**2025 PARISH OUTING TO FORWARD MADISON FC:** On Saturday. October 11th, 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 30 tickets available for the game and they will include entrance to the game and one meal per ticket. The cost is \$20. To purchase tickets please contact Fr. Christodoulos through email frchristos@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Initially we have 30 tickets. Information for buying tickets will be available soon! Join us for what is sure to be a great night of fun & fellowship.

**PARKING AND STREET UPDATE:** As we stated last week the construction has begun next door. We have rented out all the spots along the fence and those are not avaliable for parking Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will continue through the duration of the construction next door.

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.

#### 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.

<u>COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT:</u> 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).

#### **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.

# Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



Proistemenos
 Proistemenos
 frchristos@gmail.com
 11 N 7th Street
 Madison, WI 53704
 (608)-244-1001

www.agocwi.org

#### Sunday, August 31st, 2025

12th Sunday of Matthew

The Placing of the Honorable Sash of the Most Holy Theotokos Saint Cyprian the Hieromartyr & Bishop of Carthage Saint Gennadios Scholarus, Patriarch of Constantinople

#### **Readings:**

**Epistle:** Hebrews 9: 1-7 **Gospel:** Matthew 19: 16-26

**Coffee Hour** 

#### THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Monday, September 1st, 2025
Happy Labor Day!
Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025
Strict Fast Day

Philoptochos Baking Day (Baklava) Thursday, September 4th, 2025 Philoptochos Baking Day (Baklava)

Friday, September 5th, 2025 Strict Fast Day

Greek Fest Prep

Saturday, September 6th, 2025 GREEK FEST+

All Day

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

GREEK FEST VOLUNTEERINGIS UP & RUNNING: We are excited to host Greek Fest again this September! We know our success depends on ALL of us working together to plan, volunteer, and spread the word to friends and family. Please mark your calendars and plan to help Assumption have another successful Greek Fest by taking time to volunteer!

Please use this link to help us fill out our volunteer spots:

#### **CLICK HERE**

If you need help volunteering please see Maria Molzhan!

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: Our readiness for sharing has not kept pace with our skill at acquiring. Many of us have been blessed by God not only this last year but for our entire lives. However, we have failed to share that blessing with our Church of Assumption. Many seem to think that giving the minimum offering to the Church is OK. Others feel that giving nothing is even better. Take a moment and think about this. What if God gave you and your family the minimum of His Grace or maybe didn't send any blessings down upon you at all? What would your life be like?

We strongly urge all our parishioners to review what they have acquired in life and what they are giving to God's Church. Hopefully they are in the proper proportion. If you have not submitted your 2025 pledge please do so TODAY! If you have pledged, please make sure that your pledge is current and if possible, increase your pledge amount. Remember it is only through your support that our parish can grow and minister to the needs of the faithful.

#### The reading is from Saint 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 lampstand 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.

#### Έκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νεανίσκος τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, γονυπετῶν αὐτόν, καὶ λέγων Διδάσκαλε άγαθέ, τί άγαθὸν ποιήσω ἵνα ἔχω ζωὴν αἰώνιον; 'Ο δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῶ τί με λέγεις ἀγαθόν; οὐδεὶς ἀγαθὸς εἰ μὴ εἶς ὁ Θεός. εἰ δὲ θέλεις εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ζωήν, τήρησον τὰς ἐντολάς. λέγει αὐτῷ ποίας; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τὸ οὐ φονεύσεις, οὐ μοιγεύσεις, οὐ κλέψεις, οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις, τίμα τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα, καὶ ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ νεανίσκος: πάντα ταῦτα ἐφυλαξάμην ἐκ νεότητός μου· τί ἔτι ὑστερῶ; ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ θέλεις τέλειος εἶναι, ὕπαγε πώλησόν σου τὰ ὑπάργοντα καὶ δὸς πτωγοῖς, καὶ ἔξεις θησαυρὸν ἐν οὐρανῶ, καὶ δεῦρο ἀκολούθει μοι. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ νεανίσκος τὸν λόγον ἀπῆλθε λυπούμενος ἦν γὰρ ἔχων κτήματα πολλά. Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι δυσκόλως πλούσιος εἰσελεύσεται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν των οὐρανων. πάλιν δὲ λέγω ὑμῖν, εὐκοπώτερόν ἐστι κάμηλον διὰ τρυπήματος ραφίδος διελθεῖν ἢ πλούσιον εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰσελθεῖν. άκούσαντες δὲ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ έξεπλήσσοντο σφόδρα λέγοντες τίς ἄρα δύναται σωθηναι; ἐμβλέψας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς παρὰ ἀνθρώποις τοῦτο ἀδύνατόν έστι, παρά δὲ Θεῷ πάντα δυνατά έστι.

