



Assumption
Greek Orthodox Church
of Madison
Newsletter
March 2020

Parish Council Update

Officers: Jim Katsihtis, President; Maria Molzahn, Vice President; Bruce Hansen, Secretary; Niko Papadopoulos, Treasurer; Scott Storck, Assistant Treasurer

Members: John Bayouth, Christy Chappell-Belkin, Conn Choles, Maria Schirmer-Devitt, Dori Hosek, Carol Griskavich, Mike Smith

Welcome Fr. Christodoulos!

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Very Reverend Archimandrite Christodoulos Margellos has been assigned to our parish as presiding priest effective March 8th.

Fr. Christodoulos is a Minnesota native who has faithfully served several parishes within the Holy Metropolis of Chicago for the past fourteen years. He most recently served St. Nicholas in Oak Lawn, IL. Prior to that he served the parishes of St. George in Rock Island, IL and Sts. Constantine & Helen in Merrville, IN.

We give thanks to God and to His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael for this timely assignment. We are amazed by God's providence in sending us someone whose name ("servant of Christ") reminds us of our identity and calling, and who begins with us on the Sunday of Orthodoxy to help us proclaim and live our Orthodox Christian faith.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Fr. Christodoulos and in continuing to pray for him and for the transition.

May our Lord grant Fr. Christodoulos many years in His service!

Servant Leadership Awards

His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael has inaugurated an annual awards ceremony to honor community members with the Servant Leadership Bronze Cross Award. Highlighting the service and achievements of people in our community, this first of its kind award, seeks to honor those who see problems and arrive at solutions.

The Parish Council is proud to recognize and honor the work and many years of dedication of George and Nia Choles. Throughout the history of our community, this husband and wife team has worked side-by-side to uphold and represent our Orthodox Christian faith and help grow our parish.

Whether singing in the choir for 72 years or working with Philoptochos, Nia puts the needs of her community first. As past Parish Council president, George helped steward us from a small parish founded by his father to the welcoming beacon of Orthodoxy in Madison that we are today. Most importantly, George and Nia serve as greeters to the community. Whenever a visitor arrives, they reach out with genuine agape and interest. What an inspiration they are to all of us.

Congratulations George and Nia! May our Lord continue to bless you and grant you many more years in His service.

March Services and Calendar

A calendar of services for the month of March will be worked on with Fr. Christodoulos and sent out as soon as possible after his arrival.

Memorial Service for Fr. Michael

The 40 Day Memorial Service for Fr. Michael will be on Sunday, March 1st.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Lena Giakoumopoulos, President, lenagiak@gmail.com, 608-556-8186

Vice President: Maria Molzahn, Secretary: Sue Soloninka, Treasurer: Maria Heide, Asst. Treasurer: Jenny Glatch, Corresponding Secretary: Nancy Briamis, Asst Corresponding Secretary: Kathie Fafalios

This month we will be renewing our memberships and welcoming new members. If you are interested in joining us, please contact anyone of the officers or pick up a membership form in the church hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Mid-Winter Lenten Luncheon

The luncheon will be at the NILE Restaurant, 6119 Odana Rd, Madison, WI 53719,

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Greek Independence Meal

Volunteers are needed Contact Jane Schirmer or Angela Kyriakopoulos if you

OTHER:

2020 Membership

Pick up a membership form in the church hall, please complete the form below and submit to Maria Heide either by mail or in-person by **April 1, 2020**.

METROPOLIS:

2020 Philoptochos Society Metropolis North Side

Lenten Quilt-a-thon Blankets for Babies – March 28

River Food Pantry

Nancy Briamis, nbriamis@gmail.com

We are in the middle of our annual food drive for The River Food Pantry and I've noticed that the food barrel, sitting to the left just inside the main entrance, is pretty empty. Please help me fill the barrel and support this worthy cause. I can also pass on cash or a check to the pantry to support the children's MUNCH lunch program. Thank you.

See their website - info@riverfoodpantry.org.

Grace Episcopal Homeless Shelter __

David Giffey, barnowl1941@gmail.com

Next year, 2020, Assumption volunteers are scheduled to prepare a meal and work at the shelter on four dates: March 31, June 30, September 29, and December 29.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Seham Akkawi, Co-Director, sususaba@yahoo.com, Peli Galiti, Co-Director, pegaliti@gmail.com, Fr. Christodoulos, Spiritual Advisor

Stay tuned.

GREEK SCHOOL

Elektra Kolokouri, ilektra.kol@gmail.com

Greek lessons have resumed and the children will help celebrate Greek Independence Day on March 29th at the luncheon hosted by Philoptochos. Everyone is invited!

If people need info about Greek school they can contact me at ilektra.kol@gmail.com or talk to me at church.

SPIRITUAL MEETINGS

Peli Galiti, pegaliti@gmail.com

The women's spiritual group will meet on Thursday March 12 and Thursday March 26, at 7:00 pm.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Lainey Skoumbouris, laney0220@yahoo.com

The church website is set-up for private login to access the monthly newsletters and are meant for Church members only, not the public. Church members can read the newsletter on the website, but you must create an account before you can view it. Log onto the website and click on "Newsletter" on the side-bar <http://www.agocwi.org/registration-required/>, or "login" on the main menu <http://www.agocwi.org/login/>; it will direct you to sign up. If you need help, have questions or something isn't working in the registration contact Lainey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAFETY COMMITTEE Updates

Working under the auspices of the Metropolis, the AGOC Safety Committee, completed the Youth Training Modules. In an effort to support all families and promote the love of Jesus and our church traditions, the Archdiocese of America instituted a safety protocol program. This program requires that ALL people working with anyone under the age of 18 receive training and submit to a background check. Critical take-aways of the program, we CAN NEVER be in a situation where the ratio is one-to-one (1 adult/1 minor). This means, if a Sunday School or Greek School has only one student, they must either cancel class or combine with another class.

