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# THE MESSENGER

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APRIL 2026

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

## A Message from Father Rick

Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

**Holy Week** is coming quick! Be ready for all the services, from Lazaros Saturday through Agape Vespers on Holy Pascha. Everyone should have received the Holy Week brochure (highlighting youth events and worship services) and my reflection letter in the mail. We are looking forward especially to the Philopotochos **Palm Sunday (April 5) Fish Luncheon** and the **Pascha Lamb Dinner** (April 12 early morning). Please contact *Adam Peterson* and *Alvaro Lima* to volunteer.

Also on Palm Sunday we will **Chrismate one catechumen** into the Orthodox Christian Faith. Please welcome *Nicholas Peszek*. A 'catechumen' (word has the same root as 'catechism'; which in Greek means 'to teach orally.') is one who is being taught and specifically receiving instruction in the Christian Faith to prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism and/or Chrismation.

Everyone loves **Palm Folding** (April 3), but we also need everyone to be presence for **Lazaros Saturday Liturgy and Sanctuary cleaning** (April 4). **Holy Friday** excuse letters are available. We encourage youth to be with us all day for readings, services and youth retreat (April 10).

**Bright Friday** (April 17) is the feast day for the **St Iakovos Retreat Center** (SIRC) chapel named for the Live-giving Fountain of the Theotokos. Everyone is invited for the liturgy and lunch to follow.

Many churches bring busloads of people to celebrate. Let's get a big group from SSPP to go. Please contact the office to RSVP.

Antipascha aka St Thomas Sunday (April 19) is our next **parish assembly meeting**. Please stay after coffee-fellowship hour to get updates on our community and help guide the future towards fulfilling our mission.

With the early Pascha, the **feast day of St George** (April 23) stands on its own. We encourage everyone to support our sister parish in Chicago by attending Vespers on April 22. We will have liturgy at SSPP on Thursday morning.

Other items of note...

Our Agape Academy director, **Julie Mantice**, announced recently her intention to retire after the completion of the 2026-2027 school year (e.g. June 1, 2027). We appreciate Julie giving us ample advance notice so that we can begin succession planning. The Parish Council and Agape board will begin discussing a succession strategy asap.

Our **Church Sunday School directors**, *Elaine Carrozza*, *Nick & Kery Obradovich* recently announce their intention to step back from their duties effective at the end of this school year (June 1, 2026). We are currently looking for their successors. If anyone is interested in applying, please contact them or Fr. Rick asap.

During the month of March...

We celebrated the **Sunday of Orthodoxy/Icons**, the Oratorical Festival

(Mar.1), Veneration of the Cross procession (Mar.15), **Feast of the Annunciation** (Mar.25). **Lenten Lectures** were on the theme of **Prayer**. And our **Lenten Retreat** (Mar.6-8) was led by *Fr. Sergius Halvorsen* on the theme of "Faith-Based Storytelling." The **Orthodox March for Life** took place in Springfield Illinois (Mar.19).

Coming May...heads up!

**Graduation Sunday for high school seniors** will be **May 3**. Please send your graduate's name, parents' names, school, degree, significant accomplishments and future plans to the office no later than **April 27**.

We will also celebrate our **Church School Promotion Ceremony** on **Sunday May 17**. We will recognize our students and staff and take photos of each class.

**College/University Graduation Sunday** is **June 7**. Please send your graduate's name, parents' names, school, degree, significant accomplishments and future plans to the office no later than **June 1**.

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.

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# FOLLOW US!

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# CONTACTS

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**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

**2026 Parish Council:**

**President-** George Seletos

**VP-** Nick Colis

**Treasurer -** John Mackris

**Asst Treasurer -** Dino Tsitsis

**Recording Sec -** Angie Katsamakis

**Asst Recording Sec -** Christy Gouletas

Vanessa Adinamis

Mary Alukos

Keith Anderson

Frank Andreou

Christine Cotromanes

George Karagiannis

Steve Koulogeorge

Dean Maragos

Dean Matsas

Marann 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,

coffeeconnection@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,

greeksschool@ssppglenview.org

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

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

**Orthodox Couples Club:** occ@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

We the people together form the Body of Christ—to carry out His ministry in our modern time. We 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 experiencing 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/sppglview/-/form/give/now>

Kalo Pascha kai Kali Anastasi! -  
Blessed Holy Week & Pascha!  
+Fr. Rick



## An Article from Father Rick

### *Local Eucharist Communities* by Nathan Hope Pt. 3

After Pentecost in 33AD the Holy Spirit inspired the Apostles to go out establish new Local Eucharist Communities (LECs) in the regions surrounding Judea, Palestine, Samaria and the neighboring countries. Much of this history is recounted by St Luke in the Book of Acts.

Recruiting converts to the new Christian Faith and incorporating them into the new LECs was not just for the Jewish faithful but increasing included the Gentiles (non-Jewish people, p.36). This was a significant obstacle for some in the early Church, but the Apostles officially dealt with and settled the matter at the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15). Through Baptism, Chrismation and the Eucharist, converts did not become individual Christians (there is no such thing) but became part of the Body of Christ—the Church, a community of disciples.

