



# THE VOICE

MAY/JUNE 2026 - VOLUME No. 408

SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

12307 SOUTH RIDGELAND AVENUE, PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60463

FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE



## GRADUATE *Sunday*

SUNDAY, JUNE 7  
AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY

Middle School Graduates: *Submit name only*

High School, College, Graduate, and Post-Graduate Students: *Submit a head-shot photo and a brief paragraph highlighting accomplishments and future plans*

Submission Deadline: *Wednesday, May 13 at 1:00 p.m.*  
We will also honor our Sunday School teachers, as well as our Junior Olympic athletes and coaches on this day.

Please submit all information to the church office at [office@saint-spyridon.net](mailto:office@saint-spyridon.net)



## 29<sup>th</sup> Annual GOLF OUTING THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2026

Deadline for Registration: Friday, May 29th

Odyssey Golf Foundation  
19110 S. Ridgeland Avenue  
Tinley Park, IL 60477

EARLY BIRD RATE  
\$15 DISCOUNT

PREPAY BY MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>  
\$160 TO GOLF  
\$175 Regular Rate

10:00am | Check-In & Continental Breakfast  
11:45am | Shotgun Start  
2:00pm (+/-) | Lunch at the Turn  
4:30pm | Cocktails  
5:00pm | Dinner

Awards & Raffle to Follow Dinner

\$175 to be a  
Hole Sponsor!

Have Your  
Family Meet  
You Out for  
Dinner!



St. Spyridon Golf Committee:

Nick Kournetas, Bill Kline, Jim DiGeronimo, Nick Appropoulos,  
Dachy Chinosos, Adam Gotsis, John Pavonis, Nick Haskins, Mike  
Havastakis, Pete Hrisakos, Dan Kalyvas, Frank & Joe Kappas, Nick Marasovic,  
Bill Perakis, Jim Soutzakis, Nick Tsiakopoulos, Agnes Tsoukatas

For any questions please contact the Church Office between 9am-2pm at (708)385-2311,  
-or- email at [Office@Saint-Spyridon.net](mailto:Office@Saint-Spyridon.net) -or- [Nick.Kournetas@gmail.com](mailto:Nick.Kournetas@gmail.com)

FOR THOSE WE'VE LOST TO CANCER  
FOR THOSE THAT CONTINUE THE FIGHT  
AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SURVIVORS

5TH ANNUAL EVENT HOSTED BY  
ST. SPYRIDON PHILOPTOCHOS



LET'S WALK AS ONE IN  
THE FIGHT AGAINST  
CANCER

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026  
ALL AGES WELCOMED!

10 AM - PARAKLESIS  
TO ST. NEKTARIOS  
*for those currently fighting cancer*

11 AM - ONE MILE WALK  
AGAINST CANCER  
*in memory for those we've lost to cancer*  
We will walk the sidewalk from  
St. Spyridon to St. Mary Orthodox Church  
(127th & Ridgeland) for a  
Memorial Service within their church and  
walk back to St. Spyridon.

12:30 PM - FILOTIMO  
LUNCHEON  
St. Spyridon  
Community Center  
*Honoring the survivors of cancer*  
Hosted by  
St. Spyridon Philoptochos

Join us by donating via the QR code Click on the Tithely button,  
choose **Cancer Walk- Philoptochos** in the drop-down menu  
or submit the form on the reverse side



## ST. SPYRIDON'S GREEK FESTIVAL

SAVE THE  
DATE!

July 12307 S. RIDGELAND  
PALOS HEIGHTS  
11 & 12 SAT 1 PM-10 PM  
SUN 12 PM-10 PM



FOR MORE INFORMATION

[WWW.SAINT-SPYRIDON.NET](http://WWW.SAINT-SPYRIDON.NET)

# HOLY WEEK SERVICES



# FATHER'S MESSAGE

## Let Peace Begin With Me

There's a beautiful song written by Jill Jackson Miller and Sy Miller that we used to sing at Fanari Camp in my days as a camper:

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother, in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

The common theme throughout this popular song is peace.

To have peace is to be still. However, to have peace doesn't mean that we don't work or have stress. To be at peace is a heart that is still; meaning that it is filled with God and God's love so that the work and the stresses of life don't knock it off kilter.

To have peace is to desire unity with others. It doesn't mean complete agreement with others, but a desire to work together.

Peace means absence of conflict. However, to have peace does not mean there will never be conflict. To have peace means that there is a desire to work through conflict when it arises.

There are many places in the bible where peace is mentioned:

Peace is one of the nine "Fruits of the Spirit" listed in Galatians 5:22-23, Christian values that we seek to cultivate.

In Matthew 5:9, during the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you" (John 14:27).

The message of the angels at the Nativity was "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased!" (Luke 2:14) This verse is often mistranslated as "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill towards men." This implies that peace is a gift to everyone. However, this is

not what the verse says. Peace isn't something we get merely by living. Peace is a gift that is given to people of goodwill, people with whom the Lord is pleased, people who make an effort to encourage peace, people who make an effort to live peacefully.

Acquiring peace is achieved through a deep relationship with Christ, actively cultivating virtues like love, humility, and forgiveness, and striving to live a life aligned with God's will, which manifests as inner peace that can then be extended to others through actions of compassion and reconciliation; essentially, finding peace comes from aligning oneself with the "Prince of Peace" (Jesus Christ) through prayer, sacraments, and living a righteous life. .

The decision to cultivate peace comes from within oneself. One can be in a war-torn area and still find peace. Just as one can live in a safe society and not have peace. Peace is a gift from God. However, it is a gift we must choose to cultivate—it is not cultivated for us.

In Psalm 133:1, we read "Behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Peace is a desire to work through conflict, to have a calm heart and to work for unity. Encouragement and peace work hand in hand. When someone encourages me, it lessens conflict, it calms my heart, it brings me closer to my encourager. When someone discourages me, it creates conflict, burdens my heart and builds walls between me and the discourager. The choice to be an encourager in fact helps one to become a peacemaker and a promoter of peace.

One last question for you to ponder today, and it is this: Are you a peacemaker, or a peace taker? Ask yourself this question as you come into conflicts today—is what you are doing in the conflict working towards peace or escalating the conflict? Peace in the world begins with peace in ourselves. It continues with us striving to make peace with those around us—to be peace-makers, not peace-takers.

Let peace begin with you today. In your home, church, workplace, or with your friends, do your part by encouraging someone today with peace!



# Το Μηνύμα Του Π. Γεωργίου

## Η Ειρήνη ξεκινά με εμένα

Υπάρχει ένα όμορφο τραγούδι γραμμένο από τη Jill Jackson Miller και τον Sy Miller, που συνηθίζαμε να τραγουδάμε στο Fanari Camp όταν ήμουν κατασκηνωτής:

*«Ας υπάρξει ειρήνη στη γη, κι ας αρχίσει από εμένα. Ας υπάρξει ειρήνη στη γη, η ειρήνη που προοριζόταν να υπάρξει. Με τον Θεό Πατέρα μας, όλοι είμαστε αδέρφια. Ας περπατώ με τον αδελφό μου, σε τέλεια αρμονία.»*

*Ας αρχίσει η ειρήνη από εμένα, ας είναι αυτή η στιγμή τώρα. Με κάθε βήμα που κάνω, ας είναι αυτός ο ιερός μου όρκος. Να ζω κάθε στιγμή και να παίρνω κάθε στιγμή μέσα σε αιώνια ειρήνη. Ας υπάρξει ειρήνη στη γη και ας αρχίσει από εμένα.»*

Το θέμα σε αυτού του τραγουδιού είναι η ειρήνη. Το να έχει κανείς ειρήνη σημαίνει να είναι γαλήνιος. Ωστόσο, το να έχουμε ειρήνη δεν σημαίνει ότι δεν εργαζόμαστε ή δεν έχουμε άγχος. Το να είσαι ειρηνικός σημαίνει να έχεις μια καρδιά ήρεμη- δηλαδή μια καρδιά γεμάτη με τον Θεό και την αγάπη Του, έτσι ώστε οι δυσκολίες και τα άγχη της ζωής να μην την ταραξουν.

