

MEMORIAL UPDATES: Please note that Memorial Prayers will not be offered on **Sunday, March 9th - Sunday of Orthodoxy, Sunday, March 23rd - Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross**, as well as from **Sunday April 13th to Sunday, April 27th** (Palm Sunday/ Pascha & Sunday of Thomas). Anyone wishing to commemorate a love one during March may do so during the Saturday of Souls, (February 22nd & March 1st) or on Sunday, March 2nd, 16th, 30th & April 6th.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY - Please help the needy and bring non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. Canned vegetables and fruits, pasta, baby food, canned meals, peanut butter and jelly, pasta sauce, cereal, canned soup, etc. We are always so fortunate and thankful that we have generous parishioners. We are able to feed many of those in need, with your help.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFESSION: As we begin the Lenten Period on our Journey towards Pascha, we should all prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord by partaking of the Sacrament of Holy Confession. Make an appointment with your Spiritual Father. For details, see Fr. Christodoulos.

ALTAR BOY WORKSHOP SUNDAY, APRIL 6th: We are hosting a workshop for our current Altar Boy & for anyone wanting to join the ranks. We will be going over proper procedure and order for services and processions. Anyone who would like to join the Altar boys is Welcome but must be at least 8 years old. It will be following Liturgy on Sunday, April 6th. Come join our blessed tradition of serving God.

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).

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

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.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✝Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

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Sunday, March 9th, 2025
Sunday of Orthodoxy
The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebastia
Saint Caesarios the Righteous

Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 12: 1-10

Gospel: John 1: 43-51

Procession of Icons/Sunday School/Greek School

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Monday, March 10th, 2025

Strict Fast Day

6:00 p.m.

Great Compline

Wednesday, March 12th, 2025

Strict Fast Day

11:00 a.m.

Adult Religious Education Class if Books have arrived

5:30 p.m.

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, March 13th, 2025

Strict Fast Day

6:30 p.m.

Virtual Adult Religious Education Class via Zoom if books have arrived

Friday, March 14th, 2025

Strict Fast Day

6:00 p.m.

2nd Salutation Service to the Theotokos

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

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOX SUNDAY SCHOOL PROCESSION TODSAY:

Today at the conclusion of the Liturgy we will be having our Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession of Icons with our Sunday School children. We ask all our Sunday School kids and Parishioners who have brought their Icons for the celebration of the restoration of Icons to the Church. It is a Good for everyone to participate by bringing Icons.

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: Supporting the Church is **EACH** Orthodox Christian's responsibility to the Lord. From the single young adult to the married couple to the young family to those who are senior citizens, it takes everyone's commitment to support **OUR** parish of Assumption and promote **OUR** Orthodox Christian Faith!

Many thanks to all those who have pledged and we invite all those who haven't to please submit their pledge to the church office today.

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY IN WELCOMING BISHOP TIMOTHY: We are blessed to have the Chancellor of the Metropolis of Chicago Bishop Timothy join us for a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy next Sunday, March 16th. I hope you all can

The reading is from Paul's letter to the Hebrews

Brethren, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin that easily distracts, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who instead of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by him. For the Lord disciplines him whom he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers to discipline us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time at their pleasure, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

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.

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 δ

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθητριά, 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.

For the Feast

Ἦχος β

Τὴν ἄχραντον Εἰκόνα σου, προσκυνοῦμεν ἀγαθέ, αἰτούμενοι συγχώρησιν τῶν πταισμάτων ἡμῶν, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός· βουλήσει γὰρ ἠδόκησας σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, ἵνα ρύσῃ οὓς ἐπλασας, ἐκ τῆς δουλείας τοῦ ἐχθροῦ· ὄθεν εὐχαρίστως βοῶμέν σοι· Χαρᾶς ἐπλήρωσας τὰ πάντα ὁ Σωτὴρ ἡμῶν, παραγενόμενος εἰς τὸ σῶσαι τὸν κόσμον.

Second Mode

We venerate Your immaculate icon, O good Lord, and entreat You to forgive our offenses, O Christ our God. By Your own choice you were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver us, whom You created, from our slavery to the foe. Therefore we cry to You with gratitude: You have filled all things with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world.

Hymn for the Martyrs

Ἦχος α

Τὰς ἀλγηδόνας τῶν Ἀγίων, ἃς ὑπὲρ σοῦ ἔπαθον, δυσωπήθητι Κύριε, καὶ πάσας ἡμῶν τὰς ὀδύνας, ἴσασαι φιλόανθρωπε δεόμεθα.

First Mode

The holy martyrs suffered painful tortures for Your sake, O Lord; be compelled by what they endured, and heal our every pain, we entreat You, O only benevolent God.

