

THE VOICE

AUGUST 2024 - VOLUME No. 392
SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Vacation Church School



Festival 2024

thank you
ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ

We thank all of our volunteers for making the 2024 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!**

FLOGA DANCE TROUPE

The Saint Spyridon Floga Hellenic Dance Troupe had a fantastic summer performing at several festivals, including the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Hegewisch and Holy Trinity in Schiller Park. Our dancers had an amazing time dancing and bonding at these events.

Additionally, both the Wonder Workers and Floga Dance Troupes showcased their talents at our own St. Spyridon Festival on both evenings. All the kids enjoyed performing and incorporating a few new φηγούρες.

We will be taking a break from practice until next season. Please look for registration information in August or September for our new dance season.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone for their support, especially our directors, teachers, administrators, the committee, and most especially Fr. George.

Have a great summer, everyone! See you in the fall.



FATHER'S MESSAGE

Beloved Faithful,

Prayer Gives us Vision

At the clergy laity conference in San Diego, I was sitting on the couch in the lobby when I looked in front of me and saw a tv screen with six different channels running at the same time. As if one screen isn't enough! This image is a reflection of how we are often tempted to live our lives. It seems as if we are sucked into so many images and distractions, from bill boards to social media, it can be almost impossible to be productive with our minds scattered in so many directions!

In our social-media driven society, we are in danger of losing ourselves. The relationships of many people are struggling from the effects of inattentiveness to life: their own health (physical and spiritual) and their relationship to God and to others (their spouse, children, family and friends).

As we enjoy the summer months, many of us go on vacation in order to find rest and rejuvenation, and to "get away" from distraction. During vacations, we are often gifted with the opportunity to slow down, think, and reflect about our current condition in relationship to our life and the

parts of it mentioned above. The Panagia fast (August 1 through August 14), often referred to as the Summer Pascha, blesses us with this same opportunity. On vacation or in the trenches of this fast, let us use seize the opportunity to encourage our parish toward a greater emphasis of removing distractions by focusing on intensified prayer.

There are many books written on the subject of prayer, many seeking to define it. I think the best definition that I have found of prayer is the following: prayer is the remembrance of God in all things. We could also say that this really is the goal of all prayer.

The Fathers of the church speak a lot about prayer and all seem to come back to this one point – that prayer helps us become mindful of God in the midst of every area of our lives. This includes not only intentional prayer at specific times throughout the day, but also in the midst of one's tasks and responsibilities at work and at home. St. Paul's teaching to "pray

without ceasing" (1 Thess 5:17) is certainly a possibility with this definition of prayer.

Origen once said "He who prays unceasingly combines prayer with necessary duties and duties with prayer. Only in this way can we find it practicable to fulfill the commandment to pray always. It consists in regarding the whole of Christian existence as a single great prayer. What we are accustomed to call prayer is only part of it." Thus, prayer can encompass our whole lives. Our whole life then can be an extension of unceasing prayer. St. John Cassian once said "For whoever is in the habit of praying only at the hour when the knees are bent prays very little. But whoever is distracted by any sort of wandering of heart, even on bended knee, never prays. And therefore, we have to be outside the hour of prayer what we want to be when we are praying." Our lives become the activity to our prayer. We become a living

prayer always offering up ourselves to God in all things. In this way, whatever we are doing, we are continually praying.

The Jesus prayer (Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me), gives us the opportunity to look at our life through this special lens. When our words, mind and



heart are focused on the Lord, Christ becomes the motive for all of our choices, decisions, and motives in life. We can always ask ourselves in the context of any situation, what would Christ want for me? The more we give ourselves to this prayer, the more we receive clarity and direction. Our vision for the world and our mission no longer is motivated by the world. It is motivated by what Christ wants. The distractions become less. Our goal and vision are clear. We can then discern what is spiritually nourishing from that which goes against what Christ wants for us and our parish. The six screens no longer exist, and the antenna or signal of our television is tuned into the icon of Christ and His will for us.

If we are never praying, then it will be difficult to accomplish much at all in terms of spiritual growth. Some of us may be saying "I'm doomed. I never pray." If this is how you are feeling, I want to offer you the opportunity to begin collecting yourself through prayer. Prayer is the key which opens the

FATHER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

door to a focused and centered life on Christ. Begin by praying for five minutes a day (preferably in the morning when your mind is clear). Use the Jesus prayer (Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me), incorporate a little scripture too, and let your lips recite the prayer. Let the prayers resonate in your mind and let it descend into the heart. Over time and with proper instruction from a priest who prays, your thoughts, desires, and motives for life will be influenced to actualize what the great theologian, Paul Evdokimov writes:

"It is not enough to say prayers. one must become, be prayer incarnate. It is not enough to have moments of praise. All of life, every act, every gesture, even the smile on the human face, must become a hymn of adoration, an offering, a prayer. One should not offer what one has, but what one is."

May God help us to see the totality of our life as one ceaseless prayer especially as we soon will enter the Panagia Fast. Let us be open to seeing the presence of God in all things. It will only be possible if we redirect our lives, eliminate distractions and learn to pray with intent so that the soul may see things for what they truly are – opportunities that God presents for our healing, growth and resurrection in this world for the Kingdom to come.

With love in Christ,



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Χαίρετε,

Σας εύχομαι καλό Δεκαπενταύγουστο. Ας πάρουμε αυτή την ευκαιρία να τιμήσουμε την Παναγία μας. Πάντοτε να μας προστατεύει και να φέρνει αγάπη και ειρήνη σ' όλο τον κόσμο.

Greetings, as we approach the halfway point of summer, we have the opportunity to honor and celebrate the Dormition of the Theotokos. May Panagia guide, protect, and along with St. Spyridon, intercede on our behalf as we all work towards our salvation.

It has been busy summer thus far. On June 6th the 27th Annual St. Spyridon Golf Outing took place at the Odyssey Golf Foundation. It was the most successful golf outing to date, with 119 golfers, and ~\$26,000 raised for our building fund. THANK YOU to Nick Kournetas, the entire Golf Committee, donors, sponsors, volunteers, and golfers, and to Fr. George for his leadership and prayers at the start, and throughout the round as he made his way around the course. I am already looking forward to next year.

