



# THE VOICE

**FEBRUARY 2024 - VOLUME No. 387**

**SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH**

12307 SOUTH RIDGELAND AVENUE, PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60463

FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE

SAINT SPYRIDON FAMILY NIGHT MINISTRY

## BOWLING NIGHT

LET'S STRIKE UP SOME FUN!!

Join  
-US-



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**  
**4:30 PM – 6:30 PM**  
**\$10 PER BOWLER – PAY AT THE DOOR**  
BOWLING SHOES AND SODA INCLUDED, SNACKS FOR PURCHASE

**PALOS LANES**  
**11025 SW HWY, PALOS HILLS**

REGISTER NOW



## Archangels Safari Breakfast

Join Us For A Safari Adventure!  
Fuel up with Breakfast,  
Delicious Treats, Family Fun  
& Activities for the kids.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY

Adults \$20  
Children \$10

PLEASE RSVP TO  
DIRECTOR@ARCHANGELSACADEMY.ORG  
OR  
SOFEA MALAMIS @ 630. 330. 9377  
RESERVATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PARISH COUNCIL**





# GOYA

This past month GOYA had the pleasure of gathering for a field trip to the National Hellenic Museum in Greek Town.

It was a wonderful gathering filled with amazing photo displays and sculptures. To top the exhibit, the museum was offering a special exhibit named *“Legacy, Renewal & Unity: Celebrating 100 Years of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America”*. It was truly fascinating to see the rich history of Orthodoxy in America. The field trip concluded with a joyful lunch gathering at Athena restaurant.

Mark your calendar for upcoming GOYA events: **February 7, 28, March 6, 17** (Forgiveness services), **April 3, 17** (Presanctified liturgy + Lenten meal). May dates TBD.

Stay up to date and sign up for GOYA notifications through the REMIND APP.

**TEXT @jrgoyag to 81010**

You will receive a text to confirm you are signed up.



ST. SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



CALLING ALL 6TH GRADERS - HIGH SCHOOL  
JOIN US FOR FUN MINISTRIES, ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH PROJECTS

**JOIN US FOR THE FIRST EVENT OF 2024  
DIVE FOR THE CROSS - 1/13 - SHEPARD HIGH SCHOOL - 12:00**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING GATHERINGS:

- JANUARY 13 - DIVE FOR THE CROSS
- JANUARY 27 - HELLENIC MUSEUM
- FEBRUARY 7, 28
- MARCH 6, 17 - FORGIVENESS VESPERS
- APRIL 3, 17 - PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY + LENTEN MEAL
- MAY - TBD



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Γειά σας,

Σας γράφω για πρώτη φορά ως νέος πρόεδρος του συμβουλίου της ενορίας του Αγίου Σπυρίδωνα.

Θέλω πρώτα από όλα να ευχαριστήσω τον Πατέρα Γεώργιο και το νέο συμβούλιο για την πίστη και εμπιστοσύνη που έχουν προς εμένα, ότι μπορώ να βοηθήσω στην ηγεσία του συμβουλίου της εκκλησίας μας για τα επόμενα δύο χρόνια. Θέλω να ευχαριστήσω τα νέα μέλη του συμβουλίου, και τους εύχομαι καλή δύναμη. Και στα μέλη που δεν επέστρεψαν στο συμβούλιο αυτό, θέλω να πω ότι σας αγαπάμε, σας εκτιμούμε για όλα όσα κάνετε για την εκκλησία μας, και πάντα θα χρειαζόμαστε την βοήθεια σας.

Η ενορία μας έχει μία πολύ πλούσια ιστορία, με ενορίτες που έχουν προσφέρει την αγάπη τους, τον χρόνο τους, και τα ταλέντα τους προς όφελος της.

Θα πρέπει να εξακολουθήσουμε να δουλεύουμε όλοι μαζί για την πρόοδο της, σαν μία μεγάλη και ενωμένη ομάδα..

Σας ευχαριστώ για την αγάπη που μου έχετε δείξει, και θέλω να ξέρετε ότι είμαι πάντα στην διάθεσή σας.

*Με αγάπη,*

*Βασίλης Κίλιας*

Hello St. Spyridon Parish Family,

I am writing for the first time as the newly elected President of the St. Spyridon Parish Council for 2024 and 2025.

First, I would like to thank Fr. George Lamberis, Frank Kopanis, and the entire Parish Council for their faith and trust in me to lead the Parish Council for the next two years. I want to thank our outgoing President, Frank Kopanis, for his leadership, which ensured that the parish reached new heights from when he took over as President 5 years ago. Frank we THANK YOU, always AXIOS, for all of your contributions.

I'd like to welcome our new council members, Adam Collopy, Zachary Chibucos, Tim Georgiopoulos, and Jimmy Argyropoulos. We look forward to your participation and the talents that you can offer our parish.

