

# GOOD NEWS

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

Voice: (585) 244.3377

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

October, 2018

From the Desk of  
Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos

Parish Registry; Upcoming Church Services  
Fall General Assembly Meeting Agenda

Youth Ministry and Organizations News

## From the Desk of Fr. Angelo

For those of you that have read my latest blog on our website, you probably thought one of two things: a- “that’s sometimes what I’ve been thinking”, or b- “how does an old man know how to blog”. Well either way, I know that this subject is defining the next generation of religious thought. In my blog I begin with the comment, “We have all seen the form that asks “*What is your religious affiliation?*” And on it is the choice “NONE”. According to the recent Pew Forum on Religion, NONE is the fastest growing “religion” with most identifying themselves as SBNR - Spiritual but not religious (<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/>). The Orthodox Church is not immune from this and is in part due to our inability to clearly articulate our Orthodox faith. Several years ago the Archdiocese had the yearly theme “Come and See.” Great tag line but the problem was that when people did come and see most of us were not prepared to explain what there was to see. That is because most of us, including myself, grew up under the old world model of “believe!”

All Orthodox seminarians learn in our Holy Cross School of Theology that we should never denigrate that form of belief as this is what uplifted and gave courage to many of our great martyrs who willingly went to their death for Christ. However, they also teach that we must always be ready to engage each generation where they are ... and where that is for this generation, is a product of the Age of Reason. This term became popular in the 18th century and the statement made by one of America’s colonial fathers Thomas Paine in his book *The Age of Reason*, has become the mantra of today’s generation - “*My own mind is my own church.*”

We have rebranded this as *spirituality* so that when the topic of religion does come up, the discussion is no longer about which church I should attend or which religion I should practice. Rather, the question is whether it’s even worthy of meaningful discussion since I have the freedom to decide for myself what is morally, ethically and spiritually correct. Now that’s not to say that there aren’t thousands of devout Christians, but there are many who feel they have outgrown what Karl Marx dubbed “the opium of the masses.”

As a degreed engineer, before the priesthood I spent my life in a corporate setting. We looked for truth only in what could be studied, analyzed and proven. Religion had its place and was

**From the Desk of Fr. Angelo, *continued***

fine as long as it did not interfere with my daily duties and desires, which was work and play. Sure, I enjoyed the customs and symbolism that came with Orthodoxy, but I did not sacrifice much of my personal being into the faith. I saw myself as the solution to my own problems and happiness. As my father would say – the captain of my own destiny and God was the metaphorical Genie in the bottle that was called out when I needed something.

But now here I am, an Orthodox priest. With a deeper and more complete understanding of the place and importance of Christianity in my life, and a love of the beautiful Orthodox faith. The idea of being SBNR is now totally alien. But this is not an easy road for a generation that has grown up to believe that rational thinking must move beyond superstition or simplistic explanations of the truth of Christianity. Fredrich Nietzsche was not necessarily making the statement that GOD is in fact dead, only that our society has killed or no longer is in need of GOD.

This is what the true message of “Come and See” is...that we must invite those with little or no faith in to experience GOD and be able to explain in their language of reason what all of our high theology means in their life. This begins with a sense of community so that they feel that they are truly part of something larger and greater than themselves. This was my primary purpose for conducting the Teaching Liturgy - so that we are prepared to explain not only the symbolism but also the practicality of why the Church has constructed the Divine Liturgy as we see and experience it yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

To explore and discuss these points we must show that we CAN use our God-endowed reason to figure this out for ourselves, with the help and guidance of an educated and faithful, and loving community and we in the church are called upon to properly, intelligently, and humbly relate to those who struggle with the meaning and purpose of Christianity, and answer the question of how is the Church our ship to salvation. My hope is that my blog, Bible Studies, Religious Education, and daily encounters will offer all of us avenues of open discussion to those who are in the “None” or SBNR category.

