



CHARIOTEER



APRIL MAY JUNE 2025

April 2025—Vol. 55 Issue 2



**CHARIOTEER
GREEK ORTHODOX
CHURCH
THE ANNUNCIATION
555 NORTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS OH 43215
614/224-9020**

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Support our New Business Directory!

Beginning in 2025 the Charioteer will be going ad-free. Instead, please consider submitting your information for our new business directory booklet.
Details coming soon!

Contact: THE CHARIOTEER
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Parish Council Liaison: Stacey Stathulis

HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES, TEXT, AND PHOTOS FOR THE CHARIOTEER:

Limit articles, reports and features to one page. All articles should be submitted in electronic format as a word document or a text file. Digital photographs and graphic arts should be submitted as a jpeg in electronic format. Printed photos should be originals. No photocopies will be accepted. **Materials submitted for publication may be edited for brevity, space and errors. All materials must be received by the deadline to be included in the next issue. Materials received after the deadline will be published on a best-effort basis.**

Visit our website at
<http://www.greekcathedral.com> or contact us by email at secretary@greekcathedral.com

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:
JUNE 16, 2025**



Church School Sack Lunch Sundays

We continue to provide lunches for the Open Shelter twice a month. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Helen Rankin or Diane Chakalis.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK our many contributors for the interesting and informative articles and photos that were submitted in a timely manner. Thank you so much. You make the Charioteer a valuable tool to make the parishioners aware of all of the many Divine Liturgies, events and activities available to them. May God bless you and your families always.

You can now find the Charioteer on the website: www.greekcathedral.com. If you wish to have the Charioteer mailed to you, please email us at:

secretary@greekcathedral.com with your name and mailing address.



Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/AnnunciationCathedral

Announcements

40-Day Blessings

Date: December 29, 2024
 Child: Melina Eleni Schooley
 Father: Dr. George Schooley
 Mother: Maria Schooley

Date: February 15, 2025
 Child: Theodoros (Theo) Ragias
 Father: Pete Ragias
 Mother: Andrea Ragias

Date: March 2, 2025
 Child: William George Hopkins
 Father: Greg Hopkins
 Mother: Audrey Hopkins

Date: March 30, 2025
 Child: George Andrew Wcislo
 Father: Ben Wcislo
 Mother: Maria Wcislo

Baptisms

Date: January 19, 2025
 Name: Chase Louis Weiler
 Father: John Weiler
 Mother: Kelly Ann (Repicky) Weiler

Date: January 26, 2025
 Name: Katherine Patricia Meyer
 Father: Max Frederick Meyer
 Mother: Christina Anne Gevas
 Sponsor: Andrea Gevas Roper
 Name Given: Katherine

Date: February 1, 2025
 Name: Brooke Taylor Sherlock
 Father: Tim Sherlock
 Mother: Victoria (Palles) Sherlock
 Sponsor: John & Nicolette Ypsilantis
 Name Given: Agatha

Date: February 8, 2025
 Name: Charles William Pretty
 Father: Keith Adam Pretty
 Mother: Kristina (Kaldis) Pretty
 Sponsor: Alexander Kaldis
 Name Given: William

Date: February 8, 2025
 Name: Na'Kari King Hall
 Father: Nathaniel Hall
 Mother: Alexandra Sophia Hedden
 Sponsor: Anna Stathulis
 Name Given: Harry



Baptisms (cont'd)

Date: February 10, 2025
 Name: August Jude Tuent
 Father: Justin John Tuent
 Mother: Jasmine (Longshore) Tuent
 Sponsor: Helen Patsouras Rankin
 Name Given: Panagiotis

Date: February 15, 2025
 Name: Jay Thomas Overfield
 Father: Alexander Overfield
 Mother: Emily (Trihas) Overfield
 Sponsor: George & Maria Schooley
 Name Given: John

Date: March 1, 2025
 Name: Nikolaos John Fenton
 Father: Josef Philipp Walter Fenton
 Mother: Angelina (Bartucci) Fenton
 Sponsor: Benjamin & Pauline Russ
 Name Given: Nikolaos

Date: March 2, 2025
 Name: Braya Lynne Morgan
 Father: Daniel Phillip Morgan
 Mother: Stephanie (Miller) Morgan
 Sponsor: Madeline Anne Miller
 Name Given: Esther

Date: March 8, 2025
 Name: John David Gonyeau
 Father: Adam Robert Gonyeau
 Mother: Christina (VanSuch) Gonyeau
 Sponsor: Sylia Prassinis, Michael Maillis, and Mary VanSuch
 Name Given: John

Date: March 16, 2025
 Name: Chrisanthi Stella Ebright
 Father: Christopher Ebright
 Mother: Diamanto Eugenia Bergados
 Sponsor: John & Diamanto Vianas
 Name Given: Chrisanthi Stella

Date: March 22, 2025
 Name: Nikolas Anthony Mollica
 Father: Gregory Mollica
 Mother: Christina (Ciraldo) Mollica
 Sponsor: Nicoletta Hotzoglou
 Name Given: Nikolas

Deaths

Brock Novak February 8, 2025
 Marino Michael Moraitis March 18, 2025



Rev. Father Demetrios Gardikes



“The Charioteer”- April, May, June 2025

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Every morning before the dawn each day, it is very dark. Many years ago, I remember driving through the hills of Kentucky in the morning darkness. Everyone in the car was sound asleep. I could see the highway and just a little beyond the road, but otherwise, I felt surrounded in darkness. As the Sun began to rise, the dawn light began to fill the air. Suddenly, there was the spark of sunlight. The clouds began to reflect extraordinary colors. Slowly, my surroundings became visible.

This particular sunrise was one of the most beautiful sunrise experiences I've had. The rays in the sky began reflecting the running hills, the streams and the trees. I could see for miles. The sky transformed slowly, and within a short amount of time, the sky was fully bright. It went from darkness to light and in the light, there is no darkness. It was a beautiful transformation.

There are many scripture references to light and darkness. For instance, “I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.” The light most of us know is created light that casts illumination as in the story above. However, the scripture references are used analogously to identify God associated with Light Himself, the One Who creates light and lights. All created lights came into being out of nothing when God said, “Let there be light: and there was light” (Gen 1:3).

How do we understand God as associated with light and not darkness?

If we can begin to understand God as light, then we are surely on the path to salvation. On Pascha night the first thing we sing is “Come receive the Light...” (Orthros). Our candles are lit from the Holy Light which travels through and illumines the whole church. To first define God as light, we must recognize what he is not. God as light is not sensible as in the material light that is visible to our eyes. To make Him visible to our physical eyes would be to make Him created. God, in His Essence, is quite separate from and other than His creation, including all its forms and types of created light. Therefore, In His Divinity, God is really Uncreated Light.

