

GOOD NEWS

Voice: (585) 244.3377

January 2023

From the Desk of
Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos

Parish Registry, Progress Report
Upcoming Church Services and Events

Youth Ministry and Organizations News

From Fr. Angelo

Progress report - 2022

2022 has been quite a year! Although we were still feeling the effects of the COVID pandemic we made quite the return bringing our community back to life. As I have done in previous years, I wanted to provide a summary of the wonderful things that have happened this year along with some of the ongoing challenges we all still face. Our hope, both the Parish Council and I, is that you are proud of our wonderful accomplishments in 2022 and that this motivates you to continue being involved in shaping our church community for 2023.

PARISH OVERVIEW Now that we are regularly recording attendance each Sunday, we are getting a truer picture of the overall church attendance which has returned to almost pre-COVID levels averaging between 120-180 people. During the last 12 months, we performed eighteen (18) Forty-Day Blessings, 27 Baptisms, and 7 weddings. Out of 950 potential families on our current mailing list, we stand at a bit over 500 members in good standing. For a definition of good standing see our website or the Good News.

Stewardship has been strong and we have seen a healthy increase in new and/or returning members. I attribute this to the many activities and community programs attracting many to want to be part of a vibrant community.

I still strongly entreat all of us to not let up and continue this important work of reaching out_reach out to those members who don't attend regularly. Take them to lunch or dinner and talk with them to let them know what the latest happenings are and to discover what keeps them from becoming more involved in our church and community. I realize that not everyone will respond favorably but through personal experience myself I know that there are many who would respond to words of encouragement to reconnect with our wonderful community!

STRATEGIC VISION

As part of an overall strategy to continue to attract both new members and those who have fallen away, in 2022 the Parish Council and I were focused on developing a long strategy with the idea that if the parish knows where we are going they are more apt to want to be part of that vision. This effort consists of four steps.

Revisit our Mission Statement which was revised to be easy to learn and succinctly expressed our purpose; *Learn the Faith, Live the Faith, and Share the Faith.*

Prepare a roadmap for how to transform this vision into reality. This roadmap consists of four (4) pillars, Inreach, Outreach, Resources, and Leadership. You can view our video on our church website which explains this at

<https://annunciationrochester.org/about-us/parish/>

We asked each of the ministries to prepare their own strategic plans which outline what they would like to accomplish over the next 1,3, and 5 year period. As they spent a considerable amount of effort putting these strategies together, I strongly urge you to *please* take the time to view these at <https://annunciationrochester.org/about-us/parish/> just above the *Proposed Strategic Plan* video.

Finally, each of the ministries will be responsible to report to the PC quarterly on their progress towards their goals. This will also allow each ministry a forum to request resources they need to accomplish their goals. Each ministry will also be required to submit their proposed budget to the PC to allow for the preparation of a realistic yearly budget.

Religious Education (RE)

Sunday School We have been very blessed to have Karina Onderdonk and Lauren Gashlin as our Sunday School directors. Their dedication, energy and tremendous talent for being able to work seamlessly with not only our teachers and students but also with our Greek School, GOYA, and our Communication director Demos Euclid. This is evident in the joint projects that Sunday School, Greek School, and GOYA continues to undertake such as the Food Drive during the Trunk or Treat and the Christmas Toy Drive.

Sunday School attendance is continuing to improve, and we have about 25-28 on a typical Sunday. One clear sign of progress is that since September we had 19 children achieve perfect attendance.

As in previous years the Religious Education Committee (REC) publishes the entire year's schedule of activities in August so parents can plan ahead for all education and activities. This schedule is included in the August issue of the Good News and is also on our website under Education/Sunday School/Sunday school 2022-2023 Curriculum. Rhonda Stamatis continues to serve in the position of Teacher Recruitment and Mentorship if you are interested in teaching or participating in another way with our youth, please contact Rhonda or me to help get you involved.

