

GOOD NEWS

Voice: (585) 244.3377

December 2024

From the Desk of
Rev. Fr. Angelo Maggos

Parish Registry, Progress Report
Upcoming Church Services and Events

Youth Ministry and Organizations News

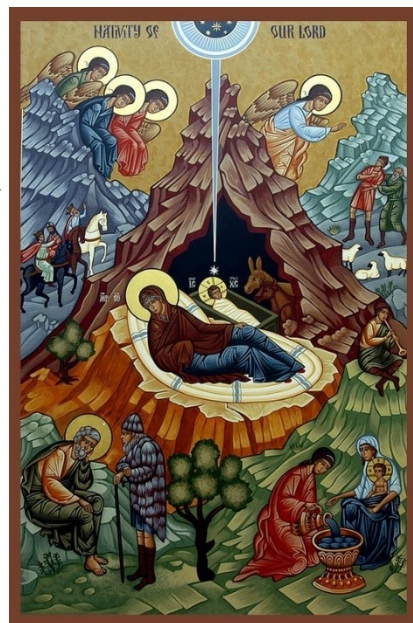
From Fr. Angelo

This Christmas let's get to know a bit better each of the participants of the event of Jesus' birth. For Orthodox, the best place to start is with our icons. The beauty of iconography is that unlike a painting which depicts a singular event, an Orthodox icon can depict several events that do not even occur during the same timeframe, thus offering to us a more complete understanding of the significant events of Christianity.

In the Nativity icon we see the events associated with the birth of Christ, some of which are referenced in Scripture while other details have come down to us from extra-Biblical sources such as the *Protoevangelium of James*.

This 2nd century apocryphal document contains some of the oldest non-Biblical traditions of the Church and records details leading up to the birth of the Theotokos, her presentation in the Temple, her betrothal to Joseph and the Nativity in Bethlehem.

In the icon of the Nativity of Christ we have, of course, the central event of the Theotokos and the Christ child, but surrounding that in the four corners of the icon are the people and events that contribute a fullness of the meaning of the salvific event of God taking on Humanity.



CENTER

In the center of the icon are the Christ child lying in a manger, the Theotokos, the cave and the animals. Although the Gospels do not mention that Christ was born in a cave the wording in Luke is, *"She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them."*

The Greek word used for manger is φατνη which was a simple wooden or stone food trough for feeding livestock. The use of a manger in the nativity account highlights the humble circumstances of Jesus' birth, as would a cave, but a cave, while also suggesting humility, also foreshadows the grave in which He would be buried and where He would resurrect.

Christ is dressed in burial clothes to foreshadow His death. Another interesting detail is that unlike most icons where the Theotokos is looking at the Christ child, in this icon she is looking at her betrothed, Joseph, interceding for him as he struggles with his doubt over this birth.

We also see in the background an ox and ass which are two of the most ancient symbols in the ancient Church. The ox symbolized the Jews, for it was a clean, kosher animal. The Jews had the Law of Moses, the

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Torah, as a covenant from God, whose purpose was much greater than a set of laws to govern life, but served to instruct and guide them to the Messiah who would be the solution to the problem of sin created by the Fall and who alone would mend and re-establish humanity's relationship with God.

The ass, on the other hand, is a stubborn and wilder animal. It is unclean and not kosher, therefore, representing the Gentiles who did not have the Law of Moses to guide them away from their many false gods and lead them to the One True God.

With the coming of the Messiah, the Christ, these two opposed groups would come together to form one people, exemplified when Jesus said, *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine...and other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."*



BOTTOM LEFT

Here we see Joseph talking with an old man who represents the devil and is placing doubts in Joseph's mind about Mary's pregnancy. The first chapter of Matthew alludes to Joseph's dilemma of "Whose child is this?" since he knew he was certainly not the father.

When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost...But while he thought (ενθυμηθεντος) on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream. The Greek word ενθυμηθεντος used here means to intensely ponder something often with an emotional or passionate component. One of the Orthodox hymns chanted during Nativity speaks not only of Joseph's apprehension but also his ultimate understanding of God's divine plan of salvation.

