Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

The Journey to Pascha through Great and Holy Lent continues this month of April. Lenten worship services are celebrated every Monday (Compline), Wednesday (Presanctified Liturgy) and Friday (Akathistos-Salutations) evening beginning at 6pm. A Lenten meal follows the Wednesday service.

The Lenten Prayer of St Ephraim should be recited every day: “O Lord and Master of my life, take away from me the spirit of sloth (laziness), faint-heartedness (despair), lust of power (control) and idle talk (gossip). But rather give to me your servant a spirit of chastity (purity), humility, patience and love. Yes O Lord and King, grant me to see my own faults (sins) and not to judge my brother or sister. For You are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen!”

Fasting is from all meat and dairy. More strictly it includes wine and oil during weekdays but not on weekends. The main purpose of fasting is to make us physically hungry, and instead of eating food, we pray to God. This transforms our hunger for food (which perishes) into its true nature which is hunger for God (who is imperishable). If we gain more discipline in fasting, it extends into other areas of our life, especially resisting temptation to sin.

Fasting without prayer and worship is just a diet, and actually is spiritually dangerous because we are trying to do it without enlisting God's help. That's why we have extra worship services during Lent. That's why we can receive the Eucharist midweek (Presanctified Liturgy), is to strengthen us spiritually as we struggle physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Do not be fooled with a false expectation that Great Lent will be completely peaceful. When we struggle to grow closer to God, the Devil will send his demons to throw us off course. Be ready, don't be surprised, continue on the path. God will protect you.

Almsgiving is sacrificing a portion of our material wealth and giving it to those in need. Think about not going out for dinner, and then taking that money and spending it on meals for the poor/hungry. Our Philanthropy and Philoptochos ministries offer plenty of opportunities to aid those less fortunate than ourselves. St. John Chrysostom said, “The rich exist for the sake of the poor. The poor exist for the salvation of the rich.”

Also during Lent, we have the opportunity to deepen our Faith and knowledge about how to live the Christian life including... Lenten Lectures begin on Wednesday evenings after Presanctified Liturgy. This year’s theme is Fostering Vibrant Local Eucharistic (LEC) with Dr Nathan Hoppe, OCMC missionary Albania. Topics include: 1) Vision for a Vibrant LEC: Eucharistic Life; 2) Life in a LEC: Family of God, Body of Christ, Temple of the Holy Spirit, 2) Practical Tools to Fostering LEC: Christian formation, Stewardship.
PALM SUNDAY

On Sunday, five days before Passover, Jesus arrived in Jerusalem from Bethany. He sent two disciples to fetch a foal, sat on it, and entered the city. The crowds, hearing of His arrival, greeted Him with palm branches, laying their cloaks on the ground and shouting "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This marks the joyous celebration of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. The palm branches symbolize Christ's triumph over evil and death, while "Hosanna" signifies a plea for salvation. Jesus' choice of an untamed, unclean animal reflects the transformation of the gentiles from their former state to submission to the Gospel.
CONTACTS

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 Theodoropoulou, biblestudy@ssppglenview.org
Book & Icon Store: Tina O’Donnell, bookstore@ssppglenview.org
Building Maintenance: John Vranas, john@vranas.com
Care for Creation: John Kirilakis, careforcreation@ssppglenview.org
Catechism: Fr. Richard Andrews, catechism@ssppglenview.org
Chaplains: Chris Atsaves, chaplains@ssppglenview.org
Choir Director: Therese Speropoulos
Church School: Nick and Kery Obradovich, Elaine Carrozza
Coffee Connection: Doreen DeSent, coffeeconnection@ssppglenview.org

