

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
OF THE ANNUNCIATION

BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Sunday, February 4, 2024

15TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



Rev. Fr. Anastasios P. Bourantas

Protopresbyter Presiding Priest

fr.anastasios@annunciationbaltimore.org

Rev. Fr. John Bullock

Presbyter

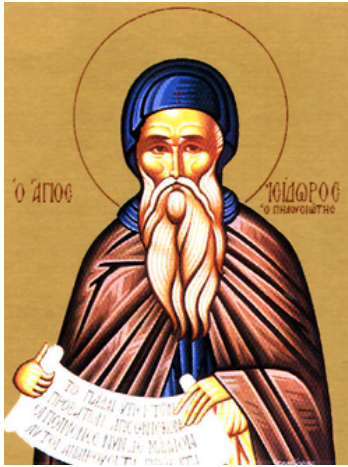
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Cathedral Office

410-727-1831 assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

SAINT OF THE DAY

St. Isidore of Pelusium



This saint came from a prominent Alexandrian family, which included Patriarchs Theophilus and Cyril. He studied all the secular disciplines, but as a youth withdrew from the world, renouncing his riches and earthly glory, so that he might devote himself entirely to the spiritual life. For a short time he taught rhetoric in Pelusium in Egypt; but soon his love for the things of God led him to flee to the desert as a solitary. After a year of ascetical life, he returned to Pelusium, where he was ordained to the priesthood. After a few years he retired to a monastery where he spent the rest of his life, eventually becoming abbot. From the monastery he wrote thousands of epistles full of divine grace and wisdom; of these over 2,000 still survive. During his lifetime, he came to be a great and energetic defender of the Orthodox Christian faith, writing (according to the historian Nicephorus) over 10,000 letters to numerous individuals, giving reproach, counsel, encouragement, comfort, and instruction.

persecution of St. John Chrysostom, while the populace was split into two factions, one for Chrysostom and the other against, Abba Isidore wrote to Patriarch Theophilus that St. John was a great light of the Church and Isidore begged the patriarch to avoid bitterness against St. John. Through the initiative of St. Isidore the Third Ecumenical Council was convened at Ephesus in 431, at which the false teaching of Nestorius concerning the person of Jesus Christ was condemned. St. Isidore lived into old age and died around the year 436. The Church historian Evagrius said of St. Isidore, "his life seemed to everyone the life of an angel upon the earth."

TODAY

- **Please join us for Coffee Hour**, hosted by Philoptochos in the Father Constantine Monios Social Hall following Divine Liturgy.
- GOYA thanks all who donated shampoo to the Assistance Center of Towson Churches. GOYAns delivered 136 shampoo bottles and packed 100 toiletry bags and 50 weekend food bags for the MLK, Jr. Day of Service.
- The weekly Saturday evening Vespers Services are postponed until further notice.
- If you have filled out a 2024 Stewardship Pledge and requested offering envelopes, the offering envelopes are available in the office with your name and unique ID#. Please discard all unused 2022 & 2023 envelopes.
- If you are visiting the Cathedral, please introduce yourself to Fr. Anastasios Bourantas at the end of the Liturgy.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

See all events at:

annunciationbaltimore.org/calendar

LITURGICAL

- **Wed, 2/7**
 - 6:30pm - Vespers for St. Theodore the Commander (Lanham, MD)
- **Thur, 2/8**
 - 8:30 - Orthros and Divine Liturgy St. Theodore the Commander
- **Sat, 2/10**
 - 8:30 - Orthros and Divine Liturgy for St. Haralambos
- **Sun, 2/11 (16th Sunday of Matthew)**
 - 8:00am - Orthros
 - 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

COMMUNITY

- **Tues, 2/6**
 - 11:30am - Oli Mazi Gathering
 - 6:00pm - GOYA Board Meeting
- **Thurs, 2/8**
 - 10:00am - HHMM work
 - 6:00pm - Adult Basketball
- **Fri, 2/9**
 - 5:30pm - Greek School
- **Sun, 2/11**
 - Women's Guild Pretzel Sale Pickup
 - 5:00pm - AA and Al-Anon Meeting

GODPARENT SUNDAYS

Godparent Sunday will be observed on the following dates in the following churches. Please mark your calendars accordingly:

