



THE VOICE

APRIL 2023 - VOLUME No. 378
SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

SUNDAY OF THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS



MARCH 25th HELLENIC PARADE



MARCH 25TH HELLENIC PARADE—ΖΗΤΩ Η 25Η ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ



FATHER'S LETTER

Beloved Parish Family,

No other Christian denomination can compare to the ancient, consistent, yet timeless worship that Orthodox Christianity offers us throughout the year. I remember bringing a non-Orthodox friend to experience Holy Thursday evening's reading of the twelve gospels and procession with the cross. She left that evening touched with tears rolling down her face.

I have many Orthodox friends who have never been to church in between Palm Sunday and Pascha. The reward of the journey, the glory of the Resurrection, is found in the efforts put into Great Lent and Holy Week. If one has not experienced the cross and reflected upon the cross that we carry during Great Lent, then it can be difficult to truly experience the joy to be had at the Resurrection on Holy Saturday evening into Sunday morning. The readings, Old Testament and New, the hymns, the processions, the incense, the richness of our worship.

From themes of humility and preparation in the bridegroom services and the washing of the disciples' feet to the healing we continue to seek through the mystery of Holy Unction to our Lord's Passion, we experience that which happened almost 2,000 years ago in Jerusalem. We feel the darkness and fear, we make the midnight journey with the myrrh-bearing women to the tomb and we return to proclaim to the world that "Christ is Risen!"

It is my prayer that we will do our best to not just come and get the "souvenirs" – not just come to "get my palm branch" on Palm Sunday or "get the oil" on Holy Wednesday or "get the flower" on Holy Friday. These are indeed beautiful things, but when we take the substance out of what these things mean, they can almost become meaningless symbols that make us "feel good."

But if we look at Holy Week and understand that it is a time for renewal – and we share this opportunity with our entire parish family – we can be enthused to be an active participant of what Christ offers us each and every day of Holy Week.

Holy Week provides us with the opportunity to be anointed for the healing of our soul and body. Holy Thursday is an opportunity to kneel before the Cross of Christ and leave anger and disappointment at His feet. The flowers we receive Holy Friday evening are to be symbolic of the pruning we have done to our soul throughout Lent and Holy Week so that we can blossom into the beauty God has always intended for you and me. In nine days, there are eight opportunities to come and receive Holy Communion. We are to be always ready to receive Christ and prepared ultimately for His second coming.

Therefore, make a plan for this year's Holy Week to be different. Plan and invest more time than the previous year to pray communally and attend more services than the previous year (there are seventeen services offered during Holy Week including Saturday of Lazaros). Open your heart and soul to the substance of what each day and material object truly is, and you will indeed have one of the most meaningful experiences of your life. May our Journey to Pascha bring each of us spiritual comfort, refreshment, renewal so that we may experience our resurrection along with our Lord's Holy Resurrection.

A Blessed Anastasi to all!

In His Love,



Father George

The Voice -

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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

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Georgia Xeros	Philoptochos
Dana Vasilakos	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
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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

