



# THE VOICE

**AUGUST 2023 - VOLUME No. 381**  
**SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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

## Greek Festival 2023



thank you  
ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ

**We thank all of our volunteers for making  
the 2023 Saint Spyridon Greek Festival  
such a success!**

**This event requires the efforts of so many  
people, and we greatly appreciate all who came  
to support, organize, volunteer, and enjoy our  
festival! THANK YOU! ΣΑΣ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΟΥΜΕ!**

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Saint Spyridon Parish Family,  
Χαίρετε, έφτασε ο Δεκαπενταύγουστος, ένα μικρό Πάσχα στα μέσα του καλοκαιριού που εορτάζουμε την Κοίμηση της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου. Να έχουμε την ευλογία της Παναγίας. Να συνεχίσουμε το έργο της εκκλησίας και της οικογένειας, τα οποία και τα δυο είναι τα ίδια.

Greetings, and a Blessed Lenten Season filled with good health, peace and happiness.

We are grateful to Father George for his unyielding efforts, through the intercessions of our beloved Saint Spyridon, to encourage us to follow him on the spiritual path that helps us, our parish, and community to prosper.

The 26th Annual Saint Spyridon Golf Outing took place on June 9th and was the most well-attended ever for our parish, setting another new record! It was inspiring to see the golfers and dinner attendees in a filled banquet hall room, stay deep into the evening as they enjoyed warm fellowship and kefi. Thank you to Chairman, Nick Kournetas, and the Golf Committee for their leadership to help make this fundraiser such a resounding success.

This year's Festival was a remarkable success with record participation, fellowship and fundraising! Promoting the Festival this year included a boost in community outreach with TV and radio interviews with WGN's, Dean Richards, as

well as rekindling our parish's participation in the Palos Heights 4th of July Parade. It was notable to observe that there was an inspiring level of volunteers. The Festival was fellowship-filled with a celebratory, party atmosphere, that was capped with waves of visitors and attendees that were Greek dancing all the way to the end of Sunday night! Thank you to our fearless Chairman, Dean Eliacostas, and the Festival Committee.

Thank you to the all of the devoted parish council members, the dynamic young adults, all of the parish volunteers, donors and supporters. The Festival provides an opportunity for us, our families and the community to receive many blessings by participating and supporting. Every year, new leaders emerge and new volunteers continue to be made that will help keep our parish vibrant for many years to come. It is these blessings that give us hope to continue the beautiful ministry of our parish Festival. Thank you to everyone.



Additionally, there are parish ministries that are in need of our time and talents. Please consider volunteering by contacting Fr. George, any parish council member or the church office at (708) 385-2311 for more information.

The beautiful holy services during the two weeks leading up to The Dormition of the Theotokos and the month of August is a time for us to get some rest, reset and look forward to the approaching new ecclesiastical year.

Saint Spyridon invites us to attend and partake in His church's holy services throughout the year as well as during this beautiful time of the year. Please attend church.

Καλή δύναμη και καλή συνέχεια με υγεία.

May Saint Spyridon continue to guide us and protect us.

*Humbly submitted, Frank Kopanis*

(with special thanks to Mr. Kostas Rougas for authoring the opening greeting of this message).



## FATHER'S LETTER

### SILENCE ON THE INSIDE – THE DORMITION FAST

Beloved Faithful,

There has been a surge of rain, strong winds and tornadoes that have stormed through Illinois in the month of July. Whenever we experience these things, they deprive us of calmness, peace, and joy. These storms are a good reminder that everything is temporary in this world. Very few things will remain forever.

Without inner peace and silence, it is impossible to hear God and eternity. How can one hear or contemplate God, faith, and eternity, which will be beautiful and bright if we can never live in silence?

But external silence is not enough. We need to be able to silence our inner being. It is with inner silence that we begin to hear and experience the inner kingdom of God.

Thankfully, we are given the gift of the Dormition fast to help teach us hesychia (silence). The wisdom of the church gives us this period in the middle of summer when the ripe fruits are harvested, and we have reaped the benefits of our labor. It provides us with the opportunity to contemplate His surrounding beauty and admire the miraculous work of our Lord!

The Paraklesis services that we will pray will lead us to the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos. Her Dormition creates a special environment and mood that reminds us to be still, humble and bear our cross. Within her life, the Theotokos exemplifies humility and obedience to God's will, trust in Him, readiness and reverence for the Lord.

Fasts, of course, are voluntary. In a similar way, a person cannot be saved if he or she doesn't want it. Every year, a life preserver is thrown out to the world and can only lead to salvation if it is accepted. In the same way, fasting will not be beneficial, it will not bring joy and transformation, if there is no inner desire to keep the fast.

Fasting is our temporary withdrawal from the world, withdrawal into oneself. It is that which helps us disconnect from the raging waters of information that drown us. Silence allows us to rethink our life, which is essential for spiritual life. May the time of the Dormition fast become beneficial and healing for our souls. May the light of the feast day of the Dormition, she that is "a protection of Christians unshakable" illuminate our path, inspire, and comfort us during these fifteen days.

With love in Christ,

### 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  
Web: www.Saint-Spyridon.net

#### Parish Council Officers

Frank Kopanis	President
George Papadopoulos	Vice-President
James Xeros	Vice-President
Panagiotis Stamus	Secretary
Spiros Tzanetakos	Assistant Secretary
Gus Kolyvas	Treasurer
Jim Korbakes	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	
Ria Hronis	Cherubs
Zoe Kopanis	Sunday School
Director	
G.O.Y.A.	Nancy Primbas
Pres. Diana Lamberis	Family Night
Vivian Tzanetakos	Family Night
Ria Hronis	Family Night
Labros Malfas	Altar Boys
Vicky Argyropoulos	Handmaidens
Demetrius Marines	Athletics
Nick Tsinoukas	Athletics
Stella Parhas	Food Pantry
Litsa Tsarouhis	Church Office
Marianna Haniotakis	Church Office
Soteria Simantirakis	Custodian



## ***DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE***

Tuesday, August 1st	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Wednesday, August 2nd	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Thursday, August 3rd	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Friday, August 4th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Saturday, August 5th	Vespers at Transfiguration Monastery, Harvard, IL —6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 6th	<b>Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ</b> Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Monday, August 7th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Tuesday, August 8th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Wednesday, August 9th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Thursday, August 10th	Vigil of St. Spyridon—Paraklesis, Vespers, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—6:00 p.m.
Friday, August 11th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. —8:15 p.m.
Sunday, August 13th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Monday, August 14th	Great Vespers at Assumption Chicago, Homer Glen, and Hegwisch—7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 15th	<b>Dormition of the Virgin Mary</b> —Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 20th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Thursday, August 24th	Saint Kosmas the Aetolian—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Sunday, August 27th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, August 29th	<b>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b> —Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
Friday, September 1st	<b>New Ecclesiastical Year—Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.</b>

## ***ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ***

Τρίτη 1 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 2 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 3 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Παρασκευή 4 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Σάββατο 5 Αυγούστου	Μέγας Εσπερινός στην Ιερ. Μονή Μεταμορφώσεως του Σωτήρος, Harvard, IL—6:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 6 Αυγούστου	<b>Η Μεταμόρφωσις του Σωτήρος</b> — Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.
Δευτέρα 7 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 8 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 9 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 10 Αυγούστου	Αγρυπνία του Αγ. Σπυριδώνος—Παράκλησις, Εσπερινός, Όρθρος & Λειτουργία—6:00 μ.μ.
Παρασκευή 11 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ.—8:15 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 13 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.
Δευτέρα 14 Αυγούστου	Μέγας Εσπερινός στους Ιερούς Ναούς Κοιμήσεως Της Θεοτόκου στο Σικάγο, Homer Glen & Hegwisch—7:00 μ.μ.—9:00 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 15 Αυγούστου	<b>Η Κοίμησις της Θεοτόκου</b> —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 20 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 24 Αυγούστου	Αγ. Κοσμάς ο Αιτωλός—1η Ώρα και Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—9:30 π.μ.
Κυριακή 27 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 29 Αυγούστου	<b>Η Αποκεφάλισις του Αγ. Ιωάννου του Βαπτιστή</b> —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—10:30 π.μ.
Κυριακή 1 Σεπτεμβρίου	<b>Αρχή της Ινδίκτου</b> —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ.