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODEL

We are 2 (two) years into our 5-year Religious Education Curriculum. The first two years cover the critical Old Testament events with the next two years covering the New Testament and the final year learning about the saints of the Orthodox Church. It is felt that this will provide our children with a well-rounded appreciation of our Orthodox Christian faith. Each lesson is paired with a short video that offers a visual understanding by which children can keep up with Sunday School lessons when they are unable to attend church.

The Sunday school directors work with our teachers to make sure that education is well rounded and consists of varied events beyond classroom instruction. Examples include.

Outreach activities. Throughout the year such as cookie baking for the police and fireman, food drives, and the annual Vehicle Blessing for the police and fireman.

Church Presentations Sunday School is committed to making sure that our parish "sees" our kids through in-church performances following Liturgy. This year, in addition to the Christmas Pageant our children acted out the Old Testament story of the Walls of Jericho.

Chapel Lessons. Four (4) times per year Juan Lianares and Sam Dragos conduct elements of our various services so that our children can actually see them performed up close and ask questions. In November they taught the first

class which was the Proskomide or Preparation service just prior to the Divine Liturgy. Other classes in 2023 will be Divine Liturgy, Holy Week, Baptism, and priest vestments.

Monthly and Seasonal Activities These are activities where children can play together while competing for prizes in a setting where they can build important bonds. Seasonal activities in 2022 included prosphoro and koliva making, trunk or treat and the Lenten Retreat.

Professional Development While the last two years was devoted to establishing a solid curriculum, in 2023 the Sunday School directors will focus on professional development for our teachers to ensure that they are up to date with the latest developments in education and teaching methods and the latest Archdiocese Education curriculum and training resources. This will most likely include seminars, guest speakers, and workshops along with a curriculum of Orthodox education to prepare new teachers to ensure that our children receive a true, correct and unified understanding of our Orthodox faith.

GOYA

A continuing challenge is Church and Sunday school attendance for youth 12 and older (i.e. GOYA, middle school and high school). Sports, travel leagues, and many more teenagers getting jobs are among the primary reasons behind a lack of attendance. But the news is not all bad. We have four very dedicated GOYA advisors; Maria Dembeyiotis, Stacey Stamoulacatos, Sam Dragos and Maria Hagen. Together with our teens they schedule quarterly events where our teens can get together. Events include Snowtubing, Great Escape Room, Breast Cancer Walk and IndyKart raceway with each event attended by 25-28 teens.

In 2023 we plan to include more service related projects and hopefully a Spring trip to in Nashville TN to tour the full size replica of the Parthenon and visit our sister church Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Finally, we have moved the GOYA meeting room from downstairs to the upstairs office above our hall and our teens are in the process of outfitting the room with furniture, TV, video games and a foosball table.

YOUTH DIRECTOR

In last year's progress report I mentioned that a serious challenge was that the size of our parish severely impacts my ability to have personal contact time with our kids during Sunday School. However, the position of Youth Director is unique at our parish as it requires someone to develop a model and strategy for Youth Development as well as establishing a cohesive relationship with all the various Youth Ministries such as Sunday School, GOYA and Young Adult (ENA). In this way our youth can progress in their Orthodox faith through each level of their growth from child to teenager, to young adult.

After a 6-month posting of this position on various Orthodox and secular job sites Demos Euclid expressed interest in wanting to take this position on. (see the Job Description at <https://www.orthodoxjobs.com/postings/2022/director-of-youth-administration-and-cirriculum>). As he already has some prior experience in Youth programs from previous churches and has considerable experience with our parish as Communications Director. During his time here Demos has shown himself to be capable and organized, as well as highly motivated and resourceful. The position of Youth director was approved into the Parish Budget at the 2022 Fall General Assembly and following that the Parish Council offered him a full-time position which began in November 2022.

ADULT EDUCATION

One of the benefits resulting from our lockdown during COVID was a dramatic improvement to our Orthodox outreach within the parish through technology. In addition to livestreaming Sunday Services as well as other major feasts and events we have added the following programs which allows the parish to participate in educational programs from any location or device. These programs include.

