

THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

January
2025



What's Happening

JAN 2025

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: Blessing of the Waters & Vasilotpita Sunday
- 10: Fish Fry starts 3:00-8:00 PM
- 12: Parish Council Meeting After Coffee Hour
- 14: Philoptochos Holiday Luncheon @ Liberty 1:00 PM
- 23: Annual Dormition Monastery Dinner

FEB 2025

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	

- 9: Parish Council Meeting Noon
- 11: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
- 16: Philoptochos Valentine Luncheon

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
5 Daros, Jim & Jackie	2 Delbridge, Ray & Carol
12 Davis-Kirksey, Linda	9 Douros, Athanasios
19 Davlantes, Alex	16 Douros, Alexandros
26 Day, Denise	23 Douros, Nick

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

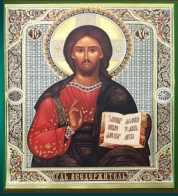
PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Fr. Joseph Abud; Sandi Chinonis; Maria Chuleas; Sia Garceau,
Stephanos Hatzigeorgiou & Family; Soula Kondyles;
George Levas; Diana Lillar; Afroditi Marks; Sam Paraschos; Joann Welch

SUNDAY READERS SCHEDULE

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
5 Stella Thurkill	2 John Costa
12 Cathy Yeotis	9 Nick Kallis
19 Dena Altheide	16 John Kaloydis
26 Debra Chinonis	23 Stella Thurkill

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

JANUARY 2025

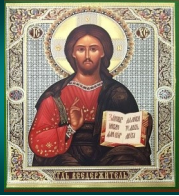
RESOLUTION, REVOLUTION, REPENTANCE, RENEWAL

“Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins” (Matthew 3:5-6, NRSV)

Happy New Year! In most of the Western world, the date of January 1 marks the beginning of a new calendar year (although the beginning of a new year is often marked on different dates in various cultures and different calendars). While January 1 in the church calendar commemorates the circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (and the feast day of St. Basil the Great), for many January 1 is meant to mark the passage of time. Out with the old and in with the new.

January 1 is often associated with an opportunity to “start fresh”. The New Year’s tradition is to look back at the year just past and at the year ahead and make a New Year’s resolution to do something differently – a pledge to us to do change something which we hope will make us better physically (such as eating healthier, exercising) or better all around (be nicer to others, learn something new). We usually make one or two resolutions (sometimes more if we are particularly ambitious). And with good intention we try and stick with them. The failure rate of our keeping resolutions, however, is pretty high.

We have a hope that by changing just one or two habits, or an aspect of our behavior, that this will be sufficient – that great changes will occur by one simple act on our part. It is seldom as simple as that. It is interesting to note, however, how the change in one letter of a word can change its meaning entirely. Replace the “s” in “resolution” with a “v”, and you have “revolution”.



FROM FATHER PETER

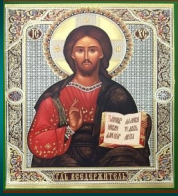
A resolution is a promise to oneself to change a behavior or habit. Revolution, however, is broader. It is a profound change – a recognition that where we are or what we are is no longer good or sustainable. We often associate the word with political change (sometimes violent), but at its base is change – remaking or destroying an old order and making it into something new and, hopefully, improved. We most often associate this word with nations or countries. But we fail to see that as individual persons we can also undergo a revolution.

Orthodox Christians are given the opportunity for personal “revolution” – a change of heart or mind, known as metanoia (in Greek μετάνοια). It is a call to us to change, to bring ourselves closer to Christ through the act of repentance. Of course, this may demand a change or abandonment of one or more behaviors which prevent us from change - our “resolutions” thus become part of our “revolution”

During the month of January, we commemorate the Theophany – Christ’s baptism, through which His Divine nature is revealed. Baptism – a ritual cleansing with water – can be found long before the Christian faith took hold. At its core, is the call to repentance, as St. John the Baptist (January 7) states:

