

receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: Dear members and parents. If you or your children would be interested in serving in the Altar please come see me. We are need on children and men of all ages to help bolster our Altar server ranks. Children should be 7 and up.

READERS WANTED: We are looking for people who would like to serve as readers for the Epistle Reading on Sundays starting in the Fall. We will have a meeting after church on Sunday, October 8th. We will meet in the church. If you are interested in joining the ranks please attend the meeting or reach out to Fr. Christodoulos.

CHOIR NEWS: Our Choir is getting ready to begin again in September. 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.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS: A.R.E. classes are now beginning again. We will reading, "Words of the Heart" Classes are in person on Wednesday beginning at 11 a.m. and Thursday's via Zoom beginning at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to join.

WISDOM FROM THE CHURCH FATHERS: He who prays should bear in mind that if God spared not even his only-begotten Son but have him for us all, He cannot but give us every imaginable blessing. For if the infinite and greatest blessing has been given, then will not the finite and lesser blessings also be granted?

- St. John of Kronstadt

FALL PARISH YOUTH OUTING: on Sunday October 15th after church from 2-5 pm at Enchanted Valley Acres Farm in Cross Plains. Admission tickets to enter are \$15.50, children under 2 years are free. The tickets include many fun fall activities such as: a corn maze, giant slides, a giant pumpkin jump pad, wagon rides, obstacle courses, farm animals, and so much more! Pumpkins are for purchase and start at \$1.50 each. There is also delicious food and sweets to purchase! You can buy your tickets online to ensure your spot or you can buy the tickets at the door, the day of. Here is the link with all the information about the farm and what it offers.

<https://www.enchantedvalleyacres.com/>

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✠Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

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Sunday, October 1st, 2023
Church Musician Sunday/Romanos the Melodist
The Holy Protection of the Theotokos
Saint Ananias, Apostle of the 70

Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 9: 1-7

Gospel: Luke 6: 31-36

Sunday School/Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Wednesday, October 4th, 2023

Strict Fast Day

11:00 a.m.

Adult Religious Education

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, October 5th, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Adult Religious Education via Zoom

Saturday, October 7th, 2023

Fr. Christodoulos in Dubuque

Ethiopian Service

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

LUNCHEON HONORING LENNY FAFALIOS TODAY: As you have seen, today is Church musician Sunday. A day we set aside as an Archdiocese to honor our chanters and choirs for their dedicated service to the church. But this year we are also taking time to recognize Lenny's 50 years of chanting for Assumption. So today following Liturgy we will be hosting a luncheon to honor Lenny's service. We will be serving a Pastichio dinner. It is a free will offering with a suggested donation of \$10. No reservations needed. Just join us to honor Lenny.

ROOF REPLACEMENT CAPITAL CAMPAIGN MATCHING DRIVE: We are blessed to have anonymous donors who has offered to match up to \$15,000 for the roof replacement. The Roof will run around \$35,000 and we would like to get it completely covered through donations. If you are interested in giving a donation for the roof put "Roof Donation" on the memo line of the check or mark it on the envelope. Together we can get this project finished and fully funded.

CHUCKLE OF THE DAY: A dad telephoned his home. His teenage son answered.

"What are you up to, Son?"

"I'm just lying here watching TV."

"Where is your mom?"

"She's out painting the house."

Dad was upset with his son's laziness. "Son, why don't you get out there and help your poor mother?"

"Well, I would," answered the boy, "but I can't."

"Why not?" asked his exasperated father.

"Because Grandma's using the other brush."

βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

Second Mode

A protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, εἶχεν ἡ πρώτη σκηνὴ δικαιώματα λατρείας τό τε Ἅγιον κοσμικόν. Σκηνὴ γὰρ κατεσκευάσθη ἡ πρώτη ἐν ᾗ ἡ τε λυχνία καὶ ἡ τράπεζα καὶ ἡ πρόθεσις τῶν ἄρτων, ἣτις λέγεται Ἅγια. Μετὰ δὲ τὸ δεύτερον καταπέτασμα σκηνὴ ἡ λεγομένη Ἅγια Ἀγίων, χρυσοῦν ἔχουσα θυμιατήριον καὶ τὴν κιβωτὸν τῆς διαθήκης περικεκαλυμμένην πάντοθεν χρυσίῳ, ἐν ᾗ στάμνος χρυσοῦν ἔχουσα τὸ μάννα καὶ ἡ ῥάβδος Ἀαρὼν ἡ βλαστήσασα καὶ αἱ πλάκες τῆς διαθήκης, ὑπεράνω δὲ αὐτῆς Χερουβὶμ δόξης κατασκιάζοντα τὸ ἱλαστήριον· περὶ ὧν οὐκ ἔστι νῦν λέγειν κατὰ μέρος. Τούτων δὲ οὕτω κατεσκευασμένων εἰς μὲν τὴν πρώτην σκηνὴν διὰ παντὸς εἰσίσιν οἱ ἱερεῖς τὰς λατρείας ἐπιτελοῦντες, εἰς δὲ τὴν δευτέραν ἅπαξ τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ μόνος ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς, οὐ χωρὶς αἵματος, ὃ προσφέρει ὑπὲρ ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τῶν τοῦ λαοῦ ἀγνοημάτων.

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews

Brethren, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Καθὼς θέλετε ἵνα ποιῶσιν ὑμῖν οἱ ἄνθρωποι, καὶ ὑμεῖς ποιεῖτε αὐτοῖς ὁμοίως, καὶ εἰ ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστὶ; καὶ γὰρ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας αὐτοὺς ἀγαπᾶσι. καὶ ἐὰν ἀγαθοποιῇτε τοὺς ἀγαθοποιῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστὶ; καὶ γὰρ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ποιοῦσι. καὶ ἐὰν δανείζητε παρ' ὧν ἐλπίζετε ἀπολαβεῖν, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστὶ; καὶ γὰρ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἁμαρτωλοῖς δανείζουσιν ἵνα ἀπολάβωσι τὰ ἴσα. πλὴν ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν καὶ ἀγαθοποιεῖτε καὶ δανείζετε μηδὲν ἀπελπίζοντες, καὶ ἔσται ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν πολὺς, καὶ ἔσσεσθε υἱοὶ ὑψίστου, ὅτι αὐτὸς χρηστός ἐστιν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀχαρίστους καὶ πονηροὺς. Γίνεσθε οὖν οἰκτίρμονες καθὼς καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν οἰκτίρμων ἐστίν.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to

Resurrection Hymn

Ἦχος πλ δ

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσης τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Mode Plagal of the Fourth

From the heights didst Thou come down, O Compassionate One. And Thou didst submit to three day burial that from the passions Thou might deliver us. O our Life and Resurrection, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

Hymn for the Theotokos

Ἦχος α

Τῆς Σκέπης σου Παρθένε, ἀνυμνοῦμεν τὰς χαρίτας, ἦν ὡς φωτοφόρον νεφέλην, ἐφαπλοῖς ὑπὲρ ἔννοιαν, καὶ σκέπεις τὸν λαόν σου νοερῶς, ἐκ πάσης τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἐπιβουλῆς. Σὲ γὰρ σκέπην καὶ προστάτιν καὶ βοηθόν, κεκτήμεθα βοδῶντές σοι· Δόξα τοῖς μεγαλείοις σου Ἀγνή, δόξα τῇ θείᾳ Σκέπῃ σου, δόξα τῇ πρὸς ἡμᾶς σου, προμηθείᾳ Ἀχραντε.

First Mode

O Virgin, we sing praises of the gifts of your protection, * which you have extended like a bright cloud ineffably, * invisibly protecting us your flock * from enemy invasions and attacks. * We have you as ardent helper and mighty guard, * and therefore we cry out to you: * Glory to your divinely mighty deeds! * Glory to your protective veil! * Glory to the care you have for us, O immaculate one!

Hymn for the Apostle

Ἦχος γ

Ἀπόστολε Ἅγιε Ἀνανία, πρέσβευε τῷ ἐλεήμονι Θεῷ, ἵνα πταισμάτων ἄφεσιν, παράσχῃ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν.

Third Mode

O holy Apostle Ananias, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

Hymn for Saint Romanos

Ἦχος πλ δ

Ἐν σοὶ Πάτερ ἀκριβῶς διεσώθη τὸ κατ' εἰκόνα· λαβὼν γὰρ τὸν σταυρόν, ἠκολούθησας τῷ Χριστῷ καὶ πράττων ἐδίδασκες· ὑπερορᾶν μὲν σαρκός, παρέρχεται γάρ, ἐπιμελεῖσθαι δὲ ψυχῆς πράγματος ἀθανάτου. Διὸ καὶ μετὰ Ἀγγέλων συναγάλλεται, Ὅσιε Ρωμανέ, τὸ πνεῦμά σου.

