



# THE VOICE

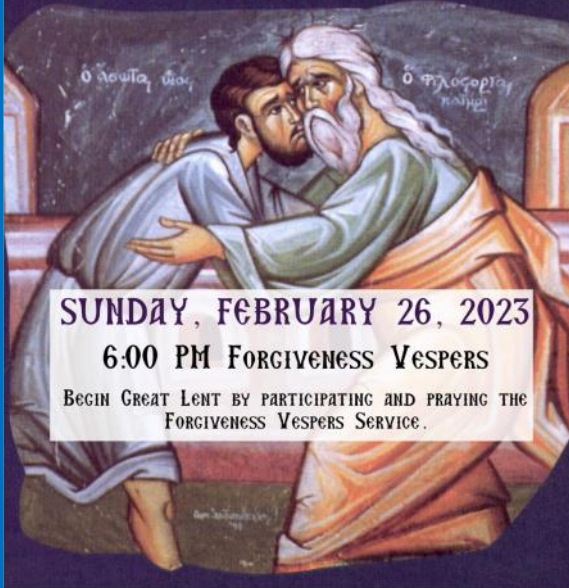
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SAINT SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

12307 SOUTH RIDGELAND AVENUE, PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60463

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## FORGIVENESS VESPERS



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

6:00 PM FORGIVENESS VESPERS

BEGIN GREAT LENT BY PARTICIPATING AND PRAYING THE FORGIVENESS VESPERS SERVICE.

SAINT SPYRIDON  
HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH  
12307 S. RIDGELAND AVENUE, PALOS HEIGHT, IL 60463



## METROPOLIS VASILOPITA CELEBRATION



## FATHER'S LETTER

### THE WORLD CAN KNOW HIS PEACE THROUGH US

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace." This is a quote by the late guitarist and musician, Jimi Hendrix. As a young guitarist, I enjoyed his creativity and skill as a musician, but as I continue to grow in Christ, these words mean so much more to me.

Of all the blessings of God, peace is something we hope to acquire. In the Liturgy, we begin our petitions with a Litany of Peace: "In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the peace from above..., for the peace of the whole world..." We pray for heavenly peace but also for peace in the world.

Peace is so important for cooperation, happiness, families, work and our church. Without it, nothing constructive can be achieved and we cannot reach our full potential.

Though peace is desirable, many neglect what is necessary to pursue it. How is peace attained? In the Epistle of St. James (James 3:11 – 18), the apostle and first Hierarch of Jerusalem states,

"Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh. Who is wise and understanding among you? *Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.* But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but it earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But *the wisdom that is from above* is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. *Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*"

In order to have peace, we must actively make peace. What comes to mind is the teaching of our Lord in His sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9).

If we want to foster peace then we must sow peace, plant peace and nurture peace. It cannot happen without effort and self-knowledge.

The Lord and the apostle teach us that peace starts within our heart. In the Liturgy of Saint Basil that we will pray throughout Great Lent on Sunday, we will pray "Remember... all civil authorities, grant them a secure and lasting peace; speak good things in their hearts concerning Your Church and all Your people, that we, in their tranquility **may lead a calm and peaceful life...**" Having a peaceful heart creates the climate of peace for the Church and for all.

We cannot have peace and war together. Warfare begins with the turmoil of our heart. With this thought in mind, and in the Apostle's writing above, there are two types of wisdom – the wisdom from below and the wisdom from above. The wisdom from below harbors envy and self-seeking in the heart. It is boastful and full of pride; It is earthly, sensual and demonic. When these habits of the world possess us, they compel us to stir up our own heart and the souls of others.

But the wisdom from above is pure. It does not contain hypocrisy or partiality. It has no desire to compete with pride but it competes for virtue. Therefore, we are full of peace, gentle and full of mercy and good fruit. This is how the peacefulness within can help bring or transfer peace to those near us and within our domain of existence.

In the Philokalia, it says the Beatitudes make man a god by grace: he becomes gentle, longs for righteousness, is charitable, dispassionate and a peacemaker...". Thus, we are taught that when we let the Holy Spirit take full charge of our souls, the inner warfare of the flesh against the spirit ceases. We have peace with God. And when we possess the peace of God with all its attributes, we can share it with the world around us. This is how the love of God is made manifest. And this kind of love will help the world experience His peace.

As a parish family, in every interaction and encounter, in every committee meeting, in worship and within our homes, let us do our very best to live with peace, purity and a spirit of gentleness so that we can bear fruit and bear witness to the "Wonderful Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6). May His peace reign in our hearts and in our Spirit.



