

# GOOD NEWS

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • 962 EAST AVE • ROCHESTER, NY 14607

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Web: [AnnunciationRochester.org](http://AnnunciationRochester.org) | [RochesterGreekFestival.org](http://RochesterGreekFestival.org)

September, 2018

From the Desk of  
Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos

Parish Registry; Upcoming Church Services  
Updates from our Parish Council

Youth Ministry and Organizations News

## From the Desk of Fr. Angelo

*"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" 2 Peter 3:18*

This enticement, from one of Christ's beloved disciples, calls out to all of us to deepen our faith. Not just in knowledge, but also in experience. For Orthodox Christians, the experiential component of our faith in the church is vital to our salvation. Although Americans claim to be a highly religious people (92% profess a belief in God or a universal spirit), most don't understand the basic doctrines of their faith. And Orthodox Christians are no exception. This point was demonstrated in a 2010 national survey entitled "*Orthodox Church Fact Survey*", conducted by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the Orthodox Church in America, to determine which issues were considered significant to the laity. On the positive side, 69% said that church school should receive "a lot of emphasis". However, on the negative side, over 60% saw going to church on Sundays as non-significant for being a good Orthodox Christian; an even more astounding 5% stated that *belief that the Eucharist as the true Body and Blood of Christ and Christ's resurrection* are also non-significant for being a "good" Orthodox Christian.

Given such dismal answers, the question arises as to whether it is important for Americans to be well informed about our own religious traditions. Does it matter how much we know—or don't know—about religion? The Church's answer is a resounding YES! This knowledge gap has real-world consequences, the worst of which is an emotional, rather than logical and informed response to statements from political candidates or religious groups, a shallow view of world events, and a weakened capacity to critique the claims of those preaching religious intolerance and hate. Closing this knowledge gap is vital step in guarding us from these dangerous traps. And the religious education ministry of the Church is the first and most powerful weapon to combat this problem. religious institutions serve their communities and are highly influential in shaping our views about social issues. However, education is only one part. We must also put our knowledge into concrete actions. As the saying goes in Latin *Lex orandi, lex credenda*, that is, *the law of prayer is the law of belief*. It is no exaggeration to say that our very salvation depends on having a personal belief that is solidly based on the Truth - as the *full armor of God* to guide us in this pluralistic society which presents our children and us with a broad spectrum of teachings and diverse faiths.

## **From the Desk of Fr. Angelo** (continued from page 1)

### **The Archbishop's Challenge**

In his keynote address at the 34th Clergy-Laity Congress, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios presented a challenge to establish a stronger and more Orthodox catechetical system for the Greek Orthodox faithful in America. The Department of Religious Education, based at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School in Boston, working together with the Antiochian Orthodox Church, and the Orthodox Church of America (OCA) enthusiastically accepted this challenge and has responded with the publication of a Scope and Sequence chart for Orthodox Education, in 2011. This effort resulted in a clear and detailed roadmap of education from Kindergarten through High School and includes the roles and responsibilities of the parents as part of a complete Orthodox education. Referred to as the *Total Parish Program*, this program is designed to assist Orthodox Christians of all ages in deepening their knowledge of participation in the church's liturgical (worship, sacrament, and prayer), philanthropic (communal fellowship, service, and witness) and theological (doctrine and teachings) inheritance. *Total Parish* projects include the development of curricula, periodicals, interactive multimedia, teacher training, and distance learning via the Internet.

### **The Annunciation Response**

The first step for our parish along this path is the establishment of a Religious Education Committee (AREC) which will be committed to implementing the *Total Parish Program* here at our church. Education at a parish level is too large a task for only one person, that is, a Director so there will be a RE Committee composed of three persons which will not only spread the workload of coordinating religious education in the parish but will benefit from multiple viewpoints on what direction RE should take. Secondly we will implement the educational curriculum established by the Orthodox Christian Education Commission which provides a clear and coordinated roadmap of religious education from Pre-K through 12th grade. This includes textbooks which align with each grade and mid-term and final exams, as well as application such as participation in social action opportunities both in the church and in our Rochester community. Third, education for our youth will dovetail with Adult level education such as Bible Studies, Discussion Groups, Lecture Series, and social outings.