**PARISH REGISTRY**

**In Memoriam:** Αιώνια η Μνήμη May their memory be eternal

+ George Jines was interred on September 1

+ George Lembaris was interred on September 22

**Baptisms:**

- 18 Aug—John Henry, son of Kevin and Evie Jackson
- 16 Sep—Ruby Louise, daughter of David and Zoe Daggett

**Weddings:**

- Kristina Kostakis and Sam Dragos were married on September 9

**UPCOMING CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS**

- Friday, 19 October 2018, Meet-n-Greet Reception for Fr. Angelo and Presvytera Teri, 5:00 pm at the Monroe Golf Club.
- Sunday, 21 October 2018, Blessing of the Vehicles—12:00 am following the Divine Liturgy. Rochester police and fire vehicles will be on hand.
- Sunday, 11 November, 2018, Artoklasia for our veterans on Veterans Day

**Please remember that Wedding and Baptismal candles are available for purchase.**  
**For further information call the church office or 752-7432**

# AGENDA – FALL General Assembly 2018



On Sunday, October 28, 2018, immediately following the Divine Liturgy service we will be having the **Fall General Assembly meeting.**

Please see the Agenda below and we look forward to seeing you there and ask that you encourage as many of your family and friends to attend.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Call to Order  | PC President  |
| 2. Opening Prayer   | Fr. Angelo  |
| 3. Election of General Assembly Chairman and Secretary      |   |
| 4. Approval of previous General Assembly Minutes            | Meeting Chairperson   |
| 5. Treasurer Report   | Eric Vangellow  |
| a. Presentation and approval of 2019 Budget                 |   |
| b. Selection of an Audit Committee to review the 2018 books |   |
| 6. Ministry and Organization Reports                        |   |
| a. <b>Fund Raising</b>                                      |   |
| • Greek Festival  | Van Zissis  |
| b. Stewardship  | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content;"> <p>In the interest of time and to allow ample time for a full and open discussion all ministry updates will be provided as a hard copy at the General Assembly meeting from which questions can then be asked.</p> </div> |
| c. Religious Education                                      |   |
| d. Philoptochos   |   |
| e. Choir/Chant  |   |
| f. GOYA   |   |
| g. Greek School   |   |
| h. Seniors Group  |   |
| i. Cultural Groups  |   |
| 7. Call for Questions                                       |   |
| 8. General Maintenance and Upkeep                           |   |
| a. Parking Lot Improvement                                  |   |
| b. Church improvements                                      |   |
| c. Hall Renovation  |   |
| 9. Old Business   |   |
| 10. New Business  |   |
| 11. Call for Adjournment                                    | GA Chairman   |
| 12. Closing Prayer  | Fr. Angelo  |

## Philoptochos

Dear Annunciation Family,

Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, "It's a Beautiful Day in This Neighborhood....." Just like Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood our church has started to come to life for the season. We find ourselves sitting next to neighbors in the pew that we haven't seen all summer. The children have gathered in their Sunday School/Greek School class and Philoptochos had its first neighbor meeting on September 16, 2018. The time has come for us to once again reacquaint ourselves with our church neighbors. With that said, lets see what we need to do as neighbors.

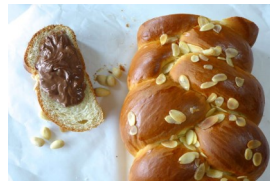
### October 14th, 2018

New Members Welcome!  
Join us for our 3M's Party.  
Membership, Mezethes, &  
Mimosas



### November 18th, 2018

Famous Bake Sale. Pre-Orders are being taken: Call Niki 747-6319, Angie George 425-4752. Orders are being taken in the church hall after Liturgy. See your Sunday Bulletin too.



### November 4th, 2018

Artoclasia for the health of Philoptochos & our Annunciation Parish. Patron Sts. Cosmas & Damian



### December 2nd, 2018

Annual Christmas Party. At La Luna Restaurant. 12:00 noon. \$30.00pp. Tickets sold in the church hall.



.....lets make the most of this beautiful day...since we are together.....please won't you be my neighbor... God Bless America and the Annunciation on East Avenue.

