

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION

# THE ARCHANGEL

March/April 2023 NEWSLETTER



**Rev. Fr. Anastasios P. Bourantas**

Protopresbyter Presiding Priest

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410-727-1831

24 W. Preston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

## A Message from Father Anastasios

In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Dear faithful of the Cathedral of the Annunciation:

Καλή Σαρακοστή - A Blessed Holy and Great 40-Day Lent.

As we begin this miraculous journey towards the Feast of all Feasts, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we are invited simultaneously to do more and do less. We are to encourage ourselves to be more humble, more prayerful and spend less time on things that are meaningless to our eternal life. Our focus must turn to do more to edify our spiritual growth, by attending Church services more, fasting to the best of our ability and helping others that are less fortunate.

The powerful prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian carefully instructs us to leave those passions that promote idleness, self-centeredness and excessive talkativeness, by emptying our souls of our sinful ways – and to fill our bodies and souls with the virtues of moderation, humility, patience and love. We can live in a kinder world if we are the seeds of kindness, the seeds of compassion and the seeds of peace. Great Lent gives us the time to reset our souls and turn towards the glory of God.



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Our blessed Orthodox Church offers this grace during this holy season, through the Sacrament of Holy Confession. Holy Confession cleanses our souls and bodies, as the Psalmist David says, “makes us whiter than snow”. The priest is the vehicle to your confession and the sacrament is the greatest opportunity to further prepare your spiritual journey.

Every day throughout the year, we hear how we can strengthen our souls so that we can manage our daily lives with fearlessness and courage. Great Lent is also a time to place our spiritual life as the target of our existence. Through heightened awareness and participation in liturgical services, by using fasting to fight off passions — as His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew stated during His Catechetical Homily — and looking out to our brothers and sisters provides us ways to reach the goal of our spiritual journey.

As your spiritual father, I will pray for you and your families during this amazing period of our Church. I look forward to taking this journey together, and together arriving to the highlight of our liturgical life, the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, proclaiming that “Christ is Risen!”

Paternally in Christ,

*Fr. Anastasios Bourantas*



**His Grace  
Bishop Apostolos of Medeia  
will visit on Friday, March 24th to  
celebrate Great Vespers  
and the Salutations to the Virgin  
Mary at 7 pm and  
on Saturday, March 25th  
for the Feast Day of the  
Annunciation with Orthros & Divine  
Liturgy beginning at 8:30 am**



**OUR NEXT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
MEETING  
WILL BE MAY 7, 2023**

**All Parishioners are  
Requested to Attend**

**If you have any have photos to  
share with the Newsletter  
Committee,  
upload them to the  
Newsletter Drive**

**<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WFCn1I2wCh60UTywq1Z436wcDagXzSOs?usp=sharing>**

**May/June Newsletter  
Submission Deadline is  
Noon on April 19th**

## ***Message from Geli Ioannou, Parish Council President***

Greetings in Christ!



AXIOS to his Grace Bishop Constantine of Sassima on his elevation to Bishop. The blessings and joy our community received as we celebrated his elevation will make 2022 a historic year in the life of our beloved Cathedral.

The challenges and struggles of the pandemic are a distant memory, as we look forward to continuing the life of the church. Our Cathedral was blessed to have Father Anastasios Bourantas assigned to be our spiritual Father. In my first conversation with Father Anastasios, his first statement to me was that “it is with love in my heart, and with love in the hearts of my family, that I accepted the assignment”. I firmly believe that it was God’s will that inspired the events of the past year and I believe we, as a community of faithful, are part of His plan. This is a “call to action” for all of us as a family to be active participants, as we collectively begin to write the next chapter in the life of the Annunciation. Upon his arrival, Father Anastasios reminded us that his arrival was not a “transition” but was the “continuation” of the life of our parish.

There is quite a bit to be excited about as we move forward. Change can often usher in a new sense of life and purpose and that is what I feel and sense in our parish. The life and ministries of the church are vibrant with activity. I recognize that the ministries and organizations of the church need to be nurtured and supported, and the Parish Council is committed to this purpose. I also recognize that it is time for substantial investment into the Education Building and the entire lower level of the Cathedral. These facilities have served us well, but they need to be modernized with a vision and purpose that is going to support the needs of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. This is where the heartbeat of our ministries and organizations lives, and this is where we enjoy fellowship as a community. Father Anastasios and the Parish Council are eager and excited to engage our fellow parishioners in discussions that will ultimately define our vision for the future. The Capital Campaign Committee has been working to prepare to relaunch, once the scope of our vision is clearly defined. This process will be challenging and exciting. It will require that everyone has an opportunity to share their thoughts and opinions.

As excited as I am about beginning this process, we have a challenge. We must determine what needs to be done with the five vacant row homes across the street from the Cathedral. There was a vision for development in 2006 and a capital campaign was initiated, but the collapse of the economy in 2008 brought that effort to a halt. We must resolve the issue of what to do with these properties, before proceeding with renovations to the Cathedral side of the street. We owe this to our neighbors and to our community. Seeking a resolution, will be a part of forthcoming conversations and the focus of the Spring General Assembly scheduled for May 7, 2023. We have several options. We can sell them and allow an investor to control what is developed there. We can partner with an investor and secure partial use and partial ownership. We can choose to develop for the purpose of expanding ministries into the space and maintain ownership. We can develop for commercial or residential use and maintain ownership. We can seek approval to demolish them and create an outdoor space that connects to the AOC.

A tremendous amount of work has been done to explore all our options. I am grateful to everyone who has offered their time and talents to this effort. I look forward to sharing more details when we have the opportunity to meet. We are blessed to be the stewards of this beautiful Cathedral. We are the beneficiaries of the Greek immigrants who mortgaged their homes to purchase this magnificent church. They had a vision for what the church they purchased would someday transform into, and many who sacrificed, never saw the fruits of their labor. They did it for future generations to come. That’s us. It’s time to create our vision for future generations. Through prayer and with love, we will set the course for the next hundred years. I wish everyone a blessed Lent.

*- Geli*



### Sunday Worship

8:00am Orthros

9:30am Divine Liturgy

### Office Hours

Monday–Friday

9:00am - 4:30 pm

All other services can be found

on the online calendar at

[www.annunciationbaltimore.org/Calendar](http://www.annunciationbaltimore.org/Calendar)

### Annunciation Cathedral Staff

John Hall

Operations Manager

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Erene Kariotis

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410-727-1831

### Organization Contacts

Administrative Committee—Judy Georges: [Judy-wood@comcast.net](mailto:Judy-wood@comcast.net)

AHEPA—Alex Klopfenstein: [ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu](mailto:ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu)

Altar Boys—Father Anastasios Bourantas:

[fr.anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:fr.anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org)

AOC Committee—Pamela Stevens: [pamelastevens1225@gmail.com](mailto:pamelastevens1225@gmail.com)

Growing in Faith Women's Bible Study—Jeanne Tsakalos & Janine Karabeles:

[psuvthokie@gmail.com](mailto:psuvthokie@gmail.com)

