



THE TRUE VINE

Published by Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Dayton, Ohio

March 2025

<http://www.daytonannunciation.org>



FATHER ALMIGHTY

Rev. Fr. Anthony Cook

In March, we begin the Lenten Fast, with the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday) falling on March 2nd and Clean Monday on March 3rd. May the Lord grant us to walk the path of repentance and prayer with endurance, and to arrive with great joy at His glorious Resurrection.

For the past five months, we have been talking about many of the words that make up the uniquely Christian vocabulary: faith, trust, belief, canon, rule, authority, and God. There is a word, though, that we haven't examined, and that word is Gospel, Ευαγγέλιον in Greek, which means in modern English: Good News. Now, the idea that religion should be "Good News" isn't something that we should simply take for granted. In the ancient world, most of the deities that humanity worshipped were jealous and cruel, and the "news" that their priests had to communicate was not usually Good.

The same point often applies in the modern day - most religious people, including many Christians, seem to be under the impression that God's job is to make a lot of rules, to be angry at us when we do the wrong things or think the wrong thoughts, to punish us for those offenses, and, if we are extraordinarily fortunate, to forgive us. Religious skeptics look at this idea and wonder how any of this could possibly be called "Good News" - even if God does fix the problem in the end, it's only a problem because he made it a problem with his weird and arbitrary rules, and anyway, why can't he and his followers just leave everyone else alone to live their lives in peace?

So the idea that the existence of any God can actually be good news for humanity is very far from obvious - but nonetheless, Good News is what the Christian Faith preaches. This is why we spent so much time talking about Faith as Trust. If Faith is Trust, and works itself out as a relationship between God and humanity, a relationship in which we find true peace and joy and fulfillment, then that is indeed Good News, compared to the idea of a God who gets angry at us if we don't think the right things. The Creed emphasizes this same point - it puts the Good News of the Christian Faith front and center, beginning with the first word, πιστεύω, I trust in One God. It continues to emphasize the goodness of this news with the first thing that we say about that One God: that He is Father Almighty.

The word order here matters quite a lot - because we would expect the Creed to lead with the claim that our One God is Almighty. That would seem quite normal in any age - religions are always claiming that their god is almighty, although most understand implicitly that the word couldn't possibly actually mean ALL mighty. Worshippers of Zeus, and Odin, and Marduk understood that, however powerful their gods were, they all had peers: parents and siblings, allies and enemies, with

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:15 am - Orthros

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Please see included calendar for details, meetings, feast-day services, and any other schedule variations.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Monday

5:00 pm - Great Compline

Wednesday

5:45 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

Friday

6:00 pm - Salutations

Please see included calendar for Saturdays of Souls and the Feast-day Services.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Funerals

February 18, 2025

Steve (Sotiris) Stamas

February 20, 2025

Irene (Nikki) Zonars

If you have announcements that you would like for us to include in the Community Updates above, please call or email the Church Office by the 20th of the month.

IMPORTANT LINKS

Parish Live Stream (Youtube)

<https://www.youtube.com/@daytonannunciation6868>

Parish Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1355887314468422>

Stewardship/Online Giving

<https://www.daytonannunciation.org/stewardship>

Service Texts

<https://dcs.goarch.org>

Religious Education Initiative

<https://theruleoffaith.typepad.com/rei>

Parish Bulletin Board

(event flyers & signups)

<https://www.daytonannunciation.org/>

whom they competed in their respective mythologies. Besides, all these gods had an origin story, showing their power to be derived from some other source of might that pre-dated them. They were simply understood to be almighty compared to humanity, super-powerful, so that we are helpless before them. That is not actually all that impressive, nor is it really good news at all - so it is tremendously important that "Almighty" is not actually the first thing we say about God.

Instead, we say that He is Father, and that is a word filled with Good News. It includes by implication the most important attributes that we would expect from a God - that He is greater than we are, that He judges our actions, that He rules over us - but these elements dealing with power are subordinated to the most surprising Good News - that the most important aspect of our relationship with God is precisely that we have a relationship with Him. And not just any relationship - He is our Father, and that means that we are His children, and that every other aspect of our relationship with Him, that of submission, that of justice, that of our smallness next to His infinite greatness and our weakness before his infinite power - all of these are colored by the love of a Father for His children. He is near to us, He cares for us, He seeks to see us grow and do well - all these things that we know to be true of a good father are contained in this single word.

But every other father we know is imperfect, and this is where the word Almighty is necessary to fulfill the Good News promised by the word Father, for it assures us that this Father, our God, is not limited by human imperfection, for He is Almighty, and His Fatherhood is perfect and right and whole, the singular Reality that even the best fatherly relationships we know in this life reflect only dimly. And as we will see emphasized next week, He is not almighty in the careful, qualified way that Zeus or Odin are understood to be almighty. There is no hedging of bets here. God our Father cannot do most things, He is not Lord of some things, He is not powerful or mighty only in comparison with weaker beings like us - He is ALL-mighty. Not only is He therefore the perfect Father, He is also King, and Judge, and Infinite...for if He is truly Almighty, then nothing can constrain Him.

In these words, "Father Almighty," we see, for the first time in human history, a combination of two wildly differing ideas of God. For some, the gods were like human beings - more powerful than we are, and sometimes immensely so, but still limited by time, and space, and their own desires and feuds. Such gods could be personal, but at the cost of their greatness. For others, the divine was great, and perfect, and infinite, but completely and totally removed from our experience, so that the ultimate and total power and glory of the Divinity made it impossibly distant from our personal experience. But here, in these two words, we are assured that our God, the One True God, is both Father, and therefore intensely and wonderfully personal, and Almighty, fulfilling all the reasoning and hopes of the philosophers.

