



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

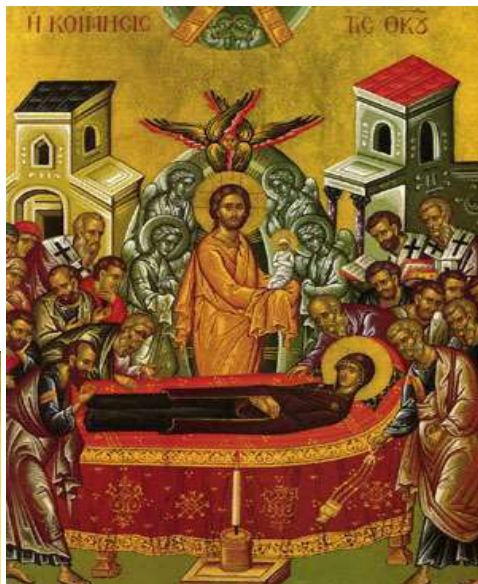


ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ

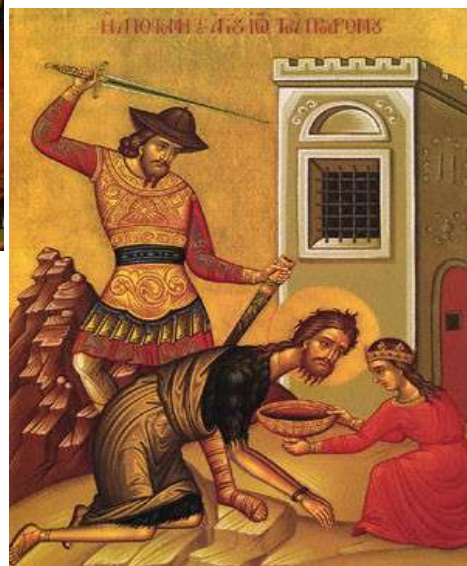
AUGUST 2025 – ISSUE 8



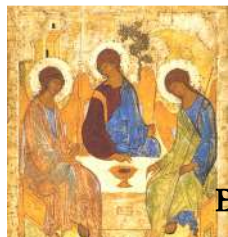
Transfiguration of our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ
August 6



The Dormition of the
All-Holy Theotokos
August 15



Beheading of the Venerable
Head of the Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner and Baptist John
August 29



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ALL ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.
THESE ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF, EMAILED, FAXED OR U. S. MAIL.

FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE CHURCH SERVICES
OR PARISH EVENTS PLEASE CHECK WEEKLY BULLETIN AND PARISH WEBSITE



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΛΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ

My beloved parishioners,

As we enter the month of August, we find ourselves still in the embrace of summer. Some of us have already returned from our vacations, while others are just now preparing to enjoy some well-deserved time off. Regardless of where we are physically or mentally, let us never forget that neither God nor the devil takes a vacation. The spiritual life knows no breaks, and our faith is not something we put on pause. The Church, the Sacraments, and our relationship with Christ must remain central in our lives throughout the entire year, even during times of rest and recreation.

Vacations are certainly a time to rest, reconnect with family, and recover from the pressures of daily life. But they should never become a reason to disconnect from God. Instead, they offer a sacred opportunity to strengthen our connection with Him. On Sundays, regardless of our location, whether at home or away, we must make it a priority to participate in the Divine Liturgy, receive the Holy Eucharist, and offer our thanks. Our family's restful time should also be spiritually refreshing, and our hearts should remain rooted in Christ.

In the warmth and sometimes unbearable heat of August, the Church offers us a beautiful and comforting celebration: the great feast of the **Dormition of the Theotokos**. The Panagia, the Mother of God, comes to us like a cool and gentle breeze, refreshing our weary souls and quenching our thirst with her loving intercession. She is not only the most honored among all Saints, but also our greatest protector and helper, especially in times of need. In the Orthodox tradition,



her Dormition is not a moment of sorrow but one of quiet triumph and deep spiritual significance. The word *Dormition* means "falling asleep," for the Theotokos did not die in the usual sense, but peacefully reposed in the Lord, her body not subject to decay. According to Holy Tradition, all the Apostles, except Thomas, were miraculously gathered in Jerusalem to bid her farewell. Christ Himself came to receive her soul, and after three days, her tomb was found empty, signifying her bodily translation into heaven. The feast, celebrated with reverence and joy on August 15, is often called the "Summer Pascha" because it echoes the victory over death and the promise of resurrection. Through her Dormition, the Theotokos assures us that she continues to intercede for all humanity, offering a mother's comfort, a refuge in sorrow, and an unfailing hope in Christ.

Before we arrive at the Dormition, we celebrate the **Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on August 6th**. This magnificent feast reveals to us a glimpse of the divine glory of Christ. On Mount Tabor, Christ did not change or become something He was not; instead, He allowed His disciples Peter, James, and John to see who He truly is. The Gospel tells us that His face shone like the sun and His garments became white as light. This was not a transformation of Christ Himself, but a transformation of the disciples' spiritual sight. Their eyes were opened to the divine reality always present in Christ, who is both fully human and fully God. This moment gave them courage and strength, especially as they would soon witness His Passion and Crucifixion.

This revelation on Mount Tabor is deeply connected with the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Just as Christ revealed His divine nature to strengthen the faith of His disciples, so too does the Theotokos, through her falling asleep and bodily assumption into heaven, offer us a powerful reminder of our own calling to eternal life in Christ. The Dormition is not a sorrowful event, but a glorious one. We do not speak of the death of the Virgin Mary, but of her dormition, her falling asleep in the Lord, and her translation into heavenly glory. She, who gave birth to Life Himself, was not held by death. Her body was taken up, as a sign of what awaits all who are united to Christ.

During the first two weeks of August, our Church holds the beautiful and heartfelt **Paraklesis Services**, which are offered to the Theotokos for healing, strength, and comfort. In these supplication services, we cry out to her with all our hearts, saying, "**Most Holy Theotokos, save us.**" She is our refuge, our hope, and our mother. In every trial, in every sickness, in every struggle, we turn to her, knowing that she never ceases to intercede for us before her Son and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I encourage everyone to attend these services. Please refer to the **Paraklesis** schedule in this bulletin and come to offer your petitions to the Mother of God.



Continued...



Later in the month, on August 29th, we commemorate the Beheading of Saint John the Forerunner and Baptist. This is a solemn and sacred feast day, and the Church observes it with strict fasting. Saint John is called *"the greatest among those born of women"* (Matthew 11:11 and Luke 7:28) by our Lord Himself. He prepared the way for Christ and boldly spoke the truth, even to the point of martyrdom. On this day, we honor his life and witness, and we remember that the Christian life always involves sacrifice, courage, and the willingness to speak God's truth.

As summer comes to a close, I am very much looking forward to seeing all of you again, especially our beloved children, as we prepare to resume all our parish ministries and programs in September. Sunday School, Greek School, youth ministries, and adult education will resume, and I urge every family to make these ministries a priority. They are the spiritual lifeblood of our community, and they help us grow in faith, knowledge, and love for one another.

To begin our parish year with joy and fellowship, I am pleased to announce **our Annual Holy Trinity Picnic**, scheduled for **Sunday, September 7th**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. It will be a day filled with fun, food, and fellowship for everyone. There will be opportunities to sign up for Sunday School, Greek School, and our youth ministries. We invite all families and parishioners to join us for this special event as we give thanks to God for the blessings of our community and prepare for a new ecclesiastical year of spiritual growth and service.

I wish you all a joyful, peaceful, and spiritually uplifting month of August. May the Theotokos intercede for all of us, and may our Lord bless the remaining weeks of summer with rest, renewal, and the peace that only He can give.

Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne
Christoforos Oikonomidis, Presiding Priest

Αγαπητοί μου ενορίτες,

Ο Αύγουστος έφτασε και μας βρίσκει ακόμη μέσα στη ζέση του καλοκαιριού. Κάποιοι ήδη ολοκλήρωσαν τις διακοπές τους, ενώ άλλοι τώρα ετοιμάζονται να απολαύσουν λίγες στιγμές ξεκούρασης και αλλαγής παραστάσεων. Όμως, όσο κι αν έχουμε ανάγκη από ξεκούραση και αλλαγή ρυθμών, δεν πρέπει να ξεχνούμε μια μεγάλη αλήθεια: ο Θεός δεν κάνει διακοπές, ούτε όμως και ο διάβολος. Η πνευματική ζωή δεν σταματά ποτέ, και η πίστη μας δεν είναι κάτι που μπορούμε να «παγώσουμε» για λίγο ή από την οποία μπορούμε να «ξεκουραστούμε» για λίγο χρόνο. Η Εκκλησία, τα Μυστήρια και η σχέση μας με τον Χριστό πρέπει να παραμένουν στο κέντρο της ζωής μας όλο τον χρόνο, ακόμη και σε περιόδους ανάπαυσης και διακοπών. Η περίοδος της ξεκούρασης είναι μια ευκαιρία για βαθύτερη πνευματική ανανέωση.

Οι διακοπές είναι πράγματι πολύτιμος χρόνος ανάπαυσης, επανασύνδεσης με την οικογένεια, ανασυγκρότησης για τον χειμώνα που έρχεται και ευκαιρία να ξεφύγουμε από την δύσκολη καθημερινότητα. Δεν θα πρέπει όμως να γίνονται αφορμή απομάκρυνσης από τον Θεό. Αντιθέτως, είναι μια ευκαιρία να Τον πλησιάσουμε ακόμη περισσότερο, χωρίς τους περισπασμούς της ρουτίνας. Τις Κυριακές, είτε βρίσκομαστε στην πόλη μας είτε σε κάποιο νησί ή ορεινό χωριό, είναι καθήκον μας να εκκλησιαζόμαστε, να συμμετέχουμε στη Θεία Λειτουργία και να κοινωνούμε των Αχράντων Μυστηρίων. Όπως ξεκουράζεται το σώμα μας, έτσι να ξεκουράζεται και η ψυχή μας εν Χριστώ.

Μέσα στη ζέση του Αυγούστου, η Εκκλησία μας τιμάει μια ιδιαίτερη γιορτή που μοιάζει με δροσερό αεράκι: **την Κοίμηση της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου**. Η Παναγία έρχεται κοντά μας όχι με θλίψη, αλλά με παρηγοριά και στοργή. Είναι η γλυκιά Μητέρα όλων μας, που μεσιτεύει διαρκώς για μας και στέκεται δίπλα μας στις δοκιμασίες της ζωής. Δεν είναι απλώς η πιο τιμημένη απ' όλους τους Αγίους, αλλά και η πιο κοντινή μας, η πιο ανθρώπινη, η πιο κατανοητή. Στις δύσκολες στιγμές, φωνάζουμε προς Εκείνη «Παναγία μου», και αυτή η προσευχή γίνεται ανάσα και ελπίδα. Η Παναγία, η Μητέρα της Ζωής, δεν μπορούσε να κρατηθεί από τον θάνατο. Ο Υιός της, που κατήργησε τον θάνατο, τιμήσε το σώμα που Τον κυφόρησε και το ανέβασε στον ουρανό. Η Κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου δεν είναι ημέρα πένθους αλλά ελπίδας και δόξας. Μας θυμίζει πως όποιος ζει εν Χριστώ, δεν χάνεται, αλλά μεταβαίνει στη ζωή την αιώνια. Η Παναγία γίνεται τύπος και υπόδειγμα της τελικής αποκατάστασης του ανθρώπου.



