

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION

THE ARCHANGEL

March/April 2024 NEWSLETTER



Rev. Fr. George Mastakas

Presiding Priest

fr.george@annunciationbaltimore.org

Rev. Fr. John Bullock

Presbyter

fr.john@annunciationbaltimore.org

Cathedral Office

assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

410-727-1831

24 W. Preston Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Welcome

Our Cathedral would like to extend a warm welcome to Father George Mastakas and his family, Presvytera Evelyn and their children John Mark, Sophia, and Constantine. Fr. George Mastakas was born in Astoria, New York and raised in the Orthodox Christian faith. During his formative years he attended the parish of Saints Catherine and George in Astoria, NY. Fr. George served as the parish priest of Saints Peter and Paul in Frederick, MD from January 1, 2018 to February 29, 2024. The community looks forward to receiving Father's guidance and pastoral care.



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Message from Father George Mastakas

Dear Faithful,

It is with honor and immense joy that I write this letter as the newly appointed presiding priest of the Cathedral of the Annunciation. I am honored because of the faith and trust that his Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos has placed in me to guide this historic parish and continue to build upon the work of those before me. I am also immensely joyous because the Lord has led me to this moment and placed me in a loving, energetic, and fruitful parish.



Having served the parish of Sts. Peter and Paul in Frederick, Maryland since 2018, I have been blessed to meet some of you during my visits. I have been to the Annunciation Cathedral annually for the parish feast day, various Metropolis District events, and even more recently for the ordination of Fr. John Bullock to the Holy Priesthood, all of which in some way have afforded me the opportunity to become acquainted with the parish.

We have much to be excited about as a parish. We are a part of a vibrant and energetic community that has shown it deeply cares and respects what has been handed down to them. However, any vision of the future should not only seek to maintain but also build upon what we have received.

As Great Lent is quickly approaching, I am looking forward to the fact that the first steps of my ministry at the Annunciation Cathedral will be grounded in worship. In many ways it sets the tone. We can become consumed with the daily minutiae of parish life, but ultimately we are grounded only on the solid footing of prayer life; a foundation to build our future. "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name." Hebrews 13:15

Along with Presvytera Evelyn, my children John Mark, Sophia, and Constantine, I kindly ask that you keep us in your prayers as we begin this new chapter. As with every significant transition, this too holds many challenges that can only be achieved with love, compassion, and support from you. We all look forward to meeting you and growing together in Christ.

Wishing everyone a blessed and spiritually fruitful Great Lent and a Glorious Resurrection of the Lord. May Christ's light always shine upon you and yours, and guide your footsteps to life eternal. Καλή Σαρακοστή!

In Christ,

Fr. George Mastakas



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 15th

Message from Ernie Rafailides, Parish Council President



As we welcome the onset of spring, a season of rebirth and renewal, we are also preparing for the start of Great Lent, which will culminate with the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And this year, we are starting this journey with our new Proistamenos, Father George Mastakas. Just as we are starting a new journey with him, Father George is also starting a new journey with our community.



Embrace this season of Great Lent and the new leadership and fresh perspectives of our new Proistamenos. Focus on Christ and His teachings. Focus on embracing this challenging time with hope, faith, unity, and love.

In Christ,

- Ernie

**ALL PARISHIONERS IN GOOD STANDING ARE REQUESTED
TO ATTEND THE SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY.**

Our Cathedral Family would like to thank Father Anastasios Bourantas for his spiritual leadership during the last 17 months. We wish him and his family, Presvytera Nicoletta and their daughters Corina, Christina and Gabriella, farewell as they transition to the St. George Cathedral in Philadelphia. Our community will forever be grateful.

As this transition became effective on March 1st, we ask everyone to continue to pray for Father Anastasios, Father George, Father John and their families and our Parish. May we continue to grow our faith, our ministries and our parish.

Thank you



Sunday Worship

8:00am Orthros

9:30am Divine Liturgy

All other services can be found

on the online calendar at

www.annunciationbaltimore.org/Calendar

Office Hours

Monday–Friday

9:00am - 4:00pm

Cathedral of the Annunciation Staff

Erene Kariotis

Office Coordinator

office@annunciationbaltimore.org

Rachel Baston and Angelo Sfondiles

Administrative Assistants

assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

410-727-1831

Organization Contacts

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers: Father George Mastakas

Choir: Fifi Nichols (Director) fnichols1@verizon.net &

Faye Hayes (Youth Choir) littleredtractor@msn.com

Byzantine Choir: Stefanos Niktas

Ushering: Bill Prevas billy0919@aol.com

Religious Education

Sunday School: Anastasia Georgiou religioused@annunciationbaltimore.org

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

womensbiblestudy@annunciationbaltimore.org

Youth & Young Adult

Little Angels: littleangels@annunciationbaltimore.org

Hope/Joy: Dorothea Tsakiris, Eleni Lampadarios and James & Christina Kokorrelis

hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org

GOYA: Thomas Rafailides & Maria Showalter (Co-Presidents)

goya@annunciationbaltimore.org

Dance Groups: Peggy DiBiasi dance@annunciationbaltimore.org

Young Adult League (YAL): Alexios Vlahoyiannis (President)

yal@annunciationbaltimore.org

Orthodox Christian Fellowship (College Students): Father John Bullock

fr.john@annunciationbaltimore.org

Vacation Bible School: Dorothea Tsakiris

youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org

Camp Good Shepherd Summer Camp: Father George Mastakas

Campus

Bookstore: Cheryl McCarus & Christie Williams

bookstore@annunciationbaltimore.org

Preston Room Event Coordinator: Doreen Gerovasilis

prestonhallaoc@annunciationbaltimore.org

Philanthropy & Outreach

Philoptochos: Connie Rogers philoptochos@annunciationbaltimore.org

Women's Guild: Kali Del Pizzo kmdelpizzo@gmail.com

Hrisi Parea Club: Rhoula Monios rhoulaevie@yahoo.com

Pat Bartsocas bartsocaspat@hotmail.com

Men's Fellowship: Harry Sharkey Harry_Sharkey@hotmail.com

Cultural & Education

Greek School: Sia Kyriakakos (Principal) & Terri Hornick (PTO)

griekschool@annunciationbaltimore.org

Hellenic Heritage Museum: Harry Maistros happy.maistros@comcast.net

AHEPA: Alex Klopfenstein (President) ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu

