



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, October 4**
2nd Sunday of Luke
Orthros (matins):
8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Wednesday, October 7**
Bible Study: 6:30pm
- **Thursday, October 8**
St. Thomas & James the
Apostle Son of Alphaeus
Orthros-Divine Liturgy:
9:00-10:30+am
- **Sunday, October 11**
Sunday of the 7th
Ecumenical Council
Orthros (matins):
8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am

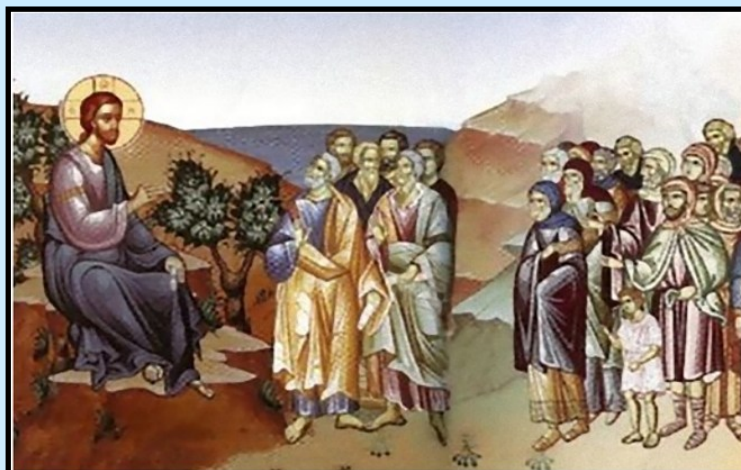
SPECIAL NOTE

**A WARM WELCOME TO OUT
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, October 4, 2026—2nd Sunday of Luke



*The Golden Rule...
Do to others as
you would have
them do to you.*
Luke 6:31 (NIV)

Thank you!!!

On behalf of the **PC President John McQueary**, the Chairman of our community's Festival **Shadi Zeidan** and myself, I wish to **express our heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to our devoted parishioners, The PC Members, The Ladies of Philoptochos, our Youth, the many Committee Chairs and their stuff and all** who worked and supported our festival this past weekend, to our many volunteers who **tirelessly and joyfully** worked many hours and everyone individually from the age of 5 (our youngest volunteer) to the oldest member/friend and supporter, who put their hearts into it in order for our festival to be so successful, and I exclaim to all of you: **THANK YOU** and may **GOD** bless you! A job well done! **We could not have done it without your heartily efforts.** Thank you again!

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 sister in the Lord, **Soraya Koko (1/1/56 - 8/25/26)**, beloved mother of **Marsa Koko** will be chanted this Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.

Fellowship hour is offered in loving memory by Mubarak & Marsa.

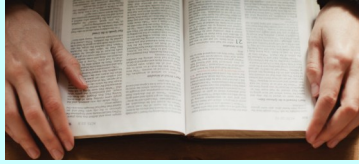
May her memory be eternal!



ATTENTION

Faithful, Catechumens, and Inquirers of our Orthodox Blessed Faith
EVERY WEDNESDAY-EVENING BIBLE STUDY
at 6:30pm IN CHURCH

This Wednesday, October 7th, 2026



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

5th Wednesday: Pray on your OWN

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, & Tuesday from 3pm—5:30pm by appointment
only for confessions.**

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.

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

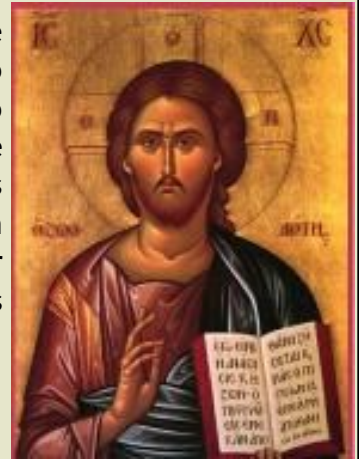
THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – The Gospel According to Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."



CONFESSIO

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

FEASTS of the WEEK

*If you are visiting today, please see the welcome section in this bulletin.

Sunday, October 4th, 2026 – Saturday, October 10th, 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.

- Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens [October 4](#)
- Martyr Charitina of Amisos [October 5](#)
- Holy, Glorious Apostle Thomas [October 6](#)
- Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus in Syria [October 7](#)
- Venerable Pelagia the Penitent [October 8](#)
- St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of N. America [October 9](#)



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.

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

(Luke 6, 31-36)

When you receive the love of God, you change

In today's Gospel reading from the Sermon on the Plain, ***the Lord says to us: "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise."*** And He continues: "But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same."

We see here that the Lord is merciful and compassionate. Yes... He loves enemies, loves sinners, loves everyone, regardless of who each person is. And when you receive the love of God, you change. **You become as God is.**

Now, if at the end of the day certain people are not saved, **it does not mean that God did not love them. Rather, they would not receive the love which God offered.** Love makes you transcend yourself. When you put yourself and your self-love at the center of your life, you can't love your neighbor. And if you offer him something, you do it with ulterior motives so that you'll receive something in return.

