

CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY



YOUTH



PHILOPTOCHOS

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 Daylight Savings Time--Fall back 1 hour (3), Ministry Council Mtg (4), Veterans' Day (11), beginning of the Advent Fast (15) and Thanksgiving holiday (23-24). But it is also rich with our sister communities feastsdays: *Haralambos-Taxiarchae* in Niles (8) & *St. Nectarios* in Palantines (9); *St John Chrysostom* in Kenosha WI (13); *St Andrew* in Chicago (30). We celebrate one of the major feast days with the *Entrance of Theotokos* (21) and the American Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed Nov.26-28).

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 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.

Introducing our **new executive assistant**...as I wrote about previously, the parish council approved the engagement of a professional company, *Belay Solutions*, to provide me with executive assistant with the primary purpose of reducing my overall work hours from 70+ per week to around 50-55 hours per week. This

will be accomplished by the assistant taking over many of my administrative tasks and duties, especially calendar, email and project management. This will enable me to devote more time focusing on my most important responsibilities including pastoral counseling, leading worship and interfacing more with parish leadership and parishioners. It will also afford me more time and energy to focus on my own strategic leadership for our parish community. The person who will be assisting me is *Lisa Billingsley*. Lisa has over fifteen years of experience in the field. She lives in Alabama and will work remotely. She began her duties, working approximately 10 hours per week, on October 16th. We will give Lisa a fuller introduction to our community in subsequent communications including December's newsletter. It will take a few weeks to get a work rhythm, but it is likely that you will hear from Lisa if you need to schedule an appointment with me. There also may be times when Lisa will

Cont'd on Page 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CONTENTS

Cover/Pastoral Message.....	1
Contents.....	2
Contacts.....	3
Pastoral Message Cont.....	4-5
Our Life Together.....	6-8
Donation Drive Flyer	9
Book Store & More.....	10
Stewardship Committee.....	11
GOYA Youth Letter	12
Metropolis Flyer.....	13
CrossRoad Story.....	14
AGAPE Enrollment Flyer.....	15
Philoptochos.....	16-17
PC President Letter.....	18
November Calendar.....	19

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SS Peter & Paul



VICTOR OF DAMASCUS (NOV 11TH)

Saints Victor and Stephanie contested in Damascus in 160, during the reign of Antoninus Pius. The pagans arrested Saint Victor as a Christian and cut off his fingers, put out his eyes, and beheaded him. As Saint Stephanie, the wife of a certain soldier, and a Christian, saw Victor's nobility in his sufferings, she loudly cried out to call him blessed and to say that she saw two crowns prepared, one for him, and one for herself. She also was taken, and was tied to two palm trees which had been bowed down; when they were released, she was torn asunder.

CONTACTS

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Website: ssppglenview.org

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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

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parishadmin@ssppglenview.org

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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

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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: John Kiriklakis, careforcreation@ssppglenview.org

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

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Choir Director: Therese Speropoulos

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Church School: Nick and Kery Obradovich, Elaine Carrozza

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Coffee Connection: Doreen DeSent,

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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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Myrrhbearers: Anna Kallis, myrrhbearers@ssppglenview.org

Orthodox Couples Club: parishadmin@ssppglenview.org

Philoptochos: Dena Pavlopoulos, philoptochos@ssppglenview.org

Prison Outreach: Brad DeSent

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Prophora: Tracy Ronstadt, prophora@ssppglenview.org

Readers: Sophia Lehocky, readers@ssppglenview.org

Saint Basil's Philanthropy: Christy Gouletas

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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...

communicate with you on my behalf through email or a phone call. Rest assured, we are not trying to create a wall or buffer around me but to make me more available for the most critical needs of our parish and our people. We will share more information about changes in process and procedure during this transition. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support!

Just a few weeks ago, we held our **Parish Leadership Retreat** on *Building a Healthier Parish* (Oct.7-8) with Fr. Evan Armatas, the author of the book “*Reclaiming the Great Commission: A Roadmap to Parish Health*.” The first night, we covered the first two topics: 1) *My Story, Your Story*- in which Fr. Evan shared about his upbringing, education and experience as a priest starting a parish from virtually scratch. Then Fr. Evan taught that our parish story must begin with each parishioner’s commitment to personal spiritual growth (e.g. health parishioners make for a healthier parish). The Fr. Evan discussed the difference between unhealthy and healthy conflict. The healthy model is called ORCA standing for Openness, Respect, Curiosity, Accountability. 2) *Parish Culture & Context*- in which Fr. Evan emphasized that every parish has a culture. This includes attitudes and practices that permeate everything within the

community. Parish leaders must be very attentive to cultivating healthy culture. Fr. Evan discussed sacramental trends within the Archdiocese, Metropolis and our parish. He also administered a live survey that was reviewed in near real time.