Bookstore—Cheryl McCarus & Christy Williams: [cmccarus@me.com](mailto:cmccarus@me.com) /

[christieawilliamsrd@yahoo.com](mailto:christieawilliamsrd@yahoo.com)

Building & Maintenance Committee—Gus Stratakis: [gus@mjbrown.com](mailto:gus@mjbrown.com)

Capital Campaign—Georgeann & Dean Mallas, Karen & George Philippou

Chanter/Byzantine Music—Stefanos Niktas:

Choir - Adult—Fifi Nichols: [fnichols1@verizon.net](mailto:fnichols1@verizon.net)

Choir - Youth—Faye Hayes: [fjhayes!@msn.com](mailto:fjhayes!@msn.com)

Dance Groups—Peggy DiBiasi, Nestor & Stephanie Mathoudakis,

Antoni & Constantia Seas: [dance@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:dance@annunciationbaltimore.org)

Daughters of Penelope—Diane Homberg: [dianehomberg@yahoo.com](mailto:dianehomberg@yahoo.com)

GOYA Basketball—Steven Demos: [sedemos1223@gmail.com](mailto:sedemos1223@gmail.com) &

Mike Baglanis: [pmbaglanis@stephengould.com](mailto:pmbaglanis@stephengould.com)

GOYA—President - Yianni Apostolo, Parent Advisors - Frances Apostolo,

Cleo Pappas & Maria Brown: [goya@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:goya@annunciationbaltimore.org)

Greek Festival—Michael Sabracos: [mike.sabracos@thealtopartners.com](mailto:mike.sabracos@thealtopartners.com)

Greek School—Sia Kyriakakos (Principal) & Toulia Bellios (VP), Terri Hornick (PTO):

[greeksschool@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:greeksschool@annunciationbaltimore.org)

Hellenic Heritage Museum—Harry Maistros: [harry.maistros@comcast.net](mailto:harry.maistros@comcast.net)

Hope/Joy—Dorothea Tsakiris & Eleni Campanides:

[hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org)

Library—Pascal Papouras: [pascal.papouras@outlook.com](mailto:pascal.papouras@outlook.com)

Little Angels—Irene Bullock & Maria Morris: [littleangels@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:littleangels@annunciationbaltimore.org)

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Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)—Trevor Bullock:

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Real Estate Committee—Jamie Caminis: [jcaminis@lhmvalue.com](mailto:jcaminis@lhmvalue.com)

Safety & Security—Alex Klopfenstein: [ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu](mailto:ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu)

Stewardship Committee—Tom Boardman: [wrapboard@aol.com](mailto:wrapboard@aol.com)

Summer Camp—Trina Madani: [trina.madani@gmail.com](mailto:trina.madani@gmail.com)

Sunday School—Maria Durham and Anastasia Georgiou:

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Technology & Communication Committee—Nick Stathopoulos:

[nickstath29@gmail.com](mailto:nickstath29@gmail.com)

Ushering—Bill Prevas: [billy0919@aol.com](mailto:billy0919@aol.com)

Vacation Bible School—Dorothea Tsakiris:

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Welcoming Committee—Rhoulia Monios: [rhouliaevie@yahoo.com](mailto:rhouliaevie@yahoo.com)

Women's Guild: Pamela Stevens: [pamelastevens1225@gmail.com](mailto:pamelastevens1225@gmail.com)

YAL (Young Adult League)—George Roros, Christian Jenkins, and Dimitri Sidou

[yal@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:yal@annunciationbaltimore.org)

Youth Ministries Committee—Eleni Roros, Effie Theodore & Rhoulia Monios:

[youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org)

### 2023 Parish Council Members

President: Geli Ioannou

Vice President: Melissa Hogle

Treasurer: Ernie Rafailides

Secretary: Eleni Roros

Cristian Cazac

Georgeann Morekas

Paul Dezes

Pascal Papouras

Alex Klopfenstein

Stephanie Smith

Steve Kousouris

Effie Theodore

Harry Monios

Panos Tsakiroglou

Nikki Monios

Annunciation Cathedral:

[www.annunciationbaltimore.org](http://www.annunciationbaltimore.org)

Metropolis of NJ:

[www.goarch.org/-/metropolis-of-new-jersey](http://www.goarch.org/-/metropolis-of-new-jersey)

Archdiocese:

[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

### **Deadlines for Publications:**

#### Bulletins

Noon on Wednesday to

[assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org)

#### The Archangel Newsletter

Noon on April 19 to

[newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org)



## Philoptochos is as busy as ever in 2023!

We kicked off this year with the Annual Vasilopita distribution in the Cathedral followed by a reception on January 8th. Trina Madani was blessed to receive the Vasilopita coin. Connie Rogers and Alexis Grote gifted Trina with a cross.

On February 25th we hosted a Metropolis-wide event at the AOC. Our Chapter hosted Dorrie Papadimitriou, founder of MudGirls Studio in Atlantic City, NJ. Dorrie is a member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Egg Harbor Township, NJ, and past president of their Philoptochos Chapter. In 2016, Dorrie started a program for disenfranchised women to learn a skill and earn a supplemental income to lift them up from addiction or homelessness. She taught women how to work with clay at a homeless shelter, Adelaide's Place in Atlantic City. From this experience she got the idea to start her own non-profit where women can work in a safe environment surrounded by love. MudGirls Studio produces beautiful works of art in utilitarian items as well as full wall tile installations in educational institutions and large corporations.

We invited all 55 Philoptochos Chapters in the NJ Metropolis to the event. There were 82 attendees with at least one representative from every state in the Metropolis. Dorrie was accompanied by three of her MudGirls, two of whom have been working in the program since 2016. They shared their stories of homelessness and past addiction and recovery. One of the women shared that at one point many years ago she was homeless in Baltimore and this was the first time she had been back to Baltimore since that time. This time she returned as a full-time employee of MudGirls with her own apartment and sharing her story with the attendees. We also watched a beautiful documentary about MudGirls, that was both heartwarming and inspiring. Lunch was offered and then we went up to the balcony for an opportunity to be a MudGirl for the day. Three stations were set up where participants worked with the clay to produce a dove ornament that was taken back to the studio to be processed in their inventory. An afternoon would not be complete without shopping. A boutique was set up where we had the opportunity to purchase some of the beautiful items crafted at the MudGirls Studio. I think it is safe to say that everyone who attended had a wonderful time experiencing Philoptochos sisterhood and philanthropy.



