



The Power of PINK



Youth Update

THE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER ISSUE

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

A Message from Father Rick

Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

The month of *November* is always busy with the beginning of the Advent Fast (15) and Thanksgiving holiday (23-24). But it is also rich with our sister communities feasts days: Haralambos-Taxiarhai in Niles (8) & St. Nectarios in Palantine (9); St John Chrysostom in Kenosha WI (13); St Andrew in Chicago (30).

However, we have another important feast on Nov.1st of the Holy Unmercenary Healers Kosmas and Damianos. Also, on this same day is the feast of *St. James/Iakovos of Kastoria*. He was tonsured at Docheiariou Monastery on Mount Athos. By God's grace, Saint James was able to perceive the mysteries of human hearts, and the secret thoughts of those who came to him. He was also found worthy of the gift of performing miracles. The Turkish authorities fabricated false charges against the Saint, accusing him of fomenting rebellion. In this

fomenting rebellion. In this manner, they tried to force Saint James into renouncing Orthodoxy. Saint James and both of his disciples, Deacon James and the Monk Dionysios, endured the most severe torments for seventeen days, receiving the crown of martyrdom on *November 1, 1520*. St James-Iakovos is important to our parish because our holy altar table contain a portion of his holy relics, which were deposited therein when our temple was consecrated on *November 19, 1978*. Let us honor him and ask for his intercessions on our behalf.

This *past month* we recognized and thanked our choir and chanters on Church Music Sunday (Oct.1). We had another successful Golf-Outing (Oct.7) with almost 100 participants. Thanks to *Chris Atsaves* for organizing and to everyone who played, contributed, or made a sponsorship. Congratulations also to Chris for receiving the Hellene of the Year award from the Hellenic Bar Association. The HBA will honor Chris at their 73rd Annual

Scholarship Ball at the Westin-O'Hare on *November 18, 2023*.

One of our other parish council members, *Louis Apostol*, was honored by Patriarch Bartholomew to become an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Archdiocesan Cathedral in New York on *October 22nd*. Louis received the office/title 'Archon Nomophylax.' Congratulations Louis for this auspicious recognition!

Congratulations also to *Fr. Kosmas Kallis* on his assignment as proistamenos of St. Andrew Church in Chicago effective November 1st. We pray all the best for him and Presvytera Anna, Jonah and Mara in their new ministry!

The 17th annual *Chicago IOCC Walk* took place on Sept.30 with a good team from our parish.

Our biennial *Metropolis Clergy Laity Philoptochos Assembly* to place at the Meridian Banquet Center (Oct.11-13) and was attended by over 200 faithful from across our five state region.

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SS Peter & Paul



The Priestmartyr St. James of Kastoria

The blessed martyr Iakovos (James) was born in the village of Voevonades, which is not far from Kastoria and was baptized Ioannis. His parents, Martinos and Paraskevi, were poor but devout. Apart from Ioannis, they had another son and the parents divided what they had between them. Ioannis became involved with stock-breeding and did well for himself, though this caused his brother to envy him. He left him his sheep and went to Constantinople, where he engaged in sheep and meat trading, becoming a supplier to the Ottoman court. This trade made him rich. One day he heard from a leading Muslim that Patriarch Nifon has healed his wife of demonic possession. This brought Ioannis to the Patriarch, by whom he was instructed and to whom he confessed. In this way, he was admitted into the mysteries of faith in God and decided to distribute his wealth to the poor and go off to the Holy Mountain.

CONTACTS

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Protopresbyter,** frrick@ssppglenview.org

Rev. Dn. Theodore Saclarides, M.D.

Sunday & Weekly Services

Matins 8:15 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Church Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-5:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm

Parish Administrator: Elea Bentley
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Bookkeeper: Diane Bravos
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2023 Parish Council:

President: Steve Koulogeorge

Vice President: Christy Gouletas

Secretary: Therese Speropoulos

Corresponding Secretary: Julie Stefanski

Treasurer: Nick Colis

Assistant Treasurer: George Seletos

Mary Alukos
Keith Anderson
Louie Apostol
Chris Atsaves
Sophia Lehocky
Tommy Mantice
Nickolas Mechales
Jim Santos

PARISH MINISTRIES

Agape Preschool: Julie Mantice, agape@ssppglenview.org

Acolytes: Steven Thell, acolytes@ssppglenview.org

Athletics: Chris Atsaves, athletics@ssppglenview.org

Bible Study: Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos, biblestudy@ssppglenview.org

