

THE VOICE

JANUARY 2024 - VOLUME No. 386 SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

12307 SOUTH RIDGELAND AVENUE, PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60463 FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE



SAINT SPYRIDON FEAST DAY

With the blessings and prayers of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael and His Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Myrina as well as the loving prayers of our area clergy and faithful, we celebrated the feast day of our parish with great solemnity and grace. Many thanks to all our donors and volunteers who made our feast day celebration truly beautiful and memorable.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Saint Spyridon Parish Family,

Χαίφεται, με θεφμές ευχές να έχουμε Καλή Χφονια με υγεία, αγάπη, ευτυχία και ευημεφία. Happy New Year! It is with great hope and prayer that we are staying in good health and doing well. We are grateful to Father George, through the intercessions of our beloved Patron Saint Spyridon, for his guidance and unyielding efforts to be there for us and to help make this time of year even more meaningful for all of us. Thank you to the chanters,

the parish council members, the parish office and maintenance staff and parish volunteers for volunteering to assist with the holy services.

The parish council met officially for a final time in December to complete the latest two-year term of service. Thank you to all of the parish council members, and their families, for their sacrifices and efforts to serve Saint Spyridon's church and parish.

Welcome to all of the returning parish council members: Dimitrios Alexakos, Nick Argyropoulos, Caryn Chibucos, Dean Eliacostas, John Farsatis, Michael Haniotakis, Bill Kilias, Gus Kolyvas, Frank Kopanis, James Korbakes, Nicholas Kournetas, Labros Malfas, Demetrius Marines, Anastasios Panagiotopoulos, George Papadopoulos, Panagiotis Stamus, Nicholas Tsinoukas, Spiros Tzanetakos, Dana Vasilakos, George Vythoulkas and James Xeros. We welcome new parish council members that have also answered the call to service: James Argyropoulos, Zachary Chibucos, Adam Collopy and Tim Geor-

giopoulos. The newly formed parish council for the 2024-2025 term will be taking the oath of service later this January. We look forward to working together, to try our best, to follow in the footsteps and path that has been built from all of the previous parish councils, parishioners and benefactors, through the intercessions of Saint Spyridon, to benefit our families, parish, and community.

Thank you to Father George, the parish council members, all of the church organizations and committees, the parishioners, the volunteers, the donors and all of the participants that help form the vibrant community of Saint Spyridon's parish. Your dedication, by the Grace of God, helps keep our parish strong and provides hope that these efforts will continue for many years to come for the good of the parish and future generations. Please, let us all attend and participate as often as possible, to spiritually benefit from the beautiful holy services.

Warmhearted wishes to everyone on a healthy, happy and prosperous 2024.

Καλή δύναμη και καλή συνέχεια.

May St. Spyridon continue to guide us and protect us.

Humbly submitted, Frank Kopanis







FATHER'S LETTER

"Let us Pray for the Peace of the World"

In the time of Christ, wars and tribulations were prevalent resulting from sin. In a time when people worshipped the sun, the moon, and different elements of the earth, the pagan world did not know where to turn and what or who to worship. The world was forced to direct its attention to multiple gods and multiple elements never knowing or seeing the face of these so-called "gods."

The time was right, and ever so needed, for there to be a change. People yearned for peace and a new way of life -- a new way of thinking, a new way of loving that would have a lasting impact. And that change would come through the birth of our Savior.

Imagine the peace that this brought the world. The birth of Christ allows God to be visible for the first time! God to be touched - God to be Emmanuel - God to be with us! No longer did the world have to be inundated with fear from multiple gods. The one true God comes to be with us so we may direct our attention toward one person – the Prince of Peace.

The Lord in His birth is born in a cave shaded in darkness. Wrapped in linen cloths as if preparing for burial, the icon of the Nativity foreshadows the ultimate purpose of the Nativity, which is that Christ is born to die. But his death brings resurrection. This supreme act, Christ becoming man, was sparked by God, and grants us the peace that we are no longer to fear death.

The Christ child was born into a universe broken by sin and into a world that was torn by hatred. He begins to reconcile everything to himself and brings peace to the world. We see this in the icon of the Nativity. Within this image, angels converse with humans, shepherds worship with kings, Jews and Gentiles gather together, man and beast kneel side by side in adoration.

The Virgin mother looks on with love, and everywhere there is peace, good will, unity of heart and purpose. At the manger, all are welcomed and all are reconciled.

It's no wonder that when Christ rose from the dead, the apostles did not recognize Him; the message that Christ gave to them - the first thing he said to them was "peace be to you." It was only with peace from above that they could recognize Christ resurrected.

We are reminded countless times in the liturgy to pray for peace. In peace let us pray to the lord, for the peace from above, for peace in the whole world. Several times the priest blesses, turns to the people, and says, "Peace be to all."

As much of the world continues to be divided through war and tribulation, let us fervently pray these petitions of peace when we attend worship. We are blessed to live peacefully in the United States. Pray that all nations and their leaders make decisions that lead toward peace. Protect these countries, O Lord, and our country from conflict and war, and pray that He helps put away mistrust, hatred, and bitterness. Pray for peace so the Light of Christ may shine in areas of which are currently experiencing darkness.

During this Christmas season, as we continue to celebrate His birth for 12 days after His Nativity, may we also acquire this peace so that others may witness the birth of our Lord in our hearts. It is this love and peace that transforms and transfigures our homes and families, our parish and all the world. Then heaven and earth can be restored and we will be able to give glory to God in the highest. Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

In Christ.

