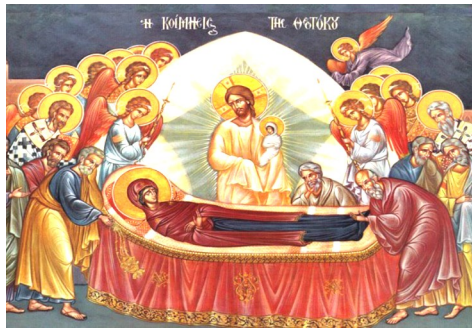




Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

800 Westridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis

Mobile: 516-526-1475

Office Phone: 336-292-8013

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

Upcoming Services & Events

- **Sunday, August 30**
13th Sunday of Matthew
Orthros (matins):
8:45am
Divine Liturgy:
9:50-11:30+am
- **Sunday, September 6**
14th Sunday of Matthew
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am

A Warm Welcome to Our Guests!

We are glad you are worshipping with us. **Please note that participation in Holy Communion is limited to members of the Orthodox Church in good standing, who have prepared through prayer, fasting and confession.**

Our mission... is to become Disciples of Christ, through thought, word, and deed, humbly submitting to the will of the Father, while seeking the Holy Spirit to achieve Salvation.
Our Vision... with the Grace of God, is to provide a loving community where all belong to Christ, through worship, sanctification, education, witness, compassion and fellowship.

Sunday, August 30, 2026 — 13th Sunday of Matthew



Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?' —Matthew 21:46

In Loving Memory

With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of Your servants where there is no pain, no sorrow, no sighing, but life everlasting!

A **40-day memorial service** for our beloved brother in the Lord, **Elias Saba Matar**, beloved husband of **Maha Matar** and father to **Sami, Faris, Manar & Maureen**, as well as a **40-day memorial service** for our beloved brother in the Lord, **Ratko Roy Cvijanovic**, beloved husband of **Angelina** and father to **Vince** will be chanted this Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.



May their memory be eternal!

Bulletin for Sunday, August 30, 2026

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

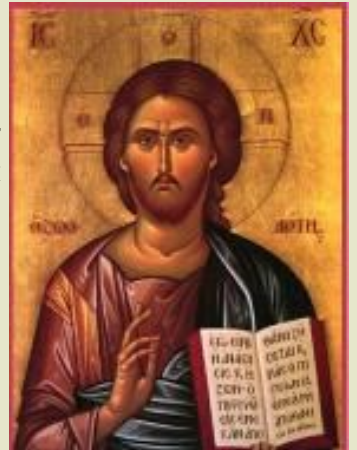
THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 16:13-24

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – The Gospel According to Matthew 21:33-42

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"



CONFESSION

The gift of God's forgiveness is received through private prayer, corporate worship, the disciplines of prayer and fasting, penitential services and above all through the sacrament of Holy Confession.

It is also part of our total spiritual preparation during the fast periods leading up to the great feasts of Easter, Christmas, Epiphany, The Apostles Fast and the Dormition of the Theotokos Fast. Fr. Sarantis is available to hear confessions.

For an appointment, please contact Fr. Sarantis directly at
patersarantis@yahoo.com or text (516) 526-1475

A Word about the Feast on this Sunday....



Today's Gospel story told to us by Jesus is the Parable of the Tenants, illustrating God's judgment on those who reject His messengers and the Messiah, and the ultimate establishment of His kingdom. Matthew 21:33-42

In this parable, Jesus describes a landowner who plants a vineyard, equips it with a wall, winepress, and watchtower, and **then leases it to tenant farmers** while he goes away. When harvest time comes, he sends servants to collect the fruit, but the tenants beat, kill, and stone them. After repeated attempts, the landowner finally sends his son, [Jesus] thinking they will respect him, but the tenants murder [on the cross] the son to seize the inheritance. **Jesus then asks what the owner will do, and the answer is that he will punish the wicked tenants and lease the vineyard to others who will give him the fruit at harvest.** Jesus concludes by referencing Psalm 118:22, saying the rejected stone has become the cornerstone, highlighting God's plan and sovereignty (Matthew 21:33-42).

