

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Once again this year our Church will be electing a new Parish Council for the term of 2027-2028. It's not too early to start thinking about serving on the Parish Council. Four seats will be open for election. If you want to see improvements and changes in our church leadership, you need to get involved. Sitting on the sideline doesn't help our church win. You need to get into the game and work as a team to be victorious. A candidate must be a member in good standing for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election.

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).

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.

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.

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.

SAINT PAISIOS TV SHOW WATCH CLASS: Many people within the Orthodox world have fallen in love with the Greek TV Series on the life of Saint Paisios. We have decided for our Adult Religious Education this upcoming year to stream on Thursday evening one episode a week with a small discussion to follow. We will start this following the Parish Feast Day. Watch the bulletin for more details. We will play the episodes downstairs in the Social Hall weekly at 6:00 p.m.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin



✙Fr. Christodoulos Margellos

Proistemenos

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Sunday, September 20th, 2026

**Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Saint Eustathios the Great Martyr, his wife and two children
Readings:**

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20

Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

Coffee Hour / Sunday School / GreekFest Wrap-up meeting

THIS WEEK AT ASSUMPTION

Monday, September 21st, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Byzantine Chanting Lessons

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Board Game Night

Wednesday, September 23rd, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursday, September 24th, 2026

6:30 p.m.

Saint Paisios Series

Fr. Christodoulos Office hours are: Tuesday - Friday

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

THANK YOU!: , Thank you again to all the coordinators and volunteers who helped this year's 2026 GreekFest+!

GREEKFEST WRAP-UP MEETING: Anyone is welcome to attend the GreekFest wrap-up meeting to hear about this year's successful event!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today marks the first day of our Sunday School year! Children and Sunday School teachers will receive Holy Communion first and then proceed to their Sunday School classrooms. We are excited for the new year of learning and growing together. Check out the attached flyer for all of our upcoming Sunday School events for the year to come,

CHOR NOTES: The new church year has begun, and our choir members will soon return to the Divine Liturgy and their rehearsals. Some of you may have thought, "I'd like to join the choir," but have hesitated for a variety of reasons. You are most welcome!

Maybe the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) can help you take the next step and join. A master gives his three servants different amounts of money (referred to as "talents") before he goes on a journey. The first servant receives five talents, the second receives two, and the third receives one. Upon the master's return, the first two servants have invested their talents and doubled the money. The master praises and rewards them for their faithfulness and good work.

However, the third servant, who was given one talent, was afraid and hid the money in the ground, so it didn't grow. The master rebukes this servant for his laziness and lack of initiative, taking the talent from him and giving it to the one with ten talents.

If God has given you the talent to sing, won't you multiply it by singing in our wonderful choir, raising a joyful noise unto the Lord, and adding to our congregation's worship? See any member of the choir, or choir director George Tzougros, to get started!

Πρὸς Γαλάτας

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δέ, ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ, εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ, ἅρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; Μὴ γένοιτο. Εἰ γὰρ ἡ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταυρώμαι· ζῶ δέ, οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῇ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Κατὰ Μάρκον Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Εἴ τις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἐλθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἐὰν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν ἐπαισχυνηθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνηθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Gospel According to Mark

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Resurrection Dismissal Hymn

Ἦχος βαρύς

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέφξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Grave Mode

By Thy Cross Thou didst abolish death; to the thief Thou didst open Paradise; Thou didst transform the myrrh bearers lamentation and didst order Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ our I God, bestowing great mercy upon the world.

Apolitikion of the Cross

Ἦχος α΄

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου, καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων, διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Mode 1

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

For the Saints

Ἦχος δ΄.

Οἱ Μάρτυρές σου Κύριε, ἐν τῇ ἀθλήσει αὐτῶν, στεφάνους ἐκομίσαντο τῆς ἀφθαρσίας, ἐκ σοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν· σχόντες γὰρ τὴν ἰσχύν σου, τοὺς τυράννους καθεῖλον, ἔθραυσαν καὶ δαιμόνων, τὰ ἀνίσχυρα θράση. Αὐτῶν ταῖς ἱκεσίαις, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Mode 4

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

Hymn for the Dormition of the Theotokos

Ἦχος α

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμῇσει, 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.

