



The Epistle

August 2015

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Pastor

Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Pastor Emeritus

573 N. Highland St. | Memphis, TN 38122

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Email: annunciationmemphis@gmail.com | <http://www.goann.net>

A Vision for the Parish

“Where there is no vision, the people perish”
(Proverbs 29:18 KJV)

As our Lord Jesus Christ was preaching the Gospel, He sent out apostles to share His message: *“After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He was about to go”* (Luke 10:1). He also gave to them instructions: *“Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. And heal the sick there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you’”* (8-9). Even though they were anticipating these great things, they were still surprised by what they were able to accomplish: *“Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your Name’”* (17). They were only beginning to envision what God had in store for them.

Creating a vision for our parish is a bit like daydreaming – we consciously create a mental picture of how we want the parish to look, and what we want the parish to be. Once formulated, this vision serves as a motivating and driving force behind all that we do. It provides a common goal for everyone to work towards. A final destination, if you will, for our spiritual GPS.

One may say, “Then Father, give us this vision!” Please do not misunderstand, I certainly have my ideas of a vision for the parish. However, I believe that a priest should not lead like a cowboy, driving the herd from behind, but should attempt to follow Christ’s example as the Good Shepherd, Who *“when He brings out His own sheep, He goes before them; and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice”* (John 10:4). For this reason, I am hoping that we will create this vision together. Certainly, I can create the framework, but I am looking to you to help fill in some of the details.

So I am asking you to contemplate, pray, and dream about what this parish can be. Dream big! Our Lord has given us the opportunity to achieve great things! When the seventy returned to Him, Jesus told them, *“I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven”* (Luke 10:18). As Saint Ephrem the Syrian says about this passage, *“Ordinary people were anointed and sent out by reason of their mission and were highly successful in a second”* (Commentary on Tatian’s Diatessaron 10.13). As Christians, we too have been anointed, and by God’s grace, will be successful in fulfilling our vision, to the glory of God!

Over the next few weeks and months, we will begin to formulate our vision, but I want your feedback! You can communicate by email, phone, in writing, with me or any member of the Parish Council. I encourage your input and participation. I am excited to be here, and to begin this journey with you. I pray you are excited too!

With love in Christ,
Father Simon

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Parish Priest
Rev. Father Nicholas Vieron, Retired

ANNUNCIATION PARISH COUNCIL

GEORGE DEITZ - President	DIANE KAVELARAS
TED POPLOS - Vice President	PETER MELONAS
MAGDI WASSEF - Secretary	MARIA MOORE
ED MORRISON - Treasurer	NAJI NASSIF
BILL JOYNER	HARRY SINIS
GEORGE KARKATSUGAS	

PARISH MINISTRIES

CHANTERS	ANDREW HORVATH
CHOIR	
❖ DIRECTOR	STEPHANIE POPLOS
❖ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	EVAN HOOVER
GREEK FESTIVAL	TODD BAGATELAS
GREEK SCHOOL TEACHER	DESPINA KARAS
PHILOTOCHOS SOCIETY PRESIDENT	CYNDI DETTY
❖ ALTAR GUILD	LAURA COULOUBARITSIS
❖ ELPIS BOOKSTORE	ANGELA TOBIAS
❖ MAKARIA COORDINATOR	MARIANTHE PILCHER
❖ MORE THAN A MEAL	CYNDI DETTY
❖ PRAYER CIRCLE	LUANE SEMOS
❖ SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	ZOE FUTRIS
YAL	TBD
YOUNG AT HEART	KATHY ZAMBELIS

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES	TED POPLOS
ATHENIAN DANCE TROUPE DIRECTORS	LEAH & ANDREW HORVATH
GOYA	MITCH OBRADOVIC/TED POPLOS
HOPE & JOY	TBD
ORATORICAL FESTIVAL	ANDREW & TINA DOUGLAS
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP	TBD
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR	ANNA PARIS

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

AHEPA PRESIDENT	JOHN KAY
DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE PRESIDENT	ANASTASIA TERRANOVA

OFFICE PERSONNEL
ERIN BOBBITT DE PADILLA

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY – THURSDAY * 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. – 12 NOON

Annunciation Prayer List

“Pray for one another, that you may be healed” (James 5:16). Prayer is an important resource for those who are in need. Please contact Father Simon or the Church Office to add/remove someone from the list.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
Archbishop Demetrios of America
Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit
Father Simon & Presvytera Stephanie and children
Parishioners of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Metropolitan Paul (Yazge) of Aleppo
Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim (Syriac) of Aleppo
Eleni Free Holland (Health)
Lorrie Tingle (Ankle)
Nikita (Health)

NOTICES

Baptism...