The second night, we covered the last two topics: 3) *Principles & Priorities*- in which Fr. Evan shared four pillars for a healthy parish: a) Commitment to Christ and the Gospel, b) Commitment to Daily Living as Christian, c) Building a Spiritual Family in our parish, d) Operational Excellence and Beauty. He then conveyed five things to pack on our journey towards becoming a healthier parish: a) Regaining our Sight, b) Remembering our Live-saving Mission, c) Pruning, d) Building Bridges, not Barriers, e) Urgency. 4) *Leadership & Planning*- in which Fr. Evan discussed 13 Commandments for Developing Leaders and Six Traits of a Good Leader. Then he taught us six traits for a healthy parish: a) Radical Welcome and Meaningful Engagement, b) Building the CORE, c) Seeking Focus, d) Empowered Ministry Model, e) Focus on Impact for Effort and Push vs Pull Systems, f) Building a Parish Health Plan. We hope to begin incorporating many of these principles in the coming months through our Staff, Parish Council

and Ministry Leaders.

Also this ***past month*** we recognized and thanked our choir and chanters on ***National Church Music Sunday*** on ***October 6th***. They are listed alphabetically here with years of service: *Angie Anast (65), Frank Andreou (5), Chris Atsaves (27), Tim Christopoulos (20), John Colis (25), Selma Contos (28), Anastasia Gonzalez (3), Maria Kardasis (1), Carolyn Kolbaba (15), Nick Mechaes (27), Helen Mariano (56), Elaine Mitsakopoulos (37), Paula Mueller (6), Abby Obradovich (3), Mike Peterson (1), Bud Photopulos (76), Nancie Poulos (9), Tina Reimer (New!), Pres Mary Schoulas (45), Therese Speropoulos (48) Gayle Stellas (20), Gia Xenakis (45), Patti Zubay (37).*

We had another successful Golf-Outing (***Oct.5***) with approximately 60 participants. Thanks to *Christ Atsaves* for organizing and to everyone who played, contributed, or made a sponsorship.

Other activities that took place in October were the annual International Orthodox Christian Charities IOCC Walk-Run (Oct.5); Philoptochos Cancer Walk (13); Philoptochos Octoberfest (24); St Demetrios Feastday (26); Protection of Theotokos Feast & Oxi Day (28); Agape Trunk or Treat (29).

We remind everyone that the ***Children’s Sermon*** to right after

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

the Gospel and the Adult Sermon to right before or after Holy Communion. 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.

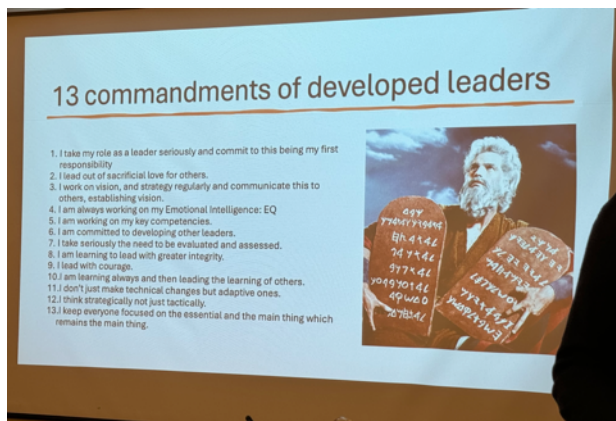
November is ***Stewardship month*** in which we reflect on the current year and begin to focus our energy towards the next. The 2025 Archdiocese Stewardship Theme is "***See Our Church as it Could Be.***" A secondary, related theme is "***Your Own from Your Own, We Offer to You.***" The latter is the petition/prayer from the Divine Liturgy when the priest raises the gifts of bread and wine. The point is whatever we give to God is not really ours. Rather it is gift from Him that we offer back to Him with thanksgiving. Regarding the former theme, our parish can only reach its potential if we generously and sacrificially offer back what God has already given to us. In the

coming weeks, we will have increased communications around the topic of stewardship.

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 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). Let us finish our current year as strong as possible. Please remember to keep giving, not until it hurts, but until it feels good. Try to reach the runner's 'high' of giving.

