

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

October
2021



What's Happening

OCTOBER 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: Combined Divine Liturgy - Holy Protection 10 am
@ St. Nicholas, Burton
- 9: Family Bowling @ Galaxy Bowling 2-4 pm
- 12: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
Philoptochos Meeting 1 pm
- 13: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 19: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
- 20: Orthodoxy Explored 7 pm
- 24: OXI Day Luncheon following Divine Liturgy
- 25: Great Vespers @ St. Demetrios, Saginaw 6pm
- 26: Combined Divine Liturgy - St. Demetrios 10 am
@ Assumption
- 28: OXI Day
- 30: Harvest Festival 6 pm

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

Prosporon Schedule

October:

- 3: Christopher, Jim & Liz
- 10: Clinton, Mike & Kathy
- 17: Costa, John & Laura
- 24: Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias
- 31: Dalbo, Helen

November:

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

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

October

- 3 John Kaloydis
- 10 Debra Chinonis
- 17 John Costa
- 24 Cathy Yeotis
- 31 Tony Pappadakis

November

- 7 Debra Chinonis
- 14 John Costa
- 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,

Our Lord has revealed many saints to His people. From the Apostles that Our Lord Jesus Christ called Himself to the present day, God has continued to provide saints to help the faithful. One of the more recent saints revealed to the Church is St. Luke of Simferopol and the Crimea. The Moscow Patriarchate glorified or canonized St. Luke as a saint in 2000, and the Ecumenical Patriarchate officially added him to the calendar of saints in 2019. While St. Luke of Simferopol and the Crimea lived and served in Ukraine and Russia, his veneration has spread throughout the entire Orthodox world. For example, I learned about St. Luke at an All-Night Vigil Service (αγρυπνία) in Thessalonica on the eve of his feast day (May 29) in 2013.

St. Luke was born in Ukraine in 1877. While very interested in painting and art as a child, he ultimately pursued a career in medicine as both surgeon and teacher. He married a nurse, and they had four children. His wife fell asleep in the Lord after the Bolshevik Revolution (1917), and the saint asked a nurse in his operating room to take care of the education of his children allowing him to continue his medical work. While serving as a doctor, St. Luke regularly engaged in spiritual discussions with others arguing against atheistic materialism. The local bishop heard St. Luke teaching and encouraged him to be ordained. The saint continued to practice medicine after ordination while serving in the local Cathedral on Sundays and preaching. The only difference being he now wore the cassock of the priest!

St. Luke was consecrated a bishop in 1923. He was subsequently falsely accused of counter-revolutionary activity by the communists and exiled, the first of three exiles. Regardless of whether the saint was in exile or serving a diocese, he continued both his medical work and pastoral service. St. Luke published various medical books and theological works. The saint suffered eye disease which eventually left him blind as well as heart disease forcing him to curtail his medical practice. Throughout his life, St. Luke prayed for his patients and the faithful as well as opposing the persecution of the Orthodox by the communist authorities. The saint fell asleep in the Lord on May 29, 1961.



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

Among the many writings of St. Luke is the article included in this newsletter addressing absent-mindedness during prayer. This article should be read carefully and repeatedly as it will be useful to anyone seeking to converse with God. St. Luke writes as one experienced in the art of prayer and demonstrates that theology is actively learning about God. The saint writes as an experienced prayer warrior seeking to encourage the faithful to follow the true path to God. When we consider the difficult circumstances of St. Luke's life, his lessons regarding prayer lead one to the conclusion that it is his complete dedication to God, seeking Him in prayer, that sustained him through his various trials and challenges.

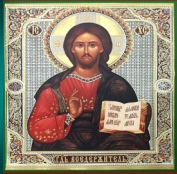
Through the prayers of St. Luke of Simferopol and the Crimea, may we all seek true prayer to God.