7. Huge

Fr. George

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 708-385-0166

E-mail: office@Saint-Spyridon.net Web: www.Saint-Spyridon.net

Parish Council Officers

Frank Kopanis President GeorgePapadopoulos Vice-President **James Xeros** Vice-President **Panagiotis Stamus** Secretary Spiros Tzanetakos Assistant

Secretary

Gus Kolyvas Treasurer Jim Korbakes **Assistant Treasurer**

Auxiliary Officers

Alexia Chibucos Dana Vasilakos Vicky Argyropoulos **Gus Rougas** Jimmy Korbakes Marianna Haniotakis

Sofea Malamis

Evelyn Christakos Zoe Kopanis

Stacy Vallianatos Stephane Collopy Pres. Diana Lamberis **Vivian Tzanetakos** Ria Hronis **Labros Malfas Zachary Chibucos** Vicky Argyropoulos **Demetrius Marines** Nick Tsinoukas Stella Parhas Litsa Tsarouhis Marianna Haniotakis Soteria Simantirakis **Pete Mihalopoulos** Sophia Cristofer Evi Marouda

Chanter **Philoptochos** P.T.A. Kentro

Kentro **Plutarchos** Academy Archangels

Academy Cherubs SundaySchool Director

G.O.Y.A. G.O.Y.A. **Family Night Family Night Family Night Altar Boys Altar Boys** Handmaidens

Athletics Athletics Food Pantry Church Office Church Office

Custodian Iconography Floga Dance Floga Dance

Anastasia Deligiannis Floga Dance Floga Dance

Patty Pappas

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1st Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m—11:15 a.m.

Friday, January 5th Royal Hours, Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil & Agiasmos – 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 6th THEOPHANY—Orthros, Liturgy, Agiasmos—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Great Vespers at St. John's Church, Des Plaines, IL—7:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 7th St. John the Baptist, Orthros & Divine Liturgy —8:00 a.m.—11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, January 10th St. Gregory of Nyssa—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 13th Vespers—5:00 p.m.— 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 14th Orthros & Divine Liturgy – 8:00 a.m – 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, January 17th St. Anthony the Great—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

Great Vespers at St. Athanasios Church, Aurora—7:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 18th Ss. Athanasios & Cyril—Orthros & Divine Liturgy— 8:00 a.m.—10:15 a.m. Friday, January 19th St. Mark, Bishop of Ephesus—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy— 8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 20th Vespers—5:00 p.m.— 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 21st

St. Maximus the Confessor, Orthros & Divine Liturgy — 8:00 a.m—11:15 a.m.

Thursday, January 25th

St. Gregory the Theologian—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 27th Vespers—5:00 p.m.— 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 28th St. Ephraim the Syrian, Orthros & Divine Liturgy —8:00 a.m—11:15 a.m.

Sanctity of Life Service at Holy Apostles Church, Westchester — 6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 30th Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—10:30 am.

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Δευτέρα 1 Ιανουαρίου Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:00 π.μ.-11:15 π.μ.

Παρασκευή 5 Ιανουαρίου Μέγας Εσπερινός στον Ι.Ν. Αγ. Βασιλείου, Σικάγο – 7:00 π.μ. – 11:00 π.μ. Σάββατο 6 Ιανουαρίου ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΑ – Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, Αγιασμός – 8:00 π.μ. – 11:00 π.

ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΑ – Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία, Αγιασμός –8:00 π.μ. –11:00 π.μ. Μέγας Εσπερινός στον Ι.Ν. Αγ. Ιωάννου, Des Plaines, IL –7:00 π.μ. –9:30 π.μ.

Κυριακή 7 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Ιωάννου – Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία – 8:00 π.μ. – 11:15 π.μ.

Τετάρτη 10 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Γρηγορίου της Νύσσης, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:00 π.μ.-10:00 π.μ.

Σάββατο 13 Ιανουαφίου Εσπερινός – 5:00 μ.μ. – 6:00 μ.μ.

Κυριακή 14 Ιανουαρίου Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία -8:00 π.μ.-11:15 π.μ.

Τετάρτη 17 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Αντωνίου-1η Ώρα & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:00 π.μ.-9:30 π.μ.

Μέγας Εσπερινός στον Ι.Ν. Αγ. Αθανασίου, Aurora-7:00-9:30

Πέμπτη 18 Ιανουαρίου Αγίων Αθανασίου και Κυρίλλου

Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία — 8:00 π.μ. — 10:15 π.μ.

Παρασκευή 19 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Μάρκου Επισκόπου Εφέσου –

1η Ώρα & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:00 π.μ.-9:30 π.μ.

Σάββατο 20 Ιανουαρίου Εσπερινός – 5:00 μ.μ. – 6:00 μ.μ.

Κυριακή 21 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Μαξίμου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:15 π.μ.-11:15 π.μ.

Πέμπτη 25 Ιανουαφίου Αγ. Γρηγορίου του Θεολόγου

1η Ω ρα & Θεία Λειτουργία-8:00 π.μ.-9:30 π.μ.

Σάββατο 27 Ιανουα
οίου Εσπερινός — 5:00 μ.μ. — 6:00 μ.μ.

Κυριακή 28 Ιανουαρίου Αγ. Εφραίμ του Σύριου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία -8:15 π.μ.-11:15 π.μ.

