

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, November 1**
5th Sunday of Luke
Orthros (matins): 8:50am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Wednesday, November 4**
Bible Study: 6:30pm
- **Sunday, November 8**
7th 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, November 1, 2026 — 5th Sunday of Luke SS Cosmas and Damian



**“The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried;”
Luke 16:22**

In Loving Memory

With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of Your servants where there is no pain, no sorrow, no sighing, but life everlasting!

A 40-day memorial service for our beloved brother in the Lord, **Philip Vavalides**, beloved spouse and father, will be chanted this Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.

Fellowship hour is offered in loving memory by The Ladies Philoptochos.



May his memory be eternal!



Bulletin for Sunday, November 1, 2026



DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

800 Westridge Road · Greensboro, NC 27410-4504

Rev. Fr. Sarantis P. Loulakis, Protopresbyter

October 6, 2026

INVITATION PARISH ASSEMBLY

Beloved Faithful and Members of Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church.

Christ is in our midst!

As we all know it is imperative, as the **By-Laws of our church community state**, that we call two annual Parish Assemblies every year for the good of our community.

It is with much joy then to **invite all of you to our annual fall 2026 Parish Assembly** on **Sunday, November 15, 2026**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy at our fellowship hall. The agenda of this assembly is shown below for your records.

It is also imperative that as Members of the community to attend the Parish Assembly as our Christian DUTY and OBLIGATION calls, for our benefit, to be informed and in addition to offer our knowledge for the betterment of our community. **Let us attend!**

Parish Assembly Agenda Sunday, November 15th, 2026

1. Call to order & Establish quorum
2. Opening prayer
3. Father Sarantis message
4. Approve minutes from Spring 2026
5. President's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Presentation of **Proposed 2026 Budget**
8. Ministry reports
 - a. Stewardship
 - b. Youth
 - c. Festival
 - d. Beautification
 - e. Philoptochos
9. Old business
 - a. Capital Campaign/**Building Committee Update**
 - b. Facility Maintenance Report
 - c. 2025 Audit Report
 - d. "Effective Parish Assessment" survey results
10. New business
 - a. Contracting with a professional fundraising firm to assist with Capital Campaign
 - b. Nominating of Audit Committee
 - c. **Parish Council Nominations**
 - d. Open Discussion
11. Motion to adjourn
12. Closing prayer

Rev. Fr. Sarantis P. Loulakis

Rev. Fr. Sarantis P. Loulakis, Protopresbyter

John McQueary, President, P.C.

Phone: 336.292.8013

Web: www.dormition.nc.goarch.org E-mail: office@dormition.nc.goarch.org

THIS SUNDAY'S EPISTLE & HOLY GOSPEL READINGS

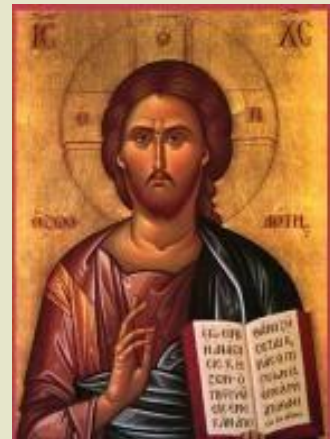
THE EPISTLE READING - St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8

Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.



THE HOLY GOSPEL READING —The Gospel According to Luke 16:19-31

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazaros in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazaros to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazaros in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"



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

THE WEEKLY FEASTS

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

Sunday, November 1st, 2026 – Saturday, November 7th, 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.**

- Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia [November 1](#)
- Saint Theodota, mother of Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian [November 1](#)
- Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidephorus, Anempodistus, and 7,000 with them, of Persia [November 2](#)
- Hieromartyrs Akepsimas, Bishop in Persia, Presbyter Joseph, & Deacon Aeithalas [November 3](#)
- Hieromartyr Seraphim (Samoilovich), Archbishop of Uglich [November 4](#)
- Martyrs Galaction and his wife, Epistemis, at Emesa [November 5](#)
- Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople [November 6](#)
- 33 Holy Martyrs of Melitene [November 7](#)

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

***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 this Sunday...

From the Religious Education Class

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT TODAY'S GOSPEL VERSE?

Luke 16:22 — “The poor man died... the rich man also died”

In Luke 16:22, the Bible says: *“The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried.”*

Biblical context

This verse is part of Jesus’ parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19–31 Read Today’s Gospel reading in today’s Bulletin).

In the story, Lazarus — a poor, suffering man — is described as **being carried by angels to “Abraham’s bosom” (or “side”) after death**, while the rich man dies **and is buried**.

The phrase **“Abraham’s bosom”** is a Jewish idiom for a **place of comfort** and fellowship with the patriarchs, **often pictured as a banquet where Abraham is the host**. It is not a literal description of heaven, but a vivid metaphor for the blessed state of the righteous in the afterlife.

Meaning and symbolism

- **Lazarus’s fate:**
His death and **angelic transport to Abraham’s side** symbolize the honor and comfort awaiting the faithful, regardless of their earthly suffering.
- **The rich man’s fate:**
His burial marks the end of his earthly life, but in the parable’s continuation (Luke 16:23–31), he is shown in torment, contrasting sharply with Lazarus’s comfort.
- **Theological point:**
Jesus uses this imagery **to show that the afterlife is determined by one’s response to God’s word and mercy during life**, not by wealth, status, or the circumstances of death.

Historical and cultural background

In Jewish tradition, **“Abraham’s bosom”** was one of three common images for the blessed afterlife — the others being **“the Garden of Eden”** and **“the Throne of Glory”**. It evoked the idea of being the honored guest at a great feast, with Abraham as host. **The “carrying by angels” reflects** the belief that righteous souls were escorted by divine messengers.