When [Joseph] beheld the greatness of this wonder, thought that he saw a mortal wrapped as a babe in swaddling clothes; but from all that came to pass he understood that it was the true God, who grants the world great mercy.

Vespers of Nativity

BOTTOM RIGHT

The women at the bottom right are midwives who are about to wash the Christ child. This confirms that the Son of God was truly born as fully human, and did not merely appear to be human or grew into His divinity as some early heresies claimed.

Continued on page 3

TOP MIDDLE

The very top signifies the presence and the glory of God. It beams from the heavens, pointing to the Christ child and leading the Wise Men to Him. Also, this depicts Christ's descent from heaven to the earth and the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit.

To the left are the three kings (magi) traveling from afar, following the star in the sky arriving much later after Christ's birth.

"...there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2

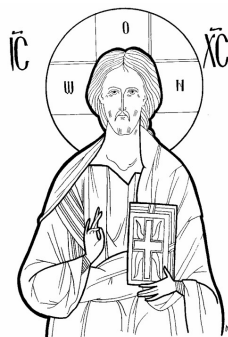
On the top right is seen angels announcing the good news to the shepherds (on the right) in the field.

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2

The event of the birth of our Savior and the events surrounding His birth is the beginning of the salvific work which Christ, who was sent by the Father to fulfill the covenant of the Torah and to serve as the only Mediator of our salvation and restoration of the eternal life that humanity was given by God in Paradise. Through our Orthodox iconography, we are able as adults, and children to preserve the Traditions of the Gospel and its message of salvation for all people.

From Presvytera Teri and I, we wish God's blessing and Merry Christmas to all the members of our Annunciation family.





FRIENDS OF THE METROPOLIS



2024 END-OF-YEAR REVIEW AND APPEAL

When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation.

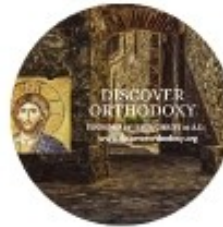
Because of your devotion to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service. I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis of Detroit in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

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

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

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

OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM



The Friends of the Metropolis are crucial to the continued support of our Outreach and Evangelism Committee, whose goal is to help others "Discover Orthodoxy" through outreach, education, community, and love.

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



The Friends of the Metropolis generously support all of the Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministry efforts, including regional retreats, parish ministry and youth worker support, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and three Metropolis summer camps.

HELLENIC COLLEGE HOLY CROSS



Thanks to the Friends of the Metropolis, the Metropolis annually provides support to its students at Hellenic College Holy Cross. In addition, the Metropolis was able to donate \$25,000 to support the incredibly important institution of our Orthodox Church.



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ MOBILE NO. _____

PARISH NAME _____ CITY/STATE _____

CREDIT CARD CHECK MONEY ORDER

CREDIT CARD NO. _____

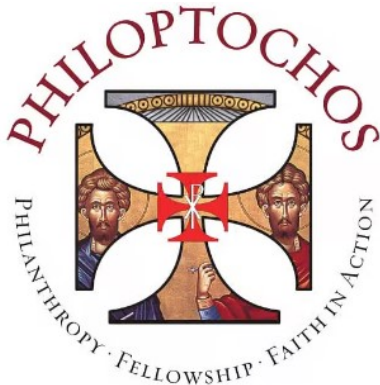
EXP. DATE _____ CVC NO. _____

TOTAL DONATION IN \$ _____

SIGNATURE _____

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

Dear Annunciation Family



What a blessed harvest season it has been. The beautiful scenery of the autumn season was spectacular this year. Hopefully, you all had the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Mother Nature and the changing of the leaves in upstate NY. The season's delicious fry cakes, the pies, and of course what we all await the Thanksgiving feast. Hopefully, you all had a blessed Thanksgiving. Just as our senses feel and enjoy the secular delights we also are encouraged by the majestic beauty of our church, its liturgy, and the communion of our church family, we also share the experience of fellowship.

