



SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

FAITH AND LEARNING CATECHISM PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY

WINTER/SPRING 2025

Mondays 7:00-9:00 PM

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
January 13	Introduction	Fr. Richard Andrews
January 20	God- Holy Trinity	Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos
January 27	Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
February 3	Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints	Mr. John Anton, MDiv
February 10	Christ II- His Work & Teachings	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
February 17	Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
February 24	Church II- Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
March 3	NO CLASS – CLEAN/PURE MONDAY – 1 ST DAY OF GREAT LENT	
March 10	Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
March 17	Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
March 24	Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism	Fr. Richard Andrews
March 31	The Goal- Second Coming & Living the Christian Life	Fr. Richard Andrews
April 7	Conclusion- Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&A	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
April 20	GREAT & HOLY PASCHA – RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST	

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.

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: _____



METROPOLIS
OF CHICAGO

SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

INSTRUCTORS

Fr. Richard Andrews is a pastor/priest of Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Christian Church in Glenview, IL (since 2019). He is a graduate of Argosy University (Doctorate Marriage & Family Therapy, 2019), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Master of Divinity 1994) in Boston, MA and the University of Minnesota (BS Business Admin & Marketing 1988) in Minneapolis, MN. Fr. Rick previously served St. George Church in St Paul, MN (1999-2019), St. Paul Police Department volunteer chaplain (2006-2019). He is president of Chicago Clergy Syndesmos (2022-2024) and Vicar of Clergy Care. He is married to Presvytera Jane and has one adult son and daughter-in-law.



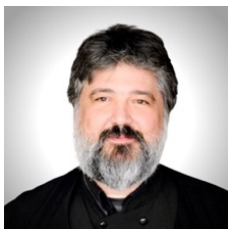
Dr. Helen Creticos Theodoropoulos is a lifelong member of Saints Peter & Paul Church. She received a Master Degree in Theological Studies from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (1981), and both an M.A. in Theology (1978) and a Ph.D. in Theology (1995) from the University of Chicago Divinity School. She is currently adjunct professor of theology at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology in Libertyville, IL. She was a Lecturer (in the Department of Spiritual Theology) at the University of St. Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary (Roman Catholic) in Mundelein IL. She and her husband Evan are parents of three, and grandparents of two.

Fr. Sotirios Malamis is the Parish Priest at Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church in Lincolnshire, IL since 2014. He is a graduate of DePaul University Chicago (Bachelor of Arts Psychology) and Holy Cross School of Theology Boston (Master of Divinity with Distinction 2001). He continued his theological studies at the University of Athens in the field of Pastoral Theology and Religious Education. He currently serves on the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Council and served on the Metropolis of Chicago Council. Fr. Sotirios and Presvytera Stefanie have three children, Maria, Niko, and Aimilianos.



John L. Anton is the Pastoral Assistant at Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church (Lincolnshire, IL). He earned a BA in Religious Studies from Hellenic College (2018) and a MDiv Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. He also earned a Certificate in Byzantine Music while at HCHC. John has served the Chicago Metropolis and numerous parishes including chanting and teaching Byzantine Music, coordinating Youth and Young Adult events like the YAL Chicago Conference; and Staff Director at the Fanari Camp Ministries.

Fr. Thomas Alatzakis is parish priest of St. Demetrios Church in Libertyville, IL. He earned a BA in Religious Studies (2007) from Hellenic College and an MDiv (2011) from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. He was ordained to the diaconate in February 2012 and the priesthood in June 2012. Before moving back to Chicagoland, he served the communities of St Mary's in Minneapolis, MN (2012-2014) and Assumption in East Moline, IL (2014-2020). Fr. Thomas is married to Presvytera Angela and have a young son, Paul.



Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos was born in Melrose Park, IL. He received a B.S. in Mathematics & Statistics Summa Cum Laude from Loyola University (1994) and a MDiv with High Distinction from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (1997). He currently serves Holy Taxiarchi & St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Niles (since 2021) and previously served St. Spyridon Church in Palos Heights IL, Holy Trinity Church in Sioux City Iowa, and Assumption Church in Chicago.