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear St. Spyridon Parish Family,

Happy February! May this message find all of us in good health and prospering. We thank our Fr. George for coordinating a bus trip for us to attend the Great Vespers in honor of St. Haralambos in Niles, IL, on the evening of Thursday, February 9th. It is also a joyous opportunity for us to see the new Proestamemos of St. Haralambos parish, our Fr. Tilemahos! The parish of St. Haralambos has graciously visited our parish twice recently by bringing a bus filled with parishioners to the St. Spyridon Feast Day Vespers and also another bus filled with parishioners to the Metropolitan Vasilopita cutting ceremony. It would be beautiful if we can reciprocate this kindness and love with our own bus filled with us and our families, representing our beloved St. Spyridon's parish! Please RSVP by calling the church office at (708) 385-2311.

Our parish Protopsaltis (first chanter), Aggeli Angelos, is handing over the responsibilities of this spiritual and critical role in St. Spyridon's church to Alexia Chibucos. We are grateful to Aggeli for his beautiful voice and many years of service and dedication to the church. We warm-heartedly wish Aggeli many blessings in his life and welcome him to return and chant whenever he is able. Alexia has followed Aggeli's footsteps as they both have learned as young adults how to chant in the holy services. In addition to chanting, Alexia is instructing the Byzantine Music Classes here at St. Spyridon on Saturday evenings. It is with great anticipation and best wishes for Alexia to share the blessings of her beautiful voice with us and our parish for many years to come!

The Committees and ministries have begun meeting in January. The Greek School Committee, George Vythoulkas, is working on the Greek Parade representation from our parish, Summer Camp this June and the 2023-2024 school year. The Festival Committee, Dean Eliacostas, had a strong start with high participation in its first meeting to begin preparing for the Festival on July 8th and 9th this summer. Caryn Chibucos has graciously accepted to chair the Stewardship Committee. Labros Malfas is stepping into a Stewardship Committee Member role due to work constraints. Labros plans to remain on the Committee and continue to volunteer and support our parish. Thank you to Caryn and Labros for your leadership and efforts to help all of us, our families and our parish with this vital ministry.

A large part of Stewardship is volunteerism of our time and skills. More volunteers are needed. Please volunteer for the church ministries, events and fundraisers by contacting Fr. George, any of the parish council members or the church office for more information.

The 2023 Stewardship application forms have been mailed to our community. Please reply with a commitment to support the church and its ministries. Additional applications are available in the church office. A Stewardship table will also be set up on Sundays after Liturgy, through Sunday, March, 5th, The Sunday of Orthodoxy. Stewardship Committee volunteers will be at the table to answer our questions and provide us with assistance regarding the Stewardship applications.



Thank you to Fr. George, the parish council members, all of the church organizations and committees, the parishioners, volunteers and donors for helping make St. Spyridon's church a place of welcoming and warmth for all to visit and stay.

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

Humbly submitted, Frank Kopanis

## The Voice -

### Η φωνή

Official Monthly Community  
Publication of St. Spyridon  
Hellenic Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

REV. FR. GEORGE  
LAMBERIS  
PARISH PRIEST

### Church Office

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Phone: 708-385-2311  
Fax: 708-385-0166  
E-mail: office@Saint-Spyridon.net  
Web: www.Saint-Spyridon.net

### Parish Council Officers

Frank Kopanis	President
George Papadopoulos	Vice- President
James Xeros	Vice- President
Panagiotis Stamus	Secretary
SpirosTzanetakos	Assistant Secretary
Gus Kolyvas	Treasurer
Jim Korbakes	Assistant Treasurer

### Auxiliary Officers

Angelo Angelos	Chanter
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	SundaySchool Director
Nancy Primbas	G.O.Y.A.
Pres. Diana Lamberis	Family Night
Vivian Tzanetakos	Family Night
Ria Hronis	Family Night
Labros Malfas	Altar Boys
Vicky Argyropoulos	Handmaidens
Demetrius Marines	Athletics
Nick Tsinoukas	Athletics
Stella Parhas	Food Pantry
Litsa Tsarouhis	Church Office
Marianna Haniotakis	Church Office
Soteria Simantirakis	Custodian

## ***DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE***

Wednesday, February 1st	St. Trypho the Martyr—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Thursday, February 2nd	The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior, Orthros & Divine Liturgy —8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
Sunday, February 5th	Beginning of Triodion St. Agatha the Martyr—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.
Friday, February 10th	St. Charalambos, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
Saturday, February 11th	Vespers— 5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 12th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.
Friday, February 17th	St. Theodore of Tyron—1st Hour & Divine Liturgy— 8:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Saturday, February 18th	1st Saturday of the Souls, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00—11:00 a.m. Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 19th	St. Philothei—Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.
Saturday, February 25th	2nd Saturday of the Souls, Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:00—11:00 a.m. Vespers—5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 26th	Orthros & Divine Liturgy—8:15 a.m.—11:15 a.m.— Forgiveness Vespers 6:00 p.m.
Monday, February 27th	Clean Monday * Great Compline, Part 1 of St. Andrew Canon— 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. * Koulouma Dinner
Tuesday, February 28th	Great Compline, Part 2 of St. Andrew Canon— 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