With love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

Great Vespers for Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos at Plymouth





FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL



"OXI"



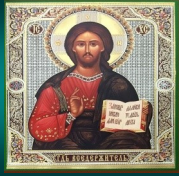
28 October, 1940

October 28th is an important date in Modern Greek history; it is referred to as, "**OXI DAY**" or the, "**DAY of NO**". Today, OXI Day is remembered and honoured as the anniversary when former military general and Prime Minister of Greece, Ioannis Metaxas said: "OXI" (NO) to Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini, an ally of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler. This day is celebrated throughout Greece, Cyprus and the Greek communities around the world.

According to historical records, it is said that on 28 October, 1940, at 3:00 AM, the Italian Ambassador of Athens, Emanuele Grazzi, went to Kifissia, a northern suburb of Athens, Greece. Located in Kifissia, was the home of the Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas. Grazzi handed an ultimatum that was made by Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini, to Prime Minister Metaxas. The ultimatum required the free passage of the Italian army through the Greek-Albanian border. The free passage by the Italian army later created the beginning of the occupation of some strategic areas of Greece.

Metaxas read the letter and responded to the Italian Ambassador in French, (the official diplomatic language at the time) with the historic phrase: 'Alors, c'est la guerre', taking his stance against the Italian demands. The English translation of Metaxas' response was, "Well, then it is war". The Greek translation of Metaxas' response was, "No" or "Oxi". Metaxas' action launched Greece into the Greco-Italian War, and the Greek people were largely in support of it and considered it an act of bravery. The Greek Army was a formidable force, attacking the Italian Army at the mountains of Pindus and holding back the Axis forces from entering Greece for almost six months.

October 28, 1940 represents a spirit of bravery that is still celebrated by Greeks worldwide. People all over the world marveled at the bravery of the Greeks. It was the first time a country stood up to the Axis Powers with any success. Greece gave the world hope and the Allies the confidence that



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

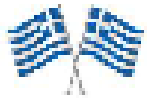
the Axis could be defeated. At the time of the Greco-Italian War, Winston Churchill famously said, **“Hence we will not say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes fight like Greeks.”**

Celebration of Oxi Day is a national public holiday in Greece. Public buildings are closed; Greek flags decorate private residences; festivities here and abroad include special church services at Greek Orthodox Churches, parties, parades (including military), folk dances, music and food throughout the night.

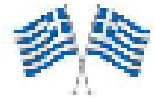
The Parish Council has recently taken on two new projects. A short while ago, a carpet cleaning company cleaned the carpet in the reception hall, the corridor leaving the church, the toy room and church offices. In addition to cleaning the carpet, the Parish Council found it necessary to hire a cleaning service to clean the church and surrounding area.

In Christ,
Helen Dalbo
Parish Council President





PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING



"OXI DAY"

