

THE TROPHYBEARER

Pastoral Thoughts

We are fortunate to live in a nation that sets aside a day to be thankful. Of course, as Christians, we know that we must be thankful daily for being alive. Without life, we can do nothing, so we are thankful.

What else should we be thankful for? First, our material gifts. We have food to eat, water to drink, and a place to live. Second, our health, both physical and mental. Third, forgiveness of sins, since sin is a disease, requires healing that we receive both from God and our fellow man, which leads to the restoration to our former state and the ability to keep the image and likeness of God in us intact and to progress into becoming God-like (Theosis).

We should also be thankful for those who assist us on our way. That is the people who came before us as our spiritual ancestors, the people who guide us now as our leaders, both clergy and laity and the people whom we will guide our children, grandchildren, both spiritual and physical,

To be truly thankful, we must recognize that we are given something we did not earn or deserve. We must recognize that God gave us the gifts we have for a reason!

Yet the day set aside is not thankfulness day, but thanksgiving day. We already talked about being thankful; now we must talk about giving.

Why should we give? Because as the parable of the foolish rich man (Luke 12:16-21) tells us, much was given to us (our land brought forth plentifully). The man in the parable was hoarding and thus was condemned. We must be cognizant of our death, which reminds us of “the things you have prepared, whose will they be?”

Of course, all of us are here precisely because we believe in a God who blesses His people and requires things from us. Whether we look at the Old or Ancient Covenant or the New Covenant, we see a God who gives us all sorts of wealth on the condition that we give it away. In this way, His glory is seen, and we become blessed by receiving and giving God’s grace to the world!



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PARISH NEWS

Evening Meal Volunteers

(Thursday) November 16, 2023: Georgjean and Ted Pitsoulakis

(Thursday) December 14, 2023: Deacon Paul and Deaconess Romilie Speed

Anyone interested in taking part in this worthwhile ministry should contact Mary Winters at 563-726-2880

Epistle Readers

Anyone wishing to become an Epistle Reader, Please Contact Father Michael

Sunday, November 5, 2023:

5th Sunday of Luke: Alexa Florence

Sunday, November 12, 2023:

8th Sunday of Luke: Gus Pappas

Sunday, November 19, 2023:

9th Sunday of Luke: Loukia

Constantinides

Sunday, November 26, 2023:

13th Sunday of Luke: Georgjean

Pitsoulakis

Parish Council Sunday Duty Schedule

Sunday, November 5, 2023: Tom Bakeris, Nick Coin, Mariellen Crosson, and Vickie Pyevich

Sunday, November 12, 2023, Mary Kay Eckert, Gus Pappas, Ted Pitsoulakis, and Diana Spurgetis

Sunday, November 19, 2023: Kathy Begyn, Joe Burmeister, Dennis Spurgetis and Mary Rankin

Sunday, November 26, 2023: Tom Bakeris, Nick Coin, Mariellen Crosson, and Vickie Pyevich

Parish Registry

Baptisms

- The servant of God, Alexis Keady, was Baptized into the Orthodox Faith on October 28, 2023, and the sponsor was Krista Gartelos.
- The servant of God, Amelia Keady, was Baptized into the Orthodox Faith on October 28, 2023, and the sponsor was Eleni Andrios.

Funerals

- The servant of God, Stan Coin, fell asleep in the Lord and was buried on October 14, 2023
- The servant of God, Kay Coin, fell asleep in the Lord and was buried on October 31, 2023

PROSPHORA MAKERS

Sunday, November 5, 2023: Open

Sunday, November 12, 2023: Open

Sunday, November 19, 2023: Vickie

Patramanis

Sunday, November 26, 2023: Open

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Sunday, November 5, 2023: The Mott Family

Sunday, November 12, 2023: Chris and Randy Smith

Sunday, November 19, 2023: Vickie

Patramanis

Sunday, November 26, 2023: Open

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Cosmas and Damianos the Holy Unmercenaries and their mother Theodota (November 1)

These Saints were from Asia (that is, Asia Minor). After the death of their father, their Christ-loving mother, Theodota, reared them in piety and all manner of virtue and had them instructed in every science, especially medicine. This became their vocation, and they went about healing every illness and malady, bestowing healing freely on both men and beasts alike; because of this, they are called "Unmercenaries." And thus, having completed the course of their life, they reposed in peace.

Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, & Barachiel (November 8)

All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb. 1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people and guides to that which is profitable (Deut. 32:8). While one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps. 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Esaias 6:2-3; Matt. 18:10; Luke 15:7). In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Catholic Church, wisely honoring these divine ministers, our protectors, and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis, that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him -(Dan. 7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

GREGORY PALAMAS,
ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONIKI
(NOVEMBER 14)

This divine Father, from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos and the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness from his harsh 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 that divine grace is not created but is the uncreated energies of God poured forth throughout creation. Otherwise, it would be impossible for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God if grace were created. 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.

2023 NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Fast Day 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group @ Coffee House (1315 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, IA) 11:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum 7:00 p.m. Virtual Orthodox Study Forum	2	3 Fast Day	4
5 5th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	6	7	8 The Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel Oil and Wine Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group @ Coffee House (1315 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, IA) No in-person or Virtual Study Forum	9 Feast day of Saint Nectarios of Pentapolis 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption	10 Fast Day	11 +Sacrament
12 8th Sunday of Luke 8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	13	14 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Seminar	15 Fast of the Nativity Begins 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption Church 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group @ Coffee House (1315 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, IA) 11:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum 7:00 p.m. Virtual Orthodox Study Forum	16 Fish, Oil and Wine allowed Evening Meal	17 Fast Day	18
19 9th Sunday of Luke Fish, Oil and Wine allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy Fall Assembly following the Divine Liturgy	20 Fish, Oil and Wine allowed 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Seminar	21 The Entrance of the Theotokos Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Assumption 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting	22 Fast Day 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group @ Coffee House (1315 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, IA) No in-person or Virtual Study Forum	23 Thanksgiving Day Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed	24 Fast Day	25 Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed
26 13th Sunday of Luke Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy	27 Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed	28 Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed	29 Fast Day 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group @ Coffee House (1315 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, IA) 11:00 a.m. Orthodox Study Forum 7:00 p.m. Virtual Orthodox Study Forum	30 Feast Day of Saint Andrew Fish, Oil and Wine Allowed 8:30 a.m. Orthros followed by the Divine Liturgy at Saint George		

Drive Thru Food Fest for Our Community!

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 11:30 am - 5:30 pm

ORDER FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____ Phone: _____

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price Each</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Pick Up</u>
	Chicken Dinner <i>Includes: 1/2 chicken, rice pilaf, green beans, bread</i>	_____	\$15	\$_____	Time: _____
	Gyros <i>Includes: Tzatziki sauce, tomato, onion</i> <i>Special instructions:</i>	_____	\$8	\$_____	Time: _____
	Spanakopita Spinach Pie	_____	\$8	\$_____	Time: _____
	Pastitsio Dinner <i>Greek Lasagna, beans, bread</i> By the pan (9x13) <i>Frozen/half baked</i>	_____	\$15	\$_____	Time: _____
	Greek Salad Greek Salad with Gyro Meat <i>Extra Tzatziki sauce \$1.00</i>	_____	\$8	\$_____	Time: _____
		_____	\$12	\$_____	Time: _____

ADVANCE ORDERS ONLY!!!

Orders must be placed and paid in full by credit card no later than November 3

To place an order, please call: Celia (563) 293-3396
 or log on to: <https://assumptiongreekfest.square.site/>

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
 4900 Kennedy Drive, East Moline, IL 61244

DESSERTS:

Baklava 2 for \$8 \$_____

Koulourakia \$12/dozen \$_____

Butter Twist Cookies

Total Due: _____

Dear St. George Stewards,

On Sunday, November 19, 2023, following the fellowship and coffee hour, we will be convening our Fall General Assembly in the Gold Room. Please make every effort to attend.

As a reminder, the General Assembly is a meeting of all members in good standing. A member in good standing is defined by the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese as any person eighteen years of age or older who was baptized according to the rites of the Orthodox Church or was received into the Orthodox Church by Chrismation, who lives according to the faith and canons of the Orthodox Church, who has met their stewardship obligation for 2022 and abides by the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese and the by-laws of the Parish. Members in good standing in attendance constitute a quorum of the General Assembly.

A new member may vote in the General Assembly provided that they have been in good standing at least three (3) months prior to the date of the General Assembly. If you would like to vote on any of the motions made during the General Assembly, you must be present. Absentee ballots will not be counted.

Ted Pitsoulakis
Parish Council President

Fr. Michael Constantinides
Parish Priest

2023 FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Sunday, November 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

OPENING PRAYER

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

FATHER'S REPORT

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

PHILOPTOCHOS REPORT

FESTIVAL REPORT

2024 BUDGET

ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ELECTION OF ELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT