

DANCING WITH GOD: When I meditated on the word Guidance, I kept seeing “dance” at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God’s will is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn’t flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One give gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It’s as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other.

My eyes drew back to the word Guidance. When I saw “G”: I thought of God, followed by “u” and “i”. “God”, “u” and “i” dance. God, you, and I dance. As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get guidance about my life. Once again, I became willing to let God lead. My prayer for you today is that God’s blessings and mercies be upon you on this day and everyday. May you abide in God as God abides in you! Dance together with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life.

CHUCKLE: DADDY’S GONNA EAT YOUR FINGERS...The father was packing for his business trip and his three year old daughter was having a wonderful time playing on the bed. At one point she said, “Daddy, look at this” and stuck out two of her fingers.

Trying to keep her entertained, he reached out and stuck her tiny fingers in his mouth and said, “Daddy’s gonna eat your fingers,” pretending to eat them. The father went back to packing, looked up again and saw his daughter standing on the bed staring at her fingers with a devastated look on her face. I said, “What’s wrong, honey?” She replied, “What happened to my booger?”

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).

SUMMER CHURCH ATTENDANCE: Sunday School children and their parents are reminded to faithfully attend the Liturgy throughout the summer months. Some of our children are of the opinion that when Sunday classes terminated so did the Liturgy. St. Paul reminds us of the importance to pray without ceasing which includes every day of the year. See you in church!

FOR PONDERING: I cannot keep myself but Jesus always keeps me.

THOUGHT: “I must do something” and then doing it will solve more problems than saying “Something must be done” and then not doing a thing.

TRUE REWARD: “Teach your child this lesson – the rewards of evil are temporary; the rewards of godliness are eternal” (Saint Cyprian).

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



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Sunday, July 5th, 2026

5th Sunday of Matthew

Saint Athanasius of Mount Athos

Righteous Father Lampadus the Wonderworker

Saint Kyprianos the New Martyr of Koutloumousiou Monastery

Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 5: 22-26; 6: 1-2

Gospel: Matthew 8: 28-34; 9: 1

Coffee Hour

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Saturday, July 11th, 2026

Souvlaki Prep

Fr. Christodoulou's Office hours are: Tuesday - Friday

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

ASSUMPTION'S 75th ANNIVERSARY SAVE THE DATE 11-14-2026: As we prepare to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our beloved parish, we invite everyone to participate in making this milestone truly memorable!

• **Share Your Memories:** Please submit any Assumption-related photos as soon as possible for inclusion in our anniversary celebration.

• **Become a Sponsor:** Personal and business sponsorships for our 75th Anniversary Gala are greatly appreciated and will help make this special event a success.

• **Watch Your Mailbox:** Official invitations for our 75th Anniversary Celebration will be mailed in September.

Thank you for helping us honor 75 years of faith, fellowship, and ministry at Assumption!

SOUVLAKI CUTTING & PREPARING: On Saturday, 11th our Greek Fest + Committee is in need of volunteers to help cut and prepare the Souvlakis for this Fall's Greek Fest +. If you are able to help join us on the 11th beginning at 9:00 a.m. downstairs in the Social Hall. We need everyone's help to make this another successful Greek Fest.

GREEK FEST + VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Dear AGOC Family, Our annual Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Greek Fest Plus will be here before we know it. We need everyone to step up and join the party! Please take a minute to complete this form: [CLICK HERE](#) with your availability.

If you can't open the link please contact Maria Molzahn or Beth Beth Fatsis. philomadison@gmail.com or bfatsis1215@gmail.com. Thank you!!!!

Maria and Beth

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ἀλλήλους προκαλούμενοι, ἀλλήλοις φθονοῦντες. Ἀδελφοί, ἐὰν καὶ προληφθῇ ἄνθρωπος ἐν τινι παραπτώματι, ὑμεῖς οἱ πνευματικοὶ καταρτίζετε τὸν τοιοῦτον ἐν πνεύματι πραότητος, σκοπῶν σεαυτὸν, μὴ καὶ σὺ πειρασθῆς. ἀλλήλων τὰ βάρη βαστάζετε, καὶ οὕτως ἀναπληρώσατε τὸν νόμον τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γεργεσηνῶν ὑπήντησαν αὐτῷ δύο δαιμονιζόμενοι ἐκ τῶν μνημείων ἐξερχόμενοι, χαλεποὶ λίαν, ὥστε μὴ ἰσχύειν τινὰ παρελθεῖν διὰ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκείνης, καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐκραζαν λέγοντες· τί ἡμῖν καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ; ἦλθες ὧδε πρὸ καιροῦ βασανίσει ἡμᾶς; ἦν δὲ μακρὰν ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀγέλη χοίρων πολλῶν βοσκομένη. οἱ δὲ δαίμονες παρεκάλουν αὐτὸν λέγοντες· εἰ ἐκβάλλεις ἡμᾶς, ἐπίτρεψον ἡμῖν ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ὑπάγετε. οἱ δὲ ἐξελθόντες ἀπήλθον εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων· καὶ ἰδοὺ ὥρμησε πᾶσα ἡ ἀγέλη τῶν χοίρων κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ ἀπέθανον ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι. οἱ δὲ βόσκοντες ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπελθόντες εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἀπήγγειλαν πάντα καὶ τὰ τῶν δαιμονιζομένων. καὶ ἰδοὺ πᾶσα ἡ πόλις ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν τῷ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν παρεκάλεσαν ὅπως μεταβῆ ἀπὸ τῶν ὀρίων αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐμβὰς εἰς πλοῖον διεπέρασε καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν πόλιν.