Coffee Fellowship: Carolyn Kolbaba, carolyn@ssppglenview.org
Divorce Rebuilders: Carolyn Kolbaba, carolyn@ssppglenview.org
Divorce Rebuilders: Maria Boyle
Dynamics Group: Joanne Trahanas, dynamics@ssppglenview.org
Georgia Photopulou 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 Theoharopoulou, greekschool@ssppglenview.org
Grief Support: Tracy Ronstadt, griefsupport@ssppglenview.org
Myrrhbearers: Anna Kallis, myrrhbearers@ssppglenview.org
Orthodox Couples Club: Trish and Marco Iannessa,
occ@ssppglenview.org
Philoptochos: Dena Pavlopoulos, philoptochos@ssppglenview.org
Prison Outreach: Brad DeSent
Prison Outreach: Brad DeSent
Prosphora: Tracy Ronstadt, prosphora@ssppglenview.org
Readers: Sophia Lehocky, readers@ssppglenview.org
Saint Basil’s Philanthropy: Christy Gouletas
Saint Basil’s Philanthropy: Christy Gouletas
philanthropy@ssppglenview.org
Saint Stephen Men’s Group: Brad DeSent
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
yal@ssppglenview.org

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...

This month we also look forward to our Lenten Retreat (5-6-7), Veneration of the Cross and Youth Oratorical (7), Spring Parish Assembly (14), Illinois March for Life at State Capitol, Springfield IL (17), Philoptochos Quilt-a-thon & Habitat for Humanity (20), and the Pan-Orthodox Akathist hosted at SSPP (23).

Blessed Lent, Holy Week and Pascha!
+Fr. Rick


Our Lenten Retreat – April 5-6-7 with theologian Dr Presvytera Jeanne Constantinou speaking on the theme: Crucifixion of the King of Glory. Subtopics include: 1) Conflict and Catalysts - What prompted the arrest of Jesus? 2). The Hidden History - Judas, the Arrest, and the Trials, and 3) The Sacred Passover Mysteries: Akedah, Messiah Son of Joseph. Dr. Jeanne is an exceptional scholar and lecturer with her own podcast and website.

At the end of Lent is Great and Holy Week beginning with Lazaros Saturday and Palm Sunday (April 27-28). There are many ways to help, be involved and worship. We look forward to palm folding, youth retreats, sanctuary cleaning and decorating, reading, chanting, dying eggs, processions, and the lamb dinner. Please make plans to be there every day.

This past month we had a great Apokreatiko Glendi at Valley Lo on March 9th. Approximately 225 people attended, and all proceeds benefited the Agape Christian Academy. The Greek Dance troupe had their first performance. Thanks to the organizing committee for a great job!

The Multi-source Feedback Process data has been collected and based on the feedback I chose his priority areas. He has met several times with the consultant to begin setting goals to help leverage my strengths and work on my growth areas. These will be shared with the steering committee and parish council after they are finalized.

The Stewardship 2024 Archdiocesan 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).

God’s guideline for giving is the tithe (10%). He gives us everything but only asks for ten percent in return. That’s a pretty good deal. With a total (operations & capital) annual parish budget of $1.7M we encourage everyone to strive towards tithing (10%) but suggest a minimum of four percent (4%) annual giving.
WANT TO CHANGE THE CULTURE?

Many people bemoan the changes in society in which less and less people consider God and religion to be the primary guiding force in their lives. Statistics show the rapid increase the number of people who have no religious identity at all (The Nones). Marriages are decreasing, children born out of wedlock is increasing, and the social contagion of transgenderism is on the rise. No doubt these societal trends are affecting Orthodox Christians and the Orthodox Churches in North America and around the world. Secularism is on the rise.

So, what are we to do about it? We have to change the culture. Some believe this can be accomplished through politics, but politics follows culture, not the other way around. The first thing that needs to change is ourselves. Despite the pressures of the outside world, we need to remain firm and steadfast in living Orthodox Christian lives. I have outlined a few basics in my column this month so I will not rehash them here.

Rather, I would like to focus on the next step, which is changing the culture of our parish community. Western culture is often atomistic which means that we often live our lives largely disconnected from other people. Even when were together, we often do not notice what's going on around us. We do not feel a responsibility for our fellow parishioners nor the community as whole.

What got me thinking about this was talking to a recent visitor to our parish. The person came down to our social hall for fellowship hour after Sunday liturgy. They said that no one welcomed them, nor did anyone even speak to them. When I mentioned this to another parishioner, they replied, “Where was the welcome committee?” This response is reflective of the atomistic attitude. “It’s somebody else’s responsibility, not mine.”

