

# THE ASSUMPTION CONNECTION

MAR  
2026



# What's Happening

## MAR 2026

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

1: Chiavaras/Heos Family Memorials	11:30 AM
Lucille Chiavaras 1 Year	
Chrysoulla Heos 10 Year	
Tom Heos 32 Year	
Thomas Chiavaras 48 Year	
10: Philoptochos Meeting	1:00 PM
11: PC Meeting	6:00 PM
20-21: Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat at Assumption	
20: 4th Salutations to the Theotokos	6:00 PM
22: DOP Meeting	12:00 PM
25: Annunciation to the Theotokos	10:00 AM
27: Akathist Hymn	6:00 PM
29: Super Draw	11:30 AM

## APR 2026

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

5: Palm Sunday	
6-11: Holy Week (See Schedule)	
12: Pascha	
15: PC Meeting	6:15 PM
26: DOP Meeting	12:00 PM

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.

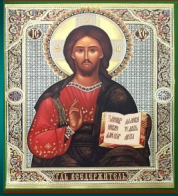
*Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. - James 5:16*

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Fr. Joseph Abud; Sandi Chinonis; Maria Chuleas;  
 Kyriacos & Vasilias Costa; Stephanos Hatzigeorgiou & Family;  
 Anita Jimos; Athena Kalatzis; Tessie Komodromos; Soula Kondyles;  
 Mary Kottalis; Ann Lowe; George Levas; Diana Lillar; Afroditi Marks;  
 Sam Paraschos; JoAnne Schultze; Demi Thornton; Joann Welch

SUNDAY READERS SCHEDULE			
MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
1 Dena Altheide	5 John Kaloydis	3 Debra Chinonis	7 Stella Thurkill
8 Debra Chinonis	12 Stella Thurkill	10 John Costa	14 Cathy Yeotis
15 John Costa	19 Cathy Yeotis	17 Aleko Douros	21 Dena Altheide
22 Aleko Douros	26 Dena Altheide	24 Nick Kallis	28 Debra Chinonis
29 Nick Kallis		31 John Kaloydis	

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



## FROM FATHER PETER

MARCH 2026

### THE CHALLENGE OF LENT

Every year, with the coming of Great Lent, many people shift their focus on to the Great Fast of Lent. For most of us, the Lenten Fast is the dietary restrictions – avoidance of meat, fish, dairy and eggs during the 40-day period leading up to Holy Week, and through Holy Week itself. Great effort is made to comply with these rules throughout the Lenten period and then indulge in a glorious “fast-free” spree with the arrival of Pascha.

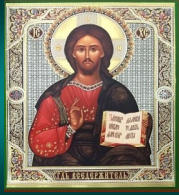
Truly, the Lenten fast is daunting. I hear this especially from new Orthodox or catechumens, who jump right into fasting during Great Lent – and to their great distress, find it difficult and even discouraging. Some fall into despair that this means they are not “good” Orthodox Christians.

Some of this is due to a lack of any type of fasting rule prior to the Lenten fast (and this holds true for most of our Orthodox faithful). Did you know that the Church prescribes (not “commands”, not “orders”) that we fast on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout most of the year (in addition to the Apostles’ Fast, the Dormition Fast, and the Nativity Fast)?

As in athletics, fasting requires discipline, training, and dealing with struggle. None of us would expect to immediately run a marathon race, if all we are accustomed to is life in an easy chair. This principle applies also to other aspects of the fast. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us, *“If you cannot fast from food, then at least fast from evil words, evil thoughts and evil deeds”*.

As in dietary fasting, difficulties can arise when we try to suddenly change our behavior, change who we are, during Lent. While we may strive to correct ourselves and our behavior, we may try to do this in one sweep. And as in the dietary fasts, we may fail.

Just as in dietary fasting, if we do not address our behavior the rest of the liturgical year, it is unreasonable to think we can do this suddenly and completely at Lent. If we do not constantly strive to avoid judging others, loving others, avoiding thoughts and words and deeds that do not elevate, but destroy, do we really expect this to occur during Lent? Moreover, once Pascha arrives, do we find the excuse to go right back to our old ways?



