

# **Weekly Bulletin**

**February 8, 2026**

**The Sunday of the  
Prodigal Son**

**WEEKLY BULLETIN** [www.holyapostleschurch.com](http://www.holyapostleschurch.com)

**SUNDAY**

8:15 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.  
Memorials:

Fellowship Hour:

**TUESDAY**

8:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.  
1:00 p.m.  
4:30 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

10:00 a.m.  
6:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY**

6:45 a.m.  
1:00 p.m.  
4:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

8:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m.  
5:00 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 8**

Orthros  
Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Holy Communion)  
Nora & Antonis Kyriacou, Joanne Pekras, Michael & Bess Peterson,  
Nathan & Katherine Principato, Eleftheria Poteres, Kallianthi Vainikos  
Hosted by the family of Liberty Poteres, in honor of her 15 year memorial

**FEBRUARY 10: FEAST DAY OF ST HARALAMBOS**

Orthros  
Divine Liturgy  
Caregivers Support Meeting  
Greek School  
GOYA

**FEBRUARY 11: FEAST DAY OF ST BLAISE**

TOTS  
Evening Diving Liturgy

**FEBRUARY 12**

Brotherhood of St. Peter the Apostle  
Bible Study  
Greek School  
YAL Bible Study

**FEBRUARY 14: SATURDAY OF SOULS**

Orthros  
Divine Liturgy  
Vespers

---

**Epistle Reading – 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20**

**Reader: Ellie Markos**

**Gospel Reading – Luke 15: 11-32**

---

**House Blessing:** You can contact the priests or the church office to set up your house blessing during this holy season of Theophany.

**Sunday School:** The front row seating is reserved for all Pre-K families so the children can experience the Divine Liturgy up close. Thank you for supporting the education of our youth!

**New Payment Options:** We now offer the option of electronic payments at the candle stand. We appreciate your generosity!



**For Your Information:** We recognize that parishioners often bring loved ones to church, and at times it can be challenging to help them inside. To make this easier, you are welcome to pull up to the main church doors, where volunteers will be available to assist with entering the building. Support will also be provided when leaving. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this assistance whenever it is helpful.

## **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!"

### **Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον: Ἦχος β΄**

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἕδην 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.

Ότε katílthes pros ton thánaton, i zoí i athánatos, τότε ton Ádin enékrosas, ti astrapí tis Theótitos. Ότε the ke tus tethneótas, ek ton katachthoníon anéstisas, pásse e Dynámis ton epuraníon ekrávtagon: Zoödóta Christe, o Theós imón dóxa si.

### **The Epistle – 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20**

Brethren, "all things are permitted for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are permitted for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" — and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

### **The Gospel – Luke 15: 11-32**

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

**Lenten Psalms Reading Group:** Enrich your Lenten journey with a short daily reading of the Book of Psalms. The Psalms Reading Group is open to everyone!

- When: Mon., 2/23 - Fri., 4/3/2026
- Where: In the privacy of your home
- How: Use a resource that employs the Greek numbering system (Septuagint or The Seventy). Examples are: The Orthodox Study Bible; any Orthodox version of The Psalter; or Songs of Praise by Sylvia Leontaritis. All are available in HARC. Register by sending your name/email to: [psalter@holypostleschurch.com](mailto:psalter@holypostleschurch.com)

**Fanari Scholarships Available:** Fanari Summer Camp is just around the corner! This is a wonderful opportunity to engage Orthodox Christian youth in an exciting, Christ-centered camp experience that brings them closer to God, the Church, and their community. Families registering for Fanari Camp this year who need financial assistance should note that, in addition to applying for a camp grant, the Holy Apostles Philoptochos Society awards scholarships each year to two campers. Scholarship consideration is handled directly through the camper's registration with Fanari Camp.