## ***ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ***

Τετάρτη 1 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Τρύφωνος—1η Ώρα & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—9:30 π.μ.
Πέμπτη 2 Φεβρουαρίου	Η Υπαπαντή του Κυρίου—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00π.μ.—10:30 π.μ.
Κυριακή 5 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Αγάθης—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:15 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 10 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Χαραλάμπους—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00π.μ.—10:30 π.μ.
Σάββατο 11 Φεβρουαρίου	Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 12 Φεβρουαρίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:15 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Παρασκευή 17 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Θεόδωρος ο Τήρων—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—10:30 π.μ.
Σάββατο 18 Φεβρουαρίου	1ο Ψυχοσάββατο—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ. Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 19 Φεβρουαρίου	Αγ. Φιλοθέης—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:15 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ.
Σάββατο 25 Φεβρουαρίου	2ο Ψυχοσάββατο—Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:00 π.μ.—11:00 π.μ. Εσπερινός—5:00 π.μ.
Κυριακή 26 Φεβρουαρίου	Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία—8:15 π.μ.—11:15 π.μ. Κατανυκτικός Εσπερινός—6:00 μ.μ.
Δευτέρα 27 Φεβρουαρίου	Μέγα Απόδειπνο με τον Κανόνα του Αγίου Ανδρέου (1ο μέρος) - 5:30 μ.μ. Κούλουμα
Τρίτη 28 Φεβρουαρίου	Μέγα Απόδειπνο με τον Κανόνα του Αγίου Ανδρέου (2ο μέρος) - 6:00 μ.μ.

## February 2023 — Community Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Cherubs — 10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	2 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	3 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm * Folk dance (beginners) — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm	4 * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m.
5 <b>Triodion Begins</b> * Sunday School — 10:30 am — 11:30 am	6 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am *	7 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	8 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Philoptochos General Meeting — 5:30 p.m. * GOYA — 7:00 pm	9 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	10 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm * Folk dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm	11 * Handmaidens — 10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m. * YAL Social Event at Xando Café — 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
12 * Sunday School — 10:30 am — 11:30 am	13 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm * Folk dance (beginners) — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm	14 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 a.m.	15 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Cherubs — 10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	16 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am *	17 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm * Folk dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm * Family Night — Bowling Night — 7:00 p.m.	18 * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m.
19 * Family Worship — No Sunday School * Philoptochos Apokreatiko Luncheon — 11:30 a.m.	20 * No Archangels * No Greek School	21 * Archangels Academy — 9:30 am	22 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am *	23 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am	24 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm * Folk dance — 6:30 pm — 7:00 pm * GOYA Valentine's Party at St. Haralambos — 7:00 pm — 10:00 p.m.	25 * Byzantine Chant Class — 3:45 p.m.
26 * Sunday school — 10:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.	27 <b>Clean Monday</b> * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Greek School — 4:30 pm — 6:30 pm	28 * Archangels Academy — 9:00 am * Εξομολόγηση — 11:00 π.μ. - 1:00 μ.μ.				

# STEWARDSHIP 2023

## 2023 STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE



- **NON-STEWARDS:** In 2023, we challenge you to become a steward and consider pledging 2% of your household income as stewardship.
- **CURRENT STEWARDS:** In 2023, we challenge you to give 2% of your household income as stewardship
- **CURRENT STEWARDS:** If you are already giving 2% or more, we challenge you to increase your stewardship by 1%