Το να έχεις ειρήνη σημαίνει να επιθυμείς την ενότητα με τους άλλους. Δεν σημαίνει πλήρη συμφωνία με όλους, αλλά μια διάθεση να συνεργάζεσαι.

Η ειρήνη σημαίνει απουσία σύγκρουσης. Ωστόσο, το να έχεις ειρήνη δεν σημαίνει ότι δεν θα υπάρξει ποτέ σύγκρουση. Σημαίνει ότι υπάρχει η επιθυμία να δουλέψεις μέσα από τη σύγκρουση όταν αυτή προκύπτει.

Υπάρχουν πολλά σημεία στη Βίβλο όπου αναφέρεται η ειρήνη:

Η ειρήνη είναι ένας από τους εννέα «Καρπούς του Πνεύματος» που αναφέρονται στη Γαλάτας 5:22-23, χριστιανικές αξίες που επιδιώκουμε να καλλιεργήσουμε.

Στο Κατά Ματθαίον 5:9, κατά την Επί του Όρους Ομιλία, ο Ιησούς λέει: «Μακάριοι οι ειρηνοποιοί, διότι αυτοί θα ονομαστούν υιοί του Θεού.»

Ο Ιησούς είπε: «Ειρήνη σας αφήνω, ειρήνη δική μου σας δίνω· όχι όπως δίνει ο κόσμος, εγώ σας δίνω» (Ιωάννης 14:27).

Το μήνυμα των αγγέλων κατά τη Γέννηση ήταν: «Δόξα εν υψίστοις Θεώ, και επί γης ειρήνη εν ανθρώποις ευδοκίας!» (Λουκάς 2:14). Αυτό το εδάφιο συχνά μεταφράζεται λανθασμένα ως «...και επί γης ειρήνη, καλή θέληση προς τους ανθρώπους». Αυτό υπονοεί ότι η ειρήνη είναι δώρο για όλους. Ωστόσο, αυτό δεν είναι ακριβώς το νόημα. Η ειρήνη δεν είναι κάτι που

λαμβάνουμε απλώς επειδή ζούμε. Είναι δώρο που δίνεται σε ανθρώπους καλής θελήσεως, σε εκείνους που ευαρεστούν τον Θεό, σε εκείνους που προσπαθούν να καλλιεργούν την ειρήνη και να ζουν ειρηνικά.

Η απόκτηση της ειρήνης επιτυγχάνεται μέσω μιας βαθιάς σχέσης με τον Χριστό, καλλιεργώντας ενεργά αρετές όπως η αγάπη, η ταπεινότητα και η συγχώρεση, και προσπαθώντας να ζούμε σύμφωνα με το θέλημα του Θεού. Αυτό εκδηλώνεται ως εσωτερική ειρήνη που στη συνέχεια επεκτείνεται στους άλλους μέσω πράξεων συμπόνιας και συμφιλίωσης. Ουσιαστικά, η ειρήνη έρχεται όταν ευθυγραμμίζουμε τον εαυτό μας με τον «Αρχοντα της Ειρήνης» (τον Ιησού Χριστό) μέσω της προσευχής, των μυστηρίων και μιας δίκαιης ζωής.

Η απόφαση να καλλιεργήσουμε την ειρήνη προέρχεται από μέσα μας. Κάποιος μπορεί να βρίσκεται σε μια περιοχή που πλήττεται από πόλεμο και παρ' όλα αυτά να βρίσκει ειρήνη. Όπως επίσης μπορεί να ζει σε μια ασφαλή κοινωνία και να μην έχει ειρήνη. Η ειρήνη είναι δώρο από τον Θεό. Ωστόσο, είναι ένα δώρο που πρέπει να επιλέξουμε να καλλιεργήσουμε—δεν καλλιεργείται από μόνο του.

Στον Ψαλμό 133:1 διαβάζουμε: «Ίδού πόσο καλό και ευχάριστο είναι να κατοικούν οι αδελφοί εν ομονοία!»

Η ειρήνη είναι η επιθυμία να δουλεύουμε μέσα από τη σύγκρουση, να έχουμε μια ήρεμη καρδιά και να εργαζόμαστε για την ενότητα. Η ενθάρρυνση και η ειρήνη πάνε χέρι-χέρι. Όταν κάποιος με ενθαρρύνει, μειώνεται η σύγκρουση, η καρδιά μου ηρεμεί και έρχομαι πιο κοντά σε αυτόν που με ενθαρρύνει. Όταν κάποιος με αποθαρρύνει, δημιουργείται σύγκρουση, βαραίνει η καρδιά μου και υψώνονται τείχη ανάμεσά μας. Η επιλογή να είμαστε ενθαρρυντικοί μας βοηθά να γίνουμε ειρηνοποιοί και φορείς της ειρήνης.

Μία τελευταία ερώτηση για σκέψη σήμερα: Είσαι ειρηνοποιός ή αφαιρείς την ειρήνη από τους άλλους; Ρώτησε τον εαυτό σου μέσα στις συγκρούσεις της ημέρας—αυτό που κάνεις οδηγεί προς την ειρήνη ή κλιμακώνει τη σύγκρουση;

Η ειρήνη στον κόσμο αρχίζει από την ειρήνη μέσα μας. Συνεχίζεται όταν προσπαθούμε να φέρουμε ειρήνη με τους γύρω μας—να είμαστε ειρηνοποιοί, όχι διαταράκτες της ειρήνης.

Ας αρχίσει η ειρήνη από εμένα σήμερα. Στο σπίτι σου, στην εκκλησία, στη δουλειά σου ή με τους φίλους σου, κάνε το δικό σου μέρος ενθαρρύνοντας κάποιον σήμερα με ειρήνη.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Χριστός Ανέστη!

Εύχομαι το ΦΩΣ της Αναστάσεως να φέρει υγεία, αγάπη, και ειρήνη σε όλο τον κόσμο!

Με αγάπη,

Βασίλης Κιλίας

Christ Is Risen! May the LIGHT of the Resurrection bring health, love, and peace to the world!

This year's Lenten season felt as if it went by too quickly. Nevertheless, it was another opportunity to reflect, focus, and relive the days of our Lord and Savior's Crucifixion and ultimate Resurrection, all to ultimately grant us eternal life.

There are so many challenges in the world currently, and while it can be difficult to detach from world events, and by no means should we dismiss these events, let's not lose sight of the bigger picture and the ultimate goal of salvation. If we focus on what we can directly control and leave the rest to our Lord, with prayers and intercessions from the Panagia, St. Spyridon, and the many wonderful Saints and martyrs of our church, everything will be ok.

During Lent and through Holy Week, we were blessed to have several hierarchs visit us. Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea and Exarch of Japan joined us for a Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, and gave a beautiful homily and presentation afterwards. We were blessed and honored to have him visit our parish, and also humbled by the many challenges faced by his Metropolis.

Additionally, we are always blessed to have Bishop Athenagoras visit and assist Father George in many of the services. Bishop Athenagoras is truly loved by our parish community, and he equally loves us as well. He continues on his mission to bring Orthodoxy to Latin America, working tirelessly to open parishes, ordain priests, and help lead people to the TRUE FAITH. It is always wonderful to see the work Bishop Athenagoras is doing to help the underprivileged and those in need.

His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael joined us for the Apokathelosis service on Good Friday. It is always a pleasure to welcome his Eminence, to hear

his message and receive his blessing. Overseeing 58 parishes in the Metropolis is no small task, and we appreciate the vision he has set for the Metropolis, and the drive to train our priests and to ensure that they are focused on their health and well-being.

And most recently we had the Metropolis Chancellor and recently ordained Bishop Dionysios of Zenopolis (AXIOS) join us on the third Sunday of Easter. His Grace has taken on a huge role as Chancellor, and we wish him well as he settles in to his new role. We enjoyed his visit and that he served in the liturgy.

When we pray, we must make an effort to pray for the priests (including our beloved Father George), monks and hierarchs. We must ask the Lord to "bless those that bless us, and to grant them many years to fulfill their mission here on earth". The clergy face so many challenges, including attacks from the evil one. As a result, they must always be in our prayers as well.