Sunday, April 2nd	5th Sunday of Lent—Mary of Egypt Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.
Monday, April 3rd	Great Compline—6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 4th	Holy Confession—11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Great Compline at Assumption Church, Homer Glen, IL —6:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Akathist at the Ascension, Lincolnshire, IL —7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 5th	Presanctified Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Friday, April 7th	Presanctified Liturgy—6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 8th	Saturday of Lazarus, Orthros & Liturgy—8:00 a.m. Great Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 9th	Palm Sunday, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m. Service of the Nymphios—7:00 p.m.
Monday, April 10th	Holy & Great Monday , Presanctified Liturgy—8:00 a.m. Service of the Nymphios—7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11th	Holy & Great Tuesday , Presanctified Liturgy—8:00 a.m. Service of the Nymphios—7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12th	Holy & Great Wednesday Holy Unction—11:00 a.m. The church will then remain open for the faithful to receive Holy Unction Holy Unction—3:00 p.m. Orthros of Holy Thursday (Holy Unction will be offered)—7:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 13th	Holy & Great Thursday , Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil—8:00 a.m. Service of the Passion of Christ - 6:30 p.m. *Flower decorating of the Kou-vouklion/Epitaphio open to everyone after the service (around 10:00 p.m.)
Friday, April 14th	Holy & Great Friday , Great & Royal Hours—9:00 a.m. Apokathelosis—3:00 p.m. Service of the Epitaphios—7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 15th	Holy & Great Saturday , Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil—8:00 a.m. Resurrection Orthros & Divine Liturgy—11:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 16th	HOLY PASCHA , Agape Service—11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 18th	Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.
Wednesday, April 19th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy (St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn) with Christianikoi Philoxenia Senior Luncheon —10:00 a.m.
Friday, April 21st	The Holy Life-Giving Spring — Orthros & Divine Liturgy— 8:00 a.m.
Saturday, April 22nd	Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 23	St. George—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.
Saturday, April 29	Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 30th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή 2 Απριλίου	Ε' Κυριακή της Σαρακοστής Όρθρος καί Θεία Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ.
Δευτέρα 3 Απριλίου	Μέγα Απόδειπνο –6:00 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 4 Απριλίου	Εξομολόγηση –11:00 π.μ. – 1:00 μ.μ. * Μέγα Απόδειπνο στον I.N. Κοιμήσεως Της Θεοτόκου, Homer Glen, IL – 6:00 μ.μ. Πανορθόδοξος Ακάθιστος στον I.N. Αναλήψεως του Κυρίου, Linconshire, IL –7:00 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 5 Απριλίου	Προηγιασμένη Λειτουργία – 8:00 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 7 Απριλίου	Προηγιασμένη Λειτουργία – 6:00 μ.μ.
Σάββατο 8 Απριλίου	Σάββατο του Λαζάρου, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ. Μέγας Έσπερινός –5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 9 Απριλίου	Κυριακή τῶν Βαΐων, Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία –8:15 π.μ. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου –7:00 μ.μ.
Δευτέρα 10 Απριλίου	Αγία καί Μεγάλη Δευτέρα Προηγιασμένη Θεία Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου –7:00 μ.μ.
Τρίτη 11 Απριλίου	Αγία καί Μεγάλη Τρίτη Προηγιασμένη Θεία Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου –7:00 μ.μ.
Τετάρτη 12 Απριλίου	Αγία καί Μεγάλη Τετάρτη , Εὐχέλαιο –11:00 π.μ. Ο Ιερός Ναός θα παραμείνει ανοικτός για να λάβουν οι πιστοί το Ιερό Ευχέλαιο Ιερό Ευχέλαιο –3:00 μ.μ. Όρθρος τῆς Μ. Πέμπτης (Ιερόν Ευχέλαιον θα δοθεί στο τέλος της τελετής) –7:00 μ.μ.
Πέμπτη 13 Απριλίου	Αγία καί Μεγάλη Πέμπτη Έσπερινός καί Θεία Λειτουργία του Μ. Βασιλείου –8:00 π.μ. Ακολουθία τῶν Παθῶν –6:30 μ.μ. * Το στόλισμα του Κουβουκλίου θα τελεσθεῖ μετά την ακολουθία τῶν Παθῶν (περίπου στις 10:00 μ.μ.)
Παρασκευή 14 Απριλίου	Αγία καί Μεγάλη Παρασκευή Ακολουθία τῶν Βασιλικῶν Ὁρῶν –9:00 π.μ. Έσπερινός τῆς Ἀποκαθήλωσης –3:00 μ.μ. Ακολουθία του Ἐπιταφίου –7:00 μ.μ.
Σάββατο 15 Απριλίου	Μέγα Σάββατο , Έσπερινή Θ. Λειτουργία Μ. Βασιλείου –8:00 π.μ. Μεσονυκτική Ακολουθία –11:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 16 Απριλίου	ΑΓΙΟΝ ΠΑΣΧΑ * Έσπερινός της Αγάπης –11:00 π.μ.
Τρίτη 18 Απριλίου	Αγ. Ραφαήλ, Νικολάου & Ειρήνης –Όρθρος & Θ. Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ.
Τετάρτη 19 Απριλίου	Θεία Λειτουργία στον I.N. Αγίου Νικολάου, Oak Lawn με Χριστιανική Φιλοξενία –10:00 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 21 Απριλίου	Ζωοδόχου Πηγῆς – Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία –8:00 π.μ.
Σάββατο 22 Απριλίου	Μέγας Έσπερινός –5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 23 Απριλίου	Αγ. Γεωργίου –Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία –8:15 π.μ. –11:15 π.μ.
Σάββατο 29 Απριλίου	Μέγας Έσπερινός –5:00 μ.μ.
Κυριακή 30 Απριλίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία –8:15 π.μ. –11:00 π.μ.