“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Matthew 3:11, NRSV)

In the account of Christ’s baptism in the Gospel of Matthew, we witness Christ Himself approaching John the Baptist to receive this ritual cleansing. It is important to remember that Christ does not approach St. John for baptism as repentance for any personal sin – for He is the only sinless One – and St. John immediately balks at the prospect of baptizing Jesus:



FROM FATHER PETER

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying ‘I need to be baptized by You, and You are coming to me?’ But Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness’. Then he allowed Him” (Matthew 3:13-15, NRSV)

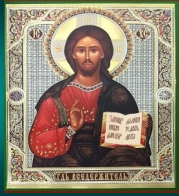
Christ’s baptism is not for the purpose of HIS repentance, but His sign and example to us and all humanity of OUR call to repentance. And while the baptism by water changes us – washes away the “old” man and creates the “new” – the process is not complete until we have received the seal of the Holy Spirit (Chrismation) from the Church, the repository of the Holy Spirit here on earth.

Thus, through our own baptism and chrismation, we achieved our personal change – our personal revolution – which we must maintain and renew periodically throughout our lives by means of our full participation in the life of the Church and, in particular, our ongoing repentance and cleansing and renewal through the sacrament of Confession and reconciliation (of which more will be written at another time).

We don’t have to wait for a particular date on the calendar to make our resolutions, or to change or renew ourselves. Christ stands ready to do this for us all of the time.

May you enjoy a happy, healthy and blessed New Year, and may 2025 be a year of positive change for you and for our Assumption community.

+Fr. Peter

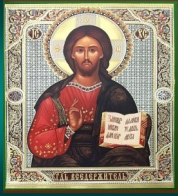


FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

CONGRATULATIONS FATHER ON YOUR ELEVATION TO PROTOPRESBYTER

December 8, 2024





FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Members of Assumption,

Cheers to the New Year!!!

As we start a new year may it bring to all new opportunities, successful accomplishments & endless blessings of happiness.

Congratulations Fr. Peter on your elevation to the Presbyterate. We are all extremely proud of your well-deserved success, devotion and commitment to the ministry. Very best wishes from each & every one of us.

Congratulations to the newly elected council members, David Duffy and Nick Trifon. Welcome on board! To Diana Lillar, the outgoing officer, many thanks & gratitude for her service.

Also, many thanks to all the ladies and gentlemen - yes gentlemen- who throughout the last year were gracious and generous to host the Sunday Coffee Hour after liturgy. To Sia Mavrikos, the very special talented lady who always has the social hall decorated seasonally, as well as the beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Thank you Sia!

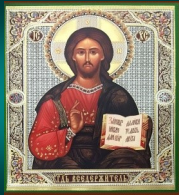
Lastly, a very special thanks to John Hountalas for chairing the Friday Fish Fry during the fall & spring season & will again resume on January 10th for the duration of 10 weeks. A monumental task & tons & tons of work of preparation before during & after are needed for this fundraiser. Kudos to all of the devoted & support of the volunteers.

Many blessings to all,

Susan Kallis

Parish Council President

FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OPERATING INCOME AND EXPENSES NOVEMBER 2024

OPERATING INCOME November 2024				OPERATING EXPENSES November 2024			
CATEGORY	Oct	Nov	YEAR TO DATE	CATEGORY	Oct	Nov	YEAR TO DATE
Stewardship	\$ 4,979.00	\$ 2,857.00	\$ 126,157.00	Operating Expenses	\$ 16,856.32	\$ 16,554.49	\$ 192,335.61
Trays and Candles	\$ 1,071.00	\$ 1,786.00	\$ 12,545.00	Youth Ministry Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Memorial Income	\$ 1,365.00	\$ 3,315.00	\$ 12,145.00	Miscellaneous Expenses *	\$ 1,071.97	\$ 1,939.56	\$ 29,843.14
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,620.26	\$ 2,685.64	\$ 17,263.89	Maintenance Expenses **	\$ 2,282.99	\$ 53.48	\$ 5,979.85
Fish Fry - Lent Income			\$ 47,130.00	Fish Fry - Lent Expenses ***	\$ 732.00	\$ 1,662.00	\$ 25,212.86
Fish Fry - Fall Income			\$ -	Fish Fry - Fall Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 630.00
Other Fundraising Income	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 550.00	Other Fundraising Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39.96