Kalo Mena! Blessed November!
+Fr. Rick



Fr Evan Armatas 10-7-2024

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome new members to our beautiful parish, *Gus Anagnostopoulos, Tinos and Chrissoula Diamantatos, Ben and Dimitra Narey, Cynthia Van Buskirk Aaron Terry and Shirley Dong-Terry and Georgia Xamplas*



AGAPE Pajama Day 10-8-2024



Church Music Sunday on October 6th



AGAPE Pajama Day 10-8-2024



NWU Students at SSPP 9-29-2024

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon 9-28-2024



Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon 9-28-2024



SSPP IOCC Team 10-5-2024

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Fr Simon Menya at SSPP 9-29-2024



Fr Simon Menya, Tracy & Randa at OCAMPR 9-28-2024



Trish and Baby Georgia Ianezza with Dad Marco - 40 Day Churching 9-29-2024

Help us reach our
goal of
50 Bags

SS Peter and Paul's

HOPE
Humanitarian Outreach & Philanthropic Engagement

FOOD

DONATION DRIVE



We know groceries are expensive, but most of us are blessed to have enough food for three meals a day. Those we serve hope that a bag of food will last for a month.

**Food will be distributed to Senior Chicago
residents in need
at the
PROJECT HOPE PANTRY
in Pilsen**

**Donation drop off boxes can be found in the
Atrium and Fellowship Hall.**

Suggested shelf stable items for your bags:

- Canned entrees (stews, chili, Chef Boyardee)
- Hearty Soups
- Pasta, rice, ramen, mac n cheese
- Pasta sauce
- Canned tuna, salmon, chicken
- Cereal, oatmeal
- Pancake mix, syrup
- Peanut butter, jelly, jam
- Granola bars
- Protein bars
- Oil: vegetable, olive, canola
- Vinegar: white, apple, balsamic
- Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo, dressing
- Canned fruit, applesauce, pudding
- Canned vegetables or beans

***Drop off
deadline
extended to
November 30th***



https://ssppglenview.org/project_hope/

**OR MAKE AN ONLINE
DONATION**

BOOK STORE AND MORE

BOOK AND ICON STORE

It's not too early to begin your holiday shopping at your Book & Icon Store. Available now are both the 2025 Ancient Faith Icon Calendar and the Mount Athos 2025 Calendar of Liturgical Seasons; both featuring saints and feast days. We've added several new Children's books for our young readers and a lovely selection of Icons and ornaments. Stop in on any Sunday following the Divine Liturgy and see it all for yourself. Any questions or special requests should be sent to bookstore@sspapplenview.org We look forward to seeing you soon!



COFFEE CONNECTION

Please join us in the Youth Room for our October Coffee Connection dates as we continue to "Navigate the Challenges of Contemporary Life with an Orthodox Compass"

NOV 10TH - Navigating Our Challenges: Anxiety and Stress – Part Two -Finding solutions from the resources of our faith

NOV 24TH - Guest Speaker: Mission IS Possible – Wells for Tanzania - Navigating Our Challenges: Being Witnesses to Christ – Part One-How can we be witnesses to Christ in our wider community and to the world?



BLOOD DRIVE

Please join us at our December blood drive on 12/11 from 12-7pm. Please realize how giving the gift of better health and in some cases, life, is a wonderful gift we are able to give to others. Please be willing to give your time and blood at our December drive!!

NEW BANNERS FOR CHURCH HISTORY AND GREEK IMMIGRANTS



A set of vertical banners highlighting our Hellenic culture in the United States are currently displayed in our Community Center-upper atrium level. The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, through a joint program with the National Hellenic Society and the National Hellenic Museum, has generously produced and provided the banners to us free of charge for use at local outreach events. Four banners feature the history and contributions of Greeks in America; a fifth banner depicts the early years of our own parish.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Introduces New Mission Themed Budget for 2025

We are introducing a new way of understanding the financial income and expenses related to sustaining our parish community. It is called the "Mission-Themed Budget." Instead of talking about utility bills, office expenses, salaries and benefits, etc. we will focus on the mission of our parish and how everything we do relates to it.

The mission of SSPP parish is *"To proclaim the Gospel through Orthodox Christian worship, fellowship, service, and witness."*

Based on the mission, we have grouped and renamed some income and expense categories with corresponding numbers as percentage of total budget.