April 2023 — Community Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m.
2 * Sunday School — 10:30 am — 11:30 am	3 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. * Greek Dance — 6:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	4 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Parish Council Meeting — 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.	5 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Cherubs — 10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	6 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Food Distribution — 1:00 — 2:00 p.m.	7 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm * Greek Dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm * Presanctified Lenten Dinner hosted by the Philoptochos — 7:30 pm	8 * Saturday of Lazarus Retreat/Pancake Breakfast — 11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
9 <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> * Sunday School — 10:30 am — 11:30 am	10 <u>HOLY MONDAY</u> * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	11 <u>HOLY TUESDAY</u> * Archangels Academy — 9:00 a.m.	12 <u>HOLY WEDNESDAY</u> * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	13 <u>HOLY THURSDAY</u>	14 <u>HOLY FRIDAY</u>	15 <u>HOLY SATURDAY</u>
16 <u>HOLY PASCHA</u> * Agape Service — 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. * Family Worship — No Sunday School	17 * No Activities	18 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	19 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am Christian Senior Philoxenia (St. Nicholas, Oak Lawn) — 10 a.m. *GOYA — Time TBD	20 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Food Distribution — 1:00 — 2:00 p.m. * Flower Decorating of the Epitaphiol Kourvouktion — 10:00 a.m.	21 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm * Greek Dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm * Bright Friday BBQ — 6:30 p.m.	22 * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m.
23 * Sunday School — 10:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.	24 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm -6:30 pm * Greek Dance — 6:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.	25 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	26 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Cherubs — 10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	27 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Food Distribution — 1:00 — 2:00 p.m.	28 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm * Greek Dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm	29 * Byzantine Class — 3:45 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear St. Spyridon Parish Family,

Greetings of hope and prayer that this message finds all of our families in good health and prospering. We are blessed to have Father George guiding us, by the Grace of God, through the Lenten Sarakosti with many spiritual and beautiful church holy services. We look forward to His Grace, Bishop Timothy of Hexamilion, from the Chicago Metropolis, honoring our parish by visiting us on Holy and Great Tuesday night for the Service of the Nymphios on April 11th.

May we accept our beloved Saint Spyridon's invitation welcoming all of us including the parishioners, families and community to attend and experience the Lenten journey together.

The General Assembly meeting took place on February 26th. A status of the church and parish operations was presented including the financial statements and committee reports.

Parish council approvals in the March parish council meeting included Golf Outing event pricing (Nick Kournetas), Festival food menu pricing and Festival security (Dean Eliacostas). Reports were presented regarding the parish committees for the: **Treasurer's Report**, parish financial operating results (Gus Kolyvas); **Archangels Pre-school Academy**, 2023-2024 registration drive and summer camp (Bill Kiliyas); **Athletics**, Junior Olympics (Nick Tsinoukas/Demetrius Marines); **Building and Maintenance**, outdoor parking lot lighting renovation project; **Church Order**, Lenten volunteer schedule; **Condes Scholarship**, progress planning (Spiros Tzanetakos); **Floga Dance Troupe**, events schedule (Spiros Tzanetakos); **Festival**, raffle tickets, games and rides, shuttle bus, loukoumades machine replacement need (Dean Eliacostas); **Golf Outing** status (Nick Kournetas); **Greek School**, Greek Independence Day parish program, Greek Independence Day Parade in Greektown and new learning equipment (iPads, headphones, etc.) from the Greektown Educational Foundation (George Vythoulkas); **Harassment Policy** training (Nick Kournetas); **Stewardship** registration status (Caryn Chibucos); and **Youth Protection** compliance (Panagiotis Stamus). **Parish Ministries**, Lenten Fanari Retreat, Lazarus Retreat, GOYA toy drive, Family Ministry (Father George). The 2023 Stewardship drive to support the church and its ministries by offering our time and skills is in progress. Stewardship applications are available in the church office and can be mailed or emailed on request.

