



Coming Together In Our Hearts and Homes, We Form An Icon Of God's Kingdom



from Fr. George

The Last Thing You See When Exiting The Nave

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue the theme of exploring the inscriptions found in our church, let's move into the nave.

Upon exiting the nave, that is, facing the west, you will see the biblical verse:



In the original Greek it reads: “**Ἐν ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεόν.**” This comes from Psalm 67:27 and in English means: “**Bless God in the churches.**”

This should sound very familiar because it is the **Entrance Hymn chanted by the clergy and the people during the 40 days of Pascha** (it is sung instead of the usual, “Come let us worship and bow down to Christ”).

(continued, pg. 3)



Adventure Theater Takes Its Final Bow by Toni Milak

This month the curtain will fall on a **45-year ministry unique to our parish: Adventure Theater.**

The **creator and leader of the group, George Demetrelis, affectionately known as “Mr. D,” arrived at Holy Apostles in the fall of 1979**, having met Fr. Bill while teaching Bible Study at Fanari Camp. He had a Theology degree from the University of Athens, and was ready to serve the church; but, being blind, he’d had trouble landing a job.

Laura Pepke recalls Mr. D at Fanari camp that first year. “My koumbara Georgia Kontos and I were there, sitting in the front row, 14 years old. Mr. D explained to us that he would need a helper. Georgia threw up her hand!” she laughed. “Looking back, I could see right away that he knew how to connect with us.”



Mr. D at Fanari Camp with his Theater Group Kids

Pepke remembers how he drew in the kids—every different personality—with his warmth, his love, and his incredible knowledge. “I think Fr. Bill saw that gift, and I’m so glad he did!” Pepke’s brother Tom Lampros and, decades later, sons Steven and Tommy, all participated in Adventure Theater.

(continued, pg. 4)

THE GREAT AND HOLY FEAST OF PASCHA

On the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the most significant day in the life of the Church. It is a celebration of the defeat of death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. In this victory that came through the Cross, Christ broke the bondage of sin, and through faith offers us restoration, transformation, and eternal life.

Holy Week comes to an end at sunset of Great and Holy Saturday, as the Church prepares to celebrate her most ancient and preeminent festival, Pascha, the Feast of Feasts. The time of preparation will

give way to a time of fulfillment. The glorious and resplendent light emanating from the empty Tomb will dispel the darkness.

Christ, risen from the dead, cracks the fortress of death and takes "captivity captive" (Psalm 67:19). All the limitations of our createdness are torn asunder. Death is swallowed up in victory and life is liberated. "For as by a man came death, by a man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:21-22). Pascha is the dawn of the new and unending day. The Resurrection constitutes the most radical and decisive deliverance of humankind.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the fundamental truth and absolute fact of the Christian faith. It confirms the authenticity of Christ's remarkable earthly life and vindicates the truth of His teaching. It seals all His redemptive work: His life, the model of a holy life; His compelling and unique teaching; His extraordinary works; and His awesome, life-creating death. Christ's Resurrection is the guarantee of our salvation. Together with His Ascension it brings to perfection God's union with us for all eternity.

The Resurrection made possible the miracle of the Church, which in every age and generation proclaims and affirms "God's plan for the universe, the ultimate divinization of man and the created order." The profound experience of and the unshakable belief in the risen Lord enabled the Apostles to evangelize the world and empowered the Church to overcome paganism. The Resurrection discloses the indestructible power and inscrutable wisdom of God. It disposes of the illusory myths and belief systems by which people, bereft of divine knowledge, strain to affirm the meaning and purpose of their existence.

Christ, risen and glorified, releases humanity from the delusions of idolatry. In Him grave-bound humanity discovers and is filled with incomparable hope. The Resurrection bestows illumination, energizes souls, brings forgiveness, transfigures lives, creates saints, and gives joy.

The Resurrection has not yet abolished the reality of death. But it has revealed its powerlessness (Hebrews 2:14-15). We continue to die as a result of the Fall. "God allows death to exist but turns it against corruption and its cause, sin, and sets a boundary both to corruption and sin." Thus, physical death does not destroy our life of communion with God. Rather, we move from death to life - from this fallen world to God's reign.