While we look forward to arrival of Spring, and some more consistent temperatures, this is an exciting time of the year. We have a busy few months ahead. Mother's Day is in a couple of weeks. School graduations at the end of the month, followed by Junior Olympics, the Golf outing, and the Festival.

### CALL TO ACTION Regarding the Festival

· **Festival Coverage:** We had a wonderful uptick in festival coverage; Let's try and repeat that this year

· **DONATIONS** Needed for Festival: In an effort to defray costs and drive higher profit for the festival, we are seeking donations to help offset cost of the most costly items, i.e. Tents \$18,000, Food Cost \$7,000, and Other Miscellaneous Supplies \$5,000. Any and all cash donations are welcome. Please reach out to Fr. George or the Church Office.

Have a blessed May and June.

*With Love,*

*Bill Kiliaris*

## DIVINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 3rd	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 10th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 17th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 19th	Apodosis of H. Pascha at All Saints Church in Joliet, 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 20th	Gr. Vespers at SS. Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills, IL, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 21st	<b>Holy Ascension of our Lord, SS. Constantine &amp; Helen</b> , Orthros & Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 24th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Monday, May 25th	**Memorials at Evergreen Cemetery, 7:30 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. **Memorials at Bethania Cemetery, 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 26th	Vigil for St. John the Russian, Vespers, Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 30th	Saturday of the Souls, Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 31st	<b>Pentecost</b> , Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, June 2nd	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m. * Christianiki Philoxenia
Saturday, June 6th	Gr. Vespers at All Saints Church in Joliet
Sunday, June 7th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 10th	Great Vespers for the feast day St. Nathanael—7:00 p.m. (Location TBD)
Thursday, June 11th	St. Nathanael, Orthros & Divine Liturgy, (Location and Time TBD)
Saturday, June 13th	Paraklesis to St. Nektarios—10:00 a.m.
Sunday, June 14th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, June 21st	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 24th	Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 7:30 a.m.
Sunday, June 28th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m., * Vespers at SS. Peter & Paul Church, 6:00 p.m.

## ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή 3 Μαΐου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 10 Μαΐου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 17 Μαΐου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 19 Μαΐου	Απόδοσις του Πάσχα στον Ι.Ν. Αγίων Πάντων, Joliet, 5:00 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 20 Μαΐου	Μέγας Εσπερινός στον Ι.Ν. Αγ. Κωνσταντίνου & Ελένης, Palos Hills, IL, 7:00 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 21 Μαΐου	<b>Η Ανάληψη του Κυρίου</b> , Κων/νου και Ελένης, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 24 Μαΐου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Δευτέρα 25 Μαΐου	Μνημόσυνο στο Evergreen, 7:30 π.μ. — 11:00 π.μ. Μνημόσυνο στο Bethania, 11:30 π.μ. — 1:30 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 26 Μαΐου	Αγρυπνία Αγίου Ιωάννου Ρώσσου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 6:30 μ.μ.
Σάββατο 30 Μαΐου	Ψυχασάββατο, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 31 Μαΐου	<b>Πεντηκοστή</b> , Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 2 Ιουνίου	Χριστιανική Φιλοξενία, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Σάββατο 6 Ιουνίου	Μ. Εσπερινός στον Ι. Ν. Αγίων Πάντων, Joliet,
Κυριακή 7 Ιουνίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Τετάρτη 10 Ιουνίου	Μ. Εσπερινός Αγίου Ναθαναήλ, Τόπος/Ωρα: Προς ανακοίνωση
Πέμπτη 11 Ιουνίου	Αγίου Ναθαναήλ, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, Τόπος/Ωρα: Προς ανακοίνωση
Σάββατο 13 Ιουνίου	Παράκληση του Αγίου Νεκταρίου, 10:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 14 Ιουνίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 21 Ιουνίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ.
Τετάρτη 24 Ιουνίου	Γέννησης του Αγίου Ιωάννου του Προδρόμου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, 7:30 π.μ.
Κυριακή 28 Ιουνίου	Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία, 8:00 π.μ. * Εσπερινός στην ενορία Αγίων Πέτρου & Παύλου,

## May 2026 — Community Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Floga Dance Advanced, 6:40 p.m. * Adult Greek School, 6:45 p.m.	2
3 * Sunday School, 10:30 — 11:30 am	4 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Greek Dance (Beginner & Intermediate), 6:45 p.m.	5 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am	6 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Iconography, 5:30 pm	7 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Food Distribution, 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. * IOCC Banquets at Empress Banquet, Addison, IL, 6:00 p.m.	8 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Floga Dance (Advanced), 6:40 p.m. * Adult Greek School, 6:45 p.m.	9 * Altar Boy Meeting, 10:30 am
10 * Sunday School, 10:30 — 11:30 am	11 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Bible Study, 5:00 p.m. * Greek Dance (Beginner & Intermediate), 6:45 p.m.	12 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 a.m. * Parish Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.	13 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Iconography, 5:30 pm * GOYA, 7:00 p.m.	14 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 a.m. * Food Distribution, 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.	15 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Family Night, 5:30 p.m. * Floga (Advanced) Dance, 6:40 p.m. * Last Day of Adult Greek School, 6:45 p.m.	16
17 * Last Day of Sunday School, 10:30 — 11:30 am	18 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am * Greek School, 4:30 pm * Greek Dance (Beginner & Intermediate), 6:45 p.m.	19 * Archangels Academy, 9:00 am	20 * Archangels Academy Last Day, 9:00 am * Cherubs, 10:30 a.m. * Iconography, 5:30 pm	21 * Food Distribution, 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. * Archangels Academy Graduation Program, 5:30 p.m.	22 * Greek School Graduation Program, 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm (Last Day)	23 * JR Olympics at SS Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills, IL
24 * JR Olympics at SS Constantine & Helen, Palos Hills, IL	25 <b>Memorial Day</b> No activities * Memorials at Evergreen (7:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.) * Memorials at Bethania — 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m.)	26	27 * Iconography, 5:30 pm * GOYA, 7:00 p.m.	28 Food Distribution, 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.	29 * Floga Year End Parayiri, 6:00 p.m.	30
31 JR Olympics at SS						

## PARISH REGISTRY

### MEMORIALS

**Sunday, March 22nd:** †1 yr Athanasios Marinopoulos

**Sunday, March 29th:** †40 days Augustina Xydakis, †18 yrs Nicholas Xydakis, †5 yrs Rose Ayaleanos & †7 yrs Peter Ayaleanos

**Sunday, April 26th:** †40 days Athanassia Vlahos, †1 yr Nikolaos Litsogiannis, †7 yrs Sophia Kolyvas & †10 yrs Panagioti Deligianis

### FUNERALS

On April 27th, Christos P Tsakiris fell asleep in the Lord. His funeral service took place on April 29th and he was interred at St. John Chrysostomos Monastery in WI.

*May their memory be eternal!*



## STEWARDSHIP

Ευχαριστούμε τις 209 οικογένειες που εκπλήρωσαν τις υποσχέσεις τους για το έτος 2026. Υπενθυμίζουμε σε όλους ότι έχουν ταχυδρομηθεί οι Καταστάσεις Υπόσχεσης του Καλού Οικονόμου για το τρέχον έτος.

Σας παρακαλούμε να ανανεώσετε την συνδρομή σας το γρηγορότερο δυνατόν. Οι δραστηριότητες και τα έξοδα της ενορίας μας έχουν αυξηθεί κατά πολύ και χρειαζόμαστε την βοήθεια και την υποστήριξη όλων σας.