Please note our calendars that the Golf Outing fundraiser is scheduled for June 8th. The Festival fundraiser is taking place this summer on July 8th and 9th. The fundraisers and committees are in need of more parishioner volunteers. Everyone of us is needed, our help is needed to volunteer. Please contact Father George, any of the parish council members or the church office at (708) 385-2311 for more information.

Thank you to Father George, members of the parish council, all of the church ministries, organizations and committees, parishioners, volunteers and donors for your unyielding efforts to support our parish.

Σας εύχομαι Καλό Πάσχα. A blessed Lenten Season and Holy Pascha to all.

May Saint Spyridon continue to guide us and protect us.

Humbly submitted,

Frank Kopanis



PARISH REGISTRY

Memorials

Sunday, March 5th

†1 yr Andreas Theodore

Sunday, March 12th

†39 yrs. Fr. Vasileios Tsoukalas, †50 yrs Pre. Markella Tsoukalas, †1yr Jannet Tsoukalas,

†6 yrs Antonios Kopanitsanos

Sunday, March 19th

†3 yrs Florence Dimitrakakis, †4 yrs Sophia Kolyvas

Sunday, March 26th

†20 yrs Fotini Giannakas

May their memory be eternal!

STEWARDSHIP 2023

Giving Thanks Eucharistic Stewardship



What is Christian Stewardship?

Christian Stewardship is...

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the

benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

...caring for the needs of others.

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us. ...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

Williams & McKibben in Oriented Leadership

STEWARDS MARCH 1ST—MARCH 31ST

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Alexakos
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Alikakos
Mrs. Anna Charalambos
Mrs. Martha Eliopulos
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Glikis
Mr. James Halikas
Ms. Georgia Karuntzos
Mr. James Karuntzos
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Kavvadas
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Kavvadas
Dr. & Mrs. Spero Kinnas
Mr. & Mrs. Kons. Labrakis
Mr. & Mrs. James Laris

Mr. Andre Malamis
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Marinakos
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius Marines
Mrs. Joan Mars
Mr. & Mrs. Dinos Papamihail
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Primbas
Ms. Metexea Siomos
Mr. & Mrs. John Stamatoglou
Mr. & Mrs. Kosta Stergiopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Konstant. Trahanas
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Tsakiris
Ms. Katherine Yrapsis

As of March 31st, Stewardship gifts have been received for 2023 from 184 individual/families totaling \$111,000. 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!!



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



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We beautifully celebrated the Sunday of Orthodoxy on May 12th, and the Veneration of the Holy Cross on Sunday, March 19th with the Sunday School children participating in both processions. We were also grateful to have Deacon Nicholas Anton and his Diakonissa celebrating with us on the Veneration of the Holy Cross!



ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

CONGRATULATIONS to our Oratorical Finalists, Andreas Petropoul and Epaminontas Stamus, who will represent St. Spyridon at the Metropolis Oratorical Festival, which will be held on Bright Saturday, April 30 at Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church in Lincolnshire.

Our parish Oratorical Festival was held on Friday, March 10, and we are so proud of all of our participants, who spoke so eloquently about their faith and identity as Orthodox Christians. Our Oratorical participants included: Christos Deligianis, Vasili Vythoulkas, and Ethan Halikias.

We thank Maria Baltas for her leadership along with our judges, Helen Pappas, Zoe Kopanis and Olga Paxinos.



HANDMAIDENS

We had a fruitful meeting this past month. The handmaidens had the blessing of decorating the icon for the Veneration of the Holy Cross. A BIG thank you to Angie and Georgia Danos for graciously donating their time and talents to teaching and assisting our young girls in the process of honoring the icon.

Also, please consider donating to the Oncology Pediatric Treasure Chest. The boxes, which were decorated by our young ladies, can be found in the gym.

****CALLING ALL MYROFORES****

The time has come for our Handmaidens to serve as Myrofores. All girls from 1st to 12th grade are encouraged to participate in the Holy Week services.

If you have any questions please contact Vicky at vasi1207@yahoo.com

Attached you will find additional information regarding the Holy Week schedule and expectations.

In an effort in helping the Handmaidens understand the meaning of Holy Week, one of our moms, Connie Briseno has graciously donated Holy Week children's books for our girls! Thank you!

Our next meeting will be on May 6. There will be no meeting the month of April.



