

WEEKLY BULLETIN
DECEMBER 24, 2023

WEEKLY BULLETIN www.holyapostleschurch.com

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 24

8:15 a.m. Orthros
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Memorials: Elizabeth Moxon
Fellowship Hour: Hosted by Jim & Anita Ekonomou and Nick & Ellena Vranas
40 Day Blessing: Demi Fritz, Daughter-Anastasia
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vespers & Concert
10:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil

MONDAY

DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

Office Closed
8:45 a.m. Orthros
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 27 – FEAST DAY OF ST. STEPHEN

8:00 a.m. Orthros
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 30

10:00 a.m. Fifth Saturday Service Day

Epistle Reading—Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Reader – Zoe Panton

Gospel Reading—Matthew 1:1-25

Today's Artoklasia is in honor of Don and Jody Alexander, who are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. May God's blessings be upon them!

Welcome to Holy Apostles Church! If you are new to our church today, please complete a welcome and information card located in the pew pocket in front of you. At the conclusion of the service, after receiving the blessed bread, give the card to a member of the Welcome Ministry located at the back of the church. Please consider staying for our Fellowship Hour. The Welcome Ministry member will be happy to escort you and answer your questions.

Fellowship Hour – Hosts Wanted

Are you looking for a way to give back your time and talents? Please consider volunteering to host an upcoming Fellowship Hour. They can be hosted by individual families, multiple families, or ministries. Whether it's to honor someone's memory or celebrate a special event, your generosity allows our Holy Apostles' family and friends to gather and warmly welcome visitors to our parish. We are looking for interested hosts in 2024. Please sign up on our website or on the clipboard in the Multi-Purpose Room after Liturgy. Thank you!

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον.

Ἦχος δ΄.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

To fedron tis anastaseos kirigma, ek tu Angelu mathuse, e tu Kiriou mathitrie, ke tin progonikin apofasin aporipsase, tis Apostolis kahomene elegon. Eskilefte o Thanatos, igerthi Christos o Theos, thorumenos to kosmo to mega eleos.

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode 4.

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!"

The Epistle—Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

The Gospel—Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Ammin'adab, and Ammin'adab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Bo'az by Rahab, and Bo'az the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uri'ah, and Solomon the father of Rehobo'am, and Rehobo'am the father of Abi'jah, and Abi'jah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehosh'aphat, and Jehosh'aphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzzi'ah, and Uzzi'ah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of

Hezeki'ah, and Hezeki'ah the father of Manas'sseh, and Manas'sseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josi'ah, and Josi'ah the father of Jechoni'ah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoni'ah was the father of Sheal'tiel, and Sheal'tiel the father of Zerub'babel, and Zerub'babel the father of Abi'ud, and Abi'ud the father of Eli'akim, and Eli'akim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eli'ud, and Eli'ud the father of Elea'zar, and Elea'zar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emman'uel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.




Holy Apostles 2023

CHRISTMAS *Services*




SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
 8:15 AM - ORTHROS
 9:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY
 5:00 PM - CHRISTMAS EVE
 VESPERS & CONCERT
 10:00 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL
 MIDNIGHT - EUCHARIST

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
 8:45 AM - ORTHROS
 10:00 AM - DIVINE LITURGY

Christmas Vigil

DIVINE LITURGY CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST
 WITH HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN NATHANAEL




METROPOLIS
OF CHICAGO

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

December 24, 2023
Service begins at 10pm | Eucharist at Midnight

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
 2501 S. Wolf Road, Westchester, Illinois



Fifth Saturday Serve Day on Saturday, December 30 – Please join us in the Multipurpose Room at 10:00am for a 90-minute service project. We will be making hand stitched heart pillows for the charity group Stuffed Love. They distribute the pillows to patients and families who are affected by congenital heart defects.

GOAL Volleyball Tournament on Saturday & Sunday, January 6-7, 2024

Divisions of Play are High School Boys, High School Girls, and Young Adults (Coed). Team fees are \$175.00. Locations of matches are Sts Constantine & Helen, St Demetrios (Chicago) and Sts Peter & Paul. All teams that are interested need to reply with Divisions that you will participate in with a preliminary roster by January 1, 2024. Those interested can email Aleka Ernst at athletics@holypostleschurch.com.

8th Annual Feed6 Challenge on Saturday, January 20 – 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.

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. See the Weekly News for further details.

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.

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@holypostleschurch.com to reserve seats or ask questions.

HOPE

Humanitarian Outreach & Philanthropic Engagement

Food Collection Thank You

The Hillside Food Pantry (HFP), which operates out of Immanuel Lutheran Church to the north of us, has been the recipient of our HOPE bags and Holiday Food Collection items for the past year. They would like to extend a heartfelt “Thank You” to the Holy Apostles Parish for the bags and holiday sides collected.

Jayne Siou is the Director of the Food Pantry and our primary contact. She has repeatedly expressed gratitude to our congregation for the food we are providing. She feels blessed by our support and their pastor has been amazed by the generosity of our parish.

The Hillside Food Pantry has regular, registered food pantry recipients, but also offers a monthly “drive-up” food pantry which supplies food for anyone that needs help. For both Thanksgiving and Christmas, both pantries provided turkeys and sides for a complete holiday meal. Jayne wrote that for the Thanksgiving drive up this year, cars were lined up at 7:30am for an 11am distribution. They had to start an hour early because both of their parking lots were full to the street, including their long driveways. They ran out of food by 11:10am and saw a record 169 families! The HFP ended up having a second distribution the week of Thanksgiving to try to help those turned away at the first distribution.

Jayne is so grateful for the food Holy Apostles has provided; it has truly helped them to feed those in need.

PROCEDURAL CHANGE: The crate of empty HOPE bags has moved from the narthex to the multi-purpose room. The pickup and drop off of the bags are now all on the same counter. Pick up empty bags on the left, drop off filled bags on the right. The large HOPE banner marks the new location for the empty bags.

