



THE VOICE

A Monthly Publication from Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Akron, OH
April 2025 | Volume 62: Issue 4

2025 HOLY WEEK

Friday, April 11

All Youth Lock-in 6pm-9pm

Saturday of Lazarus, April 12

Matins 8:30am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Palm Sunday, April 13

Matins 8:30am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am,
Bridegroom Matins 5:30pm

Holy Monday, April 14

Bridegroom Matins 6:30pm

Holy Tuesday, April 15

Good Samaritans' Table 5:00pm
Bridegroom Matins 7:00pm

Holy Wednesday, April 16

Presanctified Liturgy 9:00am
Holy Unction 4:00pm
Matins of Holy Thursday 6:30pm

Holy Thursday, April 17

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil,
Institution of the Eucharist 9:00am
Good Samaritans Table, 5-6:30pm
Matins of Holy Friday – Service of the
Passion, 6:30pm (Thursday Night)

Great and Holy Friday, April 18

Royal Hours of Holy Friday 9:30am

Great Vespers of Good Friday -
Service of Unnailing 3:00pm

Matins of Holy Saturday –

Lamentations at the Tomb of Christ
6:30pm

Holy Saturday, April 19

Vesperal Divine Liturgy, Harrowing
of Hades 9:00am
Good Samaritans Packing 11:00am
Matins of Pascha 11:20pm

Come Receive the Light,

Paschal Matins and Divine Liturgy
Proclamation 12:00am

Agape Service, Sunday, April 20
11:00am



LOADS OF LOVE: A LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY

**Second Monday of Every Month
from 5-6:30 pm**



**2025
APRIL 14 MAY 12**

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

LIMITED:

Two Washers per person/
Four Washers per family.

LOCATION:

1713 W. Exchange Street
Akron, Ohio

DIRECTORY

Fr. Dean Kokanos
Presiding Priest

Fr. Nick Manuel
Assistant Priest

Dn. Mark Studebaker
Deacon

Paula Chotlos
Office Manager

Chad Hay
Neochoros & Custodian

Steve Hadgis
Choir Director

THE ANNUNCIATION
129 S. Union Street
Akron, OH 44304
330-434-0000

PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICERS

John Matheos
President

Steve Parianos
Vice President

Christopher Morris
Secretary

Maria Detorakis
Treasurer

Christine Salem
Past President

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jonathon Bollas

Michael Detorakis

Elena Economou-Zwisler

Bill Farmakidis

Karen Horattas

Christina Manousos

Mary O'Connor

Diane Popovich

Nick Stavarakis

Maria Williams

OUTREACH

GOOD SAMARITANS

PREP - DISTRIBUTION - TABLE

Tuesday
April 8, 5pm

**Monthly
PREP**

Wednesday
April 9, 7:30am

**Monthly
DISTRIBUTION**

Thursday
April 17

TABLE

Tuesday
April 29

**MEAL PREP
AND SERVE**
3-6:30pm



**Meal PREP
AND SERVE**
3-6:30pm

April 17 & 29: Groceries & Clothes Available

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - March 2025

Present: Jon Bollas, Maria Detorakis, Mike Detorakis, Bill Farmakidis, Karen Horattas, Fr. Dean Kokanos, Christina Manousos, John Matheos, Fr. Nick Manuel, Christopher Morris, Mary O'Connor, Steve Parianos, Christine Salem, Nicholas Stavarakis, Christina Tharp, Gus Tsesmelis, Elena Economou-Zwisler

Absent: Diane Popovich and Maria Williams

Priest's Report: Fr. Dean Kokanos Thank you for being here. Lent started. Church Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.

President's Report- Jon Matheos: Thanks for the largest Tuesday night meal. Served 142 meals in house. Served 228 to-go meals.

Treasurer's Report

	Feb. 2025 Actual	Budget	Account Balances	
Income	\$124,000	\$152,000	General Operating	\$140,000
Expenses	\$137,000	\$137,000	General Savings	\$78,000
Profit/Loss	\$(13,000)	\$(12,000)	Payroll	\$4.6,000

Stewardship of Church Resources - Elaina Economou-Zwisler/Ron Bobner:

2025: pledges ~\$636,000; Collected \$99,463 YTD; 267 pledges; 3% pledge increase over 2024; 75% increase in pledges over 2024

Financial - Maria Detorakis: Trust Fund- \$925,000; Building Fund- \$139,000

Building and Grounds - Michael Detorakis/Bill Farmakidis/Frank Pangas: Steam boiler issue being worked [Resolving with Insurance and service depts]

Outreach and Ministries: Mary O'Connor/Diane Popovich/Karen Horattas - 3/10 - Loads of Love, 3/13 - Food Pantry, 3/20 & 3/25 - Meal/Pantry/Clothes. June 7/8 Mitvah Day

Security/Ushering: Christine Salem/Elena Economou-Zwisler/Debra Gynn/Maria Williams: Working on getting security coverage for Lenten services

Coffee Hour - Diane Popovich: People are generous bringing snacks. Successful Philoptochos event.