Joseph Jamil, son of Ramzi and Sabrya Al-Qawwas, June 27th, with Iskander Jamil Al Qawwas as sponsor

Weddings

Caroline Lynd and Zacharias Giannakopoulos, June 27th, with Ashley Morgan & Ioannis Fountas as sponsors

Memorial Services

Ioan Trif (40 days), father of Maria Trif, July 19th

Memorial Contributions (In Memory Of)

Anita Papageorge Glass Clark by Roy and Von Coombs, Michael and Kay Hoffman, Carol and George Moreland III, Preston and Heather Padgett

William Fisher by Marjorie Willingham

Lewis Politakis by Athena Jameson

Volunteers for August

Epistle Readers:

2 TBD
9 TBD
16 TBD
23 TBD
30 TBD

Acolytes:

All available acolytes

Ushers

2 Team 5: Bill Joyner, Naji Nassif
9 Team 6: Maria Moore, Peter Melonas
16 Team 1: George Deitz, George Karkatsugas
23 Team 2: Magdi Wassef
30 Team 3: Maria Moore, Harry Sinis

Greeters

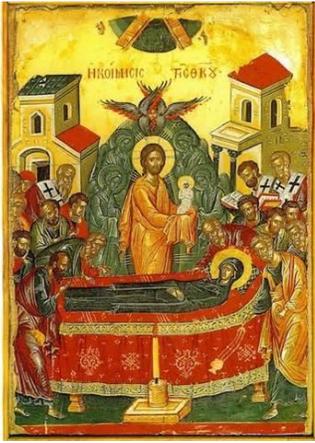
2 Anastasia Terranova & Athena Jameson
9 Theodore Vergos & Alex Vergos
16 Steve & Joy Steckler
23 John Tashie, Sophia & Sarah
30 Sarkis & Jenny Kish

Prophoro Bakers:

2 Enosis Touliatos
9 Enosis Touliatos
16 Enosis Touliatos
23 Enosis Touliatos
30 Enosis Touliatos

Coffee Fellowship Hosts:

2 Daughters of Penelope
9 Available
16 Angela Buchanan, Janet Boosalis & Alex Vergos
23 Sunday School
30 Available



Falling Asleep of the Theotokos

August 15th

After the Ascension of the Lord, the Mother of God remained in the care of the Apostle John the Theologian, and during his journeys she lived at the home of his parents, near the Mount of Olives. She was a source of consolation and edification both for the Apostles and for all the believers. Conversing with them, she told them about miraculous events: the Annunciation, the seedless and undefiled Conception of Christ born of Her, about His early childhood, and about His earthly life. Like the Apostles, she helped plant and strengthen the Christian Church by her presence, her discourse, and her prayers.

The reverence of the Apostles for the Most Holy Virgin was extraordinary. After the receiving of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the Apostles remained at Jerusalem for about ten years attending to the salvation of the Jews, and wanting moreover to see the Mother of God and hear from her. Many of the newly-enlightened in the Faith even came from faraway lands to Jerusalem, to see and to hear the All-Pure Mother of God.

During the persecution initiated by King Herod against the young Church of Christ (Acts 12:1-3), the Most Holy Virgin and the Apostle John the Theologian withdrew to Ephesus in the year 43. The respect of ancient Christians for the Mother of God was so great that they preserved what they could about her life, what they could take note of concerning her sayings and deeds, and they even passed down to us a description of her outward appearance.

According to Tradition, based on the words of the Priest-martyrs Dionysius the Areopagite, Ignatius the God-Bearer, and Ambrose of Milan: “She was a Virgin not only in body, but also in soul, humble of heart, circumspect in word, wise in mind, not overly given to speaking, a lover of reading and of work, and prudent in speech. Her rule of life was to offend no one, to intend good for everyone, to respect the aged, not envy others, avoid bragging, be healthy of mind, and to love virtue.”

