

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

December
2021



What's Happening

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
- 5: Feast Day Great Vespers @ St. Nicholas, Ann Arbor 7 pm
- 6: Combined Divine Liturgy @ St. Nicholas, Burton 10 am
- 7: Bible Study (Church & Zoom) 10:30 am
Philoptochos Meeting 1 pm
- 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
Vespersal Divine Liturgy - Christmas 5 pm
Office Closed

JANUARY 2022

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: Divine Liturgy - St. Basil & Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 10 am
- 5: Great Hours - Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 9 am
Vespersal Divine Liturgy - Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 10 am
Blessing of the Waters 11:30 am
- 6: Divine Liturgy - Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 10 am
Great Blessing of the Waters 11:15 am
- 7: Divine Liturgy - Synaxis of St. John the Baptist, Prophet, and Forerunner 10 am
- 11: Philoptochos Meeting 1 pm
- 12: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm
- 20: Dormition Monastery Winter Dinner @ St. George, Flint
- 23: Special General Assembly to set budget for 2022

Prosporon Schedule

December:

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

January:

- 2: Fahoome, Tom & Calliope
- 9: Falaras, Mary
- 16: Ferich, Andrew & Voula
- 23: Foraker, Walter & Diane
- 30: Frantzis, Kanellos & Alexandra

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; George Georgiou, Alexandra Grivakis;
Stephanos Hatzigeorgiou & Family; John Margaritis;
Charlie Paraschos; Lucas Paul; Felicia Welch

Sunday Reader Schedule

December

- 5 John Kaloydis
- 12 Debra Chinonis
- 19 John Costa
- 26 Cathy Yeotis

January

- 2 John Costa
- 9 Debra Chinonis
- 16 Tony Pappadakis
- 23 Cathy Yeotis
- 30 John Kaloydis

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



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

Beloved parishioners and friends of Assumption Church,

*Christ is born; glorify Him!
Christ is come from heaven; go and meet Him.
Christ is on earth; arise to Him.
Sing to the Lord, all you who dwell on the earth;
and in merry spirits, O you peoples, praise His birth.
For He is glorified. (Ode I of the Katavasias of the Nativity I)*

We are in the midst of the Nativity season where we prepare to celebrate the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Nativity season requires both spiritual and material preparation. For our spiritual preparation, we should attend the Divine Services offered by the Church, especially on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. This year the Christmas Eve Vespers and Divine Liturgy will be on a Friday evening at 5:00 pm, the Divine Liturgy for Christmas will be on Saturday morning at 10:00 am, and the Divine Liturgy for the Sunday after Nativity will be on Sunday morning at 10:00 am. We should all be present for all three Divine Services to truly celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. In this way, we will meet Christ and glorify Him!

We should also take time at our homes to read the Nativity accounts in the Holy Scriptures, both the Gospel According to St. Matthew (1:18 – 2:23) and the Gospel According to St. Luke (2:1 – 40). While we will hear these Gospel readings during the Divine Services, we should also read them to ourselves privately and aloud with our families, especially with our children. When we read these accounts with our children, it is helpful to show them the icon of the Nativity (on the cover of the newsletter) and ask them questions about the holy men and women present for our Lord's birth. By carefully and prayerfully reading these Gospel accounts in the weeks leading up to Christmas, we will help to prepare ourselves spiritually for



FROM REV. FR. JARROD RUSSELL

this great feast. This is another way to meet our Lord through the Holy Scriptures.

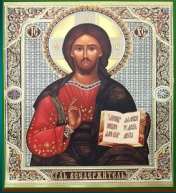
Then, there is material preparation. Our challenge as Orthodox Christians is to be sure that our material preparation flows from and follows our spiritual preparation. The Nativity Season is not simply a time to give gifts; instead, it is a time to be giving of ourselves. It is a time to reconcile with our families, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. It is a time for us to seek out new ways of helping those in need. It is a time for us to refocus our words, deeds, and thoughts toward the One who is born in Bethlehem. It is a time for us to proclaim with our very being that Christ is born and to glorify Him. As we prepare for this joyful celebration, having carefully and prayerfully read the Nativity accounts, we will loudly proclaim on Christmas morning that unto us “is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11). May our Lord guide and bless us all during this Nativity season.

With Love in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Jarrod Russell

Harvest Festival 2021





FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

When Did the Magi Visit the Messiah?

Most Christians will agree they are familiar with the story of the Nativity of Christ; the conventional nativity scenes displayed on Christmas cards, church displays and performances, typical nativity sets of ceramic statues, even the clip art at the end of this article, depict Jesus, Mary, Joseph, shepherds and the Magi all present just after the birth of Christ. But is that how it really happened?