Yet, mankind has known for generations that God is associated with Light, like the Prophet David: “The Lord is my light...” (Ps. 26:1). We have the faith that God is associated with Light. On one hand, St John’s Gospel says if you see JESUS you see the FATHER. On the other hand, St John writes, “no eyes shall ever see Him; for no man may see nor has seen God at any time (Jn. 1:18).

The Son of God, the Eternal Word of God, God of God, Light of Light, became Man. Incarnation was the first means by which men were able to “see” Divine Light. And those who saw Him declared “...the true Light which gives light to every man has come into the world. He was in the world...” (Jn. 1:9,10). Jesus even declared openly, “I Am the Light of the world...” (Jn. 8:12).

Like the dawning Sun, the light came into the world and defeated darkness. The sun rises and in no way can darkness defeat the light. Light always overcomes the darkness with its light. Christ came into the world and defeated darkness. The last darkness is death. Christ defeated death. In Christ, death has no power, because Christ is Risen!

What should our response be? Truly He is Risen!

We light candles when we come into the church. We use lit candles at Baptisms and Weddings. All of these lights are from the light kept from Pascha night or the light of Christ. Every time we light a candle for ourselves or a loved-one when we enter the church, we invite Christ. We pray to our only God who loves us, mentally and physically in the spirit of God’s Grace. When we accept Christ into our life and live a life in Christ, we invite the light of Christ into our hearts.

This means we must open our hearts to let the light in. St Paul, who walked in the light and blessed us with his epistles wrote, “For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ...” (2 Cor. 4:6). St John tells us plainly, “... if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1John 1:7). Thus, God gave the light of the knowledge of His glory in Jesus Christ, in men's hearts. When we walk with Christ’s light shining in our hearts and in our activities, the light transforms us. The darkness that is in us becomes overcome by light. In other words, just as the sun rises in the morning, the light slowly defeats the darkness.

As St Paul explains in Ephesians 5 and in closing:

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore, He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.”

In our Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
+Fr Demetrios Gardikes

President's Corner—Helen Rankin



As I step into the role of Parish Council President, I want to begin by offering heartfelt thanks to Harry for his dedicated leadership and service over these past years. His steady guidance and deep commitment to our parish has been a true blessing, and I am grateful for the foundation he and the others before him have helped build. I am excited and honored to serve alongside the newly elected council members, of whom brings extraordinary gifts, insight and energy to our church family. I am excited to warmly welcome Father Savvas and Presvytera Sarah, and family. We are blessed to have them. I look forward to working with them, Lee, our youth director and our church staff- Carol, Terri, Sharon, Ray, George and Emmanuel under Father Demetri's guidance. I am very aware and grateful for the many hearts and hands that serve our community.

To our parish family, thank you for your unwavering support of our church and her ministries. Your prayers, time and generosity are the heartbeat of this parish, and we are continually strengthened by your faith and commitment. A post card was mailed out recently listing a schedule of Lenten Services, if you have not received it, please contact us. Praying together and celebrating the Divine Liturgy as a church family is one the greatest blessings. Come to church. I especially hope you join us for the many beautiful services offered during the remainder of Lent and Holy Week.

As the Body of Christ, we are all called to play a role in preserving and sharing our Orthodox faith. As you read the Charioteer, you will learn how the different ministries of our church are making an impact. We invite you to connect with what resonates in your heart and serve. The fellowship that is available to you with Christ as the center will give you and your family great joy.

In the coming months, our council will be working together so that we may serve our community more deeply and reach more broadly as a parish community. We are excited about what lies ahead and invite you to walk with us on this journey of faith. If you have any questions or ideas you would like to share, please reach out. I want to hear from you.

On behalf of our Parish Council, we wish you and your families a Blessed Lenten Journey to Pascha.

In Christ's Service,

Helen Rankin



Cathedral Financial Summary

2025 Financial Stewardship & Financial Status as of 02/28/25

YTD 2025 Financial Status

	YTD Balance	YTD Change
Total Assets *	\$ 14,608,449	\$ 74,949
* This includes physical and monetary assets		
Total Liabilities	\$ 117,405	\$ (195,978)
Net Assets	\$ 14,491,044	\$ 270,927

Mortgage Balance	\$ 0.00
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Our mortgage note maturity date was in June 2025. In June we would have to refinance it or pay it off. With your help we paid it off five months in advance.

