
THE MESSENGER

MAY 2026

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.1

A Message from Father Rick

Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Christ is Risen!

I would like to take a moment to remember our recently reposed in the Lord brother clergy *Bishop Timothy Bakakos of Hexamillion, Fr. Joseph Tzougros, Fr. Anthony Tzortzis and Fr. John Ketchum*—who fell asleep on Holy Thursday. May the Lord God remember their priesthood in His Kingdom forever.

We also wish and pray ‘Axios!’ for our newly ordained *Bishop Dionysios Anagnostopoulos of Zenopolis*, who will continue serving the Metropolis of Chicago as our chancellor.

On Palm Sunday, in the presence of over 800 people, we recognized *Deacon Theodore Saclarides* decades of service to our parish including ten years as an ordained deacon. We pray many years and good health to Deacon Ted and Diakonissa Sonia in their retirement! We thank the Philoptochos for hosting our second annual Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon that same day.

We also must thank the numerous volunteers who helped make Holy Week beautiful and special again this year. The flowers, decorations, eggs, palm folding, bay branches/leaves, chanters, choir, usher/greeters, and especially *Adam Peterson* and *Alvaro Lima* who organized and cooked the **Pascha Lamb Dinner**. We also recognize the strong youth participation through the acolytes, myrrhbearers, readers and youth choir on Holy Saturday.

Graduation Sunday for high school seniors will be *May 3rd*. Please send your graduate’s name, parents’ names, school, degree, significant accomplishments and future plans asap.

The annual International Orthodox Christian Charities (**IOCC**) **Chicago banquet** will be *Thursday May 7th* at the Empress Banquets in Addison. For more info and to purchase tickets, contact national board member *Kim Adams-Angelos* or *Patty Damisch*. This is great way to support the continuing relief efforts around the world, as well as the US Frontline Chaplains, Action Teams and HomeFront programs.

Blessed Mother’s Day on *May 10th* to all our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers and mother figures. Thanks for all that you have done and still do for us. We remember also the greatest mother of all, the Panagia Virgin Mary Theotokos!

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

The end (**Apodosi**) of the **Paschal** season will be marked with Liturgy on *Wednesday May 20th*. This is the last day we sing *Christos Anesti...Christ is Risen...* Our sister parish of **Ascension** in Lincolnshire celebrates their parish feast day that evening and the following morning. We will have Liturgy here at

SSPP on Thursday morning *May 21st* – also the feast of Saints Constantine and Helen.

Junior Olympics will take place at the end of the month (*May 22-24*). There are numerous sports and competitive activities for kids of many different age groups to participate. Please contact athletic co-directors *Steve Conway* and *Chris Batrich* for more info.

Our second annual **Animal/Pet Blessing service** has been rescheduled to *Saturday May 30th at 4pm*. Please be sure your pet is leashed, caged or otherwise under control to make sure everyone (including the pets) is safe and happy.

The national **Memorial Day** holiday on *May 25th* is set aside to remember our fallen service members who fought in foreign wars. Occurring on the last Monday of May each year, our parish conducts a memorial service at the Greek section in Memorial Park Cemetery in Skokie at *10am Monday morning*. Please join together in prayer and support for one another that day.

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

Our Agape Academy director, **Julie Mantice**, announced recently her intention to retire after the completion of the 2026-2027 school year (e.g. June

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CONTACTS

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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

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.

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/ssppglview/-/form/give/now>



Truly He is Risen!
+Fr. Rick

PASTORAL MESSAGE

FROM FATHER PETER

A Message from Father Peter

Jumping for Joy!

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη! Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen! Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese! ¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Enverdad ha resucitado! al-Masīh qām! Haqqan qām! Hristos a ĩnviat! Adevărat a ĩnviat! Harisutos Fukkatsu! Jitsu ni Fukkatsu! Kristo amefufukka! Kweli amefufukka!

On April 12th, we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As I am fairly new to Saints Peter and Paul, I wanted to share with you that my favorite church service/services are Great and Holy Week leading into Pascha. As a young child who served in the altar as an altar boy at Saint Basil Church in Chicago, I was able to learn a great deal from my parish priest who is also my spiritual father. Fr. Chris Kerhulas would make the church look so beautiful with all of the icons decorated with beautiful flowers. He would decorate the "ikonostasio" (Icon screen) with different kinds of palm branches and bay leaves. The bier (kouvouklion) would be decorated with gorgeous flowers. I was truly blessed with some great memories of Great and Holy Week as well as Pacha/Easter.

This is something that I have in common with my children. I remember the excitement in our three sons, especially during the Great and Holy Saturday morning service. I must confess this.....it is one of my favorite church services of Great and Holy Week. During Great and Holy Saturday Morning Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, while the clergy exclaim/announce "Ανάστα, ο Θεός, κρίνον τήν γήν, ὅτι σύκατακληρονομήσεις εν πάσι τοίς ἔθνεσι.....Arise, O God; judge the earth, for You shall inherit all the Gentiles."....., I have this fond memory of seeing our children. Our first born was about eight years old jumping up and down clenching his fists with pure excitement as the church was being adorned with shredded flowers (carnations, rose petals, and bay leaves just to name a few flowers). I also remember when our middle son was about five years old, he literally collected about three (normal size) pews of the

flowers that were on the church floor, and he proceeded to put the flowers in his zip lock baggie. I remember seeing our youngest son with the biggest smile on his face as he walked around the whole church picking up flowers for his baggie.

The tradition with my family is that they would take their little zip lock baggies and pick up the flowers that were on the church floor, and with a huge smile on their face they would fill up their little zip lock baggies. They would make sure that they had collected enough for their siblings just in case they did not collect enough for themselves. Talk about looking out for each other! They brought the flowers home to give blessings to our household, and the flowers serve as a reminder of our Risen Lord.

To see the pure excitement in my kids made me feel this unique joy and excitement that is hard to express and put into words. I never had a chance as a kid growing up in church to witness the services of Holy Week like my kids have. The look on their faces was priceless during the Holy Saturday morning service.

For me, this just brings me joy and excitement that they truly feel and experience our beautiful Holy Saturday service.

For me as a priest and a parent I get to see our three sons in a different light. It brings me great joy to see them embrace the church services like they have. Now that our oldest is living on the campus of DePaul we hear him tell us how he will be navigating classes and the Holy Week Services, as well as how he will be coming home Holy Saturday afternoon. Likewise, how our middle son and youngest are expressing to us the days that they would like to come to church for the Holy Week Services. I am grateful to have embedded the love of these services in my children as they are in my heart.