Δευτέρα 30 Ιανουαρίου Σύναξις των Τριών Ιεραρχών

Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία -8:00 π.μ.-10:30 π.μ.



		January	2024—Community Calendar	ity Calendar		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
* Family Worship—No Sunday School	1 * Office Closed * Community Vasilopita Cutting following the Divine Liturgy	2	3	7	* Greek School Resumes — 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Floga dance (intermediate/advanced) — 6:40 pm — 7:30 pm	* Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
7 * Sunday School with Vasilopita cutting 10:30 am — 11:30 am	* Archangels Academy * Resumes—9:00 am * Greek School & Vasilopita—4:30 pm- 6:30 pm * Floga dance (beginners) —6:40 pm 7:10 pm	9 * Archangels Academy —9:00 am	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Iconography Class— 5:30 pm—7:00 pm *Philoptochos Meeting— 6:30 pm—8:30 pm	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	** Archangels Academy— 9:00 a.m. ** Greek School—4:30— 6:30 p.m. **Floga dance (intermediate/ advanced)—6:40 pm— 7:30 pm	* Dive for the Cross— 12:00p.m.—3:00 p.m. * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
14 * Family Worship (No Sunday School)	*Greek School Field Trip to the Hellenic Museum—10:00 a.m. *Greek School—4:30 pm- 6:30 pm *Folk dance (beginners)— 6:40 pm—7:10 pm	* Archangels * Academy —9:00 a.m. * Parish Council Orientation —6:30 pm—9:00 pm	** Archangels ** Academy—9:00 a.m. ** Cherubs—10:00 am— 12:00 pm ** Iconography Class— 5:30 pm—7:00 pm	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 a.m. * Greek School—4:30 pm- 6:30 pm *Floga dance (intermediate/ advanced)—6:40 pm— 7:30 pm	* Archangels Academy Open House—10 am—12 pm * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
*Sunday School 10:30 am— 11:30 am *Parish Council Installation—11:15 am *Parish Council Election of Officers—11:45 am	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Greek School—4:30 pm- 6:30 pm *Folk dance (beginners)— 6:40 pm — 7:10 pm	23 * Archangels Academy—9:00am	24 * Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Iconography Class— 5:30 pm—7:00 pm	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Food Distribution—1:00 pm—2:00 pm * Philoptochos Membership Meze & Mingle at Rockefeller's, Orland Park, IL—6:30 pm—9:00 pm.	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am G:30 pm * Floga dance (intermediate/advanced) -6:40 pm— 7:30 pm	* GOYA Field Trip to the Hellenic Museum—1 p.m. —2:30 p.m. * Byzantine Music Class Beginners—3:30 pm * Byzantine Music Class Intermediate—4:15 pm
28 * Sunday school – 10:30 a.m. –11:30 a.m.	* Archangels Academy— 9:00 am * Greek School—4:30 pm- 6:30 pm *Folk dance (beginners)— 6:40 pm—7:10 pm	30 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	** Archangels Academy— 9:00 am **Cherubs—10:00 am ** Iconography Class— 5:30 pm—7:00 pm			

STEWARDS DECEMBER 1ST—DECEMBER 31

Mr. Tim Georgiopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Golfis

Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Simeakis

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Angelos

Mr. Tlemahos Korbakes

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Scarlatis

Mr. John Poziopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Curtis James

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hronis

Total # of Stewards: 341



In gratitude for God's blessings, I commit to Christ and His Church as a Steward of Saint Spyridon with my 2023 Stewardship.



PARISH REGISTRY

Weddings

Taso Malamis and Nora Alvarez were joined in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, December 2nd. Their sponsor was Mrs. Roula Karampelas.

Paul Glikis and Margarita Kremmidas were joined in Holy Matrimony on Sunday, December 31st. Their sponsor was Ms Penny Shamma.

Nα ζήσουν! 40 Day Blessing

Congratulations to Peter and Ana Angelos who brought their daughter in church for her 40 day blessing!

Baptism

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Simeakis who baptized their son Nikolaos Thomas. His sponsors were Dimitrios and Antegoni Simeakis.

Funeral

On December 17th, Mrs Karen Keorpes fell asleep in the Lord. Her funeral took place on December 22nd and she was interned at Bethania Cemetery.

Memorials

†6 mo Konstantina Petropoulos, †40 days Demetra
 Pappas, †6 yrs Athanasios Kakos,
 †4 yrs Emmanuel Tsoukalas, †7 yrs Lauren Tsoukalas, †40 days Demetrios Kavvadas

May their memory be eternal!

Plutarchos Student winning the University of Ilinois Highschool Translation Competition

Congratulations to our Plutarchos Academy Ellinomatheia student Anastasia Manasses for winning the 2023-24 University of Illinois at Urbana—Champaign High School Translation competition. Anastasia is the daughter of Demetri & Anna Manasses, a Koraes graduate and a senior at the Chicago Christian High school. Her exceptional linguistic skills and her cultural understanding stood out. Anastasia's mastery of both English and Greek language showcased true talent. The award ceremony took place on December 8th at the Italian Cultural Institute in Chicago and European Union Center. Kudos on this well-deserved victory.



Well done good & faithful servant



Offering Our Blessings

The God who came to us at Bethlehem continues to come to us today. In every liturgy He comes to us as the Word of God, bringing words of eternal life through the Scripture readings and the sermon. Through the Sacrament of Communion He comes to be born again and again in the shabby stables of our hearts. He comes constantly through prayer. He blesses our marriages as He did that in Cana of Galilee . He stands by our sick bed, laying His healing hand upon us through the prayers of the priest. He comes again and again in so many, many ways through the many ministries of His Church. He comes with healing and forgiveness; He comes with strength and guidance. He comes and when He comes, as the Bible says, "the blind see, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free."

