

# THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2026

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

## A Message from Father Rick

Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!** After the period of preparation in the Advent Fast, we have now embarked on the twelve (12) days of Christmas—a period of feasting and rejoicing. We pray that our joy be in receiving the gift of Christ our Lord, born in the flesh, and not in any fleeting material gift of this world.

We ring in **the New Year** by celebrating our Father and Hierarch **St. Basil the Great** as well as the **Circumcision of our Lord** on January 1st. According to secular traditions, many develop **resolutions** for beginning the new year. Let us resolve to become more Christ-like by deepening our involvement in the life of His Holy Church. This includes more frequent and full participation in Sunday Divine Liturgy, reception of the Holy Eucharist, Holy Confession and Holy Unction as well as the various ministries and programs of our parish.

His Grace **Bishop Timothy of Hexamilion** reposed in the Lord **November 20<sup>th</sup>** and the funeral took place **Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>** at Assumption Church in Chicago where he grew up and where he served as priest for several years. **Archbishop Elpidoforos** presided at the funeral with several bishops and gave a fitting eulogy. Numerous priests participated in the Trisagion presided by **Metropolitan Nathanael** who gave a personal eulogy. Bishop Timothy served

the Metropolis of Chicago as chancellor for five years. Before that he served several parishes including Prophet Elias in Dubuque IA, St Sophia in Elgin, St Nicholas in Oak Lawn, and Assumption in Chicago. Bishop Timothy will be remembered as a dedicated and humble servant of the flock of Christ. May the Lord God remember his archpriesthood in His Kingdom forever!

**Parish Council elections** took place on **December 7<sup>th</sup>**. We congratulate the candidates who were elected to the 2026-2027 term: **Vanessa Adinamis, Frank Andreou, Christine Cotromanes, Christy Gouletas, George Karagiannis, Angie Katsamakis, Dean Maragos, George Seletos, and Dino Tsitsis**. We thank **Christ Atsaves, Sophia Lehocky-Castleberry, and Julie Savopoulos**, who chose not to run, for their many years of service on the parish council!

**Last month** the annual **Philoptochos** Holiday Fair (Dec.6) and Advent Brunch (Dec.13) went very well. In addition, we had our best turnout ever for and the **Advent Sanctuary Cleaning** (Dec.13). Our **Agape Academy** was recognized (Dec.10) for receiving a grant from the **Hellenic Foundation**. We are looking forward to the **Children's Christmas Pageant** (Dec.21), and **St Anastasia Pharmokalytria** feastday—her relics are in our holy altar table (Dec.22). WE celebrated the Nativity of Christ on **Dec.24-25**.

The Orthodox Church continues to

celebrate the fast-free, joyful **Twelve (12) Days of Christmas** (**December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 6<sup>th</sup>**, for Theophany/Epiphany). We strict fast on January 5<sup>th</sup> in order to prepare for the Great Feast of **Theophany/Epiphany**—the Baptism of our Lord by John in the Jordan River. This Feast of Lights (Ta Phota) has great meaning and significance for our lives, one of which is the renewal of our human nature. Every year we pray that Christ blesses and sanctifies the waters of creation, and we take that Holy Water (Agiasmos) and sprinkle it and drink it at church and at home for the sanctification of our souls and bodies.

We will have our third annual **Outdoor Water Blessing Service** (Agiasmos) on **Saturday January 10th, 2025**. Two services will occur. 1) 3:00pm at **Gilson Beach**, Wilmette (on Lake Michigan) 101 Lake Ave, Wilmette IL 60091. Parking adjacent to beach. Proceed to water's edge straight out from beach house. 2) 4:00pm at **Gallery Park**, 2100 Patriot Blvd, Glenview IL 60026. Parking at Attea Middle School. Proceed to Gallery Fountain on west side of lake. Please join us for these brief but meaningful services.

If you wish to have your home blessed, please email me to schedule a date/time. Please be sure to have the following items ready: *icon, candle, incense and charcoal, large serving bowl with water and a sprig of basil or evergreen*. The **Blessing of Homes**

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# FOLLOW US!

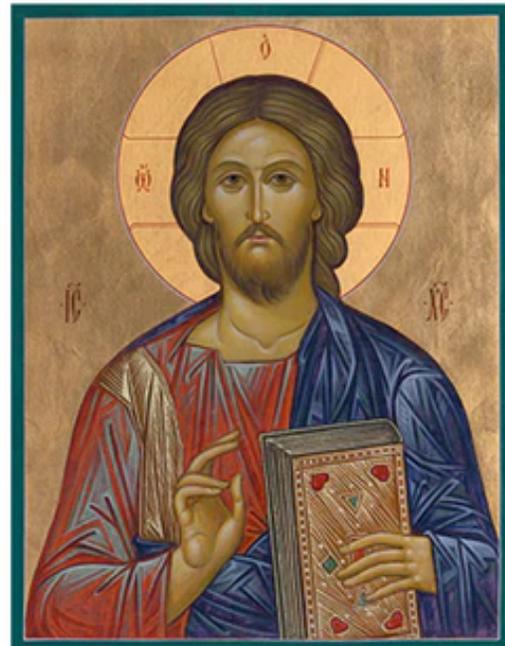
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# CONTACTS