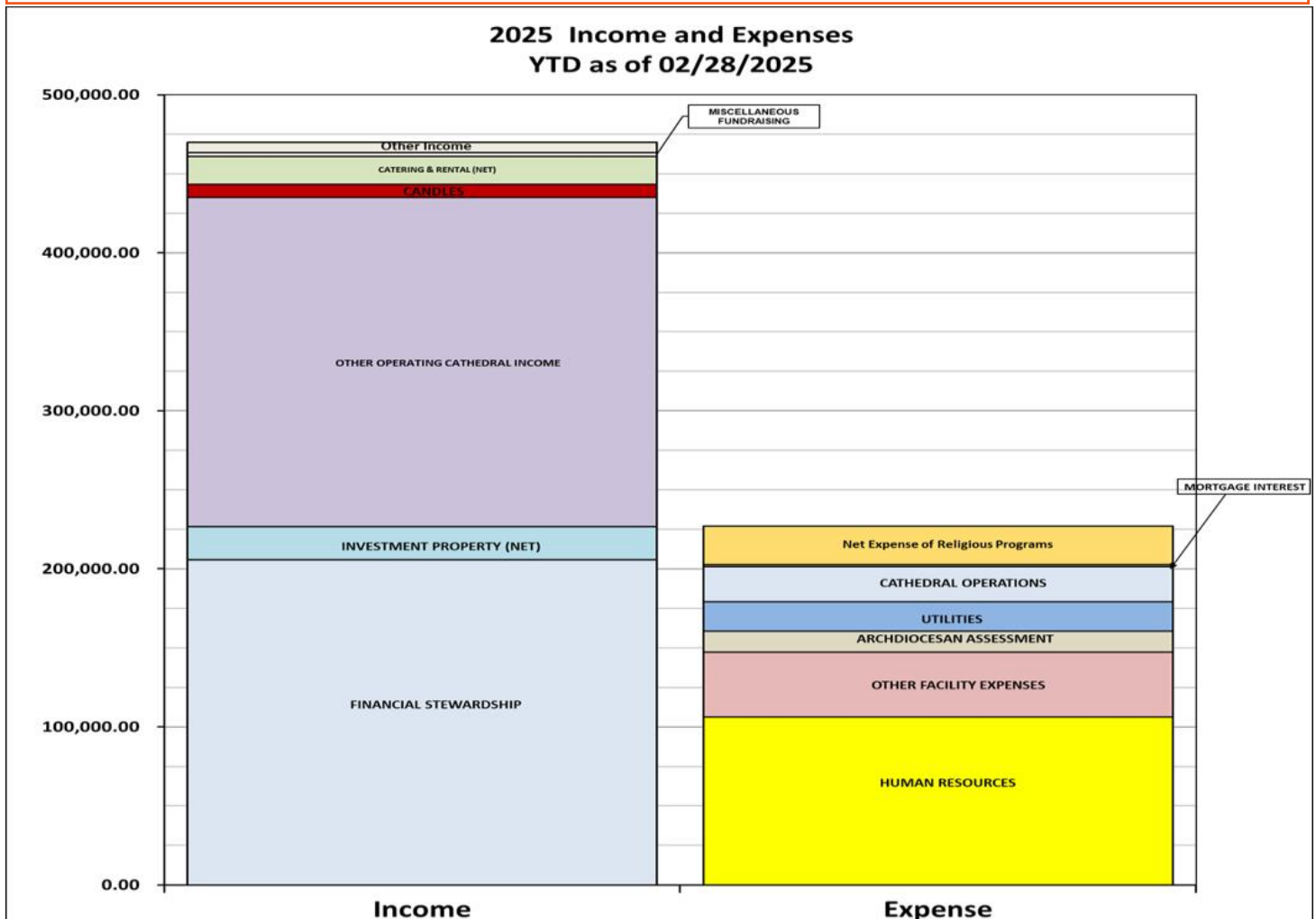
Mortgage Update

With your generosity and the generosity of fellow parishioners who are now with our Lord we were able to pay off the balance of our mortgage; so as of February 28th, we can proudly say that we are mortgage free. Thank you all for your support and may our departed stewards rest in eternal peace.

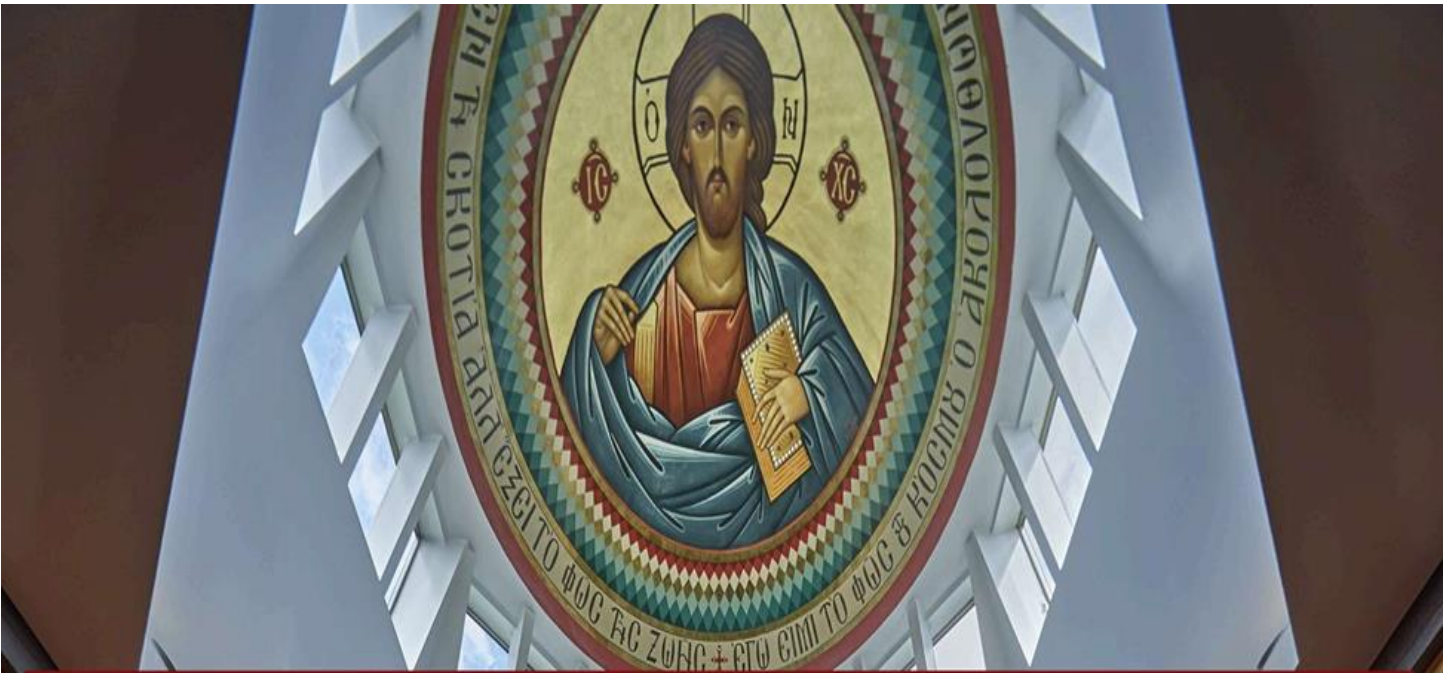
2025 Signed Pledge cards status

Through February 28th, we have received 219 pledge cards for \$317,966 in pledges. The amount pledged corresponds to approximately 94% of the amount pledged during the same period in 2024; however, it is only 87% of the amount pledged in 2023. Thank you to all who have already signed a pledge card for this year; please make sure you are current with your stewardship pledge. **For those who have not done so yet, please offer your stewardship pledge by submitting a pledge card to the church office or by completing your pledge online.**

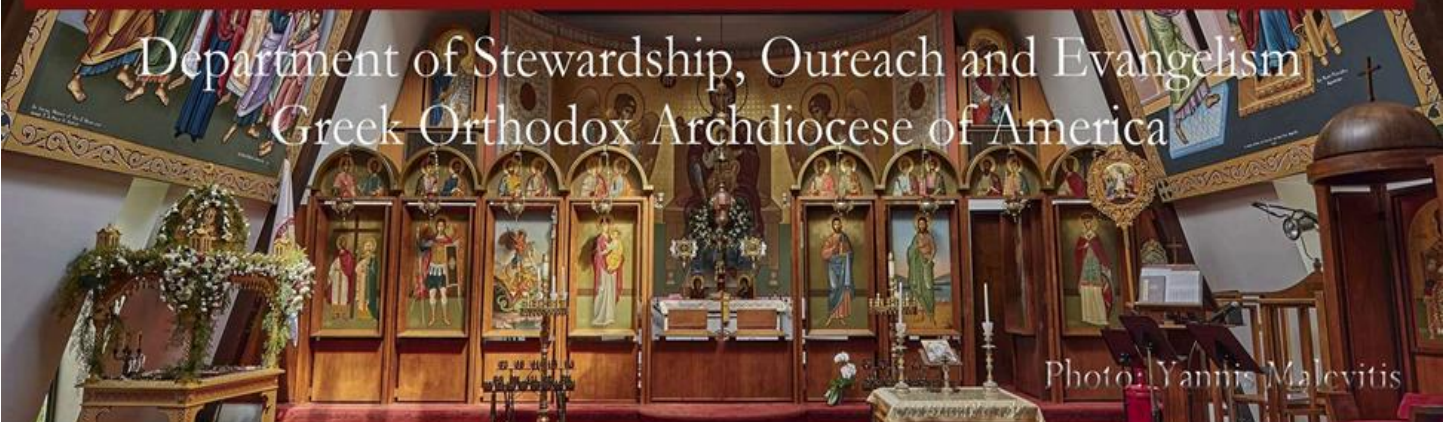
The table below shows our income and expenses for 2025 YTD (February 28th). Please keep in mind, your contributions enhance the financial strength of our community. Only with your support can we be better prepared to address current and future challenges. Financial strength allows us to be resilient and able to overcome future challenges. Thank you!



