



THE VOICE

SEPTEMBER 2024 - VOLUME No. 393
 SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Join the PTA for a

BACKPACK BLESSING

All students are welcome! Let's make memories together!
 We will have crafts, snacks, & games!

Saturday, September 7
 10:00-12:00

COOL

YOU CAN DO IT

Saint Spyridon Plutarchos Hellenic Academy
 Presents a Fellowship Event

PRE-GAME
 X' and O's Sports Lounge
 6405 W 127th St,
 Palos Heights, IL 60463

LIVE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

BEARS VS TEXANS

7:20PM

RESERVATIONS ENCOURAGED PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OR SCAN THE QR CODE

All Proceeds Will Benefit Greek School!!

\$40 (pre-paid)
 \$50 (at the door)
 admission + food +
 beer + wine
 will be served from
 7:00-8:30pm

THE PHILOPTOCHOS TOOK A PICTURE WITH HIS GRACE BISHOP ATHENAGORAS ON THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND PRESENTED HIM WITH A DONATION TO SUPPORT HIS MISSIONARY WORK.



ARCHANGELS ACADEMY



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!!!

We would like to officially welcome all the Archangels' students back to school. We are committed to nurturing not only their academic growth but also their spiritual development, in a loving and faith-filled environment. This will be Archangels Academy's 20th year! Our staff Mrs. Sofea, Kyria Katerina, Kyria Evi and Ms. Angela are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.



On August 29th we had our new parent meeting orientation. It was a great opportunity for our new families to be introduced to our dedicated staff, review our daily schedule and go over important policies and procedures.

On September 3rd, we will be welcoming our students and parents with an Agiasmo service and the blessing of our classroom. Afterwards, Mrs. Sofea will read a story and the children will do a fun project. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the students, parents and staff to enjoy a great morning get-together.

The following week we will be planting vasiliko (basil) as we prepare for the Elevation of the Holy Cross.

Sofea Malamis, Archangels Academy Director

THANK YOU TO....

- Mr. Nick Mazarakos (Quality Inn), Mr. Jim Kladis (Windy City Subs), Mr. Ted Skontos (The View Restaurant), Mr. Dimitrios Klapsis (Lumes Pancake, Chicago), Mr. Steve Papadatos (Star Light Restaurant), Mr. Antonios Konidaris (Anthony's Pancake House) and Mr. Chris Valaveris (Skyline Restaurant) for their generous donations to our 2024 Festival.
- Families of Fay Pavlopoulos, Irene Poulos and Litsa Alikakos for their donation to our Tree of Love.
- Our all the parishioners that donated flowers for Panagia's Icon.
- Mr. Nick Laskaris (Mt. Olympus Water Park, Wisconsin Dells) and family for their generous contribution which will help us remodel the Priest restroom just north of the Holy Altar.
- Mr. Jimmy and Vicki Kollintzas who generously donated to remodel the "cry room" in the church.



FATHER'S MESSAGE - THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF OUR LORD

There's a movie called "Chariots of Fire" which was released in 1981 that tells the story of Eric Liddell. This man was born in 1902. Eric was the second son of missionary parents born in China. He was an extremely athletic man who enjoyed rugby and running. He was so gifted in running that he ran in the 1924 Paris Olympics. As he prepared for this great moment, He was ready to participate in the 100-meter run. Liddell, a devout Christian, dropped out of this race – his strongest event – because of one thing; the qualifying heats were scheduled for a Sunday. The great issue for Eric was keeping Sunday holy. He believed that he should not run in the Olympics on the Lord's Day. Keeping Sunday holy for him was a very important spiritual

matter. When all the persuasive powers of the British Olympic team and the Duke of Windsor were brought to help him change his mind, Eric remained absolutely immovable! Eric is quoted in his book saying

"Every Christian should live a God-guided life. If you are not guided by God, you will be guided by someone or something else. God made countries, God makes kings and the rules by which they govern, and those who ruled say that the Sabbath is His."

In the gospel read on September 1st, every year we read from St. Luke of Jesus' entry into Nazareth where he was given the book of the Prophet Isaiah to read. When he opened it, he found the place where it is written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for which cause He has anointed me" (Luke 4:18).

These words fulfill the prophecy that Christ is the anointed one chosen by God to accomplish His mission – to preach the good news to the poor; to recover sight to the blind; for the release of captives; and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" – quoting the book of Isaiah in the 61st chapter from the Old Testament. For Christians, we are left inspired to help carry out this mission also!

There is a detail in this passage that is often overlooked. St Luke tells us that "He went to the synagogue as was his custom, on the sabbath day" (Luke 4:15 – 16). He did not go now and then, not on special occasions, not just when he felt like it; he went habitually.