The apostles ordained elder/presbyters or a bishop (episkopos) to oversee each LEC. The question and debate for historians are the tensions between the centrality of bishop (episkopocentric) and the assembly (ekklesia) (pp.39-46). The first century Church was a community of communities that were united in faith but not by a central administration (monepiscopacy). These communities were typically house churches, where Christians gathered in private homes (p.48-50).

In the second and third century, the Church experienced considerable numerical growth. The monepiscopacy became the general practice. The roles of elder/presbyter and bishop became clearly distinct. Presbyters presided over each LEC and one bishop oversaw several of them. It is due to the writings of Justin Martyr (d.165AD), Ignatius of Antioch (d.108AD), and Polycarp of Smyrna (d.156), as well as the Didache that we have a history of this time period (pp.51-58).

After the Emperor Constantine ended the persecution of Christians in 312AD, the Church increasing took on the support and structure of the empire, giving rise to what some call "Imperial Christianity." This solidified the transition of the bishop's role from shepherd of one LEC to administrator of a large diocese containing multiple LECs (p.58). This is when imperial vestments and court ceremonial were imported into liturgical rubrics. During this time the Canons of the councils emphasized the importance of priests and bishops being ordained and assigned to one LEC for life (pp.59-65).

Chapter Two in the book switches focus to Community Life in the First century (p.66). Here again Hoppe emphasizes the charge by Jesus to the Apostle to go out and spread the new Faith primarily through conversion of families in homes. From the very beginning, evangelism was a central activity and identifying characteristic of the Church. The interdependence of persons and families to become self-sacrificing and mutually supporting members of LECs is emphasized by the story of Ananias and Saphira (Acts 5:1-11). They were struck dead because they withheld support from the LEC members, contrary to the deep, intentional community being established. LECs were called on and did help other LECs who had material need.

During this time, there is evidence that LECs began to congregate in larger spaces such as bathhouses, warehouses, private villas, and 'insulae' which were multistory buildings containing residential apartments, shops and workshops (p.84), becoming commonplace by the middle of the third century (p.86).

Next time—examining St Paul's letters to better understand the Christian community of the first century (p.98).

# PASTORAL MESSAGE

## FROM FATHER PETER

### A Message from Father Peter

### *Are we "Crawling, Walking, or Running" to Pascha?*

I was having a conversation over coffee a couple weeks back with a very close friend named Harold. Harold asked me this question, "Father, are you: Crawling, Walking, or Running to Pascha? I asked Harold to repeat the question. He looked into my eyes and said, "Father mou are you crawling, walking, or running to Pascha?" I began to think. The words just ran in my mind. What am I doing? Am I crawling.....Am I walking.....or Am I running to Great and Holy Pascha? Hmm.....What am I doing? What is the purpose of Great and Holy Lent? Holy Week seems like it is just around the corner! What point is Harold trying to get across to me? Harold was just sitting across from me with a smile on his face sipping his coffee. "Well," he said, "are you going to answer my question or not?" I looked at him and I began to smile back at him! "Well Harold mou," I said, "you want to know if I am crawling, walking, or running to Pascha correct? I will tell you since you asked."

I had time to meditate as we entered the first month of the Great Lent back in February. One must look deep down in his/her soul to see if they are in fact crawling, walking, or running. We are asked to not eat certain kinds of food. For example, one may fast from eating fish, eggs, milk, meat, chicken, and olive oil but they do not fast from the heart. Or if we look at it in another way, one may fast from just meat and chicken, and he/she may be fasting from the heart as well. Are we fasting from what is coming out of our mouths? We may be watching what we are eating however have we stopped to think about what we are saying? I believe that St.

John Chrysostom says that it is not only what we put into our mouths (meaning food) but what comes out (meaning are we gossiping or not, inappropriate language or not, etc.).

We are in the period of fasting not only from the different kinds of food, but we must fast with our eyes, hands, feet, ears, mind, and with our tongue. We should include fasting from our electronic devices such as our smart phones, tablets, laptops, etc...We also need to look at giving alms. Alms is not only giving of treasures but it is also about coming to the Lenten Services such as Compline, Presanctified Liturgy, Salutations and the Akathist. It is about giving our time to becoming more involved with our spiritual life and getting closer with our faith.

Personally, I am trying to make the effort to walk to Pascha. The difference from walking, crawling, and running is that we all have unique ways that we experience Great and Holy Lent. The one who crawls might just be dreading Lent. The one who is running is just trying to fulfill their so-called requirements just to be done with Lent. And the one who walks makes sure to take their time with the whole experience of Lent. You see, we all can walk to Pascha if we put our minds to it. It all depends on us! At times we may feel that we are crawling or even running to Pascha! All we must do is give it a (walking) chance. We must listen to the prayer of St. Ephraim and apply that to our daily life. Fasting should not be only from foods, it should be from our social media platforms. It is not what we put into our mouth/body, but it is what comes out that we should strive to be aware of.