The Parable of the Tenants in the Vineyard, which according to the *people of the lands of the Bible* was actually referring to Israel. **In the Christian understanding the vineyard refers to the Church.**

There is great joy and fulfillment in belonging to and working for the vineyard of which the Lord Himself is the owner and provider of all things. There is joy in watching its rich fruits grow and sharing them with others.

But on the other hand, the wonderful privilege of belonging to and working for the Lord's vineyard, which is a precious gift that the Lord alone gives, bears significant responsibilities and serious consequences.

God provides all the resources for your personal life, even the very oxygen you breathe and the voice you use, and that you yourself are His gift, too. And belong to Him.

As a baptized Christian, you also belong in a special way to the Lord's vineyard and are working in it, whether faithfully or unfaithfully. We live in the Vineyard (Church) by the hospitality of God, for He is the host, and we are the guest, who are to use the gifts and resources He has given us "properly". **We are entrusted to care for what we have received and return to God His share of the harvest that we have reaped.**

We do not live alone but by being a "tenant", we are already set in a relationship with God, and will be either a faithful or unfaithful steward according to our deeds or misdeeds as those in this parable who kill and reject His gifts.

This is the essence of the parable, that evil people are punished for their misdeeds, but God's work in the world goes on because God gives the vineyard over to other faithful tenants who will do what is right and bear a fruitful harvest for Him.

This Sunday, Sunday, August 30th, 26

Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

The Blessing of the Backpacks and Sunday School Classrooms for our children and the New School Year 2026-2027



Back to School

It's that time of year again. Teachers have returned to freshen up classrooms and families are stocking up on the school supply list that was received during the summer . . . crayons, markers, rulers, pencils, pens, notebooks, and paper. It is the time when the school doors reopen, and the yellow school bus can be seen again on our roads.

The Blessing Backpacks in Church

Many churches have begun the practice of "Blessing Backpacks" as a way to send our children off with prayers for a safe and successful year of learning.

THIS COMING SUNDAY, when we bless our Sunday school classes with the blessing of the water service, we invite all school children to bring their backpacks to church to be blessed. It is our hope that every parent will make a genuine effort to bring their children and their packs in church.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

The Resurrection Hymn (Mode 4) (2X- Greek, English)

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἡγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!.

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia

Hymns After the Small Entrance

Resurrection Apolytikion Hymn (Mode 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!"

The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you suffices the testimony of the Lord, O Forerunner. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the river the One whom they proclaimed. Therefore, when for the truth you had contested, rejoicing, to those in Hades you preached the Gospel, that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sin of the world, and grants to us the great mercy.

MEMORIAL SERVICE HYMN CHANTED BY THE PRIEST (IF ANY)

The Church Hymn - Mode 1 (Greek, English)

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, Μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη, ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

In giving birth you remained a virgin, and in your dormition you did not forsake this world, o Theotokos, For as the Mother of Life, you have yourself passed into life. And by your prayers you deliver our souls from death

Kontakion Hymn. Mode 6

Ἰωακείμ καὶ Ἄννα ὄνειδισμοῦ ἀτεκνίας, καὶ Ἀδὰμ καὶ Εὕα, ἐκ τῆς φθορᾶς τοῦ θανάτου, ἠλευθερώθησαν Ἀχραντε, ἐν τῇ ἀγία γεννήσει σου· αὐτὴν ἐορτάζει καὶ ὁ λαός σου, ἐνοχῆς τῶν πταισμάτων, λυτρωθεὶς ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἡ στεῖρα τίκει τὴν Θεοτόκον, καὶ τροφὸν τῆς ζωῆς ἡμῶν

Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility's stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality's ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For this do your people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, "The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.

FEASTS of the WEEK

Sunday, August 30th, 2026 – Saturday, September 5th, 2026

It is exceedingly important for Orthodox Christians to celebrate their Name (Feast) Day *annually*, in the same manner as they celebrate their birthday. For those celebrating their Name-Day this week, we wish them *hronia polla* - **Many healthy and joyful years to all!** Please click on the highlighted dates to read more about the lives of the saints and feasts, so one may imitate them in life to gain eternal life.

- Saint Alexander, Patriarch of Constantinople [August 30](#)
- The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Mother of God [August 31](#)
- Church New Year [September 1](#)
- Martyr Mamas of Caesarea in Cappadocia [September 2](#)
- Saint Phoebe the Deaconess at Cenchreae near Corinth [September 3](#)
- Holy Prophet and God-seer Moses [September 4](#)
- Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of Saint John the Baptist [September 5](#)



STAY CONNECTED:

"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25)

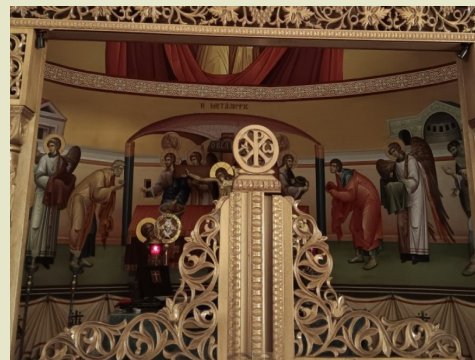
**VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE FOR
CHURCH SERVICES, EVENTS AND
OTHER INFO CLICK BELOW**

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

***In Every Moment of our Lives, PLEASE
KEEP GOD IN MIND. VISIT HIM IN HIS
HOME!***

***800 Westridge Rd
GOD BLESS!!!***

The LIGHT above the Royal Doors (double doors) on the Iconostasis



During a liturgical service i.e., Divine Liturgy there are times that it is proper for the faithful to stand and/or not be moving. When the light shines on the icon of the Last Supper, it indicates that special moment in the service and **we stand**, when the **light is turned off** then **we sit**. It is there to assist us.

WELCOME & NARTHEX MINISTRY SCHEDULE

We are grateful to all the Members (Teams) of the Welcome / Narthex Ministry for their dedication and generosity of their TIME and Talents to serve our community during the Sunday services and beyond. Please know that their ministry is sacred and therefore let us follow their directions.

➔ **Special Notes:** The W / N Ministry along with the Parish Council Members request that **ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD IS ALLOWED IN THE SANCUARY!** Thank you for your understanding! Also please handle the antidoron (BREAD) with **MUCH CARE!** Make sure that breadcrumbs stay into your hands. Thank you!

Team 1: Maria Colozzi, Maria Mandaleris, Elena Vierling, Brandon Covey

Team 2: John McQueary, Nora Zirps, Charles DePoortere, Julia Macovei

Team 3: Brier Gay, Elaine Gay, Ellen Scaturchio, Pete Graham

Team 4: Shane Rivers, Susannah Rivers, Shadi Zeidan, Reina Zeidan

Team 5: Mary Ann Contogiannis, Abeer Maayeh, Madalina Body, Barbara Sabanis,
Ted Angeles

**This Sunday, August 30th, is Team's 1 honor to lead during service.
May the Lord bless their service!**

Ephesians 6:7
*
Serve wholeheartedly, as
if you were serving the
Lord, not people.
-GodFruits.Com

ACOLYTE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Group 1:

Joseph, Michael,
Ephraim, Leonidas,
Jonathan, George,
Andrew, Gus

Group 2:

Alex, Mironey,
David, Samuel,
Aiden, Saleem,
Yiannis

**This Sunday, August 30th, 2026,
is Group's 1 turn.**

As always, **all of the acolytes from group 1 & 2** are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary, to observe and take part in the Great Entrance, even when their group has not been scheduled.

Please aim to arrive before 9:45am. If you arrive during Orthros, please refrain from walking through the Nave to the Sanctuary if Father is reading the Gospel and/or is in the middle of censing.



**THIS SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP
HOUR IS SPONSORED BY**



TODAY, WE ARE GRATEFUL TO:

THE MATAR FAMILY
FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR IN
HONOR OF **ELIAS MATAR**.
MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS
SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR.