Welcoming, not only new members and visitors but all parishioners, is everyone’s responsibility. The same can be said for lots of aspects and areas of our parish community. Another example is cleaning. When I first came here almost five years ago, I noticed lots of trash and messes being left behind inside the building. People literally got up and walked away or walked right by. When I inquired about this, the answer I heard most often is, “Oh, the janitor or custodian will take care of it.” I’ve seen pieces of trash lying in the parking lot for weeks at a time. “Oh, the lawn crew will take care of it.” Our sanctuary cleaning is often not well attended because many think that someone else will take care of it. Much of our cleaning back in December did not get done because we did not have enough people to help. It’s everyone’s responsibility to make sure our facility looks as neat and clean (godly) as possible.

The same could be said for just about every ministry and aspect of our community. It’s the Creation Care committee’s responsibility (not mine) to recycle because nearly every week we find trash in our recycling bins and recycling in our trash bins. It’s the Stewardship committee responsibility (not mine) to raise funds for the parish. Likewise, it’s other parishioners’ responsibility (not mine) to give generously and sacrificially. Otherwise, why would we have largest number of people giving in the 0 to $500 range while we live in one of the wealthiest parts of
WANT TO CHANGE THE CULTURE?

Chicagoland (and in the US)? It’s someone else’s responsibility (not mine) to offer support to cancer patients and survivors, to those separated and divorced, to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. It’s someone else’s responsibility (not mine) to learn and grow in the faith through catechism, bible and other study groups. It’s someone else’s responsibility (not mine) to arrive at Divine Liturgy on time.

Our misplaced priorities are often related to our misplaced responsibilities. Everyone supports our children being in the basketball program but what about Sunday Church School, youth groups and Divine Liturgy? Everyone supports our children being baptized and married in the Church but what about involvement beyond that? All these are the priest and the youth director’s responsibility, not mine.

I am not suggesting that everyone has to be involved in every ministry, but you can see how the pattern goes. That’s why some people become so disconnected that they can go months without stepping foot on the church premises and into Divine Liturgy. We have a great community, but it can be better--way better. The culture needs to improve and that requires each of us to change our lives towards God’s precepts (repentance)—to become more holy and committed to the mission of the Church.
FESTIVAL OF FAITH

Church School’s Festival of Faith when Nursery 3-6th grade Students showcase what they have learned so far in church school. The Littles were adorable and the older kids were enlightening. Great job to all!
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome new members to our beautiful parish, Jonathan and Lana Lambros

Thank you to Church School for Primo Donations 03-04-24

Greek Dancers

Bishop Kallistos with Ft Peter Pappas Andy Georganas and Fr Rick in 1998
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Steven speaking with the Faith love and Joy Kids on the alter

Luke Pollack
Baptism
03-14-2024

Our SSPP AGAPE teachers at Training
AGAPE SIGNUP

SS Peter and Paul Philoptochos
SCHOLARSHIPS 2024
Looking for a Scholarship?

Philoptochos is excited to offer three scholarship opportunities this year. Information regarding the individual scholarships is listed below. Spread the word to our young adults so that our parish is well represented on GRADUATE SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024- IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICE.

Applications for the scholarships are available on Saints Peter & Paul website Applications must be completed online and submitted no later than MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024.

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP
$2000
A MERIT SCHOLARSHIP BASED ON GRADES, TEST SCORES, ACTIVITIES IN CHURCH AND SCHOOL.
FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE TEXT OR CALL MS. JOANNE TRAHANAS: 708-207-4112.

ATHIE KOULOGEORGE PANARITES
PHILOPTOCHOS RELIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS VARY EACH YEAR.
DESIGNATED FOR PARISHIONERS IN GOOD STANDING WHO WANT TO ATTEND ORTHODOX RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING ORTHODOX RELIGIOUS CAMPS. FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MS. MARYANN RASMUSSEN: MARYANNPR1@AOL.COM

CHRISTINA MOURIKES SPIRATOS
"MAKE A DIFFERENCE" SCHOLARSHIP
$5,000.00
THIS SCHOLARSHIP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST A COLLEGE BOUND OR CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENT TO ACHIEVE HIS OR HER ACADEMIC AND CAREER ASPIRATIONS.
The Scholarship will award a student who has “MADE A DIFFERENCE” IN SERVICE TO OTHERS IN NEED.
FOR QUESTIONS, TEXT OR CALL MS. MARY ALUKOS AT 847-302-0059.
SCHOLARSHIPS 2024

AGAPE
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY
1401 Wagner Rd
Glenview, IL 60025

2024-2025
REGISTRATION

☑ Ages 2-5 years old
☑ Flexible Schedules
☑ Low student : Teacher ration
☑ After school enrichment
☑ Faith-based curriculum

All programs include a robust curriculum that embraces Literacy, Art, Math, Science, Cooking, Music, Movement, Greek and Orthodox Education.