The circumstances of the Dormition of the Mother of God were known in the Orthodox Church from apostolic times. Already in the first century, the Priest-martyr Dionysius the Areopagite wrote about Her “Falling-Asleep.” In the second century, the account of the bodily ascent of the Most Holy Virgin Mary to Heaven is found in the works of Meliton, Bishop of Sardis. In the fourth century, Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus refers to the tradition about the “Falling Asleep” of the Mother of God. In the fifth century, Saint Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerusalem, told the holy Byzantine Empress Pulcheria: “Although there is no account of the circumstances of her death in Holy Scripture, we know about them from the most ancient and credible Tradition.”

At the time of her blessed Falling Asleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary was again at Jerusalem. Day and night she spent her time in prayer. The Most Holy Theotokos went often to the Holy Sepulcher of the Lord, and here she offered up fervent prayer. In one such visit to Golgotha, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and announced her approaching departure from this life to eternal life. In pledge of this, the Archangel gave her a palm branch. With these heavenly tidings the Mother of God returned to Bethlehem, summoned Righteous Joseph of Arimathea and other disciples of the Lord, and told them of her impending Repose.

The Lord had gathered the Disciples together, and Saint John the Theologian greeted them with tears of joy, announcing the time of the Virgin’s repose was at hand. Going in to the Mother of God, they beheld her lying upon the bed, and filled with spiritual joy. The Disciples greeted her, and then they told her how they had been carried miraculously from their places of preaching. The Most Holy Virgin Mary glorified God, because He had heard her prayer and fulfilled her heart’s desire, and then she fell asleep.

Kissing the all-pure body with reverence and in awe, the Disciples in turn were blessed by it and filled with grace and spiritual joy. Through the great glorification of the Most Holy Theotokos, the almighty power of God healed the sick, who with faith and love touched the holy bed.

Bewailing their separation from the Mother of God, the Apostles prepared to bury her all-pure body. The holy Apostles Peter, Paul, James, and others of the Twelve Apostles carried the funeral bier upon their shoulders, and upon it lay the body of the Ever-Virgin Mary. Saint John the Theologian went at the head with the resplendent palm-branch from Paradise. The other saints and a multitude of the faithful accompanied the funeral bier with candles and censers, singing sacred songs. This solemn procession went from Sion through Jerusalem to the Garden of Gethsemane. When the procession reached the Garden of Gethsemane, then amidst the weeping and the wailing began the last kiss to the all-pure body. Only towards evening were the Apostles able to place it in the tomb and seal the entrance to the cave with a large stone.

For three days they did not depart from the place of burial, praying and chanting Psalms. Through the wise providence of God, the Apostle Thomas was not to be present at the burial of the Mother of God. Arriving late on the third day at Gethsemane, he lay down at the tomb and with bitter tears asked that he might be permitted to look once more upon the Mother of God and bid her farewell. The Apostles out of heartfelt pity for him decided to open the grave and permit him the comfort of venerating the holy relics of the Ever-Virgin Mary. Having opened the grave, they found in it only the grave wrappings and were thus convinced of the bodily ascent of the Most Holy Virgin Mary to Heaven.

The sash of the Mother of God, and her holy garb, preserved with reverence and distributed over the face of the earth in pieces, have worked miracles both in the past and at present. Her numerous icons everywhere pour forth signs and healings, and her holy body, taken up to Heaven, bears witness to our own future life there. The Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos is celebrated with special solemnity at Gethsemane, the place of her burial. Christians honored the sepulcher of the Mother of God, and they built a church on this spot. Within the church was preserved the precious funeral cloth, which covered her all-pure and fragrant body.

The holy Patriarch Juvenal of Jerusalem (420-458) testified before the emperor Marcian (450-457) as to the authenticity of the tradition about the miraculous ascent of the Mother of God to Heaven, and he sent to the empress, Saint Pulcheria, the grave wrappings of the Mother of God from her tomb. Saint Pulcheria then placed these grave-wrappings within the Blachernae church.