## STEWARDS JANUARY 1ST—JANUARY 31ST

Dr. & Mrs. Alex Alemis	Ms. Efrosine Kanellakes	Ms. Marigo Markatos
Dr. & Mrs. Chris Alemis	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Kapsaskis	Mr. John Mazarakos
Ms. Katerina Alexopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George Karras	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Pappas
Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Argyropoulos	Mrs. Helen Katris	Mrs. Evelyn Paleothodoros
Mr. James Argyropoulos	Mr. Bill Katsenis	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Paraskis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Argyropoulos	Mrs. Dina Katsoulis	Mr. & Mrs. John Pavlopoulos
Ms. Denise Alexopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. John Kavroulakis	Mr. & Mrs. William Perakis
Mr. & Mrs. John Bastas	Mrs. Mary Kavroulakis	Mr. Athanasios Perros
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Berdusis	Mrs. Tasia Kladis	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Petinatos
Mr. Nicholas P. Bobis	Dr. & Mrs. Chris Kolyvas	Mr. & Mrs. James Petropoul
Mr. & Mrs. Zach Bousies	Mr. Gus Kolyvas	Ms. Penny Poninski
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Collopy	Mr. Peter Kolyvas	Mr. & Mrs. Panayotis Prassas
Mr. Christos Catsogiannis	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kopanis	Ms. Koula Perivoliotis
Ms. Alexia Chibucos	Mr. & Mrs. Peter G Korbakes	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Riley
Mrs. Caryn Chibucos	Mr. Chris Koulogeorge	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Rougas
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Christy	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kournetas	Dr. & Mrs. George Scarlatis
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Deligiannis	Mr. & Mrs. James Kotsiviras	Ms. Joanne Skiadopoulou
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Demakis	Mr. & Mrs. John Koziocas	Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Smirnis
Mrs. Vivian Dokos	Mr. & Mrs. George Kristo	Mr. Alexander Sotiropoulos
Mr. & Mrs. George Eliacostas	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kyres	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sotiropoulos
Ms. Georgia Evangelopoulos	Fr. George & Pres Diana Lamberis	Mr. Andrew Stameson
Ms. Ruth E. Faklis	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Lamberis	Mrs. & Mrs. Panagiotis Stamus
Mrs. Demetrios Felecos	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Les	Mr. George Symeonides
Dr. Sylvia Felecos	Mrs. Betty Lillios	Ms. Efthimia Thiakos
Mr. & Mr. George Gatsios	Mr. & Mrs. George Limperis	Mr. Angelos Tsagalis
Mr. & Mrs. Theofanis Gatsios	Dr. Makis Limperis	Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Tsantilis
Mr. & Mrs. George Georgaklis	Mr. & Mrs. Apostolos Malfas	Mr. & Dr. Vasileios Tsoukalas
Dr. & Mrs. George Georgelos	Ms. Evaggelia Malfas	Mr. & Mrs. Spiros Tzanetakos
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Georgiopoulos	Mr. Labros Malfas	Ms. Dana Vasilakos
Mr. & Mrs. Theof Georgiopoulos	Mrs. Tina Manasses	Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Vasilopoulos
Ms. Kathy Gountanis	Mr. & Mrs. Theophanes Manikas	Mr. & Mrs. James Xeros
Mrs. Ekaterini Grapsas	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Maramathas	Mrs. Mary Magdalene Zippmann
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Haniotakis	Mr. Ted Maras	Ms. Effie Zorbas & Mr. V Eliades



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



## TRIODION

Την Κυριακή 5 Φεβρουαρίου, του Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου, ξεκινά φέτος το Τριώδιο.

Το Τριώδιο είναι ένα από τα λειτουργικά βιβλία της Εκκλησίας. Στο βιβλίο αυτό περιέχονται σχεδόν κάθε μέρα ύμνοι, που λέγονται Τριώδια, ύμνοι δηλαδή με τρεις ωδές. Τι είναι οι ωδές; Είναι ομάδες από τέσσερα ως πέντε ή και περισσότερα τροπάρια, που ψάλλονται όλα με τον ίδιο τρόπο. Για το λαό επικρατεί η αντίληψη ότι αρχή του Τριωδίου είναι το ξεκίνημα για τις καρναβαλικές εκδηλώσεις και τις Απόκριες.

Η περίοδος του Τριωδίου αποτελεί το κινητό εκείνο τμήμα του εκκλησιαστικού έτους που ετοιμάζει τον πιστό για τον άξιο εορτασμό των Παθών και της Αναστάσεως. Ξεκινά από την Κυριακή του Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου και φτάνει μέχρι και το Μεγάλο Σάββατο. Μέσα στην περίοδο αυτή περιλαμβάνεται και η Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή καθώς και η Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα.

Η πρώτη, η Κυριακή του Τελώνη και Φαρισαίου προτρέπει τους Χριστιανούς να είναι ταπεινοί, όπως ο Τελώνης.

Η δεύτερη, η Κυριακή του Ασώτου, διδάσκει την αξία της μετάνοιας και το μεγαλείο της συγχωρέσεως.

Η τρίτη Κυριακή, η Κυριακή της Απόκριω, αναφέρεται στη Δευτέρα Παρουσία, καθώς επίσης και στη χριστιανική αγάπη. Ονομάζεται δε έτσι, επειδή είναι η τελευταία ημέρα που οι Χριστιανοί επιτρέπεται να φάνε κρέας.

Η τέταρτη, η Κυριακή της Τυροφάγου, το Ευαγγέλιο της ημέρας παροτρύνει τους πιστούς να νηστεύουν, να συγχωρούν όσους τους έχουν βλάψει και να διάγουν βίο ενάρετο. Ακολουθεί η Καθαρά Δευτέρα, με την οποία ξεκινά η περίοδος της Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής. Περίοδος νηστείας, προσευχής, περισυλλογής, κατά την οποία οι πιστοί προετοιμάζονται για την μεγάλη Εβδομάδα και την Ανάσταση του Κυρίου.



