

# THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

MARCH  
2025



# What's Happening

## MAR 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					

- 3: Clean Monday-Lent Begins
- 7: 1st Salutations 6:00 PM
- 8: 3rd Saturday of Souls 10:00 AM
- 9: Sunday of Orthodoxy- Icon Procession
- 9: Parish Council Meeting Noon
- 11: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
- 12: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ St. Nick's Burton 6:00 PM
- 16: Philoptochos Loukoumathes Sunday
- 21-22: Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat (See Flyer)
- 25: Feast of the Annunciation @ Assumption 10:00 AM
- 26: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ St. Mary Magdalene 6:00 PM
- 30: Coffee Catechism: Entry into the Faith (Baptism & Chrismation-The Entry into the Faith)

## APR 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			

- 6: Parish Council Meeting Noon
- 8: Philoptochos Meeting 1:00 PM
- 9: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ St. George 6:00 PM
- 12: Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy @ St. Nick's 9:30 AM
- 13: Philoptochos Tsoureki Sale
- Holy Week Schedule See Flyer
- Bright Week Schedule See Flyer
- 27: Coffee Catechism 12:30 PM
- 29: Zoom Scriptures 7:00 PM

## PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

MARCH	APRIL
2 Drolet, Mark & Penelope	6 Federick, Vivian
9 Duffy, David & Elaine	13 Ferich, Andrew & Voula
16 Eisenbeis, Jerry & Tina	20 Foraker, Walt & Diane
23 Fahoome, Tom & Calliope	27 Frantzis, Kanellos & Alexandra
30 Falaras, Mary	

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*

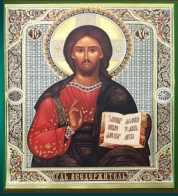
### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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

## SUNDAY READERS SCHEDULE

MARCH	APRIL
2 Cathy Yeotis	6 Nick Kallis
9 Dena Altheide	13 Stella Thurkill
16 Debra Chinonis	20 Cathy Yeotis
23 John Costa	27 Dena Altheide
30 Aleko Douros	

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 2025

### CROSSES TO WEAR, CROSSES TO BEAR

When you were baptized in the Orthodox faith (regardless of age) you were given a small cross on a chain to wear around your neck. Many of us may still have this (maybe even wear it daily), others may have misplaced it over time. Some wear it as a sign of their baptism in and allegiance to Christ, some may wear it because it “looks nice”, or as a fashion statement.

I am sure that any of us can look in our popular culture and see various types of celebrities wearing a cross as part of their personal jewelry. Some of these people appear, to our eyes anyway, not to espouse Christian behaviors, practices or values – what they wear around their neck is not necessarily what’s in their heart. Of course, if we are true Christians, and without the knowledge of what is truly in the other person’s heart or mind, we cannot always jump to conclusions.

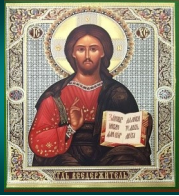
In reading the Gospel passage of the Christ’s Presentation to the Temple (which we celebrated last month) in Luke 2, we find these words spoken by the Righteous Simeon to Mary:

*“Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts of many hearts may be revealed...”*

Consider the word “sign”. A sign has many purposes. It can direct you; it can advertise, it can warn you, it can be an identifier or label, it can be a statement. A sign is not necessarily a piece of wood or plastic with writing on it – it can be a behavior, an action, or an event.

The cross is a simple sign, but it is filled with meaning and power. We are familiar with its original purpose – as a method of execution. And we are equally familiar of its transformation into something utterly different through the crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord. As Christians, we see it as our identification – our symbol of hope.

The cross is a simple sign, but it is filled with meaning and power. We are familiar with its original purpose – as a method of execution. And we are equally familiar of its transformation into something utterly different through the crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord. As Christians, we see it as our identification – our symbol of hope.