On July 13th and 14th, perhaps the hottest and most humid days of the year, we held our annual festival. Although the weather did not work in our favor, we were ready, well-organized, and well-staffed. Of course, we would always accept more help if available. THANK YOU Dean Eliacostas (Festival Chair), volunteers, Parish Council, Philoptochos, donors, and everyone that attended this year. Once again Dean did an exceptional job, and we are blessed to have him leading us.

As Fr. George has stated, the festival is an opportunity to introduce visitors and our surrounding community to Orthodox Christianity. We saw a large number of visitors enter the church, light a candle, take a tour, and ask many questions. They all appreciated the sanctity of the church and its beautiful iconography. THANK YOU to Mr. Konstantinos Rougas, our church guide.

We were also blessed again with the opportunity to be on the WGN-TV with Dean Richards a few days before the festival to promote it. Mrs. Dina Katsoulis, Mrs. Kathy Korbakes, and our fearless Festival Chairman and leader, Dean Eliacostas were all on wonderfully representing our St. Spyridon Church. Mrs. Katsoulis was a natural, and if Dean Richards needs a regular contributor to represent Greek culture and cuisine, he would be blessed to have Kuria Dina on all the time. And on that note, a big thank you to Dean Richards (and WGN-TV), for hosting us and for attending the fest on Saturday, July 12th.

Although the festival was down in attendance, but we will still deliver a healthy profit. Thankfully, for years now, the church financials have been well managed, and we do not rely on the festival to make our year. We are humbled and thankful for what St. Spyridon provided, and that he ensured the storms came after the festival was closed.

Καλή συνέχεια με υγεία
Bill Kiliias, Parish Council President

FESTIVAL 2024

Dear Volunteers and Guests,

On behalf of the Festival Committee, we wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for your invaluable support and dedication during our recent Saint Spyridon Greek Food Festival.

From those who arrived the week before to help with setting up, to those who generously volunteered their time throughout the weekend of the festival, and to those who stayed to assist with the cleanup on Monday, and anyone who came to support, your contributions made a significant difference in the success of our event.

Your hard work, enthusiasm, and willingness to pitch in wherever needed did not go unnoticed. Whether you were helping in the kitchen, serving food, selling raffle tickets, helping in the church, working in the kids corner, welcoming others at admissions, working in the office, assisting guests, working in the book store, or tidying up afterwards, your efforts were truly commendable and deeply appreciated.

The festival was a success thanks to your commitment and teamwork. It is heartwarming to see our community come together in such a meaningful way to celebrate our beloved parish, our community of faith, and our Greek heritage.

Once again, thank you for your tireless dedication and support!

Warm regards,

Father George & Dean Eliacostas

MANY THANKS TO ALL THE BUSINESSES THAT DONATED TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

95th Produce, Hickory Hills

Alpha Bread Company

Alpha Gyros

Big Boy Subs

Billy Jo's

Blueberry Field Restaurant

City of Palos Heights

Dennis Wholesale, Chicago

Eggman's Restaurant, Alsip

Georgios Banquets

Gourmet Spice Company

Jacky's Hot Dogs

Kefi

Kronos Foods

Les Brothers Restaurant

Lumes (Palos Heights)

Lumes House of Pancake

(Frankfort)

Marist Sports Complex

Mickey's Casual Dining

Mickey's Gyros

Morse Market, Chicago

Nick's Barbeque

Nicky's Carry Out

Nicky's Gyros (63rd)

Nicky's Gyros (Chicago)

Nicky's Gyros (Crestwood)

Olympia Foods

Olympic Star Restaurant

Palos Courts

Chris Panos Foods

Tasty Waffle (Romeoville)

Trinity Christian College

Westfield Restaurant

R. Whittingham & Sons Meats

...and many more dedicated donors and volunteers. If we have forgotten to list a supply donor name, we apologize, and please bring it to our attention so they you may be included in the next issue of the VOICE.



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 14th at 10:00 p.m.

95th Produce	Christy, Faith	Georgiopoulos, Niko	Kavvadas, Pete
Alemis, Alex	Collopy Family	Georgiopoulos, Tim	Kekempanos, Larry
Alemis, Chris	Colompos, Thalia	Georgios	Kilias, Bill & Christina
Alexakos, Georgia	Dagres, Demo	Geroulis, Christos	Kilias, James
Alexakos, Panagiotis	Dagres, Kostas	Glikis, Elefth. & Andreas	Kilias, Pat
Alexopoulos, Katerina	Dalmares, Christo	Glikis, Peter & Maria	Kirkpatich, Richard
Alikakos, Marina	Dalmares, Panayioti	Goglione, Sam	Kladis, Loula
Alpha SFD	Danos, Gus	Golden Griddle	Kladis, Nick
Andriopoulos, Dimitri	Degrado, Mike	Golf, Linda	Kladis, Tasia
Antonopoulos, Chris	Deligianis, Anastasia	Golfis, Dimitri	Kladis, Tony
Archangels Academy	Deligianis, Helen	Golfis, Keriann	Klioris, Stavroula
Argyropoulos, Jimmy	Demacopoulos, Tom	Gordon, Bruce	Kolios, Tina
Argyropoulos, Nick	Demes, Paul	Gountanis, Nick	Kolyvas, Chris
Arias, Rogelio	Depass, Sia	Grapsas, Kathy	Kolyvas, Gus
Arvanitis, Gus	Dimitrakopoulos, N	Green, Ana	Kolyvas, Jann
Athenian Foods	Discount Meats	Green, Cole	Kolyvas, Pete
Barkoulies Family	Downey, Veronica	Green, John Tyler	Kopanis, Frank
Barnett, Ken	Drikos G & A	Halikias, Aris & Christ.	Kopanitsanos, Sophia
Bastas, Maria	Eliacostas, Angela	Haniotakis Family	Korbakes, Steve
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Bezanis, Dimitris	Eliacostas, Grace	Hiotis, George D	Korbos, Frank & Stefanie
Bisbikis, Jim	Eliacostas, Irene	Hiotis, Paul	Kotsiovos
Bizoukas, Eleni	Eliacostas, John	Hohlastos, Dina	Kottaras, D G
Bobis, Nicholas P	Eliacostas, Josh	Hohlastos, Sava	Kouchis Pete
Bolz, John	Eliacostas, Nicolette	Hohlastos, Vasili	Kournetas, Nick & Vicky
Boundes, David	Eliacostas, Penelope	Horman, Mary	Koutsoubas
Bourounis, Sam	Eliacostas, Sammy	Hurnikos, Annie & Chris	Kyres, Andrew S
Bousis, Dimitris	Eliapulos, Chris	Iovino, Nicholas	Kyres, Pamy
Boutsikakis, P & B	Eliopoulos, M & M	J P K	Kyriakoulis, Frank
Bradley, Dan	Evangelopoulos, Georgia	Janinis, Issa	Kyriazis, Lena
Bratsos, Paul	Faklis, Ruth E	Jaskowiec Family	Kyroudis, George
Briseno, Connie	Fiannouris, Stefanos	Kakos, Toula	L & P Foods
Cali Phil	Flaskos, Dimitrios	Kamberos, Becki	Labrakis Family
Catsogiannis, Christos	Flaskos, Kely	Kanelakes, Efrosine	Labrakis, Politimi
Catsogiannis, Jim	Florek, Nick	Kapasaskis, Joanne	Lamberis, Gus
Chakos, Michael	Folliard, Edward	Karamagianis, Dimitrios	Lamberis, Tom
Chibucos, Caryn	Gangas, Tom	Katsoulakis, Tarsi	Lambrakis, Nick
Chionis, Jim	Gatsios, George	Katsoulis, Dina	Lambridis, Orestis
Chioros, George	Georgiopoulos, A & B	Kavroulakis, John	Landis, David
Christos, Anthony	Georgiopoulos, Bill	Kavvada, Andriana	Les, Bill