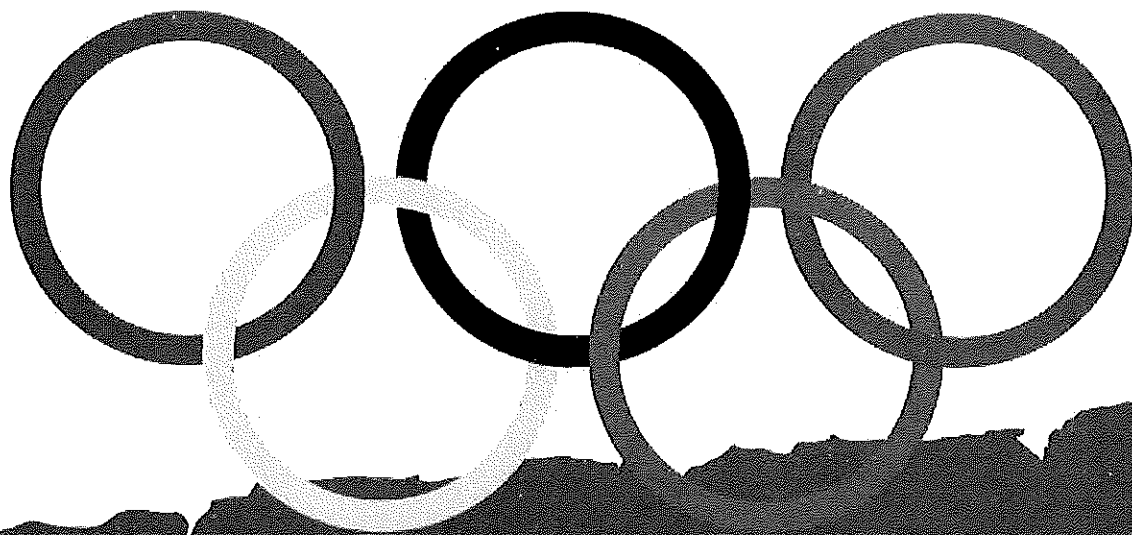
**Project HOPE Update:** The Hillside Food Pantry (HFP), which operates out of Immanuel Lutheran Church one block to the north of us, has been the recipient of our Project HOPE Bags for several years. HFP hosts a monthly drive-thru food pantry, no questions asked. Below is a "Thank You" and summary of the Holy Apostles donations from the Hillside Food Pantry Director.

- "Your congregation of generous supporters has enabled us to serve many individuals. We thank God for all of you who have helped relieve a great burden on our neighbors."
- "We highly value our relationship with the Holy Apostles congregation. We know it takes a lot of work. Our patrons are truly grateful for your HOPE Outreach Ministry."

In 2025, 3950 pounds of food were received between HOPE Bags and purchased food (like the Holiday Food Collection). This roughly translates to 3292 meals. The Holy Apostles Project HOPE Team thanks the community for their support of this ministry. It clearly has an impact on our neighbors in need. Let us strive to do even more in 2026. If you have any questions regarding the Project HOPE Ministry, please contact either Faye Adams at [geofaye.adams@gmail.com](mailto:geofaye.adams@gmail.com) or Maria Patt at [mdpatt59@comcast.net](mailto:mdpatt59@comcast.net).

**Therapy Dog Service Available:** Andrea San Luis, who works part time in the church office, and her dog, Yogi Bear are a certified Therapy Team. This is a free service where they visit people who could use the comfort from spending time with a calm dog. Yogi Bear is a medium sized hypoallergenic dog. He has experience visiting with children, people with disabilities, nursing homes residents, and people with dementia. Not all situations are eligible for visits, but if you are interested in learning more, please contact the church office.

**Holy Apostles Basketball Season End:** We had three teams in the G.O.A.L. basketball league this year, and they all represented us well with their hard work, determination, camaraderie, and good sportsmanship. Our 7th/8th grade boys teams even brought home the playoff tournament win! Thank you to our coaches: Dean Vlahos, Lee Zachos, Niki Hondropoulos, and Nick Haralampopoulos. Thank you also to all of the parents who made this ministry possible.



SAVE THE DATE

# JUNIOR OLYMPICS

\*\*\*

# MAY 23 & 24

SS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN  
PALOS HILLS, IL

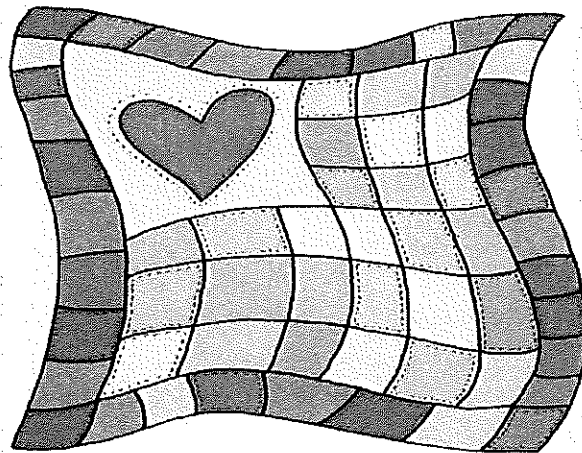
**AGES 7-18**

REGISTRATION COMING SOON



# Blankets of L♥ve

## Throughout February



Philoptochos is collecting knitted, crocheted, and fleece blankets throughout February. Those who are unable to make a blanket can still participate by donating money for supplies online at <http://www.tinyurl.com/haphilo2501> or by sending a check to the church office.