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

Academy Director: Julie Mantice
We work in partnership with our families to ensure kindergarten readiness, starting at the age of two.

agape@ssppglenview.org
847-849-7870
GOYA

YOUTH REPORT

Hello, Saints Peter and Paul, Greek Orthodox Church. Καλή Σαρακοστή. Happy Lent.

We have embarked on our Lenten journey, and Pascha is only a month away. Whether you have been successful in keeping up with your fast or have been struggling a little, it is comforting to know that God is merciful and forgiving. I encourage you to remain steadfast and continue participating in the fast. Remember, you are a role model for your children, and they observe and follow your actions. As such, you are the leaders and examples of their spirituality.

The Faith, Love & Joy learned about the Saint Ephrem prayer and how to do Prostrations. They also made a cross to help remember the prayer.

At their last meeting, the Jr. GOYA made Chocolate-Covered Strawberries. We also attended an Akathistos service and learned more about the Theotokos and her significance in Orthodoxy.

The Sn. GOYA baked Prosphoro, church bread. They learned about the Proskomedia and how the priest prepares the gifts. We learned what each symbol means on the bread and how the priest cuts it and blesses it. We also hosted a coffee hour for Mission Sunday. We raised money for the OCMC, helping missionaries in Albania continue to grow Orthodoxy. Thank you to everyone who helped out and to those who donated. We raised over 600 dollars for the OCMC.

GOYA Alumni we sent out our care packages to our college students. We look forward to seeing them back at the end of May.

Looking ahead we have our GOYA Retreat at the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center on April 12-14. We also have church-wide Palm Folding on Friday, April 25th. There will be a lenten meal, and we will make palms and strip bay leaves. The following day, Lazarus Saturday, we have a Family Retreat. There will be a liturgy followed by a meal and different activities for the whole family. It is going to be a fun day! Open to all family members, bring your Yia Yias, Papou, cousins everyone.

Thank you

Have a blessed day,
Steven Thell
Youth Director
GOYA

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SSPP Spring GOYA Retreat**
April 12-14
Age: 6-12th Graders
Location: Saint Iakovos Retreat Center (920 224th Avenue, Kansasville, WI 53139)
Cost: $95

Spring Camp is an excellent opportunity to meet new friends and share your faith with others. We have a lot of fun activities planned, including games, religious activities, and plenty of opportunities for fellowship. More info on our website. Please email youthdirector@ssppglenview.org if you have any questions.
SOCIAL SUCCESS

Thank you so much to those of you that came out for the OCC Winter Social this February. We had a terrific time at North Branch, socializing, playing cards, and filling our bellies with pizza!

While the OCC stands for Orthodox Christian Couples, our social events are open to all friends and parishioners. Please consider attending our next event – we would love to see you!

WHAT’S NEXT?

The OCC will host a Lenten Service project that is right around the corner! We’ll be at Bernie’s Book Bank on Saturday, April 13th from 12:30-2pm. 2 out of 3 children lack access to books – something that many of us may take for granted. We can make an impact by volunteering to help sort, process and package books that will be distributed to Chicagoland children. Bernie’s was founded with 3 main goals:

- Commit to increasing book ownership and improving literacy growth.
- Deliver age-appropriate, high-interest and culturally relevant books children deserve.
- Solve the challenge of providing quality books children — in Chicagoland — and beyond.

Join us on 4/13 to contribute and do our part! You can also donate your new and gently used children books to Bernie’s to help children explore new ideas, gain knowledge, and strengthen reading skills, or make a donation. $16 buys 8 books for a Chicagoland child. For more details, visit berniesbookbank.org.

