Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

Each September 1st starts the new Church calendar year. It’s called the Indiction. The custom extends back to the practice of the Israelites who celebrated the new year on a moveable feast in September. This could have an agricultural origin in that the harvest was complete by September and new seeds would be planted. September 1st is the date traditionally commemorating the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. On that day, after being baptized and chrismated, after fasting for 40 days and nights in the wilderness, He enters the local synagogue and reads from the Prophecy of Isaiah. The event is recorded in the Gospel of Luke 4:16-22. The Emperor Constantine formalized the practice in the Roman Empire fixing the date on Sept 1st and it continued until the Fall of Constantinople in 1453.

Recently, we undertook a youth enrollment and activity preliminary analysis for our parish. We determined the following from our database: 101 birth through four-year-olds (N0-N4), 189 K-5 graders, 130 middle schoolers (6-8 grades), and 126 high schoolers (9-12 grades). That is 546 total youth from 0 to 18 years old! Looking at church school registration numbers we have strong representation in the K-5 group at 155; good participation in 6-8 at 92 and very weak in 9-12 at 44. Furthermore, when we look at the attendance records of the same groups, it is dramatically lower with many kids attending only a handful of times during the school year.

I share these numbers not to shame or blame anyone but rather to challenge everyone. Our children’s salvation is heavily dependent upon their faith in Christ. That journey of growth begins, continues, and ends in the life of the Church. Participation in worship, educational programs, youth groups and service activities in the name of Christ are central to that life. Of course, personal prayer and spiritual/moral/ethical modeling are also essential.

If we do not regularly provide these opportunities for growth in Christ to our children, then they will drift away from Christ and the His Church. That drift is already starting in middle school and is taking hold in high school long before they head off to college, away from their friends, family, and church. It is well within our ability and control to make sure our children remain active in the life of the Church before they graduate. I exhort and encourage everyone to make a resolution in the new Church Year (starts Sept.1) to work towards this goal and help one another!

Last month I stated that Archbishop Elpidoforos’ visit to our parish was the first since the consecration our parish in 1978. That is incorrect. Archbishop Spyridon ordained Fr. Peter Pappas here on October 18, 1998 (see photos elsewhere). Also, Archbishop Demetrios
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The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary has been anticipated.

Looking ahead to October:
- Church Music Sunday (26), OCAMPUR Conference at St Mary on the Lake, Mundelein (5-7)
- Golf-Outing (7), Metropolis Clergy Laity Assembly (11-13)
- Orthodox Christian Laity Conference at SSPP (21), St. Demetrios Feast (26), Sister Vassa Larin speaks at SSPP (28), Archdiocese Presbyters Retreat in Arizona (30-Nov.2).

Our 2023 campaign season is winding down: “Giving Thanks, Eucharist Stewardship.” Giving is based on gratitude for what we have received. And there is no greater gift and no greater thanks than to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our operational expenses in 2023 will be nearly $1.5M and with necessary capital projects our total is over $1.7M. With approximately 610 families we need an average stewardship of $2,824 per individual/couple/family. Statistics show the average household income for the Northshore area is about $160K.

For our operational expenses in 2023, we need to raise $1.7M. We are currently at $1.2M, with $500K left to raise. This is the time to give generously, sacrificially, giving to God and His Church the first and best fruits of His gifts to us! The 2024 theme will be “Well done good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:24).

Many of our youth ministries will ramp up starting in September. One ministry that continues is the Acolytes—those young boys and men who serve the holy altar of our churches. At our parish I have lowered the minimum age so more boys can begin the process of learning and serving. It is a great honor and privilege, not a right or an entitlement, to serve God in the holy altar. Thus, no one should be forced to participate but should have desire to serve based on a sense of calling from God Himself.

Our new program, which we began one year ago is progressive. We have new initiates stand in the altar to observe, to build stamina and self-control and to demonstrate a commitment to be present at least twice per month. Once this initial phase is complete (3 month minimum), then acolytes can gain their robes by memorizing the Lord’s Prayer and the Creed. They can gain their sash/stole by demonstrating: 1) basic knowledge of the liturgy and the major responsibilities of an acolyte on Sunday mornings, and the minor responsibilities of standing and self-control and to begin the process of learning and serving. It is a great honor and privilege, not a right or an entitlement, to serve God in the holy altar. Thus, no one should be forced to participate but should have desire to serve based on a sense of calling from God Himself.