## PARISH REGISTRY

### Weddings

Brayden Anthony Schott and Angela Tsarouhis were joined in Holy Matrimony on Sunday, January 15th. Their sponsors were Fr. Paul and Pres. Lorice Dinkov.

Spiro Sam Sullivan Peters and Kristen Prufrock were joined in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, January 28. Their sponsor was Mr. Alexander Sotiropoulos

### Να ζήσουν!

### 40 Day Blessing

Congratulations to Michael and Eleni Perovanovic who brought their son, Marko, for his 40 day blessing! Congratulations to Nick and Tanya Iovino who brought their son, Santino Prokopios, for his 40 day blessing!

### Funerals

On January 2nd, Mrs. Helen Valaris fell asleep in the Lord. Her funeral took place on January 6th and she was interned at Resurrection Cemetery.

On January 5th, Mr. Andrew Pappas fell asleep in the Lord. His funeral took place on January 11th and he was interned at Evergreen Cemetery.

### Memorials

+40 days Anastasia Visvardis, +40 days James Stive, +3 mo Alexandros Georgiou, +1 yr Helen Demopoulos, +9 yrs Helene Tserdimos, +10 yrs Fr. Nikiforos Tserdimos, +18 yrs Evgenia Mazarakos.

*May their memory be eternal!*

# METROPOLIS VASILOPITA

On Sunday, January 15th, we were blessed to host the 62nd Annual Metropolis Vasilopita Celebration! We thank the Philoptochos, Parish Council, Youth Ministries and Schools for participating in this historic event. It was almost thirty years ago since our parish last hosted this event! We also thank the Metropolis Philoptochos Board for their guidance and assistance, the clergy of our Holy Metropolis for their presence and all the faithful in attendance.





# METROPOLIS VASILOPITA



## PHILOPTOCHOS

January was a month of great joy for Philoptochos.

Last year, due to the pandemic, both the Philoptochos Christmas party and the Metropolis Vasilopita were cancelled. This year we celebrated and rejoiced at being together for both events, what a wonderful way to welcome the new year.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> had our Christmas celebration and enjoyed a delicious brunch buffet at Elements by Odyssey: we thank the Halikias Family for the generous hospitality and donating the delicious mimosas. We once again were able to enjoy being together and singing the traditional Kalanda (Holiday songs) and welcoming the New Year. This year our members sang especially joyous and as tradition calls each was rewarded with a quarter!!!

Father George and Presbytera Diana joined us for the Kalanda (amazing voices) and sang a beautiful traditional song for the New Year that many of our members had not heard in years. It was a wonderful day!

On January 18<sup>th</sup> our parish hosted the 62<sup>nd</sup> Metropolis Vasilopita, with over 490 people attending and 15 of our sister parishes being represented. Our hope was for everyone to enjoy the warm hospitality and philoxenia that St. Spyridon is known for. Thanks to the leadership of the chairmen, Helen Sotiropoulos and Toula Georgiopoulos, the event was a great success. As we know it takes a team to get it done, they worked with a great committee. Thank you to the committee leaders for the endless hours and great ideas; Janine Riley and Debbie Petrakos for the creative and elegant table décor, Yannoula Malfas for the beautifully decorated cake plates with lights and gold vine, Dina Katsoulis and Olga Paxinos for coordinating the food and the sweets, Vicky Argyropoulos for working with the handmaidens and coordinating our youth programs and Kathy Korbakes for our advertising and printing. Amazing team work – Bravo sas.

The most beautiful and inspiring part for me was the participation of our children: the altar boys leading the handmaidens carrying the huge Vasilopita to his Eminence Nathanael; the Archangel Academy children hand signing Silent Night and presenting his Eminence a painting of wings created by their fingerprints; and, our Greek School Students singing the traditional Kalanda. This is what made our evening special and heartwarming to all. Thank you Mrs. Sofea Malamis and Mrs. Evie Maroudas for teaching our children. As I said it takes a team, so I thank all of the ladies of Philoptochos, their spouses, family and friends for all the baking, cooking and setting up. As always many thanks to Frank Kopanis and the parish council members for their support and participation.

A special thank you to the mothers of our Greek School students, who on Friday night stayed and helped us wrap bottles, put stickers on cups and set up all of our table settings, we are so grateful for your help! This is what makes St. Spyridon a wonderful community- working together. All in all, it was a wonderful event: the last one we hosted was 31 years ago so thank goodness it will be a while before we have to host again.

