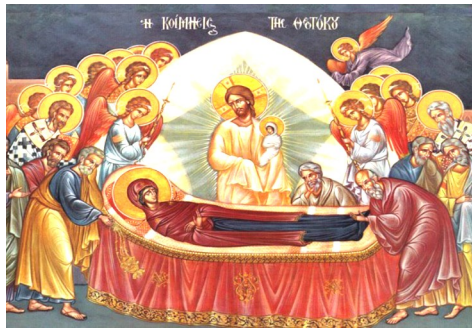




Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

800 Westridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis

Mobile: 516-526-1475

Office Phone: 336-292-8013

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

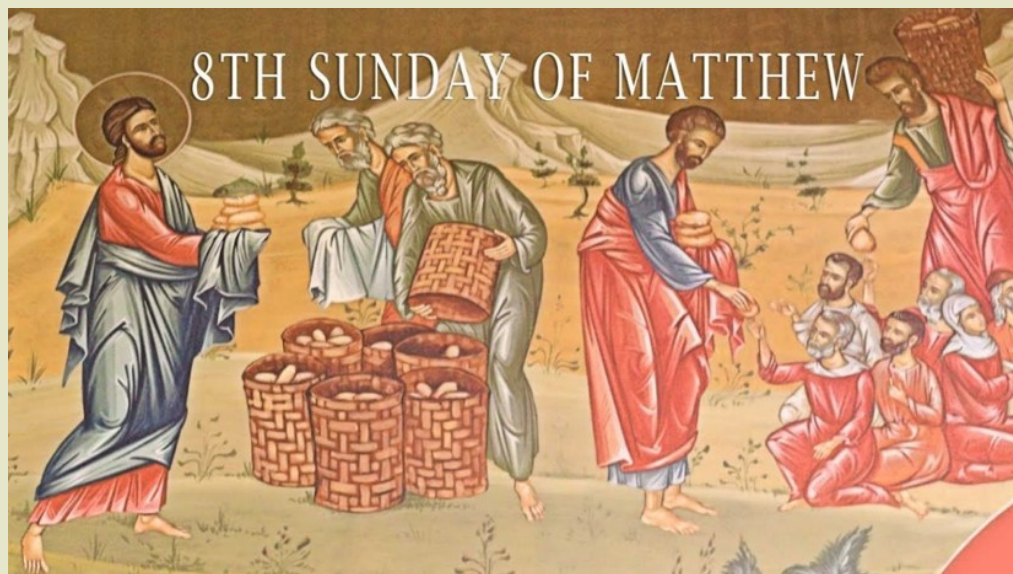
Upcoming Services & Events

- **Sunday, July 26**
8th Sunday of Matthew
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Sunday, August 2**
9th Sunday of Matthew
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am

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, July 26, 2026 8th Sunday of Matthew



The Miracle of The Feeding of the 5,000 with 5 Loaves of Bread and 2 Fish
Jesus said, "They need not go away; *you give them something to eat.*" Matthew 14:16

SEE FLYER
INSIDE THIS
BULLETIN FOR
DETAILS



August 15, 2026
1 PM—5 PM

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 3 year memorial service for our beloved brother in the Lord,

Thomas Tsaros, brother of Lula Melisko,
will be chanted this Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.

May his memory be eternal!



Bulletin for Sunday, July 26, 2026

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

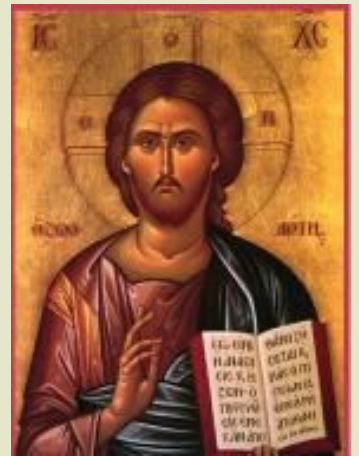
THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING –The Gospel According to Matthew 14:14-22

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.



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.

[Confession — Be the Bee — Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America \(goarch.org\)](http://goarch.org)



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

The feeding of the five thousand

In today's Gospel reading we read In **Matthew 14:16**, that **Jesus challenges His disciples to take responsibility and trust in God's provision**, instructing them to feed the crowd despite apparent scarcity.