Daughters of Penelope: Diane Homberg dopbaltimore27@yahoo.com

Library: Pascalis Papouras pascalis.papouras@outlook.com

Parish Historian: Nicholas Prevas nmprevas@outlook.com

Committees

Administrative Committee: Judy Georges judy-wood@comcast.net

AOC Committee: Pamela Stevens pamelastevens1225@gmail.com

Audit Committee: James Kokorrelis & Elias Cossis

Festival Committee: Geli Ioannou geliioannou@gmail.com

Capital Campaign: Georganne & Dino Mallas, Karen & George Philippou

Building and Maintenance Committee: Gus Stratakis gus@mjbrown.com

Finance Committee: George Roros: groros@ycp.edu

Publication Committee: Eleni Roros & Georgeann Morekas

newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org

Real Estate Committee: Jamie Caminis jcaminis@lfmvalue.com

Safety & Security Committee: Alex Klopfenstein ank4394@gwmail.gwu.edu

Stewardship Committee: Tom Boardman eatapeach15@outlook.com

Technology & Communication Committee: Nick Stathopoulos

technology@annunciationbaltimore.org

Welcoming & Social Media Committee: Rhoula Monios rhoulaevie@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry: Effie Theodore, Rhoula Monios & Eleni Roros

youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org

2023 Parish Council Members

President: Ernie Rafailides

Vice President: Georgeann Morekas

Treasurer: Steve Kousouris

Secretary: Peter Constantinou

Cristian Cazac

Pascalis Papouras

Paul Dezes

Eleni Roros

Stella Hajimihalas
Jenkins

Melody Simmons

Alex Klopfenstein

Stephanie Smith

Harry Monios

Panos Tsakiroglou

Nikki Monios

Cathedral of the Annunciation:
www.annunciationbaltimore.org

Metropolis of NJ:
www.nj.goarch.org

Archdiocese:
www.goarch.org

Deadlines for Publications:

Bulletins

Noon on Wednesday to

assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

The Archangel Newsletter

Noon on April 15th to

newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org

Welcome

Our Cathedral Community will be blessed with a visit by His Grace Bishop Constantine of Sassima on:

- Friday, March 8th: attending our “Hrisi Parea” meeting (formerly “Golden Age Club”)
- Saturday, March 9th: celebrating Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for Saturday of Souls at the Cemetery Chapel
- Sunday, March 10th: celebrating Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy (and Godparent Sunday), followed by a Pancake Breakfast in the Fr. Constantine Monios Social Hall, hosted by AHEPA.



VASILOPITA 2024

We are grateful to Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kutson for donating the cross for the annual Vasilopita celebration. Congratulations to Athena Sidou for finding the coin.



SCHEDULING OF SACRAMENTS, MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Please contact the Church Office before you schedule all on-site and off-site meetings, activities and events to ensure that there are no conflicts for meeting space and that the meetings/events appear on the church calendar.

Contact assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

or 410-727-1831



PLEASE JOIN US!

FRIDAY MARCH 8, 2024

11:30AM AT THE AOC

MARDI GRAS

Hrisi Pareia

SPECIAL GUEST

BISHOP CONSTANTINE OF SASSIMA

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

RSVP TO OLLGA ZAVAKOS AT
OJZAVAKOS@VERIZON.NET
OR 443-791-0064 BY 3/6/2024

Join us for an
Apokriatiko
fellowship celebration



March 8th
6:30pm to 8pm

Fr. Constantine Monios Social Hall

Hosted by Greek School and Sunday School

All Youth are invited!

Come for food, music, crafts, and fellowship!

Please consider signing up to bring food at:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054AAC_A72DA0F58-48178242-2024



GODPARENT SUNDAY

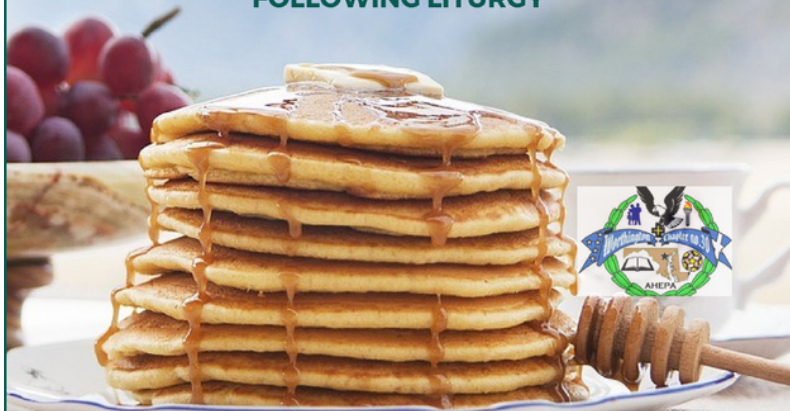
at the Cathedral



SUNDAY,
MARCH 10TH

ORDER OF AHEPA
Worthington Chapter No. 30
Annual
Pancake Breakfast

GODPARENTS SUNDAY
MARCH 10, 2024
GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION
FOLLOWING LITURGY



Please join us in Father Constantine Monios Hall
for a Pancake Breakfast following the
Godparents Sunday Service. Our AHEPA chapter
is asking for a free will donation to be made
(suggested amount \$10 per person). All
proceeds will be donated to the Cathedral.



