

# *The Annunciator*

Volume 32, Issue I

September 2025, Q3



## *Annunciation* Greek Orthodox Cathedral

✠ HOUSTON, TEXAS ✠

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Rev. Economos Demetrios Tagaropoulos, Associate Priest

Dn. Iakovos Varcados ✱ Dn. John Wise

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### Cathedral Personnel

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Katerina Kontogeorgaki, Greek Language and Culture School Director

### Cathedral Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

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*“Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians, who dwell and live in this Parish and city, the stewards, council members, donors, and benefactors of this holy Church.”*

**T**he Parish is an ancient institution of the Church. Through the many ages the Parish Church has been tried and weathered many a storm to benefit the faithful Christians. The Parish is the ecclesiastical community gathered in one specific place. It is not the location or even to be considered a small part of the Church, IT IS THE CHURCH! For the Parish to be the Church, nothing should be lacking. Wherever the people of God are gathered with the priest, and the Holy Altar, the Church is present!

Every Orthodox Christian that belongs to his Parish, belongs to the Church; through his Parish he is united and participates in the Church. It is in the Parish that he is baptized, and his name is registered in the sacred registry of the Church. In these Parish registry books every child of Christian Orthodox parents is enrolled, keeping track of his birth, baptism, his marriage, and ultimately, recording the date of his repose. Registration in these books is a sacred practice that symbolizes our enrollment into the Heavenly Book of God.



We are all brothers and sisters in Christ, baptized in the same baptismal font through the Holy Sacrament of Baptism. We are all one body since we receive Holy Communion from the same Holy Chalice that unites us with Christ. We are all Parishioners of this Parish and yet, members of the greater Church.

For these reasons we should never separate ourselves from our Parish no matter what situation or reason may arise. Above all should be our regular participation in the Church Services. Our spiritual home is the Church of our Parish - our Annunciation Cathedral. Our spiritual father is our Parish priest who has the opportunity to know us by our participation in the Parish ministry. He is the one who enters our home in times of joy and sorrow, and we call upon him whenever the priest is needed. The Divine Liturgy is celebrated, as are all Church Services, for the spiritual well-being of pious Orthodox Christians, but especially for the faithful who live and dwell in this Parish!


We are all members of this Orthodox Christian Parish. By our own choice we have undertaken to become stewards of this Parish. We must have a positive sense of honor and benevolent ambition to strive to do our best for our Cathedral Parish. If we believe truly in the Church, we must love and care for our Cathedral Parish.

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be welcoming His Eminence Metropolitan Constantine of Denver to preside over the Divine Liturgy for the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross. I pray that we will all be here to welcome him, as well as receive his archpastoral blessing.

As you well know, on October 2, 3, and 4 we will host our annual Greek Festival on the grounds of our Cathedral. We ask that you please participate and assist us so that we might be successful. The sharing of your time and talents – be it flipping souvlakia, serving food in the a la carte line or pastries, Greek dancing, or Cathedral tours – not only means you giving back of your gifts to God, but also sharing God’s love with all our guests! People aren’t just hungry for delicious food, they want to be connected to something deeper. Now more than ever, people are seeking community. Our Festival is the opportunity to not only open our grounds, but to open our hearts, to welcome in the stranger, and to greet them with Christ-like love. Every year people come to our Festival, then stay to become catechumens, eventually being received into the Church. The best way to preach the Gospel, is by living it in our own lives.

On behalf the Parish Council, we thank you for the love and support, spiritual and financial, that you have offered our Holy Church and our Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral. May the New Ecclesiastical Year be a time of prayer for the peace and salvation of our Parish, our Church, and the world.

In Christ’s love,

  
Fr. Efstratios J. Magoulas  
Dean of the Cathedral



## *The Metamorphosis of our Lord and our Salvation*

**T**he Feast of the Transfiguration is one of Orthodox Christianity's twelve major feasts, for it is when we commemorate and celebrate the most visible and dramatic manifestation of Jesus Christ's divinity and glory, second only to His Resurrection. All three Synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke, report in remarkable similarity the metamorphosis, or the change in form, that Jesus undergoes on Mt. Tabor in the presence of the Apostles Peter, James, and John: "...and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light." (Matt. 17:2) The fullness of his Glory and radiance of the Triune Godhead, the uncreated light and energy flooded the mountaintop alarming the three apostles. At the same time, Moses and Elijah appeared in their glorified state talking with the Lord: "and behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure ["exodus" in Greek], which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem." (Luke 9:30-31) Finally, the greatest testimony of all as to Jesus' divinity and Sonship as Second Person of the Holy Trinity is God the Father's bearing witness from heaven declaring from the midst of a cloud that had come down and engulfed the whole mountain together with everyone present: "This is my Son, My Chosen; *listen* to him!" (Luke 9:35) Clearly, the Transfiguration is a Theophany and Epiphany revealing not only God, but especially Christ's divinity, through a dazzling, supernatural display of His divine, uncreated energy. The elements of light and a bright cloud, the white garments, and His face shining like the sun all point to Jesus' divinity. Furthermore, since God is Light ("This is the message which we have heard from him and declare to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all"—1John 1:5), and that Jesus Himself declared: "I am the light of the world..." (John 8:12); then, Christ is also God. Hence, we find in the Creed that He is "Light of Light, true God of true God!"



The importance for our salvation is not only the affirmation and confirmation that indeed Jesus Christ is God, but that He, having taken on fully our humanity yet at the same time retaining all of His divinity, and on his way to his "departure" (that is, to his self-sacrifice on the Cross and subsequent three-day Resurrection), united humanity to God; and, in so doing, deified us. Moreover, the presence of Moses and Elijah in their glorified state, Moses representing the Law and all those who have died; Elijah, the Prophets and all those alive in Christ (Elijah was taken up and therefore did not experience death), foreshadow our potential resurrection, deification, and glorified state. All of the latter gives us hope for our resurrection, deification and glorified state in the kingdom of God—it gives us hope for our salvation and eternal life with God. If we believe and have faith in Jesus, His Transfiguration and Resurrection, and we keep in mind what St. John wrote ("we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see him as He is" 1 John 3:2); then, we will be like Jesus on Mount Tabor, deified, in our glorified state, with Him for eternity. Just keep in mind that as St. Paul says if we lift from our face the veil of disbelief "beholding the glory of the Lord, we [are] transformed into the same image from glory, just in the Spirit of the Lord." (2Corinthians 3:18). In other words, our transformation, our transfiguration begins now by incorporating in our souls and our lives the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as He Himself said "For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21), if only we let Christ come inside us.



## *Celebrating 20 Years of Ministry of Fr. Michael Lambakis*

On Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the 20 years of ministry and service of our Rev. Fr. Michael Lambakis. Fr. Michael begins his new assignment as the Dean of Students at Hellenic College-Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts. All those who study at HCHC will benefit from what we have received for almost two decades. This most important position will shape the next generation of priests and lay leaders who will serve our Lord and His Church in America.



As was proclaimed by Mayor John Whitmire, Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup> was Fr. Michael Day! Sunday morning began with a beautiful and festal Divine Liturgy including His Eminence Metropolitan Constantine of Denver, who presided from the throne, and many clergy from the neighboring Orthodox Churches.

We returned to the Cathedral and to our Steve G. Caloudas Athletic Center for fellowship, dinner, and presentations from our ministries. We were graced with the archpastoral blessings and guidance of His Eminence



Metropolitan Constantine, and words of love and appreciation from Fr. Demetri Tagaropoulos and Niko Lorentzatos, Parish Council President. The evening continued with presentations from our ministries who generously gifted tokens of their appreciation and wishes of good luck with vestments, pectoral crosses, epigonatia, and sentimental gifts to aid Fr. Michael in his new assignment.



In addition to gifts for Fr. Michael and his family, proceeds from the dinner have been sent to our Metropolis of Denver to support our students at Hellenic College-Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. Thanks to your generous support and donations, we raised \$30,000! This will directly support our own students from the Metropolis of Denver.



While we will miss Fr. Michael, Presvytera Renee, and their sons, Andrew and Nicholas, we offer them our prayers and love as this new chapter begins in his ministry.

AXIOS Fr. Michael!