## FROM FATHER PETER

But, as the Righteous Simeon states, a sign may be something that is “spoken against”. We don’t know what sign Simeon referred to; the clue is in his referring to something that is to come. The sign could be any of the number of miracles Christ performed in His earthly ministry (which confused, angered, and threatened those in power), it could be His Crucifixion, or the empty tomb of the Resurrection. We have evidence in the Gospels of all of these (and more) being spoken against.

The most obvious sign, however, is the sign of the cross. It, too, is spoken against. Rather than a symbol of hope and salvation, there are many who wrongly – or for their own purposes - see it as a symbol of hate. The cross is, rather than a symbol of hope, seen as a threat; it is seen as something to be rejected.

We sometimes add to this negative view of the cross when we ourselves are battling some challenge in our own lives. We refer to a hardship, illness, condition, or other struggle as “bearing one’s cross”. Of course, this metaphor is tied to Christ carrying the burden of His cross on the road to Golgotha – carrying the tool of His own death.

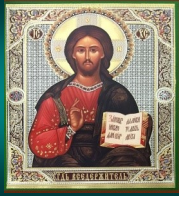
Yet, it is important that we remind ourselves that as Christ endured the pain of the cross but triumphed and changed the meaning of the cross from one of fear and terror to one of hope and life – changing the negative to a positive - so too as we bear the burden of our “crosses” that we are offered the same redemption and victory through the Resurrection.

As we commence the period of Great Lent on March 3, and we reach the mid-point on Sunday, March 23 where we venerate the Precious and Life-giving Cross, remember that we all bear the same cross - Christ’s cross - together, and we bear our own crosses individually, but always in hope. Let us be upheld in our Lenten journey with this thought, and through prayer, perseverance, fasting, and our divine services.

Let the remembrance of the crosses we wear, and the crosses we bear, lead us to salvation.

Blessed Lent

Fr. Peter



## FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

### Message from our Parish Council President

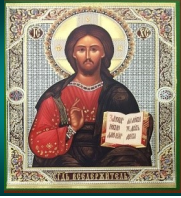
It is an esteemed honor and privilege to have been elected to the role of Parish Council President. I am humbled to walk in the footsteps of our past leaders who worked tirelessly for our Church's benefit.

I would like to personally thank Past President Susan Kallis for her years of service, leadership and dedication to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. Susan Kallis will continue her dedicated service to our Parish in the role of Vice President. I look forward to her mentorship and continued leadership within our community. Thank you, Susan, for everything you have done and for what you will continue to do.

To be successful, the Parish Council and extended Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Community must work together as a TEAM. It is only with a team effort between the Parish Priest, the Parish Council, Committee Members, and members of the Church Community at large that we can achieve our goals for a successful and thriving Church. I look forward to working with everyone for the betterment of our Church.

Each member of our Parish Council is committed in serving and are truly dedicated individuals. We thank you for your trust in placing us in these fiduciary positions. If you have ideas or suggestions for the betterment of the church, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We are only here as a result of those who have come before us and the tireless contributions that were made by our forefathers. I look forward to working to honor the history and traditions of this community and to moving forward with outreach and advancement to grow our faith and our community.



## FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

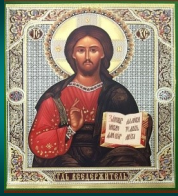
I would like to thank from the bottom of my heart all those who serve the Church in any capacity. I hope and pray that we can continue to grow and to encourage all to attend and participate in the full life of the Church.

Let us come together through the ministries and fellowship. Let us encourage the “next generation” and the youth to fully participate in their faith and their culture and history. Let us encourage all to attend educational opportunities and social events so that we can build on our faith and friendship. Let us encourage our family, friends, and members of the community to participate in all aspects of the Church. Let us preserve our faith, heritage and history.

I look forward to what 2025 will bring at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. I ask for your patience, support, and prayers as I work with everyone for an excellent year.

