

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
OF THE ANNUNCIATION



BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Sunday, April 7, 2024

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS



Rev. Fr. George Mastakas

Presiding Priest

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Rev. Fr. John Bullock

Presbyter

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Cathedral Office

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Saint and Feasts

Sunday of the Holy Cross

With the help of God, we have almost reached the middle of the course of the Fast, where our strength has been worn down through abstinence, and the full difficulty of the labor set before us becomes apparent. Therefore our holy Mother, the Church of Christ, now brings to our help the all-holy Cross, the joy of the world, the strength of the faithful, the staff of the just, and the hope of sinners, so that by venerating it reverently, we might receive strength and grace to complete the divine struggle of the Fast.



TODAY

- Today, the **son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexei and Kenia Misoul** will be presented for the **40-day blessing**.
- **The basket of flowers gracing the icon of the Panayia for the Salutations service** are offered for the glory of God and for the continued good health of Louis, Jenny, Penelope and Alicia Kousouris, and Alexandra, Kenneth, Josephine, Louisa & Kenny Grote is donated by Constance Rogers.
- **The silver tray holding the blessing cross for the Veneration of the Holy Cross**, has been decorated by the Daidakis, Vainieri and Werner families in loving memory of George and Zoe Daidakis Piendak.
- **The flowers for the Veneration of the Holy Cross** are given lovingly by Cynthia Popomaronis for the glory of God and the continued good health of Cynthia Popomaronis, Eleni, Craig, William and Noelle Bowden, Anna, Arthur, Peter and Harrison Montauderes, Tom, Brittany, Isla and baby Quinn Popomaronis.
- **We thank the Annunciation Choir** for hosting the April 5th refreshments following the 3rd service of the Salutations to the Theotokos.
- **Please join us for Coffee Hour**, hosted by the Philoptochos in the Fr. Constantine Monios Social Hall following the Divine Liturgy.
- **If you are visiting the Cathedral**, please introduce yourself to Fr. George at the end of the Liturgy.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

See all events at:

annunciationbaltimore.org/calendar

LITURGICAL

- **Mon, 4/8**
 - 6:00pm - Compline
- **Wed, 4/10**
 - 6:00pm - Presanctified Liturgy (Chapel)
- **Fri, 4/12**
 - 8:30am - Presanctified Liturgy (Chapel)
 - 6:30pm - Salutations to the Theotokos
- **Sun, 4/14 (Sunday of St. John Climacus)**
 - 8:00am - Orthros
 - 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

COMMUNITY

- **Mon, 4/8**
 - 7:00pm - Technology Committee Meeting
- **Wed, 4/10**
 - 7:00pm - YAL Board Meeting
- **Thur, 4/11**
 - 10:00am - HHMM Work Session
 - 6:00pm - Capital Campaign Committee Meeting
- **Fri, 4/12**
 - 11:00am - Easter Baking and Festival Prep (Koulourakia)
 - 12:00pm - Philoptochos - Loaves and Fishes at My Sister's Place
 - 5:30pm - Greek School
- **Sat, 4/13**
 - 10:00am - Evangelakia Dance Practice (AOC)
 - 11:00am - Easter Baking and Festival Prep (Koulourakia)
- **Sun, 4/14 (Sunday of St. John Climacus)**
 - 5:00pm - AA and Al-Anon Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

4/12 - 4TH SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS

4/19 - 5TH SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS (AKATHIST HYMN)