During the Philoptochos February 2024 Board Meeting, we thanked Father Anastasios for his tireless and constant support of our Philoptochos. He shared with us “I honor the Priesthood first.” And then, with love, he expressed “our Philoptochos- what a Ministry; what a work of Christ. The joy I feel to be part of you. Wherever we go we are all one.” He continued with “I feel blessed and fulfilled by the work we do. I am proud of you.” **We pray that God will continue to guide Father Anastasios in his ministry. ΑΕΙΟΣ!**

We welcome Father George to the Cathedral and look forward to his guidance as we continue our mission of Philanthropy and Outreach.

It is our Orthodox tradition to dedicate our churches to God by naming them after biblical events, feastdays of our Church or saints. In 1906, the pioneer families of our beloved parish dedicated our church to the great Feast of the Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary (Evangelismos). Celebrating a parish’s feast day is a joyous event. Please join us for the following services:

- **March 22** – Salutations to the Virgin Mary
- **March 24** – Feast Day of the Annunciation, Vespers and Reception
- **March 25** – Feast Day of the Annunciation, Coffee

Our gratitude is extended to the entire community for your generous donations in honor of American Heart Health Month in February. Your kindness enabled Philoptochos to support this worthy cause. Your heart will thank you!

Philoptochos Membership: we have received an overwhelming response. Currently, there are 152 members and four associate members. Please renew your Philoptochos membership and invite your friends to become members so we can continue to expand our group. Annual membership is \$40. Contact Jasmine Lampadarios, jnlampadarios@gmail.com.

2024 PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP applications are available on the Cathedral Website. Printed forms are available on the Welcome Table at Church. The deadline for submitting all applications is **Tuesday, April 16, 2024**. Scholarships will be awarded on Philoptochos Scholarship Day **Sunday, June 9, 2024**. For additional information contact Deana Sakellaris, dsak702@verizon.net or 410.591.6601.

Effie Theodore, our Social Services lead, is coordinating with our Youth Ministries and GOYA for Volunteer Opportunities. Effie has met with their advisors and has compiled a list of Volunteer Opportunities with our Philoptochos ministries. We look forward to working with our youth to enrich their focus on philanthropy and outreach.

Join us for our Paschal Baking: March 9th at 11am in the Mentis Room. Philoptochos bake sales are among our largest annual fund raisers. Georgeann Morekas and Kathe Apesos Lazarides coordinate these sales. Your help enables Philoptochos to continue to support its missions.

Every year at Pascha we remember our students and members of the military away from home by sending **Paschal boxes** filled with homemade goodies. Please submit names and address to connierogers2@hotmail.com so we may send this gift from their Cathedral home to them. The deadline is **Friday, April 5, 2024**.

Upcoming Dates:

- **April 28** – Palm Sunday Traditional Fish Luncheon and Baked Good Orders Pick up
- **May 3** – Good Friday Reception following the Apokathelosis service

METROPOLIS of NEW JERSEY PHILOPTOCHOS – NEWS

The Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos is once again offering an opportunity to qualifying High School Seniors, who are enrolled in an accredited University, College or Trade School, to apply for a merit-based scholarship. The deadline for submitting the application is **June 15, 2024**. For information contact Deanna Sakellaris, dsak@verizon.net or 410.591.6601.

Join the Archangel Gabriel who cried out to the Virgin Mary and said “Rejoice!”

In Christ, Connie Rogers, President

PHILOPTOCHOS

February 15th - Board Meeting

February 18th - Coffee Hour to Benefit the American Heart Association



28TH ANNUAL NICHOLAS TSAKALOS MEMORIAL RETREAT

*“The Battle is the Lord’s in this
Modern Global World”*

Special Guest

ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS
FORMELY OF AMERICA



Guest speaker

**FR. PANTELEIMON
PAPADOPOULOS**



Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation
24 W. Preston St. Baltimore, MD 21201

MARCH 16TH, 2024

Free Parking | \$30 ticket

<https://annunciationbaltimore.org/lentenretreat>

Sign up here!



OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 25th		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week MARCH 3rd		The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare MARCH 10th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 17th FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 24th		<i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 31st		ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent APRIL 7th		VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHAI</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent APRIL 14th		ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 21st		ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY MAY 3rd		GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! MAY 5th NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHAI (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

PASCHAL BAKED GOODS



**SATURDAY, APRIL 27th following Saturday of Lazarus
Services**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28th following Palm Sunday Services
PICK-UP from the AHEPA ROOM**

Packaged and decorated:

TSOUREKI (Sweet Bread) - \$11.00

KOULOURLAKIA (1 pound) - \$16.00

KOURAMBIETHES (dozen) - \$20.00

Pre-Order your selection by Friday, April 12, 2024:

philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com

Kathe Lazarides kdap19@gmail.com

Georgeann Morekas gmorekas@gmail.com

**The proceeds from the sale benefit the good works of the
Cathedral of the Annunciation Philoptochos Society**

PHILOPTOCHOS WINTER LUNCHEON MEETING, SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND

Speaker Rev. Angela Hall, Asst. Executive Director, Franciscan Center



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL **PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Philoptochos scholarship applications are currently being accepted from high school seniors and college students. Application hard copies are available on the Welcome table in the Cathedral lobby or online on our Cathedral website at:

<https://annunciationbaltimore.org/resources/Documents/2024%20Philoptochos%20Scholarship%20Application%20v2.docx>

Submittal deadline: Tuesday, April 16

Scholarships will be awarded in church on Sunday, June 9. Please contact Deanna Sakellaris at 410-591-6601 or 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. Hard copies are available on the Welcome Table in the Cathedral lobby.