LOOKING FOR LENTEN FAMILY AND MARRIAGE RESOURCES?

Look no further than the Center for Family Care through the Archdiocese. There are several resources provided, in a few different formats. Check out webinars, articles, and podcasts that stand out to help guide you and your family through your Lenten journey.


My favorite takeaway was that Lent is not a solo journey. It is encouraged to take time to sit with your spouse and “map out” a Lenten journey that you can embark upon together. The unity of marriage is a “living icon of faith in Christ,” therefore “Great Lent offers a golden opportunity for a couple to grow and shine to the glory of God.”

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Verdaris also states that this time and potential exists for inter-Christian couples as much as for Orthodox Christian Couples. With a large parish as is Saints Peter and Paul, and inter faith marriages ever present, I really loved this reminder that despite some limitations in what can be experienced together sacramentally, this is a time of spiritual growth for every couple.

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PROJECT MEXICO

Calling on all, Saints Peter and Paul is once again sending a group to Project Mexico this summer July 19-25th. This will be our parish's 22nd trip, something we should definitely celebrate! Steven and Christy are very excited to join our youth this summer on this life changing experience! This is Christy's 22nd time going, so she is very willing to answer any questions you might have, cgouletas@hotmail.com.

Please reach out to either Steven and/or Christy to let us know if you are interested in joining us, we are looking for current high schoolers, those graduating seniors and those finishing their freshman year in college.
BOOKSTORE & MORE

BOOK STORE

Blessed Lent! Kali Sarakosti! Keep your Book & Icon Store in mind for all your needs as we prepare our journey to Pascha. Our selection of icons and prayer ropes is both extensive and beautiful. If you're looking for daily devotionals for each day of Lent, we have just what you need, with reading materials for Orthodox Christians of all ages. Gift Certificates are always available, and can be created for any denomination. Open every Sunday immediately following Liturgy, and happy to accommodate your requests emailing bookstore@ssppglenview.org

PROJECT HOPE MINISTRY

Thank you for your donations to Project Hope. We continue to collect non-perishable foods ALL YEAR. Currently, we are in the midst of our “40 Cans for Lent” food drive. Fill our boxes in the ATRIUM OR FELLOWSHIP HALL with non-perishable foods/shelf stable foods. As a reminder, we cannot donate fresh foods. Help us, help others in our community! “Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’” (Deut.15:11) Reach out to trubazianos@gmail.com with any questions.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

If you, a family member, or friend are looking to serve your SSPP community but are not sure how to do it, consider hosting Coffee Fellowship following Divine Liturgy. Coffee Fellowship doesn’t just serve the purpose of filling rumbly bellies and satisfying caffeine withdrawal symptoms. It’s a ministry that helps to build a community of friends and family, and provides opportunities to connect with your church family – the same people who can love and support you throughout your spiritual journey. This important ministry is also a wonderful way to commemorate an anniversary, birthday, family milestone, or memorial. It’s a minimal time commitment that goes a long way in expressing appreciation and gratitude. For more information on hosting a Coffee Fellowship, contact Carolyn Kolbaba at fellowship@ssppglenview.org

AHEPA SCHOLARSHIP

ATTENTION: ORTHODOX HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND UNDERGRADUATES: AHEPA Chapter 260 has established the Peter Economos Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is open to high school seniors with financial need, demonstrable commitment to their church and strong academic and service records who are graduating in 2024, or are now undergraduate college students, who are pursuing or will pursue a post-secondary education by attending a vocational, trade or technical school or a college or university. The application is available on the scholarship website: http://www.PeterEconomosScholarship.com/scholarship.html. The deadline date for applications is Wednesday, May 8, 2024 For more information contact: Nicholas Bobis at bobis1944@gmail.com 708-444-8462

COFFEE CONNECTION

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>How We Look at The Saints (Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Islam)</td>
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<td>• How does each group decide who is a Saint?</td>
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REFRESH UPDATE

Project Overview:
Saints Peter and Paul received several directed memorial donations to update and refurbish the fellowship hall kitchen. The design phase of the project has been completed with the objective to completely refresh the kitchen so it will last and service the Parish for the next 25 years. The construction phase is targeted to begin after May 5, 2024 (Pascha). It is anticipated that the project will take about 6 weeks to complete.