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

Les, Soula
 Limperis, George
 Malamis, Georgia
 Manasses, Ted
 Manasses, Tina
 Manikakos, Billy
 Manolas, Dafni
 Manolis, Kay
 Marines, Alexa
 Marines, Demetrius
 Marines, Jaimie
 Marines, Nikki
 Marines, Penelope
 Marines, Susan
 Matsas, Demetri
 Matsas, Kostas
 Matsas, Stavro
 Matsas, Thanos
 Mavragis, Dennis
 Mavragis, John
 McNeill Family
 McNutty, Beth
 Metropoulos, Christo
 Metropoulos, Tom
 Midas, Joan
 Mihas, Deno
 Miller, Keith
 Mitsakopoulos, Adam
 Mulkerrin, Pat
 New Horizon Rest
 Nicky's Gyros
 Nikolopoulos, Georgia
 Nikolopoulos, Nikolaos
 Nikolopoulos, Stavro
 Panagiotaros, Georgia
 Panagiotaros, Pete
 Panagiotopoulos Maria
 Panagiotopoulos P & K
 Papadatos, Anthony
 Papadatos, Bob
 Papadatos, Connie
 Papadopoulos, Cather.

Papadopoulos, Mary
 Papadopoulos, Spiro
 Papamakarios, Philip
 Papamihail, D & E
 Pappas, Ted & Helen
 Paraskevopoulos, Call.
 Paraskevopoulos, G
 Paraskevopoulos, Paul
 Paraskis, Mary
 Patio Restaurant
 Pavlou, Larry & Maria
 Peters, Mary
 Petinatos, Greg
 Petinatos, Nick
 Petrakis, Andrea
 Petrakos, Evangelos
 Polydoros, George
 Potamousis, George
 Poulos, Spero
 Prassas, Maria
 Primbas, Nancy
 Proheska, Christine
 Purpura, Ross
 Reyes, Juan
 Riley Family
 Riley, Toula & Will
 Rios, Martin
 Rollberg, Vincent
 Roumeliotis, Petros
 Roumeliotis, Dino
 Roumeliotis, Petros
 Samargin, F
 Scianad, Patrick
 Searl, Glynn
 Searl, Susanna
 Shamma, Penny
 Shizas, Nickolas
 Sideris, Spiro
 Skiadopoulos, Chrys.
 Skiadopoulos, George
 Skordas, Tony
 Skyline Restaurant

Sokolowski, Cheryl
 Sotiropoulos Helen
 Sperlakis, Rita
 Spinos, Yiorgios
 Spirrison, Glenn
 Spyridakis, Despina
 Stamatoglou, John
 Starlight Rest
 Stathakis, Paul
 Stavrakas Family
 Sweis Family
 Ted & Kostas
 The Tassos Group
 Theoharis, George
 Torritos, Armando
 Toures Family
 Tourloukis, Angelo
 Trahanas, S & C
 Treantafeles, Leah
 Triantafyllou, George
 Trinity
 Tsagalis, Angelo
 Tsakonas, Angelo
 Tsinoukas, Athena
 Tsinoukas, Nicholas
 Tsionis, Anestis
 Tsionis, Vasiliki
 Tsiumas, Sam
 Tsonis, Anestis
 Tzanetakos, Spiros
 Tzimas, Lampros
 Valaveris, Elias
 Vardalos, Patricia
 Varlas, Freida
 Veneris, Sam
 Viktoryia
 Vitogiannis, George
 Vlachos, Jackson & Leo
 Vlahopoulos, George
 Vranas, Nikos
 Vythoulkas, Vasili
 Webb, Mike

Windy City Hot Dogs
 Xando Café
 Xenos, Dion
 Xenos, Niko
 Xydakis, Anthony
 Yrapsis, Katherine
 Zepeda, David
 Zorbas, Effie



Congratulations to the our Raffle Drawing Winners:

1ST PRIZE: (\$7,500)

Ted Manasses

2ND PRIZE (\$2,000)

George Theoharis

3RD PRIZE (\$1,000)

George Skiadopoulos

4TH PRIZE (\$1,000)

Greg Petinatos

5TH PRIZE (\$1,000)

Eleni Bizoukas

*We apologize for the
misspelling or omitting
of any names.*

*Please bring it to our
attention.*



FESTIVAL PICTURES



27TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

St. Spyridon's 27th annual golf outing and dinner social took place on Thursday, June 6th at the Odyssey in Tinley Park.