4/25 - SATURDAY OF LAZARUS AND PALM PREPARATION

4/28 - PALM SUNDAY TRADITIONAL FISH LUNCHEON

5/11 - METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

5/23 GREEK FESTIVAL BEGINS

PHILOPTOCHOS

- The **Philoptochos Loaves and Fishes Lenten program** will provide lunch on **Friday, April 12, 2024** for My Sister's Place, a women's resource center that serves women and children. We will meet at the Cathedral at **10am** to prepare the lunch and carpool to the Center at **11:30am** to serve lunch at noon. **We need six (6) volunteers.** If you are able to assist, please contact Jean Prevas at 443-803-3771 / jprevas@aol.com, or Susan Prevas 410-218-4347 / susan.prevas@gmail.com **by April 10.**
- **Philoptochos** members strive to make a difference in the lives of others by fulfilling our sacred calling as Christians to help anyone in need. Please renew your Philoptochos membership and invite your friends to become members so we can continue to expand our group. Renewal \$40. Membership forms are located on the church lobby table.
- **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. George fr.george@annunciationbaltimore.org or leave a message requesting a return call with the church office.



SCHOLARSHIPS



- The **2024 Philoptochos Scholarship Applications** are available on line on the church website. Printed copies are also on the Welcome Table at church. The due date for submitting Philoptochos Scholarship Applications is **Tuesday, April 16, 2024.** The Scholarships will be presented in church on Philoptochos Scholarship Sunday, on **June 9.** For additional information contact Deanna Sakellaris at dsak702@verizon.net or 410-591-6601.
- The **AHEPA Lord Baltimore Chapter 364 Scholarship deadline is April 15, 2024!** Go to www.ahepa364.org for info, instructions, and application. Any questions contact chairperson, Col. John E Gavrilis, by text 443-474-4001.
- Information regarding the **Anastasia K. Michals Memorial Scholarship** presented by the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos Society is available on the Welcome Table. Mrs. Michals was a past NJ Metropolis Philoptochos president. She served with dignity and grace. Applications are due **June 15, 2024.** For more information, contact Deanna Sakellaris, dsak@verizon.net or 410.591.6601.

YOUNG ADULT

- **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@annunciaitonbaltimore.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. Students typically meet every other Friday on the Hopkins campus. Contact Fr. John for more info.



COMMUNITY

- **NEWS: Effective April 1st, the south parking lot is under new management, SP+ Parking.** This company uses a "license plate recognition" program. They will not be issuing parking tag permits. This lot can be used for overflow Sunday service parking.
- **Sunday School is collecting soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant for the Franciscan Center.** Place donations outside the Church office in the boxes marked Sunday School's Collection for the Franciscan Center **by April 28.** Any questions, please contact Diane Boia at 410-227-6906.
- **Metropolis of New Jersey Oratorical Festival -- Saturday, May 11 -- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** The Cathedral will host visitors from across the New Jersey Metropolis, including **His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos**, on this wonderful day of youth ministry. We need your helping hands to make this event a success for our young people and visitors. **Scan the QR CODE** to sign-up! Please email Corinna Vlahoyiannis with any questions, corinna.vlahoyiannis@gmail.com.
- **Join us for "Night Out at the Ballpark" Fundraiser - Baltimore Orioles vs Seattle Mariners Baseball Game - Friday, May 17 at 7:05pm.** \$30/ticket - Seats are Lower Reserved. First 20,000 fans 15 & over receive a FREE Orioles 70th Anniversary Replica Jersey. Order tickets @: <https://forms.gle/9ba97c5X4wu4PJ77A> **Deadline to order is May 9 at Noon.** First Come First Serve. Hosted by YAL. Contact George Roros at groros@yep.edu or 443-869-1838 with any questions.
- **NEW DATE: The Annunciation Women's Guild invites the Women of the Cathedral to their June General Meeting and Luncheon on Sunday, June 9, 2024 at 12:30pm** (after the Graduate & Scholarship program) in the AHEPA room. Please join us for a light lunch and fellowship with our Guest Speaker, Parish Historian, Nicholas M. Prevas. Nicholas will discuss the fascinating story of Baltimore's Greek Community of the 1920s. Please **RSVP by Friday, May 31, 2024** to Kaliope Del Pizzo at kmdelpizzo@gmail.com.



Oratorical Volunteer:
SCAN TO SIGN-UP!