Our 2024 theme is based on gratitude for what we have received. And there is no greater gift and no greater thanks than to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our operational expenses in 2023 will be nearly $1.5M and with necessary capital projects our total is over $1.7M. With approximately 610 families we need an average stewardship of $2,824 per individual/couple/family. Statistics show the average household income for the Northshore area is about $160K.

So, that gives a gauge for being above or below the average. Some might say the hurdle is too high or the increase is too large. Think of it this way: if everyone gave $3.56 more per day, we would meet this goal. Now some can afford to give $10, 20 or 30 more per day. Our proportional giving must be generous and sacrificial, giving to God and His Church the first and best fruits of His gifts to us! The 2024 theme will be “Well done good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:24).

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We will host the second (of two) Clergy Homiletics seminar on August 31st. The first one had 15 clergymen participating. This is one of the programs created by the Metropolitan Strategic Planning Task Force on Worship Engagement. Another seminar is scheduled for the end of August.

This month in September—Labor Day Holiday (4), Nativity of Theotokos (8), Greek Festival (9), Exaltation of Holy Cross of Theotokos (8), Greek Festival (9), Labor Day Holiday (4), Nativity scheduled for the end of August.

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Giving Thanks: has been the brick of the The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was born of barren and aged parents, Joachim and Anna, about the year 16 or 17 before the birth of Christ. Joachim was descended from the royal line of David, of the tribe of Judah. Anna was of the priestly tribe of Levi, a daughter of the priest Matthan and Mary, his wife.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

7TH ANNUAL FALL YOUTH KICKOFF!

SEPTEMBER 17TH, 12:00-3:00

ALL YOUTH AGES 6-12TH GRADE AFTER CHURCH SCHOOL JOIN US FOR GAMES, ACTIVITIES, AND FUN TO HELP KICK OFF OUR YOUTH MINISTRY YEAR. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. DUNK TANK INCLUDED.

LET’S KICK OFF THE NEW MINISTRY YEAR!

CONTACT STEVEN AT YOUTHDIRECTOR@SSPPGLENVIEW.ORG WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

the Creed. They can gain their sash/stole by demonstrating: 1) comprehensive knowledge of areas and components of the sanctuary including the sacred utensils/appointments, and 2) basic knowledge of the liturgy and the major responsibilities of an acolyte on Sunday mornings. Beyond this, acolytes are expected to participate in additional worship services throughout the year including Christmas, Theophany, Great Lent, Parish Feast Day and occasionally Saturday Vespers. If you and/or your child is interested, please contact me or our new coordinator Steve Thell acolytes@ssppglenview.org.

Blessed Ecclesiastical New Year!
+Fr. Rick
**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome our new member Laura Peterson to our beautiful Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church.

**Kimissis Church in RACINE, WISCONSIN**

The parish of Saints Peter & Paul thanks the Hellenic Foundation for providing a bus so that 30 people could attend the Dormition of the Theotokos Vespers at Kimissis tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church in Racine, Wisconsin. The beautiful service including the Lamentations and Procession of the Epitaphios were led by the Archbishop Aristobolos of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem with several local clergy and numerous lay persons participating.

**CrossRoad AT SSPP GLENVIEW**

Our parish hosted the 2023 Chicago Crossroaders on July 30th.

**CROSSROAD REFLECTION**

In June, I had the incredible opportunity to attend the CrossRoad Summer Institute at Hellenic College, Holy Cross in Brookline, MA, and it proved to be a truly life-changing experience. Throughout my time there, I immersed myself in a vibrant community of like-minded individuals, fostering meaningful connections and friendships that will undoubtedly last a lifetime. One of the most memorable aspects was the presence of inspiring guest speakers who passionately shared their knowledge and wisdom about our Orthodox faith. Their engaging talks provided profound insights into the rich history, traditions, and values of our religious heritage, deepening my connection with Orthodox Christianity. I found myself captivated by their stories and teachings, and their words resonated with me on a spiritual level, igniting a newfound enthusiasm for my faith. Through these encounters with esteemed speakers, I not only broadened my understanding of Orthodox theology but also discovered how to integrate its teachings into my daily life. I felt a profound sense of personal growth as an Orthodox Christian, experiencing a stronger sense of identity and purpose within my faith community.

