

WEEKLY BULLETIN DECEMBER 10, 2023

WEEKLY BULLETIN www.holyapostleschurch.com

SUNDAY **DECEMBER 10** 8:15 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy Memorials: Thomas Alexander, Mary Athans, Mary Psyhogios, Angelo, Constantinos and Georgia Tasoulis, Constantinos and Theodora (Dorothy) Gatsacos, Presvytera Christina Blathras, George and Esther Christopher, Anastasia, Constantine and Nicholas Kangles, Christ and Vasiliki Velis Greek School Kalanda 11:20 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour hosted by Stefanie Milak, Joanna Clohessy, Anna Fisher & Niki Dokos Litsa Chrysanthou, Son-Christo 40 Day Blessing: 5th/6th Grade Basketball vs St Haralambos @ Westchester Park District 1:30 p.m. 7th/8th Grade Basketball vs St Haralambos @ Westchester Park District 2:30 p.m. High School Boys Basketball vs St Haralambos @ Westchester Park District 3:30 p.m. **MONDAY DECEMBER 11** Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. **TUESDAY DECEMBER 12 – FEAST DAY OF ST. SPYRIDON** 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Greek School 4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Neighborhood Bible Study – led by Barbara Pappas (via Zoom) Philoptochos Meeting & Christmas Party 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. League of Chanters Practice/Meeting **DECEMBER 13** WEDNESDAY 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Jr GOYA Meeting & Christmas Party 7:00 p.m. Stewardship & Welcome Committees Meeting **THURSDAY DECEMBER 14** Adult Bible Study 1:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. Greek School 6:00 p.m. **Evening Divine Liturgy** Greek School Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Nativity Service Project FRIDAY **DECEMBER 15 – FEAST DAY OF ST. ELEUTHERIOS** 8:00 a.m. Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m. Paraklesis 8:00 p.m. YAL Christmas Party **SATURDAY DECEMBER 16** Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Adventure Theater Christmas Outing 9:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. Vespers 6:00 p.m. Vespers Pot Luck Dinner

Epistle Reading—Ephesians 6:10-17

Reader – Renee Govostis

Gospel Reading—Luke 13:10-17

Sermon – Dr. John Fotopoulos

Άπολυτίκιον Άναστάσιμον. ³Ηχος β΄.

Ότε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Ote katilthes pros ton Thanaton, i zoi i athanatos, tote ton athin enekrosas, ti astrapi tis theotitos. Ote the ke tus tehneotas ek ton katahthonion anestisas, pase e thinamis ton epuranion ekravgazon. Zo-othota, Christe o Theos imon, thoxa si.

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 2.

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

The Epistle—Ephesians 6:10-17

Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Gospel—Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

40 Liturgies - During the 40-day Nativity Fast (November 15-Christmas), the Divine Liturgy is offered daily! This time is a wonderful opportunity to prepare and sanctify our souls for the coming of the Lord while praying for our loved ones. Please bring the names of loved ones titled "40 Day Liturgies" and we will pray for them each Liturgy.

Caregivers Support Group –There will be no meeting on Tuesday, December 12. We'll see you in January. Meanwhile, have a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024!

Vespers Potluck This Saturday Night – The Stewardship and Welcome Committees next potluck dinner is scheduled for this Saturday, December 16 at 6:00pm, immediately following our Vespers service. Please bring a fasting-friendly dish and join us. To sign up, simply click on the link in the Weekly News or email stewardship@holyapostleschurch.com.

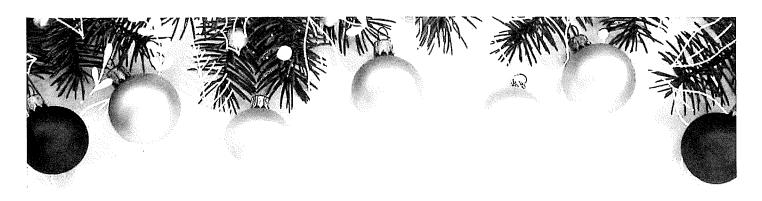
Holy Apostles Choir Concert on Saturday, December 16 – Our choir has been invited to perform a Christmas concert at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Justice, IL. The concert begins at 4:00pm. The Holy Cross Philoptochos will host a coffee hour reception immediately following the performance. All Holy Apostles parishioners are invited to attend this special Christmas concert event, as are all Orthodox parishes. The host is requesting only a free will offering from those attending. Please join us at this inaugural event.

8th Annual Feed6 Challenge on Saturday, January 20, 2024 – This event is a wonderful opportunity for our entire community, from Yiayias and Pappous to grade schoolers, to come together to help those less fortunate in our local community. To meet our goal of making 150,000 meals, we need \$52,500 in donations and 400 volunteers. We need everyone's participation this year to meet our aggressive goal. Thank you for volunteering your time, talent, and treasure to help those in need.

SAVE THE DATE: Second Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, January 27 – Bring your family, friends, ministry group or register as an individual! Teams of 6-10 will be formed to compete. The cost is \$10 per person with proceeds donated to the Westchester Food Pantry. More details will be included in future editions of the Weekly News.

SAVE THE DATE: Basile on Saturday, February 24 – We're bringing "Everyone's Favorite Greek" to town for a fun and entertaining fundraiser. Basile's comedy, featuring a unique blend of material, improvisation and characters, has been enjoyed by millions around the world! His show is Greek themed and spoken in Greek and English.