Book & Icon Store: Tina O'Donnell, bookstore@ssppglenview.org

Building Maintenance: John Vranas, john@vranas.com

Care for Creation: Susanne Chakos, careforcreation@ssppglenview.org

Catechism: Fr. Richard Andrews, catechism@ssppglenview.org

Chanters: Chris Atsaves, chanters@ssppglenview.org

Choir Director: Therese Speropoulos

choir@ssppglenview.org

Church School: Nick and Kery Obradovich, Elaine Carrozza

churchschool@ssppglenview.org

Coffee Connection: Doreen DeSent,

coffeconnection@ssppglenview.org

Coffee Fellowship: Carolyn Kolbaba,

fellowship@ssppglenview.org

Divorce Rebuilders: Maria Boyle

divorcerebuilders@ssppglenview.org

Dynamis Group: Joanne Trahanas, dynamis@ssppglenview.org

Georgia Photopulos Cancer Support Group:

Bud Photopulos and Phyllis Perivolidis

cancersupport@ssppglenview.org

GOYAlumni: Marina Alexis, goyalumni@ssppglenview.org

Greek Dance: Anna Andrews, dance@ssppglenview.org

Greek School: Stella Theoharopoulos,

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Grief Support: Tracy Ronstadt, griefsupport@ssppglenview.org

Myrrhbearers: Anna Kallis, myrrhbearers@ssppglenview.org

Orthodox Couples Club: Trish and Marco Iannessa,

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Philoptochos: Dena Pavlopoulos, philoptochos@ssppglenview.org

Prison Outreach: Brad DeSent

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Prophora: prosphora@ssppglenview.org

Readers: Sophia Lehocky, readers@ssppglenview.org

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philanthropy@ssppglenview.org

Saint Stephen Men's Group: Brad DeSent

mensgroup@ssppglenview.org

Stewardship: Julie Stefanski, stewardship@ssppglenview.org

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: office@ssppglenview.org

Ushers/Greeters: Bo LaMotte, ushers@ssppglenview.org

Welcome: Keith Anderson, Sylvia Creatura, welcome@ssppglenview.org

Young Adult League (YAL): Maria Mantice, Tommy Mantice

For Emergencies Only: Please call the main office number and access Fr. Rick's voicemail. Leave a message stating your emergency. If you do not receive a call back within 15 minutes, call again and leave a brief message.

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

Metropolitan Nathanael shared his new five point vision in a detailed address. Presentations and smaller group discussions further delved into these points: 1) Clergy Development, 2) Helping our Parishes, 3) Expanded Philanthropy, 4) Increased Engagement and Evangelization, and 5) Growth in Stewardship and Giving. Additional presentations were made on Budget, Real Estate, Youth, Fundraising but my favorite was the panel discussion on current trends and challenges for Youth, specifically teenagers. Our own *Dr. Randa Anderson* was one of the panelists. All presentations were videotaped and hopefully will be made available very soon.

Our parish hosted the 36th Annual *Orthodox Christian Laity* Conference at SSPP on Oct.21st. Three very thoughtful, well-done presentations were made. 1) "Orthodox Unity, Evangelism and the Problem of Universal Jurisdiction" by *Fr. Bohdan Hladio*, 2) "An Orthodox Layman's Journeys to the Mother Churches" by *Dr. Alexander Billinis*, and 3) "An American Orthodox Diplomat Views the Post-Cold War Orthodox World" by *Fr. Nicholas Greanias*. These also were videotaped and will become public soon.

As of this writing, we are anticipating the lecture to be given by *Sister Vassa Larin* on "Prayer in Time."

As noted in last month's newsletter, we have moved the *Children's Sermon* to right after the Gospel and the Adult Sermon to after Holy Communion. This is to make sure that the teachers have ample time in the classrooms with the students. Recent weeks have shown that besides the acolytes and myrrhbearers, only a small number of children present for their sermon. I re-emphasize that it is extremely important for both adults and kids to **be on-time** for Divine Liturgy which starts at 9:30am. If we are not for the children's sermon, that means we are also missing the antiphons, the trisagion hymn, the epistle and gospel reading. Why? Because ***the Word of God is just as important as the Eucharist!*** The Body of Christ (both as Holy Communion and a communion of the members) is constituted around the Logos/Word of Truth. For our bodies to be enlightened, our mind, heart and soul must be illumined with words of our Lord and His Apostles.

Some other things that we endeavor to help **keep things moving** appropriately and reverently are ending the

Orthros/Matins by 9:23am, starting the Liturgy at 9:30am, keeping a brisk pace for petitions and choir responses and hymns, additional clergy to help administer Holy Communion, and shortening the adult sermon. Having said this, it's always important for us to focus our minds and hearts on the presence of God in the heavenly liturgy, and to avoid being distracted by earthly elements including the people in the pews and time itself. As the Cherubic hymn says, "*let us lay aside all the cares of the is life so that we may receive the King of all.*"

In most parishes, November is traditionally devoted to **Stewardship**. We have two tasks: 1) complete and fulfill the current year giving, and 2) plan for next year's offerings. For 2023, we still need to receive \$300K by the end of the year to meet our stewardship goal. This requires everyone to make a donation, fulfill their pledge, and consider giving more. One might ask, "*how much should I give?*" We believe that if everyone gave at least three percent (3%) of their yearly gross income, our parish would have more than enough to cover it's entire \$1.7M budget (operations and capital). Our 2023 campaign season is winding down: "*Giving Thanks: Eucharist*

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

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. During the season of Thanksgiving, let us demonstrate our gratitude towards God for His manifold gifts to us. Let us look to the *Righteous Joachim and Anna*, who offered their three year old daughter, the *Virgin Mary*, to God in the temple (Entrance of Theotokos Feast, Nov.21) in thanksgiving for her miraculous conception and birth.