The deadline for submitting the application is June 15, 2024. Scholarship Announcement & Distribution by **August 1, 2024**.

PRESTON HALL

Directly across from the Cathedral, our newly renovated and decorated, Preston Hall is the right place for all occasions. With Discounted Parishioner Rental Fees & Complimentary Parking, our hall allows you to celebrate all your joy in a single place.

Contact Us to Host Your Next Event
Doreen Gerovasilis at (410) 802-4372
prestonhallaoc@annunciationbaltimore.org

www.prestonhallvenue.com



[Light a Candle >>](#)

In this time, more than ever, we need prayer. You may virtually light a candle for yourself or a loved one.

Please click the link above and follow the instructions. A photo of the lighted candle will be sent to the email address you specify.



FR. ANASTASIOS' FAREWELL - FEBRUARY 25TH





2024 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

Our Church Our Spiritual Home

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)



You may submit your 2024 Stewardship pledge by scanning the QR code or going online to:

<https://forms.gle/v3TXkYJkFWD63TW48>

(Hard Copies are available on the Welcome Table in the Church Lobby.)

STEWARDSHIP 2024

Dear Faithful of the Cathedral of the Annunciation,

Stewardship revenue in December 2023 was strong and it helped our parish achieve about 95% of the stewardship revenue goal in 2023. Total stewardship revenue was about \$772,000 from about 500 faithful stewards. About 57 stewards met the \$3500 milestone to qualify as Day Sponsor and about 52 stewards met the \$1750 milestone to qualify as a Half-day Sponsor. We are grateful for the contributions from all our stewards. As you may deduce from the statistics of years past, individual contributions are more meaningful today.

The Stewardship Committee encourages all parishioners to consider reaching a Day Sponsor or Half-day Sponsor milestone in 2024. Each contribution from a parishioner/family has a great impact on the ministries of our parish. Covering the expenses of the parish either for a day with a \$3500 annual pledge or half-day with a \$1750 annual pledge may be personally gratifying in addition to a significant contribution to help maintain our common expectations of our parish. Stewardship is the giving of Time, Treasure, and Talent. It's giving back to God for the gifts He has given to you. Day or Half-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 meet our 2024 Stewardship goal and help make progress on our long term goal of funding all parish costs from stewardship.

Fr. George Mastakas

Ernie Rafailides (Parish Council President)

Tom Boardman (Stewardship Chairman)

Become a 2024 steward:

1. Just visit our church website at: 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 scan the QR code to the right and fill out online or pick up a hardcopy from the Welcome Table in the Cathedral Lobby, fill out and submit to the Cathedral Office.



**Our goal is to fund 100% of our Cathedral's expenses via Stewardship.
This year our budgeted expenses are approximately \$1.2 million.**



**2024
STEWARDSHIP
GOAL
\$700,000**

OUR NEW XRISI PAREA MINISTRY (FORMERLY THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB)

What's all the buzz and excitement about lately? It's all the fun, fellowship and laughter at the newly formed group HRISI PAREA (Golden Company). Do you enjoy gathering with your church family and friends to share a wonderful lunch, celebrate monthly birthdays and enjoy cakes and desserts? Would you enjoy participating in bus trips, lectures/movies and off-site lunches at local restaurants? All this and much more is what HRISI PAREA is all about. We already have 50 members and are quickly growing.

Don't miss out! Come and join the fun. Our annual membership dues are \$30.00. Look for our monthly flyer and Sunday bulletin announcements for each upcoming meeting. If you would like additional information, please contact Ollga Zavakos at ojzavakos@verizon.net or call/text 443-791-0064.







WALKING WITH CHRIST

First Seminarian Benefit Luncheon



St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
35 N Malin Rd, Broomall, PA 19008

March 16th | 11 A.M. | 2024



Follow the QR code for Ticket Sales and Event Sponsorships. All Proceeds Will Benefit the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Seminarians and Masters of Divinity Students



Sunday School's 2024 Lenten Giving Project #1

Easter "Sunday Best" Children's Clothing Drive

What to Donate

New Easter dresses, polo shirts, slacks, nice hats, etc., in sizes 2 - 16.

Drop Off Instructions:

Place donations outside the church office in the boxes marked Easter "Sunday Best" Children's Clothing Drive.

Donation Deadline: Thursday, March 21

All donations are for the children who visit the Franciscan Center and will be distributed at the Children's Easter Party on March 27.



Camp Good Shepherd

Experience the Best Week of Your Summer!

CGS: MARYLAND

June 16-22, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Registration Fee: \$600 (Early Bird Discount until May 1, then \$675)

CGS: NEW JERSEY

June 23-29, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Registration Fee: \$625

CGS: VIRGINIA (2 SESSIONS)

Week 1: July 7-13 (Completed 5th Grade - 8th Grade)
Week 2: July 14-20 (Completed 9th Grade - 12th Grade)
Camp Plankatank
1586 Stampers Bay Rd Box 455, Hartfield, VA 23071
Registration Fee: \$500

REGISTER TODAY!



[HTTP://APP.CAMPDOC.COM/REGISTER/CGSN](http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn)

MORE INFORMATION [HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOARCH.ORG/CAMP-GOOD-SHEPHERD](https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)



Markella Tsamoutalis invited her 3rd grade religion teacher, Mrs. Budny from Immaculate Conception School in Towson, to come to Church to experience an Orthodox liturgy and Greek dance practice

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTAL REGISTRY

BAPTISMS

- On February 24, 2024, **Clementine Ruth**, son of Andrew and Ashley Trachy was baptized in the Orthodox Church. Her sponsors were James and Alexa Kishis and given the Baptismal Name – **EFTYCHIA**.