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

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. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodoxy please scan the flier to receive some information and a call from someone who can lead you in the right direction and answer any questions you may have,

Resurrection Dismissal Hymn

Ἦχος δ

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθητρίαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχόμεναι 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 Devout Man

Ἦχος γ

Τὴν ἐν σαρκὶ ζωὴν, σοῦ κατεπλάγησαν, Ἀγγέλων τάγματα, πῶς μετὰ σώματος, πρὸς ἀοράτους συμπλοκάς, ἐχώρησας πανεύφημε, καὶ κατετραυμάτισας, τῶν δαιμόνων, τὰς φάλαγγας· ὄθεν Ἀθανάσιε, ὁ Χριστὸς σε ἡμεῖψατο, πλουσίαις δωρεαῖς· Διὸ Πάτερ, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Third Mode

Angelic hosts on high were filled with wonderment, seeing your life in the flesh: how with your body you courageously went out to wrestle with invisible foes; and to the demonic hordes you inflicted serious wounds. Therefore, Athanasios, you received from the Master Christ, a wealth of gifts. Holy Father, intercede on our behalf with Christ our God, to save 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 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 β

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἰκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

Second Mode

A protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ καρπὸς τοῦ Πνεύματος ἐστὶν ἀγάπη, χαρὰ, εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία, χρηστότης, ἀγαθωσύνη, πίστις, πραότης, ἐγκράτεια· κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων οὐκ ἔστι νόμος. οἱ δὲ τοῦ Χριστοῦ τὴν σάρκα ἐσταύρωσαν σὺν τοῖς παθήμασι καὶ ταῖς ἐπιθυμίαις. Εἰ ζῶμεν Πνεύματι, πνεύματι καὶ στοιχῶμεν. μὴ γινώμεθα κενόδοξοι,

WHATEVER, LORD, WHATEVER!

Some of you may recall that Archie Bunker on the TV sitcom “All in the Family” continually mispronounced the name of their pastor. When his wife Edith corrected him, he’d toss his head back and say “whatever!” It was Archie’s way of saying, “I don’t care. It’s not important to me.”

But there is another meaning to the word “whatever” – one that has profound spiritual meaning. Pattie Mansfield, a spiritual writer, has coined what she calls the “whatever” prayer. It goes like this:

THE “WHATEVER” PRAYER

Whatever You want, Lord, I want.

Whatever You choose, I choose.

Whatever You say, I’ll do.

Whatever You give, I’ll receive.

Whatever You withhold, I’ll accept.

Whatever You Plan, I’ll rejoice in.

Whatever, Lord, Whatever!

This prayer represents an attitude that the saints call abandonment or total surrender to God. It’s giving God permission to do with us whatever He pleases. If I’m really allowing Jesus to be the Lord and Master of my life, I’ve got to be ready to give up my will for His will, my plan for His plans, and my timetable for His timetable.

Jesus Himself prayed the “whatever prayer” as He was agonizing in the Garden of Gethsemane just before His crucifixion: “My Father,” He prayed, “if this cup cannot pass unless I drink it, thy will be done.” God’s will was done. The crucifixion led to the resurrection, and as a result those who are baptized, truly believe in Jesus, and follow Him, have eternal life and go from death to life.