*Photos by Poppy Cobanoglu-Padley*



# LITURGICAL CALENDAR + ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

## SEPTEMBER 2025 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

SUNDAY BEFORE THE HOLY CROSS

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 7 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΠΡΟ ΤΗΣ ΥΨΩΣΕΩΣ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Αρχιερατική Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Orthros 8:30 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 8 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

Όρθρος 8:30 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30 π.μ.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Procession of the Cross at the completion of Orthros

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 14 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΥΨΩΣΕΩΣ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΖΩΟΠΟΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

Η Τελετή της Υψώσεως του Τιμίου Σταυρού  
στο τέλος του Όρθρου

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 21 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΎΨΩΣΙΝ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 28 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Α' ΛΟΥΚΑ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

## OCTOBER 2025 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΣ

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 5 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Β' ΛΟΥΚΑ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE

7<sup>TH</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 12 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ

Ζ' ΟΙΚΟΜΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΣΥΝΟΔΟΥ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 19 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Γ' ΛΟΥΚΑ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

ST. GERASIMOS OF KEFALONIA

Orthros 8:30 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 20 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΑΓ. ΓΕΡΑΣΙΜΟΣ Ο ΕΝ ΚΕΦΑΛΛΗΝΙΑ

Όρθρος 8:30 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30 π.μ.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

ST. DEMETRIOS THE GREAT MARTYR

Orthros 7:45 am ✦ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 26 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΣΤ' ΛΟΥΚΑ

ΑΓ. ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✦ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

# LITURGICAL CALENDAR + ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

## NOVEMBER 2025 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

Orthros 7:45 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 2 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ε΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGELS

Orthros 8:30 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 8 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΣΥΝΑΞΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΡΧΑΓΓΕΛΩΝ

Όρθρος 8:30 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30 π.μ.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

FEAST OF ST. NEKTARIOS OF PENTAPOLIS

Orthros 7:45 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 9 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Ζ΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ

ΑΓ. ΝΕΚΤΑΡΙΟΥ ΠΕΝΤΑΠΟΛΕΩΣ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

Orthros 7:45 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 16 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗΣ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΣ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

Orthros 8:30 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ 21 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

Η ΕΝ ΤΩ ΝΑΩ ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

Όρθρος 8:30 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30 π.μ.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE

Orthros 7:45 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 23 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Θ΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

ST. KATHERINE THE GREAT MARTYR

Orthros 8:30 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

ΤΡΙΤΗ 25 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΑΓ. ΑΙΚΑΤΕΡΙΝΗΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡ

Όρθρος 8:30 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30 π.μ.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

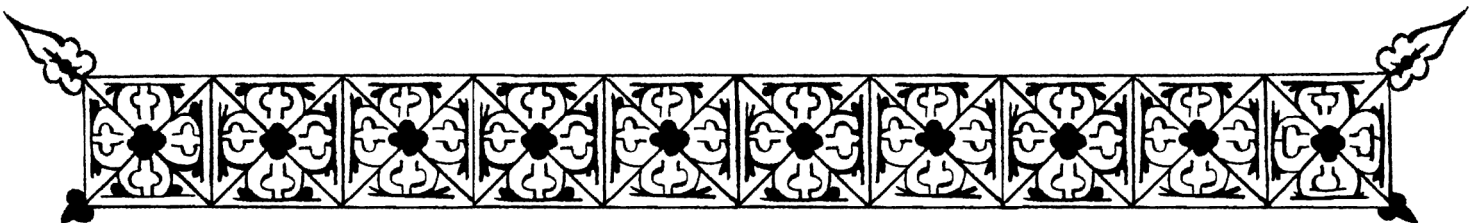
ST. ANDREW THE FIRST-CALLED APOSTLE

Orthros 7:45 am ✧ Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

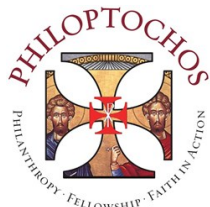
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 30 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΚΛΗΤΟΥ

Όρθρος 7:45 π.μ. ✧ Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.







## LADIES PHILOTOCHOS SOCIETY OF THE ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

The mission of Philoptochos is rooted in love and service. Whether we are welcoming a family seeking medical care, helping our youth grow in their faith, or supporting our seniors, the women of Philoptochos are living the Gospel every day.

In May, the Annunciation Philoptochos welcomed its newly elected board, a group of dedicated women committed to carrying forward the chapter's mission with energy and faith. Under the leadership of President Pauline Koinis, Vice Presidents Kris McGee, and Mary Gregory, Treasurer Frances Hadjigeorge, Assistant Treasurer Martha Stefanidakis and Secretary Stephanie Merlides-Kostef, the board will continue to strengthen existing ministries while exploring new ways to meet the needs of the parish and wider community. Their collective vision reflects the heart of Philoptochos — service grounded in love, fellowship, and faith in action.



The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral Philoptochos in Houston lives out the spirit of philoxenia—hospitality and love for the stranger—through its Medical Philoxenia Ministry. This program provides housing, meals, transportation, translation services, legal aid, and emotional support to patients and their families who travel to Houston for treatment at the Texas Medical Center.

In 2025 alone, the ministry has assisted five families, including two adults and two children undergoing cancer treatment at MD Anderson, and another child treated at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. Depending on treatment, families may stay from one month to two years.

"The AGOC/Philoptochos Medical Philoxenia Ministry is a true example of the Holy Spirit working through our clergy and parishioners in many different ways to offer hope, comfort and support to the patients who travel to Houston to receive lifesaving medical treatments". — Elaine Badoian, Chair of the Medical Philoxenia Ministry

Beyond medical outreach, Annunciation Philoptochos invests in youth-oriented causes. Recent support includes hygiene kits assembled by GOYANS and then donated to IOCC, Paschal Passports for Sunday School, a Sunday School classroom smart board, assistance for Oratorical Festival participants, aid to the Texas A&M OCF chapter, scholarships for Greek School, and help with GOYAN Spring Retreat fees.

"Our investment in youth programs is an investment in the future of our Church. We want every young person to feel supported, encouraged, and inspired to live their faith boldly." — Kris McGee, Chair of the Youth Funds Task Force

As part of the National Operation Classroom initiative—partnering with Houston's SEARCH homeless assistance agency—the chapter provided over two dozen children with full back-to-school kits, including backpacks, locks, calculators, binders, and supplies.

The Annunciation Philoptochos also nurtures the spiritual and social well-being of the Cathedral's elder members through its Senior Citizens Ministry. Under the guidance of Chair Maria Kantalis, this program offers regular luncheons and bingo, fostering connection and companionship, and ensuring that seniors remain active participants in parish life, valued for their wisdom, and supported in both their spiritual and personal needs.

Looking ahead, the Annunciation Philoptochos is preparing for a vibrant season of events that celebrate our heritage while sustaining our ministries. Plans are underway for the Original Greek Festival, the Cathedral's largest annual fundraiser; the Christmas Bake Sale, featuring holiday treats made with love; and the Festival of Tables, a cherished gathering that blends creativity, fellowship, and philanthropy. These and other events not only provide vital support for our philanthropic work but also strengthen the bonds of community within and beyond our parish. As we work to enhance, expand, and enrich our ministry, we warmly invite every member of our community to take part in this meaningful work.

## *Stewardship*

As summer comes to a close and we prepare for the new ecclesiastical year, we wanted to take a moment to update everyone on the economic health of our parish and where we are through mid August.

First, we are deeply grateful for the generosity and commitment our community has shown so far in this year's stewardship campaign. Our goal is to raise **\$1.9 million** through stewardship to support the ministries and programs that serve our parish and extend Christ's love into the world. This amount not only supports those ministries, but covers maintenance, utilities, supplies, salaries, insurance and many other expenses needed to keep the Church functioning. But, stewardship only covers a portion of the overall budget of our parish. All in, our budget for 2025 is almost \$2.7 million. The difference between stewardship and this number is made up by such things as the festival and candles/trays.

To date, we have received **\$1,677,120** in pledges. This is a tremendous blessing (and ahead of the same time period as last year), but we still have **\$222,880** to go in order to reach our goal of \$1.9mm. This goal can be achieved with the help of 2 groups of families: those who have not yet pledged this year and those who have not increased their pledge in several years. Things like utilities must be paid first – which means the amount for ministries is what will be cut if we do not reach our goal. And, please remember, the governmental funds the parish received after Covid have been exhausted so it is 100% up to us to keep the Church going.

For those who have not yet pledged, please take a moment and do it now.

[www.agoc.org/donate/stewardship](http://www.agoc.org/donate/stewardship)

We are encouraging our families to sponsor at least 1 day of the Church's expenses (\$7,000). But, of course, the pledge amount is up to you. Pledging now will enable your parish council to meet the Church's financial commitments for the year.

Second, there are a number of families whose pledge is the same amount today as it was 10 years ago -- without an increase. A failure to increase a pledge over 10 years means one is actually cutting their pledge every year. Everything costs more today than 10 years ago. For example, a dozen eggs cost \$1.50 in 2015. Today, they cost \$6.30. Gasoline was \$2.50 in 2015 but is \$3.28 today. There are countless other such examples but the bottom line is that all of us pay more to live today than we did 10 years ago. Hopefully, many of us also earn more today. The Church is one of the centerpieces of our life so She should be treated at least as well as our other daily commitments.

If you have already made a pledge, we humbly ask you to consider **increasing your commitment** to help bridge the gap. We suggest a 10% increase if your pledge for 2025 is the same as last year. So, for example, if your pledge is \$1500, please consider increasing it by at least \$150. You can do that right now by emailing our administrator Myka Evans at [mykaevans@agoc.org](mailto:mykaevans@agoc.org) and indicate the amount of the increase.