WORSHIP LIFE SEPTEMBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- **Sunday, September 6** **14th Sunday of Matthew** — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+
- **Tuesday, September 8** **The Nativity of Holy Theotokos** — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 9:30+ am
- **Wednesday, September 9** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Sunday, September 13** **Sunday Before the Holy Cross** — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am
- **Monday, September 14** **The Elevation of Venerable and Life-Giving Cross** — Orthros: 8:55a Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am
- **Wednesday, September 16** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Sunday, September 20** **Sunday after the Holy Cross** — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am

The above schedule and times supersede any other schedule.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOST

A Coffee Hour sign-up calendar is posted in the fellowship hall. As a reminder, when there is not a Sunday Host, coffee and a cool beverage will be available in the Hall. Please make note that a Checklist for Kitchen Use and Clean Up is posted on the left wall when entering the kitchen and Directions for making coffee are posted on the wall near the coffee maker. If help is needed making coffee on a Sunday or cupping koliva following a memorial service, PLEASE CONTACT IN ADVANCE, the church office, Monday through Thursday, 9am to 12noon, so a Philoptochos member may be NOTIFIED and AVAILABLE to assist. We are now fortunate to have a cleaning service that will mop floors and wipe down kitchen counters on Sunday evenings. However, THEY DO NOT clean dirty dishes or put away any items left to dry on the kitchen counters or around the sinks. PLEASE help to KEEP our KITCHEN CLEAN and in order, by WASHING, DRYING, and PUTTING AWAY any kitchen items used and wiping down the hall tables. Also, members enjoying fellowship are asked, before they leave, to please help by placing their used plates and beverage cups in a nearby trash can.



Would you like to host a coffee hour?

Coffee Hour can be sponsored to celebrate a name day, a birthday, a special event, to remember a loved one, or just to give thanks to God and share with the community.

ITEMS AT HALL

Coffee (reg & decaf),
powdered
creamer, sugar,
sweeteners,
cups & stirrers

TO BE PROVIDED BY HOST

Refreshments,
plates, napkins,
utensils, cold
beverage, half &
half/creamer

ITEMS NEEDED FOR KOLIVA

Cups (9 oz
plastic
suggested),
spoons

Rise Up & Build 2026 Stewardship Campaign



\$200,000 Goal

\$150,000

\$100,000

\$50,000

Pledged Stewards: 104

Financial Stewards (No Pledge Card): 46

Pledged To Date: \$203,182

Received To Date: \$148,099

Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Sunday, August 30: Fanouropita cake blessing in honor of the Feast Day of Saint Fanourios (August 27).

We will have Fanouropita cakes to be blessed and distributed to parishioners as they leave the church. Fanourios comes from the Greek verb fanerono which means "I reveal". Saint Fanourios is the Saint for lost things. Prayers may ask him for help finding a lost object, reveal a new meaning in life, redirect them or reveal actions which should be taken, and to restore health.

All Philoptochos chapters throughout our Metropolis donate annually to the Fanouropita Fund. This fund benefits the youth in our Metropolis so that all who are interested will be able to attend youth activities held in the Atlanta Metropolis. The money will be distributed by the Metropolitan when help is requested by the parish priest. If you wish to donate to this fund, checks may be made out to Philoptochos with Fanouropita in the memo. Your kind donations will be accepted at the end of Sunday's Divine Liturgy.

Saturday, September 12 at 9:30 am: The next prosphora baking day will be in the fellowship hall kitchen. No baking experience required. If it's your first time, come and learn with us we will teach you about the prosphora. You don't need to bring anything but yourself, but if you want to bring something, 2 gallon Ziplock baggies to store our prosphora are always welcome. They can most easily and consistently be found at Target, and yes, the Target brand is good! If there are any questions please contact Brittany Beckett at 770-862-3180 or brittany_beckett@yahoo.com

Sunday, September 13: A tray will be passed on behalf of the students of Holy Cross Seminary that will contribute to the **Hellenic College Holy Cross Scholarship Fund** for the feast day of the Holy Cross On September 14.

Did you know we accept food donations all year long? The food donations are distributed to different organizations in the community who have verified distribution points in the city. All donations received during June, July and August will go to the Out of the Garden weekend Backpacking Program so we may help to restock their shelves for the beginning of the new school year. *Suggested items are canned fruit, vegetables, beans, soups, canned chicken, tuna, canned pasta sauces, pasta, rice, dried beans, macaroni and cheese, individual cereal, oatmeal, grits, peanut butter, crackers, jelly, fruit or other healthy bars, and powdered or shelf stable milk. Please NO GLASS JARS and always check expiration dates!*



Sunday School News

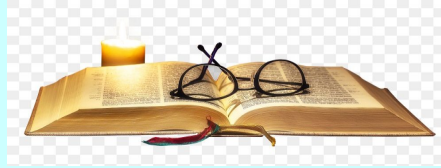


Sunday, September 13th
**First day of Sunday
School**

ATTENTION

Faithful, Catechumens, and Inquirers of our Orthodox Blessed Faith

OUR WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY



**RETURNS ON WEDNESDAY EVENING
at 6:30pm IN CHURCH**

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Our Schedule of Teaching Format will stay as last year's since it was greatly beneficial.