The CrossRoad Summer Institute allowed me to explore the depths of my beliefs, challenging me to ask meaningful questions and seek meaningful answers, which in turn strengthened my relationship with God and my commitment to living a life rooted in faith and virtue. Finally, CrossRoad Summer Institute in Brookline, MA was not just an event or a mere gathering; it was a transformative experience that left an indelible mark on my life as an Orthodox Christian. The profound impact of the guest speakers and the camaraderie with my peers enabled me to grow both spiritually and personally, empowering me to embrace my Orthodox identity with newfound passion and conviction. I will forever cherish the moments shared and the lessons learned during this remarkable journey of faith and self-discovery.

**ANNA GORDON**

**JULY 2023**
CROSSROAD REFLECTION

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CROSSROAD REFLECTION

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ANNA GORDON
JULY 2023
CROSSROAD REFLECTION

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

40 Day Churching - Welcome to Shannon Smith and baby Emmett on August 5th. Congrats to them and father/husband Luke!

40 Day Churching - Pam Nicolopoulos & baby Constantine on August 6th. Congrats to them and father/husband Chris!

Congratulations to Christopher Batrich and Allison Mack, united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on July 29th! Sponsor/Koumbaro Thomas Mantice.

40 Day Churching - Welcome to Megan Steil Hanson, Nolan Hanson and baby Easton on August 13th. Congrats to them.
On June 23rd, 2023, I attended session two of the CrossRoad Institute. Unsure of what to expect, I reluctantly flew from Chicago to Boston and stayed at Hellenic College Holy Cross for ten days. At the time of my arrival, I did not know how incredibly impactful this experience would be on my faith, everyday life, and relationships.

I applied to CrossRoad because my older sister had attended two years earlier and came back with the best stories, a profound way of speaking about the faith, and new Orthodox friends. One friend that she made at CrossRoad became her college roommate and best friend. My sister’s experiences and the amazing talk about this program influenced my decision to apply, in hopes of finding something similar, especially as I enter the college application season as an incoming senior in high school.

Upon arriving at the airport, I met my first friend named Marina. Our flights had landed around the same time, so we rode the bus to the college campus together. I learned that Marina’s father is a priest at a parish called Saints Peter & Paul in Pennsylvania, which instantly reminded me of my home parish and eased any and all homesickness I felt. Later that week, we also got the privilege of celebrating the Feast Day of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul together on the seminary campus of Holy Cross. Still unsure of what to expect in these first few hours at CrossRoad, Marina and I walked through it together and met a few other people that became our closest friends. Marina’s knowledge of the faith aided me in getting the most out of the lessons. The classes taught by our counselors, Dr. Michael Legaspi, Dr. Albert Rossi, and Father Maximos Constas were very insightful and covered broad topics of the faith like scripture, history, and liturgy, while also touching on more abstract ideas like relationships, personal strengths, and how to cope with life’s struggles with an Orthodox approach.

The definition of “vocation” is a recurring theme throughout CrossRoad: your unique and ongoing response to Christ’s call to love God with heart and soul, strength and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself. This definition connects all of the lessons we learned at CrossRoad and will always stick with me as I make big life decisions.

Attending CrossRoad was the most inspiring ten days of my life. Seeing how devoted other young adults and counselors were to their faith made me stronger in mine. Receiving advice on how to carry myself in today’s world according to the Orthodox faith is one of the most important lessons of this program. I am forever grateful for the experiences and relationships God granted me through the CrossRoad Institute at Hellenic College Holy Cross—a place I will never forget.

NIKI ALEXIS
JULY 2023
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Fr. Peter Pappas ordination to priesthood by Archbishop Spyridon on October 18, 1998.

2023 Fall Conference of the Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion taking place at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL Oct. 5-7, 2023.

The conference theme this year is, “Sacred Hospitality: The Healing Encounter.” Details about the conference, invited speakers, schedule and tickets can be found at www.ocampr.org.
OCAMPR ANNOUNCES

2023 FALL CONFERENCE

The Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion (www.ocampr.org) will hold its Annual Conference in November with the theme, “Sacred Hospitality: The Healing Encounter.”