2/11 - Saints Mary, Magdalene & Markella Church

2/18 - Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

2/25 - Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

3/10 - Cathedral of the Annunciation

3/17 - Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church

SAVE THE DATE

2/6 - OLI MAZI GATHERING

2/17 - CHURCH SUPPER

3/3 - CONCERT SERIES

3/10 - GODPARENT SUNDAY

3/10 - WOMEN'S GUILD WINTER MEETING

3/16 - 28TH ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT

3/18 - GREAT LENT BEGINS

3/25 - FEAST DAY OF THE ANNUNCIATION

COMMUNITY

- **Sunday, March 10th is the Annual Pancake Breakfast**, sponsored by the Worthington Chapter of AHEPA, in the Father Constantine Monios Hall after Godparent Sunday services. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast and fellowship with your family and godchildren. A free will offering of \$10 per person is suggested and all proceeds will be donated to help Cathedral ministries.
- **28th Annual Nicholas Tsakalos Memorial Retreat** - On **Saturday March 16th**, we are excited to welcome our retreat leader, Rev. Fr. Panteleimon Papasopoulos from the Church of the Holy Resurrection in Brookville, NY. Fr. Panteleimon served as Archbishop Demetrios' Archdeacon for 18 years. The theme of this year's retreat will be **"The Battle is the Lord's in this Modern Global World."** We will celebrate Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Saturday of Souls at the Cathedral preceding the retreat. Orthros will begin at 8am. There will also be a discussion for the youth on **Friday March 15th** in the Fr. Monios Social Hall from 6-9pm. Registration is now open! Info: <https://annunciationbaltimore.org/lentenretreat>
- **Inclement Weather Policy** - In the event of inclement weather, and there is a need to cancel or adjust the liturgical schedule, office hours and ministries of the cathedral, notification will be sent via email, text and a message placed on the Cathedral website.
- **Oli Mazi Gathering** (formerly the "Golden Age Club") - **Tuesday, February 6th at 11:30am** in the AOC. Lunch will be provided. Please **RSVP by February 2nd** to Ollga Zavakos at ojzavakos@verizon.net or call/text 443-791-0064. This meeting will also kick off our \$30.00 annual membership drive. Wear your Valentine Red or your Ravens Purple and come join the fun and fellowship!
- **The first Church Supper** of 2024 sponsored by the Parish Council will be held on **Sat, Feb 17th from 4 - 7 pm** in the Fr. Constantine Monios Social Hall. Join us for fellowship. Please see the flyer for details.
- **The Growing in Faith Women's Bible Study Group** will study the Book of Ruth. Meetings will take place in the AOC on **Feb. 17 from 11:00am-12:30pm, Feb. 24 and March 2 from 10:00am -11:30am**. Contact Jeanne Tsakalos at 410-252-6021 or Jeannetsakalos@hotmail.com for more information.
- **Greek School Registration** remains open for Adults. It is never too late to sign up for Greek School. Register at: <https://forms.gle/Jh1SkcoU4bGi4dJL6>.
- **Axion Charity Events** presents their 3rd Annual Bingo Fundraiser **Sat, Feb 24th** at St. Demetrios. Tickets are on Sale now \$35 In Advance/\$40 at the Door. To RSVP, fill out the Ticket RSVP form: <https://forms.gle/Vnkgh2eG2x5VYzFq5>. Proceeds to benefit the Baltimore area Greek Orthodox Churches.



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 Donations Needed** - Thank you to those who have responded with items to donate. Significant progress has been made. Here is a list of items we're still in need of (in new condition).
 - Kitchen Items – Wok, Ice Cream Maker, Popcorn Bowl, S'mores Maker, Wooden Salad Bowl, Cookbooks (recent publish date)
 - Camping Items – Sleeping Bag, Tent, Camping Stove
 - Craft Items – Scrapbooking Accessories, Crafting Sets for Kids
 - New Baby Items for It's A Boy or It's A Girl Baskets
 - Games – Puzzles, Board games, Card Games
 - Sports Theme Items – Ravens, Orioles, Capitals, Football, Baseball
 - Maryland flag, Beach theme items, Greek Key Items
 - Baskets are also needed.
- Please contact Judy Georges by phone, text 443-301-5041 or email judy-wood@comcast.net or place donations in the youth room on top of the display cases. Thanks so much for your generosity and support.