A life in Christ means that we do the very things that Christ does. We too, are meant to come to the temple on the sabbath day habitually. Today the convictions of Eric Liddell seem old-fashioned. There are many who do not give the importance of keeping the Lord's Day a second thought. Today, many go to work and engage in play or recreation on the Sabbath. Some may go to church when it is "convenient."



Sunday mornings may become days for dance, sports, and work, and we, the parents, accept this passively. Perhaps we need to face the deeper implication of this. If we are not at worship on Sunday mornings, it is not because we are too busy; it is because we have forsaken the one true God. We have allowed the false gods, the idols of this world to crowd Him out of life.

Ask the common person: "Do you follow the ten commandments in your daily life?" They will say, "Yes, I do. I have never murdered anyone, I honor my parents, I don't worship idols." We often forget, however, the fourth commandment – Honor the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Why do we honor the other commands but neglect this one so easily?

Participation in Liturgical Life, especially on Sundays, is one of the prime barometers of true discipleship. It is hard to be with God during the week if we are not with Him in the beginning of the week. How can we live seven days a week without words to direct us and without His Presence in the Eucharist to give us power? Is it any wonder the early Church decreed that the Christian absenting himself/herself from worship for three consecutive Sundays (except for illness) was to be excommunicated?

FATHER'S MESSAGE - THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF OUR LORD

If we don't attend on Sundays at least, we are destroying one of our main lines of communication to God. We become like a plant during a hot summer that is not watered throughout the week. Our heart is the plant that needs to be watered so that the flowers of faith, hope, love, joy, peace and forgiveness can blossom. The flowers become droopy at times and need watering which brings revival. This is exactly what the Divine Liturgy does for us. It gives us the strength to go through the first part of the week, and then yearn for it again as we approach the end of the week.

A devout Orthodox woman said, "Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, I still live under the spell of the Lord's Day. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, I already live in the anticipation of the joy to the Lord's Day."

Hitler knew he could wean a whole generation of Germans away from the Christian faith if he could prevent their attendance at regular weekly worship. He didn't outlaw Christian worship. He just made sure that the youth kept marching up and down, cleaning barracks and keeping busy with other activities during church hours.

If we convince ourselves that we are "just as good Christians" on the golf course or in the market on Sunday morning, it is only a matter of time that God will play no real part in our lives.

Sunday – our Sabbath – is important because, above all, it is the day in which we encounter the living and risen Christ. It is on the Lord's day that St. John saw the vision of God and was told to write the book of Revelation (Rev. 1:10-11). It was on Sunday when the disciples gathered behind closed doors and encountered Christ risen from the dead and gave the apostles His peace (Matt. 28:9). On our Sabbath, the Resurrected Christ appears and speaks to us in the preaching of His word and comes to dwell in us when we receive Him in the chalice. Sunday is a celebration in which we encounter the risen Christ.

According to a legend attributed to St. Basil, there are two angels at the entrance of each

church. Their task is to write in their scrolls the names of those who come to worship God. In some Orthodox monasteries, these two angels, with their scrolls, are painted on the walls of the gate as one is about to enter. On the last day, how many times will your name be on this scroll? "Jesus went to the synagogue as was His custom on the sabbath day." (Luke 4:16)

Brothers and sisters, we all have an inner fire which burns in our hearts. It is illuminated by the Holy Spirit at baptism and it needs to be constantly fueled. If we don't attend to it, it will go out. Every Liturgy is an opportunity to tend to this inner flame that provides the warmth of God's presence to all.

In the beginning of this Ecclesiastical year, let us make a resolution to come to Sunday worship more often than last year; on time so that our hearts may be filled with prayer, to hear the proclamation of the gospel and its message to inspire and motivate us to be in communion with Him. Let us make it custom so that we may glorify God, rejoice in His resurrection and our coming resurrection. May the real and personal encounter with Christ at every Divine Liturgy inspire us to inwardly change so that we too may preach the good news to the poor; so that we may recover our vision from our blindness; so that we may be released of the captivity of "busyness"; so that we, with Christ, can proclaim this year to be "the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:19). For to You belong glory, honor and worship, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

With Love in Christ

F. George



LITURGICAL SERVICES



SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, September 1st	Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year, Orthros, Liturgy & Agiasmos—7:30 a.m.
Sunday, September 8th	Nativity of Theotokos, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Friday, September 13th	Great Vespers at Holy Cross Church, Justice, IL—7:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 14th	Elevation of the Precious Cross, Orthros & Divine Liturgy - 8:00 a.m. Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 15th	St. Nikitas, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 17th	St. Sophia, Orthros & Divine Liturgy at SS Constantine & Helen Church in Palos Hills—8:30 a.m.
Friday, September 20th	St. Eustathius, 1st Hour & Divine Liturgy - 8:00 a.m.
Saturday, September 21st	Great Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 22nd	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Saturday, September 28th	Great Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 29th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, October 1st	St. Romanos the Melodist—1st Hour, Liturgy & Agiasmos—8:00 a.m.