#### The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

t that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

## Resurrectional Apolitikion <sup>3</sup>Hyoc y

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῷν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου 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 Theotokos Ήχος πλ δ

Θεοτόκε Αειπάρθενε, τών ανθρώπων η σκέπη, Εσθήτα καί Ζώνην τού αχράντου σου σώματος, κραταιάν τή πόλει σου περιβολήν εδωρήσω, τώ ασπόρω τόκω σου άφθαρτα διαμείναντα, επί σοί γάρ καί φύσις καινοτομείται καί χρόνος, διό δυσωπούμέν σε, ειρήνην τή πολιτεία σου δώρησαι, καί ταίς ψυχαίς ημών τό μέγα έλεος.

#### **Mode Plagal of the Fourth**

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, shelter of mankind, thou hast bestowed upon thy people a mighty investure, even thine immaculate body's raiment and sash, which by thy seedless childbirth have remained incorrupt; for in thee nature and time are made new. Wherefore, we implore thee to grant peace to the world, and great mercy to our souls.

## Hymn for the Dormition of the Theotokos Ήγος α

Έν τῆ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Έν τῆ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωήν, 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 Ήχος β

Τήν θεοδόχον γαστέρα σου Θεοτόκε, περιλαβούσα η Ζώνη σου η τιμία, κράτος τή πόλει σου απροσμάχητον, καί θησαυρός υπάρχει, τών αγαθών ανέκλειπτος, η μόνη τεκούσα αειπάρθενος.

#### **Second Mode**

Thy precious sash, O Theotokos, which encompassed thy God-receiving womb, is an invincible force for thy flock, and an unfailing treasury of every good, O only Ever-virgin Mother.

#### Πρός Έβραίους τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Αδελφοί, εἶχεν ή πρώτη σκηνή δικαιώματα λατρείας, τό τε ἄγιον κοσμικόν. Σκηνὴ γὰρ κατεσκευάσθη ή πρώτη, ἐν ἢ ἥ τε λυχνία καὶ ή τράπεζα καὶ ή πρόθεσις τῶν ἄρτων, ἥτις λέγεται ἄγια. Μετὰ δὲ τὸ δεύτερον καταπέτασμα σκηνὴ ή λεγομένη ἄγια ἀγίων, χρυσοῦν ἔχουσα θυμιατήριον, καὶ τὴν κιβωτὸν τῆς διαθήκης περικεκαλυμμένην πάντοθεν χρυσίω, ἐν ἢ στάμνος χρυσῆ ἔχουσα τὸ μάννα, καὶ ἡ ῥάβδος Ἀαρὼν ἡ βλαστήσασα, καὶ αὶ πλάκες τῆς διαθήκης ὑπεράνω δὲ αὐτῆς Χερουβὶμ δόξης κατασκιάζοντα τὸ ἰλαστήριον περὶ ὧν οὐκ ἔστιν νῦν λέγειν κατὰ μέρος. Τούτων δὲ οὕτως κατεσκευασμένων, εἰς μὲν τὴν πρώτην σκηνὴν διὰ παντὸς εἰσίασιν οἱ ἱερεῖς, τὰς λατρείας ἐπιτελοῦντες εἰς δὲ τὴν δευτέραν ἄπαξ τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ μόνος ὁ ἀρχιερεύς, οὐ χωρὶς αἵματος, ὃ προσφέρει ὑπὲρ ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τῶν τοῦ λαοῦ ἀγνοημάτων