MYROFORES

- + Socks or tights need to be all white.
- + White, church appropriate shoes required.
- + White gown will be provided. It will be dry cleaned and pressed for you.
- + Dresses do NOT need to be white since the gowns will cover them.
- + It is recommended, though not mandatory, for the girls to wear their hair tied back. This is just for safety purposes since there will be lots of candles lit around them.
- + Arrive 30 mins before service. This ensures that we can properly line everyone up and partner them up.
- + It is mandatory to stay, please if your child is younger, do not drop off and leave.
- + We will not be doing gown pickup. Instead, we will have the girls pop in to try on the gowns. We will keep them hung and have their names on the hanger for them to use during Holy Week.

****Please feel free to text or call Vicky with any questions.
708.653.2349**

PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



Our Plutarchos Academy students offered a wonderful Greek Independence Day performance on Monday, March 20th. Congratulations to all of our children for their hard work, and special thanks to all of our Greek School teachers who contributed to the beauty of this day! Ζήτω 25η Μαρτίου!



On Sunday, March 26th, our Plutarchos and Archangels families braved the cold in order to march at the Greektown Parade in honor of Greek Independence Day. Everyone had a great time marching down Halsted Street with all the other Greek Schools and organizations. Many thanks to all who volunteered and helped with getting our students, our flags and banners to Greektown.

Friday, April 7th will be the last day of class, Easter vacation begins. Classes will resume on Friday, April 21st.

Saturday, April 8th, Saturday of Lazarus, we are all invited to attend the Divine Liturgy the Communion Breakfast and making of the Palms.

Registration forms for next school year are available now and will be mailed out to the houses soon. Register before Memorial Day in order to get the discounted rate!

This year's Summer Camp Kalokairaki will be offered to K-8th grade students on **June 12th -16th** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.. The cost is \$150 for the week and space is limited. Call the Church office for more information.

Καλή Ανάσταση!



ARCHANGELS

The month of March has been an exciting one full of guests! This month we celebrated our Community Helpers. We have been very fortunate to have so many from our very own community come talk to the children about their work. Flight Attendant Lambrini Papadoulaki spoke to the children about flight safety, what a flight attendant actually does & the steps taken when arriving at the airport. Chef Dean Eliacostas helped our children make their very own pizzas. Dr. Amy Korolis spoke to the children how to properly care, brush, and how to keep their teeth healthy. Librarian Ruth Fakis came in and read beautiful stories to our children! Next month will be just as busy as we are waiting for a few more guests to pay us a visit. Thank you to all our families that have participated in this important unit! A special THANK YOU to all our parents who have graciously donated off our Amazon wish list so that the children can experience working in a community!! We appreciate every single one of you!



CHOIR

The choir had their first practice on March 21st, and on Sunday March 26th they chanted again after several years!

We are grateful for the efforts of Ms. Ruth Faklis to re-establish the choir, for our director Mrs Nicki Karioris, our organist Mrs. Nicky Glikis, and for all who participated!



FOOD PANTRY

St. Spyridon Community in Conjunction with Project Hope

We had an extremely successful baby food and baby formula drive. We exceeded what we collected in food donations along with exceeding in monetary donations. Here is the breakdown of what was donated:

Baby Formula = 86 containers (12 more than last year)

Baby Cereal = 42 containers/boxes (1 less than last year)

Baby Food (jars and pouches) = 633 (267 more than last year)

Baby Snacks and Teething Crackers = 33 packs (10 more packs than last year)

The St. Spyridon outreach team packed everything up and took it to the Courage Program in Oak Lawn. The Courage Program is an incredible program lead by loving people who are there to help parents get what they need for their small children. Thank you to all of you who generously donated making a huge impact.



PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Friends of Philoptochos,

Kali Anastasi! Our Lenten journey continues as we prepare for the joy of the Resurrection. As I prepare myself, I humbly ask each of you for forgiveness if my words or actions offended anyone.

March was a busy month for Philoptochos. On March 21st we prepared and distributed 120 lunches to the Feed the Hungry at the Cathedral and another 50 lunches for the homeless under the bridges at 18th Street, Wilson and Lawrence. Thank you to all our ladies who helped serve and delivered the lunches.



We also hosted the “Koulouma”; it was wonderful to be together in fellowship to begin our Lenten journey. On March 28th Philoptochos hosted the dinner for all attending the Great Compline Service for the South Side Clergy and on March 29th Philoptochos hosted the fellowship dinner after the Pre-Sanctified service. Thank you, ladies, for preparing the meals and serving our community and guests, fellowship is important to the identity of our St Spyridon community.