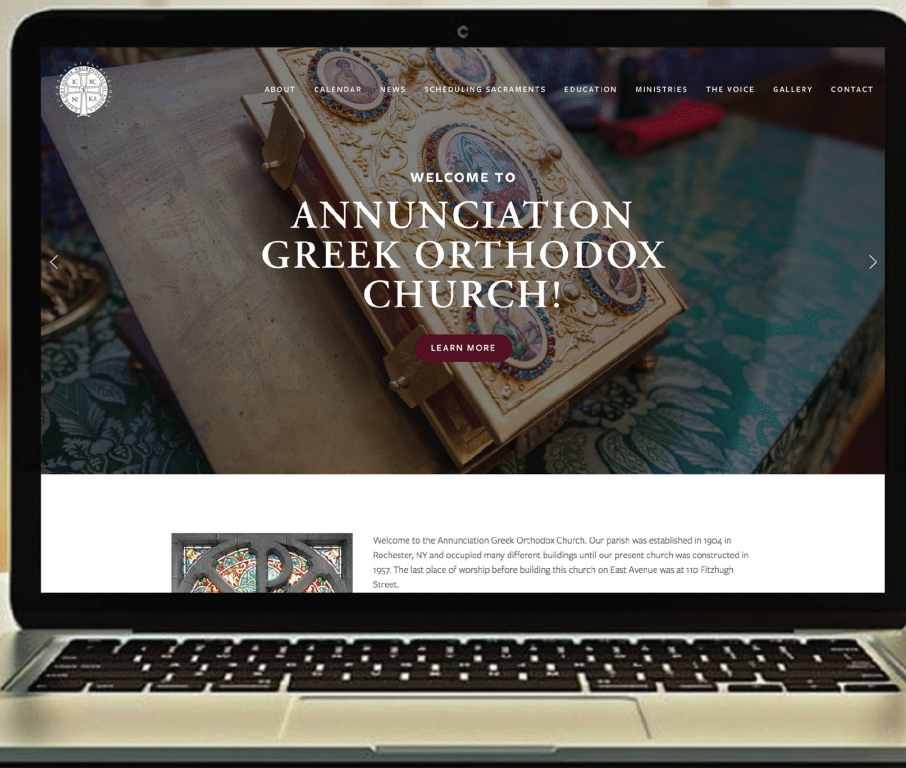
Surely there is much work to be done to bring our education program to the level demanded by our Archdiocese, and, after meeting our teachers here I am assured of their commitment to this goal. I strongly beseech all of us, parents and grandparents alike, to support these efforts underway for the Religious Education program here at the Annunciation, so that we may truly "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Finally, please be sure to look for the schedule of events for both Youth Religious Education and Greek School in the September issue of the Good News. This schedule will include all of the classes and events for youth religious education and Greek School for the entire 2018/19 church school year.



# WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE Our New and Improved Website!

**WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE!**



[www.annunciationrochester.org](http://www.annunciationrochester.org)

**We are excited to announce that our new and improved Church website is live!** You may have noticed that our website has changed drastically since the last time you checked in. That is due to the work of Alexia Georgiou, a design consultant from Georgiou., who has been working hard to bring you a better online experience. A significant change you may have noticed on the site is our web design. Our responsive web design includes rich content and easy navigation for all who are looking for information regarding our parish.

Similarly, a massive update on the website is the improved structure of our content for a quick and easy read. Our new and enhanced site boasts a clean design and vibrant graphics to deliver maximum impact and visual appeal to our audience. Parish visitors will also notice a new and improved calendar that is synced to update every five minutes to make sure no current event or activity is missed.

We encourage you to visit and explore our new site and see for yourself. In fact, your feedback is very important to us. Please let us know if there is any other important information that should be included on the website. You can email your questions, comments, or concerns to [office@annunciationrochester.org](mailto:office@annunciationrochester.org).



# PARISH COUNCIL

## Introduction of the USHERS CLUB

The Parish Council along with Fr Angelo is introducing the Annunciation Ushers Club! Many parishioners have all along been willing and available to be present and assist PC members in Narthex with various responsibilities and tasks and those efforts have been greatly appreciated. As is practiced in other churches, we wish to invite parishioners to participate in a rotation, serving alongside PC members in the Narthex. In general, the activities we ask of co-parishioners would be to greet members arriving to church, assist in seating if needed, guard doors at certain segments of the service, maintain general quiet and order in the Narthex, and assist in passing trays at the end of service.