Yours in Christ,

Nancy K. Chinonis  
Parish Council President



# FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH - GRAND BLANC**  
**PROFIT & LOSS BUDGET OVERVIEW**  
**OPERATING FUND**  
**2025 OPERATING BUDGET**  
**APPROVED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOVEMBER 3, 2024**  
**JANUARY 31, 2025**

	2025 Approved Budget	Prorated Budget	Actual as of 1/31/25	YTD Variance
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>				
Stewardship	\$ 142,000.00	11,833.33	\$ 29,052.00	\$ 17,218.67
Trays & Candles	\$ 13,000.00	1,083.33	\$ 1,339.00	\$ 255.67
Candles Expense	\$ (3,000.00)	(250.00)	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Hall Rental	\$ 1,000.00	83.33	\$ -	\$ (83.33)
Interest Income	\$ 60.00	5.00	\$ -	\$ (5.00)
Miscellaneous Income/Donations	\$ 8,000.00	666.67	\$ 1,351.24	\$ 684.57
Miscellaneous Income/Donations - Special Projects	\$ 20,000.00	1,666.67	\$ 16,225.00	\$ 14,558.33
RE - Youth Ministry Income	\$ 1,500.00	125.00		\$ (125.00)
RE - Youth Ministry Expenses	\$ (1,500.00)	(125.00)	\$ -	\$ 125.00
<b>Fundraisers</b>				
Cash Raffle Income	\$ 50,000.00		\$ -	\$ -
Cash Raffle License	\$ (50.00)			\$ -
Cash Raffle Expenses	\$ (22,000.00)			\$ -
Golf Outing Income	\$ 46,000.00			\$ -
Golf Outing Expenses	\$ (22,000.00)			\$ -
Fish Fry	\$ 56,000.00	4,666.67	\$ 10,044.84	\$ 5,378.17
Cost of Sales - Fish Fry	\$ (25,200.00)	(2,100.00)	\$ (6,820.24)	\$ (4,720.24)
Other Fundraisers Income	\$ 3,500.00	291.67	\$ -	\$ (291.67)
Cost of Sales - Other Fundraisers	\$ (500.00)	(41.67)	\$ -	\$ 41.67
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 266,810.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,905.00</b>	<b>\$ 51,191.84</b>	<b>\$ 33,286.84</b>

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

Andrew Ferich	Mar 1st	Zoe O'Bee	Mar 17th
Alexis Kus	Mar 3rd	Catherine Yeotis	Mar 21st
Linda Chinonis	Mar 4th	Kenneth Joynt	Mar 26th
Zoe Zaravelis	Mar 7th	Charlie Paraschos	Mar 26th
Emanuel Falaras	Mar 8th	Nick Nitsos	Mar 27th
Christina Lennox	Mar 9th	Luke Yiannatji	Mar 27th
Nick Trifon	Mar 10th	Andrew Chiatas	Mar 28th
Sandi Chinonis	Mar 13th	Leah Kolanowski	Mar 28th
Tasia Hountalas	Mar 13th	Angela Karakitsos	Mar 29th
Diane Foraker	Mar 16th		

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



# STEWARDSHIP 2025

THANK YOU to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their pledge cards for 2025. Please join them in their support of our Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and submit your pledge card today!

2025 Proposed Stewardship Budget: \$142,000

YTD thru 2/16/2025 Stewardship Received: \$28,052

Bistolarides, Rev. Fr. Peter & Pres. Peggy

Allard, Clyde & Georgia

Altheide, Dena

Anagnostopoulos, Anna

Artemas, Rev. Fr. John

Asa, Darwin & Barbara

Bakris, Dr. Nicholas

Batsios, Eftyhia † (Evangelos)