## ***FLOWERS FOR THE ICON OF PANAGIA***

As the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos is approaching, once again we are asking for your donation towards the adornment of the icons of Panagia. Donations are accepted by mail, in the church office and in the designated donation box in the church narthex.

## PARISH REGISTRY

### Baptisms

The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kalfas was baptized on June 24th and was given the name Hanna Lyn by her godfather Mr. Dimitrios Kontos.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. James Rachmaciej was baptized on June 23rd and was given the name Ryder Peter by his godmother Mrs. Constantina Kapogiannis.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vlahos was baptized on June 25th and was given the name Leo by his godmothers Mrs. Niki McNeill and Ms. Elessa McNeill.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Perovanovic was baptized on July 15th and was given the name Marco John by his godmother Mrs. Alexa Tsiakopoulos.

*Να σας ζήσουν!*

### Funerals

Mrs. Konstantina Petropoulos fell asleep in the Lord on June 4th, 2023. Her funeral took place on June 7th and she was interred at Evergreen Cemetery

Mrs. Anhontia Hatjiharalambous fell asleep in the Lord on June 10, 2023. Her funeral took place on June 19 and she was interred at Bethania Cemetery.

Mrs. Harriet Bohac fell asleep in the Lord on June 13, 2023. Her funeral took place on June 27 and she was interred at

Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Mary Kavroulakis fell asleep in the Lord on June 24th 2023. Her funeral took place on June 28 and she was interred at Bethania Cemetery.

Mr. Harry Christou fell asleep in the Lord on July 8th, 2023. His funeral took place on July 12 and she was interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mr. Filippos Stolis fell asleep in the Lord on July 7, 2023. His funeral took place on July 13 and he was interred at Bethania Cemetery.

### Memorials

**July 2:** +9 days Mary Kavroulakis, +2 yrs. Athanasios Treantafelis, +52 yrs Ourania Treantafelis

**July 9:** + 40 days Konstantina Petropoulos, +5 yrs Christos Deliagiannis, +10 yrs Peter Mars.

**July 16:** +40 days Harriet Bohac, +40 days Antonia Hatjiharalambous, +59 yrs Peter Glikis

**July 23:** +6 mo Andrew Pappas

**July 30:** +40 days Mary Kavroulakis, +6 mo Maria Economou, +30 mo Pete Manasses

*May their memory be eternal!*

## STEWARDS JUNE 1ST—JULY 31

*As of July 31, stewardship gifts have been received for 2023 from 287 individual/families.*

*We are so thankful to these stewards.*

*Have you sent in your 2023 Stewardship Commitment Form? Forms are available in the Narthex of the church and online. Thank you to our stewards who have already sent their 2023 pledge forms!!*

Mr. & Mrs. John Angelos  
Ms. Harriet Bohac  
Mrs. Melissa Christou & Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Eliopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Eliopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Glikis  
Mr. & Mrs. Aris Halikias  
Mrs. Alanna Harden & Family  
Ms. Maria Hatzimichalis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Iovino  
Mr. & Mrs. George Karras  
Ms. Aretina Klapsis  
Mr. & Dimitrios Klapsis  
Mrs. Stavroula Kloris

Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Kollintzas  
Mr. & Mrs. George Korbakes  
Ms. Koula Lalezas  
Mrs. Joanne Les  
Ms. Mary Limparis  
Mr. & Mrs. Rob McNeil  
Mr. & Mrs. George Maglaris  
Ms. Georgia Malamis  
Ms. Maria Meintanis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Michalopoulos  
Ms. Catherine Nakos  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros Orestis  
Dr. & Mrs. Amiel Pappas  
Mr. & Mrs. John Poulos

Mrs. Gkolfo Rodogiannis  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Roumeliotis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nickolas Shizas  
Ms. Rita Sperlakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Stathakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Theodorou  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Tourloukis  
Mr. & Mrs. Labros Vlachos



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



## **MANY THANKS TO ALL THE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES THAT DONATED TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL**

*Thank you to all our Festival Raffle donors for supporting our parish. The drawing was held on July 9th at 10:00 p.m. The prize winners are the following:*

1st prize: (7,500) — Roger Wilson  
 2nd prize (2,500)— Phil Cali  
 3rd prize (1,000) — Phil Cali

4th prize (1,000)—Tim Ardam  
 5th prize (1,000)—Kostas Dagnes

***Congratulations!***

Alemis Alex	Collopy Family	Georgelos Sam	Kamberos Becki
Alemis Georgia	Colompos Thalia	Georgiopoulos Bill & T	Kanellakes Efrosine
Alemis Katerina	Dagnes Kostas	Georgiopoulos Ted	Kaporis Tony
Alemis Tina	Dagnes Nicolette	Georgiopoulos Tim & Bill	Kappas Elly
Alex Nika	Dalmares Christo	Georgios Banquets	Kapsaskis Gus
Alexakis Alexi	Dalmares Panagiotti	Georgiou Aleko	Karagan/
Alexakos D	Danos Costas	Georgiou Georgia	Konstantinopoulos
Alexander George	Davros John	Georgiou James	Karones Georgia
Alexopoulos Katerina	Deligiannis Anastasia	Georgiou Kathy	Karras Paula
Alikakos Litsa	"Demchenko, Mike"	Georgiou Mariamni	Karuntzos Georgia
Alikakos Zoe	Demes Paul	Georgiou Yanni	Karuntzos James & Troy
Anonymous	Demo Tom	Geo's Gyros	Katris Helen
Argiris Nick	Digioia Peter	Geroulis Christos	Katsenis Bill
Argyropoulos Andonis	Dimitri Angelo	Glikis Andreas	Katsoulakis Michael
Argyropoulos James	Discount Meats	Glikis Maria	Katsoulakis Vivian
Argyropoulos Joanna	Donna	Golfis Dimitri	"Katsoulakis, Louke"
Argyropoulos Stella	Eggman's Restaurant	Grapsas Kathy	Katsoulis Dina
Argyropoulos Vicky	Eliacostas Grace	Green	Kattos George
Athenian Body Shop	Eliacostas Irene	Hader Bill	Kavvadas Andriana
Bankoulis Family	Eliacostas Jennifer	Halikias Aris T	Ketsios Arthur
Belesiotis Platon	Eliacostas Josh	Haofir Bill	Kilias Family
Betty (Kefi)	Eliacostas Sam	Harisiadis Angie	Kladis Loula
Bezanis Dimitris	Eliacostas Yianni	Harisiadis Leo	Kladis Niko
Bizoukas Eleni	Eliocostas	Hartman Domenica	Kladis Tasia
Bobis Nick	Eliopulos Christina	Hiotis Demetri	Klapis Dimitrios
Bouraden David	Emmy's Pancakes House	Hiotis Georgia	Klioris Louie & Joanne
Bridegroom Jeff	Evangelopoulos, Georgia	Hix Joe & Anna	Klioris Stavroula
Buzo Dimitrios	Fakhoury Eassa	Hohlasto Vasilios	Kolios Stacy & Tina
Buzo Maria	Faklis Ruth	Hohlastos Dina	Kolyvas Chris
Buzo Stelios	"Farrell, Alex"	Hohlastos Sava	Kolyvas Gus
Buzo, Maria	Ferconio Angelo	"Hohlastos, Elias"	Kolyvas Jann
Cali Phil	Fiotakis George	Hondru Todd	Kolyvas Pete
Catsogiannis Christos	Flaskos Dimitrios	Horos Patte	Konstantinopoulos/
Charalambos Anna	Flaskos Kaliopi	Hronis Family	Karagan
Chibucos Caryn	Fotopoulos Chris	Iovino	Kopanitsanos Fay
Chibucos Zachary	Fountotos Family	Janinah Manar	Kopanitsanos Sophia
Chionis James	G & S. Auto Rebuilders	Janis Nicki	Korbakes/Kopanis
Chionis Jim	Gale Irene	"Jaskowiec James, Patrick & Genevieve"	Korbakis John
Christakes Georgia	Gatsios George	"Kahrman, Jim"	Kotsiovos Chris
"Christy, Faith"	Georgakas Constantine	Kakos Toula	Kotsiovos Gus
Ciggi Kimberly	Georganas		Kotsiovos Peter