CHRISMATIONS

- On February 25, 2024, the servant of God, **Zachary Franklin Cather**, was received into the Orthodox Church through the Sacrament of Chrismation. His sponsors were Jacob and Shannon Knaupp and given the Chrismation Name – **ZACHARIAH**.

FUNERALS

- On January 26, 2024 the funeral service was held for the servant of God, **Jo Marie Gafos**, age 79.

May her memory be eternal.



BOOK REVIEWS

by Presvytera Nicoletta Bourantas

Children:

“You are an Orthodox Christian”
by Theofanis Sawabe, illustrated by
Vladimir Ilievski

This book helps Orthodox Christian children to explore the joy and wonder of their incredible spiritual family and historical heritage.



Adults:

“The Lenten Spring”
by Fr. Thomas Hopko

Forty meditations on Great Lent, revealing, in a simple, clear and beautiful manner, its true meaning. In his meditations, Fr. Hopko draws on his long experience as a pastor and teacher.

“Meditations for Great Lent: Reflections on the Triodion”
by Archmandrite Vassilios Papavassilios

The Lenten Triodion exhorts us, “Let us observe a fast acceptable and pleasing to the Lord.” Using hymns from the Triodion and the Scripture, readings appointed for the Meditations for Great Lent show us how to make our fast acceptable: to fast not only from food but from sin; to fast with love and humility, as a means to an end and not an end in itself. Keep this gem of a book with you to inspire you for the fast.

The Father Dean Moralis Bookstore of the Cathedral of the Annunciation



The Father Dean Moralis Bookstore and Logos Gift Shop welcomes you to visit on Sundays after Divine Liturgy. We will be open during our Lenten retreat in March.

To guide us along our journey to Pascha, we have wonderful books for study and meditation, with new books for children such as the breathtakingly beautiful and spiritual books: “Celebrate the Earth”, and “You are an Orthodox Christian”. New tapestry bookmarks have arrived featuring the Theotokos with Christ and others. We offer icons, books and home decor based on the Word of God, selected to encourage a deeper appreciation of the Orthodox saints and feast days of Pascha.

Our mission is to provide spiritual and educational resources for the Orthodox community while supporting the Christian well-being of children and adults growing in faith. Our vision is to foster deeper relationships with the Holy Trinity through awareness and study of the life sustaining principles of the Orthodox Christian Church.

Looking for a perfect gift? The Bookstore and Logos Gift Shop now has gift cards: <https://squareup.com/gift/MLF7HAY1H9CTY/order>

Please feel free to contact us with special requests and recommendations at bookstore@annunciationbaltimore.org.

COMMUNITY SUPPER - FEBRUARY 17TH



GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Join us for the
Annual Greek Independence Day Parade
on Sunday, March 24 at 2pm in Highlandtown, MD
Grand Marshall: Charles Paterakis

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 for info.

For more info, contact Paul Dezes,
paul.dezes3@gmail.com



The NEW GOYA Room is Open!

Thank you to Mr. Paul Agathoklis, Mr. Harry Sharkey, Mr. Mike Baglanis and Mr. Nick Ioannou for painting the new GOYA Room located on the 3rd floor of the Education building.



YAL

THE YOUNG ADULT LEAGUE
OF THE ANNUNCIATION, MD

WORSHIP † FELLOWSHIP † SERVICE † WITNESS

Annunciation Young Adult League (YAL) seeks to connect Orthodox Christians in Baltimore ages 18-35 through social, spiritual, and service themed events. Fill out form @<https://forms.gle/Td7sseHhJYp5PAxYA>, scan the QR code or text YOUNGANNUN to 84576 to receive text/email updates on future events. For more news & updates, follow us on Instagram (@annunbmoreyal), join our Facebook group (Annunciation YAL of Baltimore), or email Alexi Vlahoyiannis, YAL President, yal@annunciationbaltimore.org.





Stay Tuned for
Baking Dates!

Interested in chairing a
venue, contact
Geli Ioannou at
geliioannou@gmail.com

The Festival Committee and Parish Council are happy to announce that our 2024 annual festival will be held on Memorial Day Weekend.

Please be on the lookout for more details to sign up to setup/decorate, bake and/or volunteer.

Festival Advertising Available

- **Are you interested in advertising your business in our community and to the over 10,000 festival attendees?** Consider purchasing a \$250 Business Card Ad that will be displayed on dining table placemats AND poster boards throughout the festival weekend! In addition, the placemat will be posted on our festival social media for additional exposure! Kindly contact Nikki Monios 443-930-0404 or nikkimonios4@gmail.com for more information.

Silent Auction Support Needed

- **Please consider sponsoring a Silent Auction basket** for the 2024 Annual Greek festival scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend. Each year we assemble approximately 130 baskets, and each basket contains 10-12 items. Suggested donations and instructions are on the next page.
- Please contact Judy Georges by phone / text 443-301-5041, email judy-wood@comcast.net or place donations on top of the display cases in the room next to the Maryland Ave Entrance. Thanks so much for your generosity and support.

Save the Dates

Thursday 5/23: 5 PM - 9 PM

Friday 5/24: 11 AM - 9 PM

Saturday 5/25: 11 AM - 9 PM

Sunday 5/26: 12 PM - 9 PM

Annunciation Cathedral
52nd Greek Food * Wine * Cultural Festival
May 23 - 26, 2024



Silent Auction Donation Form:

Name: _____
Email: _____
Telephone: _____
Address: _____

For more information contact:

Judy Georges

judy-wood@comcast.net, 443-301-5041

Thank you. We rely on generous donations from our
Annunciation Cathedral families and friends.

Silent Auction Basket Sponsor:

Monetary Donation: \$ _____

Gift Basket #: _____

Other Donation: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Annunciation Cathedral Silent Auction

We will prepare the basket for you.