In a way, I was jumping for joy inwards as they were showing it outwards. Great and Holy Week is truly a unique experience for all of us to take part in – if we only allow ourselves to witness it with joy and

excitement. I pray that your future experiences during Great and Holy Pascha give you and your family that jump for joy to help you do His Will and to live a Christian lifestyle. May our Risen Lord and Savior as well as our patron saints, Peter and Paul, Chief of the Apostles continue to guide us and protect us all.

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη! Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen! Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese! ¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Enverdad ha resucitado! al-Masīh qām! Haqqan qām! Hristos a ĩnviat! Adevărat a ĩnviat! Harisutos Fukkatsu! Jitsu ni Fukkatsu! Kristo amefufukka! Kweli amefufukka!

Fr. Peter Sarolas, Economos



RENEWING LORD'S HOME

Newest Update on Renewing Our Lords Home

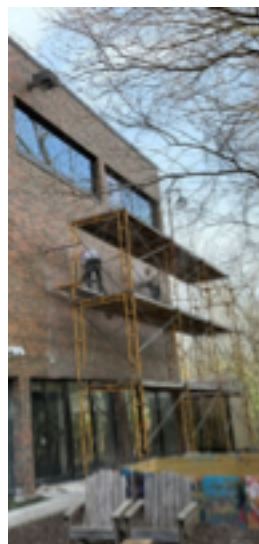
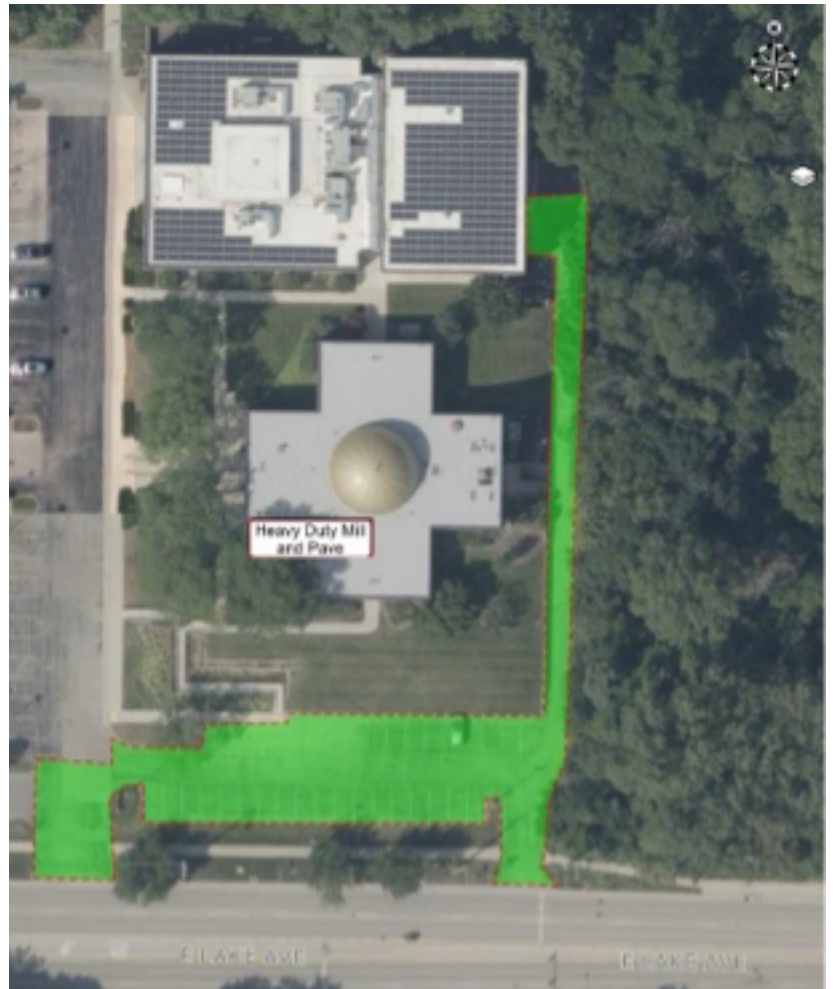
The Parish approved a Capital Plan in 2019 to renew the components of our Church and Latto Center buildings. We have completed numerous major and minor projects in excess of \$2 million over the last five years through your generous annual stewardship commitments and special donations without a Capital Fundraising Appeal. As we celebrate the Risen Christ, we are again busy planning and executing several projects again this year. Let me know if you have any ideas for a project that you would like to sponsor john@vranas.com. In the meantime, please continue your generous annual stewardship commitments to fund these projects.

Newest Updates:

This year's masonry restoration and tuckpointing project will target the North and South facades of the main church building and the East Façade of the Latto Center. The plan is to have all elevations of both buildings completed by 2028.

The final phase to restore the entire parking lot will be the South lot and the rear driveway will start shortly.

The Playground will receive a new surface, new fencing and some new playground equipment and the HVAC serving the spaces under the Latto Center gym will be replaced.



YOUTH GROUP

Happy Lent!

Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen!

I hope you had a blessed Holy Week and Pascha. Our youth group was very active throughout the week, and it was a joy to see so many of our kids involved. Holy Week is often the time of year when we see increased participation, and it was encouraging to witness such a strong presence from our youth and families.

We had a great turnout for our Palm Folding Night, folding over 1,000 palms together as a parish. On Lazarus Saturday, many of our youth help clean the church for Holy Week. Throughout the week, our acolytes and Myrrhbearers faithfully served in the altar and participated in readings.

On Holy Friday, we hosted a youth retreat with a variety of meaningful activities. The kids helped decorate the Kouvouklion, strip bay leaves, and rotate through stations focused on Holy Week. Thank you to all the volunteers who made the day run smoothly, and a special thank you to our Junior GOYAns who helped lead the stations. Later that evening, our Senior GOYAns gathered in the youth room after the Lamentations service and ate some french fries. We concluded our Paschal celebration with our annual egg hunt.

It's moments like these that really show how alive our parish is—especially through our youth. But just as Holy Week and Pascha come to a close, we are reminded that the life of the Church and the youth program continue beyond these days.

Pascha comes with so much joy—full churches, bright candles, and the sound of Christ is Risen echoing everywhere. And then, life slowly returns to normal. But Pascha was never meant to be just a moment—it's something we are called to carry with us.

Saint Seraphim of Sarov reminds us, "Acquire the Spirit of peace, and thousands around you will be saved." The light and peace we experience during Pascha are meant to take root in our hearts and continue in our daily lives.

This is especially important for our youth. Kids are shaped not only by what they hear, but by what they see—how we live, how we respond, and how we stay connected to Christ even when life gets busy.

After Pascha, it's easy to drift. But this is where the real work begins. The spirit of the Resurrection is kept alive in small, everyday choices—showing up to church, making time for prayer, choosing patience, and staying rooted in the life of the Church and the youth program.