Looking ahead to 2024, the Archdiocese theme is “*Well done good and faithful servant*” (Matthew 25:24). These are Jesus’ words told in the Parable of the Talents (Mt.25:14-30) to the two servants who multiplied the gifts given to them by their master. Jesus calls the third servant, who buried his one talent in the ground, “*wicked and lazy*” (v.26) and he represents those who use their gifts from God only for earthly things (St Gregory the Great).

Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure first and foremost expresses the nature of our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. The natural consequence of this love for God is our continued commitment to our house of worship, our ministries

and our fellowship. We must ask ourselves, “*do I own my wealth or does my wealth own me?*” Actually, we do not own anything. God owns it all but He has given a portion to each person to be stewards and caretakers, multiplying them for His glory and service to our neighbor.

This month in November – Archdiocese Presbyters Retreat in Arizona (30-Nov.2); Parish Feast days of St Haralambos-Taxiarchae in Nile (8) & St. Nectarios in Palantine (9); Veterans’ Day & Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation Gala (11); St John Chrysostom Monastery Feast Day (13); Entrance of Theotokos Feast (21); Thanksgiving Holiday (23-24); St Andrew Church Feastday (30).

Looking ahead to December – Advent Fast continues (1-24); Parish Council Elections (3); Parish Feasts of St Nicholas in Oak Lawn (6), St Spyridon in Palos Heights IL and Sheboygan WI (12); Agape Liturgy at SSPP (12); Philoptochos Advent Luncheon (9); Children’s Christmas Pageant (17); Nativity of our Lord liturgies (24-25); Feast Day Vespers of St Basil Church, Chicago (31).

Kalo Mena! Blessed November!
+Fr. Rick

COMING TO LITURGY ON TIME – A REFLECTION

What happens if we are habitually late to class at school or to our job at work? If someone invites us to dinner, is it ok to 20-30-40-60 minutes late? The obvious, concrete consequences are poor grades, being dropped from a course, getting demoted or fired, and losing a friendship. The not so obvious effects are missed opportunities for learning and growth. In the life of the Church, we do not have obvious, concrete consequences for being late. We do have spiritual consequences that inhibit or maturity as Christians. Being late for Divine Liturgy negatively impacts our relationship with Jesus Christ. And that is far more dangerous than any material consequence or punishment.

And our relationship with God is not in isolation. It is connected to our relationship with each other and other people’s relationship to God. When we come late to Divine Liturgy, and by late, I mean sometime after the Gospel and sermon, we are depriving ourselves of the Word of the Lord. The liturgy is two-part: 1) the Liturgy of the Word, and 2) the Liturgy of the Eucharist (from the Great Entrance to the end). Both are equally important. The Liturgy of

PASTORAL MESSAGE

COMING TO LITURGY ON TIME – A REFLECTION CONT.

the Word contains the Great Litany, Antiphons, Small Entrance, Trisagion Hymn, Epistle, Gospel, and the Sermon. The Small Entrance with the Gospel Book is called such, not because it is less important, but because it is shorter.

The Gospel Book is Jesus Christ just as much as the Eucharist is His Body and Blood. We have the same reverence for it as we do the Gifts of Bread and Wine that will become Holy Communion. Thus, hearing the Word of God is super-essential for our spiritual growth and maturity. The Apostle Paul says, *“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”* (Romans 10:14,17). Jesus likened the Word of God to a seed that is planted through our ear and then grows in our heart, mind and soul (see Parable of Sower in Luke 8:5-15).

We see generations of people suffer from the dreaded “Greek Disease” of being late. Coming late to liturgy not only stunts our growth, but the maturity of our children. From the 1960s through the 1980s, many Greek Orthodox churches held Sunday School

classes concurrently/ simultaneously to Divine Liturgy. Adults would go to liturgy and children would go to class until right before Holy Communion. That practice changed around 1990 when we realized that going to church school classes for ten years did little to keep people connected to liturgy as adults. Thus, many churches moved classes to after Communion. After another twenty years, what is the result? The same: disconnection from liturgy and thus from the parish also. Why? Because many parents skipped most of the liturgy, arriving just ‘in time’ for Communion and church school classes. We’ve been doing this long enough to pass it on to the next generation.