Birtsas, Sandra

Bistolaridis, Tony & Maria

Bograkos, Tim & Sandy

Bograkos, Vera

Chinonis, Dennis & Debra

Chinonis, Elias

Chinonis, Katie

Chinonis, Linda

Chinonis, Richard

Clinton, Mike & Kathy

Costa, John & Laura

Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias

Dalbo, Helen

Davis-Kirksey, Steve & Linda

Davlanges, Alex

Eisenbeis, Jerry & Tina

Ferich, Andrew & Voula

Foraker, Walt & Diane

Garceau, Greg & Sia

Hagler, Gary & Marian

Heos, Pamela & Brancheau, Jeffrey

Hountalas, Dimitri & Brittany

Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki

Kallis, Agape

Kallis, Penelope

Kallis, Susan

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Kirkpatrick, Kelly

Kokkinokos, Peter & Panagiota

Komodromos, Tessie

Kontorosis, Dimitri & Jacqueline

Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

Kottalis, Mary

Kus, Michael & Alexis

Levas, George & Margot

Lillar, Diana

Lowe, Ann

Mandelaris, John & Pauline

Manutes, Nick & Maria

McLean, Mary Ellen

Neofostistos, John & Julie

Nitsos, MaryAnn

Papas, Rebecca

Pappadakis, Anthony & Kandis

Pappadakis, Nikki

Paraschos, Sam & Sandra

Pavlis, John & Patricia

Peters, Jeff & Maria

Photiou, Carol

Photiou, Lucas & Lori

Politis, Rita

Poulos, Steve & Martha

Preketes, Frank

Richards, Kenneth & Kathy

Roufos, Vasilios & Mary

Schultze, JoAnne

Senter, Clark & Katherine

Sirakis, Kostas & Sofia

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YTD thru 2/16/2025 Stewardship Received: \$28,052

Sirakis, Paraskevas & Athena

Steinhoff, Allen & Olga

Steinhoff, Amanda

Steinhoff-Chang, Stephanie

Stergiopoulos, Mary

Stergiopoulos, Zoi

Thurber, Chuck & Paula

Vergos, Dr. Peter & Susie

Vitinaros, Effie & Nick

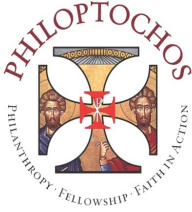
Welch, Joann

Wright, Jeff & Kay

Yeotis, Art & Susan

Yeotis, Catherine

Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg



## Philoptochos Society - Friends of the Poor!

Dear Sisters:

Spring is rapidly approaching and daylight is getting longer each day. Hopefully cold weather doesn't linger forever. February came in with a lot of cold weather and snowy days. I pray as March arrives, our cold days are over and we can look forward to warm Spring days. A time for renewal and growth and reflection on our lives and what is ahead for us. The loss of my brother in February certainly makes one think of our own mortality and that we are all just visitors on this earth.

Even though the Valentine Luncheon was delayed for a week due to bad weather, it was once again a success. Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The decorations by Aspasia were beautiful, the food catered by Pizza Mia delicious, music by Mike Potsos delightful and best of all, our handsome waiters. And a huge thank you to those in the kitchen who helped with the food - JoAnn, John, Andy and Christian.

In conjunction with the National Philoptochos and in collaboration with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese a fund has been developed to provide aid to those affected by the fires in California. The Metropolis of Detroit is coordinating donations from our area and our Chapter will be donating \$500.00 to the fund.

March 16 has been designated as Loukoumathes Sunday. We will be selling them during coffee hour.

As a reminder, Philoptochos dues are now being collected. Minimum is \$40 and you can remit your checks to the church to the attention of our treasurer, Diana Lillar. Please try to do this soon as we will be remitting it to National shortly. On March 2, we will start collecting donations for Epitaphio flowers.

Also election of officers will be held in May. If you are interested in serving on the Philoptochos Board, please let us know. Your participation is important to us and we certainly do need your help.

Olga Steinhoff  
Philoptochos President



## Daughters of Penelope Iris Chapter #242

Dear Sisters,

As we begin the month of March, a month that marks the beginning of spring, we feel renewed and welcome fresh perspectives and opportunities. Our sisterhood in the Daughters of Penelope provide some of these opportunities to support one another, make new friendships, and remain steadfast in our mission of service, philanthropy, education, and leadership. If you have never attended a District #10 event or an AHEPA District or National Convention, this might be a great time to give it a try.