As we have observed today, though, the word Almighty is a very big word, and most of the time that we see it, we have to also read the fine print to discover that it doesn't actually mean "all" mighty. The Creed goes in the opposite direction; the next phrase is not a caveat disclaiming the all mightiness of our almighty God - rather, it infinitely expands the meaning of "Almighty," affirming that our Almighty Father God is the Creator of Heaven and Earth, and of all things visible and invisible. So next time, we will discuss how sometimes, Almighty actually means All Mighty.

The above is the sixth installment of the basic Catechetical Program with which we ask all our Catechumens to engage. As these matters are certainly of general interest, we will be publishing them here for the next several months; comments and questions are welcome, and may be directed to Fr. Anthony.

ANNUNCIATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

500 Belmonte Park N
Dayton, OH 45405

Office: (937) 224-0601

Fax: (937) 224-0173

Office Hours: 10am-4pm M-F

Website: www.daytonannunciation.org

Clergy

Fr. Anthony Cook

franthonyc@daytonannunciation.org

2025 Parish Council

Andrea Casey - *President*

Jim Haubrock - *Vice President*

Sophia Heckler - *Treasurer*

Harry Bouris - *Secretary*

Bill Alimonos

Linda Bouris

Louis Castleman

Nick Demetre

Melissa Holland

Bill Karras

Linda Kididid

Don King

Ike Maxis

Nick Tolia

Connie Zavakos

Office Staff

Margaret Clinch

Parish Administrator

Email:

margaret.clinch@daytonannunciation.org

Brenda Day

Bookkeeper

Email: accountant@daytonannunciation.org

Deborah Stringfield

Parish Administrative Assistant

Email: office@daytonannunciation.org

Building Staff

Ty Lambert

Facilities Specialist

Email:

maintenance@daytonannunciation.org

Renda Humphreys/Bernie Clair

Housekeeping

2025 STEWARDSHIP – STEWARDS AS OF FEBRUARY 20TH 2025

List includes only those who have submitted a 2025 Stewardship Card!

Dr. Fayez & Mrs. Maria Abboud	Christopher & Katelin Glyptis	Panagiotis & Jen Panagouleas
Sandy Alex	Robert Golden & Elizabeth	Taki & Christine Parker
Helen Alex-Karkadoulias	Limber	Paul & Irene Parsons
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Cole Allen	Bronte' & Cara Graham	Paul & Linda Paslosky
Paul & Sandy Angelopoulos	Dr. Jordan & Alexandra Grilliot	Kristos and Kristen Pericleous
George & Harriet Argue	Mike Hall	Kate Argue Poeppelman
Sue Bacas	Carole Haubrock	Alan & Vassiliki Price
Andrew & Megan Ball	James & Matina Ann Haubrock	Nicholas Protos
Evan & Stacy Bambakidis	Michael & Amanda Haubrock	Chris & Deb Pulos
John & Cynthia Barron	Jim & Sophia Heckler	Jennifer Reeves
Alexandra Bartley	Nicholas Hjellming	Solomon Reeves
Annette Bauer	Evonna Hurst	Nick & Charrie Regopoulos
Thomas & Mike Bessler	Mike & Anna Jackson	Theona Russell
Summer Blackshear	Amelia & Rick Jaime	Joe & Heather Saloom
Harry & Linda Bouris	Michael Jannides	Walter & Gail Schroeder
Logan & Tristen Bullman	Jordan Johnson	Kate M. Scott
Doyle & Nicole Burke	Christine Kambas	Michael and Kate Sheffer
Nikki Burns & Bob Feldmann	Pia Kanistros	Nickolas & Sophie Shissias
Stephan A. Calondis	Mark & Cindy Keilholz	Kenya & Melissa Smith
Christina Casey	Andrew & Linda Kididis	Tessy Smith & William
David & Andrea Casey	Donald & Stefanie King	Flemming
Father Bill & Presvytera	Agapi Kokovidis	John & Patricia Sotiropoulos
Anastasia Cassis	Peter Kossoudji	Jane Speros
Louis Castleman	Roy A. Kouts	Elias & Kathy Spyrou
Maria Castleman	Harry & Christina Krukenberg	Col. Alex Stathopoulos & Mrs.
Mary Castleman	Jeremy & Hope Leamon	Maria Stathopoulos
Mary Caudell	Anthony Magnaterra & Naomi	James & Elizabeth Stamas
Father Anthony & Presvytera	Torres Alvarado	Evanthia Steffens
Elisabeth Cook	Chrysoula Makiaritis	Kyle Stephens & Christina
Kathleen Cooney	Arhontia Audrey Makris	Panagouleas-Stephens
Gary & Sharon Cunigan	Susan Manos	Christina Stiakakis
Tom & Dori Daskalakis	Dean & Isidora Margioras	Roger & Fofy Sylvester
Deno Davell	George T. Marinakes	Nick & Theodora Tolia
Chris & Tina Day	Ike & Christine Maxis	Dr. Lori Vavul-Roediger and Mr.
David & Cynthia DeLon	Jay McAlpine	Gus Stroplos
Nick Demetre	Matt & Laura McAlpine	Christine Vogel
Dr. James & Leah Derksen	John & Mary McDonald	Chrisoula Vradelis
Janine Elash	Keith & Maria McFarland	Timothy Welker & Haley Fair
Rachid El Gani & Vasiliki	Rev. Fr. Frank & Presvytera	Peter & Hayley Yorgen
Panagouleas	Cynthia Milanese	William & Connie Yorgen
Tom & Lisa Federle	John & Barbara Moraites	Andre Young & Britt Young
Alex Fote	Chrisoula Morris	Connie Zavaokos
Chuck & Missy Fote	Stella Moulas	Demetri & Crystal Zavaokos
Photini S. Fote	Rickey L. Newman	James & Ruthann Zavaokos
Arthur Gardikes, M.D.	Renee Nicholas	Julia Zavaokos
Bernie & Tracy Gearon	Maria Panagouleas	Louis & Maureen Zavaokos

