



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, September 13**
Sunday before Holy Cross
Orthros (matins):
8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Monday, September 14**
The Elevation of the Cross
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00+am
- **Wednesday, September 16**
Bible Study
In Church: 6:30pm
- **Sunday, September 20**
Sunday after the Holy Cross
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, September 13, 2026—Sunday Before Holy Cross



"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:14–15)

GREENSBORO GREEK FESTIVAL 2026 **Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church** **September 25 -27**



YIASOU!!!
BE PART OF THE FUN!

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 5, 2026). Please do not go into the choir loft until after the carpet and pews have been installed.

The Beautification Committee

important

Bulletin for Sunday, September 13, 2026

FELLOWSHIP HOUR NEXT WEEK (9/20)

This Sunday, September 13, families with last names S -Z to sponsor Fellowship Hour.

The Sunday for Group 1 (A - D) to sponsor the Fellowship Hour is: September 20

May the Lord, our God bless your offerings and multiply to all of us and the entire world!



The Alphabetical Groups for now are:

Group 1: All parishioners whose last names begin with the letters A through D

Group 2: All parishioners whose last names begin with the letters E through K

Group 3: All parishioners whose last names begin with the letters L through P

Group 4: All parishioners whose last names begin with the letters R through Z

An important note about Fellowship Hour Sponsoring ...

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and *the fellowship of the Holy Spirit* be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14

It is with much joy that the **Parish Council** wishes to express its **gratitude to all** of you for expanding your **cordial hospitality to all**, especially to our new embracing Orthodox faith Members during the **Sunday Fellowship Hour**. It is important to make every effort to continue it wholeheartedly as the ‘**First Christinas**’ did. Acts 6.

Please know that the Parish Council **strongly encourages** all of us to continue the “**40 Day Memorial sponsorships along with your individual Family’s Fellowship Hour offerings without any change or even your group of families as before**. You just post your sponsoring on the board as always.

HOWEVER, when the **Fellowship Hour is NOT sponsored at any given Sunday** the Parish Council is requesting that an **Alphabetical group of Parishioners will be sponsoring that Fellowship Hour**. An email / Iris call will be sent out to all in **at least a week’s advance notice** notifying the group’s turn.

It is our hope that ALL MEMBERS OF THAT GROUP (new comers and long timers) follow through and prepare or buy something to bring enough food to feed 10-15 people. A representative or 2 of the group will be chosen in time to lead in all questions that may arise to better serve everyone. The groups may be adjusted as we go. Each group will consists of 25 + families.

The Sponsoring Group will be listed in the Bulletin as before. The sponsoring group’s leadership communication with the Philoptochos and the Parish Council with the church office is essentially required.

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

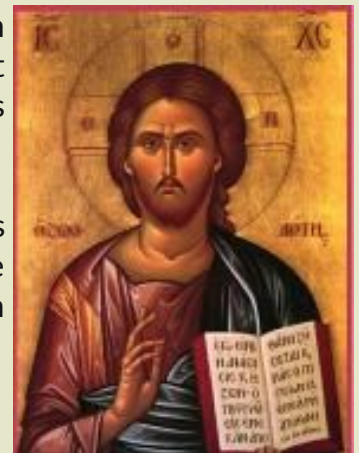
Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – The Gospel According to John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."



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

ATTENTION

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



This Wednesday, September 16th, 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

Church Office Note...

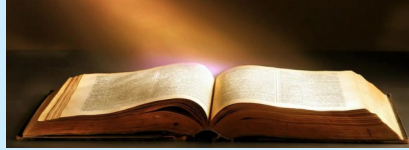
You may visit or call the office **Monday—Friday from 9am-1pm.**

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.

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



In today's Gospel reading from the Gospel of John we are reminded of a discussion between Jesus and **Nicodemus, the secret admirer and follower of Jesus**. Jesus reminds Nicodemus of the presence of the Holy Cross before its appearance on Golgotha. **He states: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life"** (John 3:14–15).