## FROM FATHER PETER

We are often unaware how far we off we are spiritually, and we do not know where to begin. By starting gradually, we acquire patience and let ourselves get used to removing the behaviors that separate us from God one by one. Is anger a problem? Maybe that's where your concentration should be. Are you bothered by intrusive or evil thoughts? Work on that. You can't change every aspect of yourselves right away, but by focusing on one piece of yourselves for the duration of Lent, you bring about these changes.

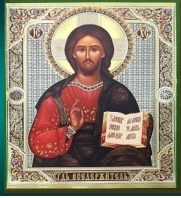
In this way, we are strengthened in body and soul in our preparation to encounter the risen Christ and to restore His image in us and the world.

*"True fasting lies in rejecting evil, holding one's tongue, suppressing one's hatred, and banishing one's lust, evil words, lying, and betrayal of vows."*

*-St. Basil the Great*

Blessed Lent,

+Fr. Peter



## FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

### **A Message from the Parish Council President – March 2026**

Greetings Assumption Family!

As we continue with this Lenten season, I wish you good strength!

With Lent comes the opportunity for us to cast aside those things which have distanced us from God and the Church. If it has been a while since you have attended a church service, this is an excellent time of year to rekindle your relationship with God, the Church, and your Assumption GB Family.

As we are reminded in the Gospel according to St. Luke, Christ's saving grace is available to us all until our last moment of life. While hanging in agony, Jesus promised the thief paradise, showcasing his dying mercy to those who acknowledge him and repent. It is time to prepare for receiving the joy of Pascha and Christ's Holy Resurrection!

On March 1<sup>st</sup> we will celebrate Sunday of Orthodoxy. Please remember to bring your icons to church on Sunday for the procession.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> we will be holding the Super Draw Raffle. If you are able to sell raffle tickets, please be sure to return the tickets and money on or before March 22<sup>nd</sup>, if possible.

The joy and radiant light of Pascha will quickly be here, and it is imperative that we make use of the time available for us during Great Lent to work on our spiritual health. What a joy it will be if each of us begins taking those first steps in love on the narrow path leading back to God. Our collective journey through Great Lent will bring us closer together as a community and as a parish family.

I wish you all a joyful Lent! If I have failed or wronged you, I humbly ask your forgiveness. May the Lord forgive us all!

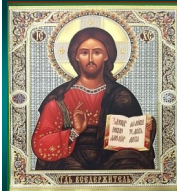
I look forward to seeing you for our Vigil and Holy Resurrection Service at 11:00 PM on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, where we will joyously declare and sing, "Christ is Risen!" "Χριστὸς ἀνέστη" and our Agape Service on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in Christ,

Nancy K. Chinonis



THANK YOU GEORGE NITSOS  
FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE ON PARISH COUNCIL



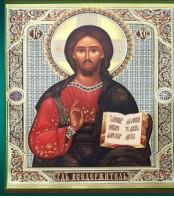
# FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

## ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Income Statement  
 Compared with Budget  
 For the One Month Ending January 31, 2026

