

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



CURRENT
DECEMBER 2021



A Note from Paulina Neuschwander

I'm the type of person who starts listening to Christmas music on November 1st, eats more sugar than the average elf, and whose favorite toy growing up, that I still have today of course, is a tattered, well-loved Rudolph doll that I picked out from my stroller when I was little. All that to say, Christmas is my favorite time of year. There is so much happiness that surrounds us during the holiday season, from beautiful lights and decorations to wonderful carols and spending more time with family. Something that always tugs at my heart strings the most though is watching children light up with excitement as they experience the joy of the season.

As a Christmas enthusiast, I try to spread joy in any way I can. This year, we are all blessed with an opportunity to spread joy to our neighbors with Ypapanti's Second Annual Christmas Angel Tree. The Angel tree tradition was actually started in Virginia in 1979, when a couple decided they wanted to help local families who wouldn't be able to afford clothes or toys for their children at Christmas. This couple set up a Christmas tree at a local mall and attached cards to it with the names of children and some items they needed written on those cards (many of the cards were decorated with angels, which is how the tree got the name "angel tree") for local shoppers to pick up. You might have noticed a version of that in the Narthex of our church. Well, that's our very own Angel Tree!



I think the Angel Tree is important for many reasons, but I will share a couple with you. First, it's so easy to get caught up in the festivities of the season that we can forget what we are really celebrating, which is Jesus's birth. I love that with the Angel Tree, we remind ourselves to "keep Christ in Christmas." It's nice to take a step back to remember that this is a season for giving and making others happy, which is such an amazing feeling. Second, as someone who has a passion for elementary education, I love children, and I believe every child should get to experience the magic of Christmas and the excitement of opening a present on Christmas morning. Jesus loves small children, and with the Angel Tree, we get to exemplify that love to our sweet young neighbors. It gives me the chills to imagine the surprise they must feel when they get presents from our parish that they were not expecting to get due to financial hardships at home. So, I encourage you, if you're able, to spread joy with me this year by taking a name off of our Angel Tree. I appreciate your help, and I know the children do as well. I hope to see many of you in church this season as we prepare for the big day!

Thank you, and Merry Christmas!



PHOTOS

Decorating for Christmas





PHOTOS

Decorating for Christmas



WELCOME BACK, STUDENTS!!!

Fall 2021



Beginning in September, we return to Sunday
School in person after Divine Liturgy

THE THEME FOR THE FALL
IS "LEARNING ABOUT THE
DIVINE LITURGY."



Christmas Schedule

December 12

Parish Christmas Social with
Santa after Divine Liturgy

December 24

Christmas Eve

Royal Hours 9:00 Am
Vespers Divine Liturgy of St.
Basil followed by Carols 5:00 PM

December 25

Christmas Day

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

JESUS
LOVE
IT'S HOME
CLERGY
WORSHIP
CHURCH

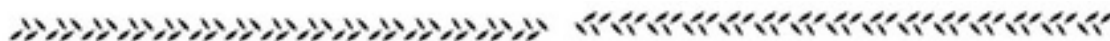
WORSHIP
CHURCH FAMILY
GLORIFYING GOD
GROWING
OUR NEIGHBORS
BEAUTY



It's that time of year again for our annual Christmas card project – a wonderful way to send your greetings of the birth of our Lord to the entire parish community. Please return this form with your donation of \$15.00 to the office or the collection basket by December 12, 2021 to have your name included.

Name(s) _____

Please print your name on the above line the way you would like it to appear on the card. Thank you for supporting our Christmas Card Campaign.



Poinsettia Donation Form



Honor loved ones, commemorate those who have departed, or simply help to beautify the church during the Nativity of Christ holiday season while supporting our Church at the same time by sponsoring one or more beautiful poinsettias for Christmas. Please submit your order and donation of \$20.00 by December 12, 2019. Thank you!

Name(s) _____

Number of plants _____ @\$20.00 each _____



LITTLE LAMBS SUNDAY SCHOOL

LITTLE LAMBS SUNDAY SCHOOL

AGES 3-5

Each lesson
includes a prayer,
the Saint of the Day,
an activity, a story,
and a song related
to the monthly
theme.