The 2nd Annual District #10 DAUGHTERS WHO LUNCH event has been rescheduled because of the winter storm in February. It will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at 12:00 PM at George's Senate Restaurant, 39430 Dun Rovin Dr., Northville, MI. The cost for lunch is \$35 Cash and will be collected at the event. **RSVP by March 22, with your entree selection** to Peggy Collias at [peggyac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggyac@sbcglobal.net). For more information on entrée selections, refer to the luncheon flyer sent by email from District #10 Governor, Joanne Dau.

Mark your calendars for the District #10 Convention, which will be hosted by the OMEGA Chapter #371 and will be held in Traverse City, May 16-18, 2025 at Archangel Gabriel Orthodox Church. Event highlights include Welcome Night at Archangel Gabriel Greek Orthodox Church on Friday, May 16 and the Grand Gala at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa on Saturday, May 17. Delegate fees are paid by the chapter and include the Friday Welcome Night event and the Grand Gala dinner. We will be voting on delegates and alternates at our next meeting.

The AHEPA Supreme Convention will be held on July 21- 26, 2025 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Florida.

The District #10 Educational Foundation Scholarship Application is due March 14, 2025 (11:59PM). For more information and to submit your application, follow the following link: <https://apply.ad10ef.org>

The 2025 chapter dues are being collected by our treasurer, Kathy Richards. Please make checks payable to Daughters of Penelope in the amount of \$45.00. You may send them to:  
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
2245 E. Baldwin Road  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Sincerely in Theta Pi,  
Marian Hagler  
President, Iris Chapter #242  
[mphagler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mphagler@sbcglobal.net)

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

The Flint AHEPA/ Daughters Scholarship Foundation will award scholarships to qualified 2025 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 guardians 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, 2025.

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](mailto: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.

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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
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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

## COFFEE CATECHISM

### Sunday Educational Sessions – January – June 2025

Our monthly education session on Services and Sacraments of the Church continue after Divine Liturgy, starting no later than 1:00 pm on the following dates

#### DATE CHANGE!

MARCH 2, 2025	Encountering the Kingdom (DIVINE LITURGY II – The Liturgy of the Faithful and the Eucharist)
March 30, 2025	Entry into the Faith (BAPTISM & CHRISMATION – The Entry into the Faith)
April 27, 2025	Reconciliation and Healing (CONFESSION & HOLY UNCTION)
May 25, 2025	This is a Great Mystery (MARRIAGE)
June 22, 2025	No One is Worthy to Approach (ORDINATION)

<b>GREAT LENT &amp; PASCHA Service/Flower Items Needed</b>	<b>Suggested Donation</b>	<b>Donor</b>
1st Salutation - Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$60	
3rd Sunday of Lent-Veneration of the Cross Daffodils	\$85	
Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$60	
Akathish Hymn - Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$60	
Palms for Palm Sunday	\$165	DONATED
Nymphios Icon Flowers	\$60	
Nymphios Icon Flowers	\$60	
Oil for Holy Unction Service	\$20	
Cotton Swabs for Holy Unction Service	\$10	
Pascha Red Eggs (25+1 dozen)	\$100	
Rose Petals - Holy Friday	\$20	
Rose Water - Holy Friday	\$20	
Resurrection Icon Flowers 1st	\$60	
Resurrection Icon Flowers 2nd	\$60	
Resurrection Banner	\$90	
Large Resurrection Candle for Father	\$60	
Oil for Altar Candles	\$55	
Cross Wreath for Holy Thursday	\$90	
Vase set for Palm Sunday	\$60	
Vase set for Easter Sunday	\$60	
Palm Sunday Icon	\$60	
Large Icon screen Left	\$280	
Large Icon screen Right	\$280	
Bay Leaves	\$225	
Lillies (6 total)	\$35 each	
Gardenias (12 total)	\$182	

# 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

## 2025 Great Fast and Bright Week



### Pan-Orthodox Divine Services and Lenten potlucks

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

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

**Presanctified Divine Liturgy** and **Lenten Potlucks** (*Wednesdays, 6 pm*) 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 only be available prior to the evening liturgies from 5:30pm-6pm. The lenten potluck dinners will be coordinated by the host parish.