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
<b>Revenues</b>						
Stewardship Receipts	\$ 26,516.87	\$ 12,083.33	\$ 14,433.54	\$ 26,516.87	\$ 12,083.33	\$ 14,433.54
Candles Receipts	880.00	666.67	213.33	880.00	666.67	213.33
Candles Expense	0.00	(250.00)	250.00	0.00	(250.00)	250.00
Trays Receipts	534.00	500.00	34.00	534.00	500.00	34.00
Hall Rental	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	83.33	(83.33)
Youth Ministry Income	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	125.00	(125.00)
Youth Ministry Expenses	0.00	(125.00)	125.00	0.00	(125.00)	125.00
Book Store Income	12.00	41.67	(29.67)	12.00	41.67	(29.67)
Book Store Expense	0.00	(41.67)	41.67	0.00	(41.67)	41.67
Donations - General	122.00	1,291.67	(1,169.67)	122.00	1,291.67	(1,169.67)
Memorial Donations	0.00	416.67	(416.67)	0.00	416.67	(416.67)
Pascha Donations	0.00	333.33	(333.33)	0.00	333.33	(333.33)
Icono/Parking/Loft Fund Donations	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Ch Mem Sav Fund Donations	10.00	833.33	(823.33)	10.00	833.33	(823.33)
Planned Giving Donations	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	0.00	833.33	(833.33)
Food Sales Income-Dep To Wall	371.82	0.00	371.82	371.82	0.00	371.82
Food Sales Expense	(40.98)	(416.67)	375.69	(40.98)	(416.67)	375.69
Miscellaneous Receipts	0.00	2,083.33	(2,083.33)	0.00	2,083.33	(2,083.33)
NL Advertising	800.00	125.00	675.00	800.00	125.00	675.00
Cash Raffle Receipts	0.00	4,166.67	(4,166.67)	0.00	4,166.67	(4,166.67)
Cash Raffle License Expense	0.00	(4.17)	4.17	0.00	(4.17)	4.17
Cash Raffle Expenses	0.00	(1,833.33)	1,833.33	0.00	(1,833.33)	1,833.33
Golf Outing Receipts	0.00	4,416.67	(4,416.67)	0.00	4,416.67	(4,416.67)
Golf Outing Expenses	0.00	(2,500.00)	2,500.00	0.00	(2,500.00)	2,500.00
Fish Fry Expenses	(19.98)	0.00	(19.98)	(19.98)	0.00	(19.98)
Other Fund Raiser Receipts	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	0.00	833.33	(833.33)
Other Fund Raiser Costs	0.00	(83.33)	83.33	0.00	(83.33)	83.33
Interest Income	0.00	1.25	(1.25)	0.00	1.25	(1.25)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>29,285.73</b>	<b>23,580.41</b>	<b>5,705.32</b>	<b>29,285.73</b>	<b>23,580.41</b>	<b>5,705.32</b>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>						
Total Cost of Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>29,285.73</b>	<b>23,580.41</b>	<b>5,705.32</b>	<b>29,285.73</b>	<b>23,580.41</b>	<b>5,705.32</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Priest - Salary & Housing	2,083.32	8,333.33	(6,250.01)	2,083.32	8,333.33	(6,250.01)
Priest - Housing Allowance	3,333.34	0.00	3,333.34	3,333.34	0.00	3,333.34
Priest - Auto Allowance	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00

For Management Purposes Only

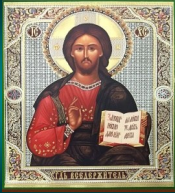


# FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
Income Statement  
Compared with Budget  
For the One Month Ending January 31, 2026