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.

*Please note that henceforth the Philoptochos Meeting Agenda and Calendar of Events will be available on our church website and will no longer be emailed out.*

### 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  
Niki Chamberlain-president

# PHILOPTOCHOS PRE-ORDER BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT THE MANY LOCAL CHARITIES OF ROCHESTER, NY

TSOUREKI



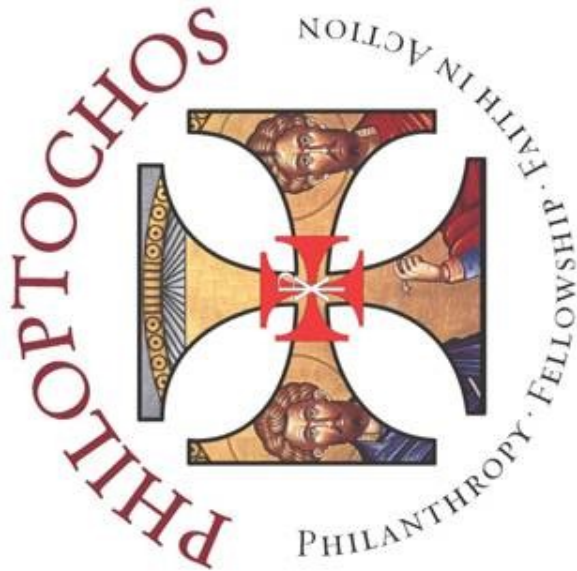
KOULOURAKIA



BAKLAVA



SPANAKOPITA



**PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHOICES BELOW: CASH & /OR CHECK MADE OUT TO PHILOPTOCHOS:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

- Whole Pie Pita (Spanakopita, Tyropita, Prassopita) (Quantity)# \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00
- 1/4 Piece of Pita (Spanakopita, Tyropita, Prassopita) (Quantity) # \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00
- Baklava 8 pieces (Quantity) # \_\_\_\_\_ \$12.00
- Koulourakia (Greek Butter Cookies) 10 pieces (Quantity) # \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00
- Tsoureki (Greek Sweet Easter Bread) (Quantity)# \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. GOD BLESS YOU**

**Vespers Service for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 13, 2018,  
with visiting students from Roberts Wesleyan College**



**ROBERTS**  
WESLEYAN COLLEGE

**Jeffrey McPherson, PhD**  
Chair of Religion & Philosophy

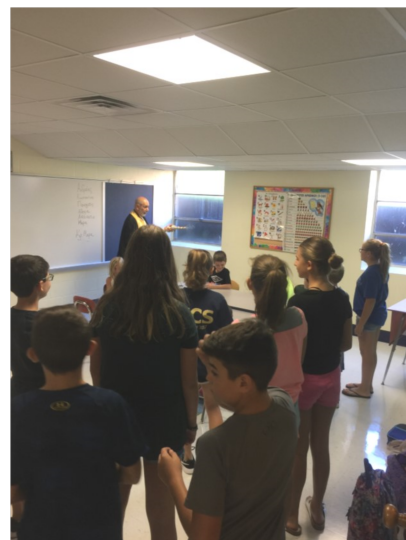
*Father Argelo*

*Thank you so much for your grace and hospitality last night. The students learned so much about Orthodoxy and were captivated by the immersive quality of the liturgy. They have much to think and reflect upon in relation to their own Protestant Church experience. We truly experienced the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ in your company last night.*

*In Christ's love, Jeffrey McPherson*

# GREEK SCHOOL

Greek School began on Saturday, September 15th. Father Angelo blessed our program and students. We wish everyone a great school year!



**Greek School Bake Sale**  
Homemade baked goods will be for sale  
**Sunday, October 28th**



## IONIAN VILLAGE SUMMER 2019 PROGRAM DATES

The Office of Ionian Village announced today the dates for its Summer 2019 programs. Ionian Village is the international camping ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America with campgrounds located in Peloponnesus, Greece.

