

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

MARCH
2023



What's Happening

MARCH 2024

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						

- 3: 40 Day & 3 Yr Memorial for John & Irini Kontorousis
- 9: 1st Saturday of Souls Liturgy 10:00 AM
- 10: DOP Mardi Gras Luncheon After Liturgy
- 10: Coffee & Learn Session 1:30 PM
- 12: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
- 13: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 PM
- 16: 2nd Saturday of Souls Liturgy 10:00 AM
- 18: Great Lent begins
- 22: 1st Salutations to the Theotokos 6:00 PM
- 23: 3rd Saturday of Souls Liturgy 10:00 AM
- 24: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
- 24: PanOrthodox Vespers for the feast of the Annunciation @ Assumption 6:00 PM
- 25: PanOrthodox Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Annunciation @ Assumption 10:00 AM
- 27: PanOrthodox PreSanctified Liturgy @ St. Nicholas in Burton 6:00 PM
- 29: 2nd Salutations to the Theotokos 6:00 PM

APRIL 2024

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				

- 5: 3rd Salutations to the Theotokos 6:00 PM
- 6: PanOrthodox Lenten Retreat
- 7: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
- 9: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
- 9: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 PM
- 10: PanOrthodox PreSanctified Liturgy @ St. George in Flint 6:00 PM
- 12: 4th Salutations to the Theotokos 6:00 PM
- 19: Akathist Hymn 6:00 PM
- 21: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
- 24: PanOrthodox PreSanctified Liturgy @ St. Mary Magdalene in Fenton 6:00 PM
- 27: PanOrthodox Divine Liturgy for the feast 9:30 AM

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

MARCH	APRIL
3 Hountalas, Tasia	7 Yeotis, Dean & Lynda
10 Welch, Joann	14 Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg
17 Wright, Jeffrey & Kay	21 Yiannatji, Frank
24 Yeotis, Art & Sue	28 Zaravelis, George & Genie
31 Yeotis, Cathy	

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 deceased, to be read during the Proskimide (Preparation) Service: one list is for those who are living and the other for those who have fallen asleep in the name of the Lord. 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.

If you would like to add your name or the name of a family member to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 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

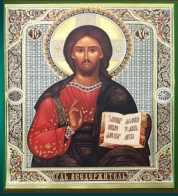
PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sandi Chinonis; Maria Chuleas; Sia Garceau, Stephanos Hatzigeorgiou & Family;
George Levas, Afroditi Marks; Sam Paraschos, Maroulla Photiou

SUNDAY READERS SCHEDULE

MARCH	APRIL
3 John Costa	7 Debra Chinonis
10 Debra Chinonis	14 John Costa
17 Nick Kallis	21 Agape Kallis
24 Cathy Yeotis	28 Nick Kallis
31 Dena Altheide	

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 FATHER PETER

MARCH 2024

ON YOUR MARK...

If you were going to run a marathon race, could you?

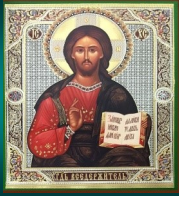
The very thought of running 26 miles without stopping is a scary thought for most of us. We just aren't prepared to do so. If we had to run such a race, how many of us would just simply show up on race day – untrained, unconditioned, unprepared – and expect to make a mediocre showing, let alone a perfect one? To run a marathon or participate in any major sporting endeavor, it is not simply our bodies that need preparation, but our mental states as well.

With the coming of March, we are preparing to launch into the Church's great contest – Great Lent. Pascha this year is on Sunday, May 5 – quite a few weeks after our Western brethren. During the Lenten period, many of us become obsessed with the dietary restrictions we are asked – and expected – to endure. For those who fast on Wednesdays and Fridays, as the Church prescribes, we have some conditioning in adopting the stricter fast of Lent, but by no means guarantee our success in adhering to it.

We focus on the physical aspect of Lent, and often forget about the mental and, above all, spiritual exercise that Great Lent brings. And like an athlete preparing to compete, who doesn't do this all at once but gradually builds up their stamina and endurance, the Church also, in its wisdom, provides us with gradual conditioning. This is incorporated in the period we refer to as the Triodion.

During the Triodion, on the physical side, we enjoy a fast-free week, followed by fasting from animal products after Meatfare Sunday, followed by abstinence from dairy products with Cheesefare Sunday (the day before the official start of Great Lent, that is Clean Monday). This gradually eases us into the discipline of dietary fasting we are familiar with during Lent.

Yet as we have already mentioned, there is a mental and spiritual side to our preparation as well. The period of the Triodion provides us with stepwise instruction on what we need to start our spiritual preparation to endure the Crucifixion and celebrate the Resurrection. Each of the three Sundays of the Triodion gives us a Gospel reading that builds on each other.



FROM FATHER PETER

On the first Sunday of the Triodion (this year on February 25), we hear the Gospel reading of the Publican and the Pharisee. This is the first lesson of the Triodion – our need for humility - a sense not so much of unworthiness, but of our failure to meet God's expectation of us (as well as the danger of thinking ourselves as better than we really are). Humility compels us to see ourselves as we really are and turn us towards how we should be.

The second Sunday of the Triodion, on Meatfare Sunday, we hear the beautiful parable of the Prodigal Son which reminds us that, once accepting humility, we are asked to engage in repentance, and seek forgiveness for our failure to meet God's expectation of us. The parable teaches us that, no matter how far we've strayed, this IS possible, and that God is ready – always – to welcome us back, wherever we may have been. This is accomplished through the sacrament of repentance and confession, of which I will write more of in next month's message.

