THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

MAY
2024

What's Happening

MAY 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	

5: PASCHA
8: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 PM
12: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
14: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
16: DOP Spring Salad Luncheon 11:30AM-1:30PM
19: 1 YR Memorial for George Menoutes
19: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
26: 40 Day Memorial for Maroulla Photiou
27: Memorial Day Cemetery Blessings (see flyer)

JUNE 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						

1: Taste of Greece Noon to 7:30 PM
2: Spring General Assembly
9: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM
11: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
12: Parish Council Meeting 6:15 PM
22: Saturday of Souls Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
23: Pentecost
30: Coffee & Learn Session 1:00 PM

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

MAY	JUNE
5 Allard, Clyde & Georgie	2 Backakes, Vicki
12 Altheide, Dena	9 Bakris, Dr. Nicholas
19 Anagnostopoulos, Nick & Anna	16 Batsios, Eftyhia (Evangelos)
26 Asa, Darwin & Barbara	23 Batsios, Chris & Ashley
	30 Batsios, Vasilios, & Maria

Please make 3 loaves of Prosphora 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 Prosphora, please send a check to the church for $20 made payable to "Assumption Greek Orthodox Church" with a note stating it is for Prosphora. 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

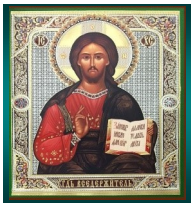
PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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

SUNDAY READERS SCHEDULE

MAY	JUNE
5 Dena Altheide	2 John Kaloydis
12 Debra Chinonis	9 Marina Valentine
19 John Costa	16 Cathy Yeotis
26 Nick Kallis	23 Dena Altheide
	30 Debra Chinonis

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

MAY 2024

THE NEVER-ENDING STORY

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

Now what?

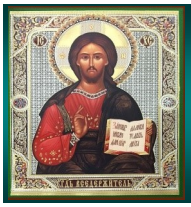
Having faithfully endured the Great Lent fast, the journey through the events of Holy Week, and following on His crucifixion and the celebration of His Resurrection, it seems that everything is anti-climactic – a sense that things are back to "normal". We use the "Christ is Risen" greeting (and its response) from Pascha until Ascension Thursday, almost as a matter of routine.

Yet, having reached the spiritual destination that is Pascha, we cannot relegate the celebration of the Resurrection to simply another annual milestone in our Church calendar.

Pascha becomes the starting point for the week-long period which is referred to as "Bright Week" or "Renewal Week". What are we renewing? Haven't we been "renewed" enough by just having gone through a 40-day period of spiritual cleansing through our multi-faceted – and at times demanding - Lenten fast?

First and foremost, we are reminded that the Resurrection was and is a reality – the tomb in which Christ lay is empty, and that Christ Himself is very much alive. Many had seen Christ die on the Cross and placed in the cave which Nicodemus had carved out of rock, the entrance sealed with a large stone, and a guard of Roman soldiers posted. And just as many – if not more – saw the evidence of His Resurrection: the empty tomb and most importantly, the disciples (male and female) and numerous others who encountered the Risen Christ <u>in person</u>. <u>Truly</u> risen, not as a phantom or apparition, but physically in the flesh. As fact, not fiction.

Yet, rather than seeing the Resurrection as the end of a story, this event is, for all of us, the start of a never-ending story. The Resurrection transforms everything, "the world and all that is in it" (Psalm 23 LXX) and begins the restoration of the world to the state in which God created it. Every person, all matter, every space is transformed.



FROM FATHER PETER

On the holy altar table here at Assumption sits a small fragment of marble – a fragment from the Holy Tomb of our Lord from Jerusalem. It looks like an ordinary piece of rock, yet by its having been associated with the body of Christ, this is ordinary piece of rock is transformed into a sacred relic – in the same way the bones and relics of our saints are hallowed through their encounters with Christ through the Holy Spirit.

This is an important point: the tomb in which Christ lay is empty, yet what remains is not a mere empty space. Even emptiness has been hallowed by the presence of His body. The tomb itself witnessed and was transformed by His Resurrection.

