



THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
OF THE ANNUNCIATION

BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Sunday, December 31, 2023
SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY



Rev. Fr. Anastasios P. Bourantas

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SAINT OF THE DAY

The Leave-taking of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ



Our Church, on December 31st, celebrates the “apodosi” (or leave-taking) of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ. The leave-taking represents the final day that a feast is celebrated. The great feasts of our Church are usually extended for eight days, depending on the significance and timing of the next feast in the Church calendar. For instance, the Nativity Feast celebrations extend for seven days, while the Feast of Pascha continues for a full forty days. In the Old Testament, Mosaic Law explicitly prescribed that the great Jewish feasts go on for eight days. The custom of leave-taking was received in Christian worship. All feasts connected to our salvation are extended in an unbounded (timeless) way into the future. The feasts reach towards what we refer to in theology as the eschaton (in Greek, *ἐσχάτον*, meaning last), which is the final age beyond history (the time proceeding the Second Coming of Christ). The limitless nature of a feast is meant to transcend historical and liturgical time, thus incorporating a foretaste of eternal

life. For the Church, which is the Body of the Incarnate God, there is no material difference between a feast and the underlying events that the Church celebrates during a feast. An event taking place at a given historical moment according to God’s plan for the salvation of the world is considered as occurring in such a way and with such purpose that it continues to endure perpetually. The historical event is converted into a liturgical and soteriological event (related to our salvation), which forever extends into the future, all through the historical course of the Church on earth, until the Second Coming of Christ, and all the way to eternity.

TODAY

- **We thank our 2023 Stewardship Day Sponsors**, Mark and Christie Williams, for sponsoring December 28th, in honor of their wedding anniversary and John and Susie Sobchak for sponsoring December 31st, as this will be their last day attending service at the Cathedral. They are moving back to Austin Texas. The Cathedral wishes them all the best!
- Please join the Philoptochos in the Father Constantine Monios Social Hall following the Divine Liturgy for **Coffee Hour**.
- **If you are visiting the Cathedral**, please introduce yourself to Fr. Anastasios Bourantas at the end of the Liturgy.

HOUSE BLESSINGS - Starting on January 6th, Fr. Anastasios and Fr. John will be visiting and blessing homes of the Cathedral families and bringing the Church into your home during the Theophany season. Instructions for how to sign up and what to have ready can be found at this link or scan the QR Code:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AADAC29A2FDC52-46983874-2024>.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

See all events at:
[annunciationbaltimore.org/
calendar](https://annunciationbaltimore.org/calendar)

LITURGICAL

- **Mon, 01/01 (New Year’s Day)**
 - 8:30am - Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Circumcision of our Lord and St. Basil the Great
- **Wed, 01/03**
 - 6:00pm - Paraklesis
- **Fri, 01/05**
 - 8:30am - Great Hours of Theophany
 - 10:00am - Vespertal Liturgy of Theophany
- **Sat, 01/06 (Theophany)**
 - 8:30am - Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Theophany
- **Sun, 01/07 (Synaxis of John the Baptist)**
 - 8:00am - Orthros
 - 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

COMMUNITY

- **Mon, 01/01 (New Year’s Day)**
 - Office Closed
- **Wed, 01/03**
 - 7:00pm - Choir Practice
- **Fri, 01/05**
 - 5:30pm - Greek School
 - 7:00pm - FDF Dance Practice (Evangelakia)
- **Sat, 01/06**
 - 12:00pm - Philoptochos Board Meeting
- **Sun, 01/07**
 - 12:00pm - FDF Dance Practice (Evangelakia)
 - 5:00pm - AA and Al-Anon Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

1/7 - CUTTING OF THE
VASILOPITA (ST. BASIL BREAD)
1/13 & 14 - FDF DANCE
COMPETITION
2/4 - GODPARENT SUNDAY
2/17 - CHURCH SUPPER

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024

RECRUITING ANNOUNCEMENT

NOW
HIRING

OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION - USE THE LINK TO APPLY