This verse occurs during **the feeding of the five thousand**, one of Jesus' most well-known miracles. After Jesus and His disciples withdrew to a remote place, a large crowd followed them. As evening approached, the disciples suggested sending the people away to nearby villages to buy food, concerned about the practical impossibility of feeding such a multitude with their limited resources (Matthew 14:13 – 15).

Jesus responds that **"They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat"** (Matthew 14:16). This command is significant because it places responsibility on the disciples to act, even when the task seems impossible. **They only had five loaves and two fish**, clearly insufficient for thousands of people, highlighting the need for faith and reliance on God's power.

Spiritual and Theological Meaning

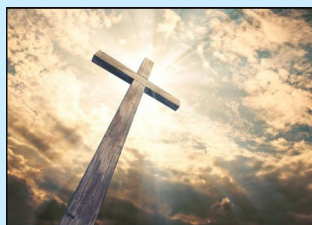
1. **Faith and Trust in God:** Jesus' instruction demonstrates that God can provide abundantly even when human resources are limited. The disciples' obedience leads to a miraculous multiplication of food, **showing that God's provision often requires human participation.**
2. **Discipleship and Service:** The verse emphasizes that **following Jesus involves active service.** Disciples are called to minister to others, **not merely observe.** Feeding the crowd symbolizes the broader mission of caring for people's physical and spiritual needs.
3. **Preparation for Greater Understanding:** This event also **prefigures Jesus' teaching about Himself as the Bread of Life**, illustrating that spiritual nourishment comes through Him, just as physical needs are met through God's provision.

Practical Implications

- **Obedience in the Face of Impossibility:**
The disciples' initial doubt reflects human limitations, but Jesus' command encourages action despite uncertainty.
- **Participation in God's Work:**
Believers are invited to contribute what they have, trusting God to multiply their efforts for greater impact.
- **Compassion and Ministry:**
The verse underscores the importance of responding to the needs of others rather than sending them away.

In summary, Matthew 14:16 teaches that faithful action combined with trust in God can transform scarcity into abundance, and it calls disciples to actively serve and provide for others, trusting in divine provision.

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FOR A BIBLE LESSON at 6:30 IN CHURCH





PANIGIRI Celebration Luncheon

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
GREENSBORO, NC

CELEBRATING THE DORMITION TOGETHER

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE DORMITION OF

the Most Holy Theotokos

FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • FAMILY

We are honored to welcome

✦ HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SEVASTIANOS ✦
who will be with us for this special day!

SCAN HERE
TO PURCHASE
TICKETS



AUGUST 15, 2026
1 PM – 5 PM



TICKETS:

\$40 IN ADVANCE | **\$50** DAY OF
KIDS 12 AND UNDER ARE **FREE!**



GREEK FOOD
Delicious favorites
the whole family
will love!



LIVE GREEK MUSIC
Enjoy the sounds
of Greece!



DANCING
Let's dance together
and keep our traditions
alive!

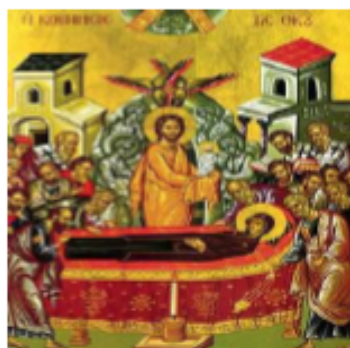


ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS OUR
CAPITAL BUILDING CAMPAIGN



✦ WHERE **FAITH** BRINGS US TOGETHER AND **FELLOWSHIP** KEEPS US TOGETHER. ✦

Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church Greensboro, NC



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.
-Apolytikion of the Feast

INVITATION

Join us for a time of worship and spiritual joy of the “**Summer Easter**”, as our community of Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church of Greensboro, NC, celebrates the Feast of our Patron Saint, The Dormition of the Theotokos.

His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta will be presiding both services, the Great Vespers and the Divine Liturgy.



The Great Vespers that includes the Artoclasia Service along with chanting of **the Lamentations of the Theotokos** will be celebrated on Friday, August 14, 2026, starting at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, August 15, 2026, there will be Divine Liturgy, starting with Orthros at 8:45 a.m.

A reception sponsored by the Ladies of the Philoptochos Sisterhood “St. Philothea” will follow at our community social hall at the conclusion of both services.

