



RENEWING GOD'S HOME



PHILOPTOCHOS



YOUTH OUTTING

THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER ISSUE

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

A Message from Father Rick Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

This summer has seen lots of **renovation/remodeling projects** around our facilities. One third of the parking lot was repaved and restriped. Concrete sidewalks and steps were replaced at community center and sanctuary entrances. New metal decorative and ADA approved handrails were installed in the community center. The children's playroom across from bookstore was completely remodeled. The flooring in same area was refinished. Classroom 100 was renovated with new cabinets and sink. The kitchen remodeling is now also complete.

On July 28th we honored our **Prison Ministry** volunteers with Deacon Ted Saclarides, who sits on the national board (ocpm.org), spoke about the many ways we can be involved and support this important ministry that Christ commands us to do (see Parable of Last Judgment Mt.25:31-46).

On August 11th we recognized our **Acolytes** for their service and dedication to the Holy Altar and assisting in the worship services. Being an acolyte is a sacred and serious duty. To serve as an acolyte is open to boys of all ages, who can demonstrate self-discipline, commitment, and a willingness to learn and grow in their knowledge of the divine services. For more information, contact Fr. Rick or youth director Steven Thell. Email: acolytes@ssppglenview.org.

Dormition/Falling Asleep of Theotokos- On August 14th, approximately 25 parishioners travelled to Racine Wisconsin for the parish feastday Vespers of *Kimissis tis Theotokou Church*. We enjoyed the dramatic procession of the epitaphios of the Virgin Mary around the outside of the church and the warm fellowship and hospitality of Fr. Rick's former parish. The next day, August 15th, we celebrated Divine Liturgy here at SSPP followed by an Artoklasia service sponsored by the Souleles family.

The sanctuary was nearly full for this beautiful feast.

As of this printing cycle, we do not have info or photos from Senior Appreciation Luncheon (20) nor the Vespers for Protection of the Environment (31).

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

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FLOROS & LAUROS THE MONK-MARTYRS OF ILLYRIA

These Martyrs were twin brothers, and stonemasons. After the martyrdom of their teachers Proclus and Maximus, they left Byzantium and came to the city of Ulpiana in Illyricum, where a certain Licinius hired them to build a temple for the idols. The wages he gave them, they distributed to the poor, and when the temple was built, Floros and Lauros gathered the paupers, and with their help put ropes about the necks of the idols, pulled them to the ground, and furnished the temple as a church. When Licinius learned of this, he had the paupers burned alive in a furnace. Floros and Lauros were tormented, then cast into a deep well, where they gave up their souls to the Lord. When their holy relics were recovered years later, they poured forth myrrh and worked many miracles; they were enshrined in Constantinople.

CONTACTS

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Website: ssppglenview.org

Rev. Dr. Fr. Richard Demetrius Andrews,
Protopresbyter, frick@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

parishadmin@ssppglenview.org

Administrative Assistant: Tina O'Donnell

office@ssppglenview.org

Youth Director: Steven Thell

youthdirector@ssppglenview.org

Communications Coordinator: Amanda Sideris

amanda@ssppglenview.org

Bookkeeper: Diane Bravos

diane@ssppglenview.org

2024 Parish Council:

President: Steve Koulogeorge

Vice President: Christy Gouletas

Secretary: Therese Speropoulos

Corresponding Secretary: Sophia Lehocky

Treasurer: Nick Colis

Assistant Treasurer: George Seletos

Julie Stefanski

Vanessa Adinamis

Mary Alukos

Keith Anderson

Christ Atsaves

George Karagianis

Angie Katsamakis

Tommy Mantice

Maryann Rasmussen

Tracy Ronstadt

Jim Santos

Peter Triantafilou

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@vrans.com

Care for Creation: John Kirilakis, 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,

coffeeconnection@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,

griekschool@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

prisonoutreach@ssppglenview.org

Prophora: Tracy Ronstadt, prosphora@ssppglenview.org

Readers: Sophia Lehocky, readers@ssppglenview.org

Saint Basil's Philanthropy: Christy Gouletas

philanthropy@ssppglenview.org

Saint Stephen Men's Group: Brad DeSent

mensgroup@ssppglenview.org

Stewardship: Julie Stefanski, stewardship@ssppglenview.org

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Carolyn Kolbaba

fellowship@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...

