



Youth Update pg 10



Our Life Together pg 12

# THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2025

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

## A Message from Father Rick Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

We welcome *Steve Conway* and *Chris Batrich* as our new **co-athletic directors**! They are excited to work with our youth, coaches and parents in our basketball and junior olympics programs. They can be reached at [athletics@ssppglenview.org](mailto:athletics@ssppglenview.org) See full announcement elsewhere in our newsletter.

With the blessing of Metropolitan Nathanael, the support of the parish council and the Archdiocese Presbyters Council, **Fr. Rick** has been awarded a three-month **sabbatical** which he will take in Summer 2026. This will be his first sabbatical in 31 years of service Fr. Rick thanks everyone for their prayerful support!

Our **Parish Family Picnic** and **Fall Youth Kickoff** occurred on *Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>*. Thank you to our youth director Steven Thell for organizing and coordinating and to the many volunteers who

helped in various ways.

Sunday **Divine Liturgy** returned to *regular start of 9:30am* in September. Please let us know your feedback about summer start time. **Saturday Vespers** also resumes in September

**Sunday Church School** classes began on *September 7<sup>th</sup>*. 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. I wish to thank our teachers and staff, especially the new ones, who are leading the charge this ministry year: N3- *Georgene Shanley, Mia Papadopoulos, Renee Arzoumanides*, N4- *Kim Angelos, Daphne Mazarakis, K- Angelo & Bethany Poulos, 1- Julie & Maria Mantice, 2- Allison Lima & Christina Ryan, 3- John & Christine Mackris, 4- Nick & Kery Obradovich, 5- John Moustoukas, 6- Heather Butz & Alexis Douglas, 7- Dino Tsitsis, Angela Bicos, 8- Nick Mastro, Anastasia Lazarou, HS- Steven*

*Thell, Julia Economy & Sophia Lehocky; Comm/Admin- Elaine Carrozza.*

In accordance with the Metropolis Vision of Growth initiative that highlights the catechumenate, we will host the usual **Fall Catechism course** on *Tuesday evenings 7-9pm* which began on *September 16<sup>th</sup>*. These classes are open to everyone, especially catechumens, seekers, inquirers and current Orthodox Christians wishing to deepen their knowledge of the Orthodox Faith.

Several **building and grounds projects** including the classroom remodel and replacing windows in the community center were recently completed just in time for new school year.

Coming in October: 4 - SSPP Golf-Outing / IOCC Walk-Run, 5 - Church Music Sunday, 6-9 - National Clergy Retreat, 18 - Philoptochos Cancer Walk, 26 - ST. DEMETRIOS / 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala; 28 - PROTECTION OF THEOTOKOS & Oxi Day, 30 - Agape Trunk or Treat.

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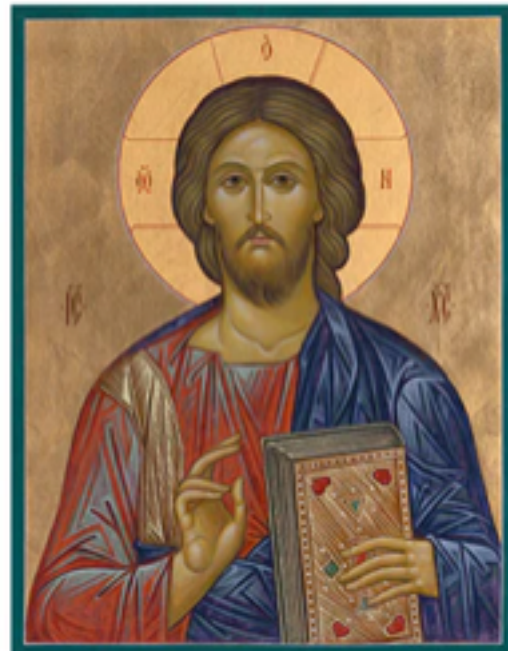
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**Rev. Fr. Peter Sarolas, Economos,**  
**Associate Priest** frpeter@sspbglenview.org

**Rev. Dn. Theodore Saclarides, M.D.**

## Summer Sunday Hours:

Matins 7:45am & Divine Liturgy 9am

## 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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## 2025 Parish Council:

**President:** Steve Koulogeorge

**Vice President:** Christy Gouletas

**Secretary:** Sophia Castleberry

**Corresponding Secretary:** Julie Savopoulos

**Treasurer:** Nick Colis

**Assistant Treasurer:** George Seletos

Vanessa Adinamis

Mary Alukos

Keith Anderson

Christ Atsaves

George Karagianis

Angie Katsamakis

John Mackris

Maryann Rasmussen

Tracy Ronstadt

Jim Santos

## PARISH MINISTRIES

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Bud Photopulos and Phyllis Perivolidis

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**Sunday Coffee Fellowship:** Carolyn Kolbaba

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**Welcome:** Keith Anderson, Sylvia Creatura, welcome@sspbglenview.org

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***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

## FROM FATHER RICK CONT.

The annual Church Music Sunday is October 5<sup>th</sup> to recognize and thank our choir members and chanters. Here is a list with their years of service. *Frank Andreou 5, \*Chris Atsaves 28, \*John Colis 26, Selma Contos 29, Anastasia Gonzalez 4, Maria Kardasis 2, Carolyn Kolbaba 16, Elaine Mitsakopoulos 38, Helen Mariano 57, Paula Mueller 7, Michael Peterson 2, Socrates Bud Photopulos 77, Nancie Poulos 10, Presbyteria Mary Scoulas 45, Therese Speropoulos 49, Gayle Stellas 14, Gia Xenakis 46, Patty Zubay 38, Kwaku Adonteng new, Ted Kardasis new, \*John Kiriklasis new. Angie Anast: last of the founding members - retired after 65 years. An asterisk (\*) indicates a chanter along with Nick Mechales (25 years).*

