### SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH YEAR 2025

# Annual Lenten Lecture Series

# **Journeys to Orthodoxy**

Since the time of Jesus' Great Commission to "make disciples of all nations" (Mt.28:19), billions of people have been baptized and/or chrismated into the Orthodox Christian Church. Many became Christians as infants and children. Many journeyed to Orthodoxy as adults. Six persons will share their stories of how they heard of, learned about, and decided to join the Church, and how they have changed since that time. Please join us in listening to their journeys as we journey through Great and Holy Lent.



# WEDNESDAYS DATE SPEAKER March 5 Keith Mark Anderson March 12 Matthew Baeckelandt March 19 Kwaku Moses Adonteng March 26 Brad Vasilios DeSent April 2 Tracy Anastasia Ronstadt April 9 James Iakovos Santos



### **SCHEDULE**

5:30pm Ninth Hour Service ◆ 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy ◆ 7:30PM Lenten Community Meal 8:00pm Lecture ◆ 8:45pm Q&A ◆ 9:00pm Conclude.

To host a meal, contact Christy Gouletas at <a href="mailto:christygouletas@gmail.com">christygouletas@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:christygouletas@gmail.com">(847) 989-3382</a>

### LOCATION

Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, Illinois 60025 <a href="https://www.ssppglenview.org">www.ssppglenview.org</a>

## **Holy Week Journey - Biographies of Speakers (see other side)**

### **About our community:**

The parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Glenview, Illinois was established in 1960. The sanctuary was completed in 1964 and the community center in 1974. We have over 700 individuals, couples, and families with about 30 different ministries. Our worship services are in English, we have a robust Sunday Church School, and active youth programs for all ages including basketball and Greek School. Agape Day School has classes for preschool and kindergarten. We are located at 1401 Wagner Road, on the corner of Lake Avenue, across the street from the historic Wagner Farm. For more info, visit www.ssppglenview.org.



### **Holy Week Journey 2025 - Biographies of Speakers**

**Keith Mark Anderson** was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, completing a BS in Engineering Physics and a BA in English Literature and Writing at Pacific Lutheran University. He moved to Chicagoland to complete an MS in Mechanical Engineering at Northwestern University. Upon graduation Keith started working at Baxter Healthcare and continues his engineering career there with extensive process experience, problem solving acumen, and six patents. He and his wife Randa have raised two sons at SSPP. Keith has served on the Parish Council for 30 years, and taught church school for 20 years. Today, Keith is also serving on the Board of Faithtree Resources.



**Matthew Baeckelandt** is a native of Glenview, and found Orthodox Christianity in 2020 at Saints Peter and Paul. Under Fr. Rick's guidance, he attended catechism class and helped digitize the church bookstore's payment system. Matthew was chrismated at SSPP in 2021, on the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Today, he teaches Sunday School at Ascension Greek Orthodox Church in Lincolnshire IL with his fiancée *Emelia* and future brother-in-law *Alex Karkazis*. Outside of the church, Matthew is a software engineer for a proprietary options trading firm. He holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois and an MS in Computer Science from Georgia Tech.



**Kwaku Moses Adonteng** is currently living in Evanston, IL and is originally from Frederick, Maryland. He was raised as a Pentecostal Christian and discovered Orthodox Christianity in 2019. He started attending Saints Peter and Paul in Frederick, Maryland and upon coming to Northwestern in 2021 began going to Saints Peter and Paul Glenview with Northwestern OCF. He was chrismated in 2023 on the Day of Pentecost. Today, he is a member of SSPP Glenview serving as an usher and is active in YAL basketball. He completed his BS/MS in Chemical Engineering in 2024 and now works as a Graduate Management Trainee with a chemicals manufacturing company located in Gurnee, IL.



Brad Vasilios DeSent and his wife Doreen grew up in Lincolnwood and now live in Glenview. They were married at Saints Peter and Paul on June 25, 1978. Growing up, his family were members of the Methodist Church in Skokie. Brad was Chrismated into the Orthodox Faith in 1999 under the guidance of Father Scoulas of blessed memory. Brad has served Saints Peter and Paul as a volunteer involved in several ministries: Saints Stephen Men's Group, Saint Basil's Philanthropy Ministry, Parish Council, Festival Work, Habitat for Humanity, and Prison Outreach. Brad is happily retired from the Information Technology industry helping small businesses implement automated systems. He was educated at the University of Iowa and DePaul University.



Tracy Anastasia Ronstadt is very involved in the life of SSPP as the coordinator of both the Grief Support Ministry and the Prosphora Ministry. She is also involved with the Prison Ministry, serves on the Parish Council, and is an Usher/Greeter. She helps Chicago Synergy Pan-Orthodox Ministry. Tracy is a graduate of the University of IL at Chicago (BS in Mental Health Services Psychology). She is also an IL licensed Registered Nurse and currently is the general manager of four funeral homes. Married for 23 years to David, a Chicago Fire Dept. Paramedic, they have four rescue dogs and live in Chicago's Norwood Park neighborhood.



**James Iakovos Santos** is a resident of Riverwoods, IL and married 37 years to Suzanne Santos. They have three adult children, all raised at SS Peter & Paul. Jim has served on the Parish Council for the past 25 years, including holding the offices of Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, Vice President and President. Professionally, Jim is the founder and principal of The Pinnacle Financial Group, a financial advisory business located in Deerfield, IL. His hobbies include golf, travel, and music.