The picture-perfect day was filled with fellowship as participants enjoyed golfing, continental breakfast, lunch, a delicious Italian themed dinner, awards, and a prize-filled raffle including two 65-inch televisions.

We were blessed with yet another year of record attendance with over 115 golfers and several more for dinner. Congratulations to Jim Tourloukis, Andy Bendy, Ralph Affrunti and Angelo Ferconio for winning the best team golf score contest coming in at 10 under par. George Les won the longest drive contest and Michael Tuhaimer won longest putt. George Les and Paul Manolistis each won closest to the pin contests.

This important fundraiser helps support the St. Spyridon Church Building Fund. This year's donations will help with various church repairs and heavy maintenance over some of the church areas, offices and classrooms and will provide safety to our parishioners. Thank you to Father George Lamberis for his spiritual leadership, golf committee members who donated countless hours of their time, sponsors, golfers, volunteers, dinner guests and everyone for supporting our church and making it a memorable and fun event.

--Nick Kournetas, Golf Committee Chair.



2024 GOLF OUTING SPONSORS

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JULLIANI'S PIZZA, PALOS HEIGHTS
KAVOORAS & BOUZIOS CPA'S
KEFI RESTAURANT, PALOS HEIGHTS
LES BROTHERS RESTAURANTS
MORSE FRESH MARKET, GEORGE THEOHARIS (2)
MULTICARE HEALTH CENTER, DR. TED MIKROULIS
NAXOS RESTAURANT, ITASCA
NICK BOBIS
NICK'S BBQ
OLYMPIC STAR RESTAURANT, TINLEY PARK
PETE'S PRODUCE- LOOMIS
PETE'S PRODUCE- STONEY
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THE ODYSSEY

EAGLE SPONSORS \$500-\$999

9 MUSES BAR & GRILL
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NEALEY FOODS

LUNCH SPONSORS (\$450 +)

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BITE SIZE PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY- DR. DENISE BO-ZONELOS
CHRIST PANOS FOODS
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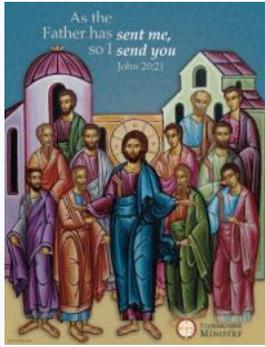
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MORE GOLF OUTING PICTURES...



STEWARDSHIP 2024



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 is can be.

We thank the 275 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.

NEW STEWARDS JUNE 1ST—JULY 21ST

Dr. & Mrs. Alex Alemis	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kirkpatrick	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. Kyr. Anastasopoulos	Mr. J& Mrs.immy Kollintzas	Mr. & Mrs. Glynn Searl
Mr. & Mrs. John Baltsas	Ms. Maria Kostopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Tony Shamma
Mr. & Mrs. Efstathios Bastas	Ms. Nicoletta Koutsis	Mr. Emmanuel Simeakis
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Bezanis	Ms. Stavroula Koutsis	Ms. Rita Sperlakis
Dr. & Mrs. George Danos	Mr. & Mrs. George Kristo	Ms. Alexandra Stolis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Doulas	Ms. Georgia Malamis	Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Synadinos
Mr. George Drikos	Mr. Eustratios Marinos & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Toulrloukis
Mr. James Halikas & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Dino Mihas	Mr. & Mrs. Konstantino Trahanas
Mr. & Mrs. Aristidis Halikias	Mr. John Pavlopoulos	Mrs. Athena Tsinoukas
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hix	Dr. Mary Peters	Mr. & Mrs. Gleb Urobuskin
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Hohlastos	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Primbas	Mr. Michael Valaris
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis James	Mr. & Dr. Kostas Retsinas	
Mr. & Mrs. John Karopulos	Mrs. Gkolfo Rodogiannis	

ADVERTISE IN THE VOICE

We call upon all our faithful and friends to continue to sponsor our monthly newsletter by advertising your business for the benefit of all the parishioners. Your ad will reach our 375 parish families, four hundred email addresses in our listserv, over 1,500 followers of our Facebook page, and of course everyone who picks up a copy of our Voice newsletter from the church narthex or community center. Please contact the church office for more information or to submit an advertisement for your business. The advertising opportunities are as follows:

Small—\$100/year * Medium—\$150/year *Large—\$250/year

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Orthodox Christian Clergy Association Pan-Orthodox Paraklesis Service

The Orthodox Faithful of the Chicagoland area are invited to the Pan-Orthodox Paraklesis Service sponsored by the OCCA of Chicago.

Thursday, August 8th 7:00pm

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL

Light refreshments to follow



"To the Theotokos let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall prostrate in repentance, calling from the depths of our souls: Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions; turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope."

- Apolytikia from the Paraklesis Service

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!

TREE OF LOVE

In the main hallway of St. Spyridon stands a golden and bronze **"Tree of Love"** with an icon of our patron saint at its base.

This "Tree of Love" is a symbol of our commitment to the ministry of our community. With great hope for our community's future and with love for St. Spyridon, we invite you to join the numerous supporters whose names are engraved on these golden and bronze leaves in recognition of their gifts to the Church. There are numerous ways to contribute to our "Tree of Love" such as to honor a friend or in memory of loved ones. For more information, please call the church office.



Wedding

Austin Griffiths and Janelle Karpen were joined in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, June 29th. Their sponsors were Mr. Scott Sarris.

Να ζήσετε!

Baptisms

The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kostopoulos was baptized on June 1st and was given the name Anastasia by her godmother Georgia Kouts.

The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kostopoulos was baptized on June 1st and was given the name Penelope by her godmother Maria Kostopoulos.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Omar Sweiss was baptized on June 15th and was given the name Christian by his godparents Irar Sweiss and Caroline Sweiss.

The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Natsikou was baptized on June 16th and was given the name Adriana by her godfather Andrea Natsikou.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Natsikou was baptized on June 16th and was given the name Spiro by his godfather Sotiris Leventis.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Miller was baptized on June 23rd and was given the name Joseph (Iwannis) by his godparents Eustina Filipatos and Theofani Karountzos.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Kyriakos Anastasopoulos was baptized on June 30th and was given the name Andreas by his godfather Emmanuel Simeakis.