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

** Maintenance Expenses were \$4,482.99 actual; We also received \$2,200 in income to offset the kitchen cleaning expense. *** Fish Fry Lent expenses from Oct-Dec are for 2025 Fish Fry

2024 Total Monthly Operating Income	\$ 10,065.26	\$ 10,643.64	\$ 217,790.89	2024 Total Monthly Operating Expenses	\$ 20,923.28	\$ 20,309.53	\$ 254,041.42
Total Operating Income (Loss) for Month:						(9,665.89)	
Total Operating Income (Loss) for Year:					(36,250.53)		

OTHER INCOME November 2024

CATEGORY	OCT	NOV	YEAR TO DATE	CATEGORY	OCT	NOV	YEAR TO DATE
Iconography Income	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	Iconography Expenses			\$ 20,500.00
Church Memorial Fund Income	\$ 850.00	\$ 3,673.00	\$ 22,111.00	Transfer to Iconography/Parking Lot Investment Account			\$ -
Parking Lot Income			\$ 12,529.66	Church Memorial Fund Expenses			\$ -
Donations for Altar Items			\$ 12,200.00	Transfer to Church Memorial Fund Investment Account		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Other Donations held for future use			\$ 99,000.00				\$ -
Fundraising Income *	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,840.00	\$ 99,805.00	Fundraising Expenses	\$ 50.00		\$ 45,392.80
* Golf Outing \$150; Oct; Cash Raffle \$200; Nov; Super Draw \$350 Nov							

OTHER EXPENSES November 2024

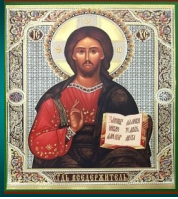
CATEGORY	OCT	NOV	YEAR TO DATE	CATEGORY	OCT	NOV	YEAR TO DATE
General Checking			\$ 109,818.97	ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF November 30, 2024			
Holding Account consisting of:			\$ 56,699.12	Savings Account Balance consisting of:			\$ 6,203.35
Altar Items - Cloths	\$ 1,799.76	\$9,050 transferred to General for payment of Altar Items		Church Memorial Fund - Bank Savings Account	\$ 5,416.53		
Easter Items - trfd 6/10/24	\$ -	1		Iconography Bank Savings Account	\$ 3.88		
Emergency Funds / Undesignated	\$ 3,000.00			Parking Lot - Bank Savings Account	\$ 782.94		
General Donation	\$ 49,000.00			Property Improvement Savings			\$ 2,515.12
Golf Outing	\$ -			Iconography/Parking Lot Investment Account *** (Increase of \$9315.52)			\$ 120,084.45
Hall Rental	\$ -			Church Memorial Fund - Investment Acct *** (Increase of \$10,723.89 - \$5000 transfer in + \$3,725.89 change in value)			\$ 240,439.77
Youth Ministry	\$ 259.38			***Investment accounts transferred to LPL Financial from IB Wealth Management on 7/8/24			
Cash Raffle	\$ -			Property Improvement Savings			
Super Draw	\$ 2,640.00						

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.



FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL THE FAITHFUL OF OUR COMMUNITY – please read!

Often, in looking at what we own or have around our homes, we look to decrease the clutter in our lives and are presented with the dilemma of getting rid of things we no longer need or have too many of (the rich man in Luke 12:16-21 faced this dilemma with his surplus goods).

However, on many occasions, the parish has received items, often unsolicited, from individuals and families with the well-meaning but mistaken belief that they can be used or are needed by the church. Unfortunately, this creates a problem for our parish in that more often than not we have no use for them AND we have no place to store them.