The next blanket making event will be held on February 28 at 10:30AM in the multi-purpose room. We will be making full size blankets that will be donated to Phil's Friends and baby blankets that will go to the People's Resource Center. Please sign up using the following link:  
[Blanket Making Sign Up](#)

For more information, please contact Faye Adams at [geofaye.adams@gmail.com](mailto:geofaye.adams@gmail.com) or (630) 517-8097 or Nicole Kubesh at [nkubesh73@gmail.com](mailto:nkubesh73@gmail.com) or (773) 972-5857



Sign Up



Donate



Please join us for our  
**Philoptochoos**  
**General Meeting**

Wednesday, February 18th @ 6:30 pm  
Holy Apostles - Multi-purpose Room  
Refreshments & Appetizers will be served

*Special Guest Speaker*  
*Dr. Lena Nikolas MD*  
*Women's Health Through the Years*

Please RSVP by 2/13 to Aleka Ernst  
[philotreasurer@holyaostleschurch.com](mailto:philotreasurer@holyaostleschurch.com) or (630) 561-1660

Please join our Philoptochoos Chapter to continue  
its philanthropic missions -  
Online Membership registration link/QR code below

[www.tinyurl.com/haphilo25D1](http://www.tinyurl.com/haphilo25D1)

or





# TRAVEL WITH US

## CHANGE A LIFE

# PROJECT MEXICO

**Building Homes. Transforming Lives. Serving Christ.**

Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage is an Orthodox Christian nonprofit dedicated to transforming lives through service, shelter, and faith. Since 1988 they have built 450+ homes for impoverished families in Mexico and provided loving care, education, and spiritual guidance to orphaned and vulnerable children.

Homebuilding is more than just construction, it's a life-changing experience. A team of Holy Apostles parishioners will travel to Northern Mexico, to build a safe and secure home for an impoverished family. The home is built entirely with volunteer labor. No prior construction experience necessary. You will be housed in tents on a campground on the property shared with the St Innocent Orphanage.

The trip is open to:

- Parishioners of Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
- Individual participants should be 18 years of age or older
- Participants between 12-17 years must be accompanied by a parent or guardian
- Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) college chapter
- Mission-minded families and individuals

Thania Panopoulos (dpanopoulos@gmail.com) and Norm Pomrening (pomrening@comcast.com) will co-lead the team on this transformational journey. We encourage young adults to participate. Check out **projectmexico.org**.

The cost to participate in a Project Mexico Home Building Project is \$900 per person. This cost includes building materials, three meals per day, tools, supplies, staffing and other costs necessary to sustain the program. Additionally, participants are responsible for their roundtrip flight from Chicago to San Diego.

Holy Apostles will be supporting this trip through free will contributions from parishioners. Money raised for this trip will be applied to the associated costs. Net proceeds from the Macaronatha Luncheon, February 22nd, will help defray some expenses for the Project Mexico team.

If you are interested in being a Project Mexico participant, or have questions, please click on the jot form link. We invite you to donate to this very important mission work where the Holy Apostles community, collectively, can make such profound impact.

**I'M INTERESTED**



[form.jotform.com/220614299323151](https://form.jotform.com/220614299323151)

**I'D LIKE TO DONATE  
TO PROJECT MEXICO**



[secure.myvanco.com/L-ZADA/campaign/C-13R4P](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZADA/campaign/C-13R4P)

# SAVE THE DATE! MACARONATHA LUNCHEON

Sunday, February 22nd  
following Divine Liturgy

Reservations  
Required!

On behalf of the Holy Apostles Parish Council, please join us after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 22nd for our 67th Annual Macaronatha Luncheon. As we begin Great Lent, let us nourish our souls and begin our efforts together as a church community with love and camaraderie. As always, your generous free will contributions are going to be donated to sending participants from Holy Apostles to Project Mexico.

## RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

**IN-PERSON:** In the Multi-Purpose Room after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 25th, February 1st, February 8th, February 15th.