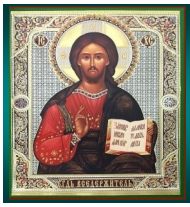
The Resurrection occurred once in history, but our transformation – our renewal – is a continuing one and – in this earthly life – a never-ending one. We recreate the Resurrection not only at Pascha, but every time we celebrate the Divine Liturgy. Christ offers Himself to us for our renewal as we offer the bread and wine for their transformation during the Liturgy - "in all and for all" (Div Liturgy). It is His invitation to renew and transform us, continually.

As the empty tomb is hallowed, so is any emptiness in our lives, in ourselves, transformed if we have allowed Christ to pass into it, to pass through it, and preferably to dwell in it. There is no darkness, there is no emptiness, where Christ is present.

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! Always.

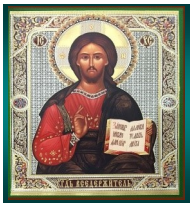
In the Risen Christ

+Fr. Peter



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA 2024

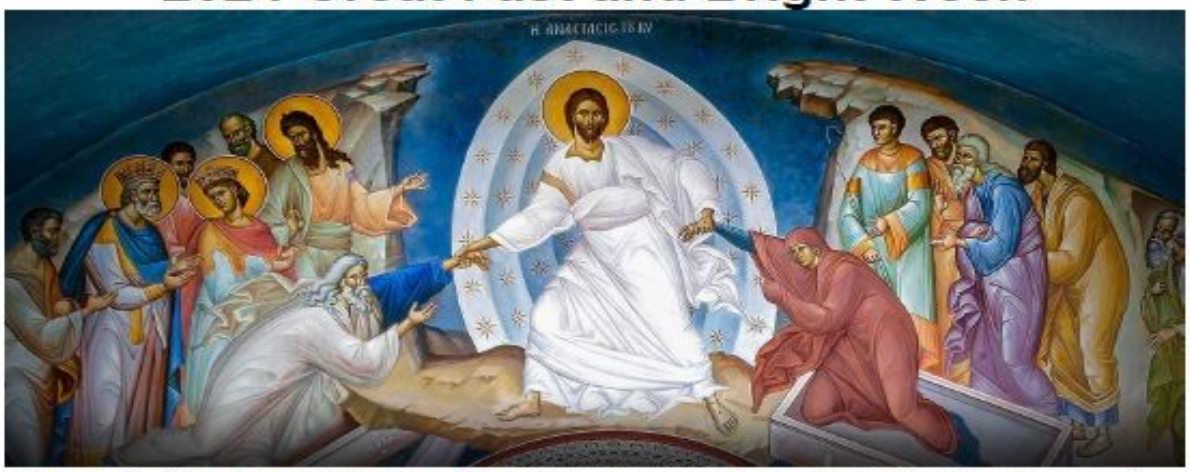
APRIL 27	LAZARUS SATURDAY	Preparation of the Gifts and Commemoration of the Raising of Lazarus	Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy at Assumption	9:30 AM
APRIL 28	PALM SUNDAY	Entrance of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem	Divine Liturgy	10:00 AM
		Joseph, Son of Jacob (Book of Genesis)	First Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
APRIL 29	GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY	Parable of the Ten Virgins	Second Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
APRIL 30	GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY	Anointing of Jesus Christ with Myrrh	Third Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
MAY 1	GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY	Healing Sacrament of the Church	Service of Holy Unction	6:00 PM
MAY 2	GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY	The Last Supper: The Institution of the Eucharist	Vesperal Divine Liturgy	10:00 AM
		Passion of Jesus Christ: The Twelve Gospels	Service of the Crucifixion	6:00 PM
MAY 3	GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY	Standing at the Foot of the Cross of Jesus Christ	Service of the Royal Hours	10:00 AM
		Removal of Jesus Christ from the Cross	Service of the Descent from the Cross	2:00 PM
		Candlelight Funeral Service for Jesus Christ	Lamentations Service	7:00 PM
MAY 4	GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY	Jesus Christ's Victory Over Death	Pre-Resurrection Vesperal Divine Liturgy	10:00 AM
		Anticipation of the Resurrection	Vigil of the Holy Resurrection	11:00 PM
		The Holy Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ	Service of the Holy Resurrection and the Paschal Divine Liturgy	MIDNIGHT
MAY 5	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA	Proclaiming the Gospel in Multiple Languages	Agape Vespers	11:00 AM



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.

