

father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

PHILOPTOCHOS TSOURAKI SALE: Greek Easter Bread, Order by Sunday, April 21, 2024. The cost is \$12 per bread and you can order at link on flier. All orders can be picked up between Friday, May 3rd through Sunday, May 5th.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL MEETING: This Month's Women's spiritual zoom meetings will be on Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in participating and you haven't signed in yet please contact Peli Galiti at pegaliti@gmail.com You will get the zoom link in your email.

All women from Assumption parish, St. Ignatius Parish and other parishes are welcome.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE PLANNING: As we begin this new year, please consider making a Planned Gift to the Church. A Planned Gift is an opportunity to leave a legacy that strengthens the Church and supports its vital ministries and will leave an impact that will be felt for years to come. It may also give you substantial current tax benefits as well as estate tax benefits. If you are interested in finding out more about the many ways that the Church can be included in your will or estate planning, please contact a Parish Council Member.

NEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT DRIVE: As a community we have always tried and succeeded in taking care of and upgrading our Sanctuary and facilities. We the spirit of continuously improving our church. We are beginning a long term Capital Improvement Fund Drive. We are looking at 3 particular future projects. These are the Broken Sewer pipe in our back parking lot, Replacing and upgrading our current church sound system and remodeling our kitchen. The months ahead we will be formally setting up a Capital Improvement Fund Drive Committee who will spearhead the entire process. We ask everyone to consider this in future giving, funeral memorials and in planned giving. If you are interested in giving a donation for the Capital Fund please put "Capital Improvement Fund Drive" on the memo line of the check or mark it on the envelope. Together we can get these projects finished.

GIRLS NEEDED FOR MYRRH-BEARERS: We are in need of girls to serve as Myrrh-Bearing women on Holy Friday evening and Saturday evening Anastasi Service. If your daughters are interested, please see Fr. Christodoulos or Susu Akkawi. God Bless

HOLY CONFESSION IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF LENT: Each of us should go to the priest for Holy Confession during this period of Lent. 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.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✠Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

Proistemenos

frchristos@gmail.com

11 N 7th Street

Madison, WI 53704

(608)-244-1001

www.agocwi.org

Sunday, April 14th, 2024

Sunday of Saint John Climacus

**Saints Aristarchus, Pudens, Trophimus the Apostles of the 70
Saint Thomais the Martyr of Alexandria**

Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 6: 13-20

Gospel: Mark: 9: 17-31

Sunday School/Greek School/Spring General Assembly

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Monday, April 15th, 2024

Strict Fast Day

6:00 p.m.

Great Compline

Wednesday, April 18th, 2024

Strict Fast Day

No Adult Religious Education

6:00 p.m.

Small Compline with the Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, April 18th, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Women's Spiritual Meeting via Zoom

Friday, April 19th, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Akathist Service

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

CHURCH CLEANING FOR PASCHA: As we do every year in preparation for Holy Week & Pascha we will be asking all parishioners to come join us on Saturday, April 20th beginning at 10:00 a.m. to help us clean the church and polish our Holy items. This is a bit earlier than usual as we will have His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael joining us on the Saturday of Lazarus. Come help us beautify our church.

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON: On Sunday, April 28th our Parish Council is hosting our Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon. We will have a traditional Palm Sunday Meal of baked fish with sides, a salad and fresh bread. Dessert will also be provided.

The Cost of the meal is \$15. Please R.S.V.P. after liturgies or by clicking the link <https://forms.gle/smrP7PM1AQuxWP8c7>
Please reserve by Sunday April 21st, 2023.

ANASTASI MEAL FOLLOWING RESURRECTION SERVICE: All are invited to join us for an Anastasi Lamb Dinner, Immediately following Thr Holy Resurrection Divine Liturgy on Pascha. In the Assumption Community Center Downstairs. Cost will be \$20 for Adults & \$15 for Children 10 & Under.

Please R.S.V.P by Sunday, April 28th, by Clicking Link. I Hope to see many of you joining us on Pascha Night. <https://forms.gle/Xb7S3Begd8ok4krAA>