*Have a blessed day,
Steven Thell - Youth Director*



Kids Decorating the Kouvouklion 4/10/26



Fr. Peter leading a discussion about Holy Week with our Jr. GOYAns 3/31/26



GOYAns BrightWeek BBQ 4/17/26



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GREEK FEST 2026

Save the Date!



**SS PETER & PAUL
GREEK
FESTIVAL**

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

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Want to help with Fest planning and organizing?
Contact Joanne Trahanas, Fest co-chair, at
joannetrahanas@mac.com

PASCHA 2026



PASCHA 2026



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

*Please Welcome our new members to your beautiful parish!
Joseph and Antoinette Delutio & Anthony and Penelope Mizzi*



Bright Week BBQ on 4/17/26



Palm Sunday Luncheon



Kouvouklion Carriers for Friday night Lamentations Service 4/10/26



Church School had a wonderful turnout for Youth Choir on Holy Saturday. Their voices were angelic!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Newly baptized and chrismated servant of God, Olivia Nardi on April 18th. Congratulations to godparent Nouno Nicholas Tasiopoulos and parents, Danielle & Philip Nardi!



Holy Saturday Morning Service



On Palm Sunday we recognized Deacon Theodore Saclarides for his decades of service to our parish community.



Newly Chrismated servant of God Nicholas Peszek on Palm Sunday. Sponsor is Christine Cotromanes. Congratulations to all!



Holy Friday Descent of the Cross Service

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

Coffee Fellowship

Want to participate in your SSPP community, but not sure where to start? **Serve with Coffee Fellowship!** Join or create a team and be a part of a cherished time after liturgy to connect and strengthen our community. This ministry is an ideal way to “dip a toe” in an SSPP activity while also meeting and greeting our parish community. We currently have several teams in rotation to support a host or assist when one isn't scheduled; We aim to increase that number, so reach out to family and friends.... or both... and jump in! Teams of 4 work well and no experience necessary – just a heart for fellowship and connection.

We're also SEEKING HOSTS! Coffee Fellowship after Divine Liturgy doesn't just serve the purpose of filling rumbly bellies and satisfying caffeine withdrawal symptoms. It's a ministry that helps to build a community of friends and family, and provides opportunities to connect with your church family – the same people who can love and support you throughout your spiritual journey. This important ministry is also a wonderful way to commemorate an anniversary, birthday, family milestone, or memorial. It's a minimal time commitment that goes a long way in expressing appreciation and gratitude. Dates available beginning Sunday, May 24, and throughout spring and summer.

For more information on hosting or joining/starting a Coffee Fellowship team, contact Carolyn Kolbaba at fellowship@ssppglenview.org

Junior Olympics

The 2026 Junior Olympics are almost here and will be held over Memorial Day Weekend, May 22nd-May 24th. Please register your child through the following link <https://bit.ly/SSPP2026JuniorOlympics> to confirm their participation in this year's event. Please reach out to either Steven Conway or Chris Batrich with any questions, or if you would like to coach one of the teams. Best of luck to all the athletes this year. Steven (saconway82@gmail.com), Chris B (cbatrich2@gmail.com), SSPP Co-Athletic Directors.

Coffee Connection

Please join us for our last 2 Coffee Connection sessions in the youth room as we conclude our discussion on our theme: “The Creed: Why Does it Still Matter 1700 years Later?” **May 3rd:** We will discuss “I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins” by asking the questions: What does it mean to “confess one baptism”? and Why only one? What is the difference in meaning between “remission of sins” and “forgiveness of sins”? **May 10th:** We will discuss “I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come.” by asking: How is “age” different from “world” or “kingdom to come”?

Greek School

Please support our Greek school and register your children in our Greek School Program. Pre-registration for 2026 - 2027 school year is now in progress. Our students learn how to read, write and speak the Greek language. We put emphasis on Conversation knowing that this is what our students need the most. They also learn about the Greek history, civilization, art, literature, traditions, dance, music which makes them feel proud of their heritage so rich in every aspect. They engage in hands on activities and creative programs which makes learning a fun experience in a child centered, child friendly, safe church environment. A deduction will apply towards the tuition if registered by June 1 st . For more information please contact: Stella Theoharopoulos at: (847) 529 - 5899 or theostell@aol.com

SCHOOL HOURS

Monday: Preschool /Kindergarten / 1 st to 6 th grade 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday Preschool 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Saturday Kindergarten / 1 st to 6 th grade 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Sunday Summer Liturgy Hours and No Saturday Vespers

Summer Sunday Liturgy early start (9:00am) begins June 7 and continues through August 30th. Hopefully, this will help everyone start the day earlier worshipping God and allow more daytime to enjoy the beautiful summer weather. In a similar spirit, there will be no Saturday Vespers during the summer (June, July and August).

SAINT STEPHEN MEN'S GROUP

Men's Annual Dinner

Saints Peter & Paul's Annual Men's Social was held on Thursday April 16th. Headlining the event was Basile the Comedian. Basile delighted the audience of over 100 guests with his comedic stories about growing up Greek and his recent visit to Greece. The amazing food for the event was catered by Jameson's Charhouse of Skokie and held at the DoubleTree Hilton of Skokie. Thanks to the committee for organizing Steve Callas, Evan Adams, Frank Bolos, Mike Carrozza, John Livaditis, George P Logothetis Planning is already underway for next year's event.

Family Nature Walk

On Saturday, June 6, 2026, please plan to join the Saint Stephen Men's Group for a nature walk at Independence Grove Forest Preserve in Libertyville. We will be led by Tom Anton, our own Naturalist. The walk is open to all. <https://www.lcfd.org/l/g/> Additional details will be emailed to you. We'll start at 9am and end with lunch at 11:00 AM. There is no cost to attend. Please Register at: [link. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFdK9Wei5-WW4blrGg959jBK864kf_3e_0z69s4d4C-6g8fQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFdK9Wei5-WW4blrGg959jBK864kf_3e_0z69s4d4C-6g8fQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor)



FR. RICK'S PARISH ASSEMBLY ADDRESS

Christ is Risen!

As always, I want us recognize the efforts of *our wonderful volunteers and staff* including: *Fr. Peter*, who has now been serving our parish for eight months, our youth director *Steven Thell*, our Agape Christian Academy staff of ten teachers led by *Julie Mantice*, our administrative staff led by our *Elea Bentley*, Greek School led by *Stella Theoharopoulos*; our church school staff *Elaine Carrozza, Nick and Kery Obradovich*, who lead approximately 25 volunteer teachers. In addition, I would like to thank our parish council led by president *George Seletos*, our Ladies Philotochos society led by President *Julie Anastos*.

We welcomed several new parish council members in 2026: *Frank Andreou, Christine Cotromanes, John Mackris, Dean Maragos, Dean Nastos, and Dino Tsitsis*. We now have all 18 positions filled again.