**PHONE, TEXT, EMAIL:** Contact Sandy Pihos, either by phone/text at **(630) 640-5811** or at **greeks1@gmail.com** stating your name, contact phone number, email address, the total number of people in your party and the names of any family you would like to be seated with. Put **RESERVATIONS** in the subject line.

**VIA WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER:** Use the registration form provided in the Holy Apostles Weekly Newsletter and submit **ALL** the required information, including the specific names of families you want to sit with. Make sure to fill in all the spaces, especially names and contact information.

**ONLINE:** Visit: <https://form.jotform.com/holy.apostles.westchester.il/2026-macaronatha-luncheon-reservati>

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18th**



Scan to register

# 2026 Pre-Lenten Conference

*"To the Ends of the Earth ... and America, too"*

Saturday 10pm-3pm

## Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 2026

St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church  
5649 N. Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60660  
(773) 334-4515

**With the support of the Hellenic Foundation and several generous benefactors**

## Keynote Speaker

### **Fr. Samuel Davis**

*Assistant priest at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, at the World Trade Center in Manhattan.*

## Breakout Sessions

### **Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos**

*The Great Commission*

### **V. Rev. Dr. Simeon Johnson**

*Orthodox Mission Principles*

### **Rev. Fr. Kosmas Kallis and Nicholas Gavaris**

*Orthodoxy in Alaska*

### **Rev. Dr. Deacon Perry Hamalis and Dr. John Fotopoulos**

*Incorporating converts into our communities*

#### **Registration Required (free)**

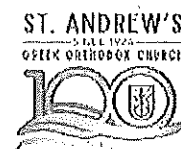
Please send name(s) of attendee(s) to  
[metroconferencechicago@gmail.com](mailto:metroconferencechicago@gmail.com) or  
call 773-334-4515