Our **Divorce Rebuilders** ministry 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, 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 is *Maria Harduvel Boyle*, who has a Masters in Counseling from Northwestern University. To enroll in this program, please email: [mariaharduvel4@gmail.com](mailto:mariaharduvel4@gmail.com) or [divorcerebuilders@ssppglenview.org](mailto:divorcerebuilders@ssppglenview.org) and please note in the subject heading: *Divorce Rebuilders*. There is no cost for this program. *“No Christian should walk through the pain of divorce alone.”*

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 a gift from Him that we offer back to Him with thanksgiving.

Some parishioners did not give in 2024 and some have not yet given in 2025. Stewardship giving statements were mailed in

mid-July. Please give now and give regularly. We appreciate monthly gifts. <https://onrealm.org/ssppglenview/-/form/give/now>

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.**

With Gratitude!

+Fr. Rick



# MODERN HERESIES -PHYLETISM

## PART 6

Phyletism- churches centered on ethnic, national or linguistic cultural expressions. Phyletism or ethnophyletism (from Greek ἔθνος ethnos "nation" and φυλετισμός phyletismos "tribalism") is the principle of nationalities applied in the ecclesiastical domain: in other words, the conflation between Church and nation. The term ethnophyletismos designates the idea that a local autocephalous Church should be based not on a local [ecclesial] criterion, but on an ethnophyletist, national or linguistic one. It was used at the Holy and Great [Μεῖζων Meizon "enlarged"] pan-Orthodox Synod in Constantinople on 10 September 1872 to qualify "phyletist (religious) nationalism", which was condemned as a modern ecclesial heresy: the Church should not be confused with the destiny of a single nation or a single race.<sup>[1]</sup>

### History

After their emancipation from Ottoman rule, the Balkan churches freely developed both their national identities and their religious life. Theological faculties were created in Athens, Belgrade, Sofia, and Bucharest. The Romanian Orthodox Church introduced the full cycle of the liturgical offices in vernacular Romanian. But these positive developments were often marred by nationalistic rivalries.

The term phyletism was coined at the Holy and Great pan-Orthodox Synod that met in Istanbul (then Constantinople) in 1872. The meeting was prompted by the creation of a separate bishopric by the Bulgarian community of Istanbul for parishes only open to Bulgarians. It was the first time in Church history that a separate diocese was established based on ethnic identity rather than principles of Orthodoxy and territory.<sup>[2]</sup>

On 10 August 1872 the Synod issued an official condemnation of ecclesiastical racism, or "ethno-phyletism", as well as its theological argumentation:

We renounce, censure and condemn phyletism, that is racial discrimination, ethnic feuds, hatreds and dissensions within the Church of Christ, as contrary to

the teaching of the Gospel and the holy canons of our blessed fathers which "support the holy Church and the entire Christian world, embellish it and lead it to divine godliness."

In condemning "phyletism", the Synod in Constantinople had, in fact, defined a basic problem of modern Orthodoxy.<sup>[3]</sup>

### 21<sup>st</sup> century

Although the Eastern Orthodox Churches condemned phyletism in 1872, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has declared that "nationalism remains one of the central problems of the Church." Phyletism has been a threat to Orthodox unity since at least the rise of nationalism in the 19th century, and its impact on Orthodoxy in America – and in other areas ethnic diaspora communities throughout the 20th century and to the present-day is well known.<sup>[4]</sup>

The conditions behind modern-day phyletism are different from those surrounding the 1872 decision of the Synod in Constantinople. In the latter half of the 20th century, there has been a vigorous and sometimes contentious debate among the Orthodox concerning the problem of the Diaspora, specifically the organization of the Orthodox Church in countries to which Orthodox have emigrated, particularly since the Russian Revolution. The problem is that Orthodox dioceses (officially called "jurisdictions") in the Diaspora are superimposed on each other. The result is that there are usually several Orthodox bishops of different Orthodox churches in Diaspora cities. This situation violates the canonical principle of territoriality – that each city and province should have its own unique bishop.

### United States

In the United States, most Eastern Orthodox parishes are ethnocentric, that is, focused on serving an ethnic community that has immigrated from overseas (e.g., the Greeks, Russians, Romanians, Finns, Serbians, Arabs, etc.) Many Orthodox Christians must travel long distances to find a local Church that is familiar to their ethnic background. All

Orthodox churches make some attempt to accommodate those of other ethnic traditions with varying degrees of success.<sup>[5]</sup>

In June 2008, Metropolitan Jonah of the Orthodox Church in America delivered a talk on "Episcopacy, Primacy, and the Mother Churches: A Monastic Perspective" at the Conference of the Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius at St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary.

...almost all national Churches have extended their jurisdictions beyond their geographic and political boundaries to the so-called diaspora. But Orthodox Christians who are faithful to the Gospel and the Fathers cannot admit of any such thing as a diaspora of Christians. Only ethnic groups can be dispersed among other ethnic groups. Yet the essential principle of geographic canonical boundaries of episcopal and synodal jurisdiction has been abrogated, and every patriarchate, every mother Church, now effectively claims universal jurisdiction to serve "its" people in "diaspora." ...

This situation arose in reaction to the mass emigration of Orthodox from their home countries, and is continued as a means of serving the needs of these immigrant communities. It is perpetuated as a means of maintaining ethnic, cultural and political identity for those away from their home country; but also as a means of financial support for the mother churches from their children abroad.