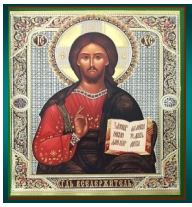
Presanctified Divine Liturgy and **Lenten Potluck Dinner** *(Wednesdays, 6pm)* We will celebrate together the Presanctified Liturgy and the Great Feast of the Annunciation according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. To partake of Holy Communion at evening liturgies, please be prepared 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,

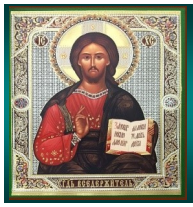
Easter Sunday is fastly approaching. It is a wonderful time of the year bringing warmer weather, beautiful buds that are about to bloom & special Easter traditions & gatherings with loved ones.

Easter is a Christian celebration that commemorates the resurrection of our Savior. It is a joyful ending to the Lenten season of devoted fasting & prayer. It is one of the most important feast days in the Christian calendar. The Resurrection is simply not just good news, it is the ONLY truthful news.

To all warm wished filled with joy & peace.

Have a blessed, glorious & memorable Easter. Kali Anastasi!

Susan Kallis
Parish Council President



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT

OPERATNG INCOME MARCH 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Stewardship	$ 31,500.00	$ 17,417.00	$ 13,562.00	$ 62,479.00
Trays and Candles	$ 868.00	$ 702.00	$ 962.00	$ 2,532.00
Memorial income	$ 4,365.00	$ 1,075.00	$ 1,230.00	$ 6,670.00
Miscellaneous Income	$ 1,567.64	$ 450.00	$ 250.00	$ 2,267.64
Fish Fry - Lent Income	$ -	$ 18,329.75	$ 28,800.25	$ 47,130.00
Fish Fry - Fall Income	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Other Fundraising Income	$ 80.00	$ -	$ -	$ 80.00
				$ -

OPERATNG EXPENSES MARCH 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Expenses	$ 23,197.95	$ 16,685.05	$ 16,049.18	$ 55,932.18
Youth Ministry Expenses	$ -	$ -		$ -
Miscellaneous Expenses *	$ 1,766.56	$ 2,281.88	$ 4,713.84	$ 8,762.28
Maintenance Expenses	$ 303.80	$ 568.14	$ 26.39	$ 898.33
Fish Fry - Lent Expenses	$ 4,413.97	$ 5,648.21	$ 11,916.68	$ 21,978.86
Fish Fry - Fall Expenses	$ 630.00	$ -	$ -	$ 630.00
Other Fundraising Expenses	$ -	$ -		$ -

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

2024 Total Operating Income	$ 38,380.64	$ 37,973.75	$ 44,804.25	$ 121,158.64	**2024 total Operating Expenses**	$ 30,312.28	$ 25,183.28	$ 32,706.09	$ 88,201.65

Total Operating Income (Loss) for Month: $ 12,098.16
Total Operating Income (Loss) for Year: $ 32,956.99

OTHER INCOME MARCH 2024

CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
Iconography Donations	$ 200.00	$ 550.00	$ 300.00	$ 750.00
Church Memorial Fund Donations	$ 2,294.00	$ 3,083.00	$ 4,095.00	$ 9,472.00
Parking Lot Donations	$ 428.00	$ 1,771.00	$ 4,272.00	$ 6,471.00
Donations for Altar Items	$ 2,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000.00

OTHER EXPENSES MARCH 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	FEB	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
Iconography Expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Transfer to Iconography/Parking Lot Investment Account	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Church Memorial Fund Expenses	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Transfer to Church Memorial Fund Investment Account	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF MARCH 29, 2024