Sept 1st and it continued until the Fall of Constantinople in 1453. This year, *September 1* falls on a Sunday, and it always signifies the beginning of our ministry year, especially for our youth.

On *September 7th Saturday Vespers* services resume. They always begin at 5pm and last approximately 45 minutes. The service primarily consists of hymns relating the feast and/or saint being celebrated on the following day. Vespers (Esperinos in Greek) is literally 'the evening service' but it is the first service of the new day according to the ancient Jewish reckoning from the creation account in Genesis 1-2, "there was evening and morning, one day." This is a lightly attended service, so it has a quiet solemnity. It is also an acceptable alternative if for whatever reason, one cannot attend Sunday Divine Liturgy.

The following Sunday *September 8th*, we celebrate the great feast for the *Nativity of the Theotokos*. Church School classes will begin that day so be ready. Children's sermons will be right after the Gospel reading so please come on time for Liturgy 9:30am to be sure to hear the Epistle and Gospel readings as well as the kids' sermon.

On *Saturday September 14th* we celebrate the Universal *Exaltation*

of the Holy Cross with Divine Liturgy and a special procession. This is a strict fast day in commemoration of the Lord's crucifixion. Since it is on a Saturday and not on a weekday, it would be great opportunity for the whole family to come.

The next day, *Sunday Sept. 15th* is our *Fall Youth Kickoff* and *Parish Picnic*. We plan to have a simple bbq/grilled lunch for everyone. Afterwards, the youth will have activities all afternoon. For more info, contact youth director Steven Thell.

We encourage everyone to participate in and/or support the following ministry activities: *Philoptochos Membership Nite (24)*, *OCAMPR Conference* at St Mary on the Lake, Mundelein (26-28), *Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon* at Concorde Banquets (28), and our own *Ministry Fair* (29) to highlight and encourage sign-ups for the various ministries of our community.

Last year at this time, we published our *youth enrollment and activity analysis* numbers for our parish. 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 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 actual attendance records, it is dramatically lower with many kids attending only a handful of times during the school year.

Our children's salvation is 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. Parents' and adults' salvation depends on how they raise their children. What did Jesus say? *But 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). And *"But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."* (Mt.18:6)

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

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

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.

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.**

The **Multi-source Feedback Process** update- as shared a few months ago, the feedback about me from nearly 70 participants was very positive. The top strength

areas are *Calm/Steady Demeanor, Worship and Sacraments, Treating Others Fairly/Equally, and Desiring Personal/Professional Growth*. Growth areas were also identified: *Managing Demands on My Time, Spoken Communication, Sermons, Relationship Building and Teamwork, Vision and Goal Setting, and Change Management*.

The consultant from Ruotolo and Associates, who conducted the feedback process, strongly advised only working on one or two areas at a time over a period of several months.

I wish to thank the feedback participants for their input, thank *Metropolitan Nathanael* and the Metropolis of Chicago for funding half of the cost and for *Presvytera Mary Scoulas* blessing the *Fr. George Scoulas Memorial Fund* to cover the other half of the cost.

In an April meeting with the consultant, **Metropolitan Nathanael**, and steering committee chair *Paul Karos*, there was discussion about my average hours of work per week over the previous year (over 70 hours, the largest portion coming from administrative tasks). At the behest of the Metropolitan and the steering committee, it was recommended to the parish council to hire an executive assistant for Fr. Rick to assist him with the

administrative tasks. The parish council authorized an analysis of our current administrative staff, and it was determined that they have more than enough of their own duties and responsibilities to fulfill and therefore, did not have any extra capacity to take on Fr. Rick’s administrative tasks.