Λίγες μέρες πριν από την Κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου, στις 6 Αυγούστου, εορταζουμε τη **Μεταμόρφωση του Κυρίου μας**. Πρόκειται για μια Δεσποτική και ιδιαίτερα θεολογική εορτή που μας φανεώνει κάτι πολύ βαθύ: ο Χριστός δεν μεταμορφώθηκε μπροστά στους μαθητές Του, αλλά τους άνοιξε τα μάτια για να Τον δουν όπως πραγματικά είναι. Το πρόσωπό Του έλαμψε σαν τον ήλιο και τα ιμάτιά Του έγιναν λευκά σαν το φως. Δεν άλλαξε Αυτός, αλλά άλλαξε η όρασή τους. Για λίγο, είδαν τη θεότητά Του με τα σωματικά τους μάτια. Αυτή η θεϊκή αποκάλυψη τους ενίσχυσε για όσα θα ακολουθούσαν, το πάθος, ο σταυρός, η άκρα ταπείνωση.

Η Μεταμόρφωση του Κυρίου συνδέεται βαθιά με την Κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου. Και στις δύο περιπτώσεις, αποκαλύπτεται η θεϊκή δόξα: η μία στον Χριστό, η άλλη στην Παναγία. Όπως ο Χριστός φάνερωσε τη θεότητα Του στους μαθητές, έτσι και η Παναγία μάς δείχνει τι σημαίνει να ζει κάποιος εν Χριστώ. Δεν μιλάμε για θάνατο, αλλά για κοίμηση· δεν τιμούμε την απώλεια, αλλά τη δόξα. Η Παναγία, που κράτησε στη μητέρα της Αυτόν που δεν «χωρείται», δεν μπορούσε να κρατηθεί από τον θάνατο. Μεταφέρθηκε σωματικά στη δόξα του Θεού, δείχνοντάς μας τι μας περιμένει, αν μείνουμε ενωμένοι με τον Χριστό.

Τις πρώτες μέρες του Αυγούστου, ψάλλουμε την Παράκληση προς την Παναγία. Είναι μια από τις πιο θερμές, προσωπικές και παρηγορητικές ακολουθίες της Εκκλησίας μας. Εκεί, καταθέτουμε εχωπιόν της όλα μας τα βάρη, τις αγωνίες, τις ασθένειες και τους πόνους. Φωνάζουμε «Υπεραγία Θεοτόκε, σώσον ημάς» με καρδιά γεμάτη πίστη και ελπίδα. Στρεφόμαστε στην Παναγία και της ζητούμε να μεσιτεύει για τη ζωή μας, για την υγεία μας, για τις οικογένειές μας, για τα παιδιά μας. Την προσφωνούμε "ελπίς απηλπισμένων" και "χαρά θλιβομένων", γιατί ακριβώς αυτή είναι καταφύγιο και παρηγοριά. Σας προτρέπω όλους να συμμετάσχετε στις Παρακλησεις αυτές και να φέρετε τα ονόματα των αγαπημένων σας υπέρ υγείας. Ρίξτε μια ματιά στο πρόγραμμα που περιλαμβάνεται στο παρόν δελτίο και ελάτε να προσευχηθούμε μαζί.



Προς το τέλος του μήνα, στις 29 Αυγούστου, η Εκκλησία μας τιμά με νηστεία τη μνήμη της Αποτομής της Τιμίας Κεφαλής του Αγίου Ιωάννου του Προδρόμου και Βαπτιστού, του πιο μεγάλου ανθρώπου μετά τον Χριστό. Είναι μια αυστηρή ημέρα νηστείας, γιατί τιμούμε έναν μεγάλο μάρτυρα της αληθείας. Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης ήταν ο τελευταίος προφήτης και ο πρώτος μάρτυρας του Χριστού. Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης δεν δίστασε να ελέγξει την αμαρτία και να προετοιμάσει τον δρόμο για τον Σωτήρα. Η ζωή του αποτελεί πρότυπο τόλμης, αληθείας και αυταπάρνησης για κάθε χριστιανό. Ειδικά σήμερα, που η φωνή της Εκκλησίας συχνά αγνοείται ή πολεμάται, έχουμε ανάγκη να θυμόμαστε το παράδειγμά του.

Καθώς το καλοκαίρι πλησιάζει προς το τέλος του, ανυπομονώ να σας ξαναδώ όλους, και ιδιαίτερα τα παιδιά μας, καθώς θα ξεκινήσουν και πάλι οι δραστηριότητες της ενορίας μας τον Σεπτέμβριο. Το Κατηχητικό, το Ελληνικό Σχολείο, οι νεανικές ομάδες και όλες οι ενοριακές εκδηλώσεις και δραστηριότητες θα ξαναζωντανέψουν και καλώ κάθε οικογένεια να τα στηρίξει. Είναι η καρδιά της πνευματικής ζωής της κοινότητάς μας και μας βοηθούν να ωριμάσουμε στην πίστη και την αγάπη.

Με χαρά σας ανακοινώνω ότι την **Κυριακή 7 Σεπτεμβρίου**, αμέσως μετά τη Θεία Λειτουργία, θα πραγματοποιηθεί το **Ετήσιο Πικνίκ της Ενορίας μας**. Θα είναι μια ευκαιρία βρεθούμε και πάλι όλοι μαζί και να χαρούμε με την χαρά του Χριστού. Θα μπορείτε επίσης να εγγραφείτε για το Κατηχητικό, το Ελληνικό και τις νεανικές δραστηριότητες. Σας προσκαλώ όλους να έρθετε με τις οικογένειές σας και να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Θεό για την κοινότητά μας και να ξεκινήσουμε τον νέο εκκλησιαστικό χρόνο με χαρά και ελπίδα, ενωμένοι και ευλογημένοι.

Εύχομαι σε όλους έναν ευλογημένο και χαρούμενο Αύγουστο και ένα υπόλοιπο καλοκαιριού γεμάτο ειρήνη, ξεκούραση και πνευματική ανανέωση με την βοήθεια και προστασία της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου. Καλό Δεκαπενταύγουστο!

+ Δεσπ. Γεωργ. Οικονομίδης

π. Χριστοφόρος Οικονομίδης
Αρχιμανδρίτης του Οικουμενικού Θρόνου, Ιερατικώς Προϊστάμενος

SUPPLICATION TO THE THEOTOKOS SERVICE SCHEDULE (ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΙΣ)

- ❖ Friday, August 1st at 7pm
- ❖ Sunday, August 3rd at 11.15am to 12pm (following the Divine Liturgy)
- ❖ Wednesday, August 6th at 11am to 11.45am (following the Divine Liturgy)
- ❖ Thursday, August 7th at 7pm
- ❖ Sunday, August 10th at 11.15am to 12pm (following the Divine Liturgy)
- ❖ Tuesday, August 12th at 7pm
- ❖ Wednesday, August 13th at 7pm
- ❖ Thursday, August 14th at 7pm – Great Vespers of the Dormition

ΠΡΟΤΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΕΩΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΗΝ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟ

- ❖ Παρασκευή 1 Αυγούστου στις 7 το απόγευμα
- ❖ Κυριακή 3 Αυγούστου στις 11:15 το πρωί έως τις 12 (αμέσως μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία)
- ❖ Τετάρτη 6 Αυγούστου στις 11:00 έως τις 11.45 το πρωί (αμέσως μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία)
- ❖ Πέμπτη 7 Αυγούστου στις 7 το απόγευμα
- ❖ Κυριακή 10 Αυγούστου στις 11:15 το πρωί έως τις 12 (αμέσως μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία)
- ❖ Τρίτη 12 Αυγούστου στις 7 το απόγευμα
- ❖ Τετάρτη 13 Αυγούστου στις 7 το απόγευμα
- ❖ Πέμπτη 14 Αυγούστου στις 7 το απόγευμα- Μέγας Εσπερινός της Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου





NAMES FOR
HEALTH AND SALVATION
To be read at the Paraklesis Services

ΟΝΟΜΑΤΑ ΥΠΕΡ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΩΤΗΡΙΑΣ

Θα διαβαστούν κατά την
διάρκεια των Παρακλήσεων

[illegible]

On the Dormition of the Theotokos

St. Maximos the Confessor



Now, by her Grace, let us speak of her departure and her Metastasis (Translation) from this present world to the eternal Kingdom of her Son. Such a narrative is truly joyful and radiant to the ears of those who love God.

When, therefore, Christ our God willed to transfer His all holy and immaculate Mother from this world into His Kingdom, so that she might receive the incorruptible crown of her supernatural struggles and virtues, to place her in divine Motherly glory “at His right hand, arrayed in gold woven garments, adorned with many colors” (Psalm 45:9) to proclaim her Queen of all creation, to lead her into the inner sanctuary beyond the veil, and to establish her in the heavenly Holy of Holies, He revealed to her beforehand her glorious Metastasis.

He again sent to her the Archangel Gabriel to announce her glorious departure, just as he had once announced her miraculous conception. So, the Archangel visited her and gave her a palm branch, a symbol of victory the same that the people once used to welcome her Son into Jerusalem, the Conqueror of death and the Destroyer of Hades.

Gabriel gave this branch to the Virgin as a symbol of victory over every affliction and the destruction of death, saying: *“Your Lord and Son calls you: the time has come for you to come near to Me, O My good Mother (cf. Song of Songs 2:10, 13). For this reason, He has sent me again to proclaim to you, O 'blessed among women,' that today you, O Full of Grace, will gladden the heavenly hosts with your ascent and will further illumine the souls of the saints, just as you filled with joy those upon the earth. Rejoice together with them, as you once foretold, for from now on all rational creatures shall bless you for all ages 'all generations.' Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you.' Your prayers and supplications have ascended to heaven before your Son, and thus, according to your request, He commands you to depart from this world and be taken up into the heavenly dwellings, to be with Him eternally in the true and everlasting life”.*

When the Holy Theotokos heard these words, she was filled with joy and gave the same response to the Angel as before: “Behold the handmaiden of the Lord. Let it be to me, now also, according to your word.” (Luke 1:38) And the Angel departed from her.

Then the all-blessed and glorious Theotokos Mary arose and, rejoicing, went to the Mount of Olives to offer, in quiet solitude, thanksgiving and petitions to the Lord, on behalf of herself and for the whole world. When she ascended the mount, she lifted her hands and offered spiritual worship to her Son, with supplications and thanksgiving. Then a great miracle occurred, known to those who were found worthy of such an experience and passed down to us through them: While she prayed and implored the Lord in a sacred mystery, all the trees of that place bowed toward the earth and worshipped her. When she finished her prayer and thanksgiving, filled entirely with divine grace, she returned to Zion.

Immediately, the Lord sent the Evangelist and Theologian John upon a cloud, since the Holy Virgin had a great desire to see him, especially because the Lord had united them by spiritual adoption. When the all-blessed among women saw him, her joy increased, and she asked him to pray with her.

After prayer, the holy and ever-virgin Queen announced to John and the virgins present the angelic message concerning her imminent Translation, showing them the palm branch she had received from the Archangel. She instructed them to prepare her dwelling, to light candles, and to burn incense, for she had already adorned it as a bridal chamber in which she would receive her immortal Bridegroom, her all-blessed Son, whom she awaited with irrepressible hope.





Once all had been arranged, she revealed the sacred mystery of her Metastasis to her companions and close ones. They immediately gathered around her, weeping and lamenting the separation, for after God, she was their only hope and help. But their sister, the Mother of God and Queen, comforted each one personally and all together, and offered them a touching farewell, saying: *“Rejoice, my blessed children, and do not let my Translation become an occasion for sorrow, but be filled with joy, for eternal gladness is coming. My Lord and Son, and His Grace and mercy, shall always be with you.”*

Then she turned to the Evangelist John and instructed him to give her robe and veil to the two widows who had served her. Next, she revealed to them the mysteries of her departure and the divine visitation that accompanied it, explaining the meaning of each event. She then made arrangements for her burial, telling them how to anoint her all pure body and where to lay it to rest.