#### **Outline of Program:**

**10:00 am - 12:00:** Introduction,  
Keynote Address with Q&A

**12:00- 1:00 pm:** Lunch

**1:00- 3:00 pm:** Breakout sessions





METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO

*You're Invited!*

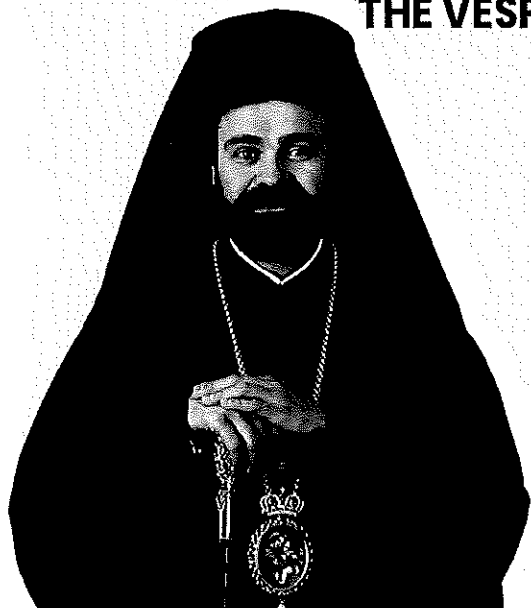


# FORGIVENESS

*Vespers of*

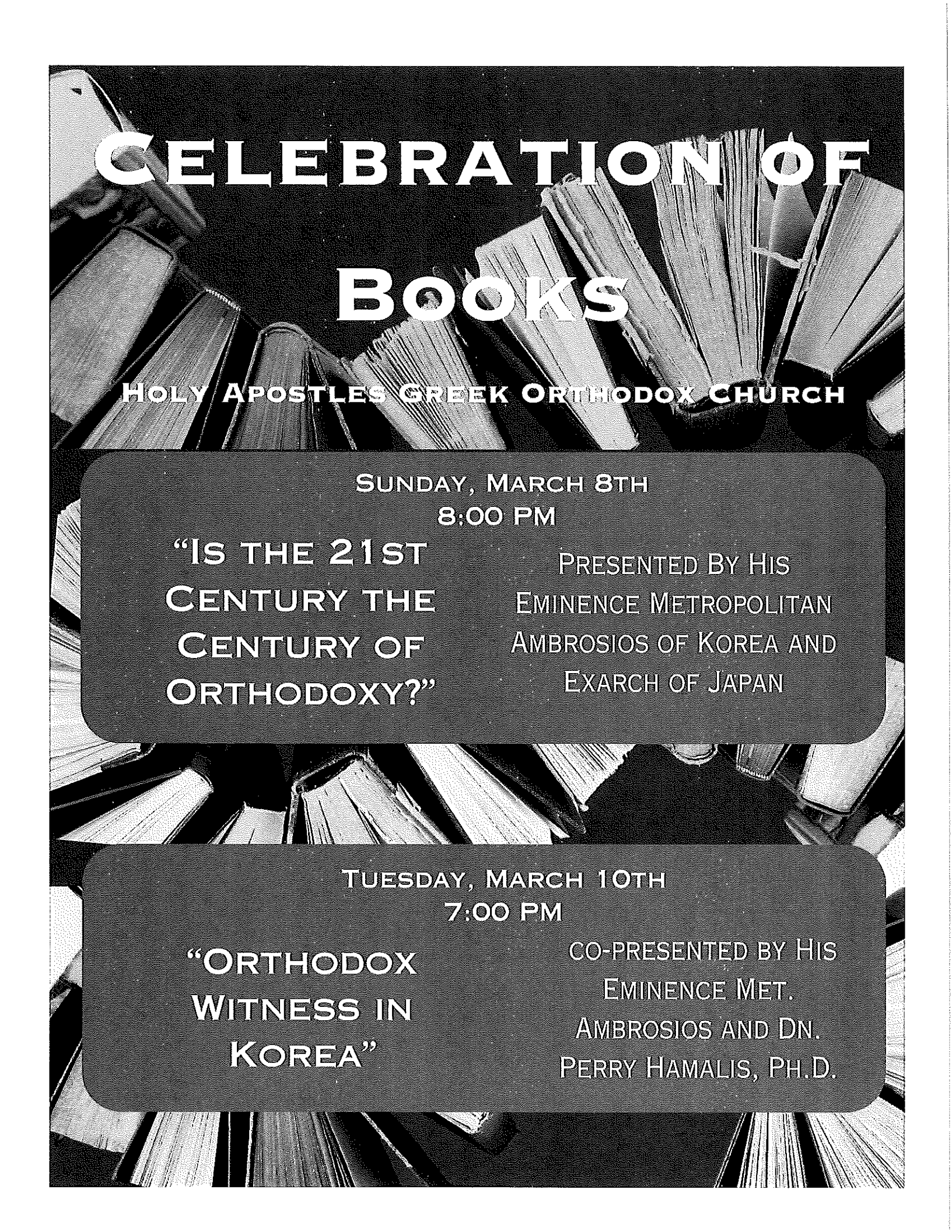
**FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