We have a lot going on this Spring:

- Responding to the needs of anyone who is brought to our attention in our community requiring financial or medical assistance
- Supporting all the National, Metropolis and local projects that we did at the end of 2022
- Sending a donation to the IOCC following the horrific earthquakes in Turkey and Syria
- Preparing Paschal Baked Goods for our sale (see dates below)
- Preparing for the March 24th Vespers Service and March 25th celebration of the Evangelismos
- Offering a Fish Luncheon on Palm Sunday following liturgy
- Preparing and delivering Paschal treats to shut ins and other seniors as we did at Christmas time. If you have anyone you would like to add to our list, please submit their name, address and phone number to [philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org)
- Sending Easter boxes to college students and members of the military. Please send the names and addresses to Connie Rogers at [connierogers2@hotmail.com](mailto:connierogers2@hotmail.com)

- Evaluating scholarship applications. Every year our Philoptochos chapter distributes scholarships to students entering college or graduate school to assist with expenses. Applications are available in the office and on the Cathedral website. Applications are due April 21, 2023 and will be distributed on May 21, 2023 in Church
- Promoting the NJ Metropolis Philoptochos' Anastasia K Michaels Memorial Philoptochos Scholarship, which will be given to qualifying High School seniors entering an accredited University, College or Trade School. The scholarship application can be found under "Resources" on the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos website at [njphiloptochos.org](http://njphiloptochos.org). There are a few hard copies available in the church office. The deadline for submitting the application is June 15, 2023

#### Upcoming Events:

- Paschal Baking is scheduled for 3/18 and 4/1 at 10 am in the Social Hall. Please come and help. Every year we sell about \$7,000 worth of koulourakia. We need your help to achieve our goal. Contact Georgeann Morekas (443-845-1176) or Kathe Apesos Lazarides (443-310-1481) if you would like to assist with baking
- March 24th Vespers - Philoptochos prepares and offers this annual reception following the service. If you would like to help with set up or cleanup, contact Georgeann Morekas ([gmorekas@gmail.com](mailto:gmorekas@gmail.com)).
- March 25th Feast Day of the Annunciation – His Grace Bishop Apostolos will celebrate the liturgy that morning. We will host the Coffee Hour following the service. Contact Georgeann Morekas ([gmorekas@gmail.com](mailto:gmorekas@gmail.com) /443-845-1176) if you can help
- March 26th Greek Independence Day Parade – contact Paul Dezes [paul.dezes3@gmail.com](mailto:paul.dezes3@gmail.com), who is coordinating the Cathedral groups, if you would like to walk in the parade
- Palm Sunday Luncheon - If you would like to help with set up or clean up contact Georgeann Morekas (443-845-1176)
- Good Friday Reception – please contact Alice Ioannou to offer your help that day ([mrsaliki@icloud.com](mailto:mrsaliki@icloud.com))

We have begun planning for our 11th Annual Flea Market that will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from June 30 - August 6, 2023. We will accept donations between April 24th and June 25th. Questions or to make arrangements for delivering your donated items: [philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com](mailto:philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com), Judy Georges – TEXT 443-301-5041, Georgeann Morekas – TEXT 443-845-1176.

Our Spring General Meeting is the Mother-Daughter Luncheon. This will be held on May 13, 2023 at the AOC. Please invite your daughters, granddaughters and Goddaughters to this luncheon. Also, we are wearing fancy hats for the day!! Details on this event to follow.

Our membership drive is in full swing. We cannot do this work to the extent that we do without your contributions. Our income comes from your membership dues, the Sunday tray, and fundraising, like the Flea Market and baking projects and from parishioners who generously make donations and final estate bequests. We need your help to support these worthwhile projects. Please consider joining or rejoining Philoptochos and inviting a family member or friend.

One final note - this is an election year. Consider joining the Philoptochos Board. If you are interested or want more information on what the commitment is, call me at 443-803-3771 or email me at [jprevas@aol.com](mailto:jprevas@aol.com).

The Great Lent is a time when we reflect on sacrifice and service to others. Philoptochos is a service organization. We give from a place of love and respect for others. Please help us to continue our work.

Kali Sarakosti,  
Jean Prevas, Philoptochos President





### **Military and College Student Easter Boxes**

- Philoptochos will be mailing Easter packages to our members of the military and college students who are out of town. We also plan on delivering or mailing packages to military members and students who are studying in the Baltimore area. Please submit names and addresses to Connie Rogers at [connierogers2@hotmail.com](mailto:connierogers2@hotmail.com) by April 1.

### **Easter Goodie Bags for Seniors and Shut-ins**

- Philoptochos will be delivering Easter treats and scheduling visits with our seniors and shut-ins. If you know of anyone who would like to be included on our distribution list, please submit their name, address and phone number to: [philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org) by April 1.



### **Save The Date**

**The Annual Philoptochos  
Mother-Daughter  
Spring General Meeting  
&  
Luncheon  
Saturday, May 13, 2023  
at 11:30 am  
in the AOC**

**Details To Follow**

### **ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Philoptochos scholarship applications are currently being accepted from high school seniors and college students. The application and additional information can be found on the Cathedral website. Hard copies are available on the Welcome table in the Cathedral lobby.

**Submittal deadline: Friday, April 21**

Scholarships will be awarded in church on Sunday, May 21. Please contact Deanna Sakellaris at 410-591-6601 or [dsak702@verizon.net](mailto:dsak702@verizon.net) should you have any questions.

### **Anastasia K. Michals Memorial Philoptochos Scholarship**

The Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos is offering an opportunity to qualifying High School seniors entering an accredited University, College or Trade School, to apply for a merit-based scholarship. The scholarship application can be found under Resources on the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos website at [www.njphiloptochos.org](http://www.njphiloptochos.org).

Hard copies are available on the Welcome Table in the Cathedral lobby.

**The deadline for submitting the application is June 15, 2023.**



## **PRESTON HALL**

**Contact Us to Host Your Next Event**

**(410) 802-4372**

**[prestonhallaoc@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:prestonhallaoc@annunciationbaltimore.org)**

**[www.prestonhallvenue.com](http://www.prestonhallvenue.com)**





## 2023 CHOIR NEWS

Kali Sarakosti!

The Annunciation Cathedral Choir is comprised of volunteers who have heard and answered the call of gifting their voices in singing the beautiful and inspiring hymns of our Greek Orthodox faith. Their dedication and commitment are exceptional and commendable. You may hear them every Sunday this year. We have instituted more English in our services, and the first Salutations to the Virgin Mary (Heretismi Service) is a prime example of the choir singing many stanzas in English. It was an enlightening and wonderful service. The choir practices every Wednesday evening and on Sunday mornings. We are pleased to welcome several new choir members and if you would like to join our choir, we would love to have you.

The choir is excited and thrilled to welcome a few teenagers to our Cathedral choir. We would like all the teenagers in our Sunday School and congregation to join us on Sunday mornings. Please contact our choir director, Fifi Nichols, [fnichols1@verizon.net](mailto:fnichols1@verizon.net) for more information.

Our **Junior Choir Director**, Faye Hayes, is working with the Greek School children teaching them hymns of each liturgical season and of our faith.

**A new Junior Choir will begin April 2 from 9:10-9:30am.** Please bring your children ages 8-12 to the Junior Choir room so they may learn the beautiful hymns and responses in order to participate in the liturgical services.

The Cathedral Choir instituted the Annunciation Cathedral Concert Series held at the AOC to bring varied concerts to our community and the greater Mount Vernon area. Last month we featured pianist, Melody Quah and oboist, Andreas Oeste who provided an exceptional afternoon of music to all in attendance.