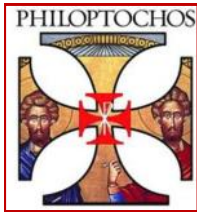
ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή 1 Σεπτεμβρίου	Της Ινδίκτου, Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία & Αγιασμός -7:30 π.μ.
Κυριακή 8 Σεπτεμβρίου	Γενέθλιον της Θεοτόκου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 13 Σεπτεμβρίου	Εσπερινός στον Ι. Ναό του Τιμίου Σταυρού στο Justice, IL—7:00 μ.μ.
Σάββατο 14 Σεπτεμβρίου	Η Ύψωσις του Τιμίου Σταυρού, Όρθρος & Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ. Εσπερινός—5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 15 Σεπτεμβρίου	Αγίου Νικήτα, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 17 Σεπτεμβρίου	Αγίας Σοφίας, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία στον Ι. Ν. Αγίων Κωνσταντίνου & Ελένης—8:30 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 20 Σεπτεμβρίου	Αγίου Ευσταθίου, 1η Όρα & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Σάββατο 21 Σεπτεμβρίου	Μέγας Εσπερινός—5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 22 Σεπτεμβρίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Σάββατο 28 Σεπτεμβρίου	Μέγας Εσπερινός—5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 29 Σεπτεμβρίου	Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 1 Οκτωβρίου	Αγίου Ρωμανού του Μελωδού 1η Όρα, Λειτουργία & Αγιασμός—8:00 π.μ.

September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 * Start of the Ecclesiastical New Year * Ministries Registration	2 * Labor Day * OFFICE CLOSED	3 * 1st Day of Archangels Parish Council —7:00 pm	4 * Archangels Academy	5 * Archangels Academy * Food Distribution — 1:00 pm	6 * Archangels Academy * 1st day of Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm * Floga ice cream social and Parent meeting, 6:30 pm	7 * Blessing of the Backpacks, 10 am
8 * 1st Day of Sunday School * Papadeas Scholarship * Ministries Registration * PTA meeting —12 pm	9 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm	10 * Archangels Academy	11 * Archangels Academy	12 * Archangels Academy * Food Distribution — 1:00 pm	13 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm	14 * Altar Boy Meeting, 10:30 a.m. * Handmaidens, 11 am * Byzantine Music Level 2, 3:30 Level 1 & 3, 4:15 pm
15 * Sunday School * Plutarchos Bears Game Fundraiser, 7 p.m.	16 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Floga Springs of Basil & Wonderworkers —6:45 pm—7:30 p.m.	17 * Archangels Academy * Christian Philoxenia at Ss. Constatine and Helen, Palos Hills	18 * Archangels Academy * Cherubs, 10 am * Iconography, 5:30 pm * GOYA, 7pm	19 * Archangels Academy * Food Distribution — 1:00 pm * Philoptochos BBQ, 6 pm	20 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Family Night, 6:30 pm * Adult Greek School 6:45 p.m. —8:15 p.m. * Floga Advanced —6:40 pm —7:40 pm	21 * Byzantine Music Level 2, 3:30 Level 1 & 3, 4:15 pm
22 * Sunday School * Philoptochos Meeting after Divine Liturgy	23 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Floga Springs of Basil & Wonderworkers —6:45 pm—7:30 p.m.	24 * Archangels Academy	25 * Archangels Academy * Iconography, 5:30 pm * GOYA —7pm	26 * Archangels Academy * Food Distribution — 1:00 pm	27 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * PTA Trot-a-Thon, 6:45 p.m. —8:15 p.m. * Adult Greek School 6:45 p.m. —8:15 p.m.	28 * Metropolis Philoptochos Luncheon * Floga Advanced —11 am —12 pm * Byzantine Music Level 2, 3:30 Level 1 & 3, 4:15 pm
29 * Sunday School	30 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Floga Springs of Basil & Wonderworkers —6:45 pm—7:30 p.m.	1 * Archangels Academy * Parish Council —7:00 pm	2 * Archangels Academy * Cherubs, 10 am * Iconography, 5:30 pm	3 * Philoptochos visit to Greek American Nursing Home, 8:45 am * Archangels Academy * Food Distribution — 1:00 pm	4 * Archangels Academy * Plutarchos Academy, 4:30 pm-6:30 pm * Family Night, 6:30 pm * Adult Greek School 6:45 p.m. —8:15 p.m.	5 * Floga Advanced —11 am —12 pm * Byzantine Music Level 2, 3:30 Level 1 & 3, 4:15 pm

PHILOPTOCHOS



St. Spyridon members gathered to say thank you to Patty Haras of Assumption, Homer Glen for making 2000 paximadia for St. Spyridon's July Greek Festival.