Rev. Fr. Sarantis P. Loulakis

John McQueary, President of PC • Parish Council

• Ladies of Philoptochos “St. Philothea” • Our Youth and the entire community.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

The Resurrection Hymn (Mode 7) (Greek, English)

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον· ἠνέωξας τῷ ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον· τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy

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 7)

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy

Hymn of St. Paraskevi (Mode 1)

Your diligence corresponded to your name, Paraskevi, which denotes preparedness. Through faith you inherited the promised dwelling that was prepared for you, O prize-winning Martyr. Therefore you pour out cures and healings, and you intercede on behalf of our souls.

MEMORIAL SERVICE HYMN CHANTED BY THE PRIEST (IF ANY)

The Church Hymn - Mode 1

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 4

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἰκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

O' Protection of Christians that never fails, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you."

FEASTS of the WEEK

Sunday, July 26th, 2026 – Saturday, August 1st, 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 Jacob Netsvetov, Enlightener of the Peoples of Alaska [July 26](#)
- Martyr Paraskevi of Rome [July 26](#)
- Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon [July 27](#)
- Saint Irene Chrysovolantou [July 28](#)
- Apostle Silas of the Seventy [July 30](#)
- Righteous Joseph of Arimathea [July 31](#)
- 7 Holy Maccabee Martyrs [August 1](#)



STAY CONNECTED:

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

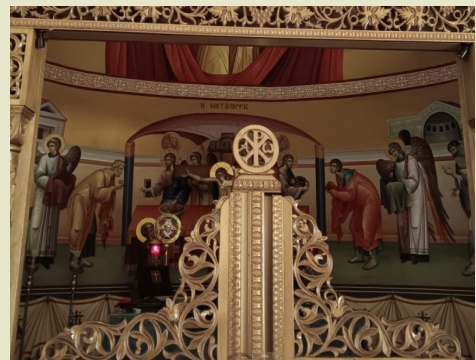
**VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE FOR
CHURCH SERVICES, EVENTS AND
OTHER INFO CLICK BELOW**

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

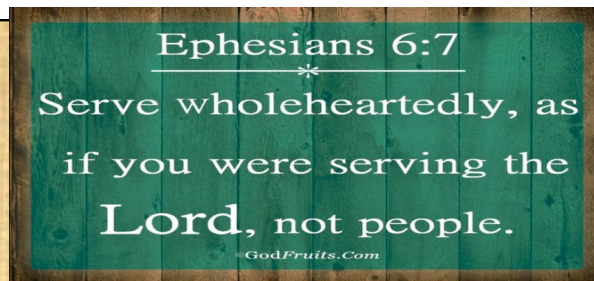
Team 2: John McQueary, Nora Zirps, Charles DePoortere, Julia Macovei

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, July 26th, is Team's 1 honor to lead during service.
May the Lord bless their service!**



ACOLYTE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Group 1:

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

Group 2:

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

This Sunday, July 26th, 2026,

is Group's 2 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:
LULA MELISKO
FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR IN
MEMORY OF HER BROTHER,
THOMAS TSAROS. MAY HIS
MEMORY BE ETERNAL!
THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS
SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR.





Church Office Note...