At the July meeting, the parish council authorized \$20K (from Fr. Scoulas and Koulogeorge Memorial Endowment Funds) for six months as a trial period to hire an executive assistant. We are currently in discussions with Belay Solutions, a company who specializes in executive/virtual assistant services. This is the same company that provides Metropolitan Nathanael’s full-time assistant. If/when we contract with them, the plan is to engage an assistant for Fr. Rick at approximately 10 hours per week. Their primary tasks will include calendar/appointment, email and project management. The overall purpose/goal is to reduce Fr. Rick’s weekly work hours, and at the same time, allow him to focus on the tasks that only he can and should be doing including the growth areas identified in the feedback process.

This month I will have my last intensive retreat in the second of a two-year program for **clergy**

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

leadership training and coaching now renamed ‘*Leadership Accelerator*.’ The first clergy cohort, including myself and Metropolitan Nathanael, joined by a second cohort will travel to Knoxville Tennessee *Sept.23-26* to meet with our coaches. Individual coaching will continue through end of December. With the hiring of an executive assistant, this will afford me the time necessary to implement many more of the principles and practices that I have learned over the last two years.

The article on ‘*Excommunication*’ in July’s Messenger newsletter raised a few eyebrows and the spirit in which I offered it was not received by some as intended. So, please allow me to clarify a few points. First, of all, it’s important to remember that the priest’s ministry is not about looking for people to excommunicate. The priest, as shepherd of the local Christian flock, is to gather the sheep and bring them back to the fold. Following Jesus’ parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7), the priest is very often reaching out to bring people back to the Eucharist, to re-Communion. It is almost always the case that the faithful excommunicate themselves by choosing not to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, sadly for

weeks or months or even years at a time.

Second, the best preparation for, and determining when, and how often to receive the Eucharist is within the relationship of spiritual guidance with the priest or another recognized spiritual director (bishop, confessor, monk, nun, etc.). The Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is often referred to as the Sacrament of Reconciliation (e.g. reconciling to Christ in the Eucharist), is just as much a conduit of God’s grace as the Eucharist itself.

Unfortunately, the majority of Orthodox Christians do not participate in Confession of a regular basis. That’s why Fr Seraphim Aleksiev wrote a book about Confession titled “The Forgotten Sacrament.” Some may avoid Confession because they view it like a courtroom in which they confess to a crime (sin) and receive a sentence of punishment (penance).

However, medicine is the more appropriate analogy for this Holy Sacrament. We meet with the Physician of souls and bodies, talk about our symptoms of spiritual illness, receive a diagnosis and a prescription/remedy for returning to full health. Sometimes, that prescription may include abstaining from the Eucharist for a

time. However, in my 30 years of ministry, I have rarely given penances to the faithful, especially when they are participating in Confession for the first time (or the first time after many years).

Third, it is important to remember the instructive words of our patron Apostle Paul when he wrote the Christians in Corinth: ²⁷ *Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.* ²⁸ *But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.* ²⁹ *For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.* ³⁰ *For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.* ³¹ *For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.* ³² *But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.* (1Cor.11:27-32) The priest is there to help people avoid drinking judgment unto themselves.

Finally, it is important to remember that excommunication, whether self-imposed or assigned as a penance is never permanent if the person desires to return to the Lord in the Eucharist. There is always a way back. That’s what the priest is here for: to help us find our way back.

Truly He is Risen!
+Fr. Rick

18TH ANNUAL Walk the Walk for IOCC

Saturday, October 5, 2024

*Join us for our 5K Walk/Run and make a difference
for those in need around the world!*

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church

5649 N. Sheridan Rd. • Chicago, IL 60660

Registration 8:00 AM • Walk/Run Begins 9:00 AM • Breakfast following the race

\$20 – Registration before 9/15 | \$30 – Registration after 9/15 | \$10 – Children under 12

Sponsorship levels: \$1,000 Platinum Medal | \$500 Gold Medal | \$250 Silver Medal

To guarantee a t-shirt, register by 9/20/2024.

