



Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

800 Westridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis

Mobile: 516-526-1475

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www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

Upcoming Services & Events

- **Sunday, October 11**
Sunday of the 7th
Ecumenical Council
Orthros (matins):
8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Wednesday, October 14**
Bible Study: 6:30pm
- **Sunday, October 18**
Luke the Evangelist
Orthros (matins):
8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am

**A WARM WELCOME TO OUR
GUESTS! WE ARE GLAD YOU
ARE**

SPECIAL NOTE

**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 11, 2026 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council



THE NECESSITY OF PERSEVERANCE

❖ Parable of the Soils

▪ Luke 8:11-15

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

A Sower Went Out to Sow



packed soil



stony ground



thorny ground



good soil

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 1-year memorial service for our beloved brother in the Lord, **Larry Ross**, beloved spouse of **Minerva Ross** will be chanted this Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.

Fellowship hour is offered in loving memory by Minerva Ross.

May his memory be eternal!



Bulletin for Sunday, October 11, 2026



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 463/2026

*Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Sunday of the Parable of the Sower
Dedicated to Sunday School Teachers and Religious Educators*

October 11, 2026

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America.

*... to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the edification of the Body of Christ.
(Ephesians 4:12)*

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At our last Clergy-Laity Congress in Cleveland, we received a wonderful harvest from our Department of Religious Education – the new K-12 curriculum that was commissioned at the 2024 Clergy-Laity in San Diego. This was a direct result of the sowing of seeds and labors of love to sustain the ongoing mission: ... to support clergy, religious educators, parishes, parents, and young people with catechetical materials that are faithful to the Orthodox tradition, accessible to today's learners, and engaging for the life of the Church.

On this Sunday of the Sower, which the Holy Eparchial Synod has designated as a day of recognition for all our dedicated and faithful Sunday School Teachers and Religious Educators, let us celebrate and give special encouragement to all those who are giving of themselves to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the edification of the Body of Christ. In a world where we live with constant information overload and the dawn of artificial intelligence is challenging many of our basic assumptions about learning and knowledge, we are blessed to have so many devoted souls who are leading the way in keeping the traditions of our Church, handing them over from person to person all across our Sacred Archdiocese.

Once again, this Sunday coincides with the Sunday of the 350 Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, the culminating theological exposition of the truth of the Incarnation, memorialized by the very possibility of an icon of God the Son. The teachings of our Holy Orthodox Church delve into the most profound meanings of what it is to be human and how our human nature is transformed and sanctified by God. Those who strive to teach these mystical realities in our Churches are to be thanked and upheld in every way, for they are building up the Church with the "living stones" of our many members (I Peter 2:5).

Therefore, Sisters and Brothers, let us take this Sunday to honor those who cheerfully, humbly, and willingly follow in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who was, in all things, the consummate Teacher.

With paternal blessings in the Lord Jesus Christ,

†ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

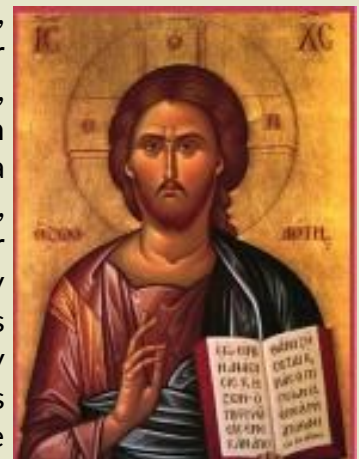
When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING –The Gospel According to Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."



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

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!

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 staff 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 hearty efforts. Thank you again!

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

“Now the parable is this: *The seed is the word of God.*” Luke 8:11
What does Luke 8:11 mean?

In the parable, which is read today of our Gospel reading, a farmer scatters seed that lands on different parts of soil, some on fell on a **hardened path**, others on **bedrock covered** by a thin layer of dirt, some on a **patch filled with thorn bushes**, and some on **good, fertile soil**. The type of soil of course determines the yield of the seed. Now, Jesus untangles the **parable's metaphors** to the disciples: the Twelve as well as the larger group. **The key element is that the Sower's seed represents God's Word.**

What are the words of God?

Whatever Jesus has spoken ([John 12:49](#); [14:10](#)).