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
Priest - Cell Phone Allowance	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Priest - Insurance Expense	416.66	0.00	416.66	416.66	0.00	416.66
Priest - FICA Allowance	978.54	0.00	978.54	978.54	0.00	978.54
Ofc/Genl - Salaries	1,837.00	1,666.67	170.33	1,837.00	1,666.67	170.33
Ofc/Genl - Payroll Tax	151.55	127.50	24.05	151.55	127.50	24.05
Pension Expense	0.00	797.92	(797.92)	0.00	797.92	(797.92)
Security - Alarm	125.40	166.67	(41.27)	125.40	166.67	(41.27)
Security - Fire Panel	0.00	141.67	(141.67)	0.00	141.67	(141.67)
Dues & Subscriptions	24.70	0.00	24.70	24.70	0.00	24.70
Dues & Subscriptions - Sftware	230.79	175.00	55.79	230.79	175.00	55.79
Parish Total Commitment	29,741.00	2,529.42	27,211.58	29,741.00	2,529.42	27,211.58
Equipment Purchases	50.86	0.00	50.86	50.86	0.00	50.86
Insurance - Building	5,615.00	1,000.00	4,615.00	5,615.00	1,000.00	4,615.00
Insurance - Workman's Comp	0.00	66.67	(66.67)	0.00	66.67	(66.67)
Lawn Care/Snow Removal	1,272.96	625.00	647.96	1,272.96	625.00	647.96
Lawn Care - Weed Control	0.00	62.50	(62.50)	0.00	62.50	(62.50)
Lawn Care - Sprinkler Maint	0.00	12.50	(12.50)	0.00	12.50	(12.50)
Laundry & Uniforms	170.12	125.00	45.12	170.12	125.00	45.12
Postage & Shipping	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	0.00	208.33	(208.33)
Maintenance-Goyette	206.00	208.33	(2.33)	206.00	208.33	(2.33)
Maintenance - VanGuard	0.00	204.17	(204.17)	0.00	204.17	(204.17)
Repairs - General	827.26	0.00	827.26	827.26	0.00	827.26
Maintenance - General	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	0.00	833.33	(833.33)
Repairs & Maint - Parking Lot	0.00	625.00	(625.00)	0.00	625.00	(625.00)
Repairs & Maint - Sidewalks	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	0.00	208.33	(208.33)
Pest Control	50.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00
Trash Removal	203.05	125.00	78.05	203.05	125.00	78.05
Utilities - Comcast	0.00	708.33	(708.33)	0.00	708.33	(708.33)
Utilities - Consumers	1,791.19	1,250.00	541.19	1,791.19	1,250.00	541.19
Utilities - Water & Sewer	303.86	333.33	(29.47)	303.86	333.33	(29.47)
Bank Charges	0.00	4.17	(4.17)	0.00	4.17	(4.17)
Square Fees Expense	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	125.00	(125.00)
Computer Expenses	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	125.00	(125.00)
Continuing Education	0.00	333.33	(333.33)	0.00	333.33	(333.33)
Contributions - Metropolis	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	83.33	(83.33)
Contributions - Other	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	41.67	(41.67)
Honorariums	350.00	125.00	225.00	350.00	125.00	225.00
Flowers & Gifts	94.95	333.33	(238.38)	94.95	333.33	(238.38)
Library, Books, & Journals	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	41.67	(41.67)
Licenses, Fees, & Permits	29.00	41.67	(12.67)	29.00	41.67	(12.67)
Supplies - Office	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	125.00	(125.00)
Supplies - General	(29.98)	50.00	(79.98)	(29.98)	50.00	(79.98)
Supplies - Janitorial	91.72	41.67	50.05	91.72	41.67	50.05

For Management Purposes Only



# FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
 Income Statement  
 Compared with Budget  
 For the One Month Ending January 31, 2026

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
Supplies - Kitchen	166.53	166.67	(0.14)	166.53	166.67	(0.14)
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	41.67	(41.67)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>50,714.82</b>	<b>22,263.18</b>	<b>28,451.64</b>	<b>50,714.82</b>	<b>22,263.18</b>	<b>28,451.64</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (21,429.09)</b>	<b>\$ 1,317.23</b>	<b>\$ (22,746.32)</b>	<b>\$ (21,429.09)</b>	<b>\$ 1,317.23</b>	<b>\$ (22,746.32)</b>

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

Andrew Ferich	Mar 1	Zoe O'Bee	Mar 17
Alexis Kus	Mar 3	Catherine Yeotis	Mar 21
Linda Chinonis	Mar 4	Kenneth Joynt	Mar 26
Zoe Zaravelis	Mar 7	Charlie Paraschos	Mar 26
Emanuel Falaras	Mar 8	Nick Nitsos	Mar 27
Christina Lennox	Mar 9	Luke Yiannatji	Mar 27
Nick Trifon	Mar 10	Andrew Chiatalas	Mar 28
Sandi Chinonis	Mar 13	Leah Kolanowski	Mar 28
Tasia Hountalas	Mar 13	Angela Karakitsos	Mar 29
Diane Foraker	Mar 16	Sean Lennox	Mar 31



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



# STEWARDSHIP 2026

THANK YOU to the following faithful stewards who have submitted their pledge cards for 2026. Please join them in their support of our Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and submit your pledge card today!

