



Dormition of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

800 Westridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

Rev. Father Sarantis Loulakis

Mobile: 516-526-1475

Office Phone: 336-292-8013

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

Upcoming Services & Events

- **Sunday, July 19**
Sunday of the Holy
Fathers of the 4th
Ecumenical Council
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am
- **Sunday, July 26**
8th Sunday of Matthew
Orthros (matins):
8:55am
Divine Liturgy:
10:00-11:30+am

*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, July 19, 2026 Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Divine Liturgy

Sunday of the
Holy Fathers
of the 4th
Ecumenical Council



THANK YOU! MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU!

It is with much gratitude and joy that Presvytera and I wish to express our sincere and cordial gratitude to all who took part and helped to organize everything to honor us and celebrated our 50th Anniversary last Sunday! From the deepest corners of our hearts, thank you for being a part of our journey and for celebrating our 50 years of marriage. Your presence meant the world, and it was truly wonderful to share this special milestone with you. We feel so blessed to have such wonderful friends and family. May the Lord bless all of you and yours with bountiful health, joy and progress in your own journeys always!

With much love in Christ, Fr. Sarantis and Presvytera Norma Loulakis

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,
**Antonios Mavrellos, brother-in-law of Tom Schermerhorn &
Theodora Vaporis**, will be chanted this
Sunday at the end of Divine Liturgy.



May his memory be eternal!



Bulletin for Sunday, July 19, 2026

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.

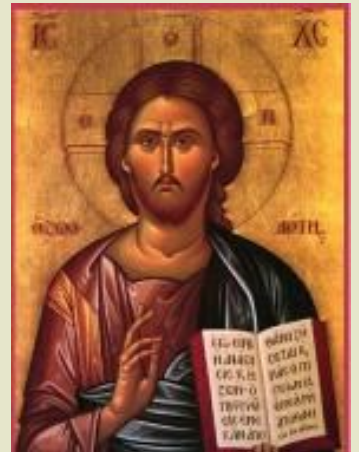
When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of 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 Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."



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.

[Confession — Be the Bee — Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America \(goarch.org\)](http://goarch.org)

A Word about the Feast on this Sunday....
INSIGHTS FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL READING OR THE FEAST
Significance of the 4th Ecumenical Council

The Fourth Ecumenical Council, held in 451 AD in Chalcedon, was pivotal in defining the nature of Christ against heretical teachings, especially Monophysitism, and significantly shaped the organizational structure of the Church.

Historical Context

The Fourth Ecumenical Council was convened by Emperor Marcian and Empress Pulcheria in response to the heretical teachings of Eutyches and the ideological disputes following the Second Council of Ephesus (449), often labeled the "Robber Council." It was attended by about 520 to 630 bishops, making it the largest and best-documented of the early ecumenical councils **

Key Doctrinal Decisions

The council's primary focus was to affirm the doctrine of the dual natures of Christ, both divine and human, in one person. The formal declaration, known as the Chalcedonian Definition, asserts that Jesus Christ is "truly God and truly man," existing "unconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, and inseparably" in two distinct natures after the incarnation **

. This was a direct counter to the Monophysite view that claimed Christ had only one nature that was purely divine, thus disregarding his humanity **

Impact on Christian Doctrine

This council's decisions solidified what is now widely accepted in both the Eastern Orthodox and the Catholic traditions regarding the person of Jesus Christ. The Chalcedonian Definition provided a firm theological foundation that addressed earlier heresies like Nestorianism (which separated Christ's natures too distinctly) and reinforced the council's alignment with the Nicene Creed established in 325 AD

Ecclesiastical Structure and Governance

In addition to doctrinal clarity, the Fourth Ecumenical Council addressed governance within the Church. It affirmed the importance of Constantinople as a patriarchate equal to Rome, which established a hierarchy (known as the Pentarchy) within the Church, ranking the major sees of Churches. This created tensions between various churches and set precedents for authority and church order that can still be observed today.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council, held in Chalcedon in 451 AD, was a pivotal moment in the history of Christian theology, particularly regarding the understanding of the nature of Jesus Christ. Here are the key teachings established by the **630 holy fathers** at this Council:

1. Definition of Christ's Two Natures

The Council affirmed the doctrine that Jesus Christ is one Person with two distinct natures: the divine and the human. This union must be understood as "without confusion, without change, without division, and without separation." This formulation was essential to counteract the Monophysite heresy, which claimed that Christ's human nature was absorbed by His divine nature, resulting in a single, divine nature.