- The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, 24 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD, 21201, is seeking a personable, professional and attentive individual to fill the newly created position of Office Assistant. Responsibilities include reception, answering phones, monitoring email correspondence, and greeting guests. The applicant must have strong written and verbal communication skills, working knowledge of Microsoft Office and experience with electronic and manual filing systems. Familiarity with Orthodox Christian liturgical practices, parish life and Greek language is preferred but not required. The position is part time M-F, 8:30-2:30, 30 hours/week. Benefits include paid holidays and vacation. The ideal candidate must be friendly, respectful and welcoming. To apply, open the link, fill out the application and attach a resume ASAP. Please help us find the right person by asking around and providing the link to apply.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mBhpHnrdw_gXuRKReBZeK64ZxWYa16WeYdc5brsRqGY/edit For questions or additional information call or text Judy Georges at 443-301-5041.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- In an effort to support the office during the search to fill the office assistant position, we are looking for a few volunteers to assist beginning Jan 2, 2024. The ideal candidate would be available two or more days per week for 4-5 hours at a time during the transition. Experience working in an office, receiving phone calls, greeting guests, accepting deliveries as well as using a copier and other office equipment, is a plus. The opportunity to volunteer in the office will likely continue after the transition period. If interested, please fill out the attached form providing availability and preferences.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSexw_d-SNX6AtioZyT80DtWIO7wOJzBtdllh8zYUo-1tErhg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0



The Festival Committee and Parish Council are happy to announce that beginning in 2024, our annual festival will be moving to Memorial Day Weekend. Please be on the lookout for more details. The dates for 2024: Thursday, May 23 to Sunday, May 26.

- **Silent Auction Support Needed** - The 2024 Greek Food *Wine* Culture Festival is scheduled for May 23-26, 2024. With less than 6 months to prepare this year, the Silent Auction Committee is asking for your help. Do you have new items to donate that you've never used (or barely)? We can use anything from kitchen, home, decorative, entertaining, jewelry, accessories or games. Items can be big and expensive, to stand alone, or small and inexpensive to be used in a basket (last year we assembled 130 baskets). If you have wine/alcohol, tickets, vacations or gift cards you can't use, they would also be put to good use. The Silent Auction produces \$18-\$20,000 in revenue for church operating expenses and is a great place for heirlooms, keepsakes, treasures and everyday items to be passed on to a top bidder who will cherish them. Please contact Judy Georges by phone, text 443-301-5041 or email judywood@comcast.net or place donations in the youth room on top of the display cases. Thanks so much for your generosity and support.

PHILOPTOCHOS

- **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 to Fr. Anastasios Fr.Anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org or leave a message requesting a return call with the church office.

WOMEN'S GUILD

- **PRE-ORDER FOR THE 19TH YEAR YOUR VALENTINE CHOCOLATES FROM THE WOMEN'S GUILD!** Once again, the Ladies of the Annunciation Women's Guild are hand-dipping and gift-wrapping their special Chocolate Pretzels "Just for You" to share! Place your orders **before January 20** by mail with the form attached on the Flyer in the Newsletter or Weekly Bulletin or **before January 25** contact Pam Stevens at pamelastevens1225@gmail.com with Your Name/Order Details. The **Pick-up dates in the Social Hall Lobby are February 4 and February 11**. There are only a limited number of boxes being made, so order early!

YOUNG ADULT

- **Annunciation Young Adult League 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@annunaitonbaltimore.org.**
- **OCF** – Orthodox Christian Fellowship is a campus ministry to help students connect with other Orthodox Christians, navigate their time through school, and stay connected to the Church. Contact Fr. John for more info.



COMMUNITY

- **Greek School Registration remains open for Adults. It is never too late to sign up for Greek School.** Register at: <https://forms.gle/Jh1SkcoU4bGi4djL6>. Classes are on Friday evenings.

YOUTH

- **Please consider supporting our Youth Ministries** by making a donation in the labeled wooden collection box.