Youth - Fr. Nick, Christina Manousos: Hosted Metropolis JOY Lenten retreat. Thanks to GOYA coaches and advisors.

Social Media/Communications - Nick Stavarakis/Christine Tharp: Attached Facebook to Instagram. Committee members getting familiar with roles and responsibilities

New Business -

Christina Manousos: Christian Melik Foundation By-Laws needing approval for it to go before the General Assembly Motion to approve/create the Christian Melik Foundation by Christina Manousos. Seconded by Steve Parianos. Carried.

John Matheos: Ron Bobner has resigned from the board . We are in need of someone to fill the empty spot.

Elena Economou-Zwisler: Motion to have Susan Pappas rejoin the parish council. Seconded by Christine Salem. Carried.

Good of the Community - John Matheos/Christine Salem: Thank you to Angela Jumpert for the cupcakes.

John Matheos/Mike Detorakis: Frank, Mike, and Chad worked quickly to have the front door repaired after it fell this morning.

Benediction and Adjournment: Fr. Nick

PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE



PHILOPTOCHOS EASTER BAKE SALE

 <p>Koulourakia TRADITIONAL TWISTED COFFEE COOKIE WITH SESAME \$6.00 PER DOZEN</p>  <p>Baklava LAYERS OF PHYLLO, HONEY, & NUTS \$2.00 EACH</p>  <p>Galaktoboureko PHYLLO FILLED WITH CUSTARD \$2.00 or \$20.00 EACH PER DOZEN (FROZEN)</p>  <p>Tsoureki 1.5 POUNDS BRAIDED EASTER (SWEET) BREAD \$12.00 EACH</p>  <p>Mixed Sampler \$8.00 EACH</p>	 <p>Paximathia GREEK BISCOITTI \$6.00 PER DOZEN</p>  <p>Finikia DIPPED IN SYRUP & TOPPED WITH CHOPPED NUTS \$1.50 EACH</p>  <p>Kourambiethes BUTTER COOKIE COVERED IN POWDERED SUGAR \$1.50 EACH</p>  <p>Spanakopita SPINACH ROLLED IN PHYLLO \$20.00 PER DOZEN (FROZEN)</p>  <p>Karithopita HONEY WALNUT CAKE \$2.00 EACH</p>
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Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
129 S. UNION STREET • 330-434-0000



EASTER BAKE SALE

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
April 9th & 10th 2025
10:00am to 3:00pm
NOTE: All orders must be picked up by
THURSDAY, April 10th by 1pm

PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE	Quantity	DOLLAR AMOUNT
KOULOURAKIA (Traditional twisted coffee cookie)	\$6.00 doz.	
PAXIMADIA (Greek Biscotti)	\$6.00 doz.	
BAKLAVA (Phyllo and layers of nuts)	\$2.00 ea.	
GALAKTOBOUREKO (Phyllo filled with custard)	\$2.00 ea.	
KOURAMBIETHES (Butter cookie covered in powdered sugar)	\$1.50 ea.	
FINIKIA (Dipped in syrup and topped with nuts)	\$1.50 ea.	
EASTER BREAD (1.5 lb. round sweet bread)	\$12.00 ea.	
MIXED SAMPLER	\$8.00 ea.	
SPANAKOPITA (Spinach rolled in phyllo) - FROZEN	\$20.00 doz.	
GALAKTOBOUREKO (Phyllo filled with custard) - FROZEN	\$20.00 doz.	
Karithopita (Honey walnut cake)	\$2.00 ea.	
TOTAL		\$

Please make check payable to **PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY** and mail to:
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY MELISSA,
129 S. Union Street, Akron, Ohio 44304-1590
Phone: 330-434-0000
(Mail your order form and check by Wednesday, April 2.)