On Palm Sunday, in the presence of over 800 people, we recognized **Deacon Theodore Saclarides** decades of service to our parish including ten years as an ordained deacon. We pray many years and good health to Deacon Ted and Diakonissa Sonia in their retirement! We thank the Philotochos for hosting our second annual Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon that same day.

We also must thank the numerous volunteers who helped make **Holy Week** beautiful and special again this year. The flowers, decorations, eggs, palm folding, bay branches/leaves, chanters, choir, usher/greeters, and especially *Adam Peterson* and *Alvaro Lima* who organized and cooked the **Pascha Lamb Dinner**. We also recognize the strong youth participation through the acolytes, myrrhbearers, readers and youth choir on Holy Saturday.

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.

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 thank them for their five years of service in these roles. We are currently looking for their successors. If anyone is interested in applying, please contact them or Fr. Rick asap.

I know for some, turnover can be anxiety provoking, but it is important to remember that this is normal and healthy. We cannot expect people to work year after year without end. It is good to engage other people in leading ministries to bring new energy and new ideas.

I would like to take a moment to remember our recently reposed in the Lord brother clergy *Bishop Timothy Bakakos of Hexamillion, Fr. Joseph Tzougros, Fr. Anthony Tzortzis and Fr. John Ketchum*—who fell asleep on Holy Thursday. May the Lord God remember their priesthood in His Kingdom forever.

We also wish and pray 'Axios!' for our newly ordained *Bishop Dionysios Anagnostopoulos of Zenopolis*, who will continue serving the Metropolis of Chicago as our chancellor.

As many know I serve our Metropolis as Vicar of Clergy Wellness, so the health of our clergy is near and dear to my heart. At our January **Glenview Clergy Association** meeting, I made a presentation titled "**Fostering Clergy Wellness: How Parishes and Parish Councils Can Help**." This is a third in a series of presentations. The first two are titled: "**Clergy Stress and Burnout**" which I presented at Clergy Laity in San Diego in 2024, and "**Emotional Survival for Clergy and Their Spouses**" which I presented at the National Clergy Couple retreat in 2025 and I have been invited to offer the third presentation at Clergy-Laity in Cleveland this summer.

On Palm Sunday we **Chrismated catechumen Nicholas Peszek** into the Orthodox Christian Faith. And we welcome *Rosa Rodriguez-Salloum* on April 27th. This is wonderful and we welcome them with open arms.

However, I feel that our parish is missing out on a big opportunity to welcome many more people into our Orthodox Christian Faith. As many of you know, Orthodox churches around the country are seeing a massive, unprecedented influx of converts. It is odd that SSPP, one of the largest parishes and the most English-oriented Greek Orthodox parish in the Chicagoland area is not experiencing this phenomenon.

Why is this? It's difficult to say exactly but I offer the following for us consider and work on. 1) Our parish must engage in systematic outreach to the surrounding community to raise awareness of our presence and invite non-Orthodox to visit and learn more about our parish and the Orthodox Faith. This will require monetary resources, time and effort. 2) Every person of our parish must embrace an evangelistic mindset in which we take our faith very seriously to be fully engaged in our worship while at the same time personally inviting others into our midst. 'Come and see' are three very powerful words that Jesus and the Apostles used to invite others. 3) In a large parish like ours, we must be intentional to overcome the tendency to form cliques, that make us feel comfortable but make others feel excluded. Our parish continues to thrive because young couples and families that are already Orthodox

FR. RICK'S PARISH ASSEMBLY ADDRESS

keep moving into our community because it's a desirable place to live. However, that is not a strategy, and it will not sustain us in the long run.

I commend Keith Anderson and the Parish Vitality ministry for taking these issues seriously and formulating a strategy and a plan to help move us in the right direction.

As I conclude, I would like to draw our attention to few things coming up in the near future. Next Sunday April 27th we will pray the three-year memorial for *Fr. Angelo Artemas* and we expect his whole family to be with us. On that day, we are planning a special recognition for Fr. Angelo. As you may know, proceeds from memorial donations in his name, enabled us to refurbish part of clergy sacristy with new cabinets and drawers.

On May 3rd we will recognize our *high school graduates* and also recognize our former youth advisor and parish council member *Sophia Lehocky-Castleberry* and her husband Levi, as they depart our community to make their way to Holy Cross Seminary in Boston to continue preparing for ministry in the church.

There is much more to come so stay tuned! Christ is Risen! +Fr. Rick

Since our last Parish Assembly meeting

On October 26th our community celebrated its *65th Anniversary* with a Gala. Over 300 people gathered at the Westin in Wheeling to share fellowship and memories including a slide show of photos and a 10 minute video. Special thanks to *Steve & Phaedra Koulogeorge* and the organizing committee for a super successful event that everyone enjoyed. Thank you to *Metropolitan Nathanael* for attending and participating and blessing us!

In early November, the *Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Laity Philoptochos Assembly* was enjoyable and beneficial. It always edifying to see and catch up with priests and lay persons from around our five-state region. We always have important business to attend to including passing our two-year budget. This year we also approved funding for the St Iakovos Retreat Center and the purchase of a property in downtown Chicago for the new Metropolis Center. I particularly enjoyed the speech by Dr Thomas Ranier who shared trends on religion and belief in America. Did you know that Generation Z (aka Gen Z) are making a big surge coming into churches? Dr. Ranier was also part of panel presentation regarding trends on Orthodox Christianity in America. Did you know Orthodoxy is the fastest growing Christian tradition in America? Clergy shortage and other challenges were discussed.

His Grace *Bishop Timothy of Hexamilion* reposed in the Lord *November 20th* and the funeral took place *Nov.26th* 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!

We held our third annual *Outdoor Water Blessing Services* (Agiasmos) on *January 10th*. at *Gilson Beach* in Wilmette and *Gallery Park* in Glenview IL 60026. Thank you to those who came and celebrated together!

Following the feast of St Basil the Great (Jan.1) we celebrated our *Parish Vasilopita* on *January 11th*. We remember how St Basil anonymously helped the poor and needy by placing coins inside bread loaves (pita). The Philoptochos ladies hosted celebration. The vasilopita was cut and distributed to the chairpersons and representatives of our many ministries. The *Metropolis of Chicago Vasilopita* was nicely hosted by *St Andrew Church* on *January 7th* with many people in attendance. A table of our parishioners represented our community at the event.

The *Agape Academy* hosted the community-wide *Apokreatiko Glendi* on *January 31st* at the Concorde Banquet Center in Kilder. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event. Proceeds support the Agape Academy programs.

Our annual *Godparent/Godchild Sunday* was *February 1st*. We thank the Greek Festival committee for hosting the coffee hour that day.