It is by offering our blessings back to God that He will be able to continue His forgiving, healing, liberating, empowering, transfiguring, loving ministry through the Church. For God, Infinite though He be, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, to continue His saving work in the world today.

Father Anthony M. Coniaris



THE GOOD AND FAITHFUL STEWARD CHALLENGE

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Peter 4:10)

We want to ask ourselves: Who are we as Orthodox Christians and as the Church? What do we want to be known for as a Church?

- A Church Family that worships and loves God above all else
- A community which shows our love for God through the love we show to one another as well as through the love we show to those outside our church
- A community of faith that reaches out to the world shining God's light in a dark world

WITH GRATITUDE TO ALL OUR STEWARDS FOR 2023

ALEMIS, Alex & Tina ALEMIS, Chris & Georgia ALEX, Nika & Irene

ALEXAKOS, Dimitrios & Katerina ALEXAKOS, Panagiotis & Danielle

ALEXOPOULOS, Katerina ALEXOPOULOS, Kostas & Chris

ALIKAKOS, Gus & Litsa ALIKAKOS, Tilemahos & Georgia

ANGELOS, Angelo ANGELOS, John & Anna ANGELOS, Peter & Ana

ARESTIS, John ARGES, Penelope

 $ARGYROPOULOS, Antonis \ \mathcal{E} \ Stella$

ARGYROPOULOS, James ARGYROPOULOS, Nick & Vicky

ARVANITIS, Christos ARVANITIS, John & Sofia AURIEMMA, Frank & Aretina BALTSAS, John & Maria

BASTAS, Chrisi

BASTAS, John & Maria

BELESIOTIS, Georgios & Vasilike

BERDUSIS, Aspasia

BERDUSIS, James & Georgia BEZANIS, Dimitri & Iliana

BISBIKIS, Mary BIZOUKAS, Eleni BOBIS, Nicholas BOHAC, Hariet BOUNTINAS, Morfo BOUSIES, Zaharias & Maria

BOUSIES, Zunarius & Maria BOZONELOS, Yiorgos & Denise CAJAS, Kevin & Maria Lentzou CATSOGIANNIS, Christos

CHARALAMBOS, Sotirios & Anna

CHIBUCOS, Alexia CHIBUCOS, Caryn CHIBUCOS, Zachary

CHRISTOFER, Chris & Sophia CHRISTOS, Spero & Vasso CHRISTOU, Harry & Melissa

CHRISTY, Michael

CHRISTY, Nicholas & Faith COLLOPY, Adam & Stephane COLOMPOS, Thalia & Steve DANOS, George & Angie

DANOS, Georgia

DELIGIANNIS, Panagiotis & Anastasia

DEMACOPOULOS, Heather DEMAKIS, Konstantinos & Theony

DEMOPOULOS, Bess

DIMIS, Eleni DOKOS, Vivian

DONTAS, Vasilios & Tammy DRIKOS, George & Vasiliki ELIACOSTAS, Dean & Jennifer ELIACOSTAS, George ELIACOSTAS, Martha

ELIOPOULOS, Sam & Caitlin ELIOPULOS, Chris & Toni

ELIOPULOS, Martha

EVANGELOPOULOS, Georgia

FAKLIS, Ruth

FALCONE, Joshua & Bailey

FALCONE, Rena FARSATIS, John & Irene FELECOS, Sophia FELECOS, Sylvia

FLASKOS, Dimitrios & Maria

FLASKOS, Kaliopi

GATSINOS, Demetrios & Evmorfia

GATSIOS, George & Vasiliki GATSIOS, Theofanis & Antonia GEORGAKLIS, George & Carol GEORGELOS, George & Georgia GEORGIOPOULOS, Bill & Toula

GEORGIOPOULOS, Nickolas GEORGIOPOULOS, Ted & Antonia

GEORGIOPOULOS, Tim

GEORGIOU, Christ & Evanthia GEORGIOU, Georgia

GIANNAKOPOULOS, Angelo &

Alexandra

GIARDINA, Irene

GLIKIS, Andreas & Eleftheria GLIKIS, Paul & Nicky GLIKIS, Peter & Maria GOLFIS, Dimitri GOUNTANIS, Kathy

GOUNTANIS, Katny GOUNTANIS, Kostas GOUTAS, Athanasios GRAPSAS, Katherine HALIKAS, Alicia HALIKAS, James

HALIKIAS, Aris T & Christina HANIOTAKIS, Michael & Marianna HARDALOUPAS, Apostolis & Vicky

HARDEN, Alanna

HARRIS, Marietta & Nikolaos HART, Marcus & Genie

HATZIDIMITRIADIS, Aristidis & Maria

HATZIMICHALIS, Maria HIX, Thomas & Anna

HOHLASTOS, Michael & Kalioppe HRISTAKOS, Peter & Evelyn HRONIS, Thomas & Nectaria IOVINO, Tanya & Nicholas JAMES, Curtis & Effie

KALFAS, Steve

KALOGRIS, Constance KALOGRIS, John

KANAKARIS, Nickolas & Ala Gudumac

KANELLAKOS, Effie KAPSALIS, Steve & Perry KAPSASKIS, Constantine & Joanne KARAMAGIANNIS, Dimitrios & Maria