After this, the glorious Mother of God reclined upon her couch, the very bed she had soaked each night with the tears of her eyes in love for her Son Jesus Christ, and sanctified with her prayers and supplications. Then she asked again for the candles to be lit. The faithful who were present, sensing that the hour of their Mother’s departure was near, broke out in sobs. They fell to the ground and begged her not to leave them orphans. But if her departure from this world was unavoidable, they asked that she accompany them henceforth through her grace and intercessions.

Then the Holy Theotokos opened her spotless and pure lips and said to them: *“The good pleasure of my Son and God is upon me: ‘This is my God, and I will glorify Him; the God of my Father, and I will exalt Him’ (Exod. 15:2). This is my Son, who was born of me in the flesh, yet His Father is God, He who is also the Creator of His mother. For this reason, I long to go to Him, who grants being and life to all. Even though I will go to be near Him, I will not cease to intercede and to pray on your behalf and on behalf of all Christians and the whole world, so that the compassionate Creator, according to His great mercy, may be merciful to all the faithful, strengthen them, and guide them on the path of true life, and turn unbelievers to the faith, gathering all into one flock (John 10:16), for as the Good Shepherd, He gave His life for His sheep, and He knows His own and is known by them.”*

And as the all-blessed Mother of Christ thus spoke and blessed them, suddenly a mighty thunderclap was heard, and a cloud appeared, borne on a peaceful breeze. From that majestic cloud, as though dewdrops of fragrant grace were falling upon the earth, the holy and glorious Disciples and Apostles of Christ the Savior began to arrive, gathered together “in one place” from the ends of the earth into the courtyard of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the Theotokos. The Evangelist and Theologian John welcomed them and gently led them before the Most Holy and Blessed Virgin. Not only the Twelve came, but also many of the Seventy and other chosen disciples, as declared by Saint Dionysius the Areopagite in his Epistle to Timothy.

He writes that he himself, along with Timothy, Hierotheos, and others of one mind, arrived there with the Apostles for the departure of the Queen. They entered and stood before her and venerated her with awe and profound reverence. The blessed and all-holy Virgin then blessed them and announced to them her departure from this world. She also recounted to them the announcement of her Dormition by the Archangel and, showing them the palm branch, the symbol of her Translation given by the chief of the angels, she again comforted and blessed them, strengthening and confirming them in their mission of the Gospel.



The Holy Tomb of the Virgin Mary in Gethsemane

Continued...

She bade farewell to Peter and Paul and all the others, saying to them: *“Rejoice, children, friends, and disciples of my Son and God. Blessed are you who have been found worthy to become disciples of the blessed and glorious Lord and Master, who entrusted to you the ministry of such great mysteries, and chose you as sharers in His sufferings and Passion, that He might also grant you to partake in His glory and Kingdom, just as He promised and ordained, He, the King of Glory.”*



She then delivered to them such a blessed teaching, fitting for the height of her glory. And after she arranged the final matters regarding her burial and interment, she lifted her hands to heaven and began to give thanks to the Lord as follows: *“I bless You, King of all, only begotten Son of the unoriginate Father, true God from true God, for You were well pleased, fulfilling the will of the Father and in ineffable compassion, to be incarnate of me, Your handmaiden, by the cooperation of the Holy Spirit. I bless You, Giver of every blessing and Bearer of light, the Cause of all good and Prince of Peace, who granted us the knowledge of You, and of the unoriginate Father and the co-eternal, life-giving Spirit. I bless You, for You were well pleased to dwell ineffably in my womb. I bless You, for You loved the human race so much as to endure the Cross and death for our sake, and by Your Resurrection raised our nature from the depths of Hades, lifted it to heaven, and glorified it with unspeakable glory. I bless and magnify Your words, which You have delivered to us in all truth, and I believe in the fulfillment of all Your promises to me.”*

When the holy and all-blessed Theotokos completed her hymn of praise and prayer, the Holy Apostles, moved by the Holy Spirit, began to speak, glorify, and praise God, each according to the grace given to him and the divine enlightenment he had received.

They praised and extolled the immeasurable generosity of the divine sovereignty. With their marvelous theology they gladdened the heart of the most glorious Theotokos, as the aforementioned Saint Dionysius handed down to us in the chapter where he demonstrates the power of prayer and theology reverently expressed by the blessed Hierotheos [In On Divine Names: “What is the power of prayer and concerning the blessed Hierotheos and piety and theological writing,” P.G. 3, 681D]. Specifically, in the relevant chapter of his discourse to Timothy, he refers to the gathering of the holy Apostles at the departure of the Most Holy Theotokos, as well as to how each one, inspired by the Holy Spirit, manifested in words of praise the glory of the boundless divine power and the loving kindness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ, who was pleased to come down to earth without separating from the paternal bosom and to be incarnate from the all immaculate Virgin.

He bowed the heavens and came down because he found the All-Holy and most glorious Mary obedient and exalted above all creation; he was pleased to dwell within her, was clothed by her with human nature, and thus mercifully saved the human race through his magnificent and ineffable Economy, glorifying it and enriching it with Grace because of his incomparable compassion and patience.

Afterwards, the holy Virgin blessed them once again, and her heart was filled with divine consolation. And behold, the majestic and wondrous arrival of Christ, her Son and God, took place, accompanied by countless hosts of angels and archangels, as well as other orders, Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones. All the angels stood before the Lord with fear, since “where the king is present, the order also comes” (i.e., proper reverence and protocol). The Most Holy Theotokos knew all these things beforehand and awaited them with unwavering hope; therefore, she said: “I believe that all your promises to me will be fulfilled.”

Then the holy Apostles also clearly saw, and were amazed at, the divine glory of Christ, each according to his own capacity. The present coming of the Lord was more magnificent and awe-inspiring than the first, for now He appeared brighter than lightning, surpassing even His Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, in which He revealed only His natural glory, because after the Ascension, Christ is inaccessible and invisible.

Before such a mystery, “the disciples fell on their faces and were greatly afraid, becoming as dead” (Matt. 17:6). Then the Lord said to them: “Peace be unto you,” just as before, when “He came into the room, the doors being shut, where the disciples were gathered for fear of the Jews” (John 20:19), into the very house of John.

Something similar happened now at the Dormition of the Mother of the Risen One. When the Apostles heard His sweetest and most desired voice, they were revived and strengthened in soul and body and remained gazing with awe upon the surpassing beauty and divine radiance of His Person.

Therefore, the all-holy, immaculate, and blessed Theotokos was filled with joy, and her face shone with divine radiance. Yet even she, looking with reverence and fear upon the glory and brilliance radiated by her Son and King Jesus Christ, magnified still more His divinity and prayed for the Apostles and all those present.

In these final moments, she interceded for all the faithful everywhere, prayed for the entire world and for every soul invoking the name of the Lord and His Mother, and asked that wherever those two names are remembered, divine blessing would be poured out abundantly. Then the holy Virgin Mary, looking again toward her Son, beheld Him with such glory that no human tongue could express it. And she said: ***“Bless me, Lord, with Your right hand, and bless all those who glorify You and remember my name whenever they offer You their prayer and supplication.”***

The Lord then stretched out His right hand, blessed His Mother, and said to her:



“Blessed are you, rejoice and be glad, Mary, blessed among women, for the fullness of grace and all your gifts were given to you from my heavenly Father; and every soul that calls upon my name with reverence will not be overlooked but will find mercy and consolation in this life and in the life to come. You, however, go in peace and joy to the eternal dwellings, to the boundless treasures of my Father, to behold my glory and rejoice with the Grace of the Holy Spirit.”

Immediately, by the Lord’s command, the angels began to sing a sweetest hymn with a lively and most attractive voice. At the same time, the holy Apostles reverently bowed their heads before the Holy Spirit’s mystery and, in turn, dedicated to the Virgin a hymn like that of the angels.

And in this atmosphere, the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Lord, surrendered her blessed and immaculate soul to her King and Son, and fell asleep a sweet and gentle sleep. Just as in the ineffable birth, she gave birth without pain to the Lord Jesus, so also she remained untouched by death pangs at her Dormition, because the King and Creator of every created nature Himself was the one who then and now changed the natural laws.

The hosts of angels raised their invisible hands with wonder as her sacred soul passed by. The house of Zion, as well as the entire region, was filled with an indescribable fragrance. Above her most pure body hovered a radiant presence invisible to the physical eyes. Thus, the Teacher and the disciples, the heavenly and the earthly, together accompanied the holy Virgin.

And the blessed Lord and glorious Master of all led the holy soul of His all-immaculate Mother into the heavens, while the disciples laid her spotless body on the earth, to anoint it with fragrances and then carry it wherever she desired; from there she was about to be translated shortly into Paradise or wherever her Son and God willed.

From the book: *The Life of Our Most Blessed Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary*, Holy Cell of Saint Nicholas “Bourazeri,” Holy Mountain, 2010.



The miraculous Icon of Panagia Ierosolymitissa is situated in the Tomb of the Virgin Mary in Gethsemane, just outside the Old City of Jerusalem. The icon is believed to have originated through a vision of the nun Tatiani, who was instructed by the Virgin Mary herself to create the icon. It is known as the patroness of Jerusalem, with many pilgrims visiting the site to venerate the icon and the tomb.



The Monday of the Holy Spirit: The Nameday of our Cathedral, a day of joy and grace

On Monday, June 10, 2025, the Monday of the Holy Spirit, our Holy Trinity Cathedral was deeply blessed to celebrate the Festal Divine Liturgy in the presence of our spiritual father and shepherd, His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey. It was a day filled with joy, grace, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.



We were honored to welcome His Eminence to our community, together with visiting clergy from across the Delaware Valley, members of our Parish Council, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and many of our youth and faithful parishioners. It was truly a moment of unity and spiritual refreshment for our cathedral family.

During the Liturgy, His Eminence offered a beautiful homily on the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and in each of our lives. He reminded us that the Holy Spirit is the life-giving presence of God that energizes and sustains the Church. It is through the Holy Spirit that we are united in prayer, drawn closer to one another in love, and guided on the path of salvation.

At the conclusion of the service, our parish had the great joy of honoring two of our beloved parishioners, Tom and Bing Hatzis, who have for many years served our community with steadfast love, faith, and generosity. In gratitude for all they have done for our cathedral family, we presented them with a beautiful icon of the Theotokos as a token of our appreciation. It was a heartfelt moment!



Dear beloved parishioners,

With profound gratitude and heartfelt reverence, we are honored to announce a transformative and generous gift made to our Cathedral by one of our most devoted and long-standing parishioners,

Mr. Athanasios “Tom” Hatzis.

Born on June 20, 1931, in Nafpaktos, Greece, Mr. Hatzis is the eldest of four children. He grew up during some of the most challenging times in modern Greek history, enduring the hardships of World War II and the Greek Civil War. In the 1950s, he emigrated to the United States in search of opportunity and soon answered the call to serve his new country by enlisting in the U.S. Army. During the Korean War, he served honorably as a driver to a general.



After completing his military service, Mr. Hatzis began working in New York City, where he learned the wholesale flower business from a relative. Acting on advice, he and his brother Nicholas ventured to Wilmington, Delaware -a state they had never visited- and boldly purchased a flower business. They made Wilmington their home and soon found **Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**, which quickly became the center of their spiritual and communal life. For Mr. Hatzis and many others, it was a sanctuary, a place of shared faith, culture, and mutual support.