## STEWARDS MARCH 1ST—APRIL 22ND

*As of April 22nd, Stewardship donations have been received for 2026 from 209 individual/families. We are so thankful to these stewards.*

*Have you sent in your 2026 Stewardship Commitment Form?*

*Forms are available in the Narthex of the church and online. Thank you to our stewards who have already sent their 2026 pledge forms!!*

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Alexakos  
Dr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Alexakos  
Mr. & Mrs. James Argyropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Argyropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Arvanitis  
Mrs. Anna Charalambos  
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Deligiannis  
Ms. Bess Demopoulos  
Mrs. Georgia Evangelopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Falcone  
Ms. Rena Falcone  
Mrs. Sophia Felecos

Dr. Sylvia Felecos  
Mr. & Mrs. George Galetsis  
Mr. Tim Georgiopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Glikis  
Mr. James Halikas & Family  
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Hohlastos  
Dr. Georgia Karuntzos  
Mr. James Karuntzos  
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Mr. & Mrs. George Kattos  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kirkpartick  
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Mrs. Carol Pappas  
Ms. Maria Pappas  
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Ms. Andreana Petrakos  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Primbas  
Mr. & Dr. Kostas Retsinas  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Roumeliotis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Scarlatis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Simeakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Spero  
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Synadinos  
Ms. Xenia Theoharis  
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsantilis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Tsinoukas  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Ziogas  
Ms. Andriana Zougras

## EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS & PASCHA OFFERINGS

We wish to thank the following parishioners and friends for donating towards the church, the needy, the flowers and adornment of our St. Spyridon Church during the Great Lent and Pascha Season:

Anonymous  
Mr. Constantin Apostolos  
Ms. Eleni Bizoukas  
Mr. Nick Bobis  
Mr. & Mrs. Zaharias Bousies  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodoros Bouzios  
Mr. & Dr. Kevin Cajas  
Mrs. Anna Charalambos  
Mrs. Caryn Chibucos  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Christofer  
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Collopy  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Colompos  
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Deligiannis  
Ms. Bessie Demopoulos  
Mrs. Georgia Evangelopoulos  
Ms. Ruth Faklis  
Dr. Sylvia Felecos  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Flaskos  
Dr. Kaliopi Flaskos  
Mr. & Mrs. Christ Georgiou  
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Glikis  
Mr. & Mrs. Aris Halikias  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Haniotakis

Mrs. Angie Hatzitheodorou  
Mr. & Mrs. Anna Hix  
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Hohlastos  
Mrs. Maria Kapsaskis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Karampelas  
Mrs. Roula Karampelas  
Dr. Georgia Karuntzos  
Mr. James Karuntzos  
Mrs. Dina Katsoulis  
Ms. Elektra Kazimian  
Mr. & Mrs. George Kladis  
Mrs. Sophia Kopanitsanos  
Mr. & Mrs. George Korbakes  
Mr. Chris Koulogeorge  
Mrs. Georgia Kyriakopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Aleksander Lazarevic  
Mrs. Joanne Les  
Mrs. Betty Lillios  
Mrs. Yannoula Malfas  
Ms. Athanasia Manaves  
Mr. & Mrs. Theophanes Manikas  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius Marines  
Ms. Penelope Marines

Mr. & Mrs. Deno Mihas  
Mr. Mike Orrico & Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Perkins  
Dr. Mary Peters  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Petinatos  
St. Spyridon Philoptochos  
Mr. & Mrs. Stamatis Pierrakeas  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Pietka  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Scarlatis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Shizas  
Mrs. Mary Stefanatos  
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Synadinos  
Ms. Efthimia Thiakos  
Ms. Vicky Thiakos  
Ms. Athena Tsinoukas  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Tsinoukas  
Mr. John Tsoukalas  
Mr. & Mrs. George Vasilakos  
Ms. Elaine Vlahakis  
Mrs. Effie Zorbas



Χριστός Ανέστη!

Throughout the months of March and April, we enjoyed a meaningful series of events that brought together our students, our families, and the wider community.

In March, our school proudly commemorated Greek Independence Day with a special program that was held on Friday, March 13th. Students of all grade levels participated with enthusiasm, presenting poems, songs, and historical reflections that honored the courage and sacrifice of those who fought for Greece's freedom. Adding to the significance of the day, the Pan Arcadian Federation of America awarded scholarships to students who participated in the essay competition on the theme "Αποταμίευση" (Savings). Congratulations to Vasilis Vythoulkas, Efthemia Manasses, Yanni Tzimas, and Platon Belesiotis, Demetra Tzimas, Elessa McNeill, Nicolette Dagnes, Eva Hardaloupas, Evangelos Panagiotopoulos, Ioanna Maruda and Marianna Panagiotopoulos for this wonderful achievement. Και εις ανώτερα!

Later in the month, The Consulate General of Greece in Chicago chose our school to celebrate World Poetry Day in the most meaningful way. They visited our school for a workshop dedicated to the timeless voices of the Greek poets Konstantinos Kavafis, Giorgos Seferis and Odysseas Elytis. In this workshop «Με το ύφος των μεγάλων ποιητών», we read, we wrote, we drew and we listened, discovering new ways to express what often feels inexpressible.

Throughout Great Lent, our students participated in the Salutations (chirestismoi) to Panagia, chanting the prayers in Greek with grace and devotion. This beautiful tradition added a spiritual dimension to our school

life and allowed students to experience the richness of Orthodox liturgical practice. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Anna Manasses for her guidance and dedication in preparing our girls so thoughtfully for this meaningful participation.

In April, Plutarchos Academy proudly took part in the Greek Parade in Greektown on Sunday, April 19th. Our students and teachers marched with pride, showcasing their Greek identity. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate alongside the broader Greek-American community.



As we look ahead, we warmly invite everyone to join us for our End-of-the-School-Year Program on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. This special event will celebrate our students' achievements and conclude the year with performances and recognition of their hard work.

This year's Camp Kalokairaki will be held June 15th-19th with the theme "A Taste of Greece". From savory classics to sweet traditional treats, our Greek Cooking Camp will take students on a delicious journey through the villages and islands of our homeland. Together we will mix, roll, bake and create authentic recipes while learning about the rich culture and traditions behind every dish. It's a fun and educational way for children to explore Greek cuisine and culture.

We also encourage families to take advantage of our early bird sign-up discount for the upcoming school year.

Thank you to our dedicated teachers, supportive families, and wonderful students for making these months so memorable. We look forward to celebrating many more milestones together!



# PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



## BRIGHT FRIDAY BBQ

A big thank you to our PTA for sponsoring this year's Bright Friday BBQ! We are especially grateful to the fathers and mothers who cooked, cleaned, and made the day so special for our community. Families enjoyed their fill of burgers and hot dogs, plus lots of other food and treats.

We played some fun games organized by Chrissy Tourloukis and the kids really had a great time! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the afternoon run smoothly and to the families who came out to support our parish community.

We also thank Nick Tsinoukas for being present to help our youth register for the Junior Olympics. If your child would still like to sign up, please contact Nick Tsinoukas or Demetri Marines (see Jr Olympics flyer on cover page).



## CHERUBS

The Cherubs Ministry is wishing our parish Xristos Anesti and hope everyone had a beautiful Lenten season.

Our past few sessions have been made even more fun by the presence of some extra special VIP Yiayiades! They have given so much to St. Spyridon over the years and are now showing the next generation the way of the church; it's incredibly heartwarming.

Our little Cherubs have enjoyed gross motor play, interacting socially, lighting candles in church, and especially loved painting wooden Easter eggs before Pascha.

We are looking forward to our End of Year Celebration on 5/20!

*Denise Skiadopoulos*



## FOOD PANTRY

Χριστός Ανέστη!

Our parish was able to feed 58 families for Easter! All of our generous donors provided enough funds and food donations for multiple meals, including ham, fresh fruits & vegetables, desserts and more.

Once again, we thank those who donated and everyone who helped shop, organize and distribute food. In addition to our regular team of dedicated volunteers, our Young Adults and GOYA families helped out as well.

Many thanks to all!