2. Condemnation of Eutychianism

Eutyches, a prominent figure in the Monophysite controversy, asserted that after the Incarnation, Christ had only one divine nature. The Council condemned Eutyches' teachings as heretical, emphasizing that both natures remained intact and distinct after the union in the Incarnation. This led to a clarification of previous theological positions regarding the relationship between the divine and human aspects of Christ.

3. The Council's Proclamation of Faith

The Council issued a definitive statement on the faith, summarizing the understanding of Christ as "perfect in Godhead and perfect in humanity, truly God and truly man." The proclamation maintained that both natures co-exist intimately in one hypostasis (person) while retaining their unique characteristics. This definition shaped the Christological debates for centuries to come.

4. Unity of the Church

The teachings of the Fourth Ecumenical Council also sought to address the divisions that arose from differing beliefs regarding Christ's nature. By firmly establishing the doctrine of two natures, the Council aimed to unify the Church against heretical interpretations and preserve the integrity of Christian teachings, which were essential for the salvation of believers.

5. Importance of the Ecumenical Councils

The holy fathers emphasized the continuity and authority of Ecumenical Councils in resolving theological disputes and affirming the orthodox faith. The conclusions drawn from the Chalcedonian definition were seen as a means to safeguard the teachings of the Church against deviations and heresies that had the potential to destabilize the faith. *Please Continue to page 4*

Continue from page 3

6. The Role of Tradition and Scripture

In defining the nature of Christ, the Council insisted on grounding its teachings in both Scripture and the traditions of the Church. The decisions made at Chalcedon reaffirmed the importance of adhering to the teachings passed down from the apostles and previous councils, thus ensuring that the faith remained true to its original source.

Conclusion

The Fourth Ecumenical Council's teachings, articulated by the assembly of 630 holy fathers, significantly shaped the development of Christology and the broader theological landscape of Christianity. Their resolution to affirm the two natures of Christ established key theological foundations that continue to influence Christian doctrine and practice today. Through their efforts, they sought to maintain the unity and purity of

YOUR NOTES

FEASTS of the WEEK

Sunday, July 19th, 2026 – Saturday, July 25th, 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.

- Fathers of the First Six Councils [July 19](#)
- Venerable Macrina, sister of Saint Basil the Great [July 19](#)
- Holy, Glorious Prophet Elijah [July 20](#)
- Prophet Ezekiel [July 21](#)
- Myrrhbearer and Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene [July 22](#)
- Martyr Markella of Chios [July 22](#)
- Saint Hilarion of Tvali [July 24](#)
- Dormition of the Righteous Anna, the Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos [July 25](#)



STAY CONNECTED:

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

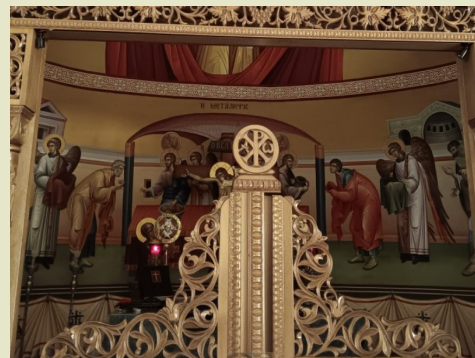
**VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE FOR
CHURCH SERVICES, EVENTS AND
OTHER INFO CLICK BELOW**

www.dormition.nc.goarch.org

***In Every Moment of our Lives, PLEASE
KEEP GOD IN MIND. VISIT HIM IN HIS
HOME!***

***800 Westridge Rd
GOD BLESS!!!***

The LIGHT above the Royal Doors (double doors) on the Iconostasis



During a liturgical service i.e., Divine Liturgy there are times that it is proper for the faithful to stand and/or not be moving.