- **SAVE THE DATE: The Philoptochos' 12th Annual FLEA MARKET** will be open from **June 28 to August 11.** We will have a soft opening for "Ladies Nite at the Flea Market" on **Thursday, June 27 from 5:30 to 7:30.** Information on making your donations to the Flea Market is forthcoming.
- **Greek School Registration** remains open for Adults. It is never too late to sign up for Greek School. Register at: <https://forms.gle/Jh1SkcoU4bGi4djL6>.

YOUTH

- **Hope/Joy** invites everyone to the "**Wild About Jesus**" presentation in the AHEPA Room on **Sunday April 21** after Liturgy. Wildlife Adventures will also be hosting a petting zoo. The event is free. Contact Dorthea Tsakiris for additional info at hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org.
- **Camp Good Shepherd Summer Camp** – Our summer camp ministry is looking for staff volunteers for **June 16-22!** Must be 18 yrs or older and one year out of high school. Questions? campgoodshepcb@gmail.com. Apply at: <https://forms.gle/YGpEwTuMeZPwNNuz9>

LITURGICAL

- **Salutations Service** - If you are interested in intoning the ending prayers of the Salutations service (“Ασπλιε, αμόλυντε) in either Greek or English, please contact Fr. George.
- **We are also looking for readers for Agape Vespers.** If you are interested and can read proficiently in a foreign language, please contact Fr. George.

LENT & PASCHA

- **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 **Friday, April 26**. Pickup will be on **Holy Thursday (May 2) between 3pm to 5pm or Holy Friday (May 3) between 12 noon to 3pm**. Contact Eleni Roros at 443-621-0587 or eroros99@gmail.com for any questions.
- **Myrrh-Bearers (Myrofores):** Calling all girls 6 to 12 years of age interested in being a Myrrh-Bearer (Myrofora) for Holy Friday Service. Contact Dorothea Tsakiris at hopejoy@annunciationbaltimore.org.
- **Saturday of Lazarus and Palm Making** - Our Youth Ministries invite all to assist with making palm crosses on **Saturday, April 27, the Saturday of Lazarus**, following the Liturgy. Children and adults will learn about and prepare “Lazarakia”, prepare bay leaves, and decorate the Cathedral for Palm Sunday. All are encouraged to bring a Lenten dish (covered) to share. Orthos & Divine Liturgy, 8am - 10 am. To ensure we have enough supplies, sign up at: <https://forms.gle/9tLaZyxgfQLQvHaJ9>.
- **Holy Friday Youth Retreat** - All Youth - Pre-k to High School, join us **Friday, May 3 - 11am to 4pm** for activities, lunch and the “Unnailing from the Cross” (Apokathelosis). Excused absence letters will be available. **Register by Sunday, April 28** at <https://forms.gle/i8qnFU9Wnz18cTc36>. More info: youthministries@annunciationbaltimore.org. If anyone is available to volunteer for all or part of the day, please let us know.
- **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. Forms are available on the Welcome Table. **Deadline to donate is April 26**.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** - Join us for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt after the **Agape Service on Sunday, May 5**.



FESTIVAL FOOD PREPARATION

- Come one, Come ALL. Please join us in the Mentis Room at 11am to prepare for Pascha and our annual Festival.
 - **April 12 & 13** – Koulourakia
 - **April 19 & April 20** – Kourambiedes.
 - **May 8, 9 & 10** – Baklava
- Contact Mike Baglanis, 410-627-1899 or Georgeann Morekas, 443-845-1176.

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.

THURSDAY, MAY 23 TO SUNDAY, MAY 26

PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE DETAILS TO SIGN UP TO SETUP/DECORATE, BAKE AND/OR VOLUNTEER.

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 insert 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.



TODAY'S ENTRANCE HYMNS & READINGS

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

Εὐφραίνεσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον· πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο· ἐκ κοιλίας ᾄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

For the Feast

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολιτεύμα.