PHILOPTOCHOS

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

WOMEN'S GUILD

- **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! The **Pick-up dates in the Social Hall Lobby are February 4 and February 11.**

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@annunaiatonbaltimore.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.



MUSIC

- **Save the Date:** The Annunciation Cathedral Concert Series presents the Ann Street Trio featuring Erik Franklin on Clarinet, Katlyn De Graw on Cello and Hui-Chuan Chen on **Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 1pm** at the Annunciation Orthodox Center. Come and join us for a delightful musical stroll through Vienna, Paris and Italy. For information contact Fifi Nichols, fnichols1@verizon.net.

YOUTH

- **GOYA** invites all parishioners to participate in the **Souper Bowl of Caring**– a nationwide campaign by non-profits to feed the hungry. GOYA is collecting nonperishable food for St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore’s “Beans and Bread”, a day resource program, which serves meals and operates a food pantry. Please consider donating pasta, macaroni and cheese, pasta/tomato sauce, beans (can or bag), granola bars and canned goods: tuna, meat, fruit, and vegetables (green beans, corn, mixed vegetables and kale). Bars of soap are also needed. Place donations in the boxes marked “Souper Bowl of Caring” by **Feb 11**. Contact goya@annunciationbaltimore.org or call 410-227-6906 with questions. Thank you for your ongoing support of GOYA’s community service projects!
- **Please consider supporting our Youth Ministries** by making a donation in the labeled wooden collection box.

BOOKSTORE

- Yes, it’s time for a Bookstore Flash Sale! All children’s books, boardbooks, icons and gifts are 15% off this Sunday only. Titles like: Brave, Faithful and True; Children of the Bible, Goodnight, Jesus, Stories of Saints and Animals, I-ville to You-ville, H is for Holy, and the so popular O is for Orthodoxy is back in stock! For perfect gifts, consider a Bookstore Gift Card! <https://squareup.com/gift/MLF7HAY1H9CTY/order>

CULTURE

- **HELLENIC HERITAGE MUSEUM OF MARYLAND** - On **Friday, January 26** the Greek School of the Annunciation visited the Hellenic Heritage Museum of Maryland to become familiar with objects in the collection as well as to learn about the difference between Santa Claus, St. Nicholas and St. Basil. The session ended with a hands-on exercise



in making small versions of a Vasilopita from play dough that included a lucky penny which was taken home to show to their parents. We thank the Greek School teachers for their assistance in what proved to be a valued lesson for all the students.

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.
- 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 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.

PASTORAL

- **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.

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.



Resurrectional Apolytikion

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

“Οτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ᾄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of the Feast

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.

Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτα δίκαιε, δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

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

You sanctified the womb of the Virgin by Your birth, and by Your presentation You blessed the hands of Symeon, when You came, and You saved us, O Christ our God. Now we pray You give peace to Your world at war, and let love for Your people prevail in all, O only benevolent Lord.

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγιάσας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεὼν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.

EPISTLE (II CORINTHIANS 4:6-15)

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believed, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ Θεὸς ὁ εἰπών, ἐκ σκότους φῶς λάμψαι. ὁ ἔλαμψεν ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν πρὸς φωτισμὸν τῆς γνώσεως τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν προσώπῳ Χριστοῦ. Ἐχομεν δὲ τὸν θησαυρὸν τοῦτον ἐν ὀστρακίνοις σκεύεσιν, ἵνα ἡ ὑπερβολὴ τῆς δυνάμεως ἧ τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἡμῶν· ἐν παντὶ θλιβόμενοι ἀλλ' οὐ στενοχωρούμενοι, ἀπορούμενοι ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐξαπορούμενοι, διωκόμενοι ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγκαταλειπόμενοι, καταβαλλόμενοι ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπολλύμενοι, πάντοτε τὴν νέκρωσιν τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι περιφέροντες, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματι ἡμῶν φανερωθῇ. Αἰεὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς οἱ ζῶντες εἰς θάνατον παραδιδόμεθα διὰ Ἰησοῦν, ἵνα καὶ ἡ ζωὴ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ φανερωθῇ ἐν τῇ θνητῇ σαρκὶ ἡμῶν. Ὡστε ὁ θάνατος ἐν ἡμῖν ἐνεργεῖται, ἡ δὲ ζωὴ ἐν ὑμῖν. Ἐχοντες δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πίστεως, κατὰ τὸ γεγραμμένον, Ἐπίστευσα, διὸ ἐλάλησα, καὶ ἡμεῖς πιστεύομεν, διὸ καὶ λαλοῦμεν, εἰδότες ὅτι ὁ ἐγείρας τὸν Κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἡμᾶς σὺν Ἰησοῦ ἐγερεῖ καὶ παραστήσει σὺν ὑμῖν. Τὰ γὰρ πάντα δι' ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσῃ διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς τὴν δόξαν τοῦ Θεοῦ.