Without meeting our goal, the very ministries and programs that bless our parish family—our youth and adult education, charitable outreach, worship life, and fellowship opportunities—will feel the impact. Together, we can ensure these vital offerings remain strong and vibrant.

Finally, listed on the following pages are all 2025 AGOC stewards, as of August 8th. If you notice that one or more of your friends or family members are not on the list, would you please reach out to them and ask them to pledge? We are all united as one family in Christ.

Let us each do our part so that, united in faith and love, we will reach our goal and continue the work entrusted to us.

With gratitude and hope,

**Joni & John Zavitsanos**

# ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

## PLEDGED STEWARDS

as of August 8, 2025

*Your Gifts, of what is Yours, we offer to You, in behalf of all, and for all! - Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*

Fr. Efstratios, Presv. Danae Magoulas  
 Fr. Demetrio & Presv. Joana Tagaropulos  
 Fr. Constantine & Presv. Anna Mathews  
 Dn. Iakovos & Diak. Maria Varcados  
 Dn. Robert (John) & Diak. Meredith Wise

Abraham & Sonata Abbott  
 Agapios & Ana Agapiou  
 Dimitris Alexiou  
 Nicholas & Marcie Alexos  
 Lauren Altaffer  
 Jackie Alvarez  
 Rafa & Stephanie Alvarez  
 Errikos Anagnostopoulos  
 Demetrios Anaipakos  
 John & Seva Anaipakos  
 Kim Anaipakos  
 Thomas & Emily Anastos  
 Timothy & Eirini Anderson  
 George & Helen Andreaskos  
 Katherine Andreno  
 Steve & Candace Andreno  
 Gregory & Christy Andrews  
 John & Kelley Andrews  
 Gus & Tina Angelo  
 Mary Argeroplos  
 Vasiliki Argeroplos  
 Christine Athanasion  
 Nikos Zacharias & Ioanna Athanassaki  
 William & Pamela Basedow  
 Reed & Katherine Bastie  
 Tina Batmanis  
 Tyler & Jenna Battenfield  
 John & Alexa Beauchamp  
 Bradley & Zoe Beinart  
 Jesus & Olga Benavides  
 Rose Berberian  
 Alec & Kara Bergerson  
 Stephen & Julie Bifano  
 Gary & Julie Bleisch  
 Cora Ann Blytas  
 Georganne Boardman  
 Christina Pappas & William Boffa  
 Peter & Angela Bogdanos  
 Matina Bonnen  
 Mildred Boozalis  
 Steve Bouboudakis  
 Michael Strickler & Constantina Boudouvas  
 Thomas Boundas  
 George & Elaine Bournias  
 Chris & Maria Boutris

Nickolas & Ali Boutris  
 Robert & Deborah Brailas  
 Jim & Lonnie Bratsakis  
 Dimitri Brown  
 Stephanie Gregory Brumley  
 Jerome & Anna Veneri Burbridge  
 George & Violet Cairnes  
 Steve & Angela Caloudas  
 Steve Caloudas  
 Ralph & Victoria Calve  
 Catherine Caridas  
 Petros & Sepi Carvounis  
 Irene Cassis  
 John & Maria Castleberry  
 Chris & Barbara Catechis  
 Spyros & Marian Catechis  
 Anna Catinis  
 Greg Catsinas  
 Michael & Stephanie Cearley  
 Olga Chapman  
 Amy Chiconas  
 Adrianna Chrestopoulos  
 A.J. Christie  
 Maria Christie  
 Tasos Katsaounis & Roula Christie  
 Edgar Christou  
 Mary Christou  
 Helen Clark  
 Larry Coffey  
 Christopher & Jill Cokinos  
 Gregory & Page Cokinos  
 Katherine Cokinos  
 Kevin & Adonia Cokinos  
 Paige & Ellen Cokinos  
 Gus & Barbara Colessides  
 Robert & D. Colette Collins  
 Kate Constantatos  
 Dan & Danielle Cook  
 Niko & Irma Corovessis  
 Felix & Joanne Cortez  
 Liviu & Aurelia Costin  
 Christopher Daifotis  
 Demetri & Elise Dale  
 John & Zoetsa Dale  
 Jeff & Kallie Daniels  
 Chris Daskalos

Don & Angela Davidson  
 Eleni & Nickolas Demeris  
 Eleni Demeris  
 Fote & Cindy Demeris  
 George & Joannie Demeris  
 Maria Demeris  
 Yanni & Brandy Demeris  
 Louis & Theodora DeNino  
 Tommy Denos  
 Corey DeVries  
 Michael & Madison Dewey  
 Mike & Patty Dewey  
 Vasilis & Sotiria Diamantopoulos  
 Theoharis & Sophia Dimarhos  
 Vasileios Dimitriadis  
 Daniel & Kelli Dinneen  
 Dean & Deanna Doxakis  
 Donna Doxakis  
 Nikola Dragojlovic  
 Andrea Dugat  
 Christina Dukes  
 Bill & Elaine Dupre'  
 Dan & Tricia Duthelage  
 David Dyess  
 Brandy & Troy Eckles  
 Alexandra Economides  
 Costa & Lainey Economides  
 Nicolette Economides Economides  
 Patricia Economides Economides  
 Demetri & Mitra Economou  
 Vicki Economou  
 Elizabeth Edwards  
 Georgia Elgohary  
 Michael Elgohary  
 Peter & Margo Elgohary  
 Pete Ellen  
 Lisa Elliott  
 Mina Elmassry  
 Thomas Etzel  
 Myka Evans  
 Gregory Farah  
 Georgette Faris  
 Tareq & Amber Fasheh  
 Pete & Sherry Ferrier  
 Dimitri & Laura Fetokakis  
 Jimmy & Julie Fikaris



Sheila Fikaris	George & Lea Hilburn	Anna Kiappes
Cary & Maria Fink	Doug & Stephanie Hodges	John Kiappes
James & Peggy Fisher	Gretchen Holtsinger	Tom & Sue Kikis
Ruben & Christina Flores	Nathan Holub & Alexandra Zografos Holub	George & Laurie Kissamis
Michael & Christine Fordtran	Maryann Howells	Connie Koinis
Julie Fotiades	George & Maria Hritcko	James & Valerie Koinis
Aaron & Catherine Fowler	John & Evelyn Hritcko	JP & Rachel Koinis
George & Elena Fress	John David & Stephanie Hritcko	Kevin Koinis
Gus & Donna Fress	Mark & Evlalia Hurley	Mike & Rena Koinis
Joe Fress	Andrew & Marti Iatridis	Nicholas Koinis
Leon Fress	Dino & Karen Iconos	Ted & Pauline Koinis
Emmanuel & Laura Fyssas	Dean Ikonomou	Theodore & Smaro Kokkinis
Michael & Jackie Gagliardi	Jim & Maree Ikonomou	Alexis Kokolis
John & Erasmia Gardner	Constantin & Catherine Ioannides	George & Rosalind Kokolis
Ioannis Kakadiaris & Maria Gasi	Petru & Maria Ionescu	Constantine & Suzanne Kondylopoulos
Jim & Pam Gaspar	John & Tara Ivascu	Dimitrios Varvarezos & Katerina Kontogeorgaki
Chris Gavrel	Tom & Tamsin Jacky	Stephanie Merlidis Kostef
Dee Gavrel	Nick & Vasso Jacomides	Emmanuel & Athanasia Koukatsikas
John Gavrel	Alex & Katiana Jennings	Maria Koukatsikas
Pete & Cheryl Gavrel	Anna Maria Johnson	Jason Koulouras
Alexandra & William Gavrelos	Judy Johnson	Dimitri & Helen Kousparis
Terry & Stacey Gazav	Walker & Anne Kahle	Maria Koutros
Thalia Gazis	Chris & Angie Kaitson	Stergos & Anthi Koutros
Rusty & Helen Gebhard	Lynda Kalantzakis	Peter Koutroubis
Stavros & Ling Gekas	Charlie & Lindsey Kalas	Kalliopi Kouzi
Xenofon & Maria Gekas	Tassie Kalas	Costa Kouzounis
Ted & Karen Geoca	Fotios & Angeliki Papachroni Kalatzis	Demo & Christina Kouzounis
Mark & Jenny George	Costa & Sharlyne Kaldanis	Elayne Kouzounis
Gus & Maria Georgetown	Steven Kaldanis	Evan & Kiki Koymarianos
Pahno Georgetown	Toula Kaldanis	Leo Kozadinos
Yianni & Ellie Georgetown	George & Margo Kalfoglou	Ryan & Athena Krasnosky
Brooks Broyles & Jeannine Georgiou	Dimitrios & Sarah Kalliontzis	Carrol Kriticos
Dimitra Georgiou	John & Stella Kalogeras	Michael & Marina Kriticos
John & Angeliki Georgiou	Alex & Joanne Kalos	Cecile Kritikakis
Orestes & Maria Germanides	Clarita Kalovidouris	Bianca Krukiel
Brian Kohl & Dana Gheorghe	Michael Diehl & Stacey Kalovidouris	James Crowe & Polina Kyriakides
Andrew & Irene Giannakakis	Pete & Vicky Kanakidis	Ted & Sandy Kyriakos
Melody Gillett	Patti Kanakis	Olga Kyriazis
Kenneth Gray	Michael & Caroline Kanarellis	Dimitrios Lagias
Bill Greanias	Dana Kantalis	Andrew Lambakis
Chrisostomos Chrisopoulos & Linda Green	Jon & Alexandra Kantalis	Nicholas Lambakis
Valerie Grega	Pakis & Maria Kantalis	Joan Lambron
Greg & Mary Gregory	Nickolas-Stratos Hasouris & Chrisoula Kantriviotis	Nicholas Lambron
George & Emily Grivon	Trifon Kapsalis	Peter & Christala Lardas
Mary Michael & Alex Grivon	Loukia Karacosta	Dionysios Laskaras
Mike & Marlene Grivon	Apostolos & Alexandra Karantzoulis	David & Jasmine Lawther
Oliver & Sofia Guerrero	Dimitri & Donna Karastamatis	Yuri & Marina Lebzak
George & Frances Hadjigeorge	Paul Karydas	Athanasios & Lindsay Lefas
Nicholas Hadjigeorge	Mary Katsafanas	Nick & Tonya Leonard
John Fedigan & Constance Haginas	Hrisa Katsigiannis	Donald & Marian Leong
Evangelos & Zoi Halastaras	Patra Katsigiannis	Peter Leong
James Halbouty	Antonios Mikos & Lydia Kavraki	Michael & Anne Licopantis
Gregory & Marie Halvatzis	Alexia Kazilas	Dino & Angie Liollio
Glenn & Connie Hammack	John & Christina Kearns	Titika Liollio
Koula Hanges	Helen Kefala	Evan & Kazia Lorentzatos
Art Harrison	George & Vassiliki Keith	Niko & Jenny Lorentzatos
Andy & Salma Hartley	George & Dina Kelley	Jesse Taylor Lozano
Marguerite Haseman	Dean Kepraios	David Lynn
Angela Hasouris	Elaine & William Kepraios	Maria Lynn
Charles & Denise Hazen		Mel & Elaine Mabray

# ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

## PLEDGED STEWARDS

*as of August 8, 2025*

Bob & Leah Magee  
 Summer & Mark Magee  
 Effie Loucia Magionois  
 Kalousa Magionois  
 Tom Maglaras  
 Angelo & Christy Magoulas  
 Victor & Linda Makris  
 Manuel & Barbara Maligas  
 Evan & Penelope Malliaros  
 Despina Mallios  
 Helen Mallios  
 Noelle Mallios  
 Phillip & Susan Mallios  
 Rodama Manolopoulos  
 Michael & Denise Manos  
 Eleni Markantonis  
 Anthony & Tish Maroulis  
 Brian & Catherine Marr  
 Bruce & Nena Marshall  
 John & Julie Mastroianni  
 Thomas Mastroianni  
 Mike & Anna Mateja  
 Vasili & Katina Mathews  
 Andreas & Rallou Matzakos  
 Tim & Jeanne Mavritsakis  
 William & Kathryn Maxwell  
 James Mays  
 Elizabeth & Wiley McCoy  
 Christina Mcgee  
 Richard & Kris McGee  
 Ava Medarhri  
 Steve Megas  
 Emmanuel & Adrian Melissinos  
 Collie & Harvey Michaels  
 Denny Michalopulos  
 Margaret Michalopulos  
 Angela Mickelis  
 Anthony Mickelis  
 Athena Mickelis  
 George Mickelis  
 Matthew Mickelis  
 Nickolas Mickelis  
 Matthew & Stacie Milanese  
 Maria Milios  
 Sarados & Despina Milios  
 George & Mina Millas  
 Steve & Niki Millward  
 Angela Minas  
 Mary Minas  
 Alex & Kelsey Miron  
 Maria Mitchell  
 Tudor Mitroi  
 Jack & Donna Molho  
 Katherine & Joseph Monk

Maria Moore  
 Javier Morales  
 George Morcos  
 Nick & Felecia Moshou  
 Gary Moss  
 John Moss  
 Peter Chad & Melissa Moss  
 Stacey Moss  
 Pete Mougouris  
 Taso & Amy Mougouris  
 Nick & Margaret Mousoudakis  
 Dennis Moustakis  
 Zachary & Dorina Mucher  
 Patricia & Hensel Murchison  
 Grant & Katie Najera  
 Anjelika Nazoukina  
 Tim & Maria Newton  
 Huong Nguyen  
 Chris & JoAnna Nicolaou  
 Karen Nicolaou  
 Matthew Nungesser  
 Alexandra Caritis & Liam O'Rourke  
 Spencer Burton & Michelle Ostis  
 Chryse Padilla  
 Diego Padilla  
 John & Elizabeth Padilla  
 Paul & Kalyopi Padley  
 John & Antoinette Pagiatas  
 Dean & Bo Pamphilis  
 Mandy Pamphilis  
 Nick & Thomasine Pantazis  
 Petros & Danielle Pantelis  
 Lili Pantos  
 Anne Papadakes  
 Christine Papadakes  
 Peter & Jo Linda Papadakos  
 Eltherios Nicholas & Sharon Papadopou-  
 los  
 John & Erika Papadopoulos  
 Pat Papadopoulos  
 William & Pamela Papadopoulos  
 Joy Papageorge  
 George & Maria Papageorgiou  
 Frances Papajohn  
 Konstantinos & Anne Papakonstantinou  
 Steve & Fran Papaliodis  
 Christina Papandreu  
 Elpis Papasideris  
 Sozos & Maria Papasozomenos  
 Vassilios Tzouanas & Heleni Papastatho-  
 poulou  
 Ernest & Katia Papavasiliou  
 Theo & Mary Papavasiliou  
 Vasilis Papavassiliou

Christina Halvatzis Papazis  
 Petros Papazis  
 John Pappadas  
 Chris & Maria Pappas  
 Dean & Kathy Pappas  
 Delores Pappas  
 Dena C Pappas  
 Dennis & Chrysanthie Pappas  
 Elena Pappas  
 Eleni Pappas  
 Elizabeth Pappas  
 George Pappas  
 George A Pappas  
 George P & Anastasia Pappas  
 H.D. & Allie Pappas  
 Harris & Vicky Pappas  
 John & Susan Pappas  
 Michael Pappas  
 Natasha Pappas  
 Shelley Pappas  
 Spiro & Harriet Pappas  
 Dina Paradissis  
 Cathy Paraschos  
 Penny Paraskis  
 Kyle Pastor  
 Spyro & Jennifer Patelis  
 Irene Patniyot  
 Stan & Helene Patniyot  
 Bill & Celeste Patsouras  
 Nick & Jean Patzakis  
 Anna Payavla  
 Callie Payavla  
 Dimitry & Karen Payavla  
 Marcus Payavla  
 Thomas & Stella Pearson  
 Tom & Amy Pearson  
 Cole Pefanis  
 Harry & Jane Pefanis  
 Ernie & Gigi Pekmezaris  
 John & Erin Pekmezaris  
 Eleni Perezous  
 Vasiliki Perezous  
 Sofia & Mark Perrin  
 George Petheriotes  
 Constantine Petrou  
 Sofia Petrou  
 George & Nicole Phillips  
 Paula Phocas  
 Ioannis P & Patricia Platsas  
 John & Katherine Plumb  
 Gail Podaridis  
 Richard & Maria Pollard  
 George & Chrysi Polydoros  
 Peggy Polydoros

Robert & Fran Pond  
 George & Dena Popp  
 Artemis-Melania Postolos  
 George & Nicole Postolos  
 Lucas Postolos  
 Nikos Poulasichidis  
 Nick & Eleni Poulis  
 Ann Poulos  
 Chris & Denise Poulos  
 Evelyn Poulos  
 Mary Poulos  
 Pete Poulos  
 Alexandra Powell-Lorentzatos  
 Jimmy & Kitty Prappas  
 Mary Prappas  
 Michael & Karen Pratt  
 Jordan Price  
 Steven Priddy  
 Michael & Penelope Prudhomme  
 Vassilios & Lea Psifidis  
 Nicholas Psillas  
 Connie Psomas  
 Argo Georgandis & Howard Pyle  
 Chris Ramas  
 Anastacia Redumis  
 Randy & Athena Reich  
 Kristin Robbins  
 Valentina Robbins  
 George & Christina Robertson  
 Randol Rodgers & Ellie Malavis Rodger  
 Joseph & Anna Rodriguez  
 Nicholas & Elyn Rodriguez-Tatsis  
 Rex & Diane Rogers  
 Michael & Georgia Rokas  
 Bruce & Elaine Rollins  
 Dean & Allura Rougas  
 Jonathan & Lindsay Roumel  
 Baktynur Saliyeva  
 Vicki Sander  
 Mark & Elizabeth Santikos  
 Pete & Alexandra Santikos  
 Maria Saphos  
 Andy & Carol Savas  
 Gerry Desjardins & Anik Sayad  
 Shawn & Stephanie Kokolis Schmidt  
 Edward & Daphnae Schnur  
 Donald & Barbara Schomer  
 Cynthia Schumacher  
 Charles & Anna Schwartzel  
 Nikolas Seifried  
 Konstantinos & Dee Selinidis  
 Nancy Semander  
 Carol Senkel  
 Bill Serletis  
 Nicky & Ann-Marie Servos  
 Helen Sgarbi  
 GeorgiaKay Shebay  
 Maria Shepard  
 Nadia Shtereva  
 Alexandros & Linda Sideris  
 Niki Simotas

