

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
OF THE ANNUNCIATION

BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Sunday, March 31, 2024

SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS



Rev. Fr. George Mastakas

Presiding Priest

fr.george@annunciationbaltimore.org

Rev. Fr. John Bullock

Presbyter

fr.john@annunciationbaltimore.org

Cathedral Office

410-727-1831 assistant@annunciationbaltimore.org

Saint and Feasts

St. Gregory Palamas

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books

and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359. His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

See all events at:

[**annunciationbaltimore.org/
calendar**](http://annunciationbaltimore.org/calendar)

LITURGICAL

- **Mon, 4/1**
 - 6:00pm - Compline
- **Wed, 4/3**
 - 6:00pm - Presanctified Liturgy (Chapel)
- **Fri, 4/5**
 - 8:30am - Presanctified Liturgy (Chapel)
 - 6:30pm - Salutations to the Theotokos
- **Sun, 4/7 (Sunday of the Holy Cross)**
 - 8:00am - Orthros
 - 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

COMMUNITY

- **Mon, 4/1**
 - 7:00pm - Youth Ministries Committee Meeting
- **Tues, 4/2**
 - 11:30am - Xrisi Parea Gathering
- **Wed, 4/3**
 - 7:00pm - AHEPA Meeting
- **Thur, 4/4**
 - 10:00am - HHMM Work Session
- **Fri, 4/5**
 - 5:30pm - Greek School
- **Sat, 4/6**
 - 10:00am - Festival Food Prep (Spanakopita)
 - Regional Oratorical Festival (at St. Demetrios)
- **Sun, 4/7 (Sunday of the Holy Cross)**
 - 5:00pm - AA and Al-Anon Meeting

TODAY

Memorial Service

Parthena Amarantidis - 22 years
Savas Amarantidis - 17 years
Anastasios Tsakiroglou - 12 year
Anna Tsakiroglou - 6 years
Demetrios Vlahoyiannis - 20 years
Angeliki Vlahoyiannis - 17 years
Anthony Courpas - 4 years

Michael Courpas - 3 years
Stamos Courpas - 20 years
Despina Courpas - 43 years
Stamos Courpas - 44 years
Eleanora Zoides - 31 years
Alexander Zoides - 44 years
Eleanora Zgouros - 52 years

May Their Memory Be Eternal

- **The Spring Parish Assembly** meeting will be held in the Cathedral today following the Divine Liturgy. The Agenda includes a Financial Update, Committee Reports, and Attendee Nominations for the Metropolis & National Clergy Laity Conferences. Parishioners must be in good standing both financially and sacramentally to vote at a Parish Assembly meeting.
- **Please join us for Coffee Hour**, hosted by the Parish Council in the Fr. Constantine Monios Social Hall following Divine Liturgy.
- **The basket of flowers for the Salutations** to the Theotokos are offered for the glory of God from Anna Z. and Harry Plato Pappas and the families of Maia and Jason.
- **We thank** Vula Rizakos and Friends for hosting the March 29th refreshments following the 2nd service of Salutations to the Theotokos.
- **Sunday School thanks all who participated in the Easter "Sunday Best" Children's Clothing Drive** - Lenten Giving Project #1. Beautiful outfits to wear to church were delivered to the Franciscan Center and given to children at the Children's Easter Party on March 27.
- **If you are visiting the Cathedral**, please introduce yourself to Fr. George at the end of the Liturgy.

SAVE THE DATE

4/2 - HRISI PAREA GATHERING

4/5 - 3RD SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS

4/12 - 4TH SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS

4/14 - WOMEN'S GUILD TEA & GENERAL MEETING

4/19 - 5TH SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS

(AKATHIST HYMN)

5/23 GREEK FESTIVAL BEGINS

PHILOPTOCHOS

- Every year for Pascha, our Philoptochos **remembers our students and our members of the military** who are away from home by sending **Paschal boxes** filled with homemade goodies. Please submit names and addresses of students/members of the military to connierogers2@hotmail.com so that we may send this gift from their Cathedral to them. **Deadline Friday, April 7, 2024.**
- **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.

YOUTH

- The **Regional St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival** will take place on **April 6** at Saint Demetrios, and our Cathedral will be hosting the Metropolis Oratorical Festival on **May 11**. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Anastasia Georgiou at religioused@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>

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



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.