This role is very important since the people in the Narthex are a newcomer’s first impression of our community and we want that experience to be a pleasant one. If you have interest in serving the community in this manner, please let Fr Angelo or any member of the Parish Council know.

## 2018/2019 ADVERTISING/SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

In order to help defray costs of printing and mailing and to increase awareness among our community of the broad range of experience and services available from our parishioners, we are inviting both parishioners and any vendors to our church to consider advertising in our monthly newsletter. Just complete the form below and mail, email or drop off to the church office. For email use office@annunciationrochester.org

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<p><b>ADVERTISING OPTIONS:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Full Page.....\$500/yr</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Half Page.....\$300/yr</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Business Card .....\$150/yr</p>	<p><b>NOTES:</b></p> <p>Newsletter is printed 11 months per year as June/July is a combined newsletter</p> <p>For best quality, artwork should be high resolution jpeg files or similar</p> <p>Emailed ads must be 600 dpi or greater PDF</p> <p>Please include or email artwork</p>
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## PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Annunciation Family,

Welcome Back! I hope that you all have enjoyed this very hot season. For the water enthusiasts it has been your lucky summer. I'm sure many of you took advantage of the weather and whether you vacationed locally or visited the "homeland" abroad I hope it was pleasurable with family and friends. Hopefully, you all are rested and ready to enter the Ecclesiastical year that is ahead of us. Yes, it's that time again, the reminders of children heading back to school, college kids starting their semester and the excitement of shopping, "back to school", items that your kids need. In other words it's getting back into the routine of not only our secular lives but also starting to think about returning to church on a regular basis. Though I have to say the turn out for the summer has been very good. Thank goodness for our YiaYias and Papous that pray for us.

Please allow me to introduce the members of Philoptochos for the 2018-2019. Here are the board members: Dina Theodorakakos, Olga Nassis, Barbara Moynihan, Dina Marou, Elaine Manou, Mary Manou, Demetra Korovessis, Maria Economides-membership coordinator, Gabi Dobrot, Vickie Makovsky, and Sofia Demkos. The officers are as follows: Maria LoVerde-past president though serving as advisor to the board. Despina Georgantopoulos first vice-president, Akrivi Bitsas second vice-president, Helen Eisenberg-treasurer, Karen Balta-secretary.

Again, I would like to welcome Fr. Angelos Maggos and Presvytera Teri Maggos to our Annunciation family. I thank them both for joining and being members of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society.

The Philoptochos board along with Fr. Angelo met on July 22nd, 2018 and below is the calendar of events for 2018-2019. Philoptochos will keep you updated with events.

One event that I would like to mention separately is: Philoptochos is reaching out to the whole Annunciation family and asking that you please consider bringing in bath, hand, and wash clothes, (new or slightly used) which will be taken to the House of Mercy. Please bring them to the community hall. Thank you in advance.

Let the journey begin: "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

May God Bless America and the Annunciation on East Avenue.

President-Niki Chamberlain

### September: 2018

1: Sunday September 16th-General Philoptochos Meeting after Liturgy.

### October: 2018

1: Sunday October 7th-General Philoptochos Meeting after Liturgy.

2: Sunday October 14th: Membership, Mezethes, and Mimosas. After Liturgy

### November:2018

1: Sunday November 4th:

- Artoclasia for the health of Philoptochos Society and all.
- Philoptochos Patron Saints Damian & Cosmas. Second Tray will be Passed in church. Philoptochos will sponsor fellowship coffee hour.

2: Sunday November 11th-Philoptochos General Meeting after Liturgy.

3: Sunday November 18th-Philoptochos Famous Bake Sale.

### December:2018

1: Sunday December 2nd- Philoptochos Christmas Party @ 3:00pm: All are welcome.

2: Sunday December 16th-Philoptochos General Meeting after Liturgy.