The son of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Prevett was baptized on July 7th and was given the name Iakovos Loukas by his godmother Dionysia Stamus.

Να σας ζήσουν!

Funerals

Mr. Perikles N Tzavaras fell asleep in the Lord on June 17th, 2024. His funeral took place on June 19 and he was interred at Good Shepherd Cemetery.

Mrs. Maria Albright fell asleep in the Lord on June 30th, 2024. Her funeral took place on July 8th and she was interred at Evergreen Cemetery

Mrs. Maria Georgis fell asleep in the Lord on July 1st, 2024. Her funeral took place on July 10th and she was interred at Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Irene Poulos fell asleep in the Lord on July 6th, 2024. Her funeral took place on July 11th and she was interred at Bethania Cemetery.

Mr. Polichronis Christopoulos fell asleep in the Lord on July 7th, 2024. His funeral took place on July 12th and he was interred at Bethania Cemetery.

Memorials

June 9: †6 mos Karen Keorpes, †1 yr Harriet Bohac, †1 yr , Arhontia Hatjiharalambous, and †60 yrs Peter Glikis

June 30: †40 days Maria Kochilas, † 40 days Eleni Maglara, †6 mos Panagiota Poziopoulos, † 1yr Filippos Stolis, †3 yrs Athanasios Treantafeles, and † 3yrs Peter Manasses.

July 7: †1 yr Mary Kavroulakis

July 14: †40 days Peggy Zippmann

July 21: †40 days Perikles Tzavaras

May their memory be eternal!



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.

ΛΟΥΛΟΥΔΙΑ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΙΚΟΝΑ ΤΗΣ ΠΑΝΑΓΙΑΣ

Φέτος και πάλι, παρακαλούμε όλους όσους έχουν την ευχαρίστηση να προσφέρουν χρήματα για την αγορά λουλουδιών για τον στολισμό της εικόνας της Παναγίας μας για τις Άγιες ημέρες του Δεκαπανταύγουστου, να επικοινωνήσουν με το γραφείο της Εκκλησίας μας.

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 1st	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Friday, August 2nd	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 4th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m. * Paraklesis — 6:30 p.m.
Monday, August 5th	Vespers at Transfiguration Monastery, Harvard, IL —6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 6th	Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m. * Paraklesis — 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 7th	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 8th	Paraklesis—7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Antiochian Church in Palos Heights
Friday, August 9th	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 11th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m. * Paraklesis — 6:30 p.m.
Monday, August 12th	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 13th	Paraklesis—6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 14th	Gr Vespers at Assumption Chicago, Homer Glen, & Hegewisch—7:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 15th	Dormition of the Virgin Mary —Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 18th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 25th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Monday, August 26th	Vigil for St. Fanourios—6:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 29th	Beheading of St. John the Baptist —Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Sunday, September 1st	New Ecclesiastical Year—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Πέμπτη 1 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Παρασκευή 2 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 4 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ. *Παράκλησις — 6:30 μ.μ.
Δευτέρα 5 Αυγούστου	Μέγας Εσπερινός στην Ιερ. Μονή Μεταμορφώσεως, Harvard, IL—6:00 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 6 Αυγούστου	Η Μεταμόρφωσις Σωτήρος — Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ. Παράκλησις — 6:30 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 7 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 8 Αυγούστου	Πανορθόδοξη Παράκλησις—7:00 μ.μ. στον Ι. Ν. της Παναγίας (Saint Mary Orthodox Church) στο Palos Heights
Παρασκευή 9 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 11 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ. *Παράκλησις — 6:30 μ.μ.
Δευτέρα 12 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 13 Αυγούστου	Παράκλησις—6:30 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 14 Αυγούστου	Μέγας Εσπερινός στους Ιερούς Ναούς Κοιμήσεως Της Θεοτόκου στο Σικάγο, Homer Glen & Hegwisch— 7:00 μ.μ.—9:00 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 15 Αυγούστου	Η Κοίμησις της Θεοτόκου —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 18 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 25 Αυγούστου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία — 8:00 π.μ.
Δευτέρα 26 Αυγούστου	Αγρυπνία Αγίου Φανουρίου—6:30 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 29 Αυγούστου	Αποκεφάλισις Αγ. Ιωάννου του Βαπτιστή —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία— 8:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 1 Σεπτεμβρίου	Αρχή της Ινδίκτου —Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.

ST. SPYRIDON PHILOPTOCHOS STANDS UP TO CANCER

The St. Spyridon Philoptochos chapter welcomed family and friends for their 3rd Annual Cancer Walk held in June. This year all monies collected will be presented to the American Liver Foundation to underwrite their efforts in liver cancer research, education and awareness. The annual event provided a Church Parakleis service to support and pray for those currently fighting cancer, a Memorial Service at our local Lake Katherine and a one mile walk in memory and reflection of those we've lost to cancer, and a Filotimo Luncheon celebrating and honoring those who fought cancer and are survivors.

We thank each and everyone who prayed, walked and fiscally contributed to our efforts. You may still contribute to this year's effort by writing a check to the St. Spyridon Philoptochos/Cancer Walk and mailing it to the church office. The financial, physical and emotional support is a beacon for those currently fighting cancer and bolsters the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. This year we fully expect to meet our goal of \$5,000 which will be presented in church to a representative of the American Liver Foundation this Fall. The committee members have each played an important role in the success of our efforts.

It should be noted that \$15,000 has been collected over a three-year period/three Cancer Walks and donated to leading organizations in the fight by our Philoptochos Chapter. We have seen members of our church, our friends, and our families suffer from forms of cancer, and our Philoptochos is actively leading an effort to fight on their behalf—the patient, the family, and our community—by working together at these annual events. Everyone is welcome to participate.



FOOD PANTRY



Our Food Pantry Needs Your Help!

Every month, we distribute 25-30 bags of food to about 15 families at our Weekly Drive-Up Food Pantry, EVERY Thursday from 1pm - 2pm.

With the rise in food prices everywhere, it has been increasingly difficult to stock our pantry and satisfy the need for food within our community.