The entire Parish Council also thanks outgoing members, Nika Alex, John Koziocas, Dino Labrakis, and Mr. Nick Petinatos, and for their many contributions over the years. We wish you good health and strength,

and even though you are no longer on the Parish Council, we always welcome your talents in helping our parish.

Our parish has a rich history, the foundation of which is our stewards tirelessly offering their time, talents, and treasure for the benefit of our beloved St. Spyridon. In return, we receive the grace of our beloved Saint Spyridon, but also the responsibility to continue this work together, as ONE, UNITED parish community.

I look forward to working closely with all ministries. They all require strong leadership and contributions to be successful, and all of them welcome new members with open arms.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce our Executive Board: In addition to me, we have Nick Kournetas (1st VP), Jim Korbakes (2nd VP), Caryn Chibucos (Treasurer), Spiros Tzanetakos (Secretary), Gus Kolyvas (Assistant Treasurer), Panagiotis Stamus (Assistant Secretary).

In future letters, over time, we will take the opportunity to introduce all of our Parish Council members so that our entire community gets to know them better and the ministries they are leading and participating in.

In closing, I thank the entire community for the love that you have shown me and my family. Along with Father George, the entire Parish Council and I are here to serve St. Spyridon and you. We can only be successful if we lead with love and humility, and we work as ONE united parish and team.

The Parish Council and I are at your disposal, at any time, for the needs our beloved St. Spyridon parish.

*With Love,*

*Bill Kiliias*





# FATHER'S LETTER

## Sanctified Through Stewardship

Every Divine Liturgy, we come together with the opportunity to receive the Holy Eucharist. The word Eucharist comes from the Greek word for thanksgiving. Many people have their own reason for coming to worship on Sundays and to other weekly Divine Liturgies throughout the week. It might be the feast day of your patron Saint, it may be a day of which a loved one fell asleep in the Lord. The words "Holy Eucharist" synonymously used with the words Holy Communion is the central focus of our parish life. It is through the Eucharist that we take on our true nature as the Church of Jesus Christ. We are *transformed* from a human community into the Body of Christ.

As we heard in the Gospel on January 21<sup>st</sup>, out of the ten lepers who were healed by Christ, only one came back to offer his gratitude to Him. "God sent His Son to us so

that we may not perish but have eternal life." God makes His offering to us through His Son, and it is through this loving sacrifice that we have the opportunity for eternal life in His Kingdom. He opens the door for death to no longer loom over our heads while introducing to us the opportunity to "restore ourselves to the joy of our salvation" and strive for holiness – the way we were before the fall of Adam and Eve. In the words of Saint Athanasios, "He became what we are so that He might make us what He is." Through the reception of the Holy Gifts of Communion, we journey on this path to holiness.

What an amazing opportunity! The question of the Psalmist David is a question that we should also ask: "What shall I give to the Lord in return for all His benefits towards me?" (Psalm 116:2), is answered in every Divine Liturgy when we pray "Let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God."

In his book on the Eucharist, Fr. Alexander Schmemmann of blessed memory, explains that in the early Church, the Eucharistic sacrifice was offered by all the members of the church. Each person coming to the gathering of the Church brought with them everything they could spare for the needs of Christ, the Church and fulfilling its mission to bring disciples

of all nations to Christ. We today pridefully claim that this is our beloved Orthodox Church.

We read about this in Acts 2: "Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread (Holy Communion) from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved."

As it says in the Divine Liturgy, "let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God." We are indeed created to be liturgical human

beings. We offer what God has offered us – grapes and wheat – and we use our gifts to change it into bread and wine. In this state, we offer it back to God, and in return He sanctifies it for us and for the life of the world. We receive Communion and are drawn into communion of the Church.

Brothers and sisters, with gratitude, let us also follow this model for our lives. Our talent, treasure and our time is all given to us by God. Let us offer it with gratitude to Him, lifting and offering it to Him. Just like we offer our bread and wine, "offering these gifts from Your own gifts, for all and for all" He will therefore sanctify us and the work that we offer.

When we understand the true meaning of the Holy Eucharist, we bridge the gap between liturgy and life, between the love of Christ on the cross and our daily lives, between our beautiful theology and how it relates to stewardship – our talent, treasure and time. With humility and love, I ask each of you to pray and ask God how he may use you and your talents, treasure and time to praise God, inspire a sense of awe in others and experience the blessedness of God's Kingdom now and forever.

*Fr. George*



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST OFFICE TEAM MEMBER

Hello Everyone,  
My name is Kalliope (Kalli) Theodoropoulos and I am the new secretary here at Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church. I am so happy and fortunate to be part of such a wonderful parish. I wanted everyone to know a little bit about me, and hope to meet everyone soon.