AT THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH

A LOVELY LUNCHEON WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING

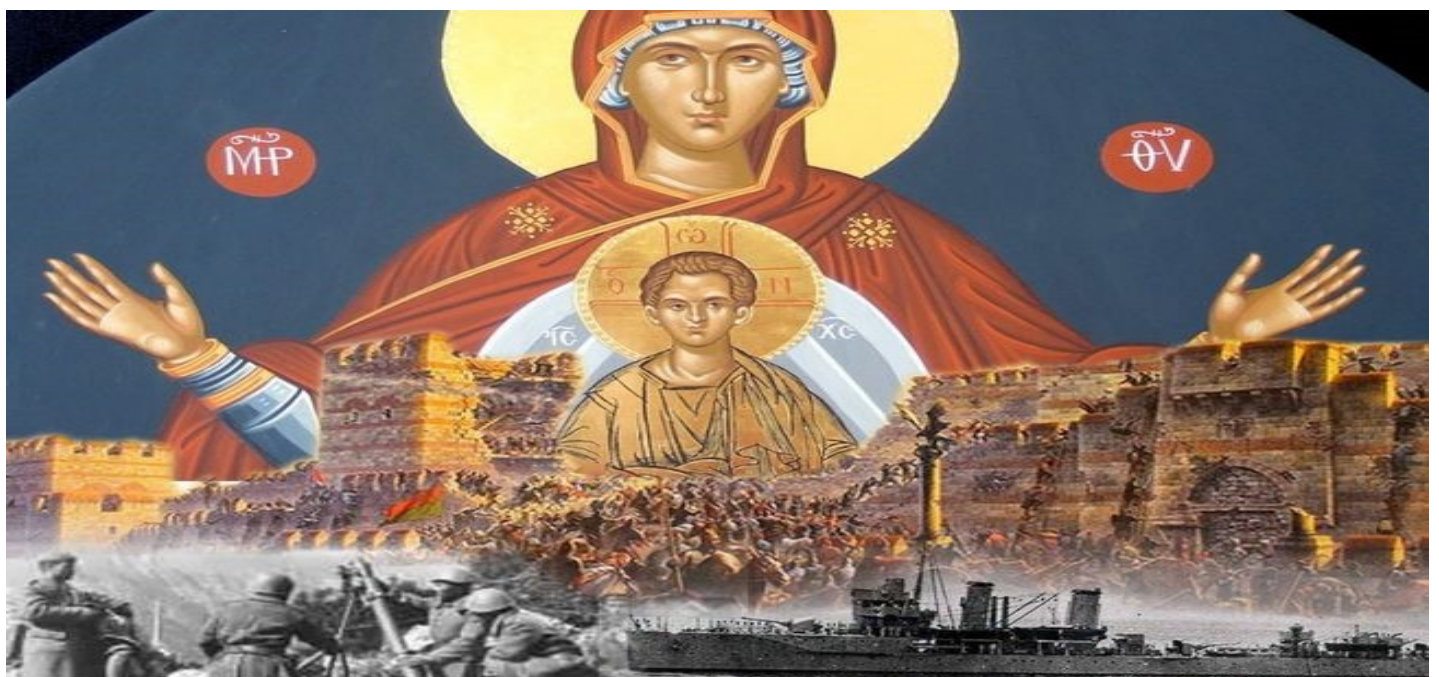
CHURCH SERVICES ON

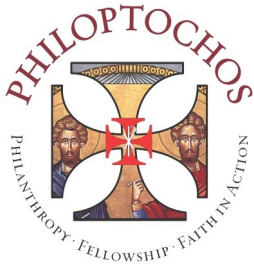
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021

ADULTS.....\$10.00



CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE....\$5.00





Philoptochos Society — Friends of the Poor !

Ladies,



It was very nice getting back to the every day business of our Philoptochos group, at our meeting held on Tuesday, September 8th. Our meetings will revert back to the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm. Ruth Karabina gave us an update on the IOCC school kits. 38 kits were put together by Ruth Karabina, Olga Steinhoff, Cathy Yeotis and myself. John Kaloydis mailed them.


We also will continue to participate in the School Projects of Durant-Turi and a Flint Middle School. A box will be placed in the church hall for donations. Also this year we will be collecting Socks, Gloves and Hats as a Winter Donation for the Homeless, a Pink tub will be available for these donations. Deadline date is November 7th for donations.

Diana Panos-Lillar
President



Philoptochos will be collecting for the Annual Christmas Card from Sunday, November 7 to Sunday, December 5th

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?




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810-233-5347

sportlite@comcast.net



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!



1951-2021

A celebration of
70 years of memories at MDSC

6:30 pm on
Saturday, May 21st, 2022

St. Nicholas Banquet Hall
760 Wattles Rd., Troy, MI

For tickets and more information:

<https://gomdsc.org/70th-anniversary/>







**2021 Elias D. Chinonis
Golf Classic**



ON ABSENT-MINDEDNESS DURING PRAYER

By St. Luke of Crimea



(Source of Icon: <https://orthodoxtimes.com/saint-luke-of-crimea/>)

Many times in the past, and even now, people have asked me how they can learn to pray, how to rid themselves of absent-mindedness during prayer. They say that when they're praying, everything distracts them and scatters their thoughts, even a ray of light falling on an icon. The pomp of the hierarchical Liturgy also distracts them from prayer. They say, "We can't concentrate, we can't pray properly." And they ask me to teach them.