THE JOURNEY DOWN THE PATH OF FAITH: An Orthodox Christian life is a journey. We never stand still. God confronts us with an array of challenges, struggles and opportunities as we walk down the path of life. New experiences and persectives help us grow in faith and trust.

The psalmist knows that we never walk this path of life alone, no matter where that path leads. Praying to God, the psalmist says, "You search out my path." Whether in the heavens or the pits of suffering and death or the uttermost parts of the sea, Psalm 139 affirms that God is there: "Even your hand shall lead me and your right hand shall hold me fast."

In the fourth chapter of Acts, the tale is recounted of a man who had been unable to walk since his birth. Suddenly one day this same man walked healed and whole down a path formed amid a sea of amazed people who wondered how this man could be healed. Peter and John told them, "By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead." Jesus' death and resurrection opened up a new path through death to life, through brokenness to wholeness and healing.

Having experienced the faithfulness and guidance of God in our journeys, followers are called by Jesus to share the good news of Jesus' love with others, proclaiming in His name, "repentance and forgiveness of sins...to all nations." God calls us to be trail blazers, opening new paths for other people that they, too, may share in the journey of faith in Christ. We invite others on a journey in which God is always with us, a journey where the ultimate goal is healing and life, and a journey that always moves outward to others around us.

THE PLACING OF THE HONORABLE SASH OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS: Today is one of the seven days of the Church Calendar on which we commemorate the Theotokos. At her Dormition, the Theotokos left her belt to the Apostle Thomas. It was later taken to Constantinople and placed in the Church of the Mother of God at Blachernae. Empress Zoe (886-912) had the belt placed on her sick body for healing. This feast was instituted to commemorate this healing act.

MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR: September 1st is the beginning of the Church's cycle of feasts and fasts, wherein we remember God's stooping down to deliver us from the grinding death of fiscal years and calendars.

The Christian year is where every feast is a feast of Christ, where every seventh day is celebrated as a Sabbath of rejoicing in the remembrance of the Resurrection. In this year we celebrate Jesus Christ, in the events of His foretelling, in the events of His manifestation, in the lives of His saints.

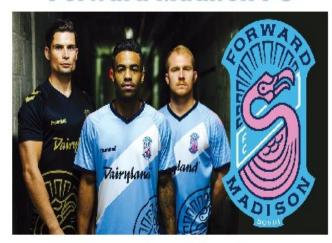
<u>VASILIKO WANTED:</u> We are in need of Vasiliko (Basil) plants for the celebration of the Litany of the Holy Cross that will be celebrated on the Feast Day of the Elevation of the Holy Cross, Sunday, September 14th. If you can be of assistance, please bring them to church prior to the Orthros service.

<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION:</u> 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 will be on Sunday, September 14th after Holy Communion. This is the link for sign ups:

Click Here to Register your kids

# 2025 Parish outing to the

## Forward Madison FC



On Saturday. October 11th, we will have a Parish Outing to the Forward Madison FC Soccer Game vs Chattanooga Red Wolves SC with a 5:00 p.m. Kick-Off.

We have 30 tickets available for the game and they will include entrance to the game and one free meal per ticket. . The cost is \$20

To purchase tickets please contact Fr. Christodoulos through email frchristos@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Initially we have 30 tickets.

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

# ه المحاول المعاول المع

# **GREEK FEST+ 2025**

# Save the Date Saturday, September 6th\*

11:00-7:00

(\*Rain date: Sunday, 9/7)



**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church** 11 N. 7th Street, Madison, WI