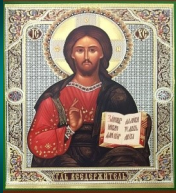
The third Sunday of the Triodion, on Cheesefare Sunday (the day before Clean Monday) we hear about the Last Judgment, which reminds us that following on our humility and repentance, we must move outward and connect with our neighbors, meaning especially those who are in need or seek the love and comfort of Christ. We bear that love and comfort, and failing to do this will invite His judgment when He returns.

These are the preparatory steps of the Triodion, as we prepare to embark on our journey through Great Lent and to encounter both the crucified and the Risen Christ during Holy Week.

Of Great Lent and Holy Week, you will read more in the April newsletter. You will hear more about each step in the Triodion during my homilies on each of the Sundays of that period – if you attend. And, in attending, you will prepare yourself for the great 40-day journey of Great Lent.

May God bless you during the holy period of Triodion and the start of Great Lent.

+Fr. Peter



FROM FATHER PETER



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Peter Bistolarides, Presiding Priest
2245 E. Baldwin Road, Grand Blanc, MI 48439
810-771-4611 FrPeterAGOCGrandBlanc@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR TRIODION AND GREAT LENT
All at Assumption, unless otherwise noted

NOTE: TRIODION BEGINS SUNDAY FEB 25, 2024

MARCH

Saturday March 9, 2024 1st SATURDAY OF THE SOULS Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Sunday March 10, 2024 **MEATFARE SUNDAY** Regular Orthros 8:50 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
(NOTE: Daylight Savings Time begins today)

Saturday March 16, 2024 2nd SATURDAY OF THE SOULS Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Sunday March 17, 2024 **CHEESEFARE SUNDAY** Regular Orthros 8:50 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
NOTE: FORGIVENESS VESPERS for Lent immediately following Liturgy

Monday March 18 – CLEAN MONDAY – GREAT LENT BEGINS

Friday March 22, 2024 1st SALUTATION TO THE THEOTOKOS 6:00 pm

Saturday March 23, 2024 3rd SATURDAY OF THE SOULS Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Sunday March 24, 2024 SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY Regular Orthros and Divine Liturgy

GREAT VESPERS OF THE ANNUNCIATION (PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICE) 6:00 pm

Monday March 25, 2024 FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION (PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICE) Orthros 8:50 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Wednesday March 27, 2024 Pre-sanctified Liturgy (Pan-Orthodox Service)
St. Nicholas, Burton, 6 pm

Friday March 29, 2024 2nd SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS 6:00 pm

APRIL

Friday April 5, 2024 3rd SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS 6:00 pm

Wednesday April 10, 2024 Pre-sanctified Liturgy (Pan-Orthodox Service)
St. George, Lennon Rd, 6 pm

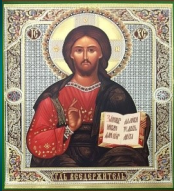
Friday April 12, 2024 4th SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS 6:00 pm

Wednesday April 24, 2024 Pre-sanctified Liturgy (Pan-Orthodox Service)
St. Mary Magdalene, Fenton, 6 pm

Friday April 19, 2024 AKATHIST HYMN 6:00 pm

Friday April 27, 2024 PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS/LAZARUS SATURDAY (PAN-ORTHODOX SERVICE) 8:50 am

FULL HOLY WEEK AND PASCHAL SCHEDULE TO FOLLOW



FROM FATHER PETER

Orthodox Churches of Genesee County, Michigan

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

2024 Great Fast and Bright Week



Pan-Orthodox Divine Services and Lenten Refreshments

Great Compline at St. George (*Mondays, 6pm*) All are welcome every Monday night. This beautiful service, along with the Lenten Hours on Wednesdays at St. Nicholas, allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available after the service.

Lenten Hours at St. Nicholas (*Wednesdays, 10am*) All are welcome every Wednesday morning.

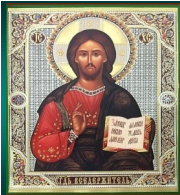
Presanctified Divine Liturgy and Lenten Potluck Dinner (*Wednesdays, 6pm*) We will celebrate together the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion at evening liturgies, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (*no eating or drinking after 12 Noon*). Confessions will be available prior to the evening liturgies from 5:30pm–6pm. The Lenten Potluck Dinners will be coordinated by the host parish.

- Sunday, March 24th Great Feast of the *Annunciation Great Vespers* at Assumption 6pm
- Monday, March 25th Great Feast of the *Annunciation Divine Liturgy* at Assumption 10am
- March 27th Presanctified Liturgy at St. Nicholas 6pm
- Saturday, April 6th Lenten Retreat (*more information to follow*)
- April 10th Presanctified Liturgy at St. George 6pm
- April 24th Presanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene 6pm
- April 27th Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy at Assumption 9:30am

Bright Week (May 5th - 11th)

- May 6th Paschal Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene 10am
- May 7th Paschal Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas 10am
- May 8th Paschal Evening Liturgy at St. George 6pm
- May 10th Paschal Divine Liturgy for the Life-giving Font at Assumption 10am

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



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners of Assumption,

March is here! Time for renewal, growth and looking forward to uplifting days ahead. March generally comes in like a lion as the old proverb holds and goes out like a lamb.

An upcoming major feast day March 25th is the celebration of the Annunciation. It commemorates the announcement the Theotokos received from the Archangel Gabriel that Mary will be the mother of our Lord Jesus. To the Evangelos' and Evangelias "Xronia Polla" on your nameday. We will celebrate this feast day with Pan-Orthodox Vespers on Sunday the 24th at 6:00 PM and with Divine Liturgy on Monday the 25th at 10:00 AM both at Assumption.