Harold looked at me and smiled back and replied, "You see Father mou, we all have different ways to get to Pascha.

That all depends on us. Enjoy your walk into Pascha," he said to me. His smile grew as he was telling me this.

May we all learn to walk to Great and Holy Pascha/Easter. May our journey to Great and Holy Pascha be filled with Our Risen Lord and Savior's love. May He grant peace to the whole world. Have a Blessed Pascha. Amen!

Submitted by  
Fr. Peter Sarolas, Ecomonos



# PARISH COUNCIL

## *A Message from the Parish Council President*

As we approach **Pascha**, I would like to share a few important updates about what has been happening in our parish community.

First, as many of you know, Agape Academy Director **Julie Mantice** recently announced her intention to retire following the completion of the **2026–2027 school year**. We are grateful that Julie has provided ample notice so that we may begin the process of identifying her successor. On behalf of our parish, I would like to sincerely thank Julie for her many years of dedicated service to our parish and to Agape Academy.

Second, I would like to let everyone that the **Spring Parish Assembly** will be held on **Sunday, April 19**. The Parish Assembly is an important opportunity for parishioners to participate in the life and future of our church. As members of the Body of Christ, we are called to gather not only in worship, but also in shared stewardship and responsibility for our parish.

These meetings provide important updates on our ministries, finances, and stewardship efforts, while also giving parishioners the opportunity to ask questions, share ideas, and remain informed. Through open communication and participation, we strengthen our unity and continue the mission of the Church.

As a reminder, our mission as a parish is this: **to proclaim the Gospel through Orthodox Christian worship, fellowship, service, and witness**. Everything we do as a parish community should ultimately support and advance that mission.

Please keep an eye out for the agenda and other important information about the assembly. It's the Parish Council's intent to foster clearer communication and provide parishioners with helpful context prior to the assembly.

Finally, it is not too early to mark your calendars for our **2026 Church Festival**, which will be held on **July 24 and 25**. The festival committee is already hard at work planning the event and welcomes volunteers from across our parish community. Your time and participation will help make the festival an even greater success this year.

Wishing everyone a **blesed Holy Week and a joyful Pascha**.



# YOUTH GROUP

## *Happy Lent!*

To kick off Lent on Cheesefare Sunday, our Senior GOYAnS hosted a pasta luncheon for the parish. They prepared two types of pasta, mac and cheese, and cheese and cracker spreads. After working hard all morning, they raised \$1,014 for OCMC ministries, helping to spread Orthodoxy around the world—truly showcasing the spirit of almsgiving. Thank you to those who donated and gave.

Our Junior GOYAnS also showcased almsgiving by baking Prospora for our church. Thank you Tracey for teaching us how to bake.

March has been a great month for our youth program. One initiative we introduced during Lent was scheduling youth events around church services, encouraging our kids to participate more fully in worship. I've been really proud of them for taking time out of their evenings to attend Lenten services during the week. Afterward, we've had meaningful discussions on the Prayer of St. Ephrem, the Cross, and the Theotokos.

Looking ahead, we're excited for our Holy Week activities, highlighted by our Holy Friday Retreat. All kids are encouraged to attend the 9:30 AM service and stay afterward to help decorate the Kouvouklion and Epitaphios. We'll then share lunch and spend time together with activities. Students can be excused from school, and a note is available from Father Rick if needed. Please refer to the Holy Week schedule online and in our youth emails for more details.

It is with bittersweet news that our own Sophia Castleberry will be leaving to attend Holy Cross with her husband, Levi. While we are sad to see her go, we are incredibly grateful and proud to celebrate all that she has given to our church and youth program.

Sophia faithfully served as a youth advisor for six years, helping to grow and shape the program into what it is today. Her love for the kids was evident in everything she did, inspiring them and drawing them closer to Christ.

She will be deeply missed, but we are thankful for the lasting impact she has made on our community.

We plan to celebrate Sophia on her last Sunday, May 3rd. We will have ice cream and treats for everyone—please join us as we thank her and wish her well on this next chapter.

We hope to see you throughout Holy Week and Pascha! We also have end-of-the-year celebrations coming up—stay tuned!

Have a blessed day,  
Steven Thell - Youth Director



*Senior GOYAnS baking Pasta for cheesefare Sunday 02/22/26*



*Kathryne Cotromanes, AddyJohnson, & Eleni Hilicki presenting their Saint Ephrem Skit 3/06/26*



*Senior GOYAnS during coffee fellowship 2/22/26*

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



*Father Sergius with Randa and Helen*



*Father Sergius Preaching at the Lenten Retreat 2026*



*Father Sergius Preach*



*SSPP Lenten Vespers 3 - 15 - 2026*



*Lenten Retreat 2026*

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



*Sunday of Orthodoxy Icons 2026*



*Veneration of the Cross 2026*



*Veneration of the Cross 2026*



*Catechumens 3-13-2026*

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER



*SSPP Oratorical Festival 2026*



*New Sacristy Cabinets 2026 in memory of Father Angelo Artemas*



*Welcome to the newly baptized and chrismated servant of God Colt-Nicholas! Congratulations to godparent Nouna Alexis Lavko and to parents Katie Lamantia and Nick Gongorek!*



