

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: Don't forget your church when it comes to paying your monthly bills! Remember, you are the church. All it is and all it becomes depend on you. As of today you should be at least halfway to the three quarters paid on your pledge.. If you have not made a pledge what are you waiting for? Submit your pledge form and payment today! Forms are available in the church office.

ALTAR BOYS NEEDED: Dear Parents. If you have children from the ages of 7 years and up please give us their names and give us their contact information so we can create an altar boy list. Fr. Christodoulos would like the altar boys to be in to serve between 9:30– 10:00 am. Please sign your children up today.

NEW SENIORS GROUP COMING IN THE FALL: We are launching a new Senior Ministry in the Fall. This will be an opportunity for our seniors to get out for a day of fun and fellowship every month. More information and group name will be coming soon. This ministry will begin in October.

EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL NEEDED FOR THE ALTAR: We are in need of Extra Virgin Olive Oil for the vigil lamps on the altar and iconostasi. If you would like to donate some please bring it to the church and give it to either Fr. Christodoulos or one of the Ushers during services.

CHOIR NEWS: Even though the choir is done for the summer. They are always looking to find ways to improve and grow. The choir at Assumption is looking for new members to help increase our choir, in order to continue participating in services including Lenten and Holy Week. Those with or without musical knowledge, students in choirs, and those with voices in all vocal ranges are especially needed.

Rehearsals are from September to June on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday morning for those who cannot attend weekday practice. All practices take place downstairs in the choir room; all hymns include phonetics and are written in western notation. Please contact any choir member with your intent to join or just join us before or after liturgy. For more information you can also contact our Choir Director George Tzougros gtzougros@gmail.com: We look forward to welcoming all new members.

COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT: While we pray and work for the reconciliation and unity of all the world's Christians, the reality remains that there is still no intercommunion between our Orthodox Churches and the Churches of the West. This means that only baptized, chrismated and observant Orthodox faithful receive Communion in our churches. At the same time, we warmly welcome all non-Orthodox to join us in prayer and celebration, and humbly offer to all present the Antidoro bread of fellowship at the end of the service. We offer this important symbol 'instead of the Gifts', in the words of the Apostle Paul, 'Till we all come to the unity of the Faith' (Eph. 4.13).

YOUR COOPERATION IS NEEDED: We remind our faithful that the Divine Liturgy begins at 9:45 a.m. Sharp! On Sunday. **Please be prompt and on time!** Please turn off cell phones before entering church. No conversation should take place during worship. During the reading of the Gospel people in the narthex should not be purchasing or lighting candles but standing reverently and listen to the reading. If possible avoid using center aisle during high points of Divine Liturgy. Lipstick and lip-gloss should be removed before kissing icons, receiving Holy Communion and kissing the hand of the priest. When receiving antidoron, please use both hands and do not allow the crumbs to fall to the floor.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



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Sunday, September 18th, 2022

Sunday after Holy Cross

Saint Eumenius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Gortynia

Saint Ariadne the Martyr

Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 2: 16-20

Gospel: Mark 8: 34-38; 9th 1

Sunday School/Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Tuesday, September 20th, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 21st, 2022

1:00 p.m.

Adult Religious Education Class

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, September 22nd, 2022

6:30 p.m.

Adult Religious Education Class Via Zoom

Friday, September 23rd, 2022

Conception of Saint John the Baptist

8:30 a.m.

Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy with Procession of the Holy Cross

Fr. Christodoulou's Office hours are: Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