The confusion of ethnic identity and Orthodox Christian identity, expressed by competing ecclesiastical jurisdictions, is the incarnation of phyletism. Due to this confusion of the Gospel with ethnic or political identities, multiple parallel communities, each with its own allegiance to a foreign mother church, divide the Orthodox Church in North America and elsewhere into ethnic and political denominations. This distorts the Apostolic vision, and has severely compromised the catholicity of the Orthodox Churches, in which all Christians in a given territory are

# MODERN HERESIES - PHYLETISM

called to submit to a local synod of bishops. The problem is not so much the multiple overlapping jurisdictions, each ministering to diverse elements of the population. This could be adapted as a means of dealing with the legitimate diversity of ministries within a local or national Church. The problem is that there is no common expression of unity that supersedes ethnic, linguistic and cultural divisions: there is no synod of bishops responsible for all the churches in America, and no primacy or point of accountability in the Orthodox world with the authority to correct such a situation.<sup>[6]</sup>

Josiah Trenham lists the following divisions of pastoral practice among the Orthodox jurisdictions in the United States:<sup>[7]</sup>

1. Some Orthodox jurisdictions receive persons from Latin and certain Protestant bodies into Holy Orthodoxy by baptism and chrismation, some by chrismation alone, and some merely by confession of faith.
2. Some Orthodox jurisdictions receive Latin clergy converting to Holy Orthodoxy merely by vesting, while others ordain.
3. Some Orthodox jurisdictions recognize all marriages performed outside Holy Orthodoxy as being real marriages (though certainly not sacramental) whether performed for an Orthodox or non-Orthodox, while others recognize no marriages performed outside Holy Orthodoxy whether performed for an Orthodox or a non-Orthodox.
4. Some Orthodox jurisdictions bury suicides under certain circumstances, while others forbid the burial of suicides under all circumstances.
5. Some Orthodox jurisdictions bury a person who was cremated with all funeral rites in the church temple, others permit only Trisagion Prayers of Mercy in the funeral home, some forbid any prayers anywhere for a person who was cremated.
6. Some Orthodox jurisdictions recognize civil divorce as complete and sufficient for ecclesiastical purposes, while others do not recognize civil divorce at all and insist on Church Tribunals, while yet other deal with divorce in other ways.
7. Some Orthodox jurisdictions penance a person when he/she is divorced (either by civil or Church court), while others penance a person only after he/she enters into a second or third marriage.
8. Some Orthodox jurisdictions accept clergy suspended or even deposed by other Orthodox jurisdictions.
9. Some Orthodox jurisdictions ignore bans of excommunication pronounced by hierarchs of other Orthodox jurisdictions.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phyletism>

<http://ocl.org/the-1872-council-of-constantinople-and-phyletism/>



# CATECHISM - WHAT IS IT?

Fall *Catechism Classes* began on *September 17<sup>th</sup>* and we have approximately 17 students registered. The word catechism comes from the Greek word 'catechesis' which means 'oral teaching' and now commonly known as 'religious instruction.' The word 'catechumen' signifies the one being taught through verbal instruction.

The Catechism ministry of our parish has existed in various ways from its founding in 1960. Today this ministry is primarily geared towards adults. Our current main activity is the Introduction to Orthodox Christianity 12-week course that is taught on Tuesday evenings in the Fall and on Monday evenings in the Winter/Spring.

The course is taught by several instructors with Masters or Doctoral level education, training and experience in Orthodox Christianity. In addition to a high quality of knowledge, students receive a variety of instructing styles and personal stories. The diverse experience is enhanced by students of different ages, backgrounds and parishes, and reasons for participation. Evaluations are solicited at the end of each course.

The course is open to everyone. Seekers and inquirers are welcome to learn about the ancient Eastern Christian Faith

without cost or obligation. Current Orthodox Christians are encouraged to participate to build their knowledge, especially those in parish leadership, as well as participants and sponsors for baptisms and weddings. Those who are seeking to convert to Orthodoxy through baptism and/or chrismation are required to take the course.

Several different texts are recommended but none are required to take the course. *Introducing the Orthodox Church* by Anthony Coniaris (1982); *The Orthodox Church* by Kallistos Ware (5<sup>th</sup> ed., 2015); *The Orthodox Way* by Ware (rev. ed., 1995); *Welcome to the Orthodox Church: An Introduction to Eastern Christianity* by Frederica Mathewes-Green (2<sup>nd</sup> printing, 2016); *Becoming Orthodox* by Peter Gilquist (3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2009); *The Faith* by Clark Carlton. Texts may be obtained in a local church bookstore, Amazon.com or another supplier. This list is not exhaustive and other texts or online resources may be engaged.

Attendance is tracked and those who attend 10 of the 12 classes will receive a certificate signed by the catechism coordinator and their parish priest.

The topics covered in the course are listed in sequential order...

