

**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.

**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](mailto:gtzougros@gmail.com): We look forward to welcoming all new members.

**ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS:** A.R.E. classes have now begun 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.

**GREEK FREAK NIGHT AT THE MILWAUKEE BUCKS GAME:** The Milwaukee Bucks annual Greek Heritage Night will be on December 11th.

The Church has been given a link to purchase tickets. Each person will purchase their tickets from the site. Prices range from \$50 - \$108.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate the Greek Night with the Bucks and Giannis! All attendees will receive a commemorative Giannis Bobblehead and a wristband to be included in the post game activities with Giannis. We will also have a bus from Church. We will soon know the cost and update. Links for tickets and to sign up for the bus bellow.

**Ticket Link**

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/bucksgreek23>

**Bus Link**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0545aeae2ca02-busfor1>

**ADVENT – NATIVITY FAST:** Most Orthodox Christians are not aware of the Advent Season or the Christmas Fast which begins on November 15th. The reason is simple. Most are consumed with observing Christmas in the secular manner. Like Pascha, Christmas is preceded with a 40 day period of prayer, fasting and preparing for a Great Feast.

Difficult, but not impossible, observing the fast today can give many rewards to us. The idea of fasting is not simply a difficult rule to follow, it is the best way which the Church has found to achieve the goal of receiving the Christ Child. Fasting aids in focusing our attention on the spiritual life, the life which Jesus came to give us.

# Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✙Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

Proistemenos

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**Sunday, November 19th, 2023**

**9th Sunday of Luke  
Obadiah the Prophet  
Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea**

**Readings:**

**Epistle:** Ephesians 2: 14-22

**Gospel:** Luke 12: 16-21

**Sunday School/Coffee Hour**

**THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION**

**Tuesday, November 21st, 2023**

**Fast Day**

**Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple**

**As of right now there will be no service Tuesday as I have no chanter available. But keep an eye on your emails for a change if one comes available.**

**Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023**

**Strict Fast Day**

**Fr. Christodoulos leaves for Vacation.**

**No Religious Education Class**

**No Choir Practice**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Akathist Service of Thanksgiving**

**At Saint Ignatius**

**Thursday, November 23rd, 2023**

**Happy Thanksgiving**

**No Adult Religious Education Class**

**Fr. Christodoulou's is on Vacation & out of the office until December 4th**

**Office hours are: Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**PHILOPTOCHOS BAKLAVA + SALE TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS:**

It is that time of year again. The Philoptochos Ladies are doing their annual Baklava + Bake Sale. The pick up this year will be on Saturday, December 9th between 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All orders need to be in by Sunday, November 19th at Midnight. That leave you 12 hours to get your orders in before it is too late. Orders can be made online at our website <http://philomadison.org/> or if you are not good with computers you can place an order with Maria Molzahn. Thank you again for your continued support of our Ladies Philoptochos Chapter and all the philanthropic work they do.

**CHRISTMAS CARD:** Each year, our Church prepares a Christmas card that is mailed to our entire community. Your participation through our Church Christmas Card will not only convey your warmest and personal regards, but also frees you from mailing personal cards to many families. This is savings to you and a benefit for our parish. To include your name on this year's Christmas card please complete the flyer that has been emailed to you and included in the bulletin, or you can pick one up at the candle stand in the Church. Please return completed forms and payment to the church no later than December 11th.

access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα**

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρώπου τινὸς πλουσίου εὐφόρησεν ἡ χώρα· καὶ διελογίζετο ἐν ἑαυτῷ λέγων· τί ποιήσω, ὅτι οὐκ ἔχω ποῦ συνάξω τοὺς καρπούς μου; καὶ εἶπε· τοῦτο ποιήσω· καθελῶ μου τὰς ἀποθήκας καὶ μείζονας οἰκοδομήσω, καὶ συνάξω ἐκεῖ πάντα τὰ γεννήματά μου καὶ τὰ ἀγαθὰ μου, καὶ ἐρῶ τῇ ψυχῇ μου· ψυχῇ, ἔχεις πολλὰ ἀγαθὰ κείμενα εἰς ἔτη πολλά· ἀναπαύου, φάγε, πίε, εὐφραίνου. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Θεός· ἄφρον, ταύτῃ τῇ νυκτὶ τὴν ψυχὴν σου ἀπαιτοῦσιν ἀπὸ σοῦ· ἃ δὲ ἡτοίμασας τίνι ἔσται; οὕτως ὁ θησαυρίζων ἑαυτῷ καὶ μὴ εἰς Θεὸν πλουτῶν. Ταῦτα λέγων ἐφώνει· Ὁ ἔχων ὧτα ἀκοῦειν, ἀκουέτω.