***Returning In
Person in
September!!!***

TRADITIONAL GREEK NEW YEAR'S BREAD



Vasilopitas

with "Good Fortune"
coin for 2022!

\$10.00 each

Sponsored by Grecian Odyssey Dancers of Presentation of Christ

Orders must be placed by 12/12/21

Pick up vasilopitas at the Olympia Hall, East Pittsburgh, on Sunday, December 19th
from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



ORDER FORM

NAME.....PHONE.....

of Vasilopitas w/sesame seeds _____ @\$10.00 = _____

of Vasilopitas without sesame _____ @\$10.00= _____

Total number ordered _____ Total amount enclosed _____

Make checks payable to: Grecian Odyssey Dancers, and mail it (or give it to a Grecian Odyssey Dancer) with your order to:


Mary Doreza, 3813 Burnaby Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
412-877-3415

*****Please Submit Orders By December 12.*****

~ Tentative ~

December

~ Tentative ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 PM GOYA Social Children 7 th grade and up, age 13 and up.	2	3	4
5 8:30 AM, Matins 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy Church School after Liturgy General Assembly	6 Feast of St. Nicholas 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	7	8 1:00 PM Philoptochos 1:30 PM, Cooking for NRP	9	10	11
12 8:30 AM, Matins 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy PC Elections Parish Christmas Party	13 	14	15 Feast of St. Eleutherios 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 6:30 PM Paraklesis 7:30 PM Divine Liturgy Class	16	17	18
19 8:30 AM, Matins 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy Church School after Liturgy	20	21 7:00 PM Parish Council	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 9:00 AM Royal Hours 5:00 PM Vespers Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil	25 Christmas Day 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
26 8:30 AM, Matins 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy	27	28 	29 	30 	31 Vigil - Circumcision of Our Lord/Feast of Saint Basil Matins 5:00 PM Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM	

Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church

1672 Electric Avenue, East Pittsburgh, PA 15112 - 412-824-9188

Website: www.PresentationofChristPgh.org Follow us on Facebook @PresentationofChrist

*Under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, His Eminence
Elpidophoros Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and His
Eminence Metropolitan Savas. The mission of the Presentation of Christ is to proclaim
with joy the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to teach and spread the Orthodox Christian Faith and
to be a community devoted to and energized by the love of God and our neighbor.*

Rev. Fr. Dean Kokanos
Cell Phone: 412-760-7203
FatherDeanKokanos@gmail.com

Sunday Services
Matins – 8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

Office Hours: 9 to 3, Tuesday to Friday

Adult Education on Wednesday. See Google
Calendar or “This Week at Church”

PresentationOfChristOffice@gmail.com - Office Phone: 412-824-9188 - Office Fax: 412-824-9740

2021 Parish Council Members

Steve Markantone, President	Ernie Kampetis, Asst. Treasurer	Anastasia Andrews
Tom Rosvanis, Vice President	Peter J. Anthony	Petros Mantzouridis
Stan Prestogeorge, Vice President	Tasso Athans	Tootie Pranis
Paula Borsch, Treasurer	Deborah Grysiak	Richard Voltz
Jamie Orfanopoulos, Secretary		

Organizations & Committees

Sunday School and Youth Programs:	Paula Borsch
Outreach Ministry:	Tasso Athans
Philoptochos:	Lucy Koutsavlis, President
Y.A.S.O.U.:	Tootie Pranis
Cantor:	Stefanos Giannikas, Filia Arvanitis, Tom Rosvanis
Choir:	Tom Rosvanis
Organists:	Marguerite Ellis Roula Kyros
Grecian Odyssey Dancers:	Mary Doreza, Director Elias Bardis, President Michelle Kotsagrellos, Director
Junior Olympian Dancers:	Jamie Orfanopoulos, Director Elias Bardis, Asst. Director Maria Bardis, Asst. Director
Book & Icon Store:	Deborah Grysiak