The status quo of self-worship lives and reigns within us. Say whatever you want about needing to love your neighbor or even your enemies, or about needing to sacrifice for others. Whatever you might say, **your "ego" still lives and rules within you.** In fact, your actions will be **self-centered and self-interested.** If this fortress where the "ego" rules supreme is not torn down, along with the entire rebellion of a person against God, then he cannot truly love.

It is not for nothing that the Apostle Paul says: "It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20). A man feels, a man lives, a man experiences Christ reigning within him. He does not rule himself, and his "ego" does not dominate him. This is exactly what the Lord says: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself" (Matt. 16:24).

If we are honest and truthful, if we desire to see and speak the truth, then none of us should have difficulty saying: **"Even the best things I do always begin from self-interest and from a self-centeredness."**



SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

*Growing in Faith, Learning in Love,
Living for Christ!*



SEPTEMBER 2026		OCTOBER 2026	
20 SUNDAY	Sunday School 	4 SUNDAY	Sunday School 
27 SUNDAY	No Sunday School Greek Festival 	11 SUNDAY	Sunday School 
		18 SUNDAY	Sunday School 
		25 SUNDAY	Sunday School 



All Are Welcome!

WORSHIP LIFE OCTOBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- **Wednesday, October 7** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Thursday, October 8** **Orthros—Divine Liturgy: 9:00 -10:30am-For St Thomas (Oct. 6 & James the Apostle Son of Alphaeus, Oct. 9)**
- **Sunday, October 11** **Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am**
- **Wednesday, October 14** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Sunday, October 18** **Luke the Evangelist — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am**
- **Wednesday, October 21** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Thursday, October 22** **DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JAMES Orthros—Divine Liturgy: 9:00-10:30am St. Averkios, Equal-to-the-Apostles and Wonderworker, Bishop of Hierapolis and James the Apostle, brother of Our Lord**

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

HYMNS OF THE DAY

The Resurrection Hymn (Mode 1) (2X, Greek, English)

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You!

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMN

The stone having been sealed by the Pharisees and chief priests, * and Your all-immaculate body being guarded by soldiers, * You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. * Then the powers of the heavens cried out to You, O Giver of Life, and shouted, * “Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! * Glory to Your eternal rule! * Glory to Your plan for saving us, only benevolent God!

Hymns After the Small Entrance

Resurrection Apolytikion Hymn (Mode 1)

The stone having been sealed by the Pharisees and chief priests, * and Your all-immaculate body being guarded by soldiers, * You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. * Then the powers of the heavens cried out to You, O Giver of Life, and shouted, * “Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! * Glory to Your eternal rule! * Glory to Your plan for saving us, only benevolent God!

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 2

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 ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεί, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

O Protection of Christians that never falls, 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.

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, October 4th, 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, October 4th, 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:

**MUBARAK & MARSA KOKO FOR
HOSTING COFFEE HOUR.**

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING
THIS SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP
HOUR.





Rise Up & Build 2026 Stewardship Campaign



\$200,000 Goal

\$150,000

\$100,000

\$50,000

Pledged Stewards: 106
Financial Stewards (No Pledge Card): 48
Pledged To Date: **\$216,382**
Received To Date: **\$185,885**

Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

Walgreens VACCINATION CLINIC

FLU & COVID VACCINES AVAILABLE



FLU



COVID



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
during coffee hour



Insurance accepted
but not required.



Open to everyone
age 3 years and older
in our community!



Contact **Emily Mihelich**
(336-686-3879) for more details.



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
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- 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

Are you a registered Youth Worker, Clergy, Parish or Metropolis Council Member?

Check your compliance.

Login to your Existing Account

Click on My Compliance Report

Click on Print My Compliance Certificate

Background Check (every 2 years)

Training (every year)

Not Registered?

Register as a First-Time Registrant





LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



Our Philoptochos chapter would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time and talents at this year's Greek Festival! It was wonderful to see our members serving throughout the festival this year from the welcome tent to the beer tent, to loukoumades, to coffee, to frappes and cheesecakes, to the pastries and the kitchens, both inside and out and the dance teachers passing down our cultural dances to future generations. It was a beautiful sight to see and great fellowship to be had! **We would also like to give a special thank you to Nora Zirps for organizing and coordinating the pastry department at our festival this year!**

Our upcoming events are listed below. Please note that October's food bank donations will go to Backpack Beginnings. Please continue to give your support to this important and much needed ministry.

October Upcoming Events:

- **Monday October 5** - Board Meeting 3 pm
- **Sunday, October 11** – Thanksgiving Blessing Bags Collection Begins - meal kits go to the Greensboro PD
- **Sunday, October 25** – Wear Pink! Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Coffee Hour Basket donations to Cone Health Mammography Fund, Membership MEETING, 12:30 pm after church

We will be collecting and donating our September through October Food Bank donations to Backpack Beginnings, a community resource which also provides food for local middle and high school food pantries and elementary school children in need of weekend food. Below is a list of basic needs.