Mission-themed Income: \$1,886,000

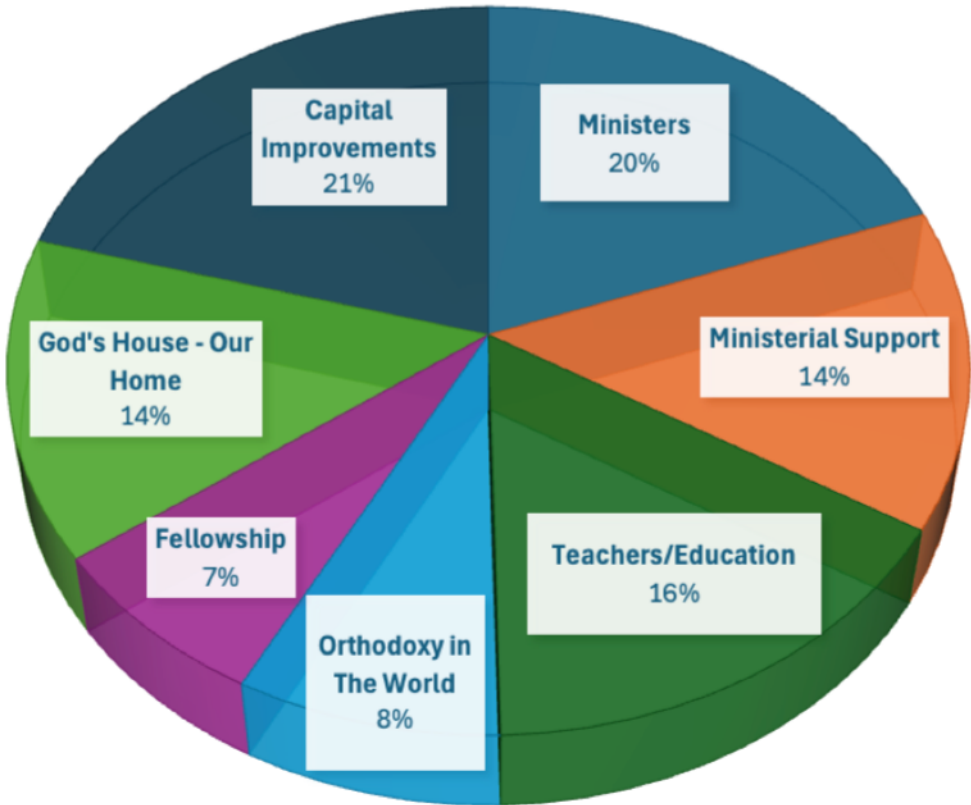
- Stewardship- offerings from individuals, couples and families 49%
- Church Offerings & Misc- candles, trays, etc. 10%
- Education- Agape, Church & Greek School, Bookstore 20%
- Capital Donations- designated gifts and offerings. 21%

Mission-themed Expenses \$2,125,000

- Ministers- Clergy and Youth Director 21%
- Ministerial Support- all admin staff 14%
- Teachers/Education- Agape, Greek & Church Schools, 16%
- Orthodoxy in the World- Archdiocese, Metropolis, Outreach, Philanthropy 8%
- Fellowship- Hospitality, Youth, Athletics, etc. 7%
- God's House/Our Home- everything for land & buildings 14%
- Capital Improvements- permanent changes to God's House 21%

As you can see our 2025 budgeted expenses exceed income by \$239,000 Thus, we need to increase our giving primarily through stewardship. Please give sacrificially and generously support the mission of our parish!

Mission-Themed Budget Expenses 2025



GOYA YOUTH LETTER

Hello, Saints Peter and Paul,

We had a busy October.

We've launched our Hope group, a wonderful initiative for parents and kids to come together for family involvement. It's a fantastic opportunity for new and existing families to bond over fellowship. We focus on activities for children and adults. Please email me if you're interested.

FLJ- We had a blast at our October events; we delved into the meanings of 'Faith, Love, and Joy' and how they can enrich our lives. The trunk-or-treat in our parking lot was a hit, with kids showing off their creative and quirky costumes. Stay tuned for the next month's issue for some memorable pictures.

Junior and Senior GOYA made blankets for HOPE, using their time and talents to help those in need. It was inspiring to see their generosity and teamwork in action. We'll continue participating in service projects like this and learn more about why giving back is such an important part of our faith and community.

Our Fall Youth Retreat at the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center was a blast! We had a wide range of activities for the kids, from visiting the *Saint John Chrysostom Monastery* to learning about Spiritual Warfare. We even had a charcuterie board-making session and a Bozno Bowl Competition, in addition to many other fun games. Congratulations to team 'the Bags' on their victory. Despite a bit of rain on Saturday, we had a great time. I hope everyone managed to catch up on their sleep after such an eventful weekend.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events lined up. With fall sports winding down, I encourage you to explore positive groups for your children to join. Our youth group, in particular, offers a unique opportunity for them to connect with fellow Orthodox Christians and openly discuss their faith in a safe and

supportive environment. It's a great way to stay connected, grow spiritually, and build meaningful friendships.