1401 Wagner Road Glenview, IL 60025

**Phone:** (847) 729-2235

**Email:** office@ssppglenview.org

**Website:** ssppglenview.org

**Rev. Dr. Fr. Richard Demetrius Andrews,**  
**Protopresbyter,** frick@ssppglenview.org

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

**Parish Administrator:** Elea Bentley  
parishadmin@ssppglenview.org

**Administrative Assistant:** Tina O'Donnell  
office@ssppglenview.org

**Youth Director:** Steven Thell  
youthdirector@ssppglenview.org

**Communications Coordinator:** Amanda Sideris  
amanda@ssppglenview.org

**Bookkeeper:** Diane Bravos  
diane@ssppglenview.org

## 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

**Agape Preschool:** Julie Mantice, agape@ssppglenview.org

**Acolytes:** Steven Thell, acolytes@ssppglenview.org

**Athletics:** Steve Conway & Chris Batrich, athletics@ssppglenview.org

**Bible Study:** Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos, biblestudy@ssppglenview.org

**Book & Icon Store:** Tina O'Donnell, bookstore@ssppglenview.org

**Building Maintenance:** John Vranas, john@vranas.com

**Care for Creation:** John Kiriklakis, careforcreation@ssppglenview.org

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

**Chanters:** Chris Atsaves, chanters@ssppglenview.org

**Choir Director:** Therese Speropoulos

choir@ssppglenview.org

**Church School:** Nick and Kery Obradovich, Elaine Carrozza

churchschool@ssppglenview.org

**Coffee Connection:** Doreen DeSent,

coffeconnection@ssppglenview.org

**Divorce Rebuilders:** Maria Boyle

divorcerebuilders@ssppglenview.org

**Dynamis Group:** Joanne Trahanas, dynamis@ssppglenview.org

**Georgia Photopulos Cancer Support Group:**

Bud Photopulos and Phyllis Perivolidis

cancersupport@ssppglenview.org

**GOYAlumni:** Marina Alexis, goyalumni@ssppglenview.org

**Greek Dance:** Anna Andrews, dance@ssppglenview.org

**Greek School:** Stella Theoharopoulos,

greekschool@ssppglenview.org

**Grief Support:** Tracy Ronstadt, griefsupport@ssppglenview.org

**Myrrhbearers:** Anna Kallis, myrrhbearers@ssppglenview.org

**Orthodox Couples Club:** parishadmin@ssppglenview.org

**Philoptochos:** Julie Anastos, philoptochos@ssppglenview.org

**Prison Outreach:** Brad DeSent

prisonoutreach@ssppglenview.org

**Prospora:** Tracy Ronstadt, prospora@ssppglenview.org

**Readers:** Sophia Castleberry, readers@ssppglenview.org

**Saint Basil's Philanthropy:** Christy Gouletas

philanthropy@ssppglenview.org

**Saint Stephen Men's Group:** Brad DeSent

mensgroup@ssppglenview.org

**Stewardship:** George Karagianis, 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,

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

service consists of petitions and prayers with the sprinkling of the holy water throughout the home. The service begins and ends in a central gathering place like the kitchen or dining room.

Following the feast of St Basil the Great (Jan.1) we celebrate our **Parish Vasilopita** on Sunday *January 11<sup>th</sup>*. We remember how St Basil anonymously helped the poor and needy by placing coins inside bread loaves (pita). The Philoptochos ladies will host the celebration. The priests will cut and distribute the vasilopita to the chairpersons of our many ministries. Please join us in fellowship that day to remember God's blessings in the New Year!

The *Agape Academy* will host our community **Apokreatiko Glendi** on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Concorde Banquet Center in Kilder. This event is for everyone, not just families of preschool students. However, it helps raise funds to support the Agape Academy programs.

The **Winter/Spring Catechism Course** will be Monday evenings 7-9pm, beginning January 12<sup>th</sup> extending 12 weeks. These classes are open to everyone: seekers, inquirers, curious, catechumens, and already Orthodox. Please help spread the word. We have a great cohort of teachers. We look forward to a great group of students. Learning is a life-long endeavor, especially when it comes to the Faith in Christ.

**Also this month** we look forward to—St. Basil Chicago parish feastday (Dec.31 Vespers; Liturgy at SSPP Jan.1), Theophany/Epiphany Feast (Jan.5-6), St John the Baptist Des Plaines parish feast day (Vespers Jan.6), Parish Vasilopita (Sun.Jan.7), Catechism classes begin (Jan.12, on Monday evenings), St Athanasios Aurora parish feast day (Vespers

Jan.17; Liturgy at SSPP Jan.18), Sanctity of Life service at St Luke OCA Church in Palos Hills (Jan.25).

Our 2026 Archdiocese **Stewardship Theme: "Rise Up and Build: Building Up the Body of Christ."** The words of the prophet Nehemiah to the Jewish people when he saw the crumbling walls of Jerusalem "Rise up and build" (Neh.2:19), apply to us today. We must continually rise up and build up the Body of Christ. We the people together form the Body of Christ—to care out His ministry in our modern time. We are called to build up the walls of our parish temples, and at the same time, tear down the walls/barriers in and around our parish that prevent people from experience the love, mercy and forgiveness of Christ.

We do this by building up our worship and ministries. Receiving the Body of Christ in the Eucharist means little if we are not building up each other, carrying one another's burdens and fulfilling the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).

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 \$2.2M we encourage everyone to strive towards tithing (10%) but **suggest a minimum of five percent (5%) annual giving** as we move into 2026. We appreciate monthly gifts. <https://onrealm.org/ssppglenview/-/form/give/now>

Blessed New Year & Theophany!

+Fr. Rick





**Philoptochos Bakery Vasilopita**  
***Saint Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church***

***Order your cake today and don't miss out on this beautiful New Year tradition!***

***Cakes are \$30***

***Pick-up is after Church in the Fellowship Hall or can be scheduled at another time by calling Debbie at 312-520-6204.***

***Order and pay online from the link below or stop by the Philoptochos Bakery table in the Fellowship Hall after Church to place your order. Hurry, because we have a limited supply of cakes!***

<https://ssppglenview.org/philoptochos-bakery-vasilopita/>



# 2025 NATIVITY



*Our Saint Stephen Men's group putting up our beautiful nativity! Thank you to all who helped!*

# CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



*Our 2025 Christmas Pageant was a great day! Congrats to all the children!*

# 2025 HOLIDAY FAIRE



# 2025 HOLIDAY FAIRE



# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



*On December 10th, fifteen of our Dynamis group joined Carl Perkins, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash for an afternoon of holiday classics and old-time hits at the Lincolnshire Marriott Theater. After Million Dollar Quartet Christmas show, feeling energized and in the holiday spirit, the group made its way to Wildfire for a delicious meal and engaging fellowship.*



*Welcome to the newly baptized and chrismated servant of God Vasilios on Dec. 13th! Congratulations to godparents John & August Buscemi and to the parents Anthony & Cynthia Baroud!*



*Congratulations to Elias Schieber who received the ChiRho medal-badge from the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting which was awarded on November 23rd!*

# PARISH HEALTH PLAN

## SSPP PARISH HEALTH TEAM - ENGAGE 2026!

Hello and Happy New Year to all SSPP members! The parish invites all members to engage with current ministries and new initiatives in 2026. But first some context and then some specific invitations!

### Framework for Re-Vision

Fr. Rick and the Parish Council initiated the Parish Health Team (PHT) in 2025 to create a Parish Health Plan that would guide the parish into 2026 and beyond. The approach was informed by a year-long study of Reclaiming the Great Commission: A Roadmap to Parish Health that culminated in a workshop with Fr. Armatas in October 2024. Through the work in 2025, the PHT incorporated and updated much of the 2015 Strategic Plan "Reaching Forward to what Lies Ahead: Vision 2025".

The small PHT comprised of 10 members representing a cross-section of SSPP consolidated available input and feedback to realign and streamline the Parish Health Plan with a focus on 2026, a horizon of three years, and an intent for annual reporting and updating. The outcome was reviewed and adopted by the parish council in October 2025 and presented to the Parish Assembly that November.