I was born in Greece and moved to Chicago with my parents when I was five years old. I speak, write and read Greek. I grew up in Oak Lawn and currently live in Orland Park. I am married and my husband's name is Steve. We have two Children; Evan and Rini. Evan is a CPA and Rini is a teacher. I love to read, watch movies and travel. I mostly enjoy spending time with my family.

I look forward to meeting everyone, and I promise I'll learn everyone's name eventually.

*Kalli Theodoropoulos*

## FAMILY NIGHT

We hope everyone has had a great start to 2024! Family Night Ministry had to cancel their first event of the New Year due to inclement weather.

Please mark your calendars as we will have our first meeting of the year on Friday, February 2nd at 6:30 pm. In addition, we will also meet again this month on Sunday, February 25th at Palos Lanes (11025 Southwest Highway, Palos Hills, IL) from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

More information to come!

A MINISTRY FOR ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN  
FROM PRE-K TO 5TH GRADE



food, family, faith and fun



**FRI, FEB 2ND**  
**Presentation of The Lord**  
**6:30pm, Saint Spyridon**

**The Voice Η φωνή**  
Official 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](mailto:office@Saint-Spyridon.net)

Web: [www.Saint-Spyridon.net](http://www.Saint-Spyridon.net)

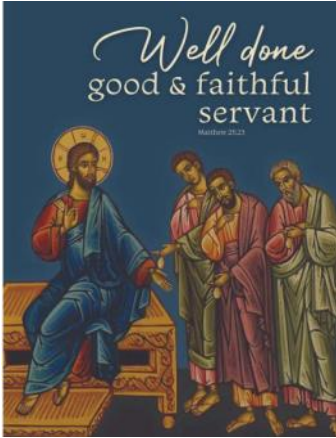
**Parish Council Officers**

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

**Auxiliary Officers**

Alexia Chibucos	Chanter
Dana Vasilakos	Philoptochos
Vicky Argyropoulos	P.T.A.
Gus Rougas	Kentro
Jimmy Korbakes	Kentro
Marianna Haniotakis	Plutarchos
	Academy
Sofea Malamis	Archangels
	Academy
Evelyn Christakos	Cherubs
Zoe Kopanis	SundaySchool
	Director
Stacy Vallianatos	G.O.Y.A.
Stephane Collopy	G.O.Y.A.
Pres. Diana Lamberis	Family Night
Vivian Tzanetakos	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
Kalli Theodoropoulos	Church Office
Marianna Haniotakis	Church Office
Litsa Tsarouhis	Church Office
Soteria Simantirakis	Custodian
Pete Mihalopoulos	Iconography
Sophia Christofer	Floga Dance
Evi Marouda	Floga Dance
Anastasia Deligiannis	Floga Dance
Patty Pappas	Floga Dance

## STEWARDSHIP 2024



The Stewardship Committee thanks our 88 Stewards who have fulfilled their pledge for the 2024 year. We wish to express our gratitude for your commitment to the Lord's work through our Church of Saint Spyridon and we encourage everyone to offer their stewardship for the good of the Church. Let us work together to make 2024, an exemplary year of growth and renewed blessings for our beloved parish of Saint Spyridon.

Ευχαριστούμε τις 88 οικογένειες που εκπλήρωσαν την σας υποσχέσεις τους για το έτος 2024. 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. Χρειαζόμαστε την βοήθεια και την υποστήριξη όλων σας.