Our parish has always donated generously. Your ongoing help is needed at this time. Please donate if you can.

Non-perishable items are always needed and your monetary donations enable us to shop for what we need.

FOOD DONATIONS: Please place in the large wooden box on the floor in the northeast corner of the gym.

MONETARY DONATIONS: Place inside the small wooden Food Pantry donation box by the northeast corner door of the gym OR drop-off your donation at the church office, weekdays from 9am - 2pm.

ONLINE DONATIONS: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/1390651.

*Select FOOD PANTRY from the drop/down menu.

We thank you for your support!

THE FOOD PANTRY TEAM

JULY 4TH PALOS HEIGHTS PARADE

Again this year our community participated in the Annual 4th of July Parade that was held in Palos Heights. Together with their American Pride we displayed our Greek Pride. Thank you to the Collopy family for organizing the event, and thank you to all who came to participate in this year's parade to pass out our festival flyers.



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 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. 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. Our first gathering is on September 20.

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, 10:00a.m. — 12noon. The program runs September through May and it is offered free of charge to all area Orthodox families. Our first gathering is September 18.

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.

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.

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. A schedule is forthcoming.

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.

Flora 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.

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 25.

Byzantine Music Classes: Adults and Students 1st grade through 12th grade are St. Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church 9 Saint Spyridon Ministries welcome. Level 2 Classes are held every Saturday from 3:30 pm — 4:15 pm, and Level 1 and Level 3 classes every Saturday from 4:15 pm — 5:00 p.m.

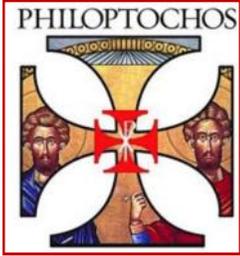
Orthodox Missions: A program that seeks to bring our Lord's message of salvation to all who thirst for the water of Life, supporting in any possible way the overseas and home missions of the "Orthodox Christian Mission Center" Saint Augustine, FL.

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.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



Dear St. Spyridon Family,
Kalo Mina!!

We thank all of our ladies for their time & dedication in assisting with all the preparation of delicious homemade sweets & preparation for our annual festival! Truly amazed to see our beloved church family come together with

their dedication in always making our festival a success!

This past month our very own Kathy Korbakes was a delegate in representing our chapter in the 2024 Biennial Philoptochos Convention in San Diego, California. The convention offered a unique opportunity for members of the Philoptochos to come together to engage in various workshops, hearing keynote speakers, exchange ideas and renew our dedication to making a difference in the lives of those in need. Truly a blessing to having representation of our chapter at this event!

Be on the look out for upcoming emails regarding information of our 2024-2025 calendar of scheduled events & meetings.

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.

Wishing you & your family a Blessed month!!

Sisterly Agapi,
Dana Vasilakos
Philoptochos President



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

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

Auxiliary Officers

Alexia 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	SundaySchool
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

PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



Our Plutarchos Academy is preparing for another fun and productive school year. Classes are offered every Monday and Friday, 4:30—6:30 p.m. We will begin on

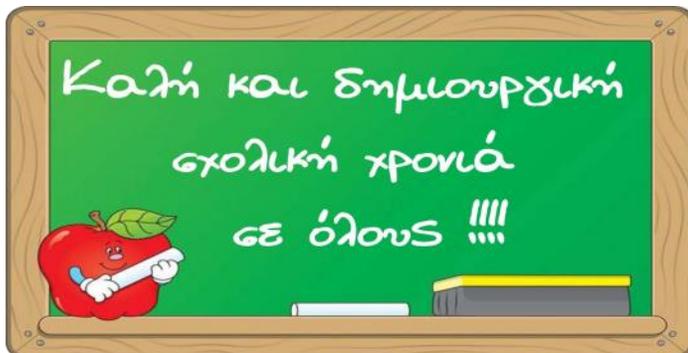
Friday, September 6th, with an Agiasmo Service and a “Meet and greet” event. Parents are invited to visit their child's classroom, meet the teacher, ask questions and learn about the curriculum.

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, do not wait until the last minute.

Hope to see you all at the PTA organized “Back to School Retreat” on Saturday, September 7th.

We are very excited to announce that our school is now offering Greek language lessons tailored for adults of all fluency levels! Whether you are a complete beginner, have some prior knowledge, or are looking to refine your advanced skills, our comprehensive program is designed to meet your needs. Adult classes will be offered on Friday evenings starting September 20th.

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



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



All 6th grade Greek School graduates are eligible to participate in our Greek Language Seminar which is an interactive, conversational, and multimedia program designed to build on the students' Greek language skills, and to prepare them for their level of Elinomathia certification at the end of the year. Elinomathia is an exam administered by the Ministry of Education in Greece. A successful 2nd level of Elinomathia certificate may be used to receive a Seal of Biliteracy which then can be placed on a student's transcripts and future resume.

THE CURRICULUM INCLUDES

- Elinomathia Preparation
- Conversational Greek
- Greek History & Current Events
- Greek Geography
- Art and Traditions
- Modern Literature
- Greek Dancing

Class Time:
Every Friday
4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
September—May

For more information
contact the church at
708-385-2311

Plutarchos Academy of St. Spyridon

PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY CAMP KALOKAIRAKI 2024

The Greek camp "Kalokairaki" was a resounding success during the third week of June! A plethora of engaging activities took place, from sports games to delving into the history and significance of the Olympic Games with our students. Exploring the myth of Hercules and his 12 Labors, believed to inspire the concept behind the Olympics, sparked curiosity and learning. Moreover, crafting activities centered around Paris, the host of this summer's Olympic Games, enabled a deeper understanding of the event's global impact. Discussions on the symbolism of the Olympic flag and flame, as well as the evolution of the Games from 1896 to the present day, enriched our understanding of this prestigious sporting event.