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday, August 2nd

9th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:45 am

Monday, August 3rd

Paraklesis (Supplications) Service – 6:30 pm

Wednesday, August 5th

Great Vespers – 6:30pm

Thursday, August 6th

Holy Transfiguration

Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am

Friday, August 7th

Paraklesis (Supplications) Service – 6:30pm

Sunday, August 9th

10th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:45am

Monday, August 10th

Paraklesis (Supplications) Service – 6:30pm

Wednesday, August 12th

Paraklesis (Supplications) Service – 6:30pm

Friday, August 14th

Great Vespers – 6:30 pm

Saturday, August 15th

Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00am

Sunday, August 16th

11th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:45 am

Sunday, August 23rd

12th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:45 am

Saturday, August 29th

Feast Day of Beheading of Saint John the Baptist

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:00 am

Sunday, August 30th

13th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros/Divine Liturgy – 8:45 am

Parish Ministries

Philoptochos Chapter #4019

Elpis Summer Picnic and General Meeting

Saturday, August 15th, 5:00-8:00 pm

Please join us for our annual summer picnic at the home of Ted and Stephanie Poplos. Our theme this year will be a Mexican Fiesta! The Elpis board will provide the food and beverages. Please come and enjoy the fun and fellowship. We will be collecting school supplies for William H. Brewster Elementary School. You may bring your donation items to the party. Please see attached flyer!

Dormition of the Theotokos Coffee Hour

Sunday, August 16th

Hosted by Angela Buchanan, Janet Boosalis and Alex Vergos in honor and memory of their mothers.

More than a Meal Service

Sunday, August 16th, 3:00-5:00 pm

We will be serving meals at Grace-St. Luke's church in Midtown from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. To sign up to serve: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0F4CA5A B23A57-more10

Hosting Coffee Fellowship after Liturgy

The Parish Council invites members to volunteer to host a Coffee Fellowship Hour in Cotros Hall during this Ecclesiastical Year. The intent is to offer refreshments of your choice that will encourage social interaction among the membership, and opportunities to meet and greet visitors and new members. The coffee, sugar/sweetener, napkins, plates, cups and utensils are provided by the Church. Please bring creamer and juice. This is a great opportunity to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or to honor a loved one. Photos/memorabilia are encouraged for a table display. Families or groups of individuals can co-host as well. Please sign up on the Coffee Hour Host list on the Bulletin Board outside Cotros Hall. If you have questions, please call Erin in the Church Office, 327-8177. Coffee will always be available when there is no host. Thank you for your consideration and hopeful participation.

Young at Heart

To kick off our Ecclesiastical year, we will be meeting on Thursday, September 17th at 11:30am in Cotros Hall. We look forward to seeing all of our wonderful members after our summer break!

Everyone in our church community who are 50 years of age and older is invited and encouraged to join us. We usually meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:30 am, enjoying a wonderful afternoon of blessed friendship and fellowship. (To top it off, we always EAT well too-for only \$4.00!)

We love to celebrate those who have birthdays each month, as well as share names of people in our group who may be in need of our thoughts and prayers. Some of our past events have included Luaus, music from various groups, Mike Miller's Music and karaoke, the Steppin' Out dancers, tours of Sun Studios, Civil Rights Museum, Guest speakers, as well as enjoying playing games with door prizes like Bingo and the Price is Right. We have enjoyed dining out at wonderful restaurants (many owned by our own church members) and one of our favorite events to end each year is our fabulous Christmas party with great door prizes, and so much more!

Be sure to check the Epistle and Sunday reminders for all our upcoming events. We welcome new ideas as we are planning our calendar for the year. Please feel free to contact Kathy Zambelis at 901-359-1055 or Anna Paris 901-359-1918 if you have an idea for our group that you'd like to suggest. We hope to see you at our next event. Come be a part of one of our church's most thriving organizations - and you'll always stay "Young At Heart"!

Calling everyone in their 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's! This group is for YOU and we WANT you to JOIN US!