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 ἢ 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

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. In as much as you have power unassailable, from all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθήρωσον, Ἴνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

EPISTLE (HEBREWS 4:14-16; 5:1-6)

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες ἀρχιερέα μέγαν διεληλυθότα τοὺς οὐρανοὺς, Ἰησοῦν τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ, κρατῶμεν τῆς ὁμολογίας. οὐ γὰρ ἔχομεν ἀρχιερέα μὴ δυνάμενον συμπαθεῖσαι ταῖς ἀσθενείαις ἡμῶν, πεπειραμένον δὲ κατὰ πάντα καθ' ὁμοιότητα χωρὶς ἁμαρτίας. προσερχώμεθα οὖν μετὰ παρρησίας τῷ θρόνῳ τῆς χάριτος, ἵνα λάβωμεν ἔλεον καὶ χάριν εὐρωμεν εἰς εὐκαιρον βοήθειαν. Πᾶς γὰρ ἀρχιερεὺς ἐξ ἀνθρώπων λαμβανόμενος ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων καθίσταται τὰ πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, ἵνα προσφέρῃ δῶρά τε καὶ θυσίας ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν, μετριοπαθεῖν δυνάμενος τοῖς ἀγνοοῦσι καὶ πλανωμένοις, ἐπεὶ καὶ αὐτὸς περικείται ἀσθένειαν· καὶ διὰ ταύτην ὀφείλει, καθὼς περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ, οὕτω καὶ περὶ ἑαυτοῦ προσφέρειν ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν. καὶ οὐχ ἑαυτῷ τις λαμβάνει τὴν τιμὴν, ἀλλὰ καλούμενος ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ, καθάπερ καὶ Ἀαρών. οὕτω καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐχ ἑαυτὸν ἐδόξασε γεννηθῆναι ἀρχιερέα, ἀλλ' ὁ λαλήσας πρὸς αὐτόν· υἱός μου εἶ σύ, ἐγὼ σήμερον γεγέννηκά σε· καθὼς καὶ ἐν ἑτέρῳ λέγει· σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὸν τύπον Μελχizedek.

GOSPEL (MARK 8:34-38; 9-1)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· "Ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἂν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἂν ἐπαισχυνθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμούς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

THE BOOKSTORE AND LOGOS GIFT SHOP

- **Flash sale on Icon sets this Sunday only!**
 - These icons are wooden plaques with Lumina gold and come in three sizes. They depict the Great Feasts of Christ’s entry into Jerusalem, the Mystical Supper, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. There is also a print set with Lumina gold for children and young adults.
- For perfect gifts, consider a Bookstore Gift Card!
<https://squareup.com/gift/MLF7HAY1H9CTY/order>

MUSIC

- Rising international stars from the Leon Fleisher Academy will present works by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev. Don't miss this spectacular event and show your support for the young artists on their musical journey. This event is sponsored by the **Annunciation Cathedral Concert Series**. Recital on **Sunday, April 21 at 1:00pm** at the AOC. Free will offering.
- **The choir is recruiting** new and former members to join us for the Lenten and Pascha season. We will rehearse on **Wednesday evenings at 7pm** in the choir room and on Sundays before Liturgy begins. Come and be a part of this wonderful, uplifting and rewarding ministry and join your voice with ours. For further information, please contact our choir director, Fotini Fifi Nichols, fnichols1@verizon.net.

CULTURE

- The **Hellenic Heritage Museum of Maryland** is in the process of putting together an exhibition of Greek dolls and is in search of a set of small Greek evzones (about 3” tall) that were popular in the 1950’s. If you were a boy of that generation that treasured these small painted lead toys and have a set we could borrow for the display, please contact Harry Maistros at harry.maistros@comcast.net.