*Deacon Elias Pagonis Ordained 2-7-2026*

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# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

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*Glenbrook North High School Students Church Tour 3-13-2026*



*Glenview Community Church Visit 3-8-2026*



*Acolyte Myrrhbearer Reader Training 3-15-2026*

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# BOOK STORE AND MORE

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## *Book and Icon Store*

Fill Your Easter Basket with Gifts that Nourish the Soul. Everything is chosen to deepen the joy of the Feast and bless your home. Visit the bookstore after services and fill your Easter basket with the light of Christ! As you prepare your Pascha baskets, remember to stop by your Book & Icon Store. Find meaningful items to complete your celebration:

- Prayer books and children's storybooks
- Holy Week Prayer Books
- Pascha Candles for our youngest parishioners
- Icons, candles, and incense
- Red eggs with surprise icons inside
- Crosses, bracelets, and small gift items
- Beautiful cards for family and friends
- Icon magnets: Resurrection and Hospitality of Abraham



## *High School Graduation Sunday*

On Sunday, May 2nd, we will celebrate our high school graduates. Please go to [ssppglenview.org](https://ssppglenview.org), search for Graduation Sunday, and complete the 2026 form to make sure your graduate is recognized on this day.

## *First Quarter Statements*

If you have an email on file in our parish directory you will receive an email with your 2026 1st Quarter Statement. This is an addition to the statement you will receive in the mail.

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# GREEK FEST 2026

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*Save the Date!*



**SS PETER & PAUL  
GREEK  
FESTIVAL**

*July 25th & 26th  
1:00pm - 10:00pm*

Volunteer NOW to help during the Fest.  
Go to Sign-Up Genius by scanning this QR Code:



Want to help with Fest planning and organizing?  
Contact Joanne Trahanas, Fest co-chair, at  
[joannetrahanas@mac.com](mailto:joannetrahanas@mac.com)

# 2026 PLEDGERS

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge donation for 2026 to support our parish and our ministries. Working together, we strive to fulfill our mission "Connecting with God and Each Other" Thank you again! Glory to God.

Cynthia & Kerry Abbott  
 Scott & Athena Abbott  
 Elias & Jeannette Abou Mourad  
 Evan & Anne Marie Adams  
 Evelyn Adams  
 John D. Adinamis  
 Vanessa Adinamis  
 Gus & Daphne Alexander  
 Frank & Penny Alexis  
 Greg & Kim Alexopoulos  
 Pola Alexopoulos  
 Nicholas & Marcie Alexos  
 Mary Alukos  
 Zach Alukos  
 Gregory & Penny Amarantos  
 Constance Anagnost  
 Gus Anagnostopoulos  
 Angie Anast  
 Keith & Randa Anderson  
 Frank & Magdelene Andreou  
 Fr. Richard & Presb. Jane Andrews  
 Sophia App  
 Effie Aralis  
 James & Amy Aralis  
 Tom & Georgia Aralis  
 Linda Argeros  
 Steven & Laura Assimos  
 Leon & Eleni Athas  
 Irene Athens  
 Angela Avgerinos  
 Christina & Ivan Ballester  
 Nancy Barkulis-Gianaras  
 Zachary & Petroula Bazianos  
 Donna Benetatos  
 Scott & Elizabeth Betzelos  
 Diane Blanas  
 John & Roberta Blaseos  
 Paul & Lindsey Boidanis  
 Michael & Dina Bratta  
 Bart & Irene Brotsos  
 Carol Burke  
 Elaine Buscaglia  
 Heather Butz  
 Nicholas Callas  
 Steve & Carrie Callas  
 Elaine & Michael Carrozza  
 Maria Chakos  
 Susanne Chakos

Ann Chang  
 George & Anastasia Chiampas  
 Peter & Priscilla Chioros  
 Pauline Christopher & Gregory Ziesemer  
 Dr. Stavros & Demetra Christos  
 George & Minou Colis  
 John & Carrie Colis  
 Nicholas Colis  
 Mary Lee Corolis  
 James & Victoria Costakis  
 Angelo & Maria Costas  
 Louis Cotromanos  
 Dr. George & Joan Cromydas  
 Valerie & Martin Crowley  
 James & Deborah Dades  
 Patty Damisch  
 Stathy & William Darcy  
 Brad & Doreen DeSent  
 Jane & Jeff Devine  
 Constantina & Mark Dornan  
 Alexis & Matthew Douglas  
 Dr. Stavros & Eva Douvas  
 George & Lucia Economos  
 Chris & Diane Economy  
 Guy Edelman  
 Mitchell & Helen Edlund  
 Demetra & Rogers Faden  
 Allison & Brian Falk  
 Michael & Valerie Foradas  
 Helen & Joseph Franz  
 Fritz & Cathryn Freidinger  
 Gus & Soteria Frentzos  
 Esther Gabrielides  
 George & Laureen George  
 Charles & Denise Georgis  
 Sophia Giannakopoulos  
 Tom Giolas  
 Anastasia & Gilbert Gonzalez  
 Scott & Maria Gordon  
 James & Anastasia Gottreich  
 Chris Gravenites  
 Helen Gravenites  
 Dean & Donna Gregory  
 Peter & Paula Guletsky  
 George & Tina Haggis  
 Patrick & Ida Haris  
 Cheri Hess  
 Maren & Benjamin Hilgendorf