With this fellowship in mind, we as the, Ladies of Philoptochos, who are called upon to serve the church and her people as a collective group of women and men, (yes, men can be a part of Philoptochos) are so grateful

to be a part of our amazing church family. That said, please allow me to mention some of the wonderful and philanthropic works of our own Philoptochos in 2023/2024.

Support of the Golf Tournament in the form of a raffle basket, festival sponsorship, the purchase of a stand-alone freezer which is downstairs, a discretionary fund for those in need, hosting the brunch for guest speaker Presvytera Eugenia Constantinou at our Lenten Retreat series, our yearly Saturday of Lazarus breakfast with our Sunday School/Greek School children, and of course the Vesper Service of March 25th the Annunciation of the Theotokos with our sister church in Buffalo, which we alternate yearly. Also, some of the secular philanthropies are: Jr. League of Rochester, ("a women's training organization committed to developing engaged civic leaders...") Champions of Change, ("a group of volunteers decorate rooms to help homeless families in need. Hotel for the holidays."), Suicide Awareness, and VOC (Veterans Outreach Center). As you can see the Ladies of Philoptochos have certainly been busy.

There are also the local philanthropies we support such as the Jr. League of Rochester, a women's training organization committed to developing engaged civic leaders, the Champions of Change, a group of volunteers who decorate rooms to help homeless families in need, Hotel for the holidays, Suicide Awareness and support of the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center.

But our Ladies of Philoptochos, together with the many other Philoptochos chapters across our Metropolis of Detroit and the Archdiocese, also support national and international causes. These include St. Timothy's Summer Camp, the Florence Stefanou Scholarship, Vasilopita Sunday in support of St. Basil Academy, organizations that fight cancer & other major illnesses such as autism, St. Photios Shrine in St. Augustine FL. Philoptochos also provides monetary support for the many Orthodox Christian Mission which supports the and Mission priests around the world, our Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology which trains our future priests, the Retired Clergy/Widowed Presvyteres Benevolent Society, International Orthodox Christian Charities, the National Philoptochos Emergency, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, General Medical Fund, and Christmas Campaign.

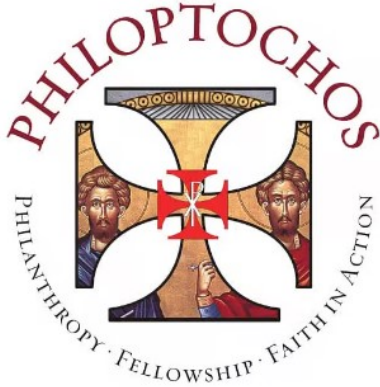
Speaking of gratitude, the best for last, that's "You", our Annunciation Family. With your consistent support and faithfulness to our cause of Philanthropy and our patron Sts. Comas & Damianos none of this great work can be accomplished. We thank you for your fellowship that is shared each and every Sunday during coffee hour; the delicious foods and desserts that are brought in every Sunday in the celebration of your loved one.

Fellowship brings us together as a community; thus Philoptochos thanks all of "You". We, the Philoptochos Ladies once again thank you for your monetary support of "the giving basket". Through your generous contributions, you help provide the funds to cover expenses such as coffee, coffee cups, koliva cups & lids, napkins, silverware, plates, and many more items needed to better serve you, our family.

Finally, we wish to thank all the hard-working Ladies of Philoptochos are committed to serving at Coffee Hour, and the hours of cooking and cleaning, whether for the Greek Festival or any of the multitude of

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PHILOPTOCHOS, continued



activities our community holds. As Frank Sinatra once said, “The big lesson in life, baby, is never be scared of anyone or anything.”

On behalf of The Ladies of Philoptochos, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and may God continue to bless our Philoptochos, our Annunciation community, and the United States of America.