Register or sponsor online at

iocc.org/chicago

For more information, email ioccchicago5k@gmail.com



STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S HOME

UPDATES

In Genesis 1:28 God tells us to be faithful stewards of creation. As we begin the new ecclesiastical year, we wanted to reflect on Saints Peter and Paul's continued attention to this obligation. We maintain a recycling program. We have converted 70% of our lighting to efficient LED lighting and continue to replace the remaining old fixtures. Our HVAC systems have been replaced with high efficiency units with electronic temperature controls to reduce consumption. Most importantly we have installed a 116 kW Solar PV system on the Latto Center roof that is now producing almost half of the electricity that we now use! In July alone the system produced \$1,700 worth of electricity. We will continue to search for ways in which we can be faithful stewards of God's creation.

We are winding down this year's renewal projects:

The handrails on the four sets of stairs in the Latto Center Atrium and guardrails on the upper level of the Atrium have been installed in compliance with ADA requirements.

The new sidewalk in front of the entry to the Latto Center has been poured to meet ADA specifications and allow easier wheelchair access.

The first of five phases to restore the entire parking lot that is thirty years old has been completed. The memorial candle stands were hand scrubbed and polished thanks to Joe Zubay's time and talent.

The children have a renewed playroom thanks to the Cotromanes family. It has a bright and inviting space for the children to enjoy.

Classroom #100 has been renewed with new and efficient storage, new energy efficient LED lighting and additional floor space for classroom use.

Look forward to news about next year's projects which may include the replacement of the Latto Center windows and the renewal of the Church School Classrooms. Let me know if you have any ideas for a project that you would like to sponsor john@vranas.com. In the meantime, please continue your generous annual stewardship commitments to fund these projects.

Best,
John Vranas



BOOK STORE AND MORE

BOOK AND ICON STORE

With the school year starting and many going off to college, be sure to send your loved ones off with an icon or prayer book for their dorm room. We have a lovely selection of smaller icons, to gently remind your students the importance of their faith. Stop in to shop any Sunday after the Divine Liturgy, or call the office to schedule a personal shopping experience during the week.

We are constantly adding new titles, prayer ropes, bracelets, and much more, so please make it a point to visit your Book & Icon Store at your earliest convenience.

We are located at the base of the stairs, just outside Fellowship Hall. Please stop in to shop, browse, or just to say hello. If we don't have what you're looking for, we can always order it. Hope to see you soon!



GLENDI FAMILY EVENT

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Saints Peter and Paul Glendi Family Event

Saturday, February 22, 2025

Michigan Shores Country Club in Wilmette



COFFEE CONNECTION

Please join us for our first Coffee Connection session of the new Ecclesiastical Year *on September 22nd* following Holy Communion in the Youth Room! We start with coffee and fellowship and move on to discussions related to our Theme this year, which is: "Navigating the Challenges of Contemporary Life with an Orthodox Compass"

Some topics that will be discussed are:

How do we wrestle with doubts in difficult transitions/situations?

Can Modern Science and Faith coexist?

How do today's forms of anxiety and depression challenge our faith?

How can we be more welcoming of people with disabilities in the Church?

What challenges of modern technology (social media and A.I.) confront our faith?

How can we be witnesses to Christ?



PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT LETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Ecclesiastical New Year to all of our Orthodox brethren! September marks the beginning of our Church calendar and with it a chance to look both backward to the trials and triumphs of our previous year, as well as forward to our new year, with the opportunity to grow and aright ourselves to be closer to our faith and to our community.

It is with anticipation of this annual milestone before us, that we recently heard the disappointing news of the cancellation of our 2024 Greek Festival. After years of building our event back up from the depths of the pandemic, we had reached the point where we were partnering with the Glenview Park District and Wagner Farms to host a re-invigorated event that was a welcoming festival event, not only to our own Parishioners, but also to those in the local Glenview Community.