Is it simple? Oh no, it's not easy at all. For, what are they asking me to teach them? The greatest, the most difficult of all human deeds. For what is prayer, true prayer? Direct communication of the human spirit with God.

If this is how you understand prayer, I'll give you the most important answer to the question of how to rid yourself of absent-mindedness. I'll tell you that if prayer is communication with God, then we must be worthy of this communication, we must be capable of it. But if a person's constantly wrapped up in the vanity of the world, if he rarely, if ever, remembers God, if he's mired in passions, lusts and sins, how can such a person's entry into communication with God be easy or simple?

Communication with God requires great *podvig* [a Russian word meaning an ascetical or spiritual struggle]. It requires that all your thoughts and aspirations should be directed upward, toward what is holy, toward God. Those who learn to pray deeply and sincerely are those who constantly direct their thoughts and aspirations to God, who try with all their might to rid themselves of earthly vanity, from everyday worries; they devote a lot of time to reading the Holy Scriptures, the works of the Holy Fathers, they pray often and fervently, and most importantly, they diligently fulfill the commandments of Christ. For the Lord calls His friend only the one who keeps His commandments and becomes close to Christ. This is the main answer: We must strive for holiness, we must strive as far as it is in our power, to turn all our thoughts, our spirit toward God.

Deep philosophers, deep scientists, whose thoughts are always focused on the most important questions of existence, on difficult scientific questions, are always focused. Their thoughts are chained to these questions, and aren't scattered, their thoughts don't wander here and there. They keep their thoughts on that one important topic they've dedicated their life to. They are always focused, and we ought to imitate them. Just as they focus all their thoughts and aspirations on very high questions of philosophy and science, so we must live in God, our thoughts must always be turned upward if we want to be in communication with God. This was what those who were strong in spirit and full of love for God did—they went out into the wild forests and deserts because they wanted to (and did) learn to pray, because they replaced earthly thoughts with thoughts about God, and focused their lives on achieving spiritual perfection.

And people who are traveling an entirely different path, living in the constant bustle of the world, complain, “No matter how hard I try, prayer doesn't come. No matter how hard I try, I'm constantly distracted.” Mentally they conclude that if nothing works out, that means it isn't worth trying—*I guess it's just my nature that I can't be free from absent-mindedness and wandering thoughts.*

Many people refer to the imperfection of our nature. This is the same as a person who doesn't know how to swim throwing himself into the water and, being unable to float, saying to himself, “My body is heavier than water, I can't float. What can I do if the nature of my body is such that it's impossible to swim? It isn't even worth trying.” Isn't that ridiculous? Aren't there lots of people who can swim and float just fine? The thing is that they don't want to learn to swim, so there's no reason to blame nature when they're distracted during prayer. It's not nature that's to blame, but their unwillingness to focus their spirit on prayer.

The holy Prophet David said: *Blessed is the man whose help is of thee, O Lord; in his heart he has purposed to go up* (Ps. 83:6). Blessed is the man who has help in God. Why does he have help? Because he has purposed to go up in his heart: because he made it the intention of his heart to ascend higher and higher to God. This is a blessing for such a person—he will receive help from God, he will also receive the power of prayer. Woe to the man who doesn't ascend with his heart, who isn't afraid of the fact that his heart is sinking lower and lower, is filled more and more with base, bad passions. Such a person won't have help from God, and such a person won't be able to pray.

The holy Prophet Jeremiah says: *How long will thy grievous thoughts be within thee?* (Jer. 4:14). This is the most important thing that's needed: We need to expel all our evil thoughts from our heart. How many wicked thoughts we have, and how slow we are to expel these thoughts from our hearts! And if our heart is full of wicked thoughts, how will we be able to pray?

You see: Distraction in prayer stems from the fact that the heart isn't always ascending, from morning to evening, toward God, that people haven't made it the goal of their life to ascend

to God and don't notice that they're not ascending toward God, but are descending lower and lower.

That's why they have no prayer.

