Voice: (585) 244.3377

November 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

Who Will Lead Us into the Future?

In my October Good News article, I discussed the need for a sound strategic (long-term) plan for our church and community. This month, I'd like to discuss a long-term plan for you personally. And I'm speaking about a long-term strategy not just for our older parishioners in preparation for retirement, but also for our next generation of younger parishioners who will inherit the leadership of our church.

Jesus spoke often about the proper use of our God-given talents. Each of us has been given a talent and it's our responsibility to cultivate that talent in a manner pleasing to God. Here in our parish, we have doctors, lawyers, teachers, musicians, restaurant owners, etc., each of whom provides a valuable service to our community...but many of you joyously bring those talents to our parish by serving on boards, organizing our many activities, leading our Greek Festival, etc.

These activities, however, cannot be isolated incidents but must work towards a purposeful long-range strategy. And this strategy, to be effective, requires two important elements;

- 1. A recognition by the younger generation of the responsibility to pick up the mantle of leadership
- 2. A solid commitment by the elders of the church to properly mentor our young leaders

1. The Next Generation

Any future leader in the church must be primarily concerned with the welfare and needs of the members of the community and one way to do this is to have been a part of the church community. This longevity gives important insight into both the strengths and the struggles of the parish. But this longevity can hinder growth through thoughts of *"We've tried that before with no success"* or *"We don't have enough people."* This is why it is important to also have young leadership that is not influenced by previous parish paradigms and can bring fresh perspectives from outside. When I was working at General Motors we often hired talent from other automotive companies for just this reason.

New leaders must possess some of the same skills that secular organizations require such as the ability to constructively handle conflict, adapt to different types of personalities, tolerance for and the ability to deal with uncertainty, a talent for networking, and of course optimism, passion and drive.

New leaders must also possess the skills necessary to inspire those who work with them in the more challenging environment of a volunteer organization, like the church. Volunteer leadership typically cannot motivate through money, nor issue "*do this or you're fired*" commands, or choose the exact skill sets required for the task.

A volunteer leader takes a holistic approach to leadership. This means rather than the top-down enforcement of company goals, leaders instead take time to analyze what direction the parish would like to go, determine if that direction fits into an Orthodox Christian ethos, and then provide the resources they need and coach them to achieve that vision.

2. Mentoring the Next Generation

No one lives forever, which means that even the best leader must at some point step aside and hand the reins of leadership to the upcoming generation. Thus, as elders of the church, we must recognize when it is time to retire and begin the work of developing and mentoring those young adults who demonstrate the potential for leadership in our community. As I said above these potential leaders should not only have the skills and the passion for leadership positions in our church but are active in our church and community life. Interestingly even the Bible speaks about this transition of leadership.

Men twenty-five years old or more shall come to take part in the work at the tent of meeting, but at the age of fifty, they must retire from their regular service and work no longer. (Numbers 8:25-26)

A bit further down, the Bible goes even further by encouraging those senior leaders to mentor those upcoming leaders.

[Those older than 50] may <u>assist their younger brother Levites</u> in performing their duties at the tent of meeting, but they themselves must not do the work.

Solid mentoring requires much more than passing down skills that most of us, during our career(s), have acquired. Even the most skilled executive, manager, or administrator, without an understanding of the salvific purpose of our Orthodox Faith and the Church, will lead from a strict business perspective lacking the vital ingredient of compassion that responds to both the individual and community needs.

During my priestly career, I have often encountered community leaders who allowed secular objectives like maximizing stewardship to overshadow the impact of the Holy Spirit. One of the characteristics that I most enjoy about our parish is that the leaders that I have come to know, both past and present, have demonstrated a wonderful balance of fiscal responsibility, offered our ministries the resources they require to succeed, and truly love the mission of our church and her people. I have observed that this parish has not been one to prioritize bank balances over the mission of the church. And this, I truly believe, comes from a love of our church and community rooted in an understanding of the history of our community.

As we consider retiring from our positions our focus also needs to shift from being the one <u>doing</u> the work to the one who actively looks for new talent and <u>mentors</u> the next generation, offering them, patiently, the wisdom of the experiences we have gained over a lifetime, both good and bad.

I have already seen examples of transitioning to the next generation of leadership; in Religious Education, Greek School, Drosopigi Society, and of course the Greek Festival, and have observed a wonderful synergy between old and new leadership.