*-The Food Pantry Team*



## The Voice—Η φωνή

Official Bi—Monthly  
Community Publication of  
St. Spyridon

Hellenic Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

Rev. Fr. George Lamberis  
PARISH PRIEST  
**Church Office**

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Phone: 708-385-2311

Fax: 708-385-0166

E-mail: office@Saint-Spyridon.net

Web: www.Saint-Spyridon.net

Kalli Theodoropoulos	Church Office
Litsa Tsarouhis	Church Office
Soteria Simantirakis	Custodian

### Parish Council Officers

Bill Kiliias	President
Nick Kourmetas	Vice-President
James Korbakes	2nd Vice-President
Spiros Tzanetakos	Secretary
Panagiotis Stamus	Assistant Secretary
Caryn Chibucos	Treasurer
Gus Kolyvas	Assistant Treasurer

### Auxiliary Officers

Alexia Tuhaimer	Chanter
Kathy Korbakes	Philoptochos
Gus Rougas	Kentro
James Korbakes	Kentro
Marianna Haniotakis	Plutarchos
Sofea Malamis	Archangels
Denise Skiadopoulos	Cherubs
Zoe Kopanis	Sunday School
Vicky Argyropoulos	Sunday School
Stacy Vallianatos	G.O.Y.A.
Stephane Collopy	G.O.Y.A.
Eraklis Labrakis	YAL
Pres. Diana Lamberis	Family Night
Ria Hronis	Family Night
Labros Malfas	Altar Boys
Zachary Chibucos	Altar Boys
Vicky Argyropoulos	Handmaidens
Demetrius Marines	Athletics
Nick Tsinoukas	Athletics
Stella Parhas	Food Pantry
Dana Coronado	Prison Ministry
Pete Mihalopoulos	Iconography
Sophia Christofer	Floga Dance
Evi Marouda	Floga Dance
Anastasia Deligiannis	Floga Dance
Patty Pappas	Floga Dance
Olga Baroudos	Floga Dance
Tim Georgiopoulos	Men's Ministry
Bill Katsenis	Men's Ministry
Vaios Karagiannis	Men's Ministry

# ARCHANGELS ACADEMY

The past couple of months have been filled with excitement, learning, and so much fun!

We kicked things off with our Community Helpers unit—always a classroom favorite. Our room was transformed into our very own “Archangels Community,” complete with a doctor and dentist office, salon, post office, construction zone, veterinary clinic, market, and diner. The children had an incredible time exploring each role through imaginative play and hands-on activities.

Learning about community helpers gives children a deeper understanding of what it means to be part of a community. It helps foster a sense of belonging while encouraging teamwork, cooperation, and respect for others—skills that are so important at this age.



March was especially exciting as we welcomed several special visitors from our very own Saint Spyridon community. We were delighted to have Librarian Ruth Faklis share beautiful and engaging stories with our students. Behavioral Therapist Mrs. Theodora guided the children in learning about their emotions and ways to manage them. Dr. Emily Korolis visited to teach us about dental health, including proper brushing habits and the importance of making healthy food choices. We also had a wonderful visit from Dr. Jenelle Mallios, an optometrist, who shared valuable insights about the importance of taking care of our eyes from a young age.

Last but not least, we had a memorable visit from Officer Taso Malamis, who spoke about the important role of police officers, how they keep us safe, and shared an age-appropriate lesson on stranger awareness.



As we moved into April, our focus shifted to preparing our hearts for Pascha. The children learned about the story of Lazarus and continued with the celebration of Palm Sunday, when Jesus entered Jerusalem. We explored the events of Holy Week, including the Last Supper, Holy Communion, Christ’s trial, His Crucifixion, burial, and ultimately His Resurrection. We also discussed the beautiful traditions of our Greek Orthodox faith—why we dye eggs red, the significance of holding our lambathes, and the special foods we enjoy during this time.

Now, as we enter May—our final month of the school year—we are cherishing every moment together. We have begun preparing for our End-of-Year/ Graduation Program, which will take place on Thursday, May 21st. We are so excited to see our students shine on stage and celebrate all that they have learned and accomplished.

Enrollment for the 2026–2027 academic year is now open. With only a few spots remaining, we encourage interested families to visit our website, [www.archangelsacademy.org](http://www.archangelsacademy.org), for more information and to download an application.

We are also excited to offer two weeks of summer camp this year! For the first time, we will be hosting our Fairy Tale Camp from June 1–5, where children will explore a different fairy tale each day through music, art, dress-up, games, and dramatic play. Back by popular demand is our Cooking Camp from June 8–12, where children will explore their culinary skills, learn about nutrition, and discover what makes a healthy plate—all while having fun!

Spots for both camps are limited, so we encourage families to register early and not miss out on these exciting opportunities.

# ARCHANGELS ACADEMY



ARCHANGELS ACADEMY

## O-"fish"-ally

INVITES YOU TO IT'S

*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual*

*End of the Year / Graduation*

**MAY 21, 2026**

**5:30 PM RECEPTION**

**6:30 PM DINNER**

SAINT SPYRIDON COMMUNITY HALL  
12307 S. RIDGELAND AVE.  
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL

ADULTS: \$25  
CHILDREN 12 & UNDER: \$15  
ARCHANGELS STUDENTS: FREE

# PHILOPTOCHOS

Xristos Anesti! Our Lenten journey led us to a joyful Resurrection of Our Lord! May the light of the Anastasi continue to shine brightly within us.

Philoptochos had a busy Lenten season beginning with a well-attended Koulouma service and dinner. We continued with co-hosting with GOYA a pre-sanctified dinner for His Eminence Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea and Ex-arch of Japan. His Eminence and Deacon Perry from Holy Apostles had a most inspiring presentation. Our popular Loukoumades sale was once again a big hit. And finally, our Easter Bake Sale and Red Eggs Sale were both very successful!

Our members and many parishioners enjoyed an enlightening Lenten Retreat at St. George, Schererville. And also, a beautiful trip to the St. Iakovos Retreat Center for Bright Friday.

As part of continued mission to help others in need, our chapter participates in the Metropolis Feed the Hungry program at Annunciation Cathedral. Our chapter served 150 meals to the homeless on Holy Tuesday.

We thank all of our parishioners and friends of St. Spyridon who supported our events! We are blessed to have such dedicated Philoptochos members who put their heart and soul into making our events so special. May we continue to progress with love and faith.

Please join us for our upcoming events . . .

**Take 'n Bake Pita Sale** – place your orders for tiropites and spanakopites. 6 for \$30. Pitas come frozen with baking instructions. Order by May 18<sup>th</sup>, pick up Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Christianiki Philoxenia** – Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> our southside seniors are invited to ST. Spyridon for Liturgy and Lunch.

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cancer Walk** – Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> to commemorate those living with cancer, the survivors, and those that passed away from cancer. This hugely successful Walk begins at St. Spyridon with Paraklesis, followed by a one mile walk to St. Mary Orthodox Church with a memorial service and back to St. Spyridon for lunch.

To all college students and parents, please apply for the **Peter Manasses Scholarship hosted by Philoptochos**. Deadline to apply: May 28<sup>th</sup>. These scholarships are generously donated by Mrs. Tina Manasses in honor of her husband, Peter Manasses, who wanted to share his love of education with our students. May his memory be eternal.

With much appreciation to all our parishioners and friends who support our ministry! Philoptochos is here to help others in need, in our community and around the world. Our members are a devoted *Army of Agape* extending their love to those in need!

With Agape and Sisterly Love,

*Kathy Korbakes, St. Spyridon Philoptochos President*



**FLOWERS BY  
YANNOYLA MALKAS**



*Our hardworking bakers never stop! Philoptochos worked tirelessly to offer our parishioners and friends the most delicious Tsourekia, kourabiethes and koulouria. Our appreciation goes out to all who constantly support us!*

# PHILOPTOCHOS



*Parishioners of Sts. Constantine & Helen, St. Spyridon, St. Nicholas and Holy Cross traveled together to St. George, Schererville, IN for the annual Metropolis Philoptochos Lenten Retreat. Our appreciation goes out to the Hellenic Foundation Golden Circle Program for their generosity in providing bus transportation for 51 seniors. This program provides continuous support to keep our seniors actively engaged in faith and fellowship in the Chicagoland area.*



# CELEBRATING ST. GEORGE FEAST DAY



## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

St. Spyridon YAL has become a community of faithful young adults since it started a year ago. We have many events throughout the year that encourage our Orthodox faith, while building new and lasting relationships.

In March we hosted a Presanctified Liturgy potluck with His Grace, Bishop Athenagoras. We were blessed to have His Grace at our potluck and to give us a beautiful lecture about our faith, encouraging and blessing us all.

In late April we hosted an event at X's and O's where everyone came together to strengthen the bonds we made in the past year. It is a blessing how large and close our young adult community has become. May God continue to bless our ministry.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events in May and June!



YAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE '26

JULY 1-5 2026  
CLEVELAND, OH

Join hundreds of young adults for a weekend full of faith & fellowship!

Rise & Build: Claim Your Calling

KEY TOWER  
Hosted at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown!

Featuring:  
Engaging speakers - Interactive service project  
Themed evening events - Free time in Cleveland

Register Now!  
[clergyiaity.org/yalconference](http://clergyiaity.org/yalconference)

IG/FB @yalnationalconference  
Questions? Email us at [yal@goarch.org](mailto:yal@goarch.org)



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

As we wrap up this wonderful Sunday School year, we have so much to be thankful for.

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helps our program thrive. We are especially grateful for our dedicated teachers, who generously volunteer their time week after week to share the Orthodox faith. Some have served for many years, and it is because of this lasting commitment that our students will always remember their Sunday School experience and the teachers who guided them. Your impact extends far beyond the classroom, and your passion and efforts do not go unnoticed.

We are also deeply thankful to our families, who faithfully bring their children to Sunday School each week. We know it takes commitment and consistency, and we truly appreciate your support.

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful students in this program, and I look forward to our Sunday School family continuing to grow and thrive. Congratulations to all our graduates, and best wishes for a restful and joyful summer break.

Please join us on June 7th for Youth Sunday, when we will come together to honor our teachers and celebrate our graduates.

*Vasiliki Argyropoulos, Sunday School Codirector*

# LAZARUS SATURDAY RETREAT

The Family Night Ministry, together with our PTA, hosted the annual Saturday of Lazarus Retreat on April 4th. We began the morning with a delicious breakfast of French toast sticks, hash browns and fruit, graciously donated by George Theoharis, and other fun treats.

This year's sessions focused on the events of Holy Thursday, including the washing of the disciples' feet and the betrayal of Judas. Children enjoyed meaningful lessons, a crown-making craft and gem cross bookmarks, music, palm-cross weaving, and of course—our always-loved egg hunt!

It was a wonderful day of fellowship, learning, and community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the PTA for providing all the food and snacks, and to every volunteer whose time and effort made this special retreat possible.

*Submitted by Presvytera Diana Lamberis*



## PRISON MINISTRY

On Saturday, March 28th, members of St. Spyridon made a meaningful visit to Indiana State Prison, continuing our parish's outreach to share the love of Christ with those often overlooked. During their visit, Fr. George celebrated the Divine Liturgy with several Orthodox Christian inmates, offering them the opportunity to worship and receive the Holy Gifts.

Following the service, Fr. George preached on the life of Saint Mary of Egypt—a powerful witness of repentance and transformation that deeply resonates in the prison setting. Our team spent time speaking personally with Orthodox inmates, as well as catechumens and inquirers who are exploring the faith.

We also joyfully welcome Helen and Peter Sotiropoulos, who have recently joined our parish prison ministry team.

On Saturday, May 2nd, Fr. George, Dana, Peter and Helen returned for another visit, where Fr. George preached on the life of Saint George, encouraging those present to imitate his courage and faith by becoming witnesses to Christ, even within the walls of the prison.

These visits bring to life the words of our Lord: *"I was in prison and you visited Me"* (Matthew 25:36). This ministry is a powerful reminder that Christ is present everywhere and that no soul is beyond His love and mercy. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Fr. George or Dana Vasilakos.



## GREEK PARADE



## THE HELLENIC FOUNDATION

What started as a vision to provide senior care and housing for Greek elders in need, the Hellenic Foundation has evolved into a multi-faceted foundation and resource for a broader range of people and programs within Chicago's Greek and Orthodox communities.

Today, the Hellenic Foundation continues to fulfill its original mission of caring for elders through its senior in-home care services. With years of experience and a dedicated, multilingual staff of home health care professionals, the Hellenic Foundation helps seniors from a variety of ethnic backgrounds remain in their homes when possible, with dignity, respect, and sensitivity to their unique cultural needs.

Through its Grant Program, the Hellenic Foundation seeks to harness the commitment, creativity, and ingenuity of a vast array of local nonprofit organizations that provide key programs and services to the Greek and Orthodox communities. Each year the Hellenic Foundation awards grants to qualified recipients whose missions and programs enhance and preserve our Greek language, culture, heritage, and religion in the Chicago area. Since 2016, the Hellenic Foundation has awarded more than \$4.1 million specifically for programs and projects benefiting Chicagoland's Greek and Orthodox communities.

Together with the Philoptochos of the Metropolis of Chicago, the Hellenic Foundation's Emergency Fund also provides critical assistance to individuals in need during crisis situations.

The Hellenic Foundation Initiative Programs reflect its mission and contribute more than \$400,000 in funding to benefit the community.

- Through the Golden Circle initiative, launched in 2022, the Hellenic Foundation promotes senior group outings and encourages interactions among the senior citizen groups of the Greek Orthodox parishes outside the participating church's immediate area.

- Established in 2022, OCF Chicago offers centralized college ministry services for OCF chapters throughout the Chicago area by hosting monthly gatherings and retreats for students from various OCF chapters in Chicago.

- The Hellenic Foundation announced the newly established Shelter Impact Program at the 2023 Hellenic Foundation Grant Awards. This transformative initiative aims to offer safe housing and empower individuals with the skills needed to achieve self-reliance.

- In 2024, The Hellenic Foundation brought the Hearing Loop to Chicago area Greek Orthodox churches. The Hearing Loop is a specialized assistive listening system designed to aid individuals with hearing impairments. It transmits sound directly into hearing aids or cochlear implants equipped with Telecoils (T-coils).

Through these self-funded programs, the Hellenic Foundation strives to fulfill its mission of helping those in need and improving the lives of people in Chicago's Greek and Pan-Orthodox communities.

We are grateful for the wonderful initiatives and support of the Hellenic Foundation! Our parish has received grants which have supported our Iconography class, our GOYA outreach trip to the Philoxenia House in Rochester, Minnesota, our Archangels Academy Pre-School and our Plutarchos Academy. In addition, the Hellenic Foundation has also provided transportation for our parish through the Golden Circle Initiative.



**CARING FOR OUR SENIORS**

**The Hellenic Foundation Senior Care Program Provides:**

- ✓ FREE non-medical In-Home Care for Medicaid Qualifying Seniors.
- ✓ Family Caregivers: Receive Pay to care for your Medicaid Qualifying loved one.
- ✓ Private Pay In-Home Care Services also available.
- ✓ Employment Opportunities for Caregivers. Starting at \$20 hour, PTO, and benefits.

*Serving the Chicago & Surrounding Suburban Area*

**CONTACT US**  
773-631-5222  
[www.hellenicfoundation.org/senior-care-services](http://www.hellenicfoundation.org/senior-care-services)



Αυτό που ξεκίνησε ως ένα όραμα για την παροχή φροντίδας και στέγασης σε ηλικιωμένους Έλληνες που είχαν ανάγκη, το Hellenic Foundation έχει εξελιχθεί σήμερα σε έναν πολυδιάστατο οργανισμό και πολύτιμο πόρο για ένα ευρύτερο φάσμα ανθρώπων και προγραμμάτων μέσα στις ελληνικές και ορθόδοξες κοινότητες του Σικάγου.

Σήμερα, το Hellenic Foundation συνεχίζει να υπηρετεί την αρχική του αποστολή, προσφέροντας φροντίδα στους ηλικιωμένους μέσω υπηρεσιών κατ' οίκον υποστήριξης. Με πολυετή εμπειρία και ένα αφοσιωμένο, πολύγλωσσο προσωπικό επαγγελματιών υγείας, το Hellenic Foundation βοηθά ηλικιωμένους να παραμένουν στο σπίτι τους, με αξιοπρέπεια, σεβασμό και ευαισθησία προς τις ιδιαίτερες πολιτισμικές τους ανάγκες.