Group Photo at Saints Demetrius Sunday Morning



Val and Lauren Keys making a blanket for those in need.



Team 'the Bags' winning the BoznoBowl.



Chris Tranas is bowling with a pumpkin as the kids watch in excitement.



METROPOLIS
OF CHICAGO

Fundraiser

CHICAGO METROPOLIS
SEMINARIANS ATTENDING
HELLENIC COLLEGE/
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL
OF THEOLOGY

NOV 14

EMPRESS BANQUET HALL

ADDISON, IL

6:30 PM COCKTAILS

7:30 PM DINNER

**Join us to help raise funds for
Chicago Metropolis Seminarians
attending Hellenic College/Holy
Cross School of Theology**

Holy Cross is a graduate school of theology that educates and forms Orthodox Christian men and women for service to the Church and society. Whether preparing for the holy priesthood or for lay vocations in which they can put their faith into action, HCHC students make up a vibrant community engaged in pursuing the eternal truths of Christ's message of salvation for all the world.

Proceeds for this event will directly benefit the current and future seminarians attending Holy Cross and will be the future leaders of our Orthodox faith.

TICKETS \$125 (PERSON) | \$1,250 (TABLE)

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**



**DR.
DEMETRIOS
KATOS**

President, Hellenic
College Holy Cross
Greek Orthodox
School of Theology



RSVP BY NOV 7

SCAN QR CODE

OR CALL 630.851.6106

CROSSROAD INSTITUTE

ANA ARZOUMANIDIS'S EXPERIENCE

CrossRoad was truly one of the most transformative experiences of my entire life. Throughout the program, I was deeply immersed in the Orthodox Faith, whether that involved visiting parishes throughout the Boston area, listening to lectures from priests with PhDs who taught at seminary, or chanting hymns at Paraklesis services. It also allowed me to be introduced to a community of individuals my age who were deeply passionate and knowledgeable about Orthodoxy with whom I was able to connect with on a deeply spiritual level. I distinctly remember one day, while we were visiting another church, every single person in my session collectively went up to the chant stand to chant during vespers. It was truly astounding to see such a large and unanimous act that typically only few have the courage to do, which I think speaks to just how deeply connected CrossRoad participants are to the Orthodox faith as well as each other.

CrossRoad also came at an extremely pivotal time in my life: my transition to college. Just a few short months after my session, I left home to move halfway across the country to college. In college, it is difficult to keep up

with the faith in light of constant busyness. Yet, CrossRoad's lessons of vocation and the essential role that spirituality plays in one's life have inspired me to take charge of my own spiritual journey in continuing to stay connected to and pursue knowledge of Orthodoxy. I've already become an active member of my college's Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), which I hope to help expand throughout my time here.

I would highly recommend CrossRoad to anyone who will soon be graduating from high school and embarking on a new chapter in their life. I will truly never forget the lifelong connections I made and all of the wonderful things I learned about Orthodoxy during my time in the program.

Our community of Sts. Peter & Paul has sent many students to CrossRoad over the years. Applications are open now! If you know a junior or senior in high school, or are one yourself, we encourage you to apply! For more information please visit <https://crossroadinstitute.org/crossroad-summer-program/>





**HURRY
SPACE IS
LIMITED!**



ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN FOR 2025-26

Flexible Programming available for
Ages 2 through Kindergarten.
Conveniently located across from Wagner
Farm at St. Peter & Paul Church.

Register Now



Contact Director, Julie Mantice
for additional information or to schedule a tour.
Email AGAPE@ssppglenview.org
or visit <https://ssppglenview.org/agape-preschool/>