General Checking			$ 119,389.29
Holding Account			$ 12,072.03
Altar Items - Cloths - $5,459.76			
Altar Items - Special Tray - 0 - trfd 3/18/24			
Easter Items - $1,200.00			
Emergency Funds - $3,000.00			
Golf Outing - $1,000.00			
Hall Rental - $400			
Youth Ministry - $1,012.27			
Savings Account Balance consisting of:			$ 28,541.52
Church Memorial Fund - Bank Savings Account	$ 14,981.45		
Iconography Bank Savings Account	$ 2,636.95		
Parking Lot - Bank Savings Account	$ 10,923.12		
Iconography Investment Account ***	Down $345.46 from Feb		$ 66,196.53
Church Memorial Fund - Investment Acct	Up $367.47 from Feb		$ 200,414.58
*** Iconography Investment Acct includes $35,000 for Parking Lot			
Property Improvement Savings			$ 2,510.71

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 Cash Raffle, Golf Outing, Super Draw, and other fundraisers), Youth Ministry funds, monies donated for Easter Items and Altar Items (i.e., any donations for a specific purpose where funds will not be released or used right away).

We currently have 2 Savings accounts for designated purposes. The first one is used for Iconography, Parking Lot Donations, and Church Memorial Fund donations. The second one is for Property Improvement. We also have two Investment Accounts - one for the Church Memorial Fund and one for Iconography and Parking Lot.

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

Comparison 2023 to 2024

OPERATING INCOME 1ST QTR 2023

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Stewardship	$28,958.00	$11,094.64	$ 7,970.00	$ 48,022.64
Trays and Candles	$ 1,476.00	$ 971.00	$ 1,359.00	$ 3,806.00
Memorial income	$ 1,565.00	$ 260.00	$ 580.00	$ 2,405.00
Miscellaneous Income	$ 1,414.11	$ 2,872.00	$ 663.00	$ 4,949.11
Fish Fry - Lent Income	$ -		$23,411.01	$ 23,411.01
Fish Fry - Fall Income	$ -			$ -
Other Fundraising Income	$ 2,000.00	$ 838.75		$ 2,838.75
	$ 35,413.11	$ 16,036.39	$ 33,983.01	$ 85,432.51

OPERATING INCOME 1ST QTR 2024

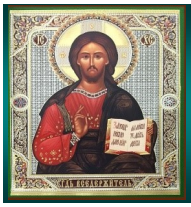
CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Stewardship	$31,500.00	$17,417.00	$13,562.00	$ 62,479.00
Trays and Candles	$ 868.00	$ 702.00	$ 962.00	$ 2,532.00
Memorial income	$ 4,365.00	$ 1,075.00	$ 1,230.00	$ 6,670.00
Miscellaneous Income	$ 1,567.64	$ 450.00	$ 250.00	$ 2,267.64
Fish Fry - Lent Income	$ -	$ 18,329.75	$28,800.25	$ 47,130.00
Fish Fry - Fall Income	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Other Fundraising Income	$ 80.00	$ -	$ -	$ 80.00
	$ 38,380.64	$ 37,973.75	$ 44,804.25	$ 121,158.64

OPERATNG EXPENSES MARCH 2023

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Expenses	$13,431.69	$11,047.82	$ 6,869.90	$ 31,349.41
Youth Ministry Expenses				$ -
Miscellaneous Expenses *	$ 1,085.45	$ 706.90	$ 1,715.47	$ 3,507.82
Maintenance Expenses	$ 841.79			$ 841.79
Fish Fry - Lent Expenses	$ 2,536.19	$ 4,587.79	$16,321.07	$ 23,445.05
Fish Fry - Fall Expenses				$ -
Other Fundraising Expenses				$ -
	$ 17,895.12	$ 16,342.51	$ 24,906.44	$ 59,144.07
Net Income (Loss)				$ 26,288.44

OPERATNG EXPENSES MARCH 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	March	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Expenses	$23,197.95	$16,685.05	$16,049.18	$ 55,932.18
Youth Ministry Expenses	$ -	$ -		$ -
Miscellaneous Expenses *	$ 1,766.56	$ 2,281.88	$ 4,713.84	$ 8,762.28
Maintenance Expenses	$ 303.80	$ 568.14	$ 26.39	$ 898.33
Fish Fry - Lent Expenses	$ 4,413.97	$ 5,648.21	$11,916.68	$ 21,978.86
Fish Fry - Fall Expenses	$ 630.00	$ -	$ -	$ 630.00
Other Fundraising Expense	$ -	$ -		$ -
	$ 30,312.28	$ 25,183.28	$ 32,706.09	$ 88,201.65
Net Income (Loss)				$ 32,956.99