2026 Proposed Stewardship Budget: \$145,000

YTD thru 2/15/2026 Stewardship Received: \$43,903

Bistolarrides, Fr. Peter & Pres. Peggy

Allard, Clyde & Georgie

Altheide, Dena

Anagnostopoulos, Anna

Asa, Barbara

Bakris, Nicholas

Birtsas, Sandra

Bistolavidis, Tony & Mary

Bograkos, Tim & Sandy

Bograkos, Vera

Chinonis, Dennis & Debra

Chinonis, Elias

Chinonis, Katie

Chinonis, Linda

Chinonis, Nancy & Jeff Lauster

Chinonis, Richard

Clinton, Michael & Kathy

Costa, John & Laura

Costa, Kyriacos & Vasilias

Dalbo, Helen

Davis-Kirksey, Steve & Linda

Duffy, David & Elaine Joynt

Eisenbeis, Jerry & Tina

Fahoome, Calliope

Falaras, Mary

Ferich, Andrew & Voula

Foraker, Walt & Diane

Garceau, Greg & Sia

Hagler, Gary & Marian

Haralambous, Frank & Vania

Haralambous, Michael & Liliana

Heos, Pamela & Jeffery Brancheau

Holland, Nick & Jennifer

Hountalas, Dimitri & Brittany

Iakovidis, Tony & Vicki

Joseph, Patricia

Joynt, Kenneth

Joynt, Sadie

Kalatzis, Athena

Kallis, Agape

Kallis, Susan

Kaloydis, John & Karen

Kirkpatrick, Kelly

Kokkinakos, Peter & Tula

Komodromos, Tessie

Kondyles, Chryssoula

Kontorousis, Dimitre & Jacqueline

Kossaras, Dean & Joyce

Koutrouvidas, John & Nina

Kus, Michael & Alexis

Lennox, Sean & Christina

Levas, George & Margot

Lillar, Diana

Lowe, Ann

Mandelaris, John & Pauline

Manutes, Nicholas & Maria

Martorelli, Michael

Massoud, Mary

Melonakos, Anthony & Paula

Neofotistos, John & Julie

Nitsos, Emma

Nitsos, Mary Ann

Obmascik, Tom & Katherine

Panos, Spiridoula

Pappadakis, Anthony & Kandis

Pappadakis, Nikki

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Paraschos, Sam & Sandra

Pavlis, John & Patricia

Photiou, Carol

Photiou, Lucas & Lori

Poulos, Steve & Martha

Richards, Ken & Kathy

Roufos, Vasilios & Mary

Schultze, JoAnne

Senter, Clark & Katherine

Steinhoff, Allen & Olga

Steinhoff, Amanda

Stergiopoulos, Mary

Thornton, Jerry & Demi

Thurber, Chuck & Paula

Vergos, Nitsa

Vergos, Peter & Susie

Vitinaros, Nick & Effie

Wright, Jeff & Kay

Yeotis, Art & Susan

Yeotis, Catherine

Yeotis, Hon. Thomas & Meg



PAN-ORTHODOX

# Lenten Retreat

WITH FR. BARNABAS POWELL

*“Be Watchful- Be Sober:  
St. Paul’s Wisdom for Spiritual Maturity”*

## SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

5:00pm Registration & Lenten Meal  
6:00pm 4<sup>th</sup> Salutations to the Theotokos  
7:00pm First Talk with Fr. Barnabass

### SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

8:30am Registration & Lenten Breakfast  
9:30am Second Talk with Fr. Barnabas  
Q & A to follow

HOSTED AT ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
2245 E. BALDWIN RD  
GRAND BLANC, MI 48439



SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER ONLINE  
OR CONTACT THE OFFICE AT  
ST. MARY MAGDALENE  
SMMOCAFENTON@GMAIL.COM  
810-750-1401



# 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

## 2026 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 4 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 6 pm