BOOKSTORE

Happy New Year! The **Father Dean Moralis Bookstore and Logos Gift Shop** will take you into 2024 with spiritual and educational resources to guide your walk in Faith. Our offerings are carefully selected for heartfelt enrichment for children and adults. To prepare for the Feast days of January and February, we have icons and literature to guide your study and meditation. For perfect gifts, consider a Bookstore Gift Card!
<https://squareup.com/gift/MLF7HAY1H9CTY/order>

CULTURE

The **Hellenic Heritage Museum of Maryland** thanks everyone for their support as we continue to welcome visitors and suggests that a Museum Membership appear on your holiday gift list. Membership forms are available when you visit the museum most Sundays after church services, through the website www.HELLENICHERITAGEMD.ORG, or by appointment. Please contact Fotini Baltatzis tinabaltatzis@gmail.com / 410-823-0139 or Harry C. Maistros harry.maistros@comcast.net / 410-467-1836.

STEWARDSHIP

- **Stewardship Update:** To effectively manage our budget, the Parish Council relies on the commitments made through your pledge. We encourage all to satisfy their 2023 pledge by year end. Also, please be mindful to formalize a commitment by making a pledge and fulfilling it for 2024.
- **The Day Sponsor Steward Program** offers individuals a personal milestone that directly supports our parish and her ministries. You may choose a meaningful day throughout the year, whether it is a special occasion or a tribute to a loved one in memory or honor. Please consider the Day Sponsor Steward Program by becoming a **Day Sponsor Steward** (\$3500 annual pledge) or the new **Half-day Sponsor Steward** (\$1750 annual pledge).
- **2024 Stewardship commitment link:** <https://forms.gle/v3TXkYJkFWD63TW48>. Hard copies are also available on the "Welcome" table in the church lobby. Our financial security is dependent upon Stewardship. Please carefully consider your 2024 pledge.
- If you have **recurring Stewardship** payments set up online, please remember to switch your payment to "2024 Stewardship" as of January 1, 2024. "2023 Stewardship" will not be an online option after January 1st. Please send checks or cash to the Church Office for outstanding 2023 Stewardship amounts.
- Please call or email the Church Office at **410-727-1831** or office@annunciationbaltimore.org if you require Offering Envelopes for 2024. We will make them available upon request and have your name and unique ID numbered envelopes ready for you to pick them up. Fill out a 2024 Pledge Form and check the box asking to receive envelopes. **Please discard any 2022 or 2023 envelopes you have remaining.**

- **Please note** that only baptized, Chrismated Orthodox Christians in good standing may receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion (and Holy Unction when offered). If you have any questions, please reach out to Fr. Anastasios.
- **In order to protect our icons and liturgical items**, please blot any lip products before venerating icons or coming up for Holy Communion.
- **If you know of a parishioner who lives in an assisted-living home or is physically unable to attend services**, please contact the Church Office to schedule a visit from Fr. Anastasios or Fr. John.
- **If you wish to have a home or business blessed** please contact the church office to request a time for Fr. Anastasios to visit.

PASTORAL

GIVING

- **Online Donations** can be made through our website. Click the DONATE button in the upper right corner. We are grateful for your continued stewardship!
- **For candles and tray donations**, you can also donate by text message, just text the dollar amount to (833) 934-2637 and follow the prompts.
 - Note: TextToTray can only be used for candles and tray donations.
 - We are also grateful for donations made by check.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

- **Cathedral Updates** – To receive Bulletins and other updates via email, visit <https://annunciationbaltimore.flocknote.com> and enter your contact information.
- **Text Alerts** - To receive ministries updates via text, text the ministry keyword below to phone number 84576:
 - **Hope/Joy → HopeJoy**
 - **GOYA → GOYA**
 - **YAL → YOUNGANNUN**
 - **Men's Fellowship → MensFellowship**



Scheduling - To all ministry, organization and committee leaders and members: 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.