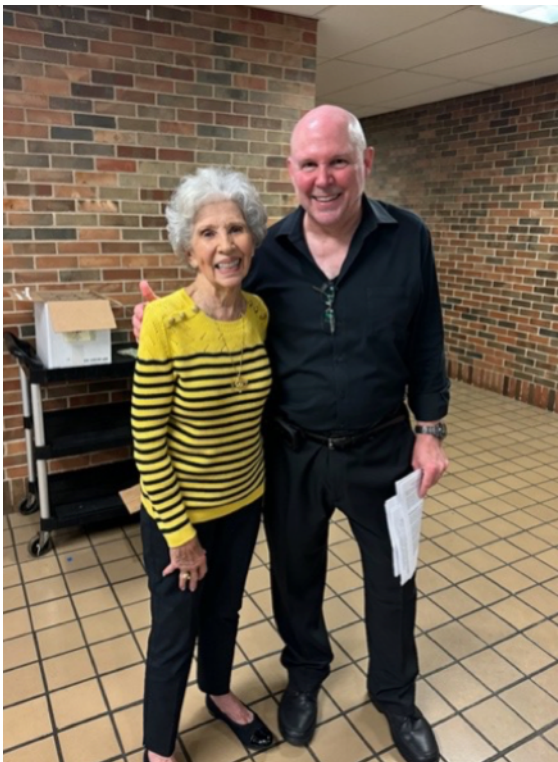
PHILOPTOCHOS

MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION

Our Membership Reception was such a hit on September 24! There were about 60 women in attendance who enjoyed an evening of delicious meze and fellowship. They also learned more about wine during the presentation by David Kline of Schaeffer's Wine and Spirits. Now, we invite you to ***Philoptochos Sunday on November 3***, and to attend our next General Meeting and Program on ***Tuesday, November 12***, when *Lucy Callahan*, owner of Peachtree Place, and some of her associates will give us ideas about how to set a beautiful table to go with your wine! Holiday Table Inspiration: Beginning with Style and Grace will include an opportunity to see four fabulous tablescapes and, once again, enjoy each other's company over light bites. Social hour with refreshments will begin at 6pm. Our general meeting runs from 6:30 – 7pm, with the program following. You won't want to miss it!



Membership Chairs Georgene Shanley and Carol Wells welcome guests.



Tiana Cocallas and David Klein stop for a photo.



Julie Karagianis, Patty Stec, Connie Moxley, Helen Franz, and Katina Metropoulos enjoy the para.

PHILOPTOCHOS

NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A MEMBER!!

It's not too late to become a member! Please drop off or mail your membership form to the church at 1401 Wagner Road in Glenview, IL, 60025, go to our website at ssppglenview.org/philoptochos-stewardship-donation/, or contact our co-chairs *Georgene Shanley* (847-431-5351) and *Carol Wells* (847-612-3999) for more information.

HOLIDAY FAIRE

Holiday Faire is just around the corner! There is so much to be done and we could really use your help. In addition to putting **December 7** on your calendar, please consider giving us a hand in baking or helping in countless other ways. (Watch for emails announcing November baking dates.) **Contact Kris Tsitsis** , kristitsis@sbcglobal.net, for more information on how you can be involved with our largest fundraiser of the year! (A portion of Holiday Faire 2024 proceeds will benefit Camp One Step and Youth Services of Glenview and Northbrook.)

And speaking of Christmas...Make sure you plan on attending our **Annual Advent Brunch** which will take place at Sunset Ridge Country Club on **Saturday, December 14.**



STRIDES FOR CANCER

Thank you for your support in helping us **Make Strides Against Breast Cancer** on **Sunday, October 13**, in Independence Grove. Battling cancer is very personal to us, that's why 14 of our members and friends dedicated their time to this event and raised \$2000 for the American Cancer Society. We appreciate all our walkers and donors!



Pictured left to right: Frances Dolan, Patty Dolan, Joanna Nicholas, Patrice Bazianos, Julie Mantice, Tru Bazianos, Kris Tsitsis, Julie Anastos, Gracie Scannell, and Jake Ivers.

SAVE THESE 2024/2025 DATES

Sunday, November 3 – Philoptochos Sunday
Tuesday, November 12 – General Meeting and Presentation – see above for time
Saturday, December 7 – Holiday Faire 10am - 4pm; Drive-through 5-7pm
Saturday, December 14 – Advent Brunch at Sunset Ridge Country Club 11:30am
Thursday, February 6 – Mix and Mingle at Valley Lo. Details to follow.
 (Unless otherwise indicated, events will be held at SS Peter and Paul.)

PC PRESIDENT LETTER

AUTUMNATIC!

As I mentioned in the September issue of the Messenger, the Ecclesiastic new year marks the beginning of Our Church calendar year, and with it, the chance to take stock of our successes and near misses of the past year and use those lessons to blaze a new trail; an opportunity for our Parish Council, as well as the leaders of our church ministries to grow as individuals and as an Orthodox Community; to move closer to our faith and to our community. For the 2024-2025 year, I have challenged myself and others to “Be Present” in their parish as well as their personal lives.