Wayne Williams & Sofi Simotas  
 Nick & Martha Mae Sissa  
 Harry & Catherine Skefos  
 Joshua Leasure & Chrystan Skefos  
 Nicholas & Catherine Skefos  
 Stephen & Stella Papaliodis Smith  
 Stephanie & Ted Snedden  
 Ted & Martha Snyder  
 Michael & Kalliope Sokolow  
 Helen Solomos  
 Helen Chifotides & George Souliotis  
 Emmanouil Spanos  
 Emmanuel Spartalis  
 Nicholas Spartalis  
 Dimetrios & Karina Spiliotis  
 Richard Sprague  
 Emanuel & Cathy Stamatakis  
 Eleftherios & Maria Stamatiou  
 Regina Stamatiou  
 Nicky & Mary Stamos  
 Henry & Despina Stamp  
 Derek Pratt & Summer Stanforth  
 Nicholas Staviski  
 Nina Staviski  
 George & Martha Stefanidakis  
 Elaine Stefanidis  
 Erik & Ada Stehl  
 Millie Stelzig  
 Maria Stephens  
 Elyse Cokinos Stevens  
 Rocky Stevens  
 Alesia Stewart  
 Charles & Marie Stillman  
 Nicholas & Jennifer Stillman  
 Anjelaka Stolte  
 Mike & Elaine Stolte  
 Andrew & Stephanie Sullo  
 Barbara Sultis  
 Nick & Sana Summer  
 Dimitri & Arianna Tagaropulos  
 Melissa Taldykin  
 Anne Tatooles  
 Daisy Tepper  
 Spiro Thomas  
 Greg & Hanan Threadgill  
 George & Kim Tratras  
 Nicholas Tratras  
 Polidoros & Paraskevi Trejos  
 Despina Trejos-Joe  
 Constantine Triantafyllides  
 Christ Tsanais  
 Terry & Julie Tsigos  
 Velma Tsongos  
 Constantine Tzouanas  
 Christopher Varcados  
 Thomas & Tara Varcados  
 James & Isabelle Varlan  
 Carl & Demetra Vartian  
 Joan Vaseliades  
 William & Rosemary Vaseliades  
 Frank & Helen Vasos

Spiros & Celina Vassilakis  
 Emmanuel & Christina Velgakis  
 Steve & Ann Venturatos  
 Peter & Chrissy Venzke  
 Jim Verges  
 Mary Verges  
 Chris Verven  
 Helen Verven  
 Anastasios & Eleni Vionis  
 Ekaterini Vionis  
 Katrina Vlachakis  
 Billy & Marena Vlahakos  
 Frank Vlahakos  
 George & Christie Vlahakos  
 Daniel Voinis  
 Margaret Voinis  
 Valerie Voinis  
 Anthony Vossos  
 Peter & Angie Vossos  
 Smaro Voulgaris  
 Michael & Nicol Voutsinas  
 Krista Webster  
 George & Karen Weimmer  
 Zig & Becky Werlla  
 Mark & Ocie Whitaker  
 Katie & Dennis Williams  
 Curt & Kia Wissmiller  
 Larry & Stacey Wooden  
 Christos & Anastasia Xintaris  
 Stavros & Patricia Xydis  
 George Yaluris  
 Milena Yordanova-Jackson  
 Jack & Maria Younger  
 Harry & Pam Zachariades  
 Vasilis Zafiris & Anna Lykoudis Zafiris  
 Evangelos & Anastasia Zagorianos  
 David & Libby Zamora  
 Anastasia Zavitsanos  
 Diamantis Zavitsanos  
 Eleni Zavitsanos  
 Irene Zavitsanos  
 John & Joni Zavitsanos  
 Socratis Zavitsanos  
 Tasoula Zavitsanos  
 Helen Zavouris  
 Alex Zea  
 Brian & Nephele Zimmerman  
 James Zoes  
 Alexandra Zografos  
 George & Olga Zombanakis

Total Pledging Families: 655  
 As of August 8, 2025



# Religious Education **A TIME TO CONNECT**

SEPT  
7



## PRESCHOOL - 12TH GRADE

Join us for what is sure to be a wonderful time **CONNECTING** to one another and the **FAITH**. *Please register children for Sunday School by Sept. 1st and make the commitment to attend regularly!* Your teachers have been planning and preparing some wonderful learning opportunities for your children. We can't wait to welcome you on Sept. 7th!

## ADULT CLASSES

We are excited to offer three adult opportunities this year!  
**2,000 Years of Orthodoxy:** Will focus on a deep dive into Church history and will feature a monthly open discussion Q & A.

**Orthodox Life:** Will be a series of 4 topics, 6 weeks each. 1st-Prayer & Spiritual Life; 2nd-Traditions & Sacraments of the Church; 3rd-Understanding the Divine Liturgy; 4th-The Gospels

**Orthodoxy 101:** Inquirer's class held on a weeknight via Zoom. Current session Aug. 6th - Sept. 24th; next session dates coming soon!



**NEW!**

## LEARN TO CHANT

**NEW!** Learn to chant in our new Sunday School "elective" class. Open to middle or high school students who wants to learn to chant and have the opportunity to chant during the Divine Liturgy. *Please prayerfully consider whether your child has the desire and commitment to learn and attend regularly.*

Interested? email Christina @ [ChristinaP@agoc.org](mailto:ChristinaP@agoc.org)

## UPDATES & NEWS

Sunday School classes, accompanying parents, and teachers will be asked to come up for antithron (bread) first at the end of Divine Liturgy. Please follow the direction of the ushers and promptly get to class!

**WELCOME  
BACK!**

FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES ON INSTAGRAM @ AGOCHOUSTON  
FACEBOOK @ ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



**FAITH Ministry**  
**HOPE**  
**JOY**  
**JR. GOYA**  
**SR. GOYA**  
**YOUNG ADULTS**  
**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**  
**YOUNG COUPLES**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**ACOLYTES**  
**DANCE PROGRAM**  
**GOYA BASKETBALL**

Newly Baptized-Kindergarten & parents  
 1st-2nd Grades  
 3rd-5th Grades  
 6th-8th Grades  
 9th-12th Grades  
 Post High School, ~18-22 years old  
 ~22-35ish years old  
 Newly engaged-recently married





# CELEBRATE WITH OUR NEIGHBORING GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCHES

## FEAST OF ST. EFSTATHIOS

at the Chapel of St. Efsthios at St. Basil  
the Great Greek Orthodox Church In Houston

Friday, September 19th

Great Vespers at 6:30 pm

Saturday, September 20th

Orthros at 8:00 am + Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am

## FALLING ASLEEP

## OF ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN

at St. John the Theologian

Greek Orthodox Church in Webster

Thursday, September 25th

Great Vespers at 6:00 pm

Friday, September 26th

Orthros at 9:00 am + Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am



## St. Efstathios the Great Martyr; His Wife, Theopiste; and their Two Children, Agapius and Theopistos

**T**he holy Martyr Efstathios before his baptism was an illustrious Roman general named Placidus in the days of the Emperor Trajan. While hunting in the country one day, he was converted to the Faith of Christ through the apparition of an uncommonly majestic stag, between whose antlers he saw the Cross of Christ, and through which the Lord spoke to him with a human voice. Upon returning home, he learned that his wife Tatiana had also had a vision in which she was instructed to become a Christian. They sought out the Bishop of the Christians and were baptized, Placidus receiving the name Efstathios, and Tatiana the name Theopiste; their two sons were baptized Agapius and Theopistos. The family was then subjected to such trials as Job endured. Their servants died, all their goods were stolen, and on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem they were scattered abroad, each not even knowing if the others were still alive. By the providence of God, they were united again after many years, and returned to Rome in glory. Nevertheless, when they refused to sacrifice to the idols-a public sacrifice from which no Roman general could be absent-the Emperor Hadrian, who had succeeded Trajan, had them put into a large bronze device in the shape of a bull, which was heated with fire until they died. When their holy bodies were removed, they were found to be without harm. They suffered martyrdom about the year 126.