COMMUNITY

- Please join us for the next **HRISI PAREA** gathering on **Tuesday, April 2 at 11:30 am**, at the AOC. A Lenten potluck lunch will be served along with a presentation by our Parish Historian, **Nicholas M. Prevas**. Please **RSVP by March 31** to Olga Zavakos at ojzavakos@verizon.net, or call/text 443-791-0064. We still need Lenten dishes, Lenten salads, and Lenten desserts. Don't miss out on this luncheon...let's all spend some time together!
- **The Annunciation Women's Guild** invites the Women of the Cathedral to their Spring General Meeting and Luncheon on **Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 11:30 AM** (after Liturgy) in the AOC Lobby. 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, April 12, 2024** to Kaliope Del Pizzo at kmdelpizzo@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@ycp.edu or 443-869-1838 with any questions.
- **Greek School Registration** remains open for Adults. It is never too late to sign up for Greek School. Register at: <https://forms.gle/Jh1SkcoU4bGi4djL6>.

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.

FR. DEAN MORALIS BOOKSTORE AND LOGOS GIFT SHOP

Consider items for your Easter gifts and Easter Baskets!

- **Icon sets in three sizes depicting four of the Great Feasts:** Christ's entry into Jerusalem, the Mystical Supper, Christ carrying His Cross, and the Crucifixion and Resurrection. There are only three sets left in each size. Come take a look before they are gone!
- **Monastery incense candles** scented with the fragrances of Damascus Rose (sorry sold out, but on order), Sweet Myrrh, and Virgin Mary's Bouquet.
- **Hand-painted wooden eggs** from Ukraine with ornate religious designs. (will not last long)
- **Special gift bundles** for children, teens, and young adults to inspire and guide them through the season of Lent and Pasha.
- **Brave, Faithful and True: Children of the Bible** retells the stories of 12 children, 6 from the Old Testament and 6 from the New Testament, from the children's point of view and brings their encounters with God to vivid life. Children of today will be inspired to think about what the stories mean in their own lives and no matter what age they are, children can work with God to help bring about His plan. **Celebrate the Earth** and **You are an Orthodox Christian**.
- **Ceramic censers with monastery incense and charcoal** to prepare your home with the scents of the season.

For perfect gifts, consider a Bookstore Gift Card!

<https://squareup.com/gift/MLF7HAY1H9CTY/order>

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

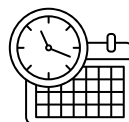
- **Online Donations** can be made through our website. Click the DONATE button in the upper right corner. We are grateful for your continued stewardship!
- **For candles and tray donations**, you can also donate by text message, just text the dollar amount to (833) 934-2637 and follow the prompts.
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

TODAY'S ENTRANCE HYMNS & READINGS

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!”

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

For the Hierarch

Beacon of Orthodox belief, the strong support of the Church and her teacher inspired by God, you are the ornament of monks, the unassailable champion of theologians, O Gregory the Wonder-worker and the boast of Thessalonica, the messenger of grace. Forever earnestly entreat for the salvation of our souls.

Ὁρθοδοξίας ὁ φωστήρ, Ἐκκλησίας τὸ στήριγμα καὶ διδάσκαλε, τῶν μοναστῶν ἡ καλλονή, τῶν θεολόγων ὑπέρμαχος ἀπροσμάχητος· Γρηγόριε θαυματουργέ Θεσσαλονίκης τὸ καύχημα κήρυξ τῆς χάριτος· ἰκέτευε διὰ παντός, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Apolytikion for the Deceased

Remember Your servants, O Lord, as You are good, and pardon whatever sins they have committed in this life; for no one is sinless but You, who are able to give rest to those who have passed away.

Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, ὡς ἀγαθὸς τῶν δούλων σου, καὶ εἴ τι ἐν βίῳ, ἥμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰμὶ σὺ ὁ δυνάμενος, καὶ τοῖς μεταστᾶσι, δοῦναι τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν.