The Conference, which will be held at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL (Chicago area) will offer an opportunity for Orthodox Christian healthcare professionals, psychologists, therapists, chaplains, theologians, clergy and allied professionals to discuss how the Church's healing traditions interface with contemporary theories and practices of care. There will be numerous workshops and papers offered, reflecting professional, academic discussion on critical issues regarding the helping professions and pastoral care. With a generous grant from the Hellenic Foundation, we are able to keep costs low for all this year.

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicolae of the Romanian Metropolia of the Americas will introduce the conference theme in his Keynote Address. The medical perspective will be presented by Carla Thomas, MD Family Medicine Physician of Anniston, AL. Fr. Stephen Muse, PhD, Director of the Clergy-in-Kairos Program at the Pastoral Institute in Georgia will present the psychological perspective. The theological perspective will be offered by Nadia Kizenko, Ph.D., Director of Religious Studies and Professor of History at the University at Albany, Albany New York.

OCAMPR, a Pan-Orthodox affiliated ministry of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, exists to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and promote Christian fellowship among healing professionals in medicine, psychology, and religion. Members pursue an understanding of the whole person, which integrates the basic assumptions of medicine, psychology, and religion within the Orthodox Christian faith in educating and serving the Church and community. More information can be found at www.ocampr.org. Questions can be sent to ocamprconference@gmail.com.
Golf Application packet following on the next 3 pages
## FAITH AND LEARNING CATECHISM PROGRAM

### INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY

**Fall 2023**

**Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 PM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Fr. Richard Andrews</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>God - Holy Trinity</td>
<td>Fr. Konstantinos Karis</td>
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<td>September 26</td>
<td>mankind - Creation, the Fall, Messiah</td>
<td>Fr. Soterios Matarmis</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Christ I - Incarnation, Theodokos &amp; Saints</td>
<td>Mr. John Anton, MDIV</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Christ II - His Work &amp; Teachings</td>
<td>Fr. Thimaros Allilakos</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Church I - Birth, Mission, Structure</td>
<td>Mrs. Anna Kolia, MDIV</td>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Church II - Councils, Creed, Tradition</td>
<td>Fr. Soterios Matarmis</td>
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<td>October 31</td>
<td>Sacraments I - Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Liction</td>
<td>Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Sacraments II - Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer</td>
<td>Fr. Thomas Alatzakis</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>Sacraments III - Marriage &amp; Monasticism</td>
<td>Mr. John Anton, MDIV</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING WEEK HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 29</td>
<td>The Goal - Second Coming &amp; Living the Christian</td>
<td>Fr. Richard Andrews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Life Discourse - Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Golf Application

**Glenview Park Golf Club**

**Saturday October 7th, 2023**

800 Shermer Rd  
Glenview, IL 60026

**Registration:** 7:30 am  
**Shotgun Start:** 8:00 am  
**Lunch:** At the North Brach Restaurant following golf

**Donation:** $150.00  
Includes:  
- Golf & Cart  
- Gifts and Prizes  
- Lunch  
- Lunch Only $50 (around 12:30pm)

First 144 applications will be accepted—Deadline **Monday October 2nd**

**NAME:**  
**ADDRESS:**  
**CITY**  
**STATE**  
**ZIP**  
**PHONE:**  
**E-Mail:**

**SHIRT SIZE (check one):**  
- M  
- L  
- XL  
- 2XL  
- Other

I would like to play with:  

Please make Check for $150 Payable to (no cash):  

SS Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church

**SEND TO:**  
SS Peter and Paul  
1401 Wagner Road  
Glenview, IL 60025  
www.sspglenview.org

**Questions? Call:**  
Chris Atsaves  
847-729-3253 Home  
847-942-8389 Cell  
chris.atsaves@ubs.com

Additional forms and to pay online please visit our website at  
www.sspglenview.org
3TREAT

Dates: September 15-17, 2023
Location: Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church
Address: 1401 Wagner Rd. Glenview, IL 60025

For questions, contact sglisic@theoym.org

**Friday, September 15, 7:30pm**
All are invited for refreshments and conversation!

**Saturday, September 16, 9am-5pm**
Long day retreat with a youth track (6th-12th grade) and an adult track for parents, ministry workers, and young adults.

**Saturday, September 16, 5pm**
Vespers, 7pm Young Adult Event
Join us for connection and conversation and some refreshments

**Sunday, September 17**
Join us for Divine Liturgy and come say hi to OYM at Coffee Hour

Please Visit our registration below:
https://forms.gle/VkWikTMREw5GBVZP6
FALL DAY CAMP

PLEASE JOIN US!