We are now preparing for February, which will be a busy month for Philoptochos. On February 18<sup>th</sup> we will be serving 60 meals for the homeless at Almost Home soup kitchen in Burbank. We will also be preparing 25 lunches that can be taken with them for the next day. Almost Home is an organization that directly serves those with food insecurity in the south suburbs. If anyone is interested in helping serve or prepare the lunches please contact Georgia Xeros,

On February 19<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting our traditional Apokriatico Luncheon. Our ladies will be preparing the traditional meat makaronatha (beef in tomato sauce over spaghetti). For those who have not had this meal, let me assure you it is delicious!!!! For the children, we will be serving spaghetti with meat sauce and we will once again have a make your own ice cream sundae bar. Our goal is to have a family event with music, crafts and fun for the whole family, especially the children.



# PHILOPTOCHOS

We hope everyone will make an effort to attend so we can continue this wonderful tradition as we prepare for our Lenten Journey. Once again please place your reservations so we can be prepared.

In lieu of our Winter Fundraiser we will have a Lenten, Grab and Go; homemade lagana bread and taramosalata. These will be packaged to go and available for pick up on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> - just in time for the beginning of Lent. Since our ladies are making both the bread & the taramosalata we ask you to preorder so we can serve everyone and not waste. Please refer to the flyer for more information: pricing and order form. As is typical a portion of our proceeds will be given to an NFP- not yet determined.

As a reminder January was the beginning of our annual membership drive. The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society is now celebrating 91 years of philanthropy. The Philoptochos is a separately incorporated arm of the Greek Orthodox church of America with their mission to help the poor, destitute, hungry, the aged and the sick or any who need help of the church. To strive to comfort and offer hope. Above all do everything with discretion, love and kindness. Our membership committee chairmen, Kathy Korbakes and Dana Vasilakos, are available to answer any questions you may have. Our mission transcends age or personality, as we all use our individual gifts to help in any way we can. I would like to end by once again quoting the words of Helen Keller "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched – they must be felt with the heart."

So, once again we ask for your continued support by becoming a member of our St. Spyridon Philoptochos and I thank everyone for your support, encouragement, attendance and continued participation in our events. Please continue to join us as we work to put our faith to action!

With Sisterly Agape

Georgia Xeros



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival

**JOIN THOUSANDS  
OF YOUTH ACROSS  
THE NATION AND  
SHARE YOUR FAITH!**



**2023 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL**  
Senior Division (Grades 10-12) • Junior Division (Grades 7-9)

### AWARDS

National finalists are eligible to receive the following:

**St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: \$500 to \$2000**

**FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism:** to be announced

Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following:

**Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year**

Parish Festival Date & Time: Friday, March 10 (following the Salutations)

Parish Chairperson: Maria Baltas

Contact Information: englishteacher30@yahoo.com



With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, we are pleased to announce that the *39th Annual Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival* will be held at St. Spyridon on *Friday, March 10* immediately following the *Salutations of the Theotokos*. *This event is open to all youth in grades 7-12.*

The Oratorical Festival will offer 6 categories (**Speech, Essay, Poetry, Iconography, Vocal Solo, and Vocal Chant**), each with 2 divisions  
**Senior: Grades 10-12 and Junior: Grades 7-9.**

Topics, Resources, and guidelines for all categories are contained by scanning the QR code or going to All entries for Speech, Essay, Poetry, Vocal Solo, and Vocal Chant, both Junior and Senior Divisions, must be submitted no later than **Sunday, March 5, 2023**. Please contact Maria Baltas for more details [englishteacher30@yahoo.com](mailto:englishteacher30@yahoo.com)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL VASILOPITA CUTTING CELEBRATION



# PLUTARCHOS ACADEMY



We started the New Year with our Annual Plutarchos Vasilopita cutting. Thank you to Fr. George for teaching our kids about St. Basil, the beautiful tradition of vasilopita cutting and the importance of giving to the needy.

Thank you to all the mothers that baked the delicious vasilopites and to our PTA for providing the St. Basil coins. It was a festive day full of big smiles and happy bellies!

On Sunday, January 15th we had the honor of performing during the Metropolis Vasilopita celebration that our parish hosted. Under the guidance of Mrs. Evi our kids did an amazing job!

Congratulations to Pericles Pappas and Elias Perkins for being "February Ellinopoula students of the Month". Good job boys!

No classes on President's Day, Monday, February 20th. The Chicago Greek Independence Day Parade this year is scheduled for Sunday, March 26th. Please Save the Date.



# FAMILY NIGHT

We hope everyone has had a great start to 2023! Family Night Ministry held their first gathering of the new year on Friday, January 20th. After dinner, the kids broke up into teams for some light-hearted, fun relay games! Our theme for this month was Theophany. Father George taught the children about the Sacrament of Baptism. The kids enjoyed taking turns and watching their friends as they role-played the godparents and parents.

Please mark your calendars for next month's Family Night outing! Join us for Bowling Night at Palos Lanes on Friday, February 17th.

More information to come!



## CHERUBS

Happy New Year!! Our little Cherubs were excited to meetup after Christmas break and play with their friends! Father George taught the children all about the holy sacrament of baptism and then cut a vasilopita for all to share!