When the **light is on**, 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.

2ND
ANNUAL

MP ΘΥ
PANAGIA
Picnic
Fundraiser

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
GREENSBORO, NC

CELEBRATING THE DORMITION TOGETHER

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE DORMITION OF
the Most Holy Theotokos

FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • FAMILY

We are honored to welcome
✦ HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SEVASTIANOS ✦
who will be with us for this special day!

SCAN HERE
TO PURCHASE
TICKETS



AUGUST 15, 2026
1 PM – 5 PM



TICKETS:
\$40 IN ADVANCE | **\$50** DAY OF
KIDS 12 AND UNDER ARE **FREE!**



GREEK FOOD
Delicious favorites
the whole family
will love!



LIVE GREEK MUSIC
Enjoy the sounds
of Greece!



DANCING
Let's dance together
and keep our traditions
alive!



ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS OUR
CAPITAL BUILDING CAMPAIGN



WHERE **FAITH** BRINGS US TOGETHER AND **FELLOWSHIP** KEEPS US TOGETHER.

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 Mandalieris, Elena Vierling, Brandon Covey

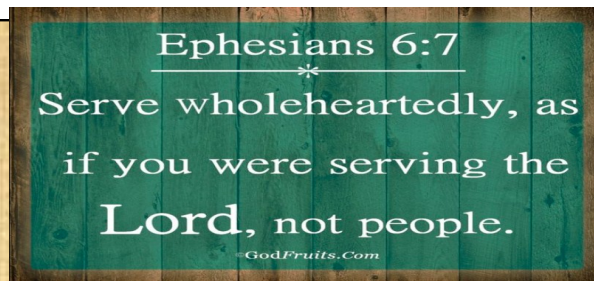
Team 2: John McQueary, Nora Zirps, Charles DePoortere, Julia Macovei

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, July 19th, is Team's 5 honor to lead during service.
May the Lord bless their service!**



ACOLYTE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Group 1:

Joseph, Michael,
Ephraim, Leonidas,
Jonathan, George,
Andrew, Gus

Group 2:

Alex, Mironey,
David, Samuel,
Aiden, Saleem,
Yiannis

This Sunday, July 19th, 2026,

is Group's 1 turn.

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

Please aim to arrive before 9:45am. If you arrive during Orthros, please refrain from walking through the Nave to the Sanctuary if Father is reading the Gospel and/or is in the middle of censing.



**THIS SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP
HOUR IS SPONSORED BY**

TODAY, WE ARE GRATEFUL TO:

**THE DAVIS & GAY FAMILIES
FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR.**

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THIS
SUNDAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

The Resurrection Hymn (Mode 6) (Greek, English)

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

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

SMALL ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead, e sing to You, Alleluia

Hymns After the Small Entrance

Resurrection Apolytikion Hymn (Mode 6)

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

Hymn for the Holy Fathers

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!

MEMORIAL SERVICE HYMN CHANTED BY THE PRIEST (IF ANY)

With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) where there is no pain, no sorrow, no sighing, but life everlasting.

The Church Hymn - Mode 1

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 4

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, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμῶντων 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."





Church Office Note...