Over the years, Mr. Hatzis built a remarkable legacy through hard work and entrepreneurial spirit, achieving success in real estate, car dealerships, restaurants, and other ventures. Yet throughout his journey, he remained deeply rooted in his Orthodox faith and committed to the well-being of our Cathedral community. He served as a Parish Council member and is a proud member of Leadership 100.

Today, we are humbled to receive the generous gift of \$393,000 from Mr. Hatzis that will greatly strengthen our Cathedral's mission, ministries, and outreach efforts for generations to come.

We also recognize and give thanks for the love and support of his wife of over twenty years, **Mrs. Bing Yu “Georgia” Hatzis**, who has stood by his side and shares in this act of faith and devotion. Together, their lives reflect the beauty of dedication -to one another, to their community, and to the Church.

On Monday, June 9th, our Chief Shepherd, His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey, will recognize the Hatzis family as Great Benefactors of our Community, following the Divine Liturgy of our Church's Nameday. Please join us in offering our sincerest gratitude and prayers for Mr. and Mrs. Hatzis. May our Lord continue to bless them with health, peace, and many years.

With love in Christ,
Fr. Christoforos Oikonomidis Georgia Halakos, President



A MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Parishioners,

As summer unfolds I hope that this season brings relaxation and quality time with friends and family. Whether you are traveling or enjoying time at home, we continue to have weekly services and encourage you to faithfully attend.

Though summer often means a break from our usual routines, our parish community continues to be strong. I am deeply grateful for all who keep us connected in prayer, service, and fellowship.

Looking ahead, I warmly invite you to join us for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15.

And don't forget—we're also looking forward to seeing everyone at our Welcome Back Picnic in September! It is a great way to reconnect, celebrate the start of a new season together, and enjoy the fellowship that makes our parish family so special.

Until then, may your summer be filled with rest and many blessings. I look forward to seeing you in August and again in September!

In Christ's Service
Georgia Halakos



HOLY TRINITY REGISTRY June / July 2025

Churching's:

Sophia Vasilia Fournaris, daughter of Constantine & Kristen Fournaris, granddaughter of Manny & Evie Fournaris, received her 40 day Church blessing on June 24, 2025. We congratulate the family and pray the Lord will bless them as they prepare for baptism.

Henry Andrew Vande Poele, son of Andrew & Caroline Vande Poele, grandson of David & Anna Vande Poele, received his 40 day Church blessing on June 26, 2025. We congratulate the family and pray the Lord will bless them as they prepare for baptism.

Nikolas Jonathan Gordon, son of Brendan & Harriet Gordon, received his 40 day Church blessing on July 27, 2025. We congratulate the family and pray the Lord will bless them as they prepare for baptism.

Baptisms:

William Vasilios Heggan, son of Brandon & Maria Heggan, grandson of Vasil & Rita Kirifides, was baptized in our Church on June 21, 2025. His sponsor was Lazarus Kirifides. We congratulate him and his sponsors and welcome William into the Orthodox faith.

Funeral's:

John Dumel, fell asleep in the Lord on June 4, 2025. His funeral was held at Holy Trinity on June 10, 2025. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Evangeline "Angie" (Maskas) Dumel "Yaya"; daughters, Alexandra Strab (Jim) and Linda Pollinger; granddaughters, Julie Watkins (Jeremy), Christen Majewicz (Nic), Sierra Falkowski, and Kali Falkowski; great-grandchildren, Max, Lily, Alex, David, Braelyn, Titus, Carter, and Mya; niece Kiki Spithas; and granddog, Lacy Lou. May his memory be eternal.

Sevasti "Soula" Diamond, fell asleep in the Lord on July 8, 2025. Her funeral was held at Holy Trinity on July 17, 2025. She is survived by her sons Athanasios (Deborah) and Ioannis Diamond; her grandchildren Matthew, Kayla, Thomas, and John; her great-grandson Lucas; her sisters Mirsini (Evaggelos) Polyzos and Costantia (Gennaro) Cupiraggi; her sister-in-law Ioanna Pitsirini; and her nieces, nephews, and other numerous family members and friends. May her memory be eternal.

Memorials:

Andrew Assimos ~ 40 Days ~ June 1

Konstantine Tsionas ~ 12 Years ~ June 1

Andreas Micallef ~ 40 Days ~ June 29

John Dumel ~ 40 Days ~ July 13

Constantina Tsakumis ~ 5 Years ~ July 13

Konstantinos Kromedas ~ 6 Months ~ July 20

Maria Burpulis ~ 1 Year ~ July 20

Costas Burpulis ~ 10 Years ~ July 20

Eugenia Hall ~ 5 Years ~ July 20

Anastasia "Prudy" Haldas ~ 5 Years ~ July 27

Katherine Haldas ~ 25 Years ~ July 27

Kimón Haldas ~ 39 Years ~ July 27

Dean Theophilou ~ 40 Days ~ July 27

Sevasmia Georges ~ 57 years ~ July 27

Despina Billis ~ 61 Years ~ July 27

John Theophilou ~ 2 Years ~ July 27

Louis Joris ~ 11 Years ~ July 27

Demetrios Georges ~ 57 Years ~ July 27

HOLY TRINITY'S ANNUAL PICNIC

A row of black silhouettes depicting various picnic activities: a person standing, a person sitting on a bench, a person sitting on a picnic basket, a person standing, a person sitting on a bench, a person standing, a person sitting on a bench, a person standing, a person sitting on a bench, and a person standing.

Sunday, September 7, 2025

immediately after worship

Fellowship, Food & Fun for Everyone

Fellowship, Food & Fun for Everyone

There will be...

**FUN
&
FUN
&
more
!!FUN!!**



Sign up for...

**Sunday School
&
Greek School
&
all
Youth Ministries**

WE NEED YOUR HELP....

The following items are needed for the church's Welcome Back Picnic. If you are able to donate an item, please call the church office to let us know. If you cannot donate an item but can contribute towards the cost of an item, please send a check to the church office and mark "picnic" in the memo line. As always, any donation made to the church is tax deductible and will be included on your quarterly statement.

Thank you for your continued support!

Hamburgers
Rolls
Salads

Hotdogs
Fruit
Desserts

Water Bottles
Condiments
Soda / Juice



Philoptochos Sisterhood of Holy Trinity St. Agape Chapter



Dearest Philoptochos Sisters and Parishioners:

I hope this bulletin finds you all well and enjoying your summer. A heartfelt thank you to the ladies who worked so diligently for long hours, to make the Annual Festival a huge success. A special thank you to Eleni Karakasidis and Angie Karakasidis who kept the Philoptochos Room running efficiently, clean and organized which made the labor of love stress-free.

The “Pack the Back” donation drive is currently in progress. This initiative, started last year to support underserved children, included a Signup Genius sent to Philoptochos members in July. For those interested in donating, please contact me for more information. We will be gathering in the next few weeks to pack the backpacks and deliver them as well.

We are preparing for the Ecclesiastical year and looking forward to seeing you all at the Paraklesis services for the Theotokos beginning on August 1st. Philoptochos will be hosting the coffee hour following the Celebration of the Falling Asleep of Panagia on August 15.

You can join or renew your Philoptochos membership by sending \$40 dues to the office; dues support the many charities and individuals who need assistance.

In Christ's Service,
Dena Verikakis

On Tuesday, May 6th the election of the Philoptochos Board was held.
The newly elected Philoptochos Board members took the Oath of Office on May 11, 2025.

2025-2027 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dena Verikakis, President	Eleni Karakasidis, 1st Vice President
Maria Grigorakakis, 2nd Vice President	Mary George, Correspondence Secretary
Kristie Asimos, Recording Secretary	Sophia Hionis, Treasurer
Popi Papachrysanthou, Assistant Treasurer	

2025-2027 BOARD MEMBERS

Georgia Halakos	Agnoula Marcantonis	Libby Hantzandreou
Jessica Marvel	Maroula Haralambidis	Karen Schillinger
Angie Karakasidis	Joanne Tarabicos	Vickie Karakasidis
		Katerina Tsioupli



Kollyva for Memorials

The Philoptochos Society will prepare the tray of Kollyva for any family of our community. The cost of \$125 includes the Prosforon, oil and wine. Please allow at least a week and call the church office 654-4446 and Susie will contact the Philoptochos. Your donation of \$125 (less cost), will help Philoptochos Charities.



Our Philoptochos Society meets monthly to plan out our year. They work diligently to provide our community with philanthropical events and to raise funds for Local and National Ministries.

They also worked hard before, during and after our festival to ensure our surrounding community will enjoy the fruits of their labor - with their delicious pastries!!





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School Directors: Amalea Rassias 302.293.1127 & Maroula Haralambidis 609. 634.5339

2025-2026 Sunday School Calendar

2025

Sept 7	No Sunday School	Church Picnic, SS Registration
Sept 14	Sunday School	(First Day of Sunday School) Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
Sept 21	Sunday School	
Sept 28	Sunday School	
Oct 5	Sunday School	
Oct 12	Sunday School	Sunday School Teachers Meeting
Oct 19	Sunday School	Thanksgiving/Canned Food Drive Begins
Oct 26	Sunday School	
Nov 2	Sunday School	
Nov 9	Sunday School	
Nov 16	Sunday School	
Nov 23	Sunday School	Thanksgiving Food Drive Ends; Christmas Sock Drive Begins
Nov 27 (Thurs)		Thanksgiving
Nov 30	No Sunday School	Thanksgiving Weekend
Dec 7	Sunday School	
Dec 14	Sunday School	Breakfast with Santa (Greek School)
Dec 21	Sunday School	Youth Christmas Pageant, Communion Breakfast, Christmas Drive Ends
Dec 28	No Sunday School	Christmas Nativity Break

2026

Jan 4	No Sunday School	Christmas Nativity/ Theophany Break
Jan 6 (Tue)		Theophany
Jan 11	Sunday School	Vasilopita Sunday
Jan 17 (Sat)		HTW Basketball Tournament
Jan 18	Sunday School	HTW Basketball Tournament
Jan 25	Sunday School	
Feb 1	Sunday School	Godparents' Sunday, Sunday School Coffee Hour
Feb 8	Sunday School	
Feb 15	Sunday School	
Feb 22	Sunday School	
Feb 23 (Mon)		Great Lent Begins
Feb 27 (Fri)		St. John Chrysostom Parish Level Oratorical Festival (7 th -12 th)
Mar 1	Sunday School	Sunday of Orthodoxy, Procession with Icons
Mar 8	Sunday School	
Mar 15	Sunday School	Veneration of the Cross
Mar 22	Sunday School	
Mar 29	Sunday School	SS Elementary Oratorical Festival (PreK-6 th)
Apr 4 (Sat)		Saturday of Lazarus, Community Palm Folding, Youth Confessions
Apr 5	Sunday School	Palm Sunday
Apr 10 (Fri)		Holy Friday Youth Retreat
Apr 12	No Sunday School	Pascha
Apr 19	Sunday School	
Apr 26	Sunday School	
May 3	Sunday School	
May 10	Sunday School	Mother's Day
May 17	Sunday School	Sunday School Graduation, Awards Sunday

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday School Registration is September 7th. Religious education classes will begin September 14th. If your child misses registration, please complete this form and bring to the Religious Education office.

Children are placed in our Religious Education classes according to the grade they will be attending in public/private school. Pre-School students must be three years old and Kindergarten students must be **five years old by September 1, 2025.**

The *Agiastos* service (blessing the children and teachers) will be held on September 14th.