Some might say, *“I get nothing out of liturgy because my child(ren) require too much attention and are distracting.”* That all depends on how we define ‘nothing.’ Just bringing ourselves and our children into God’s presence/house for His Word and Eucharist can be everything! Others say, *“my child cannot last that long in liturgy.”* That is probably because they’ve never been properly socialized and trained to participate in liturgy. Many families with young children throughout the

world experience faithfully the whole Divine Liturgy because it is a weekly discipline and practice. It is better for our children (and us) to be noisy in Church than not there at all. Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”* (Mt.19:14; Mk.10:14; Lk.18:16). For the adults and parents, the Evangelist Luke adds, *“Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”* (v.17).

Want your children to stay in the Church when they’re adults? We the adults, must bring them to Church on-time when they’re still young. *“But Jesus looked at them and said to them, ‘With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.’”* (Mt.19:26). *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me”* (St Paul, Philippians 4:13).

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new Members to Saints Peter and Paul. *Anna Kioutasl, Andrew Mourikes and Ankhtuya Jargal.*



Our NEW AGAPE Christian Academy Logo



First Greek Dance Practice 10-15-2023



We bid fond farewell to Maryann Nassos after 50 years of dedicated membership in our parish. She will be relocating to Phoenix area to be near her children and grandchildren. We will miss her but pray all of God's blessings upon her in her new home!



Older SSPP ariel view photo from 11/05/11 (taken by Stash Betzelos)



Church Music Sunday yesterday--thank you to our choir and chanters for their dedication each and every week to sing praises to God!



Team SSPP today at IOCC Chicago 5K! Beautiful weather and a stellar organization to support!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Dynamis at the Botanical Gardens



SSPP AGAPE School Staff



Clergy Laity Project Hope 10-13-2023



St. James-Iakovos of Kastoria Icon >>>>



Solar Pannel Blessing <<<<



Northwestern OCF 9-28-2023



OUR LIFE TOGETHER



One of our parish council members, Louis Apostol, was honored by Patriarch Bartholomew to become an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at the Archdiocesan Cathedral in New York on October 22nd. Louis received the office/ title 'Archon Nomophylax.' Congratulations Louis for this auspicious recognition!



HELLENE OF THE YEAR

CHRIS ATSAVES

Congratulations to *Chris* for receiving the Hellene of the Year award from the Hellenic Bar Association. The HBA will honor Chris at their 73rd Annual Scholarship Ball at the Westin-O'Hare on November 18, 2023.

YOUTH UPDATE

YOUTH UPDATE

MESSAGE FROM STEVEN THELL

Another Month has passed for our youth at Saints Peter and Paul. We continued our regular gatherings, Faith Love Joy got to learn about Saint Luke, the evangelist, and iconographer, as well as participate in Trunk-or-Treat out in our parking lot this month. The Junior Goyan group is working on improving our silent prayer life and connecting with God while building relationships with each other. Senior Goyans had pumpkin carving, went to Richardson Adventure Farms, and had a fantastic time at P.E. day.



Looking ahead is our Fall camp for our Junior and Senior Goyans at the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center. It is going to be a great weekend. We look forward to seeing our GOYA Alumni-college kids return for Thanksgiving break. We have two activities planned for them, Nov. 21st and Nov. 25th. We are also starting our hope group (0-4 year-olds) in November. I encourage anyone who might be on the fence to take the time and join us for an evening to see what we have to offer. I promise you that it will have a positive impact on your youth's life. Our youth groups provide a unique and valuable space for young individuals to grow spiritually, build a sense of community, and receive guidance and support during a crucial period in their lives. These groups contribute to the holistic development of Orthodox Christian youth and help them connect with their faith in a meaningful way. No other club, sport, or activity can provide the same sense of belonging and connection to one's faith as a youth ministry can. So, please keep an eye on the calendar for future events and the regular gathering schedule.



CHURCH SCHOOL & MORE

CHURCH SCHOOL UPCOMING

Church school resumed in September, we love having our students back in the class! Soon we will begin preparing for the Christmas Pageant scheduled for *December 17th*.



BOOK STORE UPCOMING

Prepare for the Advent Season with Let All Creation Rejoice, with daily readings beginning November 15th through the Nativity and Theophany and Behold a Great Light, a daily devotional, designed to help listeners contemplate the mysteries of the Incarnation, from the beginning of the Nativity fast on November 15, through Christmas and Theophany, ending with the Synaxis of St. John the Baptist on January 7. Be sure to stop in your Book and Icon Store for all of your holiday needs. We truly have something for everyone, especially Orthodox Christians of all ages. We are located at the bottom of the stairs, just outside Fellowship Hall and look forward to seeing you every Sunday immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Anything we don't have, we will be happy to order, so stop in and say hello!