**Our next concert on March 19th at 1 p.m., will feature our own organist, Dr. Teodora Adzharova, piano, Airi Yoshioka, violin and Izmar Gomez, cello performing Sergei Rachmaninoff, Trio Elegiaque, No.1 in G minor and Franz Schubert, The Piano Trio, No. 2 in Eb Major, D.929.**



**Free admission is extended to all children and students and a nominal donation of \$25 per adult is requested. For additional information and tickets:**  
**[www.annunciationconcerts.com](http://www.annunciationconcerts.com)**

We look forward to having you join us for this exciting concert.



## Annunciation Oratorical Festival Congratulations to our Youth!

Senior Divison  
Georgia Ioannou  
Maria Bellios

Junior Division  
Gabiella Bourantas  
Elia Showalter

Honorable Mention  
Evangelia Diehl

**Thank you** to our five speakers and to Anastasia Georgiou for chairing the event.

The winners will be representing the Cathedral of the Annunciation on April 1st at the Maryland Regional Oratorical Festival - Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church - 920 W Seventh St., Frederick, MD 21701

## **Pastoral Reminders**

**Prosforon** (Holy Communion Bread) - One of the great honors for a family is to bake Prosforon to be used for the Divine Liturgy. Please contact the Cathedral office if you would like to provide Prosforon.



REMINDER

**Coffee Hour** - Contact the Cathedral Office if you would like to host or co-host a Coffee Hour on Sunday.

**Sacramental Wine and Altar Supplies** - You may make a financial gift to help defray the cost of the sacramental wine that is used for Holy Communion. Please note on the memo line of your check or on the envelope "Sacramental Wine". The donation is \$150.00, which may be offered in memory or in honor of a loved one. For additional information, contact the Cathedral office.

**Forty Day Baby Blessing** - Contact the Cathedral Office to schedule the service. These blessings take place immediately after the Divine Liturgy and families should plan to arrive at the Cathedral no later than 9:30 am. Ushers will have seating available for you and will direct you when it is time for the service.

**Sunday School** - All youth are invited to participate in the Religious Education program at the Cathedral. Pews are reserved for students in the Cathedral during the Divine Liturgy to the left of the Altar. Once the students receive Holy Communion, they will be escorted to their respective classrooms for the lesson. The students will be brought down at 11:15 am to the sanctuary or at the conclusion of the Divine liturgy to receive antideron and be dismissed (whichever is the later).

**Altar Boys** - Young men, ages 8 and above are encouraged to serve in the Altar. Dress code is dark trousers, black dress shoes, white long-sleeved dress shirt and conservative tie. They should arrive no later than 9:30 am and must receive a blessing from the presiding priest before serving. Altar boys will be dismissed for Sunday School once they receive communion when Sunday School is in session.

**Memorial Services** - Kindly contact the Cathedral two weeks prior to schedule a memorial service for your loved one. Be mindful that conflicts sometimes do occur due to the ecclesiastical calendar of the Orthodox Church. It is up to the family to prepare and distribute the koliva (boiled wheat) unless other arrangements have been made with the Philoptochos (contact Georgeann Morekas, 443-845-1176). Flowers and koliva should be at the Cathedral no later than 9:00 am on Sunday morning. Pews will be reserved in the center for family members on a first come basis. Father Anastasios will visit the Greek Orthodox Cemetery on Windsor Mill Road first, then the other burial sites unless prior arrangements have been made. If flowers are ordered, it is the family's responsibility to take them to the gravesite.

**Death** - When a death occurs in the family, contact the funeral home of your choice and Father Anastasios. Arrangements for the funeral will be made in conjunction with the funeral home and Father Anastasios.

**Hospital and Nursing Home Visits** - It is up to the family to notify Father Anastasios when a visit is necessary. It is advised to contact him immediately by calling 410-727-1831. If it is a medical emergency and the office is closed, the emergency telephone number will be given. Due to legal obligations and privacy laws he is not at liberty to offer information regarding a parishioner.

**Parking** - Parking on the Cathedral lots are reserved only for Cathedral activities. If there are no activities, the lots are closed. Cars left on the lot, regardless of parking permit, will be towed at the owner's expense.

**Electronic/Written Communications** - All communications that are disseminated through the parish are done with the consent and blessing of Father Anastasios. The e-mail listserv is a private listing that only contains Patriarchal/Archdiocesan/Metropolis and Cathedral information. It is not used to advertise for private business. The sole purpose is to keep our parishioners informed about relevant events in the life of our parish. Death announcements are sent only if the funeral takes place at the Cathedral or our Cemetery Chapel.

**Social Services Assistance** - The Philoptochos has resources available to those who require social services assistance. All requests are confidential and can be submitted to: [philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org); or [Fr.Anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:Fr.Anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org); or leave a message at the church.

**Good Standing** - If you have already obtained a civil divorce, you must also receive an Ecclesiastical Divorce from the Church. This brief process is confidentially handled by the parish priest and must be completed in order to be in good standing with the Church, meaning that you may not partake in the Sacramental life of the Church (ex: being a sponsor at a wedding or baptism, receiving Holy Communion, Holy Unction, serving on Parish Council, voting at Parish Assemblies, and entering into another marriage). Please consider your personal situation and be in good standing with the Church. If you have questions or concerns please contact Fr. Anastasios directly.

**Steward of the Parish** - As Orthodox Christians we are stewards of the Church not merely members. Stewardship is our lifetime commitment to our Church that begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues annually when we financially, physically, and spiritually contribute and participate in the life of the Church. Our Stewardship Pledge is made as a grateful response for what God has given us through Christ. All parishioners over 18 years of age who submit a stewardship commitment and remain current with that commitment during the year will be considered voting members of the parish. All members of a household who are over the age of 18 should submit their own stewardship commitment. More rights and responsibilities of our stewards are outlined in the charters and by-laws of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Metropolis of New Jersey, and the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation.



## SCHEDULING OF SACRAMENTS, MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

**All must be scheduled with the Church Office.**

**Contact**  
[assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org)  
or 410-727-1831



# The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Baltimore, Maryland

## LENT SERVICE SCHEDULE—2023

Wednesday, March 8

- 6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy+

Thursday, March 9

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+ (40 Martyrs of Sebaste)

Friday, March 10

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 6:30 PM – Salutations to the Theotokos

Sunday, March 12

- 8:00 AM – Second Sunday of Lent+

Monday, March 13

- 6:00 PM – Compline Service

Wednesday, March 15

- 6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy+

Friday, March 17

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 6:30 PM – Salutations to the Theotokos

Sunday, March 19

- 8:00 AM – Third Sunday of Lent+

Monday, March 20

- 6:00 PM – Compline Service

Wednesday, March 22

- 6:30 PM – Presanctified Liturgy+

Friday, March 24

- 7:00 PM – Great Vespers for the Annunciation with Salutations

+ Holy Communion offered

Saturday, March 25

- 8:30 AM – Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation+

Sunday, March 26

- 8:00 AM – Fourth Sunday of Lent+

Monday, March 27

- 6:00 PM – Compline Service

Wednesday, March 29

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 6:00 PM – Compline Service with Great Canon

Thursday, March 30

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Service+ (Saint John Climacus)

Friday, March 31

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 6:30 PM – Salutations to the Theotokos

Sunday, April 2

- 8:00 AM – Fifth Sunday of Lent+

Monday, April 3

- 6:00 PM – Compline Service

Wednesday, April 5

- 6:00 PM – Presanctified Liturgy+

Friday, April 7

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+



### EASTER LILIES

Offering lilies in memory or in honor of our loved ones is a beautiful tradition.