By decision of the parish council, and supported by the presiding priest, we must regrettably advise you that we must adopt a policy that we will NOT accept UNSOLICITED non-cash item donations (including, but not limited to icons, books, furniture, liturgical items), whether new or used.

IF the parish or any parish organization has need of any specific items, we will solicit these through communication with the parish faithful and give you the opportunity to donate them, as needed. IF you still desire to “get rid” of something by donating it to the parish, you are asked to speak to the parish council president or presiding priest first BEFORE donating or bringing it to the church.

We also ask that you DO NOT leave any items “anonymously” and leave it to the church to dispose of them. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, there are numerous external organizations that may benefit from a generous donation and assist you in removing your “surplus” goods.

Susan Kallis
Parish Council President

Rev. Fr. Peter Bistolarides
Presiding Priest

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

John Mandelaris	Jan. 2nd	Jim Buterakos	Jan. 14th
Nick Vitinaros	Jan. 2nd	Marialena O'Bee	Jan. 15th
Diana Lillar	Jan. 5th	Michael Grousopoulos	Jan. 16th
Nancy Chinonis	Jan. 6th	Stacey Grousopoulos	Jan. 16th
Katelyn Iordanou	Jan. 8th	Demetri Politis	Jan. 18th
Katerina Federick	Jan. 8th	Nicholas Douros	Jan. 19th
Vicki Iakovidis	Jan. 10th	Sofia O'Bee	Jan. 27th
Karen Kaloydis	Jan. 11th	Kathy Richards	Jan. 29th
Ioannis Kennedy	Jan. 12th		

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



ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT



Dear Assumption Parishioners,

We began our Iconography Project in 2018. As of the end of September 2024, all icons have been installed and we have completed payment to the Iconographer. We especially thank all those who have sponsored icons, and have completed their pledges or who continue to contribute to fulfil their obligations to do so.

Although the Iconography project itself is complete, we do have some icons available for sponsorship. To sponsor an icon, contributions are encouraged in any amount. You may sponsor an icon in whole or in part; you may contribute to the iconography fund on behalf of yourself, in honor of a living loved one, or in memory of a departed loved one. We will gratefully accept donations in any amount (cash, check or credit card).

If you are interested in sponsoring an available icon, please contact the church office by phone (810-771-4611) or email (agocsec@gmail.com).

Thank you for your support of our Assumption Church and the Iconography project.

13th Annual Winter Dinner for the Holy Dormition of the Mother of God Monastery

A Pan-Orthodox Event Sponsored by the Orthodox Churches of Genesee County

- ⇒ **When:** Thursday, January 23, 2025, 5:00 – 8:30 PM
⇒ **Where:** St. George Orthodox Church (5191 Lennon Rd., Flint, MI 48507)

The Evening Schedule

- **5:00 Vespers:** Led by the Monastic Community followed by Social Time, Appetizers & The Monastery Gift Shop
- **7:00 Dinner and Program:** What Does It Mean To Be An Orthodox Christian
- **8:30 Closing:** Prayer & Good Night!

Minimum Suggested Dinner Donation

- \$35 / Adult
- \$25 / Child or Student

Unchanged For 13 Years!

Online Registration / Donation QR Code



You can also register online by going to: saintgeorgeflint.org

We would like to do all registrations and donations **ONLINE** this year.

If you need help please see your Parish Contact.

PARISH CONTACTS

- Assumption Greek Orthodox Church..... Lori Photiou
- St. George Church Fr. Michael Bassett
- St. Mary Magdalene Church..... Dn. Michael Schlaack
- St. Nicholas Church..... TBD

Fr. Michael Bassett – 12/03/2024

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!

