

GOOD NEWS

Voice: (585) 244.3377

October 2024

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

The Mystery of Mysteries – Holy Eucharist

Sunday October 13 and the 20th I will once again be conducting a Teaching Liturgy where I will stop at key points during the Divine Liturgy to explain what is happening at these points and a bit of history. See the flyer in this edition. So, I wanted to start off with an article that speaks to the central event of the Divine Liturgy which is the Eucharist. (Holy Communion)

Next to prayer, the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the oldest communal sacramental experience of Christian worship as well as the most distinctive. Eucharist comes from the Greek word which means thanksgiving. In a particular sense, the word describes the most important form of the Church's attitude toward all of life. As has been mentioned, the origin of the Eucharist is traced to the Last Supper at which Christ instructed His disciples to take and eat in His memory. The Eucharist is the most distinctive event of Orthodox worship because in it the Church gathers to remember and celebrate the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ and, thereby, to participate in the mystery of Salvation through the receipt of the Word of Truth (the Gospels) and His Body and Blood (Holy Communion).

For the first thousand years of Christian history, when the Early Church was visibly one and undivided Holy catholic and apostolic Church (as we state in the Nicene Creed), the sacraments have always been a means of transferring Grace, either through the bishop or the priest. How this occurred the Church confessed was a mystery. To this day in the Orthodox Church sacraments are referred to as *Μυστήρια* (Mysteries) to acknowledge the inadequacy of human language to contain or express divine concepts. The sacrament of the Eucharist or Holy Communion is considered by both the Orthodox and Catholic Church to be the *Το Μυστήριον των Μυστηρίων*, The Mystery of All Mysteries.

For the first 10 centuries of the Early Church the idea that the simple elements of bread and wine became the Body and Blood of our Lord was considered to be the unexplainable Mystery. By the 11th and 12th centuries the Scholastic Era brought the Age of Reason to the West.

The Roman Church, which had become separated from the Orthodox Church in the beginning of the 11th century was pressed by the rationalists to define how the transformation of the bread and wine takes place, thus the Catholic Church developed the term transubstantiation (a change of substance) in an attempt to define the sacramental process. The Orthodox Church disagreed with this on the grounds that this was seen as reducing the holy sacrament, which only faith can comprehend, to an object of philosophical and humanistic description.

With the arrival of the Protestant Reformation, which continued the Scholastic tradition of the Catholic Church, Martin Luther developed the idea that in Holy Communion the body and blood of Christ and the

Continued on page 2

bread and wine coexist in union with each other. This was termed consubstantiation. Luther illustrated this idea by the analogy of "the iron put into the fire whereby both fire and iron are united in the red-hot iron and yet each continues unchanged" The term consubstantiation is commonly applied to the Lutheran Church and some other Protestant Churches who practice the sacrament of the Eucharist, however most Protestant Churches today see the act of the Eucharist as simply symbolic with no transformative power through Grace. For these churches the celebration of Eucharist is merely an act of Remembrance, given by Christ when He instructed His disciples to partake of the Lord's supper "in remembrance" of Him" (Luke. 22:19) but that He is not present physically in the bread and wine.

So is the Bread and Wine Truly the Body and Blood?

In the Orthodox Church the Divine Liturgy observes the fullness of both of these commands of Christ. First, we recite the words of the Ανάμνησις (Anamnesis) which is His command to *take and eat*...Do this remembrance of Me. The Anamnesis is not just the Platonic idea of recalling of things from a previous existence but a remembering that Christ is actually present with us during the Divine Liturgy . Following this is the reciting of the Αναφορά (Anaphora) where the priest or bishop calls upon the Holy Spirit to mystically transform the bread and wine into the Blood and Body of Christ.

So why does the Orthodox Church believe so strongly that for us as believers in Christ we must share in His Body and Blood for our salvation? ***Meaning that for Orthodox the receiving of Holy Communion is essential for salvation.*** To answer this question we need to examine the fullness of the teaching of Scriptures concerning the Eucharist.

We need to examine both the account by Matthew as well as the account by Luke to appreciate the fullness of what Christ said. While Luke's account records Christ offering the bread and wine in remembrance of Me, in Matthew 26:26-27 we read the precise words of institution of the sacrament of the Eucharist:

[and] He broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body...Then He took a cup, and ... He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

The Orthodox Church believes that Scripture should not be interpreted in only one way. The Holy Fathers of the Church have always strived to interpret Scripture in four ways; ***historical, metaphorical, allegorical, and literal.*** Often times Christ spoke in metaphors, (I am the door... (John 10:9), other times in allegories, (Take my yoke upon you and learn from me... (Matthew 11:29) and other times He spoke literally. The challenge for the Church Fathers was, through a lifetime of prayer and study, to discern which statements are which. Both the Orthodox and Catholic Church believe that both statements by Christ at the Last Supper were to be taken literally since the Greek verb εστιν is a verb of "being".