YOUNG AT HEART SCHEDULE FOR 2015:
11:30 am in Cotros Hall (unless otherwise noted)
Lunch \$4.00 per person

September 17th - Lunch and Bingo

October 15th

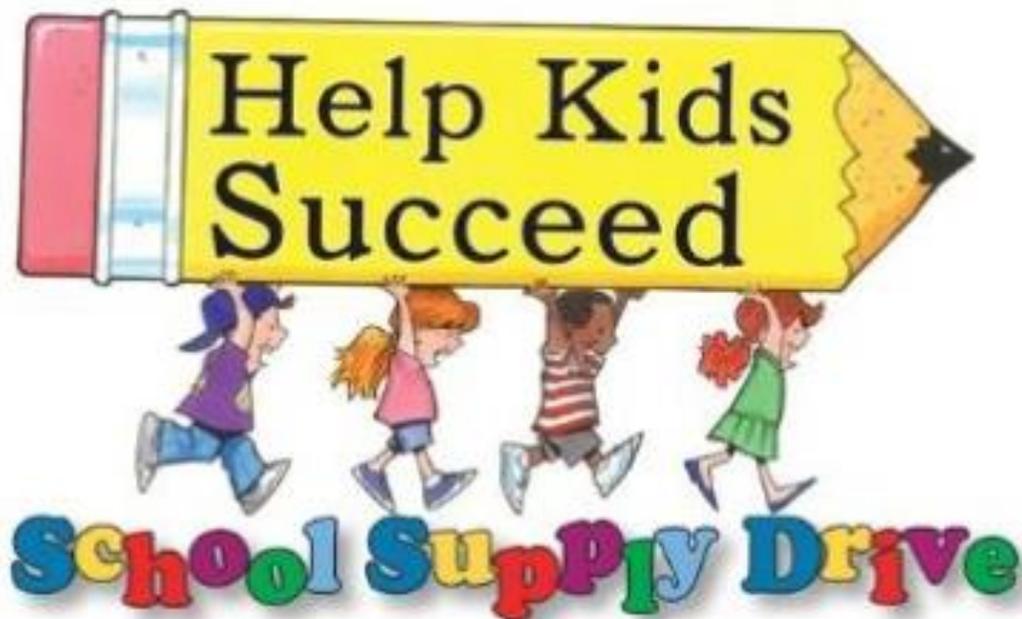
November 19th

December 15th (Chickasaw CC Christmas Party)

*Organization coordinators:

Kathy Zambelis: 901-359-1055,

Anna Paris: 901-359-1918.



Elpis Philoptochos will be collecting school supplies for William Brewster Elementary School (2605 Sam Cooper Blvd) until August 16th. Please drop off your items in the marked boxes in the Fellowship Hall or bring them to the summer party on August 15th.

Anything you can give will make a difference. Thank you!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> #2 pencils | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiral Bound Notebooks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eraser | <input type="checkbox"/> Wide Ruled Notebook Paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glue sticks | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Folders (w/brads) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmer's Glue | <input type="checkbox"/> 1" Binders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24 count crayons | <input type="checkbox"/> Ziploc Bags (quart & gallon size) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broad tip Markers | <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Wipes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colored Pencils | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Erase Markers | <input type="checkbox"/> Tissue Boxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Reams of White & Color Paper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highlighter Marker | <input type="checkbox"/> Headphones or Ear buds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Pens | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kid's Scissors | |

Youth Ministries

Sunday School

The Sunday School Program is for children from Pre-K (age 4 by September 1) through 12th grade. Registration for new students only is being held on Sundays through August 9th in Cotros Hall immediately after Divine Liturgy. Sunday School will begin on August 16th after communion. The tentative fall calendar is on the Sunday School Bulletin Board outside of Cotros Hall. If you are teaching or wish to teach or help out, please contact Anna Paris with questions or to confirm at 901-359-1918. Thank you!

GOYA

Welcome to GOYA 2015 – 2016!

We hope you are all looking forward with anticipation to another great GOYA year at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Memphis. Your GOYA advisors are back and are excited to build on the foundation of success of the Annunciation GOYA program laid by earlier generations of youth and adult participants. We are delighted to welcome the spiritual leadership of Father Simon.

The summer seems like it has gone quickly and we are already gearing up for the beginning of the “GOYA year.” See below for some background information and initial plans.

Background

GOYA is a ministry of the Church – it is not a club or organization. It is a gathering of the faithful of the Church who share the same age/school grade and common interests. Belonging to GOYA depends solely on being an Orthodox Christian. The youth are not members or non-members – if they are members of the Faith, they belong! They are participants rather than members.

The GOYA Ministry stresses the four characteristics of worship, fellowship, service, and witness. Each of these elements will be integrated into all aspects of programming.