## *Introduction*

*God- Holy Trinity*

*Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah*

*Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints*

*Christ II- His Work & Teachings*  
*Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure*

*Church II- Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition*

*Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction*  
*Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer*

*Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism*

*The Goal- Second Coming & Living the Christian Life*

*Conclusion- Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&A*

# UPDATE: RENEWING OUR LORD'S HOME

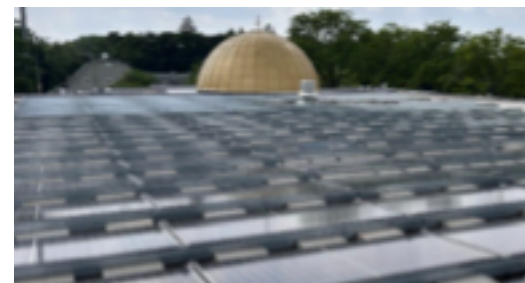
**Latto Center Classrooms Update** - We are pleased to share that the work in the Latto Center classrooms has been completed. The rooms have already been put to good use by the Church School. A heartfelt thank-you to our painter, Bill Dimitriadis, who generously donated his time and labor to paint the classrooms. We are also grateful to Beth LaMotte and Elaine Carrozza for their invaluable assistance in planning and coordinating this project. Thank you all for helping make these spaces warm and welcoming for our Church School community.



**Center Window Replacement Update** - The windows on the upper level of the Latto Center have been successfully replaced with minimal impact on the interior finishes. The double glazed glass and thermally broken frames will add comfort to the rooms and provide energy savings throughout the years. Next, the replacement of the gymnasium windows is scheduled to begin this week. We appreciate your continued support and patience as we work to improve our facilities.



**Solar Panel System Performance Update** - We are pleased to submit an updated report on the performance of our solar panel system. Over the past 12 months, the system has generated 121 MWh of electricity, resulting in an estimated savings of nearly \$12,000 on our energy costs. We are encouraged by these results and remain committed to sustainable energy practices that benefit both our environment and our budget.





# PASTORAL MESSAGE

## FROM FATHER PETER

### A Message from Father Peter

St. Gerasimos (October 20th) the patron Saint of the Island of Kefalonia. This past year when my family and I were planning our trip to Greece, we were questioning various places to visit. It was the first trip to Greece with our three sons. One day, my wife turned to me and asked me "if" there was anything that I wanted to see or do before our trip was finalized. I turned to her without skipping a beat and said, I would like to go to Kefalonia. It just came out so sudden that I could not believe that I said I would like to go to Kefalonia. I looked at my wife when I realized the words that came out of my mouth. At the time I really did not think of it, you see both my wife and I are from the mainland of Greece. The only ties to the Island of Kefalonia are the monasteries of St. Andrew (in Kefalonia) where three of my many vestments were made by the now abyss Andriana. The other connection is of course St. Gerasimos.

To this day I really do not know why I said Kefalonia. Aside from the two monasteries I really did not know much about the island. As time was coming close to our departure to Greece, my family and I did some research and we discovered that Kefalonia is known for their wine (Robola), Kreatopita (Meat-pie) and portokalopita (orange cake).

When we took the ferry to the island of Kefalonia, my family and I really did not know what to expect. Upon our arrival via ferry boat, we discovered how green and forested Kefalonia is and how one beach is different from the other. The one thing that was a constant was the blue and clear waters of Kefalonia. Did you know that there is an ancient Mycenaean cemetery that was discovered in the 1800's? Did you know that in Kefalonia, you will discover a museum in memory of the "Acqui" Division (in memory of an Italian Army that were killed by Nazi's during the second world

war)? Also, did you know that in Argostoli, you will find a Roman Catholic church of St. Nicholas? You will find many other interesting things about Kefalonia.

Did you also know that there are two caves Drogarati and Melissani in Kefalonia? They are truly remarkable to see. Who would have thought that on the island of Kefalonia you would find caves that are about a million years old and that they were discovered about 300 years ago?

My family and I went to the monastery of St. Andrew and venerated the right foot of St. Andrew which is the very relic that my three vestments were blessed over. There is an old church of St. Andrew that is now an Archaeological Museum where only a handful of services are celebrated each year due to the strict rules of preserving the church. There is also a museum dedicated to the great earthquake in the 1950's of which most of the island was destroyed. (The old church of St. Andrew and the surrounding area was not affected by the earthquake of 1953).

In addition, my family and I visited the monastery of St. Gerasimos. We did meet the presence of God in this small and quaint church. We were blessed by opening and closing the reliquary where the relics of St. Gerasimos are kept, an experience that will remain with us forever. We also were able to climb down the ladder, and we crawled through a small hole to get to where St. Gerasimos lived. The miracle is that you crawl through the hole, no matter how big or small one is, to see where St. Gerasimos lived. One cannot help to think of how St. Gerasimos lived for several years in the cave or how he slept and ate in the cave? We learned that the clergy on the island of Kefalonia are on rotation for a week where they stay in the grounds of the monastery. The clergy on rotation, assist the nun who has the keys to open the reliquary of St. Gerasimos along with the assistance of the pilgrims that are visiting the monastery.

That is how my family and I had the blessing to open and close the reliquary of St. Gerasimos.

We also went to the cathedral of St. Gerasimos. The cathedral is about one hundred feet from the small church of St. Gerasimos. Words cannot express how magnificent the cathedral is. The entire church is adorned with icons from top to bottom.

Truly the island of Kefalonia is an incredible place to visit. Kefalonia has many unique features and many beautiful places to see. You also feel the presence of God in the monastery of St. Gerasimos who is the patron saint of the island. St. Gerasimos along with St. Dionysios (Zakynthos) and St. Spyridon (Corfu) are known as the walking saints. Slippers are placed on their feet and at times the slippers need to be replaced due to the miracles that they are performing. There are times that the three walking saints are together and there are times they are by themselves. Truly the island of Kefalonia is a place to visit not only for its beauty but especially for St. Gerasimos' intercessions for the island of Kefalonia.