Robert & Adrienne Hirsch  
 Mary Houvouras  
 Patricia & Marco Iannessa  
 Anastasios & Sandra Iatrides  
 Matina & Grant Ingallinera  
 Mary Jimenez  
 Dean Johnsen  
 Mark Johnsen  
 Mike & Terrie Jurichko  
 Gail Kachoyeanos  
 Nick & Catherine Kafkis  
 Fr. Kosmas & Anna Kallis  
 Tony & Ramina Kalogerakos  
 Mercouri & Faith Kanatzidis  
 James & Rosa Kanellos  
 Panagiotis Kaparos  
 Bess Kapetan  
 John Kapetan  
 Constantine Karagiannis  
 George Karagiannis  
 Andrew Karamitos  
 George & Sandra Karas  
 Joanna Karatzas & Philip Enquist  
 Demetrios & Jena Karcazes  
 Christ & Alexandria Kardasis  
 George T. Karkazis  
 Myrsini Karkazis  
 Dean & Tina Katsamakis  
 Anastasia & Robert Kelly  
 John & Angela Kiriklakis  
 Peter & Patricia Kladis  
 Joe & Carolyn Kolbaba  
 James Kolovos & Anne Miller  
 Peter & Clara Kopsian  
 James & Ariadne Kopsias  
 George Korompilas  
 Lewis & Debbie Korompilas  
 Dina Koudounis  
 Mark & Karen Koulogeorge  
 Steve & Phaedra Koulogeorge  
 Danny & Christine Kourouklis  
 Deborah & Gregory Kunkel  
 Carly & John Lacombe  
 Beth & Bo LaMotte  
 Helene & Jeffrey Lanaghan  
 Peter A. & Tammy Langas  
 Dimitris & Anastasia Lazarou  
 Juanita Leakakos

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# 2026 PLEDGERS

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Olivia Lehocky  
 George & Pamela Leventis  
 Marie Leventis  
 Bill & Kiki Liberopoulos  
 Katie & Christopher Lien  
 John S. & Maria Livaditis  
 Alan & Angie Lofgren  
 George D. & JoAnna Logothetis  
 Aristithis & Panayiota Loukas  
 Alex Machinis  
 Evan James & Marika Mammias  
 Joanna Mammias  
 Mike & Lauren Maniatis  
 Evangelos & Athanasia Manis  
 George & Julia Mantice  
 George & Stephanie Mantis  
 Dean & Antonia Maragos  
 Donald & Helen Mariano  
 George & Stacy Marinakis  
 Kathryn & Christopher Matern  
 Elias & Joanne Matsakis  
 Christopher McIntyre  
 Dar McIntyre  
 Nicholas & Katie McIntyre  
 Nicholas & Frances Mechales  
 Marc Gregory Mestanas  
 Petar & Anna Milovanovic  
 Carl & Elaine Mitsakopoulos  
 Evangeline & Robert Morse  
 John & Diana Moustoukas  
 Paula & Jonathan Mueller  
 Danielle & Phillip Nardi  
 Demetra & John Nasiakos  
 George & Patricia Nassos  
 Alexander & Georgia Nellessen  
 Vicky Nestor  
 Joanna Nicholas  
 Helen Nichols  
 Aristeia & Vasili Ninis  
 Odiseas & Kristin Ninis  
 Nicholas & Kery Obradovich  
 Dina O'Connell  
 Jackie O'Connell  
 Martha & Lawrence O'Connell  
 Christina O'Donnell  
 Jenny O'Donnell  
 Manolis & Stacy Olandezos  
 Nicole & Ryan Olds