March 18 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 6 pm

March 20 & 21 **Lenten Retreat with Fr Barnabas Powell** at Assumption

March 25 **Great Feast of the Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption 10 am

April 1 **Presanctified Liturgy** at St. George 6 pm

April 4 **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 9:30 am

### Bright Week (April 12-18)

April 13 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Mary Magdalene 10 am

April 14 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. Nicholas 10 am

April 15 **Paschal Divine Liturgy** at St. George 6 pm

April 17 **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*

# ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

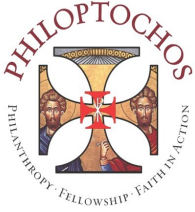
## HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA 2026

APRIL 4	LAZARUS SATURDAY	Preparation of the Gifts and Commemoration of the Raising of Lazarus	Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy at St. Mary Magdalene, Fenton	9:30 AM
APRIL 5	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 6	GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY	Parable of the Ten Virgins	Second Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
APRIL 7	GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY	Anointing of Jesus Christ with Myrrh	Third Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
APRIL 8	GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY	Healing Sacrament of the Church	Service of Holy Unction	6:00 PM
APRIL 9	GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY	The Last Supper: The Institution of the Eucharist	Vespereal Divine Liturgy	9:00 AM
		Passion of Jesus Christ: The Twelve Gospels	Service of the Crucifixion	6:00 PM
APRIL 10	GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY	Standing at the Foot of the Cross of Jesus Christ	Service of the Royal Hours	9:00 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
APRIL 11	GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY	Jesus Christ's Victory Over Death	Pre-Resurrection Vespereal 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
APRIL 12	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA	Proclaiming the Gospel in Multiple Languages	Agape Vespers	11:00 AM

# 2026 PASCHA ITEMS NEEDED

Please note some prices have increased from previous years due to tariffs.

<u>Service/Flower Item</u>	<b>2026 Suggested Donation</b>	<b>Donor</b>
1st Salutation - Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
3rd Sunday of Lent-Veneration of the Cross Daffodils	\$ 175.00	
Annunciation Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
4th Salutation- Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
Akathish Hymn - Theotokos Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
Palms for Palm Sunday	\$ 115.00	
Nymphios Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
Nymphios Icon Flowers	\$ 70.00	
Oil for Holy Unction Service	\$ 20.00	
Cotton Swabs for Holy Unction Service	\$ 10.00	
Pascha Red Eggs (25+1 dozen)	\$ 100.00	
Rose Petals - Holy Friday	\$ 60.00	
Rose Water - Holy Friday	\$ 20.00	
Resurrection Icon Flowers 1st	\$ 70.00	
Resurrection Icon Flowers 2nd	\$ 70.00	
Resurrection Banner	\$ 130.00	
Large Resurrection Candle for Father	\$ 75.00	
Oil for Altar Candles	\$ 55.00	
Cross Wreath for Holy Thursday	\$ 105.00	
Vase set for Palm Sunday	\$ 70.00	
Vase set for Easter Sunday	\$ 70.00	
Palm Sunday Icon	\$ 70.00	
Large Icon screen Left	\$ 375.00	
Large Icon screen Right	\$ 375.00	
Bay Leaves	\$ 260.00	
Lillies (6 total) \$35 each	\$ 315.00	
Gardenias (12 total)	\$ 345.00	
Life Giving Font Icon Flower	\$ 70.00	



# Philoptochos Society - Friends of the Poor!

Dear Sisters

The sun is shining and the snow is melting - it's a great day. I hope we can count on more days like this. First and foremost I would like to thank the following people for the outstanding luncheon prepared for our Valentine's fundraiser: Andy Brown, John Hountalas, Sammy McLean, Christian McLean, & JoAnne Schultze. Also to Dena Altheide & Katherine Senter for the Valentine cookies and cakes and Cathy Yeotis for the punch. And last, to our handsome waiters - Walt Foraker, Nick Kallis, Adonis Massoud, Lou Photiou and Nick Trifon. You did a great job. Finally a big THANK YOU to the anonymous donor covering the luncheon expenses.