AGENDA – Spring General Assembly 2023

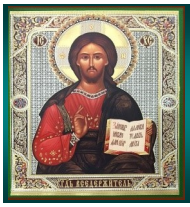
Sunday, June 2, 2024 – Immediately following the Divine Liturgy

1. Call to Order — PC President
2. Opening Prayer — Presiding Priest
3. Election of General Assembly Chairman and Secretary
4. Opening Remarks — PC President
5. Approval of previous General Assembly Minutes — GA Chairperson
6. Priest's Report — Presiding Priest
7. Treasurer Report — PC Treasurer
8. Ministry and Organization Reports
   - A. Iconography Project Report — Committee Chair
   - B. Stewardship Report — Committee Chair
   - C. Fund Raising Events — Chairs of Events
     1. Fish Fry
     2. Taste of Greece
     3. Golf Outing
     4. Raffles
        - a. Cash Raffle — Committee Chair
        - b. Super Draw Raffle — Committee Chair
     5. Other – Open for Suggestions
   - D. Religious Education
   - E. Philoptochos
   - F. Choir
   - G. Daughters of Penelope
   - H. AHEPA

Reports must be submitted to the church office by Wednesday, May 29th to be included.

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.

9. New Business
   - A. Audit Committee — GA Chairperson
10. Old Business
11. Call for Questions
12. Call for Adjournment — GA Chairperson
13. Closing Prayer — Presiding Priest



HAPPIEST OF BIRTHDAY WISHES TO ALL OF OUR APRIL & MAY BIRTHDAY'S

Rita Politis	Apr 2nd	Dr Peter Vergos	Apr 21st
Athena Sanchez	Apr 2nd	April Paraschos	Apr 21st
Sandra Paraschos	Apr 5th	Lucas Photiou	Apr 22nd
Zoi Stergiopoulos	Apr 5th	Lambros Grousopoulos	Apr 23rd
Marian Hagler	Apr 5th	Lucille Chiavaras	Apr 22nd
Art Yeotis	Apr 6th	Todd Wilson	Apr 24th
Serena Yiannatji	Apr 7th	Roxy Nitsos	Apr 27th
Evan Kuzmanovsky	Apr 8th	Konstantinos Falaras	Apr 28th
JoAnne Schultze	Apr 13th	Steven Garceau	Apr 29th
Eleni Kennedy	Apr 17th	Elizabeth Chiatalas	Apr 29th
Vasilios Batsios	Apr 17th	Angelia Preketes	Apr 30th
Patrick Kosmanopoulos	May 4th	Susie Vergos	May 20th
Ethan Smith	May 6th	Athena Sirakis	May 20th
Mia Yiannatji	May 6th	Giota Stone	May 23rd
Eftyhia Batsios	May 9th	Helen Grousopoulos	May 23rd
Vasilia Costa	May 10th	Stephanos Kennedy	May 24th
Aristoteles Panos	May 10th	Matthew Braun II	May 24th
Pauline Mandelaris	May 13th	Maroulla Photiou	May 25th
Anna Hagler	May 13th	Vicki Margaritis	May 25th
Nicholas Karatza	May 13th	Zachary Pappadakis	May 25th
Elaine Joynt	May 14th	Michelle O'Keefe	May 27th
Ioannis Margaritis	May 16th	Sam Paraschos	May 28th
Sadie Joynt	May 17th	Zoe Kovanis-Wilson	May 29th
Rachel Costa	May 19th	Anne Politis	May 29th

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

AUDITORS NEEDED

Under Parish By-Laws and Regulations, parish finances must undergo a periodic audit by a board of three auditors. This is a volunteer activity, but an important one on behalf of our community.

A potential candidate must be a) a member in good standing of the Orthodox Church, b) signed pledge and current in stewardship, and c) NOT a current member of the parish council or employed by the parish.

If you are interested in volunteering as an auditor, especially if you have any accounting or finance experience, please submit your name to Fr. Peter for review.

Approved candidates will be submitted to the parish general assembly in June, for selection of the three auditors.