ANNUNCIATION SUNDAY SCHOOL

NICOLE PAPAS & ELYSE DECKARD, CO DIRECTORS

2/3 yr olds	rice, pasta, quinoa, pasta sauce
Pre-K & Kindergarten	oatmeal, cereal, granola bars, nut or trail mixes
1st/2nd	canned soup, canned vegetables
3rd/4th	black beans, chickpeas, lentils, canned or pouched chicken and tuna
5th/6th	nut butters, jelly, fruit preserves, canned or jarred fruit
7th/8th	popcorn, chips
High School	macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, ramen noodles

We had a beautiful **Sunday of Orthodoxy** procession last month with our Sunday School students!



Don't forget to bring the following items to the Atrium this month in support of our parish-wide Lenten Project, supporting Stewart's Caring Place. We are taking donations until Pascha, **April 20th**. We thank you for your contribution!


Stewart's Caring Place FOOD DRIVE

APRIL 2025



ANNUNCIATION PHILOPTOCHOS SPRING BAKE SALE

APRIL 9 & 10

		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		11am Rotary Club NOON Book Clu 7pm OCF	NO Gyro Prep 9am Canon of St Andrew 530pm Presanctified Liturgy and Potluck 630pm Choir Rehearsal	9am Canon of Saint Andrew 11am-2pm GYRO LUNCHEON 11AM OCW Library	GOYA SPRING RETREAT 9am Presanctified Liturgy 630pm Akythyst Hymn	GOYA SPRING RETREAT HOPE/JOY Lenten Mini Retreat 9am Church clean update 11am Metropolis of Pittsburgh Philoptochos DAFFODIL LUNCH
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
GOYA SPRING RETREAT 820am Matins 930am Liturgy 10:30AM Lenten Lecture Series 5PM Unction Service at St. Nicholas Mogadore	5:30pm Great Compline 6:30pm Catechism	9:30am - Quilting 11am Rotary Club NOON Book Club 530pm Parish Council 5pm Good Samaritans PREP	BAKE SALE NO Gyro Prep 530pm Presanctified Liturgy and Potluck 630pm Choir Rehearsal 730am Good Samaritans Distribution	BAKE SALE 11am-2pm GYRO LUNCHEON	9am Presanctified Liturgy 6pm GOYA Lenten Retreat - Annunciation 6pm JOY Night Annunciation	830am Matins 930am Liturgy SATURDAY of LAZARUS 10:30am Philoptochos Board Meeting
13 PALM SUNDAY	14	15	16	17	18	19
820am Matins 930am Liturgy 10:30am Lenten Lecture Series 530pm Bridegroom Matins	5pm Loads of Love 6:30pm Bridegroom Matins	11am Rotary Club 6:30pm Bridegroom Matins VOICE ARTICLES DUE	NO Gyro Prep 8:30pm Presanctified Liturgy 4pm Holy Unction 6:30pm Matins of Holy Thursday	NO GYRO LUNCH 9am Vespers Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Service of the Holy Passion 3:30pm Good Samaritans TABLE	9am Royal Hours 11am Kouvouklion Decorating 3pm Vespers of Unnailing 630pm Matins of Holy Saturday	9am Vespersal Divine Liturgy 11:15pm PASCHA! 12am Come Receive The Light
HOLY WEEK						
20 PASCHA	21	22	23	24	25	26
11am AGAPE Vespers		11am Rotary Club 7pm OCF 3:30pm Good Samaritans TABLE	NO Gyro Prep 8:30am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy St. George 5:30pm Greek School Night 6pm YAL Picnic 630pm Choir Rehearsal	11am-2pm GYRO LUNCHEON	8:30am Feast of the Life-Giving Spring 10:30am Philoptochos General Luncheon Meeting - Atrium	Metropolis Oratorical Festival at Annunciation, Lancaster
27	28	29 PAPA GYRO DAY	30	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>SAVE THE DATE VCS is August 4-8, kids age 4-12, 9 am to noon.</p> <p>Register at http://www.annunciationakron.org/vcs</p> </div>		
820am Matins 930am Liturgy	12pm GOLDEN GREEKS Luncheon 6:30pm COCA - St. Herman	11am Rotary Club 7pm OCF	NO Gyro Prep 630pm Choir Rehearsal			

Make your Capital Campaign donations on the church website or by check.