You may drop off your donation at the church office or mail your
donation **before May 5, 2024:**

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation

ATTN: Silent Auction Committee

24 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

SPONSORSHIP SUGGESTIONS

\$25 SPONSORS:

1. New Year's Eve Party Basket – champagne, glasses, accessories
2. Candy lovers basket - assorted sweets, candy & gum
3. Coffee Wagon - gift card, coffee, coffee mugs, etc.
4. Tasty Tacos – Holder, Recipes, Ingredients
5. Puzzled by Puzzles – a basket of puzzles to conquer
6. Beauty Secrets – Samples of Makeup and Skin care products
7. Americana Party Basket – All things Red, White & Blue
8. Coloring Therapy – Coloring Books, Crayons & Markers

\$100 SPONSORS:

1. Pasta Basket – Pasta, cheese, grater, pasta bowls, sauces, GC
2. Date Night - Dinner and a movie GC
3. Dog lover's basket – gift certificate, toys, leash, treats
4. Cat lover's basket – gift certificate, collar, toys, grooming tools, treats, and more
5. Man Cave – Poker table top, Poker chips, Bottle opener, Beer mugs and Beer.
6. Breakfast Basket – waffle/pancake mix, syrup, toppings, waffle maker and pancake warmer

\$50 SPONSORS:

1. Game Night - games for the whole family
2. Crab Basket – Many unimaginable crab items
3. Movie Night – Popcorn popper, boxed candy
4. Italian Basket – Pasta Bowl, Sauce, Cheese, Olive oil, Bread sticks, Olives, Capers and more
5. Moscow Mule So Cool – Mule Mugs, Ginger Beer, Vodka and Accessories
6. Martini Basket – Martini glasses, Martini mixes, Olives, Shaker, Napkins, Vodka
7. BBQ Lover's Basket – Tools, Sauces, Mats & Recipes
8. Wine & Cheese – Wine, Cheese, Crackers, Olives, Napkins, Wine glasses
9. Bakers Basket – pans, mixes, frosting, decorations, cookbook

\$150 SPONSORS:

1. Books & Coffee – Gift certificates, Books and Coffee
2. French Chef– gift certificate , Wine Caddy, Cooking Accessories
3. Ice Cream Supreme – Ice Cream Maker, Recipes, Serving Dishes, Toppings, etc.
4. Juicing – Juicing machine, recipes, juice mixes

\$75 SPONSORS:

1. Greek Basket –cookbook, apron, spices, foods, etc.
2. Auto – gift certificate, car wash products, etc.
3. Mexican Fiesta – chips, salsa, margarita mix, tequila, tortilla holder, margarita glasses, rim salt and more
4. Beauty Abounds – Luxury Hair and Face products
5. Beer Sampler – beer, glasses, bottle opener, snacks
6. Golf Basket – tees, golf glove, balls, shirt, towel
7. Movie Night – Dinner and Movie Gift Certificate
8. Gardener's Paradise – Lg Garden Pot, Tiller, Trowel, Weeder, Bulb Planter and Gift Card

\$200 SPONSORS:

1. Espresso Lovers – Espresso Machine, Ceramic Cups & Holder and Coffee
2. Spa Pampering – spa certificate, body products, slippers
3. Wine Rack, Bottles of Wine, Opener and Accessories

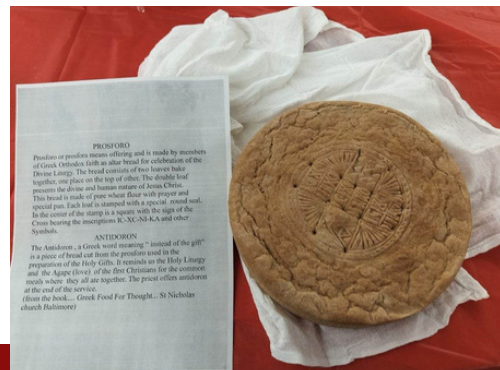
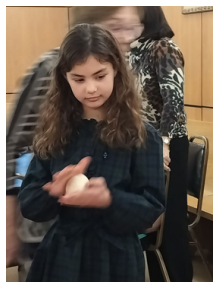


HELLENIC HERITAGE MUSEUM OF MARYLAND

Preserving Greek Culture to Inspire Future Generations

On January 12th, the museum hosted the Annunciation Greek School in an activity at the AOC to familiarize them with some of the museum's collection. In addition to having a dialogue on cherished objects that represent everyday activities in a Greek home the students were given individual balls of "play dough" and a penny to form their own sample of the traditional Vasilopita to take home.

Museum volunteers visited the Sunday School on March 3rd to demonstrate the symbolism of the Prosforo and how it is used to prepare communion by the priest and distributed to the congregation.



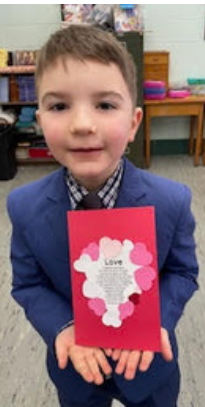
YOUTH Ministries

Our Youth Ministries have many activities and events planned for the year. We hope your children will 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** - youth to adult
- **Junior Choir** - 8 to 12 years of age - Usually practices after liturgy in the Junior Choir Room for 20-30 min.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS SCHEDULE