- Canned Chicken and Canned Tuna
- Microwavable, boxed, or canned Items: rice, mac & cheese, soup, chili, beans, vegetables, etc.
- Breakfast Items: boxed cereal, microwavable oatmeal, etc.
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned or cupped Fruit

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!*

Post-Festival Sale Items to be Sold During Coffee Hour

Assorted Pastry Box (6 pc) – \$10
Baklava Box (6pc) – \$10
Other Pastry Boxes (6pc) – \$10
Spanakopita Tray (24pc) – \$22
Rice 50 lbs – \$32
Dolmades 4lbs 6oz can – \$10
Crinkle Fries Bag – \$5
Feta Cheese 5lbs \$10
Baking powder 5lbs \$15

The Daughters of Penelope are holding their annual Phyllo Sale!



Phyllo is \$6 per pound cash or checks (made out to Daughters of Penelope) accepted.

Please **email, text, or call Maria Predetto** to place your order by:

Saturday, October 31st

Maria's email is mpradetto36@gmail.com and her cellphone is [\(336\) 207-8208](tel:(336)207-8208).

Orders will be ready for **pickup on Sunday, November 8th** at the church following the service.

All proceeds from our events (including the bake sale and phyllo sale) will support
**Teacher's Supply Warehouse, Backpack Beginnings, Family Services,
CWS Greensboro, Dormition of the Theotokos.**

important

Dear Parish Family,

The beautification of our Sanctuary continues with the replacement of the carpet in the choir loft, the stairway and the cry room. In preparation for this work, the pews in the choir loft have been removed and will be refurbished and installed once the new carpet is installed (installation of the carpet is anticipated to be week of October 12, 2026). Please do not go into the choir loft until after the carpet and pews have been installed.

-The Beautification Committee

SHARING OUR *Blessings* AT THANKSGIVING

A PHILOPTOCHOS MINISTRY

Please join us as we collect enough ingredients to feed families of 5!



OCTOBER
11th

Instant Mashed Potatoes
& Gravy (*no glass*)



OCTOBER
18th

Corn &
Green Beans



OCTOBER
25th

Stuffing Mix &
Cornbread Mix



NOVEMBER
1st

Cranberry Sauce
& Yams



NOVEMBER
8th

Fall Dessert of
your choice
(*shelf stable*)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
Sunday, November 15th
(AFTER CHURCH)

Join our Ladies Philoptochos members
in assembling the Blessing Bags.

Thank you for your generosity!





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.

Confession in the Orthodox Church:

How often should one go to Confession?

For Christians, **the Eucharist is the summit of our Faith, Creed, Theology, Worship, Teachings, and Spiritual life**; and **receiving Holy Communion regularly at the Divine Liturgy**, or as St. Paul intimates, living “from glory to glory” (2nd Cor. 3:18), **reinforces and concludes the very purpose of that event, being “in communion” with God.**



However, to approach the chalice and receive the sacrament of our Lord’s Body and Blood on **a regular basis also entails constant preparation through prayer, fasting, and a degree of spiritual effort** or struggle against sinful behavior. And although this often proves impossible (because of our fallen nature and weakness), nonetheless we are still called upon to strive towards that goal and **seek God’s help in this arena.**

Yet, since we do transgress God’s Commandments, **fall into temptation**, and/or give into our passions, the Church provides **the Sacrament of Confession** through which we may find cleansing, healing, and forgiveness from those sins.

Although the frequency in which we participate in this sacrament is left up to the individual and their conscience, the Church teaches that it is important to try and go quarterly, or during the four prescribed Lenten seasons: **Great Lent, Advent, St. Peter and Paul Fast, and Dormition Fast.** This is certainly a good policy and guideline to aim towards, **however**, our parish by-laws explicitly state that **to be a “member in good standing,” one needs to participate in the Sacraments Confession and Holy Communion at least once a year, preferably during the Great Fast in preparation of Pascha.**

Therefore, if you have not yet fulfilled this obligation, as the pastor of this parish, shepherd of this flock, and **Spiritual Father entrusted and concerned with your care**, I am encouraging you to come and fulfill this pious Christian duty; not simply to comply with our parish’s by-laws, but more importantly for the salvific benefits of the sacraments themselves.

Confessions are heard regularly during church office hours, or by appointment during the week on Tuesdays from 3 - 5:30 and Wednesdays 3 - 6.

If you have any questions regarding the sacrament of Confession or Holy Communion, the policies or preparations surrounding them, or any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact, call, or approach me in person so that we might discuss any issues and explain procedural aspects.

May the Lord remember all of us in His Heavenly Kingdom!

+ Fr. Sarantis Loulakis