The Lord is referring to the Old Testament (*cf. Numbers 21*). **The people of Israel were attacked by poisonous snakes, venomous vipers, as a result of their own** disobedience. The people then went to Moses for help, and **Moses consulted with God**. God then instructed Moses to make an image of a snake and mount it on a pole. Anyone who looked at the snake would be cured of the bites and live. This event foreshadows the saving power of the Holy Cross, **which also implies faith in something beyond ourselves**. The idea of being healed simply by looking at the bronze snake left no doubt in the minds of the Israelites that it was God's power, not their own, that brought healing and salvation. In the same way, "Whosoever believeth in him" that is lifted up on the Cross; it is God's salvific power, which is at work, not our own.

Additionally, the holy Cross transforms our perception of God. For example, when we refer to God's power to act, we naturally project our experience of power into the divine. If there are powerful men, then God is all-powerful. If men are wise and knowledgeable, then God is all-wise and omniscient. There is always something positive to say about these expressions. However, if we refer to "Christ crucified" for our salvation, this is a scandal to the human mind. St Paul says, "unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks (Gentiles) foolishness; but [unto them that believe, it is] the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:23–24).



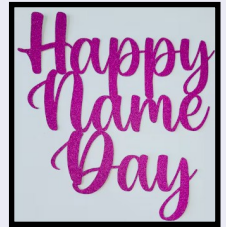
FEASTS of the WEEK

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

Sunday, September 13th, 2026 – Saturday, September 19th, 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 Cornelius the Centurion September 13
- The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross
September 14 – Monday DIVINE LITURGY 9:00 – 10:30am
- Greatmartyr Niketas the Goth September 15
- Great Martyr Euphemia the All-praised September 16
- Martyr Sophia and her three daughters at Rome September 17
- Right-believing Great Prince Igor of Kiev and Chernigov September 19



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.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

The Resurrection Hymn (Mode 6) (2X- Greek, English)

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἵστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, * the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. * And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. * Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. * Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. * O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

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 6)

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, * the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. * And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. * Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. * Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. * O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

O' benevolent Lord, as an intercessor we present to You the life-giving Cross of Your goodness, which we the unworthy have as a gift from You. Save our leaders and our nation and keep them in peace, through the Theotokos

You have made the earthly beauty of the holy tabernacle of Your glory to be like the majesty of the firmament on high, O Lord. Make it strong forever and ever, and accept our supplications that we unceasingly bring to You there, at the intercession of the Theotokos. For You are the life and resurrection of all.

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

Οὐρανὸς πολύφωτος ἡ Ἐκκλησία, ἀνεδείχθη ἅπαντας, φωταγωγοῦσα τοὺς πιστοὺς· ἐν ᾧ ἐστῶτες κραυγάζομεν· Τοῦτον τὸν οἶκον στερέωσον Κύριε.

Lord, Your Church appears to us * to be like heaven * full of light, and guides with light * all who believe in You, O Christ. * And we who stand in it cry to You: * Savior, establish forever this holy house.

WORSHIP LIFE SEPTEMBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- **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
- **Wednesday, September 23** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**
- **Friday, September 26** **The Falling Asleep of St John, The Theologian** — Orthros: 8:55 am -
Divine Liturgy: 9:30+ am **NOTE: Celebrated on Sunday, September 27**
- **Sunday, September 27** **1st Sunday of Luke** — Orthros: 8:55 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am
- **Wednesday, September 30** **Bible Study—6:30pm in church**

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): 50

Pledged To Date: \$203,182

Received To Date: \$169,287

Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

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, September 13th, is Team's 3 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, September 13th, 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 FAMILIES WITH LAST NAMES
STARTING WITH S THROUGH Z FOR
HOSTING COFFEE HOUR.

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS
SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR.



LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

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.