Philoptochos sisters gathered at Patty's restaurant, Blueberry Fields, South Holland.

Metropolis September Luncheon - Saturday, September 28th - if you haven't reserved your spot, please do so now by calling Dana Vasilakos at 708-253-7511 or email her at dvasi2581@yahoo.com. We have a mini bus for our convenience. As a reminder, do not send your rsvp card & payment. We reserve seats as a chapter and payment is made to our chapter.

Greek American Rehab Center Visit - Thursday, October 3rd. We will carpool from St. Spyridon. Fr. George will serve Divine Liturgy. Please call Toula Georgiopoulos if you can join us. Call Toula at 708-541-2333 or email her at toulageorge@hotmail.com.

Attention College Students!

Please send your college address & email to the office of St. Spyridon. We want to keep you informed of our church happenings. Philoptochos would like to include you in their College Outreach packages.

PARISH NEWS

WEDDINGS

On August 17th, Robert Eyler and Athanasia Xeros were joined together in the sacrament of marriage. Their sponsor was Peter C. Korbakes.

On August 24th, Christos Peroulas and Angelina Asanin were joined together in the sacrament of marriage. Their sponsor was Milos Kunac

Να ζήσετε!

Funerals

On July 26th, our beloved Garifalia "Litsa" Alikakos fell asleep in the Lord. Her funeral service took place on July 30th, and she was interred at St. John Chrysostom Monastery.

On August 11th, our beloved

George Vallianatos fell asleep in the Lord. His funeral service took place on August 17th, and he was interred at Interment Bethania cemetery.

Memorials

Sunday, August 4th

† 40 days Vasiliki (Betty) Albright

Sunday, August 18th

† 40 days Polichronis Christopoulos, † 40 days Maria Georgis and †20 years George Georgis

Sunday, August 18th

†8 yrs Charles C. Condes, †40 days Irene Poulos, †21 yrs Gust Stameson and †10 yrs Michaela Stameson

Sunday, August 25th

† 9 days for George Vallianatos

May their memory be eternal

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

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Web: www.Saint-Spyridon.net

Parish Council Officers

Bill Kilias	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
Sofea Malamis	Archangels
Evelyn Christakos	Cherubs
Zoe Kopanis	Sunday School
Stacy Vallianatos	G.O.Y.A.
Stephane Collopy	G.O.Y.A.
Pres. Diana Lamberis	Family Night
Ria Hronis	Family Night
Viaian Tzanetakos	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
Olga Baroudos	Floga Dance

THANK YOU TO OUR STEWARDS...

“The rich man is not the one who has much, but the one who gives much. For what one gives away, he keeps for all eternity.” St. John Chrysostom

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the stewards of our parish. With so many other commitments, obligations, and needs we do not take your time, talents and offerings for granted. It is through your stewardship of time, talent and treasure that we have been able to continue our good works, fellowship, ministries, and much more.

In future Voice editions, we will be randomly highlighting stewards of the community so they might share and inspire others “to offer themselves and one another and our whole lives to Christ, our God.”

As we look upon the New Ecclesiastical Year, we want to hear from you on what our parish of Saint Spyridon and being a steward means to you. Below you will get to know more about some of our parish members as they share with us their thoughts, and we hope to continue to grow our parish community.

Zachary Chibucos:



While Zachary has been a part of St. Spyridon for many years, he most recently became a steward this past year, at the age of 24. To Zachary,

Saint Spyridon means being a part of a community that has a “sense of belonging with people around me that inspire me to grow”. Zachary shared that even though he is on the younger side of the Saint Spyridon community, he feels it is his calling to be an active parishioner and carry on the traditions of our church. “Growing up within this community has formed my

prayer life and relationship with God in the most profound way. St. Spyridon is my home and it is difficult to imagine my spiritual life without it.” Zachary’s time and talents can be seen behind the scenes in the altar as he leads and guides our Altar Boys in the liturgical services, not to mention his dedication and support in the annual summer festival.

Dean Eliacostas:



Dean has been a steward for 25 years. He became a steward in order to continue the legacy of his father, “which was to support the community of St. Spyridon” in all ways possible and give of yourself. The parish of Saint

Spyridon, to Dean, is the bridge across the communities of Roseland- where his father’s service began to Palos Heights- where Dean’s service continues. His father instilled a strong sense of faith, love, and community in all his years of service and Dean emulates the very same to this day. Dean’s time and talents are unmeasurable as he plays a vital role in our annual fundraising events from the summer festival to the dinner dance. Dean takes pride in all he does while ensuring the needs of the parish are met, always giving with love and faith.