KARAMBENAS, Bill

KARAMPELAS, Constantine

KARAMPELAS, Roula

KAROPULOS, John & Katherine KARRAS, George & Maria

KARUNTZOS, Demetrios KARUNTZOS, Georgia

KATRIS, Helen KATSENIS, Bill KATSOULAKIS, Tarsi KATSOULIS, Dina KATTOS, George & Tracy

KAVROULAKIS, John & Angelika Berdu-

sis

KAVROULAKIS, Mary

KAVVADAS, Andreas & Andreana

KAVVADAS, Peter KEKEMPANOS, Georgia KEKEMPANOS, Larry & Yonna

KILIAS, Bill & Christina Kyres KINNAS, Spero

KLADIS, George & Lula

KLADIS, Nick KLADIS, Tasia KLAPSIS, Aretina KLAPSIS, Demetrios KLIORIS, Louis & Joanne KLIORIS, Stavroula KOLLINTZAS, Demtrios KOLYVAS, Chris & Jann

KOLYVAS, Gus KOLYVAS, Peter KOLYVAS, Peter KOMOTOS, Violeta KONTARIS, Anna

KONTARIS, Spiro & Renatka KOPANIS, Frank & Zoe KOPANITSANOS, Sophia KORBAKES, Chris & Sandy KORBAKES, George & Kathy

KORBAKES, James KORBAKES, Peter KORBAKES, Telemahos KORBAKIS, John KORBAKIS, Zoe

KOROLIS, Dean & Emily KOTSIVIRAS, James & Karen KOTTARAS, Demetrios KOULOGEORGE, Chris

KOURNETAS, Nicholas & Vasiliki

KOUTSIS, Stavroula

KOUTSOUBAS, Dino & Stacy KOUTSOUBAS, John & Nota KOZIOCAS, John & Claudia KREMMIDAS, Margarita KRISTO, George & Irene

WITH GRATITUDE TO ALL OUR STEWARDS FOR 2023

KYRES, Tom & Pamy

KYROUDIS, George & Christina LABRAKIS, Konstantinos & Pam

LALEZAS, Koula

LAMBERIS, George & Diana LAMBERIS, Gus & Aspasia LARIS, George & Frances LARIS, James & Joanna LES, Dimitrios & Toula

LES, Joanne LILLIOS, Betty LIMPARIS, Mary

LIMPERIS, George & Katina LIMPERIS, Makis & Rebecca

LORDOTS, Elaine LOUMBROUKOS, Eleni

MALAMIS, Anastasios & Nora Alvarez

MALAMIS, Andreas MALAMIS, Georgia MALFAS, Angela

MALFAS, Apostolos & Yannoula

MALFAS, Labros MANASSES, Tina MANCINI, Dave

MANIKAS, Theophanes & Eleni MANOLIS, Valerie & Bryan Lemer

MANOLITSIS, Chris MANOLITSIS, Krissa

MARAMATHAS, Bill & Anthe

MARAS, Ted

MARINAKOS, Billy & Viki MARINES, Demetrius & Sue MARINOS, Eustratios

MARINOS, Roula MARKATOS, Marigo

MARS, Joan

MARUDAS, Dennis MARUDAS, Georgios MAZARAKOS, John

MCNEILL, Rob & Niki Vlachos-McNeill

MEINTANIS, Maria MICHALARIAS, Kathy

MICHALOPOULOS, John & Anastasia

MIHAS, Deno & Bessie NAKOS, Catherine ORESTIS, Alexandros PALEOTHODOROS, Evelyn

PANAGIOTAROS, Nick & Georgia PANAGIOTOPOULOS, Peter

PANAGIOTOPOULOS, Tasos & Maria

PANOUSES, Anastasia PAPADATOS, Bob & Connie PAPADOPOULOS, Demetria PAPADOPOULOS, George & Effie

PAPAMAKARIOS, Philip

PAPAMIHAIL, Konstantinos & Efstathia PAPANASTASATOS, Sam & Urania

PAPPAS, Amiel

PAPPAS, Carol & Alexander

PAPPAS, George PAPPAS, George PAPPAS, Gus & Tasia PAPPAS, Kathryn

PAPPAS, Sotirios & Melpomeni PAPPAS, Theodore & Helen

PARASKEVOPOULOS, Paul & Popie

PARASKIS, Peter & Mary

PARHAS, Stella PAVLOPOULOS, John PAXINOS, Peter & Olga PERAKIS, Bill & Kelly PERIVOLIOTIS, Koula PERKINS, Brian & Katina PEROVANOVIC, Michael & Eleni

PERROS, Athanasios

PETERS, Mary

PETINATOS, Nick & Dina PETRAKOS, Andreana PETRAKOS, James & Dimitra PETROPOUL, James & Penelope PETROPOULOS, Despina PETROPOULOS, Marino PONINSKI, Penny

POULOS, John & Constantina Blounas

POZIOPOULOS, John

POULOS, Irene

PRASSAS, Panayiotis & Maria PRIMBAS, Thomas & Nancy

RACHMACIEJ, James

RAMIREZ, Alexandria & Omar

REINL, Tomas

RETSINAS, Kostas & Zoe Alikakos

RILEY, Thomas & Janine

RIMBO, Rick

RODITIS, Tony & Erika RODOGIANNIS, Golfo ROUGAS, Gus &

ROUMELIOTIS, Charles & Athena SCARLATIS, George & Simona SCARLATIS, NIck & Chrysoula SCHMIDT, Donald & Helen SEARL, Glyn & Susanna SHAMMA, Tony & Penny SHIZAS, Nickolas