## St. John the Evangelist and Theologian

John and his brother James were helping their father Zebedee with the fishing when the Savior called them to follow Him and become fishers of men. They immediately left everything to follow His heavenly teaching. Such was John's love of virginity and asceticism that, above all the disciples, he was worthy of the name of "virgin," and such his ardent love for Christ and irreproachable life that, among them all, he became the "beloved disciple." He was one of the three closest to the Savior, who ascended Mount Tabor with Him. John looked upon the Divinity shining in the body of Christ and heard the voice out of the cloud that said: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; listen to Him" (Matthew 17:5). It was John, carried away by his love, who wanted to sit at the right hand of the Lord in His Kingdom (Matthew 20:21). At the Mystical Supper, the Lord placed him at His side, where he leaned on the breast of his beloved Master (John 13:23). When the Jews laid hold of Jesus, Saint John followed Him into the palace of the high priest (John 18:15). He alone remained with the Virgin Mary at the foot of the Cross when the Savior was crucified. Seeing John standing by, Christ

said to His mother: "Woman, behold your son!" and to John: "Behold your mother!" From that hour, John took the Virgin Mary into his own home (John 19:27).

It was on the island of Patmos that John wrote the New Testament book known as the Apocalypse or Revelation. John saw Christ, having the appearance of a young man whose "face was like the sun shining in full strength." Reassuring John, who "fell at his feet as though dead," the Lord said: "Fear not; I am the First and the Last; I am He that Lives and was dead; and behold, I am alive forevermore and have the keys of Death and of Hell. Write the things that you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter" (Revelation 1:17ff). Then in successive revelations John was shown what will happen at the end of time: the gathering strength of iniquity, the coming of the Antichrist, his warfare against the faithful and his final struggle against Christ who, in the end, will cast him forever into Hell with the Devil and his angels. It was also given him to see in his vision the violent upheavals that will take place in the world, the fiery end of all things, and the final triumph of the Son of man, the general Resurrection and the Last Judgment.

John was the only Disciple of Christ to not face martyrdom, but finally reposed in peace of old age.





Μαθαίνουμε  
Ελληνικά



School Year 2025-26  
Enroll Now for PreK to 12

# Annunciation Greek Language & Culture School

Classes on Fridays 5.00- 7.30 pm  
First Day of School is September 12



Register Now & Save

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- ✓ State of the Art Greek Language Curriculum
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- ✓ Free Textbooks & Handouts
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3511 Yoakum Blvd,  
Houston, TX 77006



agoc.com



katerinakonto@agoc.org

Scan to  
Register



Call us for more info  
**281-250-8178**



## **The Annunciation Greek Language & Culture School**

Invites you to

### **Take a Course in Modern Greek**

*Adults (ages 15+)*

### **Fall Semester 2025**

#### **I – Beginners, Intermediate, & Advanced Classes in Person**

*First class: Tuesday, September 23 (6:30pm - 8:30pm)*

#### **II – Advanced Conversation Class Online**

*First class: Thursday, September 25 (11:00am - 1:00pm)*

#### **III – Book Club Online**

*1st Thursday of each month (11:00am - 1:00pm)*

Each semester lasts 14 weeks. We offer a family discount.

To register and for more information, please contact:

**Katerina Kontogeorgaki** at 281-250-8178 or email: [Katerinakonto@agoc.org](mailto:Katerinakonto@agoc.org)

## AGOC Choir

Greetings from the Choir Loft!

The Adult Choir is entering a new era after the retirement of Pam Cramer, director for 40 years. We are grateful for her leadership and wish her AXIA!

As we begin this new liturgical year, please consider joining us in making a joyful noise and sharing your talents! If you like to sing but are intimidated by the Greek. Don't be. We are happy to help you with the phonetics. If you think you are the only one who doesn't know the music. You are not. We will be working on new music.

Singing in the choir is a fabulous opportunity for you to be an active participant in the beautiful liturgy. Remember, when you sing, you pray twice. If you are interested, please contact Stephanie Tefas Snedden at 832.259.2401 or email [stephanie.tefas@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.tefas@gmail.com)



## AGOC Senior Citizens Calendar

Join us for bingo, fellowship, and delicious food at our Senior Citizens gatherings!


Save the dates below and see you soon!

### 2025

October 21st  
November 4th  
November 18th  
December 2nd  
December 16th

### 2026

January 20th  
February 3rd  
February 17th  
March 3rd  
March 17th  
April 17th  
May 5th  
May 19th  
June 2nd




## METROPOLIS OF DENVER ADVOCATES

"When we give from our blessings to the Advocates Program of the Metropolis, we give knowing that the fund supports the ministries of the church which help our spiritual growth.

In other words, we give to the most important entity in our lives, the Church, which our Lord Jesus Christ established for our salvation in His coming Kingdom."

- Metropolitan Constantine of Denver



*Please consider supporting our Metropolis Advocates Program*



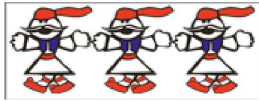
# The Original GREEK FESTIVAL October 2, 3, 4, 2025



We are excited for another Greek Festival! All summer, we have been baking and preparing to make this year even more successful than years past.

Please join us at our remaining baking days. And don't forget to sign up to work a few shifts during the weekend of the Festival.

You can sign up to volunteer at: [www.greekfestival.org](http://www.greekfestival.org)



## 2025 ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL COOKING CALENDAR

ITEM	DATES	CHAIRS
	Days: start at 9:00 am or after Liturgy when indicated until 4:00 pm * Days with Night cooking until 9:00 pm	
<b>KEFTEDES</b>	Monday and Tuesday June 9 and 10	Stathy Demeris, Gus Economides, Chris Micsak
<b>PASTITSIO</b>	Thursday, Friday, and Saturday June 12*, 13, 14	Maria Kantalis, Judy Johnson Helena Papadopoulos Johnson
<b>DOLMADES</b>	Monday – Wednesday June 23*, 24*, 25	George Fress, Koula Theo *night – Gus Fress, Pauline Koinis
<b>TIROPITES</b>	Wednesday - Saturday July 9*, 10*, 11, 12	Angie Vossos *nights – Sophia Psillas, Zoe Beinart
<b>SPANAKOPITA</b>	Monday – Thursday July 21*, 22*, 23*, 24	Elaine Badoian, Stacey Wooden *nights – Art Harrison, Zoe Beinart
<b>KOULOURAKIA</b>	Monday – Wednesday August 18 - 20	Rena Koinis, Kathy Pappas
<b>KOURAMBIEDES</b>	Monday – Wednesday August 25– August 27	Eleni Kyriazis, Stephanie Merlides Kostef, Ritsa Nikolaou, Pauline Koinis
<b>TSOUREKIA</b>	Thursday and Friday September 4 and 5th	Eleni Kyriazis, Ritsa Nikolaou, Toula Kaldanis
<b>FINIKIA</b>	Tuesday - Thursday September 9 - 11	Maria Kantalis and Stephanie Kostef
<b>BAKLAVA</b>	Sunday after Church, Monday – Thursday, September 14, 15*, 16*, 17, 18	Martha Stefanidakis, Toula Kaldanis, Eleni Kyriazis, Stephanie Kostef *nights– Helena Johnson, Alexis Argeropulos
<b>BAKLAVA PACKING</b>	Wednesday and Thursday September 17 and 18	Patricia Dewey, Thalia Gazis
<b>Meat &amp; Onion Prep</b>	Wednesday September 24	Juan Jaimes, George Stefanidakis
<b>SOUVLAKIA PREP WEEKEND</b>	Friday night, September 26 Saturday, September 27 and Sunday, September 28 after Liturgy until done	AGOC Young Professionals
<b>PASTRY PACKING</b>	Monday and Tuesday, September 29 - 30	Eleni Kyriazis, Yvonne Sotiriades, Pres. Joana Tagaropulos
<b>SALAD DRESSING and TZATZIKI PREPARATION AND CUPPING</b>	Monday and Tuesday, September 29 - 30	Katie Constantatos, et. al
<b>RIZOGALO</b>	Wednesday, October 1	Noe Jaimes
<b>Original Greek Festival October 2 – 4</b>		

Please call the Boozalis Festival Center (3510 Yoakum Blvd.) at 713-533-0654 for questions.



## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL IMPACT AND ONGOING PROJECTS

As we enter into the third quarter of the year, it is important to look and reflect upon the impact our Cathedral has had on our Archdiocese, Metropolis, and greater Houston community.

As Stewards of Christ's Church, we must always acknowledge the sacred mission of the Church, which is accomplished through faithful and active Orthodox Christian Stewardship! With your stewardship – the offering of your time, talents, and treasures – we have the opportunity to carry out Christ's mission. Please save the date and join us for our Fall Parish Assembly on Sunday, November 2nd following the Divine Liturgy.

Let us take a moment to remember the words that are proclaimed on the Sunday of Orthodoxy (the First Sunday of Great Lent): "As the Prophets beheld; as the Apostles taught; as the Church received; as the Teachers dogmatized; as the Universe has agreed; as Grace has shone forth; as Truth has been proven; as Christ has rewarded. This is what we believe; this is what we declare; this is what we preach, Christ our true God, and we honor His Saints in words, in thought, in sacrifices, in churches, and in Icons. Christ, we worship as God and Master, and His Saints we honor as true servants of our same Lord, and accordingly we grant them veneration. This is the Faith of the Apostles! This is the Faith of the Fathers! This is the Faith of the Orthodox! This is the Faith which has strengthened the Universe!"