REGISTRATION FORM

Student's Name _____ Birthdate: _____

Student Baptismal Name: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Student Home Phone & Cell Phone _____

Family E-mail Address _____

Student's Email Address _____

Grade attending in Regular School _____

Parents' Names _____

Parent Cell Phone _____

SUNDAY SCHOOL USE ONLY

Grade in Sunday School _____

Added to Sunday School Directory _____



GREEK SCHOOL

Pre K – 6th grade

Ellinomatheia A1,A2, B1

*Seal of Biliteracy

Adult Classes Beginners & Advanced



Classes are from September through May

Tuition \$550 / year



For more information: please contact

Popi Tsaganos

(302) 598-3561

Kallitsaganos@gmail.com





Holy Trinity Greek School

☎ 302)654-4446

✉ kallitsaganos@gmail.com

School Registration Form

Student's Name :

Email Address

Grade :

Home Address :

Name of Parents :

Student's age

Date of Birth :

Contact Number

Classes are on Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 pm
Tuition 1st Child \$550
2nd child \$350, 3rd child \$250
Teen /Adult Class \$450/\$550 TBD with Books

Class preK-6, Teen 7th Grade & up
Adult Beginners & Advanced

Open House is
9/17
@5:30-6:30pm

pre K - 6th grade

☐

Teen Class 7th +& up

☐

Adult Class

☐

Holy Trinity's YAL / Young Adult League

Thank you to all the YAL members who volunteered at the festival!

You all contributed to this year's success!

We have many events planned for this year so be on the lookout for more information!



Holy Trinity

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
WILMINGTON DE



**WELCOME BACK
AND
WATER ICE**



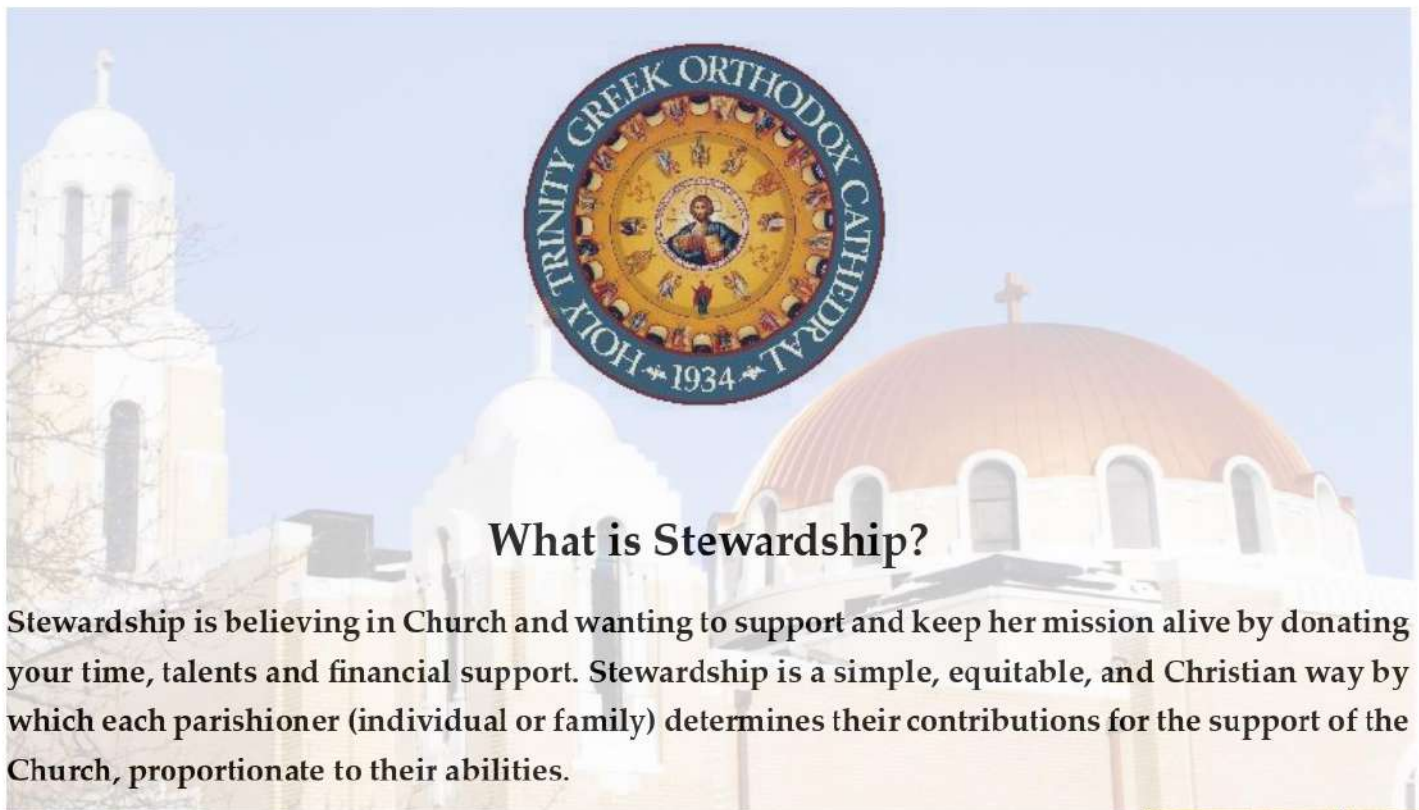
Please join us for pizza and water ice to welcome everyone back and send well wishes to our college students!

When: Monday August 18th

Where: Holy Trinity 808 N. Broom St.

Time: 6:30 pm

Please RSVP to Anna Fournaris fournaris10@gmail.com



What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is believing in Church and wanting to support and keep her mission alive by donating your time, talents and financial support. Stewardship is a simple, equitable, and Christian way by which each parishioner (individual or family) determines their contributions for the support of the Church, proportionate to their abilities.

- A parishioner is an individual 18 years of age or older, or a family
- We currently have 400 families as stewards, but the actual number of families and potential parishioners is much higher
- If all our stewards gave \$40 per week, our operational needs would be met
- We should not financially rely on “rain or shine” Greek Festival
- Based on our 2025 Budget, we need the amount of \$2,000 a day to operate and keep our doors open.



We will give parishioners the opportunity to “Sponsor a Day” @ \$2,000 per day. Anyone who sponsors one or more days will be listed in the bulletin as a Cathedral Day Sponsor. All other stewards will be listed as Cathedral Stewards.

Please commit to helping us continue the mission of our Orthodox Church and Community, as we have been doing for 90 years now!

Your needed stewardship/donation can be made as follows:

- In person: at the parish office
- Mailed to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 808 N. Broom St. Wilmington, DE. 19806
- Online: <https://holytrinitywilmington.org>



*For any question or more information please call the church office at: (302) 654-4446
or email us: office@holytrinitywilmington.org*

2025 HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL SPONSORS OF ONE DAY OR MORE

Asimos, George & Kristie
 Caras, Constantine & Maria
 Colborn, Brian & Nicole
 Constantinou, John & Carol
 Demourtzidis, Nichoals & Daphne
 Faller, James & Catherine
 Fournaris, Emmanuel & Evanthea
 Galaris, Rick & Diana
 Gray, David & Eugenia

Grivas, Christopher & Michelle
 Halakos, Angelos & Donna
 Halakos, Demetris & Georgia
 Halakos, Ioannis & Effie
 Kayiaros, Stephen
 Kirifides, Alexander & Kathy
 Kirifides, Lazarus M & Helen
 Kirifides, Michael & Kerry
 Kirifides, Vasil & Eleftheria

Kollias, Basil & Demi
 Manoloudis, Michael & Kandi
 Matulas, Anagnostis & Angela
 Michell, Constantine & Elaine
 Michell, Theodore & Catherine
 Mistras, Antonis & Soula
 Moutsatsos, George & Alexia
 Nannas, Theodore & Alexandra
 Psaltis, Tom & Cindy

Raisis, Leonidas & Irene
 Rassias, Dion & Gina
 Souleles, Nicholas & Alexis
 Vassilatos, Yvonne
 Wolcott, Josiah & Paraskevi
 Zerefos, Demetri & Constantina

2025 FINANCIAL STEWARDS OF HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Al-Annouf, Nabil & Rabia Batah
 Alexopoulos, Demetri & Lauren
 Alexopoulos, John
 Almasou, Elias & Rasha
 Anagnostou, Anamaria
 Anagnostou, Anthoula
 Andrianopoulos, Faith
 Angeletakis, Christos & Christina
 Asimos SR, George
 Athanasiadis, Fotios & Asmik
 Atsidis, Kostas & Eftihia+
 Bacchieri, Stacey
 Belitsas, Athanasios & Antonia
 Bouloukos, Harry & Anastasia
 Calliagas, Katherine
 Calliagas, Markella
 Chambers, George & Katherine
 Charalambides, Dino & Nia
 Chilimidos, Effie
 Chollis, Drew
 Christoforatos, Demetri & Dimitra
 Christou, Alecca
 Christou, Christos & Evie
 Coates, George & Evie
 Constantinou, Elizabeth
 Constantinou, George
 Constantinou, Georgeia
 Constantinou, Stephen
 Constantinou, Virginia
 Coulaloglou, Michelle
 Courtis, Harry & Sophia
 Coustenis, Katherine
 Dalianis, John & Vicky
 Dargakis, Mike & Kleo
 Demetriou, Anna
 Diamanty, Thomas
 Diamond, Anthony & Lauren
 Diamond, John & Susan
 Diamond, Soula
 Diamond, Thomas
 Dickey, Irene
 Dougher, John & Christina
 Doukakis, Helen
 Drimones, Clara
 Drimones, Nicholas
 Dumel, John+ & Evangeline
 Ferentinos, Joan
 Fernandes, Jordan & Evanthis
 Fessaras, Costas & Anna
 Fisfis, Nicholas & Cathryn
 Floropoulos, Yiannis
 Fotakis, Greg & Angeliki
 Fotakos, Leonidas & Sophia
 Fountzoulas, Costas & Audrey
 Fournaris, Anna

Fournaris, Constantine & Kristen
 Fournaris, George & Soula
 Galanis, Agnes
 Gatanis, Theodore
 Gatos, Paula
 Geanopoulos, Georgiean
 George, Mary
 Georgiou, Constantinos
 Gerakios, Michael
 Gerakios, Nikoletta
 Gerakios, Sakelaris & Spiridoula
 Gianelos, James & Stacie
 Giannakakis, Vivian
 Giannatos, Stavros & Terrie
 Graham, Catherine
 Grigorakakis, Maria
 Guajardo, Evangelina
 Guardascione, Louis & Shelly
 Halakos, Garifalia
 Haldas, George & Beth
 Haldas, Harry
 Haldas, Nicholas & Rodie
 Haldas, Thomas
 Haldas-Long, Irene
 Hall, George & Michelle
 Hantzandreu, George & Diane
 Hantzandreu, Lambrini
 Hantzopoulos, Bill 7 Lisa
 Hatzis, Katherine
 Hatzis, Tom & Bing
 Heggan, Brandon & Maria
 Heliotis, Alexandra
 Hinte, Jr., Forrest
 Hionis, Sophia
 Humphrey, Caroline
 Issaris, Katherine
 Jacobs, Joseph & Alexandra
 Joris, Irene
 Joseck, Anastasia
 Joseck, John & Taylor
 Joseck, Xanthi & Fred
 Kaliakin, Victor & Elizabeth
 Kamenakis, Peter & Juli
 Kanas, Emmanuel & Valerie
 Kanas, Larry & Alicia
 Kanteliotis, Steve & Olga
 Karablaas, Stelios
 Karagiannis, Peter
 Karahalias, Stratton
 Karakasidis, Demetri & Eleni
 Karakasidis, John & Vickie
 Karakasidis, Stephanos & Evaggelia
 Karaoglanis, Eleftherios & Niki
 Karapanagiotis, Athanasios
 Karas, Theodore & Pamela