STEWARDSHIP

- **Stewardship Update:** To effectively manage our budget, the Parish Council relies on the commitments made through your pledge. 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.
- **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 note** that only baptized, Christmated Orthodox Christians in good standing may receive the Sacraments (Holy Communion, Holy Unction when offered, etc.). If you have any questions, please reach out to Fr. George.
- **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. George or Fr. John.

PASTORAL

GIVING

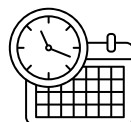
- **Online Donations** can be made through our website. Click the DONATE button in the upper right corner. We are grateful for your continued stewardship!
- **For candles and tray donations**, you can also donate by text message, just text the dollar amount to (833) 934-2637 and follow the prompts.
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



Day Change Effective March 31st:

- Submit for the **Sunday Bulletin by Tuesday at Noon** to assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org
- Submit for the upcoming **Newsletter by April 15th** to newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org.

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



Silent Auction Donation Form:

Silent Auction Basket Sponsor:

Name: _____

Monetary Donation: \$ _____

Email: _____

Gift Basket #: _____

Telephone: _____

Other Donation: _____

Address: _____

For more information contact:

Judy Georges

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

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

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

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





GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL & SYNODICAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 79/2024

**Archepiscopal & Synodical Encyclical
for the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross**

April 7, 2024

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and entirety of the Christ-loving Plenitude of the Sacred Archdiocese of America:

Καὶ τὰ φύλλα τοῦ Ξύλου εἰς θεραπείαν τῶν ἐθνῶν. (Ἀποκάλυψις 22:2)
And the leaves of the Tree were for the healing of the Nations. (Revelation 22:2)

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

In the midway point of the Holy Lent, we arrive at the oasis of the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross. Now the Tree of the Cross overshadows us with its healing leaves and fruits, and the flowers with which we adorn It in the Divine Service reflect Its lively glory. The Cross, once an instrument of suffering and death, has become the Tree of Eternal Life, and we are invited to share in Its mission of redemption and salvation. It is because of this mission that the Holy Eparchial Synod has decided to that an Encyclical should be issued every year for Feast of the Veneration of the Holy Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord calls each and every one of us to pick up our own cross and follow Him, to walk the path of self-sacrificial love that led Him to Golgotha and to the Garden Tomb. This invitation is for every Christian, whether we have fully understand that call or not. Those who aspire to the Holy Priesthood through the laying on of hands often tell of hearing a distinct calling, which is named a “vocation.” They feel they are being summoned to serve Christ and His Church as clergy, and so they work with their local



priest and Hierarch, and find their way to our beloved Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology, to pursue studies that lead to ordination. We should all encourage this noble and indeed sacred pursuit, and fill Hellenic College and Holy Cross with candidates to serve the future generations of our Church in America.

In this season of the Great Lent, when our fasting is to be augmented by almsgiving, let us all strive to dedicate an offering to our beloved Theological School, and give tangible, financial support those who are answering the call of the Lord in their very specific mission. Those who choose to take up the cross of service in the Holy Priesthood – whether they are called to be Deacons, Presbyters, or Hierarchs – are called to a lifelong sacrifice of their will, and they surely merit our support and our appreciation.

Therefore, let us answer the call of the Lord today as best as we are able, and enter into the oasis of the Veneration of the Holy Cross. There, we will find refreshment and healing from the Tree of Eternal Life, and find the strength to continue our Lenten journey to the Great and Holy Pascha.

With paternal love in Christ,

+ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

Methodios Metropolitan of Boston

Alexios Metropolitan of Atlanta

Nicholas Metropolitan of Detroit

Savas Metropolitan of Pittsburgh

Gerasimos Metropolitan of San Francisco

Apostolos Metropolitan of New Jersey

Nathanael Metropolitan of Chicago

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!