Stewardship



As a Church we plan not only to maintain our current ministries, but we are constantly striving to grow our current ministries and add new ministries as needs or opportunities arise. Often new ministries come about because one member has an idea and the gifts, talent, training, abilities, education and skills to make it a reality. Each of us is called to offer our gifts as we have been blessed and serve according to the task that God places before us in service to His Church.



Department of Stewardship, Outreach and Evangelism
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Photo: Yannis Malevitis

Sunday Church School



Helen Rankin,
Superintendent

A Letter to the Parents

Dear Parents,

Thank you for bringing your babies to Divine Liturgy. When I was a young mom, we were encouraged to bring our babies to the cry room, not the church, so I missed out on cuddling my baby while the hymns were sung and the Holy Gospel was proclaimed. Seeing you rock your little one to sleep from across the aisle reminds us that God's family includes all ages.

I'm glad you're taking your toddlers along too. One Sunday during liturgy, I saw a 3-year-old-girl passed lovingly from one set of arms to another all the way down the row from where she had been sitting with her mom. Watching each person extend their arms toward this little one and ask, "me too?" was a reminder that our Orthodox faith welcomes all of us.

Thank you for including your preschoolers. When little Theo spontaneously smiles when he receives his candle or little Mia chants Lord have mercy with her dad, they show us what it means to worship God with joyful abandon. And when little Thanasi identifies the icons from a game that his mom created for him while pointing at the dome, or I see a yiayia tenderly demonstrate how to make the sign of the cross, I smile because in each of those instances they are painting a beautiful picture of one generation calling to the next.

I'm so glad you're looking for opportunities to involve your children in the Divine Liturgy. I can't think of a better way for God's family to enter the narthex on a Sunday morning than by shaking your hand and receiving a high-five from your child. You taught your child what it means to give back when your child places their donation for their candle; or he/she brings their coin boxes filled with the coins collected to help a missionary across the world. You teach your child to give back when you bring your stewardship, an easter basket for Choices, clothing for Star House or other items we collect to share.

During Holy Communion, when your child joins the line that comes forward in prayer and receives Holy Communion, your child knows he belongs and we're getting a live snapshot of what it means to be an intergenerational body of Orthodox Christians. Watching little Demi carry a piece of antidoron back to pew, knowing how precious it reminds us to be appreciative. Thank you for the picture, of your son clinging to your leg and your daughter holding your hand during the homily. You're teaching them that listening to our priests talk about our Lord is important.

Thank you for persevering by having your children attend Sunday school, participate in Little Lambs, Joy and GOYA. The extra time in the classrooms where they have time to fellowship with other Orthodox children and have some time to focus on lessons carefully prepared, give them the experience and strength to know who they are as Orthodox Christians and grow closer to the Lord.

Parenting is hard work. I know that some Sundays you're just longing to sit in silence. And I suspect that there have been times when you've felt that the noise is challenging. I imagine on some Sundays, getting everyone ready to get to church on time is frustrating. I imagine when the parking lot is full and you are parking across the street one might say "why did I bother?" "Please persist. Because, in addition to the blessings your children brings to us as God's family when we celebrate the Divine Liturgy together, you're training your child to do the most important gift we can do forever: pray, worship, receive the Eucharist, love and serve. We look forward to seeing your families during this special season. Come and help us prepare the Palms for Palm Sunday. Bring them to church during Holy Week especially during Holy Unction, Holy Saturday Morning (bring shakers and bells so when they hear the Hymn Arise, O God the children can participate) and let us hear the proclaim Christ is Risen on Pascha and the 40 days after.

Children learn by observing. But they learn even more by participating. So, keep coming. Keep trying. We're glad you're here. We are so happy to see the increase in the numbers of children and teens. We will continue to grow our youth ministry to serve our children with the hope of seeing them carry the future.

Greek Language School



Nadia Yokarini-Kotsonis
– Principal

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ Greek Language School News



March 25th—Greek Independence Day Celebration



The Greek School students proudly celebrated March 25th Greek Independence Day. They recited songs and poems in fluent Greek. Proud of all the students parents and teachers that worked hard for this beautiful program.



Philoptochos

YOUR INVITATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



CALLING ALL WOMEN TO JOIN OUR NOBLE JOURNEY



Philoptochos 2025 Membership and Stewardship Form Annunciation Cathedral, Chapter #6002



*Are YOU an inspired woman impacting the world?
Join us!*

Yes, I will help Philoptochos be a friend to the poor and help those in need.

I will give: ___\$30 ___ \$50 ___\$75 ___other amount

\$15 goes directly to the National Philoptochos ministries

\$10 goes directly to the Metropolis Philoptochos ministries

Any amount above \$25.00 will stay with our Annunciation Philoptochos Chapter

Please make checks payable to Philoptochos and mail to the church office:

Philoptochos Membership, 555 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215

“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and will be repaid in full”

~Proverbs 19:17

Let us get to know you!

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Preferred Contact Number _____ please circle main / cell ?

Membership and Stewardship Forms are kindly requested by March 31st

Youth Ministry

A Message from the Youth Director

Pasquale “Lee” Santarelli



In the Tradition of the Church, Lent has been referred to as the “tithe of the year”. We learn from the Old Testament that tithing involved giving 10% of their possessions, wealth, crops, and or time to the Temple. The act of tithing was to remind believers that they belong to God and how He saved them by delivering them from Egypt. As Fr. Thomas Hopko of blessed memory notes, the 40 days of Lent plus Holy Week (remember, Holy Week is outside of Lent and not included in the 40 days), is roughly 10% of the 365 days of a year. And the purpose of the Lenten season according to Fr. Hopko? It is the season of the year when Christians try to be and try to do what God has called us to do all the time, but we do not. We may think Lent is a special, pious time for devotional activity. The reality is that Lent is meant to be a time for living a normal Christian life and engaging in normal Christian activity - the way it should be lived all year long! More than ever, we are called to do the things that open us up to the grace of God - all the disciplines that prove we are believers. We fast from certain foods because we ought to come to the realization that our food and drink is the Word of God and not some physical food. We pray more intensely, both privately and communally to further our connection to the Lord. We perform acts of almsgiving and mercy in order to see Christ in all people. Once again, these are things we ought to do all year round - not just during Lent. It is the hope by doing these things more intensely we are transformed and live as we ought too as Christians all the time!