**The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

**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).

**HOLY CONFESSION IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF ADVENT:** Each of us should go to the priest for Holy Confession during this period of Advent. Our very salvation can be threatened when we ignore this most beautiful sacrament of our Church. Make time year to call your Father Confessor for an appointment.

**WELCOME:** We are pleased that you worshipped with us today. Please join us for Coffee Fellowship in our church hall, following worship. If you are new to the parish, or simply visiting, introduce yourself to our priest or to our greeters, so that they may introduce you to others.

**FIVE WAYS TO WELCOME VISITORS ON SUNDAY:**

1. Smile and be friendly.
2. Greet them.
3. Introduce yourself by name and ask theirs.
4. Invite them to our coffee fellowship.
5. Ask them to return again for worship.

## Resurrection Hymn

### Ἦχος βαρύς

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέφξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

### Grave Mode

By Thy Cross Thou didst abolish death; to the thief Thou didst open Paradise; Thou didst transform the myrrh bearers lamentation and didst order Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ our I God, bestowing great mercy upon the world.

## 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 υπάρχουσα 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

Ὁκαθαρώτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτῆρος, ἡ πολυτίμητος παστὰς καὶ Παρθένος, τὸ ἱερὸν θησαύρισμα τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ, σήμερον εἰσάγεται, ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ Κυρίου, τὴν χάριν συνεισάγουσα, τὴν ἐν Πνεύματι Θείῳ· ἦν ἀνυμνοῦσιν Ἄγγελοι Θεοῦ· Αὐτὴ ὑπάρχει σκηνὴ ἐπουράνιος.

### Fourth Mode

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Saviour's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

## Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, Χριστὸς ἐστὶν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ ἀμφότερα ἐν καὶ τὸ μεσότοιχον τοῦ φραγμοῦ λύσας· τὴν ἐχθραν, ἐν τῇ σαρκὶ αὐτοῦ, τὸν νόμον τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δόγμασιν καταργήσας, ἵνα τοὺς δύο κτίσῃ ἐν αὐτῷ εἰς ἓνα καινὸν ἄνθρωπον ποιῶν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποκαταλλάξῃ τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἐνὶ σώματι τῷ Θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνας τὴν ἐχθραν ἐν αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἔλθων εὐηγγελίσαστο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν καὶ εἰρήνην τοῖς ἐγγύς· ὅτι δι' αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφοτέροι ἐν ἐνὶ Πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν Πατέρα. Ἄρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ ἐστὲ συμπολίται τῶν ἁγίων καὶ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἐποικοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ προφητῶν, ὄντος ἀκρογωνιαίου αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἐν ᾧ πᾶσα οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὖξαι εἰς ναὸν ἅγιον ἐν Κυρίῳ, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν Πνεύματι.

## The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have

**THE UNCLAIMED SUITCASE:** Man is a zero, some say. Man is an animal, say others. Recently, a young lady described herself in terms of a suitcase. “I feel like the only suitcase left on the conveyor belt in the airline terminal, going round and round with my claim check on me just waiting to be claimed with no one coming to claim me or own me.”

No doubt there are many people today who feel exactly as this young woman does, but the good news of the gospel of Jesus is that the person who has the other half of the claim check and stands ready to claim that lonely suitcase is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. It is to Him we belong by right of creation and by right of redemption. He not only stands ready to claim the lonely suitcase, but in fact, has already claimed it. That is what happened when you were baptized. Christ claimed us as His very own: “You are mine. I love you. I care for you. I promise to be with you forever. I promise to make my home in you. For I have prepared heaven.”

Yet, because we are not suitcases but human beings created in God's own image with free will, we can either accept or refuse Christ's claim upon us. Once we accept His claim, we become rooted in Him and related to Him. We are no longer a zero or an animal or a machine or a biological accident, but His children, greatly loved by Him. The picture then changes from a lonely suitcase going round and round on a conveyor belt to that of Christ claiming and carrying that suitcase away on a beautiful mission of love and mercy through this world all the way to heaven.