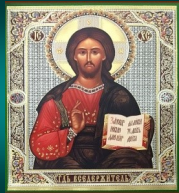
The Fish Fry is back on schedule for a few weeks. It started with a big bang and continues as such.

Also, the "Knucklehead" blues band led by George Nitsos will again entertain us on Saturday, May 18th. More information to follow.

Wishing all a very happy March filled with happiness, joy and peace.

Susan Kallis

Parish Council President



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT

The GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT holds our operating income we receive each month including stewardship, trays and candles, and other donations. Paid out of this account are the operating expenses each month.

The HOLDING ACCOUNT is used to hold income from fundraising events such as Golf Outing, Cash Raffle, and other Fundraisers. These funds are released to the General Checking Account once all associated bills are paid for that fundraiser and a final accounting is done. Also included in this account are the monies collected by our Religious Education group for Youth Ministry, monies donated for the Parking Lot Pledge project, monies collected for Altar items needed, and Easter Item Donations.

We currently have 2 Savings accounts for designated purposes – Iconography and Church Memorial Fund (Wall Savings) and Property Improvement. We also have an Investment Account for Iconography and an Investment Account for the Church Memorial Fund

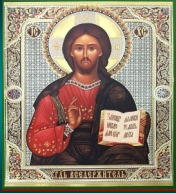
Any questions regarding the Monthly Treasurer's Report should be directed to the Parish Council President, Treasurer or Co-Treasurer.

OPERATING INCOME JANUARY 2024			OPERATING EXPENSES JANUARY 2024		
	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Stewardship	\$31,500.00	\$31,500.00	Operating Expenses	\$23,197.95	\$23,197.95
Trays & Candles	\$868.00	\$868.00	Youth Ministry Expenses	\$0	\$0
Memorial income	\$4,365.00	\$4,365.00	Miscellaneous Expenses*	\$1,766.56	\$1,766.56
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,567.64	\$1,567.64	Maintenance Expenses	\$303.80	\$303.80
Fish Fry – Lent Income	\$0	\$0	Fish Fry – Lent Expenses	\$4,413.97	\$4,413.97
Fish Fry – Fall Income	\$0	\$0	Fish Fry – Fall Expenses	\$630.00	\$630.00
Other Fundraising Income**	\$80.00	\$80.00	Other Fundraising Expenses**	\$0	\$0
2024 Total Operating Income	\$38,380.64	\$38,380.64	2024 Total Operating Expenses	\$30,312.28	\$30,312.28
Total Operating Income (Loss) for Month: \$8,068.36 Total Operating Income (Loss) for Year: \$8,068.36					

*Miscellaneous Expenses include Office, Janitorial, Altar and Kitchen supplies, and other expenses not included in the other categories.

** Other Fundraising Income and Expenses includes Taste of Greece, other fundraisers, Golf Outing, Super Draw Raffle and Cash Raffle

OTHER INCOME JANUARY 2024		OTHER EXPENSES JANUARY 2024	
ICONOGRAPHY DONATIONS	\$250	Iconography Expenses	\$0
CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS	\$2,249	Transfer to Iconography/Parking Lot Investment Account	\$0
PARKING LOT DONATIONS	\$428	Church Memorial Fund Expenses	\$0
DONATIONS FOR ALTAR ITEMS NEEDED	\$2,000.00	Transfer to Wall Savings Investment Account	\$0
ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF JANUARY 31, 2024			
General Checking	\$103,682.28	Church Memorial Fund – Bank Savings Acct	\$7,799.33
		Church Memorial Fund - Investment Account	\$198,869.84
Holding Account – Consists of: Altar Items – Special Tray \$500 Altar Items – Cloths \$8,000 Hall Rental - \$100 Parking Lot Savings - \$2,179 Youth Ministry \$1,012.27 Emergency Funds \$3,000	\$14,791.17	Iconography- Bank Savings Acct	\$2,082.84
		Iconography Investment Account	\$55,874.11
		Property Improvement Savings	\$2,508.52



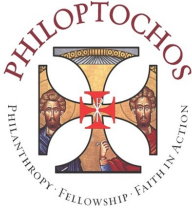
FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

HAPPIEST OF BIRTHDAY WISHES TO ALL OF OUR MARCH BIRTHDAY'S

Andrew Ferich	Mar. 1st	Diane Foraker	Mar. 16th
Jeff Wright	Mar. 2nd	Zoe O'Bee	Mar. 17th
Alexis Kus	Mar. 3rd	Kenny Joynt	Mar. 26th
Linda Chinonis	Mar. 4th	Charlie Paraschos	Mar. 26th
Zoe Zaravelis	Mar. 7th	Nick Nitsos	Mar. 27th
Emanuel Falaras	Mar. 8th	Luke Yiannatji	Mar. 27th
Christina Lennox	Mar. 9th	Andrew Chiatalas	Mar. 28th
Nick Trifon	Mar. 10th	Leah Joynt	Mar. 28th
Sandi Chinonis	Mar. 13th	Angela Karakitsos	Mar. 29th
Tasia Hountalas	Mar. 13th		

If you see that we have missed someone, we ask that you please let us know so we can update our records.





Philoptochos Society - Friends of the Poor!

Dear Sisters

We have now entered our 3rd month of the new year and so far we have been able to endure the cold weather pretty well. Last month we had a successful Valentine's Day Luncheon. On Saturday, February 10, approximately 12 women met to help decorate the hall for the luncheon on Sunday. This was accomplished in a little over two hours. Thank you ladies for giving up a few hours of your Saturday to help out.

