth
Daros, Christine	Karakitsos, Peter & Litsa
Dau, William & Joanne	Karay, Nicholas X.
Davis-Kirksey, Linda	Kitsonas, William
Davlanges, Alex & Alexis	Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula
Delbridge, Ray & Carol	Komodromos, Tessie
Demps, Crystal	Kondyles, Chryssoula
Drolet, Mark & Penelopi	Kontorosis, Dimitre & Jacqueline
Duffy, David & Joynt, Elaine	Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

STEWARDSHIP 2021

Kottalis, LEMONIA
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Koutrouvidas, John & Nina
Kraemer, Mark & Family
Kus, Michael & Alexis
Kuzmanovsky, Kosta & Cheng, Shaochi
Lauster, Jeff & Nancy
Livaditis, +Argie & Angela
Livaditis, Nick & Evie
Livieratos, Dr. Maria & Dobbins, David & Nicholas
Lovelace, Susan
Lowe, Ann
Mandelaris, John & Pauline
Manutes, Nicholas & Maria
Margaritis, Sofia
Margaritis-Smith, Angela & Family
Marks, Afroditi
Marks, Jean
Martorelli, Matthew & Jill
Martorelli, Sophia
Menoutes, George
Mersinas, George & Laura
Michaelou, Sevesti
Naum, Gus & Susie
Nikolakeas, John & Polin
Nitsos, Emma
Nitsos, George & Candy
O'Bee, Matthew & Marialena
Pagonis, Taso & Mitra
Pagonis, Voula
Panos, John & Irene
Panos, Spiridoula
Panos-Lillar, Diana
Pappadakis, Nikki
Pappas, Dean & Elaine
Paraschos, Sam & Sandra
Paraschos, Tim & April
Pavlis, John & Pat
Peters, Jeff & Maria
Photiou, Carol
Photiou, Lucas & Lori
Photiou, Maroulla
Politis, Rita
Potsos, Emmanouil
Potsos, Dimitrios & +Stergoula
Poulos, Eleanor
Poulos, Steve & Martha
Richards, Ken & Kathy
Rivette, Matthew & Lori
Rogind, Sally
Roufos, Vasilios & Mary
Russell, Fr. Jarrod
Salutes-Rogind, Sally
Schultze, JoAnne
Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia
Sirakis, Paraskevas & Athena
Stamatis, Tom & Sandra
Stavridis, Tomas, Zoe & Angelo
Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Steinhoff, Amanda
Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Stergiopoulos, Mary
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Trifon, Nick
Vergos, Dr. Peter & Sue
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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	\$250 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 \$600 for Hall Rental (includes clean-up) If church dishes are used, dishwasher will be supplied at a cost of \$\$50 (cannot bring own dishwasher)	Flat fee of \$1,100 for Hall Rental (includes clean-up)
Members in good standing only Sunday – Thursday Hall Rental: \$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 \$\$50 (cannot bring own dishwasher)

PAYMENT IN FULL DUE 30 DAYS 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 by the time of the 40 day memorial, otherwise those funds will be released to the “Iconography Project” 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 989-739-2289 (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.

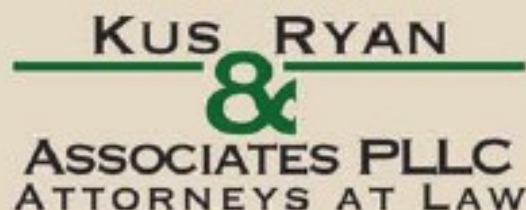
Any deviations from this policy must be approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Council President and must be presented to them at least one month prior to the proposed sacrament date.

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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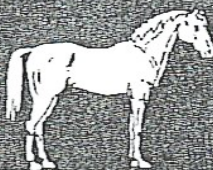
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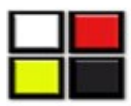
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Weekdays and Feast Days:
See Calendar

Office Hours

Tuesday — Friday
10 am — 3 pm

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Secretary: Laura Mersinas

E-Mail

Secretary: agocsec@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

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