At our February Philoptochos meeting, it was discussed about the upcoming Pan Orthodox Lenten retreat being held at our church on Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21. We will be hosting the Friday night potluck, so we are asking all of our parishioners if they would kindly prepare a lenten dish for the meal prior to the Salutations to the Theotokos. We will be joined by the other Orthodox churches in our area. So many of you have contributed in the past and we are truly grateful. There will be sign up sheets of what you are willing to provide to avoid multiple items of the same thing.

Another item that was discussed was our membership. Philoptochos is a wonderful organization to belong to. Its main purpose is to help those in need. There are National Obligations and Metropolis obligations that we are committed to in addition to donating to various charities in Genesee County primarily. For our current members what can we do to make our meetings more appealing to attend. Different meeting date or time. More activities. Give us your opinion.

We will start collecting for Operation Classroom. Look for the bins in the hall and the items needed will be posted shortly. The children were ecstatic with their new backpacks.

Pre-orders for Easter tsoureki are being requested. Please fill out and return the form that is included in the monthly newsletter by March 29.

Donations for flowers for the Kovouklion will begin on Sunday, March 1. We have been advised that the cost of flowers has increased by 15% due to the tariffs.

Olga Steinhoff, Philoptochos President



On Sunday, February 8, 2026  
Our ladies of Philoptochos participated in the  
National Wear Red for Heart Disease

**Assumption Ladies Philoptochos Society**  
**Annual Pascha Tsoureki Sale**



**\$ 10.00 Each**



**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS:**  
**March 29, 2026**

**Annual Pascha Tsoureki Sale**

**DEADLINE: March 29, 2026**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ALTERNATE PHONE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL # BREADS ORDERED** \_\_\_\_\_ **@\$ 10.00 Each**

**Total Owed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

**Send Checks To:**

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

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY  
2026 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!



You Are Invited To

**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE  
IRIS CHAPTER 242  
SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON**

**11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM**

**THURSDAY MAY 14, 2026**

**\$15.00 per plate**

Enjoy an assortment of individual, specialty salads.

Try one, try them all! Plate includes a cheese triangle (Tiropita), delectable appetizers & a beverage (coffee, hot tea, or water).

There will also be a Bake Sale of scrumptious Greek pasteries!

RSVP at (810)-771-4611

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



# \$20

## per ticket

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$3,000**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$1,500**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$500**

### SUPER DRAW 2026

## Live Drawing On

**Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 11:30 AM**

**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church**

**2245 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 484.39**

**Call the church office at  
810-771-4611  
to get more tickets!**



**Need not be present to win.**

**License#: R84091 If 500 tickets are not sold, raffle will convert to a 50/50 drawing.**



## Florence G. Stefanou Memorial Philoptochos Scholarship

The funding for this scholarship is provided by the generosity of the Stefanou family. Mrs. Florence Stefanou, past Metropolis Philoptochos President, was a devoted Philoptochos sister in her local chapter, the Metropolis Board and the National Philoptochos Board. She served with dignity and grace.

This scholarship is to provide financial assistance to qualifying high school seniors entering or undergraduate college students (Freshman, Sophomore or Junior) attending an accredited college, university, or trade school. The scholarship will be awarded to one student in the amount of \$1,000. All information herein is strictly confidential, and the identity will not be disclosed to the selection committee.

### INSTRUCTIONAL & APPLICATION INFORMATION

Dear Applicant:

Please read through the entire set of instructions and application form before completing.

Answer each question to the best of your knowledge. Applicants (male or female) must be a member of the Greek Orthodox Church and related to a Philoptochos member. Ignoring instructions may disqualify your application.

1. Complete the entire application. Available on the Metropolis website, [www.detroit.goarch.org](http://www.detroit.goarch.org).
2. Include a letter of recommendation from a non-relative who will write of your character, ideals and values. It may be a priest, teacher or anyone who knows you very well and can address these aspects of your character. It is recommended that you limit the letter to a page in length.
3. Statement of Orthodoxy indicating that the applicant is a practicing Orthodox Christian and a US Resident.
4. Statement of Stewardship from the parish priest certifying that the applicant or the applicant's family are Stewards in good standing in a Metropolis of Detroit- area parish.
5. Include all supporting documents required of the application.

