

the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

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. The dates and price have now been finalized. We will depart on Wednesday, November 8th in the evening. We will be returning on Sunday, November 19th. The total cost of the Trip will be \$4,363 and will include airfare, hotel, breakfast, dinner and all transportation. As of now all 33 spots have been filled, but do not let that deter you. We are in the process of securing some more seats. So if you are still interested see Fr. Christodoulos or sign up with the link below to be added to our waiting list. Consider joining us for this once in a lifetime opportunity to see where Jesus walked, lived, died & resurrected. We normally meet with both the Patriarchs of Jerusalem and Constantinople. We will have a meeting soon and will send out info as soon as we have it. God Bless.

<https://www.amitravel.com/groups/group/?id=62a946b21059860004c7bd71>

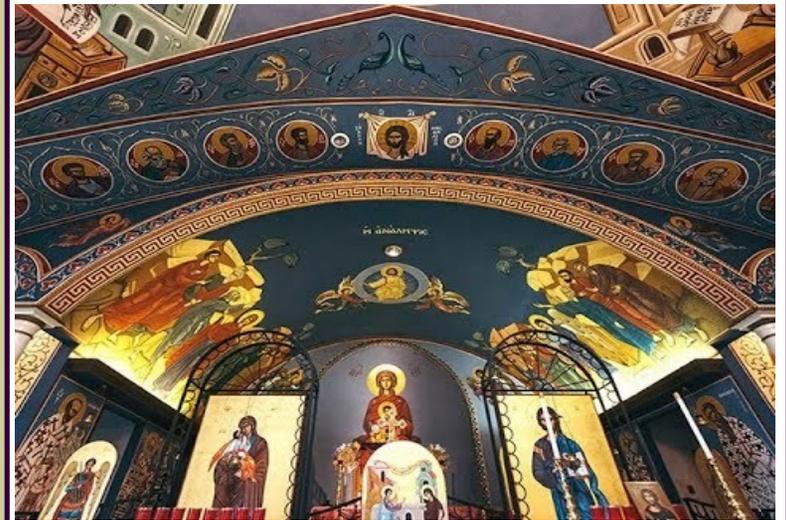
ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS: A.R.E. classes are now concluded until the Fall. We will pick up again then with the book, "Words of the Heart" We will see everyone this Fall.

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.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: Before making any firm plans for baptisms, weddings, funerals, or memorial services, please check with Fr. Christodoulos to see if dates and tomes are permissible. Also, please refrain from scheduling a baby, bridal shower or any other type of party celebration during a fasting period

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).

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



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Sunday, May 28th, 2023
Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
Hieromartyr Eutychios, Bishop of Melitene
Saint Nikitas, Bishop of Chalcedon

Readings:

Epistle: Acts 20: 16-18, 28-36

Gospel: John 17: 1-13

Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Wednesday, May 31st, 2023

Strict Fast Day

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Saturday, June 3rd, 2023

Saturday of Souls

8:30 a.m.

Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy with Memorial Service

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

GREEK FEST 2023: AGOC Parish Council is delighted to announce that Greek Fest will return in 2023 and will be held Saturday, September 9th and Sunday, September 10th. Greek Fest has been a staple of our community for over half a century and in the past decades has been an event people in the city of Madison and surrounding areas look forward to. In addition to the fundraising component it is also a unique opportunity to highlight Greek culture and Pan Orthodox traditions which have created the diverse and dynamic fabric of our Church. Work has begun with early stages of planning and logistics. The applications for all required permits are being prepared for submission to the city for approval.

The success of past festivals lies entirely with the dedication and hard work from everyone who has volunteered their time and energy over the years. Peter Georgalan is this year's chairman and coordinator and is looking forward to working with everyone to ensure another successful Greek Fest. Peter will be leading the first Greek Fest 2023 meeting in the church hall after services on Sunday, June 4th and all are welcome. Peter can be reached at 312-779-6011 or at AGOCMadisonGreeFest2023@gmail.com if anyone has any questions or suggestions or if any past committee leaders would like to return in the same capacity or a new one.

SATURDAY OF THE SOULS: In keeping with the tradition of the Orthodox Church, the Saturday prior to Pentecost is a Psyhosavato – Saturday of the Souls. Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy will be celebrated beginning at 8:30 am this Saturday, June 3rd, with a Memorial service following. Names of the departed to be commemorated should be written out clearly in Greek or English and submitted to the Altar prior to the start of the Liturgy. Kolyva, prosforon, olive oil, sacramental wine also be submitted to the Altar on this day. **Please remember only names of Orthodox Christians may be submitted to be read. Also baptismal names only.**

spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐπάρας ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, εἶπε· Πάτερ, ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα· δόξασόν σου τὸν υἱόν, ἵνα καὶ ὁ υἱὸς σου δοξάσῃ σέ, καθὼς ἔδωκας αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πάσης σαρκός, ἵνα πᾶν ὁ δέδωκας αὐτῷ δώσει αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. αὕτη δὲ ἐστὶν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωὴ, ἵνα γινώσκωσιν σὲ τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ ὃν ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. ἐγὼ σε ἐδόξασα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὸ ἔργον ἐτελειώσα ὃ δέδωκάς μοι ἵνα ποιήσω· καὶ νῦν δόξασόν με σύ, πάτερ, παρὰ σεαυτῷ τῇ δόξῃ ἣ εἶχον πρὸ τοῦ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι παρὰ σοί. Ἐφανερώσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου. σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασιν. νῦν ἔγνωκαν ὅτι πάντα ὅσα δέδωκάς μοι παρὰ σοῦ εἰσιν· ὅτι τὰ ῥήματα ἃ ἔδωκάς μοι δέδωκα αὐτοῖς, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλαβον καὶ ἔγνωσαν ἀληθῶς ὅτι παρὰ σοῦ ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν ὅτι σύ με ἀπέστειλας. ἐγὼ περὶ αὐτῶν ἔρωτῶ· οὐ περὶ τοῦ κόσμου ἔρωτῶ ἀλλὰ περὶ ὧν δέδωκάς μοι, ὅτι σοὶ εἰσι, καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα σά ἐστιν καὶ τὰ σὰ ἐμὰ, καὶ δεδόξασμαι ἐν αὐτοῖς. καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰσὶ, καὶ ἐγὼ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι. Πάτερ ἅγιε, τήρησον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου οὓς δέδωκάς μοι, ἵνα ὡσιν ἐν καθὼς ἡμεῖς. ὅτε ἤμην μετ' αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐγὼ ἐτήρουν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐφύλαξας, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπόλετο εἰ μὴ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῇ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι, καὶ ταῦτα λαλῶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἵνα ἔχωσιν τὴν χαρὰν τὴν ἐμὴν πεπληρωμένην ἐν αὐτοῖς.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made. I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for

Resurrection Apolitikion

Ἦχος πλ β

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνημῆμά σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρόθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἀχραντὸν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Mode Plagal of the Second

When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and was not tried there by Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou Who art risen from the dead, Lord glory be to Thee.

Hymn for the Ascension of our Lord

Ἦχος δ

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος, βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ Λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Fourth Mode

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Hymn for the Holy Fathers

Ἦχος πλ. Δ

Ἐπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστῆρας ἐπὶ γῆς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν πίστιν, πάντα ἡμᾶς ὀδηγήσας· πολυεύσπλαγχε, δόξα σοι.

Mode Plagal of the Fourth

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

Hymn for the Dormition of the Theotokos

Ἦχος α

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμῆσει, 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.

Κontakion

Ἦχος πλ β

Τὴν ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πληρώσας οικονομίαν, καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς ἐνώσας τοῖς οὐρανίοις, ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, οὐδαμόθεν χωριζόμενος, ἀλλὰ μένων ἀδιάστατος, καὶ βοῶν τοῖς ἀγαπῶσί σε· Ἐγὼ εἰμι μεθ' ὑμῶν, καὶ οὐδεὶς καθ' ὑμῶν.

Mode Plagal of the Second

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, * and united things on earth with the things in heaven, * You were taken up thither in glory, O Christ our God, * going not away from any place, * but continuing inseparable, * and to them that love You crying out: * "I am with you, and there is, therefore, none against you."

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to

HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL: Several times a year, our Holy Orthodox Church pauses to honor men that are fondly referred to as "Church Fathers." This morning, we remember such an esteemed group: the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. This gathering of church leaders took place in Nicea in 325 A.D. Some 318 bishops and priests from all over the world were in attendance – many who had endured terrible torture and persecution from the hands of the Romans only a few years before. The Council was convened by the Emperor Constantine the Great in order to deal with the heretical teachings of a priest named Arius. His teachings concerning Christ's divinity so infuriated Saint Nicholas, who was also in attendance at this conclave, that he struck the heretic in the midst of one of the Council's sessions!

Many important canons were adopted by the First Council. The Council decided how the date for Pascha would be determined, and set down kneeling regulations for the Church. A canon was established which stated that three bishops must consecrate a new bishop – a practice that is still followed today. It was also at the First Ecumenical Council that the idea of celibacy for clergy was rejected. We will best remember the Holy Fathers of this special synod for defining the teachings of the Church and placing them into a "creed" for all faithful to proclaim. This "symbol of faith" was later completed at the Second Ecumenical Council some 20 years later.

THERE'S A GOD DURING THE SUMMER, TOO!: Many of us Orthodox Christians associate the end of Sunday School with the end of going to Church. Though Sunday School begins and ends on specific dates, the Divine Liturgy does not stop being celebrated and the Church does not close.

It is therefore a mistake to associate the Sunday School season with going to Church. Those who stop going to Church during the summer reflect an incomplete and inconsistent knowledge of our Orthodox Faith.

Others simply stop going to church during the summer in order to have more time for leisure activities. One to two hours per week to attend Church is a small sacrifice compared to 166 hours that remain to be used as desired. Don't forget God this summer. **Attend Church on Sunday!**

GRADUATE SUNDAY: On Sunday, June 11th the parish honors the academic accomplishments of our youth. A gift will be presented to our graduates from high school, college or university who have had their names submitted to Fr. Christodoulos by Monday, June 5th. (Please email or call to confirm.) Telling Father after church does not equal contacting him.)

A MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER: They served and fought and died so that we might be safe and free. Grant them O Lord, eternal peace and give them "The Victory!" And in these days of unrest, filled with grave uncertainty, let's not forget the price they paid to keep our country free...And so on this Memorial Day, we offer up a prayer...May the people of all nations be untied in Thy care. And grant us understanding and teach us how to live, so that we may lose our selfish pride and learn to love and give. And keep us ever mindful of the fighting men who sleep, in Arlington and foreign lands, so we may ever keep the "Light of Freedom" burning in their honor through the years. And hear their cry for peace on earth resounding in our ears. Forgive us our transgressions and "Oh God be with us yet". Lest in our pride and arrogance we heedlessly forget.