### On Your Marks, Get Set...Grow Closer to God and Each Other!

Invitation 1: Review the plan!

- The full version of the 2025 PHP is available on the parish website, About Us, Parish Health Plan.

Invitation 2: Engage in Parish life!

- Find the many ministries, along with current leaders and contact information, that hallmark our history and dynamic parish in Appendix 1.

- Reach out and join a ministry to start the new year!

Invitation 3: Help plan our future!

- Find the Parish Health Team mission in Appendix 2. The PHT will be active each year to provide a retrospective review of progress in the Parish Annual Report and updates to the three-year horizon in the Parish Health Plan.

- Reach out and join the Parish Health Team!

Invitation 4: Help be our future!

- Find the new parish initiatives for 2026 highlighted in Appendix 3. Throughout the year we'll see teams, existing and new, launch or enhance programs to better meet the needs of our membership.

- Reach out and join the Welcome Team, with a three-point mission: Welcome all, engage current members (Inreach), and invite new members (Outreach).

- Find a parish council member and ask to participate in a new initiative where your skills and desires align with those of others to lift us all to new opportunities and life in Christ.

We are very excited for 2026 and recognize that staying organized is more than just a New Year's Resolution. The PHT will provide guidance in the monthly Observer and weekly bulletins of progress, of near-term initiatives, and of opportunities for you and all of us together to Grow Closer to God and Each Other.

In Christ,



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# CATECHISM 2026

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## FAITH AND LEARNING CATECHISM PROGRAM INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY

**WINTER/SPRING 2026**

**Mondays 7:00-9:00 PM**

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>TOPIC</u>                                                | <u>INSTRUCTOR</u>        |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| January 12  | Introduction                                                | Fr. Richard Andrews      |
| January 19  | God- Holy Trinity                                           | Fr. Sotirios Malamis     |
| January 26  | Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah                        | Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos |
| February 2  | Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints                   | Mr. John Anton, MDiv     |
| February 9  | Christ II- His Work & Teachings                             | Fr. Thomas Alatzakis     |
| February 16 | Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure                         | Fr Patrick O'Rourke      |
| February 23 | Church II- Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition               | Fr. Dimitri Tobias       |
| March 2     | Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction     | Fr Peter Sarolas         |
| March 9     | Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer          | Fr. Sotirios Malamis     |
| March 16    | Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism                      | Fr. Thomas Alatzakis     |
| March 23    | The Goal- Second Coming & Living the Christian Life         | Fr. Richard Andrews      |
| March 30    | Conclusion- Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&A        | Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos |
| April 12    | GREAT & HOLY PASCHA – RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST |                          |

**Texts:** *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 (1997, 2023). 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](http://www.ssppglenview.org)

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.ssppglenview.org](http://www.ssppglenview.org) OR <https://forms.gle/RVsJdMs4eynZUbWSA>

# CATECHISM 2026

## 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 (2022-2026) and Vicar of Clergy Care (since 2020). He and Presvytera Jane have 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 Presbyteria Angela and have a young son, Paul.



**Rev. Fr. Dimitri Tobias** is a graduate of Hellenic College (B.A. in Religious Studies, 2004) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Masters Divinity, 2007). He currently serves as the associate priest at St. John the Baptist in Des Plaines (since Nov. 2023). He previously served the Metropolis of Chicago (2007-09), parishes of St Nectarios (2009-12), Sts Peter & Paul (2012-13), Holy Trinity in Souix City IA (2013-17), St Basil (2017-21), St Andrew (2021-23) and the Metropolis Council (2017-2025). Fr. Dimitri and Pres. Mary have one son—Vasilios.

**Father Patrick O'Rourke** is a priest of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago. He graduated from Ohio State University (Bachelor of Arts, 2009) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (M.Div., Magna Cum Laude, 2016). Ordained to the priesthood in 2016, he has served parishes in New York, Utah, and Illinois, and has also held leadership roles at Hellenic College Holy Cross Seminary. Fr. Patrick currently serves the community St. Nectarios in Palatine as its Associate Pastor since August 2025.



**Fr. Peter Sarolas** is the associate priest of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Glenview, IL (since 2025). He graduated from a Hellenic College (BA Religious Studies, 1991) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (MDiv, 1994). Fr. Peter previously worked for St Basil Academy in NY (1995-1998), Metropolis of Chicago (Registrar 1998-2007), as Youth Director at Holy Trinity Church (1997-1999), St. Nicholas Church (2001-2004), and St Andrew Church (2004-2007). As priest at St Demetrios Church, Chicago (2007-2014), Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, Rockford IL (2014-2018), and St. George Church, Chicago (2019-2025). Fr. Peter is the vp of the Clergy Syndesmos and is married to Presvytera Maria and they have three sons.

# CATECHISM 2026

## **Reading Assignments**

### **Introduction**

Coniaris, pp.1-12, 85-90, 171-182  
 Ware – Way, pp.7-10 (Signposts on the Way),  
 11-26 (God as Mystery)  
 Ware-Church, pp. 189-193, 239-248  
 Carlton, Intro, pp.13-52 / pp.22-54  
 Mathewes-Green, see intro

### **God- Holy Trinity**

Coniaris, pp.23-32  
 Ware – Way, pp. 27-42 (God as Trinity)  
 Ware-Church, pp.202-211  
 Carlton, pp.53-64 / 55-66  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.38-46

### **Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah**

Ware – Way, pp.43-66 (God as Creator)  
 Ware-Church, pp.212-218  
 Carlton, pp. 65-102 / 67-104  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.137-146

### **Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints**

Coniaris, pp.17-22, 91-104  
 Ware – Way, pp.67-88 (God as Man)  
 Ware-Church, pp. 218-222, 247-253  
 Carlton, pp. 103-126 / pp.105-128  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.3-10,21-37,68-84,112-124  
 Gilquist, pp.97-110.