The GOYA Ministry at Annunciation is for youth in grades 6 through 12. We will seek to provide programming for the entire group and to provide opportunities for our older youth to serve as role models for younger participants. But, owing to the developmental needs of different age groups in the Ministry, certain activities and meetings will be sub-divided into middle school and high school groups.

The GOYA Leadership Team will be comprised of Father Simon, the GOYA Advisors, and youth that are interested in serving in leadership roles.

Initial Plans

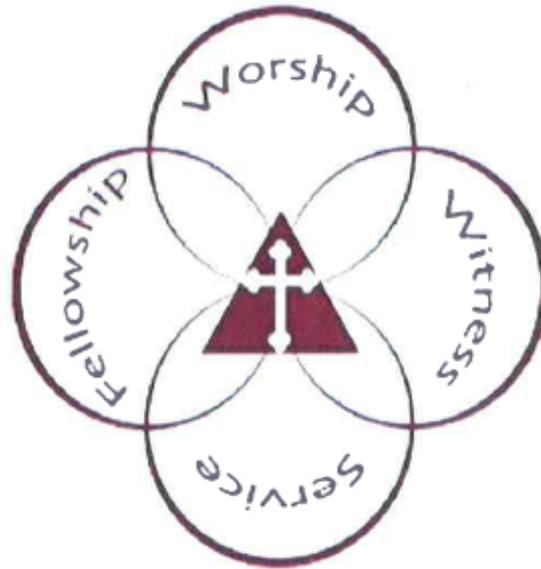
We hope to continue to make GOYA a dynamic ministry in which our youth will want to participate. We will establish a schedule for regular meetings (twice a month immediately after church) and monthly activities/outings (sporting events, Christmas caroling, More than a Meal, bowling, etc.). *The 2015 – 2016 GOYA year will kick off with a cook-out on Sunday 8/16/2015 immediately after the Divine Liturgy.* We will review the full-year calendar of activities and expectations of GOYA advisors and participants, as well as opportunities for parents.

Please forward any comments, suggestions for activities, and preferred methods of communication (or to be removed from the GOYA mailing list) to Mitch Obradovic (mitch.obradovic@gmail.com).

GOYA Advisors:
Mitch Obradovic
Demetri Papastefan
Ted Poplos
Luane Semos

GOYA Activities 2015 (Tentative)
Hiking or Bowling – September TBD
More Than a Meal – September 20th
Hayride/Corn Maze (Tom’s Farm or Shelby Farm) – October TBD
More Than a Meal – October 18th
More Than a Meal – November 15th
Christmas Caroling – December 6th or 13th
More Than a Meal – December 20th
Nashville GOYA Outing – TBD

GOYA Kick Off



Meet and Greet and Planning

To all who were with us last year, welcome back. For those who are joining us for the first time or who haven't been around for a while, we hope to see you at the Kick Off. GOYA will provide the main dish, and we encourage you to bring a side dish or drink to share with the group. We will discuss the purpose of GOYA and work on the schedule of activities for the year. Please invite your parents to join us so that we have an opportunity to meet them and explain our ministry to them. We are anxious to meet with Fr. Simon who will be our spiritual leader.

GOYA Room August 16th

12:00 -1:30

RSVP by August 13th

(901)-272-3520



It's Memphis Redbirds Time Again!

The game is scheduled for Saturday, August 22nd at 6:05 PM. We will be sitting in the dugout section (possibly behind home plate if seats in that section are available at the same price) for \$16.00 per person. There will be fireworks immediately after the game. A table will be set up in the Cotros Hall on Sunday, August 2nd & Sunday, August 9th. Deadline is August 9th & tickets will be available on Sunday, August 16th. All checks should be made payable to the church. We need at least 20 people to attend to get the discount rate.



“Road to Orthodoxy” Sunday School 2015-16

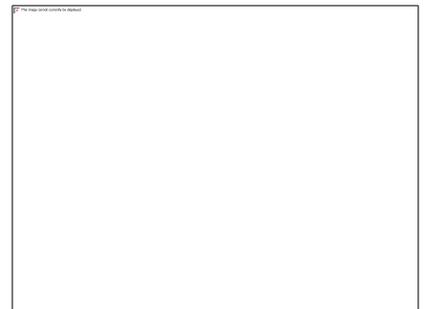
Welcome back ages Pre-K (age 4 by September 1) to high school students as Sunday School classes begin after communion on August 16, 2015. Registration for new students will be in Cotros Hall. Please see Anna Paris to register your child.