	February 23-March 1	March 2-March 8	March 9-March 15
Sunday	23 Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday) ✠ I Cor. 8:8-13;9:1-2; Matthew 25:31-46 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School after Communion 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:30a Philoptochos-Day of Caring 12:30p Oratorical Festival	2 Forgiveness Sunday ✠ Romans 13:11-14;14:1-4; Matthew 6:14-21 8:15a Orthros/9:15a Making of Catechumens/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School after Communion 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:45a Holy Wednesday Youth Choir Practice 12p GOYA Meeting 1p Forgiveness Vespers	9 Sunday of Orthodoxy ✠ ☩ Hebrews 12:1-10; John 1:43-51 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School Early Start 11:30a Coffee Hour 12:30p Greek Dance Practices
Monday	24 Cheesefare - Finding of the Venerable Head of John the Baptist II Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 11:2-15 5p Tutoring Program 5:30p Greek School 7p Adult Catechism	3 The Holy Martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus, and Basiliscus ❖ Isaiah 1:1-20; Genesis 1:1-13; Proverbs 1:1-20 5p Great Compline 5:30p Greek School 7:15p Adult Catechism	10 Quadratus the Martyr & his Companions ❖ Isaiah 4:2-5:7; Genesis 3:21-4:7; Proverbs 3:34-4:22 5p Great Compline 5p Tutoring Program 5:30p Greek School 7:15p Adult Catechism
Tuesday	25 Cheesefare - Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople Jude 1:1-10; Luke 22:39-42, 45-71; 23:1	4 Gerasimus the Righteous of Jordan Isaiah 1:19-2:3; Genesis 1:14-23; Proverbs 1:20-33	11 Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem Isaiah 5:7-16; Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15 6p AHEPA/DOP Meeting
Wednesday	26 Cheesefare - Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza Joel 3:12-21; Joel 2:12-26 6p Greek Dance Practices 7p Zoom Bible Study	5 Conon the Gardener ✠ Isaiah 2:3-11; Genesis 1:24-2:3; Proverbs 2:1-22 5:45p Presanctified Liturgy 7:30p Zoom Bible Study	12 Theophanes the Confessor ✠ Isaiah 5:16-25; Genesis 4:16-26; Proverbs 5:15-6:3 5:45p Presanctified Liturgy 7:30p Zoom Bible Study
Thursday	27 Cheesefare - Procopius the Confessor of Decapolis Jude 1:11-25; Luke 23:1-31, 33, 44-56 6:30p Choir	6 42 Martyrs of Amorion in Phrygia Isaiah 2:11-21; Genesis 2:4-19; Proverbs 3:1-18 10a Philoptochos Meeting 6:30p Choir	13 Removal of the relics of Nicephorus, Patriarch of Constantinople Isaiah 6:1-12; Genesis 5:1-24; Proverbs 6:3-20 11:30a Young at Heart Luncheon 6:30p Choir
Friday	28 Cheesefare - Righteous John Cassian the Confessor Zechariah 8:7-17; Zechariah 8:19-23	7 The Holy Martyred Bishops of Cherson ❖ Isaiah 3:1-14; Genesis 2:20-3:20; Proverbs 3:19-34 6p First Salutations and Reception	14 Benedict the Righteous of Nursia ❖ Isaiah 7:1-14; Genesis 5:32-6:8; Proverbs 3:19-34 6p Second Salutations and Reception
Saturday	1 Cheesefare Saturday ✠ Galatians 5:22-26;6:1-2; Matthew 6:1-13 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy	8 First Saturday of Lent ✠ ☩ II Timothy 2:1-10; Mark 2:23-28; 3:1-53 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy 11a GOYA Backpack (Offsite) 1p HOPE/JOY Confession and Kites	15 Second Saturday of Lent ☩ Hebrews 3:12-16; Mark 1:35-44

• Fast Days Shaded ✠ Liturgy ❖ Other Service ☩ fish/wine/oil allowed ☩ wine/oil allowed