The active form of the Greek verb εστιν (is) in Christ's statement to His disciples, "...this is My body ... this is My blood" does not indicate that these gifts merely symbolize His Body and Blood. If this were the case, then the Gospel writers would have used a more appropriate word such as ὁμοίός (like or similar to) such as we read in 1 John 3:2

"...οτι εαν φανερωθη ομοιοι αυτω "...when Christ appears, we shall be like Him"

Receiving Communion in a Proper and Reverent Manner

The Eucharist, as the Μυστήριον των Μυστηρίων, The Mystery of All Mysteries is the principal sacrament of the Orthodox Church, and is not something to be observed from afar, but rather experienced in the communion with the Living God, the ranks of heavenly powers, all the saints, and the parish community who together in which prayer, music, gestures, and architecture come into full orchestration. The Eucharist is a celebration of faith which touches all the human senses.

What then should we do to prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus? Firstly, we should pay heed to the words of the priest as he presents the Holy Chalice; *“With the fear of God, faith and love draw near.”*

Here, St. John Chrysostom offers us the essential qualities for receiving the Gift of Christ within us and what is required of us to draw near to the cup of Christ.

Fear of God. Not a childish fear that comes from ignorance of the unknown, but with a rational understanding and respect that at that very moment we stand before God Himself. Proverbs 14:2 . Some have replaced the Greek word φόβου (fear) in this part of the Divine Liturgy with the word “awesome.” This does an injustice to the reverence that the Early Church had when worshipping God. And this also diminishes the fear of our unworthiness when we will all stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ which in itself is a fearful thing.

Faith. In order to truly and worthily partake of the Body and Blood of our Lord the Orthodox Church demands that we believe that what we will receive is truly that, Body and Blood. This is one reason why the Orthodox practice closed communion since those who partake truly believe and have faith that what they are about to receive is the “medicine of salvation”.

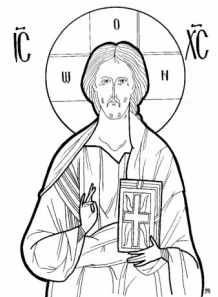
Love. We should have love in our hearts for all people. Christ commands this of all of us who abide in Him.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another .”

Again, St. John Chrysostom, when composing the Divine Liturgy place the reading of the Lord’s Prayer just prior to receiving Holy Communion to remind us of this when we say, *“...and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”*

Certainly, as one is able, they should practice a fasting regiment in preparation for receiving Holy Communion, however it is important to realize that the Orthodox practice of fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays is not connected to receipt of Holy Communion and is for the remembrance of the betrayal and crucifixion of our Lord. Also, Orthodox canon law prohibits fasting on Saturday . It is also important to keep in mind that fasting without prayer and the giving of alms is not adequate preparation for receipt of Holy Communion.

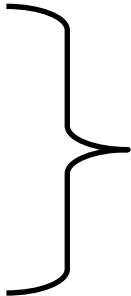
I believe that we can recognize the salvific importance of receiving Holy Communion (Eucharist) if we know of the long and central role the sacrament of Eucharist has played in the Early Church and throughout Orthodox and Catholic history. Receipt of Holy Communion is the central way in which we as Orthodox can participate fully in the Body of Christ and prepare ourselves for the difficult things we will experience in the world.



AGENDA – FALL General Assembly 2024

On Sunday, November 17, 2024, following the Divine Liturgy service we will be having the **Fall General Assembly meeting**. **As in previous years, the GA will be held in church and also livestreamed. We will be able to take questions via chat from the livestream.**

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Call to Order | PC President |
| 2. Opening Prayer | Fr. Angelo |
| 3. Approval of previous General Assembly Minutes | Meeting Chairperson |
| 4. Treasurer Report and Stewardship | D. Kolokouris/Eric Vangellow |
| 5. Approval of Budget for 2025 | |
| 6. Election Nominations | |
| 7. Ministry and Organization Reports | |
| a. Fund Raising Events | Eric Vangellow |
| • Greek Festival | |
| • Golf Outing | |
| • Hall rental | |
| b. Youth Director Report | Demos Euclid |
| c. Communications Ministry | Demos Euclid |
| d. Religious Education |  <p>In the interest of time and to allow ample time for a full and open discussion, all ministry updates will be provided at the General Assembly meeting.</p> |
| e. Philoptochos | |
| f. Choir/Chant | |
| g. GOYA | |
| h. Greek School | |
| i. Seniors Group | |
| j. Cultural Groups | |
| 8. Call for Questions | |
| 9. General Maintenance and Upkeep | |
| 10. Old Business | |
| i. Update on Capital Improvement efforts (as presented at Spring GA) | |
| 11. New Business | |
| 12. Call for Adjournment | GA Chairman |
| 13. Closing Prayer | Fr. Angelo |