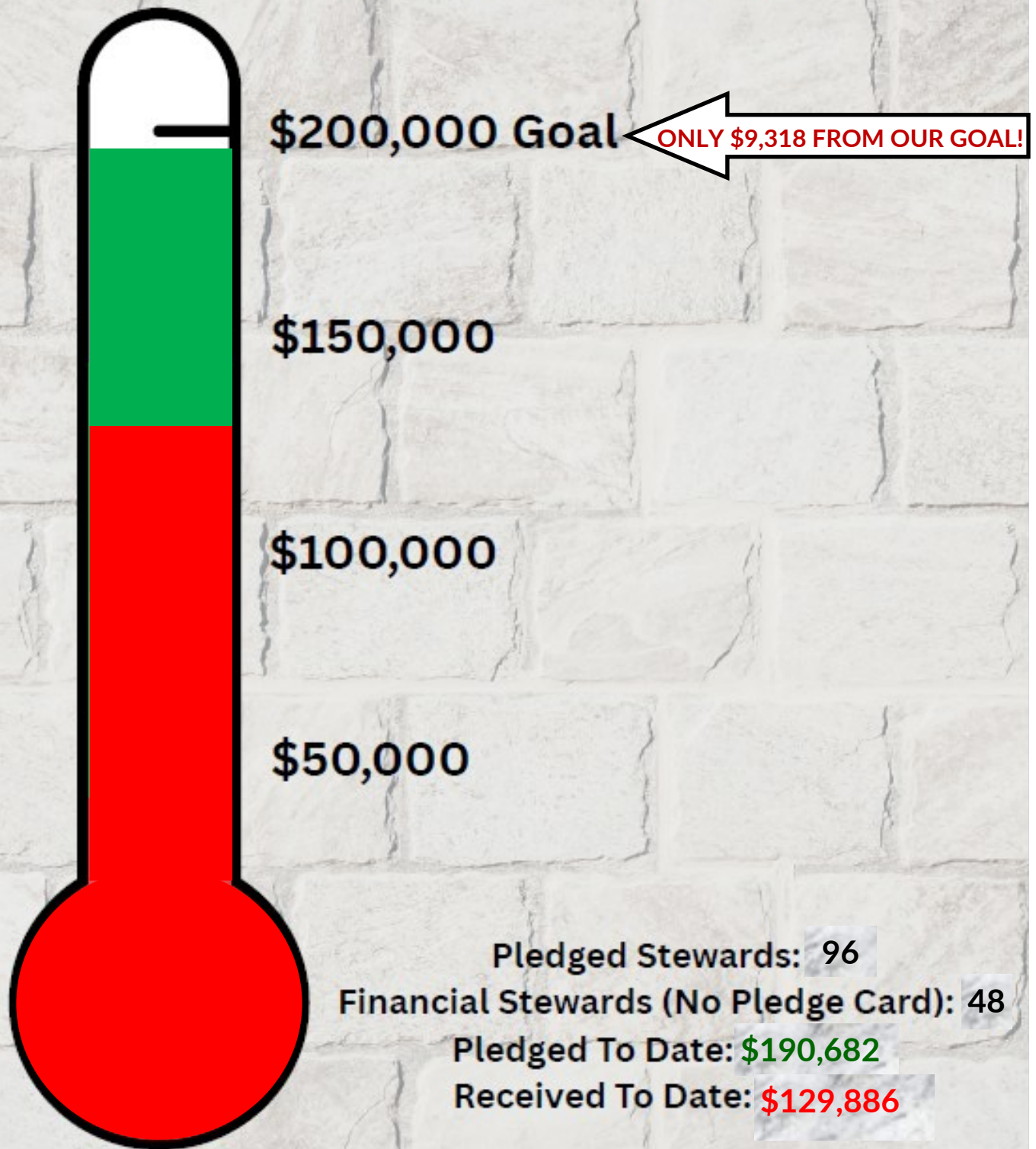
You may visit or call the office **Monday—Friday from 9am-1pm**. Fr. Sarantis is in the office: **Monday, works remotely, in office by appointment only, Tuesday—Thursday from 10am—3pm, Tuesday 3pm—6pm by appt only for confessions**, extending the office hours. You may also schedule a pastoral appointment 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.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER BREAK
From classes, YES!



But, NOT from church services!

