

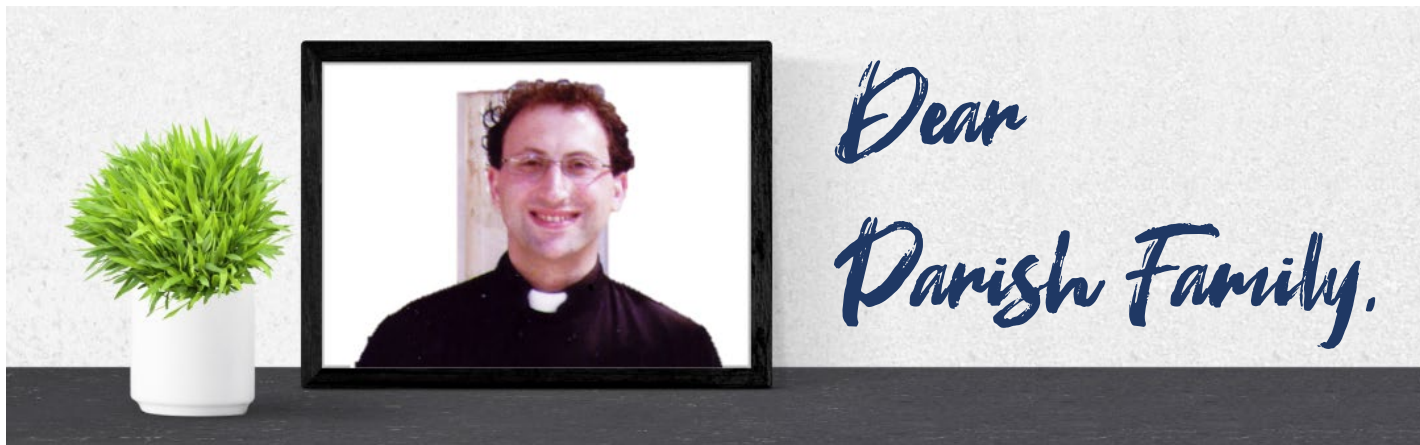
PRESENTATION OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



CURRENT

FEBRUARY 2021





“Give, and it will be given to you...in abundance.” Jesus said this in the Gospel according to St. Luke. The Lord is telling us that the more we give of ourselves for the continuation of His Church and her ministries, the more God will give back to us to enable us to continue our giving.

We have seen God do this in our community. Since 2018, our Church has received various gifts and subsidies from outside of our immediate parish family amounting to over \$180,000. Some of these gifts were directed for specific purposes. Others were intended to be used as deemed appropriate by our Parish leadership. But, in every instance, these givers mentioned the philanthropic focus of our parish as motivation for their gift. Every offering made to God by these individuals and organizations included an acknowledgment of what God is doing for the greater community through the faithful of the Presentation of Christ.

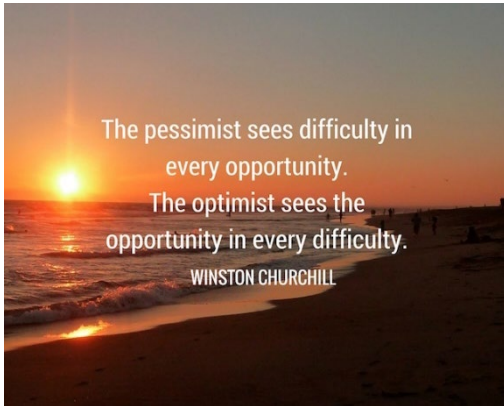
How then do we thank God and the givers for such great gifts? The answer is found in the Gospel passage that started this letter. We are giving, so God is giving back to us. The best “thank you” we can give our Lord is to continue our work. We do this by prioritizing worshiping Him, loving Him, and loving our neighbors as our very selves. God has a lot of work to do through us. Let’s get it done!

With love in Christ,

FRDK

Fr. Dean

A Note from President and Stewardship Chairman Steve Markantone



Opportunity

vs.