SAVE THE DATE: Chicago Blackhawks Greek Heritage Night on Saturday, March 2 – Hockey fans, please mark your calendar for a chance to see Connor Bedard, the NHL's latest phenom, in action, as he and the Blackhawks take on the Columbus Blue Jackets at 7:00pm. Tickets in our block are \$74 each (or \$84 including a commemorative Greek Heritage hat). Please contact Lou at office@holyapostleschurch.com to reserve seats or ask questions.



Phíloptochos Christmas Party and General Meeting

Please join us for the annual Philoptochos Christmas Party and General Meeting on Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 pm in the multi-purpose room.

Our hostesses Helen Kasimos, Karen Anagnos, Georgia Kass, Tina Kourafas, Litsa Lekatsos, Patty Pappas, Elaine Papanton, and Effie Stojka will bring us an evening filled with holiday cheer.

Director Serge Penksik and the Hinsdale High School Chamber Orchestra will return as entertainment.

We will also be collecting hats, mittens, and scarves for both adults and children for donation to People's Resource Center.

Please RSVP to Aleka Ernst no later than 12/5 at (630) 561-1660 or alekaernst@aol.com.

NATIVITY SERVICE DROJECT

Missions, Stewardship Ministry and Philoptochos will be filling out Christmas cards and including a food or grocery gift card which will be distributed to families in need at the Beds-Plus holiday party.

Thursday December

Following the Evening Liturgy at 6:00pm

BEDS Plus Care helps vulnerable individuals stabilize their lives through housing and supportive services.

Questions?

stewardship@holyapostleschurch.com





Holy Apostles Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 17th

The next rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant is on **December 10th**. Sunday School participants will be dismissed from their classrooms and rehearsals will start promptly at 11:20. The choir will report to room 208 for rehearsal. The Dress Rehearsal will take place on **Saturday**, **December 16th** at 9:00 am. It is important to attend these rehearsals. There will be a short rehearsal at 9:00 am on **Sunday**, **December 17th**, the day of the Pageant.

Please feel free to contact Sandy Pihos, Pageant Director, for more information at: christmaspageant@holyapostleschurch.com or call/text 630-640-5811



Christmas Breakfast with Santa

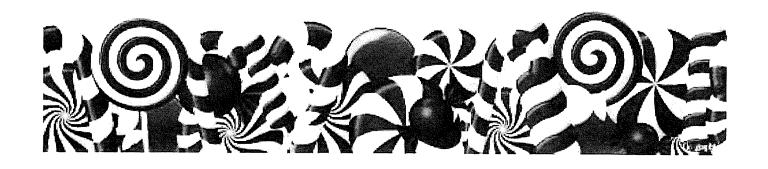
Please reserve a spot at the pancake Christmas Breakfast, following Liturgy and the Pageant, on Sunday December 17th.

Santa will make a special appearance, in spite of his busy schedule.

Thank you to our chairwoman, Anna Fattore and her volunteers for hosting again this year.

Cost will be \$10 for Adults and children 5 and older - children 4 and under are free.

Please make reservations <u>by December 14th</u> either online at <u>www.tinyurl.com/haphiloptochos</u>, in person after liturgy on Sundays, December 3rd and December 10th or contact Anna Fattore at afattore@aol.com.





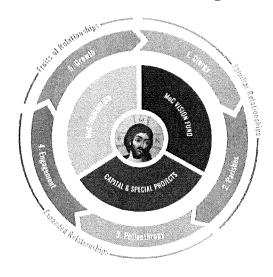
DECEMBER 2023

MESSAGES from the METROPOLIS

www.chicago.goarch.org

Introducing...

The Metropolis of Chicago Vision for Growth: "Unity in Christ cultivates relationships with family, friends, and neighbors bearing fruit for vibrant communities and a flourishing Church."



At the 2023 Clergy-Laity Assembly, His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael unveiled the Metropolis of Chicago's Vision for Growth, an expression of what our faith community wants and wishes to achieve.



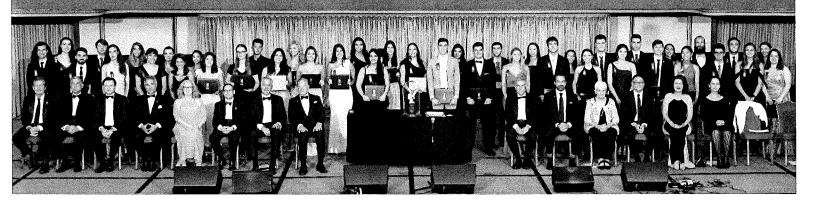
The Vision for Growth has five core priorities - **Develop** Clergy, Support Parishes, Expand Philanthropy, Increase Engagement, and Fuel Growth - and the Vision Fund was created to support and advance them. Help us make our Vision for Growth a reality!

LEARN MORE:

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF HELLENIC DESCENT!





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2023-2024



\$250,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

20 Awards of \$10,000 each

based on academic achievement, financial need, & Hellenic values *\$20,000 allocated to music or arts majors 20 Awards of \$2,500 each

based on academic achievement & Hellenic values

In order to apply students must:

- Be U.S. Citizens/U.S. Permanent Residents and living in the U.S
- Be of Hellenic descent
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.5
- Be enrolled at an accredited university/college in the U.S. as of Fall 2023
- Be full-time students who are pursuing a four-year bachelor's degree

Applications are due January 31, 2024

The application, criteria, requirements, and guidelines are available at

www.panhellenicsf.org

For inquiries please email scholarships@panhellenicsf.org or call our office at (312) 357-6432





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info@panhellenicsf.org

Sermon Notes	
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