- March 12 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 6 pm  
March 21 & 22 **Lenten Retreat with Father Silviu Bunta** at St. George (*separate flier*)  
March 25 **Great Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption 10 am  
March 26 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 6 pm  
April 9 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. George 6 pm  
April 12 **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 9:30 am

### Bright Week (April 19-25)

- April 21 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 10 am  
April 22 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 10 am  
April 23 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. George time to be determined  
April 25 **Paschal Divine Liturgy for the Life-giving Font** at Assumption 10 am

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

**Are you a descendant of immigrants from:  
Asia Minor, Eastern Thrace,  
Imbros, Tenedos,  
or  
the Islands in the Sea of Marmara?**

**Would you like to preserve your  
family history?**

**Dr. Yiorgo Topalidis**  
and students from Flagler College  
will visit our community between  
**May 9 and May 23**  
of this year to conduct interviews.

**If you are interested contact him at:  
ytopalidis@flagler.edu 727-207-0623  
or via the QR code**



## *The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint*

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 South Long Lake Road ♦ Fenton, MI 48430 ♦ 810-750-1701  
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ♦ Burton, MI 48519 ♦ 810-744-0070

**Come, Join Us for this Lenten Retreat by Fr. Silviu Bunta!**



## **The story of our lives: Holy Friday & Holy Saturday in human experience**

Fr. Silviu will discuss the hymnography of Holy Friday and Holy Saturday.

**Friday & Saturday,  
March 21 & 22, 2025**

**St. George Orthodox Church •  
5191 Lennon Rd • Flint, MI 48507**

**Please RSVP by March 14 to 810-732-0720 or  
[saintgeorgeflint@gmail.com](mailto:saintgeorgeflint@gmail.com)**

### **Friday, March 21**

6 pm

7 pm

Salutations (Akathist)

1<sup>st</sup> talk with question & answer

### **Saturday, March 22**

9 am

9:30 am

10:05 am

10:20 am

10:55 am to 12 pm

12 pm

12:45 pm

1:15 pm

registration

2<sup>nd</sup> talk

break

3<sup>rd</sup> talk

lunch (free-will offering)

questions and answers

Fr Silviu departs

Great Vespers

*Guest Speaker: Fr. Silviu Bunta*

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America - A Vision of Orthodox Unity*

# DORMITION MONASTERY - RIVES JUNCTION

## HONORING THE MEMORY OF FATHER ROMAN BRAGA

10 Year Anniversary of His Repose

• **Friday May 2 - Sunday May 4, 2025** •

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

#### **Friday May 2nd**

5:00pm Vespers Service

6:00pm Akathist to the Burning Bush

6:30pm Dinner

7:15pm Father Roman as Confessor

with Rev. Archimandrite Joseph (Morris)  
and Rev. Mo. Christophora.

#### **Saturday May 3rd**

6:30am Matins and Hours

8:30am Hierarchal Divine Liturgy

10:30am Memorial Service

11:30am Lunch with Introductory Remarks

by Archbishop Nathaniel

12:30pm Metropolitan Tikhon (Topic to be Announced)

1:30pm Break

2:00pm Future of North American Orthodoxy

by Archbishop Daniel

4:00pm "Reflections" by Fr. John Konkle

5:00pm Dinner

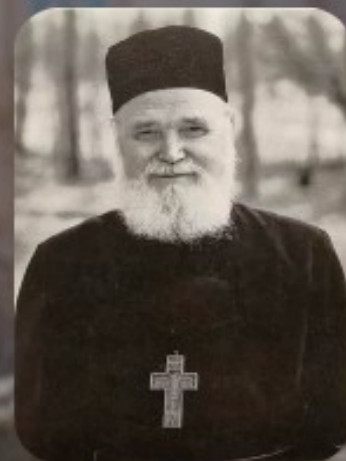
6:00pm Vigil

#### **Sunday May 4th**

9:00am Akathist and Hours

10:00am Hierarchal Divine Liturgy

12:00pm Lunch followed by an "Ice Cream Social"



# 2024 List of Donors



## FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS



pray



give



grow



## FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS (JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 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
- Melonakos, Anthony & Paula
- Yeotis, Catherine

Thank you!