This year's *Lenten Lectures* are on the theme of *Prayer*. Please join us on *Wednesday* evenings for Presanctified Liturgy, a Lenten meal and learn more about different prayers in our Orthodox Tradition from five different speakers. For more info see flyer in newsletter and other parish media.

our *Lenten Retreat* on *March 6-8* with *Fr. Sergius Halvorsen* who will speak on the theme of "Faith-Based Storytelling" with three separate topics: 1) Story and Communion (Fri eve), 2) Faith Made Perfect in Weakness (Sat. morn) and 3) Sharing Your Story (Sat.aft.). Please rsvp by February 27 as Lenten meals will be offered to attendees. For more information see flyer in the newsletter and other parish media.

Also coming in March is the *Sunday of Orthodoxy/Icons* (1st). Please make sure your child brings an icon from home for the procession. That evening the *Pan-Orthodox Vespers* will begin 6pm at *Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Church* in Chicago. Children should also bring a cross for the Veneration of the Cross procession on March 15th.

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.

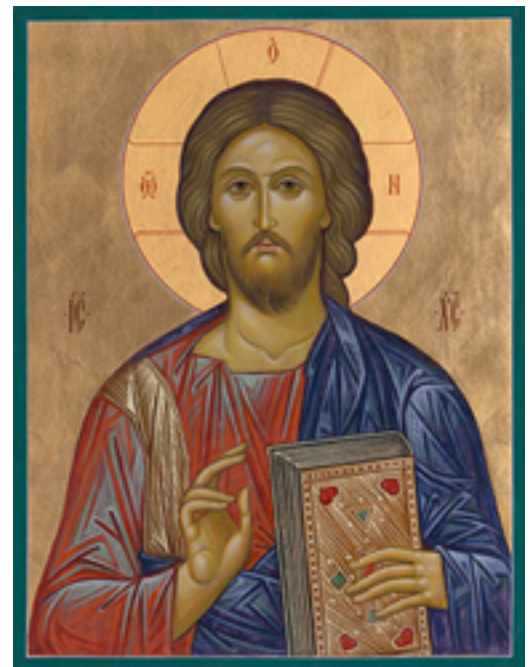
<i>Cynthia & Kerry Abbott</i>	<i>Elaine Buscaglia</i>	<i>Demetra & Rogers Faden</i>	<i>George & Katherine Katsoyannis</i>
<i>Scott & Athena Abbott</i>	<i>John & Augusta Buscemi</i>	<i>Goldie Ann Farkonas</i>	<i>Thomas & Mary Katsules</i>
<i>Elias & Jeannette Abou Mourad</i>	<i>Heather Butz</i>	<i>Panagiotis & Demetra Flevaris</i>	<i>Anastasia & Robert Kelly</i>
<i>Christopher Adams</i>	<i>Sia Callas</i>	<i>Michael & Valerie Foradas</i>	<i>James & Joanna Kendall</i>
<i>Evan & Anne Marie Adams</i>	<i>Steve & Carrie Callas</i>	<i>Maria Fournier</i>	<i>John & Angela Kiriklakis</i>
<i>Evelyn Adams</i>	<i>Betty Cardis</i>	<i>Helen & Joseph Franz</i>	<i>Peter & Patricia Kladis</i>
<i>John D. Adinamis</i>	<i>Elaine & Michael Carrozza</i>	<i>Richard & Margarita Freidag</i>	<i>Christopher & Erin Kobiljak</i>
<i>Vanessa Adinamis</i>	<i>Maria Chakos</i>	<i>Gus & Soteria Frentzos</i>	<i>Joe & Carolyn Kolbaba</i>
<i>George & Lori Alexander</i>	<i>Susanne Chakos</i>	<i>Esther Gabrielides</i>	<i>James Kolovos & Anne Miller</i>
<i>Gus & Daphne Alexander</i>	<i>Ann Chang</i>	<i>Joanna & Greg Gala</i>	<i>Louie & Jamie Kontzias</i>
<i>Frank & Penny Alexis</i>	<i>George & Anastasia Chiampas</i>	<i>Themis & Teddi Galanis</i>	<i>Peter & Clara Kopsian</i>
<i>Greg & Kim Alexopoulos</i>	<i>Robert & Susan Choporis</i>	<i>Andrew & Maria Gall</i>	<i>George & Caryn Kopsias</i>
<i>Pola Alexopoulos</i>	<i>John & Evalynn Christie</i>	<i>Virginia & Paul Ganvik</i>	<i>James & Ariadne Kopsias</i>
<i>Nicholas & Marcie Alexos</i>	<i>Peter G. Christopoulos</i>	<i>Gerald & Toula Garbis</i>	<i>Marianthi Koritsaris</i>
<i>Mary Alukos</i>	<i>Regan & Nikos Christopoulos</i>	<i>Alec & Meghan Gatziolis</i>	<i>George Korompilas</i>
<i>Zach Alukos</i>	<i>Dr. Stavros & Demetra Christos</i>	<i>George & Laureen George</i>	<i>Lewis & Debbie Korompilas</i>
<i>Gregory & Penny Amarantos</i>	<i>Jeffery & Hellena Chrones, Sr.</i>	<i>Charles & Denise Georgis</i>	<i>Michael & Susan Kosmidis</i>
<i>Susanne Amarantos</i>	<i>John & Mary Cocalas</i>	<i>David & Rita Ghanayem</i>	<i>Dina Koudounis</i>
<i>Constance Anagnost</i>	<i>Stavroula & Hugh Colburn</i>	<i>Nick & Evelyn Giannakakis</i>	<i>Mark & Karen Koulogeorge</i>
<i>Angie Anast</i>	<i>George & Minou Colis</i>	<i>George Gjermano & Efie Vainikos</i>	<i>Steve & Phaedra Koulogeorge</i>
<i>Keith & Randa Anderson</i>	<i>John & Carrie Colis</i>	<i>Anastasia & Gilbert Gonzalez</i>	<i>Constantine & Angela Kritikos</i>
<i>Frank & Magdelene Andreou</i>	<i>Dr. Aristides & Selma Contos</i>	<i>Scott & Maria Gordon</i>	<i>Deborah & Gregory Kunkel</i>
<i>Fr. Richard & Presb. Jane Andrews</i>	<i>Peter & Maria Contos</i>	<i>James & Anastasia Gottreich</i>	<i>Jonathan Lambros</i>
<i>Teddy & Anna Andrews</i>	<i>Peter & Anastasia Coorlas</i>	<i>Mary Gouris</i>	<i>Beth & Bo LaMotte</i>
<i>William & Kimberly Angelos</i>	<i>James Corcoran & Kayla</i>	<i>Alex H. Grayes</i>	<i>Helene & Jeffrey Lanaghan</i>
<i>Vickie Anton</i>	<i>Peter & Jane Corcoran</i>	<i>Dean & Donna Gregory</i>	<i>Mary Ann Langas</i>
<i>Louis & Alexandra Apostol</i>	<i>Thomas Corcoran</i>	<i>Peter & Paula Guletsky</i>	<i>Peter A. & Tammy Langas</i>
<i>Sophia App</i>	<i>Angelo & Maria Costas</i>	<i>Megan & Nolan Hanson</i>	<i>Konstandinos & Kyleen Lappas</i>
<i>James & Amy Aralis</i>	<i>Vivian Courialis</i>	<i>James & Annamarie Hendrickx</i>	<i>Dimitris & Anastasia Lazarou</i>
<i>Tom & Georgia Aralis</i>	<i>Paul & Sylvia Creatura</i>	<i>Cheri Hess</i>	<i>Juanita Leakagos</i>
<i>Linda Argeros</i>	<i>Dr. George & Joan Cromydas</i>	<i>Maren & Benjamin Hilgendorf</i>	<i>Nick & Yana Legatos</i>
<i>Joantha Argoudelis</i>	<i>George & Jaime Crosby</i>	<i>Michael & Kathy Hilicki</i>	<i>Lisa & John Lehocky</i>
<i>Steven & Laura Assimos</i>	<i>Valerie & Martin Crowley</i>	<i>Robert & Adrienne Hirsch</i>	<i>Marie Leventis</i>
<i>Leon & Eleni Athas</i>	<i>James & Deborah Dades</i>	<i>Patricia & Marco Iannessa</i>	<i>Bill & Kiki Liberopoulos</i>
<i>Irene Athens</i>	<i>Katherine Damisch</i>	<i>Matina & Grant Ingallinera</i>	<i>Allison & Alvaro Lima</i>
<i>Christ & Tina Atsaves</i>	<i>Patty Damisch</i>	<i>Mary Jimenez</i>	<i>Jim & Vicky Limperis</i>
<i>Constantine & Marina Avdalas</i>	<i>Stathy & William Darcy</i>	<i>Dean Johnsen</i>	<i>Tom & Voula Livaditis</i>
<i>Nancy Barkulis-Gianaras</i>	<i>John & Christine Dedes</i>	<i>Krystina & Denis Jovic</i>	<i>Alan & Angie Lofgren</i>
<i>Helen Basis</i>	<i>Peter Dedes & Lea Billitsis</i>	<i>Mike & Terrie Jurichko</i>	<i>George D. & JoAnna Logothetis</i>
<i>Maria & John Bausch</i>	<i>Dimitra Defotis</i>	<i>Gail Kachoyeanos</i>	<i>Dimitri & Joanna Loupakos</i>
<i>Perry & Patrice Bazianos</i>	<i>Alexandra & Athanasios Delis</i>	<i>Cary & Maria Kalant</i>	<i>Mark & Kathryn Lucas</i>
<i>Zachary & Petroula Bazianos</i>	<i>Dr. Lee Dennis</i>	<i>Demetra Kallens</i>	<i>Helen Lulias</i>
<i>Margo & James Benz</i>	<i>Brad & Doreen DeSent</i>	<i>George & Cathleen Kanellos</i>	<i>Alex Machinis</i>
<i>Brian & Koula Berlin</i>	<i>Jane & Jeff Devine</i>	<i>James & Rosa Kanellos</i>	<i>Alexandra Mamalakis</i>
<i>Scott & Elizabeth Betzelos</i>	<i>Tinos & Chrissoula Diamantatos</i>	<i>Panagiotis Kaparos</i>	<i>Evan James & Marika Mammias</i>
<i>Ariana Bien & Peter David Allard</i>	<i>William & Pauline DiClementi</i>	<i>Bess Kapetan</i>	<i>Joanna Mammias</i>
<i>Sofia Bien</i>	<i>Matthew Domer</i>	<i>James & Julia Karagianis</i>	<i>Denise Maniatis</i>
<i>Diane Blanas</i>	<i>Alexis & Matthew Douglas</i>	<i>Constantine Karagiannis</i>	<i>Mike & Lauren Maniatis</i>
<i>John & Roberta Blaseos</i>	<i>Dr. Stavros & Eva Douvas</i>	<i>George Karagiannis</i>	<i>Evangelos & Athanasia Manis</i>
<i>George & Theadora Bokios</i>	<i>Ann & Keith Dronen</i>	<i>Andrew Karamitos</i>	<i>Alexandra Mantice</i>
<i>Cookie Boswell</i>	<i>George & Lucia Economos</i>	<i>George & Sandra Karas</i>	<i>George & Julia Mantice</i>
<i>Anastasia Boucouras</i>	<i>George J. Economos</i>	<i>Christ & Alexandria Kardasis</i>	<i>George & Stephanie Mantis</i>
<i>Michael & Dina Bratta</i>	<i>Chris & Diane Economy</i>	<i>George T. Karkazis</i>	<i>Donald & Helen Mariano</i>
<i>Timothy Bullard</i>	<i>Guy Edelman</i>	<i>Harry & Alexa Karkazis</i>	<i>George & Stacy Marinakis</i>
<i>George Burbules & Julia Finnegan</i>	<i>Mitchell & Helen Edlund</i>	<i>Myrsini Karkazis</i>	<i>Christopher Matsakis</i>
<i>Carol Burke</i>	<i>James & Delores Elliott</i>	<i>Dean & Tina Katsamakis</i>	<i>Elias & Joanne Matsakis</i>