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS VERY IMPORTANT ROLE

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE CHAPTER #242

ANNUAL SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 16, 2024
11:30 AM—1:30 PM
$15 a Plate
An assortment of individual, specialty salads.
Try one, try them all!
Plate includes: cheese triangle, delectable appetizers, & a beverage (coffee, hot tea, or water)
There will also be a bake sale of scrumptious Greek pastries
Join us for lunch at
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
2245 E. Baldwin Road
Grand Blanc, MI
810-771-4611

Philoptochos Society - Friends of the Poor!

Dear Sisters,

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be rapidly approaching Holy Week or actually into it. We encourage you to attend as many of the Services that you can and that we may all be able to raise our voices and State "Christ has risen, Glorify Him." We wish you and your family a Happy Easter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful Assumption Ladies who were here to help with one or both of our fundraisers - our Loukamathes sale or the baking of Tsourecki for Easter. Without all of their help we would not be able to do this as it is one of our biggest fundraisers. The money raised from these two events goes towards our Philanthropic Donations.

Several of our board members met with Curtis Flowers to discuss changing the flowers used in decorating the Epitaphio. We were very pleased with the results and hope you enjoy the new look.

At our April meeting, we once again discussed meeting up with the Saginaw Chapter for lunch. We hope to get together with them in the near future.

I was very pleased to have three additional members attend our meting this month. Lately we have only had the Executive Board and it is somewhat discouraging when we are 40 members strong.

At the April 9 meeting, the membership voted to take half of the proceeds from the Valentine Luncheon and donated $500.00 to Charlie's Forever Farm a Non-prfit who offers educational opportunities and animal assisted therapy in conjunction with the Voices for Children Advocacy Center.

Once again, Christos Anesti

Olga Steinhoff, President

PHILOPTOCHOS

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DETROIT LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

No Show Event Celebrating:

Veterans, Those Serving in the Armed Forces and First Responders

The Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Board invites you to honor and/or memorialize those who have had an impact in your life by donating in support of our Metropolis Charities. A few are listed below:

- Baptist Cancer Center Memphis, TN
- Detroit Rescue Mission
- FDDR, Feeding Detroit
- Feeding America
- Friends of the Metropolis
- Giving Tuesday
- GOA Youth Summer Camp Scholarship Fund
- Hellenic College Holy Cross
- IOCC
- Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Partners in Philanthropy Fund
- Metropolis of Detroit Summer Camps
- Metropolis Scholarship Fund
- National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund
- National Philoptochos Hurricane Ian Relief Fund
- National Philoptochos Social Services
- National Philoptochos Syria & Turkey Earthquake Fund
- National Philoptochos Ukraine Relief Fund
- Orthodox Prison Ministries
- Saint Basil Academy
- Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival
- Saint Panteleimon Healthcare Society of the Metropolis of Detroit
- Saint Photios National Shine

PLEASE INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH YOUR DONATION

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Donor Name or Donor Chapter:

_____

Parish Name: _____

Donation Amount: _____ **Chapter City:** _____

Please make checks payable to: Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos

All names will be displayed on our: ***Facebook: (Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos)*** ***Instagram: (Philoptochos Detroit)*** ***Website: (https://www.metropolisofdetroitphiloptochos.org/)***	**Mail your donation to:** Metropolis of Detroit Philoptochos Debbie George 37618 Cherry Hill Farmington Hills, MI 48331

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
Anagnostopoulos, Nick & Anna
Artemas, Rev. Fr. John
Bakris, Dr. Nicholas
Batsios, Vasilios & Maria
Birtsas, Sandra
Bistolaridis, Tony & Maria
Bograkos, Tim & Sandy
Bograkos, Vera
Brown Jr, Andrew
Chiavaras, Lucille
Chinonis, Dennis & Debra
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 & Vasilia
Dalbo, Helen
Davis-Kirksey, Steve & Linda
Drolet, Mark & Penelopi
Eisenbeis, Jerry
Fahoome, Thomas & Calliope
Falaras, Mary
Ferich, Andrew & Voula
Foraker, Walter & Diane
Garceau, Greg & Sia
Hagler, Anna
Hagler, Gary & Marian
Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey
Holland, Nick & Jennifer
Hountalas Family
Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki
Joseph, Patricia
Joynt, Kenneth
Joynt, Sadie
Kalatzis, Athena
Kallis, Agape
Kallis, George & Shannon
Kallis, Nick
Kallis, Penelope
Kallis, Susan
Kaloydis, John & Karen
Kitsonas, William †
Kokkinokos, Peter & Panagiota
Komodromos, Tessie
Kontorousis, 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
Margaritis, Sofia
Marks, Jean
Martorelli, Sophia
McLean, Mary Ellen

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!

