

SAVE THE DATE: PARISH OUTING TO THE MADISON CAPITALS

GAME: Once again our parish is going to be doing an outing to the Madison Capitals Hockey Team on Saturday, February 21st. This year we have gotten one of the suites for the game and cost will \$25 per person. It is also Team USA Bobble-head night. This will be a great game to attend with the whole family. Come cheer on our Madison Capitals to defeat the Des Moines Buccaneers on February 21st at 7:05 p.m. at the Bob Suter's Capital Aren

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.

**Follow us on social media and
introduce yourself!**

SCAN HERE

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@agoc_msn

WELCOME FORM



**Questions? Reach out
to Fr. Chris or Zach**

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



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Sunday, February 8th, 2026
Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Greatmartyr Theodore the Commander
Prophet Zachariah
Readings

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Sunday School / Greek School / Philoptochos Meeting

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Tuesday, February 10th, 2026

Saint Haralambos

7:30 a.m.

Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, February 11th, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Saturday, February 14th, 2026

1st Saturday of Souls

8:30 a.m.

Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy

Fr. Christodoulou's Office hours are:

Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

FROM THE FATHERS: The roof of any house stands upon the foundations and the rest of the structure. The foundations themselves are laid in order to carry the roof. This is both useful and necessary, for the roof cannot stand without the foundations and the foundations are absolutely useless without the roof - no help to any living creature. In the same way the grace of God is preserved by the practice of the commandments, and the observance of these commandments is laid down like foundations through the gift of God. The grace of the Spirit cannot remain with us without the practice of the commandments, but the practice of the commandments is of no help or advantage to us without the grace of God. – *St. Symeon the New Theologian*

A VERSE EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW: “Therefore humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:6).

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.

Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

The Gospel According to Luke

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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 Antidoron 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 Apolitikion

Ἦχος β

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nether world, all the powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Hymn for the Feast

Ἦχος α΄.

Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθέने· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ Ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτεα δίκαιε, δεξιόμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαρίζομενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

Mode 1.

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.

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 α

Ὁμήτραν παρθενηκὴν ἀγίαςας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεὼν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἡγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.

First Mode

You sanctified the womb of the Virgin by Your birth, and by Your presentation You blessed the hands of Symeon, when You came, and You saved us, O Christ our God. Now we pray You give peace to Your world at war, and let love for Your people prevail in all, O only benevolent Lord.

The reading is from Paul's First Letter to The Corinthians

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of

WHICH SON ARE WE: We heard the beautiful Gospel today of the Prodigal Son. Within this parable are two brothers, who are different in many ways. We know neither is perfect. The one takes his father's money, moves to another land, and loses everything on loose living. The other son never leaves his father, he is a hard worker, and obedient to his father in all things. When many of us look at this parable of the Prodigal Son we focus on the son that left and don't want to be like him, but that is exactly who want to emulate. We are all prodigal sons and daughters, that is sinners, and we, too, need to acknowledge our sins and repent for them. We need the courage to acknowledge our transgressions and change our ways. Unfortunately, many of us find it difficult to take responsibility for the littlest transgression, let alone a large one. Too often when one looks at the world today we see more of the second son, the one that is unwilling to forgive his brother; the one that cannot understand how his father could celebrate his brother's return. Too many times families are torn apart by petty arguments between siblings and parents. Let us all use the Prodigal Son as a true example in our lives, and never fear repentance, but always come back to our Father, Who is loving, compassionate, forgiving and merciful

SAINT OF THE DAY: SAINT THEODORE THE COMMANDER: The holy Martyr Theodore was from Euchaita of Galatia and dwelt in Heraclea of Pontus. He was a renowned commander in the military, and the report came to the Emperor Licinius that he was a Christian. Licinius therefore sent certain men to him from Nicomedia, to honor him and ask him to appear before him. Through them, however, Saint Theodore sent back a message that it was necessary for various reasons that Licinius come to Heraclea. Licinius, seeing in this a hope of turning Saint Theodore away from Christ did as was asked of him.

When the Emperor came to Heraclea, Saint Theodore met him with honor, and the Emperor in turn gave Theodore his hand, believing that through him he would be able to draw the Christians to the worship his idols. Seated upon his throne in the midst of the people, he publicly told Theodore to offer sacrifice to the gods. But Theodore asked that the emperor to entrust him with the idols made of gold and silver, that he might take them home that evening, promising that the following day he would honor them in public. The Emperor, filled with joy at this news, gave authority that Theodore's request be fulfilled.