2026 PLEDGERS

Gus Mazarakis
 Christopher McIntyre
 Dar McIntyre
 Nicholas & Katie McIntyre
 Nicholas & Frances Mechales
 John & Katina Metropoulos
 Sophia Michas
 Steve Mihalopoulos & Amanda Akamphuber
 Christine & Michael Miksis
 Chrisanthe & Scott Miller
 Petar & Anna Milovanovic
 Georgia Mitchell
 Carl & Elaine Mitsakopoulos
 AnnaMarie & David Mottram
 John & Diana Moustoukas
 Paula & Jonathan Mueller
 Demetra & John Nasiakos
 George & Patricia Nassos
 William Neilson
 Alexander & Georgia Nellesen
 Vicky Nestor
 Helen Nichols
 Odiseas & Kristin Ninis
 Nicholas & Kery Obradovich
 Martha & Lawrence O'Connell
 Christina O'Donnell
 Jenny O'Donnell
 Nicole & Ryan Olds
 Cynthia & Glenn Olson
 Michael & Andra O'Neill
 Pamela & Donald Overal
 Theodore Palese & Demeter Sarantopoulos-
 Palese
 Andrew Palmer
 George & Olga Panagakis
 Mae Panoplos
 James & Georgette Papadakis
 Mia & Vasilios Papadopoulos
 Melina & Spiro Papadopoulos
 Pete Papadopoulos & Ira Evangelou
 George Papajohn & Karen Anderson
 George & Niki Pappamihel
 Christian & Katherine 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
 Nana Petrakis
 Peter T. & Larissa Petrakis
 Presvytera Sophia Philippas
 Deanna Pirpiris
 John Pontikes