## **MANY THANKS TO ALL THE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES THAT DONATED TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL**

Kottaras Demetrios	Nackos Christine	Roumpas Terry	Tsionis Anestis
Kournetas John & Vicky "Kournetas, N & V"	Nakos Catherine	Roumpas Terry	Tsionis Vasiliki
Kremmidas Margarita	Nanos Victoria	Sam & Jouls	Tsiumas Sam
Kyriakopoulos Georgia	Nassis Panagiotti & Kat	Samargin Frank	Tsonis Erica/Fernstrom
Kyroudis George	Nassis Pappou & yiayia	Schmidt Don	Tzanetakos
L & P Foods	New Horizon Restaurant	Searl Glynn & Susana	Urobushkin Family
Labrakis Eraklis	Nitti Jason	Shamma Jordyn	Valaveris Elias
Labrakis, Politimi	Noonan Brian	Shamma/Cuculich	Vardalos, Patricia
Lamberis Gus & Aspasia	Panagiotaros Georgia	Shizas Nickolas	Vasdekas Tom
Lamberis Nick	Panagiotopoulos Peter	"Shutay, Robert"	Vasdekis Vicky
Lambridis Orestis	Panagiotopoulos/Korbos/ Bizanis	Siomos Metaxea	Vasilakos
Landis Dave	Papadatos Anthony	Skarpathiotis Group	Vasili
Laris Leo	Papadatos Bob	Skiadopoulos Christie	Villies Pete
Lentzos Ioannis	Papadatos Connie	Skiadopoulos George	Vlachos Leo
Les Bill	Papadatos Demetria	Skokpec Mark & Zoe	Vossas/Kontos
Les George	Papadopoulos Effie	Skordas John	Voutiritas Thomas
Les Toula	Papadopoulos George	Smirnis Elizabeth	Voutiritsas Jim
Les/Hix	Papadopoulos Katerina	Smith Jay	Vythoulkas George
Limperis Peter	Papadopoulos Nina	Sotos Bill	Williams Donovan
Limperis/Gigas	Papamakarios Philip	Souroulis Pete	Williams Zoe
Limperis/Karampelas	Papanastasatos Christos	Spathrakis Gus	Wilson Rita
Lindstrom Ron	Pappas Dean	Sperlakis Rita	Windy City Subs
Loukas Alekos	Pappas George	Spirrison Glen	Xenos Dennis
Malamis Georgia	Pappas Sotirios & Sam	St. Spyridon Gym Floor	Xenos Dion
Malamis Sofia	Pappas Ted & Helen	Stamas Maria	Xirafakis Goldie
Mallios, Rebecca	Pappas Todd	Stamatoglou	Xiroyiannis Christos
Manasses Helen	Paraskevopoulos Athan.	Stameson Andrew	Yoshimora Christina
Manasses Ted	Paraskevopoulos Christos	Stamus Panagiotis	Yrapsis Katerina
Manasses Tina	Paraskevopoulos George	Starlight Reastaurant	Zougras Mike
Mannasses Dean & Peter	Parr Diane	Stathakis Paul	
Manolas Dafni	Patio Food	Stavrakas Family	
Marines Alexa	Paxinos Family	Stefas George	
Marines Bessie	Pedro Ramon & Loudres	Tasty Waffle	
Marines Demetri	Pete's Market	The Syndicate	
Marines Greg	Peti Greg	Theoharis George	
Marines Jamie	Petinated Nick & Dena	Thiakos Daniel	
Marines Michael	Poninski Penny	Thiakos Olivia & Alex	
Marines Penelope	Poulos Spero	Thiakos Paulie	
Marines Stephanie	Poulos Spiro	Thiakos Steven	
Marines Susan	Prassas Maria	"Thiakos, Efthimia"	
Martinez Ryan	Primbas Giorgios	Toosley Ethan	
Matsas Dino	Primbas Kosta	Tounes/ Bryant	
Mavragis, Dennis	Primbas Peter	Tsagalis Angelo	
Mazarakos John	Reyes Juan	Tsakiris Maria	
Mihos/Kotsiviras	Rodriguez Sandra	Tsarouhis Litsa	
Mitsakopoulos Christ	Roumeliotis Family	Tsinoukas Nick	
		Tsinoukas Athena	

*We apologize for the  
misspelling or  
omitting of any  
names.  
Please bring it to our  
attention.*



# GREEK FESTIVAL 2023





# GREEK FESTIVAL 2023



# MORE FESTIVAL PICTURES...



## Αύγουστος: Ο Μήνας της Παναγίας μας

Μητροπολίτου Φαναρίου Αγαθαγγέλου

Από τὰ ὀνόματα καί μόνο πού ἔδωσε ὁ λαός μας στήν Παναγία, καί πού μέ αὐτά τήν καταστόλισε, φαίνεται πόσο πνευματική ἀληθινά εἶναι ἡ τιμή πρὸς τὸ ὑπερευλογημένο πρόσωπο τῆς Παναγίας στήν ὀρθόδοξη πίστη καί ζωή. Θεοτόκος, Παναμώμητος, Τιμιωτέρα τῶν Χερουβίμ, ἔνδοξωτέρα τῶν Σεραφεῖμ, Κεχαριτωμένη, ἔμψυχος κιβωτός, ἡγιασμένος ναός, παράδεισος λογικός, ρόδον τὸ ἀμάραντον, χρυσοῦν θυμιατήριον, χρυσή λυχνία, μαναδόχος στάμνος, κλίμαξ ἐπουράνιος, πρεσβεία θερμή, τεῖχος ἀπροσμάχητον, ἐλέους πηγὴ, τοῦ κόσμου καταφύγιον, Βασιλέως καθέδρα, χρυσοπλοκάματος πύργος καί δωδεκάτειχος πόλις, ἡλιοστά-λακτος θρόνος, σκέπη τοῦ κόσμου, δένδρον ἀγλαόκαρπον, ξύλον εὐσκιόφυλλον, ἀκτίς νοητοῦ ἡλίου, Σιών ἁγία, Θεοῦ κατοικητήριον, ἐπουράνιος πύλη, ἀδικουμένων προστάτις, βακτηρία τυφλῶν, θλιβομένων ἡ χαρὰ, καί μύρια ἄλλα, πού βρίσκονται μέσα στὰ λειτουργικά βιβλία τῆς Εκκλησίας καί στὰ κείμενα τῶν Πατέρων μας. Κοντὰ σ' αὐτά εἶναι καί τὰ ὀνόματα πού ἔχουν ἀποδοθεῖ στὰ ἱερά εἰκονίσματά της: Ὁδηγήτρια, Γλυκοφιλοῦσα, Πλατυτέρα τῶν Οὐρανῶν, Ἐλπίς τῶν ἀπελπισμένων, Ταχεῖα Ἐπίσκεψις, Ἀμόλυντος, Παραμυθία, Ἐλεοῦσα, Ἐπακούουσα, Γοργοῦπήκοος, Μυροβλί-τισσα, Ἀντιφωνήτρια, Παραμυθία, Γαλακτοτροφοῦσα, Φανερωμένη, Παμμακάριστος, καί ἄλλα πολλά. Πόση ἀγάπη, πόσο σέβας καί πόσα κατασκευαστικά δάκρυα φανερῶνουν μοναχὰ αὐτά τὰ ὀνόματα, πού χαράχθηκαν στίς ψυχές μέ πόνο, μέ ταπείνωση, μέ πίστη.