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 λυτρουμένη, 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 υπερμάχῳ 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.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY: The first Sunday in Lent always commemorates the restoration of the use of Icons in the Orthodox Churches. It is also known as the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy and was first celebrated on March 11, 843, when after more than a century of controversy the Byzantine Empress Theodora finally brought about a restoration of the Icons. The first Sunday of Lent has been kept as an anniversary of Orthodoxy ever since, because it represents the keeping of the faith in tact and without change as handed down through our Holy Tradition.

The special event of the day is a procession with Holy Icons, petitions for the living and departed Orthodox Christians are chanted and the reading of the declaration of our Christian faith.

SAINTS OF THE DAY: The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebastia: In the Gospel reading today we see Christ give us some simple guidelines on how we should live our lives. The first and most prominent one is on forgiveness. He tells us to FORGIVE all those who have wronged us, not just those who ask us for forgiveness. The consequences are straight forward as well, if we cannot forgive, God will not forgive us. Christ does not sugar coat this, nor beat around the bush. Forgive all, or there is no hope for you to be forgiven. As we enter the Lenten period the message of forgiveness is at the forefront of the Gospel, but we also see an outline by Christ on how we should act during the Fast. The most important thing is to not show the world you are fasting, and how strict you are holding the fast. But, rather keep it between you and God. No one else needs to know what you are doing, because if you are seeking to show the world the piety of your Lenten fast, then Christ states clearly that you have gotten your reward on earth, and not in heaven. Lay up treasures in heaven. That is what the Lord seeks of you. We wish you a blessed Lenten season, as we travel the road to the Resurrection.

PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS: Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy will be chanted on Sunday, March 9th, at 5:00 p.m., here at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. We will then be alternating with Saint Ignatius for Sunday Evening Lenten Vespers. All Orthodox faithful are encouraged to attend and co-celebrate this historical triumph of our Holy Church as well as all the other Lenten Vespers.

ANNUNCIATION PHILOPTOCHOS LUNCHEON & GREEK SCHOOL

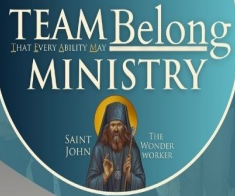
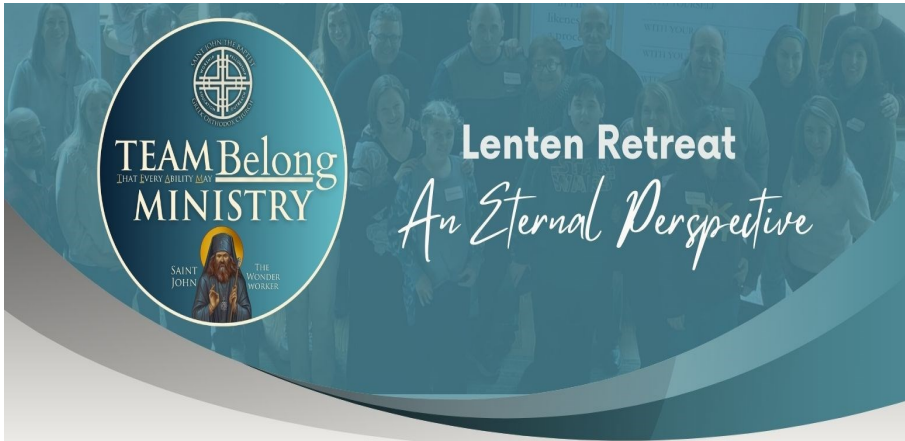
PROGRAM: Our Ladies Philoptochos are hosting Luncheon for the feast day of Annunciation and Greek Independence Day. Our Greek School will also be having their Greek School program as part of the Luncheon as well. The Luncheon will a Plaki Dinner and the cost will be \$15 for Adults and \$10 for children 10 and under.

[Click Link Here](#)

It is highly encouraged to make a reservation so that we can gauge how many people will be attending the luncheon. Reservation are not required and we will allow walks ins. I hope to see you all joining us for this wonderful day.

CHURCH FATHERS SPEAK: If you make a habit of praying for the salvation of others, God will give you an abundance of spiritual gifts, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, who loves the soul that cares for the salvation of others, because He Himself wishes to save us all by every possible means, if only we do not oppose Him, and do not harden our hearts. The Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. – *St. John of Kronstadt*

FROM THE SCRIPTURE: “And there is salvation in on one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12).



Lenten Retreat

An Eternal Perspective

Orthodox Christian families with children and adults with disabilities are welcome to an afternoon Lenten Retreat with a speaker for parents/caregivers and activities for participants with disabilities, supported by 1-to-1 volunteers, and their siblings. **All interested in the topic are welcome! Register here.**

8 March
2025

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Des Plaines

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

1:30-2 pm Arrival, participants with disabilities paired with volunteers

2-4:45 pm

- Workshops for Adults: Fr. Ephraim Peters
- Participants with disabilities, volunteers, and siblings will participate in music, art, gross motor, and other activities adapted for all needs.