### **Christ II- His Work & Teachings**

Coniaris, pp.17-23  
 Ware-Church, pp.225-229  
 Carlton, pp. 127-150 / pp.129-154  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.85-97, 147-156

### **Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure**

Coniaris, pp.1-12  
 Ware-Way, pp.89-104 (God as Spirit)  
 Ware-Church, pp.11-16, 41-67, 70-83, 213-214,  
 283-286  
 Carlton, pp. 153-178 / pp.155-180  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.3-10,11-20,125-136

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

Coniaris, pp.13-17, 57-70, 149-170  
 Ware-Church, pp.17-40, 195-201  
 Carlton, pp.165-178 / pp.167-180  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.38-46, pp.98-112

### **Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction**

Coniaris, pp.123-148  
 Ware-Church, pp.267-272, 281-283, 289-290  
 Carlton, pp. 179-202 / pp.181-204  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.157-173,174-190,288-306

### **Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer**

Coniaris, pp.33-46, 71-84, 134-138, 189-208  
 Ware-Church, pp.257-266, 273-280, 291-299  
 Carlton, pp. 203-226 / pp.205-228  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.137-270, 271-282

### **Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism**

Coniaris, pp.138-141  
 Ware-Church, pp.287-289  
 Carlton, pp.227-250 / pp.229-252  
 Mathewes-Green, pp.307-318

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

Coniaris, pp.47-56, 183-187, 105-122, 209-214.  
 Ware-Way, pp.105-138 (God as Prayer; God as Eternity)  
 Ware-Church: 225-231 (Partakers of Divine Nature), 253-256 (The Last Things),  
 Carlton: pp.251-277 / pp.253-279  
 Mathewes-Green: pp.330-345

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

Ware-Church: pp. 84-98 (Islam), 99-121 (Russia), 122-139 (Greeks & Arabs), 140-166 (Athiests), 167-188 (Diaspora & Mission), 300-319 (Reunion of Christians)  
 Mathewes-Green: n/a

# PASTORAL MESSAGE

## FROM FATHER PETER

### A Message from Father Peter "Who is St. Basil?"

The question is who is St. Basil and why is he "Great"? There has been this great debate about who is the greatest athlete. Is it Michael Jordan, LeBron James, or is it Stef Curry? Is it Messi or Ronaldo? Is it Alex Ovechkin or Wayne Gretzky? Is it Michael Phelps or Usain Bolt? Is it Mohamad Ali or Pele? The list can go on and on as to who is the "Greatest" Athlete. In history we have Alexander the Great who to this day his military strategies are studied and used. So the question that I have is.....why is St. Basil considered to be "great"?

For starters, we must look at the beginning. St. Basil's life is very remarkable and interesting to say the least. Basil was born in the year 330 in Caesarea in Cappadocia. He is one of ten (10) children; there are five (5) brothers and five (5) sisters. Several of his siblings are saints. His sisters Macrina the Younger, and Theosebia as well as his brothers Gregory of Nyssa and Peter of Sebaste. His Grandmother Macrina the Elder and his mother Emilia are also saints of our church.

He was home schooled by his father who was a brilliant speaker and a lawyer. After the death of his father, Basil would later transfer to a school in Constantinople, where the city's most brilliant orators and philosophers educated him. After that, he went on to complete his schooling in Athens, the center of the best classical education that money could buy. Basil came from a family of wealth. Basil's family would use the treasures that they had, not only for education but later in life they would use their wealth to help those in need.

After just a few years in Athens, Basil had mastered everything he studied. He would soon gain fame as a philosopher, linguist, speechmaker, and attorney. He was also an expert in astronomy, mathematics, business, and medicine. He had a deep hunger to reveal the mysteries of God's creation.

So why is St. Basil so important to the life of the church? You see St. Basil's footprint in philanthropy is just a small sample of what his impact has in our lives. St. Basil started orphanages as well as hospitals. He also established monasteries that would later follow the discipline of St. Anthony the Great.

In addition, St. Basil was responsible for many theological writings not only against the heresies (false teachings) during his time but also important topics and issues concerning the faith. Among his other works St. Basil wrote about the six (6) day creation and on the Holy Trinity just to name a few of his writings. Did you know that St. Basil the Great is known as the revealer of the heavens, in which he is referred to by the epithet "Ouranophantor" (Greek: Οὐρανοφάντωρ), which "translates to the revealer of heavenly mysteries.

Most people do not know that because of the other things that St. Basil is known for! He is

also responsible for the Divine Liturgy that is used ten times a year (the five Sundays of Lent, Christmas Eve when permitted, the Eve of Epiphany, and on January 1st). Did you know that the first three or four centuries the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil (the Great) was used every Sunday until the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom replaced St. Basil's liturgy.

People today most recognize the tradition of the Vasilopita. The translation of Vasilopita translates to the sweet bread of Basil. The vasilopita tradition began in Asia Minor in the city of Caesarea over a thousand years ago and is connected to the legend of Saint Basil. There was a governor who was a tyrant and he demanded that the treasures of the city be delivered to him or there would be consequences. So, the governor threatened to destroy the city if his orders were not obeyed.

St. Basil, prayed before the icon of the Panagia (Virgin Mary). He was enlightened after praying. He then asked the people of Caesarea to give all they had in the form of coins and jewelry to stop the impending siege. It is said that the governor and his people who organized the siege were taken aback by such generosity that they called off the threat of destroying the city.

Now St. Basil has this huge dilemma. How would he return all this treasure to the citizens of Caesarea. It was decided that the only way that the treasures would be returned was to bake bread and put the treasures in the bread. The citizens of Caesarea agreed to this. This was an exceedingly challenging task to identify what treasure the citizens owned of gold and jewels. To make this a fair and honest task, St Basil had requested that his deacons bake small loaves of bread, placing a piece of treasure at the center of each. Miraculously, the recipients each ended up with the treasures that were rightfully theirs. To this day we bake a Vasilopita and put a coin in the center as a reminder of the miracle that took place thousands of years ago.

The great saint was not just an intellectual but was firmly rooted in this world as well, having a reputation for his care for the poor and underprivileged and for his extremely generous nature. His theological writings and teachings are treasures of his impact in our faith. St. Basil is one of the greatest Fathers of the Christian Church and appeared on the spiritual horizon of the Orthodox Faith. He was Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia -- Asia Minor. He was born five years after the First Ecumenical Council held in the year 325 A.D.

Did you also know that: Saint Basil is one

of the three Cappadocian Fathers of the Church (the others are Gregory of Nazianzus, his best friend, and his brother, Gregory of Nyssa). Additionally, Basil is one of the three Hierarchs along with St. John Chrysostom, and Gregory the Theologian. Basil is regarded as "Great" because of his love and dedication to serving God and his people. St. Basil the Great is such a vital role model to emulate by caring for the poor and less fortunate. St. Basil's love and concern for his flock is indeed an inspiration for all of us.

There are many ways we can show our concern and love for those less fortunate. All we must do is show love to our neighbors, care for the poor and less fortunate. We too can be effective in the lives of those in need just as St. Basil the Great. St. Basil is called "GREAT" because of the impact that he had in the life of the church in both his writings and love for his people.

Most people do not realize this, but my confession is that St. Basil has played a significant role in my life. Almost nineteen (19) years ago on January 1st -- I was ordained to the holy diaconate at church that I grew up in. During my field education assignment at Seminary (of Holy Cross School of Theology), I taught Sunday Church School at St. Vasilios in Peabody Mass. In the mid-nineties, I was the student life coordinator and the religious education director at St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NY.