Back to School Luncheon

Date: August 23, 2015
Place: Cotros Hall
Time: After Church services
Price: \$10 - Adults
\$5 - Students under 12

Menu:
Greek Salad
Pork Tips w/Orzo
Dessert



Community Organizations

AHEPA Chapter 7, Memphis TN

The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

The AHEPA is a men's group open to those 18 and older. Our chapter in Memphis is currently looking at changing our format for meetings and activities. Please watch the newsletter and announcements for updates and information on meeting times and places along with activities and outings. We encourage you to check out the new version of AHEPA. We think you may in for a pleasant surprise.

Some of our annual activities are the Apokreas talent show, the community softball game and picnic as well as the Father's Day breakfast. AHEPA offers a scholarship for High School graduates. We have been involved in Habitat building projects and look forward to doing more projects.

Daughters of Penelope

The Daughters of Penelope was the realization of Alexandra Apostolides' dream. Her desire was to create a woman's organization and because of her perseverance and the encouragement of her husband Dr. Emanuel Apostolides, a devoted member of AHEPA, she formed EOS Chapter #1 with 25 Charter Members on November 16, 1929 in San Francisco, California. She was elected the first Grand President in 1931.

The objectives of the Daughters of Penelope are to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family & Individual Excellence. The Daughters of Penelope encourages and promotes loyalty to the country in which they live; cultivates the ideals and traditions of Hellenism; promotes opportunities of education; and promotes the spirit of cooperation and works closely and in harmony with the whole AHEPA Family – AHEPA, Daughters of Penelope, Maids of Athens and Sons of Pericles. The Daughters of Penelope is non-partisan and non-denominational.

Today the Daughters of Penelope is a leader in philanthropic, educational and cultural activities with local chapters in the United States, Canada, Greece and Cyprus.

2015 Stewardship

A Life of Giving-

In June of 1999, macabre author Stephen King was hit by a van while walking near his home in Maine. The result of the accident was straight out of one of his gory books, leaving King in critical condition with massive injuries. That experience changed a few things for him. He realized, as he lay dying on the side of the road, when Death comes for him, he isn't taking *American Express*. King wrote about his experience:

"I got a painful but extremely valuable look at life's simple backstage truths. We come in naked and broke. We may be dressed when we go out, but we're just as broke. Warren Buffet? Going to go out broke. Bill Gates? Going out broke. Tom Hanks? Going out broke. Steve King? Broke. Not a crying dime. So I want you to consider making your life one long gift to others. And why not? All you have is on loan anyway. All that lasts is what you pass on. Giving isn't about the receiver or the gift but the giver. It's for the giver. One doesn't open one's wallet to improve the world, although it's nice when that happens; one does it to improve one's self."

2015 List of Stewards

Thank you to the following 121 families who have submitted their pledge card for 2015! Your stewardship supports the ministries of the Annunciation. Stewardship Cards can be obtained from the Church Office.