I challenge everyone, young and old, both during and outside of Lent, to begin making choices that help us become transformed in Christ and attain our higher calling. Are we going to be perfect in doing so? Absolutely not. We will stumble and fall all the time; but we can make a conscious effort to try and be better for Christ. We can say “no” to playing basketball in the gym and choose to attend Compline or a Presanctified Liturgy instead. We can object to engaging in community gossip during coffee hour on Sundays. We can remember an extra dollar or snack to give to the homeless when coming to the church on Neil Avenue. To all of our youth - you can take it a step further! Do not be afraid to say you cannot make it to an athletic practice or another extracurricular activity in order to be present for the Divine services. Do not be afraid to discuss your faith with your friends who are not Orthodox - be the witness Christ calls you to be! Choose to be involved in transformative, spiritually enriching experiences such as our Metropolis Camp Ministry this summer at Camp Nazareth. Time and time again, Camp Nazareth has proven to be a spiritually enriching experience that only helps all those present grow in the Faith and their understanding of it. It is a week to connect with peers of the same Faith, grow with them, and make life-long friends. Friends to share joy with, friends to share in the struggle with - friends to transform your life in Christ with! Even if you cannot make it to Camp Nazareth, still strive to transform your lives. Strive to attain the higher calling God has called us too as believers of Him. Strive to do everything that helps us prepare for the Lord’s glorious Resurrection on Pascha!

If we are to truly prepare ourselves for the Lord’s Resurrection on Pascha, we need to put the work in. To quote Fr. Hopko, “We were brought from death to life, Earth to Heaven. We are in the new Passover. We belong to God, not simply because He delivered us from earthly bondage, but we belong to Him because we were bought by the Blood of Christ, redeemed from hell itself, from death itself, in order to live forever with God.” Since we belong to God and He loves us, the least we can do is to try and live up to the life He expects us all to live, right? “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Special Events



Columbus GOYA at Canton Tournament



Columbus Junior Boys's Basketball Team



GOYA Basketball Recognition



February 9, 2025—It was a wonderful day to welcome the Orthodox students of **Sigma Epsilon Phi** of The Ohio State University to church. Sigma is a vital part of our parish and their presence is a great blessing. Congratulations to all the new initiates!

Special Events

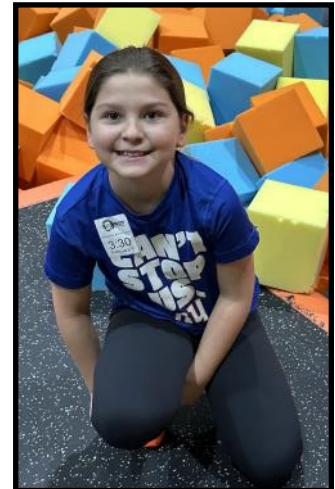


Columbus Junior Girls' Team



Columbus Senior Girls' Team

Jump for JOY—Fun City Adventures



OSU—Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)

Tentative Master Calendar

Wednesday, April 2, 2025	Little Lambs—Classrooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball—Gym Presanctified Liturgy with Potluck at St. Gregory of Nyssa	4:30pm—6:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm 6:00pm—9:00pm
Friday, April 4	50 Plus Bread Baking—Banquet Hall Akathist to the Theotokos	8:30am—3:00pm 6:00pm—7:00pm
Saturday, April 5	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, April 6	Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Matins Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School 50 Plus Selling Bread—Social Hall	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am after Holy Communion 11:00am—1:00pm
Monday, April 7	Great Compline	5:30pm—6:30pm
Tuesday, April 8	Parish Council Meeting	6:30pm—8:30pm
Wednesday, April 9	Little Lambs—Classrooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball—Gym Presanctified Divine Liturgy — Cathedral Potluck Lenten Dinner after Presanctified and a Presentation on Lent in the Orthodox Church—Banquet Hall	4:30pm—6:30pm 5:00pm—8:00pm 5:30pm—7:00pm 7:15pm—8:45pm
Saturday, April 12	Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy Greek School Greek School—Lazarus Saturday Cross Making Community Making Palm Crosses after Divine Liturgy—Gym Choir Rehearsal Myrophores Meeting	9:00am—10:30am 10:00am—12:00pm 10:30am—12:30pm 10:30am—12:30pm 11:00am—1:00pm 11:00am—12:30pm
Sunday, April 13	Palm Sunday Matins Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School Bridegroom Matins	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am after Holy Communion 5:30pm—7:00pm
Monday, April 14	Bridegroom Matins	5:30—7:00pm
Tuesday, April 15	50 Plus Lenten Potluck—Banquet Hall Bridegroom Matins	4:00pm—5:30pm 5:30pm—7:00pm
Wednesday, April 16	CHOICES—Kitchen Holy Unction Last Supper Matins	10:00am—3:00pm 3:30pm—5:30pm 6:00pm—8:00pm
Thursday, April 17	Vespereal Divine Liturgy Philotochos Dyeing Eggs—Banquet Hall Matins of the Twelve Gospels and Procession of the Cross With the Crucified Christ	6:30am—8:00am 9:00am—12:30pm 6:00pm—9:00pm
Friday, April 18	Royal Hours Decoration of the Kouvouklion (Philotochos) Vespers of Unnaing Lamentations Orthros with Procession	8:00am—10:00am 9:00am—12:30pm 1:00pm—3:00pm 6:00pm—10:00pm
Saturday, April 19	Vespereal Divine Liturgy Prepare Cathedral for Paschal Services Resurrection Orthros	9:00am—11:00am 10:00am—2:00pm 11:00pm—12:00am
Sunday, April 20	Great and Holy Pascha! Resurrection Divine Liturgy Resurrection Dinner after service Agape Vespers—Christ is Risen!	12:00am—2:00am 2:00am—4:00am 10:00am—11:30am