*(Apolytikion -- For the Saint) Your proclamation went forth into all the earth, for it accepted your word, through which you taught the dogmas befitting God, you expounded on the nature of all that is, and you arranged the morals of society. A royal priesthood! Devout father Basil, intercede with Christ our God, to grant us His great mercy.*

May St. Basil the Great the revealer of heavenly mysteries intercede in our lives, Amen. Have a blessed 2026/New Year.

In His Service  
Fr. Peter Sarolas

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# BOOK STORE AND MORE

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## BOOK AND ICON STORE

Begin the New Year by deepening your life in Christ. The Saints Peter & Paul Book & Icon Store offers a thoughtfully curated selection of Orthodox books, icons, prayer books, incense, candles, and meaningful gifts for every season of the Church year. Whether you are renewing your spiritual practices in January or seeking a special gift, our store provides trusted resources rooted in the Holy Tradition of the Greek Orthodox Church, including Vasilopita coins for your family. From children's storybooks and activity guides to classic writings of the Church Fathers, our Orthodox Church Bookstore has something for the whole family. Discover beautiful icons, prayer tools, and gifts that bring the faith into daily life. Stop in for a complimentary Daily Bible Reading Guide, or just to say hello! Open after Divine Liturgy and during the week by appointment. [bookstore@ssppglenview.org](mailto:bookstore@ssppglenview.org)

## CHURCH SCHOOL

Church school had a very busy month. We collected over 100 gifts, in honor of St. Nicholas, to deliver to northwest settlement's toy room for the less fortunate. Another successful Christmas pageant production took place. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this a successful show! A job well done by all!

## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Want to participate in your SSPP community, but not sure where to start? Serve with Coffee Fellowship! Our Sunday Coffee Fellowship is a cherished time to connect and strengthen our community over a warm cup of coffee and refreshments. To keep this valued tradition thriving, we're seeking volunteers to assist with setup, serving, and clean up. Whether you can help once a month or more regularly, your contribution will make a big difference. This ministry is also an ideal way for those who want to "dip their toe" in an SSPP ministry while also meeting and greeting our parish community. Participate in a team with your family or friends.... No experience necessary – just a heart for fellowship and connection! If you're interested or have questions, contact Carolyn Kolbaba at [fellowship@ssppglenview.org](mailto:fellowship@ssppglenview.org) or chat with Carolyn after service. Thank you for helping make our parish community even more welcoming!

## SAINT STEPHEN MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group helped set up the Nativity Set before the snow came in. Thanks to all who helped on Friday November 28th. We hosted Coffee Hour on December 14th. Thanks to everyone who brought treats and helped serve. We supported the Angel Tree Prison Outreach effort. The project delivers Christmas gifts to children of incarcerated inmates in our area. We served 12 families and 22 Children. Special Thanks to Trish Iannessa, Tina O'Donnell, Jenny O'Donnell, Marco Iannessa, Tracy Ronstadt, Joanne Trahanas, John Vranas, Peter Theodore, George Burbules, Angie Katsamakias, Zach Alukos, Brad DeSent, Marty DeSent, and Suzanne Santos. To learn more about the Saint Stephen Men's Group send an email to [mensgroup@ssppglenview.org](mailto:mensgroup@ssppglenview.org).

## AGAPE UPDATES

AGAPE Christian Academy was busy preparing for the coming of Saint Nicholas and our annual Christmas Pageant. AGAPE Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now open. To inquire about programs and fees, please contact Julie Mantice at [agape@ssppglenview.org](mailto:agape@ssppglenview.org) or the Saints Peter and Paul website under Ministries/Education/AGAPE. Please let me know if you have any questions. - Julie Mantice - Director of AGAPE

Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

Thursday, January 18th: Kindergarten Open House will be hosted from 5:00pm to 6:00pm in the Community Center, Room 200 - Saturday, January 31st: Glendi at the Concorde Banquets, Kildeer from 5:00pm to 10:00pm

*saturday night opa!*

SAINTS PETER & PAUL  
INVITE YOU TO THE XX ANNUAL

*♪♪*  
**Agape  
Glendi** *♪♪*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A DAZZLING DISCO EVENING  
WITH DINNER, DANCING & A SILENT AUCTION, ALL  
SUPPORTING AGAPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

JANUARY  
SATURDAY **31** 5:00 PM  
2026

CONCORDE BANQUETS  
20922 N RAND RD, KILDEER, IL 60047



ADULTS \$95  
CHILDREN (UNDER 12) \$30  
OPEN BAR INCLUDED

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR MAKE A DONATION



*dance like zorba, sparkle like disco*



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# PARISH COUNCIL

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*On behalf of the Saints Peter and Paul Parish Council, we hope that you had a joyous holiday season, and pray that you will have an equally healthy, and prosperous 2026.*

Meanwhile.... To bring you up to date:

## **December Wrap-Up**

In our last month of 2025, we ended up on the very same high-note that we started off with at mid-year; with our Annual Greek Festival, 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event and the Philoptochos Holiday Fair, with our semi-annual **Blood Drive**.

Again, a GREAT, big thanks to all of you who not only committed to giving blood, but who also showed up and donated a pint to our pals at Vitalant ([www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org)) who were manning the chairs on December 9<sup>th</sup>, in our Fellowship Hall.

Our May, 2025 donation total of 16 (Pints) equaled the previous donations of 16 pts, from December 2024, **but**, for our December 9<sup>th</sup> Blood drive we ended up with 25 Pints being donated to those in need!! We are hoping to do even better for our May, 2026 Blood Drive. . . be sure to tag your family, friends and partners in crime for the next challenge! For further information, contact [christygouletas@gmail.com](mailto:christygouletas@gmail.com).

As I have mentioned in previous issues of the Messinger, there is nothing more *soul satisfying* than working together with others, as community, in service to others; whether it is to assemble the annual Nativity Scene in front of our Church, filling in and delivering lunch bags for those in need or working a tent at our annual Church Greek Festival; each individual has their own special gift or talent that can be of benefit to all. As individuals, we are all unique; but as a group working in tandem,

WE ARE EXCEPTIONAL!!!!