GOSPEL (MATTHEW 22:35-46)

At that time, a lawyer asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, πειράζων αὐτόν καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε, ποία ἐντολὴ μεγάλη ἐν τῷ νόμῳ; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοὺς ἔφη αὐτῷ· Ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ καρδίᾳ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ ψυχῇ σου καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ διανοίᾳ σου· αὕτη ἐστὶ πρώτη καὶ μεγάλη ἐντολή. δευτέρα δὲ ὁμοία αὐτῇ· ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. ἐν ταύταις ταῖς δυσὶν ἐντολαῖς ὅλος ὁ νόμος καὶ οἱ προφῆται κρέμονται. Συνηγγμένων δὲ τῶν Φαρισαίων ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοὺς λέγων· Τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ περὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ; τίνος υἱός ἐστι; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Τοῦ Δαυὶδ. λέγει αὐτοῖς· Πῶς οὖν Δαυὶδ ἐν Πνεύματι Κύριον καλεῖ αὐτὸν λέγων, εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τῷ Κυρίῳ μου, κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; εἰ οὖν Δαυὶδ καλεῖ αὐτὸν Κύριον, πῶς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἐστι; καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐδύνατο αὐτῷ ἀποκριθῆναι λόγον, οὐδὲ ἐτόλμησέ τις ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ἡμέρας ἐπερωτῆσαι αὐτὸν οὐκέτι.

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 March/April Newsletter, send to newsletter@annunciationbaltimore.org by February 15th.

YOU'RE
INVITED

*Oli Mazi
gathering*

FORMERLY THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH
@11:30AM AT THE AOC

LUNCH PROVIDED!

PLEASE RSVP BY 2/2/24 TO OLLGA ZAVAKOS AT
OJZAVAKOS@VERIZON.NET OR 443-791-0064

WE WILL BE KICKING OFF OUR \$30 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
AND EXCITED TO START PLANNING EVENTS!

WEAR YOUR VALENTINE RED OR RAVENS PURPLE!

COME AND JOIN THE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!

KEFI IS CONTAGIOUS!



GOYA is collecting the following non-perishable foods for Beans and Bread:

Pasta

Macaroni and Cheese Boxes

Pasta/Tomato Sauce

Beans (can or bag)

Granola Bars

Canned Goods: Tuna, Meat, Fruit, and Vegetables
(Green Beans, Corn, Mixed Vegetables and Kale).

Bars of Soap are also greatly needed.

Please place donations in the boxes marked Souper Bowl of Caring by February 11.

Complete details are in the Sunday Bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact
Anna Marie Boia at 443-823-1814 or Theo Brown at 443-934-4343.

Thank you for your ongoing support of GOYA's community service projects!

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 on the Cathedral Lobby Welcome Table.



CHURCH SUPPER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th

4:00 – 7:00pm

**Sauteed Greek Chicken OR Shrimp Athenian over Rice
Salad and French Bread
Coffee/Tea**

Adults: \$15.00

Children: \$10.00

Desserts and Beverages will be available for Purchase

All Proceeds Benefit the Cathedral of the Annunciation



AXION CHARITY EVENTS

3rd
Annual



FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

TICKETS

\$35

In Advance

\$40

At Door

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00PM

GAMES BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 6:30PM

**Saint Demetrios ~ Hermes Rafailides Center
2504 Cub Hill Road, Parkville, MD 21234**

- Admission includes 20 Bingo games as well as Lucky Loser Bingo
- Extra Cards, Early Bird Game, Special Games & Raffles available for Purchase
- Generous Game Prizes and Tons of Door Prizes
- Food, Soft Drinks, Beer and Wine will be sold ~ No Outside Food or Drink Permitted

