

The Voice



A Monthly Publication from Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Akron, OH
February 2024 | Volume 61: Issue 2



Dear Parish Family,

“Come and see the Christ who is Lord and Master of all things, who today by Symeon to the Temple now is brought.”

Each February we are offered the opportunity to reflect on this text from the Matins service for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which we celebrate on February 2nd.

After reading that some of us may be thinking, “from the *what service*, Father?” The Matins service.

How many of us are aware that, before we Come to Church for Divine Liturgy at 9:30am, there has already been an hour of worship? Each Sunday two talented groups of chanters, comprised of men and women of varying ages, chant hymns and read prayers. The service of Matins, also known as Orthros, is not only musically stunning, but it is the ultimate experience in Christian education.

Our songful morning begins with a musical reminder that God became man for us. We hear stirring melodies about the myrrh bearing women encountering an angel at

the Lord’s empty tomb. There are readings and hymns about the Saints being commemorated that day. Did you know that every day is somebody’s Name Day? There are hymns about the current season of the Church year. And each Sunday we hear a musical proclamation of the Resurrection of Christ and His victory over death. And no two Matins services are the same.

Can you imagine that much opportunity for education, prayer, and beautiful singing in just one hour? It happens every Sunday from 8:30-9:30. This week, arrive a little earlier than usual. Experience some of this service. Your cantors are warmed up and ready. All you need to do is **#ComeToChurchForMatins**

See you at Church!

Fr. Dean Kokanos

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Fr. Dean Kokanos
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Assistant Priest

Dn. Mark Studebaker
Deacon

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Gus Tsesselis

OUTREACH

GOOD SAMARITANS

PACKAGING - DISTRIBUTION - TABLE

Saturday
February 10, noon

Monthly
PACKAGING

Wednesday
February 14, 7:30am

Monthly
DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday
February 27

Meal
PREP
2-7pm

Meal
DISTRIBUTION
5-6:30pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - December 12, 2023

*As always, the minutes in The Voice are edited for length.
Minutes in full are available on the table outside of Fr. Dean's office.*

Members Present:

Fr. Dean Kokanos and Fr. Nicholas Manuel

Christina Barry

Penny Dickos

Christina Manousos

Christine Salem

Jonathon Bollas

Elena Economou-Zwisler

John Matheos

Denis Van Doros

Maria Detorakis

Bill Farmakidis

Christopher Morris

Maria Williams

Mike Detorakis

Angela Jumbert

Susan Pappas

Members Absent:

Mary O'Connor

Nicholas Stavrakis

Gus Tsesmelis

- 1.) **Priest Report:** FRDK Thank you for being here. Ministries are proceeding as scheduled. Elections reports have been submitted to the Metropolis. Oath of Office Jan. 7.
- 2.) **President Report:** Review of projects to be included in upcoming campaign. Please see unabridged minutes for complete listing.
- 3.) **Treasurer Report:**

<u>December 2023</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Account Balances</u>	
Income	\$725,000	\$741,100	General Operating	\$45,000
Expenses	\$761,100	\$758,000	General Savings	\$100,000
Profit/Loss	(\$36,100)	(\$16,900)	Payroll	\$4,000

Presented 2024 Budget - Motion to Accept: Christina Barry; Second: Maria Williams. Carries.