### STEWARDS JANUARY 1ST—JANUARY 25TH

<i>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Chris Alemis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Nick Halikias</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bill Maramathos</i>
<i>Ms. Katerina Alexopoulos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Michael Haniotakis</i>	<i>Mrs. Joan P. Mars</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Peter Angelos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gus Kapsaskis</i>	<i>Ms. Catherine Pappas</i>
<i>Ms. Penelope Arges</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dimitrios Karamagianis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Peter Paxinos</i>
<i>Mr. James Argyropoulos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Constantine Karamelas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Perakis</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Bastas</i>	<i>Mrs. Helen Katris</i>	<i>Mrs. Koula Perivoliotis</i>
<i>Ms. Olga Baroudos</i>	<i>Mr. Tom Katris</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. James Petropoul</i>
<i>Ms. Eleni Bizoukas</i>	<i>Mr. Bill Katsenis</i>	<i>Ms. Penny Poninski</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Zaharias Bousies</i>	<i>Mrs. Tarsi Katsoulakis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Daniel Prevett</i>
<i>Mr. Christos Catsogiannis</i>	<i>Mrs. Dina Katsoulis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Thomas Riley</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George Charalampous</i>	<i>Ms. Georgia Kekempanos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gus Rougas</i>
<i>Mrs. Caryn Chibucos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Larry Kekempanos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Nickolas Shizas</i>
<i>Mr. Zachary N. Chibucos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George Kladis</i>	<i>Dr. &amp; Mrs. George Scarlatis</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Chris Christofer</i>	<i>Ms. Aretina Klapsis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Peter Sotiropoulos</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Polichronis Christopoulos</i>	<i>Mr. Gus Kolyvas</i>	<i>Mr. Andrew Stameson</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Adam Collopy</i>	<i>Mr. Peter G. Kolyvas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Charlie Sweis</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Panagiotis Deligiannis</i>	<i>Ms. Sophia Kopanitsanos</i>	<i>Mrs. Efthimia Thiakos</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Konstantinos Demakis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. James Kotsiviras</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bill Toulivos</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dean Eliacostas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Nicholas Kournetas</i>	<i>Mr. Angelo Tsagalos</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George Eliacostas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Tom Kyres</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Andreas Tsantilis</i>
<i>Mrs. Martha Eliopulos</i>	<i>Ms. Koula Lalezas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Dr. Vasileios Tsoukalas</i>
<i>Mrs. Georgia Evangelopoulos</i>	<i>Fr. George &amp; Pres Diana Lamberis</i>	<i>Mrs. Patricia Georgelos Vardalos</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Farsatis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gus Lamberis</i>	<i>Ms. Dana Vasilakos</i>
<i>Dr. Sylvia Felecos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dimitrios Les</i>	<i>Mrs. Sofia Vasiliou</i>
<i>Mrs. Demetrios Felecos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George Limperis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Rocky Wagner</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Demetrios Gatsinos</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Theophanes Manikas</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. James Xeros</i>
<i>Mrs. Kathy Grapsis</i>	<i>Mrs. Katherine Manolis</i>	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Daniel Young</i>
<i>Dr. George &amp; Mrs. Georgia Georgelos</i>	<i>Mr. Ted Maras</i>	<i>Ms. Effie Zorbas &amp; Mr. Vasilis Eliadis</i>
<i>Mr. Tim Georgiopoulos</i>	<i>Ms. Marigo Markatos</i>	
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Demetrios Gatsinos</i>	<i>Ms. Tina Manasses</i>	



## DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Friday, February 2nd	The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior, Orthros & Divine Liturgy —8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
Saturday, February 3rd	Vespers — 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 4th	St. Isidore of Pelusium—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m—11:15 a.m.
Sunday, February 11th	St. Blaise of Sebastia—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m—11:15 a.
Saturday, February 17th	St. Theodore of Tyron—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy— 8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m. Vespers — 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 18th	St. Leo the Great—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m—11:15 a.m.
Saturday, February 24th	Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 25th	Publican and the Pharisee—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00—11:15 a.m.
Thursday, February 29th	St. John Cassian —1st Hour & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m—9:30 a.m.

## ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Παρασκευή 2 Φεβρουαρίου	Η Υπαπαντή του Κυρίου Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00π.μ.—10:30 π.μ.
Σάββατο 3 Φεβρουαρίου	Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 4 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Ισίδωρος—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Κυριακή 11 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Βλάσιος —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:15 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Σάββατο 17 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Θεόδωρος ο Τήρων—1η Ωρα & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—9:30 π.μ. Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 18 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Λέων —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Σάββατο 24 Φεβρουαρίου	Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 25 Φεβρουαρίου	Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Πέμπτη 29 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Ιωάννης Κασσιανής 1η Ωρα & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—9:30 π.μ.

## PARISH REGISTRY

### Weddings

Paul Glikis and Margarita Kremmidas were joined in Holy Matrimony on Sunday, December 31st. Their sponsors were Tony & Penny Shamma.

*Να ζήσετε!*

### Funerals

On Decembr 29th, Mrs. Panagiota Poziopoulos fell asleep in the Lord. Her funeral took place on January 3rd and she was interred at Evergreen Cemetery.

### Memorials

#### January 7th:

+1 yr for Andrew Pappas, +37 yrs for Dan Pappas, +26 yrs for Irene Pappas, +5 yrs for Constantine Vlahos, +6 months for Eleni Kampiris, +5 yrs for John Perakis, +12 yrs for Vasilios Perakis, +1 yr for Helen Valaris and +35 yrs Peter Valaris

#### January 14th:

40 days for Dimitrios Mazarakos, +4 yrs for Gregory Les, +8 yrs for Constantine Georgiou, +19 yrs for

Eugenia Mazarakos, +23 yrs for Vasiliki Georgiou and +45 yrs Alexandros Georgiou

#### January 21st:

+40 days for Kyriaki Keorpes, +3 years for Pete Manasses, +3 years for Spyridon Manasses, +13 years for Theodora Manasses +34 years for Gus Manasses and +80 years for Chrisoula Manasses