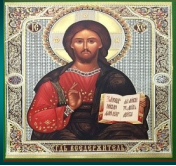
A long, long time ago, Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus (63 BC–14 AD) effectively ruled the Roman Empire, an area from Britain to India, including territories in Europe and Asia Minor. Judea, which was located in Asia Minor, was ruled by King Herod. In Judea, in the northern town of Nazareth lived Mary, a young woman with child, betrothed to marry Joseph.

“In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register.” (Luke 2:1-3) Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem, roughly 80 miles; Mary riding on the back of a donkey while Joseph walked, they traveled about 8-12 miles per day. The arduous journey took nearly 7 days since Mary was with child, due to be born soon.

When they reached Bethlehem there was no place to stay so Mary and Joseph went to the place where animals typically slept and there, she gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God. Mary wrapped the baby then laid him in the manger; the manger that was used to feed the animals.

The skies filled with angels, singing praises to God. The shepherds in the fields around Bethlehem saw an angel before them saying, “...good news...a Saviour is born...he is the Messiah, the Lord...you will find a baby wrapped in cloths...lying in a manger.’ (Luke 2:8-11) The Gospel of Luke tells us it was the shepherds who visited the new born king, the Saviour, at the stable in the manger, not the Magi.

About the same time the angels filled the skies with song, a bright new star appeared, the Star of Bethlehem. Many men in distant countries had studied the stars and read old writings that a new star would appear in the skies when a great king was born. Balthazar from Arabia, Melichior from Persia, and Gathaspa from India, were among the men that travelled to Jerusalem, to King Herod’s palace, “... Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:1-2)



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Herod became angry with the birth of a new king. Herod "... found out from them [Magi] the exact time the star had appeared..." (Matthew 2:7) The Magi told Herod they had followed the star for over a year. Herod then falsely claims he wishes to worship this baby king too. But the truth is that Herod has plans to kill the baby king.

Shortly after the Star of Bethlehem appeared in the skies, "... the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him [Jesus] to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ...and offer a sacrifice...a pair of doves or two young pigeons." (Luke 2:22-24) When Joseph and Mary had completed "... everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong..." (Luke 2:39-40) The Gospel of Luke (and the Gospels of Mark and John) does not mention the Star of Bethlehem or the Magi traveling to Jerusalem to see the new born king.

The Magi followed the star to Bethlehem, to bring gifts to the new king. "On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary... they bowed down and worshiped him ... and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned...not to go back to Herod...[Magi] returned to their country by another route." (Matthew 2:11-12)

One night, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying "Get up and take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for Jesus to kill him." (Matthew 2:13) Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary and they left for Egypt, where they stayed until Herod died.

After Herod died, Joseph learned that, "...those who were trying to take the child's [Jesus] life are dead. So he ...took the child and his mother [Mary] and went to the district of Galilee and lived in a town called Nazareth." (Matthew 2:19-23)

«»«»«»« Jesus was a Baby when the Magi Arrived »«»«»«»

1. When Jesus was born, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem. The Magi came **now**; they came when Jesus was born.
2. Herod did not know exactly when Jesus was born.
3. The Magi saw the child with his mother Mary; the word "child" also refers to an infant, toddler or even puberty. The bible does not define a child as a new-born.

«»«»«»« Jesus was One or Two when the Magi Arrived »«»«»«»

1. The Magi needed time to travel from the east to find Jesus.
2. Herod learned the Magi followed the star for over a year.
3. Herod calculated that Jesus was born when the bright star appeared.
4. Arriving at the house (not a stable or an inn) the Magi saw the child with his mother.
5. Jesus is called a child and not a babe or baby.

The Magi visit is a juxtaposition of the differing accounts of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew.



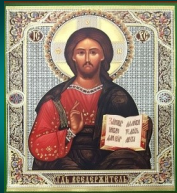
As we celebrate the holiday season, let us remember to offer our prayers to the Lord. May he shower you with His blessings of happiness, health and peace now and in the year to come!
With Love in Christ, from all of us on the Parish Council,

Merry Christmas!
Have a happy New Year!

Καλά Χριστούγεννα!
Καλή χρονιά!

Kala Hristouyienna!
Kali Hronia!

In Christ,
Helen Dalbo
Parish Council President



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

*Save
the
Date*

**WE HAVE A SPECIAL
GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23RD
TO SET THE 2022 BUDGET.**



**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- Friends of the Poor!

The Officers and Board of Directors for the 2021-2023 years were sworn in at our November meeting by Father Jarrod. They are as follows, President - Diana Lillar, Vice President - Cathy Yeotis, Treasurer - Agape Kallis, Recording Secretary - Ruth Karabina, Corresponding Secretary - Olga Steinhoff. The Board of Directors are Georgie Lamber-son Allard, Penny Horgan, Susan Kallis, Susie Vergos and Carol Photiou. I want to thank these ladies for their commitment to our Ladies Society and to their church..