40 Day Blessings:

Child of God: Alessia Styliadis

Parents: Alexandro Styliadis & Agathi Nuzzarello

Child of God: Demitria Maria Buono

Parents: Michael & Dino Buono

Child of God: Maria Dragos

Parents: Sam & Christina Dragos



Baptisms:

Child of God: Penteli Demkos

Parents: Philip & Kim Demkos

Child of God: Vivian Chrysanthi Nassis

Parents: Michael & Stefani Nassi

Child of God: Niko Emilio Schwartz

Parents: Matthew Schwartz & Niki Nassis



Weddings:

Michalis Demetrios Demkou & Rachel Lee Nolan

Kyle Alan Anderson & Despina Theodoridis

Sean Michal Pelletier & Rachel Irene Panarites

David Philip Gitsis & Erin Marie Cook



Funerals:

Harloulou Sidou - August 19, 2024

Peter Panarites

Phyllis Richards

Kleopatra Tamoutselis - September 25, 2024



EVENTS AND CHURCH SERVICES

- 11 October - Outdoor movie night for all ages, Aladdin, 7:00 PM
 16 October - Young Adult Meet Up at Iron Smoke, 7:00 PM
 20 October - Drosopigi Dinner, 5:00 PM
+23 October - Divine Liturgy of St. James, 6:00 PM
 24 October - Sunshine Club, 11:00 AM
 26 October - Karaoke Costume Dance Party, 6:00 PM
 27 October - Trunk or Treat gathering in back parking lot, 4:00 PM
+1 November - Divine Liturgy -Sts. Cosmas & Damianos, 10:00 AM
 3 November - Daylight savings time begins. Turn clocks back 1 hour.
 4 November - PC meeting, 6:00 PM
 5 November - Election Day
 9 November - 25th Anniversary Celebration for Bishop Nicholas
 11 November - Veterans Day
 13 November - Young Adult Meet Up, 7:00 PM
 16 November - Escape Room Night, 8:00 TBD
17 November - Fall General Assembly, 12:00 Noon
 17 November - Annunciation Christmas Pageant Practice, 11:15 AM
 17 November - Zoo Mobile Day (Youth and Pre-Teens), 12:00 PM
+21 November - Divine Liturgy Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, 10:00 AM



Sunday School after Holy Communion

Greek School Classes (4th-7th), Every Wednesday 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM.

On-going adult Orthodox study programs:

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

Celebrate 25 Years

25th Anniversary of
the Enthronement
of His Eminence,
Metropolitan Nicholas
of Detroit



*Come, join the Greek Orthodox
parishes of Upstate New York
to greet and honor our
Spiritual Father and Hierarch*

November 9, 2024

Vespers 4:30pm | Reception 5:30pm | Dinner 6:30pm
Hosted by Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Buffalo, NY
at its Family Life Center, 5992 Genesee Street , Lancaster, NY 14086



RSVP REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 27
SEE ENCLOSED FORM
\$50 Adults | \$25 Children 6-12
Children 5 and under Free



Join us as we learn about the **DIVINE LITURGY**

Sunday 13 and Sunday 20 October

Once again I will conduct a two-part **TEACHING LITURGY**, where I pause the service at various points to explain the meaning of each part of the Divine Liturgy.

The Divine Liturgy is the central mystery of the Church. Through this educational journey, you will gain a deeper understanding of the Divine Liturgy and serves as the living tradition of the saving acts of Jesus Christ: His life, death, resurrection, ascension, enthronement in heaven, and the anticipation of His glorious second coming.

This Teaching Liturgy will be presented over two consecutive Sundays.

PART 1 will be Sunday, October 13th and will focus on this first part (Liturgy of the Word) which will cover the Doxology, Great Litany, Antiphons, Trisagion Hymn, Epistle and Gospel Readings, and the Changeable Festal Hymns.

PART 2 will be the following Sunday, October 20th, and will cover the Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn, Completion Litany, The Creed, Anaphora, the Remembrance and the Epiclekhis, Lord's Prayer, Ambon Prayer and Dismissal.