Kathy Korbakes:



Kathy has been a steward for 37 years. She became a steward to help support the community of St. Spyridon by “teaching and modeling the traditions of our culture and faith that we love.”

To Kathy, the parish of Saint Spyridon is an “evolving family of faith and love”. Kathy’s time and talents are devoted to

STEWARDSHIP 2024

our Philoptochos. She shared that the “very essence and mission of Philoptochos is to come to the aid of the sick, the poor, the lonely, and the destitute. The word Philoptochos means “friends to the needy”. We show acts of kindness to our parish, community, and throughout the world with every action.”

WAYS TO BECOME A STEWARD

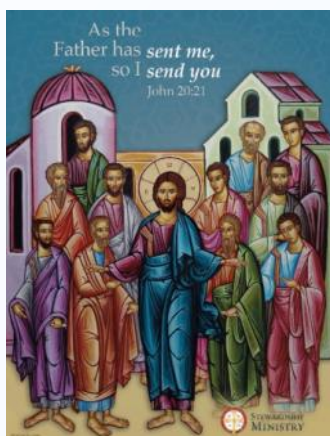
Get Involved: Vital to our growth is your participation in Holy services and the offering of your time and talent to the parish. When you complete your form, it is of the utmost importance to communicate how you might be able to offer your time and talent to serve Christ.

Online: Visit our website at <https://saint-spyridon.net/> then click “Donate”

In-person: Visit our church office Monday-Friday

Sundays: Complete the stewardship form in the narthex and place in the collection tray

Sincerely;
Stewardship Committee



YOU ARE THE VOICE OF CHRIST IN A CHANGING WORLD

The base from which we serve as the Voice of Christ in a Changing World is the parish. A strong parish provides opportunities for sharing the Good News of Christ, for welcoming those that are searching for a spiritual home, and a base from which we are sent out into the world. The parish also provides a place for worship, community and education in the faith. To be stewards of the Gospel, we need to be stewards of our parish. This requires the vision and inspiration to see the parish, not as it is, but as it could be. We are called to offer ourselves and our treasure to make our local church all that it can be.

We thank the 287 Saint Spyridon Stewards for your generous support. Please continue to serve our community and support our beloved Saint Spyridon parish. Your stewardship offering may be submitted by mail to the church office or on our church website (www.Saint-Spyridon.net) for one-time and periodic giving.

Ευχαριστούμε τις 287 οικογένειες που εκπλήρωσαν τις 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 2024-JULY 25TH-AUGUST 29TH

Ms. Georgia Danos

Mr. Dan Eliopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Hristakos

Mr. & Mrs. George Kattos

Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Kuruklis

Mr. Nick Lamberis

Mr. John Mazarakos

Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Perros

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Rousonelos

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Theodorou

Mr. & Mrs. Kyriakos Tsoukalas

Mr. & Mrs. James Voutiritsas

Mr. & Mrs. Dion Xenos

SAINT SPYRIDON MINISTRIES

Archangels Academy

The institution of the family lies at the center of the success of every Orthodox community because it is in the family setting that dedicated Christians grow and thrive. It is in the family context where Christian values and the Orthodox way of life is instilled and adopted by tomorrow's generation. Archangels Academy, the first Orthodox Bilingual Preschool of the south suburbs offers an excellent Preschool program for our Orthodox families. The Academy is welcoming all students who are 3 years old by September 1st. Classes are held Monday through Friday, 9:00am – 3:00 pm. There is also a half-day option as well. School begins on Tuesday, September 3rd and ends the Thursday, May 29th.

Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the regular school year (September thru May). We encourage families to come to Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am to worship together. After Holy Communion, students go to Sunday School. Grade levels are from Pre-school through 12th grade and registration is held in August and September. We ask all parents to enroll their children in Sunday School and have them attend on a regular basis so that they may come close to the Church and learn more about our beautiful Orthodox faith. Registration Fee for Sunday School is \$40/ student payable to Saint Spyridon. Classes begin on September 8th.

Plutarchos Academy

The Afternoon Greek School is held twice a week on Mondays and Fridays from 4:30-6:30 p.m. and is recognized by the Education Department of Greece and the FEK 49/T.B./6-2-1991. Grade levels are Pre-School through 6th Grade followed by the Ellinomathia seminars and Adult Classes. The curriculum encompasses the Greek language, Reading, Writing, Speaking, History, Religion, Ecclesiastical Hymns, Geography of Greece, Greek Ethnic Hymns and Greek Dance. Classes begin Friday, September 6th with an Agiasmo Service. Adult classes begin of Friday, September

20th at 6:45 p.m. Tuition Agreement Form is required to participate.