Before midnight on Saturday evening, the Odes of Lamentation of the previous day are repeated. The Orthros of the Resurrection begins in complete darkness. The priest takes light from the vigil light and gives it to the faithful, who are holding candles. The priest sings: "Come ye and receive light from the unwaning light, and glorify Christ, who arose from the dead", and all the people join him in singing this hymn again and again. **From this moment, every Christian holds the Easter candle as a symbol of his vivid, deep faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as Savior.** In many churches the priest leads the people outside the church, where he reads the Gospel which refers to the Angels statement: "He is Risen; He is not here," (Mark 16:1-8).

Then comes the breathless moment as the people wait for the priest to start the hymn of Resurrection, which they join him in singing, repeatedly: "Christ has Risen from the dead, by death trampling upon Death, and has bestowed life upon those in the tombs". From this moment the entire service takes on a joyous Easter atmosphere. The hymns of the Odes and Praises of Resurrection which follow are of superb meaning and expression. The people confess, "It is the Day of Resurrection, let us be glorious, let us embrace one another and speak to those that hate us; let us forgive all things and so let us cry, Christ has arisen from the dead". By



The Last Thing You See When Exiting *(continued)*

Now, the entire verse of the Entrance Hymn from Psalm 67:27 during the Paschal Season goes like this: "Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel." How fitting it is to talk about this verse etched in our nave during this time of Pascha!

I believe there are at least **two major points to take away** from this verse. First, since it is from the Old Testament, the Psalmist David is **prophesying in the Spirit and foretelling the coming of the New Grace in Jesus Christ**. The end of the worship in the Old Temple is coming, he says, and God will be blessed and worshipped in the churches to be established throughout the world by Jesus' Apostles.

No longer will the worship of God be confined to just one place, but, as Jesus said to the Samaritan Woman: "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father... But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:21-23).

That is to say, the **True God who has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will be worshipped wherever a church is established and planted**.

The second point to be learned is that **it is from the fountains or sources of Israel, from the Holy Scriptures of Israel that is, where we learn of this truth**. The fact that the Lord God

will be blessed and worshipped by the Gentiles (the Nations) is already made known in the Old Testament writings. For example, Isaiah prophesied about the churches throughout the world when he sees them as islands spread out upon the seas: "The glory of the Lord shall be in the isles of the sea; the Name of the Lord shall be glorious" (Isaiah 24:15).

And the **Lord even spoke of the time when true worship and the Eucharistic Sacrifice would be everywhere offered to Him**: "For from the rising of the sun to its setting My Name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to My Name, and a pure offering; for My Name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts" (Malachi 1:11).

This is the Entrance Hymn during Pascha, therefore, because this psalm verse is fulfilled with the coming of Jesus Christ. It is because of His death and resurrection that the message of the Good News of salvation and the knowledge of the One True God, as foretold in the Old Testament, has spread throughout the world and the churches of God have been established everywhere on earth.

We must, then, continue to spread the Gospel of eternal life in Christ to everyone and bring more people into the Church to bless God, for the Risen Lord says to each of us: "As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you" (John 20:21).

With love in Christ,

+Fr. George

The Great and Holy Feast *(continued)*

this hymn they admit that love of one's fellowman is the solid foundation of the faith in the Resurrection of Christ.

The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is then officiated. At the end of the Liturgy, a part of the marvelous festival sermon of Saint Chrysostom is read, which calls upon the people to "Take part in this fair and radiant festival. **Let no one be fearful of death, for the death of the Savior has set us free . . . O Death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is Thy victory? Christ is Risen and Thou art overthrown. To Him be glory and power from all ages to all ages.**"

The Scripture readings for the Divine Liturgy are: Acts 1:1-8 and John 1:1-17.

On Easter Sunday afternoon the faithful gather once more for prayer with lighted candles. All sing the hymn, "Christ is Risen from the Dead". The people greet one another joyously, saying: "Christ is Risen", the Easter salutation which is answered, "Truly He is Risen".

They sing, "the dark shadows of the Law has passed away by the coming of grace", and standing in exaltation they exclaim, "Who is so great a God as our God?"

The Gospel according to John (20:19-25) is read in various languages, proclaiming the Good News of Resurrection all over the universe without discrimination. The fruit of faith in the Resurrection of the Lord is love in His Name; therefore, this day is called "Sunday of Agape" (love feast), a day dedicated to Christian principles, especially to forgiveness and charity.