	March 16-March 22	March 23-March 29	March 30-April 5
Sunday	16 Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas ✠ 🏞 Hebrews 1:10-14;2:1-3;Mark 2:1-12 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School after Communion 11:30a Luncheon-AHEPA 12:30p Greek School Independence Day Program	23 Sunday of the Holy Cross ✠ 🏞 Hebrews 4:14-16;5:1-6;Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School Early Start 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:30a Spring General Assembly	30 Sunday of St. John Climacus ✠ 🏞 Hebrews 6:13-20; Mark 9:17-31 9:1 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy Catechism School After Communion 11:30a Coffee Hour 11:45a Holy Wednesday Youth Choir Practice
Monday	17 Alexis the Man of God ❖ Isaiah 8:13-9:7; Genesis 6:9-22; Proverbs 8:1-21 5p Great Compline 5:30p Greek School 7:15p Adult Catechism	24 Forefeast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos ❖ Isaiah 14:24-32; Genesis 8:21-9:7; Proverbs 11:19-12:6 6p Great Vespers - Annunciation 7p Annunciation Reception	31 The Holy Hieromartyr Hypatius, Bishop of Gangra ❖ Isaiah 37:33-38:6; Genesis 13:12-18; Proverbs 14:27-15:4 5p Great Compline 5:30p Greek School 7:15p Adult Catechism
Tuesday	18 Cyril, Patriarch of Jerusalem Isaiah 9:9-10:4; Genesis 7:1-5; Proverbs 8:32-9:11 6p Parish Council Meeting	25 Annunciation of the Theotokos ✠ ⚡ Hebrews 2:11-18; Luke 1:24-38 8:15a Orthros/9:30a Liturgy	1 Mary of Egypt Isaiah 40:18-31; Genesis 15:1-15; Proverbs 15:7-19
Wednesday	19 The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria ✠ 🏞 Isaiah 10:12-20; Genesis 7:6-9; Proverbs 9:12-18 5:45p Presanctified Liturgy 7:30p Zoom Bible Study	26 Synaxis in honor of the Archangel Gabriel ✠ 🏞 Isaiah 26:21-27:9; Genesis 9:18-10:1; Proverbs 12:23-13:9 5:45p Presanctified Liturgy 7:30p Zoom Bible Study	2 Titus the Wonderworker ✠ 🏞 Isaiah 41:4-14; Genesis 17:1-9; Proverbs 15:20-16:9 5:45p Presanctified Liturgy 7:30p Zoom Bible Study
Thursday	20 Righteous Fathers slain at the Monastery of St. Savas Isaiah 11:10-12:2; Genesis 7:11-8:3; Proverbs 10:1-22 6:30p Choir	27 Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica Isaiah 28:14-22; Genesis 10:32-11:9; Proverbs 13:19-14:6 6:30p Choir	3 5th Thursday of Lent: The Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete 🏞 Isaiah 42:5-16; Genesis 18:20-33; Proverbs 16:17-17:17 10a Philoptochos Meeting 6:30p Choir
Friday	21 James the Confessor ❖ Isaiah 13:2-13;Genesis 8:4-21; Proverbs 10:31-11:12 6p Third Salutations and Reception	28 James the Confessor ❖ Isaiah 29:13-23; Genesis 12:1-7; Proverbs 14:15-26 6p Fourth Salutations & Reception	4 George the Righteous of Maleon ❖ Isaiah 45:11-17; Genesis 22:1-18; Proverbs 17:17-18:5 6p Final Salutations & Reception
Saturday	22 Third Saturday of Lent 🏞 Hebrews 10:32-38; Mark 2:14-17	29 Fourth Saturday of Lent 🏞 Hebrews 6:9-12; Mark 7:31-37	5 5th Saturday of Lent: The Akathist Hymn 🏞 Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 1:39-49, 56

• Fast Days Shaded ✠ Liturgy ❖ Other Service ⚡ fish/wine/oil allowed 🏞 wine/oil allowed

BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER



Brenda Day, Bookkeeper

Italian Adventures and missing family...

As some of you may know, my granddaughter joined the United States Air Force last year. Her first duty station is at Aviano Air Base in Italy. She's busy learning the ropes in Security Forces doing many different jobs until she is assigned a more permanent position. We miss her terribly. She is a bright spot in our lives and for my daughter and her husband, this is the last of the kids to fly the coop and they are suffering from empty nest syndrome. So, this Nana is flying the coop as well and landing in Italy this month. I'm what's known as "the man with the plan" and have been busy making reservations, city tours, train reservations and hoping to get everyone's needs met. I'll be gone for 2 weeks. Wish me Buon Viaggio! (Safe Travels) and Velocità Divina! (God speed). I'll check in next month to give you the scoop on the trip!

Stewardship Update...

Anyone who follows along in the True Vine should know that in 2025 (and into the future) the parish now requires a signed Pledge Card from any member who wishes to be a Steward of the church. We have been busy sending out letters to any member who has sent in their Stewardship but have not yet sent in a Pledge Card. If you received one and have not sent it back, please do so as soon as possible.

Being a steward means more than money. Biblical stewardship is about wisely managing everything that God has given us—our time, opportunities, energy, talents, thoughts and belongings ... as well as finances. Being a Steward gives you the opportunity to be a part of how the parish operates. It gives you the opportunity to vote at the General Assemblies which are held in the Spring and Fall. It gives you the opportunity to vote for those individuals who will serve on Parish Council. And it gives you the opportunity to serve on the Parish Council yourself. For anyone who wishes to serve on Parish Council as a member or officer, please check with a Parish Council member to find out the exact requirements. To vote in the General Assembly this month you must:

Be Orthodox

Pay your prior year (2024) Stewardship Commitment in Full

Pledge Stewardship for the current year (2025) by filling out and turning in your pledge card

If you have not fulfilled your 2024 Stewardship or sent in your 2025 Pledge Card, I urge you to do it today. Make your voice and vote count. After all, it is YOUR parish, and YOU are part of the parish community. Not sure if you have a balance due? Email me at accountant@daytonannunciation.org or leave me a voice mail at 937-224-0601. Thank you!

In closing...

Being kind means responding to the needs of others — and people can be kind, no matter how old or young we are. ...Fred Rogers (In honor of Mr. Roger's Birthday on March 20th)

TRIODION, GREAT LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND PASCHA FLOWERS

Donations Welcome

Beloved in the Lord, during this blessed season of the Triodion, of Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha, we have many occasions for which we traditionally adorn our Temple with flowers. We have always requested the financial support of our Faithful to defray the cost of this adornment of our Church. The occasions that we need to cover are as follows:

- General Donations: any amount that you wish to offer for the adornment of the Church during this Holy Season
- Icon Adornment (flower arrangements for the Icon of the Virgin Mary for the five Friday Salutations Services, the Icon of the Annunciation for the parish Feastday, for the Icon of the Bridegroom during Holy Week, the Holy Thursday Candelabra arrangements, and any other similar arrangements, as well as the Holy Friday Rose Petals,) - \$75.
- Donations for Palms & Bay Leaves - \$700
- Donation for 500 Daffodils - \$500
- Donation for the Kouvouklion flowers - \$2500
- Donation for the Wreath for the Cross - \$250
- Donation for the Door Wreaths - \$100
- Donation for the Priest's Pascha Candle - \$250

Please call the Church office 937-224-0601 to make your donation, or use the donation tab of the church website <https://www.daytonannunciation.org/>.