Family Night

Our Family Night ministry is for families with children in Pre-School through 5th grade. We meet monthly on Friday evening, from 6:30-8:00. Light dinner is served, followed by games, lesson and craft. We also have social events planned. Our first gathering is on September 20th.

Cherubs

Under the wing of the Archangels Academy, Cherubs is a toddler-caregiver playgroup program that welcomes our young children from 6 months to 4 years old, along with caregivers. The group meets every other Wednesday, 10:00a.m.–12noon. The program runs September through May and it is offered free of charge to all area Orthodox families. Our first gathering is on September 18th.

Athletics

All youth (boys and girls) between the ages of 5-17 are invited to join the Athletics Program of our parish. We are in need for coaches for the basketball season and for Jr. Olympics. For more information or to volunteer as a coach for one of the teams, please contact our athletic directors, Mr. Demetrius Marines & Mr. Nick Tsinoukas through the Church Office.

G.O.Y.A.

Boys and girls in 6th-12th are welcome to join. Various athletic, social, outreach, and religious activities are held as well as other programs. Meetings are bi-monthly. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 18th.

Altar Boys

Boys in 1st grade through High School are called to serve as Altar Boys. Along with their Altar duties, regular meetings and other programs are held. If you wish for your child to participate please contact Fr. George, Labros Malfas or Zachary Chibucos.

SAINT SPYRIDON MINISTRIES

Handmaidens

Girls ages 7-17 are called to serve as Handmaidens. Meetings are geared toward service projects that teach young girls to offer their time and talents to the church and to the community at large. All meetings are held on Saturdays. First gathering is Saturday, September 14th at 11:00 a.m.

Choir

Currently we do not have a choir, but we are seeking a choir director. If you would like to offer your time and talent for this ministry, please communicate with the office. We hope to have a Junior and/or Senior choir at some time in the near future.

Floga Hellenic Dance Troupe

The Greek dance groups at St. Spyridon have been part of the church community for many years. Teaching Greek dance to the youth of the church is a way to keep our customs and traditions alive and ensures that these special lessons will be passed down to future generation. Greek ethnic and cultural dances are taught to children in Kindergarten through college. The program introduces a diverse range of folk dances from different regions of Greece. The Dancers participate in community ethnic events as well as the parish festival.

Springs of Basil's; Kindergarten—2nd grade, practice Monday nights after Greek School.

Wonderworkes: 3rd—5th grade, practice Monday nights after Greek School.

Floga; 6th grade—College, practice Friday nights after Greek School.

Iconography Class

The art and prayer of iconography is taught weekly on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm by iconographer Panayiotis Michalopoulos. Our first class will take place on September 18th. Must be 12 years or older to participate.

Byzantine Music Classes

Adults and Students 1st grade through 12th grade and adults are welcomed to learn the art of Byzantine Music. Level 2 Classes are held Saturdays from 3:30 pm—4:15 pm, and Level 1 and Level 3 classes Saturdays from 4:15 pm—5:00 p.m.

Orthodox Missions

A program that seeks to bring our Lord's message of salvation to all who thirst for the water of Life, supporting in any possible way the overseas and home missions of the "Orthodox Christian Mission Center" in St. Augustine, FL.

Kentro of Orthodox Martyria

The Kentro is a ministry of our parish whose aim is to spread the word of God and further educate all the faithful in the Orthodox faith. The bookstore has available for purchase Byzantine Icons, religious books, incense, prayer ropes, spiritual materials related to the Orthodox faith (in Greek and English) and more.

Diakonia Agapes

A Parish ministry that provides aid and relief to those in need, the poor, the destitute, the sick and all those who may need help. Major food distributions are given to families in need for the major holidays of Pascha, Christmas, and Thanksgiving. Assistance is also provided to these and other families throughout the year. Please support our food pantry and our donation box for the poor located in the church narthex.

VOICE Publication

Parish news, announcements and religious articles are published every month in our monthly publication, "The Voice". This monthly newsletter, along with other announcements is available by e-mail or at our website: www.Saint-Spyridon.net.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



“Let everything take second place to our care of our children, our bringing them up to the discipline and instruction of the Lord. If from the beginning we teach them to love true wisdom, they will have great wealth and glory than riches can provide.” – St. John Chrysostom, Homilies on Ephesians

Welcome back to Sunday School!

Our Annual Blessing of the backpacks event will take place on Saturday, September 7th, 10a.m. to 12 noon. Each student is encouraged to bring their backpack to be blessed during the service. We look forward to seeing you and your family at this meaningful event.

Our classes begin on September 8th. Registrations are being accepted after Church services, and in the Church office Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Please make sure to register your children as soon as possible to allow us to plan accordingly. We are also blessed to be offering Sunday School for High School students this year.