Bible Challenge. Read the Bible in one year! Through a weekly reading schedule along with a study guide you can read the entire Bible in one year. Each weekly reading is structured so that there are both Old and New Testament readings since most people find reading the Bible straight through challenging and it is difficult to make connections between the two Testaments. You can find this on our website under EDUCATION/BIBLE CHALLENGE.

Orthodox Book Club and Bible Study. A weekly (every Tuesday at 7:00pm) study of either an Orthodox Book or Book of the Bible via Zoom. Each Zoom session is accompanied by a written study guide and the audio of the previous session are available on our website prior to each Tuesday's session so there's no worry if you miss a session. You can find this on our website under EDUCATION/ RESOURCES. We are currently reading the Gospel of John. Contact the church office and we'll send you an email with the Zoom link.

Orthodoxy Q&A Once we started livestreaming our services on our YouTube channel, we discovered many people asking to learn more about Orthodoxy. So we started a weekly Questions and Answers show on our YouTube channel to provide everyone, parishioner and non-parishioner alike, a forum to ask any question they like. The response has been phenomenal and we have completed over 115 shows...and quite a few have begun their catechism process on the way to becoming Orthodox.

Orthodoxy 101 and Orthodoxy: Fact or Fiction As a supplement to our Orthodoxy Q&A, we decided to create short (7-12 minute) videos which answer specific questions derived from Orthodoxy Q&A and provide guidance on important Orthodox traditions. So far we have over 130 videos on a wide range of topics such as *Can Holy Communion make me sick?*, *What are my options for funeral services?*, *What does Orthodoxy think about Alien Life?*, *Making the Sign of the Cross*, and many more. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel so you don't miss out!

Outreach

While COVID definitely put the brakes on our outreach to the community, we have restarted this important ministry. Mrs. Aliki Schimopoulou continues to serve as the chairperson of this ministry and as a coordination point for the many outreach activities performed by our various ministries.

In her role Aliki is revisiting the leadership of each of the parish ministries, Philoptochos, St. Paraskevi, Seniors, GOYA, Religious Education, Greek School, along with interested parishioners, to discuss how best to organize our efforts.

Outside our parish she has resumed discussions with Ashbury Methodist Church to investigate joint opportunities with their outreach programs. She is also working with Mary Jo Lightholder the director of Operations Catholic Charities at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church on opportunities to help serve at their meal program and volunteer her staff to help at our Greek Festival.

As the Outreach Team moves forward with developing the overall strategy, the plan is to continue to identify quarterly outreach opportunities giving everyone the chance to participate either by donating or becoming involved in some "hands-on" activities. Stay tuned to our website for more details.

Facility Maintenance and Capital Programs

Just as 2021 was a year of many capital improvements, such as our beautiful hall, 2022 also saw some long overdue improvements. These included a new roof on the church and associated buildings. We also will be replacing all the old windows in the offices, classrooms and basement. The windows are complete and were provided by AJAY Glass and will be installed 1QTR 2023.

The front wall of the Hall was specially painted to serve as a screen for projecting presentations or movies. One upcoming upgrade to the sound system in the Hall is to make it wireless so it can connect to a projector.

Future projects include an expansion of the downstairs kitchen and a storage room and bathroom for the Hall.

Technology Updates.

The entire facility is now internet (wireless) capable. At the request of our both our Sunday School and Greek School teachers who want to use on-line teaching resources, we equipped four of the Sunday School classrooms with 32" smart TVs and will complete installation of smart TVs in the remaining classrooms.

The exterior grounds, rear and side parking lot, front circle drive, Sunday School classrooms and GOYA room are now observable live via remote camera 24/7 through computer, iPad or mobile phone. With the addition of recording, these cameras offers an important layer of security to be able to instantly observe these critical areas.