All my best,  
Fr. Peter Sarolas

# YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

## HELLO SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

What a fantastic way to kick off our new youth year! September has been busy for all of our groups. We had our Faith, Love & Joy kickoff, which featured a carnival in the gym complete with a bounce house and games. It was a wonderful time! Faith, Love & Joy is for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade, and we meet twice a month. The Junior GOYA and Senior GOYA also had their kick-off events. We learned about "Streaming Orthodoxy" and what it means to be Orthodox influencers. The day included games in the gym, and we ended with a dunk tank and a squirt gun fight. Our special guest, Dental Digest, spoke about streaming and his journey to becoming Orthodox.

The Junior GOYA is for 6th to 8th graders, and we meet three times a month. So far, we've had in-depth discussions about streaming and Orthodoxy, with the kids sharing their experiences and insights gained from online platforms. We also discuss topics such as Idols, Bible stories, and icons.

The Senior GOYA meets weekly and is for 9th to 12th graders. We've covered streaming and Orthodoxy, as well as current events and the challenges we face as high schoolers today. We discussed how we need to be Christ-like in the midst of chaos and be a light for others. We are also launching our Hope group for children aged 0-5 years old, which will meet monthly.

Looking ahead, Project Mexico is scheduled for the upcoming summer of 2026. This initiative provides an incredible opportunity for kids high school through college age to put their faith into action. Participating in humanitarian efforts not only reflects the principles of charity and compassion but also allows us to make a tangible impact on the lives of others, contributing to spiritual growth. As it says in Hebrews 13:16, "Don't forget to do good and to share what you have, because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices."

An informational meeting for parents will be coming up soon, and an email will be sent out with the details. If you have any questions or are interested, even just a little, please feel free to email me. We had an amazing and enriching experience during our last visit.

Steven Thell - Youth Director



*Group Photo of FLJ Kickoff. 9/12/25*



*Group Photo of GOYA Kickoff 9/7/25*



*Fr. Rick and Fr. Peter talking to the kids about how to be Orthodox Influencers 9/19/25*



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

To deeply connect with God and each other...



## Coffee Connection: Connecting in Faith and Fellowship An Educational Ministry Open to All Adults



**This Year's Theme is:**

**“The Creed: Why Does It Still Matter  
1700 Years Later?”**

Sessions are Sundays in the Youth Room following  
Holy Communion.

As always, watch for future updates.

### Fall 2025 Schedule

Date	Topic
<b>October 5</b>	<b>Introduction to The Creed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why have a Creed?</li> <li>• Why this Creed?</li> <li>• Does it still matter?</li> </ul>
<b>October 26</b>	<b>Father Almighty</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who do you think He is?</li> <li>• Old Testament/New Testament view of God the Father</li> </ul>
<b>November 2</b> <i>College Care Packages</i>	<b>Creator of Heaven and Earth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does the Creed speak to our relationship with the created world and the environment?</li> </ul>
<b>November 16</b>	<b>Jesus, Only-begotten...Consubstantial with the Father</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are modern misunderstandings of who The Son of God is?</li> <li>• Does it matter if Jesus is “true God of true God”?</li> </ul>
<b>November 30</b>	<b>Became Man...Truly Human</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does it mean to be a human being?</li> <li>• How can we draw from Christ becoming human to prepare for the true meaning of Christmas?</li> </ul>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>Crucified for Us Under Pontius Pilate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is Pontius Pilate's name in the Creed?</li> <li>• The power of the image of the Cross as a weapon against the evil one and a witness to faith</li> </ul>

Questions? Contact [coffeeconnection@ssppglenview.org](mailto:coffeeconnection@ssppglenview.org)

Or visit

<https://ssppglenview.org/education/adult-education/coffee-connection/>



# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

**Welcome our newest members to our beautiful parish: *Chris Dobobrov, Anthony and Julie Haggis, Michael and Georgette Katsoulis & Martin and Amalia Keane***



*Father Rick and Father Peter Bless AGAPE Teachers, Classrooms and Students*



# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



*Welcome to the newly baptized and chrismated Christian John Mueller. Congratulations to godparent Nouna Elizabeth Skipor and parents Jason and Christina!*



*Congratulations to Olivia Shachtel & Daniel Brinker who were united in the Sacrament of Marriage! Sponsor is Koumbaros Michael Tsiolis.*



*First Day of Church School 2025 9.7.25*



# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

*Thank you to the Metropolitan Nathanael and Archdeacon Vasilios for being with us Sunday, September 7th. Thanks also to youth director Steven Thell and all his volunteers for putting on our annual parish picnic later that Sunday.*





# OUR LIFE TOGETHER





# SENIOR LUNCHEON

*Philoptochos hosted and sponsored a beautiful luncheon for our Seniors on August 19th.*





# SENIOR LUNCHEON





# SENIOR LUNCHEON





# SENIOR LUNCHEON



# ENVIROMENTAL VESPERS

## Solemn Vespers for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

August 31, 2025

This vespers service took place at 7:00 PM on Sunday, August 31, 2025, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church in Glenview. This was the 11th annual environmental vespers that we cohost with the Roman Catholic Church. Next year it will be held at SS Peter & Paul.

The vespers service was conducted by Bishop Bartosic, Fr. Jeremy Boland, and Fr. Roy of the Roman Catholic Church and by Fr. Rick Andrews and Fr. Peter Sarolas of the Greek Orthodox Church. The vespers were about 40 minutes in length and the parishioners were dismissed for refreshments. While we would normally go to the large hall in the basement of the church building, the people remained in the church narthex as the hall is under reconstruction.

At about 8:00 PM, everyone was back in the church sanctuary to listen to the speaker, Dr. Apostolis (Paul) Sambanis, Vice President of Sustainability at Sloan Valve Co. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He gave an excellent presentation on "Water as Sacred Stewardship in the Catholic and Greek Orthodox Church".