ANNUAL FALL DAY CAMP “FINDING YOUR CROSS”
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
ST. IAKOVOS RETREAT CENTER
9:00AM - 2:00PM

DATES:
September 15-17, 2023

LOCATION:
Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church
Address:
1401 Wagner Rd. Glenview, IL 60025

For questions, contact sglisic@theoym.org

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Join us for Divine Liturgy and come say hi to OYM at Coffee Hour

Please Visit our registration below:
https://forms.gle/VkWikTMREw5GBVZP6

GREEK DANCE MINISTRY

JOIN US FOR OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTRY AT SAINTS PETER & PAUL!

Parent Info Meeting: Sept 24th @ 12pm - Social Hall

Ages: 1st - 12th grade

Registration Deadline: Oct 8th

Start Date: Oct 15th, time TBD

REGISTRATION FORM can be accessed here:

With over a decade of experience, Anna has been dedicated to teaching Greek dance across all age groups, from age 3 to hosting adult seminars. Her groups have showcased their talent at festivals and annual dance competitions. She will begin by teaching the fundamentals and will expand to other regions such as Crete, Thrace and many more.

For more information, or if you are interested in helping out, please email Anna at dance@ssppglenview.org
Meet The New Youth Director

We will meet in the church Atrium, while kids are in Church School. Come and see a layout of our ministry year, sign up to volunteer to help, and ask any questions you may have about the upcoming year!

A MESSAGE - STEVEN THELL
SSPP YOUTH DIRECTOR

I wanted to take a moment to provide an update on my journey as Youth Director here at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church. It has been a wonderful two-and-a-half months since I joined this vibrant community, and I am truly grateful for the warm welcome I've received. Throughout this period, I have had the chance to meet numerous youth and adults. Additionally, I have been fortunate enough to participate in several activities, such as Fanari camp, volleyball, and a visit to Bear Paw Adventure Park, where 13 of our youth attended. Looking ahead, I am even more excited about the possibilities for our youth ministry. On September 17th, we have the Jr. & Sr. GOYA kick-off right after Sunday school. As well as the parent-youth orientation for all ages. On the 22nd, we have the Faith Love and Joy youth kick-off 5:30-7:30 pm. After that, we will have regularly scheduled meetings, which you can find on the calendar. Thank you for entrusting me with this role, and please know that I’m always open to your feedback, suggestions, and ideas. Let's keep working together to create a youth ministry that leaves a positive impact on our young members and the entire church community.

BOOKSTORE
COME VISIT US!

Start your Liturgical Year off right, by stopping into our Book and Icon Store. We have so many new titles available for Orthodox Christians of all ages, including over 200 new books from Potamitis Publishing. You have to see them to appreciate them! Books and icons make excellent gifts, and are always appreciated. Check out our new prayer ropes and bracelets from a monastery in Patmos, or treat a special YiaYia, Nouna, or Mama with beautiful bracelets made in Greece! We hope to see you soon, we’re open every Sunday immediately following Divine Liturgy and would love to see you visit our store!
DIVORCE REBUILDERS

SS. Peter and Paul’s Divorce Rebuilders offers support, guidance and hope to those who are separated and divorced. Meetings will begin this Fall starting on Monday, October 16 through November 20, 2023, 7-8:30 p.m. for six consecutive weeks in the church library. ZOOM will be available for those who cannot attend in person. This group provides a place where you can learn, heal and rebuild from the hurt of divorce. New insights and perspectives will help you create new understandings towards developing new personal, relational and spiritual goals in your life. Discussion, feedback and support are integral components of this program. In addition, our group participates in ongoing social activities. Leader: Maria Boyle, Counseling, Northwestern University. To enroll in this program, please email: mariaharduvel4@gmail.com or divorcerebuilders@ssppglenview.org and please note in the subject heading: Divorce Rebuilders. There is no cost for this program.