The addition of cameras in the church and our livestreaming capability has been extended to offering to record and/or livestream funerals, weddings, and baptisms for a small fee. This has proved very popular for guests that cannot attend due to travel distance or other factors.

Landscaping. Through a generous grant from the estate of one of our recently departed parishioners, we have contracted to have a landscaping plan developed for the church property and will be done in 3 phases. The first phase was the front area of the church and was completed in Spring of 2020. Phase 2 is planned for Spring/Summer of 2023. Thanks to Alan Makovsky for leading this effort and helping to maintain the landscaping.

While this is not a complete listing of all of the happenings of 2022, I hope that this gives you a good idea of the many wonderful things ongoing at our parish and to recognize that the success of all these efforts is due to our many dedicated and inspired volunteers who are committed to our church being the center of our Greek Orthodox community here at the Annunciation.



2022 IN REVIEW

Blessing of the Vehicles



GOYA Great Escape Room



Trunk or Treat



GOYA Snowtubing at Greystone



Joshua Fought the Battle of Jerico!



Sunday School/Greek School Graduation



Diapers Donated: 3694

Wipes Donated: 4696

GOYA Breast Cancer Walk



The Junior League of Rochester Diaper Bank addresses diaper need in Monroe County, as well as surrounding counties, by providing diapers and diapering supplies to partnership organizations and social workers. We collect diapers (including open packages and loose diapers), pull-ups, training pants, wipes, and diaper creams. We also collect monetary donations, which are used to purchase these supplies at deep discounts.

Currently, we are distributing 20,500 diapers per month to our partners.



MAKING STRIDES Against Breast Cancer®

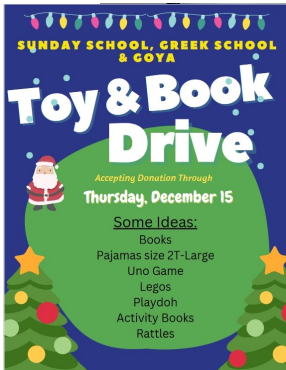
GOYA

We had a blast at our [#GreekOrthodox](#) GOYA gokart racing event on December 10th at IndyKart Raceway Indoor Karting! Thanks everyone for making it a success!



SUNDAY SCHOOL, GREEK SCHOOL, GOYA

Thank you for joining GOYA, Greek School, & Sunday School in gathering toys, books, and pajamas for the children and their families at the Golisano Children Hospital.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2022





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OF DETROIT**

MAKE AN IMPACT BY JOINING THE FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS END-OF-YEAR APPEAL

WHY OUR FRIENDS MATTER?

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. The devoted stewards of the Friends program become coworkers in Christ's vineyard - assisting in the development of ministries and initiatives which strengthen our faith and our joint ministry of service.

If you are not already a Friend of the Metropolis, I invite you to join us in supporting the ongoing ministries of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit.

Thank you for your kind and generous response.
With paternal blessings and prayers, I remain,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

MORE INFO AT: WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS

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Make checks payable to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit. Fill out this card and send it with payment to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit - 2560 Crooks Road - Troy, MI 48084

EVENTS AND CHURCH SERVICES:

29 December thru 5 January – Father is away

1 January – New Year’s Day

+1 January – Orthros (9:00 AM) and Divine Liturgy (10:00 AM) at Holy Spirit Church - Circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

2 January – Office closed

+6 January – Theophany Liturgy & Great Blessing of the Water, 10:00 AM

8 January – Vasilopita event after service – Philoptochos will pass a tray in Church to benefit St. Basil’s Academy

+15 January - Teaching Liturgy Part 1, 11:00 AM

15 January – Good News Submission Deadline

16 January – Martin Luther King

+17 January - Joint Divine Liturgy - St. Anthony The Great at Holy Spirit Church, 10:00 AM

+22 January – Teaching Liturgy Part 2, 11:00 AM

+25 January - Joint Paraklisis at Annunciation, 6:00 PM

26 January – Seniors Meeting, 11:00 AM

+30 January – Orthros (9:00 AM) and Divine Liturgy (10:00 AM), The Saints Three Hierarchs

1 February – Transformative Christianity Webinar Series, Session 11 of the series. Refer to website for details.

2 February – Ground Hog Day

+2 February – Orthros (9:00 AM) and Divine Liturgy (10:00 AM), Presentation of Our Lord

4 February – Philoptochos Valentine Brunch, 10:00 AM



Please Join the Choir in “Singing Praises to the Lord”.
Contact Julie Eveleigh 585-747-4728 or Zoi Varahidis 585-414-5886.