Tentative Master Calendar

Tuesday, April 22	College Student Day—Kitchen and Banquet Hall Orthros Divine Liturgy	9:00am—5:00pm 8:30am—9:30am 9:30am—12:00pm
Wednesday, April 23	Bright Wednesday St. George the Great Martyr Orthros Divine Liturgy Little Lambs—Rooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball	8:30am—9:30am 9:30am—11:00am 4:30pm—6:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Friday, April 25	Bright Friday—The Life-Giving Font Divine Liturgy	9:30am—11:00am
Saturday, April 26	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, April 27	Thomas Sunday Matins Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Reception and Easter Egg Hunt	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 11:30am—12:30pm
Tuesday, April 29	Philoptochos Paschal Meal Prep—Kitchen	2:00pm—5:00pm
Wednesday, April 30	Little Lambs—Rooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball—Gym	4:30pm—6:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Saturday, May 3	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, May 4	Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women Matins Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am after Holy Communion 12:00pm—1:30pm
Wednesday, May 7	Little Lambs—Rooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball—Gym	4:30pm—6:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Thursday, May 8	St. John the Theologian—Chapel Orthros Divine Liturgy	8:30—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am
Saturday, May 10	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, May 11	Sunday of the Paralytic—Mother's Day Matins Divine Liturgy Sunday Church School	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am after Holy Communion
Tuesday, May 13	Parish Council Meeting	6:30pm—8:30pm
Wednesday, May 14	Little Lambs—Rooms 111 & 113 Men's Church Basketball—Gym	4:30pm—6:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Saturday, May 17	Choir Rehearsal Greek School / Last Day of School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, May 18	Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Matins Divine Liturgy Spring General Assembly Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 11:45am—1:15pm 12:00pm—1:30pm

Tentative Master Calendar

Wednesday, May 21	Sts. Constantine & Helen Orthros Divine Liturgy CHOICES—Kitchen Men's Church Basketball—Gym	8:30am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 10:00am—3:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Saturday, May 24	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, May 25	Sunday of the Blind Man Matins Divine Liturgy	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am
Monday, May 26	Memorial Day	
Wednesday, May 28	Vacation Bible School Men's Church Basketball—Gym	9:00am—12:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Thursday, May 29	Ascension Orthros Divine Liturgy Vacation Bible School	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—10:15am 9:00am—12:00pm
Friday, May 30	Vacation Bible School	9:00am—12:00pm
Saturday, May 31	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, June 1	Fathers of the First Council Matins Divine Liturgy Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 11:30am—1:00pm
Wednesday, June 4	Men's Church Basketball—Gym	5:00pm—8:00pm
Saturday, June 7	Choir Rehearsal Greek School	10:00am—12:00pm 10:00am—12:00pm
Sunday, June 8	Holy Pentecost Matins Divine Liturgy Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 12:30pm—2:00pm
Tuesday, June 10	Parish Council Meeting	6:30pm—8:30pm
Wednesday, June 11	Men's Church Basketball—Gym	5:00pm—8:00pm
Sunday, June 15	The Sunday of All Saints—Father's Day Matins Divine Liturgy	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am
Wednesday, June 18	CHOICES—Kitchen Men's Church Basketball—Gym	10:00am—3:00pm 5:00pm—8:00pm
Sunday, June 22	2nd Sunday of Matthew Matins Divine Liturgy Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 11:30am—1:00pm
Tuesday, June 24	Nativity of St. John the Forerunner Orthros Divine Liturgy	8:30am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am
Wednesday, June 25	Men's Church Basketball—Gym	5:00pm—8:00pm

Tentative Master Calendar

Sunday, June 29	Sts. Peter and Paul The Holy Apostles Matins Divine Liturgy Dance Practice—Gym	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am 11:30am—1:00pm
Monday, June 30	The 12 Apostles Divine Liturgy	9:30am—10:30am
Wednesday, July 2	St. John Maximovitch, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco Divine Liturgy Men's Church Basketball—Gym	9:30am—10:30am 5:00pm—8:00pm
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;">HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!</div>  </div>		
Friday, July 4	St. Andrew of Crete Divine Liturgy	9:30am—11:30am
Sunday, July 6	4th Sunday of Matthew Matins Divine Liturgy	8:00am—9:30am 9:30am—11:30am



Juniors and ZOOE DANCERS along with the Adult (ALUMNI) Group DANCE PRACTICE SCHEDULE (2025)

SUNDAYS

January – 26 th	June - 8 th **
March – 2 nd	June 22 nd , 29 th
May 4 th , 18 th	July – 13 th , 20 th , 27 th
June – 1 st	August – 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th

****NOTE TIME CHANGE FOR June 8th PENTECOST: (12:30PM – 2:00PM)**

When Catechetical School is in session times are:
(12:00 noon - 1:30pm)

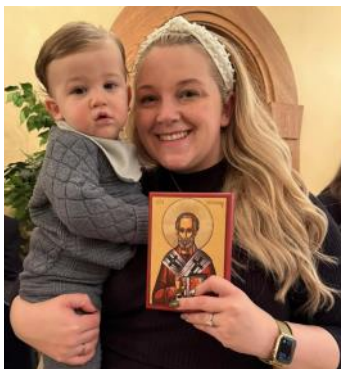
When Catechetical School is NOT in session times are:
(11:30am – 1:00pm)

If you need to reach me, please call my cell # 614.778.3219. May God continue to bless all of you!!!
With Love In Christ, Vicky Constantinidis – Gardikes, Dance Director OPA!!! OPA!!! OPA!!!

Sunday of Orthodoxy—March 9, 2025



Archons: L to R: Harry Ruska, Adam Tzagournis, Dr. Manuel Tzagournis, and Dr. Jimmy Schooley





PHILOPTOCHOS' MAKARIA

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" Matt.5:4

Please allow our lady members of Philoptochos to help you celebrate the life of your loved one with a Makaria in the Social Hall at the Cathedral.

We will set up, serve, and clean up for a Makaria up to 50 guests. The food will be provided by the Red Brick restaurant in German Village (Mario Fitros). You may bring your own desserts, wine and or soda.

Menu: Baked fish, rice, salad, and rolls. Coffee and water provided.

Cost: \$20.00 per person.

Call Terry Morgan at 614-668-8341 or Helen Rankin at 614-530-4771.
Please call Carol Harr at the Church 614-224-9020, to check availability of the hall.

GREEK OLYMPIC SOCIETY—HELLENIC ETHOS

Dear fellow parishioners,

Evangelia Philippidis has been named the new editor of *Greek Ethos*. The redesigned magazine will return in March 2025 as *Hellenic Ethos*. We will feature recurring columns called *Voices from our Past*, interviews with our aging generation whose lives and stories have built our parish and *Toward the Future* featuring our young generation who will take us forward. We will feature our parish, artists, writers and musicians. *Yiayia's Kitchen* will feature stories and recipes from across Greece submitted by parishioners. We will continue feature articles by noted academics on our history and culture.

We invite you to reach out and be a part of contributing to our new vision. If you have a story to tell, a beloved recipe passed on, art you would like to share, contact Evangelia at evangeliaphilippidis@hotmail.com or text her at 614.354.6557.