SIMEAKIS, Emmanuel SIOMOS, Metaxia

SKIADOPOULOS, Denise SKIADOPOULOS, Joanna

SKIADOPOULOS, Leonidas Denise

SMIRNIS, Gregory SMITH, Toula

SOTIROPOULOS, Alex

SOTIROPOULOS, Peter & Helen

SPERLAKIS, Rita SPINOS, Denise

STAMATOGLOU, John & Olibia

STAMESON, Andrew

STAMUS, Panagiotis & Artemicia STATHAKIS, Paul & Norma

STATHOPOULOS, Despina

STERGIOPOULOS, Kostas & Demetra

STOLIS, Alexandra SWEIS, Khalil & Eleni SWEISS, Omar & Christine SYMEONIDES, George

THEODOROU, Andreas & Stephanie

THEOHARIS, George & Georgia

THIAKOS, Fay

TOULIOS, William & Melissa TOURLOUKIS, Dimitri & Kristine TRAHANAS, Konstantinos & Vasiliki

TREANTAFELES, Leah TRIANTAFYLLOU, Fotini TRIANTAFYLLOU, George

TSAGALIS, Angelo

TSAKIRIS, Christos & Maria TSANTILLIS, Andreas & Lela TSAROUHIS, Odysseus & Litsa TSIGOLIS, George & Georgia

TSINOUKAS, Athena

TSINOUKAS, Nicholas & Maria TSONIS, Anestis & Vasiliki TSOUKALAS, Bill & Jill

TSOUKALAS, Kyriakos & Elizabeth TZAFERIS-KOLIOS, Joanna TZANETAKOS, Spiro & Vivian

TZOUANOPOULOS, Harry

VALARIS, Michael VARDALOS, Patricia VASILAKOS, Dana

VASILAKOS, George & Diane

VASILOPOULOS, Konstantinos & Isidora VASILOPOULOS, Vasilios & Kathy

VLACHOS, Lambros & Jane VLAHOS, Spyros & Ahtanassia

VLAMIS, Gus & Helen VOURNAZOS, Carrie VOUTIRITSAS, Nicholas

VYTHOULKAS, George & Patricia

WAGNER, Rocky & Kristin WATNE, Andy & Patty

XENOS, Dion

XEROS, James & Georgia XIRAFAKIS, Goldie

YOUNG, Nicoletta & Daniel YRAPSIS, KatherineZ IPPMANN, Magdalene

ZORBAS, Effie

Total number of stewards 341

Please bring to our attention if your name had been accidentally omitted of misspelled please.

St. Spyridon Feast Day



ALTAR BOYS

Our Parish Feastday celebration began with a beautiful Great Vespers service led by His Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Myrina. With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, His Grace tonsured 10 altar boys and one chanter as readers. Thank you also to our Philoptochos for their hospitality, all the priests, the St. John of Damascus League of Chanters, our Parish Council, and faithful who came to honor our Patron Saint.



ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW



PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear St. Spyridon Family,

Happy New Year & Kalo Mina! December came & went and was a busy month for our ladies!

During the month of December, we successfully held our annual Craft Show. We thank our community for all their support to make this event as successful as it was! A special thank you to our ladies & parish council members who made this event possible with their hard work & support leading up to the days of the Craft Show.

The love continued through December for our "Philo Bags" which were delivered to our shut-ins before Christmas. A special thank you to Toula Georgiopoulos for coordinating this & to all the ladies that assisted. We cannot forget those who are part of our St. Spyridon family that are limited due to age & illness.

Our Membership Drive will kick off the month of January 2024. This year we will begin with our Membership Drive by hosting an event "Membership, Meze & Mingle!" Please be on the look out for the details for this event! This invite is extended to all our current & new members to join for 2024. Your stewardship is critical so that we may

Save the Date!
St. Spyridon Philoptochos invites you to

Alembership

Alexa & Meze & Meze & Mingle

Please join us for a social evening of fun, On Us!

Thursday, January 25, 2024 · 6:30 pm
Rockefeller's
4642 W. 103rd Street · Oak Lawn 60453

Reservations required- call or email
Zoe Kopanis 708.878.0528
fzkopanis@comcast.net

Co-Chairs:
Zoe Kopanis & Kathy Korbakes

continue the good works for our St. Spyridon Parish & philanthropic needs within & outside of our community.

Save these Dates!

*Sunday, January 14th – Metropolis Vasilopita @ St. Haralambos, Niles, IL at 6:00pm

*Thursday, January 25th – Membership, Meze & Mingle @ Rockefellers, Oak Lawn IL at 6:30pm

Our monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m. at church.

On behalf of our Philoptochos sisters & myself, we wish you & your families a Happy & Blessed New Year!!

Sisterly Agapi,

Dana Vasilakos



FOOD PANTRY

Once again, we thank our donors for their ongoing generosity and our tireless volunteers for their hard work! Without your support, this event would not have been possible.

The donations of food and money enabled us to assemble and distribute (52) Christmas food baskets to needy families throughout our community – the most we have fed for Christmas in many years!

The value of each food basket was approximately \$65 and contained a ham and enough fresh and non-perishable food items for multiple meals for each family.