Αὐτή ἡ κοινὴ πίστη καί ἡ καθολικὴ συνείδηση καί διαχρονικὴ ἐμπειρία τοῦ ἐκκλησιαστικοῦ σώματος γιὰ τὸ πρόσωπο τῆς Παναγίας μας ἀποτυπώθηκε καί στήν ἐκκλησιαστικὴ τέχνη καί ἰδιαίτερα στήν ἀγιογραφία καί τὴν εἰκόνα.

Ἡ εἰκόνα δέν εἶναι διακοσμητικὸ στοιχεῖο, οὔτε ἀκόμη καί μία ἀπλή εἰκονογράφηση ἑνὸς προσώπου. Εἶναι ἀναπόσπαστο μέρος τῆς λειτουργίας τοῦ ἐκκλησιαστικοῦ σώματος καί ἀποτελεῖ μέσο γιὰ νὰ γνωρίσουμε τὸν Θεὸ καί νὰ ἐνωθοῦμε μαζί Του. Ὁ λόγος καί ἡ εἰκόνα στή λειτουργία σχηματίζουν μιά ἀδιάσπαστη ἐνότητα καί ὁλότητα διὰ μέσου τῆς ὁποίας ἡ Παράδοση καθιστᾷ ἐπίκαιρο καί ζωντανό τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο. Ἡ εὐλάβεια πρὸς τίς εἰκόνες εἶναι συνεπῶς μιά θεμελιώδης ὄψη τῆς λειτουργικῆς ἐμπειρίας, δηλαδή τῆς προθεωρίας, τῆς πρόγευσης, τῆς Βασιλείας τῶν Οὐρανῶν μέσα ἀπὸ τίς πράξεις τοῦ Βασιλέως Χριστοῦ.

Σημαντικὸ ἀκόμη στοιχεῖο γιὰ τὴν ὀρθὴ κατανόηση τῆς ὀρθοδόξου εἰκόνας εἶναι καί ἡ σημασία πού ἀποδίδει ἡ Ἐκκλησία στὰ πρότυπα τῶν εἰκόνων της. Γι' αὐτὸ καί ὁ Μέγας Βασίλειος διακηρύττει ὅτι «ἡ τῆς εἰκόνας τιμὴ ἐπὶ τὸ πρῶτότυπον διαβαίνει».

Ἡ Πατρίδα μας εἶναι «κατάσπαρτη» ἀπὸ θαυματουργές ἱερές εἰκόνες τῆς Παναγίας πού φυλάσσονται σὲ Ναοὺς καί Μοναστήρια καί ὑπενθυμίζουν σέ ὅλους μας τὴ χαρὰ τῆς λυτρώσεως τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀπὸ τὸν Χριστὸ, γιατί Ἐκεῖνη ὑπηρετήσε πιστὰ τὸ μυστήριον τῆς σωτηρίας μας. Ἔτσι ἀποτυπώσαμε τίς σκέψεις αὐτές μέ τὴν εὐχὴ νὰ ἀτενίζουμε τὸ πρόσωπο τῆς Παναγίας μας καί νὰ σφυρηλατεῖται στήν καρδιά μας ἡ ἐλπίδα καί ἡ ὑπέρβαση τοῦ φόβου τοῦ θανάτου. Ἐναποθέτοντας τὴν ἐλπίδα μας στὸν ποταμὸ τὸν γλυκερὸ τοῦ ἐλέους τῆς Ὑπεραγίας Θεομήτορος, ἅς ἀγωνισθοῦμε νὰ καρποφορήσουμε καρπούς ἀξιους τῆς σωτηρίας, κάτω ἀπὸ τὴ δικὴ της χαριτόβρυτη προστασία. Εἶναι αὐτὸ πού κάθε ἀπόβραδο ἐκμυστηρευόμαστε μπροστὰ στήν εἰκόνα της: «Τὴν πᾶσαν ἐλπίδα μου εἰς σέ ἀνατίθημι, μῆτερ τοῦ Θεοῦ, φύλαξόν με ὑπὸ τὴν σκέπη σου».

## THE GREAT MIRACLE OF ST. SPYRIDON ON AUGUST 11, 1716

### Vigil of St. Spyridon on Thursday, August 10th at 7:00 pm

Our holy father among the saints, Spyridon, wrought miracles at all times. However, the most exceptional and remarkable one was whereby he preserved Kerkyra impregnable in the face of the Turkish invasion of 1716. Every corner of the island marvels and proclaims this extraordinary event in a resounding voice. The matter took place as follows:

War erupted between the Venetians and Ishmaelites (Turks), resulting in the capture of the Peloponnesos. The Turks considered it to their advantage to take Kerkyra also. Therefore, on the 24th day of June, in the year 1716, a powerful Turkish fleet sailed into the city's harbor. Due to this unexpected move, the inhabitants were overwhelmed and surprised. A great army of Turks landed on the beautiful island shores, their purpose being to lay siege and pillage the island by land and sea.

A fierce battle ensued, but the barbarians succeeded in overpowering the Christians by fire and sword. After fifty days of violent combat, the infidels' main thrust came to be directed against the city of Kerkyra. Then, the beleaguered Orthodox Christians, having no other recourse, sought refuge in their holy hierarch and defender, Saint Spyridon. Day and night, they entreated him with tears and vigils, begging him to rescue them from imminent annihilation. (Verily, this occurred!)

One day, the Turkish army stormed the outer walls of the city (and shortly after, many of them met an evil end, as they were evil). They were vanquished by the intervention of the wonderworking Spyridon. The outcome of this further enraged the barbarians, so they marched on the outlying towns, committing heartless and brutal murders wherever they went. In addition to this, they threatened new raids which would exterminate all the natives either by an evil death or by bitter enslavement.

The hapless islanders intensified their vigils and

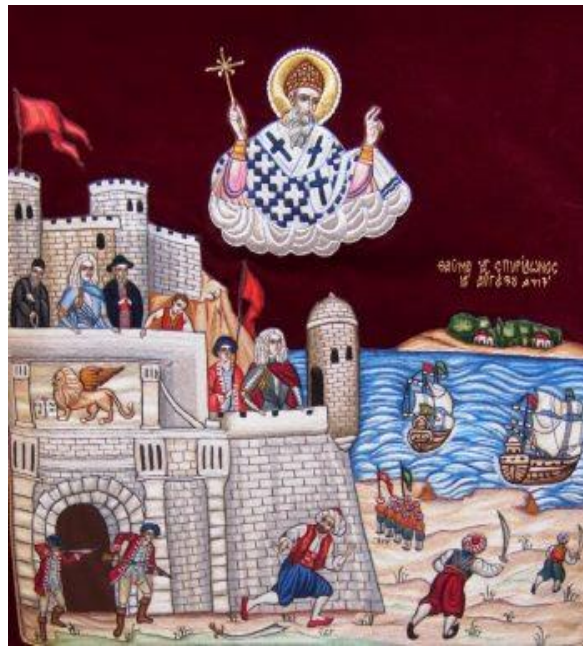
prayers to the saint to deliver them from this peril. At the point where they anticipated defeat by the Turks, suddenly, at dawn, our great father Spyridon appeared against them, accompanied by a vast celestial host, wielding a sword of lightning in his hand with which he angrily scattered the marauders. This awesome sight struck panic in their ranks, and they turned to flight; their eyesight having been darkened, they were cast into confusion and slew one another. Therefore, they were routed, driven from the land by fear rather than by fire, sword, or any adversary. All this was accomplished solely by Saint Spyridon and the incorporeal hosts of heaven.