Μέσω του Προγράμματος Επιχορηγήσεων, το Hellenic Foundation επιδιώκει να αξιοποιήσει τη δέσμευση, τη δημιουργικότητα και την εφευρετικότητα ενός ευρέος δικτύου τοπικών μη κερδοσκοπικών οργανισμών, οι οποίοι προσφέρουν σημαντικά προγράμματα και υπηρεσίες στις ελληνικές και ορθόδοξες κοινότητες. Κάθε χρόνο, το Hellenic Foundation απονέμει επιχορηγήσεις σε κατάλληλους φορείς, των οποίων οι δράσεις συμβάλλουν στην ενίσχυση και διατήρηση της ελληνικής γλώσσας, του πολιτισμού, της παράδοσης και της πίστης μας στην ευρύτερη περιοχή του Σικάγου. Από το 2016 έως σήμερα, το Hellenic Foundation έχει διαθέσει πάνω από 4,1 εκατομμύρια δολάρια για προγράμματα και έργα που ωφελούν τις ελληνικές και ορθόδοξες κοινότητες της περιοχής.

Σε συνεργασία με τη Φιλόπτωχο Αδελφότητα της Ιεράς Μητροπόλεως Σικάγου, το Ταμείο Έκτακτης Ανάγκης του Hellenic Foundation προσφέρει επίσης ουσιαστική στήριξη σε άτομα που βρίσκονται σε δύσκολες περιστάσεις.

Τα Προγράμματα Πρωτοβουλιών του Hellenic Foundation εκφράζουν έμπρακτα την αποστολή του και συνεισφέρουν με χρηματοδότηση που ξεπερνά τα 400.000 δολάρια προς όφελος της κοινότητας.

Μέσω της πρωτοβουλίας Golden Circle, που ξεκίνησε το 2022, το Hellenic Foundation προωθεί ομαδικές δραστηριότητες για ηλικιωμένους και ενθαρρύνει την επικοινωνία και τη σύμφιξη των σχέσεων μεταξύ των ομάδων τρίτης ηλικίας των ελληνορθόδοξων ενοριών, πέρα από τα όρια της κάθε τοπικής κοινότητας.

Επίσης, το 2022 ιδρύθηκε το OCF Chicago, το οποίο προσφέρει συντονισμένες υπηρεσίες ποιμαντικής διακονίας για φοιτητές, οργανώνοντας μηνιαίες συναντήσεις και κατασκηνώσεις για νέους από διάφορα παραρτήματα OCF της περιοχής του Σικάγου.

Το 2023, το Hellenic Foundation ανακοίνωσε το νέο πρόγραμμα Shelter Impact, μια σημαντική πρωτοβουλία που στοχεύει στην παροχή ασφαλούς

στέγασης και στην ενδυνάμωση των ανθρώπων με τα απαραίτητα εφόδια για την επίτευξη αυτονομίας.

Το 2024, το Hellenic Foundation εισήγαγε το σύστημα Hearing Loop σε ελληνορθόδοξους ναούς της περιοχής του Σικάγου. Πρόκειται για ένα εξειδικευμένο σύστημα υποβοήθησης ακοής, το οποίο μεταδίδει τον ήχο απευθείας σε ακουστικά βαρηκοΐας ή κοχλιακά εμφυτεύματα που διαθέτουν κατάλληλη τεχνολογία (T-coil), διευκολύνοντας έτσι τη συμμετοχή των πιστών με προβλήματα ακοής.

Μέσα από αυτά τα αυτοχορηματοδοτούμενα προγράμματα, το Hellenic Foundation συνεχίζει να εκπληρώνει την αποστολή του: να στηρίζει όσους έχουν ανάγκη και να βελτιώνει την ποιότητα ζωής των ανθρώπων στις ελληνικές και πανορθόδοξες κοινότητες του Σικάγου.

Είμαστε βαθιά ευγνώμονες για τις αξιόλογες πρωτοβουλίες και τη στήριξη του Hellenic Foundation. Η ενορία μας έχει λάβει επιχορηγήσεις που ενίσχυσαν το μάθημα Αγιογραφίας, την αποστολή της GOYA στο Philoxenia House στο Rochester της Μινεσότα, το προσχολικό πρόγραμμα Archangels Academy, καθώς και το Ελληνικό Σχολείο «Πλούταρχος». Επιπλέον, το Hellenic Foundation έχει προσφέρει και υπηρεσίες μεταφοράς για την ενορία μας μέσω της πρωτοβουλίας Golden Circle.



**Φροντίζοντας τους Ηλικιωμένους μας**

Το Πρόγραμμα Φροντίδας Ηλικιωμένων του Hellenic Foundation προσφέρει:

- ✓ ΔΩΡΕΑΝ Φροντίδα Κατ' Οίκον για ηλικιωμένους που πληρούν τις προϋποθέσεις Επιλεξιμότητας
- ✓ Οικογενειακοί Φροντιστές: Αποζημίωση για επιλέξιμους ηλικιωμένους
- ✓ Ίδιωτικές Υπηρεσίες Κατ' Οίκον Φροντίδας
- ✓ Ευκαιρίες Εργασίας για Φροντιστές – Από \$20/ώρα και παροχές

Εξυπηρετούμε το Σικάγο και τα γύρω προάστια

Κολλέστε σήμερα:  
773-631-5222  
[www.hellenicfoundation.org/senior-care-services](http://www.hellenicfoundation.org/senior-care-services)



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith • Hope • Love

## SUPER SAINTS

Heroes of our Faith

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

→ June 22 - June 26 ←

✠ St. Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church ✠



**REGISTER**

Scan to Register



**PAY**

Scan to Pay

Save the Date!

**PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

- Select "Vacation Church School" in dropdown
- Or pay at the church office



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE      ✠      GROWING IN CHRIST TOGETHER

## Archangels Academy Summer Camps

### Fairy Tale Camp

**June 1-5**  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Ages 3-6



- Explore a different fairy tale each day
- Enjoy music, arts, dress-up, and games
- Act out scenes from favorite stories

### Cooking Camp

**June 8-12**  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Ages 3-6



- Create kid friendly recipes daily
- Learn kitchen skills and early math concepts
- Enjoy their tasty creations

What to Bring: Packed Lunch • Water Bottle • Extra change of clothes

Name of Camper: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 1 (June 1-5) **\$165**

Week 2 (June 8-12) **\$165**

Both Weeks **\$300**

For more information contact: Sofea Malamis • director@archangelsacademy.org

Location: Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue • Palos Heights, IL • 708-385-2311

— Plutarchos Academy Presents —

## CAMP KALOKAIRAKI

### A Taste of Greece

Travel With Us One Bite at a Time!



**Travel with us as we taste the flavors of Greece!**

From savory classics to sweet traditional treats, our Greek Cooking Camp will take students on a delicious journey through the villages and islands of our homeland. Together we will mix, roll, bake, and create authentic recipes while learning about the rich culture and traditions behind every dish.

**June 15-19**

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Grades: Kindergarten - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

Fee: \$150

Name of Camper: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, please contact the church office:  
708-385-2311    office@saint-spyridon.net

Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave. • Palos Heights, IL

Sts Constantine and Helen

St. Spyridon  
Holy Cross  
All Saints (Joliet)



St. Nicholas  
Assumption  
Annunciation (Kankakee)

St. Spyridon Philoptochos Invites  
the South Side Parishes to our

## Christianiki Philoxenia Luncheon

Tuesday, June 2nd

Orthros Service at 8:30 a.m.  
and  
Divine Liturgy at 9:45 a.m.

Luncheon immediately following Divine Liturgy  
St Spyridon Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave, Palos Heights, IL 60463

✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻✻

Please call our church office to make reservations  
(708) 385-2311

## VISIT OF METROPOLITAN AMBROSIOS OF KOREA AND EXARCH OF JAPAN

On Wednesday, March 11th, we were blessed to welcome His Eminence Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea and Exarch of Japan, along with Deacon Paraskeva Hamalis, to our parish for the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy.

Following the service, Deacon Paraskeva offered an enlightening presentation on Orthodox witness in Korea and Japan, sharing insights into the life, challenges, and growth of the Church in that region. His Eminence also participated in the discussion, graciously answering questions and offering pastoral reflections that enriched all who were present.

This visit held a particularly special meaning for Fr. George on a personal level. Fr. George had the blessing of spending two summers, in 2010 and 2011, in South Korea, where he worked closely with His Eminence at the Orthodox Summer Camp. During that time, he also traveled alongside His Eminence to various parishes throughout Korea and assisted in ministry at the Mission Center in Seoul. These experiences left a lasting impression and contributed greatly to his pastoral formation.