Our Cathedral Community has actively been answering this calling! In the past year, we've completed:

- New AC units in both the Martel Hall and Administrative Offices, as well as in the Festival Center
- Repaired and installed a new roof on the Boozalis Festival Center
- Repaired stucco on the colonnade of the main entrance of the Festival Center
- Painted the interior of the Polemanakos Building
- Installation of a new sound system in the S.P. Martel Hall and Caloudas Athletic Center
- Installation and update of phone system and security cameras
- Update Wifi routers and network throughout all Cathedral, Administrative, and Educational buildings
- Purchase and implementation of new Realm church community software
- Installation of a digital mixer on the Cathedral sound system
- The ongoing installation of the iconography in our Cathedral

Our Cathedral Community has stepped up to help many during times of need:

- \$30,000 to support our students at Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Raised at Fr. Michael's Farewell Dinner)
- \$13,000 to the Hill Country flood relief

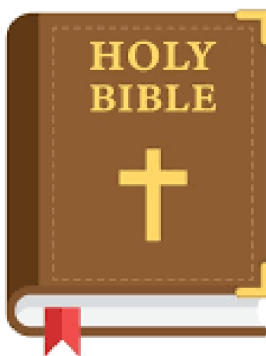
Thank you for your continued support. Your stewardship and additional support continue to allow us to be a beacon of light to all of God's creation!

## The AGOC Bookstore News

September 1st marks the Ecclesiastical New Year, a significant date in the Orthodox tradition as it is the day Christ began His public ministry. It's a time for reflection on the past year and for setting intentions for the year ahead.

The AGOC Bookstore can be a great resource for starting the New Year, especially if you're looking to deepen your faith and set spiritual goals.

We invite you to visit the AGOC Bookstore after Sunday liturgy and explore the many ways to start this new ecclesiastical year! We're happy to answer questions and help you in any way we can!



## Welcome Ministry

“Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.” Romans 15:7

Imagine that you are searching for the True Faith. You have heard about the Eastern Orthodox Church and decide to visit one. When you walk into the Divine Liturgy at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral one Sunday morning, you realize it does not look like any worship service you have ever been to. People are standing, sitting, kneeling, bowing, making the sign of the cross, and speaking both English and Greek. It is both intriguing AND intimidating. Wouldn't you want someone to welcome you and make you feel at home in a new situation?

Many Sundays we have someone just like this visit our parish. In an often confusing world people want to know the truth about God and our relationship with Him. We have the responsibility to provide a welcoming atmosphere for those interested in learning about Orthodox Christianity.

In addition to those inquiring about the Church, we frequently have Orthodox Christians who are new to the area and want to become part of our parish family. The Welcome Ministry Committee endeavors to meet the needs of those new to our Cathedral parish at the Welcome table in the Martel Hall during the coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy. We provide information on Orthodoxy 101 classes, Sunday School classes for both children and adults, and various programs and ministries of the parish. Conversely we pass on to our clergy and staff contact information from our visitors.

Our committee is always looking for new people who would like to join the ministry and for ideas as to how to improve and expand the ministry. Contact Marie Halvatzis at [mhalvatzis@gmail.com](mailto:mhalvatzis@gmail.com) or stop by the table to let us know you are interested in helping.

## Iconography Project

Scan the QR code or visit our Cathedral website to learn more about our ongoing Iconography project!

God willing, next summer, we will continue with the installation of the North (left) and South (right) ceiling and walls.



*What the Gospel is to the ear,  
the Icon is to the eye.*  
- St. Basil the Great (+379 AD)



**SCAN HERE  
TO LEARN MORE**



**SCAN HERE  
TO SUPPORT OUR  
ICONOGRAPHY**

Discover the Christian  
Theology and Tradition of Iconography,  
and the icons installed in the Annunciation Greek  
Orthodox Cathedral in Houston, Texas



Join Realm!  
Our new online  
database for our  
Cathedral Community.  
Realm will help streamline  
ministries, communications,  
stewardship, and more!



SCAN HERE





# APPLY TO AOS

Application Opens | Aug. 4

Application Deadline | Dec. 14

[aoshouston.org/admission](https://aoshouston.org/admission)





# AHEPA

*American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association*

## A NEW NAME, NEW LEADERSHIP, AND AN \$80,000 INVESTMENT IN OUR FUTURE!

Houston's AHEPA chapter, which celebrated its centennial in 2023, was recently re-named the Anthony Kouzounis Chapter #29, in tribute to the Past Supreme President who made Houston his adopted home. Carrying on Houston's tradition of AHEPA leadership, Chris Kaitson was recently elected to the office of Supreme President during the Order's Supreme Convention in Orlando.



Since its founding in 1922, AHEPA—the nation's largest and oldest Greek American organization—has been steadfast in advancing education, the Orthodox faith, and Hellenic heritage. Since its inception, the AHEPA 29 Educational Foundation has awarded more than \$1,000,000 in scholarships. These scholarships ease the financial burden of higher education, empowering our youth to thrive, give back, and strengthen their connection to the Orthodox community.

On Sunday, August 3rd, the AHEPA Chapter 29 Educational Foundation proudly awarded over **\$67,000 in scholarships to 45 students** from the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, supporting their undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate studies.

Fr. Efstratios presided over the ceremony, offering an inspiring message on AHEPA's mission, history, and commitment to education. He emphasized that this ministry is vital to the church and encouraged continued support, including **opportunities to create an endowment in a loved one's name** to fund future scholarships. Father then distributed the scholarships to each student, while recognizing the donors.



## Maids of Athena

*Sisterhood ~ Service ~ Citizenship ~ Hellenism ~ Family ~ Virtue*

The Maids of Athena is a philanthropic and fraternal organization that has empowered young women across the globe since 1930. We are the Junior Auxiliary of the Daughters of Penelope and part of the AHEPA Family. The Houston chapter of the Maids of Athena (Rodanthi #41) was chartered on December 15, 1939. Since our reactivation in 2018, we have welcomed over 40 young women ages of 14–27 across the Houston area into our organization.



*Members at the 2025 AGOC New Years' Eve Gala (left) and our May meeting (right)*

In the 2024–2025 year, we hosted our annual Breakfast with Santa Bake Sale in conjunction with the Daughters of Penelope's Breakfast with Santa. This initiative, supported by our AGOC community, helped us raise funds for the nonprofits Girls Inc. and Lifeline Hellas (Γραμμή Ζωής). We also hosted our Spring Floral Fundraiser to benefit the Houston-based Candelighters Childhood Cancer Alliance. Thanks to your participation, we were able to sponsor over 28 days worth of parking fees for families needing childhood cancer care in Houston.

Since 2018, we have supported 15 nonprofit organizations: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral (AGOC), Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Candelighters Childhood Cancer Alliance, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Cyprus Children's Fund, Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA), Girls Inc., Girls on the Run, Girls Who Code, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), The JED Foundation, Lifeline Hellas (Γραμμή Ζωής), Loukoumi Make a Difference Foundation, Ronald McDonald House New York's Greek Division, and The Smile of the Child (Χαμόγελο του Παιδιού).

Our members are encouraged to turn their interests into transformative leadership opportunities with the help of lifelong friends. Every member has the opportunity to join committees, run for officer positions, travel to AHEPA Family events, and contribute to activities surrounding their interests and ideas.

To join or learn more about the Houston Maids of Athena, please contact us at [houstonrodanthi41@gmail.com](mailto:houstonrodanthi41@gmail.com) and follow us @moahouston.





## Daughters of Penelope

Achaia Chapter #54

*Anastasia Kirages, 2025-2026 President*

Hello there! Being a part of Daughters of Penelope has enriched my life in so many ways. Since joining four years ago in conjunction with receiving a scholarship from AHEPA, I first started out as Co-Chair for our annual koulourakia baking fundraiser, was elected to the position of Recording Secretary for two years, and now I am writing to you as this year's current President.

The Mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family, and Individual Excellence. Through numerous fundraisers during the year, such as our Valentine's Charity Bake Sale and Santa's Breakfast, we raise money to donate to various charities on the local, national, and international level. Our chapter also helps manage two senior living facilities that provide affordable housing for the low-income elderly and disabled persons. Additionally, I recently learned through a long-time Sister that we support the mission of Penelope House in Mobile, AL, which provides safety, protection, and support to the victims of domestic violence and their children.

We are looking forward to our calendar year and hope to see you at some of our fundraisers and events! Under the direction of Diakonissa Maria Varcados, this fall we are organizing a charity style show and luncheon, honoring Past Grand President Mary Verges, on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at BraeBurn Country Club. Please see the attached flyer for more information regarding tickets, and details on the silent auction and raffle.

Daughters of Penelope uplifts all and is a great way to give back to the community while making life-long friends. Sister Mary Katsafanas, who I met when I joined in 2022, is a wonderful example of what it means to be a Daughter and an uplifting leader in the community. This year she was recognized as the 2025 National Penelope of the Year. What a great time to be part of this historic organization!