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!*



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**, 10am-2pm AND 5pm-8pm – cutting and cupping baklava, flogeres, and kataifi
- **Thursday, September 17**, 10am-2pm (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>

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

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

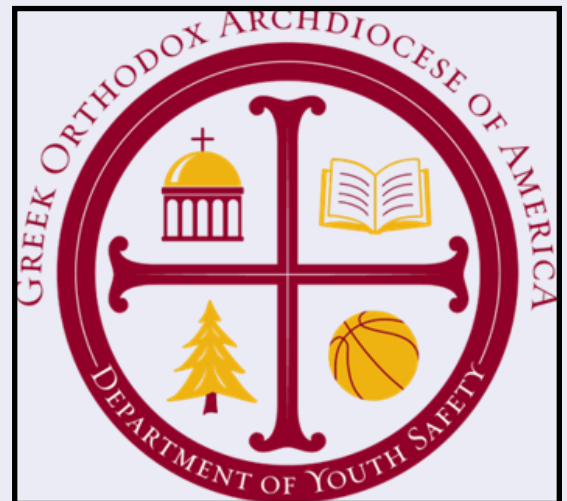
Click on Print My Compliance Certificate

Background Check (every 2 years)

Training (every year)

Not Registered?

Register as a First-Time Registrant



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.



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 \(goarch.org\)](https://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.

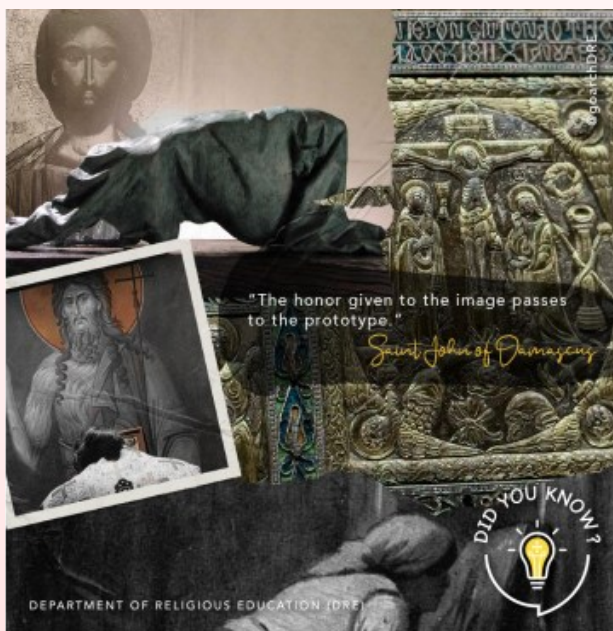
For all others: Though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread with the blessing of the priest. Please also sign our guest book/guest card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

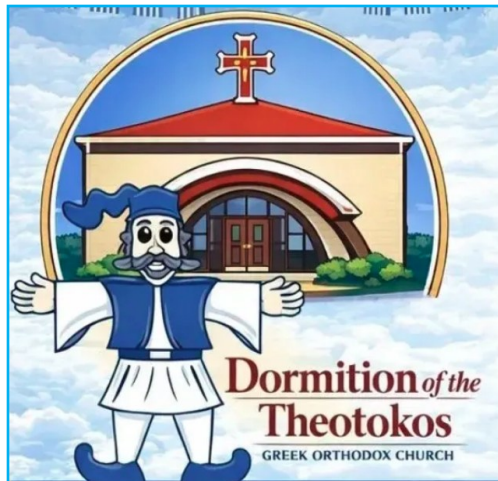
Send us your questions at: religioused@goarch.org or call Fr. Sarantis

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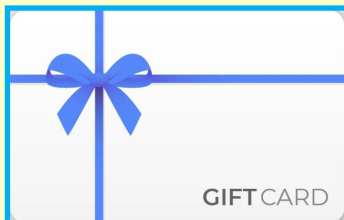
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**GREEK ORTHODOX
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DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



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