

## Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

800 Westridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis

Mobile: 516-526-1475 Office: 336-292-8013

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

### Upcoming Services

- **Sunday, October 25**  
6th Sunday of Luke  
**Orthros (matins):**  
8:50am  
**Divine Liturgy:**  
10:00-11:30+am
- **Wednesday, October 28**
- **Bible Study: 6:30pm**
- **Sunday, November 1**  
6th Sunday of Luke  
**Orthros (matins):**  
8:50am  
**Divine Liturgy:**  
10:00-11:30+am

### **\*SPECIAL NOTE\***

**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, October 25, 2026 — 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke** **The Healing of the Demoniac & the celebration of the Feast of St. Demetrios**



*"When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, 'What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?'" (Luke 8:28).*

Today we also are celebrating the Holy, Glorious Demetrios the Myrrh-gusher of Thessaloniki Commemorated on [October 26](#).  
Hronia polla to all Demetrios and Demetras.



SHARING OUR  
*Blessings*  
AT  
THANKSGIVING

A PHILOPTOCHOS MINISTRY

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



OCTOBER  
11<sup>th</sup>

Instant Mashed Potatoes  
& Gravy (*no glass*)



OCTOBER  
18<sup>th</sup>

Corn &  
Green Beans



OCTOBER  
25<sup>th</sup>

Stuffing Mix &  
Cornbread Mix



NOVEMBER  
1<sup>st</sup>

Cranberry Sauce  
& Yams



NOVEMBER  
8<sup>th</sup>

Fall Dessert of  
your choice  
(*shelf stable*)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR  
*Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>*  
(AFTER CHURCH)

Join our Ladies Philoptochos members  
in assembling the Blessing Bags.

*Thank you for your generosity!*



## THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

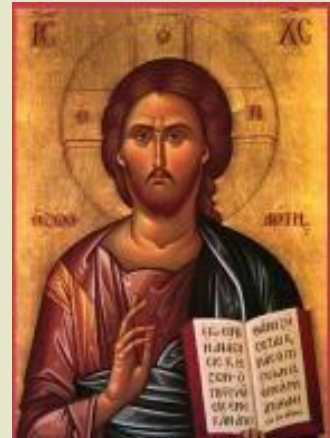
### THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



### THE HOLY GOSPEL READING —The Gospel According to Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for 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](mailto:patersarantis@yahoo.com) or text (516) 526-1475**

## THE WEEKLY FEASTS

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

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 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.**

- **Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, the Notaries of Constantinople** [October 25](#)
- **Saint Tabitha the Widow, raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter** [October 25](#)
- **Holy, Glorious Demetrios the Myrrh-gusher of Thessaloniki** [October 26](#)

**\*\*NOTE: Celebrated on Sunday, October 25\*\***

- **Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica** [October 27](#)
- **Martyr Neophytus of Urbin, Georgia** [October 28](#)
- **Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome** [October 29](#)
- **Hieromartyr Zenobios and his sister Zenobia, of Aegæ in Cilicia** [October 30](#)
- **Priest martyr John Kochurov** [October 31](#)

### **STAY CONNECTED:**

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

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

**[www.dormition.nc.goarch.org](http://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** **(The double doors) on the Iconostasis**

**During liturgical services, 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 than we sit.**

**It is there to assist us.**



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

In today's Gospel we hear about a possessed man, who was completely under the influence and control of demons, **"who wore no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs."**

Christ healed this man who was in the grip of extreme demonic possession, allowing the demons to manifest their power by granting them their request to enter the swine that were feeding nearby. As we read the whole herd of 2000 pigs rushed headlong down to the lake and drowned themselves.

**Yet, what came afterwards, that is, when the people of the country of the Gadarenes heard about the miracle of the possessed man being healed, they were filled with fear dread rather than being thankful to God for the marvel of the possessed man's healing. They were so fearful that they asked our Christ to depart from them. How was this possible?**

The fact that they were raising swine in the first place was a sign that they had departed from the Law of Moses **and the traditions of the Prophets**. The Gadarenes knew that they had departed from the ways of the God of Moses and **rather than seeking enlightenment and spiritual teaching regarding how they could change their ways and be reconciled to God, they asked God's messenger, the awaited Messiah, to depart.**

This was then when Christ had not gone on the cross for us for... But what about us who know that Christ did go on the cross for our salvation?

May God grant that whenever one of us are given to understand that we have sinned and that we need to repent and change our ways for the better, we respond for the sake our own salvation.

Our Savior was crucified and resurrected on the third day. The word of salvation through our Risen Christ spread throughout the world and changed many things for the better. Yet, as time has passed many formerly Christian societies have turned away from God and abandoned Christian values.

**Many have lost the knowledge of what man was created for.** Instead of embracing the spiritual truth of our forefather Adam being the special creation of God and the Son of God by adoption, modern man has embraced the idea that he is the son of a monkey (Evolution theory). As has been observed, ideas have consequences. The culture that we live and move in contains many demonic influences that are opposed to and incompatible with a Christian way of life. How can we protect our children and ourselves?