Meanwhile, the infantry and cavalrymen fled, and the fleet sailed away in the face of the great power of the holy hierarch, which delivered the city of Kerkyra. However, after calm was restored

(unbeknownst to the islanders), the Kerkyraeans expected further attacks, yet there was no enemy in sight, nor sound to be heard; only absolute silence. Therefore, being puzzled by these peculiar circumstances, they left the city walls and proceeded in the direction of the enemy tents. It was then that they realized that a miracle had taken place, to their utter amazement, and with sheer delight, they leapt for joy. For strange it was and unprecedented for Turks to disappear and leave all their gear behind. As they fled, they acknowledged to everyone

wherever they went that they were driven out by a venerable monk (that is, Saint Spyridon) and a glorious celestial army which appeared in the air, forcing them out with great speed.

Therefore, with extreme reverence everyone hastened to render honor and chant hymns of thanksgiving to the wonderworking hierarch. Furthermore, the expulsion was acknowledged by the Venetians (who ruled the island at the time), who proclaimed the rescue by the saint and the Christ-loving heavenly host, and honored them with a procession and hymns of praise. The memory of this miracle is celebrated on the 11th of August.



## THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

At the time of Her blessed Falling Asleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary was again at Jerusalem. Her fame as the Mother of God had already spread throughout the land and had aroused many of the envious and the spiteful against Her. They wanted to make attempts on Her life; but God preserved Her from enemies.

Day and night She spent her time in prayer. The Most Holy Theotokos went often to the Holy Sepulchre of the Lord, and here She offered up fervent prayer. More than once, enemies of the Savior sought to hinder Her from visiting her holy place, and they asked the High Priest for a guard to watch over the Grave of the Lord. The Holy Virgin continued to pray right in front of them, yet unseen by anyone.

In one such visit to Golgotha, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Her and announced Her approaching departure from this life to eternal life. In pledge of this, the Archangel gave Her a palm branch. With these heavenly tidings the Mother of God returned to Bethlehem with the three girls attending Her (Sepphora, Abigail, and Jael). She summoned Righteous Joseph of Arimathea and other disciples of the Lord, and told them of Her impending Repose.

The Most Holy Virgin prayed also that the Lord would have the Apostle John come to Her. The Holy Spirit transported him from Ephesus, setting him in that very place where the Mother of God lay. After the prayer, the Most Holy Virgin offered incense, and John heard a voice from Heaven, closing Her prayer with the word "Amen." The Mother of God took it that the voice meant the speedy arrival of the Apostles and the Disciples and the holy Bodiless Powers.

The faithful, whose number by then was impossible to count, gathered together, says Saint John of Damascus, like clouds and eagles, to listen to the Mother of God. Seeing one another, the Disciples rejoiced, but in their confusion they asked each other why the Lord had gathered them together in one place. Saint John the Theologian, greeting them with tears of joy, said that the time of the Virgin's repose was at hand.

Going in to the Mother of God, they beheld Her lying upon the bed, and filled with spiritual joy. The Disciples greeted Her, and then they told her how they had been carried miraculously from their places of preaching. The Most Holy Virgin Mary glorified God, because He had heard Her prayer and fulfilled Her heart's desire, and She began speaking about Her imminent end.

During this conversation the Apostle Paul also appeared in a miraculous manner together with his disciples Dionysius the Areopagite, Saint Hierotheus, Saint Timothy and others

of the Seventy Apostles. The Holy Spirit had gathered them all together so that they might be granted the blessing of the All-Pure Virgin Mary, and more fittingly to see to the burial of the Mother of the Lord. She called each of them to Herself by name, She blessed them and extolled them for their faith and the hardships they endured in preaching the Gospel of Christ. To each She wished eternal bliss, and prayed with them for the peace and welfare of the whole world.

Then came the third hour (9 A.M.), when the Dormition of the Mother of God was to occur. A number of candles were burning. The holy Disciples surrounded her beautifully adorned bed, offering praise to God. She prayed in anticipation of Her demise and of the arrival of Her longed-for Son and Lord. Suddenly, the inexpressible Light of Divine Glory

shone forth, before which the blazing candles paled in comparison. All who saw it took fright. Descending from Heaven was Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by hosts of Angels and Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who had prophesied in ages past concerning the Most Holy Virgin Mary.

Seeing Her Son, the Mother of God exclaimed: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God My Savior, for He hath regarded the low estate of His Handmaiden" (Luke 1:46-48) and, rising from Her bed to meet the Lord, She bowed down to Him, and the Lord bid Her enter into Life Eternal. Without any bodily suffering, as though in a happy sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave Her soul into the hands of Her Son and God.

Then began a joyous angelic song. Accompanying the pure soul of the God-betrothed and with reverent awe for the Queen of Heaven, the angels exclaimed: "Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee, blessed art Thou among women! For lo, the Queen, God's Maiden comes, lift up the gates, and with the Ever-Existing One, take up the Mother of Light; for through Her salvation has come to all the human race. It is impossible to gaze upon Her, and it is impossible to render Her due honor" (Stikherion on "Lord, I Have Cried"). The Heavenly gates were raised, and meeting the soul of the Most Holy Mother of God, the Cherubim and the Seraphim glorified Her with joy. The face of the Mother of God was radiant with the glory of Divine virginity, and from Her body there came a sweet fragrance.

Miraculous was the life of the All-Pure Virgin, and wondrous was Her Repose, as Holy Church sings: "In Thee, O Queen, the God of all hath given thee as thy portion the things that are above nature. Just as in the Birth-Giving He did preserve Thine virginity, so also in the grave He did preserve Thy body from decay" (Canon 1, Ode 6, Troparion 1).



## 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. Archangels Academy is welcoming all students who are 3 years old by September 1st. Classes are held Monday through Friday, 9:00am — 12:00am. School begins the day after Labor Day and ends the Thursday before Memorial Day.

**Sunday School :** Sunday School is held during the regular school year (September thru May). Grade levels are from Preschool 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.

**Plutarchos Academy:** The Afternoon Greek School is held twice a week on Mondays and Fridays from 4:30-6:30p.m. and 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. The curriculum encompasses the Greek language, Reading, Writing, Speaking, History, Religion, Ecclesiastical Hymns, Geography of Greece, Greek Ethnic Hymns and Greek Dance. Tuition Agreement Form Required.

**Family Night:** Our family night ministry is for 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. Flyer is forthcoming.

**Cherubs:** Under the wing of the Archangels Academy, Cherubs is a toddler-caregiver program that welcomes our young children from 6 months to 4 years old, along with caregivers. The group meets ever other Wednesday, 10:30a.m. — 12noon. The program runs September through May and it is offered free of charge to all area Orthodox families.

**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.

**JUNIOR G.O.Y.A. & G.O.Y.A.** Boys and girls in 6th-12th are welcome to join. Various athletic, social and religious activities are held as well as other programs. Meetings are weekly, a schedule will be announced.

**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.

**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 at 10:00. Our first meeting will be on Saturday, September 9th.

**Choir:** Our Senior and Junior Choir meet together once a month. The Choir chants hymns during the Divine Liturgy during the entire year except the summer months of July and August. Practice and Liturgy schedule will be announced.

**Floga Greek Dancing:** Greek ethnic and cultural dances are taught to children of all ages. The Dancers participate in community ethnic events as well as the parish festival.