- **Thursday, March 7**
 - 6:00pm - GOYA Basketball
- **Friday, March 8**
 - 4:00pm OCF Meeting
 - 5:30pm Greek School
 - 6:30pm Apokriatiko Celebration
 - 7:00pm Dance Practice
- **Friday, March 15**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
 - 6:00pm to 9pm GOYA Lenten Retreat Event
- **Saturday, March 16**
 - Hope/Joy Roller Skating (TBD: Location & Time)
- **Sunday, March 17**
 - 10:45am Sunday School
 - 11:30am Parish Oratorical Festival
- **Friday, March 22**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
- **Sunday, March 24**
 - 10:45am Sunday School - (Icon Procession)
 - 2pm Greek Independence Day Parade
- **Sunday, March 31**
 - 10:45am Sunday School
- **Friday, April 5**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
- **Saturday, April 6**
 - Regional Oratorical Festival
- **Sunday, April 7**
 - 10:45am Sunday School
- **Friday, April 12**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
- **Sunday, April 14**
 - 10:45am Sunday School
- **Friday, April 19**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
- **Sunday, April 21**
 - 10:45am Sunday School
 - 12:00pm Hope/Joy: Wildlife Adventures- Wild about Jesus @ Church
 - 2:30pm GOYA Meeting
- **Friday, April 26**
 - 5:30pm Greek School
 - 7:00pm GOYA Lenten Lock-in Retreat
- **Sunday, April 28**
 - Palm Sunday
 - No Sunday School - Family Worship
- **Friday, May 3**
 - 11am to 4pm Holy Friday Youth Retreat
 - No Greek School
- **Sunday, May 5**
 - Easter
 - No Sunday School
 - Easter Egg Hunt after Agape Service



HOPE/JOY

Walters Art Museum on Sunday, January 21st





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 26.

Pickup is on Holy Thursday (5/2) between 3pm to 5pm or Holy Friday (5/3) between 12 noon to 3pm.

Contact Eleni Roros at
443-621-0587 or
eroros99@gmail.com
with any questions.



Scan to Reserve Easter Eggs

Saturday of Lazarus *April 27, 2024*

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/9tLaZyxgQLQvHaJ9>

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



Scan for Saturday of Lazarus

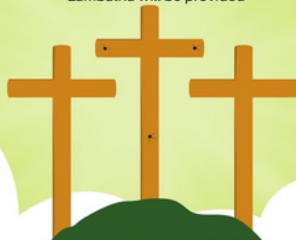
Holy Friday **YOUTH RETREAT** **Friday May 3, 2024** **11am to 4pm**

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 4/28/24 at

<https://forms.gle/i8qnFU9Wnz18cTc36>

For more info: 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."

JOIN US FOR AN



Easter

EGG HUNT

MAY
5TH

Annunciation Cathedral Courtyard
Hunt Begins After the 12 noon Agape Service

FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL & DANCE GROUP FUNDRAISER AT CUVINO TRATTORIA PIZZA ENOTECA



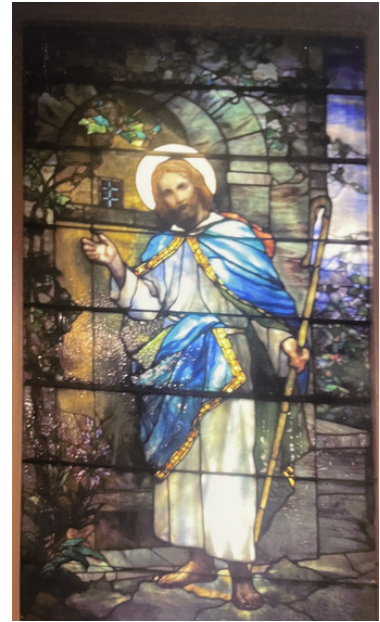
FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL - JANUARY 13 TO 14TH



IT'S BAKING TIME!



Historical Remembrances: The Protestants on Preston Street – Part 2



Following the dedication of the “Sermon on the Mount” stained-glass window in 1894, the Associate Congregational Church contacted the Tiffany Company of New York to discuss additional windows. Details about the three Tiffany windows on the west wall were recently discovered in The Baltimore Sun Archives:

June 10, 1901...The beautiful window representing “**Christ the Good Shepherd**” has been installed as a memorial to the late Rev. Dr. Melancthon C. Lockwood. It was unveiled yesterday morning in connection with church services, which included special music from the choir, choruses by the school children, and an address by the pastor Rev. Oliver Huckel. He stated the window is a “noble memorial to Dr. Lockwood and his own life,” which is suggested by the detailed picture of Christ as the Good Shepherd. The “Society of Busy Bees” dedicated the window to their former pastor who died in 1897 at the age of 44.

December 30, 1901...A new memorial window was unveiled yesterday dedicated to the late Frank Kerr, a church trustee of 24 years, who died in February 1901. It was a gift from his widow, Jean Fenton Kerr. The subject is “**Christ the Consoler**” and resembles a painting with that title by a German artist. Christ is seated in the archway of a temple, and kneeling at His knees is a young man praying with clasped hands. This reflects the biblical text, “Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” The halo around the head of Christ and white cross are of the iridescent glass for which Tiffany is famous.

April 11, 1903...Another memorial window from the Tiffany studios of New York will be unveiled on Easter Sunday morning. The theme of this window is “**Christ at Heart's Door**” and was created as a tribute to Lizzie Cushing Crane who died in 1899, and was donated by her sister, Katharine Cushing Gassaway. This stained-glass creation is an adaptation from the painting by a German artist entitled “Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock.” The window colors are rich and harmonious with Tiffany opalescent glass. This is the fourth Tiffany window placed in the church in recent years.

Over 120 years ago, each of the three windows cost between \$800-\$1,000. It is interesting to note that other newspaper accounts indicate the Associate Congregational Church was making plans for “six similar windows that will have other scenes from the life of Christ.” For reasons unknown, this never materialized. The Greek Orthodox community; however, followed through with the Protestants’ vision for stained glass windows throughout the church within a decade after acquiring this magnificent edifice in 1937.

Coming in May 2024...Historical details about our Cathedral building, which marks 135 years of existence, will be in the Main Lobby display cases presented by Parish Historian, Nicholas M. Prevas.