### January: 2019

1: Sunday January 13th: St. Basile Vasilopita Luncheon. After Liturgy

## PHILOPTOCHOS is Out and About in Rochester

On August 17, several members of our Philoptochos went and prepared food for 40 families residing in the Ronald McDonald house in Rochester. The food was donated by our Philoptochos and together with Fr Angelo we had a great time in the kitchen and touring the facility. Many of the residents couldn't help but pass by the kitchen while we were preparing the food asking when dinner was being served as the aroma wafted through the building.



Thanks to the dedication of our leadership and members this summer has seen our Philoptochos exemplify the meaning our name; friend of the poor.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Rochester, NY, Inc. provides a “home-away-from-home” to families while their children receive the medical care they need. We offer services at our Westmoreland House, the House Within the Hospital and the Ronald McDonald Family Room at the Golisano Children’s Hospital, and the Family Lounge at Rochester General Hospital.



## Η ΣΗΜΑΣΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΑΡΤΟΥ

Πάντοτε ο άρτος, σαν βασικό στοιχείο της τροφής του ανθρώπου είχε προτεραιότητα στην τιμή έναντι των άλλων τροφών, και για αυτό στο Πατερ Ημών, Ο Χριστος αναφερει την φράση, “ο επιούσιος άρτος”.

Η προσφορά και ευλογία των άρτων και των υπολοίπων δώρων, λάδι και κρασί, σε ειδική τελετή, κατά τα διαφορετικά της ιεράς ακολουθίας που έχουμε στην Εκκλησία μας έχει τη ρίζα της στην εποχή του Χριστού. Ο ίδιος ο Κύριός μας, όταν βρέθηκε σε έρημο τόπο, και μετά από διδάσκοντας το λαό ευλόγησε τους πέντε άρτους και έτσι πρόσφερε τροφή σε πέντε χιλιάδες ανθρώπους, (Ματθ.14:15-21). Αργότερα, μετά την ανάστασή Του, πήγαινε προς το χωριό Εμμαούς και εμφανίστηκε στον οδοιπόρους και τους ερμήνευε τις προφητείες της Παλαιάς Διαθήκης, που μιλούσαν για το θείο πάθος. Όταν έφθασαν σε κάποιο σπίτι, ο Κύριος πήρε στα χέρια Του το ψωμί, το ευλόγησε και κόβοντάς το, και το έδωσε στους δύο μαθητές Του. (Λουκ.24:30). Το σπουδαιότερο όμως που δείχνει την χρήση του άρτου είναι αυτό που έπει ο ίδιος ο Χριστος περί τον άρτον - “Εγώ είμαι ο άρτος της ζωής. Εκείνος που

έρχεται σε μένα δεν θα πεινάσει και εκείνος που πιστεύει σε μένα, δεν θα διψάσει ποτέ”. (Ιω.6:35-36) Και έχουμε αυτή την εμπειρία κάθε φορά όταν τελούμε το Μυστικό Δείπνο.

Είναι ανάγκη όμως να αναφέρουμε μια άλλη ακολουθία που ονομάζεται αρτοκλασία. Αρτο-κλασία φανερώθηκε μαζί με τις συνάξεις των πρώτων Χριστιανών και τη λέξη σημαίνει κομμάτιασμα του ψωμιού και εν συνεχεία διανομή του. Σήμερα στις εκκλησίες μας οι πιστοί, προσφέρουν πέντε άρτους με γλυκιά γεύση, λίγο λάδι και κρασί, ιδιαίτερα σε μεγάλες γιορτές, αλλά **οποιοσ θέλει** μπορεί να ζητήσει Αρτοκλασία για να δίνει ευχαριστία στον Θεό για κάτι καλό που συνέβη σε αυτόν, η στα οικογένεια του, κτλ. Η Εκκλησία μας θέλει να μας διδάξει πόσο ιερό και ευλογημένο είναι το ψωμί και επίσης ότι ο Θεός είναι ο χορηγός της ζωής, και να αναγνωρίζουμε τον δωρεοδότη Θεό με τις πράξεις αυτές.





**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)**

**Greek School starts on Sept. 15**

**Sunday School starts on Sept. 16**

**Registration info and forms will be available on the website or the church office!**

Youth from Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, and Jamestown attended St. Timothy Camp at Oswegatchie Educational Center in NY the week of August 6. Faith, Fellowship and Fun were the goals for the week!





## DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Each year the Daughters of Penelope Chapter 44 offers a scholarship to outstanding high school student applicants for their education achievements.