Lee & Jeannie Poteracki
 John & Nina Pouloupoulos
 Catherine & Harry Poulos
 Nancie Poulos & Fred Watson
 Peter & Susan Poulos
 Steven & Karin Poulos
 George & Athanasia Pratikakis
 Joanne & Kurt Prinz
 Rocky & Marietta Quiroga
 Steven Revethis
 Tracy & David Ronstadt
 Pete & Joanne Routsolias
 Kristin & Kyle Ryan
 Rebecca & Nagui Sabri
 Dn. Ted & Diaconissa Sonia Saclarides
 Jimmy & Elizabeth Samartzis
 James & Suzanne Santos
 Julie & Foti Savopoulos
 Michael & Maria Schafer
 Anastasia & Jon Schauer
 Joan Schiffers
 Alexandra Scoulas
 Presbytera Mary Scoulas
 George & Holland Seletos
 George & Connie Sellas
 Susan Shaheen
 Georgene & Larry Shanley
 Alexia Cordova-Shoulders & Jacky Shoulders
 Nicholas & Toula Sideris
 Patricia Siuntres
 Carole Slavens
 Frances Slisz
 Lucas & Shannon Smith
 James & Eleni Soukoulis
 Nicholas & Mao Soulakis
 Steven & Asimo Souleles
 Aphrodite Soussa
 George & Therese Speropoulos
 James Spiropoulos
 Arthur & Ann Stamas
 Patricia & John Stec
 Christopher & Georgia Stefanski
 Paula Steil
 Christopher Stephanos
 Ann Stevens
 Maria & Brian Sullivan
 Suzanne & Harold Symanietz
 Jeannie & Jacob Tache
 Christina & Salil Tamhane
 Michael & Constance Teska
 Eva Thomas
 Antonia & Jeffrey Tollefsen
 Joanne Trahanas
 Dr. Demetrius Trakas
 John & Jana Tranas
 Constadinos & Carrie Tsitsis

Konstantine & Niki Tsitsis
 Elaine Tzakis
 Tula Tzakis
 Irene Tziforos
 Peter & Susan Valessares
 Caidi & Steven Vanderporten
 Tom Varvitsiotis
 John & Effie Venetos
 John & Stephanie Vlahakis
 Georgia Vlahos
 John & Lara Volpe
 Bill J. & Peggy Vranas
 Jason & Vicki Vranas
 John & Annette Vranas
 Tom & Allison Vranas
 William & Affie Vranas
 John Vratimos
 Carol & William Wells
 Brett & Michelle Woodley
 Samer & Sylvia Zabaneh
 Emelie Zaharakis
 Jeannette Zissis
 Alexandra Zubay
 Joseph & Patti Zubay



* 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,

Christos Anesti! In this season of joy and gratitude, I want to thank each of you for your generous support of Philoptochos throughout the year. Your kindness, participation, and commitment allow us to carry out our mission and make a meaningful difference within our parish and the broader community.

We are always open to your ideas, suggestions, and ways we can better serve. Your input is invaluable as we continue to grow, evolve, and respond to the needs around us. Thank you for being such an important part of this work. Together, we can accomplish so much.

With appreciation and warm regards,
Julie Anastos
Philoptochos President

This Month Highlights

Palm Sunday Luncheon & Bake Sale

What a joyous Palm Sunday we celebrated! Our community came together as a family at the start of Holy Week by supporting our Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale and our Second Annual (sold out!) Palm Sunday Luncheon. Thank you, parishioners, for volunteering your time, purchasing our sweets, attending the events, and donating to these causes. And thank you Fountain Blue for your generous luncheon sponsorship. We couldn't have done it without you!

The Bake Sale is a major fundraiser for us that supports our many philanthropic projects. A portion of the proceeds is always donated to our many philanthropic efforts. Kudos to Nancie Poulos, Debbie Kunkel, and Anastasia Gonzalez, who worked for months in preparation by baking thousands of mouthwatering Koulourakia, Kourambiethes, Paximathia, Baklava, Spanakopites, and Tiropites; to Gayle Stellas, for heading up the baking of Melomakarona; to Eleni Soukoulis, who led the Tsourkekia-baking effort; to all those who helped bake, package and sell our pastries; and to Georgene Shanley, whose creativity and coordination brought us the adorable Easter baskets.



A huge thank you to Diane Economy and Dena Pavlopoulos for chairing the Palm Sunday Luncheon. (from left: Julie Anastos, Patty Damisch, Diane Economy, Patrice Bazianos, and Dena Pavlopoulos)



Over 200 meals were served! The beautiful Adams and Angelos families were among those who enjoyed. (from left: Bill Angelos, Evelyn Adams, Nicole Adams, Kim Adams-Angelos, Anne Marie Adams, Evan Adams)

PHILOPTOCHOS

Senior Ministry Pascha Deliveries

The Philoptochos Senior Visit Ministry made Pascha deliveries to approximately 50 seniors in our parish community. Spending time with them and listening to their stories is truly a blessing. Sincere thanks to Maria Selliss and Debbie Kunkel for preparing the baskets that were so deeply appreciated.

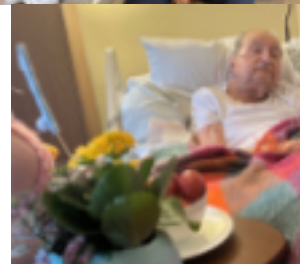


Assistant Sunday School teacher Stella Kiser and husband Lee enjoyed the beautiful tulip centerpieces and table appetizers before the bacalao brunch!



From left: 102 years young, Angie Anast and 100 years young Better Cardis were visited by Carrie Colis and her grandchildren, Jonah and Mara Kallis.

Carrie Colis also brought a smile to Gus Mazarakis. This Easter Gus (celebrating his 101st birthday this month) wasn't well enough to attend Easter festivities outside of his home, so he was thrilled for visitors like Carrie!



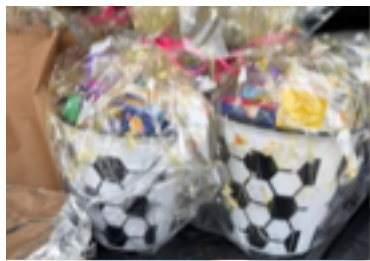
Thank you, Georgene Shanley! From Easter Baskets to Easter flowers, to helping with the Palm Sunday luncheon and so much more, we appreciate all you do.