Unfortunately, our successes in this area have been short lived... we could not get enough volunteers and leaders to put together the event for our 2024 event.

When I attended the Metropolis Clergy-Laity Congress in 2023, I had to opportunity to talk to a number of other Parish Council representatives, about Stewardship and Parishioner support. I was surprised to find out that when it came to Parishioner support, that it was basically 4-6 individuals who did the lion's share of "heavy lifting" that needed to be done, sometimes working

in multiple ministries in supporting or leadership roles within their respective Churches.

WE KNOW THESE PEOPLE.. people helping out at our Sunday Liturgy or Vesper services, helping to do table set-up and clean-up at special events that our Church sponsors or hosts, spending numerous "off- hours" with our youth, or our aged. These are the same people, that we know.. a few of whom have been recognized by our Diocese for their good works, but would have still done the same good works regardless of who noticed.

We are a very blessed Parish. We are an affluent community who is able to support our Church's operating and capital/construction needs. We care deeply for our children and for family. But our faith cannot survive on checks alone.

This Ecclesiastical year, I am challenging all of us to do one thing... "BE PRESENT"

BE PRESENT.. by signing yourself up to help support one of our worthy Ministries.

BE PRESENT.. at your children's Church-sponsored events, be it Basketball, Jr. Olympics or Christmas Pageant.

BE PRESENT.. at our Saints Peter and Paul Feastday, the decorating of the Epitaphios, or Palm folding.

Parish Council Town Hall Webinar Event

First of all, a big "shout out" to all those who attended our very first "Town Hall" Webinar event on Thursday, August 1st. Also a big "THANK YOU" to our Admin., Elea Bentley, for her commitment to this project, especially in helping us hold this thing together. We had 30 plus attendees, and although those participants were unable to see each other on screen (an issue we will correct before our next Town Hall meeting) this meeting served as a good starting point to expand and grow for future meetings. The Town Hall questions and topics included discussions about the status of our annual Festival, current trends in Stewardship support, the length of our Sunday Service and sermons, and more.

We are confident that our first Virtual Town Hall event was a good first step towards giving Parishioners an alternate forum whereby, they can pose questions and discuss on-line, real-time, directly with Father Rick and members of the Parish Council.

*Parish Council President
Steve J. Koulogeorge*

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Christos and Maria Kostopoulos
George and Jennifer Panagiotopoulos



Acolyte Sunday 8-11-2024



Prison Ministry Volunteers 7-28-2024



Clergy at Kimissis Racine WI 8-14-2024



Dormition Liturgy Artoklasia 8-15-2024



Fr Rick Preaches at Kimissis Racine WI 8-14-2024

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Zoe Bannos Baptism 8-11-2024