If our donations for flowers exceed our needs, any additional funds raised will be transferred into the Altar Fund and used for the more permanent adornment of the Holy Place.

+Fr. Anthony Cook

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, March 16th After Liturgy

The Students and Staff of the Dayton Annunciation Greek School are happy to celebrate the anniversary of Greece's War of Independence.

Please join us following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 16 in the Community Center. Luncheon will be served by AHEPA.

SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday, March 23rd after Liturgy

We will convene our Spring General Assembly on Sunday, March 23rd in the Memorial Center after the Divine Liturgy. As a member of our parish family, your participation is needed for us to accomplish the progression of our Orthodox Faith and Parish goals. We will need members in good standing to achieve a quorum.

A light luncheon will be provided, and reports and materials for the Assembly will be available at least 10 days before the meeting.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS - MARCH 2025

March Membership Meeting:

The next meeting is Thursday, March 6th at 10am in the Athenagoras room. We will have a guest, Beth Julian from Dayton Children's Hospital.

March CCM: Dayton Diaper Depot

For 4 years, Dayton Diaper Depot (DDD) has been providing diapers to babies and mothers in need around the Miami Valley. In March, Philoptochos will be collecting both opened and unopened diapers, as well as unopened wipes. Monetary donations go towards the purchase of diapers at wholesale prices via DDD. Checks can be mailed to Connie Zavakos, CCM Treasurer 3437 Dahlia Dr. 45449 or put in the Red Box in the CC lobby. Put March CCM in the memo line.

Did you know one in two families struggle to keep their babies clean, dry and healthy? Diapers are not covered by government safety net programs. 57% of parents have missed work because they were unable to provide the required diapers to their child care center. In addition, families are forced to leave their child in a soiled diaper for longer periods of time. This leads to diaper rash and infections.

Let's be a rainbow of hope for the Miami Valley. With your donations we can help with build a better future from the bottom up. Chairs: Amelia Jamie and Abeer Kaptan.

2025 Philoptochos Membership:

Thank you to our 100 Philoptochos members who are already making a difference in 2025! This includes our five new members whom we welcome: Allie Grilliot, Toula Stefanopoulos, Abeer Kaptan, Michelle Moraites and Brooke Sawyer. Please join us or renew your membership TODAY! Our goal is to have all memberships paid by the middle of March so we can meet National and Metropolis deadlines.

Together we are one working for our communities near and far. Please write your check to Philoptochos with 2025 membership in the memo line. A membership box is in our church lobby or give/mail to Kathy Spyrou, Membership Chair, 856 Princewood Ave., Dayton, Ohio, 45429.

March 24th Vespers:

Philoptochos will host a reception in the Community Center hall on Monday March 24th immediately following the church service. Please contact Mary McDonald to sign up to bring a Lenten food item. Chair: Mary McDonald.

Palm Sunday Luncheon:

The Palm Sunday luncheon is Sunday, April 13th . Reservations will be available from March 6 to April 6 during coffee hour. \$20 Adults \$12 Children ages 12 and under. Reservation DEADLINE is APRIL 6. All reservations must be prepaid, no ticket sales at the door. Chairs: Andrea Casey and Connie Yorgen.

18th Annual Spring Charity Luncheon: Mark Your Calendars!!

Saturday, May 10th is the day of our popular Philoptochos Spring Charity Luncheon which will be held at the Presidential Banquet Center. Invitations will arrive later this month. Ladies of all ages love our raffle with over 100 auction items followed by a delicious lunch. If you have not attended in the past, contact Michelle Zois at matinazois@gmail.com to be added to our invitation list.

We are welcoming sponsors/donors for our luncheon. Your sponsorship will be recognized in our event program. In order to meet our program's printing deadline, we kindly ask for your response by April 6th. All contributions are fully Tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Checks should be made out to Community Care Philanthropy, and mailed to CCP/ P.O. Box 750933/ Dayton, OH/ 45475.

Platinum Sponsor \$750+(2 Luncheon Tickets included)

Gold Sponsor \$500+ (1 Luncheon Ticket included)

Silver Sponsor \$250+

Bronze Sponsor \$100+

Friends: up to \$100

ANNUNCIATION FEAST DAY VESPERS AND RECEPTION

Vespers Service and Reception Monday, March 24th

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church will celebrate its feast day on **Tuesday, March 25th**. All are invited to participate in the Great Vespers service on **Monday, March 24th at 6pm**. Following the vespers service will be a reception hosted by Philoptochos in the Community Center.

We will also celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, March 25th with Orthros at 8:15am and the Liturgy at 9:30am.

AHEPA

*AGOC, Greek Independence Day Program (GIDP), and Lunch Sponsored & Served
by Dayton AHEPA 113.*

The students and staff of The Dayton Annunciation Greek School are happy to celebrate the 204th anniversary of Greece's War of Independence. Greeks celebrate March 25 as a double holiday: a historical and a religious one. Greeks celebrate the War of Independence against the Ottoman Empire. The "Greek Revolution" was a successful war of independence waged by the Greek revolutionaries between 1821 and 1830. Please join us in cheering our students after the Liturgy on **Sunday, March 16**, in the community center.