Easter Party @ Lawrence Hall

Our chapter hosted an Easter party with the boys at Lawrence Hall, and they had a great time! These are the Easter baskets, and because we aren't supposed to have our children's pictures public, we took a back shot of them with their bunny ears on. Thanks to all who helped make it so special! We are tentatively planning another breakfast on Saturday May 30 and a possible outing in June. More info to come!



The Fellowship Hall never looked so festive with activities for the kids. Alethea Mazarakis Chiapuris couldn't get enough!



On Holy Wednesday, the bakery sold outside and had these cuties as customers. The cookies were frosted crosses with sprinkles on them, handmade by Kathy Lukos. Thank you, Kathy!

Feed The Hungry at Annunciation Church



Julie Anastos represented the SSPP Philoptochos at the Metropolitan-Wide Feed the Hungry program at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church on April 21. 150 people were fed that day. Thank you, Julie!

April Meeting & Art Appraisal Program



Pictured left: Event chair Annette Vranas, International Art Appraiser Elizabeth Anastos Holmes, and Philoptochos President Julie Anastos. The April 21st General Meeting & Program was informative and fun for all who attended!

PHILOPTOCHOS



Upcoming Events

General Meeting, Budget & Program – Tuesday, May 19th

CATCH INTERNET and FINANCIAL SCAMS! Join us and learn how to post scams, stop fraud, and stay one step ahead! Look for the flyer in your email for more details!

Recognize common phone, email, and online scams, Protect your personal and financial information and Prevent identity theft and fraud. Know what to do if you are targeted.

6:00pm Social and Refreshments
6:30pm General Meeting
7:00pm Presentation Carly Gaba, Sergeant, Glenview Police Dept.

Save these Dates!

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*

Charity Spotlight

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

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) – Baltimore, MD

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) embodies Orthodox Christian love in action, serving vulnerable communities around the world through emergency relief, development programs, and compassionate care. IOCC’s impact is truly global: in 2024, it served more than 1.1 million people worldwide, and since its founding has delivered more than \$858 million in aid in over 60 countries. We are especially proud that one of our own Philoptochos members, **Kim Adams-Angelos**, serves on the **IOCC Board of Directors**. IOCC’s 34th Annual Grand Banquet will be held on **May 7, 2026, at Empress Banquets in Addison, Illinois at 6pm**. Please visit IOCC’s website for details. We encourage all who are able, to attend and support this beautiful and vital work.

MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
COMING IN JUNE						
1 HOLY TRINITY Feast Day @ Sables Park 2 Team Chicago Mission Dinner at SAPP 3 VALERIE'S 50th Anniversary Graduation 5-12 LITURGICAL YEAR 50th Anniversary 7 Azepe Summer Camp begins (thru July 16) 8-28 APOSTLES FAST 11 ST BARTHOLOMEW/NATHANIEL 15 Parent Camp begins (thru July 17) 18-20 STS PETER & PAUL Parish Feast day 24 Archbishop Chergy Laity in Cleveland (thru July 31)	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection 12pm HB Graduation 12pm Greek Dance	+ST BRENE GREAT MARTYR 6:30pm Philadelphos Board Mtg	+SACRED PENTECOST +ORBITON'S PROPHECY JOB 10:30am Bible Study 8:30pm Board Mtg over 40 (packup)	+ST CYRIL OF BERGSALEM When Dynamic "Kali Priest" Broadcast at George V's Neighborhood Apn BCCC Chicago Dinner at The Empress in Addison IL 7pm SHIP TALK Volleyball & Goodbye for Sophia	+PROPHET JEREMIAH Apn Philadelphos Spring Freshman at the Glenview Club 6:30pm Junior GOYA "American Orthodox" Movie Screening	+ST JOHN EVANGELIST APOSTLE THEOLOGIAN 6:30pm St. GOYA Gathering	+PROPHET ISAIAH Apn VESPERS
10 +7TH SUN PASCHA - PARALITIC SAMARITAN WOMAN MOTHERS DAY 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Coffee Connection	11 +ST CYRIL & METHOGENS	12 1:30pm - Apn Board Divis 7pm Council Support Meeting on Zoom 7pm St. GOYA Gathering	13 10:30am Bible Study 8:30pm Board Mtg over 40 (packup)	14 When Dynamic "Kali Priest" Broadcast at George V's Neighborhood 8:30pm AGAPE Family Picnic 7pm PC Exec Mtg	15 Apn BLC Gathering	16 Apn VESPERS
17 +6TH SUN PASCHA - BENEVOLEN 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11pm CS Graduation Sunday for grades K2-N11th 12pm Greek Dance	18 Apn Networking Meeting	19 8:30am Orthodox & Liturgy - St Yvonne at St. John the Baptist GOC in Des Plaines 10:30am Bible Study 7pm GREAT VESPERS in Palis Hills at Constantine & Helen GOC 7pm St. GOYA Gathering Senior Social 8:30pm Board Mtg over 40 (packup)	20 +ST PASCALIA +ST THEODORE UNBORN 8:30am Orthodox & Liturgy - St Yvonne at St. John the Baptist GOC in Des Plaines 10:30am Bible Study 7pm GREAT VESPERS in Palis Hills at Constantine & Helen GOC 7pm St. GOYA Gathering Senior Social 8:30pm Board Mtg over 40 (packup)	21 +SACRAMENT +STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN 8:30am MATINS-ORTHODOX 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY	22	23 Apn VESPERS
24 +7TH SUN PASCHA - FATHERS OF 1ST SYNOD 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY	25 +SACRED FINISHING OF FORERUNNER HEAD MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED AGAPE - No School 10am MEMORIAL SERVICE at Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie IL	26 Apn Philadelphos General Mtg	27 7pm Communications Com Mtg 8:30pm Board Mtg over 40 (packup)	28 7am Men's Study 12pm Dynamic "Kali Priest" Lunch at Palis Hills in Lincolnwood 5:30pm AGAPE Graduation for Apostles & Saints 7pm Parish Council Mtg	29 Apn BLC End of the Year Party	30 +SATURDAY OF MOSES 8:30am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am LITURGY 10:30am MEMORIAL Apn Annual Blessing Service Apn VESPERS
31 +PENTECOST + + + 8:15am ORTHODOX-MATINS 9:30am DIVINE LITURGY 11am Kneading Program of Postcard 12pm Vespers at Holy Trinity GOC at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Sables Park	Sunday Early Start 9am Divine Liturgy and No Saturday Vespers in June, July & August					

Sunday Early Start 9am Divine Liturgy and No Saturday Vespers in June, July & August

*1401 Wagner Road
Glenview, IL 60025*

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