On Sunday the 11th, parishioners were greeted to a colorful Valentine theme hall. Decorations were provided by Aspasia Mavrikos who once again did an excellent job. Her use of a flowered backdrop was certainly a hit for picture taking. Thank you Aspasia.

Luncheon was provided to us by Georgie and Clyde Allard with over 50 parishioners in attendance. The luncheon was a delicious meal catered by Pizza Mia. The excellent service provided by our very own mustached parishioners was a special treat and a big hit.

Father Peter was surprised when his birthday was celebrated with a birthday cake. Thank you to all those who attended. The proceeds from this event will be donated to a charity to be decided upon at a future meeting. Thank you Georgie and Clyde for your generous gesture.

Collections for Epitaphio flowers will commence on Sunday, March 31 and run up to Palm Sunday.

We will once again be baking Tsoureki for Easter. To pre-order please contact either: Cathy Yeotis - 810 344-7218, Diana Lillar - 989 739-2289 or Olga Steinhoff - 810 234-9319. Price is the same as last year, \$10 per loaf.

Olga Steinhoff
Philoptochos President



Philoptochos T
was
Sunday, Fe



Valentines Gala held February 10th



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
2024 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: \$40.00 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 Diana Lillar. Thank you!

Daughters of Penelope Iris Chapter #242

On Saturday, February 17th, members of the Daughters of Penelope and AHEPA volunteered at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan.

THANK YOU to those that gave of there time to help those in need.



STEWARDSHIP 2024

THANK YOU to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their pledge cards for 2024. Please join them in their support of our Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and submit your pledge card today!

Bistolarides, Rev. Fr. Peter & Pres. Peggy

Allard, Clyde & Georgia

Altheide, Dena

Bakris, Dr. Nicholas

Batsios, Eftyhia & Evangelos

Batsios, Vasilios & Maria

Birtsas, Sandra

Bistolaridis, Tony & Maria

Bograkos, Tim & Sandy

Bograkos, Vera

Brown Jr, Andrew

Chiavaras, Lucille

Chinonis, Elias

Chinonis, Katie

Chinonis, Linda

Chinonis, Nancy & Lauster, Jeffrey

Chinonis, Richard

Christakis, Christos & Elpida

Christopher, Jim & Liz

Clinton, Mike & Kathy

Costa, John & Laura

Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias

Dalbo, Helen

Davis-Kirksey, Steve & Linda

Eisenbeis, Jerry

Fahoome, Thomas & Calliope

Falaras, Mary

Ferich, Andrew & Voula

Foraker, Walter & Diane

Garceau, Greg & Sia

Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey

Holland, Nick & Jennifer

Hountalas Family

Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki

Joynt, Kenneth

Joynt, Sadie

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kallis, Penelope

Kallis, Susan

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Kitsonas, William †

Kokkianokos, Peter & Panagiota

Komodromos, Tessie

Kontorosis, Dimitri & Jacqueline

Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

Kottalis, Mary

Koutrouvidas, John & Nina

Kus, Michael & Alexis

Levas, George & Margot

Lillar, Diana

Lowe, Ann

Mandelaris, John & Pauline

Manutes, Nicholas & Maria

Melonakos, Anthony & Paula

Nitsos, George & Candy

Nitsos, MaryAnn

Panos, Spiridoula

Pappadakis, Anthony & Kandis

Pappadakis, Nikki

Pappas, Dean & Elaine

Paraschos, Sam & Sandra

Photiou, Carol

Photiou, Lucas & Lori

Politis, Rita

STEWARDSHIP 2024

THANK YOU to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their pledge cards for 2024. Please join them in their support of our Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and submit your pledge card today!

Poulos, Steve & Martha
Richards, Kenneth & Kathy
Rivette, Matthew & Lori
Roufos, Vasilios & Mary
Schultze, JoAnne
Senter, Clark & Katherine
Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia
Sirakis, Paraskenos & Athena
Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Steinhoff, Amanda
Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Stergiopoulos, Mary
Stone, Paula
Thurber, Chuck & Paula
Valentine, Marina
Vergos, Peter & Susie
Vitinaros, Effie & Nick
Wright, Jeff & Kay
Yeotis, Art & Susan
Yeotis, Catherine
Yeotis, Dean & Lynda
Yeotis, Hon. Tom & Meg

Lenten/Paschal Items Needed

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

Service:	Cost:	Donor:
1st Salutation – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
2nd Salutation – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
3rd Salutation – Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
3rd Sun. of Lent (Veneration of the Cross) Daffodils	\$85.00	_____
4th Salutation – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
Akathist Hymn – Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$55.00	_____
Palms for Palm Sunday	\$165.00	_____
Nymphios Icon Flowers (2 Sets)	\$55.00	_____
Oil for Holy Unction Service	\$20.00	_____
Cotton for Holy Unction Service	\$10.00	_____
Pascha Red Eggs (15 dozen)	\$100.00	_____
Rose Petals – Holy Friday	\$20.00	_____
Rose Water – Holy Friday	\$20.00	_____
Flowers for Cross on Sepulcher (Kouvouklion)	\$55.00	_____
Resurrection Icon Flowers (1st)	\$55.00	_____
Resurrection Icon Flowers (2nd)	\$55.00	_____
Resurrection Banner	\$90.00	_____
Large Resurrection Candle for Father	\$55.00	_____
Oil for Altar Candles	\$55.00	_____
Cross Wreath for Holy Thursday	\$90.00	_____
Vase Set for Palm Sunday	\$55.00	_____
Vase Set for Easter Sunday	\$55.00	_____
Palm Sunday Icon	\$55.00	_____
Large Icon Screen (2 total)	\$280.00 ea.	_____
Bay Leaves	\$225.00	_____
Lilies or suitable substitute (6 total)	\$35.00 ea.	_____
Gardenias (12 total)	\$182.00	_____



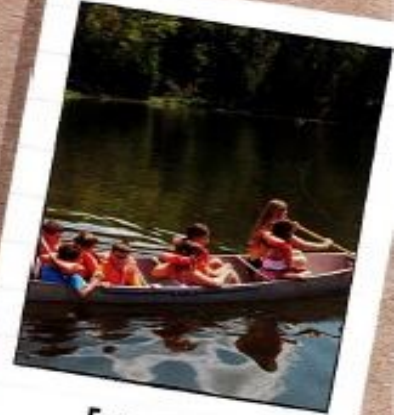
MDSC Summer Camp 2024!