**THANKSGIVING:** we will celebrate the national day of Thanksgiving all this week. But the pace at which most of us live is often so rushed that we tend to forget what it is all about. Can you stop now and give 30 seconds to consider just what you are actually thankful for right now and to whom to say thanks?

Often times we spend more time in writing a note of thanks for some gift than we do in saying thanks to God for His constant shower of gifts. Just 30 seconds right now in recalling what you have to be thankful for and to whom you want to say it. When you have done this, you need to do one more thing. Offer your prayers of thanksgiving with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

**STEWARDSHIP NOTE:** *Stewardship is the practice of a Christian life.* It is what we do with our lives. It involves our total commitment of our time, talent and treasure. The love, the caring, the sharing that we do on this earth are the riches that we bring into eternal life and into God's Kingdom.

**STEWARDSHIP 2024 APPEAL:** The Church will be mailing out the 2024 Stewardship information. Please read this material and respond to the needs of our Church.

At our Stewardship meeting, we have discussed the changes at Assumption. The church is in constant transition, and our aim is to anticipate the time, talent, and treasure needs of our community. We need to combine the Strengths of our heritage, our Orthodox Tradition, and our faith in God to encourage what we do now and toward the future. The Church needs the involvement of you and me, and with the Help of God, to shape our programs to meet the needs of our community and to reach out to others, outside of our community. Please volunteer this year your time and talents, for the good of the church. Nearly every committee has need of the talents and time of leaders and contributors.

**CHUCKLE:** Alone in the house, a girl, who was not quite four, answered the phone when it rang. She was told that Mr. Brown was calling. “I’m sorry, no one is here. Can I please take a message?” After a pause, Mr. Brown heard, “Ok I am ready. What is your name?” “Mr. Brown.” “How do you spell Brown?” “B-R-O-W-N.” A long pause and then, “How do you make a ‘B’?”



# 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



### 2023 Annual Community Christmas Card

**We are now accepting names to be submitted for the  
2023 Community Christmas Card**

In order for our Christmas Card to be successful, we need your cooperation. Please approach your family and friends who may not be aware of this program, to see if they would like to be a part of our Family Christmas Card.

\*\*\*\*\*Deadline\*\*\*\*\*

Monday, December 11th, 2023

Please use this form and send it along with your donation  
Free Will Offering but suggested donation is \$25. Please send to:  
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
11 N. Seventh Street  
Madison, WI 53704

Please print your name below, clearly and EXACTLY as it should appear in the card.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

May the forthcoming Christmas Season bring to you and your family  
the Lord's blessings of Joy and Good Health!

Thank you for your support of our Assumption Church.

ALL TICKETS WILL BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NATIONAL BUCKLE UP MONTH.

## **JOIN US FOR THE 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF, VETERANS RECOGNITION & FOOTBALL WATCH PARTY**

**On Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the Sunday School will host a chili cook-off in the Social Hall immediately following Divine Liturgy**

Join us for a Variety of Chili, fixin's, sides, drinks & desserts - and chicken nuggets for the non-chili eaters! Help us raise money for the Sunday School!

- Interested in putting your chili to the test and winning the coveted Chili Champ Golden Koutala! See Fr. Christodoulos and he will give you the rules. We can accept up to 10 entries.
- Want to come taste and vote? The cost is \$7.00 and Veterans and kids 3 and under are free.

### **Rules for Cooks**

1. Have a 6-quart Crock pot (minimum) with your chili ready to eat by 11:00 a.m. on November 14<sup>th</sup>.
2. On the front of your 5x8 index card, indicate what type you are entering and give it a heat rating (mild, medium, hot). DO NOT include your name.
3. On the back of the card list the ingredients (measurements not needed)
4. The Sunday School and Greek School will provide fixin's, (cheese, onions, jalapenos, sour cream, crackers, chips and hot Sauce), and tasting cups, spoons and bowls.
5. Winner will be determined by popular vote only—no judges—this is just for fun and fellowship!



## **2024 Parish outing to the Madison Capitol's Hockey Team**



**On Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we will have a Parish  
Outing to the Madison Capitol's Hockey Game vs the  
Youngstown Phantoms**

**This year we have one of the Suites reserved for the  
church. This means we will only have 30 tickets available.  
We are still finalizing the price and will have it available  
soon.**

**Tickets will be available from Fr. Christodoulos.**

**Join us for what is sure to be a great night of fun &  
fellowship. It is also a bobblehead night so get there early**