Donations may be made for \$25.00 each.

**Please make checks payable to the Annunciation Cathedral & return:**

Annunciation Cathedral, 24 West Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

**Or Pay Online** at [www.annunciationbaltimore.org](http://www.annunciationbaltimore.org) - select the Donate button and then select the Lilies option to complete your donation via a credit card.

**Complete and Return Form by April 5th**

Yes, I would like to donate \_\_\_\_\_ Easter plants at \$25.00 each.

Payment will be made: Sending Check \_\_\_\_\_ Paid Online \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept this gift, donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_





## HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE - 2023

+ Holy Communion offered

Saturday, April 08

- 8:00 AM – Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Saturday of Lazarus+
- 5:00 PM – Great Vespers

Sunday, April 09 (Palm Sunday)

- 8:00 AM – Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Triumphant Entrance of our Lord+
- 6:30 PM – Service of the Bridegroom

Monday, April 10

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Divine Liturgy+
- 6:30 PM – Service of the Bridegroom

Tuesday, April 11

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 6:30 PM – Service of the Bridegroom

Wednesday, April 12

- 9:00 AM – Presanctified Liturgy+
- 3:00 PM – Sacrament of Holy Unction
- 6:30 PM – Service of the Bridegroom

Thursday, April 13

- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – Vespertal Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great+
- 6:30 PM – The Passion of our Lord (The 12 Gospels)

Friday, April 14

- 9:00 AM – Great Hours
- 3:00 PM – The Apokathelosis - Un-nailing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from the Cross
- 6:30 PM – Orthros with The Lamentations of our Lord and Procession

Saturday, April 15

- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – Vespertal Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great+
- 11:00 PM – The Service of the Resurrection + (Courtyard)

Sunday, April 16

- 12:00 PM – The Agape Service\*
- \*Readers are needed for this service (all languages welcome). Please contact the Cathedral Office.

### THE MYRRHBEARERS:



### MIROFORES–MYRRH BEARERS

All girls from 6 to 12 years of age interested in being a Myrofora for Holy Week services contact Dorothea Tsakiris at

[hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org)





### **Red Eggs for Pascha**

Get ready for Pascha with a dozen red dyed eggs - \$10/dozen.

Reserve your Eggs at:

<https://forms.gle/qWMJibBsMYx5nvoh8>

Deadline to reserve is April 10th.

Pickup is on Holy Thursday (4/13) between 3pm to 5pm or Holy Friday (4/14) between 12 noon to 3pm.

Contact Eleni Roros at  
443-621-0587 or  
[eroros99@gmail.com](mailto:eroros99@gmail.com)  
with any questions.



Scan to Reserve Easter Eggs

## **GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE**

Join us for the  
Annual Greek Independence Day Parade  
on Sunday, March 26 at 2pm in Highlandtown, MD  
Grand Marshall: Jeanne Tsakalos

All of our Cathedral ministries and families are encouraged to march and represent our Cathedral community.

The Parade will showcase ethnic, cultural, religious and musical groups from Maryland and surrounding states.

Visit [www.greekparade.com](http://www.greekparade.com) for info.

For more info, contact Paul Dezes,  
[paul.dezes3@gmail.com](mailto:paul.dezes3@gmail.com)





# *Holy Friday*

## **YOUTH RETREAT**

### **Friday April 14, 2023**

#### **11am to 4pm**

All Youth Pre-K to High School

Includes the Apokathelosis/ "Unnailing from the Cross" service at 3pm.

Special Activity - Decorate your Lambatha

Lambatha will be provided



Scan to Register

Lunch included

Register by 4/10/23 at  
<https://forms.gle/i8qnFU9Wnz18cTc36>

For more info: [youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org)  
If anyone is available to volunteer for all or part of the day, let us know.

Excused Absence letters will be available.

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

## Sunday School's 2023 Lenten Giving Project

# Easter "Sunday Best" Clothing and Candy Drive

### What to Donate:

New Easter dresses, polo shirts, slacks, nice hats, etc., in sizes 2T- 16. No shoes please.

Candy **nut-free and gelatin-free**. No homemade candy please.

### Drop Off Instructions:

Place donations outside the church office in the boxes marked Easter "Sunday Best" Drive

### Donation Deadline: Friday, March 31

All donations are for the children who visit the Franciscan Center and will be distributed at the Children's Easter Party on April 5.



## Saturday of Lazarus

April 8, 2023

Our Youth Ministries invite all  
to assist after the Divine Liturgy with:

Palm Making

Bay Leaf Preparation

Decorating the Cathedral

"Lazarakia" Baking by the children

Potluck Lenten Lunch

Everyone is welcome to participate and are  
invited to bring a Lenten Dish to share.

Please reserve your space at:

<https://forms.gle/9tLaZyxgfQLQvHaJ9>



Orthros & Divine Liturgy - 8am to 10am  
Palm Making & Potluck Lunch - 10am

Scan for Saturday of Lazarus

JOIN US FOR AN



Easter

EGG HUNT

APRIL  
16TH

Annunciation Cathedral Courtyard  
Hunt Begins After the 12 noon Agape Service



## Book Reviews

### **Children:**

#### **Esther's Easter Dress**

By Katherine Kafarakis

Intertwined in the book is the story about a young girl named Esther and her dress and it's journey through Holy Week.

#### **Love at Lent Activity Cards**

By Michelle Bonanno Triant, illustrated by Maria Constantinescu

Love at Lent is a project for the whole family, with daily tasks that reinforce the daily values of kindness, forgiveness, prayer, generosity, gratitude, and love. Choose one card each day of Great Lent and Holy Week to discover a new task to complete! The Love at Lent cards also work well in other settings, such as Sunday school classes, church ministry groups, and homeschool cooperatives. The set includes an introduction, 50 activity cards, and three prayer cards.

### **Adult:**

#### **A Pilgrimage to Pascha: A Daily Devotional for Great Lent**

By Archpriest Steven John Belonick with Michele Constable and Michael Soroka

This unpretentious little book of meditations based on Scripture, ancient hymns, writings from church fathers will nourish the souls of reflective seekers during the forty-day period of Great Lent

#### **Spiritual Information and Giving**

By +Bishop Alexi of Sitka and Alaska

What is the significance of almsgiving of a believer? The author draws on a wealth of patristics and modern sources to explore why God commands us to give, what motivates people to give or hold back, what spirit should characterize our giving, and the spiritually transformative results giving can have for us.



### **The Hellenic Heritage Museum of Maryland, Inc.**

The Hellenic Heritage Museum of Maryland recently was represented at the Hellenic Society Prometheas' event at St. George's Hall in Bethesda, Maryland when they hosted a live musical tribute to Mikis Theodorakis. After a wonderful meal, we found ourselves singing some of the familiar tunes and even getting up to dance a Zeibekiko.