καταπετάσματος, ὅπου πρόδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσηλθεν Ἰησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδὲκ ἀρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀνθρώπος τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ γονυπετῶν αὐτῷ καὶ λέγων· διδάσκαλε, ἤνεγκα τὸν υἱόν μου πρὸς σε, ἔχοντα πνεῦμα ἄλαλον. καὶ ὅπου ἂν αὐτὸν καταλάβῃ, ῥήσσει αὐτόν, καὶ ἀφρίζει καὶ τρίζει τοὺς ὀδόντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ξηραίνεται· καὶ εἶπον τοῖς μαθηταῖς σου ἵνα αὐτὸ ἐκβάλωσι, καὶ οὐκ ἴσχυσαν. ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς αὐτῷ λέγει· ὦ γενεὰ ἄπιστος, ἕως πότε πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἔσομαι; ἕως πότε ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; φέρετε αὐτὸν πρὸς με. καὶ ἤνεγκαν αὐτὸν πρὸς αὐτόν. καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν εὐθέως τὸ πνεῦμα ἐσπάραξεν αὐτόν, καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐκυλίετο ἀφρίζων. καὶ ἐπηρώτησε τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ· πόσος χρόνος ἐστὶν ὡς τοῦτο γέγονεν αὐτῷ; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· παιδιόθεν. καὶ πολλάκις αὐτὸν καὶ εἰς πῦρ ἔβαλε καὶ εἰς ὕδατα, ἵνα ἀπολέσῃ αὐτόν· ἀλλ' εἴ τι δύνασαι, βοήθησον ἡμῖν σπλαγχνισθεὶς ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ τὸ εἰ δύνασαι πιστεῦσαι, πάντα δυνατὰ τῷ πιστεύοντι. καὶ εὐθέως κράξας ὁ πατὴρ τοῦ παιδίου μετὰ δακρῶν ἔλεγε· πιστεύω, κύριε· βοήθει μου τῇ ἀπιστίᾳ. ἰδὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐπισυντρέχει ὄχλος, ἐπετίμησε τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ λέγων αὐτῷ· τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἄλαλον καὶ κωφόν, ἐγὼ σοὶ ἐπιτάσσω, ἐξελθε ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ μηκέτι εἰσέλθῃς εἰς αὐτόν. καὶ κράξαν καὶ πολλὰ σπαράζαν αὐτὸν ἐξῆλθε, καὶ ἐγένετο ὡσεὶ νεκρὸς, ὥστε πολλοὺς λέγειν ὅτι ἀπέθανεν. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς κρατήσας αὐτόν τῆς χειρὸς ἤγειρεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀνέστη. Καὶ εἰσελθόντα αὐτὸν εἰς οἶκον οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπηρώτων αὐτόν κατ' ἰδίαν, ὅτι ἡμεῖς οὐκ ἠδυνήθημεν ἐκβαλεῖν αὐτό. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τοῦτο τὸ γένος ἐν οὐδενὶ δύναται ἐξελθεῖν εἰ μὴ ἐν προσευχῇ καὶ νηστείᾳ. Καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐξελθόντες παρεπορεύοντο διὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, καὶ οὐκ ἠθέλεν ἵνα τις γνῶ· ἐδίδασκε γὰρ τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς ὅτι ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου παραδίδοται εἰς χεῖρας ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ἀποκτενοῦσιν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀποκτανθεὶς τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ ἀναστήσεται.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the

Resurrection Hymn

Ἦχος δ

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριά, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχόμενοι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples spoke to the Apostles triumphantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy unto the world.

Hymn for Saint John Climacus

Ἦχος πλ δ

Ταῖς τῶν δακρύων σου ῥοαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκατὸν τοὺς πόνους ἔκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστὴρ τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν, Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν ὅσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Mode Plagal of the Fourth

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

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 πλ δ

Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἀλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, Ἴνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

Plagal of the Fourth Mode

To thee, the Champion Leader, we thy flock dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving, as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos. But as thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us, that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, τῷ Ἀβραάμ ἐπαγγελάμενος ὁ Θεός, ἐπεὶ καθ' οὐδενὸς εἶχε μείζονος ὁμόσαι, ὥμοσε καθ' ἑαυτοῦ, λέγων· ἢ μὴν εὐλογῶν εὐλογήσω σε καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε· καὶ οὕτω μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτυχε τῆς ἐπαγγελίας, ἄνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὁμνύουσι, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ὁ ὄρκος· ἐν ᾧ περισσώτερον βουλόμενος ὁ Θεός ἐπιδειξάτω τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ ἀμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἐμεσίτευσεν ὄρκῳ, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι Θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἦν ὡς ἄγκυραν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ

SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY FOLLOWING LITURGY: We wanted to remind everyone we will be holding our 2024 Spring General Assembly **TODAY** following Divine Liturgy. We do remind everyone you must have completed last years stewardship and be pledged for 2024 in order to eligible to vote.

MEMORIAL UPDATES: Please note that Memorial Prayers will not be offered from April 28th (Palm Sunday) through May 12th (Sunday of Thomas). Anyone wishing to commemorate a love one before Holy Week may do so on Sunday, April 21st.

IF YOU CAN BELIEVE: In the Gospel lesson today the father whose sick child was brought for healing said to Jesus, “If you can do anything, have pity on us and help us.” Now that was a very sad if; it was a misplaced if. The father placed that if against God’s great power. “If you can do anything, have pity on us and help us.” Jesus responded immediately, “Not if I can,” He said, “but if you can. I have the compassion and the pity and the power to heal but do you have the ability to believe?” If only the father would believe, healing would be possible.