Sunday School every Sunday after Holy Communion unless noted differently in the bulletin

On-going adult Orthodox study programs:

- Bible Study every Tuesday, Zoom, 7:00 PM
- Orthodox Questions and Answers every Thursday, YouTube, 7:00 PM
- On-Line Orthodox Catechism on our website under the **EDUCATION** tab

Greek School every Saturday, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM unless noted differently in the bulletin

Thank you note from the Veterans Outreach Center to our Community



December 14, 2022

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
 Father Angelo Maggos
 962 East Ave
 Rochester, NY 14607-2241

Dear Father Maggos and Friends of VOC

On behalf of everyone at Veterans Outreach Center, we thank you for your generosity. We have recently received your contribution of \$1,000.00.

Because of you, we are able to provide supportive services to veterans, service members, and their families from our community. In 2021, VOC served over 1,600 veterans nearly 13,000 times. Almost 700 of those veterans were first time visitors. In our commitment to leave no veterans unserved, VOC was able to assist 250 veterans from outside the Rochester area residing in 23 different states from Buffalo to California.

VOC provides emergency shelter and transitional housing for more than 85 veterans each year. In addition, our staff helps hundreds of unemployed veterans through job training and certifications in sought-after career fields, job coaching, and placement assistance. We also offer peer mentoring, wellness, legal resources, substance abuse services, and much more!

At VOC, we continue to believe that the Rochester region is the very best place for our local veterans to come home to because of the warm welcome they receive from friends like you. It is your dedication and support that makes our success, and that of our veterans, possible.

Please accept my invitation to learn about *Operation Safe Haven*, an opportunity to become a part of the future of VOC and assure that our homeless veterans have a place to call home for years to come. For more information, please contact our Director of Advancement, Joan.Brandenburg@vocroc.org or (585) 295-7821.

It is critical that when veterans turn to VOC for help, we are here for them. It is through your generosity that we can open our doors and say *Welcome* each and every day. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Laura A. Stradley
 Executive Director
 U.S. Army Veteran

Please consider this letter a receipt for your 100% tax-deductible gift. To comply with Internal Revenue Service regulations, this letter also confirms that you are receiving no goods or services in exchange for your contribution.

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Philoptochos Upcoming Events

- **Sunday January 8th - Vasilopita**
 Pass Tray in Church to benefit St. Basil's Academy
- **Saturday, February 4th - Philoptochos Luncheon**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Happy New Year to All! Καλή χρονιά!

It was a joy to watch our Sunday School and Greek School perform in the Christmas pageant! We are grateful for the incredible response to our joint service project organized by our Goyans, Greek School, and Sunday School: collecting toys/gifts for the Golisano Children's Hospital. As always we are humbled by the generosity of our parish community.

Here is what we are looking forward to in January:



Fun January Challenge

We can all have a little winter blues after Christmas and the New Year. Which is why we are having fun games, food, and activities throughout January! We challenge you to come to as many Sunday's as you can in the month of January!

January 8th- Jesus Birthday Celebration: Make a card for Jesus, sing Happy Birthday and eat some cupcakes to celebrate our savior's birth and baptism!

January 15th- Jumping for Games: Play some fun games in your classroom and see who has the most knowledge!

January 22nd- Joyful Hot Coco and Treats: Warm up with a hot drink and a yummy treat!

January 29th- Journey through the Bible: Scavenger hunt! Find the clues that lead you to God!