There is an awesome responsibility on both sides, the young leaders and elders, and while I am encouraged by the continued transition, I want to be cautious that we thoughtfully and prudently develop the next generation of leaders that will maintain the legacy of our Annunciation Community.



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 N	1inutes 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	<u> </u>
Golf Outing	
Hall rental	
b. Youth Director Report	Demos Euclid
c. Communications Ministry	Demos Euclid
d. Religious Education	
e. Philoptochos	
f. Choir/Chant	In the interest of time and to allow ample time for a full and open
g. GOYA	discussion, all ministry updates will
h. Greek School	be provided at the General Assembly
i. Seniors Group	meeting.
j. Cultural Groups	
8. Call for Questions	
9. General Maintenance and Upkeep	
10. Old Business	
i. Update on Capital Improvement effor	ts (as presented at Spring GA)
11. New Business	
12. Call for Adjournment	GA Chairman
13. Closing Prayer	Fr. Angelo

Alternate date for the GA is Monday, November 18th at 6:00 p.m



+1 November - Divine Liturgy -Sts. Cosmas & Damianos, 10:00 AM

- 3 November Daylight savings time begins. Turn clocks back 1 hour.
- 3 November Philoptochos celebrates Sts. Cosmas & Damianos
- 4 November PC meeting, 6:00 PM
- 5 November -Election Day
- 9 November 25th Anniversary Celebration for Bishop Nicholas, Buffalo NY
- 10 November Zoo Mobile Day (Youth and Pre-Teens), 12:00 PM
- 11 November Veterans Day
- 13 November Young Adult Meet Up, 7:00 PM
- 16 November Pirate Movie Night: Pirates of the Caribbean 2 (2006) (All-Age), 7:00 PM

17 November - Fall General Assembly, 12:00 Noon

- 17 November Annunciation Christmas Pageant Practice, 11:15 AM
- 18 November Alternate date for Fall General Assembly, 6:00 PM
- +21 November Divine Liturgy Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, 10:00 AM
- 21 November Sunshine Club, 11:00 AM
- 24 November Annunciation Christmas Pageant Practice, 11:15 AM
- 24 November Philoptochos Bake Good Sale, 11:15 AM
- 28 November Thanksgiving Day Office Closed
- 29 November Office Closed

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.

PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE NOVEMBER 24

Proceeds Will Be Donated to Help Veterans and Families In Need



Pre-Order Form

Name			
Phone ()			
ITEM	PRICE	#TOTAL	\$TOTAL
Whole Pie Pita (Spanakopita, Prasopita or Tiropita - App	\$50.00 proximately 30	pieces)	
1/4 Pita (Spanakopita, Prasopita or Tiropita)	\$15.00		
Baklava (Greek Dessert Pastry - 8 pieces)	\$18.00		
Koulourakia (Greek Butter Cookies - 10 pieces)	\$12.00		
Tsoureki (Greek Sweet Easter Bread)	\$17.00		- <u></u> -
Kourabiedes (Greek Cookies with Sugar - 12 Pieces)	\$15.00		
	TOTALS		

Orders due Wednesday, November 13

Drop off forms <u>with payment</u> at Church Office or Coffee Hour Cash and/or Checks Made Out To: Philoptochos Pre-orders to be picked up in the Church Hall the Sunday Before Thanksgiving - November 24, 10 am to 1 pm

Please contact Patty Hatzipapas (721-9987 or hatz925@hotmail.com) with any questions regarding pre-orders

This August Ana Eveleigh, along with 15 other Orthodox young adult leaders, participated in The Pilgrimage of Discovery. This program is a religiouseducational journey that includes an audience with His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and visits to historic sites around Constantinople. It is a singular opportunity for up to 16 young women and men, from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to be awarded the gift of a transformative and immersive experience in Constantinople.

Anna Eveleigh was selected among hundreds of applicants and was selected based on her devotion and participation in the life of the Orthodox Church and her community.



From the Desk of the Annunciation Youth Director

Happy early Thanksgiving everyone! We have a lot to be thankful for in 2024 and a lot of fun events coming up this month for our youth and young adults.

Once again, thank you to everyone who made our October events great successes. From our screening of *Aladdin* and our Iron Smoke Young Adult Meet-Up to the spooky final weekend featuring our Fall Party and Trunk or Treat, everyone had a blast!

This month, we will see the return of the **Seneca Park ZooMobile** (11/10) showcasing many animals for our youth; plus, a special **Young Adult Meet-Up** (11/13) – more details to come once everything is finalized!