Rise Up & Build 2026 Stewardship Campaign



Dormition of The Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church

WORSHIP LIFE JULY/AUGUST LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sunday, July 26</u> • <u>Sunday, August 2</u> • <u>Wednesday, August 5</u> • <u>Thursday, August 6</u> • <u>Friday, August 7</u> • <u>Sunday, August 9</u> • <u>Wednesday, August 12</u> • <u>Friday, August 14</u> • <u>Saturday, August 15</u> • <u>Saturday, August 15</u> | <p>8th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:55 am – Divine Liturgy: 10:00+a (Panteleimon the Martyr celebrated today)</p> <p>9th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:50 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ a
 Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm / Bible Study 7pm-8pm
 Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 Orthros: 8:55 am - Divine Liturgy: 9:30 – 10:30am+</p> <p>Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm</p> <p>10th Sunday of Matthew — Orthros: 8:50 a - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ a
 Paraclesis Service 6pm – 7pm / Bible Study 7pm-8pm
 Great Vespers / Feast of Dormition of the Theotokos 6:30p – 8:00p
 <u>His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta presiding!</u>
 The Feast of Dormition of Theotokos — Orthros: 8:55 am - Divine Liturgy: 10:00+ am <u>His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta presiding!</u></p> <p>Our Feast Picnic — 1pm – 5pm</p> |
|---|---|

The above schedule and times supersede any other schedule.



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. There are multiple dates available. Instructions are below.

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.

ITEMS PROVIDED AT HALL

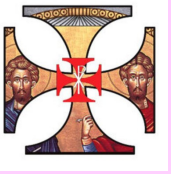
coffee, regular & decaf
 powdered creamer
 sugar, sweeteners
 coffee cups, stirrers

ITEMS PROVIDED BY HOST

refreshments, plates,
 napkins, utensils, cold
 beverage, half and half/
 creamer

ITEMS NEEDED FOR KOLIVA

Cups (9 oz plastic suggested)
 spoons



LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



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!*

In addition to our Food Drive, we also do a School Supplies Drive where we collect school Supplies for Children in need beginning July 1st through Sunday August 16. Items to be collected are wide and college rule paper, pens, pencils, erasers, composition books, glue sticks, 17-inch backpacks, markers, binders, notebooks and pencil cases and more.



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— Madalina Body

Website Ministry – Martin Ross

Youth Ministry— Matthew Beckett, Director

- ioapontios@aol.com
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com
- patersarantis@yahoo.com
- patersarantis@yahoo.com / michellergilliam@gmail.com
- chris.mandaleris@gmail.com
- bartisvaughanrp@gmail.com
- macontogiannis@gmail.com
- epgraham22@gmail.com
- epgraham8@gmail.com
- slpeteron60@gmail.com
- abeer@mac.com
- zeidansh@gmail.com
- captegghead@gmail.com
- brittany_beckett@yahoo.com
- kokenestmb@aol.com / shayneloaded@gmail.com
- mariacropper@yahoo.com
- nectariagrafos@gmail.com
- petegraham88@gmail.com
- bodymadalina@yahoo.com
- mmross1992@protonmail.ch
- mattjbeckett@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY

YOUR ATTENTION CATECHUMENS & BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS:

Thank you for your devotion and commitment! We will resume our studies again with our

SUMMER SESSION

Bi-Monthly on Wednesdays:

June 10th & June 24th

July 8th & July 15th

August 5th & August 12th

We will study The 11 Resurrection Holy Gospel readings being read during the Sunday Matins service. God bless you!

We will begin our WEEKLY CLASSES on Wednesday, September 9th.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The 2026 Greensboro Greek Festival is September 25-27!

We are just a few months away from our annual parish-wide fundraiser, the beloved Greensboro Greek Festival. This event is a cornerstone of our community, and every helping hand truly makes a difference. Let your involvement be part of your stewardship to the Dormition of the Theotokos. We encourage everyone to be present, volunteer, sponsor, and share the festival with your friends, coworkers, and family.

Stay Connected

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/greensborogreekfestival?igsh=dmU4aHhjb2dndGw3>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/19tX9FANYc/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Volunteer Sign-Up

DO NOT WAIT — sign up today: <https://app.unison.io/schedules/QLz9hxBxzvHq83gEOVJ0u>

Thank You to Our Station Sponsors!