Parish Council and Parish Assembly Approval:
Authorization to proceed with the Kitchen Refurbishment project with a budget not to exceed $75,000 has been granted by the Parish Council and Parish Assembly.

Design Project Committee:
Brad DeSent, Nancie Poulos, Christy Gouletas, Adam Peterson, Alvaro Lima, Debbie Kunkel, Presbytera Jane Andrews, Nick Colis, Nick Phillipas

Questions:
Please contact Brad DeSent bdesent@gmail.com or (847) 417-8190.
ANNUAL MEN’S SOCIAL

The Saints Peter and Paul’s Men’s Social was held on Friday March 1st. Thanks to all that were able to attend. It was an evening of great food, fellowship, fun and fundraising. Proceeds from the event are being donated to SSPP and the SEAL Future Foundation (sealff.org) Foundation. We were happy to host some members of the SEAL Future Foundation at the dinner. Thanks to the committee for organizing: Steve Callas, Evan Adams, Frank Bolos, Mike Carrozza, John Livaditis, and George Logothetis.
SPRING IS HERE!

Spring is in full force and SSPP Philoptochos is running full throttle! See what we have been up to and what is to come in the following months!

SSPP Philoptochos Members Nancie Poulos, Kris Tsitsis, and Connie Anagnost served over 120 meals at Annunciation Cathedral as part of the Metropolis Feed the Hungry Program on February 13. If you would like to be involved in this important ministry, please reach out to Kris Tsitsis at (847) 366-5243.

NEXT SIP AND STRETCH!

Don’t miss our next Sip and Stretch session coming soon, stay tuned for the time and place. This class is for everyone, at every level! Remember to bring your mat and/or Julie can adapt the exercises for people who prefer to be seated. Donation is $20 and all proceeds will be dedicated to our church.

Here on February 21, Julie Mantice led about a dozen men and women of all ages in core strengthening and stretching.

The Edge Sports Enhancement Training Professionals Antigone Matsakis Vesci and Mark Sich shared tips in working through pain and creating training programs that allow us to reach our health and fitness goals at our March 12 General Meeting.
PHILOPTOCHOS

BLANKETS FOR BABIES
In person Blankets for Babies is back! We are so excited to be meeting as a community again and to work together on this important Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos ministry. Please join us on Saturday, April 20, 10am – 2pm, for a few hours of fun crafting, fellowship, and a light lunch … and bring your kids, too! No experience is necessary to create these no-sew comfy blankets which will be delivered to the Pediatrics Unit at the University of Illinois Chicago Hospital. We will also happily accept donations at https://ssppglenview.org/philoptochos-blankets-for-babies/ or by mail at SSPP Philoptochos, ATTN: Blankets for Babies Committee, 1401 Wagner Road in Glenview, Illinois 60025.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT IS CURRENTLY HOMEBOUND?
From April 15 – 20, our Homebound Ministry Team will deliver joy and Easter treats to over 50 parishioners who find themselves in that situation. But maybe you know of someone who is not on their list. Please reach out to Pat Nassos (847-421-3526) or Ida Harris (847-309-9223) if you think there is someone who could use a visit and some tlc.

BAKERY NEWS
Let Philoptochos do your Easter baking this year! Our annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale will take place after Diving Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 28. Be sure to pick up your tsoureka, baklava, kourambiethes, koulourakia, and melamakarona that day. Even better, order one of our beautiful Easter Baskets in advance! Visit the Philoptochos table after Liturgy or our website at https://ssppglenview.org/events. Supplies will be limited, so get your order in early. Your family will love it!

And we would love for you to join us in the joy of baking these wonderful treats. Look at the dates below to find one that fits your schedule. (An additional date will also be added, so watch your emails.) Come for an hour, or all day - you may even learn a few baking tips! Just so you know, we will also be serving a light lunch, and everyone is invited.
LOOKING TO BE INVOLVED?