Allphin, Robert	Gikas, Bill & Niki	Moore, Alexis	Taras, Dimitri & Mary
Al-Qawwas, Iskander & Family	Gogonelis, Alex	Moore, Michael & Maria	Katherine
Anaston, Zoe	Graves, Alan & Renee & Family	Moore, Michael "Tommy"	Taras, James
Apalodimas, Chris & Connie	Grayes, Theodore	Morrison, Robert & Kathryn	Taras, Kosta & Loretta
Apalodimas, Maria	Guigley, Kevin & Pannay & Family	Mosby, Michael & Valerie & Family	Tashie, David & Christine & Family
Argol, Nick & Anne	Hawkins, Charles & Elizabeth & Family	Nash, Kathy	Tashie, George & Cecile
Bagatelas, Todd & Cyndi & Family	Herbei, Laurentiu & Mihaela & Family	Nassif, Naji & Rebecca & Family	Tashie, James & Nancy
Bitinis, Demetra	Herbert, Sandy	Nichols, Nick & Linda	Tashie, John & Family
Bookas, John & Deborah	Hetos, Maria	Nix, Michael & Linda	Terranova, Anastasia
Boosalis, Janet	Hong, Tony & Ramona & Family	Obradovic, Mitch & Linda & Family	Theodore, Lee & Yiota
Branum, Shawn	Hoover, Ken & Vicki & Family	Ogbasion, Asmelash & Asmeret & Family	Thomas, Fr. Simon & Pres. Stephanie
Buchanan, Angela	Hristopoulou, Koula	Papastefan, Demetri	Tingle, Greg & Lonie & Family
Capadalis, Emily	Jameson, Athena	Paris, Anna	Tobias, Richard & Angela
Carter, Endy	Johnson, John	Paris, Dorothy	Topolewski, Kimberly
Chagaris, Mary	Joyner, Bill & Denise	Paris, Evangeline	Touliatos, Sarah
Chelsoi, Catalin & Anca	Karkatsugas, George	Peters, Manual & Mary Beth	Varnavas, Cornelia
Chulos, John	Karris, Georgia	Peters, Manuel & Susanna	Vergos, Alex
Cotros, Charles & Connie	Kavelaras, Diane	Poplos, Ted & Stephanie & Family	Vergos, Anastasia
Couloubaritsis, Jerry & Julia & family	Kay, John & Nancy	Preza, Chrysanthe & Valdimarsson, Einir & Family	Vergos, Tasia
Dedic, Jasmin & Brymer, Bibiana	Kay, Maureen & Erin	Ruby, Pete	Vergos, Theodore
Deitz, George & Wagner, Kristine & Family	Kennedy, James	Semos, Vasili & Luane & Family	Vieron, Ann
Demas, Helen	Kish, Sarkis & Jenny	Sinis, Tom & Susan	Vieron, Fr. Nicholas & Pres. Bess
Denton, Anna	Kollias, Marcy	Skefos, Harry & Catherine	Wassef, Magdi & Amira & Family
Detty, Greg & Cyndi & Family	Kronfel, George	Skefos, Katherine	Wasserman, Maria
Douglas, Andrew & Tina & Family	Lefes, Kalliope	Smith, Jimmy & Georgia	Wheeler, Helen
Erskine, Bruce & Helen	Letsou, Peter & Felicity & Family	Smith, Sheilia	Whitten, John & Vasiliki
Farrell, Linda & Family	McKee, Scott & Weilin Xi and Family	Sousoulas, James & Sophia	Williams, James & Melinda & Family
Farris, Phillip & Kellye & Family	Melonas, Emily	Stamson, Jerry Joseph & Tiffany	Zaharopoulos, Nick & Georgia
Fox, Nick & Marty Fox	Melonas, Peter & Kathryn	Stamson, Pandora	Zambelis, Kathy & Family
Futris, Steve & Zoe	Meng, James & Susan & Family	Stergios, Frances & Martha	
Futris Jr., Pete & Jan	Montgomery, Toni & Family		
Gallagher, Evangelia			

If we have mistakenly left your name off, please contact the Church Office!

Annunciation Greek Festival Report 2015

Thank you to everyone who helped out in the preparation and production of the 2015 Memphis Greek Festival. We grossed approximately \$195,000 and had a net profit of \$64,000.

AUGUST 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Baptism
2 9th Sunday of Matthew Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am DOP General Meeting Sunday School Registration & Redbirds Sign up	3 Paraklesis (Supplications) Service 6:30 pm	4 Elpis Board Meeting 6:30 pm	5 Great Vespers 6:30 pm	6 Feast of the Assumption Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am	7 Paraklesis (Supplications) Service 6:30 pm	8
9 10th Sunday of Matthew Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am Sunday School & on Redbirds Sign up	10 Paraklesis (Supplications) Service 6:30 pm	11	12 Paraklesis (Supplications) Service 6:30 pm	13	14 Great Vespers 6:30 pm	15 Feast of the Dormition Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am Elpis Summer Picnic
16 11th Sunday of Matthew Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am Sunday School GOYA Kick Off More Than A Meal	17 Parish Council Meeting 6:15 pm	18	19	20	21	22 Daughters of Penelope Sisterhood Tea, 11:30 am Redbirds Game 6:00 pm
23 12th Sunday of Matthew Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am Back to School Luncheon	24	25	26	27	28	29 Feast of the Beheading of John the Baptist Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am Germantown Multi- Cultural Festival 11-5
30 13th Sunday of Matthew Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:45 am	31					