Refinished floor near the Bookstore



*Micheal Bisoulis Saskia Dragovic
Wedding in Greece*



New Atrium Railings

GOLF OUTTING AND MORE

GOLF OUTTING

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

GOLF OUTTING

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH, 2024

GLENVIEW PARK GOLF CLUB

800 SHERMER RD GLENVIEW, IL 60026

DONATION: \$175.00

**INCLUDES: GOLF & CART, GIFTS
AND PRIZES, LUNCH (LUNCH
ONLY \$75 AROUND 12:30PM)**

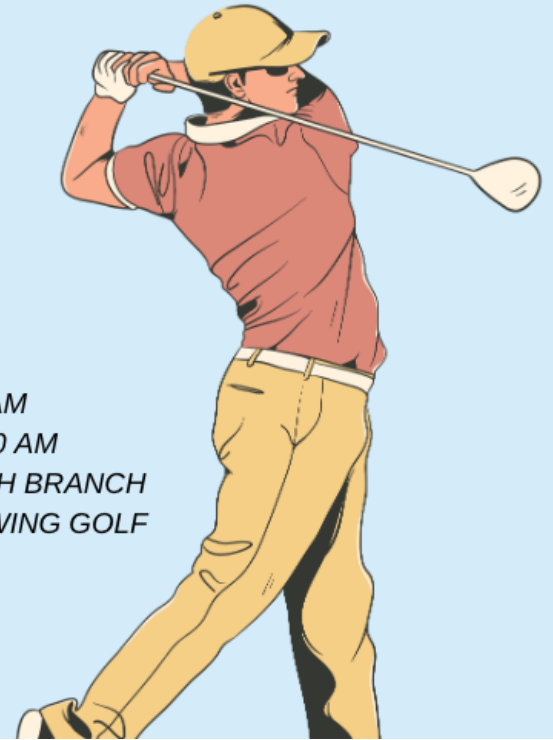
REGISTRATION: 7:30 AM

SHOTGUN START: 8:00 AM

**LUNCH: AT THE NORTH BRANCH
RESTAURANT FOLLOWING GOLF**

FIRST 144 APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

DEADLINE: TUESDAY, OCT 1ST



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 14 through November 18, 2024*, 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. 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 14 through November 18, 2024*, 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 Harduvel 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.



SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

FAITH AND LEARNING CATECHISM PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY

FALL 2024

Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 PM

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
September 17	Introduction	Fr. Richard Andrews
September 24	God- Holy Trinity	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
October 1	Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
October 8	Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints	Mr. John Anton, MDiv
October 15	Christ II- His Work & Teachings	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
October 22	Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure	Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos
October 29	Church II- Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
November 5	Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
November 12	Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
November 19	Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism	Mr. John Anton, MDiv
November 26	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING WEEK HOLIDAY	----
December 3	The Goal- Second Coming & Living the Christian Life	Fr. Richard Andrews
December 10	Conclusion- Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&A	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos

Texts: *Introducing the Orthodox Church* by Anthony Coniaris (1982); *The Orthodox Church* by Kallistos Ware (5th ed., 2015); *The Orthodox Way* by Ware (rev. ed., 1995); *Welcome to the Orthodox Church: An Introduction to Eastern Christianity* by Frederica Mathewes-Green (2nd printing, 2016); *Becoming Orthodox* by Peter Gilquist (3rd ed., 2009); *The Faith* by Clark Carlton. Texts can be obtained in church bookstore, Amazon.com or other supplier.

Cost of Class: FREE (Sponsored by Saints Peter & Paul Church)

Location: Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, IL 60025, 847-729-2235,

www.ssppglenview.org

REGISTER ONLINE: www.ssppglenview.org OR <https://forms.gle/RVsJdMs4eynZUbWSA>

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ARE YOU ORTHODOX: YES NO (circle one)

IF NO, WHAT RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: _____

PARISH: _____

WHAT BEST DESCRIBES WHY YOU ARE ATTENDING THIS CLASS:

1. Just interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith.
2. Seeking to prepare to join the Orthodox Christian Faith.
3. Not sure yet.

REGISTRATION FEE: FREE

PREFERRED BOOK: _____

Please join us to support



STACY VULGARIS-WIECZOREK



AGAPE alumnus, active member in SSPP youth
ministries with her Eagle Scout Project!

Sunday, September 8th
Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church
immediately following Divine Liturgy

Stacy will present her goals & plans to improve the
AGAPE Christian Academy's library and resource area.



GOYA YOUTH LETTER

Hello, Saints Peter and Paul Community,

It's hard to believe that summer has come to an end and the school year has begun. I hope you all had a wonderful vacation and made the most of the summer. As we transition back into our routines, I'm excited to catch up with everyone.

The Faith Love Joy group gathered at Kim and Bill Angelos's house, where the kids had a blast playing soccer, feeding fish, and enjoying a beautiful day. A big thank you to Kim and Bill for graciously opening their home to us.