There's a great prayer, considered the most important and basic prayer for monks, which they do with prostrations or bows: "Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." This prayer has great power, and whoever gets used to it, who constantly repeats it, invariably receives grace from God and learns to pray. But when I advise people to start with this prayer, they try and then soon give up and say, "We repeat the prayer mechanically, but we don't see any benefit." They want it right away, they want to get benefits quickly, they don't understand that it's only through long spiritual and physical work that you can acquire a great ability to pray, and that this isn't granted to anyone right away.

Some even complain that the hierarchical services distract them: Why's the bishop always changing his vestments? What's with this dressing up? They don't understand what they're talking about. Of course, there's no dressing up—you see that the omophorion is removed from the bishop several times, and then put on again. What does this mean and why is it being done?

If you know this, you won't talk about dressing up, you won't be bothered, the removing and returning of the omophorion won't interfere. The omophorion is the most important of the bishop's vestments. All sacred garments have a special meaning, and the omophorion represents the lost sheep that the Lord Jesus found in the wilderness and took upon His shoulders. The omophorion denotes this duty of the bishop, the shepherd of Christ, to find and carry lost sheep on his shoulders. The bishop represents the Lord Jesus Himself, but during the Liturgy there are moments when it is as if Christ Himself appears before us.

So, when reading the Gospel, you seem to hear the Lord Jesus Himself. It is as if He appears before us, so the bishop must remove the highest sign of his sacred dignity—the omophorion—and in doing so, he shows his humility before Christ.

Also, during the Great Entrance, the diskos with the blessed bread and the chalice with wine signify the Lord going to suffer, and the bishop, meeting Christ at the Royal Doors, accepting the cup and the diskos from the priest and deacon, must again remove the omophorion.

And then, when the most important moment of the Sacrament of the Eucharist comes, when the bishop utters the great words of Christ: *Take, eat, this is My Body which is broken for you for the remission of sins*, and, *Drink of it, all of you; this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins* (Matthew 26:26-28), when a bishop blesses the bread and wine, invoking the Holy Spirit, by Whose power the bread and wine are transformed into the true Body and Blood of Christ, then he must be in the fullness of his sacred vestments when performing the great Sacrament. Once the Sacrament is performed, it's necessary to remove the omophorion, because Christ Himself is here; so the bishop must remove it.

This isn't dressing up, but sacred actions with deep symbolic meaning. Therefore, don't be bothered by the grandeur and splendor of the hierarchical service—it doesn't prevent you from praying. On the contrary, for those who understand the great meaning of the Liturgy, it leads to deep prayer.

Only the constant wandering of your thoughts hinders you, because you're in the constant bustle of the world. You rarely focus your spirit on that which is most important, the greatest and the most holy. Understand how difficult it is to learn to pray; understand that prayer, free from absent-mindedness, free from wandering thoughts, is achieved only by saints. Allow yourself to be imbued with the humble awareness that your prayer is weak because you're far from holiness. Pray as best as you can, sincerely, like small children. Christ hears your prayer, for no matter how weak it is, it rises very high to God, and the Lord accepts all prayers. Don't be discouraged, don't be idle, don't expect your prayer to be freed from distraction quickly and easily.

From Make Haste to Follow Christ

1948

St. Luke of Crimea

Translation by Matthew Casserly

Azbyka.ru

9/8/2021


Source of Text: <https://orthochristian.com/141586.html>

Elevation of the Holy Cross



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 |  <div data-bbox="799 1012 1383 1192" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">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. 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 |

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.

Elias D. Chinonis 18th ANNUAL ASSUMPTION GOLF CLASSIC

Pine Knob Golf Club - Clarkston, MI

Monday, August 23, 2021

GOLD SPONSORS (\$1,000.00)

- * Katie Chinonis * Dennis & Dr. Debra Chinonis * Linda Chinonis * Bill & Joanne Dau *
*Ray and Carol Dalbridge*Mark & Penelope Drolet*David Duffy,CPA & Elaine Joynt*Goyette Mechanical*
*Grand Blanc Nissan -Tony Serra Highland Nissan * Highland House Elia Nicholas *
* Park West Gallery Charitable Foundation * Swartz Funeral Home - Rick Lamb Family *
* Valley Breakfast & Bistro-Bakousidis Family * White Horse Tavern-Poulos Brothers * Cathy Yeotis *