We hope you consider joining our local chapter! Please contact Anastasia Kirages at [dopachaia54@gmail.com](mailto:dopachaia54@gmail.com) or any Daughters of Penelope Board Member if you would like to become more involved. Thank you!

### TICKETS ON SALE NOW

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE ACHAIA 54

*Fall in Style*

CHARITY STYLE SHOW & LUNCHEON

Honoring

Past Grand President Mary Verges

*Saturday, October 18, 2025*  
*11 AM*

*BraeBurn Country Club*

8101 BISSONNET STREET  
HOUSTON, TX 77074  
COMPLIMENTARY VALET

FABULOUS FASHIONS PROVIDED BY

*French Cuff Boutique*

WITH A TERRIFIC  
SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE

GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE  
3 DAY/2 NIGHT GALVESTON BEACH GETAWAY

SECOND RAFFLE PRIZE  
LAGOS NEWPORT CAVIAR  
DIAMOND & GOLD  
KNOT MOTIF BRACELET

THIRD RAFFLE PRIZE  
KEM GREEK DESIGNER  
BLACK LEATHER CLUTCH HANDBAG

Purchase Tickets in the S.P. Martel Hall  
or with QR code



TICKETS

Adults \$100

Children 12 & Under \$55

Tickets are nonrefundable

OR CONTACT

CATHY PARASCHOS  
281 224-3976 | [CATHYP3626@YAHOO.COM](mailto:CATHYP3626@YAHOO.COM)

CHAIR

DIAKONISSA MARIA VARCADOS





# ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL REGISTRY: JANUARY 1 - AUGUST 8, 2025

## **WEDDINGS**

Cassie Lee McCartney and  
Thomas Pete Gavrel  
Sponsor: John P. Gavrel

Misty Darlene Russo and  
Georgios Kokkos  
Sponsor: Andrew Savas

Catherine Rachel DeLashmit and  
John Peter Koinis  
Sponsor: Costa Economides

Laura Marguerite Voinis and  
Nathan Daniel Pantera  
Sponsor: Daniel Voinis

Melody Z. Youwakim and  
Nikos Poulassichidis  
Sponsor: Erasmia Poulassichidis

Katherine Faith Andreno and  
Maximos Hoovestol Weimmer  
Sponsor: Kosta Kafes

## **Infant/Children BAPTISMS**

Olivia James Johnson  
Parents: Michelle and Chance Johnson  
Godparent: Bianca Krukiel

Emmelia James Dunlap  
Parents: Dominica and Andrew Dunlap  
Godparent: Ryan Roller

Nikolas Allen Anastos  
Parents: Emily and Thomas Anastos  
Godparent: Demetri Karageorgos

Olympia Kristine Grivon  
Parents: MaryMichael and Alex Grivon  
Godparents: Arianna and Dimitri Tagaropulos

Miller Thomas McCoy  
Parents: Katherine and Caleb McCoy  
Godparents: Thecla and Kyle Cokinos

Khaza Tran (Theodore) Andreakos  
Parents: Rana and Giorgios Andreakos  
Godparent: Maria Andreakos

Evelyn Grace Stuart  
Parents: Noelle and Brandon Stuart  
Godparents: Elena Pappas and Andrew McKinnon

Sophia Nicoletta Timmer  
Parents: Christina and Matthew Timmer  
Godparent: Maria Vastakis

Hudson Alexander Cherches  
Parents: Daphne and Matthew Cherches  
Godparent: Kris McGee

Kalliope Maria Bludorn  
Parents: Victoria and Aaron Bludorn  
Godparent: Christina Rogers Robertson

Marina Sofija Arana Stolte  
Parents: Anjelaka Stolte and Gonzalo Santos  
Godparent: Alexandra H. Puckett

Helena Rose Puckett  
Parents: Alexandra and Shane Puckett  
Godparent: Anjelaka Renee Stolte

Natalia Solphia Puckett  
Parents: Alexandra and Shane Puckett  
Godparent: Tijana Nicole Stolte

Emilia Marie (Mary) Russell  
Parents: Elizabeth and Bradley Russell  
Godparents: Dena and George Popp

Liam Alexander Zohios  
Parents: Sandy and John Zohios  
Godparent: Theohari Koumniotes

Molly Constance (Maria) Monk  
Parents: Katherine and Joseph Monk  
Godparent: Alexandra Venzke

Theodora Christine Kounalakis  
Parents: Elizabeth Holcomb and George Kounalakis  
Godparent: Georgette Kounalakis

Kassiani Elizabeth Kromerakis  
 Parents: Andrea and Ty Joseph Kromerakis  
 Godparent: Thalia Gazis

John Noel Martin  
 Parents: Noelle and William Martin  
 Godparent: Elizabeth Martin Lorentz

Nicholas David Milanese  
 Parents: Anastasia and Matthew Milanese  
 Godparents: Katherine and Reed Bastie

Eleni Theresa Boutris  
 Parents: Alicia and Nickolas Boutris  
 Godparents: Irene and Andrew Giannakakis

Theodoros Ben Cardenas  
 Parents: Kristi and Luis Cardenas  
 Godparent: Vasiliki Tsokos Kanakidis

Clement Kyle Cokinos  
 Parents: Thecla and Kyle Cokinos  
 Godparent: Samantha Williams

Elena Lagia  
 Parents: Soledad and Dimitrios Lagias  
 Godparent: Eleni Lagia

Nikolaos Christos Velasquez  
 Parents: Victoria and Moises Velasquez  
 Godparent: Leonora Varvoutis-Mancilla

John Pete Gavrel, Jr.  
 Parents: Melanie and John Pete Gavrel  
 Godparents: Katy and Thomas Jouganatos

Elias Alston Jennings  
 Parents: Katiana and Alex Jennings  
 Godparent: Elizabeth McCoy

Sophia Aurora Schmidt  
 Parents: Stephanie and Shawn Schmidt  
 Godparent: Alexis Sophia Kokolis

### **Adult BAPTISMS**

Christopher Campbell Richardson  
 Godparent: Lucas Postolos

Barbara Braxton Greene Schomer  
 Godparent: Diana Willis

Donald Floyd Schomer  
 Godparent: Chuck Willis

### **CHRISMATIONS**

Catherine Rachel DeLashmit  
 Godparent: Sophia Psillas

Cody Dalton (Florian) Hubbard  
 Godparent: Constantine Petrou

Andrew McKinnon  
 Godparent: John Peter Koinis

Matthew Nungesser  
 Godparent: George Poppas

Belinda (Maria) Moreno  
 Godparent: Joni Zavitsanos

Cassie Lee (Kassiani) McCartney Gavrel  
 Godparent: Katherine Pappas

Anthony Brandon Greer  
 Godparent: George Poppas

Frank (Photios)Sullo  
 Godparent: Andrew Sullo

Julie Shelton Mastroianni  
 Godparent: Vassiliki Keith

John James Mastroianni  
 Godparent: Thomas Keith

### **FUNERALS** *Eternal Be Their Memory!*

Mary Coronis Chilivets  
 Sophie Stenis  
 Dr. George William Gaines  
 Anthony E. Pappas  
 Harriett Vatsures Semander  
 Danny Ross Cooper  
 John Nicholas Papas  
 John Gus Kriticos  
 Chrysoula Stefanidis  
 Nick T. Karalis  
 Louis George Vriner (aka) Lampros Vrinios  
 Joann Yianitsas Crassas  
 Paul Henry Warfield  
 Linda Corey Sideris  
 Kevin David Willis  
 Dr. Helen C. Stockebrand  
 Candace Andreno



# Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

3511 Yoakum Blvd. Houston, Texas 77006

Cathedral Website: [www.agoc.org](http://www.agoc.org)

Cathedral Office Phone: (713) 526-5377

Facebook & Instagram: @agohouston

## MAJOR FEAST DAYS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH 2025-2026

Nativity of the Theotokos	September 8, 2025
Elevation of the Holy Cross	September 14, 2025
Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple	November 21, 2025
The Nativity of Jesus Christ - Christmas	December 25, 2025
Theophany	January 6, 2026
Presentation of Christ in the Temple	February 2, 2026
Annunciation of the Theotokos	March 25, 2026
GREAT & HOLY PASCHA	April 12, 2026
Ascension	May 21, 2026
Pentecost	May 31, 2026
Transfiguration of Christ	August 6, 2026
The Dormition of the Theotokos	August 15, 2026



This publication is made possible by your stewardship. Please remember the Cathedral in your estate planning. If you have any questions about how to make a pledge, please contact the Cathedral Office

- Pledge online:  
[www.agoc.org/stewardship](http://www.agoc.org/stewardship)
- By mail:  
Complete and mail your pledge card and payment to the Cathedral office
- By phone:  
Call our Cathedral Administrator Myka Evans at 832-242-9256
- By text:  
Simply send a text to 713-766-6357 with the amount you wish to contribute and you will receive a registration link