Challenges

Every day brings different opportunities and challenges. It is how we choose to view these different events that affect not only our lives but the people around us. Here at Ypapanti we have the opportunity to be part of something greater than oneself. We have and continue to be a positive impact not only to people within our own congregation but to others in the community as well. The Bible makes many references to helping those in need. When we help others we also help ourselves; the feeling of satisfaction and pleasure knowing that you have done something positive is self-rewarding. Each one of us was given a special talent, it is up to us to use our talent as it was intended. Our church offers so many opportunities to use our talents whether it is helping the needy, making repairs to the physical structures, financial, or any other way you can make a positive contribution. If you have your own idea to make a positive contribution; new ideas are always welcome.

If you would like to get more involved either contact Father Dean or myself. Let us look for the opportunity to use your talent.



Photos!

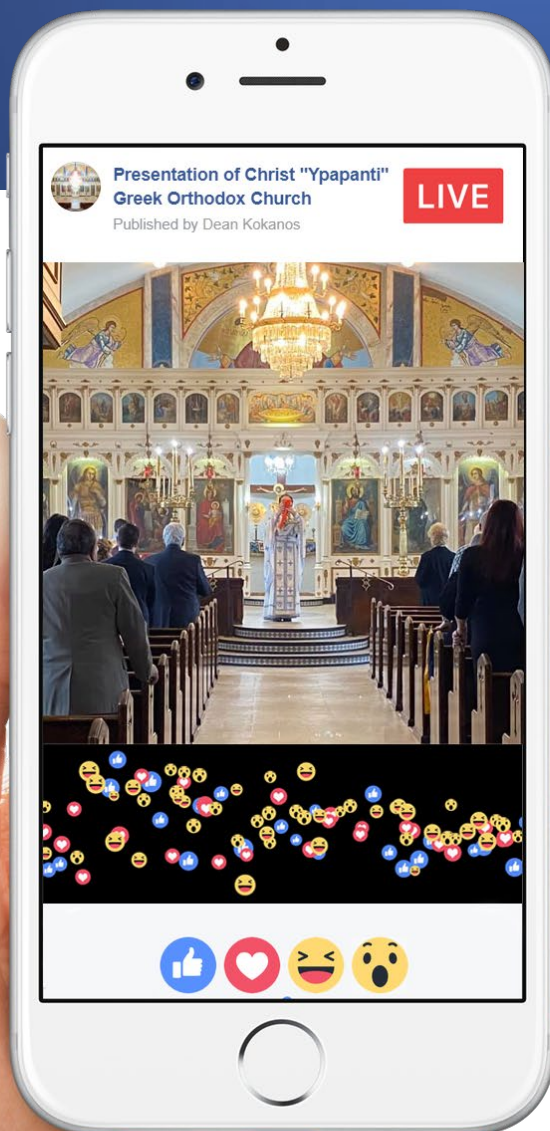
Have you seen the new iconography?



ALL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE
TO WATCH ON

facebook

LIVE



It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

No Facebook account
necessary!

Visit [www.facebook.com/
PresentationOfChrist](https://www.facebook.com/PresentationOfChrist)

If you do not already have
a FB account, select
"**Decline**" when prompted
to create a new account

Scroll down the page to
the live video feed





LITTLE LAMBS SUNDAY SCHOOL

LITTLE LAMBS SUNDAY SCHOOL
MEETS AT 4PM VIA ZOOM

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.

DECEMBER *The Nativity*

JANUARY *Baptism and Miracles
of Jesus*

FEBRUARY *Icons and the Presentation
of our Lord*



**“ WE ALL
KNOW A
GUY! ”**

The

BINGO HALL PROJECT

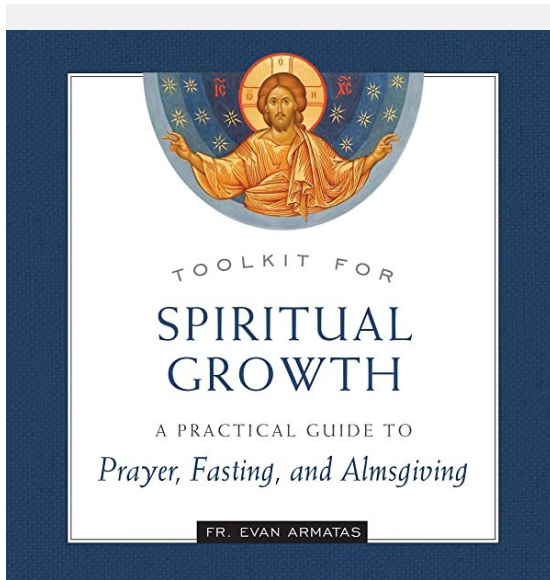
IS TAKING BIDS NOW!