SILVER SPONSORS (\$500.00)

- * Linda Chinonis * Conny Conexon-Dean & Helen Pappas * Agape Kallis * Susan Kallis *
*Kua Ryan & Assoc.-Mike & Alexis Kua * Kalamata Greek Grill & Wingman Water Co.-Dennis & Tom Chinonis *
* Jeff Wright - Genesee County Drain Commissioner *

* \$ 10,000.00 Hole N' One Sponsorship - Swartz Funeral Home *

* Breakfast Burrito Buffet Sponsor - Liberty Family Restaurant - John Panos *

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AHEPA # 871 - Detroit, MI
AHEPA # 141 Grand Blanc, MI
Al Boursouh Ins.
Acorn Wealth Advisors - Steven Bliss
Apollo Family Restaurant
Autumn Lounge- Yanni Mavrikos Family
Bograkos, Vera
Carr, Michael J.
Center Rd. Eye Clinic - Dr. Peter Vergos
Chios Family, Memory of Tom & Thana
Chilestakis, Elpidi - Daniel Reilly
Churchill's Food & Spirits
Cine, Cine & Gallin, PC - Nancy Chionis, Ally
Costa, John K., AIA
Daughters of Penelope # 242
Elga Credit Union
Farah, John A. UBS Financial Services
Fenton Hotel - Nick Sorice

Faraker, Walt & Diane (Chinonis)
Genes Jewelry - Flint MI
Hanczaryk, Dr. Michell
Holly Hotel - George & Chrissy Kurlanos
I B Wealth Management - Dimitri Hountalas
Kalamata Greek Grill
Kalatzis, Athina
Kostin, Robert, Atty. & Hon. Kelly Kostin
Kicker's Sports Bar & Grill
Liberty Family Restaurant - John & Irene Panos
Lillar, Diana (Panos)
Lucky's Steakhouse - Lucky Vasilakis
Margaritis, John and Vicki
McGladie, David Ins. Agency
MI Implant Solutions - Jamie Menoutas
Nativity of the Virgin Mary - Plymouth, MI
Paroff, Angela - Sidel Financial Services
Paylis, John N., Atty.
Patroklachos Society - Grand Blanc, MI

Red Baron Food & Spirits
Retina Specialists of Michigan-Grand Blanc
Richards, Ken & Kathy
Rosa Matigaga, Dean Kressence (Mrs) (Mrs)
Roufos, Vasilios (Bill), Restaurant Bar Reilly
Russell, Fr. James Assumption Grand Blanc, MI
S & D Mechanical - Ray Dalbridge
Sharp Funeral Homes
Sophia's Bakery - Detroit - Lou Kirkos
Soul's Kitchen - Gus & Suzie Neum
Starline K&B Gallery - Dave Jordan
Stofis, Dino-Chair A-HEPA Dist.10 Ed. Found.
Steinhoff, Allen and Olga
The State Bank
Titan Security Systems, LLC
Walker, Kim & Ginger
Yeotis, Dean - Atty at Law
Yeotis, Hon. Thomas and Meg
Yanni's Opa Bar-The Mavrikos Family
Waste Management - Cody Baker

CONTRIBUTORS

AAA Ins. - Chinonis Agency - Dennis & Eli
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Altheica, Dena (Chios)
Anonymous
Applebee's Flint
Bakousidis, Phil & Katy
Bella Tire
Brantoff, Linda
Campbel, Todd
Campbel, Tom
Chiononis, Dennis J. and Thomas J.
Colony Market-Grand Blanc-Smith Family
Costa, John & Laura
Dobbin-Livieratos, Dr. Morte
Daughters of Penelope
Donlan Fish Market, Mike Donlan
Fenton Hotel - Nick Sorice