Illustrations include: snowflakes, a red mug of hot cocoa, a white dove, a nativity scene, and a 'GAME TIME!' sign.

We will have our second chapel lesson on **January 8th** - these lessons are graciously offered by Juan Linares and Sam Dragos and walk our children through the Divine Liturgy and sacraments of Communion and Baptism. We've also included a new Religious Education Bingo Board for children and their families to complete over the next 3 months. Bingo Board winners for the fall are announced below!

We were delighted to recognize our children and their families who had perfect attendance for at least one month during the fall, and we have perfect attendance to announce for November! Congratulations to all the children who came every Sunday in December and to their families who brought them!!

Perfect Attendance for November:

PreK	George Demkos, Zoe Onderdonk, Aki Panitsidis Evangeline Gashlin
Kindergarten	James Jackson, John Jackson, Stefanos Tzgos
1st Grade	Anthony Gashlin, Thanos Matakos, Parthena Panitsidis
2nd Grade	Daniel Collins
3rd Grade	Brennan Collins
4th Grade	Alexa Mitrousis, Damianos Tzogas
6th Grade	Antonio Chinchilla, Athanasia Tzogas

Religious Education, Continued

Congratulations to our Fall Bingo Winners: Meera Abuaitah, Antonio Chinchilla, Alejandro Chinchilla, Brennan Collins, Daniel Collins, Anthony Gashlin, Evangline Gashlin, Theo Manos, Thanos Matakos, Violetta Manos, Zoe Onderdonk, Parthena Panitsidis, Athanasia Tzogas, Damianos Tzogas, Stefanos Tzogas

Important Dates:

January 8th: Chapel lesson on the first part of the Divine Liturgy

January 22nd: Foster Bag Service Project after church

January 29th: Introduction to the Oratorical Festival

Feb 5th: Godparent Sunday

We have many Sunday School videos. Be sure to check them out if you missed a week with your child! Please see “*Bringing the Church Home Resources*” section on the next page for more information!

With Love in Christ,
Karina and Lauren
Religious Education Directors

Bringing the Church Home - Resources

St. John Chrysostom famously taught that our homes are to be a “little church” and we hope that this new section will help our Annunciation families to make Christ and His Church a part of our homes and everyday lives. Suggestions are welcomed!

Virtual Sunday School Videos: Available on Annunciation YouTube Channel, Annunciation website or QR code to the right



Let Us Attend: Good for the drive to church or for anywhere that you happen to be driving! This is a great way to help prepare your children (and yourself) for the Gospel reading of the day.

Prepare your heart, and the hearts of your children, by listening to this Sunday's Gospel. The Gospel is paraphrased for younger children and read for older children, followed by engaging questions to help us think about what we've heard

This is a feature of the Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education and Ancient Faith Radio and is available on Apple Podcasts or Ancient Faith App



Children's Word Sunday Bulletin: For both kids and grown-ups! Available in print each Sunday next to the regular bulletin and at the link to the right





2023 ADVERTISING/SPONSORSHIP DIRECTORY

To increase awareness among our community of the broad range of experience and services available from our parishioners, we are encouraging both parishioners and any vendors to our church to advertise their business and/or family name in our monthly newsletter.

In order to help defray the costs of printing and mailing, this will be a Sponsorship Directory listing only. Advertising images will no longer be used in order to reduce the overall printing cost of the Newsletter. The Newsletter is printed each month during the year, except for one or two months that would be combined.

If you are interested in adding your business or family name to our Sponsorship Directory, the annual Sponsorship Fee is \$150.

Business or Family Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Contact: _____

Website: _____

Please make your checks payable to “Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church”.

GOOD NEWS SPONSORS

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ANNUNCIATION FAMILIES

Have a wonderful fellowship

Jennefer & Perry Noun, Bill Noun

Mary Manou

Nassis Family



Hall Rental Policy for 962 East.