Karavasilis, Nicholas & Foula
 Karvounis, Nikolaos & Amanda
 Kayiaros, Joanna
 Kirifides, Eleni
 Kirifides, Lazarus V
 Kirtses, Petros & Athy
 Klezaras, Michael & Kathy
 Klezaras III, Michael
 Klezaras, Nikoletta
 Kollias, Georgia
 Koninis II, John
 Koninis, John & Anastasia
 Kontis, Gus & Cindy
 Kontodemos, Klianthis & Anthi
 Kontomaris, Kostas & Melissa
 Kostas, John & Gale
 Kostas, Lynn
 Kostas, Nicholas & Stephani
 Kostos, Yianni
 Kotanidis, Roula
 Kramedias, Matoula
 Kyranakis, John
 Laletas, Earnest & Barbara Brackett
 Laskaris, Johanna
 Lawson, Michael & Victoria
 Lazare, John & Sandra
 Lazopoulos, Emmanuel & Laura
 Lazopoulos, John & Christina
 Lengel, Robert & Maria
 Liarakos, George+ & Ann
 Logullo, Desponia & Francis
 Lomis, Toulia
 Mantzavinos, Spiros & Megan
 Maravelias, James & Diane
 Marcantonis, George & Agnoulia
 Marini, Irene
 Marinis, Kalliope
 Markatos, Harry & Susan
 Marusiodis, Kalliope
 Marvel, Jessica
 McCloskey, Brian & Anna
 Milionis, Constantine
 Mitoulis, Nikolaos & Stella
 Moriello, Carissa & Nicholas
 Napoli, Frances
 Nicholas, Steve
 Novakis, Louis
 Ohlemacher, Evangline
 Pacienza, Stephanie
 Pandelakis, Denis & Anna
 Pantelopulos, Anthony & Daphne
 Papachrysanthou, George & Laura
 Papanicholas, Evan
 Papanicholas, Maria
 Papettas, Vasilis & Christina

Pappas, Elizabeth
 Pappoulis, Demetra
 Pastis, Jacqueline
 Pettaris, George & Stavroula
 Phalangas, Charalambos & Mary
 Piccirilli, Melissa & Joe
 Pierson, Vetta & Charles
 Pispitsos, Pantelis
 Pittaoulis, Steve
 Poulos, Vasilios & Eulampia
 Psaltis, Nikolaos
 Psihalinos, Thomas & Magdalini
 Raisis, Irene
 Raisis, Pauline
 Raisis, Spiros
 Raisis, William & Emily
 Rassias, Dion & Gina
 Rassias, George & Amalea
 Rentoulis, Niko & Androniki
 Riga, Jason & Ekaterini
 Righos, Elaine
 Roussalis, John & Valerie
 Roustopoulos, Alexia
 Roustopoulos, Theodoros & Natalie
 Saitis, Mary
 Savopoulos, Despina
 Schillinger, Robert & Karen
 Shahwan, Sofy
 Spence, Jason & Sunday
 Staab, Kristina
 Stevens, Richard & Penny
 Stout, Robert & Voula
 Tarabicos, Christina
 Tarabicos, John & Joanne
 Tarabicos, Sophia
 Tawfik, Emad & Soultana
 Theodorakos, Nicholas & Katherine
 Thomas, Richard & Angela
 Tiniakos, Gregory & Elaine
 Tsaganos, Alexandra
 Tsaganos, Anthony & Joanne
 Tsaganos, Nicholas & Joanna
 Tsaganos, Robert & Popi
 Tsaganos, Robert
 Tsakataras, George
 Tsakiris, Konstantine
 Tsakumis, George & Julia
 Tsakumis, Theodore
 Tsigkakos, Dimos & Ioanna
 Tsionas, Angela
 Tsoukalas, Frederiki
 Tsoukalas, Niki
 Tsugranes, George & Penny
 Turley, Steve & Akiko
 Vande Poele, David & Anna

2025 FINANCIAL STEWARDS OF HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Vassiliou, Kleoniki
Velitskakis, Steve & Karen
Verikakis, Dena
Verikakis, Evangelos & Shannon
Vice, Elaine
Visvardis, Socrates & Ruth
Vlastaridis, Theodoros & Sofia

Wiechecki, Frank & Kelly
Wilkinson, Suzanne
Xarhoulakos, Peter
Zaloga, Paul & Joann
Zerefos, Yianni & Lauren
Zerefos, Markos & Eugenia
Ziccarelli, Louis & Catherine

AS OF JUNE 30, 2025
(267 Families)

If you have not yet given towards your
2025 Stewardship
you can do so at any time.

There are several ways you can give...

You can:

- 1) Bring cash or check and put it in the offering tray as it is passed in church.
- 2) Send a check in the mail or stop by the office any time during the week (M - F 9a-4p)
- 3) Give on line via our website (www.holytrintywilmington.org - hit the donate button and follow the prompts)
- 4) Use the QR Code below and it will take you directly to the website donation page.

We thank you for your generous offerings and remind you that...

**"Each of you should give what
you have decided in your heart to
give, not reluctantly or under
compulsion, for
God loves a cheerful giver"
2 Corinthians 9:7**



SHARING

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your stewardship number: _____

Your 2024 pledge was: _____

☐ Please increase my pledge by 10% to: _____

☐ Please increase my pledge by 20% to: _____

☐ My 2025 commitment is: _____

☐ \$750.00 (\$62/month or \$15/week)

☐ \$1,000.00 (\$84/month or \$20/week)

☐ \$1,500.00 (\$125/month or \$29/week)

☐ \$5,000.00 (\$415/month or \$96/week)

☐ \$2,000.00 (Sponsors a Day of Operations)

☐ ___ # of Days (Sponsor Multiple Days)

(above figures are rounded)

I/We understand that by completing this good faith estimate, and by pledging my/our Time, Service and Sharing section of this Stewardship Card, I/We are committing ourselves to being faithful stewards of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral for 2025.

Signature _____ Date _____

Proportionate Sharing

Our operating budget for 2025 will be \$733,000.

We offer you this giving guide to assist you in determining your 2025 pledge. Please use the enclosed envelopes and give according to what God has blessed you.

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED CARD TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

Weekly Giving

Annual Income	2%	5%	10% Biblical
\$15,000	\$6	\$14	\$28
\$25,000	\$10	\$24	\$48
\$35,000	\$13	\$34	\$68
\$45,000	\$17	\$43	\$86
\$65,000	\$25	\$64	\$128
\$100,000	\$38	\$96	\$192



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST / August 6

Apolytikion in the Grave Tone

You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God revealing Your glory to Your disciples, insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.

Kontakion in the Grave Tone

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

Reading:

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of

death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5).

Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

Reading courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Apolytikion courtesy of Narthex Press / Kontakion courtesy of Narthex Press



THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY / August 15

Apolytikion in the First Tone

In birth, you preserved your virginity; in death, you did not abandon the world, O Theotokos. As mother of life, you departed to the source of life, delivering our souls from death by your intercessions.

Kontakion in the Second Tone

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.

Reading:

Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at

once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulchre, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens.

These things has the Church received from the traditions of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God (see Oct. 3 and 4).

Reading courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Apolytikion courtesy of Narthex Press / Kontakion courtesy of Narthex Press / Icon courtesy of Theologic Systems

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <u>Dormition Begins</u> <u>7pm Paraklesis</u>	2
3 <u>8th Sunday of Matthew</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy <u>11:15am Paraklesis</u>	4	5	6 <u>Transfiguration of the Lord</u> 9:00am Orthros /Divine Liturgy <u>11am Paraklesis</u>	7 <u>7pm Paraklesis</u>	8	9
10 <u>9th Sunday of Matthew</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy <u>11:15am Paraklesis</u>	11	12 12pm Serving @ Emmanuel Dining Room <u>7pm Paraklesis</u>	13 <u>7pm Paraklesis</u>	14 <u>7pm Great Vespers</u>	15 <u>Falling Asleep of the Theotokos</u> 9:00am Orthros/Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Sponsored Coffee Hour after Worship	16
17 <u>10th Sunday of Matthew</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy	18	19	20	21 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	22	23
24 <u>11th Sunday of Matthew</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy	25	26 6pm Daughters of Penelope Meeting	27	28	29 <u>STRICT FAST</u> <u>Beheading of John the Baptist</u> 9:00am Orthros/Divine Liturgy	30 12pm Philoptochos Serving @ Emmanuel Dining Room
31 <u>12th Sunday of Matthew</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy						

ALTAR GUILD

I hope everyone is having a fantastic summer and looking forward to a September and a normal routine.

Donation for August:

August 15th: Dormition of the Theotokos, Lauren and Anthony Diamond , Health and happiness for our family and Parishioners

Donations needed:

August 6th, Transfiguration of Jesus Christ

September 14th, The Elevation of the Cross

November 21st, Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple.

As always, the Altar Guild is here to serve our parishioners.

Please use the form below if you have any requests for the coming year.

Cost is \$ 60.00 for an Icon,

\$60.00 for two small arrangements and \$125.00 for two Large arrangements.

Please feel free to contact Joanne Tarabicos at 302-239-4950 or Evie Fournaris at 302-475-5035 or use the form below.

Name _____

Dedication _____

RESERVED DATE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

MAY WE PRINT IT IN THE BULLETIN: YES _____ NO _____

Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Holy Trinity Altar Guild".

Mail to: Stacy Koninis, 2602 Brightwell Drive, Wilmington, DE. 19810



*The Young at Heart
wishes everyone
a safe and Happy Summer!*

Our 2025-2026 Board

President: Dimitra Pappoulis

Vice President: Joanna Tsaganos

Treasurer: Sophia Hionis

Secretary: Trudy Fisher



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ



Wilmington, June 13, 2025

My beloved parishioners,

With deep gratitude and heartfelt joy, I extend my warmest thanks to each and every one of you who helped make our 2025 Greek Festival a truly remarkable and memorable success. This Festival, as always, required months of careful planning, long hours, and a spirit of teamwork. You showed love and respect for one another and worked in beautiful harmony, offering Wilmington, Delaware, and beyond a taste of our Hellenic culture and the warmth of our Orthodox Christian faith.



In particular, I would like to thank our dedicated Chairpersons: Demetri Halakos, Stephen Karakasidis, George Rassias, Spiros Mantzavinos, Nick Demourtzidis, Tom Psaltis, and Louis Novakis. I also express heartfelt thanks to our Parish Council President Georgia Halakos and all its devoted members, as well as to our Philoptochos President Dena Verikakis and the ladies of Saint Agape and, of course, our committed Office Administrator Susie Kelleher. Your commitment and love for our Cathedral were evident in every detail and every moment.

To our Greek School, Sunday School, Youth Advisors, and especially our precious children and young adults, thank you for dancing beautifully, working tirelessly, and shining with joy as you witnessed our Hellenic heritage and Orthodox Christian faith to thousands. You brought life, energy, and a deep sense of community to all.

To all our volunteers and supporters who labored behind the scenes, offered donations, welcomed visitors, prepared food and pastries, or simply came, brought friends, enjoyed our offerings, and supported our efforts with your presence and generosity, thank you. You are the heart and strength of Holy Trinity. Through your love, unity, and selfless service, Wilmington, Delaware, and even friends from South Jersey and Pennsylvania experienced true Greek hospitality and the spirit of Christ alive in His Church.

As your parish priest and spiritual father, I am immensely proud and deeply grateful. May our Lord bless you and your families with health, joy, and every blessing from the Holy Trinity. May we all be well and ready to come together again next year for another joyful offering of faith, food, and fellowship to our community. May we be granted many more years to continue this sacred and joyful work together for the glory of our Cathedral.