The museum collaborated with the Annunciation Sunday School to mark the beginning of Holy Lent on February 26 with a cutout of Kyra Sarakosti (the Lent Lady with seven feet). Students were able to decorate the figure and even glue a magnet to its back so it could be placed on the refrigerator at home where they can mark each of the weeks of Lent by cutting off, or folding back a foot for each week leading up to Holy Week and Pascha. Students and parents participated and were thankful to have learned of the traditional folk custom.

We hosted the March 12th coffee hour to commemorate the 202nd anniversary of the Greek War of Independence. A variety of Lenten refreshments were offered, and the congregation was led in singing the Greek National Anthem.

Please visit our website: [hellenicheritagemd.org](http://hellenicheritagemd.org)



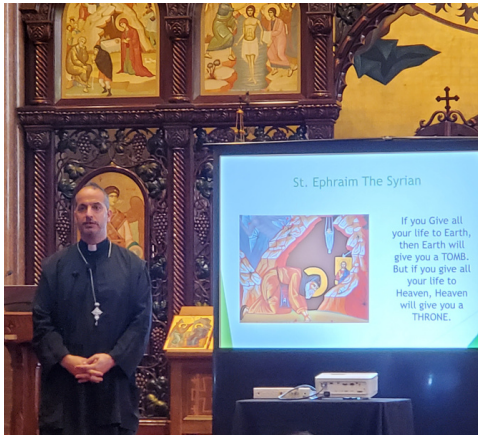
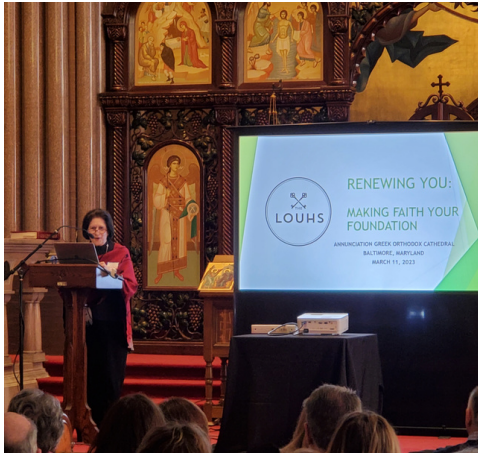
### **“LOGOS”, WORD OF GOD BOOKSTORE**

Please visit “Logos”, the Word of God Bookstore! We are now open in order to provide tools for Orthodox growth in faith. The mission of the Logos bookstore is to provide access to spiritual and educational books, icons, gifts, games, media and resources for all ages. We will provide a book review on a regular basis highlighting choices for children and adults. We hope that this will aid in familiarizing you with some of our treasures. Enjoy Logo's inaugural book reviews!

Good 40 day Lent! Kali Sarakosti! See you soon!



# 27th Annual Nicholas Tsakalos Memorial Lenten Retreat with Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh - March 11th





# STEWARDSHIP & DAY SPONSORS

Please consider becoming a **Day Sponsor Steward**.

The average daily operating cost of our parish is \$3500. By becoming a **Day Sponsor Steward** with an annual pledge of \$3500 you will be making a significant contribution to the financial health of our parish. Stewardship is the giving of Time, Treasure, and Talent. It is giving back to God for the gifts He has given to you. Day Sponsorship may not be within everyone's capabilities, but if it is within your household, please be "one of the ones" who allow us to reach our 2023 Stewardship goal, in which we fell short in 2022.

Whether you have made your annual commitment or have yet to do so, please help us reach a goal of obtaining 100 Day Sponsor Stewards in 2023.

*Thank  
you!*

The Stewardship Committee is grateful for all who have already made a pledge for 2023. Our parish is vibrant from any and all acts of stewardship.

For those who still need to become 2023 Stewards, there is no time like the present!

1. Just visit our church website at: [www.annunciationbaltimore.org](http://www.annunciationbaltimore.org)
2. Click on "Become a Steward" in the upper right-hand corner.
3. Fill out the information and submit.

You may also print the next 2 pages of this newsletter or pick up a hardcopy from the Welcome Table in the Cathedral Lobby, fill out and submit to the Cathedral Office.



## Do I need to fill out a Stewardship pledge form?

YES! The only way to quantify both how many families we have in our parish and how much revenue we can expect to raise through stewardship is by having each member fill out a Stewardship Pledge form online or hardcopy. If you submitted your donation without a pledge, please complete your pledge form as soon as possible.

## time & talent

- ⇒ Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓).
- ⇒ Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

### LITURGICAL

\_\_\_ Adult Choir  
\_\_\_ Youth Choir  
\_\_\_ Choir  
\_\_\_ Greeter/Usher

\_\_\_ Byzantine Chant  
\_\_\_ Altar Servers  
\_\_\_ Baking Prosfora

### EDUCATION

\_\_\_ Church School Teacher  
\_\_\_ Church School  
\_\_\_ Administration

\_\_\_ School Substitute  
\_\_\_ Bible Study  
\_\_\_ Greek School Teacher  
\_\_\_ Dance Group Instructor

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

\_\_\_ Sunday School  
\_\_\_ Hope/Joy  
\_\_\_ GOYA  
\_\_\_ Dance Group  
\_\_\_ Greek School

### TECHNOLOGY &

#### ADMINISTRATION

\_\_\_ Website & E-mail  
\_\_\_ Bulletin & Newsletter  
\_\_\_ Public Relations  
\_\_\_ Office Assistance/Volunteer  
\_\_\_ Office Mailings  
\_\_\_ Senior Center/  
\_\_\_ Senior Outreach

**Any other talents not listed above or additional information you would like to provide:**

---

"Stimulate Faithfulness" (Romans 8:13),  
"Teach" (Romans 12:6-7), "Think of the High  
Responsibility of a Church Office" (Romans 12:8)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How do I become a steward of the parish?

As Orthodox Christians we are stewards of the Church not merely members. Stewardship is our lifetime commitment to our Church that begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues annually when we financially, physically, and spiritually contribute and participate in the life of the Church. Our stewardship pledge is made as a grateful response for what God has given us through Christ. All parishioners over 18 years of age who submit a stewardship commitment and remain current with that commitment during the year will be considered voting members of the parish. All members of a household who are over the age of 18 should submit their own stewardship commitment whether online or through this form. More rights and responsibilities of our stewards are outlined in the charters and by-laws of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Metropolis of New Jersey, and the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation.

### What is our Stewardship Goal?

Our Stewardship Goal is to fund Parish ministries 100% through stewardship contributions. Though we may meet our Stewardship Goal, we may still host the festival and other events for reasons other than fundraising such as fellowship, proclaiming our faith, etc.

### Do I need to fill out a pledge form?

YES! The only way to quantify both how many families we have in our church and how much revenue we can expect to raise through stewardship is by having each member fill out a stewardship commitment form or submit the ONLINE stewardship commitment form.

### What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

During the course of a year, circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.