COFFEE CONNECTION UPCOMING

Please join us on Sunday, November 5th following Holy Communion in the Youth Room for Coffee Connection: Connecting in Faith and Fellowship An Educational Ministry Open to All Adults This Year's Theme is: "The Orthodox Way and Other Faith Communities: Exploring The Truths Our Faith Holds, In Relation to Other Traditions"

We will be discussing:

- The Virgin Mary Part 1 (Roman Catholic/Protestant)
- Theotokos • Immaculate Conception
- Perpetual Virginity • Ability to Intercede



PRESIDENTS LETTER

CLERGY-LAITY ASSEMBLY

PRESIDENTS REPORT

2023 was the year of the Metropolis of Chicago's Clergy-Laity Assembly, which was held at the Meridian Banquet and Conference Center in Rolling Meadows, IL. While 2022's National Clergy-Laity Congress held in New York City was a grandiose event, gathering participants from around the country, these regional events in the off-years tend to be more intimate; more keenly focused to issues impacting the Parishes at the local level and as a result these meetings are more productive. Representing Saints Peter and Paul this year were myself, Father Rick, Stewardship Chair Julie Stefanski and Gia Xenakis.

The theme of the October 12th - 13th gathering of Clergy, Parish Council and Philoptochos representatives of the Midwest Diocese, was a vision of our Holy Metropolis for the future. This vision identifies five key areas of focus:

1). Develop the Clergy – giving the spiritual Father of each Parish, an enhanced skills sets that will guide them to advance our faith and grow together, in Christ.

2). Support Parishes – though established programs, the Mustard Seed Grants and Parish Stewardship workshops as well as other, locally developed programs.

3). Expanding Philanthropy – promoting personal involvement in providing food, shelter and care to those in need.

4). Increasing the Participation of Members, of ALL ages – from our AGAPE programs and Church School, Faith, Love and Joy programs to our Jr. and Sr. GOYA and Young Adult Groups.... the couples groups all the way through our Philoptochos and Dynamis groups, the Church touches the lives of all of its members regardless of age. We must make it our focus to keep our youth a central part of our Church experience, both in church attendance and social activities.

5). Fueling Growth – the future of our Parishes extends beyond being Greek or even being Orthodox. We interact with many other groups and Communities around us: the Glenview Community, other faiths, businesses both for-profit and not-for-profit. To continue to grow and thriving Parish, we must set ourselves as the example; by remaining an open and loving Parish to all those around us. This is not only a financial goal... it is a spiritual goal as well.

Additional presentations were given on "Building Trust" (George Lattas), "Building Relationships" (Metropolitan Nathaniel), "Leadership Lessons from the CIA"

(Keynote Speaker - Marc Polymeropoulos), "The Story of Chicago's Holy Trinity" (James Lakerdas), "The Saint Iakovos Retreat Center" (Paul Loupakos) and a panel discussion on "Adolescent Mental Health Awareness", which included SSPP's very own, Dr. Randa Anderson.

PROMOTING PROMOTIONS

Saints Peter and Paul Parishioners being recognized for their time, and/or talent: *Louis Apostol* who on October 22nd, was formally accepted and installed to the Order of the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. *Chris Atsaves* who was awarded the "Hellene of the Year Award" by the Hellenic Bar Association. *Steve Koulogeorge* was elected to the Metropolis Audit Committee. AXIOS!!!

PRESIDENTIAL PARDON

In earlier editions of The Messenger, I have mentioned the "Three T's": "Time, Talent and Treasure", as our way of understanding that money isn't the only way of giving to the Orthodox Church and to the betterment of our community.

As many of you know, during November and December we start talking about Stewardship. And your commitment is important to help maintain the lifeblood of our Church operations. And we all can give, based on what we have to give.

But keep in mind... in a time, like today, where the world seems to be

PRESIDENTS LETTER

PRESIDENTIAL PARDON CONT.

going just plain crazy, the most precious thing that each of us, as individuals, is our Time and our Talents.

I strongly urge each of you... PLEASE... look through the activities posted in our monthly Messenger and in our Sunday Bulletins and ask yourself "is this something that I can devote my personal time to help out those performing the Ministries of my Church?" "Is there something that I can contribute to make it even better"? Time spent doing God's work is never time wasted.

TO REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER

YAL Men's Youth Basketball is going strong in November. Games are on Saturdays (11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 11/25) from 1:00-3:00 pm. For further information, please contact Chris Atsaves at chris.atsaves@gmail.com

Our Soup Kitchen Ministry will be out and about (11/5 – 9:00am-1:00pm). For more information, contact Christy Gouletas at christygouletas@gmail.com

The Jr. and Sr. GOYA Fall Retreat will be held 11/3-11/5 in Kansasville Wi. For further information, please contact the SSPP Youth Director, Steven Thell at youthdirector@ssppglenview.org

The AGAPE Book Fair will be held 11/8 through 11/16.