In addition to the food baskets, \$1,200 in gift cards were purchased and will be given to those in need throughout the year. The total value of all items in the food baskets and the gift cards purchased was \$4,580.

THANK YOU to all who donated and to those who offered their time to assemble and distribute the baskets. We are especially grateful to our GOYA youth and their families.

Our next holiday food distribution will be for Pascha.

If you know of a family in need, please advise them that we distribute food every Thursday from 1pm to 2pm inside the back entrance of our church Gym.

The Food Pantry team wishes everyone a Happy & Healthy New Year 2024!



CHAPPYS 4 ST. SPYRIDON

January 2024

PTA NEWSLETTER







JANUARY 5: GREEK SCHOOL RESUMES



JANUARY8: ARCHANGELS RESUMES



JANUARY 17: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS



JANUARY 13: DIVE FOR THE HOLY CROSS
PLEASE SEE FLYER FOR EVENT



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 to help!



SAINT STORY OF THE MONTH



JANUARY 12

HOLY MARTYR TATIANA (~230)

SHE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF A WEALTHY ROMAN CONSUL. SHE BECAME A DEACONESS IN ROME, AND WAS SEIZED AS A CHRISTIAN DURING THE REIGN OF ALEXANDER SEVERUS. BEFORE THE TRIBUNAL SHE FEARLESSLY CONFESSED CHRIST AND, WHEN SHE WAS TAKEN TO THE TEMPLE IN AN EFFORT TO FORCE HER TO MAKE SACRIFICE, SHE CAST DOWN THE IDOLS BY THE POWER OF HER PRAYER. AT THIS, THE SOLDIERS SEIZED HER AND SUBJECTED HER TO MANY INDIGNITIES AND TORTURES, FINALLY THROWING HER INTO A RAGING FURNACE. WHEN THIS DID NOT HARM HER, SHE WAS THROWN TO THE WILD BEASTS, BUT THEY REFUSED TO HARM HER. AT LAST SHE WAS BEHEADED AND THUS GAINED HER CROWN.

JANUARY 16

† VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS CHAINS OF THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS APOSTLE PETER.

THE STORY OF ST PETER'S IMPRISONMENT AND MIRACULOUS RELEASE BY
AN ANGEL OF GOD IS TOLD IN ACTS CH. 12. THE CHAINS WHICH FELL FROM
HIS HANDS WERE COLLECTED BY CHRISTIANS AND PASSED DOWN
THROUGH THE GENERATIONS AS PRECIOUS RELICS, FINALLY COMING TO
CONSTANTINOPLE FROM AND BEING PLACED IN THE CHURCH OF ST PETER,
WHERE THEY WORKED MANY MIRACLES AND HEALINGS.

THERE IS NOTHING SUPERSTITIOUS ABOUT THE VENERATION OF CLOTHING AND OTHER OBJECTS BELONGING TO THE SAINTS: THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES DESCRIBES HOW HANDKERCHIEFS OR APRONS THAT HAD TOUCHED THE APOSTLE PAUL WOULD HEAL THE SICK (CH. 19), AND THAT EVEN THE SHADOW OF THE APOSTLE PETER HEALED THOSE ON WHOM IT FELL (CH. 5). IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, A SHIRT WORN BY ST NEKTARIOS ON HIS DEATH-BED HEALED A PARALYZED MAN. THE SANCTITY OF THOSE UNITED TO GOD EXTENDS NOT ONLY TO THEIR BODIES BUT AT TIMES TO

THEIR GARMENTS. Source: abbamoses.com

THIS MONTHS FASTING DATES

• NATIVITY FAST UNTIL CHRISTMAS DAY (FISH ALLOWED UNTIL DECEMBER 11TH)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FASTING SCAN HERE

GOA GUIDE ON FASTING



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Happy New Year from all of our Sunday School teachers! We are looking forward to resuming our classes on Sunday, January 7th with our annual Vasilopita cutting. Each classroom will have their own Vasilopita. If you would like to provide one for your child's class, please let the teacher know. Class dates in January will be on the 7th, 21st and 28th. If you have not registered your student, it's not too late to do so. Please stop by the church office.



PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



Happy New Year!

During the month of December, our students learned about our Patron Saint, St. Spyridon, and different Christmas Customs and traditions for this special season. On Friday, December 15th, we had the opportunity to attended a beautiful Holy Unction Ser-

vice.

On Sunday, December 17th, we joined the Sunday School students and sang Christmas Carols.

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas break. Classes will resume Friday, January 5th. On Monday, January 8th we will have our Vasilopita cutting. Thank you to the wonderful moms that are baking the Vasilopites and to the PTA for providing the St. Basil coins. Καλή και ευλογημένη χρονιά!

January is the month that we dedicate to the Greek Letters and our school will be focusing on this topic. On Monday, January 15th we will be visiting the Greek Consulate General in Chicago. Parents are asked to register online by completing the following form.

https://forms.gle/uaGJsUEMU7Pa6rHG9

This year's Metropolis Panscholiki celebration will take place at SS Constantine & Helen Church, in Palos Hills, on April 20th. The Agrafo competition theme is «Γνωρίζω τον τόπο της καταγωγής μου». More details to follow.