*May their memory be eternal!*

## February 2024 — Community Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	2 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Greek School—4:30—6:30 p.m. * Family Night—6:30—*8 pm	3 *Floga dance (intermediate/advanced)—2:30—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
4 * Sunday School—10:30 am—11:30 am	5 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Greek School—4:30 pm—6:30 pm *Floga dance (beginners)—6:40 pm—7:10 pm	6 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am	7 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Iconography Class—5:30 pm—7:00 pm * Philoptochos Meeting—7:00 pm * GOYA—7:00 pm	8 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	9 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Greek School—4:30—6:30 p.m. *Bus Departs for St. Haralambos —5 pm *Floga dance (intermediate/advanced)—6:40—7:30pm	10 * Handmaidens Mom & Me Day —9 am—12 pm * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
11 * Sunday School—10:30 am—11:30 am * PTA Valentine's Day Cookies & Pizza Sale after Divine Liturgy	12 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Greek School—4:30 pm—6:30 pm *Floga dance (beginners)—6:40 pm—7:10 pm	13 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am	14 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Cherubs—10:00 am—12:00 pm * Iconography Class—5:30 pm—7:00 pm	15 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	16 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Greek School—4:30—6:30 p.m. *Floga dance (intermediate/advanced)—6:40 pm—7:30 pm	17 * Altar Boy meeting—10 am * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
18 * Family Worship—No Sunday School **Archangels Safari Breakfast	19 * OFFICE CLOSED * No activities	20 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am	21 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Iconography Class—5:30 pm—7:00 pm	22 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	23 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Greek School—4:30—6:30 p.m. *Floga dance (intermediate/advanced)—6:40 pm—7:30 pm	24 * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
25 * Sunday school—10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. * Family Night Ministry Bowling Night—4:30 pm	26 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Greek School—4:30 pm—6:30 pm *Floga dance (beginners)—6:40 pm—7:10 pm	27 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am	28 * Archangels Academy—9:00 a.m. * Cherubs—10:00 am—12:00 pm * Iconography Class—5:30 pm—7:00 pm * GOYA—7—8:30pm	29 * Archangels Academy—9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm		
<b>Triodion Begins</b>						




You ARE Loved

# ST. SPYRIDON

February 2024

## PTA NEWSLETTER

### DATES TO REMEMBER

-  FEBRUARY 4: PTA MEETING AFTER CHURCH
-  FEBRUARY 18: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
-  FEBRUARY 19: NO GREEK SCHOOL
-  FEBRUARY 19: NO SCHOOL- ARCHANGELS

### FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

-  VALENTINES DAY FOOD PIZZA & COOKIE SALE  
FEBRUARY 9TH-12TH
-  FEBRUARY 18TH- ARCHANGELS ACADEMY  
SAFARI BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER
-  MARCH 1ST- IN SCHOOL PLUTARCHOS  
FIELD TRIP

### PTA NEEDS YOU!

PTA relies on volunteers to provide all of the services we offer! Get involved today to help us make a difference. Email [spyridonpta@gmail.com](mailto:spyridonpta@gmail.com) to help!

### SAINT STORY OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY 14

OUR HOLY FATHER AUXENTIUS (470)

HE WAS OF PERSIAN ORIGIN, BORN IN SYRIA. AS A YOUNG MAN, HE DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF AS A MEMBER OF THE COURT OF THE EMPEROR THEODOSIUS THE YOUNGER. SEEING THE VANITY OF THE WORLD'S HONORS AND PLEASURES, HE BECAME A MONK IN CONSTANTINOPLE: BUT WHEN THE PEOPLE BEGAN TO PRAISE HIS HOLINESS, HE FLED TO MOUNT OXEIA NEAR CHALCEDON, WHICH LATER BECAME KNOWN AS AUXENTIUS' MOUNTAIN. THERE HE BUILT A SMALL HUT AND LIVED IN RECLUSION: BUT IN TIME HE WAS DISCOVERED BY SOME SHEPHERDS, AND THE FAITHFUL BEGAN TO COME IN INCREASING NUMBERS FOR HIS TEACHING, BLESSING, PRAYERS AND HEALING. HE PERFORMED COUNTLESS MIRACLES, BUT SUCH WAS HIS HUMILITY THAT HE ALWAYS SOUGHT TO AVOID THEIR BEING ATTRIBUTED TO HIM. WHEN HE WAS ASKED TO PRAY FOR SOMEONE'S HEALING, HE WOULD TRY TO REFUSE, SAYING "I TOO AM A SINFUL MAN." BUT, WHEN HE WAS PREVAILED ON BY THE PLEAS OF THE PEOPLE, HE WOULD CALL ON ALL OF THEM TO PRAY TOGETHER FOR THE HEALING: OR HE WOULD REMIND THEM THAT GOD WOULD GIVE ACCORDING TO THEIR FAITH: OR HE WOULD SAY TO THE SICK PERSON "THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HEALS YOU." WHEN THE EMPEROR MARCIAN SUMMONED THE FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL TO CHALCEDON, HE ORDERED THAT THE HERMIT JOIN THE ASSEMBLY OF HOLY FATHERS. AUXENTIUS REFUSED, SAYING THAT DOCTRINAL TEACHING WAS THE PROVINCE OF BISHOPS, NOT MONKS. THE EMPEROR'S ENVOYS TOOK HIM BY FORCE. HE WAS GREETED WITH HONOR BY THE EMPEROR, AND AFFIRMED ALL THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