THE VESPERS WILL START AT 6:00 PM



**HOLY TRINITY GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
10050 IVANHOE AVE.  
SCHILLER PARK, IL 60176

PRESIDED BY HIS EMINENCE  
METROPOLITAN NATHANAEL



# **CELEBRATION OF Books**

**HOLY APOSTLES GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH  
8:00 PM**

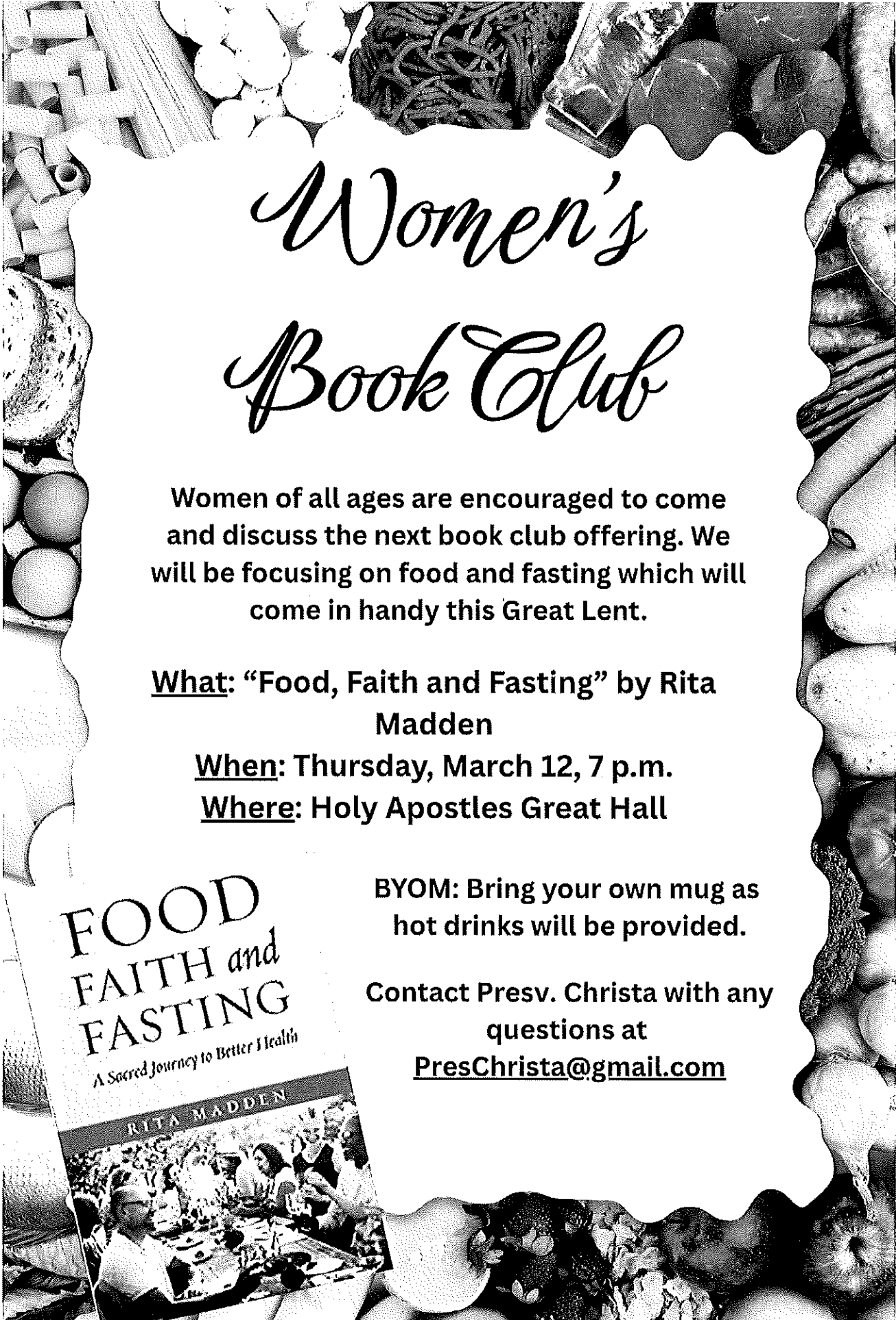
**“IS THE 21ST  
CENTURY THE  
CENTURY OF  
ORTHODOXY?”**

**PRESENTED BY HIS  
EMINENCE METROPOLITAN  
AMBROSIOS OF KOREA AND  
EXARCH OF JAPAN**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH  
7:00 PM**

**“ORTHODOX  
WITNESS IN  
KOREA”**

**CO-PRESENTED BY HIS  
EMINENCE MET.  
AMBROSIOS AND DN.  
PERRY HAMALIS, PH.D.**



# Women's Book Club

Women of all ages are encouraged to come and discuss the next book club offering. We will be focusing on food and fasting which will come in handy this Great Lent.

**What:** "Food, Faith and Fasting" by Rita Madden

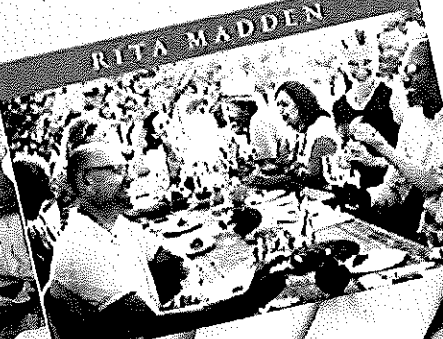
**When:** Thursday, March 12, 7 p.m.