We have an exciting year planned and would like to focus more on having the students participate weekly in either contributing to our food pantry or bringing a monetary donation to class. An important part of Sunday School is teaching students the importance of stewardship and creating the habit of giving back.

A blessed and productive new school year to all!

Zoe Kopanis, Sunday School Director

2024/2025 Sunday School Calendar
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Season	Month	Events
FALL	September	7 - Backpack Blessing 8 - First Day of Sunday School! 15, 22, 29 - Sunday School
	October	6, 20, 27 - Sunday School 13 - Family Worship - No Sunday School
	November	3 - Godparent Sunday - No Sunday School 10 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 17, 24 - Sunday School
WINTER	December	1, 8, 15 - Sunday School 22 - Christmas Pageant 29 - Family Worship - No Sunday School
	January	5 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 12, 19, 26 - Sunday School
	February	2, 9, 23 - Sunday School 16 - Family Worship - No Sunday School
SPRING	March	2, 9, 16 - Sunday School 9 - Sunday of Orthodoxy - Sunday School - Bring an Icon 16 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 23 - Procession of the Holy Cross
	April	6 - Sunday School 13 - Palm Sunday - Sunday School 20 - Happy Easter! 27 - Sunday School
	May	4 - Sunday School 11 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 18 - Sunday School 25 - Family Workshop - No Sunday School
SUMMER	June, July, August	1 - Graduation Sunday and Junior Olympics Awards SUMMER!

Plutarchos Hellenic Language & Heritage Academy

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

- Preschool Class**
For 3 & 4 year olds where our littlest learners sing & play their way to speaking Greek
- Kindergarten through 6th Grade**
Focused on reading, writing, speaking & listening with an emphasis on oral communication
- Path to Ellinomathia Certification**
Full immersion classes for students in 3rd-12th grade, seeking language credentials, which can be used to study in universities in Greece & in Europe or for professional purposes
- Weekly Greek Music & Dance Lessons**
Focused on teaching our traditions & rich cultural heritage

CLASSES OFFERED
Mondays/Fridays
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information please contact the church office at 708*385*2311 or by email at office@saint-spyridon.net

Our Kindergarten to 8th grade learning path goal areas align to world-readiness standards for learning languages

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Join us for our PTA Meetings 2024/2025

PTA Meetings

9/8 | 10/6 | 11/10 | 12/8 |
1/12 | 2/9 | 3/9 | 5/4

Saint Spyridon Conference Room
BACK CLASSROOM OFF OF THE GYM IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHURCH

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

- ★ Parents
- ★ Teachers
- ★ Friends
- ★ Family
- ★ Community Members

Come and learn about the benefit of joining and how you can make a difference in the School Community.

COOKIES AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT
SPYRIDONPTA@GMAIL.COM
Hope to see you soon!



2024/2025 St. Spyridon PTA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL	September 7 - Backpack Blessing 8 - Meeting 27 - Trot-a-Thon Coffee Hour Month	October 6 - Meeting 26 - Treats on the Trail	November 3 - Godparent Sunday 10 - Meeting Coffee Hour Month
	December 8 - Meeting TBD - Nativity Retreat 22 - Christmas Pageant & Bake Sale	January 12 - Meeting Coffee Hour Month	February 9 - Meeting 6 - Trivia Night & Heart Shape Pizzas/Bake Sale
	March 9 - Meeting Lambathes Fundraiser Coffee Hour Month	April 12 - Lazarus Retreat 25 - Bright Friday BBQ No Meeting This Month	May 4 - Meeting TBD - Leadership Award Coffee Hour Month
June HAPPY SUMMER!	July Festival Coffee Hour Month	August WE DID IT!!! CONGRATULATIONS!	

BYZANTINE MUSIC CLASSES

FOR BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATE LEVELS
CLASSES ARE HELD EVERY SATURDAY
(STARTING SEPTEMBER 14, 2024 THROUGH APRIL OF 2025)

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM - Level 2
4:15 PM - 5:00 PM - Level 1
4:15 PM - 5:00 PM - Level 3


COST: \$100/PERSON OR \$150 TOTAL PER FAMILY WITH 2 OR MORE STUDENTS)

FOLLOWED BY VESPERS AT 5 PM

SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
12307 S. RIDGELAND AVENUE,
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL
WWW.SAINT-SPYRIDON.NET

STUDENTS: 1ST GRADE THROUGH 12TH GRADE AND ADULTS ARE WELCOME

INSTRUCTORS:
FR. GEORGE LAMBERIS
ALEXIA CHIBUCOS




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



**SAINT SPYRIDON
HELLENIC ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

CHERUBS

caregiver and me playgroup



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 (yiyia, papou, etc.) and children can interact with others, form bonds of friendships and develop spiritually.

Each meetup varies to include storytime, songs, playtime, crafts and a spiritual lesson in a developmentally appropriate manner for their age.