HE NEVER RETURNED TO MOUNT OXEIA, BUT SETTLED IN AN EVEN WILDER AND MORE REMOTE SPOT ON MOUNT SKOPA, WHICH LATER CAME TO BE CALLED MOUNT ST AUXENTIUS. HIS DISCIPLES BUILT HIM A TINY WOODEN HUT WITH ONE SMALL WINDOW THROUGH WHICH HE COULD CONVERSE WITH HIS STEADY STREAM OF VISITORS. HE REPOSED IN PEACE IN 470. A GREAT CROWD GATHERED FOR HIS FUNERAL, AND HIS HOLY RELICS WERE TAKEN INTO THE CARE OF A WOMEN'S MONASTERY WHOSE SPIRITUAL FATHER HE HAD BEEN. MOUNT ST AUXENTIUS SOON BECAME A CENTER OF HESYCHASTIC LIFE, WITH SEVEN MONASTERIES.

WHAT HAPPENED TO VALENTINE'S DAY?

ON FEBRUARY 14 THE ROMAN CHURCH COMMEMORATES TWO SAINTS NAMED VALENTINUS, BOTH MARTYRED IN ROME AT DIFFERENT TIMES (ONE WAS A BISHOP IN ITALY). BOTH ARE ALSO SAINTS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH, BUT ARE COMMEMORATED ON JULY 30 AND OCTOBER 24. AS FOR CHOCOLATES, FLOWERS, CARDS, ETC., THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA SAYS: "ST VALENTINE'S DAY AS A LOVERS' FESTIVAL... HAS NO RELATION TO THE SAINT OR TO ANY INCIDENT IN HIS LIFE. THESE CUSTOMS SEEM RATHER TO BE CONNECTED EITHER WITH THE PAGAN ROMAN FESTIVAL OF THE LUPERCALIA WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY, OR WITH THE SPRING SEASON IN GENERAL."

Source: [abbamoses.com](http://abbamoses.com)

### THIS MONTHS FASTING DATES

February: 2nd (fish allowed), 7th, 9th,

14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd,

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON

FASTING SCAN HERE

GOA GUIDE ON FASTING





## PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear St. Spyridon Family,

Our Membership Drive kicked off with a great start! Our Philoptochos hosted the “Membership, Meze & Mingle” event on January 25th. The event was a huge success with over 50 people in attendance. Special thank you to our Chair Ladies Kathy Korbakas & Zoe Kopanis for putting this successful event together!! Kai tou xronou!!



St. Spyridon Philoptochos members celebrate Epiphany in Tarpon Springs with Archbishop Nikitas of Great Britain.

Our ladies had the opportunity along with our fellow Philoptochos sisters from other chapters to visit the Hellenic Museum in Chicago. The ladies were able to enjoy & see the new exhibit “Legacy, Renewal & Unity: Celebrating 100 Years of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.” After the visit to the museum, the group enjoyed lunch at Greek Islands Restaurant.

On Sunday, January 28th, we had the opportunity to visit the neonatal unit of the University of Illinois-Chicago Hospital. In partnership with our fellow sister Mrs. Tina Manassess, we were able to give a generous contribution for the neonatal patients & their families! We express many thanks to Rashmi Trivedi, Sr. Director of Strategy & Operations, Neonatal Nurse Manager Giana Bulay and Dr. Pillers for the tour of the unit & hospitality! It was truly an honor to see the work being done at the hospital.

Save these Dates!

**\*Sunday, February 4th – “Go Red Sunday” (Support of Women’s Heart Health)**

**\*Saturday, February 17th – Metropolis President’s Meeting @ St. Sophia – Elgin, IL**

**\*Sunday, March 10th – Apokreatiko Luncheon**

Our monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, February, 7th at 6:30 p.m. at church.