The Greek Dance Group (Elementary school aged children only) will be meeting Sundays (11/5, 11/12, 11/19) from 12:15pm-1:15pm.

The Parish Council Meeting for November will be held on Thursday, 11/16 starting at 7:00pm.

The Fall Parish Assembly scheduled for November 19th.

The Annual Philoptochos Holiday Fair – Saturday December 2nd, 8:00am – 5:00pm. Need we say more? I think not...



KITCHEN UPDATE

KITCHEN REFRESH

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Saints Peter and Paul received a directed memorial donation to update and refurbish the fellowship hall kitchen. The Parish Council created a committee to review options and make appropriate recommendations.

The design phase of the project has the objective to completely refresh the kitchen so it will last and service the Parish for the next 25 years.

The committee started its work in February of 2023. We hope to complete the design phase in January of 2024. The Refresh Project should be completed sometime in 2024.

DESIGN PROJECT COMMITTEE

Brad DeSent, Nancie Poulos, Christy Gouletas, Adam Peterson, Alvaro Lima, Debbie Kunkel, Presbyteria Jane Andrews, Nick Colis, Nick Phillipas

OPEN FEEDBACK MEETING

Tuesday November 14th at 7:00 PM (SSPP Library): If you would like to review the progress and provide any feedback, please join us for our next meeting.

PLEASE CONTACT

Brad DeSent bdesent@gmail.com or (847) 417-8190 if you have any questions or would like the final details for the November Meeting.



PHILOPTOCHOS

PHILOPTOCHOS

READ BELOW!

Fall is in full swing, and with the crisp breeze of autumn and winter comes the warmth of the holiday season and spending time with loved ones. Join us in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, November 2, for Divine Décor Delights, a presentation by Crate and Barrel interior designer Jill Ouellete who will demonstrate how to set the perfect table and share how you can bring the warmth of the season into your home! Refreshments begin at 6:30, with the presentation and general meeting following at 7pm.

HOLIDAY FAIRE

Holiday Faire is just around the corner! Please plan on sharing time with us on Saturday, December 2, and as we prepare for our most important annual fundraiser! This year's event beneficiaries will be Misericordia Home - Chicago, who offers a continuum of care and support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Camp One Step who

provides respite care for children battling cancer.

We have made a lot of changes to this year's format. While we are still featuring our fantastic homemade baked goods, lunch in Fellowship Hall will offer more of a food court experience, Glenview school choirs will be on hand to sing our holiday favorites, we've added sponsorship opportunities, a room where families can decorate gingerbread houses, a photo booth with props for creating the perfect photo, a pop-up shop featuring gifts that were made by our own Philoptochos members, and an after-hours drive through! Of course, Santa will also be stopping in! We hope you will, too!



Philoptochos Board Members Patty Stec and Anastasia Gonzalez were among the dozens who have lent their hands to baking for our December 2 Holiday Faire! In years' past, we always sold out early, so we have made record-breaking amounts of spanakopitas, tiropites, kourambiethes, and paximathia this year. There is still one more chance for you to join us in the fun! Watch for a baking date in late November when we will make melomakarouna. Maybe you will even pick up a few baking tips!

The week after the Holiday Faire, we will gather for fun and fellowship at our Advent Brunch on Saturday, December 9, at Sunset Ridge! You won't want to miss this fun annual tradition! Stay tuned for more information!

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we held two events, raising thousands of dollars, in support of this cause. Take a look at some of the fun we had along the way!

HOLIDAY FAIRE

DECEMBER 2, 2023

SAVE THE DATE!



Greek Bakery
Santa Claus
Homemade Greek Food
Boutique Shopping
Raffle Prizes
No entrance fee

Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox
Church
1401 Wagner Rd. Glenview, Illinois

YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY

PHILOPTOCHOS

OKTOBERFEST RECAP

A huge danke to everyone who attended our OKTOBERFEST at Pinstripes on October 19. It was a blast! And when was the last time you saw someone dancing the kalamatiano to a band dressed in lederhosen? We had over 150 people in attendance, including Philoptochos members from many other parishes. Special thanks to Diane Economy, our event chair, who made it all happen!



PHILOPTOCHOS

POWER OF THE PINK!

Our 25 teammates in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Independence Grove on October 8 raised over \$1200 in honor of all our breast cancer warriors and their families.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US!

Thursday, November 2

Divine, Decor, Delights
6:30 Mingle, 7pm Program

Friday, November 3

Project HOPE bagging event 7pm

Sunday, November 5

Philoptochos Sunday - Hosting
Coffee Hour after Liturgy

Saturday, December 2

Holiday Faire - 10am - 4pm,
Atrium and Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 9

Advent Brunch, Sunset Ridge

***NEW - Follow us at Instagram
@SSPeterandPaulPhiloptochos***

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COUPLES

OCC

UPCOMING

Our kickoff event is right around the corner on November 11th – we can't wait to see you!