2024 Proposed Stewardship: \$142,000 YTD thru 12/15/2024 Stewardship Received: \$132,964

Bistolarides, Rev. Fr. Peter & Pres. Peggy

Allard, Clyde & Georgia

Altheide, Dena

Anagnostopoulos, Nick † & Anna

Artemas, Rev. Fr. John

Asa, Darwin & Barb

Bakris, Dr. Nicholas

Batsios, Eftyhia (Evangelos)

Batsios, Vasilios & Maria

Birtsas, Sandra

Bistolaridis, Tony & Maria

Bograkos, Tim & Sandy

Bograkos, Vera

Brown Jr, Andrew

Caris-Herzog, Mary

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

Davlanges, Alex

Delbridge, Ray & Carol

Drolet, Mark & Penelopi

Duffy, David & Elaine Joynt

Eisenbeis, Jerry

Fahoome, Thomas & Calliope

Falaras, Mary

Ferich, Andrew & Voula

Foraker, Walter & Diane

Garceau, Greg & Sia

Gintsis, Nick † & Dorothy

Hagler, Anna

Hagler, Gary & Marian

Haralambous, Frank & Vania

Hatzigeorgiou-Kennedy, Shane & Kathy

Heos, James & Cassie

Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey

Holland, Nick & Jennifer

Hountalas Family

Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki

Iordanou, Bill & Lisa

Joseph, Patricia

Joynt, Kenneth

Joynt, Sadie

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kallis, George & Shannon

Kallis, Nick

Kallis, Penelope

Kallis, Susan

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Kapellas, Katina

Kitsonas, William †

Kokkinokos, Peter & Panagiota

Komodromos, Tessie

Kondyles, Chryssoula

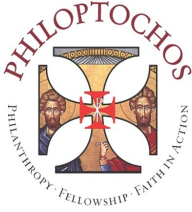
Kontorosis, Dimitri & Jacqueline

STEWARDSHIP 2024

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Kossaras, Dean & Joyce	Politis, Eugenia & Malinowski, Peter	Yeotis, Hon. Tom & Meg
Kottalis, Lemonia		Yiannatji, Frank
Kottalis, Mary	Politis, Rita	Zaravelis, George & Genie
Koutrouvidas, John & Nina	Poulos, Steve & Martha	
Kus, Michael & Alexis	Preketes, Frank	
Lennox, Sean & Christina	Preston, Shane & Melissa	
Levas, George & Margot	Richards, Kenneth & Kathy	
Lillar, Diana	Rivette, Matthew & Lori	
Livaditis, Nick & Evie	Roufos, Vasilios & Mary	
Lowe, Ann	Salutes-Rogind, Sally	
Mandelaris, John & Pauline	Schultze, JoAnne	
Manutes, Nicholas & Maria	Senter, Clark & Katherine	
Margaritis, Sofia	Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia	
Marks, Jean	Sirakis, Paraskevas & Athena	
Martorelli, Michael	Steinhoff, Allen & Olga	
Martorelli, Sophia	Steinhoff, Amanda	
McLean, Mary Ellen	Steinhoff, Dr. Stephanie	
Melonakos, Anthony & Paula	Stergiopoulos, Mary	
Michaelou, Sevasti	Stergiopoulos, Zoi	
Neofostistos, John & Julie	Stone, Paula	
Nitsos, Emma	Thornton, Jerry & Demi	
Nitsos, George & Candy	Thurber, Chuck & Paula	
Nitsos, MaryAnn	Thurkill, Stella	
Pagonis, Taso & Mitra †	Trifon, Nicholas	
Panos, Spiridoula	Valentine, Marina	
Pappadakis, Anthony & Kandis	Vergos, Nitsa	
Pappadakis, Nikki	Vergos, Peter & Susie	
Pappas, Dean & Elaine	Vitinaros, Effie & Nick	
Paraschos, Sam & Sandra	Walker, Bruce & Kathy	
Pavlis, John & Pat	Wright, Jeff & Kay	
Peters, Jeff & Maria	Yeotis, Art & Susan	
Photiou, Carol	Yeotis, Catherine	
Photiou, Lucas & Lori	Yeotis, Dean & Lynda	



Philoptochos Society - Friends of the Poor!