If you would like to have information included in the Sunday Bulletin, please send your text and/or flyer to assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org by Wednesday at Noon.

For the January/February Newsletter, send to newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org by February 10th.

TODAY'S ENTRANCE HYMNS & READINGS

Resurrectional Apolytikion

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν· ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Apolytikion of the Feast

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἀστροῖς λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοί.

Apolytikion for the Ancestors of God

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυὶδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυοφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθείς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Apolytikion of the Parish

Today is the summary of our salvation, and the revelation of the age-old mystery. For the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel announces the good news of grace. Therefore, let us join him, and cry aloud to the Theotokos: "Rejoice, Maiden full of grace! The Lord is with you."

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις· ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Kontakion

On this day the Virgin bears * Him who surpasses all essence; * to the Unapproachable, * earth is providing a grotto. * Angels sing * along with shepherds in giving glory. * With a star * the Magi travel on their journey. * He was born for our salvation, * a newborn Child * the pre-eternal God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

EPISTLE (II TIMOTHY 4:5-8)

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσι, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκε. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν ἠγωνίσμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπὸν ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ Κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτής, οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἡγαπηκόσι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

GOSPEL (MARK 1:1-8)

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Ἀρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδὸν σου ἔμπροσθέν σου· φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογούμενοι τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτῶν. Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας καμήλου καὶ ζῶνῃν δερματίνην περὶ τὴν ὀσφὺν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται ὁ ἰσχυρότερός μου ὀπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς κύψαι λῦσαι τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ.



2024 HOUSE BLESSINGS

Happy New Year and a blessed Theophany.

Fr. Anastasios and Fr. John will be visiting and blessing your homes during the feast of the Holy Theophany.

House blessings will occur in zip code order. Please select a time for your blessing and have ready on a table or by your home icons: a bowl of water, a candle and an icon.

Fr. Anastasios or Fr. John will come to your home, chant a small service of the Agiasmos, and you will guide him throughout your home to bless with the Holy Water. All members of the home that are able should be present.

When filling out Signup Genius - please provide full address, telephone and any other particulars as he arrives at your home. Please sign up only in your designated zip code. If the dates provided are not suitable for your schedule or if your zip code is not listed, we will make every attempt to select a date that fits your home schedule. Please email the church office at office@annunciationbaltimore.org.

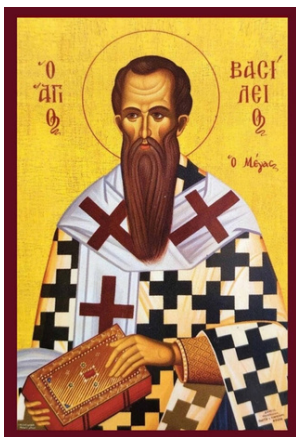
Happy New Year!

Please click on the House Blessing Signup link or Scan QR Code to access the signup:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AADAC29A2FDC52-46983874-2024#



- Jan 6, 9, 22, 31 (Lutherville, Timonium, Cockeysville Area): 21030, 21093
- Jan 7, 10 & 29 (Baltimore City Area): 21201, 21202, 21217, 21218, 21231
- Jan 8 & Feb 5, 20 (Parkville, Roland Park, and Vicinity): 21206, 21209, 21210, 21211, 21212, 21213, 21214, 21234, 21239
- Jan 15 & Feb 29 (Sparks, Parkton and Vicinity): 21030, 21053, 21111, 21120, 21131, 21152, 21161
- Jan 12 & Feb 27 (Bel Air, Joppa, Aberdeen): 21005, 21009, 21014, 21015, 21050, 21078, 21085, 21154, 21160, 21904
- Jan 7, 17, 19 & Feb 14 (Towson Area): 21022, 21204, 21286
- Jan 6, 15 & Feb 12 (Perry Hall, Kingsville, Fallston, and Vicinity): 21013, 21047, 21057, 21082, 21084, 21087, 21128, 21162, 21236
- Jan 11, 23 & Feb 28 (Columbia, Ellicott City, and Vicinity): 20723, 21029, 21042, 21043, 21044, 21045, 21046, 21075, 21228, 21738
- Jan 18 & 24 (Owings Mills, Reisterstown, and Vicinity): 21104, 21117, 21133, 21136, 21153, 21163, 21207, 21208, 21215, 21225, 21229, 21230, 21244
- Jan 26 & Feb 6 (Rosedale, Middle River, Highlandtown and Vicinity): 21220, 21221, 21222, 21224, 21237
- Jan 16 & Feb 13 (Frederick and Vicinity): 21701, 21704, 21771, 21784, 21797
- Feb 22 (Westminster and Vicinity): 21048, 21074, 21102, 21157, 21158
- Feb 1, 16 (Annapolis, Glen Burnie and Vicinity): 21012, 21032, 21037, 21054, 21060, 21061, 21076, 21090, 21108, 21113, 21114, 21122, 21401, 21403, 21409, 21035