“No Christian should walk through the pain of divorce alone.”
CLERGY LAITY ASSEMBLY INFO

CLA SPONSORSHIP
APPLY NOW

Your Eminence, Your Grace, and Reverend Fathers of our Holy Metropolis of Chicago Syndesmos,

Trust in God: “…God who began a good work in you will surely complete it…” (Philippians 1:6). On behalf of Fr. Sotirios Malamis and myself I want to wish all of you a Καλό Μήνα και Καλή Παναγιά! As co-chairs hosting this year’s Metropolis of Chicago Clergy-Laity Assembly in Schaumburg, we thank you for your continued encouragement and support! We are writing to you to ask for your support for our beloved Holy Metropolis of Chicago and our Clergy Laity Assembly 2023 on October 11-13. I know you have received the sponsorship packets twice and I personally apologize for the poor quality of the first mailing, that was my mistake. We are asking for you to reach out to your Parish Councils and Philoptochos societies to consider becoming sponsors for our Clergy Laity Assembly. The proceeds will help offset costs and support our Metropolis of Chicago’s ministries and future endeavors.

Thank you for your support in this effort. It will greatly help our entire Metropolis of Chicago when the various parishes, donors, societies, and benefactors help us to reach our goals to enhance and grow our Metropolis to new heights. Attached you will find the CLA 2023 Sponsorship Form hard copy or you can use this link https://chicago.goarch.org/cla-sponsor/. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Fr. Sotiri or myself at your earliest convenience. Thank you again for your prayerful attention to this request and we pray through the intercessions of the Holy Theotokos, our Lord will strengthen and guide each of you!

With reverence and thankfulness,
Rev. Fr. Sotirios P. Malamis and Fr. Chris R. Mihalopoulos Co-Chairs of CLA 2023

God who began a good work ...
PHILOPTOCHOS
Upcoming Calendar:

Thursday, September 21 - Folding Spanakopites, beginning at 9:30, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 24 – October 5 - Food Drive in conjunction with our parish, Atrium

Tuesday, September 26 - Membership Reception, 6:30, Atrium

Thursday, October 5 - Folding Tiropites, beginning at 9:30, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 8 - Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk at Independence Grove

Thursday, October 19 - Oktoberfest at Pinstripes

Thursday, November 2 - General Meeting with Program TBA, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 5 - Philoptochos Sunday - Hosting Coffee Hour after Liturgy

Saturday, December 2 - Holiday Faire - 11am - 4pm, Atrium and Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 9 - Advent Brunch, Sunset Ridge

NEW - Follow us on Instagram @SSPeterandPaulPhiloptochos
Dear Faithful of the Metropolis of Chicago,

Developing and executing an event for our Metropolis of such significance and magnitude as the Clergy Laity Assembly takes time, creativity and resources from across the Metropolis. We humbly ask for your support, and thank you for investing in the 2023 Assembly which will further our Metropolitan’s vision of establishing a Metropolis that offers:

Christ’s love unconditionally to all people;
A most vibrant clergy brotherhood that inspires the multitudes to pursue ordained and lay vocations; and,
A Christian community whose understanding and appreciation of the faith leads to greater engagement in the Sacramental life of the Church and in the life of society.

The biannual CLA & Philoptochos Conference is a quintessential vehicle for cultivating a long-term vision for our Metropolis, and a compass that will direct our efforts toward a more vibrant future.

All sponsorship dollars raised will go directly to enhancing the content and organization of the CLA. For more information and to discuss sponsorship opportunities, please complete the online form below, or contact one of us directly.

Trust in God: "...God who began a good work in you will surely complete it..." (Philippians 1:6).

In Christ,

Fr. Sotiri Malamis, Parish Priest Ascension of Our Lord Church 2023 CLA Co-host
Fr. Chris Mihalopoulos, Parish Priest St. Nectarios Church 2023 CLA Co-host

PHILOPTOCHOS

CONTINUED...
PHILOPTOCHOS

CONTINUED

SENIOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
WHAT AN EVENT!

Oh, what a day! Fellowship Hall was abuzz with 125 of our seniors who were treated to a wonderful, complementary meal and entertainment on Monday, August 28, at our Annual SS Peter and Paul Senior Appreciation Luncheon. It was an opportunity to say thank you to all our guests, the generation who paved the way for our parish to grow and thrive over the decades. Thank you, too, to our wonderful co-chairs Ida Haris and Pat Nassos, who planned the beautiful event, our four-man kitchen crew led by Patrick Haris who swiftly plated the delicious food from Psistaria, the 14 volunteers who served everyone so graciously, and Maria Sellis who provided the beautiful centerpieces and welcomed everyone at the door. We couldn’t have done it without you! Plenty of toes were tapping after lunch as musician John Truncali rolled back the clock and sang songs originally performed by the Rat Pack, Frankie Valli, Tom Jones, Neil Diamond and Elvis. What a way to kick off the week and our new ecclesiastic year!