Faith

Week Zero

Camp program for those
entering Grade 12 or
entering College
June 23–June 29



Friendship

Weeks 1–5

Camp Programs for
youth entering
Grades 3–11

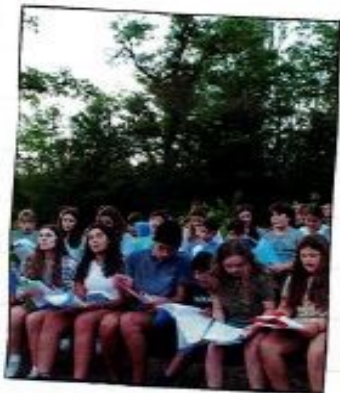
Week 1: June 30 – July 6

Week 2: July 7 – July 13

Week 3: July 14 – July 20

Week 4: July 21 – July 27

Week 5: July 28 – August 3



Love



Peace

Sign up at
GOMDSC.ORG!

“Do you understand?”
“How can I unless someone guides me?”
-Acts 30-31

REVISED SCHEDULE

STARTING SUNDAY JANUARY 28, 2024

1 – 2 PM – AFTER DIVINE LITURGY

(**1:30 pm start on these dates)

“COFFEE AND LEARNING” EDUCATION SESSIONS

TEACHING, DISCUSSION AND CONVERSATIONS

LOCATION – FELLOWSHIP HALL – OPEN TO ALL AGES

ESSENTIALS OF THE ORTHODOX FAITH

January 28 – Introduction

Who are we? Why are we different?

February 25 – The Creed

Foundation of the Faith

March 24 – The Ecumenical Councils

What they are, why were they needed?

April 21 – Services and Sacraments

What makes a service a sacrament?

May 19 (NEW DATE)– The Divine Liturgy

Part I – The Liturgy of the Word

June 30 – The Divine Liturgy

Part II – The Liturgy of the Faithful

SCRIPTURE IN ORTHODOX TRADITION

**February 11 – Introduction

The Bible – where did it come from?

**March 10 – The Old Testament

Its role in the Orthodox Church

April 7 – The New Testament

Christ and the Church’s Life and Teaching

May 12 – Acts

Pentecost and early Church history

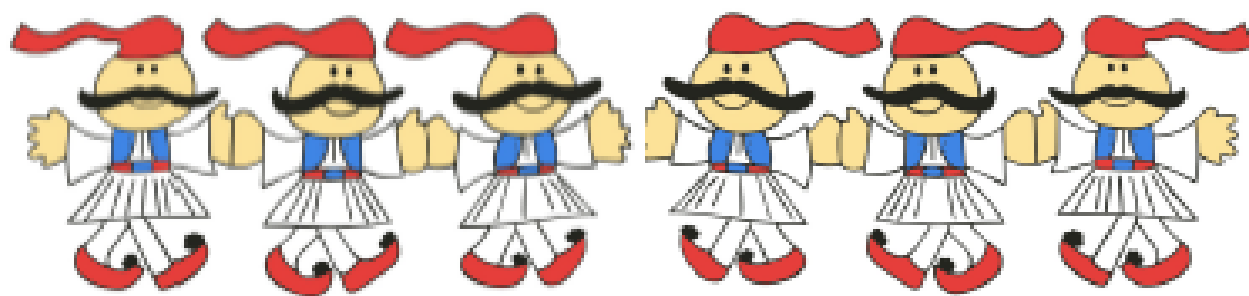
June 9 – Epistles

The Apostles’ Teaching and Counsels

You are welcome to attend any session, but if interested – please provide your names and an email to the church office or Fr. Peter (frpeteragocgrandblanc@gmail.com) for planning purposes

Reading and reference will be:

“The Orthodox Church” by Timothy Ware and The Orthodox Study Bible



Come join us & celebrate Apokries (Greek Mardi Gras)

**Sunday, March 10, 2024
following the Divine Liturgy**

Lunch, Music, Dancing, and Fellowship

Adults: \$12.00

Children 5-12 years: \$6.00

4 years and under: Free

Buffet Style:

Medley of Meat Pastas, Greek Salad, and Dessert

**Sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope
Iris Chapter 242**

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

2245 E. Baldwin Road

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

810-771-4611



FLINT AHEPA-DAUGHTERS
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

The Flint AHEPA/ Daughters Scholarship Foundation will award scholarships to qualified 2024 high school graduates. In order to qualify, the graduate must meet the following criteria:

1. Either the student, or at least one of the parents, grandparents, or legal guardian is a paid member of either Flint AHEPA Chapter #141, or Daughters of Penelope Iris Chapter #242, or a member in good standing of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church of Flint.
2. The student must be graduating from a Flint area high school, and planning to attend a trade school, college or university upon graduating from high school.
3. The student must have a minimum 2.75 grade point average on a scale of 4.00.
4. The student must submit a completed application and all supporting documents by the deadline of May 1, 2024.