**Byzantine Music Classes:** Adults and Students 1st grade through 12th grade are St. Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church 9 Saint Spyridon Ministries welcome. Beginner Classes are held every Saturday from 3:30 pm — 4:15 pm, and Intermediate classes every Saturday 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" Saint Augustine, FL.

**Kentro of Orthodox Martyria:** The Kentro is a ministry of our parish whose aim is to spread the word of God, further educate all the faithful in the Orthodox faith. The bookstore has available for purchase Byzantine Icons, religious books, religious videos of various Saints, cassettes analyzing our 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](http://www.Saint-Spyridon.net).



## PTA NEWS



Greetings from the PTA! The new school year is quickly approaching and we are excited and ready to provide our youth fun events that the whole family can enjoy! First off, we would like to thank Fr. George for his

help and spiritual guidance in all our efforts. We would also like to thank Frank Kopanis, Parish Council President for his support and for setting an excellent example of leadership. I would like to thank our previous PTA president Dana Vasilakos for her dedication and leadership these past few years. We wish her the best of luck as she moves forward as the Philoptochos President, and we look forward to working with her in future events!

I would like to introduce our new PTA board and the advisors: Vicky Argyropoulos, Vivian Tzanetakos, Evelyn Hristakos, Krissy Turloukis, Stathie Pampihail, Vicki Trahanas, Toula Les, Niki McNeill, Kelly Hohlastos, Debbie Petrakos, Presbyteria Diane, Stacy Valliantos and Vicky Kournetas.

We would like to invite you all to our first PTA hosted event, PTA's Back to School Retreat which includes the annual backpack blessing on Saturday, August 26th from 10:00-12:00. This year, we will be working with the Philoptochos for their school supply drive. Please consider bringing in a few school items for donation to help some children in need this upcoming year.

This PTA is dedicated to keeping our youth and families rooted within our church while keeping them involved and engaged in church events and supporting spiritual growth through our many activities.

Please join us to help in this endeavor as this PTA's effectiveness relies on parent participation, for nothing is possible without you!

## HANDMAIDENS

I can't believe summer is almost over! The Handmaidens will be back in full force kicking off the school year with a skate event! Join us for a night of fun, music, food and prizes on Thursday, August 31st from 5pm-7pm! This event is for everyone!

Support the Philoptochos School Supply drive! Please consider bringing in a few items to help a child this year!

# BACK TO SCHOOL RETREAT

JOIN THE PTA FOR THE ANNUAL BACKPACK BLESSING!

**SATURDAY, August 26th at 10:00-12:00**

WE WILL BEGIN THE DAY WITH AN AGIASMOS SERVICE WITH FR. GEORGE. FOLLOWED BY SNACKS, CRAFTS AND GAMES IN THE GYM.

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO STAY AND CHECK OUT OUR VARIOUS SCHOOL TABLES AND PTA MEMBERSHIP TABLE!

PLEASE BRING YOUR BACKPACK!

# ROLL INTO THE SCHOOL YEAR

JOIN US ON

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 31ST IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT**

**FOR A SKATE EVENT!**

**5:00PM-7:00PM**

NO BIKES ALLOWED...ROLLER SKATES, SHATE BOARDS AND SCOOTERS ONLY! MUST BRING YOUR OWN, WHEELS WON'T BE PROVIDED.

This is a free event to enter but there will be a concession stand, split the pot and joeys food truck for food!

SEE YOU THERE!!! ALL AGES WELCOME!

Proceeds to benefit the missions of Handmaidens

## PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



Our Plutarchos Academy is preparing for another fun and productive school year. A big thank you to Mr. George Eliacosta for painting our classrooms and giving them a fresh new look! Thank you to the volunteers that moved everything out and back into the classrooms so that the floors can be cleaned and polished.

Classes are offered every Monday and Friday, 4:30—6:30 p.m. We will begin on Friday, September 8th, with an Agiasmo Service and a “Meet and greet” event. Parents are invited to visit their child's classroom, meet the teacher, ask questions and learn about the curriculum.

As we are making our final preparations for our classes, scheduling teachers and curriculum needs, lesson plans and educational material, it is essential to know the number of students at each level. Register as soon as possible. Applications are available on our Church Website and at the Church office. Please, don't wait till the last minute.

Hope to see you all at the PTA organized “Back to School Retreat” on Saturday, August 26th.

We are looking forward to an amazing New School Year. Fell free to call or email the Church office with any questions.

## CAMP KALOKAIRAKI

Another successful year of "Camp Kalokairaki" unfolded during the 3rd week of June, immersed in the captivating theme of "Traveling to Greece." Through the enchanting blend of music, art, dance, drama, culinary delights, and modern technology, our spirited crew embarked on an unforgettable and enriching educational journey. The young participants delved deep into the mesmerizing world of the Greek islands, exploring their fascinating history and mythical tales, mesmerized by captivating pictures and evocative short videos that showcased the breathtaking beauty of our homeland.

The kids experienced hands-on learning as they delved into the art of ancient pottery vases, creating their own masterpieces with excitement and joy. They marveled at the intricate designs that adorned the vases in ancient Greek times, unraveling the symbolic meanings behind each artistic motif.

In addition to their explorations of Greek history and art, the children at Camp Kalokeraki were also introduced to the culinary delights of ancient Greece, with a particular focus on the most famous food of that era: bread. They eagerly participated in the process of baking traditional Greek bread, savoring the delightful aroma as it filled the air. Once the bread was out of the oven, they joyfully tasted the fruits of their labor and were provided with the cherished recipes to recreate the experience at home, ensuring that their newfound knowledge would be shared with their families.

To further immerse themselves in the spirit of the Greek islands, the kids showcased their artistic talents by taking part in an engaging and vibrant play. Through lively performances filled with dance and songs, they creatively brought to life the allure and magic of the Greek islands, captivating their fellow campers and their onlooking families with their impressive skills and boundless enthusiasm.

As the sun set over Camp Kalokairaki each day, laughter and newfound knowledge filled the air, forming lasting memories of an extraordinary adventure that will forever echo in the hearts and minds of our cherished campers.

Evi Marouda and Stavroula Koutsi





# CAMP KALOKAIRAKI



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

After many years, St. Spyridon held its first successful Vacation Church School program from June 19 -23. We were pleased to have 49 registered children! Our children had a packed and fun-filled week, learning about St. Paul's dangerous journey through Athens, spreading the word about Jesus, and bringing many people to Christianity. The children were spiritually enriched with daily drama, song and dance, athletics, and lessons. We thank all of our amazing volunteers who came together to help throughout the week, as the success of the program would not have been possible without them. We look forward to growing the program next June 2024! Get ready to learn about the Prophet Daniel!



# ARCHANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

## ATTENTION PRE-SCHOOL FAMILIES

We now offer full day and half day options. Our school is unique in that it offers lessons of faith, a great teacher to student ratio, mathematics, Greek Language, science, literature, cooking, and more!

In addition to our strong academic foundation, we also are blessed to have a trained staff member in the area of social-emotional learning.

We can't wait to get our students back into the classroom!

Come and experience the beauty of our Archangels Academy Preschool!

We have a few spots still available for enrollment. If you are interested in our program, please contact the director at [director@archangelsacademy.org](mailto:director@archangelsacademy.org)

Come join us, we are always happy to see new faces!!



Archangels Academy Preschool

### NOW OFFERING FULL DAY & HALF DAY PRESCHOOL

Open For **2023-2024** Registration! 