SEPTMBER ISSUE
THURSDAY STUDY GROUP
COME JOIN US!

We will be studying the book of Genesis, Which is the floor book in the Old Testament. Genesis means origin or beginning. It is a great place to get a foundational understanding of Scripture. Please join us starting on September 7th via Zoom to start this study. We are going to have some of the sessions in person this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS
SEE BELOW

A few of our upcoming Activities to get the new Ecclesiastical year started. We pray you can join us for one, or all, of them.

Join the email list and keep up to date on all the activities. If you have any questions, please contact Brad DeSent or Zach Alukos at (sspp.mensgroup@gmail.com). We look forward to your involvement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday September 7th</td>
<td>Weekly Study Group Begins mornings via Zoom (7AM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday September 14th</td>
<td>Men’s Evening Fellowship at North Branch Restaurant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday September 30th</td>
<td>Family Nature Walk Location TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday October 7th</td>
<td>Chris Atavis’ Golf Outing Benefiting Youth Activities</td>
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Please join our team, SS Peter and Paul POP (Power of Pink,) for a 2.5 mile walk in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event at Independence Grove on Sunday, October 8. We will meet at 8:30am; the walk starts at 9:00; and we will finish early enough to attend liturgy. To donate, register, and learn more, please use the attached QR code. You can also contact Kris Tsitsis at kriptsitsis@sbcglobal.net for more info.

OCTOBER SSPP FEST
JOIN US!!

OOMP PAH PAH instead of OPA!
SS Peter and Paul Philoptochos is bringing OKTOBERFEST TO PINSTRIPES!

Thursday, October 19, at 6pm

1150 Willow Road in Northbrook.

Men - Pull on your lederhosen and join us for a fun night of Food - Beer - and Music. Tickets are $70 and need to be paid in advance. This adult only evening promises to be filled with merriment and includes an opportunity to win raffle prizes. Register online at https://ssppglenview.org/philoptochos/ or use the QR Code below. For more information, please contact Diane Economy at kafedmp@sbcglobal.net Cash Bar.

Please note that if you plan to play bocce or bowl, you will need to make your own reservations at Pinstripes (847) 480-2323.
PHILOPTOCHOS

A MESSAGE - DENA PAVLOPOULOS
NEW PHILOPTOCHOS PRESIDENT

Dear Philoptochos Friends and Sisters,

On behalf of the Saints Peter and Paul Philoptochos Board, I would like to warmly welcome you back! My name is Dena Pavlopoulos and I am the new Philoptochos President. Let’s begin the 2023-2024 ecclesiastical year with dynamic energy and creative spirit!

Please join us on Tuesday, September 26th, as we kick off the new year with a very special Membership Reception featuring the creative and engaging Chef David Esau of Dave’s Specialty Foods. Dave will be sharing some fantastic hors d’oeuvre recipes and tips with us, including Mushroom Duxelles, Zucchini/Feta Cakes, and a Carmelized Onion Tart. Savor these wonderful mezethes as you spend an enjoyable evening meeting new people and reconnecting with old friends. The reception will begin with a brief presentation where you will have an opportunity to hear about our upcoming calendar which is filled with exciting new events and programs.

Philoptochos is an army of women whose collective drive, dedication, and heart, help those who need it most, and while fellowship is vital to our organization, our primary mission is to serve others at the parish, local, national, and global level. Last year, we were able to distribute over $62,000 to people in need, and we already launched our new fiscal year by partnering with “Fill a Heart 4 Kids” in providing backpacks filled with school supplies for children who are either homeless, at risk, or in foster care.

We need your help. Of course, your membership and associated monetary donation are critical in supporting our work, but we are also seeking your time and would love for you to take an active role in our chapter. Please take a close look at our upcoming calendar and let us know how and where you would like to be involved. Maybe you want to help bake tiropites, walk with us as we stand up against breast cancer, or even co-chair an event. There are so many ways for you to be a part! You will find more information and a link to our membership form by opening the QR code below. You can also reach out to our Membership Chairs, Georgene Shanley (buffetline6@aol.com) and Carol Wells (Ckwellis1411@gmail.com).