We will be selling Tsoureki on Sunday, November 21, 2021 in the Church Hall. The price for a loaf is \$8.00. We will be selling it during the month of December on Sundays. Arrangements for special sales/pickups must be made through Jo-Anne Schultze. Any questions please contact me, Diana Lillar at 989-739-2289. I would like to start an email list for distributing information more timely, My email is dlillar@aol.com and I would appreciate a response with your name and email address. Philoptochos Christmas Party tentatively scheduled for January 11, 2022. More information to follow.

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'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	_____	_____
Melomacarona(Honey-spiced cookie)	3 for \$5.00	_____	_____
Kourambietes (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

Some of the Ladies
 Philoptochos Group
 baking the tsoureki.

Thank you for all
 your hard work.





Daughters of Penelope

Iris Chapter 242
Hellenism, Philanthropy, and Sisterhood



Sunday, November 14 we hosted coffee hour in honor of God Parents Sunday. Because of your generosity, we were able to raise \$345.00 for our Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Youth Ministry / Religious Education. We greatly appreciate your donation and support.

Joanne Dau
President



**Saint Dionysios, Bishop of Aiyina (Aegina),
the Wonder-Worker from Zakynthos (17 December):
The Saint who Lied to Save his Brother's Murderer**

By Metropolitan Dionysios of Servia and Kozani, *Εικόνες Έμψυχοι*, pp. 440-4.

A young man from an eminent family left the things of this world and went into a monastery. This is not so common, not only today, but at any time. The norm is good social standing, the young man to do the same work as his father and to continue the family tradition. But there are young people who depart from this norm even though their parents may protest and react against their decision. As Christ says, *“Let those who are able to accept”*. Never of course, with their own will and power alone, but always armed and strengthened with divine grace.

Basil the Great had this to say regarding young people who decide to follow the monastic path: *“Those who are led to obedience to Christ early and hasten to the poor and untroubled life are truly wonderful and blessed”*. So Saint Dionysios, who was revealed as a shining star in his younger years, was wonderful and blessed, as were so many other martyrs and saints who lived after the fall of Constantinople. It was divine providence that he should support the captive Orthodox Christians in their tribulations.

Saint Dionysios was born in Zakynthos in 1547, of parents who were distinguished on the island for their high social standing and sound financial position. At an early age, the saint of God left all this behind, social status and wealth, and entered the Monastery of Our Most Holy Lady The Joy of All, which is in Strofadia, two small vine-covered islands in the Ionian Sea, to the south of Zakynthos.

When he had completed his monastic training and had already been ordained priest, Saint Dionysios set off on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. His itinerary took him through Athens, and the then Metropolitan of the city, Nikanoras, who saw and esteemed the spirituality and virtues of the Hieromonk Dionysios, kept him at his side and soon selected and consecrated him as Bishop of Aiyina. In the old town of Aiyina you can still see the stone throne from which Saint Dionysios preached to the Christians. The saint of God guided his spiritual flock, as the Holy Scriptures say *“with knowledge”*, that is as a true and good shepherd of the Church. The island of Aiyina is a blessed place which has been trodden and sanctified by two holy Fathers of the Church: in those days, Saint Dionysios; and in our own time, Saint Nektarios, the Bishop of Pentapolis. Both of them were granted the grace to perform miracles, which is why both of them are honoured in the Church with the title *“Wonder-Worker”*.

After he had served his diocese for some time, Saint Dionysios resigned and went back to Zakynthos, where he spent the rest of his life as the abbot of the monastery of the Anafonitria. This means that a real monk, even if he reaches the rank of hierarch and is consecrated bishop, never forgets, but always remembers that, first

and foremost, he is a monk. In the monastery of the Anafonitria the saintliness of the man of God shone anew. One day, a man came to his cell, a fugitive who was trembling and seeking protection. His hands were covered in human blood: he had just murdered the brother of Saint Dionysios. When the saint heard this, he naturally wept within himself, and let some tears fall externally, but then he stood up, opened the back door to his cell and let the murderer escape, hide and survive. This is a unique and distinctive action in the lives of the Saints of the Church, for which there is no human measure for us to judge it against. Even more, when the relatives of the murdered man- and of Saint Dionysios, of course- as well as the civil authorities, came to his cell and asked about the murderer, Saint Dionysios pretended not to have seen him and not to know anything. This is why, in a poem extolling the virtue of the saint and wondering at his example, a Zakynthian poet wrote: “the servant of God was sanctified at the moment he sinned”. The saint’s sin was that he concealed his brother’s murderer and said that he had not seen him. This is why we say that there is no human measure against which to judge the action of Saint Dionysios. There is only one measure: the words of Christ, when He says “*Love your enemies*”. Anything beyond that has nothing to do with us; it is left to God’s judgement.