### PROCEDURE FOR RECEIPTS

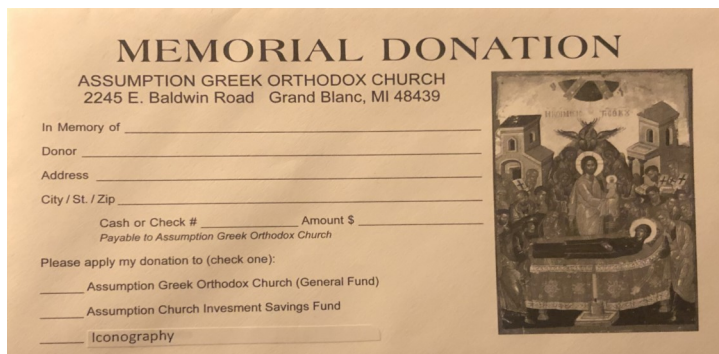
Due to the rising cost of mailing receipts for every donation received by the church, the Parish Council has established the following procedure for receipts:

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.

## 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><b>Member in good standing of AGOC-Grand Blanc:</b> 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><b>Inactive Parishioner/Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc:</b>  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><b>Member in good standing of AGOC-Grand Blanc:</b> 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><b>Inactive Parishioner /Non-Member at AGOC-Grand Blanc:</b></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>	

PARKING LOT PLEDGE

For the last few years, a volunteer group has been sealing the parking lot during the summer months to help extend the life of our parking lot. In the next few years we will need to completely replace our parking lot. We are looking to start the fundraising for this very large project now in order to have the funds collected and ready when it comes times to pay for it. The anticipated cost for this project is upwards of \$300,000. Please faithfully pledge to assist our church in maintaining our beautiful property.

PLEASE NOTE: This gift/pledge is above and beyond your regular offering.

**Gifts of any size are appreciated!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEDGE INFORMATION**

i/We pledge a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Now	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarterly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annually
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	---------	--------------------------	-----------	--------------------------	----------

Total Length of pledge: \_\_\_one time \_\_\_ 1 yr \_\_\_ 2 yrs \_\_\_ 3yrs \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_Cash \_\_\_Check \_\_\_Credit Card \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name As Shown On Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

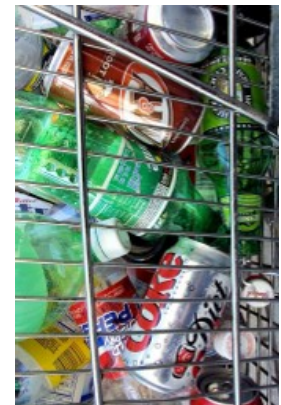
\_\_\_\_\_/I/We wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

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

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**DROP-OFF IN BACK BY KITCHEN DOOR  
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Pastitsio/Moussaka	Half Pan - Serves 9-12 - \$35.00
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

To order call JoAnne Schultze  
810-241-6725

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(810) 735-7833

*Fenton Chapel*  
Michael T. Scully, Manager  
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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

**2025 Parish Council**

Nancy Chinonis - President  
Susan Kallis - Vice President  
Joyce Kossaras - Secretary  
JoAnne Schultze - Treasurer

Dena Altheide  
Debra Chinonis  
David Duffy  
Diane Foraker  
Elaine Joynt-Duffy  
George Nitsos  
Olga Steinhoff - Ex-Officio  
Nick Trifon

**ORGANIZATIONS**

ACOLYTES: JOHN KALOYDIS & NICK KALLIS

CHOIR: NANCY CHINONIS

CHANTERS: ATHENA KALATZIS

PHILOPTOCHOS: OLGA STEINHOFF

AHEPA: JOHN COSTA

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