In keeping with this commitment, myself and other Parish Leaders attended a Parish Leadership Retreat

on October 7th & 8th in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by Father Evan Armatas, author of the book, Reclaiming the Great Commission (A Roadmap to Parish Health). The event was titled “Building a Healthier Parish”. These sessions were very enlightening as its focus begins with our own individual commitment to our faith; defining what our own vision for Saints Peter and Paul would be, and then challenging our commitment by asking ourselves the following:

What can I do to ensure that our community is made up of people committed to Christ and the Gospel? What can I do to increase my own and others personal commitment to living daily as a Christian? What steps can I take to build a spiritual family at Saints Peter and Paul? What part can I play in building a spiritual family at Saints Peter and Paul.

It is only by focusing inward that we can build a new spiritual path, as a ministry, as a team, and most importantly as a community.

Be Inspired. . . Be Committed. . . Be Involved. . . Be Present! !

GREEK FESTIVAL UPDATE

Yes, the Greek Festival. After several discussions, we are once again ready to go forward with our annual Greek Festival. The Festival Chair for our 2025 Festival will be Joanne Trahanas. She will be setting

up her committee and proposed dates for the event (hopefully in late July). If you wish to be involved, as a part of the planning committee you can contact myself or Joanne at joannetrahanas@mac.com.

REALM

By now, some of you may have already heard of our new interactive administrative tool, REALM” which we are in the process of rolling out to our Parish. The REALM App, which is available via PC or via android/iphone allows for interactive way to connect with the happenings of our Parish: Parish news, Posts, as well as upcoming events and feastdays. More to follow, as we get closer to a full roll-out.

FALL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Fall Parish Assembly will be held on November 17th 2024 in the Fellowship Hall. The Tentative Parish Assembly Agenda will be sent out shortly.

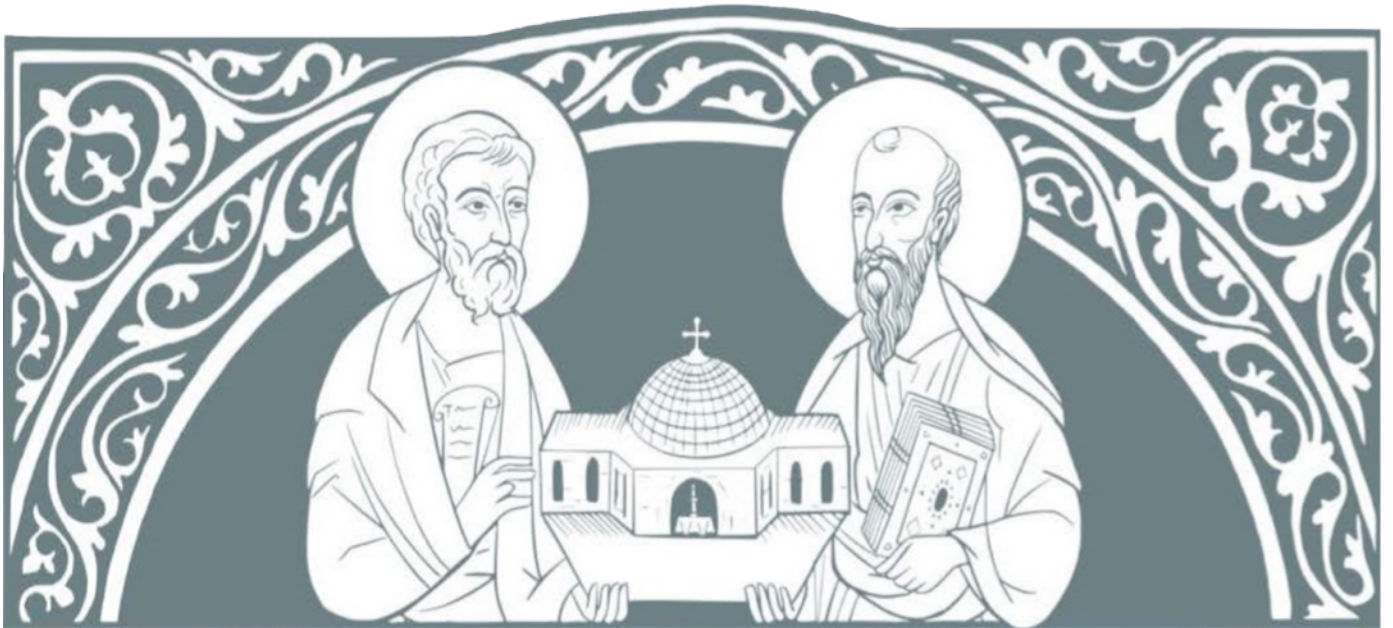
In Christ,
Steve J. Koulogeorge Parish Council President

NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
COMING IN DECEMBER 1-24 Advent Fast 6 ST NICHOLAS 7 Philoptochos Holiday Faire 8 Parish Council Elections 12 ST SPYRIDON 14 Philoptochos Advent Luncheon 17 ST DIONYSIOS & Agape Liturgy 22 ST ANASTASIA & Children's Christmas Pageant 24-25 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD						
3 +5TH SUN LUKE / 19TH SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY Sunday 12:15pm Greek Dance	4 +Fr. George Phillipias repose 2008 6:30pm Ministry Council Meeting 7pm Divorce Rebuilders 8pm HS Boys Bball Practice	5 ELECTION DAY 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup	6 +APOSTLE IAKOVOS ALPHAIOS 10:30am Bible Study 6pm 3rd-6th Grade Girl's Basketball Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	7 7am Men's Study Group 10am Dynamis "Kali Para" Breakfast at George V's 7pm Senior GOYA Gathering 7pm GREAT VESPER at Holy Taxiarchai & St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Niles, IL 7pm 7-8th Grade Basketball 7pm Parish Council Exec Meeting 8:15pm HS Boys Basketball	8 +ARCHANGELS 9am DIVINE LITURGY at Holy Taxiarchai & St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Niles, IL. 7pm GREAT VESPER at Holy Taxiarchai & St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Niles, IL.	9 ST. NECTARIOS 9am DIVINE LITURGY St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church in Palatine, IL. 5pm VESPER 6pm Hippocratic Cancer Research Gala @ Aon Grand Ballroom in Chicago, IL.
10 +8TH SUN LUKE / 20TH SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Veterans & First Responders Sunday 11am Coffee Connection 12:15pm Greek Dance	11 +ST MENAS GREAT MARTYR 7pm Divorce Rebuilders 8pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 8pm HS Boys Bball Practice	12 6:30pm Philoptochos Gen Mtg 7pm GREAT VESPER at Saint John Chrysostomos, 4600 93rd St in Pleasant Prairie, WI 7pm Catechism Class 7pm Cancer Support Mtg 7pm Senior Goya Gathering 8pm Men's YAL B-ball pickup	13 +ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 10:30am Bible Study 6:00pm 3rd-6th Grade Girl's Basketball Practice 7pm Grief Support 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	14 +APOSTLE PHILIP 7am Men's Study Group 10am Dynamis "Kali Para" Breakfast at George V's 6:30pm HCHC Fundraiser Banquet at the Empress in Addison, IL 7pm 7-8th Grade Basketball 8:15pm HS Boys Basketball	15 1ST LITURGY @ SSPP 1964	16 +ST MATTHEW EVANGELIST 8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 5pm VESPER
17 +9TH SUN LUKE / 21ST SUN 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am PROJECT HOPE SUNDAY 12pm Parish Assembly Mtg 12:15pm Greek Dance	18 7pm Divorce Rebuilders 8pm HS Boys Bball Practice	19 +CONSECRATION OF SSPP 1978 +PROPHET OBDIAH 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	20 +APOSTLE IAKOVOS - BROTHER OF THE LORD 10:30am Bible Study 6pm FLJ Gathering 6pm VESPER 6pm 3rd-6th Grade Girl's Basketball Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	21 +ENTRANCE OF THEOTOKOS 8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 10am Dynamis "Kali Para" Breakfast at George V's 7pm Parish Council Mtg 7pm Senior GOYA Gathering 7pm 7-8th Grade Basketball 8:15pm HS Boys Basketball	22 +APOSTLE PHILEMON 6:30pm Junior GOYA Gathering	23 5pm VESPER
24 +13TH SUN LUKE / 22ND SUN +ST CLEMENT OF ROME 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 11am KOCC SUNDAY 12pm YAL Brunch 12:15pm Greek Dance	25 +ST KATHERINE GREAT MARTYR 8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS @ SSPP 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY @ SSPP 7pm Divorce Rebuilders 8pm HS Boys Bball Practice	26 +ST STYLIANOS (CHILDREN) 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	27 +ST IAKOVOS GREAT MARTYR PERSIAN OFFICE CLOSED 10:30am Bible Study 6pm 3rd-6th Grade Girl's Basketball Practice 8:30pm Bball Men's over 40 (pickup)	28 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	29 7pm GREAT VESPER at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago, IL	30 +ST ANDREW APOSTLE 8am-3pm Church Work Day 8:30am ORTHOS & DIVINE LITURGY at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago, IL. 5pm VESPER

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