We are excited and eager to finally be able to safely reopen our beautifully renovated church Hall to our community. However, the new renovations, along with the intent to lease the Hall to non-parishioners also, requires us to establish a higher degree of formality regarding rental of the new Hall. To assist in this transition, we have secured a dedicated Hall Manager, Sara Tone, who will be responsible for maintaining the Hall Lease calendar, process booking for both parishioner and non-parishioner, showing of the Hall and coordinating contract requirements and signatures. Our church secretary is no longer responsible for Hall scheduling or coordinating any Hall lease activities. With this in mind, we are establishing the following set of guidelines when leasing our Hall.

Attached is a pricing schedule and usage guide for both parishioners and non-parishioners. The fee to rent the Hall for a Parishioner in Good Standing is \$500 total. A signed Rental Agreement and payment of lease fee are required to reserve a date. All guests are expected to respect all Hall rules laid out in the Hall Lease Agreement. All trash and food stuffs must be disposed of properly at the end of your event. See the Hall Lease Agreement for specific information on the use of decorations.

To qualify for the parishioner rate, the person leasing the Hall must be a member in Good Standing for the current year. *Member in Good Standing* status requires a stewardship card on file for the current year and a reasonable payment amount made towards the current year's stewardship pledge.

To begin the Hall Lease process please go to the homepage of our Annunciation Church website. At the bottom of the home page, you will see a button labeled "**Hall Rental**." Click there to fill out the request form and you will then be contacted by our Hall Manager.

Note that use of the Hall for recognized church organizations or ministries is at no cost, however they are still required to complete the [Hall reservation form](#),¹ to ensure their dates are blocked from use by the Hall manager. This form can be accessed at the bottom of the home page of our church website.

Generally speaking, Hall rental *includes* the following. (Please see the HALL Contract for the full details)

- a) Six (6) hours of rental time
- b) Tables and chairs setup according to a previously agreed upon floor plan*
- c) Limited kitchen access (warming and cold storage privileges only)
- d) Hall cleaned prior to event
- e) Trash bins and bags

The six (6) hours of rental time does not count against setup time and the timing for this should be arranged with the Hall Manager. This rental *does not include* the following.

- a) Linens for tables, glassware, flatware, and china
- b) Food service utensils and dishes

Full kitchen privileges requires a \$350 kitchen usage fee if the food will be prepared using the Hall kitchen(s). If the lessee plans on using a catering service that cater, if they are not on the Approved Cater List, must be approved by the Hall Manager prior to use of the Hall kitchen(s).

* Set-up of the hall does not include taking down or removing any tables due to lack of personnel to do this. Parishioners are free to take down tables but must reset them after the event. Taking tables down could be done through the set-up fee. For non-parishioners events set-up fees are added to the lease price.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we transition to this new policy which we believe will serve to benefit us both from a financial and community perspective.

Angelo E. Maggos
Fr Angelo E. Maggos
Priest, Annunciation GOC

Jim Stathopoulos
Jim Stathopoulos
President, Annunciation GOC

¹Note: The link to the **Hall reservation form** is available on our website. The form is also available in the Church Office.

HALL Rates, Access and Requirements

	Recognized Church Organization	Parishioner in Good Standing	Non-Parishioner
Hall Lease Fee	No Charge	\$500	Starting @ \$1000. Final price dependent on type of package selected.
Hall Lease Deposit	N/A, however, the Church Organization MUST complete the Hall Registration¹ form to secure the date/time.	Full amount required at time of reservation. Completion of the Hall Registration¹ form to secure the date/time.	\$500 deposit at time of reservation. Completion of the Hall Registration¹ form to secure the date/time.
Hall Balance	N/A	N/A	Balance due two (2) weeks before event takes place.
Hall Lease Time	No later than 10pm	No later than 10pm 6-hour event time. Setup time does not affect this time. Additional time is \$100/hour	No later than 10pm 6-hour event time. Setup time does not affect this time. Additional time is \$100/hour
Kitchen Privileges	Full privileges	Full privileges but requires a \$350 usage fee	None
Cancellation Policy	N/A, however Church Organization MUST notify the Hall Manager 2 weeks prior to the event if their event is cancelled.	Hall lease fee recoverable if Hall Manager is notified no later than two (2) weeks prior to event.	Hall lease fee recoverable if Hall Manager is notified no later than two (2) weeks prior to event.
Use of Caterers	At discretion of the Organization but must be approved by PC.	At discretion of the organization but must be approved by PC.	Must be selected from church approved catering list.
Setup and Cleanup	Responsibility of the church ministry or organization that is leasing the Hall.	If the Lessee is not providing the setup, then setup fee is \$100. Setup plan required no later than 2 weeks prior to the event.	Setup is included in Hall leasing fee. Setup plan required no later than 2 weeks prior to the event.