If you are a graduate or anyone else that knows of any graduate that meets the above criteria, please contact John K. Costa directly at (810) 659-5275 or jnlcosta@sbcglobal.net. Scholarship Applications are also available at the church office.



**FLINT AHEPA-DAUGHTERS
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**
2245 E Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application No. _____
(For Office Use)

PART A. To be completed by the student and postmarked by May 1st.
Please print or type

1. Applicant's Name (first) _____ (last) _____ Birth date _____

2. Address(street) _____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip) _____

3. Name of Father _____ Mother _____ Guardian _____

4. Father's Occupation _____ Mother's Occupation _____

5. Are you currently employed? _____ If yes, current employer _____
If no, previous employer _____
and years of employment _____

6. Name and address of your high school _____

7. Your grade point average (on a scale of 4.00) _____

8. List special academic recognitions you have received in school and dates received during the past four years. You may attach additional pages.

Must be postmarked by May 1st



**FLINT AHEPA-DAUGHTERS
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**
2245 E Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439



9. List extra-curricular activities in school or in the community, and list any special recognitions received and dates received the past four years. May attach additional pages.

10. What college or university do you plan on attending? _____

11. When do you expect to enroll ? _____

12. What vocation do you expect to follow? _____

13. Will you be receiving any financial aid from any of the following:

	YES	NO
Parents, relatives or friends.....	_____	_____
Employment.....	_____	_____
Savings.....	_____	_____
Other Loans.....	_____	_____
Social Security.....	_____	_____
Government Programs.....	_____	_____
Other Scholarships.....	_____	_____

14. Please attach in 400-500 words, a general statement outlining your ideals and goals in life.

15. Names and addresses of two references other than relatives:

NAME	ADDRESS
------	---------

1 _____

2 _____

Please return and postmarked by May 1st to: John K. Costa
AHEPA-Daughters Scholarship
2245 E. Baldwin Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

It is also your responsibility that your school returns their portion by May 1st.



**FLINT AHEPA-DAUGHTERS
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**
2245 E Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439



PART B. TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PRINCIPAL OR COUNSELOR
(Attachments may be added)

1. Applicant's Name _____
 2. Date of graduation _____
 3. Course followed _____
 4. Grade point average (on a scale of 4.0) _____
 5. Number in graduating class _____
 6. Class rank _____
 7. Academics – recognitions and awards received _____

 8. Non-academic participation, recognitions and awards _____

 9. Please attach a complete transcript of all school grades and all state or national test results.
 10. Summary of any information, including applicant's character, personality, creative abilities, activities and interests that may help us in awarding the applicant this scholarship. _____

- Signature and title _____ Date _____

Please return and postmarked by May 1st to: John K. Costa
AHEPA-Daughters Scholarship
2245 E. Baldwin Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439



AHEPA FAMILY SUPREME CONVENTION
LARNACA 2024
JULY 21-27, 2024 · LARNACA, CYPRUS

2024 AHEPA FAMILY SUPREME CONVENTION
Hotel Room Reservation Information
Valid for AHEPA Family Members ONLY

AHEPA Global Headquarters, under the leadership of our Supreme President Savas C. Tsivicos, is delighted to announce the 2024 AHEPA Supreme Convention in Larnaca, Cyprus. We have diligently prepared for this once-in-a-lifetime convention, featuring events and programs that will enable our members to explore Cyprus to the fullest!

In 1974, Cyprus was invaded by Turkish troops, leading to the country's ongoing division. It is noteworthy that Cyprus is the only EU country occupied by a NATO member. In 2024, we recognize the 50th anniversary of this illegal invasion. Since 1974, AHEPA has collaborated with various Diaspora groups to raise awareness about this often-overlooked and tragic situation, consistently striving to facilitate a resolution for the 796 Cypriots who are still missing, and a possible resolution to the Cyprus question.

We hope you will be able to join us! Details about the room booking process are as follows:

- All members, delegates, alternates and AHEPA Family members must be paid in full at the time of reservation.
- Any individual that has not paid current dues is ineligible to reserve a room.
- Only one room may be reserved per reservation form, per paid member.
- Each room reservation requires a form and a deposit.
- A \$250 room deposit is required with every reservation. \$100 of that is a credit that will be applied to your room at the hotel and \$150 of it is the AHEPA Supreme Convention Administrative Fee. A confirmation notice will be emailed to you once your reservation has been confirmed with the hotel.

ROOM DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE & MAY ONLY BE MADE BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

You will be responsible for paying the balance of your stay upon hotel check-in. There are a very limited number of rooms available at the special AHEPA member rate so secure yours today!

Hotel: Radisson Beach Resort Larnaca (Convention HQ)

Room Type:

- Classic Single: 195€ - One Person, One Bed
- Classic Double: 195€ - Two People, Two Beds

Every hotel guest will be provided complimentary full buffet breakfast daily, included in your room rate. All state & local taxes will be added upon checkout.

Please note that there will be an additional charge of 90€ daily if you have a third person in your room which requires a cot.

*Exclusive of all local taxes ** ONE ROOM PER MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING



2024 AHEPA FAMILY SUPREME CONVENTION Hotel Room Reservation Information Valid for AHEPA Family Members ONLY

AHEPA FAMILY SUPREME CONVENTION
LARNACA 2024
JULY 21-27, 2024 · LARNACA, CYPRUS

Please fill out the following form and return it with payment to AHEPA Global Headquarters.