We thank His Eminence for his continued love and support, and we pray that God grants him many years of health, strength, and fruitful ministry in the service of Christ and His Holy Church!

Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη, Δέσποτα!



## WELCOMING HIS GRACE BISHOP DIONYSIOS OF ZENOPOLIS

On Sunday, April 26, our parish had the joy of welcoming for the first time our Chancellor, His Grace Bishop Dionysios of Zenopolis. His Grace presided over the Divine Liturgy and was a true blessing to our community.

Upon his arrival, His Grace graciously surprised Fr. George with a beautiful gift of new vestments (the red set pictured). Our Philotochos offered a thoughtful gift basket of Greek sweets, and our Sunday School students welcomed him with flowers and a handmade card.

We humbly ask that you keep His Grace in your prayers as he begins his ministry as Chancellor. May the Lord grant him strength as he proclaims the Gospel and assists His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael in serving our Holy Metropolis.



# GOYA

What a wonderful year it has been for our GOYA group! We have gathered in love and faith while playing fun games, learning bible verses and doing service projects. While GOYA wraps up at the end of May, please be sure to sign up on our GroupMe to stay up to date on all of our activities. Plus, there will be many opportunities to earn service hours at St. Spyridon with the various camps that are hosted at the church along with our festival.

Have a blessed and relaxing summer.



**MAY**  
**GOYA GATHERINGS**

**Wednesday, May 13**  
7-8:30 p.m.  
St. Spyridon

**Wednesday, May 27**  
7-8:30 p.m.  
Year End Celebration  
Place TBD

**Sunday, May 31**  
GOYA to host fellowship hour

## **ST. SPYRIDON COMMUNITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROJECT**

We had an extremely successful baby food and baby formula drive. All donations received were full of generosity. Here is the breakdown of what was donated:

**Baby Formula = 89 containers**

**Baby Cereal = 67 containers/boxes**

**Baby Food (jars/pouches/containers) = 690**

**Baby Snacks and Teething Crackers = 18 packs**

**Diapers, wipes and Pedialyte bottles, trainer cups, pacifiers and drinks were also donated**

The St. Spyridon outreach team packed everything up and took it to the Courage Program on March 20 in Oak Lawn. The Courage Program is an incredible program lead by loving people who are there to help parents get what they need for their small children. Thank you to all of you who generously donated making a huge impact.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO  
SOUTHSIDE VICARIATE

Tuesday, May 19

ΑΠΟΔΟΣΙΣ  
OF  
GREAT AND HOLY  
PASCHA

Joint Celebration at:

ALL SAINTS GREEK ORTHODOX  
CHURCH

102 N. Broadway  
Joliet, IL 60435

5:30pm Orthros  
6:00pm Divine Liturgy



SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR OUR  
34TH ANNUAL IOCC  
CHICAGO GRAND BANQUET

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Cocktails 6:00 pm | Dinner 7:00 pm

EMPRESS BANQUETS

200 E Lake Street, Addison, IL 60101

Please join us for an amazing evening of fellowship and learn how your generosity helps those in need in places like Greece, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and right here in the US. Please consider contributing to IOCC by becoming an IOCC Banquet Benefactor, Sponsor, Patron, or Friend.

\$125 per person | \$1,250 per table  
RSVP by Friday, April 24



Register at [iocc.org/Chicago](http://iocc.org/Chicago)



SCAN ME

The fair market value (FMV) for each ticket is \$70. Only the portion of the payment that exceeds the FMV is deductible as a charitable contribution.

Assumption  
Greek Orthodox Church

May Day Protomagiatiko Picnic

May 9, 2026

2:00 pm - 7:00pm

15625 S Bell Rd., Homer Glen, IL

For advance orders, e-mail:  
[homerglenassumption@gmail.com](mailto:homerglenassumption@gmail.com)

Menu

- Oven Roasted Lamb \$25
- Gyro \$15
- Pastichio \$12
- Spanokopita \$10
- Greek Salad \$5
- Loukoumades \$10

Fun for  
Family &  
Friends

50/50 RAFFLE



Η θεατρική ομάδα  
ΕΚΤΟΣ ΕΔΡΑΣ  
παρουσιάζει

# Συμπέθεροι απ' τα Τίρανα

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

## MAY 9

7:30 PM

ΣΚΗΝΟΘΕΣΙΑ  
Λεονάρτο Σφοντούρης

ΠΑΙΖΟΥΝ  
Μαρία Γεωργίτσου  
Γιώργος Δημητρακόπουλος  
Χριστίνα Κασάπη  
Νίκη Κατσαίτη  
Δημήτρης Κωστόπουλος  
Νίκος Μουρχελάς  
Άννα Νικολοπούλου  
Ευάγγελος Σελλάς  
Λεονάρτο Σφοντούρης

ΣΚΗΝΙΚΑ-ΚΟΣΤΟΥΜΙΑ  
Κωνσταντία Παναχωτάκη  
ΗΧΟΣ-ΦΩΤΙΣΜΟΙ  
Δημήτρης Μαστοράκης

SSCH GRAVEN HALL

11025 S ROBERTS RD. PALOS HILLS, IL 60465

TICKETS: \$20  
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# 2026 PETER MANASSES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Two (2) \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating High School Seniors.  
Two (2) \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to current Undergraduate students.



Sponsored by the St. Spyridon Philoptochos

Applicants must be stewards  
of St. Spyridon  
Greek Orthodox Church.



## Submission Requirements

- Personal Essay
- Resume
- 2 Letters of Recommendation
- Official Transcripts
- Student Information/Certification Page

Application  
Closes

**MAY  
28**

Apply Now at <http://www.saint-spyridon.net>



## Attention St. Spyridon College Students!

St. Spyridon's Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2026 Charles C. Condes Scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students!



## SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED:

- (1) \$2,500
- (1) \$1,250
- (1) \$1,250

Applications must be submitted by  
July 24th, 2026

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://saint-spyridon.net/>



St. Spyridon Philoptochos Presents

# Take n' Bake Pita Sale



**6 FOR \$30**  
YOUR CHOICE



**TIROPITES OR SPANAKOPITES**  
(FESTIVAL SIZE)

Each pita is shaped as a rectangle package.  
Pitas come frozen, with baking instructions  
Choose from Tiropites or Spanakopites



Place your orders by May 18th  
Click on the QR Code to pre-order!  
Pick up on Sunday, May 31st during Coffee Social.

A portion of proceeds will go to Philoxenia House in Rochester, MN to support free housing for Mayo Clinic families and patients.  
This is a Metropolis of Chicago supported initiative.



**HOLD THE DATE: Saturday, June 13, 2026**

Plan now to join our St. Spyridon Philoptochos' 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

## WALK AGAINST CANCER

It has three components:

- **A Paraklesis Service**— prayers offered for those currently fighting cancer. (You may submit names to be read.)
- **A Group Walk** – to and from St. Mary's Orthodox Church (127<sup>th</sup> & Ridgeland) where a **Memorial Service** is held within their church for those we've lost to cancer. (You may submit names to be read.)
- **Following Lenten Luncheon** at St. Spyridon/Palos Heights, IL – free to all donors and participants. A celebration honoring our cancer survivors.

Adults, young adults and youngsters are encouraged to participate in this activity.

In the past 4 years/walks we have collected and donated \$22,500 in total, which is funding patient support services, cancer prevention efforts, education, cancer research grants and legislative advocacy. THANK YOU!!

2025 Participants in [photograph](#):






# Huck Finny

## Restaurant & Donuts

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Chicago, IL 60629

SINCE 1988



# JULLIANNI'S

PIZZERIA & BAR

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7239 W College Dr. Palos Heights, IL 60463 | 708.372.282



## Nick's Barbecue

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<b>Alsip</b> 5500 Cal Sag Rd. (708) 923-RIBS (7427)	<b>Homer Glen</b> 15800 S. Bell Rd. (708) 645-RIBS (7427)	<b>WE HAVE VIDEO GAMING</b>



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