ROBERTS WESLEYAN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

Tuesday, October 1, 2024



VEHICLE BLESSING

September 15, 2024



From the Desk of the Annunciation Youth Director

Youth Ministry Updates

Happy October everyone! We have a full slate of special events lined up for the month for our youth (K9 yrs), pre-teens (9-12 yrs), teens (12-18 yrs), and young adults (18+).

Thank you to everyone who made our Mini-Golf Night at Parkside a great success. It was a lot of fun to see you all out there and it served as an excellent kickoff to the new Liturgical Year!

This month, we begin with our all-age **Fall Outdoor Movie Night** featuring the original *Aladdin* (1992) Friday, October 11th at 7pm. We'll be serving popcorn and treats - all are welcome! In case of bad or cold weather, we will be holding the event in the Church Hall. Please bring chairs, blankets, etc.

Next up, we have our first solo **Young Adult Meet-Up** at Iron Smoke Distillery Wednesday, October 16th at 7pm. Although we still aim at cycling through different venues/activities, Iron Smoke provides the perfect Fall atmosphere and has proven popular enough that we may establish it as an annual October Meet-Up. At this event, they will be featuring a Live Band Karaoke with an "all star line-up" as an option to those brave enough to sing (not mandatory, of course). Venue has a \$5 cover at the door.

Our biggest event of the month is our Teen/Young Adult **Fall Costume Dance/Karaoke Party** Saturday, October 26th beginning at 6pm. This event will feature music, food, tasty treats, and the scariest thing of all...karaoke! Of course, it won't all be eardrum shattering frivolity as we will also feature dance music and a costume contest!

The next day, October 27th, we'll be hosting our annual **Trunk or Treat** event for our youngest and preteens from 4pm – 5:30pm in the Church Parking Lot. To participate, we ask that those who register for the event decorate their trunks and bring candy to hand out (no candy with nuts please). Costumes encouraged (don't forget a candy bag!).

October Event Schedule

Friday, 10/11 – Outdoor Movie Night: *Aladdin* (1992) (All-Age)

Wednesday, 10/16 – Young Adult Meet-Up (Young Adults)

Saturday, 10/26 – Costume Dance/Karaoke Party (Pre-teens, Teens, Young Adults) Sunday,

10/27 – Trunk or Treat (Youth, Pre-teens)

Demos Euclid

Youth Director

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Parishioners,

September was a great month for Sunday School. We have 55 students registered so far for the year! We are happy to see our program growing and our classes full. The children are continuing to learn about Jesus' life throughout the New Testament. They are also learning about different sacraments in the church such as baptism and confession and singing our church's hymn with the help of our wonderful choir.

We want to remind everyone that there is a children's bulletin for our youth to take each Sunday when you enter the narthex. There are readings, games, and an icon coloring page that relate to age appropriate topics and are connected to the gospel lesson for that week. Please take advantage of this bulletin to engage your child in the church service!

We encourage families to check out the children's toy room up in the balcony! There are new Orthodox Christian books that we have added to a new book shelf in the room. If your child is having trouble listening to the liturgy or sitting quietly in church, these books can be really helpful to engage your child in the service!

We have a lot of fall events coming up in our Parish. These are events for all youth to participate in (not just Sunday School)! Age requirements are listed as well.

Events for the Fall:

October:

10/11	Outdoor movie night- Aladdin	All ages
10/27	Trunk or Treat from 4:00pm -6:00pm in church parking lot	All ages

November:

11/16	Teen Escape Room	12+
11/17	Christmas Play Practice Starts	Sunday School Children must attend if they want to participate in the play
11/17	Blessing of the Animals - Seneca Park ZooMobile	All Ages

We are always looking for more help in our Sunday School program. You don't have to be a parent or have teaching experience to get involved. We are looking for substitutes for our Sunday School classes and volunteers for different events. If you are interested please contact us!

As always please reach out to us with any questions or comments at recagocny@gmail.com.

With love in Christ,

Karina and Lauren

GREEK SCHOOL

Dear Parishioners and Greek School Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 Year! We are so happy to see our classrooms full and students excited to learn Greek!

We are excited to share that we have 50 students joining us to learn and grow their Greek language skills! We wanted to take a moment and give a great thanks to our teachers, who come prepared with their learning lessons, teach our children, and create an environment of curiosity, learning and growth.