Cynthia & Glenn Olson  
 Mae Panoplos  
 James & Georgette Papadakis  
 Mia & Vasilios Papadopoulos  
 George & Niki Pappamihel  
 Alexandros & Evagelia Pappas  
 Christina Pappas  
 Danielle Pappas  
 George & Stephanie Pappas  
 Nicholas J. & Linda Pappas  
 Peter L. Pappas  
 Pamela & Kevin Paradies  
 Pamela & Richard Pasminski  
 Nickolas & Sandra Paterakos  
 Steve & Dena Pavlopoulos  
 Joseph & Vicky Perna  
 Nicholas Peszek  
 Laura Peterson  
 Peter T. & Larissa Petrakis  
 Lee & Jeannie Poteracki  
 John & Nina Pouloupoulos  
 Angelo & Bethany Poulos  
 Catherine & Harry Poulos  
 Nancie Poulos & Fred Watson  
 Peter & Susan Poulos  
 Steven & Karin Poulos  
 George & Athanasia Pratikakis  
 Tina & Gregory Riemer  
 Tracy & David Ronstadt  
 George & Demetra Roubekas  
 Pete & Joanne Routsolias  
 Rebecca & Nagui Sabri  
 Dn. Ted & Diaconissa Sonia Saclarides  
 Jimmy & Elizabeth Samartzis  
 James & Suzanne Santos  
 Christine Schenk  
 Alexandra Scoulas  
 Presbyteria Mary Scoulas  
 George & Holland Seletos  
 John & Maria Sellis  
 William & Susan Shaheen  
 Georgene & Larry Shanley  
 Nicholas & Toula Sideris  
 Patricia Siuntres  
 George & Patricia Skoul  
 Carole Slavens  
 Frances Slisz  
 Lucas & Shannon Smith

James & Eleni Soukoulis  
 Steven & Asimo Souleles  
 Thomas & Megan Spathis  
 George & Therese Speropoulos  
 Christopher & Georgia Stefanski  
 Paula Steil  
 Peter & Fontaine Stellas  
 Christopher Stephanos  
 Maria & Brian Sullivan  
 Max Sutter & Jeannette Penniman  
 Suzanne & Harold Symanietz  
 Dr. John & Constance Tasiopoulos  
 James & Aphrodite Tatoes  
 Steven Thell  
 Dr. Constantine & Sophia Theodoropoulos  
 Eva Thomas  
 Antonia & Jeffrey Tollefsen  
 Douglas & Valerie Trabaris  
 Joanne Trahanas  
 Dr. Demetrius Trakas  
 Nick & Charlotte Tryfonopoulos  
 Constadinos & Carrie Tsitsis  
 Konstantine & Niki Tsitsis  
 Kris Tsitsis & Bill Scannell  
 Elaine Tzakis  
 Tula Tzakis  
 Irene Tziforos  
 Peter & Susan Valessares  
 Caidi & Steven Vanderporten  
 Opie & Maria Vasilopoulos  
 John & Effie Venetos  
 John & Stephanie Vlahakis  
 Georgia Vlahos  
 Bill J. & Peggy Vranas  
 John & Annette Vranas  
 Tom & Allison Vranas  
 William & Affie Vranas  
 John Vratimos  
 Tina Vulgaris  
 Brett & Michelle Woodley  
 Samer & Sylvia Zabaneh  
 Emelie Zaharakis  
 Jeannette Zissis

*\* A pledge is recognized as a commitment to give stewardship and/or actual giving when the total amount is gifted in advance or early in the current year. Those who commit through a weekly, monthly, or quarterly donation are also recognized.*

# PHILOPTOCHOS

## *A Letter from Our President!*



Dear Church Family,

Kali Anastasi! I extend my heartfelt wishes to you and your loved ones for joy, peace and many blessings during the Easter season.

In that spirit, I warmly encourage all of you to support the upcoming Palm Sunday Bake Sale, Palm Sunday Luncheon and our spring fundraiser on May 1, "A Night to Amaze". These activities are vital to our fundraising efforts as we gather in support of the philanthropic work of Philoptochos.

Please join us for our general meeting on April 21, when Elizabeth Anastos Holmes will offer a special presentation, "The Art of Appraising: Discovering the Value of Your Treasurers". We look forward to sharing this interesting program with our community.

Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity. May this sacred season bring love and many blessings to all.

With Agape,

Julie Anastos  
Philoptochos President

## *This Month Highlights*

### *Easter Basket Sale*

Don't miss out, order your Easter Basket today at the QR code below.

**THE EASTER BASKET  
COSTS \$100 AND INCLUDES:**

**TSOUREKI (1+ POUND)  
BAKLAVA (6 PIECES)  
KOURAMBIETHES (9 PIECES)  
KOULOURAKIA (12 PIECES)  
MELOMAKARONA (9 PIECES)  
ASSORTED EASTER NOVELTIES**



### *Palm Sunday Bake Sale – April 5th*

Palm Sunday Bake Sale is one of our major annual fundraisers that supports our many philanthropic projects. At this sale, you can pick up your mouthwatering Tsourekia, Karidopita, Koulourakia, Kourambiethes, Melomakarona, Spanakopites, Tiropites, and more. Stop by after church, better yet, stop by AND join our Palm Sunday luncheon. Details below...

### *Palm Sunday Luncheon – April 5th*

Tickets are going fast! Join us for Palm Sunday Luncheon after Liturgy on April 5. Would you like to be involved and help us serve that day? We would love that! Please reach out to Diane Economy at [kafedmp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kafedmp@sbcglobal.net).