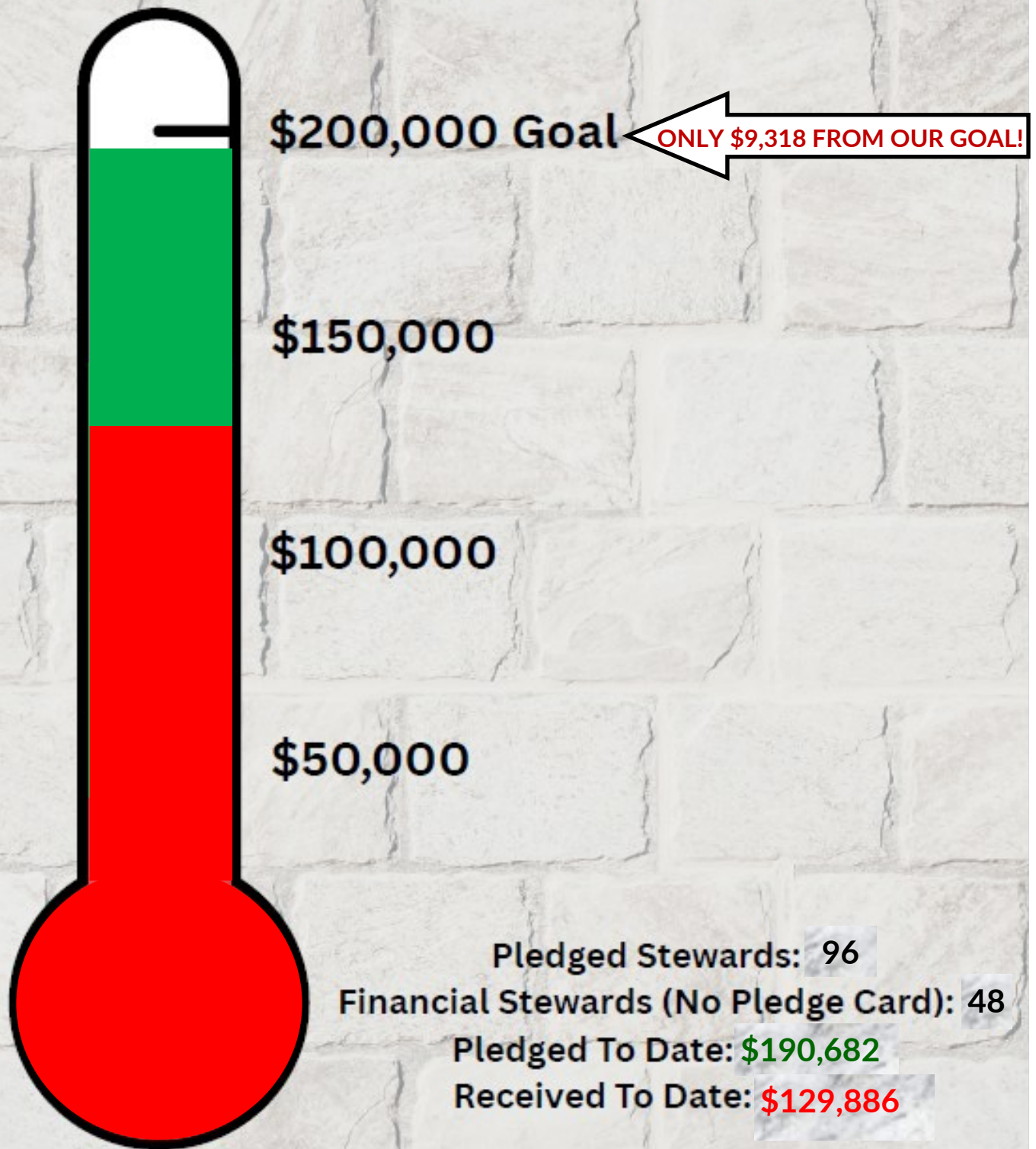
You may visit or call the office **Monday—Friday from 9am-1pm**. Fr. Sarantis is in the office: **Monday, works remotely, in office by appointment only, Tuesday—Thursday from 10am—3pm, Tuesday 3pm—6pm by appt only for confessions**, extending the office hours. You may also schedule a pastoral appointment 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.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER BREAK
From classes, YES!



But, NOT from church services!

Rise Up & Build 2026 Stewardship Campaign



Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

WORSHIP LIFE AUGUST LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sunday, August 2</u> • <u>Wednesday, August 5</u> • <u>Thursday, August 6</u> • <u>Friday, August 7</u> • <u>Sunday, August 9</u> • <u>Wednesday, August 12</u> • <u>Friday, August 14</u> • <u>Saturday, August 15</u> • <u>Saturday, August 15</u> • <u>Sunday August 16</u> | <p>9th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ a
 Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm / Bible Study 7pm-8pm
 Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 Orthros: 8:55 am - Divine Liturgy: 9:30 – 10:30am+
 Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm
 10th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:50 a - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ a
 Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm / Bible Study 7pm-8pm
 Great Vespers / Feast of Dormition of the Theotokos 6:30p – 8:00p
 <u>His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta presiding!</u>
 The Feast of Dormition of Theotokos — Orthros: 8:55 am - Divine
 Liturgy: 10:00+ am <u>His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of</u>
 <u>Atlanta presiding!</u>
 Our Feast Picnic — 1pm – 5pm
 11th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+</p> |
|--|--|

The above schedule and times supersede any other schedule.