I pray that in 2026, that as we go forward, we continue to grow in Christ; as Orthodox Christians, and as individuals and that we continue in our path to build upon the successes that we achieved during 2025 to:

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

### ***The Metropolis of Chicago's Clergy-Laity Convention (November 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)***

Metropolitan Nathaniel and the Metropolis of Chicago hosted the 2025 Clergy-Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Convention on November 5th-6th at The Meridian Banquet and Conference Center in Rolling Meadows, IL. The bi-annual event is presented as "a form which fosters a collaborative environment, where clergy and laity engage in meaningful dialogue, exchange insights, and share best practices". Representatives from Saints Peter and Paul's Clergy, Parish Council and Philoptochos were in attendance at the two day event:

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# PARISH COUNCIL

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**1. The 2025 theme of the Assembly,** “Bearing the Fruit for our Church and the World” sets an establishment of “a practical tool” for Parishes of the Metropolis to spur the development of their own individual “grass-roots” campaign; to nurture a continuous striving for revitalization within the faith, expanding their ministry and membership ranks, reducing and eliminating any financial debt(s) as well as “reaching out their local ministries, while deepening the sacramental experience, in both their own parishioners, as well as those in their surrounding Community.”

It is no coincidence that this process has its roots in the Metropolis’ “Five-Year Vision: “a comprehensive roadmap, designed to deepen sacramental life, expand ministries, growth Church membership and empower clergy and parishes for sustainable growth.

As with all other Clergy-Laity initiatives, the main focus is, under the guidance of His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathaniel, to convene clergy and Lay leaders from across the Metropolis to address, vote and approve significant matters impacting the life, growth, and unity of the Church; a co-operative effort at the local (Parish) and Regional (Metropolis) levels.

## **2. Proposals, Motions and Delegate Votes:**

- o A motion was made to approve a two-year Operating Budget, which would allocate \$700,000 over the next two years to support: The Saint Iakovos Retreat Center, located at 224 Ave. in Kansasville Wisc., and: The establishment of a new Metropolis Headquarters at 1290 N. Clybourn in Chicago. Formerly located in Lombard, IL

- o The proposed Metropolis Center location is better positioned to served the faithful in the Chicago area:

- o Located within a 10-Mile radius 6 Metropolis parishes;

- o Within a 17-mile radius of 17 other Parishes;

- o Is readily accessible by public transportation as well as both Chicago airports (O’Hare and Midway). The motion to support both locations was approved by the Assembly.

- b. A separate motion was proposed to provide that the proceeds from the sale of the Burton Place Property (Originally approved February, 2022 as “Restricted Funds”) be lifted to provide funding for the initiative. The designation change was approved by the assembly (November, 2025).

- o The “move-in” is tentatively expected to occur in 2026, pending approval by the GOA, with an open house to be announced earlier in 2026.

## **3. Key-Note Speakers, Panel Discussions:**

Dr Demetrios S. Katos (President, Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology) Spoke on the Seminary’s vital role in forming the next generation of Clergy.

Thom S.Rainer (Founder and CEO of Church Answers) Offered unique insights on how faith communities can grow, lead, and remain vibrant in a changing world.

Panel Discussion (lead by Metropolitan Nathanael) explored the various methods the Church can harness to bring Christ’s ministry to a contemporary society. This topic originating from recent feedback of interest in the Orthodox Christian Faith, among those searching for a permanent faith-based community.

## **4. Administrative Changes:**

In an effort to better administrate and coordinate the operations of the 58 Parishes within the Chicago Metropolis, his Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael announced two key leadership appointments: Fr. Dionysios Anagnostopoulos as Chancellor, and; Fr Panagiotis, Boznos, as Vicar General of the Metropolis of Chicago.

As always and . . . In Christ,

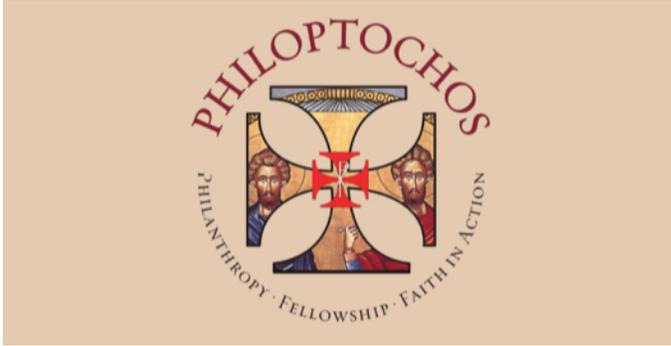
**Steve J. Koulogeorge**

**Parish Council President**



# PHILOPTOCHOS

## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Saints Peter and Paul Church Family,

As we begin the new year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each member of our community. We are deeply thankful for the faith, dedication, and generosity you shared throughout 2025. Because of your support—through time, talents, and donations—we were able to strengthen fellowship and serve others in our neighborhood and beyond. Your contributions helped make this past year one of growth and blessings.

With the arrival of 2026, we look forward to expanding our outreach efforts. Become a member if you haven't already. Philoptochos is a fun, dedicated, caring, philanthropic group of women. Involvement of all types of skillsets helps strengthen our mission and brings new energy and ideas to our ministry.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy, and grace-filled New Year. May God's peace be with you in all that lies ahead.

With gratitude and blessings,

Julie Anastos

Saints Peter and Paul Philoptochos President

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM OUR BAKERY!

### *Vasilopita Cakes Still Available Thru January 8th*

There's still time to get one (or several) of our wonderful vasilopita cakes! The most popular New Year's custom in Orthodox households is cutting the Vasilopita! It is a celebration to Saint Basil the Great, whose feast day is January 1. A single coin is baked in the cake and whoever receives the coin is considered lucky and blessed for the coming year. We have cakes available through January 8th. These Vasilopita cakes have a refreshing citrus taste, use all natural ingredients and no preservatives. Each cake is 10" round and is well over 3 lbs. in weight. A coin is baked inside each cake. It can serve from 12-22 depending on the size of the piece. The cake is frozen to assure freshness! A small packet of powdered sugar to sprinkle on top of the cake is provided for decoration. It is DELICIOUS!

Cakes are \$30, 10' round, and serves 12-22. Pick-up is after church in the Fellowship Hall or can be scheduled at another time by calling Debbie at 312-520-6204. Order and pay online from the QR code below or stop by the Philoptochos Bakery table in the Fellowship Hall after Church.