The Dayton AHEPA 113 will serve a free luncheon for everyone staying to watch the GID program.

THE 2025 DAYTON AHEPA CHAPTER 113 GOLF OUTING.

We are pleased to announce a change in our AHEPA Open from the Fall to the springtime, where more predictable warmer weather can be expected for the AHEPA Open (Golf Outing).

Join us at Miami Valley Golf Club on Monday, May 5, 2025, for the 9th Annual AHEPA Open hosted jointly by the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Parish Council and Dayton Chapter 113 of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA). Sponsor and golfer registrations can be completed at the following link or by visiting <https://birdease.com/30693/register>. You will be guaranteed a day of fun, laughs, and, best of all, great memories!

This year's format is the best ball scramble, with a shotgun starting at 11:30 AM with registration beginning at 10:30 AM. Golfer registration includes a barbecue box lunch, player gift, complimentary cigars, free drinks, and a post-round barbecue banquet meal.

Proceeds from this event will support the Annunciation Greek Orthodox parish and the local AHEPA 113 Chapter's support of several community projects in the Dayton Metro area. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you on Monday, May 5! For more information or questions, please get in touch with Evan Bambakidis at evanbam@hotmail.com, Dr. John Urse at jurse3@gmail.com, or Nick Regopoulos at rego4nick@aol.com

AGOC Family Picnic

AGOC Family Picnic, sponsored by the Dayton AHEPA/DOP – Sunday, June 1, 2025. The members of the Dayton AHEPA 113 and DOP are pleased to invite the Entire Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community to join them for the Annual Family Picnic on Sunday, June 1, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Paw Paw Pavilion in Hills and Dales Park in Oakwood (2471 Deep Hollow Road, Oakwood, Oh., 45419). This event is free to everyone attending. AHEPA and DOP members plan to serve dinner at 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome to begin arriving at 2 p.m. The Menu will include Pork and Chicken Souvlakia, hot dogs, sausage, Side Dishes, Desserts, and Beverages (Water, Pop, Wine, and Beer). For more information or questions, please get in touch with Nick Regopoulos at rego4nick@aol.com or Nick Zois at nick@zoisfinancial.com

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

2025 Daughters of Penelope Easter Tsoureki

In partnership with 16 Bricks Bakery

Cost: **\$11.00** Each (1 1/2 lb. Loaf)

Deadline for orders: **April 6th, 2025**

Orders may be picked up at the:

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community Center

Saturday April 12th or Sunday the 13th from 11am-1pm

MAIDS OF ATHENA

Koulourakia Sales

Support our MOA chapter on Sunday, March 16. They will be selling Lenten koulourakia. Last year, sales went quickly! Don't miss out on these homemade delicious Lenten treats!



Mark your calendars for JA's Big Fat Greek 85th Birthday

Downtown Middletown at The Windamere

Help support local JA celebrate.

AND with support from our Dayton DOP enjoy Greek food, wine, live music and dancing

April 24 (6:00-9:00pm) \$45 early bird /\$50 at the door

Junior Achievement USA is a nonprofit that inspires and prepares young people for success

For more information contact Maria Papakirk Langendorf (513) 594-2733



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

March Volunteer Dates

Join us for our March volunteer opportunities at HTC

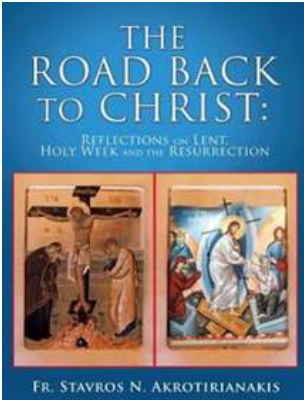
- March 13 (1:00-3:00)
- March 27 (9:00-11:00)

GREEK DANCE PRACTICES

Attention Greek Dancers!

We will be having practice sessions for our Greek Dancers leading up to our Greek Independence Day celebration. The last dance practice will be **Sunday, March 9th** after coffee hour.

PARISH BOOK OFFERING:



The Road Back to Christ, by Father Stavros Akrotirianakis

Our journey of daily reflections began February 9. We have received lots of feedback on how this book is being read and its messages used in our spiritual preparation for Pascha. We thank our AIF committee for supporting the purchase of the requested 174 books for Catechumens and Parish members. Love and Blessings! (Harriet Argue, Renee Nicholas, Kathy Spyrou, Katina Tsatalis)

PARISH ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Held Sunday, February 23rd

We had 12 speakers in the elementary, junior and senior divisions.

Elementary Division: Leandros and Constantine Bambakidis

Junior Division: Meron Andebrhan, Rebel Andebrhan, Demetri Cook, Callie Holland, James Zois and Theodore Zois

Senior Division: Justin Cook, Jenin Halabi, Athanasia Zois and Elena Zois.

Advancing to the District Festival are our parish finalists: Demetri Cook & James Zois and Justin Cook & Elena Zois

YOUTH TRAINING

All parishioners who work with our youth – HOPE/JOY, GOYA, Altar, Catechism or Greek School teacher, Greek dance instructor, Vacation Bible School AND ALL parish council members – our Archdiocese Youth Policy requires that you have a background screen every two years and complete the safety training every year. If you previously completed the screen/training, you will receive a reminder email with instructions.

If you are new to any of our programs, please contact Maria Pappas McFarland (937-409-9876) or Angie Lander (937-901-2271) for information.

HOPE/JOY

Confession and Kites

March 8 (3:00-5:00). Join us as we discuss confession, lent and fly kites. More details will be available in group messages. Need more information?- Maria McFarland 937-409-9876.