We must begin with prayer for our families, and ourselves along with prayer for everyone in our society. Along with this prayer must be the recognition that we are foreigners in this culture and sojourners on this earth.

As Saint Paul exhorted the Ephesians: *Look then carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise ones, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore do not become foolish, but ones who understand what the will of the Lord is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)*

*... what he [Saint Paul] means is this. The time is not yours. At present ye are strangers, and sojourners, and foreigners, and aliens; seek not honors, seek not glory, seek not authority, nor revenge; bear all things, and in this way, "redeem the time"; give up many things, anything they may require. (Homily 19, Saint John Chrysostom On Saint Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians)*

**We must embrace the understanding and belief that the time here on earth is not ours to waste and that we are strangers and sojourners and foreigners and alien to this world.** Our Kingdom is not of this world. Having embraced this belief, then we must find ways to express this belief to our children on a daily basis in word and deed.

As Christians we must seek human dignity and sanctification in our lives.

Let us raise our hearts and minds in joy to the things on high and consider the great mystery of our salvation.

## WORSHIP LIFE OCTOBER / NOVEMBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- Wednesday, October 28 Bible Study—6:30pm in church
- Sunday, November 1 5th Sunday of Luke/ St Anargyroi Cosmas and Damian — Orthros: 8:50 am – Div. Liturgy: 10:00+ am
- Wednesday, November 4 Bible Study—6:30pm in church
- Sunday, November 8 5th Sunday of Luke / 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 12 noon, 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, 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, birthday, special event, to remember a loved one, or just to give thanks to God and share with the community.***

**ITEMS AT HALL:** Coffee (regular & 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 (9oz plastic suggested), spoons



## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### SMALL ENTRANCE HYMN

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!

### 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!!

- **Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You \* the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. \* Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, \* dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. \* O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls**

- **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 ἀεὶ, 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 in 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 in your hands. Thank you!

Team 1: Maria Colozzi, Maria Mandalieris, 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 25th, is Team's 4 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 25th, 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 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 E THROUGH K 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: 109

Financial Stewards (No Pledge Card): 46

Pledged To Date: **\$217,082**

Received To Date: **\$193,215**

Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

Dear Parish Family,

**IMPORTANT!**

The beautification of our Sanctuary continues with the replacement of the carpet in the choir loft, the stairway and the cry room. The pews in the choir loft have been removed and will be refurbished. They will be re-installed once the work is complete and the new carpet is installed (**final work is planned for October 28, 2026**).

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

-The Beautification Committee

# ATTENTION

Faithful, Catechumens, and Inquirers of our Orthodox Blessed Faith

## **EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT ORTHODOX RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS W/ Bible study**



**at 6:30pm IN CHURCH**

**This Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month: The Book of Romans**

Led by our Diaconate Program Seminarian Matthew Beckett

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month: Orthodoxy 101 and 102**

**with emphasis on the Church Calendar Feasts through the Holy Bible**

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month: Explanation of the Divine Liturgy and Holy Sacraments  
through the Holy Bible**

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month: Paraclesis service and Open Forum**

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

**with emphasis on being involved in the ministries.**

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

**5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Pray on your OWN!**

**The Daughters of Penelope are holding their annual Phyllo Sale!**

***Phyllo is \$6 per pound***

Cash or checks (made to Daughters of Penelope)

**Email, text, or call Maria Predetto to place your order by: Saturday, October 31st**

Maria's email is [mpradetto36@gmail.com](mailto:mpradetto36@gmail.com) and her cellphone is [\(336\) 207-8208](tel:3362078208).

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

## **LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**

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 Events:**

- **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. *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!*

### **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. Thank you for understanding!

**IMPORTANT: For emergencies kindly ALWAYS CALL, do not text or email.**

## 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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- 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
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- epgraham8@gmail.com
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- tmorfessis@gmail.com
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## CALENDAR

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



| OCTOBER 2026                                                                        |               |                                                                                     | NOVEMBER 2026         |                                                                                                              |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>4</b><br>OCTOBER                                                                 | Sunday School |  | <b>1</b><br>NOVEMBER  | Sunday School                                                                                                |  |
| <b>11</b><br>OCTOBER                                                                | Sunday School |  | <b>8</b><br>NOVEMBER  | Sunday School                                                                                                |  |
| <b>18</b><br>OCTOBER                                                                | Sunday School |  | <b>15</b><br>NOVEMBER | Sunday School                                                                                                |  |
| <b>25</b><br>OCTOBER                                                                | Sunday School |  | <b>22</b><br>NOVEMBER | Sunday School                                                                                                |  |
|  |               |                                                                                     | <b>29</b><br>NOVEMBER |  <b>No Sunday School</b> |                                                                                       |



### ***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://Stewardship | Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church (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.

## **FELLOWSHIP HOUR (10/25)**

**The Sunday for Group 2 (E - K) to sponsor the Fellowship Hour is: October 25**

**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 (newcomers 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 consist 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.**

## NOTES:

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

- **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**



## 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