K.N. Stravelakis Family Scholarship Fund

K.N. Stravelakis Family Scholarship Fund for Graduate / Professional School



Information for Applicants

Scholarships of \$500 to \$1,500 may be awarded each year.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Scholarship award(s) may be made to individual(s) on the active roll, or whose parents are active members, of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio who intend to pursue graduate or professional studies on a part-time or full-time basis in the year of the award.
2. The educational institution in which the applicant is enrolled must be a public or private nonprofit educational institution.
3. The scholarship is not renewable, but recipients may reapply.

Selection Criteria:

Recipients will be chosen on the basis of:

- financial need
- academic potential
- character

Application Process:

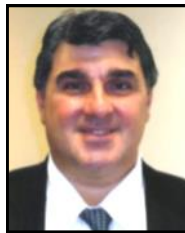
1. Obtain an application form from the Cathedral office *or* from Ria Genoozis Harvey at genoozis@gmail.com
2. Email the application form with all supporting documents and a recent photograph to genoozis@gmail.com

Applications and supporting documents must be postmarked or received no later than Monday, June 30, 2025. Late applications will not be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all supporting documents have been received by the deadline. All awards are paid directly to the educational institution.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL THE ANNUNCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Rev. Demetrios Gardikes, Ekonomos—
Dean of the Cathedral

Scholarship Committee: Sharon Black, Chairperson;
Presvytera Evangeline Baron, John Koutras, D.D.S.,
Nick Haritos, George Proicou, and Jimmy Schooley,
D.D.S.



Guidelines for the Cathedral scholarships to be awarded are as follows:

1. Seniors in high school who will be entering college this fall are eligible.
2. Transcript of grades for the current and previous year; higher grade points will be viewed favorably. Submit a current photo.
3. E-mail address and cell phone number. If necessary, the committee has the option to have a personal interview with the applicant, or request other supplemental information.
4. The student or student's parents must be a member-in-good-standing of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral with an annual pledge on file for the current and previous year.
5. Involvement in Annunciation Church Activities. Please see list ("Church Involvement"—next column).
6. An essay of 150 to 200 words on how this scholarship will help you achieve your educational and career goals. Possible financial needs listed for family. A second essay of 350 to 400 words describing an experience that brought you closer to the faith and ideas to keep youth and young adults involved in the church in the future.
7. The scholarships vary in number and value, dependent on available funding and overall strength of an application.

Complete this application form, enclose your essays, transcripts, and photo. **Return by June 30, 2025.** Forms will also be available in the church office.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

E-mail to:

Sharon Black at: sharonk.black3@gmail.com

Mail to: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
555 NORTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS OH 43215

**DEADLINE: JUNE 30, 2025
WITHOUT EXCEPTION**

DONORS TO THE CATHEDRAL 2024 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Steven Barbour, George J. Sicaras and family, the family of Linda Chakeres, Chris Zarkos, and Christ George.

Church Involvement

- ___ Acolytes
 - ___ Choir
 - ___ Myrophores
 - ___ Sunday School
 - ___ Greek Language School
 - ___ GOYA
 - ___ Greek Festival
 - ___ Church Camp / Retreat
 - ___ Vacation Bible School
 - ___ Dancing
 - ___ Other Church Ministries
- (ex. Rise Against Hunger, St. Matrona)

Donors needed for the 2025 Scholarship Program

Please contact the Scholarship Committee if you are interested in donating to this program. Funds will be applied directly to the scholarship program and donors' names will be listed in the next issue of the Charioteer.

NAMES FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Please Print Clearly



CEMETERY: _____

Please list names for only one cemetery. Thank You. Please feel free to list loved-ones that are not at one of the cemeteries below, by indicating "Other" (i.e. another city or country) and indicate where to group their names with the schedule below.

Departed Loved Ones "For the repose of the servants of God..."

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cemetery Section</u>

Please return form to: Father Demetrios Gardikes; papademetri@gmail.com
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral ; 555 N. High St; Columbus, OH 43215

Memorial Day, May 26, 2025 Graveside Visitation

Fr Demetrios	Old Union Cemetery	Section 70	9:00AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 8	9:10AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 20	9:20AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 22a	9:30AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 14	9:40AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 16	9:50 - 10:10 AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 22b	10:10AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 18	10:20 - 10:50AM
Fr Demetrios	New Union	Section 19	10:50 - 11:30AM

Fr Savvas	Glenrest Cemetery	Section E	9:00AM
Fr Savvas	Forest Lawn Cemetery	Good Shepherd Section	9:45AM
Fr Savvas	Greenlawn Cemetery	Section 122	10:30AM
Fr Savvas	Greenlawn Cemetery	Section 118	10:50AM
Fr Savvas	Greenlawn Cemetery	Section 89	11:15AM

"Christ is Risen from the dead. By death trampling down upon death and to those in the tombs, He has Granted Life."



We Need You

GREEK FESTIVAL 2025 FOOD PREPARATION

We need your help in preparing some of the food during the month of June. Please set some time aside and join us at the Cathedral to help make our Dolmades Pastries, Spanakopita, and Tyropita.

Times are 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday—Friday

Bring your children, grandchildren, and friends!!!! No prior experience necessary—on site training will be available.

Sunday, June 1, following Divine Liturgy we will kick off the month with Dolmades. Please plan to stay after liturgy and give an hour or two of your time.

Thank you!

The Ionian Village Summer Camp Experience

What Are You Waiting For? Come and Join Us!



Ionian Village is like nothing you have ever experienced. Our campers and Staff come not only to understand their Orthodox Faith and Hellenic Culture in a more realistic and tangible way but also to meet and interact with other young people just like them from all over the country. Through this interaction, their eyes are opened as

to what the reality of being an Orthodox Christian in this world truly should be; to be people who live Christ-centered lives, to be people of love.

Ionian Village offers two fun-filled sessions. Each session is identical in daily schedule and travel locations, so your camper may choose the session that best fits their summer plans and school schedule. Both sessions are open to campers who are currently in 9th grade through those who will complete the 12th grade in the spring of 2025.

2025 Summer Camp

- Session One: June 22 – July 11, 2025
- Session Two: July 20 – August 8, 2025

The cost of a summer camp session is \$6,000. Registration for summer 2025 opened February 1, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. EST. Don't miss your chance to experience this incredible adventure! Registration fills up quickly! If you have any questions, you can contact Sharon Black at sharonk.black3@gmail.com.

Celebrating God's Creation

April 22, 2025 Earth Day

O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, even our brothers, the animals, to whom Thou gavest the earth as their home in common with us. We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of man with ruthless cruelty so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to Thee in song, has been a groan of pain. May we realize that they live, not for us alone, but for themselves and for Thee and that they love the sweetness of life.

~ St. Basil the Great (329-380 AD)



One third of the world's food supply relies on bees

Pollinators Need Dandelions

What is a weed?