¹Note: The link to the *Hall reservation form* is available on our website. The form is also available in the Church Office.

Annunciation Policies

MEMORIAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTION POLICY

All monies received during a funeral or memorial service that are made out to the church, that is, checks marked with “Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church” or cash with the envelope marked with “Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church” will be used for purposes in support of church operation.

These could include support of recognized church ministries, sacramental articles purchased for the church proper or for ongoing campaigns such as Hall Renovation or other capita improvements.

If it is desired that these monies are to be used for other wishes that the family may have the family must ensure that they announce that these checks or cash be designated as such.

All monies received for funerals are tracked and family members will receive a listing of those who donated, typically within 40-60 days following the date of the funeral. In addition, for all monies received designated “*Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church*,” donors will receive a letter thanking them for their donation to the church in memory of the deceased.

POLICY FOR DOCUMENT PREPARATION:

There is a required processing charge of \$40 per document. This charge covers research, preparation and routing of documents such as Certificate of Residency, Certificate of Freedom to Marry, Reissued Marriage Certificate, Reissued Baptism Certificate and Certificate of Death. Additional documents are \$20.00 per document.

WEDDINGS:

We have wedding candles in the office for purchase which is required at the time of the ceremony. The donation for the plain one is \$30.00. \$100 would be for the decorated ones. Lena has them in the office. The Stefanos are sold out - Lena does have catalogs for Stefanos in the Office if anyone is interested in shopping on-line.

BAPTISMS:

We also have baptismal candles, \$30 for the large plain candle and \$7 each for the two (2) smaller plain candles. If you are interested in purchasing decorated candles, the larger one is \$50, the two (2) smaller ones are \$25 for the set.

MEMORIALS:

Coffee Hour scheduling for family memorials is the responsibility of the Philoptochos unless other arrangements have been made by the family sponsoring the Memorial. The family which is sponsoring the Memorial is asked to :

1. Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange scheduling for Coffee Hour that day. The Secretary will contact the Philoptochos President.
2. Arrange for or pay for Coffee Hour food items that are in excess of the standard menu (coffee, drinks, and simple snacks).
3. Coordinate the preparation and delivery of Koliva (if used). The Philoptochos or Church office can provide information on persons who can prepare Koliva. The standard rate for the preparation of koliva is \$150 .



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of the ANNUNCIATION

962 EAST AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NY 14607

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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PARISH INFORMATION

CONTACT US:

Voice: (585) 244-3377

Web: AnnunciationRochester.org | RochesterGreekFestival.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/annunciationrochester

Office and scheduling requests: office@agocroc.org

Stewardship and finance related questions:
finance@agocroc.org

CLERGY:

Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos, Presiding Priest

Email: agocny@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS;

Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Secretary: Lena L. Livecchi

Email: Office@agocroc.org

Submit Good News Articles to: goodnews@agocroc.org

2023 PARISH COUNCIL

- Karen Balta
- Helen Eisenberg
- Patricia Gitsis
- Demitri Kolokouris
- Minas Theodorou
- Eric Vangellow
- Peggy Votsis
- Ronald Wiegand
- Evangelos Yannas