Join us! We meet two times a month on Wednesdays at 10:30 am at Saint Spyridon.



## GOLF OUTING SAVE THE DATE



**BETTER  
LUCK  
THIS  
YEAR!**

*26<sup>th</sup> Annual* **GOLF OUTING**  
**SAVE the DATE**

**06.08.23**

**ODYSSEY GOLF FOUNDATION**

19110 South Ridgeland Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois 60477

# ARCHANGELS

What a beautiful start of the New Year it has been for all of us!

In January we held our Annual Fundraising Breakfast and it was a huge success! All of our Archangels families went above and beyond. Thank you to all of you for supporting our beautiful school through your love, support & generous donations. To all the Archangels moms, your efforts, hard work and love made this beautiful gathering possible. We couldn't have pulled off such an amazing event without all of you!

As you are aware, Fall 2023-2024 registration for Archangels Academy Preschool has begun. If you know any families who have children that are eligible for preschool, please spread the word. Limited spots are available so please make sure to secure your child's spot.

Application are now available in the church office and on our website. You can also contact Sofea Malamis at [director@archangelsacademy.org](mailto:director@archangelsacademy.org) for more information.

Summer camp is right around the corner and registration forms are now being accepted. We are now offering 3 weeks of camp beginning on May 29th and hours have also been extended from 9:00 AM—2:00 PM. Please call the church office to reserve your spot!



**ARCHANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL**

**KIDS SUMMER CAMP**

**\$150 PER WEEK**

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

**OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:**

- Strategy Games
- Arts & Crafts
- 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN THE PHILOPTOCHOS  
FOR AN

## Apokreatiko LUNCHEON

**FEBRUARY 19, 2023**  
AFTER SUNDAY LITURGY

**\$25 ADULTS · \$15 CHILDREN**

**MENU INCLUDES: BEEF "KOKKINISTO" WITH MACARONIA,  
SIDE SALAD, DESSERT, WINE & PUNCH**

**CHILDREN'S MENU: SPAGHETTI WITH MEAT SAUCE  
CRAFTS & ICE CREAM BAR!**

**PLEASE RESERVE TODAY**

BY PHONE: CHURCH OFFICE 708-385-2311

EMAIL: PHILOPTOCHOSLADIES@GMAIL.COM

IN PERSON RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE SUNDAYS

AFTER CHURCH AT OUR RESERVATION TABLE

ST. SPYRIDON PHILOPTOCHOS



## LENTEN: GRAB & GO

HOMEMADE LAGANA BREAD AND TARAMOSALATA

PICK UP:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

11AM-2PM

SPECIAL PICKUP AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PREORDER - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

QUESTION PLEASE CONTACT STELLA PARHAS

EMAIL: SPARHAS@AMERITECH.NET PHONE: 708-717-2518



### ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Lagana (1lb) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$6= \_\_\_\_\_

Taramosalata (8oz) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8= \_\_\_\_\_

How many Total due

Total Payment Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off Order form at Church Office or email to [stparhas@ameritech.net](mailto:stparhas@ameritech.net) by  
Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>  
PAY AT PICK UP



### ARCHANGELS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

#### 2023-2024 TUITION INFORMATION

HALF DAY 8:45 AM-12:00 PM

STEWARDS \$3050

NON-STEWARDS \$3310

FULL DAY 8:45 AM-3:00 PM

STEWARDS \$5850

NON-STEWARDS \$6390

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

Multiple children discount 10% off 2nd tuition.

Flexible Payment Plans Available

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

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

Archangels Academy Preschool

## NOW OFFERING FULL DAY & HALF DAY PRESCHOOL

Open For **2023-2024**

Registration!



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LEARNING ENVIRONMENT  
FOR YOUR CHILD"

ENROLL NOW  
SPACE IS LIMITED



#### WHAT WE OFFER:

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

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



Contact Us

**708-385-2311**

or email

[director@archangelsacademy.org](mailto:director@archangelsacademy.org)  
Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church  
12307 S. Ridgeland Ave., Palos Heights, IL



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Taxiarchai and St Haralambos' GOYA invites all Chicagoland GOYANs to a

## Valentines PARTY

Friday, February 24th  
7PM - 10PM

Join us for DJ Music, Dancing, Food and more!

In lieu of an admission fee, bring non perishable food items to be donated to the Metropolis of Chicago Project HOPE

Wear red, white or pink!

7373 Caldwell Avenue  
Niles, Illinois

For more information email: [SaintHaralambosGOYA@gmail.com](mailto:SaintHaralambosGOYA@gmail.com)

RSVP HERE!