We can apply these words to ourselves. How often do we say: if Jesus can save me from the power of sin! No! He can save you from the power of sin if you can believe. If Jesus can deliver me from this temptation! No! He can deliver you from that temptation if you can believe. If Jesus can see me through the terrible crisis! No! He can see you through your terrible crisis if you can believe. The great if is not on God’s side but on our side, on our ability to believe. This is the only limitation to God’s power. That is the only if in the matter. The other side – God’s side – is certain, absolutely certain. God has an everlasting love that did not stop even at the cross.

“. . . if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us. And Jesus said to him, If you can (believe)! All things are possible to him who believes!”

FROM THE CHURCH FATHER: – FASTING IS NOT ENOUGH: Let no one believe that fasting alone is sufficient; for the Lord tells us by the mouth of the prophet, “The kind of fasting I want is this: Remove the chains of oppression and the yoke of injustice and let the oppressed go free.” And then He continues, “Share your food with the hungry and open your homes to the homeless poor. Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear and do not refuse to help your own relative.” (Isaiah 58:6-7) The Lord therefore blesses the fast which uplifts our hands in almsgiving before His eyes, which is joined to the love of our neighbor and founded on compassion. That which you deny yourself, give to another, so that by which your body is weakened, may nurture the body of your hungry neighbor.

St. Gregory

THE SACRED AND MOST HOLY BODY OF OUR LORD: The sacred and Most Holy Body of our Lord, when properly and worthily received, becomes a weapon for those who fight the good fight, it becomes the cause of returning back to God for those who went astray; it strengthens the sick, it delights the healthy, it heals illnesses, it preserves health; with the Holy Communion, it is easier to correct ourselves, to become more forbearing and more patient in the pains and the sorrow, more warm in love, more sensitive to knowledge, more willing to obedience, more sensitive and more responsive to the energy of the (divine) charismata.

St. Nicodemus of Mt. Athos

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON



On Sunday, April 28th our Parish Council is hosting our
Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon

We will have a traditional Palm Sunday Meal of baked fish
with sides a salad and fresh bread. Dessert will also be provided.

The Cost of the meal is \$15

Reservations are strongly encouraged but not required.

<https://forms.gle/smrP7PMIAQuxWP8c7>

PALM SUNDAY

neighbor is our life' and that, while we are not obligated to donate organs, doing so can be a life-giving—not only biologically for the recipient, but also spiritually for the donor.

April is National Donate Life Month, a time of year that emphasizes the importance of registering the decision to be a donor, honoring deceased and living donors, and celebrating the lives saved.

As we look ahead to the Resurrection with yearning in Christ, I pray that you embrace the timeliness of National Donate Life Month and the Paschal season of renewal. I pray that you reflect on giving the gift of life to others – people we may not know and may never meet – in one of the most authentic expressions of Christian love. And, should you seek the gift of life from another, I pray that the Holy Spirit be with you and that your hopes are buoyed by a shared love in Christ.

With paternal blessings and love in the Risen Lord,

† NATHANAEAL
Metropolitan of Chicago

CHURCH CALENDAR / ΟΡΘΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ
HOLY WEEK/PASCHA
ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΣΧΑ
2024

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS/ΕΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΛΑΖΑΡΟΥ
April 27th, 2024
9:00 a.m. Orthros followed by the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael/ Ὁρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία

PALM SUNDAY/ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΒΑΙΩΝ
April 28th, 2024
8:30 a.m. Orthros/ Ὁρθρος
9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy/ Θεία Λειτουργία
6:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom/ Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ
April 29th, 2024
6:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom/ Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΤΡΙΤΗ
April 30th, 2024
6:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom/ Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ
May 1st, 2024
3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Holy Unction/ Ακολουθία του Αγίου Ευγελαίου
6:00 p.m. Orthros of Holy Thursday and Anointing with Holy Unction/
Ὁρθρος της Μεγάλης Πέμπτης

GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ
May 2nd, 2024
9:00 a.m. Vespers Divine Liturgy/ Εσπερινή Θεία Λειτουργία
6:00 p.m. The Passion of our Lord and the Reading of the 12 Gospels/
Ακολουθία των Φρικτών Παθών του Κυρίου

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ
May 3rd, 2024
8:00 a.m. Royal Hours/ Ακολουθία τις Μεγάλης Ὁρας
2:30 p.m. Apokathelosis/ Αποκαθήλωση του Κυρίου
6:30 p.m. Lamentations Service/ Ακολουθία Τά Ἐγκώμια

GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY/ΜΕΓΑΛΟ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ
May 4th, 2024
9:00 a.m. Vespers Divine Liturgy/ Εσπερινή Θεία Λειτουργία
11:00 p.m. Holy Resurrection Canon/
Τά Προκαταρκτικά Μεσονυκτικού της Αναστάσεως
Followed by Resurrection Service and Divine Liturgy/
Ὁρθρος της Αναστάσεως και Θεία Λειτουργία

HOLY AND GREAT PASCHA/ ΑΓΙΟΝ ΠΑΣΧΑ
May 5th, 2024
10:00 a.m. Agape Vespers/ Μέγα Εσπερινός της Αγάπης
BRIGHT MONDAY GREAT MARTYR GEORGE THE TROPHYBEARER
Monday, May 6th, 2024
8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy/
Ὁρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PASCHA/SUNDAY OF THOMAS
Sunday, May 12th, 2024
8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at 9:45 a.m.
Ὁρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΣΙΚΑΓΟΥ

Protocol No. 15/24

Encyclical on the Christian Love of Organ Donation

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." – Galatians 2:20

To the Clergy, the Monastic Communities, and the blessed faithful of the Holy Metropolis of Chicago.

Beloved fathers and brethren, Beloved children in the Lord:

With each day of Great Lent, we draw closer to the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who loved us so much that He gave Himself up for us. In this spirit of love and compassion, I wish to address a timely matter of profound significance: the veritable Christian act of organ donation.

As stewards of God's creation and vessels of His mercy, we are called to reflect His love and selflessness in all our actions, including the freely chosen decision to donate our bodily organs to save and improve the lives of others.

In the teachings of our Church, we find a rich tapestry of wisdom and guidance that illuminates the Christian virtues inherent in organ donation.

Both the Holy Scriptures and the teachings of the saints emphasize the philanthropic characteristics present in a volunteer organ donor. For example, in the Book of Acts, St. Paul repeats Jesus' teaching, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35); Jesus sends out His disciples to "heal the sick" (Luke 10:9); and the whole of Jesus' ministry exhorts us to care for and to love one another, as He has loved us (John 13:34).

The saints' lives and writings remind us continuously that our life and our neighbor's life cannot be sharply separated. Saint Paul depicts the members of the Church as a single body, united with each other and with Christ as our head (Rom 12:5, Eph 4:15-16). Saint Anthony the Great taught that, "Our life and our death is with our neighbor" and Saint Makarios of Egypt stated that "only through our neighbor can we be saved."

Through these principles of our faith, organ donation can be seen as a Christ-like act, a distinct manifestation of love for one's neighbor—selflessly giving a part of oneself to improve the whole of another. When we freely donate our organs, we proclaim through our actions that 'our

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
FOR AN
ANASTASI LAMB DINNER
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE DIVINE
LITURGY WHICH FOLLOWS THE HOLY
RESURRECTION SERVICE
IN THE
ASSUMPTION COMMUNITY CENTER
COST IS

\$20 For Adult \$15 for children 10 & under
Please R.S.V.P by Sunday, April 28th

By Clicking Link Below

<https://forms.gle/Xb7S3Begd8ok4krAA>





Order Form for Greek Easter Breads (Tsourekia)

The price is \$12 for each 1-pound Round Bread

Orders are due by Sunday, April 21



Your Name _____

Email Address and/or Phone Number _____

Number of Breads Ordered _____ X \$12 = \$ _____

Payment Options:

- 1) The link below will take you to our secure payment processor for Credit/Debit Card Payments.

[Click here to pay electronically](#)

- 2) You can mail your order form with a check (made out to *Philoptochos with Easter Bread* in the memo section) to the Philoptochos Treasurer.

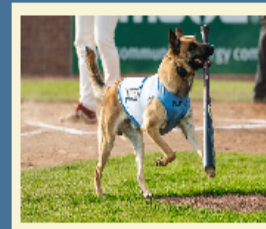
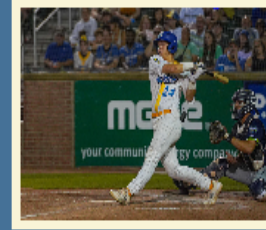
Beth Fatsis
1215 E. Johnson St
Madison WI 53703

- 3) You can put your order form and your payment of cash or a check (made out to *Philoptochos with Easter Bread* in the memo section) in an envelope and place the envelope in the Philoptochos philanthropy basket in the church's exo-narthex.

All Easter Breads (Tsourekia) ordered can be picked up from Holy Friday (May 3) through Easter (May 5).

Your order will be labeled with your name, and it will be placed on a table near the choir practice area in the church's lower-level fellowship hall.

Please email Maria Papas Heide at maria.heide@wisc.edu or call her at (608) 772-5545 with any questions.



SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, July 30th

GATES OPEN: 5:05 PM

FIRST PITCH: 6:05 PM

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church at the Duck Pond!

More Details To Follow!