Originally, we had planned an Escape Room night but after many requests from our youth, we'll be switching things up to feature a **Pirate Movie Night** (11/16) with a screening the second film in Disney's pirate saga, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* (2006). As usual, we'll be serving pizza and treats along with other surprises!

November Event Schedule

Sunday, 11/10 – Seneca Park ZooMobile Day (Youth, Pre-teens)

Wednesday, 11/13 – Young Adult Meet-Up (Young Adults)

Saturday, 11/16 – Pirate Movie Night: Pirates of the Caribbean 2 (2006) (All-Age)



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Annunciation family,

October was a full month for Sunday School. We had a movie night at church watching Aladdin! We also had our third annual Trunk or Treat with lots of candy, music, and fun! We have been teaching our children the Annunciation Hymn that is sung every Sunday during the Divine Liturgy. The children were able to participate in the hymnology of our church by singing the Annunciation Hymn. We appreciate all the parents who were able to bring their children to church early in order for them to be able to participate! We plan to continue with hymnology lessons throughout the year!

We look forward to the Nativity season. <u>We are seeking volunteers to lead our children in the an-</u><u>nual Christmas play!</u> Play practice is planned for each Sunday starting November 17th until the performance on December 22nd. Please email recagoony@gmail.com if you are interested in helping out.

11/3	Confession Chapel Lesson	
11/10	Zoo Mobile	All are welcome! Starts right after Sunday School at 12:00.
11/17, 11/24, 12/8, 12/15, 12/21	Christmas play practice *please note 12/21 is a Saturday	Participation in all practices is required to perform in the play. All children are wel- come!
12/1	Thanksgiving Break! No Sunday School and no Play practice	Give thanks!
12/22	Christmas Pageant	
12/29	No Sunday School	Christmas Break

November/December Important Dates:

We look forward to seeing everyone in church during this Holiday Season.

With Love in Christ,

Karina and Lauren

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 below!



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 below:



November 2024

Accepting Donation Through Sunday, December 8

SUNDAY SCHOOL, GREEK SCHOO ANNUNCIATION YOUTH MINIST

<u>Gift Giving Ideas</u>

Infants/Toddlers Preschool/School Age We can only accept gifts on this list – Thank you Teens

Plastic infant rattles Musical toys – Fisher price Fisher price toddler cars Stacking cups, Small crib mirrors Teethers Board books Plastic bath books Plastic crib toys/soothers Bright start or FP links Sound story books, See and Say Fisher price people / animals Halo sleep sacks/ sleepers Touch and feel books and toys Small Lego sets My first play doh sets Paw patrol, Bluey toys Barbie / Princess Dolls Super hero / Transformer figures Dinosaur sets Matchbox or Hot Wheel sets Small craft kits / art sets Coloring activity books ISpy, memory, spot-it game 6-12inch baby dolls-multicultural Small remote cars Top and bottom pajama sets 6-12 inch soft stuffed animals Walmart or Amazon Gift Cards (\$20) Sticker art books Sketch pads and drawing pencils Word search/crossword/Mad libs Blank glue bound Journals Slime and slime kits Fine point art markers Small art sets for teens Teen or adult coloring books Nerf door basketball sets Cards, UNO, Skip-boo, Phase 10 100-300 piece puzzles 18x24 or less Top and bottom pajama sets Nalgene, Hydro flask water bottles



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 Nar	me:		
Address:City:		Zip:	
Email:	Phone:		
Contact:			
Website:			

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*

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 <u>Hall reservation form</u>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.

Augelo E. Maggos Fr Angelo E. Maggos Priest, Annunciation GOC Eric Vangellow Eric Vangellow President, Annunciation GOC

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	Parishioner in Good	Non-Parishioner
	Organization	Standing	
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 <u>Hall</u> <u>Registration</u> ¹ form to secure the date/time.	Full amount required at time of reservation. Completion of the <u>Hall</u> <u>Registration</u> ¹ form to secure the date/time.	\$500 deposit at time of reservation. Completion of the <u>Hall</u> <u>Registration</u> ¹ 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 theses 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 Stefanas are sold out - Lena does have catalogs for Stefanas 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 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Rochester, N.Y.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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 Karen Balta, Vice President Demitrios Kolokouris, Treasurer Helen Eisenberg, Secretary Zach Graham Minas Theodorou Ronald Wiegand Evangelos Yannas