ST. SPYRIDON CHURCH  
IS PARTNERING WITH HELLENIC FOUNDATION  
GOLDEN CIRCLE INITIATIVE

## Great Vespers in honor of St. Haralambos Niles, Il.

**Shuttle Bus Round Trip**  
**Thursday, February 9 2023**  
5:00 pm - Departing from St. Spyridon

TO RSVP CALL  
THE CHURCH  
OFFICE AT  
708-385-2311 BY  
FEBRUARY 6TH



*please join us for a*

# YAL

social event  
at  
Xando Café

THE NEWLY FORMED YOUNG ADULT LEAGUE OF ST. SPYRIDON INVITES YOUNG ADULTS FOR A NIGHT OUT!

8729 95TH STREET, HICKORY HILLS  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

BRING A FRIEND!

PLEASE RSVP AT <http://bit.ly/yalkickoff>  
OR SCAN HERE



THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY TELOS AND IS FREE OF CHARGE.  
QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO ALEX SOTIROPOULOS AT  
[ASOTI@CHICAGOBOOTH.EDU](mailto:ASOTI@CHICAGOBOOTH.EDU)



*Save THE Date*

## FAMILY NIGHT

A MINISTRY FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN  
FROM PRE-K TO 5TH GRADE

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH**

**Bowling Night**  
**7pm at Palos Lanes**  
**11025 SW Hwy, Palos Hills**



**Upcoming Family Night Dates**

Sat, April 8th | 10am Saturday of Lazarus Retreat at Saint Spyridon

Fri, April 28th | 7pm Family Night Social, Location TBD

Fri, May 19th | 6:30pm End of Year Gathering at Saint Spyridon

»»» Never miss a beat! Sign up for the Weekly E-Bulletin here!



# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ST. SPYRIDON'S FOOD PANTRY

EVERY THURSDAY 1 PM - 2PM

WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF THE FOLOWING ITEMS:

- CEREAL - PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP - OATMEAL
- SPAGETTI SAUCE/PASTA - BOX MASHED POTATOES
- BROWNIE MIX - MAC N CHEESE - TUNA CANS
- CANNED SOUP - MUSTARD/KETCHUP - OIL
- SALAD DRESSING - CANNED CORN & BEANS & PEAS
- ANY OTHER NONPERISHABLE FOODS -

(MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME)

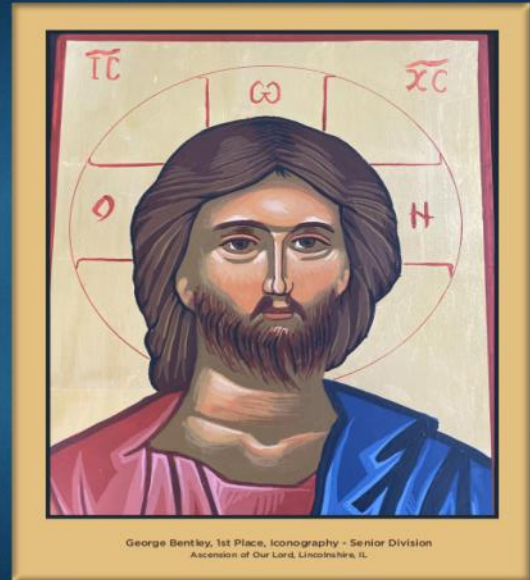
PLEASE PLACE ALL  
NONPERISHABLE FOOD  
DONATIONS IN THE FOOD  
PANTRY DONATION BOX,  
LOCATED IN THE GYM BY  
THE PARKING LOT DOOR

NO EXPIRED FOOD PLEASE



THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO  
39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival



George Bentley, 1st Place, Iconography - Senior Division  
Ascension of Our Lord, Lincolnshire, IL

Saturday, April 29, 2023

— Host Parish —

Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church  
Lincolnshire, Illinois

For more information, please contact [oratoricalfestival@gmail.com](mailto:oratoricalfestival@gmail.com).



St. Spyridon Parish  
Baby Food Drive  
January 15 - February 14

Help a growing baby get the food and nutrients it needs to grow strong!

**Baby Formula, Baby Cereal and Baby Food**

You can make a big difference to a sweet little one!

Cash or Check donations also accepted  
(checks made out to St. Spyridon - memo Project Hope)



St. Spyridon is partnering with Project HOPE. You ask...What is HOPE? The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago announced the launch of a new ministry designed to address food security and stable housing for families and individuals living in the Chicago area. Called Project HOPE (Humanitarian Outreach and Philanthropic Engagement), the new ministry is operating and already has distributed more than five tons of food and more than 2,000 meals to people in need.



### Blessing of Homes

Anyone wishing to have their home blessed for the feast of the Epiphany should contact the Church office.



# Huck FINN

Restaurant & Donuts

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

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

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

# Eggman's



## Restaurant

12701 S. Pulaski  
Alsip, IL 60803

708-239-8740




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

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Chris: (708) 745-8659

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

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