The definition of a weed is a plant growing where it is not wanted. Dandelions are often called weeds because they pop up where we did not plant them. But, for some, dandelions are a life saver in the early spring. Bumblebees, solitary bees and honeybees all visit dandelions for food along with goldfinches, chickadees, and house sparrows. Thousands of acres of such wildflower habitat are being destroyed under the blades of our lawn mowers, and the bees, pollen beetles, butterflies and moths are going hungry. Dandelion's peak flowering time is from late March to May. Help our pollinators by trying the following:

- ❖ Add dandelions to your herb garden or grow in container pots
- ❖ Grow dandelions in your vegetable garden. Cut up the leaves and add to your salad greens
- ❖ Take a couple of weeks off from mowing the lawn in the early spring
- ❖ Raise the cutting height of the mower
- ❖ **Refrain from using chemicals on your lawn (for many reasons!)**



THE FOUNDATION CORNER

"Discussing Your Estate with Family"

Approaching your family with your end of life plans can be difficult. Although no one likes to think of these times, it is best to prepare your loved ones in order to ensure a smooth transition for your family.

Who? Consider approaching only those included in your estate. Depending on family dynamics, you may feel it is helpful to speak to everyone all at once or to each child or heir individually.

What? You may not feel comfortable divulging the exact amount of assets included in your estate. Do not feel you must disclose everything, but be aware of key items, such as: real estate, both in and out of the state or country; the family business; etc. It is also important to tell your children and heirs who your lawyer, financial advisor, banker, and other advisors are, as well as where to find your important financial information and documents.

When? Set aside time when nothing else is happening and no large events are coming up, like a major surgery, family holiday, or international trip. By selecting a separate time to discuss the matter, your family won't feel rushed or emotional. Also, look for natural opportunities to touch base. Having a friend or family member who is dealing with an estate can help to open the door to this discussion.

Finally, keep in mind that making your estate plans known can sometimes be helpful, but in the end, what you choose to disclose is purely a matter of personal choice.



REMEMBER
YOUR CHURCH
through
PLANNED
GIVING



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
555 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: (614) 224-9020
everlastinggiving@greekcathedral.com

CATHEDRAL ORGANIZATIONS

AHEPA

Eric Russell, President

CATHEDRAL BOOKSTORE

Terry Morgan

CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Valerie Baker, Director

Eric Russell, Organist

CELEBRATING GOD'S CREATION

Presvytera Evangeline Baron

Diane Chakalis

Helen Rankin

CHURCH SCHOOL

Helen Rankin

Pasquale Santarelli

CHANTERS (PSALTI)

Vasilis Konstantinidis

Protopsalta (Head Chanter)

CHARIOTEER

Stacey Stathulis

CHURCH HISTORY

Diana Synadinos, Historian

COLLEGE OUTREACH

Ria Genoozis Harvey

Eugenia Meimaridis-Maish

FIFTY PLUS GROUP

Terry Morgan

G.O.Y.A. LEADERS-9-12th Grade;

Co-Presidents—

Constantina Agganis and Kaliopi Pappas

Vice President—

Michael Limperos

Secretary—

Nicoletta Gianakopoulos

Historian—Vagelli Agganis

GREEK DANCERS

Vicky Constantinidis— Gardikes, Director

GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Nadia Yokarini-Kotsonis, Administrative and

Academic Principal

GREEK OLYMPIC SOCIETY

Harry Ruska, President

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL FOUNDATION

Jim Trifelos, Chairman

HELLENIC BIG BROTHERS

William Gesouras, President

HELLENIC SINGERS

Pauline Makris, Director

O.C.F. at O.S.U— College

Kalliopi Gentis, President

ON BEHALF OF ALL

ST. MATRONA MIRACLES OF GOD MINISTRY

Cathy Tela

JOY, LITTLE LAMBS, & GOYA

Fr. Demetrios Gardikes

Pasquale Santarelli

Eugenia Lagos

PSALTER READING GROUP

Elaine Kent

PHILOPTOCHOS

Deborah Pries, President

Presvytera Susanna Gardikes, VP

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Sharon Black, Chair

SIGMA PHI EPSILON-College

Emma Robinson, President

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Deborah Pries

Maria Fragoulis

Julie Pappas

YOUNG ADULT LEAGUE (YAL)

Pasquale Santarelli



Cathedral Directory

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Phone: 614.224.9020 Fax: 614.224.5032 Website: www.greekcathedral.com

Email: generalinfo@greekcathedral.com

CLERGY

Proistamenos	Reverend Father Demetrios Gardikes	Ext. 230	papademetri@gmail.com
Assistant Priest	Reverend Father Savvas Mandeville	Ext. 210	fr.savvas.goc@gmail.com

STAFF

Business Administrator	Carol Harr	Ext. 205	businessmgr@greekcathedral.com
Cathedral Secretary	Terri Funk	Ext. 201	secretary@greekcathedral.com
Cathedral Bookkeeper	Sharon Jackson	Ext. 200	bookkeeper@greekcathedral.com
Youth Ministry Coordinator	Pasquale Santarelli	Ext. 204	youth@greekcathedral.com

2025—2026 Parish Council

Helen Rankin, **President**
helenpr@aol.com

John Bizios, **Vice President**
jbizios@greekcathedral.com

Nikolaos Haritos, **Treasurer**

Maria Tzagournis, **Asst. Treasurer**

Sharon Black, **Secretary**

Jimmy Schooley, D.D.S., **Asst. Secretary**

Frances Latousakis Băby

Peter Barouxis

Demetra “Toula” Delinikos

Maria Fragoulis

Peter Gardikes

John Georgiton

William Gesouras

Tom Kontomerkos

John Koutras, D.D.S.

Argeri Lagos

George Proicou

Harry Ruska

Andonia “Tonia” Soulas

Stacey Stathulis

Paul Tela



MISSION STATEMENT OF OUR PARISH

Our community, united in our Orthodox Christian faith, aspires to live a Christ-centered life as set forth by our Holy Tradition. Strengthened by our Hellenic culture and the actions and sacrifices of our Greek-American founders and predecessors, we live as one, multicultural parish family sharing Christ's love in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

CORE VALUES

We renew our faith continually through active participation in worship, sacraments, discipleship and prayer.

We experience a sense of acceptance, joy, peace, belonging and "koinonia" to all in our community and to all those that walk through our doors as one family.

We follow Jesus' command to "Go Forth" by sharing Christ's love beyond our cathedral walls to those in physical and spiritual need.

We are responsible to inspire and teach future generations on the traditions and values of living our Orthodox faith.

We commit, in thanksgiving, our time, talent and treasure to support our cathedral by safeguarding the ministerial, physical and financial needs to ensure the health of His Church and to further the Gospel message now and in the future.

We create an environment where we respect our collective cultural identities while celebrating our Hellenic traditions, history, language and heritage.