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

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, ὧς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοὶ ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, ἵνα κράζω σοὶ· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

EPISTLE (HEBREWS 1:10-14; 2:1-3)

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

Κατ' ἀρχὰς σὺ, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἐθεμελίωσας, καὶ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσιν οἱ οὐρανοί· αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ διαμένεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὡσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἐλίξεις αὐτούς, καὶ ἀλλαγήσονται· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσι. πρὸς τίνα δὲ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἶρηκέ ποτε· κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; οὐχὶ πάντες εἰσὶ λειτουργικὰ πνεύματα εἰς διακονίαν ἀποστελλόμενα διὰ τοῦς μέλλοντας κληρονομεῖν σωτηρίαν; Διὰ τοῦτο δεῖ περισσοτέρως ἡμᾶς προσέχειν τοῖς ἀκουσθεῖσι, μὴ ποτε παραρρῶμεν. εἰ γὰρ ὁ δι' ἀγγέλων λαληθεὶς λόγος ἐγένετο βέβαιος, καὶ πᾶσα παράβασις καὶ παρακοή ἐλαβεν ἐνδικον μισθαποδοσίαν, πῶς ἡμεῖς ἐκφευξόμεθα τηλικαύτης ἀμελήσαντες σωτηρίας; ἦτις ἀρχὴν λαβοῦσα λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ Κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡμᾶς ἐβεβαιώθη.

GOSPEL (MATTHEW 2:1-12)

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins' – he said to the paralytic – "I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσῆλθε ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς Καπερναοὺμ δι' ἡμερῶν καὶ ἠκούσθη ὅτι εἰς οἶκόν ἐστι. καὶ εὐθέως συνήχθησαν πολλοί, ὥστε μηκέτι χωρεῖν μηδὲ τὰ πρὸς τὴν θύραν· καὶ ἐλάλει αὐτοῖς τὸν λόγον. καὶ ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτὸν παραλυτικὸν φέροντες, αἰρόμενον ὑπὸ τεσσάρων· καὶ μὴ δυνάμενοι προσεγγίσει αὐτῷ διὰ τὸν ὄχλον, ἀπεστέγασαν τὴν στέγην ὅπου ἦν, καὶ ἐξορύξαντες χαλῶσι τὸν κράβαττον, ἐφ' ᾧ ὁ παραλυτικὸς κατέκειτο. ἰδὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὴν πίστιν αὐτῶν λέγει τῷ παραλυτικῷ· τέκνον, ἀφέωνταί σοι αἱ ἁμαρτίαι σου. ἦσαν δὲ τινες τῶν γραμματέων ἐκεῖ καθήμενοι καὶ διαλογιζόμενοι ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις αὐτῶν· τί οὕτως οὕτω λαλεῖ βλασφημίας; τίς δύναται ἀφιέναι ἁμαρτίας εἰ μὴ εἰς ὁ Θεός; καὶ εὐθέως ἐπιγνοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς τῷ πνεύματι αὐτοῦ ὅτι οὕτως αὐτοὶ διαλογίζονται ἐν ἑαυτοῖς, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τί ταῦτα διαλογίζεσθε ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν; τί ἐστιν εὐκοπώτερον, εἰπεῖν τῷ παραλυτικῷ, ἀφέωνταί σοι αἱ ἁμαρτίαι, ἢ εἰπεῖν, ἔγειρε καὶ ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ περιπάτει; ἵνα δὲ εἰδῇτε ὅτι ἐξουσίαν ἔχει ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀφιέναι ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἁμαρτίας — λέγει τῷ παραλυτικῷ· σοὶ λέγω, ἔγειρε καὶ ἄρον τὸν κράβαττόν σου καὶ ὑπαγε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου. καὶ ἠγέρθη εὐθέως, καὶ ἄρας τὸν κράβαττον ἐξῆλθεν ἐναντίον πάντων, ὥστε ἐξίστασθαι πάντας καὶ δοξάζειν τὸν Θεὸν λέγοντας ὅτι οὐδέποτε οὕτως εἶδομεν.

LITURGICAL

- **Salutations Service** - If you are interested in intoning the ending prayers of the Salutations service (“Ασπλε, 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 would be **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 Week services 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, decorate the Cathedral for Holy Week. 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**.



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.

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 6** - Spanakopita at 10am
 - **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.

SILENT AUCTION SUPPORT NEEDED

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



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



Silent Auction Donation Form:

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

For more information contact:

Judy Georges

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

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

Silent Auction Basket Sponsor:

Monetary Donation: \$ _____
Gift Basket #: _____
Other Donation: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Annunciation Cathedral Silent Auction

We will prepare the basket for you.