Submitted by the Executive Staff of the Annunciation Ladies Philoptochos

CHILDREN’S CHOIR

The Children’s Choir Sang the Hymn of the Church beautifully on Sunday, October 27, 2024 under the direction of the Sunday School Teachers, Lead Chanter Laurie Soures-Wooters and Choir member/Chanter Marco Abuitah



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Parents and Parishioners,

We are in the Nativity season, and we have some wonderful events and philanthropy projects happening in our Religious Education program in December!

With love and prayers for a blessed Nativity fast,

Karina and Lauren

Upcoming Events

December 13th Christmas Movie Night

December 22nd: Christmas pageant

Learning Our Faith

In November, we discussed the nativity of Christ. We also discussed the purpose of confession in our church. Our children are learning the value in confessing sins and then starting anew.

Some questions you could ask your child are:

1. Why do we practice confession?
2. Who are we confessing to?
3. Can you tell me the story of Christ's birth?

December is focused on pageant practice which allows our children to act out the birth of Christ. By acting out the story our children will remember the important events in the birth of Christ!

Living our Faith

For the month of November and December, discussing the advent season is an important part of living our faith. Please refer to the advent calendar as an example of something you could do with your children.

Practicing our Faith

Our Annunciation Youth Ministries have teamed up once again to lead our Christmas toy drive to benefit children cared for at the Golisano Children's Hospital! Shop together as a family for an item on the hospital's wish list (refer to flyer) and bring to church by Sunday December 8th. Get the kids involved by letting them choose a gift from the list.

My Journey Through the *2024* Nativity Fast

<p style="font-size: 2em; color: green;">Start</p> <p style="color: green;">↓</p>	<p>Nov 29 Welcome someone to play with you today who may need a friend.</p>	<p>Nov.30 St. Andrew Day! He was the first one called! Be quick to come when you are called today!</p>	<p>Dec. 1 Sweep the porch and sidewalks today for mom and dad, then for a neighbor!</p>	<p>Dec. 2 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.</p>	<p>Dec. 3 Offer to help someone with a difficult job today.</p>
<p>Nov. 15 Discuss how your family will observe this fast for the next 40 days.</p>	<p>Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day Wash the dishes or empty the dishwasher today without being asked.</p>	<p>Dec 15 Make Christmas cards for priests, monks or nuns, and those in nursing homes today.</p>	<p>Dec. 14 Set the table without being asked.</p>	<p>Dec. 13 St. Lucy Day! Make sweet rolls and deliver them to someone</p>	<p>Dec. 4 Force branches on the feast of St. Barbara! Blooms by Christmas mean good luck!</p>
<p>Nov. 16 St. Matthew Begin to collect spare change for the poor at Christmas</p>	<p>Nov. 27 Learn a new prayer today...one you don't have memorized yet.</p>	<p>Dec. 16 Make everybody's bed today as a gift.</p>	<p>Dec. 17 Read a Christmas story to your little sister or brother</p>	<p>Dec. 12 Say a special prayer for all of the unborn babies today!</p>	<p>Dec. 5 Leave your shoe out for St. Nicholas to fill tonight!</p>
<p>Nov. 17 Say a prayer for someone who is sad today, then send them a card to cheer them up.</p>	<p>Nov. 26 Visit someone who is lonely today and give them a hug.</p>	<p>Dec. 19 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.</p>	<p>Dec. 18 Say a special prayer for someone who is sad today.</p>	<p>Dec 11 Practice your Christmas Carols so you'll be ready at Christmas! Put on a show!</p>	<p>Dec. 6 St. Nicholas Day! Do a secret good deed in his honor.</p>
<p>Nov. 18 Do an extra chore but don't tell anyone...be a secret angel.</p>	<p>Nov. 25 Play in the snow and make a snowman for everyone to see!</p>	<p>Dec. 20 St. Ignatius of Antioch Bake some bread for a neighbor!</p>	<p>Dec.21 Clean and Decorate your room for Christmas</p>	<p>Dec 10 Call Grandma or Grandpa (or an older friend) and say hello today.</p>	<p>Dec. 7 St. Ambrose Bee extra sweet today...sweet as honey!</p>
<p>Nov. 19 Set the table without being asked, maybe make pretty place cards!</p>	<p>Nov 24 Offer to make someone a cup of tea or cocoa and sit and talk to them for a while.</p>	<p>Dec 23 Do you know what to say when someone says, Christ is Born? <i>Glorify Him!</i></p>	<p>Dec. 22 Practice looking for the first star so you can do it at Holy Supper</p>	<p>Dec. 9 Read a Bible story before bed tonight that you haven't read before.</p>	<p>Dec 8 Conception of St. Anna Say an extra prayer to welcome the Theotokos!</p>
<p>Nov. 20 Clean your room for the holidays, then decorate!</p>	<p>Nov. 23 Smile at someone who looks sad today and cheer them up!</p>	<p>Dec. 24 Help set the table for Holy Supper. Sing Christmas Carols!</p>			
<p>Nov. 21 Entrance of the Theotokos Review the prayer to the Theotokos and say it 10 times for priests.</p>	<p>Nov. 22 Practice and recite the prayers before and after meals today!</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: green;">→</p> <p style="font-size: 3em; color: green;">Christ Is Born!</p>			