Our Lenten Grab and Go was not as successful as we had hoped, as our laganes missed the mark; but the tarasosalata was delicious. We appreciate how everyone has been patient, kind and understanding but rest assured we will be improving our recipe for next year. So even the best of the cooks sometimes have cooking errors- keeps us humble. The good news is thanks to our communities support we will be donating approximately \$600 from this fundraiser to the UIC Children’s Hospital.

On March 19th, the Sunday of the Holy Cross we hosted our traditional Loukoumades Sale. A portion of our proceeds from the sale and direct donations made by our parishioners will be given to the National Philoptochos Fund for humanitarian aid to the earthquake victims of Syria and Turkey. The National Philoptochos will be working directly with the IOCC to make sure the funds are distributed where the need is greatest. The response from our parishioners was strong and we are donating \$1,000 to help the victims. Once again, I thank each of you for your support and generosity as we reach out to help those in need. Thank you to all of our ladies who helped prepare the loukoumades; special thanks to Dina Katsoulis and Olga Paxinos for making the dough and our ladies from Zakynthos (back for a 2nd year by request): Dionisia Mataragas and Eleni Marudas for cooking them. Also, thank you to Yanoula Malfas who decorated and donated the beautiful crosses as a reminder to help those in need. The back of the cross is a passage from Luke 3:11 “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same”.

We also celebrated two special birthdays in March: Happy Birthday to Dina Katsoulis, a great supporter during my term as President. Our ladies say to Dina “Georgia comes to you because you never say no to her”- which is true. Another special birthday celebrated was for our eldest active member in Philoptochos, Harriet Bohac celebrating 102 years. Several of our ladies visited to celebrate with her and her daughter Eleni, with balloons, cake and birthday wishes. Last year Harriet and her family shared Mother’s Day with us, where we honored her decades long of ongoing support for Philoptochos and our community. She has been a continuous member for many years always asking how can I help; last year she spearheaded purchasing our new chairs for the hall. Her words of wisdom to us were “The reason I’m here today is because of my God, my Church, and my St. Spyridon. Happy Birthday dear Harriet! We thank you and love you very much.

PHILOTOCHOS

On March 29th our ladies toured the warehouse for Children Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest, which supplies toys to children who are having cancer treatments. We have been donating proceeds from the Take and Back to this organization for the last 3 years. This year our ladies proudly delivered a \$1,400 donation.



Looking forward to April, Philoptochos will be continuing our tradition of Palm Sunday Easter Pastries Sale.

We will host our pastry sale after Palm Sunday liturgy but we are also offering an opportunity for preorders. The preorders can be picked up either on Saturday April 8th or Sunday April 9th for tsourekia, koulouria and kourambethes. We would appreciate preorders so we can bake enough to meet our parishioners needs.

In May we once again we will host the Mother's Day Luncheon on May 14th with Chef Dean preparing a delicious luncheon. Further information will be forthcoming and we ask you to reserve your place as we gather together as a community to celebrate the blessings of our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts and all the important women who shape our life.

A reminder that Philoptochos is offering our annual scholarships to students in our parish. Once again due to the generous donation from the Manasses family, in memory of Peter Manasses, Philoptochos will be offering 5 scholarships. The following scholarships are being offered (1) \$2,000 scholarship to a high school senior who will be attending college; (2) \$2,000 scholarship to undergraduate students; (2) \$3,000 scholarships to graduate students. We invite all high school seniors, current college and graduate students to apply. The application is on the Church website.

Our 2023 Philoptochos membership drive continues through the end of April: please consider becoming a member as we put our faith to action. As always, I thank you for your support, encouragement, attendance and continued participation in Philoptochos events and projects. It is only with your support that we can accomplish our philanthropic mission.

With Sisterly Agape

Georgia Xeros



DANCE TROUPS

Our team was filled with an immense sense of excitement and anticipation as we embarked on a new adventure beyond the familiar walls of our usual place of worship. We were thrilled to be venturing out to a new venue, the Orland Park Public Library, a place where we had never before performed. Our performance was a resounding success, with the audience responding with thunderous applause and enthusiastic cheers. We felt a sense of pride and accomplishment, knowing that we had not only shared our culture with others but also learned so much from the experience.



OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Saint Spyridon
Hellenic Orthodox Church*

TOY DRIVE

HELP US PUT A SMILE ON THE FACE OF
CHILDREN AND TEENS FIGHTING CANCER

Bring New Unwrapped Toys, \$5 to
\$10 Gift Cards or Gifts For Teens
(no stuffed animals)

DROP OFF DONATIONS
February 27 - April 17



www.treasurechest.org

EASTER FOOD BASKETS



Our parish Food Pantry will be distributing
Food Baskets to needy families on
Wednesday, April 5th.

We are asking for monetary donations in any
amount. Each basket is valued at \$65.

Checks & Cash accepted in the church office:
Monday - Friday from 9am - 2pm.

Online donations can be made at:
https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe.ly/give-one-time/1390651 (Choose Food Pantry).

Donation Deadline is Sunday, April 2nd.

THANK YOU!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL



JUNE 19 - 23
9AM - 12 PM

PRE-K (4 YRS OLD) THRU 6TH GRADE

Bible stories, Music, Crafts, Snacks, T-Shirt & more!

REGISTER BY JUNE 2

Registration Fee: \$75/child

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM AND RETURN TO THE MAIN OFFICE



Saint Spyridon Hellenic Orthodox Church
Contact Presvytera Diana at dlamberis@gmail.com
to volunteer or for more information

PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY OF SAINT SPYRIDON CHURCH

CAMP ΚΑΛΟΚΑΙΡΑΚΙ 2023 ΚΑΛΟΚΑΙΡΙ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ

Join us for an unforgettable week as we embark on a journey to Greece where campers will immerse themselves in:

- Greek Language
- Greek Culture
- Greek Traditions
- Traditional Greek Dancing
- Greek Cuisine
- Athletics
- Arts & Crafts

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 5TH

Camp Days: June 12 - 16
Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Fee: \$150
Ages: Kindergarten - 8th Grade

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please call the church office to reserve your spot
708-385-2311 or
email: office@saint-spyridon.net

**Please provide your own lunch & water bottle
** Volunteers are welcome - community service hours will be given

LOCATION:

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

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

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ACADEMY
PRESCHOOL

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\$150 PER WEEK

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

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- Music & Movement
- Social Engagement
- Outdoor & Indoor Playtime
- Storytelling & more

NOW OFFERING 3 WEEKS
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

WEEK 1: MAY 30 - JUNE 2
WEEK 2: JUNE 5 - 9
WEEK 3: JUNE 12-16
**sign up for all 3 weeks & receive a \$50 discount

ARCHANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave. *Palos Heights

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO RESERVE A SPOT BY MAY 19TH 708-385-2311 or message Sofea Malamis at director@archangelsacademy.org
Payment is due on or before May 19th *FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE
Children must be between the ages of 3 & 6 * SPACE IS LIMITED
** Please provide your own lunch & water bottle

Childs Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Parent Phone #: _____

Week 1: _____ \$150 Week 2: _____ \$150 Week 3: _____ \$150

3 Weeks: _____ \$400 Total Due: _____ Date Paid: _____

Archangels Academy Preschool

NOW OFFERING FULL DAY & HALF DAY PRESCHOOL

Open For **2023-2024** Registration!

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SPACE IS LIMITED



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- 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

Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave., Palos Heights, IL



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Sale

EASTER LAMBATHES

- hosted by -
PTA

COME AND FIND US
EVERY SUNDAY AFTER THE
DIVINE LITURGY
SALES START ON MARCH 5TH
AND END ON PALM SUNDAY
LAMBATHES WILL BE SOLD FOR \$25.

Myrofores

Holy Week preparations are in the works and the need for Myrofores is upon us. If you are interested in being a Myrofora for Holy Week services please contact Vicky with your name and the service(s) that you are willing and able to participate in.

Services include:

- +Palm Sunday, April 9, Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.
- +Holy Monday, April 10 Service of the Bridegroom 7:00 p.m.
- +Holy Tuesday, April 11 Service of the Bridegroom 7:00 p.m.
- +Holy Thursday April 13 6:30pm
- +Holy Friday, April 14 The Epitaphios Service 7:00 p.m.
- +Holy Saturday, April 15 Resurrection Service 11:00 p.m.
- +Pascha Sunday, April 16 The Agape Service 11:00 a.m.