**JOIN US! WE WELCOME CHILDREN
FROM 40 DAYS OLD TO 3 YEARS OLD**

**FALL/WINTER 2024 CALENDAR
10:00AM - 12:00PM**

9/18/24	11/13/24
10/2/24	12/4/24
10/16/24	12/18/24
10/30/24	

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

St. Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church

PRESENTS

**Family Night:
A ministry for kids in Pre-K
through 5th grade**

Our Family Night Ministry meets on a monthly basis. We come together to learn more about our Orthodox Faith through lessons, crafts, cooking, hands-on activities, and outreach.

Fridays from 6:30 PM - 8:00PM

Fri. Sept. 20
Fri. Oct. 4
Fri. Nov. 1
Sat. Nov. 23
Fri. Dec. 13

Sat. Jan. 11
Fri. Jan. 31
Fri. Feb. 21
Sat. March 15
Sat. April 12
Fri. May 16

For more information,
contact Presvytera
Diana at
[dlamberis@gmail.com](mailto:diamberis@gmail.com)

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ST. SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH



CALLING ALL 6TH GRADERS - HIGH SCHOOL
JOIN US FOR FUN MINISTRIES, ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH PROJECTS
GOYA MEETS ON WEDNESDAY'S TWICE A MONTH

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR FIRST GOYA GATHERING:

SEPTEMBER 18 @ 7 PM
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

SIGN UP FOR GOYA NOTIFICATIONS THROUGH THE REMIND APP
TEXT @JRGOYAC TO 81010
YOU WILL RECEIVE A TEXT TO CONFIRM YOU ARE SIGNED UP



UPCOMING

HANDMAIDENS

MEETINGS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH - 11:00 AM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16TH - 12:00 - 2:00 PM
(FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN)

**Handmaidens is a ministry dedicated to girls from
grades**

**1st - 12th. We will meet several times a year and
participate in various outreach projects together!!**

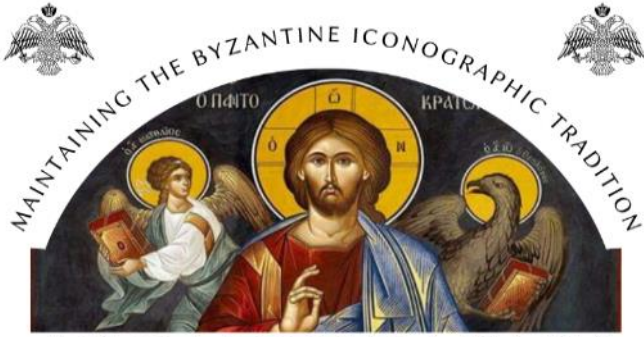
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

**We communicate using the GroupMe app.
Please scan the QR Code to stay connected. Thank you!**



Scan the QR code to join the group
groupme

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



ICONOGRAPHY CLASSES

LEARN THE FUNDAMENTAL TECHNIQUES OF
BYZANTINE ICONOGRAPHY

TEACHER: PANAYIOTIS MIHALOPOULOS

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

First class : September 18

St. Spyridon's Hellenic

Orthodox Church

\$100 per Student

+ cost of materials



Join the St. Spyridon's Floga Hellenic Dance Troupe

Registration begins after the Divine Liturgy
on 8/25, 9/1, and 9/8

Springs of Basil's:
Kindergarten - 2nd Grade
Practice: Mondays Nights
6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Wonderworkers:
3rd Grade - 5th Grade
Practice: Mondays Nights
6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Floga:
6th Grade - College
Practice: Friday Nights
6:40 pm - 7:40 pm

The program introduces a
diverse range of Greek
folk dances from different
regions of Greece.

Questions? Reach out to Sophia,
Olga, Evi, Patti or Anastasia at
Flogadancegroup@gmail.com



Saturday, September 21st
Metropolis of Chicago
Dive for the Cross and BBQ
St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
5649 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

CALLING ALL YOUTH OF THE METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

All Parishes are invited to join the Clergy of Chicago
as they bless the Waters of Lake Michigan
then throw the Cross for the youth to retrieve

BBQ lunch at St. Andrew's to follow

Parishes, please collect your RSVPs and send them
to St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
no later than September 12th for food counts

(773) 334-4515, info@standreworthodox.org



ADULT GREEK CLASSES

Enrich your Greek language skills
with our immersive Greek courses,
designed to make learning
enjoyable and effective

Classes meet on Fridays,
September 20th thru May 16th
from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

For more information,
please contact the church office
at (708)385-2311

ALL ARE WELCOME!

LEVELS:

- Beginners
- Intermediate





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

Eggman's



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Alsip, IL 60803

708-239-8740

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email: ACcollision.claims@gmail.com



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