Κοντάκιον

Ἦχος δ΄

Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ ἐκουσίως, τῇ ἐπωνύμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ, τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός. Εὐφρανὼν ἐν δυνάμει σου, τοὺς πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς, κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων· τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τὴν σὴν, ὅπλον εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

Mode 4

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, * O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions * upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. * Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, * granting them the victories against their adversaries. * And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, * peace as their armor, the trophy invincible.

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!

SAINT OF THE DAY: ST. EUSTATHIOS: The holy Martyr Eustathios before his baptism was an illustrious Roman general named Placidus in the days of the Emperor Trajan. While hunting in the country one day, he was converted to the Faith of Christ through the apparition of an uncommonly majestic stag, between whose antlers he saw the Cross of Christ, and through which the Lord spoke to him with a human voice. Upon returning home, he learned that his wife Tatiana had also had a vision in which she was instructed to become a Christian. They sought out the Bishop of the Christians and were baptized, Placidus receiving the name Eustathios, and Tatiana the name Theopiste; their two sons were baptized Agapius and Theopistus. The family was then subjected to such trials as Job endured. Their servants died, all their goods were stolen, and on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem they were scattered abroad, each not even knowing if the others were still alive. By the providence of God, they were united again after many years, and returned to Rome in glory. Nevertheless, when they refused to sacrifice to the idols-a public sacrifice from which no Roman general could be absent-the Emperor Hadrian, who had succeeded Trajan, had them put into a large bronze device in the shape of a bull, which was heated with fire until they died. When their holy bodies were removed, they were found to be without harm. They suffered martyrdom about the year 126.

MEDITATION: BEARING THE CROSS OF CHRIST: We can find peace in the midst of affliction. The stubborn clinging to worldly life and worldly values makes the Cross necessary; the same clinging also tends to make us reject the Cross. So we have to go over the same ground again and again. The Cross frees us from the bondage of selfish love. By the experience of the Cross we emerge from that prison of self and enter into the immense liberty of God. If we must suffer, then let us do it quietly and humbly. Faith is willing to let God act with the most perfect freedom, knowing that we belong to Him and are to be concerned only about being faithful in that which He has given us to do for the moment. Be faithful to the present moment, doing one thing at a time, and you will receive all the grace you need. Surrender consists, not doing great heroic deeds, about which self can brag, but simply in accepting whatever God sends. Full surrender is full peace.

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: As we enter into the new Ecclesiastical year, let us all remember to be current in meeting our Pledge of Commitment to our parish for 2026. Also, there are still some members who have failed to submit a pledge for 2026. With your love and support our parish can continue her ministries in Christ Jesus' name.

ASSUMPTION

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES
2026-2027



SEPT

- Sun Sept 20th - First day of Sunday school

OCT

- Sun Oct 18th - Pumpkin Patch

NOV

- Sun Nov 8th - Chili Cook Off
- Fri Nov 13th - Artoklasia Night
- Sun Nov 29th - No Sunday school

DEC

- Sun Dec 6th - St. Nicholas Day
- Fri Dec 18th - Gingerbread Night
- Sun Dec 20th - Christmas Pageant
- Sun Dec 27th - No Sunday school

JAN

- Sun Jan 10th - Blessing of the Water in Monona
- Sun Jan 24th - Parish Winter Outing

FEB

- Sun Feb 7th - God Parent Day
- Sun Feb 21st - Parish Bowling Night

MAR

- Sat Mar 6th - Youth Outing
- Tue Mar 23rd - Urban Air Outing

APR

- Sun Apr 4th - Confession Sunday
- Sun Apr 18th - Confession Sunday
- Sat Apr 24th - Lazarus Retreat
- Sun Apr 25th - No Sunday school
- TBD - Fanari Lenten Retreat
- TBD - Second Harvest Volunteer

MAY

- Sun May 2nd - No Sunday school
- Sun May 2nd - Pascha Egg Hunt
- Sun May 23rd - Last day of Sunday school
- Sun May 23rd - Family Picnic

JUN

- Sun Jun 6th - Graduation Sunday
- Sat Jun 12th - Mini Golfing Outing

EVENT SCHEDULE

FALL 2026

SEPTEMBER
22
TUESDAY

Board Game Night

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Assumption Church Hall

OCTOBER
11
SUNDAY

Packers vs Bears Watch Party

3:00 PM
Assumption Church Hall

OCTOBER
26
MONDAY

Trivia Night

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Assumption Church Hall

ASSUMPTION SOCIAL MINISTRY



Assumption
Church Hall

SEP

22ND
7-9PM

Board Game Night

Please bring your favorite
board game and a dish to
share if you are able!



