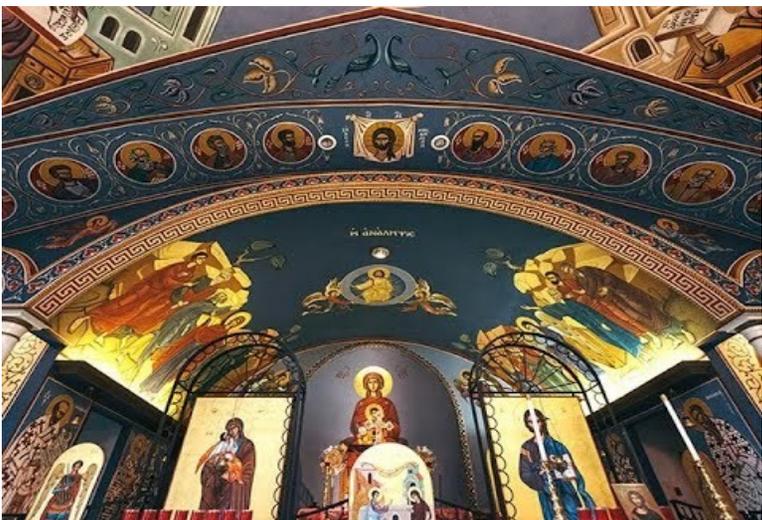


Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



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www.agocwi.org

SAVE THE DATE

**Assumption
Greek Orthodox
Church**

Tuesday, July 21st
@ 6:05 PM

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

**Mallards
MADISON**



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

SCAN HERE

INSTAGRAM



@agoc_msn

WELCOME FORM



Questions? Reach out
to Fr. Chris or Zach

Sunday, March 8th, 2026

2nd Sunday of Lent - Saint Gregory Palamas

Saint Theophylaktos, Bishop of Nicomedeia Hermas the Apostle of the 70

Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Sunday School / Confession Sunday / Greek School / Coffee Hour / Vespers of

Conitration

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Monday, March 9th, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Great Compline

Wednesday, March 11th, 2026

5:30 p.m.

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy (Potluck to follow)

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, March 12th, 2026

6:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

Trivia Night

Friday, March 13th, 2026

6:00 p.m.

3rd Salutation Service to the Theotokos

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

CONFESSION SUNDAY: This morning, following Divine Liturgy and Sunday school, our PreK-3rd grade students will have Confession with Fr. Christodoulos in the church. They will learn more about this beautiful Sacrament offered to us by the Church and will say a prayer with Father.

VESPERS OF CONTRITION: Join us this evening at 5:00p.m. for the Vespers of Contrition. We will be welcoming guests from the surrounding Orthodox churches for this beautiful service. All are welcome to attend.

TRIVIA NIGHT: Join us this Thursday for another fellowship event here in the Church Hall. This time it's Trivia Night! See the attached flyer for more details.

THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC: In honor of Saint Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki in the fourteenth century, we will look at some of his divine words from a homily he gave on today's Gospel reading about the healing of the paralytic. When the paralytic was brought to the Lord, the Lord said to him, "Child, your sins are forgiven you." Often when people get physically sick, it is because of spiritual sickness – that is, sin. Just as sin, or spiritual sickness, precedes physical sickness, so here, the Lord gives spiritual healing to the paralytic before giving physical healing. The Lord also shows all those present Who He is. He is not a simple man, but God in the flesh. The Scribes became indignant that Christ said, "Child, your sins are forgiven you." They thought Christ was blas-

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews

In the beginning, Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

The Gospel According to Mark

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

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.

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).

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.

Resurrection Apolitikion

Ἦχος πλ β

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρόθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Plagal of the Second Mode

When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and was not tried there by Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou Who art risen from the dead, Lord glory be to Thee.

Hymn for the Hierarch

Ἦχος πλ. δ'

Ὁρθοδοξίας ὁ φωστήρ, Ἐκκλησίας τὸ στήριγμα καὶ διδάσκαλε, τῶν μοναστῶν ἡ καλλονή, τῶν θεολόγων ὑπέρμαχος ἀπροσμάχητος, Γρηγόριε θαυματουργέ, Θεσσαλονίκης τὸ καύχημα, κήρυξ τῆς χάριτος, ἰκέτευε διὰ παντός, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν

Mode pl. 4.

Beacon of Orthodox belief, the strong support of the Church and her teacher inspired by God, you are the ornament of monks, the unassailable champion of theologians, O Gregory the Wonder-worker and the boast of Thessalonica, the messenger of grace. Forever earnestly entreat 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 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 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..

Mode pl. 4.