# Guarding the Mind

*From Inner Watchfulness to Living as Light*

## — CHURCH RETREAT —

Saturday, March 28, 2026

**St. George Orthodox Church**

5191 Lennon Rd, Flint, MI 48507

*Pastor: Fr. Amin Houli*

*Speaker: Fr Paul Matar*

### — Session I —

Shining as Light Bearers  
in Today's Society

⌚ 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Lunch 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

### — Session II —

Guarding the Mind:  
The Battle of Thoughts

⌚ 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

🔔 4:00 PM

# Metropolis of Detroit Summer Camp

2026 Season

FOR THOSE ENTERING  
GRADE 12 OR ENTERING  
COLLEGE

WEEK ZERO: June 21 - June 27

FOR YOUTH ENTERING  
GRADES 3-11

WEEK 1: JUNE 28 - JULY 4

WEEK 2: JULY 5 - JULY 11

WEEK 3: JULY 12 - JULY 18

WEEK 4: JULY 19 - JULY 25

WEEK 5: JULY 26 - AUGUST 1

Register now at

[GOMDSC.ORG](http://GOMDSC.ORG)



## PROCEDURE FOR RECEIPTS

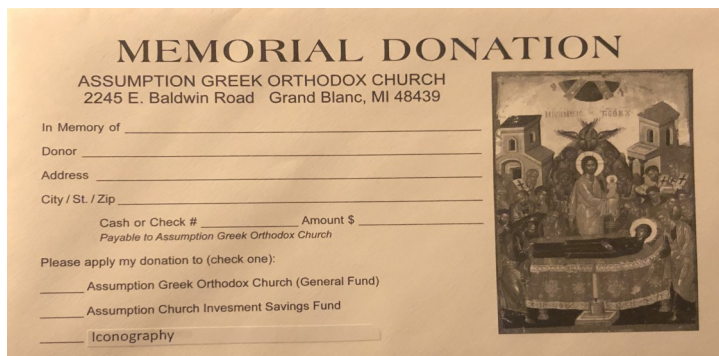
Due to the rising cost of mailing receipts for every donation received by the church, the Parish Council has established the following procedure for receipts:

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 that, 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.

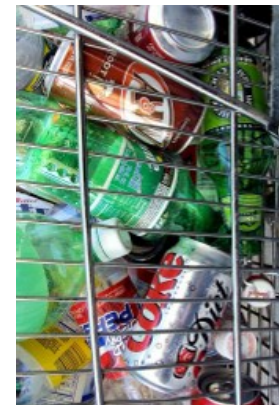
Make all checks payable to "Assumption GOC" with a memo of "Parking Lot"

---

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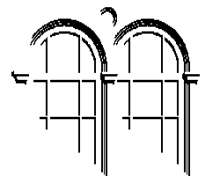
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Orthros: 8:50 am  
Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am

Weekdays and Feast Days:  
See Calendar

**Priest: Rev. Protopresbyter 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

**2026 Parish Council**

Nancy Chinonis - President  
Dena Altheide- Vice President  
Joyce Kossaras - Secretary  
David Duffy - Treasurer

Debra Chinonis  
Diane Foraker  
Elaine Joynt-Duffy  
Susan Kallis  
Kandis Pappadakis  
Lucas Photiou  
Olga Steinhoff - Ex-Officio  
Nick Trifon

**ORGANIZATIONS**

ACOLYTES: JOHN KALOYDIS & NICK KALLIS  
CHOIR: NANCY CHINONIS  
CHANTERS: ATHENA KALATZIS  
PHILOPTOCHOS: OLGA STEINHOFF  
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.  
Please include or email artwork.

**Please send artwork by email to: [agocsec@gmail.com](mailto:agocsec@gmail.com)**



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Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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