ASSUMPTION SOCIAL MINISTRY

ΑΓΙΟΝ ΟΡΟΣ

A Guided Pilgrimage to Mount Athos

FIVE NIGHTS AS GUESTS OF AN ATHONITE MONASTERY
TEN CALENDAR DAYS
LED BY PROF. HARRY BOOSALIS, TH.D.

A FIVE-DAY GUIDED IMMERSION INTO ORTHODOX SPIRITUAL LIFE, AS special guests of one Athonite monastery in particular. These pilgrimages are educational, geared toward the theological and spiritual formation of each particular person. It is a unique experience of Orthodox spiritual life, with day trips to other Athonite monasteries.

Also included is a guided tour of the apostolic city of Thessaloniki, visiting its many beautiful Byzantine churches and holy relics. The pilgrimage requires ten total calendar days, including travel time. All hotels, lodging, transportation, tickets, and other travel costs and fees are covered. Meals and airfare are not included.

THE TEN DAYS

THESSALONIKI / DAYS 1-3

- 01 Depart the United States.
- 02 Arrive Thessaloniki, mid-afternoon. Venerate the relics of St. Demetrius and St. Gregory Palamas. Night at the hotel.
- 03 Guided tour of the Byzantine churches and holy relics of the city. Night at the hotel.

THE HOLY MOUNTAIN / DAYS 4-8

- 04 Depart for Mount Athos. Settle at the monastery.
- 05 The monastery. Optional day trip to Stavronikita.
- 06 The monastery. Optional day trip to Karyes, the capital of the Mountain: the icon of the Axion Estin and the church of the Protaton, and the skull of St. Andrew the Apostle at the Serai; then Koutloumousiou, a half-hour walk up to the hut of St. Paisios, and an hour's hike back through the woods.
- 07 The monastery. Optional day trip to Vatopedi.
- 08 Last full day. Optional day trip to Philotheou and Karakallou.

RETURN / DAYS 9-10

- 09 Leave the Holy Mountain in the morning; back in Thessaloniki near 5:00 p.m. Night at the hotel.
- 10 Depart for the United States, arriving the same day.

All five nights on the Holy Mountain are spent at the same monastery. Day trips are optional.

YOUR GUIDE



Dr. Harry Boosalis, Th.D.

Professor of Dogmatic Theology (ret.), St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary

Born and raised at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, Dr. Boosalis took his M.Div. at Holy Cross and his doctorate at the University of Thessaloniki, writing on St. Silouan of Mount Athos. He taught at St. Tikhon's for twenty-eight years and published eight books with the seminary press, several translated into Greek, Romanian, and Portuguese. He lives in Thessaloniki.

THE GROUP

Limited to seven people per group, including priest or lay leader. Only a limited number of groups can be taken each year. Keeping the groups small leaves more opportunity for personal interaction with the monks.



Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 75th Anniversary Sponsorship Information

- Name / Business Name (as you would like it to appear in the commemorative book): _____

• Contact Person: _____

• Address: _____

• Phone: _____

• Email: _____

75th Anniversary Sponsorship Levels

- above \$1,000 Sponsor: _____
- \$500 to \$1,000 Sponsor: _____
- \$250 to \$499 Sponsor: _____
- \$150 to \$249 Sponsor: _____
- \$50 to \$149 Sponsor: _____
- \$25 to \$49 Sponsor: _____
- under \$25 Sponsor: _____

Contribution & Payment

- Custom Amount: \$ _____
- Payment Method: Checks only please.
- Make checks payable to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church with "75th Anniversary" in the memo line. Mail to:

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 75th Anniversary Event
11 N. 7th Street
Madison WI 53704

Thank you! Your generous donation is very much appreciated and will be proudly acknowledged during our evening of celebration and fellowship.

2026 Parish outing to the Forward Madison FC



On Saturday, October 17th, we will have a Parish Outing to the Forward Madison FC Soccer Game vs Portland Heart of Pine FC with a 5:00 p.m. Kick-Off.

We have tickets available for the game and they will include entrance. The cost is \$25

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.