We need YOU to help us help Fill a Heart 4 Kids. They are a non-profit whose mission is to provide homeless, at risk, and foster children with food, critical necessities, education support, and life skills. Our Philoptochos will be conducting a personal hygiene drive for this great organization during the month of April. Please bring full size items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, and sanitary products to church where they will be collected by our SSPP teens after liturgy.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Don’t miss our next General Meeting and Antiques Appraisal Clinic on Tuesday, May 14. George Glastris, formerly from Christie’s and Sotheby’s, and a frequent specialist on the “Antiques Road Show,” will be on hand to help us understand the value of some of our treasures. He and his associate will also appraise a piece of jewelry and a piece of artwork for each member. For larger items, just bring a photograph. Social reception begins at 6pm; general meeting at 6:30; presentation at 7pm.

FESTIVAL OF TABLES

We had a great time at Oktoberfest – and we are bringing back the party with our Festival of Tables dinner on Friday, June 7, at the Glen Club. Mark your calendars because this event – promises to be a highlight of summer! And yes, it is intended to be for all adults! If you are interested in hosting a table, please contact Diane Economy at 224-522-0211.

SAVE THESE DATES:

- Sundays in April
- Fill a Heart for Kids Personal Hygiene Drive, Tuesday, April 9th
- Greek Cookie Baking in Fellowship Hall begins at 9:30am
- Saturday, April 20th
- Blankets for Babies - Fellowship Hall 10am-2pm
- Wednesday, April 24th
- Tsoureki Baking in Fellowship Hall begins at 9am – Day 1
- Thursday, April 25th
- Tsoureki Baking in Fellowship Hall begins at 9am – Day 2
- Sunday, April 28th
- Palm Sunday Bake Sale
- Tuesday, May 14th
- General Meeting and Antiques Program
- Friday, June 7th
- Fundraiser Event Festival of Tables
- June 29th and June 30th
- Saints Peter and Paul - Vespers and Feast Day
**LOOKING TO BE INVOLVED?**

We need YOU to help us help Fill a Heart 4 Kids. They are a non-profit whose mission is to provide homeless, at risk, and foster children with food, critical necessities, education support, and life skills. Our Philoptochos will be conducting a personal hygiene drive for this great organization during the month of April. Please bring full size items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, and sanitary products to church where they will be collected by our SSPP teens after liturgy.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

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**SAVE THESE DATES:**

**APRIL 2024**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6:00pm COMPLINE 7pm Catechism Class</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10:30am Bible Study 5:30pm NINTH HOUR 6pm PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30pm Lenten Meal and Lecture 8:30pm Bball Meals over 40 (pickup)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>VENERATION OF CROSS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Church School - Procession of Holy Cross 11:30am Oratorical Festival 2:30pm Greek Independence Parade on Halsted St. Chicago IL 6:30pm Solemn Vespers &amp; Talk by Fr Papageorgiou Holy Apostles in Westchester, IL.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6:00pm COMPLINE 6:00pm YAL Board Mtg 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Stewardship Committee Mtg</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7pm Cancer Support Mtg 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ST JOHN CLIMACUS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 9am Soup Kitchen Event 11am Coffee Connection 11:30am Church School Youth Choir Practice 12pm Parish Assembly</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6:00pm COMPLINE</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>ST MARY OF EGYPT 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Church School Youth Choir Practice</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>ST NATHANAEL THE APOSTLE 6:00pm COMPLINE</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>ST GEORGE TROPHYBEARER 6pm PAN-ORTHODOX AKATHIST &amp; SSPP 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>GREAT &amp; HOLY WEEK + PALM SUNDAY 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 10:45am NO CHURCH SCHOOL 7pm BRIDEGROOM MATINS</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>GREAT &amp; HOLY WEEK + SS JASON &amp; SOSPATROS 6pm YAL Holy Monday &amp; French Fries 7pm BRIDEGROOM MATINS</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>GREAT &amp; HOLY WEEK + ST IAKOVOS/James - Bro of St John the Evangelist 7pm BRIDEGROOM MATINS 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMING IN MAY**

1-4 Holy Week
5 Great & Holy Pascha
6-10 Bright/Renewal Week
12 Mother's Day
19 Graduate Sunday
21 Sts Constantine & Helen
21-24 Metropolis Clergy Retreat
25-26 Junior Olympics
27 Memorial Day