The week was truly remarkable, and we eagerly anticipate the adventures that await us next year! A big thank you to our wonderful young volunteers, an essential part of our team. Their enthusiasm, hard work, and positive energy made a significant impact on the campers and ensured that they had a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Mrs. Evi Marouda



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For over ninety years, the Religious Education Ministry of Saint Spyridon has offered the basic knowledge of our faith to our young parishioners. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and the hard work of the P.T.A., all children ages 3-18, have the opportunity to learn and be inspired by our teachers, and to participate in the different retreats and events such as the Lenten Retreat, the Oratorical Festival, the Advent and Lenten Projects, Bible Bowl, Christmas Pageant, Christmas Outing, Godparents Sunday, the mission drive, the Saturday of Lazarus breakfast, Vacation Bible School and much more. Mrs. Zoe Kopanis, our Sunday School Director, and her dedicated staff, are preparing for a productive year of religious education for our children.




2024/2025 Sunday School Calendar



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL	<h3 style="color: #f4a460;">September</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 - Backpack Blessing 8 - First Day of Sunday School! 15, 22, 29 - Sunday School 	<h3 style="color: #f4a460;">October</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6, 20, 27 - Sunday School 13 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 	<h3 style="color: #f4a460;">November</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 - Godparent Sunday - No Sunday School 10 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 17, 24 - Sunday School 	
	WINTER	<h3 style="color: #00b0c0;">December</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 8, 15 - Sunday School 22 - Christmas Pageant 29 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 	<h3 style="color: #00b0c0;">January</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 12, 19, 26 - Sunday School 	<h3 style="color: #00b0c0;">February</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2, 9, 23 - Sunday School 16 - Family Worship - No Sunday School
		SPRING	<h3 style="color: #008000;">March</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2, 30 - Sunday School 9 - Sunday of Orthodoxy - Sunday School- Bring an Icon 16 - Sunday of the Holy Cross 23 - Family Worship - No Sunday School 	<h3 style="color: #008000;">April</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 - Sunday School 13 - Palm Sunday - Sunday School 20 - Happy Easter! 27 - Sunday School

ARCHANGELS ACADEMY
PRESCHOOL
ENROLLMENT OPEN
2024-2025

PROGRAM FEATURES :

- ✓ Developmentally Appropriate High Quality curriculum
- ✓ Play-based learning
- ✓ Social & Emotional Learning
- ✓ Orthodox Christian Faith
- ✓ Hellenic Language & Heritage
- ✓ Small Classroom Ratio
- ✓ Affordable Tuition



CALL TO SCHEDULE
YOUR TOUR TODAY
708-385-2311



Visit our website at
www.archangelsacademy.org
for tuition information and to download our application



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

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

PETER MANASSES PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

The St. Spyridon Philoptochos society is incredibly honored by Mrs. Stamatina 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 educational 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.*



Irena Karopulos, the daughter of John and Kathy Karopulos, is currently a Graduate student at Lewis University, pursuing a Masters degree in Bilingual Education/English Language Learning. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Secondary Education from Illinois State University. Irena will be teaching English at Andrew High School in the fall. Irena's accomplishments include serving as a Summer Camp Counselor in the Mokena Community Park District, being the Student Council Sponsor, and volunteering in the Writing Tutoring Center. Irena has also tutored elementary and middle school English Language Learner students and volunteered as a Teen Achiever facilitator, where she provided guidance and support for high school students. Additionally, Irena has volunteered for several charitable organizations, including Bags of Hope Food Drives, Feed My Starving Children, Misericordia Home, The Salvation Army, All God's People, P.A.W.S, and the Boys and Girls Club of Chicago. At St. Spyridon, Irena teaches Sunday

School, has assisted in the summer church festivals for the past ten years. Irena was involved in GOYA, served as a Myrofora, and attended Greek and Sunday School. Reflecting on her experiences, Irena believes that "Throughout my involvement within all kinds of philanthropic groups, I am proud to have gained a deeper understanding of how I can continue to have an empathetic mindset and build my diverse skill set when working together with others to solve community issues."

Luke Christy is the son of Nicholas and Faith Christy. Luke has been attending the University of Notre Dame and is Majoring in Mechanical Engineering and triple minoring in Theology, Philosophy, and Corporate Engineering. At Notre Dame, Luke is a member of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, the Scholars Program, and is part of the Notre Dame Hall Council. Luke is also a Notre Dame Evans Scholar and serves as President of the Organization where he revived the South Bend Caddie program and created jobs for local youth and Notre Dame Evans Scholars. Luke is also a member of the Student International Business Council and is involved in Water Polo, Swimming, and manages Golf for Men and Women teams at Notre Dame. Luke has also held internships with Volition Capital, Ryan Companies, and Exelon Corporation. At St. Spyridon, Luke has served as an altar boy, was a member of GOYA, participated in GOAL, and attended Plutarchos Greek School. He also participated in the Oratorical Festival, where he won four times at the church level, became a Metropolis Champion, and was a National Runner-Up. Luke has also served as a mentor for Oratorical participants and believes that "Coaching and mentoring young participants in the Oratorical Festival emphasized how education can empower individuals to articulate their thoughts, advocate for their beliefs, and inspire others. By helping others prepare and deliver their speeches, I saw how education is essential for personal growth and for making meaningful contributions to the community."



Anastasia Chibucos is the daughter of Caryn Chibucos and the late Nicholas Chibucos. Anastasia will be a Senior at the University of Notre Dame this year where she is Majoring in Neuroscience and Behavior and Minorng in Theology and Compassionate Care in Medicine. At Notre Dame, Anastasia was recently awarded the National Science Foundation Research Experience fellowship for Undergraduates. During her undergraduate studies, Anastasia has devoted her time to research and gaining clinical experience. She has worked as a Medical Assistant, Hospice and Caregiver, participated in the FAST Club (First Aid with EMT) for university events, and served as a Research Assistant at Vaughan Lab. Anastasia has participated in various organizations at Notre Dame including the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, where she serves as Co-President. Anastasia is also a Senior Leadership Committee Member, Event Coordinator for Compassionate Care in Medicine,

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serves as a mentor in the Neuroscience Mentorship Club, and is the President of *The Point* at Notre Dame. Anastasia is also currently a Sorin Fellow Scholar, Green Dot Senior Fellow, and received the Pan Hellenic Young Leader Award. Anastasia has also assisted the Philoptochos Society at St. Andrews since 2021 and volunteers at St. Spyridon's Greek festivals every year. Anastasia has also been a Fanari Counselor, Myrofora, Handmaiden, and has participated in Oratorical Festivals, GOYA, Junior Olympics, and Byzantine Chant. Anastasia aspires to pursue a career in medicine to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need and to build a healthier, more resilient society.