YOUNG AT HEART

Thursday, March 13th @ 11:30am

Hope you can join us on Thursday, March 13 for fun, food, and fellowship. If you have never attended a Young at Heart lunch, you don't know what you are missing. If you are 50 or older or around that age (we do not check ID's) please join us for our monthly luncheons. Look in the Sunday bulletins and True Vine for future dates. This month's lunch is sponsored by AIF and catered by The Spot. Contact Mary McDonald (937-272-5962) if you have any questions.

MDSC REGISTRATION-WEEK 1!!

Week 1 Full

Attention all Metropolis of Detroit Camp families! Registration for the 2025 summer camp season opened **Saturday, February 15th**. Week 1 is now full, however Weeks 2-5 are still open for registration. Church members in good standing can use the following code "Dayton2555" when registering for a discount of \$375, which the AIF pays for on our behalf. The code should only be used for 1 week only.

As in the past we will have coach bus transportation arranged from the church for Week 1 on Saturday June 28 and returning campers and staff on July 5.

Staff applications are already open, and the camp is encouraging young adults and adults to apply for staff positions this upcoming summer. For more information, please go to their website www.gomdsc.org.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Demetri Inempolidis (313-303-3808) or Dena Inempolidis (937-371-7035).

CROSS-GENERATIONAL QUESTIONS

Background

Over the summer *True Vines* we introduced Elizabeth Keating's book, *The Essential Questions: Interview Your Family to Uncover Stories and Bridge Generations* and we discussed why it was important to ask older family members open-ended questions that would encourage them to give us a broader perspective of their lives and histories. This month, we continue with suggested questions about beliefs- ideas about marriage, politics, men and women, wealth, education, work, etc.

How have your beliefs changed over the course of your lifetime, if they have?

- Who were the people who most influenced your beliefs?
- What has influenced you the most in maintaining or changing your beliefs?
- How have your beliefs about human nature changed, if they have?
- If your beliefs have changed, what was it like to reorient yourself to the world with a different set of beliefs?
- Did your family have any special customs tied to belief?
- How much did your family's beliefs affect your early decisions?
- What social movements have impacted your thinking and beliefs?
- How have your beliefs about race or ethnicity changed over time, if they have?
- What's the belief you would most want your children and grandchildren to share with you?

PARISH BULLETIN BOARD

Fliers Linked



Please bookmark and regularly check out our online parish bulletin board, which you can find on our website at: <https://www.daytonannunciation.org/parish-bulletin-board> or by scanning the QR code. Whenever an parish organization sends in a flier to the church, or has a sign-up or registration page, we will post it up on the online parish bulletin board for your convenience. It is a faster way to find the most recent fliers or sign-ups than our monthly newsletters. We will no longer print out fliers in our hard copy version of the True Vine - you can access them either online in the digital version, or by scanning the QR code to go to the Bulletin Board section of our website.

USHER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Usher Schedule

Here is the usher team schedule for services in March. Usher teams, please refer to the schedule sent out via email from Harriet for more details on services, arrival times, and other details.

Date	Service	Team
Saturday, 3/1/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 4
Sunday, 3/2/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 5
Sunday, 3/2/25	Forgiveness Vespers	Team 5
Monday, 3/3/25	Great Compline	Team 1
Wednesday, 3/5/25	Presanctified Liturgy	Team 2
Friday, 3/7/25	1st Salutations	Team 3
Saturday, 3/8/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 7
Sunday, 3/9/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 4
Monday, 3/10/25	Great Compline	Team 5
Wednesday, 3/12/25	Presanctified Liturgy	Team 6
Friday, 3/14/25	2nd Salutations	Team 7
Sunday, 3/16/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 1
Monday, 3/17/25	Great Compline	Team 2
Wednesday, 3/19/25	Presanctified Liturgy	Team 3
Friday, 3/21/25	3rd Salutations	Team 4
Sunday, 3/23/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 5
Monday, 3/24/25	Great Vespers for Feastday	Team 6
Tuesday, 3/25/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 7
Wednesday, 3/26/25	Presanctified Liturgy	Team 1
Friday, 3/28/25	4th Salutations	Team 2
Sunday, 3/30/25	Matins/Divine Liturgy	Team 3
Monday, 3/31/25	Great Compline	Team 4

UPDATES

Help Us Keep in Contact!

If you have had any changes in your life or in the best way to contact you since the last time you filled out a stewardship card, please let the church office know! Either fill out your updated stewardship form - hard copies found in the church and digital copies available on our website, or if you prefer, you can fill out the updated information below and send this half-sheet back to the church.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Life Updates: _____

PARISH PHOTOS



Godparent's Sunday!

Missions and Outreach volunteers packing dental kits!



HOPE/JOY kids making cards for Acts of Kindness.



Oratorical Festival



Philoptochos

DIAPER drive

Donate

March 1-31

Accepting
Unopened and Opened Diapers
Unopened Wipes
In the Community Center Lobby



Let's Build a Better Future from the Bottom Up!

Donation checks should be mailed to CCM Treasurer Connie Zvakos 3437 Dahlia Drive, Dayton OH 45449 or placed in the red box in the Community Center Lobby.

Checks should be made payable to Philoptochos with Dayton Diaper Depot in the memo line.

All donations
go to the
Dayton Diaper Depot



**Thank You For
Your Donation**

Interested in Orthodox Christianity? Come and See



Join us for Great Vespers
Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 6:00pm
Followed by a Discussion and Q&A led by
Fr. Andrew Walsh at 7:00pm

A LIGHT DINNER WILL BE OFFERED

Sts Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
2500 Grand Avenue
Middletown, OH 45044
gostsconstantineandhelen.org

Triumph of Orthodoxy

PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS



6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 9, 2025

St. James Antiochian Orthodox Church

6577 Branch Hill Miamiville Rd

Loveland, OH 45140

Reception to follow by The Ladies Society

St. James Antiochian



Orthodox Church

THE SYNODIKON

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
established the Universe!