With love in Christ,

Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne
Christoforos Oikonomidis, Presiding Priest



Our GOYAns showcasing their talent at the Greek Festival! You did a superb job all week long! Bravo!!



GOYA News



Dear GOYAns, Parents, & Fellow Parishioners,

On behalf of myself (as your dance teacher), and the advisory team, I would like to thank you all for the outstanding job you did this at this year's festival! We really worked hard as a dance group both during and outside of practice to put together an awesome performance that really wow'd the crowd. People still stop me in church and reach out to tell me how incredible you all looked. Cretan takes a lot of work, as you all see now, and we pulled it together as a team.

Beyond that, you were all also great to work with getting ready and keeping our dance room clean and organized, as well as volunteering to help both at the soda booth and in other areas of the festival. When there's only one of me and sometimes 25 of you, it all gets stressful. A HUGE thank you to the parents that helped me with the Soda Booth duties this year, Olga Kanteliotis, Valentina Triantafyllou, Maria Stogiantsakis, Joanna Kayiaros, Kathy Kirifides, Tom Psihalinos, and Para Wolcott, I can't tell you how much I appreciated it - especially this year.

We had a big year as a GOYA, both in our activities, helping our parish, as well as service to our community, and next year we pray to all have the strength to make it even bigger and better!

Thank you to our outgoing GOYA leadership team, and a big congrats to this year's executive board :

President - Anastasia Thomas
Vice-President - Eleni Marcantonis
Treasurer - George Psihalinos
Recording Secretary - Sia Dargakis
Corresponding Secretary - Anna Psihalinos
Historian - Katerina Marcantonis

The team will meet over the summer to begin planning for next year so please feel free to reach out to them with all of your ideas for next year. I will miss seeing you all and catching up every week, but I hope to catch you at a liturgy whenever you're home! We will kick it all off together on Sunday, September 7th at our annual Ministry sign up Picnic and GOYA meeting.

We will keep you updated with any happenings over the summer and I hope to start the year off with a BANG hosting a fundraising dance class for all of your parents and adults in the community.

Wishing you a healthy,
happy and restful
summer,

Fr. Christoforos &
Your Dance Teacher
and Advisors
Agnoula Marcantonis,
Stacey Pennia,
& Angie Thomas





2025 GREEK FESTIVAL



Fr. Christoforos, the Parish Council, and the 2025 Greek Festival Committee would like to thank the many volunteers that gave, unselfishly, ~ their time and talents ~ before, during, and after the festival.

The 2025 Greek Festival was a SUCCESS, because of your hard work and dedication. May our Lord richly bless each of your lives and the lives of your families. We look forward to serving with you again in 2026!

THANK YOU!





Future HOPE/JOY & GOYAns!!



GREAT JOB EVERYONE!



GREEK FESTIVAL

June 2 (Mon) - June 7 (Sat)
808 N. Broom St., Wilmington





An old one from Festival past!

See you in
June 2026!!



**60TH
ANNIVERSARY**

2025

**Scholarship
Award
Winners**

H.U.C.

The Hellenic University Club of Wilmington Scholarship:

Alexander Tsakumis

Salesianum School

The Catholic University of America

Field of Study: Accounting, Certified Public Accounting

The Spyros K. Demetriou Scholarship:

Ludovic Nektarios Wiechecki

Charter School of Wilmington

Hellenic College

Field of Study: Theology with a minor in
Modern Greek Language, Holy Cross Seminary

The Constantine & Georgina Georgiou Scholarship:

Irene Sophia Kirifides

Wilmington Friends School

University of Delaware

Field of Study: Kinesiology

The Dr. George & Alice Gatos Scholarship:

Christina Nicole Pennia

Tatnall School

University of Delaware

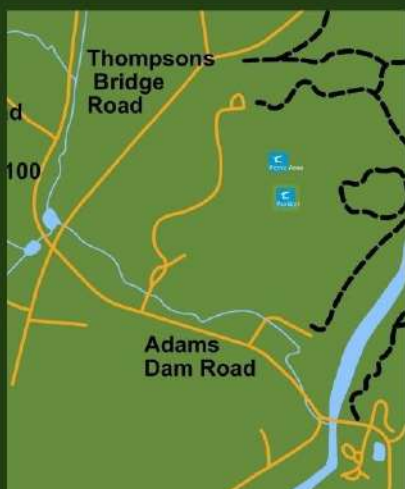
Field of Study: Higher Education



FAMILY

WELCOME BACK PICNIC IN THE PARK

BRANDYWINE CREEK STATE PARK PAVILLION



Entrance on Adams Dam Rd.
Follow signs to pavillion.
Parking Passes provided there.

SATURDAY **STARTS AT**
13 SEPTEMBER 2025 **NOON**

COST: MEMBERS \$30. NON-MEMBERS. \$35
SENIORS 75+: \$20. CHILDREN: 5-17: \$15
KIDS 4 AND UNDER ARE FREE.

GREEK PICNIC FOOD, BEVERAGES, MUSIC, KEFI

REGISTER AT:



hucwilmington.org

SHORT WALK FROM PARKING, REST ROOMS NEARBY



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
11:00AM REGISTRATION / 1:00PM TEE OFF
BARBECUE & PRIZES TO FOLLOW
FREE DRINKS ON THE COURSE
FREE CIGAR AT REGISTRATION

Sponsorship Opportunities

- ☐ **Tournament Sponsor..... \$2,750**
Name associated with all tournament advertising. Includes two Foursomes, tee/green sign, Company name/logo on banner at Reception, Cook Out & Hole.
- ☐ **CIGAR SPONSOR..... \$1,500**
Includes foursome, tee/green sign, Company name/logo on banner at Reception, Cook Out & Hole.
- ☐ **BEVERAGE CART SPONSOR..... \$1,500**
Includes foursome, tee/green sign, Company name/logo on banner at Reception, Cook Out & Hole.
- ☐ **GOLD SPONSOR..... \$1,500**
Includes foursome, tee/green sign, Company name/logo on banner at Reception, Cook Out & Hole.
- ☐ **HOLE SPONSOR..... \$275**
Company name/logo on tee or green sign.

Sponsor/Company Name

Sponsor deadline September 5, 2025

Golfer Registration

Golf Foursome \$1100 (\$275 per golfer)

Player Name _____

Player Name _____

Player Name _____

Player Name _____

Golfer Deadline : September 12, 2025

PRIZES & CONTESTS:

Longest Drive

Putting Contest

Closest to the Pin

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st Place Finishers

Tournament Format—Scramble

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Holy Trinity 808 N Broom St. Wilmington, DE 19806

Or Email to: office@holytrinitywilmington.org



Concord Country Club
1601 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA
610-459-2200 / www.concordclub.org

Διάφορα

Δρ. Κώστας Γ. Φούντζουλας

Δύο πατρίδες

Κάθε καλοκαίρι φεύγω από το σπίτι μου στην «πατρίδα» μου την Αμερική για να επισκευθώ το σπίτι μου επίσης στην πατρίδα μου στην Ελλάδα! Ακούγεται παράξενο και προκαλεί σύγχυση στον ανύποπτο συνομιλητή μου, αλλά είναι αλήθεια, γιατί εγώ, καθώς και πολλοί άλλοι στην ίδια κατάσταση, αισθάνονται ακριβώς όπως εγώ. Είμαι μετανάστης μηδενικής γενιάς γιατί δεν γεννήθηκα στις ΗΠΑ αλλά στην Ελλάδα. Έφερα στην νέα μου πατρίδα ήλθα με τις συνήθειές του από την γενέτειρά μου. «Γέρικο άλογο, καινούργια περπατησιά δε βάνει»

Όμως, όλα αυτά τα χρόνια δεν έχω καταφέρει να ισορροπήσω μεταξύ της νέας και παλαιάς πατρίδας. Αισθάνομαι σαν ένα εκκρεμές που ταλαντεύεται μεταξύ του παλαιού και του νέου, αυτού που είχα και αυτού που έχω τα τελευταία 44 χρόνια. Είναι μία παράξενη, βασανιστική, αλλά ευχάριστη ταλάντωση όμως. Στην Αμερική υπερασπίζομαι την Ελλάδα με πάθος και στην Ελλάδα υπερασπίζομαι την Αμερική με το ίδιο πάθος! Είμαι το υβρίδιο δύο πολιτισμών, δύο κόσμων• της Ελλάδας που έβαλε τις βάσεις για τον παρόντα δυτικό πολιτισμό και μέσω της Ελληνικής γλώσσας διεδόθη ο Χριστιανισμός• και της παρούσης αυτοκρατορίας, που έχει Ρωμαϊκή διοίκηση, Ελληνιστική φιλοσοφία και που η μεγάλη πλειοψηφία των κατοίκων της είναι Χριστιανοί.

Όταν επισκέπτομαι την Ελλάδα συναντώ φίλους, και συγγενείς στην χώρα που γεννήθηκα και μορφώθηκα και ανδρώθηκα. Δεν χρειάζομαι ιδιαίτερες συστάσεις για επανασύνδεση με όλον αυτόν κόσμο. Είναι σαν να μην έφυγα ποτέ από την Ελλάδα. Τώρα όμως η συζήτησή μας όμως περιλαμβάνει διάφορες αλλαγές, όπως παιδιά, εν ζωή ή θανόντες γονείς, φίλοι και συγγενείς και την κατάσταση της υγείας μας. "δεινόν τό γήρας, ου γάρ έρχεται μόνον", όπως έλεγαν και οι αρχαίοι Έλληνες.

Στις ΗΠΑ οι δεσμοί μας με την νέα πατρίδα είναι τα παιδιά μας, οι νέοι φίλοι μας, συγγενείς εξ' αγχιστείας, συνάδελφοι, η επαγγελματική μας διαδρομή και φυσικά η κατάσταση της υγείας μας.

Όσο κι αν έχω προσπαθήσει να διαλέξω την μία ή την άλλη πατρίδα σαν την μοναδική πατρίδα μου δεν το έχω καταφέρει ακόμη. Διαλέγω και κρατώ το καλλίτερο από τις δύο κι αυτό κάνει ευτυχισμένο. Για ένα είμαι όμως βέβαιος ότι αγαπώ και τις δύο για διαφορετικούς λόγους. Είμαι Αμερικανός με βαθιές Ελληνικές ρίζες! Η Ελλάδα μου έδωσε το «ζήν» Η Αμερική μου έδωσε το «εν ζην»!

Various

Dr. Costas G. Fountzoulas

Two motherlands

Every summer, I leave my home in my "motherland" in America to visit my home in my fatherland in Greece! It sounds weird and confusing to the unsuspected interlocutor of mine, but it's true, because I, and many others like me feel just like I do. I am an immigrant of zero generation, because I was not born in the USA, but in Hellas. When I immigrated to USA I brought to my new country myself with my habits and customs from my old fatherland. As they say, "you cannot teach old dog new tricks!"

However, over all these years I have not *βαλα* to balance between the new and the old country. I feel like a pendulum that swings between the old and new, the old I had, and the new I been having for the past 44 years. However, this is a strange and tormenting, pleasant however, vibration. In America, I defend Hellas passionately, and in Hellas I defend America with passion as well! I am a hybrid of two cultures, two worlds; of Hellas which laid the foundations for the present western civilization and through the Greek language Christianity was spread to the world; and of our current empire, which has Roman administration, Hellenistic philosophy and most of her residents are Christians.

When I visit Greece, I meet with friends, relatives in the country where I was born and raised and educated. I need no special introduction to reconnect with all these people. It is as if I never left Greece. It feels like time has stopped the moment I left Greece for America. However, now our discussion includes changes, such as children, living or deceased parents, friends and relatives and the state of our health. According with an ancient Greek proverb, "because ageing is frightening and it does not come alone".