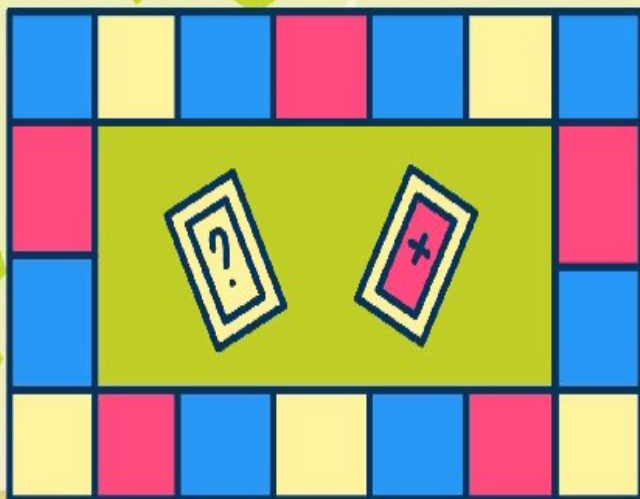
When the Saint had taken the idols home, he broke them in pieces and distributed the gold and silver to the poor by night. The next day a centurion named Maxentius told Licinius that he had seen a pauper pass by carrying the head of Artemis. Saint Theodore, far from repenting of this, confessed Christ boldly. Licinius, in an uncontrollable fury, had the Saint put to many torments, then crucified. While upon the cross, the holy Martyr was further tormented -- his private parts were cut off, he was shot with arrows, his eyes were put out, and he was left on the cross to die. The next day Licinius sent men to take his corpse and cast it into the sea; but they found the Saint alive and perfectly whole. Through this, many believed in Christ. Seeing his own men turning to Christ, and the city in an uproar, Licinius had Theodore beheaded, about the year 320. The Saint's holy relics were returned to his ancestral home on June 8, which is also a feast of the Great Martyr Theodore.

CHUCKLE: A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet. "My dog's cross eyed. Is there anything you can do for him?" "Well," says the vet, "let's have a look at him." So he picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then checks his teeth. Finally, he says "I'm going to have to put him down." "What? Because he's cross-eyed?" "No, because he's really heavy."

BOARD GAME NIGHT



YOUNG ADULT
FELLOWSHIP



MON FEB 9TH
6:00- 8:30 PM

IN THE
CHURCH HALL

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE BOARD GAME
AND SOME FINGER FOOD TO SHARE



URBAN AIR

Tuesday March 24th
from 5:30 - 7:30 pm

7309 W Towne Way,
Madison WI 53719
Purchase tickets in
person or online



CONFESSION SUNDAYS

- Sunday March 8th
students in grade
PreK - 3rd grade
- Sunday March 22nd
students in grades
4th-12th grade

Confession will take
place after Sunday
school in the church

VOLUNTEER NEEDED




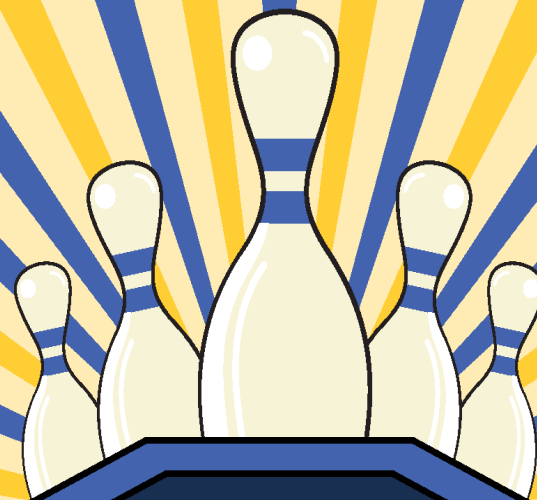
7
MAR
2026

Help package and sort food
at the Second Harvest Food Pantry

12:30 PM - 3:30 PM
2802 DAIRY DRIVE MADISON, WI 53718

EMAIL SUSU AKKAWI IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
22 SLOTS AVAILABLE

 sususaba@yahoo.com



BOWLING
Night

Details will be announced later

Sunday February 15th

2026 Parish outing to the Madison Capitol's Hockey Team



On Saturday, February 21st 2026 we will have a Parish Outing to the Madison Capitol's Hockey Game vs the Des Moines Buccaneers

This year we have one of the Suites reserved for the church. This means we will only have a limited amount of Tickets available. The cost is \$25 which will include food in the Suite.

RSVP with Fr. Christodoulos

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

Women's

Paint and Sip Night

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 17TH

6 - 8 PM

RSVP by Feb 14th with Susu or Courtney

Please bring your fave appetizer to share and \$10 for supplies

Feel free to bring your own project in as well!

Assumption Church Hall