ORDER HERE

## *Holiday Faire Dec '25*

Thank you to everyone that made Holiday Faire 2025 such a success! The event was especially festive and lively this year! Please enjoy a couple of these highlights in addition to the feature in the beginning of the Messenger:



*Young Greek Dancers had the fellowship hall audience in a trance!*

# PHILOPTOCHOS



*Santa thinks Mara Kallis & Alethea Chiapuris have been nice (not naughty!)*

## *Spreading Christmas Cheer at Lawrence Hall Dec '25*

On Thursday, December 18 a few of our Philoptochos sisters visited Lawrence Hall in Chicago where we have "adopted" the boys in the Drake Unit. Our mission - Spread Christmas Cheer! We had a Christmas Party complete with cookie baking and decorating, Gingerbread House decorating, a make-your-own-taco dinner, individual tree decorating for each of the boys' rooms, games, presents and stockings. In addition, on Christmas morning each of the 9 boys will receive gifts from Santa lovingly selected and purchased by our Philoptochos. We wish we could show you the smiles and the gratitude the boys had for all that was done. We clearly accomplished our mission! Throughout the year we assist the boys with various other activities and celebrations. It's a beautiful way to



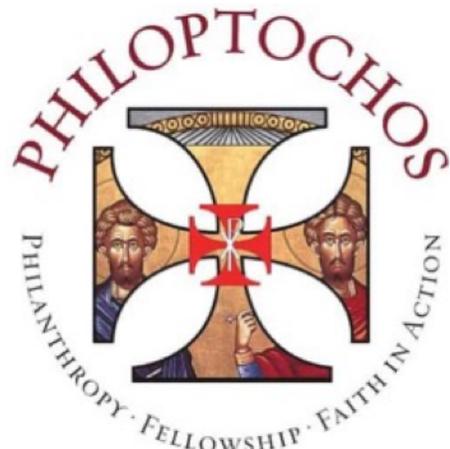
## *Advent Brunch Dec '25*

One week after the faire, the Advent Brunch was a lovely respite to all that hard work! We had a happy and festive crowd!



The ladies of the SSPP Philoptochos board were all smiles with Father Rick and Father Peter after their delicious brunch and festive caroling. It was an unforgettable afternoon!

To get involved, contact Kris Tsitsis at [kristitsis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kristitsis@sbcglobal.net)



# PHILOPTOCHOS

## CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

### Operation Classroom

In 2019, the National Philoptochos launched Operation Classroom after the US Department of Education announced that over 94% of public school teachers provide school supplies for their classrooms out of their own resources.

The National Philoptochos challenged every chapter across the US to adopt an underserved school in their community and provides needed support.

This past church year SS Peter & Paul Philoptochos donated \$2,500 to the Wheeling School District. We donated 300 hats and gloves to the Junior High School and to the three preschools, 30 Lice Repel sprays and 30 boxes of 780 sheets of Huggies Baby wipes. We also purchased kitchen utensils and supplies to a family in crisis.

The appreciation and gratitude expressed by the families and staff has been overwhelming.

**To get involved, contact Annette Vranas (pictured right in white sweater) at [amvranas@yahoo.com](mailto:amvranas@yahoo.com)**



## JOIN US AT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

**General Meeting & Program: Sustainability in Fashion, Thurs Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** - Join us for our general meeting and program on Fashion with a Conscience. Jill Payne will help us understand the buzzwords. We will explore sustainable brands and better understand how to be a conscious consumer. Event will be held in SSPP atrium.

**Blankets for Babies, Sat Jan 17<sup>th</sup> (10am – 2pm)** - The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos' "Blankets for Babies" is being held at our very own SS Peter and Paul church. Blankets are donated to the University of Illinois Hospital Pediatric Unit and have truly been a God send for these children in need. Come join this warm, worthy, and rewarding cause! Details: 10am – 2pm - SSPP fellowship hall and Lunch will be served

## SAVE THE DATES!

- Thurs, Jan 8 – Metropolis Wide Vasilopita @ St. Andrew, Chicago
- Sun, Jan 11 – SSPP Vasilopita Sunday
- Tues, Jan 13 – General Meeting & Program, Sustainability in Fashion @ 6pm
- Wed, Jan 17 – Metropolis Philoptochos "Blankets for Babies" hosted by SSPP 10am – 2pm
- Sat, Jan 31 – AGAPE Glendi Fundraiser @ Concorde Banquets in Kildeer, IL
- Sun, Feb 1 – Philoptochos Go Red Sunday

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

Questions?  
Please email -  
[simplystagedbydena@gmail.com](mailto:simplystagedbydena@gmail.com)

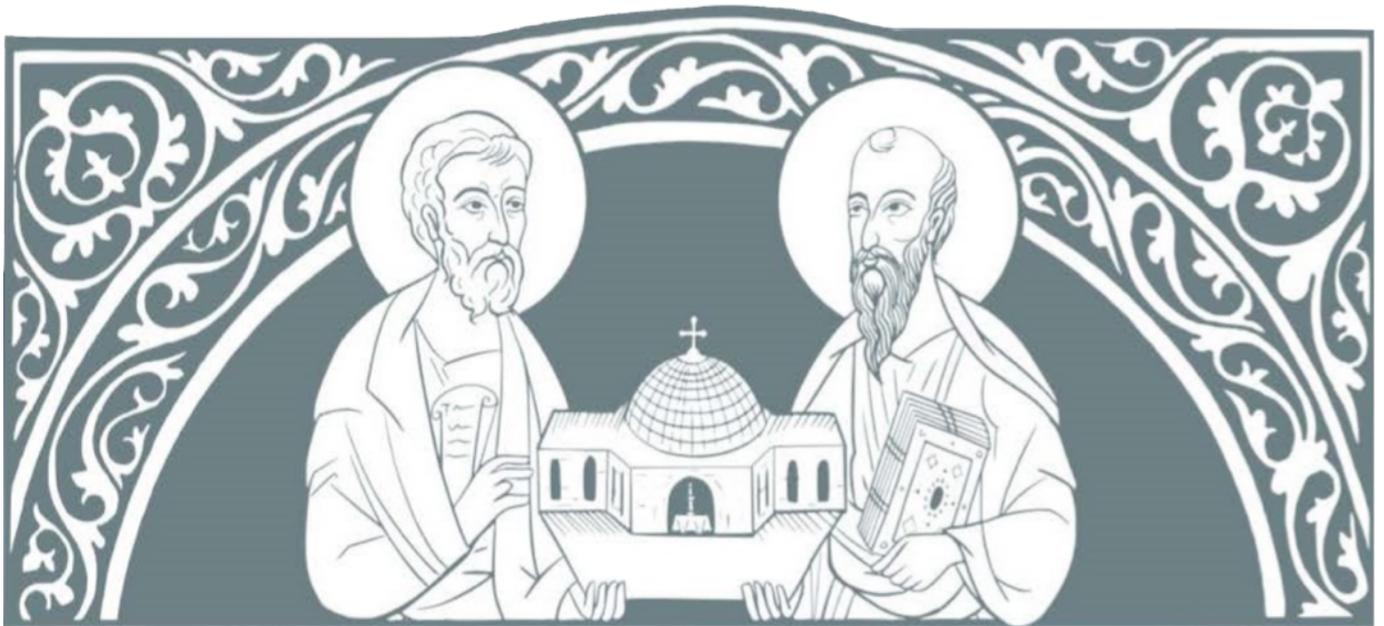
**Donations-**  
Average cost per kit is \$20  
Please scan the QR code to make a  
donation for materials  
or send your donation to  
**Ss Peter and Paul Philoptochos**  
Attn: BFB  
1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, IL  
60025