4:45-6 pm Dinner

6 pm Vespers

Email abbylahos@gmail.com with questions.



SPEAKER
Fr. Ephraim Peters

Fr. Ephraim is the pastor at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Keene, NH in the Metropolis of Boston. He'll be leading the workshops for parents/caregivers around the theme of an Eternal Perspective on parenting, especially the particular challenges and blessings of being a parent of a child with disabilities. He'll be bringing his own personal experience as the parent of two adult autistic sons.



THIS EVENT IS FUNDED BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM THE HELLENIC FOUNDATION.

Lenten Pan-Orthodox Vespers For the Madison Area Orthodox Church



On Sunday's, March 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th 2024 the Madison Area Orthodox Churches will all be hosting Sunday Night Lenten Pan Orthodox Great Vespers.

All Services will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday's, March 9th & 23rd - Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

11 N 7th St. Madison, WI

Sunday's, March, 16th & 30th - Saint Ignatius Antiochian Orthodox Church

2124 Shafer Drive, Fitchburg, WI

**METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO PHILOPTOCHOS
LENTEN RETREAT 2025**

Using Your Gifts for the Glory of God

Saturday, March 15, 2025

9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Fellowship & Registration
beginning at 9am
Services, Presentations and
Luncheon to follow



Corinthians 12:4-7 -
"There are diversities of
gifts, but the same Spirit.
There are differences of
ministries, but the same
Lord. And there are
diversities of activities,
but the same God who
works all in all. But the
manifestation of the
Spirit is given to each one
for the profit of all."

Retreat Master: His Grace Bishop Timothy of Hexamilion

Presentations by:

Rev. Fr. Anastasios Theodoropoulos
English Speaker
All Saints - Joliet, IL

Rev. Fr. Sotirios Malamis
Greek Speaker
Ascension of Our Lord - Lincolnshire, IL

**RSVP to your Chapter President or Lenten Retreat Co-chairs
by Wednesday, March 5th**

Please let us know if you will be attending the English or Greek presentation

Co-chairs: Kathy Siavelis - katherine.siavelis@gmail.com - (847) 710-0326
Eleni Zervas - eleni.zervas@gmail.com - (414) 852-5020

**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
9400 West Congress St. Wauwatosa, WI 53225**

**Sunday of Orthodoxy
Pan-Orthodox Vespers
At Assumption Greek Orthodox Church**



**On Sunday, March 9th, 2025 the Madison Area Orthodox
Churches will be having our Fourth Annual Sunday of Orthodoxy
Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers.**

**Services will begin at 5:00 p.m. at
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
11 N. 7th St, Madison, WI**

**We will have a Pan-Orthodox Choir singing along with our
Chanters.**

**Our Ladies Philoptochos will be hosting fellowship coffee hour
immediately following the service in our Fellowship Hall**

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY LUNCHEON

Sunday March 23, 2025 after liturgy



Plaki (baked fish in tomato), Rice, Greek Salad, Skordalia (garlic potato dip) and Bread. Hand made by our own Philoptochos members.

Adults \$15, Children \$10

[Please RSVP for the meal HERE](#) so that we can get an estimate of how many meals to make.

Payment is not due until day of event. If you do not RSVP we cannot guarantee there will be extra dinners available.

In conjunction with the dinner, we will be drawing the lucky winner for our 4-night Stay at Sunset Nook Cottage on Green Lake. This is a fundraiser for humanitarian aid for Greece and Cyprus. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 3 for \$50. [Follow this LINK for more information](#) about this exciting getaway.



\$1,200 VALUE

SUNSET NOOK COTTAGE

Green Lake, Wisconsin

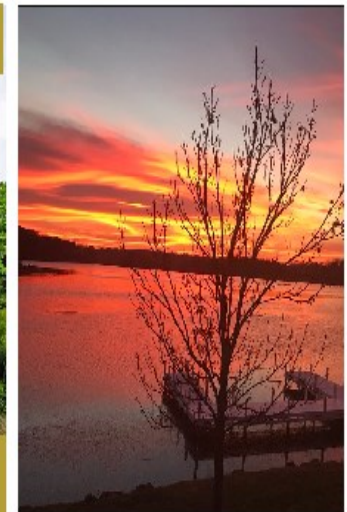
Win a 4 Night Getaway!

Valid Oct 15 thru May 1st

Philoptochos Sponsored Event

Proceeds will benefit the neediest of Greece and Cyprus.

Scan to see Photos



Waterfront Cottage

- ✓ Two Bedroom Ranch
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- ✓ Fully Equipped Kitchen
- ✓ Boat Slip
- ✓ Kayaks
- ✓ Walk to restaurants and downtown shops



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