This year our fall social event will be at Hangar Two in Glenview, on Saturday, November 11th at 6pm. Tickets are \$55 and are sold per person [via the SSPP website](#), don't delay in securing yours! We will also have tickets available for purchase at the event, but registering online in advance is greatly encouraged and appreciated!

This is a social event, so it is a relaxed environment to spend the night with SSPP couples, enjoying delicious appetizers and great conversation. Each ticket will also include a beer flight – 4 different samples of beer for a perfect fall night!



If you have never been to an OCC event, or if you have never missed, everyone is highly encouraged to join in on the fun! The goal of our ministry at its core is to bring the people of our community together, and to offer an opportunity to meet couples of faith in your area. You may have grown up at SSPP, have recently been married at our wonderful parish, or just moved to the neighborhood. Whatever your situation, our doors and hearts are open, and our OCC settings allow a chance to get better acquainted.



Without a doubt you'll see a friendly face, and you'll leave the evening having made new friends. Most importantly, it's time with your spouse, and sometimes a night out is just what is needed!

Around the corner.... January will host our Small Group sessions, three evenings where we'll invite more intimate groups of couples to enjoy thoughtful discussion on marriage, love, communication and faith. Dates will be January 13th, 20th, and 27th. Sign up schedule to be released soon!

If you're interested in getting more involved in the OCC this year, or joining the OCC Committee, we would love to have you! Please contact Trish & Marco Iannessa at occ@ssppglenview.org to learn more and help out wherever you can.

Ministry Leaders

Marco and Trish Iannessa



GRIEF SUPPORT

GRIEF SUPPORT

JOIN US

SSPP Grief Support
Ministry Presents...

A Not to Miss 'Deacon Ted Talk'
Navigating the Holidays While
Grieving Insights offered by our
own Deacon Theodore Saclarides,
MD
Presentation followed by Q&A.

Sunday, November 5, 2023
(during Coffee Hour)
Please join us!



AGAPE

AGAPE

WHATS NEW?

On 10.18 Agape celebrated our amazing Grandparents!! We learned about St. Luke, learned a new song about him and made a craft to help us remember his legacy.

We had a great time with our friends as we got to watch the newest Paw Patrol movie at the Pickwick theater. A big shout out to the Loomos and Nellessen for sponsoring the morning. All donations went to the Agape Scholarship Fund! Did you know you can make a donation anytime? Here is the link https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z89M/campaign/C-14E00?access=tile_direct

All donations help an Agape family in their time of need.

Agape will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair November 9th thru November 16th. What a great way to start your holiday shopping. It will be in the atrium during school hours and on Sunday November 12th after the Divine Liturgy. Cash, credit, or checks accepted.

Agape and the SSPP Youth Ministries hosted the 4th annual Trunk or Treat on 10.24. A spooktacular time was had by all.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

STEWARDSHIP FROM STEVE CALLAS

I hope that many of you reading this were able to attend the September Ministry Fair held after Divine Liturgy on *Sept 24th*. It was an amazing, jam-packed event filled with representatives from the various SSPP Ministries who provided information to those interested in learning about and signing up to participate. By the way, did you know that we have a Greek Dance group at SSPP? I didn't until that day!

As I and other members of the Stewardship Committee served coffee (special thanks to Julie Stefanski, Stewardship Chair, who organized the event) we joyously looked around the room seeing so many people interested in getting more involved with the Church. People who were seeking to give their time and talents to the Church and to ultimately get back so much in terms of rewarding experiences, friendships and memories. The feedback was so positive – many people asking for this event to be held more frequently, which is being discussed.

Then, during Divine Liturgy on *Oct 8th*, the Epistle reading told us about St. Paul who said: “God loves a cheerful giver”. It made me think about the people who showed so much interest and signed up for the Ministries during the Fair. However, I also thought about the fact that as we are now in the final quarter of the year, we are only 68% of the way to our 2023 Stewardship goal. \$330k short, and farther behind than we were at this time last year. I thought ‘we need that same fervor and cheerful giving that I witnessed during the Ministry Fair to come through in Stewardship.’

As Fr. Rick stated during his sermon on that same day, “It is our faith in God, acted upon through generosity, that will help us become cheerful givers”. He drew parallels between the American Dream and giving to God. However, while both focus on ‘bigger, better, nicer things’, the definition of things is very different. The definition for the former is that of material items, while in the context of God it is in the form of relationships with Him and our neighbors.

So I encourage everyone to take part in cheerful giving through involvement with our Ministries as well as to prioritize Stewardship within your lives, to not only strengthen your connection to our Church but also that of your relationship with God.

NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
COMING IN DECEMBER 2 - Philoptochos Holiday Fair 3 - Parish Council Elections 5 - Blood Drive 7 - Men's Fellowship @ North Branch 9 - Philoptochos Advent Luncheon 14 - Hellenic Foundations Awards	14 - OCC Small Groups 16 - AHEPA Doughnut's with Santa 17 - Christmas Pageant 20 - AGAPE Christmas Party 21 - AGAPE Christmas Program 22 - AGAPE Christmas Break Starts 29 - Sack Lunch Philanthropy	1 - STS KOSMAS & DAMIANOS + ST JAMES OF KASTORIA 10:30am Zoom Only Bible Study 6:30pm Basketball Practice 7pm Sn. Goya Youth Meeting 8:30pm Men's Over 40 (Pickup) Basketball	2 +ST ELPIDOFOROS - ARCHBISHOP NAMEDAY 7am NO Men's Study 6:30pm Philoptochos General Meeting 6:30pm Basketball Practice	3 PC NOMINATIONS DUE SSP FALL JR & SENIOR GOYA YOUTH RETREAT	4 + Fr. George Philiptos reposed 2008	
5 +5TH SUN LUKE/22ND SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 9am Soup Kitchen 11:30am Philoptochos & Patriarchate Sunday 11am Coffee Connection 12pm Great Support Don Ted Talk 12:15pm Greek Dance Meeting	6 AGAPE 50 DAYS OF SCHOOL 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:45pm Greek Dance Meeting 7pm Divorce Rebuilders	7 4pm Philoptochos Board Meeting 6:30 Basketball Practice 6:30 Jr. GOYA Youth Meeting 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	8 +ARCHANGELS AGAPE BOOK FAIR 9:30am AGAPE Ksoubourakia Baking 10:30am Bible Study - Zoom only 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:30pm PARAKLESIS SERVICE 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Men's Over 40 (Pickup) Basketball	9 +ST NECTARIOS NO Men's Study Group 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 9:30am AGAPE Liturgy 6pm HC Seminary Fundraiser 6:30pm Basketball Practice	10 11am AGAPE Wagner Farms Field Trip 6pm Faith, Love and Joy Youth Meeting	11 +ST MENAS GREAT MARTYR 5pm VESPERS 6pm Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation Gala 6pm OCC Fall Social 7pm Great Vespers w/ Holy Relics at St. George Church - Chicago
12 +8TH SUN LUKE/ ST JOHN MERCIFUL	13 +ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:45pm Greek Dance Meeting 7pm Divorce Rebuilders	14 +APOSTLE PHILIP 7:30am Hellenic Club at GBS 11:30am AGAPE Thanksgiving 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Youth Meeting 7pm Catechism Class 7pm Cancer Support Mtg 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	15 1ST LITURGY @ SSP 1964 ADVENT EAST STARTS 10:30am Bible Study - Zoom only 6:30pm Basketball Practice 7pm Sn. Goya Youth Meeting 8:30pm Men's Over 40 (Pickup) Basketball	16 +ST MATTHEW EVANGELIST 7am Men's Study Group 8:30am AGAPE Conferences - NO SCHOOL 4pm Agape Board Mtg 6:30pm Basketball Practice 7pm Parish Council Meeting	17 +SS ARTEMIDOS & GERASIMOS 8:30am AGAPE Conferences - NO SCHOOL	18 5pm VESPERS 6pm Hellenic Bar Assoc Scholar- ship Ball at the Westin O'Hare
19 CONSECRATION SSP 1978 +PROPHET OBDIAH +9TH SUN LUKE/ 24TH SUN	20 AGAPE Thanksgiving Break 6pm VESPERS 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:45pm Greek Dance Meeting 7pm Divorce Rebuilders	21 +ENTRANCE OF THEOTOKOS OFFICE CLOSED 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 6:30pm Basketball Practice 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	22 +APOSTLE PHELEMON OFFICE CLOSED NO Bible Study 6:30 Basketball Practice 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	23 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED NO Men's Study Group 6:30pm Basketball Practice	24 +ST CLEMENT OF ROME OFFICE CLOSED	25 +ST KATHERINE GREAT MARTYR 5pm VESPERS
26 +13TH SUN LUKE/ 25TH SUN +ST STYLIANOS	27 +ST IAKOVOS GREAT MARTYR PERSIAN 6:30pm Basketball Practice 6:45pm Greek Dance Meeting 7pm Divorce Rebuilders	28 7:30am Hellenic Club at GBS 6:30 Basketball Practice 7pm Sn. GOYA Youth Meeting 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	29 10:30am Bible Study - Zoom only 6pm Faith, Love and Joy Youth Meeting 6:30pm Basketball Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Men's Over 40 (Pickup) Basketball	30 +ST ANDREW APOSTLE NO Men's Study Group 6:30pm Basketball Practice 7pm Parish Council Meeting	ADVENT EAST CONTINUES UNTIL DECEMBER 24TH	

1401 Wagner Road
Glenview, IL 60025

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