1st Wednesday of the month: The Book of Romans

Led by our Diaconate Program Seminarian

Matthew Beckett

2nd Wednesday of the month: Orthodoxy 101 and 102

with emphasis on the Church Calendar Feasts through the Holy Bible

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

3rd Wednesday of the month:

Explanation of the Divine Liturgy and Holy Sacraments through the Holy Bible

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

4th Wednesday of the month: Paraclesis service and Open Forum

Your questions: About Faith, Sacraments, History, Holy Bible, Salvation, etc.

with emphasis on being involved in the church ministries.

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis



Church Office Note...

You may visit or call the office **Monday—Friday from 9am-1pm**. Fr. Sarantis is in the office: **Monday, works remotely, in office by appointment only, Tuesday—Thursday from 10:30am—3:30pm, and Tuesday from 3pm—5:30pm by appt only for confessions,** extending the office hours. You may also schedule a pastoral appointment with him at any time at home or at the office at your convenience. Although on Fridays Fr. Sarantis is not in the office, one may freely and at any time during the week communicate **DIRECTLY** with him via **phone at (516) 526-1475, text or email at: patersarantis@yahoo.com**. All calls & texts before 7pm will be answered as soon as possible on the same day. All calls and texts after 7pm will be screened and they will be likely answered according to their urgency, so there may be time to respond to the day's emails. Emails are checked **ONLY 3 times a day** (morning, noon and after 7pm) and they will be answered accordingly in the order they have been received within 24 hours. We thank you for understanding! **IMPORTANT: For emergencies kindly ALWAYS CALL, do not text or email.**



50+ LUNCH **Wednesday, Sept 2 at 1:00 pm**

Captain Bill's Seafood & Steak Restaurant
6108 W. Market Street, Greensboro

Join us and meet some of our fellow parishioners for good conversation, camaraderie, excellent food, and fun! Captain Bill and Theodora are our fellow parishioners.

Please RSVP: Maria Cropper 336-324-5358

Organization & Ministries

Contact Information

AHEPA—Yianni Varitimidis

Altar Servers Ministry— Matthew Beckett

Bible Study Ministry—Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

Cantors/Music Ministry—Fr. Sarantis Loulakis & Michelle Gilliam

Church Beautification—Chris Mandaleris

Dance Group (s) — Barbara Vaughan, Mary Ann

Contogiannis, Emily Mihelich, Erin Blindenbacher

Daughters of Penelope— Su Peterson

GOYA— Abeer Ma'ayeh

Greek Festival—Shadi Zeidan

Greensboro Urban Ministry—Ian Chavez

Myrrh-bearers Ministry—Brittany Beckett

Narthex Ministry—Terry Kokenes & Shane Rivers

Orthodox Fellowship (50+)—Maria Cropper

Philoptochos— Nicki Smith, President

Stewardship—Pete Graham

Sunday School— Erin Blindenbacher & Emily Mihelich

Website Ministry – Mike Morfessis

Youth Ministry— Matthew Beckett, Director

- ioapontios@aol.com
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com
- patersarantis@yahoo.com
- patersarantis@yahoo.com / michellergilliam@gmail.com
- chris.mandaleris@gmail.com
- bartisvaughanrp@gmail.com
- macontogiannis@gmail.com
- epgraham22@gmail.com
- epgraham8@gmail.com
- slpeteron60@gmail.com
- abeer@mac.com
- zeidansh@gmail.com
- captegghead@gmail.com
- brittany_beckett@yahoo.com
- kokenestmb@aol.com / shayneloaded@gmail.com
- mariacropper@yahoo.com
- nectariagrafos@gmail.com
- petegraham88@gmail.com
- epgraham8@gmail.com
- epgraham22@gmail.com
- tmorfessis@gmail.com
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com

The Greensboro Greek Festival is just around the corner – September 25 - 27

We need to line up helpers with pastry prep! While Philoptochos has traditionally led the pastry booth for the church festival, anyone is welcomed to help with the preparations and with volunteering the weekend of the festival. Even if you can only come for a couple hours, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Bring a friend or 2 to help!