# JANUARY 2026

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | MONDAY                                                                                                                                            | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | FRIDAY                                                                              | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>COMING IN FEBRUARY</b><br>1 TRIODION BEGINS Godparent/21<br>Godchild Sunday - Fast Free Week<br>2 MEETING OF OUR LORD<br>8 SUNDAY OF PRODIGAL SON<br>14 SATURDAY OF SOULS #1<br>15 MEATFARE SUNDAY - Begin<br>Fasting from Meat | 5 +EVE OF THEOPHANY<br>STRICT FAST<br>9am ROYAL HOURS<br>6pm VESPERAL LITURGY<br>w/ AGIASMOS                                                      | 6 +THEOPHANY<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>11am AGIASMOS - HOLY WATER<br>BLESSING<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 5-6 Grade Boys<br>6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg<br>7pm GREAT VESPERS at St. John in<br>Des Plaines | 7 +SYNAXIS OF FORERUNNER<br>9am DIVINE LITURGY at St. John in<br>Des Plaines<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-6 Grade Girls<br>7pm Sn. GOYA Gathering<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-12 grade Girls<br>8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup) | 1 +ST. BASIL THE GREAT<br>+CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD<br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY                                                                                                               | 2 OFFICE CLOSED<br>9:30am Youth open gym<br>6pm FLJ Gathering                       | 3 2pm Basketball Tournament at SSPP<br>5pm VESPERS                                                                                                                                                |
| 4 +SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY<br>NO CHURCH SCHOOL<br>8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>12pm Greek Dance                                                                                                               | 5 +EVE OF THEOPHANY<br>STRICT FAST<br>9am ROYAL HOURS<br>6pm VESPERAL LITURGY<br>w/ AGIASMOS                                                      | 6 +THEOPHANY<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>11am AGIASMOS - HOLY WATER<br>BLESSING<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 5-6 Grade Boys<br>6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg<br>7pm GREAT VESPERS at St. John in<br>Des Plaines | 7 +SYNAXIS OF FORERUNNER<br>9am DIVINE LITURGY at St. John in<br>Des Plaines<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-6 Grade Girls<br>7pm Sn. GOYA Gathering<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-12 grade Girls<br>8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup) | 8 +ST. BASIL THE GREAT<br>7am Men's Study<br>10am Dynamis "Kali Parei" Breakfast<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-4 Grade Boys<br>6:30pm Metropolis Vasiloptia at Saint<br>Andrews in Chicago<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-8 Grade Boys         | 9 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering                                                         | 10 +ST GREGORY OF NYSSA<br>2pm Bball Tournament at SSPP<br>3pm OUTDOOR WATER BLESSING<br>at Gillson Beach in Wilmette<br>4pm OUTDOOR WATER BLESSING<br>at Gallery Park in Glenview<br>5pm VESPERS |
| 11 +ST. THEODOSIOS GENOBIARCH<br>+SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY<br>8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>11am Parish Vasiloptia<br>12pm Greek Dance                                                                           | 12 6:15pm Bball Practice 1-2 Grade Coed<br>7pm Catechism Class<br>7pm Bball Practice HS Boys                                                      | 13 5:30pm Bball Practice 5-6 Grade Boys<br>7pm Cancer Support-Zoom Only<br>7pm Jr. and Sr. GOYA FMSC                                                                                                                                 | 14 +APODOSIS THEOPHANY<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-6 Grade Girls<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-12 grade Girls<br>8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)                                                                                 | 15 7am Men's Study<br>10am Dynamis "Kali Parei" Breakfast<br>at George V's in Northbrook<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-4 Grade Boys<br>6pm Parish Council Exec Meeting<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-8 Grade Boys                             | 16 +BLESSED CHAINS<br>OF ST PETER<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY | 17 +ST ANTHONY THE GREAT<br>9am Blankets for Babies<br>5pm VESPERS<br>7pm GREAT VESPERS at<br>St. Athanasios in Aurora                                                                            |
| 18 12TH SUN LUKE / STS AITH & CYRIL<br>+STS ATHANASIOS & CYRIL<br>8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>12pm Greek Dance                                                                                               | 19 +ST MAKARIOS THE GREAT<br>6:15pm Bball Practice 1-2 Grade Coed<br>7pm Catechism Class<br>7pm Bball Practice HS Boys<br>8pm Stewardship Meeting | 20+ST EUTHYMIOS THE GREAT<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 5-6 Grade Boys                                                                                                                                                                    | 21 +ST MAXIMOS<br>THE CONFESSOR<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-6 Grade Girls<br>6:30pm FLJ Gathering<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-12 grade Girls<br>8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)                                                | 22 +ST TIMOTHY THE APOSTLE<br>7am Men's Study<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-4 Grade Boys<br>7pm Parish Council Meeting<br>7pm Sn. GOYA Gathering<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-8 Grade Boys | 23 6:30pm Jr. GOYA Gathering- Game<br>Night with Adults                             | 24 5pm VESPERS                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 25 +15TH SUN LUKE<br>+ST GREGORY THEOLOGIAN<br>8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY<br>10:45am CS Game Show Sunday<br>11pm Coffee Connection                                                                             | 26 6:15pm Bball Practice 1-2 Grade Coed<br>7pm Catechism Class<br>7pm Bball Practice HS Boys                                                      | 27 +TRANSLATION RELICS<br>CHRYSOSTOM<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 5-6 Grade Boys<br>6pm Ministry Council Meeting                                                                                                                         | 28 +ST EPHREM THE SYRIAN<br>10:30am Bible Study<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-6 Grade Girls<br>7pm Choir Rehearsal<br>7pm Sn. GOYA Gathering<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-12 grade Girls<br>8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)                              | 29 7am Men's Study<br>10am Dynamis "Kali Parei" Lunch<br>at Psisteria V's in Lincolnwood<br>5:30pm Bball Practice 3-4 Grade Boys<br>7pm Bball Practice 7-8 Grade Boys                                                                | 30 +THREE HIERARCHS<br>8:30am ORTHROS-MATINS<br>9:30am DIVINE LITURGY               | 31 +STS KYROS & JOHN<br>- UNMERCENARIES<br>5pm AGAPE - Glendi Fundraiser at<br>the Concorde Banquets<br>5pm VESPERS                                                                               |

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