Along with the Youth Safety Component we are also continuing to monitor and improve our church safety protocols for the community. The main entry to the church will remain closed until ushers arrive. Even then, the usher will be monitoring the door and locking the doors if needed. When we have evening activities, we should monitor the door and let people in as they arrive. Remember, while we want to welcome everyone we also want to ensure that people entering our home recognize that it is a place of worship.

Questions, please see Maria Molzahn.

J and M Home Helpers

AGOC's handymen, John and Mike, will do minor home repairs and maintenance for \$25/hour, with the money for their work being donated to the church.



Call Mike at (608) 516-9188 and John at (608) 575-1014 today!

SACRAMENTS DURING FEBRUARY 2020

Weddings: 0 Christmations: 0 Baptisms: 0 Funerals: 0

SIP, SAVOR & SUPPORT

local families facing food insecurity.

Join us for [Feed the Need](#), a culinary tasting event to benefit The River—Dane County's busiest food pantry. Sample a variety of local flavors, enjoy live music, and get a chance to win big in auctions, all while supporting an important cause.

With your support, The River will continue to provide food, resources and faith to build a stronger Dane County.

Registration includes all food & drink samples!

\$50/person

Sunday, March 29

1:00–4:00 pm

Madison College
Truax Campus
3550 Anderson
Street

[Register Now](#)

Registration will not be available at the door. Sign up in advance!



With generous support from:

Findorff
BUILDERS SINCE 1890

Dave & Terri
Beck-Engel

willy street co-op

Proceeds benefit:

**THE RIVER
FOOD PANTRY**

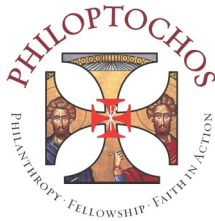
riverfoodpantry.org/feedtheneed

**Ladies' Philoptochos Society Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
2020 Membership Drive**

We invite you to join us and share in our philanthropic mission. Through your stewardships and our various fundraisers, we are able to donate to many worthy causes helping people in need locally, nationally, and internationally. Locally we donate our resources and “women power” to several organizations on a regular basis, and also to special hardship situations as needs are presented to us. Nationally and internationally we support the philanthropic programs of our Metropolis Philoptochos and our National Philoptochos.

We hope that you will join us as a member and also as a volunteer. Whether you attend regular meetings, volunteer to help with our activities, or would like to support our work with your stewardship, you will be a **valued** Philoptochos member. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please complete the form below and submit to **Maria Heide either by mail or in-person by April 1, 2020**. We also ask that you include your 2020 stewardship payment. Checks should be made payable to “*Philoptochos*” and please write *membership* in the memo section. Thank you!



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I am interested in helping with the following project(s) and please include me!

Vasilopita Dinner (January)		Baklava Plus Sale (Sept. – Nov.)	
Mid - Winter Luncheon (February)		Maintaining the Church Hall/Kitchen	
Greek Independence Day Dinner		Cooking for Grace Episcopal Homeless Shelter	
Koulourakia baking (Holy Week)		Baptism, Wedding Assistance to priest	
Greek Fest Bake Sale (July)		Baking Breads for Special Dinners	
Reception for Assumption Feast Aug 14		Coffee Hour Host	
Bucket Brigade (church cleaning)		Prosforon (Holy Bread) baking	

My Stewardship payment of \$_____ is enclosed (check #_____ or cash).

Please note: \$15.00 goes to National Philoptochos, \$5.00 to the Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos, and \$2.00 to the Bishop's Fund. **We ask for a minimum pledge of \$22.00.** Dues paid above the amount will be used for our philanthropic activities and other chapter obligations.

Please return to **Maria Heide (5751 Ballina Pkwy, Fitchburg, WI 53711)** or drop it in the Philoptochos mailbox at Church.

Thank you for your generous time and support!

*Metropolis – North Side
Annual Lenten Quilt-a-Thon
Philoptochos Chapter Donation
Form*



Dear Philoptochos Members and Friends,

Our Annual Lenten Philoptochos North Side Quilt-a-Thon is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th between 10am-2:00pm (with light Lenten lunch served) at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Glenview.

Project ♥ Linus



This year's blankets will be donated to the Linus Project

How can your Philoptochos Chapter help?

1. Provide the attached form to any individuals who would like to donate and or/sign up
2. Organize a group of volunteers that will assist in crafting/sewing on the day of the Quilt-a-Thon. (No sewing experience is required). Although, we will need a few sewers and sewing machines.
3. Make a donation to help cover the cost of supplies and the luncheon.

*We thank you in advance for your consideration and hope to see you on **Saturday, March 28th at SS. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview (Fellowship Hall)***

Please donate to this wonderful and worthwhile community effort.

Last year we were able to donate over 250 blankets!

(All donations will go toward supplies for blanket making.

Each blanket costs @ \$15)

Make checks payable to: SS. Peter and Paul Philoptochos

Name of Philoptochos Chapter:

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Donation amount \$ _____ Any questions? Call 773-744-7986 or email pbazianos@yahoo.com