Hotel: Radisson Beach Resort Larnaca (Convention HQ)

Room Type:

Classic Single: 195€ - One Person, One Bed

Classic Double: 195€ - Two People, Two Beds

Check In Date:

Check Out Date:

Every hotel guest will be provided complimentary full buffet breakfast daily, included in your room rate. All state & local taxes will be added upon checkout.

Please note that there will be an additional charge of 90€ daily if you have a third person in your room which requires a cot. *Exclusive of all local taxes

Name:

AHEPA Family Membership ID:

Chapter Number:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

I have enclosed Check Number made out to AHEPA Supreme Convention for \$250

ROOM DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE & MAY ONLY BE MADE BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

REMINDER THAT ONLY ONE ROOM RESERVATION MAY BE MADE PER MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

Please remit your deposit check to:
AHEPA Global Headquarters
Attn: AHEPA Supreme Convention
1909 Q Street NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20009



**FULL 7 PAGE APPLICATION PACKET IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX AND
IN THE CHURCH OFFICE**

**AHEPA - Educational Foundation (AEF) Scholarship Application 2024
(Applicable for 2024)**



1909 Q Street N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20009
Tel: 202-232-6300
Fax: 202-232-2140
Email: admin@ahepa.org

*Last Name: _____
 *First name: _____
 *Permanent Mailing Address: _____

 *E-MAIL: _____
 *Social Security number: _____ ***** (Mandatory)**

(Must Attach Photo Here)
Photo Size 2" X 2"
***** (NO BIGGER)**
***** (Mandatory)**
(If not placed here applications are automatically disqualified!!!)

Scholarships available: (Please check ONLY ONE)

- _____ Undergraduate I – High School Seniors or College Freshmen
- _____ Undergraduate II – College Sophomores or Junior's
- _____ Graduate School – College Seniors or Graduate school students
- _____ Hellenic College / Holy Cross Seminary
- _____ Webster University (Full Scholarship for AHEPA District 25 applicants ONLY)
- _____ Webster University (30% Tuition Scholarship)
- _____ Chariclea Christodoulakis-Cummins Educational Charity Fund Scholarship (4yr Financial Need-Based for graduating Female H.S)

Un-weighted GPA. (maximum 4.0 Scale) _____ (Applicant MUST CONVERT themselves!!! (DO NOT ROUND-UP!!!))
 i.e., if you got a 3.173 (DO NOT LIST) as 3.72!!! (If not converted by applicant, the application will be automatically disqualified!!!)

(HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS OR COLLEGE FRESHMEN):

SAT - Total Score for Undergraduate I only: _____ (The official scores from the appropriate testing agency must be submitted with the official transcript from your Secondary school)

And Or

ACT - Total Score for Undergraduate I only: _____ (The official scores from the appropriate testing agency must be submitted with the official transcript from your Secondary school)

Type of Scholarship: (Please check ONLY ONE!!!)

Scholastic Achievement: _____

Financial Need: _____ (If choosing this option, applicant must provide a copy of their 2023 1040 tax form!) * (if selected and not provided applicant will automatically be disqualified!!!)**

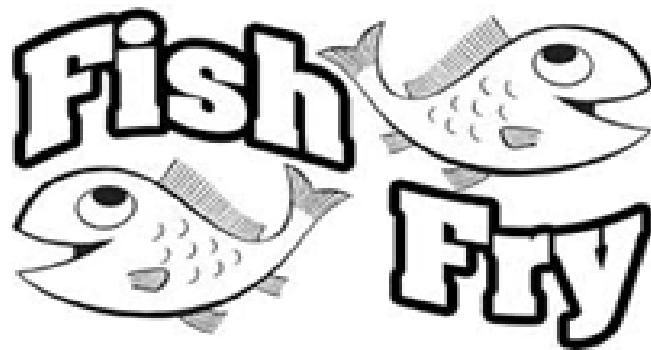
Membership in AHEPA Family: (Please check ONLY ONE!!!)

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| _____ Yourself | AHEPA _____ |
| _____ Father | DOP _____ |
| _____ Mother | MOA _____ |
| _____ Grandfather | SOP _____ |
| _____ Grandmother | Not a member _____ |

(ID number if a member) _____ Membership paid thru: _____ / _____ / _____ **(MUST BE PAID THRU 12/31/24)**

***** Academic Concentration _____ *** (Mandatory)**

GRAND BLANC



EVERY FRIDAY 3:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

THRU

MARCH 29, 2024

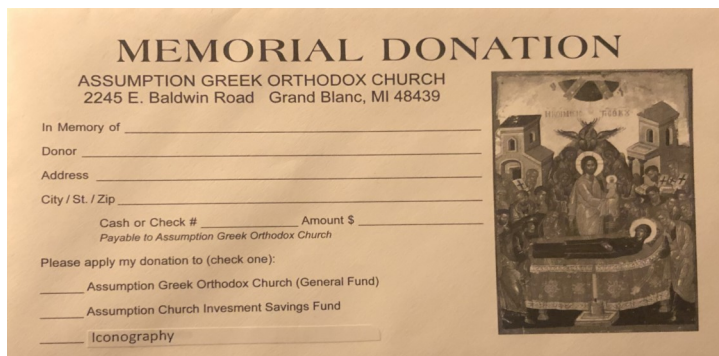
WE ARE MORE THAN A FISH FRY!

Fried Fish, Baked Fish, Shrimp, Chicken Strips, Baked Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Pastitsio, Greek Salad, Rice Pudding

Find us on 

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. Any memorial donation checks not marked “*Assumption Church*” will be distributed for the purpose indicated on the check.