Dr. Sambanis talked about how water is important to our faith – baptism, blessing of the water at epiphany, holy water, and the biblical symbolism of water. He also emphasized the importance of water in our lives. He went into detail on sustainability and resilience of water as well as the global water crisis.

On the following day, September 1, which is the Annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew presented his encyclical which can and should be read at: [Patriarchal Encyclical for the New Indiction, September 1, 2025 - Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America](#). Not surprising, he again emphasizes the importance of the environment.

George Nassos





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# BOOK STORE AND MORE

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## BOOK AND ICON STORE

As we step into Fall, noticing the beauty of nature and appreciating God's gifts, make it a habit to stop into the Bookstore after Liturgy on Sunday morning. Whether you're looking to enrich your faith with spiritual reading, add to your home altar, or find a gift for someone special, we are confident that you will find exactly what you need. Anything we do not have, we will be happy to order for you. We look forward to seeing you and helping you on your spiritual journey. All visitors are welcome, please stop by to say hello! Any questions or orders can be sent to [bookstore@sspapplenview.org](mailto:bookstore@sspapplenview.org)

## PROSPHORA

Heavenly Food from an Earthly Kitchen. Join Tracy Ronstadt Saturday, October 18th, 9:30 am to Noon for Prospora class in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. Please contact Tracy at [prospora@sspapplenview.org](mailto:prospora@sspapplenview.org) and reserve your spot today!

## SAINT STEPHENS MEN'S GROUP

Fellowship events are meant to give us a chance to informally get together and make new connections. Please join us at our Men's Fellowship Thursday October 9th at Northbranch (7PM - 9PM). Registration Link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc\\_s3uWyzRJNinlbSigeH-3lVfaPg4\\_whHOHFeTb2r6FPSzJw/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_s3uWyzRJNinlbSigeH-3lVfaPg4_whHOHFeTb2r6FPSzJw/viewform?usp=header)  
Any Questions please contact Brad DeSent at [mensgoup@sspapplenview.org](mailto:mensgoup@sspapplenview.org)

## WE LIFT UP OUR VOICES

Members of the Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians will celebrate its annual conference the weekend of October 10-12, 2025, in Illinois. Choirs from churches in Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin will come together to pray and sing the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 12th, at St. Nectarios in Palatine. Consider attending this day's liturgy to hear approximately 100 voices singing the liturgy together. Several members of the SS Peter and Paul choir are part of the Federation Choir and all will be participating under the direction of George Tzougros, Choir Director of Assumption GOC in Madison, Wisconsin.



## COFFEE CONNECTION

Addresses Needed for Fall College Care Packages On November 2nd, Coffee Connection will be putting together Fall College Care Packages to send to our parish students near and far. If you have a student in college and would like them to receive a care package, please send their name and collegiate address to [youthdirector@sspapplenview.org](mailto:youthdirector@sspapplenview.org) OR [office@sspapplenview.org](mailto:office@sspapplenview.org) by October 24th.



## CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School students started the new school year with a beautiful sermon from His Eminence Nathanael. Our 1st-7th graders returned from summer break to newly renovated classrooms. A ENORMOUS thank you to John Vranas and Beth LaMotte for their invaluable expertise and countless hours of effort. Thank you also to the Parish Council and Father Rick for their support of this project!

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# 65TH ANNIVERSARY

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## SAVE THE DATE - OCT 26TH

By now, many of you have already received our E-Mail Blast(s) for our 65th Anniversary Gala Dinner, to be held on October 26th (5:00pm-10:00pm), at the Westin Chicago North Shore, in Wheeling, Illinois. (spoiler alert: there are a couple more update “Blasts” coming soon to an inbox near you). The 65th Anniversary Gala committee invites you to join them for a night of dinner, dancing and Children’s activities. In keeping with our event, that we pray will continue to promote our commitment to enhance fellowship and community, promote continued peace and love toward each other, as well as fortifying our good deeds and unity with Christ, we are once again, encouraging all those who are contributing to our 65th Anniversary Sponsorship (Memory) book, to take “one extra step” help “fill out” our book, with your memories: Please bring us the stories of your most treasured “remembrances”: of yourself, of your Parents and Grandparent, of your extended family; and how Saints Peter and Paul helped to foster your growth as an Orthodox Christian: it could be any form a short story, a poem, pictures from your family photo album and any, memorabilia: newspaper clippings, photos, or film, so that we may capture these memories into Sponsorship (Memories) book that can remain as a personal keepsake for years and years to come.

- Was that your Uncle who was working the Souvlaki Grill at our Parish Festival in the 1980’s? Send us your memory!!!
- And was that your Aunt who worked behind a table selling handmade ornaments at a 1990’s Philoptochos Christmas Bazaar? Send us your Memory!!!

. . . And be sure to be on the lookout for our 65th Anniversary station in the fellowship hall, after church, as well as at the upcoming Ministry Fair.

Tables are filling up fast and we all want to make certain, that all family and friends will be present at this unique event. To those of you who have already signed up for a table for yourselves and others, . . . we hope to see you all in person at our 26th event.... Thank you..... Be sure to tell all of your friends!

65th Anniversary Committee Chairs: Steve and Phaedra Koulogeorge can be reached at: skoulogeorge@gmail.com and; phaedrakoulogeorge@gmail.com.

# 65TH ANNIVERSARY

- Sponsorships under \$300 can be contributed as “Helping Hands”  
Donations to our event, where your name will be registered as a donor.

## Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church

# 65th Anniversary

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email & Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Unable to attend but wish to make a contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to SS Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church

Online reservations available at [SSPPGlenview.org/anniversary-gala](http://SSPPGlenview.org/anniversary-gala)

Adults	\$200.00	x _____	= _____
Young Adults (under 21)	\$150.00	x _____	= _____
Children (under 12)	\$ 75.00	x _____	= _____
20% price increase after September 21			TOTAL = _____

Refer to the back of card for more details

*Kindly reply by October 6*

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# PHILOPTOCHOS

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## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Parish Family,

Our Philoptochos has had a joyful and busy start to the new ecclesiastical year, and I would like to share with you some of the wonderful activities already underway this fall.

We began with our Membership Kick-Off Event, where we enjoyed a delightful presentation on the life of Betty White—a reminder of the joy and resilience that philanthropy and laughter bring to our lives.

Looking ahead, we will be participating in the Breast Cancer Walk on *October 18*, standing together in support of those affected and raising awareness for this important cause.

Our next General Meeting will be held on *November 18*, featuring a special presentation on decluttering—perfect timing

as we prepare for the holiday season! This also gives everyone a chance to donate any gently used or unneeded treasures to our “Curated Collection” for the upcoming Holiday Faire.

And of course, no holiday season would be complete without our baking days. We warmly invite you to join us in the kitchen as we prepare the beautiful and delicious pastries that have become such a special part of our parish traditions.

We look forward to seeing you at these events, and we welcome all who wish to join us in fellowship, service, and joy. Together, we continue our mission of philanthropy and outreach, always with love in Christ.

With gratitude and love,  
*Julie Anastos - President, Philoptochos Society*



# PHILOPTOCHOS

## JOIN US @ THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

### ***Bake With Us – Change Lives!***

Last year, SSPP Philoptochos donated over \$100,000 to more than 25 charities—and an incredible 40% of those funds came directly from our bakery sales. These sales are the heart of our giving, and they are only possible because of the time and love our members put into baking. Volunteer help in the kitchen truly transforms lives. We will be announcing our October baking dates soon. Please stay tuned and come and join the baking fun! We need your help to keep up our fundraising momentum. For more information, please reach out to Nancie Poulos [nepoulos@hotmail.com](mailto:nepoulos@hotmail.com).



*Carol Wells is prepping the filo during September's baklava making*

### ***Breast Cancer Walk – Saturday, Oct 18th 8am (7am bus from SSPP)***

On Saturday, October 18, the Philoptochos will participate in the Making Strides Walk at Soldier Field (8am to noon) to raise money for breast cancer research and community programs. We plan on gathering in the Saints Peter and Paul parking lot and transportation via bus (sponsored by Tec Foods/Costianis family) will take us to the event. Seating is limited, thus, the first 50 to sign up can ride the bus.

We are committed to raising money for critical research and treatments. Asking for money is not easy, but the thought of helping others avoid the pain of breast cancer makes it a necessary step. Whether you join for the walk or can support fundraising efforts through a donation, participation is invaluable to help fight against breast cancer! You can register to participate in the walk by clicking here: [SSPPPhiloptochos team fundraising page](#). (or contact Julie Mantice at [juliemantice1@gmail.com](mailto:juliemantice1@gmail.com))

### ***Philoptochos General Meeting and Presentation– Tues, Nov 18th***

Join us for a fabulous presentation on “decluttering at any stage”. Anna Gliemi will inspire you to create your dream ambiance. The presentation will be preceded by a brief general meeting and socializing/refreshments. It is sure to be a fun evening!

6:00pm	Social and Refreshments
6:30pm	Meeting
7:00pm	Presentation

Anna Gliemi, professional organizer, will inspire you to declutter and create your dream ambiance!



*40% of the funds we donate come from our bake sales. Kris Tsitsis is all smiles because she knows every piece of spanakopita counts!*



*Anastasia Gonzalez, Bakery Committee Co-Chair is making sure the baklava filling is perfectly placed*



*Some of our team members on a beautiful fall day at our 2024 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Event*

# PHILOPTOCHOS

## CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

Guided by faith and a spirit of service, our Philoptochos members work together to provide charitable aid, sponsor programs that nurture spiritual and social well-being, and respond to local, national, and international causes. Each month we highlight one of our charity recipients. This month's spotlight is:

### *FamilyForward – Helping Families Rise Above Poverty based in Arlington Heights, IL*

When working families struggle with rent, bills, and the daily pressures of making ends meet, FamilyForward steps in to light a path forward. Since 2003, this nonprofit has been dedicated to strengthening northwest suburban families to achieve financial stability and independence through mentoring, rental assistance, and supportive services. FamilyForward's signature two-year program combines rent subsidies with volunteer mentoring and professional case management. Each family partners with a mentor team to set goals, learn budgeting skills, and gradually assume full responsibility for their rent and expenses. Along the way, the organization provides targeted help—whether with tuition, child care, or unexpected emergencies—to keep families on track toward long-term stability. Serving communities such as Arlington Heights, Palatine, Schaumburg, Wheeling, and Hoffman Estates, FamilyForward reports that more than 85% of participants complete the program better able to manage bills, reduce debt, and increase income. Powered by the generosity of donors and volunteers, FamilyForward helps families not only survive hardship, but build confidence, develop skills, and truly thrive.