Saint Dionysios paid the common debt to life and “departed in peace” in 1624, that is at the age of 77. In accordance with his wishes, his remains were buried at the monastery of his repentance, on Strofadia. When, years later, they wanted to translate his holy relics, the body was found to be whole and intact, clad in his episcopal vestments, just as he had been buried, and giving off a spiritual and sanctified fragrance. His relics were later taken to Zakynthos, where they now lie and are revered by the faithful in the church dedicated to his name, that of Saint Dionysios. In 1703, after petitions and reports confirming his many miracles and the belief and conviction of the local church concerning his sanctity had been sent by the clergy and people of Zakynthos, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate officially recognized Saint Dionysios as a saint and entered him in the Church calendar. He is honoured and celebrated by the faithful and the name of God is glorified, He Who “is wonderful in His saints”, now and forever and unto the endless ages Amen.

Source: <https://pemptousia.com/2013/12/a-saint-who-lied-to-save-his-brothers-murderer-st-dionysios-bishop-of-aegina/>






Harvest Festival 2021





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FRANK L. YIANNATJI

ATTORNEY AT LAW

PERSONAL INJURY
CRIMINAL LAW SPECIALIST

310 East Court Street
Flint, MI 48502

(810) 233-0785
Fax (810) 233-0781





**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

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

**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

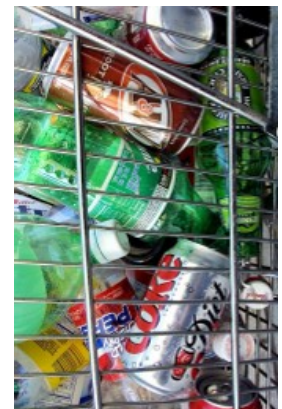
Our advertisers help to make our Newsletter possible by sponsoring it with their advertising. Won't you please patronize their businesses — and mention that you saw their ad in this Newsletter?



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**

**December:
Socks, Towels,
Toiletries and New Toys**

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 OCTOBER 2021		EXPENSES OCTOBER 2021	
Stewardship	\$5,689.00	Monthly Bills Paid	\$16,717.64
Trays/Candles	\$1,151.00	Quarterly Bill Paid	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,013.74	Annual Bills Paid	\$0.00
		Miscellaneous Bills Paid	\$931.20
		Maintenance Bills Paid	\$103.08
Total Operating Income for Month	\$8,853.74	Total Bills Paid for Month	\$17,751.92

ACCOUNT BALANCES OCTOBER 31, 2021		PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE	
General Checking (used for Operating Expenses)	\$41,977.87	Maintenance bills paid out of Property	\$675.00
Special Events <u>Checking</u> (funds held for other purposes)	\$3,240.00	Improvement / Maintenance Savings Account	
Iconography Savings	\$3,326.93	Property Improvement/Maintenance Savings Account	\$5,097.87
Iconography Investment Account as of 9-30-21 (Balance reported quarterly)			
Church Inv Savings Fund (Wall Savings)	\$1,527.43	Parking Lot Pledge Savings	\$976.35
Wall Savings Investment Account as of 9-30-21 (Balance reported quarterly)			

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.

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).

November:

Funeral for Voula Helton



Please sign up for a Kroger Plus Member Card or use your Kroger Card when you are shopping. We are now down to 13 households who use their Kroger Card on a regular basis. It is a simple way for our church community to help the church earn free cash. Thank you!



Keep using your **Kroger Community Rewards card**. Thanks to all those who have shopped in these stores. Our last check was in August 2021 was \$47.82!

Yanni's OPA Bar and Karaoke
3301 Davison Rd, Flint

Your place for Lunch or Dinner and Drinks!



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?

Autumn
LOUNGE



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

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



**FRIENDS OF THE
METROPOLIS
2021
CONTRIBUTIONS**

(JAN 1 - AUGUST 31)

Assumption Parish

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.



the red baron
Burton, Michigan

TAP ROOM & BREWPUB

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STEWARDSHIP 2021

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Greek Olives	3 LB Container \$16.00
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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.

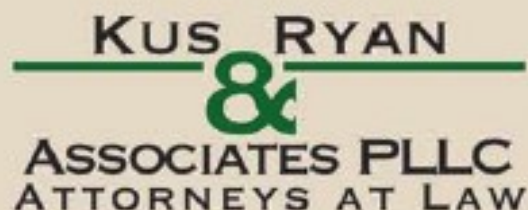
Any deviations from this policy must be approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Council President and must be presented to them at least one month prior to the proposed sacrament date.

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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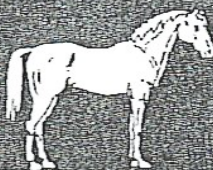
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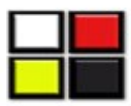
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Secretary: Laura Mersinas

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Website

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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
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Lori Photiou
+Tim Welch
Diana Lillar - Ex-Officio Member

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