If you know someone who would like a chance to bid on our neighborhood beautification process, let us know!

We've already raised ~~\$10,000~~ **\$28,500** Let's keep it going!

Lenten Book Club

"Toolkit for Spiritual Growth: A Practical Guide to Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving"



Have you ever asked yourself...

Do I really need to go to Church?

Do I really need to pray at home?

Does God really care what I do or
do not eat?

Do I really need to be generous?

Whether you are new to the Orthodox Church, or have raised your family here, join us for Book Club to explore these questions & more.

**Books can be purchased by emailing Fr.
Dean (fatherdeankokanos@gmail.com) for \$12.00 per copy.**

7:30 PM Class Dates:

February 3

February 17

March 3

March 17

March 31 (Make up Session)

Class format will either be in person or via Zoom, as directed by
COVID-19 Guidelines.



2021

Pledge card!

"Give, and it shall be given to you."

CHURCH SCHOOL

BEGINS
SEPT 13
4PM VIA ZOOM



"Our Patron Saints"



FEASTDAY SERVICES

SCHEDULE

Monday, Feb 1

Vespers 6:30 PM

Tuesday, Feb 2

Matins 8:30 AM

Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM



Feed the Hungry!

St. Catherine Hoagie Fundraiser

(Last chance to eat meat before Orthodox Lent begins on March 15!)

PREORDER & PREPAY ONLINE BY TUESDAY MARCH 2

To order a delicious hoagie, please go to the Presentation of Christ Church website ypapanti.net or to our Facebook page and look for Philoptochos Hoagie Sale.

OPTIONS

Italian – smoked ham, hard salami, pepperoni, provolone, lettuce, tomatoes, banana peppers
olive oil & red wine vinegar dressing on the side

Club – smoked ham, oven-roasted turkey breast, smoked bacon, provolone, lettuce, tomatoes
olive oil & red wine vinegar dressing on the side

Turkey and Provolone – oven-roasted turkey breast, provolone, lettuce tomatoes;
olive oil & red wine vinegar dressing on the side

Veggie – Provolone, American cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, peppers, pickles;
olive oil & red wine vinegar dressing on the side

*All hoagies are 9 inches and cost \$8.00 each. Hoagies will be made fresh Saturday March 6, 2021 by Penn Station East Coast Subs. No substitutions of ingredients can be made. Dressing packets will be supplied on the side.

PICK UP

Olympia Hall, 1575 Electric Ave, East Pittsburgh, PA, 15112 on the following dates:
Saturday, March 6 - Sunday, March 7, 11:30 PM to 2:30 PM

All proceeds will go towards the various charities which we support.

Questions? Call Roula Kyros (412) 607-7628 or Coula Karystinos (412) 824-8989



YPAPANTI PHILOPTOCHOS
PRESENTS:

A SINGING TELEGRAM FUNDRAISER
FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!

COST: \$5 PER CALL

PLEASE EMAIL THE NAME &
TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE
RECIPIENT TO
ALAINA.GRAZIANO@GMAIL.COM

PAYMENT METHODS:

- 1) VIA CHECK (SENT TO THE CHURCH
AND MADE OUT TO YPAPANTI
ST.CATHERINE PHILOPTOCHOS)
MEMO: VALENTINE FUNDRAISER
- 2) VIA VENMO (ALAINA_GRAZIANO)
NOTE: VALENTINE FUNDRAISER

DUE DATE: FEBRUARY 12TH



Marriage is hard work. Sometimes, it's harder than it needs to be because we don't have the right tools to help us in our struggles. Join Fr. Nick and Dr. Roxanne Louh for a life-giving online marriage retreat. Drawing on faith and psychology, the Louhs will help you understand what makes couples argue and how you can turn those hard times into strengths. As you learn more about the mind and heart of your marriage, you'll be more able to renew the love that forms the foundation of your relationship.

Where: Online! Login information and a guest packet will be provided via email to all registrants on Wednesday, February 10. Only one registration is needed per couple/household.