*FamilyForward helps struggling families in our community achieve a more secure living situation through rent subsidies and other types of financial help.*

## SAVE THE DATES!

**Sat, Oct 4** – IOCC 5K Walk/Run @ St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church, Chicago 8am

**Sat, Oct 4** – Dress A Girl @ St. Basil in Chicago 9am-2pm

**Sat, Oct 18** – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Chicago, Soldier Field 8am (Bus leaves saints Peter and Paul at 7am)

**Sun, Nov 2** – Philoptochos Sunday (hosting coffee hour)

**Wed/Thurs, Nov 5 & 6** – Clergy Laity Assembly @ Meridian Conference Center, Rolling Meadows IL

**Tues, Nov 18** – Philoptochos General Meeting and Presentation

**Sat, Dec 6** – Holiday Faire

**Sat, Dec 13** – Advent Brunch @ Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northfield, IL

**Sun, Dec 14** – The Metropolis of Chicago Christmas Open House in Lombard, IL

*\*Unless otherwise specified, events will take place at SSPP*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>COMING IN NOVEMBER</b> 1 ST JAMES/IAKOVOS OF KASTORIA (redies in our altar) 2 ST MATTHEW EVANGELIST 3 Daylight Savings Time (Fall back 1 hour) 4 Ministry Council Mtg. 8 ST HARALAMBOS of Niles 9 ST NECTARIOS of Pafos (in their 100th Anniversary) 11 Veterans' Day 13 ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, KASSOVA WI	15 ADVENT FAST BEGINS 16 ST MATTHEW EVANGELIST 21 ENTRANCE OF THEOTOKOS 25 ST KATHERINE of Assumption GOC Chicago 27 Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed Nov. 26-28) 30 ST ANDREW of Chicago	6 +APOSTLE THOMAS SSPG LATTO CTR DEDICATED 1974 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 11:30am Church School 5th Grade Field Trip w/ Fr. Peter 12pm CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	1 +HOLY PROTECTION OF THEOTOKOS 10:30am Bible Study 7pm St. GOYA Gathering 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	2 <b>OCAMPE CONFERENCE</b> 7am Men's Study at SSPG 9:30am Dynamic Outing for lunch at Botanic Garden	3 +ST DIONYSIOS AREOPAGITE 6pm FLJ Gathering 9:30am Jr. GOYA Gathering	4 +ST HIEROTHEOS BISHOP OF ATHENS 8am Parish Golf Outing 8am KOCC Walk/Run at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago 5pm VESPERS
5 +2ND SUN LUKE / 17TH SUN 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 11:30am Church School 5th Grade Field Trip w/ Fr. Peter 12pm CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	6 +APOSTLE THOMAS SSPG LATTO CTR DEDICATED 1974 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 11:30am Church School 5th Grade Field Trip w/ Fr. Peter 12pm CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	7 6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg 7pm Cancer Support 8pm Bball Men's VAL (pickup)	8 10:30am Bible Study 10:30am AGAPE - Grandparents Day 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm St. GOYA Gathering 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	9 +APOSTLE IAKOVOS ALPHAIOS 10am Dynamic "Kali Parea" Breakfast at George V's in Northbrook, IL 6pm PC Exec Mtg 7pm Men's Fellowship at North Branch in Glenview	10 +PROPHET HOSIA AGAPE - No School (Teacher Institute Day) 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering	11 +APOSTLE PHILIP THE DEACON 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering
12 +4TH SUN LUKE / HOLY FATHERS 7TH SYNOD 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	13 10am AGAPE - Wagner Farm Field Trip 7pm Divorce Rebuilders Begins	14 +ST KOSMAS (HYMNODIAPHER) 7pm Cancer Support 7pm Catechism Class Begins 7pm St. GOYA Gathering 8pm Bball Men's VAL (pickup)	15 10:30am Bible Study 6pm FLJ Gathering 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	16 7am Men's Study 10am Dynamic "Kali Parea" Breakfast at George V's in Northbrook, IL 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering	17 +PROPHET HOSIA AGAPE - No School (Teacher Institute Day) 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering	18 +ST LUKE EVANGELIST +Fr. George Scoulas reposed 2000 7am Philoptochos Cancer Walk 8am Ascension Men's Retreat 9:30am Prosephora Baking Class 5pm VESPERS
19 +3RD SUN LUKE / 19TH SUN +PROPHET IOEL 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	20 +SS ARTEMIOS & GERASIMOS 7pm Divorce Rebuilders 8pm Stewardship Meeting	21 7pm Catechism Class 8pm Bball Men's VAL (pickup)	22 +ST AVERKIOS 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm St. GOYA Gathering 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	23 +APOSTLE IAKOVOS - BROTHER OF THE LORD 7am Men's Study 10am Dynamic "Kali Parea" Breakfast at George V's in Northbrook, IL 7pm Parish Council Mtg	24 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering	25 5pm VESPERS 7pm GREAT VESPERS at St. Demetrios in Chicago
26 +6TH SUN LUKE + ST DEMETRIOS 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 12pm Greek Dance for 2nd-5th grade 1pm Greek Dance for 6th-10th grade	27 7pm Divorce Rebuilders	28 +PROTECTION OF THEOTOKOS 8:30am MATINS-ORTHODOX 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 9:30am AGAPE Divine Liturgy - Holy Protection: OXI Day! 7pm Catechism Class 7pm St. GOYA Gathering 8pm Bball Men's VAL (pickup)	29 +ST ANASTASIA OF ROME 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	30 7am Men's Study 10am Dynamic "Kali Parea" Lunch at Demetrios in Deerfield 5pm FLJ - Trunk or Treat With AGAPE	31 HALLOWEEN AGAPE - Halloween Class Party 1pm AGAPE - Early Dismissal for Halloween	



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