- **Tuesday, September 15**, 10 am to 2 pm AND 5 pm to 8 pm (morning and evening) – cutting and cupping baklava, flogeres, and kataifi
- **Thursday, September 17**, 10 am to 2 pm (if needed) (morning ONLY) – cutting and cupping baklava, flogeres, and kataifi
- **Tuesday, September 22**, 10 am to 2 pm – boxing non-perishables
- **Thursday, September 24**, 10 am to 2 pm – boxing perishables and finalize pastry booth setup



Please email or text Nora Zirps if you know you can help out in any capacity - nzirps@gmail.com or 336-339-8950.

Festival Weekend Pastry Station Signup - Thank you to everyone who signed up already! We are still in need of volunteers for most of the time slots, especially the Saturday time slots. If you have a connection to any service groups you can recruit and help sign up, it would be greatly appreciated. You can sign up by contacting Nora Zirps (email and phone number provided above) or using the Festival Sign-up Link:

<https://app.unison.io/schedules/QIz9hxBxzvHq83gEOVJ0u>



SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH - SHARE YOUR TALENTS!

Please complete your annual 2026 Stewardship pledge to our church today! Our church ministries may/can be affected by your contribution.

YOU really CAN make a difference!

For Your Stewardship Offering Please Visit

[Stewardship | Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church \(goarch.org\)](http://goarch.org)

God bless you!

PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Is anyone among you suffering?

Then he must pray.

Is anyone cheerful?

He is to sing praises.

Is anyone among you sick?

Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with the oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. (James 5:13-15)

Please call the Church Office or Father Sarantis at (516) 526-1475 to let him know what your pastoral needs are. You can also ask your family members, a social worker, or a Hospital Chaplain to notify the Church so that they can inform Father Sarantis that you need pastoral care.

A Warm Welcome to Our Guests

We are glad you are worshipping with us. Please note that participation in Holy Communion is limited to members of the Orthodox Church **in good standing**, who have prepared through prayer, fasting and confession.

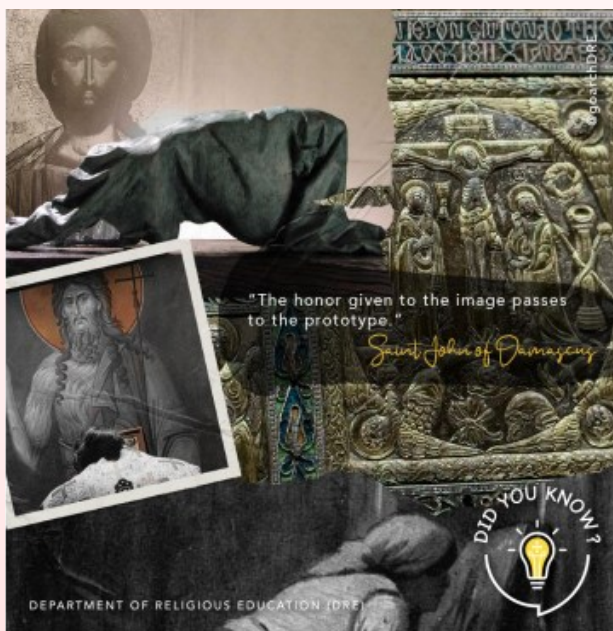
For all others: Though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread with the blessing of the priest. Please also sign our guest book/guest card so we may introduce you to the congregation. We extend to you and your family a warm invitation to our fellowship hour following the Divine Liturgy, where Fr. Sarantis and other members will meet with you.

VENERATING THE ICONS



DID YOU KNOW?

Department of Religious Education (DRE)



Did you know why we bow and venerate icons of the Saints?

In the Orthodox Church, we venerate icons not as gods but as windows into heavenly reality. We're not worshiping the wood and paint when we bow before or kiss an icon. The practice of bowing or kissing icons represents a way to show respect to the depicted Saints, just as we would display affection through kissing photographs of loved ones.