Key takeaway

Luke 16:22 is a concise but powerful transition in the parable: **it shows the reversal of fortunes in the afterlife** — the poor man is honored, the rich man is condemned — and **sets the stage for Jesus’ teaching on repentance, the authority of Scripture, and the fixed divide between the righteous and the unrighteous**.



WORSHIP LIFE NOVEMBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- **Wednesday, November 4th** – Adult Orthodox Religious Education Class & Bible Study – 6:30pm in Church
- **Sunday, November 8th** – 7th Sunday of Luke/ Orthros and St Nektarios (Nov. 9th): 8:50 am – Div. Liturgy: 10:00+ am
- **Wednesday, November 11th** – Adult Orthodox Religious Education Class & Bible Study – 6:30pm in Church
- **Thursday, November 12TH** – Mid-Week Div. Liturgy/ SS John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria John Chrysostom (Nov. 13) and Philip the Apostle (Nov. 14) / Orthros - Divine Liturgy: 9:00 -10:30am
- **Sunday, November 15th** – 8th Sunday of Luke/ 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 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 5) (2X, Greek, English)

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἡυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. * Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection.

Hymns After the Small Entrance

- **Resurrection Apolytikion Hymn (Mode 5)**
As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. * Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection.
- **Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers visit our infirmities. Freely you received; freely give to us**
- **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 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, Madalina Body
Ian Chavez

Team 5: Mary Ann Contogiannis, Abeer Maayeh, Barbara Sabanis, Ted Angeles

**This Sunday, November 1st, is Team's 5 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, November 1st, 2026,
is Group's 2 turn.**

As always, **all of the acolytes from group 1 & 2** are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary, to observe and take part in the Great Entrance, even when their group has not been scheduled.

Please 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 LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS
FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR IN MEMORY OF
PHILIP VAVALIDES. MAY HIS MEMORY BE
ETERNAL!**

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

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, November 4th, 2026**

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

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, etc.

with emphasis on being involved in the ministries.

Led by Fr. Sarantis Loulakis

5th 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 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

This Sunday, **November 1st**, Philoptochos chapters nationwide will have a **special tray to support and benefit the Ecumenical Patriarchate** and its global spiritual, educational, and philanthropic ministries. If donating by check, please make it out to Philoptochos with E. P. In the memo section.

November-December Food Bank donations will benefit the Servant Center, a nonprofit resource providing services to the homeless and veterans in need in Greensboro and within Guilford County. The services they provide include short term or rapid rehousing, medical respite, disability assistance, Veterans Administration case management, medical support, mental health and substance abuse counseling, transportation services, and more. Additionally, they accept donations of non-perishable food, clothing, household furnishing, personal care and feminine hygiene items, travel size and regular size toiletries and bar soap.

Currently they have a special need for ground coffee, regular and decaf, (No K-Cups) and tea bags gallon size preferred, but all accepted, and cocoa mix or hot chocolate envelopes. Additional needs are personal care and feminine hygiene items, travel size and regular size toiletries and bar soap.

All donations coffee, teas, toiletries, etc. for the Servant Center may be placed on our Giving Tree.

Our annual holiday charitable project, Christmas for Children in Need will begin November 15 through December 13th. This year we will be collecting \$25 Walmart, Target, or Visa gift cards. The gift cards will be distributed to help provide a special holiday for children and their families at the Doris Henderson Newcomers School and to the Family Room Foster Care Resource Center, a nonprofit, providing assistance, clothing, and essentials to newly arrived children entering the foster care system. Purchased gift cards with the authorization receipt can be given to Catherine Stuman or Nicki Smith or placed in an envelope in the Philoptochos mailbox attention Catherine Stuman. Please do not mail gift cards to the church!

If you are unable to shop for Food Bank or Christmas gift cards, you may write a check to Philoptochos and specify Food Bank or Christmas gift cards, and a member will shop on your behalf.

Parishioners can help be a part of Santa for Seniors, a special holiday program created by Senior Resources of Guilford. A box has been placed in the fellowship hall **through December 4th** with a list of needed new, unopened items such as socks, hats, gloves, scarves, snack items, hand and dish soap, etc.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 1 – Ecumenical Patriarchate Fund, Pass Tray; Philoptochos Sunday

Sunday, November 8 - Last day for Blessing Bag Collection & Veteran's Day Desserts sponsored by LPS

Thursday, November 12 - Baklava Baking for Pastry Sale. See future bulletins and emails for times.

Sunday, November 15 - Assembling the Blessing Bags after church - everyone is encouraged to help! Gift Card Ministry for Children in Need Begins (\$25 Walmart gift cards suggested)

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 3 - Pastry packing for Pastry Sale, 10 am - 2 pm and 5 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, December 5 - Holiday Market and Pastry Sale

Sunday, December 6 - Pot Luck Lenten Christmas Gathering, hosted at home of Lula & Hamp Culler

Sunday, December 13 - Assist Sunday School with Fellowship hour (set up / clean up)

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
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- petegraham88@gmail.com
- epgraham8@gmail.com
- epgraham22@gmail.com
- tmorfessis@gmail.com
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL

CALENDAR

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



OCTOBER 2026			NOVEMBER 2026		
4 <small>OCTOBER</small>	Sunday School		1 <small>NOVEMBER</small>	Sunday School	
11 <small>OCTOBER</small>	Sunday School		8 <small>NOVEMBER</small>	Sunday School	
18 <small>OCTOBER</small>	Sunday School		15 <small>NOVEMBER</small>	Sunday School	
25 <small>OCTOBER</small>	Sunday School		22 <small>NOVEMBER</small>	Sunday School	
			29 <small>NOVEMBER</small>	 No Sunday School	





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.

NOTES:

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!

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!


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