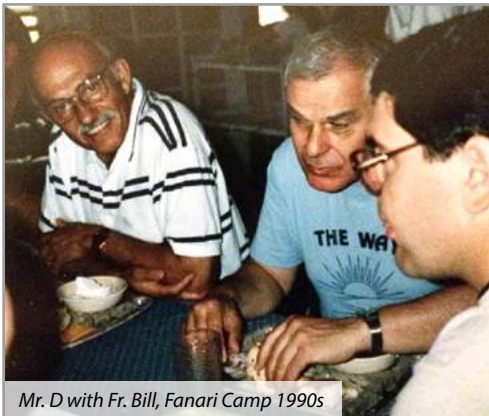


Video from Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America: <https://youtu.be/jar9AKa-gAGA?si=AGeWcbm0plvOJxN3>



At this time, Christians seek to end misunderstanding and arguments among those whom they may be at odds. Apostle Paul firmly interprets the Resurrection of Christ, saying: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14). The Church also states in its Creed, "The Third day He rose again."

From goarch.org

Final Curtain Call *(continued)*

Mr. D with Fr. Bill, Fanari Camp 1990s

Mr. D's job would be to teach the senior Bible Study in Greek, conduct catechism classes, and teach Old Testament Bible study and Sunday School.

"But I had had a dream, since I was 10 years old," Mr. D recalled, "to

teach about living the Christian life through drama." Listening to radio theater was a favorite childhood pastime of his and Mr. D believed it could be a great tool for teaching about the faith.

"So, I asked if I could start a theater group. And Fr. Bill said 'yes!'"

Thus began a 45-year run of more than 125 radio plays, stage plays, shadow plays, and even a feature film.

In all, **338 children passed through the ministry**, many dedicating several years' worth of Friday nights to running lines and building friendships under the warm leadership of Mr. D.

"Those were great years for me," recalls chanter and Sunday School teacher Alex Magdalinos, who joined the group in fourth grade, and stayed on to direct until he graduated in 1996. In fact, when he went to Boston to study, he missed it so much that he volunteered to help a local GOYA on Friday nights to fill the void.

The idea was simple. **Mr. D would write exciting plays about people facing challenges and how their Christian faith would guide their actions.**

In the beginning, the productions were "radio plays," performed with sound effects and children reading from scripts. By 1988, the group moved to the stage, and the high school members

of the group took on the responsibility of "directing" the plays. *Parson Bill, Rail Rocket, Letter to Tiberius, Honey You'll Never Guess What We Won, Valley of the BC Christians, and Pedimoo* were some of the favorites.

"It was so cool because as a teenager, you're running the group. You're in charge, and you have that responsibility. I always thought that was so special," reflected Peter Savas, who spent more than a decade in Adventure theater in the early 2000's. During his time in the theater group, the middle schoolers had lead roles and the high schoolers were directors.

"The kids had so much ownership. And you wanted to do a good job, because the group was so awesome. In Adventure Theater, you could always make an impact." Savas, who worked as the Youth Director at Sts. Peter and Paul for two years and is now a coach for Effective Christian Ministry credits Adventure Theater for pointing him down the path of youth work.

The student leadership continued to grow, to the point that **Mr. D even welcomed ambitious teens to write the actual play scripts.**



"He is wired in a way to see people's gifts, and then draw those out," observed Jessica Young, who was involved in Adventure Theater in the late 90's and was one of these student playwrights. She went on to study journalism and works as a writer.

Young remembers the day Mr. D called her mom to invite her to join the group. "I don't know why exactly he did that, but I am so grateful he did!" Young uses a wheelchair to get around and remembers everyone's can-do attitude about building her a ramp for the stage and adjusting scenes to accommodate her needs.

"Adventure Theater was so special – it was the end of the week, Friday night and everyone wanted to be there," explained Young. "You got to know kids who were religiously and culturally similar to you, which was important since in school you were often the only Greek Orthodox kid."

"I just thought it was so fun!" recalled many former members, including Anna (Franks) Toloken, who was an



Pedimoo, 2015

advisor in the mid 1990's and whose daughter Nia is now participating. "It felt very much like a family, and the word that comes to mind the most is fun."

"Mostly what I remember was that Mr. D's joy was just infectious," reflected Caity (Olson) Anast, who was involved in the late 1980's. **"He has such a pure heart,** and kids are so drawn to him because of that. He's so loving and kind and welcoming."