Holland, Nick & Jennifer
Holly Hotel - George & Chrissy Kurlanos
Italia Gardens - Don Haley & Family
Joseph, Emil H. II, Atty.
Kalamata Greek Grill
Kallis, Agape
Kallis, Nick
Kallis, Penny
Kallis, Susan
Kalydis, John and Karen
Kiros, Lou - Sophia's Bakery - Detroit
Lillar, Diana (Panos)
Matts Wash World - Matt Matts
Merrell, Wanda
Morsinas, George & Laura
Menoutas, George
Nedzic, Christopher
Obmascik, Tom & Kathy (Kalydis)

Pagonis, Taso & Dimitri
Pagonis, Voula
Pence, John & Irene
Park West Gallery - Southfield, MI
Pine Knob Golf Course
Pine Knob Ski Hill
Prokora, Lori
Papaf, Angelo
Ryzdon, Dr. Thomas
S & D Mechanical - Ray Dalbridge
Schulze, Jo Anne
Scrub A Dub & Sparkle Buggy Wash
SpR Mt. Flint, MI - Tony Schumaker
Steinhoff, Olga & Allan
Vasilakis, Lucky (Lucky's Steakhouse)
Walker, Kim & Ginger
Waste Management, Cody Baker
Wingman Water Co.

THANK YOU!

The Assumption community would like to thank you all for making this event a success.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church • Grand Blanc

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 AUGUST 2021		EXPENSES AUGUST 2021	
Stewardship	\$6,269.00	Monthly Bills Paid	\$19,391.40
Trays/Candles	\$1,385.00	Quarterly Bill Paid	\$2,058.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,245.00	Annual Bills Paid	\$840.00
Fundraiser Income for Operating Expenses	\$3,073.04	Miscellaneous Bills Paid	\$2,259.55
		Golf Outing Expenses Paid	\$3,073.04
Total Operating Income for Month	\$11,972.04	Total Bills Paid for Month	\$27,621.99

ACCOUNT BALANCES AUGUST 31, 2021		PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE	
General Checking (used for Operating Expenses	\$33,290.16	Maintenance bills paid out of Property Improvement / Maintenance Savings Account	\$440.87
Property Improvement/Maintenance Savings Account	\$6,217.10		

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.

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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).

August:

Funeral for Mary Vomvolakis
Stergoula Potsos (Funeral in Greece)



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
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	---------	--------------------------	-----------	--------------------------	----------

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.

Make all checks payable to "Assumption GOC" with a memo of "Parking Lot"

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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 & Penelope	Kontorosis, Dimitre & Jacqueline
Duffy, David & Joynt, Elaine	Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

STEWARDSHIP 2021

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Kottalis, Mary
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
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Martorelli, Sophia
Menoutes, George
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Michaelou, Sevesti
Naum, Gus & Susie
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Pagonis, Voula
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Panos, Spiridoula
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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
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Steinhoff, Amanda
Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
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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.

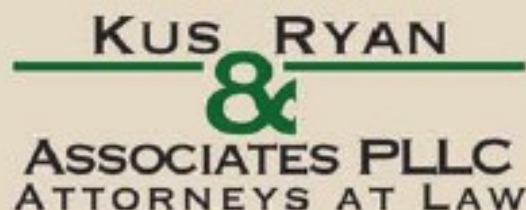
Any deviations from this policy must be approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Council President and must be presented to them at least one month prior to the proposed sacrament date.

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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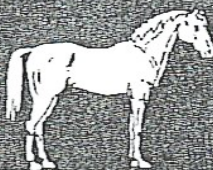
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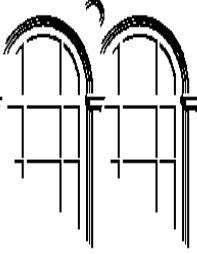
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EMAIL ADS TO: agocsec@gmail.com

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

Weekdays and Feast Days:
See Calendar

Office Hours

Tuesday — Friday
10 am — 3 pm

Telephone: 810-771-4611

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

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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

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CHANTERS: CRYSTAL DEMPS & ATHENA KALATZIS

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GOYA: TBD

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