"WILD ABOUT JESUS"

AND

PETTING ZOO

Sunday, April 21

11:30am

(after Divine Liturgy)

AHEPA Room

Open to All. Free of Charge

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT HOPEJOY@ANNUNCIATIONBALTIMORE.ORG



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:

Contact and Email orders to:

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**

Annunciation Cathedral Concert Series

presents an afternoon of solo piano music performed by the

Rising Stars of the L. Fleisher Academy



Jacqueline Liu



Dudley Du



Emily Tang



Lily Wang



Mingze Li



Yihan Wang

April 21, 1:00 PM
Preston Hall
25 W Preston St, Baltimore, MD 21201
Suggested donation: \$10

Free parking available
Contact us:
410-929-5862
tadzharova@gmail.com

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: _____





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>



Scan for Saturday of Lazarus

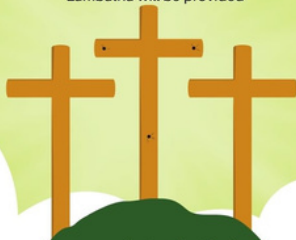
Orthros & Divine Liturgy - 8am to 10am
Palm Making & Potluck Lunch - 10am

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



Lunch included

Register by 4/28/24 at
<https://forms.gle/i8qnFU9Wnz18cTc36>



Scan to Register

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

Join Us For A
"NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK"
FUNDRAISER



VS



MAY 17
GAMETIME
7:05PM

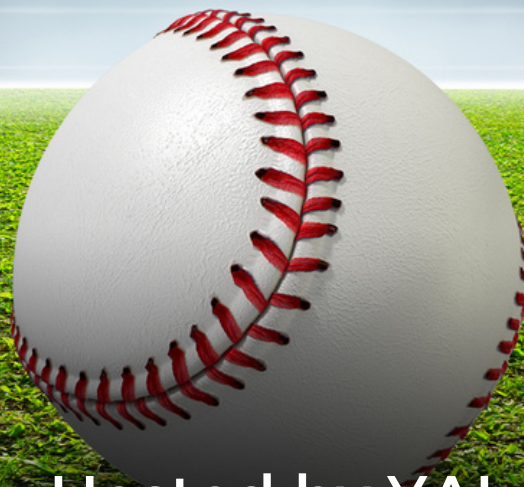
TICKETS
\$30

@
Camden
Yards

SCAN FOR
TICKETS



FREE Orioles 70th
Anniversary Replica
Jersey to First
20,000 fans 15 & over



Hosted by YAL

Contact
George Roros
at groros@ycp.edu
or 443-869-1838
for more
information

DEADLINE TO ORDER TICKETS IS NOON ON MAY 9

52ND ANNUAL

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL

G R E E K
FOOD - WINE - CULTURE
F E S T I V A L

MAY 23

5 P.M. - 9 P.M.

MAY 24 AND 25

11 A.M. - 9 P.M.

MAY 26

11 A.M. - 9 P.M.

Greek Orthodox Cathedral
of the Annunciation

24 W. Preston St., Baltimore, MD 21201

AUTHENTIC FOOD & PASTRIES ▪ WINE ▪ MUSIC
DANCE GROUPS ▪ CATHEDRAL TOURS ▪ SHOPPING

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410-727-1831 ▪ Rain or Shine

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.)



12TH ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

OPEN from JUNE 28 – AUGUST 11
EVERY FRIDAY and SATURDAY 10:30am-2:30pm
EVERY SUNDAY 11:00am - 2:30pm

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

*Refreshments Available for purchase –
Spanakopita, Greek Pastries and Cookies, Water and Sodas*

**Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation
24 West Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland, 21201**

FREE PARKING – Maryland Avenue Lot
GPS location for the parking lot entrance is 1321 Maryland Avenue

Payment methods: Cash, Credit Cards Apple Pay, and Google Pay

Questions: philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com

Judy Georges – TEXT 443-301-5041

Georgeann Morekas – TEXT 443-845-1176

**Proceeds benefit the many charities
supported by the Philoptochos Society.**



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS of NEW JERSEY



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 Piankatank
1586 Stampers Bay Rd Box 435, 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)