HELP NEEDED FOR CLEANING CHURCH WEEKLY: We are looking for a few people who would be willing to help Jenny with cleaning the church weekly. This is only for sanctuary. The hall and foyer are cleaned by a company. Jenny is willing to clean any day help is available. So if interested please see Fr. Christodoulos or contact Jenny at 608-434-8594.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & CONSTANTINOPLE: I have been blessed to lead a few trips to the Holy Land as a priest and I plan to lead another one for our parish here at Assumption. We are currently planning on departing in November of 2023. The Itinerary is being finalized and we this trip will be all inclusive. The cost will include Airfare, hotel, breakfast, dinner and transportation. In the past this has run around \$3,200 and we will get a final price point when we get closer to November of this year. Consider joining us for this once in a lifetime opportunity to see where Jesus walked, lived, dies & resurrected. We normally meet with both the Patriarchs of Jerusalem and Constantinople. We will give more information soon.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS: A.R.E. classes will begin again for the fall. We will be continuing the Book of Acts. We will have in person classes on Wednesday's beginning September 21st at 11:00 a.m. here at the church. We will also have a virtual zoom class on Thursday's beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the 22nd of September. The classes are the same and interchangeable. We look forward to continuing our journey together.

Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ Υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Εἴ τις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἔλθειν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἁράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἔαν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν ἐπαισχυνηθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνηθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἂμην λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION: We are starting up registrations for Sunday school, and we are excited to see your children again this school year and to continue their growth of learning about Christ and the faith! Use the following link to sign up: <https://forms.gle/cQoBWsfwes2LesMZA>
1. Kindergarten to 8th grade students in Sunday school classes
2. High-school students who would like to help out in the classrooms for younger students
3. Boys 8-18 years old who would like to help in the altar.
We are also looking for Sunday school teachers to help out to teach for the school year, if you are interested please contact me or Father.

Resurrection Apolitikion

Ἦχος πλ α

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ἠὺδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Plagal of the First

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginning less God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Hymn for the Holy Cross

Ἦχος α

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

First Mode

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the faith. And protect your people, by the power of your cross.

Hymn for the Dormition of the Theotokos

Ἦχος α

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, Μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρομένη, ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

First Mode

You gave birth yet preserved your virginity. You fell asleep in death yet did not desert the world, O Theotokos. You were transported to life, as you are Mother of Life and, by virtue of your intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion

Ἦχος δ

Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ ἐκουσίως, τῇ ἐπώνυμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· εὐφρανον ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου τοὺς πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων· τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τὴν σὴν, ὅπλον εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

Fourth Mode

Thou Who was raised up on the Cross of Thine own will, O Christ our God, do Thou bestow Thy com passions upon this, Thy new commonwealth named after Thee. Gladden with Thy sovereign might our most Orthodox hierarchs, and vouchsafe them victory over every false teaching; and as Thy help in war may they possess the weapon of peace, the trophy invincible.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεῦσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι ἐξ ἔργων νόμου οὐ δικαιωθήσεται πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ γένοιτο! Εἰ γάρ, ἂ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἐμαυτὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον ἵνα Θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῇ δὲ ἐν ἐμοί

TODAY'S GOSPEL LESSON: Tells us how to prepare for heaven. Jesus said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." If we are to save our eternal soul, the secret is to deny oneself, to say no to sin. When asked the secret of her marvelous success with the violin, a young concert artist replied, "Planned neglect. I deliberately neglect other things in order to concentrate on the one task that is all important." What makes a great author? Planned neglect. What makes a great athlete? Planned neglect. What makes a dedicated Christian? Planned neglect of the less important things in life in order to concentrate on the all important call of Jesus: "Follow me."

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?: is a question many Orthodox faithful do not know how to answer. Some offer ethical responses, others express sentiments of great sincerity and depth, yet a clear concise answer is never given. Oddly enough, neither young nor old think simply quoting the Creed, which we repeat or hear the words "I believe..." at each Liturgy. The Nicene Creed is the symbol of Faith for an Orthodox Christian. Yet many cannot tell in plain language what it is they declare to believe! The fact that the "Good News", the Gospel, proclaim by Jesus and His Apostles was primarily that "The Kingdom of God is at hand" (Mk 1:15). Man's whole aim is to prepare for this great event. That God became incarnate to show us how to live in preparation of this day does not seem to occur to very many. That Jesus died for our sins to free us from its bondage so that we could face death and judgment day, is seldom a pertinent part of our faith. Few see in the Resurrection a personal message and implication that Christ' power over death is a firm promise made to each and everyone of us. Christ must be the cornerstone of our lives, or our faith is vain. We must not fear to say: "Lord I believe, help my unbelief." (Mk 9:24). Our thoughts, our life, must be centered on the Risen Christ. This is our belief. With this faith then we too can cry, "My Lord and my God." (Jn 20:28).