Our Junior GOYA met twice last month at the church, learning about the Dormition Fast and enjoying some fun running around the building. It was wonderful to see our Junior GOYAns, even during the summer months.

The Senior GOYA has been holding volleyball practice every Thursday. We are looking good for the Junior Olympics.

On August 20th, our SSPP families attended a Cubs game at Wrigley Field. We brought a group of 70 people from our church and had an amazing time. We even got exclusive Greek Cubs hats, and the Cubs won 3-1! It was a fun and memorable experience for everyone.

Our Project Mexico team recently returned from their week-long mission trip. Be sure to see the October Messenegr for Project Mexico details and to hear about the kids' experiences.

As our Youth Ministry year begins, I encourage all youth to check the calendar for upcoming events and gatherings. This year, our two themes are the sacraments of the Church and how we can proclaim Christ's will through our actions. Youth Group is a wonderful opportunity for young Orthodox Christians to grow in their faith, build friendships, and have a great time in a supportive environment.

Please mark your calendars for the following events.

September 8th: Parent-Youth Orientation during Sunday School. I will be giving a speech about the upcoming year, and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

September 15th: Church-wide BBQ and JR/SN GOYA Kick-Off. This will be our first event as the new Youth Ministry year begins. We have plenty of activities planned, including a dunk tank. I encourage everyone to join us for the BBQ after Sunday School to celebrate our community.

September 20th: Faith Love Joy Kick-Off. We're starting the ministry year with a bang—featuring a bounce house! It's going to be a great time.

I look forward to seeing everyone at these events as we embark on another year of faith, fellowship, and fun!



Faith Love and Joy at the Adam's House 08-02-24



Cubs Game on 08-30-24 for Greek Heritage Night



SSPP Group Photo Before Cubs Greek Heritage Night 08-30-24

PHILOPTOCHOS

SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

Our new ecclesiastic year is kicking off this month. Please join us for our first event of the "new year" by attending our Membership Event on Tuesday, September 24, at 6:30, in the SSPP Atrium. We have a fun evening planned that includes a wine tasting demonstration by David Kline of Schaeffer's Wine and Spirits. Light meze will also be served. For more information on the event or how to become a member, reach out to our Membership Chairs, Georgene Shanley, 847-612-3999, or Carol Wells, 847-431-5351.



Last year, Chef Dave Esau shared some culinary tricks with us at our Membership Reception. Join us on September 24, 2024, to learn more about wine!

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos is hosting their annual September Luncheon, Sisters in Faith: Turning Lemons into Love, on Saturday, September 28,

at Concorde Banquets in Kildeer. Join us in fellowship at 11am; lunch will be served at noon and features guest speaker Isabella Zampetaki, food blogger and historian. Tickets are \$60 and proceeds will benefit: Lemons of Love, The Saint Iakovos Retreat Center, and the Metropolis Philoptochos Philanthropic Endeavors. We would love to arrange for the sisters of SSPP to be seated at the same tables, so please reach out to Dena Pavlopoulos by September 10 at denapav@yahoo.com If you are able to attend.



HOLIDAY FAIRE



We need your help baking for Holiday Faire! Please join us on Thursday, September 19, for a day of making spanakopites, and again on

Thursday, October 3, when we make tiropites. Come for both days or just a couple of hours. We will begin at 9:30am and serve a light lunch. For more information, please reach out to Nancie Poulos at nepoulos@hotmail.com.

BREAST CANCER WALK 2024

Join us in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer on Sunday, October 13, at 9am, in Independence Grove in Libertyville. Battling cancer is very personal to us, that's why our Philoptochos chapter partnered with the American Cancer Society in raising funds and awareness about this illness. Start pulling your pink wardrobe together and become part of our team - we promise that you will have a great time working towards our ultimate goal, ending cancer as we know it. (Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted.)

Contact Julie Anastos (julieanastos@mac.com) or Julie Mantice (juliamantice1@gmail.com) to find out how you can be involved.

PHILOPTOCHOS



Some of our team members at 2023's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Event.