**Where:** Holy Apostles Great Hall

**FOOD  
FAITH and  
FASTING**

*A Sacred Journey to Better Health*

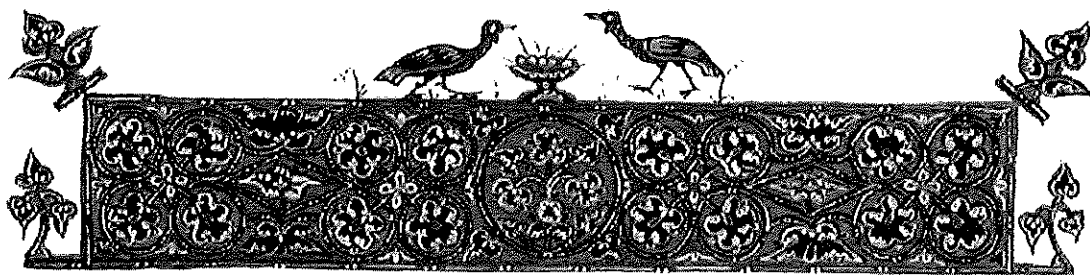
RITA MADDEN



**BYOM:** Bring your own mug as hot drinks will be provided.

**Contact Presv. Christa with any questions at**

**[PresChrista@gmail.com](mailto:PresChrista@gmail.com)**



# **Triumph Of Orthodoxy**

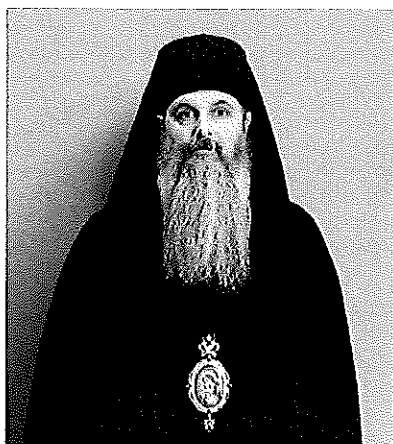
## **PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS**

Sponsored by the Orthodox Christian Clergy Association of Greater Chicago



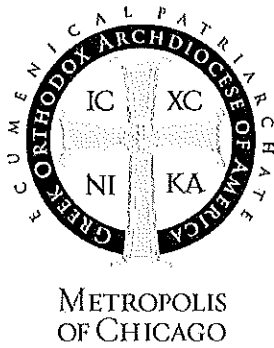
**Sunday, March 1, 2025**  
**at 6:30 p.m.**

**Holy Resurrection**  
**Serbian Orthodox Cathedral**  
**5701 N Redwood Drive, Chicago, IL**



**Homilist:**  
**His Grace Bishop Serafim**  
**of Kostajnica**  
**Vicar of the Diocese of**  
**New Gracanica-Midwestern America**

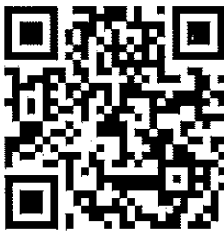
**Responses by**  
**The Pan Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago**  
Gordana Trbuhovich, Director



January 2026

# MESSAGES *from* *the* METROPOLIS

[www.chicago.goarch.org](http://www.chicago.goarch.org)



SCAN  
FOR  
MORE  
NEWS

## LATEST NEWS

1/12

Metropolis of Chicago Launches First Annual Project Hope Sunday

1/20

Metropolitan Nathanael Brings Illinois Leaders Together in Springfield to Affirm Faith in Public Service

1/25

Met on the Move: What We Can Learn from Abraham Lincoln About Humility and Candor



SCAN  
FOR  
MORE  
EVENTS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2/13-16

YAL Chicago Conference 2026; Donate today: [chicago.goarch.org/yalconference-support](http://chicago.goarch.org/yalconference-support)

2/14

Pre-Lenten Conference: Register today at [metroconferencechicago@gmail.com](mailto:metroconferencechicago@gmail.com) or 773-334-4515

2/15

Project Hope Sunday

3/07

Konstantinos Argiros Ticket Giveaway

sign up to receive email updates:  
[www.chicago.goarch.org/sign-up](http://www.chicago.goarch.org/sign-up)

# O Monoyenis Yios – Hymn of Justinian

Only begotten Son and Logos of God, being immortal.  
You condescended for our salvation to take flesh from the  
Holy Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, and without change became man.  
Christ our God, You were crucified and conquered death by death.  
Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit.  
Save Us.

## Apostoli Agii

Anastassiou

Voice

*Ho -o- ly A -po- stles In -ter- cede- With the Mer -*

A - po - sto - li a - yi - i pre - sve - sa - te to e - le - i - mo -

*ci -ful God. That for - all -our - faults He may grant For-give-ness To our souls*

ni - The - o i - na - pte - sma - ton a - fe - sin pa - ra - shi tes psi hes - i - mon.

## Sermon Notes

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church  
2501 S Wolf Road  
Westchester, IL 60154  
708.562.2744

Website: [holyapostleschurch.com](http://holyapostleschurch.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/holyapostlescommunity](https://facebook.com/holyapostlescommunity)