Our teachers this school year are:

Kindergarten: Nia Pike

A1-A2 (1st Grade): Diana Hristodoulou & Stefani Nassis

A2-A3 (2nd Grade): Danielle Marou

A3 (3rd Grade): Kristi Motra

B1 (4th-B1 Grade): Julie Bausch

B2 (4th-B2 Grade): Kostas Matakos

B2-B3 (5th Grade): Walter Bubie

Γ1-Γ2 (6th & 7th Grade): Niki Ioannidis

Conversational Zoom: Michael Dedes

We will continue using www.ellinopoula.com, which is an engaging online platform that allows students to enhance their Greek language learning by playing games, watching videos, and completing fun activities. Teachers will be assigning homework based on their class content. Conversational classes also started, and we are encouraging the students to attend every Wednesday evening from 6-6:45 pm and practice their speaking skills.



As a reminder, our school day begins at 9:30 am and ends at 1 pm each Saturday. Please arrive and pick-up your children on time. For safety reasons, we do not allow children to exit the building without an adult.

As always, feel free to contact us with any questions. We look forward to seeing your children's smiley faces each Saturday!

Ευχαριστούμε,

Maria Dembeyiotis & Elina Kokorotsis

Greek School Directors



Please bring a non-perishable item to benefit local food banks

TRUNK OR TREAT

**Sunday,
October 27th
4:00pm - 5:30pm
in the church parking lot**

How to Participate:

1. Decorate your trunk
2. Bring candy to hand out **(NUT-FREE PLEASE)**
3. Wear your costume and bring a bag!



Parking and trunk preparation begins promptly at 4:00pm with Trick or Treating beginning at 4:30. For safety reasons NO vehicles will be allowed into the main parking lot after 4:30.

****PLEASE CONTACT DANIELLE at 585-507-1646 to RSVP that you will be participating with or without a decorated trunk! Final participation numbers will be communicated to those who have RSVPed - as well as any weather-related changes****



2024 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

RESTAURANTS

Atlantic Family Restaurant
Arbor at the Port
Arbor Loft
Bay Front Restaurant
Bill's Long Pond Diner
Blue Ridge Grill
Dog Town
Eastridge Diner Steakhouse
Highland Market Bakery & Deli
Highland Park Diner
Jays Diner
Johnny D's Restaurant
Konstantinou's Restaurant
Log Cabin Restaurant & Catering
Mels Diner
Olympia Restaurant & Lounge
Parkside Diner and Miniature Golf
Riki Family Restaurant
The Distillery
The Nutcracker Family Restaurant
The Original Steve's Diner - 4 Locations
The Peppermill Restaurant
Town and Country Family Restaurant
Uncle Danny's Family Restaurant
Union Street Coffee House
Voula's Sweets
Yia Yia's Ice Cream Shoppe
Yianni's

PRODUCTS

AG Foodservice
Ajay Glass Co.
Alpha Ironworks
Goodman Glass and Mirror
Konstantinou's Liquor
Rain or Shine Tent Rental
Regional Distributors Inc
Rhino Trunk and Case
Ridge Coin & Jewelry
Rochester Auto Glass
Rochester Meat
Walworth Wine & Spirits

SERVICES

Akropolis Agency
Averdi
Better Relationships Counseling
Delta Advisory Group, Dimitrios Manou, CPA
EMS
First POS
Metropolitan Window Cleaning
Ontario Family Dentistry, Dr. Elias Konstantinou
Philoptochos
ReMax Plus
Roxanne Stavropoulos Realtor
Howard Hanna Real Estate Services
Vay-Schleich & Meeson, Funeral and Cremation
Chapels

ANNUNCIATION FAMILIES

Frank and Patty Cost
Mary Manou
Clayton, George and Dr. Joan Laura Nardone
Nassis Family
Jennefer & Perry Noun, Bill Noun
Have a wonderful fellowship

In Loving Memory



Edna Helen Collins Ferris
October 6, 2023

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far out weighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen but on what is unseen for what is seen is temporary but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Your wings were ready but our hearts were not.

Memory Eternal

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

Eric Vangellow

Eric Vangellow
President, Annunciation GOC

¹**Note:** 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:

The family which is sponsoring the Memorial is asked to:

1. Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange scheduling the memorial for that day.
2. Coordinate the preparation and delivery of Koliva (if used). The Church Office can provide information on persons who can prepare Koliva. The standard rate for the preparation of Koliva is \$150.
3. Provide Coffee Hour food items.



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of the ANNUNCIATION

962 EAST AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NY 14607

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
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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;

Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Secretary: Lena L. Livecchi

Email: office@agocroc.org

2024 PARISH COUNCIL

Eric Vangellow, President
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