**Kate Spade ~ Michael Kors ~ Tory Burch ~ Anna Beck ~ Coach ~ Ravens ~ Orioles ~
Julie Voss Jewelry ~ Stuff for Women ~ Stuff for Men ~ Stuff for the Home ~ Gift Cards ~ Much More!**

To RSVP, fill out the Ticket RSVP form located:

<https://forms.gle/Vnkgh2eG2x5VYzFq5>

or SCAN the Ticket QR code and follow the instructions.

Payment options will appear once your RSVP is submitted.

Checks and Credit Cards are accepted.



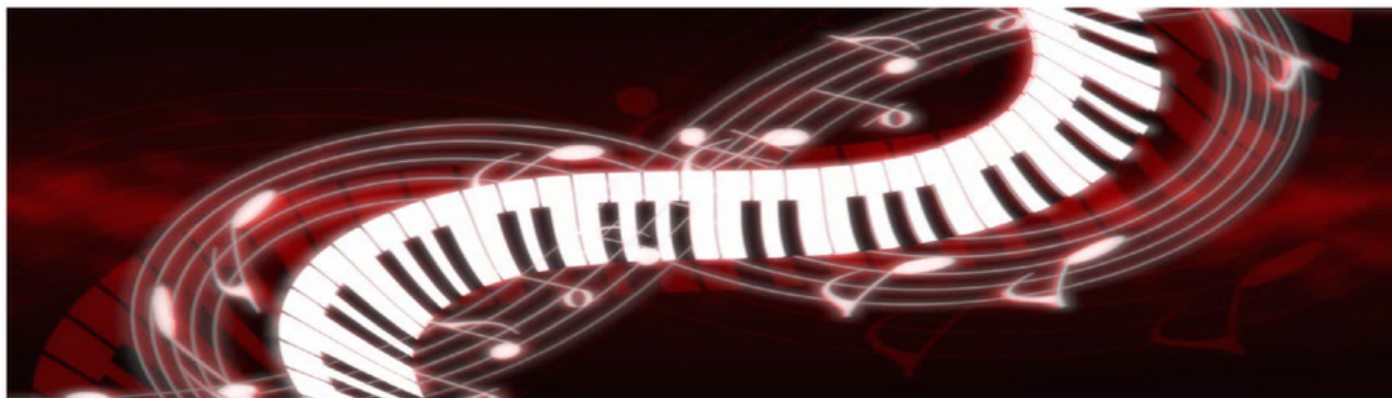
Tables can be reserved in groups of 10 only.

Children (under 18) must have their own ticket, play their own card, and be accompanied by a paying adult. As a reminder, Bingo is a game of chance and children's attendance is at your discretion.

For Information and Tickets: axioncharityevents@gmail.com

Olga Paterakis - 410.491.4066 or Dimi Mexis - 410.598.6849

Axion Charity Events, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit foundation that engages with the Greek community in fundraising projects to enhance and support the Greek Orthodox churches of the Baltimore Metropolitan area. We serve the community by providing fellowship and organizing cultural events that benefit the various ministries of the churches.



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Annunciation Orthodox Center

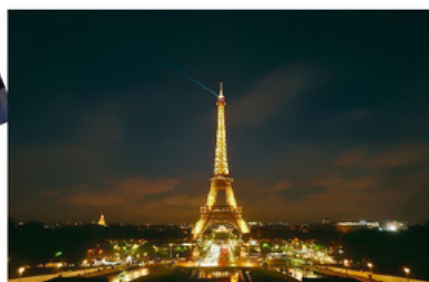
24 west Preston, Street,

Baltimore, Maryland 21201

March 3, 2024 at 1 p.m.

Presents

Symphony of the Streets: An Urban Serenade




Featuring the Ann Street Trio

Hui-Chuan Chen on piano, Katlyn McGraw on cello, Erik Franklin on clarinet

For additional information contact: Fifi Nichols, fnichols1@verizon.net

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!



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)