Dear Sisters:

Xronia Polla - Happy New Year. I hope everyone's holiday was a happy, healthy and enjoyable one. We are embarking on a new year and it is the time for reflection on what 2025 will bring. Some of us have experienced a multitude of emotions for 2024 and are looking forward to what the new year will bring us.

Once again our Bake Sale fundraiser was a success due to all the help from the ladies of Assumption.. This is where we make the most money that allows us to accomplish our mission statement - "To help those who are in need" - (Philo tochos) As stated above we would not have been able to accomplish this without all the women who diligently came and helped make, bake, donate, and assemble all our pre-orders. Every time they have been asked they have come through for us.

We will be having our Annual Holiday lunch at Liberty Family Dining in Flushing, on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. If you would like to attend, please let Diana Lillar or Cathy Yeotis know. Diana's phone number is 989-739-2289 and Cathy's phone number is (810) 344-7218. We are also planning on having our Valentine Time Luncheon again on Sunday, February 16, 2025. More information to follow on that.

Once again, from the entire Philoptochos Board, we wish everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Olga Steinhoff
Philoptochos President

Please join us for the

Philoptochos Holiday Lunch

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

1:00 pm

Liberty Family Restaurant

6277 Pierson Rd

Flushing

Reserve your spot by contacting either

Cathy Yeotis (810) 344-7218

cathyyeotis@gmail.com

or

Diana Lillar (989-739-2289)

dlillar@netscape.net

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
2025 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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS
OF OUR CHAPTER:

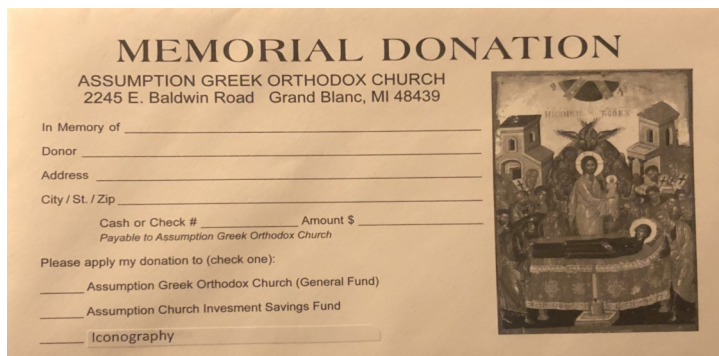
STELLA THURKILL

ANNA PHOTIOU

They were initiated on Saturday, December 14, 2024.

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>	

2024 List of Donors



FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS



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FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS (JANUARY 1 - OCTOBER 31)

- Bistolarides, Fr. Peter & Presbytera Peggy
- Assumption Parish
- Chinonis, Dennis & Debra
- Chinonis, Linda
- Dalbo, Helen
- Heos, Pamela and Jeffrey Brancheau
- Kalatzis, Athena
- 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
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Total Length of pledge: ___one time ___ 1 yr ___ 2 yrs ___ 3yrs ___ other _____

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

___Cash ___Check ___Credit Card ___ Other _____

Credit Card Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Print Name As Shown On Card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

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

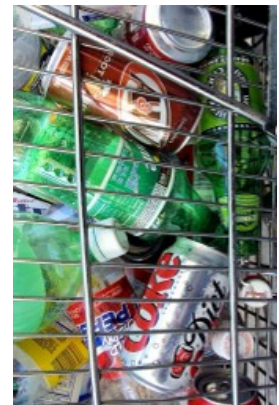
_____/We wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

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

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Rice Pilaf	3.5 lbs - \$10.00
Greek Peas	4 lbs - \$13.00
Spinach Cheese Pie	Tray - 15 Pieces - \$30.00
Tiropita (Cheese Triangle)	15 Pieces - \$25.00
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

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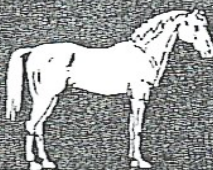
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See Calendar

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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

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