We extend our sincere appreciation to the following families and businesses for sponsoring festival stations:

- **Alpha Omega Financial, LLC (Scott & Pete Graham)** — Beer Station
 - **The Kattan and Hanna Families** — Loukoumades Station
 - **The Ross Family** — Coffee Station
 - **Kiki & Kirk Tarasidis** — Frappé Station
- **Anonymous** — Partial Sponsorship of the Orthodox Bookstore Station

Available Festival Station Sponsorships

If you would like to sponsor a festival station, please review the available sponsorship opportunities below and contact Shadi Zeidan directly.

- **Orthodox Bookstore Station/Partial** — \$500
 - Wine Station** — \$1,500
- **Outside Food Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
- **Inside Food Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
 - **Pastry Station (can be sponsored by multiple families)** — \$15,000
 - **Kids Corner** — \$2,000

Donate Toward Specific Festival Food Items

If you prefer to donate toward specific items, here is what is needed:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount Needed</u>	<u>Price/Case</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Lamb Shank	18 cases	\$165	\$2,970
Pita Bread	50 cases	\$40	\$2,000
Gyro Meat	25 cases	\$125	\$3,125
Crinkle Fries	50 cases	\$40	\$2,000
Tzatziki Sauce	30 cases	\$40	\$1,200
Chicken ½	17 cases	\$125	\$2,125
Chicken Souvlaki	750 lbs	\$3.5/lb	\$2,625
Pastichio	80 pans	\$45	\$3,600



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.

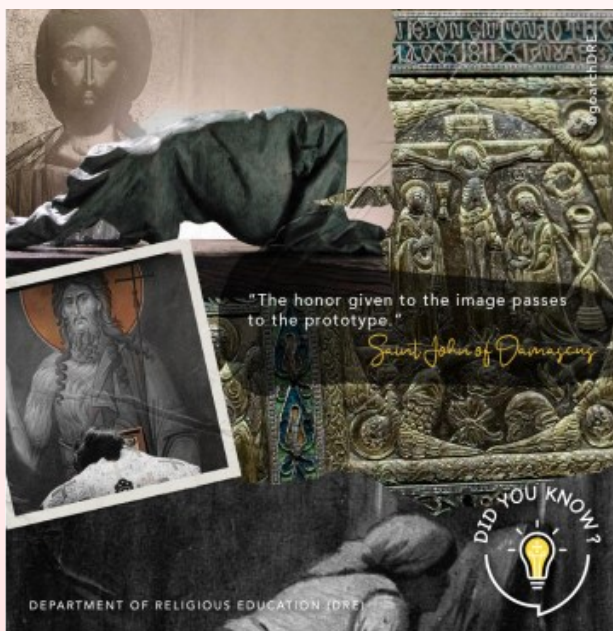
For all others: Though we cannot share Communion with you—since it is an expression of membership and full unity in faith—you are welcome to come forward after the dismissal, receive a blessing and partake of the blessed bread with the blessing of the priest. Please also sign our guest book/guest card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

VENERATING THE ICONS



DID YOU KNOW?

Department of Religious Education (DRE)



Did you know why we bow and venerate icons of the Saints?

In the Orthodox Church, we venerate icons not as gods but as windows into heavenly reality. We're not worshiping the wood and paint when we bow before or kiss an icon. The practice of bowing or kissing icons represents a way to show respect to the depicted Saints, just as we would display affection through kissing photographs of loved ones.

The Seventh Ecumenical Council (787 A.D.) affirmed the veneration (προσκύνησις—proskynesis in Greek) of icons, distinguishing it clearly from the worship (λατρεία—latreia in Greek) due to God alone. As St. John of Damascus beautifully put it: "The honor given to the image passes to the prototype." So when we bow before the icon of a Saint, we're showing respect to the Saint — and ultimately glorifying God, who worked through that person's life.

We often bow or make the sign of the Cross when passing an icon, lighting a candle before it, or offering a prayer — not because the icon is divine, but because it points us to holiness. Prostrations (full or semi full bows to the ground) may also be used, especially during Lenten services, as a sign of humility and repentance before God, often in the presence of icons.

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