"Everyone felt loved by him," explained Savas, "and that love kind of trickled down through the kids."

Deep friendships developed, deepened, and lasted for years, then decades. In several cases, friends became koumbaroi — and in the case of Brianna Kush and Peter Boutsikakis, the friendship blossomed into marriage.

"I met my closest friends there," agreed Agape (Lamberis) Chakonas, who participated with her triplet brothers Nick and (now Father) George in the 1990's. "Many of us had met before in other ministries. But the theater group really strengthened our bond."

And it wasn't just the children who benefited. Laura Pepke pointed out that **the parents also bonded over luncheon preparations and chaperoning outings, including the annual trip to Navy Pier at Christmastime.** "I made my best friends working elbow-to-elbow in the church kitchen!" she laughed. Many theater group moms moved on to other parish volunteer work including Philoptochos when their children graduated.



These close friendships were formed through lots of time together which inevitably led to its own "drama." With Mr. D's deep desire to share the Gospel, every situation became a learning opportunity. He always helped us think about our actions," recalled Magdalinos. "He'd even help us apologize to one another." **Every rehearsal ended with prayer time, where children could ask the group to pray for specific needs.** This helped nurture their bond both with Christ and with one another.

George Boulougouris, who made the Elvis-impersonating character Toby Klutzos famous in the 1990's, was especially grateful that he and his brother Chris and sister Gina had the theater group family to lean on. His mom passed away from cancer when he was 10 after two years of illness. Despite all the challenges, or maybe because of them, his dad made sure to bring the children to church as often as possible, including every Friday night.

"We were raised inside the church. **Mr. D was like our uncle. Everyone felt like family.** They taught me not to be a bully, not to be naughty. They accepted, corrected, and taught you the right way."

It wasn't easy, he remembers. "When

things like that happen, you blame God. But **Mr. D made sure that my faith stayed strong. The church got me through a tough time and Mr. D is the reason.** I love him and I can't thank him enough for that."

Getting to the heart of what it means to be a Christian was what it was all about for Mr. D. "Being part of Adventure Theater has helped me to define myself a bit more," explained Renee Govostis, who is a high school senior and a lead director with her twin sister, Nicole.

"The plays have really resonated with me. Mr. D's writing helped me to understand what it means to be a Christian." The Govostis family boasts five sibling alumni (tied also with the Lozano family).

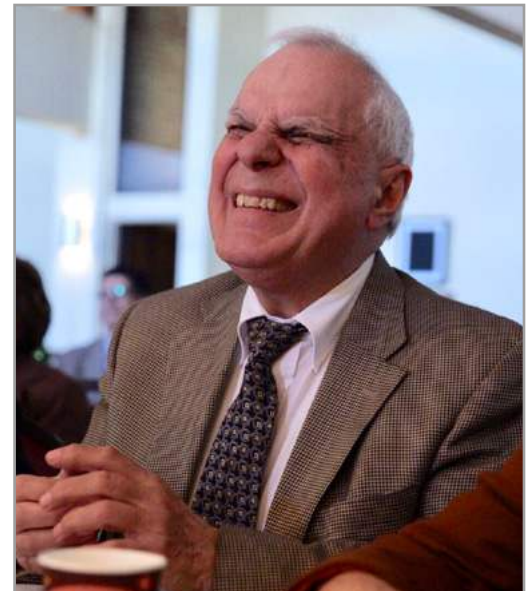
"Lord in Heaven, how did we do it?" chuckled Mr. D as he reflected on all the years and all the plays. He recalled so many people who helped him bring his dream into reality, especially Ann Lampros who used to proofread his plays, read to him, and help him get acquainted with new technology as it came along.

"I couldn't guarantee anything," Mr. D remembered about those difficult first years back from Athens, newly married and trying to support his family. "But I just wanted a chance. And Fr. Bill and Holy Apostles gave that to me. And by the grace of God and the trust of Fr. Bill and the hundreds of parents, we did it. We did it for 45 years."

"He's one in a million," said Chakonas pausing with emotion. "There won't ever be anyone quite like him. We are so blessed to have him in our lives. I'm sad Adventure Theater is finishing but Mr. D's legacy will live on."