*Sisterly Agapi,*

*Dana Vasilakos – Philoptochos President*





# PHILOPTOCHOS





## SUNDAY SCHOOL

It has been another great month in Sunday School. We resumed classes on January 7th with our tradition of cutting the Vasilopita in each classroom. Many thanks to all the parents and teachers who volunteered to make them. Speaking of volunteers... we always need new parents to come forward and help in Sunday School. Whether you would like to help for one class, or become a substitute – please consider sharing your talent with us. It is truly a rewarding experience. We would like to focus on Stewardship in Sunday School and need the students get into the habit of giving. It is a very important component of being an Orthodox Christian. As children, that might look like bringin in a can of food for the food pantry. We are also collecting

formula, baby cereal and baby food to benefit Project Hope. Those items are due on February 14th. Oratorical Festival topics have also been distributed to each teacher. We would like to have 100 percent participation this year, so please ask your children about it and designate some time to complete this at home. Class dates this month are February 4,11 and 25th. Please note that there is no class on Sunday February 18th.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL VASILOPITA CUTTING CELEBRATION



## PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY VASILOPITA





# PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



We started the New Year with our Annual Plutarchos Vasilopita cutting. Thank you to Fr. George for teaching our kids about St. Basil, the beautiful tradition of vasilopita cutting and the importance of giving to the needy.

Thank you to all the mothers and teachers that baked the delicious vasilopites and to our PTA for providing the St. Basil coins. It was a festive day full of big smiles and happy bellies!

On Sunday, January 28th we celebrated Hellenic Letters Day with an Artoclasia and a small presentation from some of our students.

Congratulations to Pericles Pappas for being "January Ellinopoula students of the Month".

No classes on President's Day, Monday, February 19th.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing substitute teachers, k. Katerina and k. Sofea for always stepping in when our teachers need a day off. Your commitment and dedication to our school, your flexibility, hard work and positive impact is greatly appreciated.





## FLOGA DANCE

The St. Spyridon Floga Hellenic Dance Troupe had an amazing night on January 26<sup>th</sup> performing at the first annual Mid Year Showcase for friends and family of the community.

The children all did an amazing job showcasing all of the dances they have learned. The children will continue learning new dances for the next few months.

In the month of February the Springs of Basil and the Wonderworkers will be performing for the Archangels Safari breakfast. The Floga group will be performing at a couple of Apokries dinner dances and a luncheon.

*Sophia Christofer*





## CHERUBS

Happy New Year!!

We are so excited to welcome back our little Cherubs! We started with a cutting of the Vasilopita and they were ready to dig right in. With the new year upon us we can't wait to get back to playing, crafting and tons of fun activities.

Join us for our next meetings on January 31st, February 14 and February 28 @ 10:00 am!



## ALTAR BOYS



On Wednesday, December 27th, the altar boys gathered to celebrate the feast of their patron saint, St. Stephen the First Martyr and Archdeacon. Following the Divine Liturgy they took a group photo and had lunch together. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 17th.



# ARCHANGELS

Despite a slow start due to the whims of winter, it's been a joyous month filled with laughter, learning, and plenty of nursery rhyme adventures. These timeless tales captivate young minds, sparking imagination and fostering a love for language and rhythm.

As we bid farewell to January and eagerly await the adventures that February holds, we are excited to continue our journey of exploration and discovery.

We are excited to announce enrollment for the 2024-2025 preschool year at Archangels Academy is now open! Children must be 3 years old by September 1st and fully potty trained. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to secure your child's spot early!

For more information on tuition, enrollment procedures, and to access our application forms, please contact our church office or visit our website at [www.Archangelsacademy.org](http://www.Archangelsacademy.org).



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

***Sunday, February 18th:** Pancake Breakfast – Archangels Fundraiser  
(Please contact Sofea Malamis at 630-330-9377 to make your reservations)*

***Monday, February 19th:** No school – President's Day*





## ADVERTISE IN THE VOICE

We call upon all our faithful and friends to continue to sponsor our monthly newsletter by advertising your business for the benefit of all the parishioners. Your ad will reach our parish families, four hundred email addresses in our listserv, over 1,000 followers of our Facebook page, and of course everyone who picks up a copy of our Voice newsletter from the church narthex or community center. Please contact the church office for more information or to submit an advertise-

ment for your business.

*The advertising opportunities are the following:*

*Small - \$100/year*

*Medium— \$150/year*

*Large - \$250/year*

## FOOD PANTRY

THANK YOU to all of our donors! Without your ongoing generosity, we would not be able to continue providing food to families in need throughout our community.

Our most-needed food items are accepted anytime inside the gym entrance (see enclosed flyer). Monetary donations are always accepted, as we shop weekly to keep our pantry full. If you know of any families in need, we distribute food every Thursday from 1pm to 2pm, in the back of the church (gym entrance).

Did you know that we have a Baby Food Drive happening NOW through February 14th? You can help keep babies nourished and strong by dropping off Baby Formula, Baby Cereal, and Baby Food in the gym no later than February 14th. Monetary donations are also welcome and appreciated (see flyer).

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of others!