JESUS TURNS LOSERS INTO WINNERS: The road to success is filled with people who fail. There are people who know that failure is always a possibility in any endeavor. They don't like failure; they abhor it, but at the same time they are not afraid of it. It is the price to pay for trying. But these people are not permanent failures, because they pick themselves up with God's help and try again every time they fail. They know that as long as they get up one time more than they fall they will not have failed.

Nobody specializes in reversing failures like Jesus. He took Peter who had denied Him three times and made him the chief apostle. To the thief on the cross, a real loser, He said, "Today you will be with Me in paradise." He told the story of the prodigal son, another loser, who "came to himself" and through repentance made it back to his father's mansion. He took a person who was perhaps the world's greatest sinner, Augustine, and made him a great bishop and saint. Jesus has always specialized in turning losers into winners. He does so to this day. He can do it for you.

Jesus asks a significant question in today's Gospel lesson: "Does a person gain anything if he wins the whole world and loses his soul?" Of course not! What can a person give in exchange for his soul? You can win the whole world, but if you lose your soul in the process, you lose everything.

If for you, winning is everything, then come to Jesus. Lose yourself in love and service to Him, and you will win life's greatest prize: life eternal.



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Details

Please join us for this wonderful trip to help bring the Gospels to life in front of our very eyes.

Have the opportunity to see the places where the most important aspects of Christ's life took place.

Take advantage of the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of our Lord. Then join us in the City of Constantinople to the Be there to enjoy a once in a lifetime opportunity to reinvigorate our faith.

What we will be seeing:

- Visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher where Jesus Christ was crucified, buried, and resurrected in Glory!
- Visit Bethlehem and see the spot where Christ was welcomed into the world at the beautiful Church of the Nativity!
- See the shepherds Field where the angels appeared to the shepherds to announce the birth of Christ!
- Experience the sea of Galilee and the surrounding region where Christ called the apostles and spent much of His ministry!
- See the spot where the Archangel Gabriel appeared to the Virgin Mary to announce the birth of the Savior!
- Experience Church of Agia Sophia, the Grand Bazaar, the Church of Agia Irene, the Church of Chora and the Patriarchate of Constantinople!

Final cost to be determined.

Breakfast and dinner included

All that's missing is you!



November 6 - November 17

2023

PARISH OUTING TO TREINEN FARM



Come Join us at Assumption for a parish youth night out at Treinen Farms & Pumpkin Patch for an evening of fun Fall Activities for adults & Children of all ages. Treinen Farm is home of one of the 10 ten Corn Mazes in the country. Here is a list of just some of the activities that families can do while visiting.

Schrödinger's Cat and Other Thought Experiments 15 acre Corn Maze, Children's Maze and Farm Funnies Game, String Theory Maze, Barnyard Animals, Molehill Mountain Adventure Slides and Cave, Natural Play Area, Haymow Hayfort and Spider Webs, Walking and hiking areas, Enchanted Woods, Little Farmer Area, Silo-phone, Silo Climbing Wall, Ice Age Boulders Climber, Picnic areas, Tractor Tire Playground, Gaga Ball, Duck Races, Pumpkin Day Care, Visit our three pumpkin patches and even pick out a pumpkin to bring home.

We will Meet at the Farm at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 23rd, 2022

We will also try and reserve a bonfire pit for our group where we can make hotdogs, s'mores and hot Chocolate.

Cost for this event is \$16.00 and includes all you can eat hot dogs and s'mores. Children under 2 are free.

Treinen Farm is located in Lodi about a 30 min drive from the church.



Please RSVP with Fr. Christodoulos by Thursday, October 20th if you are interested in attending.