The radio play, "The Tomb with the Unbreakable Seal," will be performed on Sunday, May 19 following a luncheon after church. You may reserve your spot for the show during coffee hour on 5/12 or by emailing Mr. D at fanari@me.com.

Listen to Shared Memories with Mr. D from Holy Apostles Family - <https://holypostleschurch.com/2016-audio-montage-for-mr-d/>





PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MARCH 2024 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

PC SECRETARY: VAL DRANIAS

Norm Pomrening called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Father Dokos led us in the opening prayers and Norm Pomrening recited the mission statement. Val Dranias moved to approve the February minutes and Sandy Pihos seconded. They were unanimously approved. Val Dranias read the correspondence. Thank you notes were received from Michael and Sophia Hamalis for the ornament and the YAL Chicago Board for the \$1000 donation for the non-alcoholic beverages for the YAL Conference. There was a request from IOCC for the purchase of a table at their May 16 Gala. Nick Kirkeles moved that we purchase a table at the cost of \$1250 for the Gala. Peter Bell seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Ecclesiastical Report: Father Dokos led us in reading and discussing Day 4 of Lenten Spring by Thomas Hopko; Return to the Father. Reflection on Lent – a gift from the Fathers. We can come home to God. PC members were urged to take part in Holy Confession.

Ministries:

Finance: Steve Milak

- i. Treasurer's Report – the total Operating and Capital Accounts balance at the end of February, 2024 is \$1,313,589.17. Steve is accumulating more data to better understand our financial status.
- ii. Financial Controls – suggestion of a Policies and Procedures Manual.

Stewardship & Welcoming: Sandy Pihos

Stewardship – Our 416 YTD pledges are 4% less than the 434 we had received by the end February 2023 yet our \$602K pledged is 10% more than the \$548K pledged by February 2023. Our median pledge is \$800 equal to the \$800 YTD February 2023 median pledge. Our average pledge of \$1447 is 15% more than the \$1264 YTD February 2023 average pledge.

Building & Grounds: Chris Pepke

- i. Landscaping – Revised Estimate. We will be asking the Parish Assembly for approval of an additional \$30,000 for this project.
- ii. Capital Projects – A Revised List of projects for 2024 was presented for a total cost of \$519,400. Chris Pepke moved to present the revised list of projects to the Parish Assembly; Bill Leider seconded. Motion passed – 10 yes. 1 no.

Ushering: George Chechopoulos – please check the updated schedule.

Greek School: Norm Pomrening. Float for Greek Parade - Nick Kirkeles moved that we fund half of the float cost at \$725 for the parade. Emilia Linardakis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Missions: Sandy Pihos

- i. Macaronatha Recap – the Macaronatha was a success. We had 300 reservations and 12 no shows. It was challenging to get product donations this year. Expenses were a little less than \$1000. Expenses should be \$1500 - \$2100 without donations. We received \$6100 in donations to support a family camp in Albania.
- ii. Requests for Donations for Outside Organizations – We should look at where we usually donate. We need to address the unpredictable requests. Policies should be put on the Missions Committee agenda.

Young Adults: Chris Pepke

- i. TELOS – mentorship event is progressing well.
- ii. YAL – 20-30 attending the once a month events. Reaching out in 5 different ways. Pairing up with other churches for events. Suggestion for a possible virtual event for young adults away.

Old Business:

Foundation Update: Patty Pappas reported that Joan Berg has put in countless hours on our behalf behind the scenes for the Foundation. Hope to have everything negotiated before the Parish Assembly.

- i. Resolved through negotiation – the removal of directors.
- ii. There will be 7 HA directors and 2 Independent directors. The PC president and treasurer and the parish priest are 3 of the 7 HA directors with voting rights. There is a concern over a conflict of interest, PC members could act as a check and balance.
- iii. Difficult to ask priest not to have a vote.

iv. Hopefully, this will all be resolved.

Comedian Recap: Val Dranias – We had over 200 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the evening – lots of compliments. We had a profit of \$12,575, More than the \$8,000 to \$10,000 predicted.

Coffee Hour: Sandy Pihos – asking for suggestions, looking to change the letter on Sign-up Genius. May be forming a committee to help with making the coffee.

New Business:

Holy Apostles Picnic Date: Norm Pomrening – consensus for July 28.

Motions Log: Val Dranias: sent out and will be updated after each meeting.