GIVING GOD PERMISSION TO DO GLORIOUS THINGS WITH OUR LIVES: There is no limit to what God can do with someone who prays the “whatever” prayer – the prayer of total surrender to God. A simple virgin named Mary became the Mother of God when at the Annunciation she said “whatever” to God, that is, “Be it done to me according to Your will.” Simon Peter the fisherman became Simon Peter the rock on whose confession of faith that Jesus is Lord, the Church was built. A tax collector named Matthew became an evangelist who wrote the first of the four Gospels. Mary Magdalene, a prostitute, became the first to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus. A persecutor named Saul became Paul, the great apostle to the Gentiles. And the list goes on. “Whatever, Lord! Whatever!” is a prayer that gives God permission to do glorious things with our lives.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT: The year of 2026 has reached its half-way point and yet many parishioners still have not made a stewardship pledge to the church. It is only through your financial commitment that the work of Christ can be done in this world. It is only through your support and love of Jesus that will enable His Word to be heard. Make your pledge today and become a steward of Christ’s Church. If you have already made a pledge, please make every effort to meet your financial obligation in a timely manner. Remember, without you, there is no Church!



Greek Fest+ 2026

September 12

Sat. 11 AM - 7 PM

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
11 N. Seventh St., Madison, WI
at E. Washington Ave. & N. Seventh St.

Enjoy music, dancing, church tours and delicious Greek favorites including gyros, fries, spanakopita, chicken souvlakia, baklava, loukoumades, beer and wine!

Don't miss our Bake Sale inside the church!



Prayers of the Heart

"For what is prayer? Prayer is the raising of the mind and heart to God—for praise and thanksgiving and beseeching Him for the good things necessary for soul and body. The essence of prayer, then, is the mental ascent to God from the heart. The mind stands in the heart consciously before the face of God, and, filled with proper and necessary reverence, it begins to pour out its heart before Him. This is prayer of the heart!"

Bishop Theophan the Recluse

The OCWA Prayer Chain has existed for many years. It is a way for us to pray for others knowing that our prayers will be magnified when all of us lift our hearts and our words up to God. We pray for those afflicted with illness, sorrow, and challenges of body and soul. We add prayers for physicians and caregivers and family members who heal and support, so that they may be comforted and guided by God. We also pray for those departed this life.

Our group of faithful prayer warriors can always use additional members. If you would like to join us, please email me at maryann.lindberg@gmail.com. You will be added to the chain but your email address will not be visible to others. Please send any prayer request to the same email, with the first name of the prayer recipient and a brief description of the prayer needed.

Taking a moment from your busy day to pray for someone in need is a source of calm and spiritual strengthening that would add purpose to your day.

All are welcome to join us!

"Oh, what great happiness and bliss, what exaltation it is to address oneself to the Everlasting Father. Always, without fail, value this joy which has been accorded to you by God's infinite grace and do not forget it during your prayers; God, the angels and God's holy men listen to you."

Elder Joseph the Hesychast

Follow us on social media and
introduce yourself!

SCAN HERE

INSTAGRAM



@agoc_msn

WELCOME FORM



Questions? Reach out
to Fr. Chris or Zach



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

Tuesday, July 21st

First Pitch: 6:05 PM - Gates Open One Hour Prior

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)

Busch Light Duck Blind Reserved
Tables



All bags larger than 4.5 x 6.5
must be CLEAR



GAMEDAY LINKS

[Menu & Pictures](#)

[Parking Info](#)

The Duck Pond at Warner Park 2920 N Sherman Ave, Madison, WI 53704 608-246-4277

SAVE THE DATE!!

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church is celebrating 75 years! Please join us for dinner, dancing and fellowship. Gather your family to reflect on our past and to look ahead to our future. More information can be found in the weekly bulletin and FYI - there you will find our BIG request for photos - old and new!

NOVEMBER 14, 5:30-10 PM

Madison Concourse Hotel
1 W. Dayton St. Madison WI

PLEASE SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR OUR 75TH CELEBRATION!

As we celebrate 75 years of faith, tradition, and community, we invite you to share your favorite photos from our parish's past to help us create a special 75th Anniversary presentation. **All photos should be related to Assumption Parish/Events/Celebrations. These can include:**

- Church Sacramental occasions
- Fellowship Hall events
- Choir
- Sunday School
- Dinner Dances
- Greek Fest
- Other Assumption organizations & events

Scanned photos may be emailed to Denise George Schultz twinjoys23@gmail.com. Printed photos may be dropped off in our Fellowship Hall - a labeled Collection Box will be on the bookcase, or they can be given directly to Margo Schmidt. Please place your photos in an envelope with your name on the back of each photo and the envelope, so they may be returned. We will include as many photos as possible. **FINAL DUE DATE FOR PHOTO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH.**

Sponsorship of Event:

We gratefully welcome sponsorships and donations from individuals and businesses to help keep ticket prices affordable and accessible for all. All donations (including memorial donations) will be listed in book form at the event. Sponsorship donations are currently being accepted by check. Please make checks payable to AGOC and indicate "75th Sponsorship" in the memo section.

Please save the date! Formal invitations for our 75th Anniversary Celebration will be sent this fall.