In the meantime, I hope you join us on the 26th for a chance to learn more about us, mingle, and enjoy some fabulous appetizers.

With Agape,

Dena Pavlopoulos
SS Peter and Paul Philoptochos President

Questions? Contact coffeeconnection@ssppglenview.org
Or visit https://ssppglenview.org/education/adult-education/coffee-connection/

Coffee Connection:
Connecting in Faith and Fellowship
An Educational Ministry Open to All Adults

This Year’s Theme is:
“Topic – The Orthodox Way and Other Faith Communities: Exploring The Truths Our Faith Holds, In Relation to Other Traditions”

Sessions are Sundays in person following Holy Communion.
As always, watch for future updates.

Fall 2023 Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Intro – The Orthodox Way and Other Faith Communities</td>
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<td>- What is the value of conversing with other faith communities?</td>
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<td>- How do we hold our own truth while engaging with the truths of</td>
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<td>other faith communities?</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>Holy Trinity</td>
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<td>- Why three as well as one?</td>
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<td>- Exploring Eastern and Western models of the Trinity</td>
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<td>October 29</td>
<td>Who Do You Say That I Am?</td>
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<td>- Son of God?</td>
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<td>- False Prophet?</td>
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<td>- A Great Prophet?</td>
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<td>- Messiah?</td>
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<td>November 5</td>
<td>The Virgin Mary Part 1 (Roman Catholic/Protestant)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Theotokos</td>
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<td>- Immaculate Conception</td>
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<td>- Perpetual Virginity</td>
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<td>- Ability to Intercede</td>
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<td>December 10</td>
<td>The Virgin Mary Part 2 (Islam/Popular Culture)</td>
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<td>- Why is Mary so popular?</td>
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<td>- Islamic Devotion to Mary</td>
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<td>- Cultural Perceptions of Mary</td>
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Philly's 2023 Schedule: A Message - Dena Pavlopoulos

NEW PHILOPTOCHOS PRESEDENT

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Dena Pavlopoulos
SS Peter and Paul Philoptochos President

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SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

In the spirit of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew call for Orthodox Christians to take meaningful action in environmental stewardship, our Parish installed a Photovoltaic System on our community center and gymnasium. One of our Stewards investigated opportunities for the Church to become a leader in transforming to sustainable energy sources without carbon emissions and thereby mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on humanity and God's creation. That steward underwrote the costs to install the solar panel system.

Installing a new roof on the Latto Center and the gymnasium a few years ago seemed to be a great opportunity to install solar panels. After receiving several proposals, we decided to work with Windfree Solar Company Inc. The total cost to install the system was about $225,000. That Steward who underwrote the entire cost of the project created a limited liability company (LLC) to take advantage of incentives provided by ComEd, and the State and Federal governments, including an investment tax credit and accelerated depreciation. Since the church pays no taxes, we would be unable to take advantage of these incentives and the cost of the system would have been prohibitive.

To take advantage of these incentives the LLC provided sufficient funds to cover the cost of the solar system and will have ownership of the system for at least the first five years of operations. At the end of this period, when the LLC has fully benefited from the incentives and has recovered most of its costs, the Parish assume ownership.

Windfree mobilized the project from our north parking lot and hoisted all the materials onto the roofs with a heavy-duty crane. The panels were installed using a ballast system with no penetration through our new roofs. After this installation our roofing manufacturer inspected and approved the work to maintain our roofing warranty. Windfree built out an addition to the electric room to install the inverters and switching equipment. ComEd scheduled a one-day power shut down to complete the interconnection of our system with ComEd's power grid.

The Parish now has a solar panel system that will generate renewable energy for the next 25-30 years at little or no cost to the church. Another benefit of this system is “net metering” which will provide credit to the church when it generates more electricity than it consumes.

Net metering will cause the electric meter to go in reverse when the solar panels generate the excess electricity. It is projected that the system will generate about $13K - $16K energy saving per year or about $300K over the projected life of the system.

In the process of approving this project, Metropolitan Nathanael commended Saints Peter and Paul “…for your innovative approach to preserving our environment.” It is our hope that as we make semi-annual reports of our electricity cost savings to the Metropolis, we will have a demonstration project that can be replicated by other parishes in the Metropolis.