Joanna James is the daughter of Curt and Efi James and will be a Senior at St. Mary's College in the Fall. Joanna is majoring in Psychology and has been on the Dean's List consecutively for four semesters; she has been the recipient of the Charles Eaton Scholarship and has also received the Mother Pauline Award. Joanna is also the treasurer of the Psi Chi International Honors Society and has been part of the Women's Golf Team since her freshman year. Joanna was also a member of the Toastmasters Club, Paws and Claws, Fiat Club, and actively participated in the Cultural Psychology Lab Group at St. Mary's. Currently, Joanna is a student researcher at Notre Dame Memory Lab, a student Ambassador, and is also on the Student Athletic Advising Committee. Joanna has also volunteered at Rebuilding Together, the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, La Casa de Amistad, and the Sustainability Farm at St. Mary's Campus. Joanna has actively participated in various activities at St. Spyridon such as GOYA, has served as a Myrofora, was involved in the Junior Choir, and attended Sunday School. Joanna has also assisted with the craft fair and has also participated in our parish's golf outing. In high school, Joanna was captain of the Girls Varsity Golf Team and an All-Conference player all four years, placing top ten in Regionals and Sectionals, and qualifying for State three times. She also led her cultural group in the International Club, managed lessons for the Medical Club, and served as a Junior and Senior Leader.

Dionisia Stamus is a recent high school graduate of Andrew High School in Tinley Park. Dionisia is the daughter of Panagiotti and Artemicia Stamus and will be attending the University of Missouri in the Fall to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Animal Science. Dionisia has completed over 300 hours of community service and has volunteered at various organizations including: The Children's Farm, Tinley Park Library, The Animal Medical Center, and more notably at Brookfield Zoo, where she took Conservation Science Courses, conducted research, and supervised volunteers as part of her internship as a King Scholar. At Andrew High School, Dionisia was a member of the National Honors Society, received Student of the Month recognition, and was also the recipient of the D230 Inspire Award. Throughout high school, Dionisia has participated in Student Council, was a student leader in her school's Restorative Circles, served as a Student Ambassador, People Tutor, and was part of Andrew's Dream Team, where she raised awareness in mental health, equity, and inclusion. Dionisia also founded a club called HOSA, which prepares students for state competitions and also provides assistance to those seeking a career in health sciences. Dionisia also participated in Theater, Greek Club, and has been part of the Tennis and Bowling teams during all four years of high school. Dionisia's involvement at St. Spyridon includes participation in FLOGA Dance troupe, GOYA, Junior Choir, Greek school, and Sunday school. Dionisia has also served as a Handmaiden, Myrofora, and has spent countless hours volunteering at our parish's Greek festival every year.



Anastasia Manasses is the daughter of Demetri and Anna Manasses and recently graduated from Chicago Christian Academy. Anastasia plans to attend Lewis University where she intends to pursue a Major in Psychology. Recently, Anastasia earned the Merit Achievement Award from Lewis University. In high school, Anastasia received the Chicago Christian Academic Award for Most Determination and Grit in Mathematics and was also the recipient of the Noble Knight Award for Academic Achievement in Religious Studies. Anastasia was a graduate of Koraes Elementary and participated in the Ellinomatheia Program offered through Plutarchos Hellenic Language and Heritage Academy. In December 2023, Anastasia received an Honorable Mention in the Statewide Competition for translation of Greek Literature. Anastasia has volunteered during Camp Kalokairaki at St. Spyridon, Junior Olympics, and has also assisted with the Papaflessas and Koraes basketball tournaments. Anastasia has also participated in GOYA, the

Metropolis Sights and Sounds Festival, and was involved in St. Spyridon's Floga Dance Troupe. Anastasia believes that "involvement in philanthropic activities allows me to realize how important it is to our community to give of our time and talent. I know that I only play a small part, but I would like to think that my actions through church help increase community engagement and cohesion and allow us to pass our traditions to future generations.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



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!

BYZANTINE MUSIC CLASSES

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

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



ICONOGRAPHY CLASSES

LEARN THE FUNDAMENTAL TECHNIQUES OF
 BYZANTINE ICONOGRAPHY

TEACHER: PANAYIOTIS MIHALOPOULOS

Wednesdays

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

First class : September 25

St. Spyridon's Hellenic
 Orthodox Church
 \$100 per Student
 + cost of materials



Handmaidens

All girls who are between the grades of 1st and 12th are encouraged and welcome to join the Handmaidens ministry.

This group of young ladies focus on outreach projects within and outside of our community.

Join our GroupMe to receive all the updates! Use your phone to scan the QR code.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH



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

GOYA MEETS ON WEDENSDAY'S TWICE A MONTH

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR FIRST GOYA GATHERING:

SEPTEMBER 11 @ 7PM

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

SIGN UP FOR GOYA NOTIFICATIONS THROUGH THE REMIND APP

TEXT @JRCOYAG TO 81010

YOU WILL RECEIVE A TEXT TO CONFIRM YOU ARE SIGNED UP

ST. SPYRIDON YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMP

This camp gives the youth in our community the opportunity to learn essential basketball skills in a Christ centered environment.



PRE K-8TH GRADE

Boys & Girls
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Dates: Saturdays:
August 3rd, 10th, 17th, and
24th.

Fee: \$25 (Includes T-Shirt)

For More Information, Please
contact the church office:

12307 South Ridgeland
Avenue, Palos Heights, Illinois
60463

Tel: (708) 385-2311, Fax:
(708) 385-0166

E-mail: office@saint-
spyridon.net

Shooting, Passing, Dribbling, & More!

Sign up using the QR Code Below

Deadline to Register is July 23rd

St. Spyridon Summer Basketball
Camp Registration



SAINT SPYRIDON
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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 (yiayia, 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
Fri. April 12
Fri. May 16

For more information,
contact Presvytera
Diana at
dlamberis@gmail.com

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