"FINDING THE IDEAL  
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT  
FOR YOUR CHILD"

**ENROLL NOW  
SPACE IS LIMITED**

**WHAT WE OFFER:**

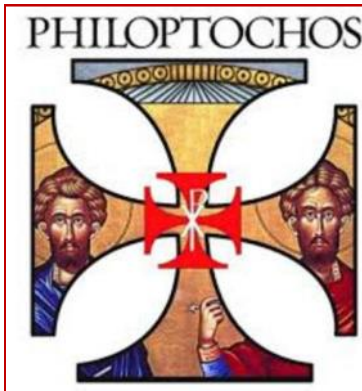
- Faith Formation & Lessons
- Small Class Sizes
- Language & Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Emotional Learning
- Greek Language
- Life-Long Friendships

**Monday - Friday**  
Half Day 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM  
Full Day 8:45 - 3:00 PM

Contact Us  
**708-385-2311**  
or email  
[director@archangelsacademy.org](mailto:director@archangelsacademy.org)  
Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave., Palos Heights, IL



## PHILOPTOCHOS



Dear St. Spyridon Family,

Kalo Mina! It is my honor & great privilege to introduce myself as the newly elected President of our St. Spyridon Philoptochos.

Before we begin the new year, I would like to thank our past President Georgia Xeros for her leadership & dedication to our Philoptochos for the past 4 years! I would also like to thank all of our Philoptochos ladies who dedicated their time & talents in assisting with the preparations for our annual festival!

As the summer is coming to an end, I am looking forward to the new Ecclesiastical New Year as Philoptochos President & working with our members to ensure the values & goals of Philoptochos continue on.

### 2023-2024 Philoptochos Executive Board

President – Dana Vasilakos

1st Vice President – Toula Georgiopoulos

2nd Vice President – Helen Sotiropoulos

Treasurer – Maria Meintanis

Assistant Treasurer – Chrysoula Alexopoulos

Recording Secretary – Zoe Kopanis

Corresponding Secretary – Kathy Korbakes

Sisterly Agapi,

Dana Vasilakos



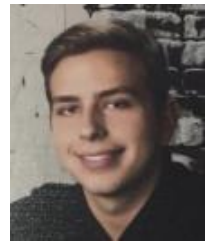
## PETER MANASSES PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

The St. Spyridon Philoptochos society is incredibly honored by Mrs. Manasses's desire to acknowledge and award six students of our Parish with scholarships this year. The Manasses family is deeply invested in ensuring that the students of Saint Spyridon have the same opportunities to pursue their education and dreams, just as the late, Mr. Peter Manasses did. Mrs. Manasses takes immense pride in carrying forward her late husband's legacy and philanthropic spirit. The Manasses Family holds a heartfelt aspiration to witness the next generation of student scholars as they honor the memory of Mr. Manasses. May his memory be eternal.



**Andreas Christy** is the son of Nicholas and Faith Christy. Andreas is currently pursuing a degree in medicine and is a graduate student at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Andreas received his Bachelors in Biochemistry from the University of Arizona. Andreas has also attended the University of Illinois and Arkansas State University. Andreas was also employed by Axion Labs, where he not only learned about advanced techniques and theory involving gas and liquid chromatography, but also worked as an assistant instructor. Andreas has served disabled children and also the impoverished through his volunteer work at numerous organizations including Mesiricordia House, Night to Shine, Habitat for Humanity, and Life Source, and the Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Andreas has served as an altar boy, was a member and was a program leader of GOYA, participated in YAL (Young Adults League), and also attended Bible study. Andreas has strengthened his relationship with God by attending summer camps at Fanari, Ionian Village, and Crossroads. According to Andreas "The Church has been the central pillar of who I am my entire life, providing answers to unanswerable questions, hope in times of hopelessness, and strength. In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life (John 8:12). In the same way that the Saints and forefathers led by example, we are called to live our lives in a Christ-like manner.'"

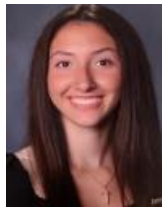
**Peter Panagiotopoulos** is the son of Anastasios and Maria Panagiotopoulos. He successfully obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Bioengineering last year and is presently pursuing his second year of Graduate studies with the goal of attaining a master's degree in the Computer Science Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Peter has actively participated in various organizations including the Biomedical Engineering Society, the Hellenic Student Organization, and was a valued member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Service Fraternity. His dedication to his studies has been recognized through his inclusion on the Dean's list at the Grainger College of Engineering. Additionally, Peter's academic standing earned him the prestigious AHEPA Woodlawn Academic Scholarship. Peter was also a previous recipient of the Philoptochos Academic Scholarship in 2019. Throughout his undergraduate studies, Peter dedicated his time to volunteering at several organizations, which include The Eastern Illinois Foodbank, the Junior League of Champaign, and the Festival of Trees. Peter has also volunteered at St. Spyridon's Greek festivals every year. Peter aspires to combine his computer science expertise and bioengineering background. His goal is to create inclusive software and medical devices that can aid in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of illnesses, aiming to improve the lives of people from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds.



**Anthony Papadatos**, the son of Haralambos and Connie Papadatos, graduated from Andrew High School in 2022 with an impressive GPA of 4.5. Anthony is currently on the Dean's List at the University of Iowa, where he is studying Psychology. In high school, Anthony was actively engaged in various activities. He participated in ACES (Academic Challenge for Engineering and Science), played soccer, and was a member of the Future Teachers Association. Notably, Anthony took the initiative to establish the school's French Club and achieved the distinction of being recognized as an AP Scholar. Anthony has actively participated in various activities at St. Spyridon such as being a member of GOYA, dancing in Floga, and playing GOAL basketball. Additionally, he has generously volunteered for our church festival for the past six years. Anthony has also held the position of captain among the altar boys for the last four years. Anthony envisions a future career in the field of medicine. He expresses a deep sense of purpose, stating, "God has bestowed upon me the gift and desire to care for those who are unable to care for themselves. I harbor a profound passion for learning more about human anatomy and its various ailments, seeking to expand my knowledge continuously."

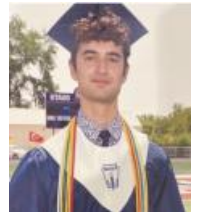
## PETER MANASSES PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

**Maria Glikis** is the daughter of Paul and Nicky Glikis and will be attending Moraine Valley in the fall to pursue an Associate of Arts degree. At Moraine Valley, Maria is pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree. Maria has been on the Dean's List and President's List and was awarded an Honorable Mention in the Student Art and Design Exhibit. At Carl Sandburg High School, Maria earned AP college credit in Studio Art and U.S. History. Her academic achievements also led her to be recognized as an Illinois State Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. In addition to her scholarly pursuits, Maria possesses a fervent passion for the fine and performing arts. She was a concertmaster in her school's orchestra and also served as a stage manager for her school's production. Maria was also an active member of the Tri-M Music Association and volunteered for the Music Boosters. Beyond her artistic interests, Maria exhibited her athleticism by participating in Powderpuff football and joining the Bowling Team. Maria's involvement at St. Spyridon includes participation in the Junior and Senior Choirs, serving as a Handmaiden and Myrofora. Maria has also participated in GOYA, Greek school, and Sunday school. Moreover, Maria is a committed volunteer at our parish's Greek festival every year. Maria has also participated in the Oratorical Festival and achieved third place for her outstanding poetry.



**Victoria Zdenovec** is the daughter of Georgia Malamis. Victoria graduated from Marist High School and plans to attend Indiana University in Bloomington where she intends to pursue a Major in Finance. In high school, Victoria was on the Dean's List for 4 years. Victoria was a member of the National Honors Society, was a Student Ambassador, participated in Peer Leadership, and was active in Marist Cares. Victoria also was active in the Little Redhawk organization and Lunch Tutoring. During high school, Victoria was also employed at the Palos Heights Recreation Center, tutored children, and worked as a summer camp counselor. At St. Spyridon, Victoria participated in GOYA, Handmaidens, was a Myrofora, participated in the Junior Olympics, and attended Archangels Academy. Victoria believes that "Through advocacy, awareness, mentorship, and the simple act of volunteering, it holds the power to shape a more compassionate world. By dedicating my time and energy to volunteer work, I can directly address poverty's immediate needs facing adversity. It's important to build connections with the less fortunate in order to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges they face. By serving those in need, I can become an agent of God, and leave a positive change for those in need and future generations." Victoria's drive to be successful academically, her altruistic spirit, and her perseverance will enable her to be successful in her future endeavors.