- 4.] **New Business:** "Traditional Roofing" is doing work on the slate roof. Estimate is \$1,988. Van Doros: Motion to not exceed \$2000. Second by Williams. Carries.
- 5.] **Stewardship:** Economou-Zwisler - 2023 396 Pledges, \$670K. 2022: 376 Pledges, \$595K. Stewardship Sunday is this coming week. Please turn in cards by Pascha.
- 6.] **Financial:** Van Doros - \$899,000 in trust fund. Building - \$161,000
- 7.] **Building and Grounds:** Canopy Light was fixed by the hall doors.
- 8.] **Security and Ushering:** Barry - Working to set up Alice Training in February.
- 9.] **Social Media/Communications:** Pappas – Vasilopita dance tickets on sale.
- 10.] **Hall:** Bollas check received on December 5th. Total revenue for the past year \$18K FRDK requested a light coffee hour on Christmas morning.
- 11.] **Technology:** Tithe.ly will be discontinued at the end of the calendar year.
- 12.] **Youth:** Youth Safety course needs to be completed by newly elected PC members.
- 13.] **Outreach/Ministries:** Matheos: Shannon Pangas for doing the Loads of Love last night, which was the highest one yet (est. 18-20 families). After church on Sunday, cooking for the Thanksgiving hot meal.
- 14.] **Good of the Community:** Thank you to: Christina Manousos. Dinner was delicious. Susan Pappas for her years of service. Barry: Fill A Seat for the holidays program.

GOOD SAMARITANS

**Packing and Distribution needs your clean plastic grocery bags.
PLEASE drop them off at church.**

AXIOS

A Christmas to Remember ** 2023

A big thank you from our AHEPA chapter and from the Annunciation goes out to all our parishioners who displayed the love and generosity of the season by providing huge piles of festively-wrapped Christmas gifts to fulfill the Christmas wish lists of the nearly 90 families spending their holiday season as residents of



the Battered Women’s Shelter and the 19 homeless veterans living at Valor Home.

Ranging from TVs and microwaves to toys, games, clothing, personal care items, and a variety of home



goods, these gifts were visible evidence of the love and joy expressed to those less fortunate than us and helped us all remember the real reasons we celebrate Christ’s birth.

Through the energy of AHEPA President Brian Brady, the organizational skills and dedication of Shelly Partis, and the great support and encouragement of Father Dean, we have seen this heart-warming project grow from its start in 2022, and we will all be looking forward to even greater generosity and love for “Christmas to Remember- 2024”.

“AXIOS” to all our amazing parish for exemplifying the true spirit of the season in such a beautiful way!

LOADS OF LOVE: A Laundry Love Ministry

Second Monday
of Every Month at 5-7 pm

2024
February 12
March 11

We will help pay for washing, drying, and detergent.

LIMITED:

Two Washers per person / Four Washers per family.

LOCATION:

1713 W. Exchange St., Akron



YOUTH

February 9
JOY Night
at Annunciation Church
6pm

February 11
GOYA Fireside Chat
at the Avouris home
4:30-6:30pm

FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				11am-2pm Gyro Luncheon 11am OCW - Library	830am Matins 930am Liturgy Presentation of the Lord in the Temple	4:30pm YAL Vespers and St. Kyranna's cooking class
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
830am Matins 930am Liturgy 11:15am Adult Ed.	9am Philoptochos Workshop Koulourakia and Paximathia 7pm Men's BBall	9am - Philoptochos Workshop Koulourakia and Paximathia 11am Rotary Club 6pm Philoptochos Board Meeting 8pm HUMS Book study - ZOOM	8am Gyro Prep 6pm GOYA BBall 630pm Choir Rehearsal	11am-2pm Gyro Luncheon 5pm Outreach Hot Meal 7pm OCF	6pm JOY Night	1pm Good Samaritan Packing Special Needs Mini Retreat St. Nicholas - Youngstown
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
830am Matins 930am Liturgy VALENTINE'S Coffee Hour 11:15am Adult Ed. 11:45 am Special General Assembly 430pm GOYA Fireside Chat	1130am GOLDEN GREEKS Luncheon Mtg 5pm Loads of Love 7pm Men's BBall	9am Quilting 11am Rotary Club 530pm Parish Council	730am Good Samaritans 8am Gyro Prep 6pm GOYA BBall 630pm Choir Rehearsal	11am-2pm Gyro Luncheon		430pm YAL Vespers and Social - Atrium Annunciation GOYA BBall Tourny - Holy Trinity, Pgh
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
830am Matins 930am Liturgy 11:15am Adult Ed. GOYA BBall	6:30pm COCA Mtg St. Demetrios 7pm Men's BBall	11am Rotary Club 6pm Men's Club	8am Gyro Prep 630pm Choir Rehearsal	11am-2pm Gyro Luncheon 7pm OCF		
25	26	27	28	29		
830am Matins 930am Liturgy 11:15am Adult Ed.	NO Men's BBall 9am - Philoptochos Workshop Kourambiethes	PAPA GYRO DAY 11am Rotary Club 2pm Good Samaritans TABLE	8am Gyro Prep 630pm Choir Rehearsal	11am-2pm Gyro Luncheon		