Task Listing: Andrew Kraulos – has been assigned to do this

Funerals: Sandy Pihos - big funerals can be chaotic. Need volunteers to take care of the candles. Bill Leider volunteered to help out at funerals.

Police During Holy Week: Chris Pepke – needed Palm Sunday, Holy Friday and Anastasi for traffic control.

Help Needed at HA: Val Dranias – reported that we need help for the following dates and other PC sponsored coffee hours, etc.: Clergy Retreat – 3/25 & 3/26; Parish Assembly Coffee Hour – 4/14; Metropolis Oratorical Festival – 5/11

Calendar: Sandy Pihos – need important events such as the Parish Assembly, etc. on the calendar and the Task List for the year.

Next Meeting: 4/18

Key Dates: Holy Tuesday with HEMN – 4/30; Metropolis Oratorical Festival at HA – 5/11; Clergy Laity – 6/30 thru 7/4; Golf Outing at Seven Bridges – 7/8; Church Family Picnic – 7/28

Closing Prayer: Father Georgiou. Norm Pomrening adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm

Save the Date!

Holy Apostles Annual Golf Outing

MONDAY, JULY 8
Seven Bridges Golf Club

11:30 - 12:30: Check-in and Lunch

12:30: Shotgun Start with Scramble format

6:00 pm: Cocktails

6:30 pm: Dinner

GOLF GIFTS AND RAFFLE PRICES!

Get a foursome together or we can pair you up!

Adult- golf, lunch and dinner: \$190

Youth under 21- golf, lunch and dinner: \$100

Dinner only: \$80



Please Join Us!



THUMBUDDY SPECIAL MOM'S DAY OUT



Philoptochos would like to thank all of those who came out to support our Blanket Making effort on Saturday, March 16. We made all of the blankets we needed for our Thumbuddy Special Mom's Day Out Event.

Thumbuddy Special provides adaptive equipment and bicycles to children with disabilities. Every year, they host a day long "Mom's Day Out Event" (May 19, this year) for the moms of these children.

This includes lunch, spa time, shopping with a gift card provided by Thumbuddy Special, dinner, and a gift basket. Philoptochos is providing the blanket, stainless steel water bottle, and a little goody bag with two teas and a lip balm for the gift basket.

This blanket was made
Just for you
To bring comfort
To know you are loved.

This blanket is to wrap
You up
When you're cold
When you're hurting
When you need to smuggle

This blanket was made
With Blessings
with Love
With Prayers

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
Ladies Philoptochos
Westchester, IL



FEED THE HUNGRY

On Tuesday, April 2 our Philoptochos volunteers made 125 sack lunches to "Feed the Hungry" at Annunciation Cathedral. Eleni Poteres, Ellena Vranas and Fr. George went to Annunciation to hand out the lunches to the homeless. Philoptochos is committed to this initiative 2-3 times a year.

JOIN US IN MAY: We will prepare sack lunches in the multi-purpose room on Monday, May 13 at 11:00 am. Meals will be driven to Annunciation Cathedral on Tuesday, May 14 at 11:15 am. To join us, please contact Anne Theophilos at annethephilos@aol.com



Ellena Vranas, Eleni Poteres, Fr. George



Anne Theophilos, Eleni Poteres, Sundy Urban, Maria Patt, Stacy Kafkes



Fr. Stamatios, Fr. George



PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING DRIVE

May 11 - 26 | Multi-Purpose Room

Philoptochos will be **collecting new or gently used clothing May 11-26 for Poised For Success**. Poised For Success® is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving the Chicagoland area. Their mission is to provide, at no charge, beautiful interview and business appropriate clothing to women who are on assistance and in the job market.



In addition to providing beautiful clothing, their volunteers assist clients in building self-esteem and some soft interview skills, as well as referrals to other local service organizations providing job-skills training and job placement.

They are currently **looking for/accepting Spring/Summer clothing ONLY (Linen, light fabrics, blazers, etc)**. All items must be clean and in like new condition. There will be a rack set up in the multipurpose room for all donations. Thank you for your support of this wonderful charity.



OPERATION CLASSROOM INITIATIVE



As part of our Operation Classroom Initiative, Holy Apostles Philoptochos members delivered supplies and a storage cabinet to Graves Elementary and Heritage Middle Schools in Summit, IL, as they establish a comfort closet for students.

The closet will provide a variety of basic necessities that students may lack at home, so they can better focus on their academics at school.