Congratulations to Dimitri Koutsoubas and Aris Cajas for being "December



HANDMAIDENS

Happy New Year!! The Handmaidens worked very hard making Christmas cards for our parish last month and were able to hand deliver them to each parishioner after liturgy. What a blessing!

off site on January 13th where the youth can participate in the dive for the Holy cross. Please see the flyer for this

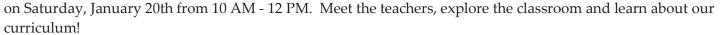


ARCHANGELS

December is always such a busy but exciting month for all! Our children practiced very hard & put on an amazing show at our Annual Christmas Pageant. We are so very proud of them! Thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped make this a wonderful event for everyone.

Enrollment for new students begins January 1st! Archangels Academy Preschool is offering FULL & HALF day options for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year! Please be aware that applications are on a first come, first serve basis with priority given to our current students, St. Spyridon Stewards & alumni.

New to the school? Join us for OPEN HOUSE





Sunday, February 18th is our annual Breakfast following Divine Liturgy! Fuel up with breakfast & treats! Guaranteed family fun & activities for the children! This year theme is Safari Adventure! The students & staff of Archangels Academy Preschool would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas & a Healthy & Happy New Year!





CHERUBS





CHURCH

Our mission is to provide wholesome and fun activities in which the child and caregiver will work together and create a venue where Orthodox parents (yiayia, papou, etc.) and children can interact with others, form bonds of friendships and develop spiritually.

Happy New Year! Welcome Back January 17th, 2024 Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church

> Remaining 2024 Schedule Wednesdays From 10:00am-12:00pm

1/31/24 2/14/24 2/28/24 3/13/24

3/27/24 4/10/24 4/24/24 5/8/24



SEND AN EMAIL TO EHRISTAKOS@GMAIL.COM TO SIGN UP!



FAMILY NIGHT

Our Family Night Ministry had their first movie night with our new big screen in December! We watched "The Star." It was a movie about our Lord's Nativity. Thank you also to the families who donated food and snacks for the event!







GOYA

GOYA has been keeping themselves busy during this time of year. GOYA really stepped up to the plate and helped with the Thanksgiving Food Drive with the assembly and distribution of all the food bags. In addition to that, GOYA shopped for 2 DCFS kids – they picked out some amazing items that will make this Christmas season brighter. GOYA then had a very festive Christmas Party with games, prizes and a white elephant gift exchange. Everyone had a great time at this event! We thank the Collopy family for hosting our GOYA Christmas party! GOYA wrapped up their "helpful hands" opportunities with assembling the bags for the Christmas Food Drive. We are so grateful for all who were able to step up and help.

Want to get involved with GOYA and stay up to date on all the GOYA activities?? SIGN UP FOR GOYA NOTIFICATIONS THROUGH THE REMIND APP. TEXT @jrgoyag to 81010. You will receive a text to confirm you are signed up.

Mark your calendar for the 2024 GOYA Gathering dates:

January 13 (Dive for the Cross), 27 (Hellenic Museum)

February 7, 21

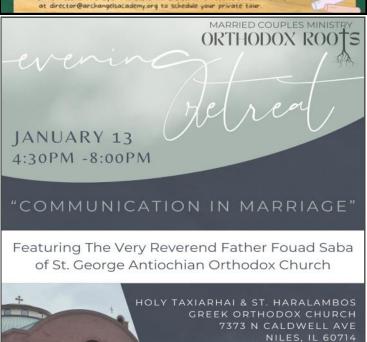
March 17 (Forgiveness Vespers)



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

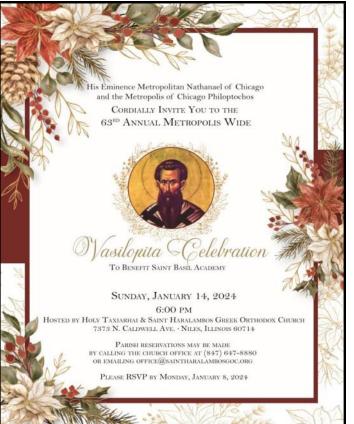






\$50/COUPLE

SCAN FOR TICKETS



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS





Blessing of Homes

Fr. George will be blessing homes for the feast of the Epiphany, starting on January 5th. Anyone wishing to have their home blessed should contact the Church office.

Western Region Family Basketball Tournament FEBRUARY 2-4, 2024

Friday night dinner banquet & DJ glo party!
Saturday night dinner/dance banquet with DJ Nikitas,
50/50 raffle and signed Giannis memorabilia raffles!





Scan or Visit greekbball.com to Learn More & Register Today for Men, Women, GOYA & JOY Brackets!

Need to match a player (or more) to a team? Call Vasilis Kolintzas 262-794-2155

There's no better time than now to come together as ONE community in faith, fellowship, culture, and sport. The excitement of this tournament continues to provide new opportunities for our parishes to grow through fostering existing friendships, building new bonds and strengthening our faith. We welcome you to join us!

NEW THIS YEAR! Percentage of profits will go to the Special Olympics of Wisconsin in addition to the Designated Tournament Charities.





Dimitris Bezanis C.O.

BEZANIS H.V.A.C. LLG

Heating & Air Conditioning Certified Advanced Technician Universal E.P.A. Licensed Installation, Service & Repair

Licensed · Insured · Bonded

708.717.4708





A & C COLLISION CENTER

Body - Fender • Expert Painting • Frame Straightening Foreign and Domestic • All Makes and Models





"I promise you three things:

- · A transparent & easy experience
- Pre-discounted pricing
- A quick and streamlined process because I understand the value of your time"



Μιλάω ελληνικά