OOMPAH OPA AGAIN

Be sure to attend our Second Annual Oktoberfest at Pinstripes on Thursday, October 24, 6pm. Don your dirndl and lederhosen and get ready to dance the tsifteteli! More details to follow, but you won't want to miss this fun, co-ed event. For more information, or to volunteer to help, please contact Diane Papadakis-Economy at kafedmp@sbcglobal.net or 224-522-0211.



2023 Oktober Fest Highlights

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 19 - Spanakopites Baking Beginning at 9:30am
Tuesday, September 24 - Membership Reception / Wine Tasting Demo
Saturday, September 28 – Metropolis Philoptochos Lunch at Concorde Banquets
Thursday, October 3 - Tiropites Baking Beginning at 9:30am
Sunday, October 13 – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Libertyville
Thursday, October 24 – Oktoberfest at Pinstripes 6pm
Sunday, November 3 – Philoptochos Sunday
Tuesday, November 12 - General Meeting
Saturday, December 7 – Holiday Faire
Saturday, December 14 – Advent Brunch at Sunset Ridge Country Club

(Unless otherwise indicated, events will be held at SS Peter and Paul.)

SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 INDUCTION - ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY	2 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	3 6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup	4 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	5 7am Men's Study Group 10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's	6	7 9:30am First Day of Saturday Greek School 5pm VESPERS
8 +NATIVITY OF THEOTOKOS +SUNDAY BEFORE THE CROSS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 10:45am 1st Day of Church School 10:45am Parent Orientation about Youth Program	9 +FAST OF DORMITION 4:30pm First Day of Monday Greek School 6pm YAL Board Meeting 7pm YAL Monday Night Football 8pm Stewardship Committee Mtg	10 8:30am Philoptochos Baking 7pm Cancer Support Mtg 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup	11 10:30am Bibly Study Begins 6:30pm PARAKLESIS 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	12 10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's 7pm Parish Council Exec Meeting	13 7pm GREAT VESPERS at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Justice, IL	14 +EXALTATION OF HOLY CROSS FAST DAY 8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 5pm VESPERS
15 +SUNDAY AFTER CROSS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Fall Youth Kick off & Parish Picnic	16 +ST EUPHEMIA 8am Philoptochos Baking 7pm GREAT VESPERS at St Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Elgin, IL	17 +ST SOPHIA 8:30am MATINS-ORTHROS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 9:30am Agape Liturgy 7pm Catechism Class 7pm Senior Goya Meeting 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup	18 +FAST OF DORMITION +PROPHET MICAH 6:30pm Junior GOYA Meeting 7pm Grief Support Meeting 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	19 7am Men's Study Group 8:30am Philoptochos Baking 10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's	20 +ST EUSTATHIOS 5:30pm FLJ Kick Off	21 5pm VESPERS
22 +1ST SUN LUKE / 13TH SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection Begins 11am HCHC Seminary Sunday 11:30am College Student (OCF) Sunday	23 +CONCEPTION OF FORERUNNER	24 6pm Philoptochos Membership Reception 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	25 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	26 +DORMITION OF ST JOHN EVANGELIST 11:45am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Lunch at Psistaria 7pm Senior GOYA Gathering 7pm Parish Council Meeting	27 7pm YAL Punch Bowl Social Event	24 9am Church Work Day 10:30am AGAPE Family Meet & Greet 11am Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon 11am Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon @ Concorde Banquets in Kildeer, IL 5pm VESPERS
29 +2ND SUNDAY LUKE / 14TH SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Ministry Fair	30			COMING IN OCTOBER 5 Golf-Outing / IOCC Walk-Run 6 Church Music Sunday 13 Philoptochos Cancer Walk 7-8 Parish Council Retreat 24 Philoptochos Octoberfest 26 ST. DEMETRIOS 28 PROTECTION OF THEOTOKOS & Oxi Day 29 Agape Trunk or Treat		

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