GOLDEN GREEKS

LIVE MUSIC
UHL VINTAGE MUSIC
Golden Greeks Luncheon
28 APRIL 2025
Starting at 11:30am
IN OUR COMMUNITY CENTER @
ANNUNCIATION AKRON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
NEXT EVENT MAY 12TH
AMISH COUNTRY**

Calling All Greek Festival Vendors!

Make sure to get your vendor applications in to be a part of the **2025 Akron Greek Festival**.
Festival dates are **Sept. 18, 19 and 20**.
It's not too early and do it before it's too late!

There is no fee to apply.

Go to www.akrongreekfest.com and click on the **Vendor Application** menu at the top of the page.
Application deadline is **May 30, 2025**.



ANNUNCIATION YOUTH

April 11 - 6pm
JOY Night
at Annunciation Church

April 11 - 6pm
GOYA Lenten Retreat
at Annunciation Church

GRADUATES DINNER 2025

SAVE THE DATE - June 1, 2025

Our Annunciation parish honors and celebrates our graduates yearly. We also award scholarships to those who are furthering their education.

1 WE NEED GRADUATES' NAMES!

If you have a student who will be graduating high school, college, or advanced studies, we need their names to recognize them in the program booklet.

Please contact Shelly Partis - 330-607-7973 or Chris Partis - 330-606-5467 to have your graduate honored at this year's Graduates Dinner.

2 SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications for Annunciation, AHEPA, and other parish scholarships are available beginning in early March. Deadlines will be posted.

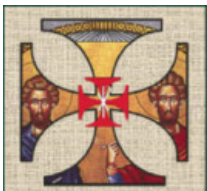
Watch for more information in the weekly church bulletins and via OneCall.

3 DONATIONS NEEDED

Please make your checks payable to:

ANNUNCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

QUILTING



Please consider helping Philoptochos make quilts for new infants in our parish as well as hospitals and charitable groups in Akron and the surrounding area.

Beginners are welcome! We can teach you what you need to know!

Interested but worried how this will fit in your schedule? We currently meet during the day but are interested in adding

weekend and evening sessions. Please let us know you are interested and when you might be available.

Our next session is Tuesday, April 8 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Media Room.

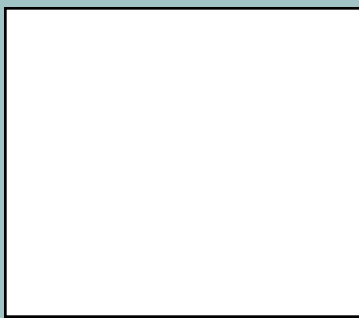
Please contact Paige Nicholas at paigenicholas99@gmail.com or at 330-819-3177 if you are interested or have any questions.



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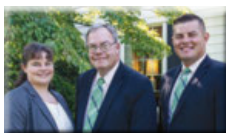
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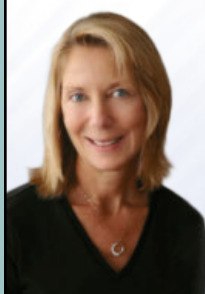
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AXIOS!

CHRIS HORATTAS

Have you noticed that when Communion is offered on Sunday, one of our priests comes down into the left wing of the nave and offers Communion to one of our faithful parishioners who is in attendance almost every Sunday? That parishioner is Mr. Chris Horattas.

Chris and his wife Feenee came to our parish in the early 1960s. They were impressed by the warmth of our parishioners but were surprised that when they came to church they were greeted by attended donation baskets where the ushers could see how much each person put into the basket. Chris saw that parishioners felt pressured to give and were embarrassed if they could not give enough. This drove Chris to join the parish council in the early 1970s where he championed the effort to make sure donations were offered privately and that all parishioners realized they had a voice in parish operations.

While serving as a parish council member, vice-president, and eventually president, Chris was also instrumental in many significant changes in our parish, among the most notable being:

- giving women of the parish the right to vote on parish matters
- writing, with the assistance of parish council, the first official Constitution of our church
- leading the effort to keep our church at its current central location
- establishing the use of Roberts Rules of Order at general assembly meetings
- adding the social hour in the hall following Sunday liturgy
- establishing the mageritsa meal following the Easter Resurrection Service
- chairing the building fund drive for the new church hall in the early 1980s

Due to space limitations, we have kept the list of Chris' services to our parish brief, but his sixty-plus years of love and dedication to our Annunciation parish will serve as an example to us all as we say "AXIOS" to Chris Horattas.



ANNUNCIATION
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