The mission of Ionian Village is to enrich the lives of its participants by bringing campers and staff into close contact with their Orthodox faith and Hellenic heritage by providing the opportunity for young people of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to foster a life-long appreciation and love of Greece, Orthodoxy, and Hellenism.

### IV Next

Dozens of colleges and universities offer study abroad programs in Greece, and many programs of our own diaspora offer similar opportunities for young adults to travel to Greece and see the sights. However, IV Next is the only travel-based program for young adults that has our Greek Orthodox faith as a core tenet of the program. Only IV Next combines professional development, international travel, and the Orthodox Faith into one all-inclusive program. IV Next is for participants ages 19-24 and will run from June 2-13, 2019.

### Summer Camp

The picturesque Ionian Village campgrounds sit along the shores of the pristine Ionian Sea and are equipped with a private beach, a renovated Olympic-sized pool, air-conditioned cabins, and various athletic courts and fields. Campers actively explore their Orthodox faith and heritage, both through the daily at-camp program and through excursions to culturally and religiously significant sites throughout Greece. Excursions include Ancient Olympia, Patras, Zakynthos, Kefalonia, Kalavrita, Aegina, and Athens. Each 20-day session is open to young people who will have completed grades 9 through 12.

Session One: June 22 – July 11, 2019

Session Two: July 21 – August 9, 2019

### Ionian Village Summer 2019 Staff Applications

Ionian Village depends upon its highly motivated and energetic Staff Members, each of whom is selected through a careful application process. Applicants must be Greek Orthodox and at least 21 years old by August 14, 2019. Applications to be a part of the 2019 Summer Staff will be available on the Ionian Village website on December 26, 2018.

For more information regarding any of the 2019 Summer programs, to apply to be a Staff, Medical, or Clergy Member, or to register for our Alumni Project please visit the Ionian Village website at [www.ionianvillage.org](http://www.ionianvillage.org).



# FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation. Because of your devotion to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service. I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis of Detroit in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

Thanking you for your kind and generous response, I remain, with paternal blessings and prayers,

**+NICHOLAS**  
Metropolitan of Detroit

**MORE INFO AT:**  
[WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS](http://WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS)




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### GENERAL SUPPORT

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Fully fund the general expenses of the Metropolis office, including programs and travels.

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### OUTREACH/MISSIONS

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Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society. Participate in inter-Christian and interfaith activities. Provide quick responses to national and international disasters.

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### EDUCATION

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Enhance various scholarship opportunities, adult education programs, and support Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

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### HELLENISM

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Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history, and arts.

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### CLERGY/PARISH SUPPORT

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Develop and provide instructional seminars and services for clergy and parishes.

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### YOUTH MINISTRIES

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Support the youth & young adult ministries, including our summer camps, as well as the activities of a full-time Metropolis Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

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### LEADERSHIP

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Organize Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Youth Worker and Religious Education Training, and Adult Education Seminars.

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### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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Continued website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries, charity and philanthropy.

## FRIENDS INFORMATION

Please print the following required details.



## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make checks payable to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit.



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Fill out this card and send it with payment to: Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit - 2560 Crooks Road - Troy, MI 48084

**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@agocroc.org](mailto:office@agocroc.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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## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of the ANNUNCIATION

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## PARISH INFORMATION

### CONTACT US:

**Voice:** (585) 244-3377; **Fax:** (585) 244-3388

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

**Office and scheduling requests:** [office@agocroc.org](mailto:office@agocroc.org)

**Stewardship and finance related questions:** [finance@agocroc.org](mailto:finance@agocroc.org)

### CLERGY:

Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos, Presiding Priest

**Email:** [frangelo@agocroc.org](mailto:frangelo@agocroc.org)

### PARISH COUNCIL

Demetrios Stathopoulos - President

Alexia Georgiou - Vice President

Nicoletta Pinopoulos - Secretary

Eric Vangellow - Treasurer

Demitri Kolokouris - Assistant Treasurer

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