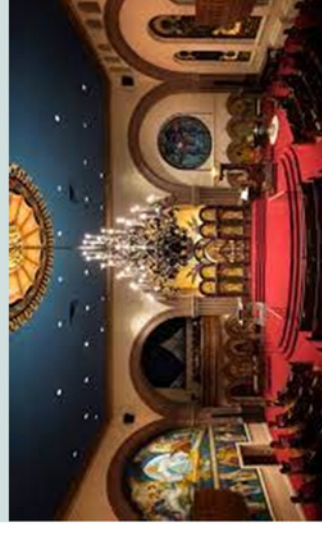
**"As each has received a gift, use it to service one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)**



## Our Church Our Spiritual Home



## 2023 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM



You may submit your 2023  
Stewardship pledge by scanning  
the QR code or going online to:  
<https://forms.gle/YAospEyMkRimi84i8>



## INFORMATION

NAME	
MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE)	
STREET ADDRESS	
CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE	
HOME PHONE	
CELL PHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)	
SPOUSE CELL PHONE (IF MARRIED)	
EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)	
DEPENDENT CHILDREN'S NAMES	BIRTHDATES
	/ /
	/ /
	/ /
	/ /
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	/ /

## STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

Treasure - In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute the following amount for Christ's work at the Annunciation Cathedral for 2023.

Weekly or monthly offerings are suggested because it is easier to manage small, regular contributions rather than large accumulated amounts. It is also easier for the Parish to plan its budget if the income is regular throughout the year. For example, if you pledge \$1500 for the year, your monthly payment will be \$125 or \$28.85 per week.

Consider increasing or rounding up last year's pledge. For example, if last year's pledge was \$1500, an increase of 10% will total \$1650 which is \$150 more for the year.

Stewardship Pledge Amount

\$

I/we plan to fulfill the above pledge by making payments:

☐ One Time Payment in Full in the Month: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Semi-Annual

☐ Quarterly

☐ Monthly

☐ Weekly

Do you need Stewardship Envelopes?

☐ yes ☐ no

.....

**Planned Giving:**

I have included/plan to include the church in my will. Please contact me for more information.

☐ yes ☐ no

## DAY SPONSORSHIP

Today, the operating expenses for the Cathedral average \$3500 daily. Our goal is to gather 365 stewards to commit to a pledge of at least \$3500 annually, so that they can underwrite one day of the year to the growing operating needs of our beloved Cathedral. By doing this we can demonstrate one way to give back to Him what He has given to us...a beautifully maintained Cathedral. Stewards may remain anonymous or choose to be included in the publications. In addition, stewards may select a specific day to sponsor in celebration of a name day, birthday, anniversary or in honor/memory of a loved one.

**Would you like to be a Day Sponsor?**

☐ yes ☐ no

**Enter the Day you wish to Sponsor:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Enter the Occasion below:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want to remain Anonymous?**

☐ yes ☐ no

**May we include your contact information in the parish directory?** (If you do not answer this question, you will not be listed in the parish directory.)

☐ yes ☐ no *If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:*

\_\_\_\_\_

**May we add you and your spouse (if applicable) to our parish email list?**

☐ yes ☐ no

**Would your family like to receive the monthly newsletter via email versus standard mail?**

☐ yes ☐ no

# TAVERNA NIGHT

PRESENTED BY  
THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL WOMEN'S GUILD & YAL

MEZZE  
PLATTERS

LIVE MUSIC BY  
ZEPHYROS

SPECIALTY  
COCKTAILS

APRIL 21 8:00 PM - 1:00 AM PRESTON HALL



TICKETS \$40

PAYABLE BY CHECK, CREDIT, OR VENMO  
@ANNUNWOMENSGUILD

## SAVE THE DATES



### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual FLEA MARKET

ACCEPTING DONATIONS - April 24 - June 25, 2023

FLEA MARKET OPEN JUNE 30 - AUGUST 6  
EVERY FRIDAY and SATURDAY 10:30-2  
EVERY SUNDAY 11 - 2

Furniture, Lamps, Artwork, Kitchen Items, Household Items, Linens,  
Electronics, Costume Jewelry, Fashion Accessories, Collectibles,  
Luggage, Holiday Items, Books, and More!

Cathedral of the Annunciation  
24 West Preston Street  
Baltimore, Maryland, 21201  
FREE PARKING - MD Avenue Lot

Questions: [philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com](mailto:philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com)  
Judy Georges - TEXT 443-301-5041  
Georgeann Morekas - TEXT 443-845-1176

## ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sponsored by the Annunciation Youth Ministries Committee

JUNE 26 TO 30, 2023

9:00AM - 2:00PM

For Children - K to 6th grade  
All Greek Orthodox children welcome

Cost is \$35 per child - includes lunch and T-shirt

Register your child by June 1st at:

<https://forms.gle/sGh1T5rmFQaFs7b49>

Early Drop-off Available



24 W. Preston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201



We are looking for volunteers. Let us  
know if you can help.

For more information contact:  
[youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org](mailto:youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org)

## CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD- CHESAPEAKE BAY

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



Overnight Camp: Ages 8-18 yrs.\*  
\*if the camper is still in school

Join us for a week of fun, friendship, and FAITH!  
Days will be filled with activities such as swimming,  
arts & crafts, athletics, campfire, a dance, and more!

For more information or any questions  
[emailcampgoodshepcb@gmail.com](mailto:emailcampgoodshepcb@gmail.com)

#### Overnight Staff Application:

- Boost your resume
- Grow in your faith
- Build meaningful relationships
- Stipend Offered!
- Apply Here:  
[nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd](http://nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)

Overnight Campers Early  
Bird Special \$525  
On or before April 15th 2023

Registrations received on or  
after April 16th 2023 increase to  
\$600

Day Camp: Ages 5-7  
Thurs, July 6th 8:45 - 2:15  
\$75



Camp Wo-Me-To  
1200 Knopp Rd.  
Jarrettsville, MD  
21084

Register:  
<http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn>





# YAL



THE YOUNG ADULT LEAGUE  
OF THE ANNUNCIATION, MD

WORSHIP ✝ FELLOWSHIP ✝ SERVICE ✝ WITNESS

YAL is the young adult ministry group that serves the young professional community (21-35) of the Baltimore, MD area. We are here to serve Annunciation, the Orthodox community, and provide a welcoming and fun group for all to enjoy. Whether you are new to the Baltimore area or have been a long-time resident, come join us. We look forward to seeing you at our events. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram - Annunciation Yal of Baltimore

Our next event is Taverna Night on Friday April 21. Join us for a night of live music by Zephyros, mezze platters, specialty cocktails, and a performance by the Annunciation Evangelakia dancers. This event is cohosted with the Women's Guild. Tickets on sale now!