Mode plagal of the Fourth

In you, O Father, is preserved undistorted what was made in the image of God; for taking up the cross, you followed Christ and by example taught, that we should overlook the flesh, since it passes away, and instead look after the soul, since it is immortal. And therefore, O devout Romanos, your spirit rejoices with the angels.

Hymn for the Parish

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 β

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν

WHAT CAN WE SAY? What can we say about the will of God and suffering?

First, God came into the world in the person of Jesus not to inflict evil, suffering, and death upon us but to overcome them. “In the world you have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world,” said Jesus. Call many things evil, call them inevitable because of sin, but don’t call them the will of God.

Secondly, we can understand God’s will better if we do not always expect Him to do things our way. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts” (Isa. 55:8,9). God does not and will not follow our advice. His is far wiser.

Thirdly, we can say that when we suffer God shares our sorrow and grief. As a little boy who had been badly burned said when a woman said of him, “Oh, why does God punish a child like that?” “Don’t say that,” the child cried out. “Don’t say anything bad about God! When it hurts, God cries with me!” That boy’s theology was absolutely Orthodox!

Fourthly, we can say that Jesus Who overcame death for us has it in His power to make it up to those who are taken away too soon by death. This is not the only life. There is eternity ahead. There is more life ahead – infinitely more! The life that is taken away too soon will get its chance to blossom and flourish. God will redress the wrongs of this world. He will balance the books. “If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied” (1 Cor. 15:19).

SAINT ROMANOS THE MELODIST: Saint Romanus the Melodist was born in the fifth century in the Syrian city of Emesa of Jewish parents. After moving to Constantinople, he became a church sacristan in the temple of Hagia Sophia. The monk spent his nights alone at prayer in a field or in the Blachernae church beyond the city.

Saint Romanus was not a talented reader or singer. Once, on the eve of the Nativity of Christ, he read the kathisma verses. He read so poorly that another reader had to take his place. The clergy ridiculed Romanus, which devastated him.

On the day of the Nativity, the Mother of God appeared to the grief-stricken youth in a vision while he was praying before her Kyriotissa icon. She gave him a scroll and commanded him to eat it. Thus was he given the gift of understanding, composition, and hymnography.

That evening at the all-night Vigil Saint Romanus sang, in a wondrous voice, his first Kontakion: “Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One...” All the hymns of Saint Romanus became known as kontakia, in reference to the Virgin’s scroll. Saint Romanus was also the first to write in the form of the Oikos, which he incorporated into the all-night Vigil at his places of residence (In Greek, “oikos”).

For his zealous service Saint Romanus was ordained as a deacon and became a teacher of song. Until his death, which occurred about the year 556, the hierodeacon Romanus the Melodist composed nearly a thousand hymns, many of which are still used by Christians to glorify the Lord. About eighty survive.

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 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Family Fall Outing

ENCHANTED VALLEY ACERS FARM
IN CROSS PLAINS

Sunday 10 .15 .23

2:00 - 5:00 PM

PUMPKIN PATCH, CORN MAZE, APPLE
CIDER DONUTS AND DRINKS, AND
FUN FALL ACTIVITIES!



SAVE THE DATES

Assumption Sunday school 2023-2024 events

Mark your calendars for the different events
happening throughout the school year!

- Sep 9-10 (Sat & Sun): Greek Fest+
- Sep 17 (Sun): First day of Sunday School
- Oct 15 (Sun): Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze Outing
- Nov 10 (Fri): Prospora Night
- Nov 26 (Sun): Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 8 (Fri): Gingerbread Night
- Dec 17 (Sun): Christmas Pageant
- Dec 22 (Fri): Christmas Movie Night
- Dec 24 & Dec 31 (Sun): Christmas Break
- Jan 14 (Sun): Winter Tubing Outing
- Feb 4 (Sun): Bowling Night
- Mar 14 (Thur): SkyZone Night
- Mar 31 (Sun): Spring Break
- Apr 27 (Sat): Lazarus Family Retreat
- Apr 28 (Sun): Palm Sunday - No Classes
- May 5 (Sun): Egg Hunt after Easter Agapi
Church service - No Classes
- May 19 (Sun): Last day of Sunday School
- June 2 (Sun): Graduate Sunday