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

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation
ATTN: Silent Auction Committee
24 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

SPONSORSHIP SUGGESTIONS

\$25 SPONSORS:

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

\$100 SPONSORS:

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

\$50 SPONSORS:

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

\$150 SPONSORS:

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

\$75 SPONSORS:

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

\$200 SPONSORS:

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



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
POT LUCK LENTEN
LUNCH
HRISI
PAREA

GUEST SPEAKER OUR PARISH HISTORIAN
NICHOLAS M. PREVAS



Tuesday, April 2, 2024
at the AOC
11:30am

**RSVP TO OLLGA ZAVAKOS WITH WHAT YOU
WOULD LIKE TO BRING AT
OJZAVAKOS@VERIZON.NET OR
443-791-0064 BY 4/1/24**

Unlocking Aegean Horizons: Americans Exploring Greek Citizenship and Passports

SPEAKER :
AMBASSADOR DINOS KONSTANTINOU,
CONSUL GENERAL OF GREECE IN NEW YORK

Join us for a cost-free informative session designed for Americans interested in acquiring Greek citizenship and passports. Explore the essential steps, requirements, and resources to embark on your journey towards embracing Hellenic heritage and realizing your dream of Greek citizenship in this enlightening event.



MONDAY,
APRIL 8, 2024

6 P.M RECEPTION
7 P.M. INFORMATIVE
SESSION + Q&A



ST GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
256 S 8TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107




RSVP INFO

FREE
ADMISSION

RSVP by Thursday, April 4, 2024 to:
Saintgeorgecathedralpa@gmail.com
or Call 215-627-4389

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

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

PASCHAL BAKED GOODS



SATURDAY, APRIL 27th following Saturday of Lazarus Services

SUNDAY, APRIL 28th following Palm Sunday Services

PICK-UP from the AHEPA ROOM

Packaged and decorated:

TSOUREKI (Sweet Bread) - \$11.00

KOULOURLAKIA (1 pound) - \$16.00

KOURAMBIETHES (dozen) - \$20.00

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

Contact and Email orders to:

philoptochosannunciation@gmail.com

Kathe Lazarides kdap19@gmail.com

Georgeann Morekas gnmorekas@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>

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



Scan for Saturday of Lazarus

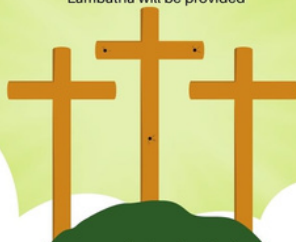
Holy Friday **YOUTH RETREAT** **Friday May 3, 2024** **11am to 4pm**

All Youth Pre-K to High School

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

Special Activity - Decorate your Lambatha

Lambatha will be provided



Scan to Register

Lunch included

Register by 4/28/24 at

<https://forms.gle/i8qnFU9Wnz18cTc36>

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

Excused Absence letters will be available.

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

JOIN US FOR AN



Easter

EGG HUNT

MAY
5TH

Annunciation Cathedral Courtyard
Hunt Begins After the 12 noon Agape Service

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



VS



MAY 17
GAMETIME
7:05PM

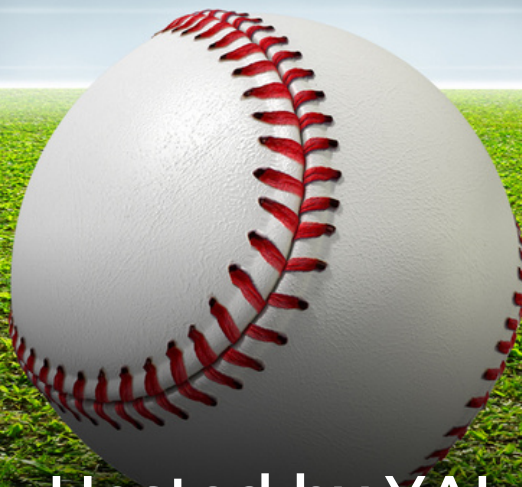
TICKETS
\$30

@
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 FESTIVAL

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

www.baltimoregreekfestival.com or facebook.com/BaltGreekFest

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.)



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)