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. There are multiple dates available. Instructions are below.

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.

ITEMS PROVIDED AT HALL

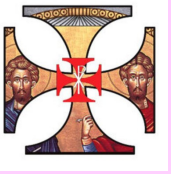
coffee, regular & decaf
 powdered creamer
 sugar, sweeteners
 coffee cups, stirrers

ITEMS PROVIDED BY HOST

refreshments, plates,
 napkins, utensils, cold
 beverage, half and half/
 creamer

ITEMS NEEDED FOR KOLIVA

Cups (9 oz plastic suggested)
 spoons



LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



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!*

In addition to our Food Drive, we also do a School Supplies Drive where we collect school Supplies for Children in need beginning July 1st through Sunday August 16. Items to be collected are wide and college rule paper, pens, pencils, erasers, composition books, glue sticks, 17-inch backpacks, markers, binders, notebooks and pencil cases and more.



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— Madalina Body

Website Ministry – Martin Ross

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
- bodymadalina@yahoo.com
- mmross1992@protonmail.ch
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY

YOUR ATTENTION CATECHUMENS & BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS:

Thank you for your devotion and commitment! We will resume our studies again with our

SUMMER SESSION

Bi-Monthly on Wednesdays:

June 10th & June 24th

July 8th & July 15th

August 5th & August 12th

We will study The 11 Resurrection Holy Gospel readings being read during the Sunday Matins service. God bless you!

We will begin our WEEKLY CLASSES on Wednesday, September 9th.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The 2026 Greensboro Greek Festival is September 25-27!

We are just a few months away from our annual parish-wide fundraiser, the beloved Greensboro Greek Festival. This event is a cornerstone of our community, and every helping hand truly makes a difference. Let your involvement be part of your stewardship to the Dormition of the Theotokos. We encourage everyone to be present, volunteer, sponsor, and share the festival with your friends, coworkers, and family.

Stay Connected

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/greensborogreekfestival?igsh=dmU4aHhjb2ndGw3>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/19tX9FANYc/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Volunteer Sign-Up

DO NOT WAIT — sign up today: <https://app.unison.io/schedules/QLz9hxBxzvHq83gEOVJ0u>

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** — Partial Sponsorship of the Orthodox Bookstore Station

Available Festival Station Sponsorships

If you would like to sponsor a festival station, please review the available sponsorship opportunities below and contact Shadi Zeidan directly.

- **Orthodox Bookstore Station/Partial** — \$500
 - Wine Station** — \$1,500
- **Outside Food Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
- **Inside Food Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
 - **Pastry Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
 - **Kids Corner** — \$2,000

Donate Toward Specific Festival Food Items

If you prefer to donate toward specific items, here is what is needed:

<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
Tzatziki Sauce	30 cases	\$40	\$1,200
Chicken ½	17 cases	\$125	\$2,125
Chicken Souvlaki	750 lbs	\$3.5/lb	\$2,625
Pastichio	80 pans	\$45	\$3,600



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.

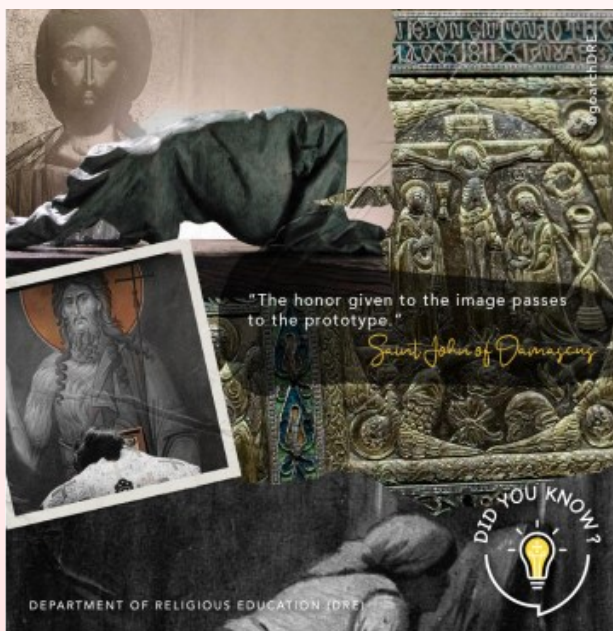
For all others: Though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread with the blessing of the priest. Please also sign our guest book/guest card 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
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