Melonakos, Anthony & Paula
Michaelou, Sevasti
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
Poulos, Steve & Martha
Richards, Kenneth & Kathy
Rivette, Matthew & Lori
Roufos, Vasilios & Mary
Schultze, JoAnne
Senter, Clark & Katherine
Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia
Sirakis, Paraskevas & Athena
Steinhoff, Allen & Olga
Steinhoff, Amanda
Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie
Stergiopoulos, Mary
Stone, Paula
Thurber, Chuck & Paula
Thurkill, Stella
Trifon, Nicholas
Valentine, Marina
Vergos, Peter & Susie
Vitinaros, Effie & Nick
Walker, Bruce & Kathy
Wright, Jeff & Kay
Yeotis, Art & Susan
Yeotis, Catherine
Yeotis, Dean & Lynda
Yeotis, Hon. Tom & Meg
Yiannatji, Frank

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

"Do you understand?"

"How can I unless someone guides me?"

-Acts 30-31

REVISED SCHEDULE

STARTYING 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

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 17 (NEW DATE) – 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 name 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

TASTE OF GREECE

Saturday, June 1, 2024

Noon to 7:30 PM

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

ALL DINNERS COME WITH CHOICE OF RICE, FRIES, OR GRECIAN PEAS; GREEK SALAD, & PITA BREAD

SHISHKABOB—CHICKEN	$15.00
PASTITSIO DINNER	$15.00
MOUSSAKA DINNER	$15.00
1/2 BAKED CHICKEN DINNER	$15.00
3 PC CHICKEN STRIPS	$14.00

$23.00	**PASTITSIO COMBO PLATTER:** 1 PC PASTITSIO, 1 TIROPITA, 1 SPINACH PIE, 3 DOLMATHES, 1 CK KABOB, RICE, PEAS, GREEK SALAD, AND PITA BREAD
$23.00	**MOUSSAKA COMBO PLATTER:** 1 PC MOUSSAKA, 1 TIROPITA, 1 SPINACH PIE, 3 DOLMATHES, 1 CK KABOB, RICE, PEAS, GREEK SALAD, AND PITA BREAD

ALA CARTE ITEMS:

KIDS MEALS:

KIDS 2 PC CHICKEN STRIPS	$7.00

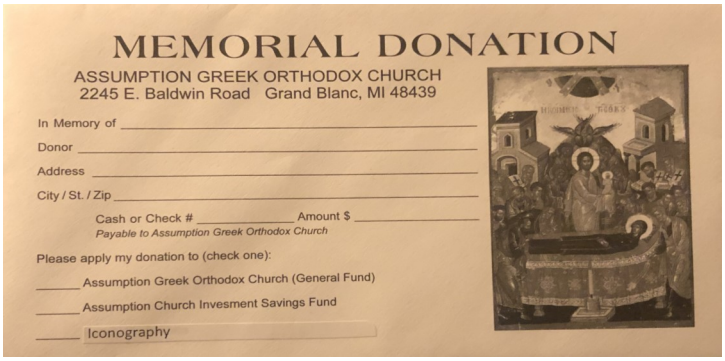
CHICKEN SKEWER	$6.00	2 PC SPANOKOPITA (SPINACH PIE)	$6.00	4 DOLMATHES (GRAPE LEAVES)	$5.00
PC OF PASTITSIO	$9.00	GREEK SALAD	$4.50	3 PCS TIROPITA	$5.00
PC OF MOUSSAKA	$9.00	FRENCH FRIES	$4.75	BOWL OF RICE	$3.75
GYRO	$7.50	GREEK FRIES	$6.00	RICE PUDDING	$4.00
GRECIAN PEAS	$4.50				

GREEK PASTRIES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

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

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.