# PHILOPTOCHOS

## *This Month Highlights cont.*

## *Previous Month Highlights*

### **May 1<sup>st</sup> "A Night To Amaze"**

Get your tickets today for our important annual evening fundraiser. It is sure to be a good time, and no doubt you will be helping a wonderful cause. A portion of the proceeds will support "Friends of the Hogar Rafael Ayau" a registered 501(c) entity, Supporting adult orphans with a strong foundation for a bright future.

### **✝ March 11th Lenten Dinner and Lecture**

The Philoptochos is hosted the Lenten dinner on Wednesday, March 11 following the 5:30pm liturgy. Garden hot dogs from Portillo's with all the fixings along with kale and bean soup, Georgene's veggie dish, Patty D and Eleni's salads, chips, bread, fruit, cookies and waters kept everyone satiated. Helen Theodoropoulos discussed The Lord's Prayer. It was an enlightening evening.

**Saints Peter & Paul Philoptochos  
Spring Dinner Event**

**A NIGHT TO AMAZE**

Entertainment by  
**mentalist SIDNEY friedman**



Friday May 1st  
6:00pm  
The Glen View Club  
100 Golf Road  
Golf, Illinois 60029



\$125/person

Cash Bar

Silent Auction/Raffles  
on sale night of event

Reservations:

Eleni 847-877-6987

Joanne 708-207-4112



As seen on numerous national TV shows including 8 times on the TODAY SHOW, on ABC-TV's Countdown 2025 and many more. Sidney incorporates mind power, perception and intuition making the entertainment meaningful.



A portion of the proceeds will go to "Friends of the Hogar Rafael Ayau" registered 501(c) entity supporting orphans with a strong foundation for a bright future.

PLEASE CONSIDER A MONETARY DONATION IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND



# PHILOPTOCHOS

## Charity Spotlight

Each month we highlight one of our charity recipients. This month's spotlight is:

## Charity Spotlight

Fill a Heart 4 Kids (FAH4K) is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting foster, homeless, and at-risk children in the local community. Serving more than 4,000 children each year, FAH4K provides essential resources—including food, clothing, and educational support—alongside meaningful programs designed to uplift, encourage, and remind each child that they are seen and valued. The organization also hosts volunteer opportunities six days a week, engaging individuals, families, and groups in hands-on service.



*On Saturday, March 14th a group of Philoptochos women joined FAH4K to help children who didn't have enough to eat during spring break. The Philoptochos made a donation and our volunteers helped pack care boxes with cereal, chips, spaghetti, mac and cheese, canned veggies and other things for the kids. The boxes were decorated with cute, upbeat artwork that was made by other volunteers. As a result of these efforts, the children had food for 9 days and knew they were loved.*

## Save these Dates!

**Sunday, April 5** – Palm Sunday Bake Sale / Palm Sunday Luncheon

**Sunday, April 12** – EASTER PASCHA

**Tuesday, April 21** – Philoptochos General Meeting & Program

**Friday, May 1** – Spring Fundraiser “A Night To Amaze”

**Tuesday, May 19** – Philoptochos General Meeting – Budget and Program

**Sunday, June 28** – SSPP Vespers – Philoptochos hosts coffee hour

**Monday, June 29** – SSPP Feast Day – Philoptochos & Parish Council host lunch after service

**Tuesday, June 30 thru Thursday, July 2** – National Clergy Laity in Cleveland, OH

**Saturday, July 25 & Sunday, July 26** – SSPP Greek Fest 2026

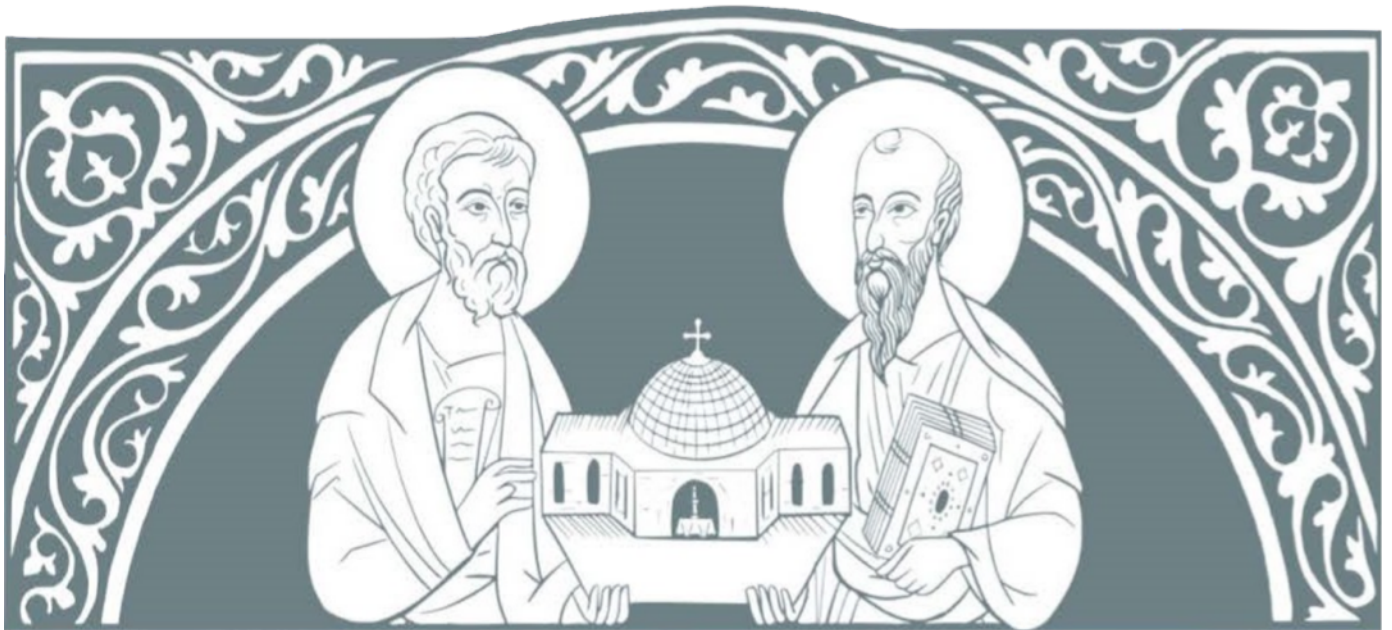
*\*Unless otherwise specified, events will take place at SSPP*

# APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 +PALM SUNDAY +ST THEOPHORA OF ALEXANDRIA NO CHURCH SCHOOL 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 12pm Philoptochos Fish Luncheon 7pm BRIDEGROOM SERVICE	6 7pm BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 8:30pm VAL BRIDEGROOM AND FRIES	7 9am PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7pm BRIDEGROOM SERVICE	8 10:30am Bible Study 5:30pm NINTH HOUR 6pm PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7:30pm Lenten Meal & Lecture	9 7am VESPERAL LITURGY of MYSTICAL SUPPER 3pm HOLY UNCTION SERVICE 7pm BRIDEGROOM SERVICE w/ HOLY UNCTION	10 9am ROYAL HOURS 11am Youth Retreat - Decorate Church 3pm VESPERS - DESCENT FROM CROSS 7pm LAMENTATIONS SERVICE 10pm Senior GOYA Holy Friday Hangout	11 +ST ANTPAS OF PERGAMON 9am VESPERAL LITURGY with Youth Choir 11pm ORTHROS-MATINS
12 ++GREAT & HOLY PASCHA++ 12 am RESURRECTION - ANASTASI 1am DIVINE LITURGY 2:30am Lamb Dinner 11am AGAPE VESPERS	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 ST RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS & IRENE 8:30am ORTHROS 9:30am LITURGY 6:30pm Philoptochos Board Mtg 7pm Cancer Support-Zoom Only	15 +BRIGHT WEEK 7pm PC Exec Meeting 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	16 7am Men's Study 10am Dynamis "Kali Parek" Breakfast at Georgie V's in Northbrook 6pm Men's Social Fundraiser at Double Tree in Skokie	17 9am Liturgy at Retreat Center at Saint Iakovos Retreat Center in WI 6:30pm Jr. and St. GOYA Bright Week Feast	18 9am Metropolis Oratorical Festival at St. Mary's GOC in Minneapolis MN 5pm VESPERS 6pm Parish Council Dinner at Jameson's Charhouse in Skokie
19 +ANTIPASCHA / ST THOMAS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 12pm Parish Assembly Meeting 12pm Greek Dance	20 8pm Stewardship Meeting	21 6pm Philoptochos General Mtg	22 +ST NATHANAEAL THE APOSTLE 10:30am Bible Study 6pm FIJ Gathering 7pm Vespers of St George at St George GOC in Chicago 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	23 +ST GEORGE TROPHYBEARER 7am Men's Study 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 10am AGAPE Divine Liturgy: Saint George at Dimitris in Deerfield 6:30pm Greek Dance Workshop 7pm Parish Council Mtg	24 Senior GOYA Chicago Day Trip 5pm VESPERS	25 +ST MARK THE EVANGELIST Senior GOYA Chicago Day Trip 5pm VESPERS
26 +3RD SUNDAY PASCHA - MYRRHBEARERS 8:15am ORTHROS-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am 2nd Grade Field Trip 12pm Greek Dance	27 +ST SYMEON OF JERUSALEM - MYRRHBEARERS	28 10:30am Bible Study 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	29 +STS JASON & SOSIPATROS 10:30am Bible Study 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	30 +ST IAKOVOS/JAMES - BRO OF ST JOHN EVANGELIST 7am Men's Study 10am Dynamis "Kali Parek" Lunch at Psistaria in Lincolnwood	<b>COMING IN MAY</b> 3 Graduate Sunday - high school 4-7 Metropolis Clergy Retreat 7 IOCC Chicago Dinner 10 Mother's Day 17 Church School Matriculation 21 STS CONSTANTINE & HELEN 22-23 Junior Olympics 25 Memorial Day holiday	

*1401 Wagner Road  
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