Bernie's Book Drive

Philoptochos thanks everyone who donated books to the Bernie's Book Drive. **We are donating 675 books for children** from birth to 6th grade to Bernie's this year. Bernie's processes and distributes free quality children's books to underserved children throughout Chicagoland.



H.A.R.C BOOKSTORE

Check out our gift items for graduation, weddings, Mother's Day, Father's Day and birthdays!



OPEN Every Sunday During Coffee Hour



You are invited to the
Holy Apostles Philoptochos Society

General Meeting / Thank You Pizza Party

Tuesday, May 21st at 7 pm
Holy Apostles Multi-Purpose Room
Pizza, salad and dessert will be served

We want to thank all our wonderful Philoptochos
sisters for all they do and give!

RSVP by 5/15 to Aleka Ernst - alekaernst@aol.com
or (630)561-1660

Please join our Philoptochos Chapter to continue its mission.
Online registration link: <http://bit.ly/3qY41oo>



Seniors, please join us at

KOUKLA'S KAFENIO

GREEK LUNCHEON AND ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, May 9th | 12 - 3 PM
Holy Apostles Multi-Purpose Room

All seniors are invited to a lively afternoon of Greek music, singing and dancing!

We will honor the special women in our lives:

Mothers | Grandmothers | Daughters | Aunts | Godmothers | Special Friends



Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 30th to Cathy Magas at 630.941.8448



We will be collecting items for the Peoples Resource Center. If you'd like to donate, please bring new toiletries items: hand soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.

Thank you!



Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church

MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5 Pascha 12:00 am Paschal Divine Liturgy 11:00 am Agape Vespers</p>	<p>6 Feast Day of St George Office Closed 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm Neolea Dance Practice</p>	<p>7 4:30 pm Greek School 6:00 pm GOYA Bright Week Dinner 7:00 pm Neighborhood Bible Study - Elmhurst 7:00 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting</p>	<p>1 Holy Wednesday 10:00 am Holy Unction 3:30 pm Holy Unction 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Orthros of Holy Thursday / Anointing at End</p>	<p>2 Holy Thursday No Greek School 6:30 am Vespers 7:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Service of the Twelve Gospels</p>	<p>3 Holy Friday 9:00 am Royal Hours of Pascha 11:00 am Holy Friday Retreat 3:00 pm Taking Down from the Cross 7:00 pm Lamentations</p>	<p>4 Holy Saturday 9:00 am First Resurrection Vespers Divine Liturgy 11:00 pm Resurrection Service / Paschal</p>
<p>12 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 8:15 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>13 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 11:00 am Feed the Hungry Sack Lunch packing</p>	<p>14 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 11:15 am Feed the Hungry/Annunciation Cathedral 1:00 pm Caregivers Support Meeting 4:30 pm Greek School 6:15 pm JOY 7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>8 10:00 am Kouklia's Kafenio Setup 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9 6:45 am Brotherhood of St. Peter the Apostle 12:00 pm Kouklia's Kafenio 4:30 pm Greek School 5:00 pm Greek School PTO Meeting/Elections</p>	<p>10 Feast Day of Theotokos of the Life Giving Spring 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>11 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 9:00 am Metropolis Oratorical Festival 5:00 pm Vespers</p>
<p>19 Last Day of Sunday School Poised for Success Clothing Drive 8:15 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Fellowship Hour 12:00 pm Adventure Theater Play and Luncheon</p>	<p>20 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 6:00 pm Neolea Dance Practice 6:30 pm ECM Meeting</p>	<p>21 Feast Day of Sts Constantine & Helen Poised for Success Clothing Drive 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 4:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Philoptochos General Meeting 7:30 pm League of Chanters Practice</p>	<p>22 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 6:45 am Brotherhood of St. Peter the Apostle 1:00 pm Adult Bible Study 5:00 pm Last Day of Greek School/Graduation</p>	<p>24 Poised for Success Clothing Drive</p>	<p>25 Poised for Success Clothing Drive Junior Olympics 5:00 pm Vespers</p>
<p>26 Poised for Success Clothing Drive 8:15 am Orthros 9:30 am Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>27 7:30 pm League of Chanters Practice</p>	<p>28 7:30 pm League of Chanters Practice</p>	<p>29 Mid-Pentecost 8:00 am Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

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