PHILOPTOCHOS

To All Philoptochos Members and Prospective Members!

What a BEEEEZy few months it has been! Our wonderful, thoughtful and dedicated chapter has accomplished so much! Thank-you to all of you for your tireless efforts!

MEMBERSHIP

2024 has started with a great deal of enthusiasm and work and most especially our drive to renew and ask all of you who are not members of Philoptochos to join us! Basiliki Hay is our Membership Chairman. Please see Basiliki for a membership form any Sunday after church at her table in our church's social hall and become a

member of our chapter. Our membership drive will be all of January and February and our next General Members Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 20th at 6PM. Our membership dues are \$35. The best monies you will spend in the name of helping others.

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!!! We would love to have you as a member of our "HIVE".

Have a great day,
Georgia Stathopoulos, president



YOUTH



VACATION
CHURCH SCHOOL
9am - 12pm
AUGUST 5TH-9TH

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

- Register for Vacation Church School
- Grades K-6 welcome! (ages 5-12)
- Kids 13 and up are welcome to register to be helpers!

FEE REGISTRATION \$10

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.ANNUNCIATIONAKRON.ORG
129 SOUTH UNION STREET, AKRON, OH 44304



ANNUNCIATION PHILOPTOCHOS SPRING BAKE SALE

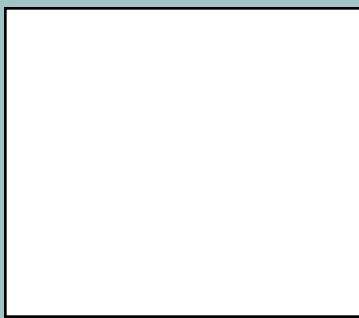
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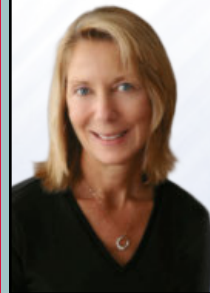
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LUNCH MEETING

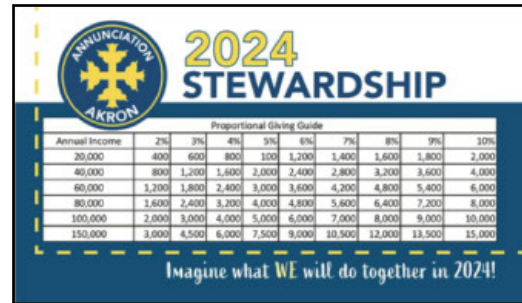
Monday Feb. 12 @ 11:30am

Speaker: Sheri Bevan Walsh
Annunciation Buffet Room

RSVP to Shelly Partis
(330) 607-7973
by Feb. 5th



REMINDER: Please submit your **2024 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARD**



ANNUNCIATION AKRON **2024 STEWARDSHIP**

Annual Income	Proportional Giving Guide									
	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	
20,000	400	600	800	1000	1,200	1,400	1,600	1,800	2,000	
40,000	800	1,200	1,600	2,000	2,400	2,800	3,200	3,600	4,000	
60,000	1,200	1,800	2,400	3,000	3,600	4,200	4,800	5,400	6,000	
80,000	1,600	2,400	3,200	4,000	4,800	5,600	6,400	7,200	8,000	
100,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000	
150,000	3,000	4,500	6,000	7,500	9,000	10,500	12,000	13,500	15,000	

Imagine what WE will do together in 2024!



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