In the United States our ties with our new homeland include mainly our children, colleagues and relatives through marriages and baptisms, our professional journey and the state of our health.

I have tried unsuccessfully to choose one of the two countries as my only one fatherland. At the end, I choose the best from both, which makes me happy. However, I am sure only for one thing, that I love both for different reasons. I stopped trying to choose one. I feel happy and lucky as an American with deep Greek roots! Hellas gave the "living", while USA gave me the "Good living"!

June & July at the Emmanuel Dining Room

We *sincerely* thank **Evie and Manny Fournaris and Lauren and Tony Diamond** for sponsoring our lunchtime meals in June and July, as they have for *many* years now! Through their charity, the men, women and children enjoyed nice warm meals. We look forward to serving again in August, with a new sponsor on the 12th. All are welcome to help serve the dining room that day or at any time!

We sincerely thank all the individuals, families and organizations who generously support this dining room!

PLEASE NOTE... The 3rd and Walnut St. dining room is closed.

All meals are now being served at the 2nd and Jackson St. dining room until future notice

Various groups and individuals from our church donate the food to sponsor the luncheon meal at the 3rd and Walnut St location on the 12th of every month.

If you, your family or organization would like to provide a meal, contact Nikkie Tsakataras at 302-655-2252 or Tina Ganiaris at 302-367-6758 for more information.

Thank you!

Holy Trinity Food Pantry

"Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out of the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon."

Isaiah 58:10



- ❖ **2,626 men, women and children served in June**
- ❖ **27% of children in Delaware are food insecure**
- ❖ **88,400 people served in our food pantries in 2024**
- ❖ **Just one nonperishable can make a difference!**

**Hope everyone is having a wonderful summer.
Thank you for your continued support!**

**Evie Fournaris, Tina Ganiaris, Johanna Laskaris, John Lazare,
Sandy Nannas, Steve Nicholas and Nikki Tsakataras**

Serving in August

Coffee Hours:

Ministry Coffee Hours will resume in September

If your family would like to sponsor a coffee hour during the summer months, please contact the church office.



Narthex Duty:

August 3 ~ Group 1

August 10 ~ Group 2

August 17 ~ Group 1

August 24 ~ Group 2

August 31 ~ Group 1



Prosforon Offeror's



We are looking to update our Prosfora Offeror List.

If you would like to become a regular Prosfora Offeror, please contact the church office to be added to our list. You can offer prosfora for any service by bringing it in before the service starts. If you do not bake but would like to donate towards the purchase of prosfora that we presently buy from the Holy Protection Monastery, please send \$8 for each prosfora you would like to donate. (mark the memo on your check accordingly)

ACOLYTES

+Tonsured ~ *Reader

All readers are also tonsured



Maximos Charalambides	*+Alexandros Lurz	Savvas Thymakis
Vasilios Dargakis	Demetri Moutsatsos	Alex Tsakumis
Joseph Demourtzidis	Demetri Psaltis	*+Nicholas Turley
Sebastian Dietrich	Nicholas Psaltis	+Paraskevas Verikakis
Johnny Dietrich	George Psihalinos	*+NektariosWiehecki
+Ioannis Gerakios	Gerasimos Psihalinos	+Fotios Wolcott
Alexander Hall	+ Jerry Rassias	+Jack Wolcott
+Angelo Hall	Nicholas Rassias	+Josiah Wolcott
+Demetri Karakasidis	Stamati Roussos	
+Ioannis Karakasidis	+Demetri Thomas	

ALTAR ASSISTANTS

Alexandros Matthews ~~~ Josiah Wolcott ~~~ Markos Zerefos

Adult Greek Dance Workshop

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



7-9
PM

18
SEP

Suggested
Donation:

\$50

All proceeds go towards new
costumes for our GOYA

Bring your
Sneakers and
BYOB!

- September 18 (7-9 pm)
- Holy Trinity Cathedral Gymnasium
- Taught by Agnoula Marcantonis and Senior Dancers
- RSVP by Sunday, 9/14 to amarcantonis@hotmail.com

Questions? - Dance Requests?

Bringing a Large Group? - Just Reach Out!

Spots are Limited!

**We would like to thank the following parishioners who have
donated \$500 or more to defray the cost of the new
HVAC System
for the Community Center and Classrooms...**

Adamopoulos, Christos & Nancy
Altar Guild
Anagnostou, Anthoula & Anamaria
Annos, William
Artemiadis, Panagiotis & Spyridoula
Arvanitis, Lisa & Argyrios
Asimos, George & Kristi
Asimos Sr., George
Caras, Constantine & Maria
Chambers, George & Kathy
Christou, Aleka
Ciabattoni, Olga
Colborn, Brian & Nicole
Constantinou, John & Carol
Coulaloglou, Michele
Dandolos, Demetri & Carol
Dargakis, Minas & Kleo
Demetriou, Anna
Diamond, Anthony & Lauren
Diamond, Thomas
Dini, C & O
Dougher, John & Christina
Doukakis, Helen
Drimones, Nicholas & Clara
Economou, George & Elena
Faller, Jim & Katherine
Floropoulos, Yiannis
Fotakis, Greg & Angeliki
Fountzoulas, Costas & Audrey
Fournaris, Anna
Fournaris, Constantine & Kristen
Fournaris, Manny & Evie
Frangakis, Christine
Galaris, Rick & Diane
Gatos, Paula
Geanopulos, Georgiean
George, Mary
Gianelos, James & Stacey

Gray, Eugenia & David
Grivas, Christopher & Michelle
Halakos, Demetris & Georgia
Halakos, Yianni & Effie
Halakos, Angelos & Donna
Haldas, Nicholas & Rodie
Hall, George & Michelle
Hellenic University Club
Iliadis, Dimitri & Tina
Joseck, Anastasia
Joseck, Fred & Xanthy
Kaliakin, Victor & Leeza
Kanteliotis, Steve & Olga
Karakasidis, John & Vickie
Karakasidis, Steve & Angie
Karas, Theodore & Pam
Karavasilis, Nicholas & Foula
Kayiaros, Joanna
Kirifides, Alex & Kathy
Kirifides, Lazarus & Helen
Kirifides, Michael & Kerry
Kirifides, Vasil & Rita
Klezaras, Michael & Kathy
Kollias, Basil & Demi
Kolovos, Demetri & Effie
Koninis, John & Anastasia
Laletas, Ernest & Barbara
Lawson, Michael & Vickie
Lazare, John & Sandra
Lazopoulos, Emmanuel & Laura
Lomis, Toulia
Maravelias, Jim & Diane
Marini, Irene
Markatos, Harry & Susan
Marvel, Jessica
Matulas, Anagnostis & Angela
Melissourgou, Xenofon & Aikaterini
Michell, Constantine & Elaine

Michell, Theodore & Catherine
Mistras, Antonis & Soula
Moutsatsos, George & Alexia
Nannas, Ted & Sandy
Papachrysanthou, Christos & Popi
Papettas, Vasilis & Christina
Pennia, John & Stacey
Pettaris, George & Stavroula
Philoptochos Society
Psaltis, John
Psaltis, Tom & Cindy
Raisis, Leo & Irene
Rassias, Dion & Gina
Rassias, George & Amalea
Souleles, Nicholas & Alexis
Stout, Robert & Voula
Tarabicos, John & Joanne
Tawfik, Emad & Soultana
Tsaganos, Anthony & Joanna
Tsaganos, Nicholas & Joanne
Tsaganos, Robert & Popi
Tsakataras, George
Tsakumis, George & Julie
Tsionas, Anna
Turley, Steve & Akiko
Vande Poele, David & Anna
Vassilatos, Yvonne
Velitskakis, Steve & Karen
Verikakis & Family, Dena
Visvardis, Socrates & Ruth
Yiannos Foundation, Peter & Stella
Wolcott, Joe & Para
Zerefos, Demetri & Tina

**We would like to thank the following parishioners who have made a
donation to help defray the cost of the new HVAC System...**

Anastassiades, Aglaia
Chollis, Drew
Heliotis, Alexandra
Hinte, Jr., Forrest
Humphrey, Caroline

Issaris, Katherine
Kollias, Georgia
Loftus, Eliza
Pappoulis, Dimitra
Schillinger, Robert & Karen

Shahwan, Sofy
Skoutelas, Panos
Tarabicos, Sophia
Tawfik, Emmanouela
Wolcott-Neff, DeDe

Thank you for answering the call!!

If you have not sent in your donation yet...

There is still time to donate - see the letter on the previous page!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS

Major Benefactor (\$750,000)

Christopher Caras Estate

Level 10 (\$200,000+)

Christopher & Michelle Grivas

Level 9 (\$100,000+)

The Halakos Family

Thomas & Bing Hatzis

The Kirifides Family

Philoptochos Society Wilmington, DE

Level 8 (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Christos & Nancy Adamopoulos

Constantine & Maria Caras

Leo & Irene Raisis

Konstantinos & Foula Tsionas & Family

Level 7 (\$20,000 - \$49,999)

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George & Yvonne Vassilatos

Josiah & Paraskevi Wolcott

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Alexandra Heliotis

John & Vickie Karakasidis

George Karas & Electra Yorsz

Petros & Athy Kirtses

Constantine & Elaine Michell Family

Ted & Catherine Michell Family

Thomas & Cindy Psaltis

Nicholas Staikos & Eirini Daskalaki

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Stephanos & Evaggelia Karakasidis

Joanna Michell Kayiaros & Family

Dean & Toulia Lomis

Vasili & Megan Michell

George & Alexia Moutsatsos

John Psaltis

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Margaret Riggins

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Nikki Tsoukalas

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Paula Gatos

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John & Dorothy Ioannou

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The Karapanagiotis (Karas) Family

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Louis Novakis

Vasilis & Christina Papettas

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George & Stavroula Pettaris

Marika Poulos

Dion & Gina Rassias

Bryan & Pauline Snell

Robert & Voula Stout

Nicholas & Joanna Tsaganos

George & Julie Tsakumis

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Richard & Penny Stevens

Robert & Kalliopi Tsaganos

George & Penny Tsugranes

Suzanne Haldas Wilkinson

Peter Xarhoulakos

Markos & Eugenia Zerefos

PLEASE NOTE: We are in the final days of this capital campaign.

Please see the page to the left for the sponsorship levels. Please let us know if you are at the appropriate level as to your pledge given in the past few years. Please call the office if you feel there is anything wrong or if you want to increase your pledge before the final plaque is made for display. A letter will be going out to the community for a final push, allowing time for any last minute pledges. We ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do to help us finish strong!

Please note ~ this is for the PHASE II Addition /ELEVATOR Fund drive only and does not reflect recent giving to the new HVAC system.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE DRIVE

Phase II Building/Elevator Fund
Your Capital Campaign pledge
will be welcome and appreciated!

Please give according to your God-given ability.

Pledge Recognition Tiers

\$1-999

\$1,000-2,499

\$2,500-4,999

\$5,000-9,999

\$10,000-19,999

\$20,000-29,999

\$30,000-49,999

\$50,000-99,999

\$100,000-149,999

\$150,000 and above

NAME:

Enclosed please find my/our pledge payment for:

\$ _____

We wish to pledge \$ _____ annually for _____ years.

TOTAL PLEDGE: _____ for recognition.

Pledges to Capital Campaign/Building Fund are separate and distinct from annual Stewardship.

All Gifts are greatly appreciated, and all Donors will be recognized on a permanent display in the new facility.



To contribute, please send your donation to:

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TO:

**Current Resident
or**

**DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
Mail Date: July 17**