The Seventh Ecumenical Council (787 A.D.) affirmed the veneration (προσκύνησις—proskynesis in Greek) of icons, distinguishing it clearly from the worship (λατρεία—latreia in Greek) due to God alone. As St. John of Damascus beautifully put it: "The honor given to the image passes to the prototype." So when we bow before the icon of a Saint, we're showing respect to the Saint — and ultimately glorifying God, who worked through that person's life.

We often bow or make the sign of the Cross when passing an icon, lighting a candle before it, or offering a prayer — not because the icon is divine, but because it points us to holiness. Prostrations (full or semi full bows to the ground) may also be used, especially during Lenten services, as a sign of humility and repentance before God, often in the presence of icons.

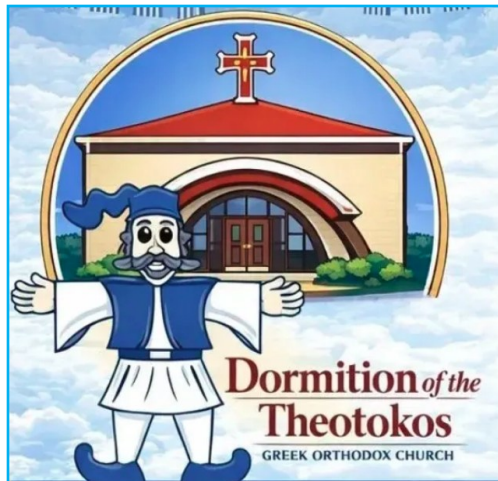
Send us your questions at: religioused@goarch.org or call Fr. Sarantis

Follow us    @goarchDRE

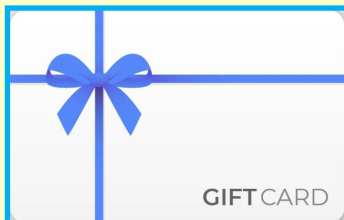
Subscribe at: religioused.goarch.org



**GREEK ORTHODOX
ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA**
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



We will also begin pre-selling \$100 Festival Gift Cards for \$80 starting **Sunday, September 6 thru Sunday, September 20.** To purchase, please see Shadi Zeidan.



GREENSBORO GREEK FESTIVAL

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
September 25, 4pm–10pm
September 26, 11am–10pm
September 27, 12pm–6pm

Volunteer Sign-Up!

DO NOT WAIT — sign up today: <https://app.unison.io/schedules/Qtz9hxBxzvHq83gEOVJ0u>

Our community is in need of volunteers, and we warmly encourage you to make this part of your stewardship. Please sign up today by visiting greensborogreekfestival.com and selecting Volunteer, or by using the direct link.

Thank You to Our Station Sponsors!

We extend our sincere appreciation to the following families and businesses for sponsoring festival stations:

- **Alpha Omega Financial, LLC (Scott & Pete Graham)** — Beer Station
 - **The Kattan and Hanna Families** — Loukoumades Station
 - **The Ross Family** — Coffee Station
 - **Kiki & Kirk Tarasidis** — Frappé Station
- **Anonymous and Ben & Emily Triplett** — Orthodox Bookstore Station
 - **Schermerhorn & Showalter Families** — Wine Station

Want to Sponsor or Donate?

If you would like to sponsor a festival station or make a donation, please see the needs list below & contact Shadi Zeidan directly.

- **Kids Corner** — \$2,000
- **Outside Food Station** — \$5,000
- **Inside Food Station** — \$5,000
- **Pastry Station** — \$5,000

If you prefer to donate toward specific items, here is what is needed:
 (You can donate towards one, or multiple cases.)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount Needed</u>	<u>Price/Case</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Lamb Shank	18 cases	\$165	\$2,970
Pita Bread	50 cases	\$40	\$2,000
Gyro Meat	25 cases	\$125	\$3,125
Crinkle Fries	50 cases	\$40	\$2,000
Chicken ½	17 cases	\$125	\$2,125
Chicken Souvlaki	750 lbs	\$3.5/lb	\$2,625
Pastichio	80 pans	\$45	\$3,600

Thank you to all our volunteers, sponsors, and donors for your continued love and support.
-Shadi Zeidan, Greensboro Greek Festival, Chairperson