

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION:** Hello Sunday school families, The time has come once again to register your children for Assumption's Sunday School Program. If you haven't done so already please take the time to sign up your children for Sunday school classes. The first day of class is TODAY after Holy Communion. This is the link for sign ups:  
<https://forms.gle/tEAKtqHPUniar9137>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED:** As we are beginning Sunday School today. We are in need of at least one more teacher. If you are interested please see Susu Akkawi or Fr. Christodoulos for more information.

**YOUTH WORKERS NEEDED:** Anyone interested in helping Fr. Christodoulos and the Youth Committee to help organize our various youth programs and ministries for next year (beginning this Fall) is asked to con-tact Fr. Christodoulos at the church office. We need youth (JOY & GOYA desperately needed) advisors, athletic director (If we want to participate in Jr. Olympics), Sunday School teachers etc. Without parishioner support, especially our youth's parents, we cannot continue to grow our various programs. Please offer your time and talent. See Fr. Christodoulos.

**METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO DIVE FOR THE CROSS:** The Metropolis of Chicago Dive for the Cross and BBQ' that will be held on Saturday, September 21st, at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church (Chicago, IL), from 10:30am – 1:30pm. All youth of the Metropolis of Chicago are encouraged to attend and participate. See Flier for mor details.

**2024 PARISH OUTING TO FORWARD MADISON FC:** On Saturday. October 12th, we will have a Parish Outing to the Forward Madison FC Soccer Game vs the Chattanooga Red Wolves with a 5:00 p.m. Kick-Off.

We have 50 tickets available for the game and they will include entrance to the game and an official Forward Madi-son FC Scarf . The cost is \$27. To purchase tickets please contact Fr. Christodoulos through email frchristos@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Initially we have 50 tickets. Information for buying tickets will be available soon! Join us for what is sure to be a great night of fun & fellowship.

**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.

**PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING:** Will be held on Sunday, September 22nd following Liturgy.

# Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✠Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

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**Sunday, September 15th, 2024**

**Sunday After The Elevation of the Holy Cross  
Saint Nikitas the Great Martyr  
Saint Philotheos the Righteous**

**Readings:**

**Epistle:** Galatians 2: 16-20

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

**Procession of the Holy Cross/Sunday School/Coffee Hour**

**THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION**

**Tuesday, September 17th, 2024**

**Saint Sophia & her 3 Daughter: Faith, Hope & Love**

**8:30 a.m.**

Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy

**7:00 p.m.**

Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday, September 18th, 2024**

**Strict Fast Day**

**7:00 p.m.**

Choir Practice

**Saturday, September 21st, 2024**

**Ethiopian Mission**

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

**FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY:** It is that time of year again. We are kicking off our Sunday School classes today. As part of the beginning of the Sunday School Year and being the day after the Elevation of the Holy Cross. We will have all the Sunday School Classes join us for the procession of the Holy Cross. We have classes for Preschool through High School. All children are welcome.

We do want to remind everyone to please allow the Sunday School Children to go up for communion first. This way they can get to their classes quickly.

May God bless all our teachers and students for another blessed year.

**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. Please keep the Center aisle clear for the ushers and wait until they dismiss your row. Please avoid standing right behind the ushers we do not want anyone tripping over a child. When receiving antidoron, please use both hands and do not allow the crumbs to fall to the floor.

**CHUCKLE:** If you want to be well liked, never lie about yourself, and be careful when telling the truth about others.

**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· ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω 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 εἰάν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν ἐπαισχυθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἀμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν 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."

**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 8 and up.

**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).

### Resurrection Hymn

Ἦχος γ

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιásthω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἕδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

#### Third Mode

Let the heavens rejoice, and let things on earth be glad, for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm; He hath trampled upon death by death; He hath become the first born of the dead. From the bowels of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

### Hymn for the Holy Cross

Ἦχος δ

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

#### 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 λυτρούμενη, 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 ἐπωνύμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός· εὐφρανὸν ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου τοὺς πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς κατὰ τῶν πολεμίῳν· τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τὴν σὴν, ὄπλον εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

#### Fourth Mode

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, \* O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions \* upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. \* Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, \* granting them the victories against their adversaries. \* And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, \* peace as their armor, 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 οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ γένοιτο. εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα ταῦτα πάλιν οικοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνίστημι. ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα Θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PARENTS' ATTITUDE TOWARD CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

The parent's attitude toward Church and Sunday Church School is crucial. There are parents who are habitually late for Church. The result is that children miss part or most of the Church School lesson. The continuity of the lesson is destroyed. The class is continually interrupted by late-comers. The teacher becomes frustrated. But even more important is what happens to the student. The child knows that for important things one has to be on time, public school for example. The habit of coming to church and Sunday Church School late teaches the child that God is not as important as public school, piano lessons, or sports for which one has to be on time.

Another example is the attitude of the parents towards coming to church on Sunday. It doesn't take much for some parents to stay away from church; just a tiny bit of rain will do it. But parents never stay away from work on Monday morning because of rain. So the child's mind learns that work is more important than God. For that matter, almost anything is more important than God. Is it a wonder, then, that the children grow up to adopt a system of values that leaves God out entirely?

Punctuality and faithful attendance at church impress upon children the importance of God and of our Orthodox Christian value system.

**GREEK FEST 2023:** We wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for making this years Greek Fest + such a rousing success. The Final numbers are not quite finished yet, but it looks like it may be another record setting year. There will be a Greek Fest + wrap up meeting following Liturgy in the near future. We will announce the date as soon as it is set. Thank you again for everyone's hard work.

**SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ON THE CROSS:** St. John Chrysostom offered the following encomium on the Cross of Jesus:

The Cross has dissolved hatred towards man, has brought reconciliation, has made the earth heaven, has mingled men with the angels, has conquered the bastion of death, as neutralized the strength of the devil, has dismissed the power of sin, has rid the earth of error, has restored the truth, has driven away the demons, has torn down pagan temples, has upset sacrificial altars, has dispelled the smell of burnt offerings, has planted virtue, has founded churches.

The Cross is the Will of the Father, the Glory of the Son, the Joy of the Spirit, the Pride of Paul.

The Cross is brighter than the sun and gayer than its ray.

The Cross has torn our mortgage, has rendered useless the prison of death.

The Cross is proof of the love of God, the unshaken wall, the unconquered weapon, the security of the rich, the richness of the poor, the weapon of the threatened, the rebuke of the passions, the kingdom of virtue, the wonderful and strange sign.

The Cross has opened paradise, has admitted the thief, and has guided the human race from impending disaster to the Kingdom of God.

**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."

## 2024 Parish outing to the Forward Madison FC



**On Saturday, October 12th, we will have a Parish Outing to the Forward Madison FC Soccer Game vs Chattanooga Red Wolves with a 5:00 p.m. Kick-Off.**

**We have 50 tickets available for the game and they will include entrance to the game and an official Forward Madison FC Scarf . The cost is \$27**

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**Join us for what is sure to be a great night of fun & fellowship.**

Saturday, September 21st  
Metropolis of Chicago  
Dive for the Cross and BBQ

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church  
5649 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**CALLING ALL YOUTH  
OF THE METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO**

All Parishes are invited to join the Clergy of Chicago as they bless the Waters of Lake Michigan then throw the Cross for the youth to retrieve  
BBQ lunch at St. Andrew's to follow

Parishes, please collect your RSVPs and send them to St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church no later than September 12th for food counts

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