MEMORIAL DONATION

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
2245 E. Baldwin Road Grand Blanc, MI 48439

In Memory of _____

Donor _____

Address _____

City / St. / Zip _____

Cash or Check # _____ Amount $ _____

Payable to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

Please apply my donation to (check one):

_____ Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (General Fund)

_____ Assumption Church Invesment Savings Fund

_____ Iconography

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

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		**Inactive Parishioner/Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc:** See ASSUMPTION GOC MEMBER POLICY on previous page.
No fee for use of the church for sacraments.		$750 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 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		**Inactive Parishioner /Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc:**
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)		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)
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.		

FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS

(JANUARY 1 - JANUARY 31)

- Chinonis, Linda

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:

	Now		Monthly		Quarterly		Annually

Total Legnth of pledge: ___one time ___ 1 yr ___ 2 yrs ___ 3yrs ___ other _____

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

___Cash ___Check ___Credit Catd ___ 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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Roger L. Sharp, Manager	*Stephanie Sharp Foster, Manager*	*Michael T. Scully, Manager*	*Jennifer Sharp Scully, Manager*
8138 Miller Road • Swartz Creek	209 E. Broad St. • Linden	1000 Silver Lake Rd • Fenton	6063 Fenton Road • Flint
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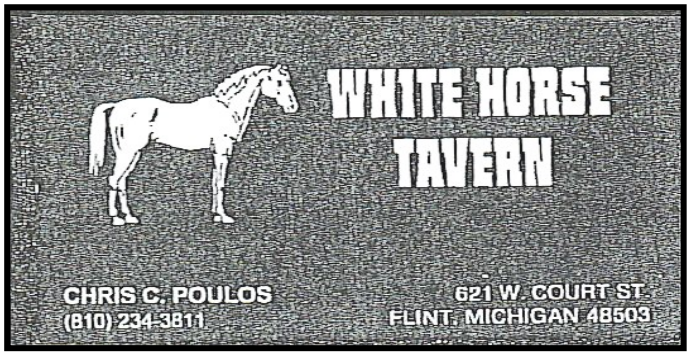

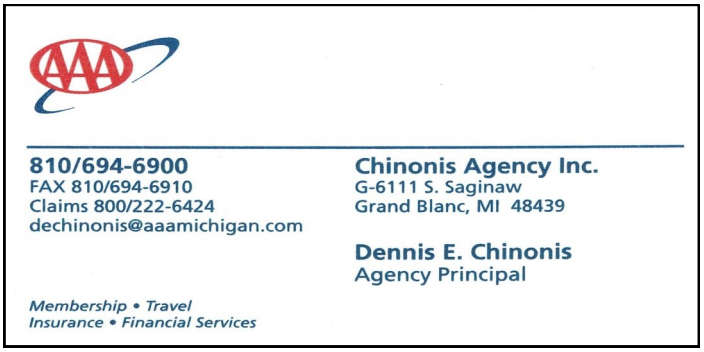

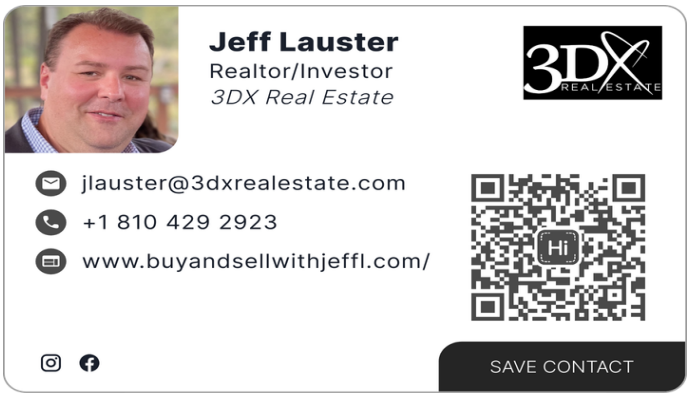

Orthros: 8:50 am
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am

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

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Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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ASSUMPTION HALL IS NOW BOOKING FOR 2024 GRADUATION PARTIES

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

810-771-4611