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



*His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos
of New Jersey*

*Cordially Invites you to the
ANNUAL
METROPOLIS of NEW JERSEY
VASILOPITA CELEBRATION*

*Tuesday, January 9, 2024
6:00 – 9:00pm*

hosted by:

*St. George Greek Orthodox Church
1101 River Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854*



GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE
ANNUNCIATION

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday, 12/9

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for
Conception of the Theotokos

Sunday, 12/10

8:00am - Orthros & Liturgy

Tuesday, 12/12

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for St.
Spyridon

Wednesday, 12/13

6:00pm - Paraklesis

Friday, 12/15

8:30pm - Orthros & Liturgy for St.
Eleftherios

Saturday, 12/16

8:00am - Orthros & Liturgy for
Prophet Haggi

Sunday, 12/17

8:00am - Orthros & Liturgy

Monday, 12/18

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for St.
Sebastian

Wednesday, 12/20

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for St.
Ignatius
6:00pm - Paraklesis

Friday, 12/22

8:30am - Great Hours

Sunday, 12/24

8:00am - Orthros & Liturgy
5:00pm - Vespers for Nativity

Monday, 12/25

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for
Nativity

Wednesday, 12/27

8:30pm - Orthros & Liturgy for St.
Stephen
6:00pm - Paraklesis

Sunday, 12/31

8:00am - Orthros & Liturgy

Monday, 1/1

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for
Circumcision of our Lord and St. Basil

Friday, 1/5

8:30am - Great Hours
9:30am - Vespertal Liturgy

Saturday, 1/6

8:30am - Orthros & Liturgy for
Theophany

Sunday, 1/7

8:00am - Orthros, Liturgy, and
Cutting of the Vasilopita

WOMEN'S GUILD OF THE ANNUNCIATION

19th Annual Sale of

Hand Dipped Chocolate Covered Pretzels

Beautifully Boxed

Perfect for Valentine's Day or "Just For You"

\$10.00 per Box

Choice of Milk, Dark or Assorted Chocolates

For Orders Contact

Pam Stevens @ pamelastevens1225@gmail.com

Before Thursday, January 25, 2024

Or

Mail the Attached Form

Before January 20, 2024:

Name: _____

Phone No: _____

Select Pick Up Date: February 4_____ February 11_____

Number of Boxes: Dark # _____ Milk # _____ Assorted # _____

Please mail order and check to:
Annunciation Women's Guild
c/o Pam Stevens
3 Faraday Drive
Baltimore, MD 21093



Happy
NEW YEAR
2024

**Let's celebrate the New
Year together!**

**Thursday, January 11th
11:30am
at the AOC**

New Year New Name!

**Enjoy Fellowship,
Lunch, Vasilopita!**

**RSVP to Pat Bartsocas at
bartsocaspat@hotmail.com or Rhoula
Monios at rhouladevie@yahoo.com**

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/KmMH2Ltfl1aA8zCx6>

(Hard copies are available in the church office.)