## HERITAGE MUSEUM COFFEE HOUR CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE



## SUNDAY SCHOOL





# YOUTH Ministries

## Upcoming Youth Events Schedule:

- MAR 25 - 8:30am: Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation  
**Dance Group Performance**  
during coffee hour
- MAR 26 - 10:45 – 11:15am: Sunday School
- MAR 26 - 2 – 4pm: **Greek Independence Day Parade— All Youth to participate and represent our Cathedral**
- MAR 28 - 6pm: GOYA Board Meeting
- MAR 31 - 5:15 – 7:30pm: Greek School
- APR 1: **Maryland Regional Oratorical Festival** -  
Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church  
920 W Seventh St., Frederick, MD 21701
- APR 2 - 10:45 – 11:15am: Sunday School
- APR 2 - 12 – 3pm: Evangelakia Dance Practice
- APR 6 - 9:30 – 11am: Little Angels - Chapel of Holy Wisdom
- APR 7-8 - 7pm – 10:30pm: **GOYA Lenten Lockin Retreat**
- APR 8 - Saturday of Lazarus: **Palm Making after Liturgy**
- APR 9 - Palm Sunday
- APR 14: **Holy Friday Youth Retreat Day**-Annunciation Cathedral
- APR 16 - **PASCHA**, 1—1:30pm: **Hope/Joy Easter Egg Hunt** -  
Annunciation Cathedral courtyard
- APR 21 - 5:15 – 7:30pm: Greek School
- APR 21 - starts at 7:30pm: **Taverna Night** in Preston Hall
- APR 22 - 5 – 11pm: **GOYA Night "Under the Stars" Dance**,  
2500 Pine Grove Rd, York, PA
- APR 23 - 10:45 – 11:15am: Sunday School
- APR 23 - Hope/Joy Activity
- APR 23 - 12 – 3pm: Filakia/Evangelakia Dance Practice
- APR 28 - 5:15 – 7:30pm: Greek School
- APR 29 & 30: GOYA—**St. Demetrios Bball Tournament**
- APR 30 - 10:45 – 11:15am: Sunday School
- APR 30: **Annunciation Dance Group Hosted Coffee Hour**

Our Youth Ministries are having a great year. Each ministry has had many activities since the start of the 2022/23 season and are looking forward to all the activities and events planned for the rest of the year.

If you have children that would like to participate in one of the following Youth ministries, it is not too late. Join us!

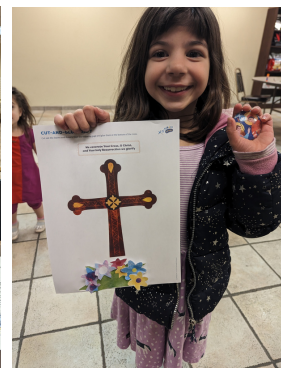
- Sunday School - Preschool through High School
- Little Angels - Under 4 years of age
- Hope/Joy - 4 to 11 years of age
- GOYA - 7th to 12th grade
- Altar Boys - 8 years of age and above
- Dance Groups - Filakia & Evangelakia -  
1st grade to 12th grade
- Greek School
- Junior Choir - 8 to 12 years of age -  
**Our Junior Choir starts on 4/2 - meet in the Junior choir room from 9:10 to 9:30am.**

**Join us on April 9** after the Divine Liturgy for the Saturday of Lazarus palm cross folding and Lazarakia baking and on **April 14** from 11am-4pm for the Holy Friday Youth Retreat.

Please register so we can plan correctly!

**All ages are welcome!**

## HOPE/JOY - MARCH 12





# SUNDAY SCHOOL - SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



# GOYA - WEEKEND BACKPACKS FOR KIDS





# PHILOPTOCHOS MudGirls Event February 25, 2023

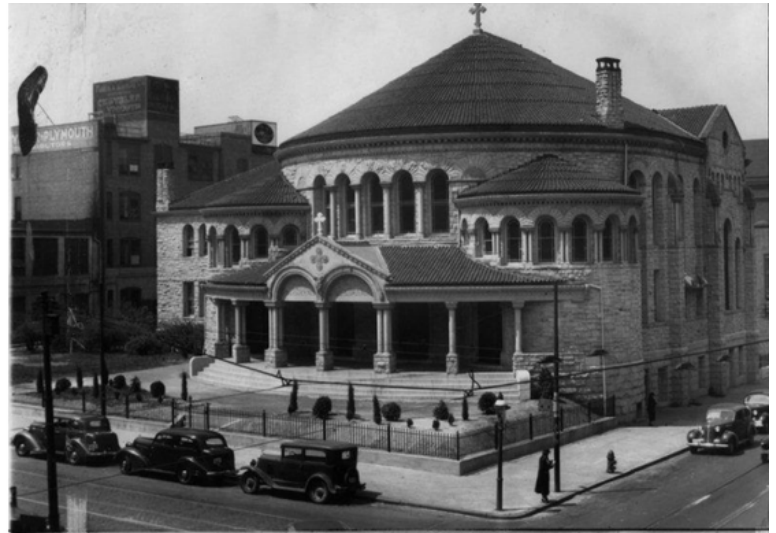




## HISTORIC MILESTONES OF OUR COMMUNITY

Did you know...

► 2023 marks the 86th Anniversary of the purchase of our beautiful Cathedral building. We have been worshipping here for more than 3/4 of a century! Our magnificent edifice was slated for demolition to make way for a gasoline station. We acquired the building for \$40,500 (a huge sum of money in 1937) and saved it for future generations of Orthodox Christians!



*"Famous Old Church is Renovated by New Owners,"  
The Baltimore Sun, May 6, 1937*

► 2023 marks the 111th Anniversary of the historic "Greek Circle." This first Orthodox burial ground in the State of Maryland is located within the picturesque Woodlawn Cemetery off of Gwynn Oak Avenue. Over 600 of our earliest parishioners are buried there; only 250 received markers. "Gone But Not Forgotten" (2001) tells the story and documents all the burials as a memorial tribute.

► 111 years ago, a prominent parishioner named James Conits was murdered by another Greek who was attempting to rob his home. The Greek colony joined in the search for the killer who was apprehended and died shortly after. The sensational nature of the crime was detailed in over 12 newspaper articles. The tombstone for Mr. Conits, who was born in 1853, is the oldest monument in the Greek Circle at Woodlawn.

► 111 years ago, Greek communities across America were encouraging volunteers to return to the homeland to join Greece and its Allies in the fight against Turkey. The Balkan Wars (1912-1913) brought out the patriotism of many Greeks. A newspaper article from October 1912 recounts a special gathering at the Homewood Avenue Church to raise money and mobilize volunteers!

► Nearly 130 years ago, in 1893, there was an attempt to establish an Orthodox Church in Baltimore. Recently discovered newspaper articles beautifully describe the interior of the "Chapel of St. John the Baptist" located at 403 South Bond Street in Fells Point. Had that early venture been successful, we would have been the fourth Greek Orthodox church in America—following only New Orleans, New York and Chicago!

The above milestones were prepared by Parish Historian Nicholas M. Prevas. The rich and colorful history of the Cathedral of the Annunciation has been well-documented with splendid photographs in the Centennial publication, "House of God...Gateway to Heaven" (2007). We are among a handful of parishes fortunate enough to have our history recorded for us. Autographed copies of these books are available for purchase. We sincerely thank Nick Prevas for the passion he continues to put forth in his volunteer work for our community.