The Daughters of Penelope Chapter 44 is proud to announce the 2018 scholarship recipient, Peter Letendre!

Peter is the son of Aleksandra and Jeffrey Letendre, DOP and AHEPA members in good standing. His teachers and school counselor describes him as a mature, well-adjusted and goal oriented student that will be a great addition to any college of his desire. Peter was a high honor roll with distinctions, with academic excellence in AP Physics, Health and Physical education subjects (played JV and V volleyball), served two terms as GOYA co-president, had an excellent involvement on music (played at Eastman Youth Jazz Orchestra, stage crew, winter percussion) and was involved in many community services, (volunteer regularly at Holy Spirit Annual Festival, making care packages, writing cards to soldiers and loved volunteering in soup kitchen). He also worked as a host at a local restaurant and loved interacting with people.

He will be attending RIT in the fall of 2018 and become a researcher in physics field with a goal of pursuing a PhD and use research to help people in need.

Peter's outstanding achievements in and out of school, his academic record, leadership qualities both on the athletic field and in school, and his volunteer work in the community, make him an outstanding honoree for this year's scholarship.

Congratulations Peter! Scholarship Committee wishes you continued success throughout your college career and on.

Scholarship Committee  
Landa Prifti

### ATTENTION ALL ANNUNCIATION PARISHIONERS

In an effort to be sure we have everyone on our mailing list for the Good News newsletter and for email notifications of upcoming events we are in the process of updating our email Contact List. If your email or address has changed please contact the church office or email this information to:

[office@annunciationrochester.org](mailto:office@annunciationrochester.org)

### ATTENTION ALL PARISH ORGANIZATIONS!

We are updating our email Contact List for **all** of our Parish Organizations! Please send the name and email address of your organization's contact to:

[goodnews@annunciationrochester.org](mailto:goodnews@annunciationrochester.org)

# Greek School - Ελληνικο Σχολειο

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

### First Day of Classes: Saturday, September 15th, 2018

Greek School provides our children an opportunity to become fluent in the Greek language. Our goal is for all students to be able to read, write, and speak Greek and build ties that bind them to their heritage and each other. With the integration of music, dance, religion and history, our students are immersed in the Greek culture and the Greek Orthodox faith. This experience leads to everlasting friendships.

September 15th will be the first full day of classes. Classes will be held from 9:30am-1:00pm. Students should report to class and be prepared for a full day of instruction. Parents please register your children in the hall beginning at 9:30 am.

#### **Guidelines for Registration:**

**Pre-Kindergarten:** Children who are or become 5 years old by December 1 and are potty trained.

**Kindergarten:** Children who are enrolled in first grade in public/private school can enroll in Kindergarten at Greek School.

**First Grade:** Children who are enrolled in second grade in public/private school can enroll in first grade at Greek School. Previous attendance of Greek School Kindergarten class is strongly recommended.

#### **Tuition (includes textbooks):**

**One child** \$370    **Two Siblings** \$335 each    **Three or more Siblings** \$300 each

**We welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year!**



# GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of the ANNUNCIATION

962 EAST AVENUE  
ROCHESTER, NY 14607

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## PARISH INFORMATION

### CONTACT US:

**Voice:** (585) 244-3377; **Fax:** (585) 244-3388  
**Web:** AnnunciationRochester.org | RochesterGreekFestival.org  
**Office and scheduling requests:** office@annunciationrochester.org  
**Stewardship and finance related questions:** finance@annunciationrochester.org

### CLERGY:

Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos, Presiding Priest  
**Email:** frangelo@annunciationrochester.org

### PARISH COUNCIL

Demetrios Stathopoulos - President  
Alexia Georgiou - Vice President  
Nicoletta Pinopoulos - Secretary  
Eric Vangellow - Treasurer  
Demitri Kolokouris - Assistant Treasurer  
Kathy Markakis  
Alan Makovsky  
Peggy Votsis  
Evangelos (Van) Zissis

I am pleased to support the work of Metropolitan Nicholas and the Metropolis through the Annual Metropolis Stewardship "Friends" Program

GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF DETROIT

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TROY, MI 48084

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E-mail: office@detroit.goarch.org  
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PARISH AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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