**Christos Restinas** is the son of Mr. Kostas Retsinas and Dr. Zoe Alikakos. Christos will be pursuing his degree in Business and Finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Christos recently graduated in the top 5 percent in his class at Stagg High School. Christos was actively involved in several academic and athletic extra curricular activities at Stagg High School. Christos was a Distinguished AP Scholar, served as Vice President of the International Club, was a Legislator for his school's Youth and Government organization, and was a starter on Stagg's Basketball team during his Sophomore year. Christos was also a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Math Honor Society. Christos also served as the chair for Relay for Life, a charity event, where he and 250 participants raised over 40,000 for the American Cancer Society. At St. Spyridon, Christos has been actively involved as an altar boy, was part of GOAL basketball, a member of GOYA, danced for Floga, and attended Plutarchos Greek School. Christos has also received the Seal of Bilitracy in both Greek and Spanish. Christos aspires to "empower others and reduce their financial stress to help them achieve financial stability. Since I expect to be well versed in the business field, I hope to start giving financial advice to the less fortunate."



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chicago

## 3ETREAT

A Pan-Orthodox Retreat ENCOUNTER. EMBODY. ENGAGE.



September 15- September 17, 2023  
SS. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church  
14,01 Wagner Rd. Glenview, IL 60025

3Etreats are a Pan-Orthodox opportunity to connect with other Orthodox Christians in your area.

Open to ministry leaders, parents, teens, and young adults!

REGISTER HERE:



OR VISIT  
[www.theOYM.org/events](http://www.theOYM.org/events)

Friday, September 15, 7:30pm  
Opening Night! All are invited for refreshments and conversation!

Saturday, September 16, 9am-5pm  
Day-long retreat with a youth track (6th-12th grade) and an adult track for parents, ministry workers, and young adults.

Saturday, September 16, 5pm  
Vespers

Saturday, September 16, 7pm-8:30pm  
Young Adult Event  
Join us for connection and conversation and dinner

Sunday, September 17  
Join us for Divine Liturgy and come say hi to OYM at Coffee Hour

SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH


ORTHODOX YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Hellenic Orthodox Church of St. Spyridon invites you to a

## VIGIL

in commemoration of the  
**Great Miracle of Saint Spyridon in 1716 A.D.**



Thursday, August 10, 2023  
6:00 PM  
PARAKLISIS, GREAT VESPERS WITH ARTOKLASIA, ORTHROS AND DIVINE LITURGY  
presided by His Grace  
BISHOP ARISTOVOULOS OF MADABA  
of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem  
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave., Palos Heights, IL



## FOOD PANTRY

**Please remember our Food Pantry**

The St. Spyridon Food Pantry passes out food to the needy every Thursday from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

We are always in need of the following items.

Cereal	Pancake Mix and Syrup	Oatmeal
Spaghetti Sauce	Spaghetti/Pasta	Box mash Potatoes
Brownie Mix	Mac & Cheese	Tuna cans
Can Soups	Mustard/Ketchup	Salad Dressing
Can Corn	Can Beans	Can Peas
Oil	Any other Nonperishable Foods.	

Monetary donations are always welcome.

Please place all nonperishable food donation in the **FOOD PANTRY DONATION BOX** located in the gym by the parking lot door.

SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

# JOIN OUR CHOIR!



WE ARE LOOKING TO REESTABLISH THE CHOIR AT ST SPYRIDON! PEOPLE OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOMED TO JOIN! INTERESTED? PLEASE CONTACT RUTH FAKLIS AT 708.530.9064 OR BY E-MAIL AT RODOTHEA52@HOTMAIL.COM

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BYZANTINE MUSIC CLASSES

FOR BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATE LEVELS  
CLASSES ARE HELD EVERY SATURDAY  
(STARTING SEPTEMBER 9 THROUGH  
APRIL OF 2024)

3:30 - 4:15 PM - BEGINNER CLASS  
4:15 PM - 5:00 PM - INTERMEDIATE CLASS

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

INSTRUCTOR:  
ALEXIA CHIBUCOS



## Plutarchos Hellenic Language & Heritage Academy



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

Monday/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 [stspyridonplutarchos@gmail.com](mailto:stspyridonplutarchos@gmail.com)

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



### ARCHANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

2023-2024  
TUITION INFORMATION

HALF DAY 8:45 AM-12:00 PM  
STEWARDS \$3050  
NON-STEWARDS \$3310

FULL DAY 8:45 AM-3:00 PM  
STEWARDS \$5850  
NON-STEWARDS \$6390

Non-refundable application fee of \$50 due at registration.

Multiple children discount 10% off 2nd tuition.

Flexible Payment Plans Available

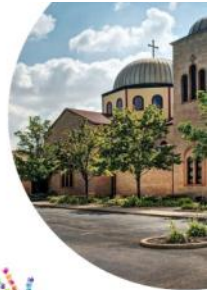
A \$250.00 Non-refundable deposit is required with signed contract. Deposit will be applied to tuition upon admission.

+708-385-2311  
[www.archangelsacademy.org](http://www.archangelsacademy.org)  
St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue  
Palos Heights, IL



### 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 (yia, yia, 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 2023 CALENDAR  
10:00AM - 12:00PM

9/20/23	11/15/23
10/4/23	11/29/23
10/18/23	12/13/23
11/1/23	

SEND AN EMAIL TO [EHRISTAKOS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EHRISTAKOS@GMAIL.COM)  
TO SIGN UP!



# Huck FINN

Restaurant & Donuts

10501 S. Cicero 708-499-1112  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

3414 S. Archer 773-247-5515  
Chicago, IL 60608

6650 S. Pulaski 773-581-4285  
Chicago, IL 60629

# Eggman's



## Restaurant

12701 S. Pulaski  
Alsip, IL 60803

708-239-8740



## Nick's Barbecue

### RIBS

4 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

<b>Burbank</b> 6945 W. 79th St. (708) 233-RIBS (7427)	<b>Tinley Park</b> 16638 S. Oak Park (708) 444-RIBS (7427)	<b>ORDER ONLINE</b> <a href="http://www.nicksbbq.com">www.nicksbbq.com</a> <small>Reserve Special Occasions &amp; Catering</small>
<b>Alsip</b> 5500 Cal Sag Rd. (708) 923-RIBS (7427)	<b>Homer Glen</b> 15800 S. Bell Rd. (708) 645-RIBS (7427)	

**WE HAVE VIDEO GAMING**

## A & C COLLISION CENTER

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



5510 W. Cal Sag Rd.  
Alsip, IL 60803

Chris: (708) 745-8659

Email: [ACcollision.claims@gmail.com](mailto:ACcollision.claims@gmail.com)

Dimitris Bezanis C.O.



## BEZANIS H.V.A.C. LLC

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

Licensed • Insured • Bonded

708.717.4708



*AI Piemonte*

**BUICK GMC**

364 W Grand Ave, Elmhurst, IL • (630) 832-9500 • [www.apbuickgmc.com](http://www.apbuickgmc.com)



**SOLD**

YOU ASKED FOR A SIGN

**Frank Manikas**  
(708) 359-4455  
[manikasrealty.com](http://manikasrealty.com)

**kw** PREFERRED REALTY  
KELLERWILLIAMS.

*"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"



DEAN DEMOS

- Dean Demos  
AI Piemonte Buick GMC  
(708) 296-8013

Μιλώ ελληνικά