Maids of Athena is selling...

LENTEN KOULOOURAKIA

Vegan, greek style cookies

Great for lenten fast

Handmade by Maids of Athena

Will be sold Sunday,

March 16th during

Coffee Hour



2025 Daughters of Penelope Easter Tsoureki

In partnership with **16 Bricks Bakery**

Cost: \$11.00 Each (1 1/2 lb. Loaf)

Deadline for orders: April 6th, 2025

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Saturday April 12th or Sunday the 13th from 11am-1pm



To place an order, please contact:

Charrie Regopoulos 937-623-2794

or email: charrie.rego@aol.com

Checks Payable to DOP



***The Students and Staff of the Dayton Annunciation Greek School
Are Happy to Celebrate the Anniversary of Greece's War of
Independence***

***Please Join us Following Divine Liturgy on
Sunday, March 16***

in the Community Center

Luncheon will be Served by AHEPA

The
LENTEN
Luncheon

PALM SUNDAY
April 13, 2025

RESERVATIONS

Adults - \$20.00
Children 12 and under - \$12.00

Tickets on sale
Thursday March 6, 2025 - Sunday, April 6, 2025

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

MENU

Caesar Salad
Greek Salad
Fresh Fruit
Garlic Breadsticks

Pasta Buffet

Garlic Pasta with Flame-Roasted
Vegetables
Mushroom Ravioli
Orzo with Shrimp & Feta
Penne Pasta with Alfredo & Marinara
Macaroni & Cheese
Assorted Cheesecakes

CONTACT

*To reserve,
contact Andrea Casey*

937-414-0613 (call or text)
andracey6789@gmail.com



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUPPORT
HELLENIC COLLEGE HOLY CROSS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY



AHEPA OPEN – Monday, MAY 5, 2025.

The Miami Valley Golf Club, Dayton, Ohio

We are pleased to announce a change in our AHEPA Open from the Fall to the springtime, where more predictable warmer weather can be expected for the AHEPA Open (Golf Outing).

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For more information or questions, please get in touch with Evan Bambakidis at evanbam@hotmail.com, Dr. John Urse at jurse3@gmail.com, or Nick Regopoulos at rego4nick@aol.com

MDS C



METROPOLIS OF DETROIT SUMMER CAMP 2025 SEASON



Week Zero

Camp program for those entering Grade 12
or entering College
June 22 – June 28



Weeks 1-5

Camp programs for youth entering Grades 3-11
Week 1: June 29 – July 5
Week 2: July 6 – July 12
Week 3: July 13 – July 19
Week 4: July 20 – July 26
Week 5: July 27 – August 2



Register at GOMDSC.ORG

Financial Assistance Available

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Stewardship Campaign Card

500 Belmonte Park North, Dayton, OH 45405 – Tel: 937-224-0601 – Web: www.daytonannunciation.org

My/Our pledge to the _____ Stewardship Campaign is:

_____ \$100 monthly / \$1,200 annually (one day of supporting our parish)

_____ \$200 monthly / \$2,400 annually

_____ \$400 monthly / \$4,800 annually

_____ Other _____

To be paid: _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Quarterly _____ Annually

Preferred method of payment: _____ Electronic funds (EFT) _____ Credit Card _____ Check

_____ Cash _____ Dayton Foundation

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete the FRONT and BACK of this card. Thank you

Our Church ... Our

Spiritual Home

Did you know?

It is the Lord Who gives you
power to get wealth. (Deuteronomy 8:18)

The Lord calls us to give Him 10%
of our Income.

Stewardship is faith in action.

The first \$250 of each pledge goes
to the Archdiocese.



Please fill out the following information for our records

	Orthodox Christian?	Date of birth:	Email:	Cell phone:
Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Spouse:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Child:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Child:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Child:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Child:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Child:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____

MARCH SERVICES & EVENTS

Please see the weekly bulletin or the website for the full schedule

March 1 - Saturday of Souls

Orthros/Divine Liturgy @ 8:15am

March 2 - Forgiveness Sunday

Forgiveness Vespers @ 1pm

March 6 - Clean Thursday

Philoptochos Meeting @ 10am

March 8

HOPE/JOY @ 1pm

March 9 - Sunday of Orthodoxy

Greek Dance Practice @ noon

Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at St. James Antiochian

Orthodox Church @6:30pm

March 10 (Monday)

Tutoring Program @ 5pm

March 11 (Tuesday)

AHEPA/DOP @ 6pm

March 13 (Thursday)

Young at Heart @ 11am

March 16 (Sunday)

Greek Independence Day Program @ 11:30am

March 18 (Tuesday)

Parish Council Meeting @ 6pm

March 23 - Sunday of the Holy Cross

Spring General Assembly @11:30am

March 24 - Eve of Annunciation

Great Vespers of the Annunciation @ 6pm

March 25 - Feast of Annunciation

Orthros/Divine Liturgy of the Annunciation @
8:15/9:30

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 2

Hosted by Catechism School

Parent Team 3

Sunday, March 9

Hosted by Catechism School

Parent Team 4

Sunday, March 16

AHEPA/Greek School Luncheon

Sunday, March 23

Spring General Assembly

Luncheon

Sunday, March 30

Hosted by Parishioner Group 1

Sunday, April 6

Hosted by

Catechism School Parent Team 1

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday Luncheon

Sunday, April 20

Pascha, no Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 27

Hosted by Catechism School

Parent Team 2