☪☪☪
Contact Vicky at vasi1207@yahoo.com
All girls from 1st-12th grade are welcome to participate. Please arrive 30 minutes before the start of the service.

26th Annual GOLF OUTING
THURSDAY, JUNE 8TH, 2023

Deadline for Registration: Friday, June 2nd

Odyssey Country Club
19110 S. Ridgeland Avenue
Tinley Park, IL 60477

EARLY BIRD RATE \$15 DISCOUNT
PREPAY BY JUNE 2ND \$135 TO GOLF

10:00am | Check-In & Continental Breakfast
11:45am | Shotgun Start
2:00pm (+/-) | Lunch at the Turn
4:30pm | Cocktails
5:00pm | Dinner

Awards & Raffle to Follow Dinner

\$150 to Golf and \$150 to be a Hole Sponsor!

Have Your Family Meet You Out for Dinner!

St. Spyridon Golf Committee:
Nick Argyropoulos, John Farsatis, Nick Halikias
Mike Haniotakis, Gus Kolyvas, Frank & Zoe Kopanis
Nick Kourmetas, Nick Mazarakos, Bill Perakis, Jim Petrakos
Jim Tourloukis, Nick Tsionoukas, Spiros Tzanetakos

For any questions please contact the Church Office between 9am-2pm at (708)383-2311, -or- email at Office@Saint-Spyridon.net -or- Nick.Kourmetas@gmail.com

MEETING!

CALLING ALL MYROFORES

Let's Meet Up

PALM SUNDAY AFTER LITURGY

All interested in being a myrofora during Holy Week are asked to attend this meeting. We will discuss the weeks schedule, expectations, robe assignments and a brief practice with altar boys. Please meet Vicky in the Archangels room after Sunday School. The Holy Week schedule is attached!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS RETREAT

Join us for the Divine Liturgy, a lenten breakfast, crafts, an outreach project, spiritual lesson, egg hunt and palm cross making!

APRIL 08 2023

10:30-2:00

Festivities will begin immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the community hall.

Please help us prepare, you can scan the QR code on this flyer to reserve your spot! Parents are required to stay for this event.



HOSTED & SPONSORED
BY THE PTA

**BRIGHT FRIDAY
BBQ
PARTY**

COME FOR FUN & JR. OLYMPICS SIGNUP

Family Fun

hosted by
PTA

HOT DOGS,
HAMBURGERS AND MORE

ON FRIDAY
APRIL 21 ST
FROM 6:30-8PM
in the community hall

All who register on Bright Friday will receive a complimentary St. Spyridon water bottle!

SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC
ORTHODOX CHURCH

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

**MAY 27, 28
2023**

**REGISTER BY MAY 1ST
MUST BE PARISH STEWARD TO
PARTICIPATE**

REGISTRATION FORMS IN THE OFFICE

****MUST ALSO REGISTER ON METROPOLIS WEBSITE**
<https://chicago.goarch.org/junior-olympics>

The registration fee and t-shirts will be donated this year for the athletes and coaches participating in the Junior Olympics in memory of Alex C. Georgiou.

Questions? Contact Nick Tsinoukas at
ntsinoukas@gmail.com or Demetri Marines at
jaimiemarines@aol.com

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Scholarship 2023

The St. Spyridon Ladies Philoptochos society invites all High School Seniors, current College students, and Graduate students to apply for the St. Spyridon Philoptochos Scholarship.

The 2023 scholarships, for the second year, are made available through the generosity of Mrs. Manasses and her family, in memory of her beloved husband, Mr. Peter Manasses.

The following Scholarships will be offered in 2023:

- (1) \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating High School Senior
- (2) \$2,000 scholarships to currently enrolled undergraduate students
- (2) \$3,000 scholarships to currently enrolled graduate students.

Application and information are available on St. Spyridon's website:
<https://saint-spyridon.net/philoptochos>

The deadline for the completed application and supporting documents are due by June 30, 2023.

Please email application materials to
englishteacher30@yahoo.com



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Chicago, IL 60608

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

Eggman's



Restaurant

12701 S. Pulaski
Alsip, IL 60803

708-239-8740




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

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Email: ACcollision.claims@gmail.com

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