- **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.
- **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 more 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. Sunday School will end at 11:30am or after the Divine Liturgy, whichever is the later. The children will be brought down to receive Antidoron and be dismissed from the church.
- **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 George 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 George. Arrangements for the funeral will be made in conjunction with the funeral home and Father George.
- **Hospital and Nursing Home Visits** - It is up to the family to notify Father George 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 George. 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; or Fr.George@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. George 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.

SAVE THE DATE:
The Annunciation Cathedral Concert Series presents

**A RECITAL PERFORMED BY THE
ATTENDEES OF THE LEON FLEISCHER ACADEMY**

Please join us on April 21, 2024 ~ 1:00PM
at the Annunciation Orthodox Center (AOC).

Plan to join us and be enchanted by these exceptional performers.
For more information about the artist check: www.annstreettrio.com.



THE MYRRHBEARERS



Myrofores—Myrrhbearers

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

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 - select the Donate button and then
select the Lilies option to complete your donation via a credit card.

Complete and Return Form by April 26th

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: _____



BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE FOLLOWING SCAM/PHISHING

Phishing is a cybercrime in which a target or targets are contacted by email, telephone or text message by someone posing as a legitimate institution to lure individuals into providing sensitive data such as personally identifiable information, banking and credit card details, and passwords.

The information is then used to access important accounts and can result in identity theft and financial loss.

Common Features of Phishing Emails:

1. **Too Good To Be True** - Lucrative offers and eye-catching or attention-grabbing statements are designed to attract people's attention immediately. For instance, many claim that you have won an iPhone, a lottery, or some other lavish prize. Just don't click on any suspicious emails. Remember that if it seems too good to be true, it probably is!
2. **Sense of Urgency** - A favorite tactic amongst cybercriminals is to ask you to act fast because the super deals are only for a limited time. Some of them will even tell you that you have only a few minutes to respond. When you come across these kinds of emails, it's best to just ignore them. Sometimes, they will tell you that your account will be suspended unless you update your personal details immediately. Most reliable organizations give ample time before they terminate an account and they never ask patrons to update personal details over the Internet. When in doubt, visit the source directly rather than clicking a link in an email.
3. **Hyperlinks** - A link may not be all it appears to be. Hovering over a link shows you the actual URL where you will be directed upon clicking on it. It could be completely different or it could be a popular website with a misspelling, for instance www.bankofarnerica.com - the 'm' is actually an 'r' and an 'n', so look carefully.
4. **Attachments** - If you see an attachment in an email you weren't expecting or that doesn't make sense, don't open it! They often contain payloads like ransomware or other viruses. The only file type that is always safe to click on is a .txt file.
5. **Unusual Sender** - Whether it looks like it's from someone you don't know or someone you do know, if anything seems out of the ordinary, unexpected, out of character or just suspicious in general don't click on it!

Social Engineering Red Flags



FROM

- I don't recognize the sender's email address as someone I **ordinarily communicate with**.
- This email is from **someone outside my organization and it's not related to my job responsibilities**.
- This email was sent from **someone inside the organization** or from a customer, vendor, or partner and is **very unusual or out of character**.
- Is the sender's email address from a **suspicious domain** (like micorsoft-support.com)?
- I **don't know the sender personally** and they **were not vouched for** by someone I trust.
- I **don't have a business relationship** nor any past communications with the sender.
- This is an **unexpected or unusual email** with an **embedded hyperlink or an attachment** from someone I haven't communicated with recently.



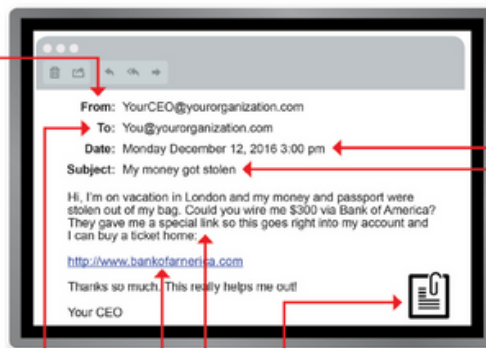
TO

- I was cc'd on an email sent to one or more people, but I **don't personally know** the other people it was sent to.
- I received an email that was also sent to an **unusual mix of people**. For instance, it might be sent to a random group of people at my organization whose last names start with the same letter, or a whole list of unrelated addresses.



HYPERLINKS

- I hover my mouse over a hyperlink that's displayed in the email message, but the **link-to address is for a different website**. (This is a **big red flag**.)
- I received an email that only has **long hyperlinks with no further information**, and the rest of the email is completely blank.
- I received an email with a **hyperlink that is a misspelling** of a known web site. For instance, www.bankofarnerica.com — the "m" is really two characters — "r" and "n."



DATE

- Did I receive an email that I normally would get during regular business hours, but it was **sent at an unusual time** like 3 a.m.?



SUBJECT

- Did I get an email with a subject line that is **irrelevant or does not match** the message content?
- Is the email message a reply to something I **never sent or requested**?



ATTACHMENTS

- The sender included an email attachment that I **was not expecting** or that **makes no sense** in relation to the email message. (This sender doesn't ordinarily send me this type of attachment.)
- I see an attachment with a possibly **dangerous file type**. The only file type that is **always safe to click on** is a .txt file.



CONTENT

- Is the sender asking me to click on a link or open an attachment to **avoid a negative consequence** or to **gain something of value**?
- Is the email **out of the ordinary**, or does it have **bad grammar** or **spelling errors**?
- Is the sender asking me to click a link or open up an attachment that **seems odd or illogical**?
- Do I have an **uncomfortable gut feeling** about the sender's request to open an attachment or click a link?
- Is the email asking me to look at a **compromising or embarrassing picture** of myself or someone I know?