*- The Food Pantry Team*



St. Spyridon Parish  
**Baby Food Drive**  
January 14 – February 14

Help a growing baby get the food and nutrients it needs to grow strong!

Fill this bag with:

**Baby Formula, Baby Cereal and Baby Food**

You can make a big difference to a sweet little one!

Cash or Check donations also accepted

(checks made out to St. Spyridon – memo Project Hope)



St. Spyridon is partnering with Project HOPE. You ask...What is HOPE? The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago announced the launch of a new ministry designed to address food security and stable housing for families and individuals living in the Chicago area. Called Project HOPE (Humanitarian Outreach and Philanthropic Engagement), the new ministry is operating and already has distributed more than five tons of food and more than 2,000 meals to people in need.



## FOOD PANTRY ITEMS ALWAYS NEEDED

Canned Corn	Mac & Cheese	Canned Peas
Dry Beans & Lentils	Canned Fruit	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Cereal or Oatmeal	Vegetable Oil	Canned Green Beans
Boxed Mashed Potatoes	Tomato Paste	Tomato Sauce
Pancake mix & syrup	Spaghetti Sauce	Boxed Pasta
Brownie Mix	Canned Tuna	Canned Soup
Mustard/Ketchup	Salad Dressing	Crackers

Please place all non-perishable food donations in the  
**FOOD PANTRY DONATION BOX,**  
located in the gym. Monetary donations are always welcome.

*Thank You!*



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. SPYRIDON CHURCH  
IS PARTNERING WITH HELLENIC FOUNDATION  
GOLDEN CIRCLE INITIATIVE


*Great Vespers in honor of  
St. Haralambos  
Niles, Il.*

**Shuttle Bus Round Trip**  
**Friday, February 9**  
5:00 pm - Departing from St. Spyridon

TO RSVP CALL  
THE CHURCH  
OFFICE AT  
708-385-2311 BY  
FEBRUARY 6TH



THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO  
40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival



Evanthia Fotopoulos, 1st Place, Iconography - Senior Division  
St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Schererville, Indiana

**Bright Saturday, May 11, 2024**  
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church  
Westchester, Illinois  
Host Parish

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Application Deadline **February 20, 2024**

**\$2,000 YOUTH LEADERSHIP  
SCHOLARSHIP**

Students who are in their undergraduate studies in a 4 year college/university are encouraged to apply for the Philoptochos Youth Leadership Scholarship.

This scholarship opportunity has been made possible through the generous support of the Dr. and Mrs. Gregory Papadeas and Family Charitable Fund, who have contributed a grant of \$1,000. Additionally, \$1,000 of this scholarship fund is also provided by the Philoptochos.

The Philoptochos Youth Leadership Scholarship will be awarded in early August. Please note that applicants who have been awarded a scholarship by the Philoptochos organization in the previous two years are ineligible to apply for this scholarship.

Please scan the QR code or visit <https://saint-spyridon.net/> for additional details.  
All application materials should be emailed to [englishteacher30@yahoo.com](mailto:englishteacher30@yahoo.com) before May 31, 2024.

**Submission Requirements:**

- 800-1000 word essay (guidelines on church website)
  - Format: PDF or GOOGLE DOC
- Official College Transcripts
- 2 letters of recommendation
- Deadline: Friday, May 31, 2024





# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Handmaidens Meeting Alert!


## Mom & Me Day

Saint Spyridon Gym  
**10 February**  
 9-12pm

**\$60 / Family**  
 Cost covers your blanket to take home and food.

We will be making chunky knotted knit blankets for adult cancer patients. You and your family will also make a blanket to take home.

**PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY**  
 Please note that this is NOT a drop off event. Please stay with your child(ren)



THE PTA PRESENTS

## Valentine's Day Cookies and Pizza Food Sale

SALTY		SWEET	
HEART SHAPED PIZZA (12-INCH)		HEART SHAPED COOKIE DECORATING KIT	
Cheese	\$20	Set includes 6 cookies, frosting & sprinkles	\$20
Sausage	\$24		
Pepperoni	\$24	VALENTINES DAY COOKIE ASSORTMENT	
		Set includes a dozen cookies	\$15

Please submit your Pizza order by February 2nd  
 Order Pick up will take place on February 9th during Greek school & 11th after church  
 Cookies will be available for purchase on pizza pick up days.

Please email [spyridonpta@gmail.com](mailto:spyridonpta@gmail.com)  
 Please bring payment at pickup.  
 Checks can be made out to St. Spyridon PTA





SAINT SPYRIDON  
 HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH  
*generations of faith, to tradition*

# BETTER LUCK THIS YEAR!

## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual GOLF OUTING

# SAVE the DATE

# 06.06.24

## ODYSSEY GOLF FOUNDATION

19110 South Ridgeland Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois 60477





# Huck FINN

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Alsip, IL 60803

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