- That He is the promised Messiah ([Luke 4:17–21](#)).
- The good news that the kingdom of God has arrived ([Luke 4:43](#)).
- **That sinners are welcome to repent and be reconciled with God** ([Luke 5:30–32](#)).

But Jesus also has difficult things to say, (a) like His followers **must love and pray for** their enemies, (b) hold lightly to things of this world when others threaten us, and (c) be merciful to those who don't deserve it—just like God the Father ([Luke 6:27–36](#)).

St Luke draws the message out of the **parable that everyone is responsible to listen to Jesus' words**, which we have in the Bible, and allow them to grow in our hearts. **The more receptive we are to God's Word, the more our faith will grow** until our actions and words reflect God's. There are multiple contexts to the meaning of God's "Word" or His message, **but the universal expectation is that we'll accept them and act accordingly.**

Jesus says, "Now the parable is this..." Does this mean every parable has only one meaning? Considering Luke interprets the parable in a different context than Matthew and Mark—as a call to listen rather than a confirmation of the kingdom of God—that doesn't seem to be the case.

While this is not a license to invent any interpretation, the Holy Spirit led the Gospel writers to find touch in Jesus' rich, multi-faceted teaching. For instance, Luke omits Jesus' critical comment that the disciples should understand parables by this point ([Mark 4:13](#)). One of Mark's themes is that the disciples had a difficult time understanding who Jesus was. **Luke is more concerned with encouraging Theophilus to listen carefully to Jesus' words and be certain of what he hears** ([Luke 1:1–4](#)).

And who is today's Theophilus? Answer: Perhaps all of us! As He [Jesus] said this, He cried out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Let us be attentive!!!!



WORSHIP LIFE OCTOBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- **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
- **Sunday, October 25** **6th Sunday of Luke — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am**
- **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**

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

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMN

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

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, “O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!

Hymns After the Small Entrance

Resurrection Apolytikion Hymn (Mode 2)

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, “O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!

MEMORIAL SERVICE HYMN CHANTED BY THE PRIEST (IF ANY)

Supremely glorified are You, O Christ our God, who established the holy Fathers on earth as beacons, and through them guided us all to the true Faith. Most compassionate Lord, glory be to You!

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 αἰεὶ, 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.



FEASTS of the WEEK

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

Sunday, October 11th, 2026 – Saturday, October 17th, 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.

- Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council [October 11](#)
- New Martyr Zlata of Meglena, Bulgaria [October 13](#)
- Venerable Paraskevi (Petka) of Serbia [October 14](#)
- Venerable Euthymius the New of Thessalonica, Monk of Mount Athos [October 15](#)
- Martyr Longinus the Centurion, who stood at the Cross of the Lord [October 16](#)
- Prophet Hosea [October 17](#)



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**](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 (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.

Rise Up & Build 2026 Stewardship Campaign



\$200,000 Goal

\$150,000

\$100,000

\$50,000

Pledged Stewards: 107

Financial Stewards (No Pledge Card): 48

Pledged To Date: \$216,882

Received To Date: \$185,885

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, October 11th, is Team's 2 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 11th, 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:

MINERVA ROSS FOR HOSTING
COFFEE HOUR.

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING
THIS SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP
HOUR.



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
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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
- 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

50+ LUNCH

Tuesday, October 13 at 1:30 pm

Mythos Grill

3900 W. Market Street, Greensboro

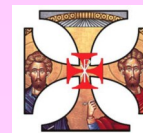
Join us and meet some of our fellow parishioners for good conversation, camaraderie, excellent food, and fun! .

Please RSVP: Maria Cropper 336-324-5358





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 Upcoming 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. 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!**

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

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 and her cellphone is [\(336\) 207-8208](tel:(336)207-8208).

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

All proceeds from our events will support:

Teacher's Supply Warehouse, Backpack Beginnings, Family Services, CWS Greensboro, and Dormition of the Theotokos.





ATTENTION

Faithful, Catechumens, and Inquirers of our Orthodox Blessed Faith

EVERY WEDNESDAY-EVENING BIBLE STUDY

at 6:30pm IN CHURCH

This Wednesday, October 14th, 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.

NOTES:



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