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, from all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

pheming, because they thought that only God could forgive sins. It is true that only God can forgive sins. But what they did not realize was that Christ was God, Who forgives and heals. Christ, Who is the Physician of our souls and bodies, shows Who He is to everyone present not only by telling the paralytic that he is forgiven, but by actually healing him. After the people who were present saw this great miracle, they glorified God, saying, "Never have we seen anything like this."

SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS: This divine Father, was from Asia Minor, and was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359. His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.

IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU: Man cannot forgive himself. No matter how often he tells himself that his sin is not serious, it will remain to haunt him. Some word from beyond must come if he is to find peace of heart, the only peace there is. That word from beyond was spoken to the paralytic by the Lord Jesus Himself, **"My son, your sins are forgiven."** These same words can be spoken to us this Lent if we will repent and confess our sins to Jesus. Through God's forgiveness, we, too, can rise from a paralyzed life and walk into a new life, a life of wholeness and health. We, too, can glorify God and say, "I never saw anything like this. I never dreamed anything like this was possible for me."

FROM THE FATHERS: The Lord of all gave to His apostles the power of the gospel, and by them we also have learned the truth, that is, the teaching of the Son of God - as the Lord said to them, 'He who hears you hears Me, and he who despises you despises Me, and Him Who sent Me' [Lk.10:16]. For we learned the plan of our salvation from no other than from those through whom the gospel came to us. The first preached it abroad, and then later by the will of God handed it down to us in Scriptures, to be the foundation and pillar of our faith. For it is not right to say that they preached before they had come to perfect knowledge, as some dare to say, boasting that they are the correctors of the apostles. For after our Lord had risen from the dead, and they were clothed with the power from on high when the Holy Spirit came upon them, they were filled with all things and had perfect knowledge. They went out to the ends of the earth, preaching the good things that come to us from God, and proclaiming peace from heaven to all men, all and each of them equally being in possession of the gospel of God. – *St. Irenaeus*

Journey to the Resurrection
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church – Madison, WI



- Sunday, March 8: St. Gregory Palamas** 8:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 8: 5:00 p.m. Vespers of Contrition at Assumption
Monday, March 9: 6:00 p.m. Great Compline
Wednesday, March 11: 5:30 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy (Potluck to follow)
Friday, March 13: 6:00 p.m. 3rd Salutations to the Theotokos
- Sunday, March 15: Veneration of the Holy Cross** 8:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Monday, March 16: 6:00 p.m. Great Compline
Wednesday, March 18: 5:30 p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy (Potluck to follow)
Friday, March 20: 6:00 p.m. 4th Salutations to the Theotokos
- Sunday, March 22: St. John Climacus** 8:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Monday, March 23: 6:00 p.m. Great Compline
Wednesday, March 25: Annunciation of the Theotokos 8:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy & 6:00 p.m. Small Compline with the Great Canon
Friday, March 27: 6:00 p.m. Akathist to the Theotokos
- Sunday, March 29:** 8:30 a.m. Orthros & Divine Liturgy - St. Mary of Egypt

Spring Taverna Night
Assumption Greek Orthodox Church - Madison, WI

Saturday, May 16, 2026
A Mini Greek Festival Experience

Join us for an afternoon and evening of authentic Greek food, fellowship, and celebration!

Online Pre - Order "Dinner To Go"

Pre - packaged foods available for pickup the morning of May 16.
Gyro kits, frozen pastitsio, spanakopita & tiropita, and dessert packs available.

Pickups conclude before noon.

Walk - In Taverna Night

Held in the back parking lot with hot, ready - to - eat food and drinks.
Enjoy gyros, souvlaki dinners, vegetarian options, desserts, beer, wine, and soft drinks.

Come enjoy Greek hospitality, delicious food, and the joy of spring with us!



PICNIC in The Park



FOODS - GAMES - FUN

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE LAST DAY CELEBRATION OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL AT THE PARK! BRING WITH YOU SOME FOOD AND
DRINKS AND ANY FIELD GAMES!

SUNDAY
17
MAY

MCDANIEL PARK
AT 2 PM - 5 PM

4806 MCDANIEL LN. MCFARLAND, WI 53558



TRIVIA NIGHT



MARCH
12TH

6:00PM - 9:00PM

Assumption Church Hall

Join us for an epic Trivia Night filled with
challenging questions and fellowship!
Please RSVP with Father or Zach





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

APRIL EVENTS

LENT PERIOD LEADING UP TO PASCHA

APR LAZARUS RETREAT
04 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

APR NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
5 & 12 PALM SUNDAY & PASCHA

APR EASTER EGG HUNT
12 AFTER AGAPI SERVICES

APR ESCAPE ROOM EVENT
25 DETAILS COMING SOON