The image shows a 'MEMORIAL DONATION' form for the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. The form includes fields for 'In Memory of', 'Donor', 'Address', and 'City / St. / Zip'. It also has a section for 'Cash or Check #' and 'Amount \$', with a note 'Payable to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church'. Below this, there is a section 'Please apply my donation to (check one):' with three options: 'Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (General Fund)', 'Assumption Church Investment Savings Fund', and 'Iconography'. To the right of the form is a small icon depicting a religious scene, likely the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Scheduling of Memorial Services

All Memorial Services must be **scheduled through the church office** so that they may be placed on the church calendar.

Koliva

If anyone is in need of Koliva, please contact the church office (810-771-4611) 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 with a minimum pledge of \$600 per family or \$350 per single 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.

CHURCH USAGE/HALL RENTAL FEES

(Approved by Parish Council Effective December 4, 2022)

For the Sacraments of Holy Marriage and Holy Baptism

There is no charge for Funeral or Memorial Services.

CHURCH USAGE FEE

<p>Member in good standing of AGOC-Grand Blanc: Person with an AGOC pledge card on file with a minimum pledge of \$600 per family or \$350 per single and current in pledges for active and preceding year</p>	<p>Inactive Parishioner/Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc: See ASSUMPTION GOC MEMBER POLICY on previous page.</p>
<p>No fee for use of the church for sacraments.</p>	<p>\$750 fee for use of the church for Sacraments</p>

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

<p>Member in good standing of AGOC-Grand Blanc: Person with an AGOC pledge card on file with a minimum pledge of \$600 per family or \$350 per single and current in pledges for active and preceding year</p>	<p>Inactive Parishioner /Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc:</p>
<p>Friday-Saturday Hall Rental: 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)</p>	<p>Flat fee of \$1,100 for Hall Rental (includes clean-up) If church dishes are used, dishwasher will be supplied at a cost of \$50. (cannot bring own dishwasher)</p>
<p>Sunday - Thursday Hall Rental: \$300 minimum for 3 hours - \$100 each additional hour up to a maximum of \$600. Renter is responsible for hall clean-up. No kitchen usage.</p>	

2023 List of Donors



FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS



pray



give



grow

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS 2023

CONTRIBUTIONS

(JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 30)

- * Bistolarides, Fr. Peter & Presbyteria Peggy
- * Chinonis, Nancy & Jeff Lauster
- * Dalbo, Helen
- * Heos, Pam & Jeffery Brancheau
- * Kalatzis, Athena
- * Kallis, Agape
- Kaloydis, John & Karen
- 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 or see a Parish Council member on Sunday's. Receipts will continue to be mailed to non-parishioners.

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:

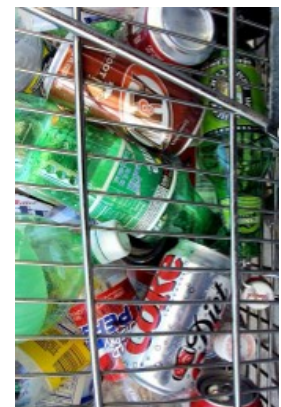
_____/I/We wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

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

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.**



FOOD SALES

Pastitsio/Moussaka	Half Pan - Serves 9-12 - \$30.00
Rice Pilaf	3.5 lbs - \$10.00
Greek Peas	4 lbs - \$13.00
Spinach Cheese Pie	Tray - 15 Pieces - \$25.00
Tiropita (Cheese Triangle)	15 Pieces - \$20.00
Dolmathes	Approx. 25 for \$25.00
Greek Feta	2 1/2 pounds - \$10.00
Phyllo Dough (Effective 1/1/24)	1 lb package - \$4.00
Olives	Approx. 1 1/2 lbs - \$12.00

To order call JoAnne Schultze
810-241-6725



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(810) 735-7833

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Michael T. Scully, Manager
1000 Silver Lake Rd • Fenton
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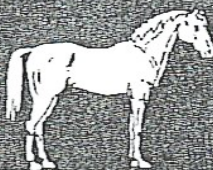
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Dimitri Hountalas
Investment Executive

Orthros: 8:50 am
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am

Weekdays and Feast Days:
See Calendar

Priest: Rev. Fr. Peter Bistolarides

Telephone: 810-771-4611

E-Mail

Priest:

FrPeterAGOCGrandBlanc@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Lori Photiou
agocsec@gmail.com

Website

www.assumptiongrandblanc.org

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

2024 Parish Council

Susan Kallis - President
George Nitsos - V. President
Joyce Kossaras - Secretary
JoAnne Schultze - Treasurer
Debra Chinonis - Co-Treasurer

Dena Altheide
Nancy Chinonis
Diane Foraker
Elaine Joynt-Duffy
Diana Lillar
Olga Steinhoff

ORGANIZATIONS

ACOLYTES: JOHN KALOYDIS & NICK KALLIS

CHOIR: NANCY CHINONIS

CHANTERS: CRYSTAL DEMPS & ATHENA KALATZIS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE: TBD

PHILOPTOCHOS: OLGA STEINHOFF

GOYA: TBD

AHEPA: JOHN COSTA

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE: MARIAN HAGLER

ADVERTISING OPTIONS

NL Full Page.....	\$250/yr
NL Half Page.....	\$150/yr
Business Card Ad.....	\$75/yr

NOTES

Newsletter is printed 11 months per year as the July/Aug is a combined newsletter.

For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar.

Emailed ads must be 600 dpi or greater PDF.

Please include or email artwork.

Please send artwork by email to: agocsec@gmail.com



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
2245 E Baldwin Road
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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**ASSUMPTION HALL IS NOW BOOKING
FOR 2024 GRADUATION PARTIES**

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

810-771-4611