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YOUTH KAROKE NIGHT - October 26, 2024



TRUNK & TREAT - October 27, 2024



YOUTH SENECA PARK PETTING ZOO

November 17, 2024



YOUTH SENECA PARK PETTING ZOO

November 17, 2024



SUNDAY SCHOOL, GREEK SCHOOL & ANNUNCIATION YOUTH MINISTRY

Toy & Book Drive

Accepting Donation Through
Sunday, December 8

Gift Giving Ideas

Infants/Toddlers	Preschool/School Age	Teens
<i>We can only accept gifts on this list – Thank you</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Plastic infant rattles</i> <i>Musical toys – Fisher price</i> <i>Fisher price toddler cars</i> <i>Stacking cups,</i> <i>Small crib mirrors</i> <i>Teethers</i> <i>Board books</i> <i>Plastic bath books</i> <i>Plastic crib toys/soothers</i> <i>Bright start or FP links</i> <i>Sound story books, See and Say</i> <i>Fisher price people / animals</i> <i>Halo sleep sacks/ sleepers</i> <i>Touch and feel books and toys</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Small Lego sets</i> <i>My first play doh sets</i> <i>Paw patrol, Bluey toys</i> <i>Barbie / Princess Dolls</i> <i>Super hero / Transformer figures</i> <i>Dinosaur sets</i> <i>Matchbox or Hot Wheel sets</i> <i>Small craft kits / art sets</i> <i>Coloring activity books</i> <i>ISpy, memory, spot-it game</i> <i>6-12inch baby dolls-multicultural</i> <i>Small remote cars</i> <i>Top and bottom pajama sets</i> <i>6-12 inch soft stuffed animals</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Walmart or Amazon Gift Cards (\$20)</i> <i>Sticker art books</i> <i>Sketch pads and drawing pencils</i> <i>Word search/crossword/Mad libs</i> <i>Blank glue bound Journals</i> <i>Slime and slime kits</i> <i>Fine point art markers</i> <i>Small art sets for teens</i> <i>Teen or adult coloring books</i> <i>Nerf door basketball sets</i> <i>Cards, UNO, Skip-boo, Phase 10</i> <i>100-300 piece puzzles 18x24 or less</i> <i>Top and bottom pajama sets</i> <i>Nalgene, Hydro flask water bottles</i>



GREEK DANCING

FOR GREEK FESTIVAL 2025

SCAN TO REGISTER:



PRACTICES WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY. BE SURE TO **REGISTER BY JANUARY 19TH** TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING PRACTICE TIMES & COSTUMES!

* IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE, DANCERS MUST BE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN KINDERGARTEN, UP TO 12TH GRADE.





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

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
- Karen Balta, Vice President
- Demitrios Kolokouris, Treasurer
- Helen Eisenberg, Secretary
- Zach Graham
- Minas Theodorou
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