When: Saturday, February 13, 2021 10:30 am - 3:15 pm ET (GMT-5)

Register before February 10. *No cancellation requests will be processed after Sunday, January 31, 2021.*

Sessions

Uncommon Love: Understand how faith and psychology contribute to your journey toward lasting love. Learn practical steps you can take to rediscover and nurture the foundation of your marriage.

Uncommon Conflict: Discover the root causes of conflict in marriage, both with your spouse and within yourself. Learn proven techniques you can use to handle anger and disagreement, turning conflict into a source of strength.

Q&A: ask your questions and get answers!

store.ancientfaith.com/renewing-your-marriage-retreat/

Or call 1-800-967-7377, and select option 1.



A GOOD WORD—Λόγον Αγαθόν

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

VOLUME 4 No. 2 (ISSUE 32) — FEBRUARY 2021



ST. JOHN THE FORERUNNER'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH – MORE THAN FOOD

Every month for over a decade, St. John the Forerunner in Boardman, OH has been hosting a meal for, on average, 50 to 70 people. Led by the Philoptochos society, the parish prepares and serves the meal while also donating clothing and canned goods as well. Until the pandemic arrived in March 2020, the monthly meal meant parishioners also time spent talking and interacting with those in need. The program was forced on hiatus for six months due to the pandemic out of concern for the safety of the participants and fear of spreading the Coronavirus.

“Many of us are comfortable and for want of nothing,” said George Denney, immediate past president of the parish council. “We can learn much from the people who come through our doors. They are lonely, experiencing hardship and may not have a home. But their smiles come not only from the food but the connection made between people.” The ministry resumed in November 2020 as a takeaway meal. But the question on everyone’s mind was ‘when can we resume coming into the hall, sitting down and enjoying our meal – and the company,’ according to Denney.

The outreach to inspire and motivate parishioners. After the first takeaway meal had enough leftovers to serve about 150 people at a Youngstown-area soup kitchen, a parishioner was moved to donate 10 turkeys, cases of mashed potatoes, vegetables and pumpkin pie at Thanksgiving time. All as a result of a community meal offered out of love for the least among us. One more benefit from the meal: The number of dinners served at St. John doubled from November to December. “The diners said to us, ‘We can’t wait until we can come in for a meal again. We miss our friends.’”



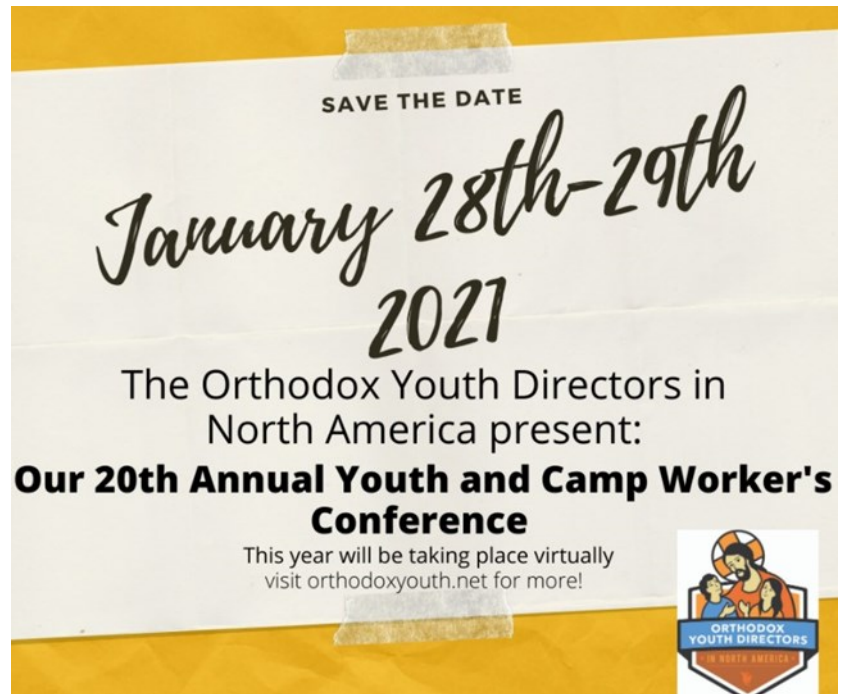
SUPPORT HIS EMINENCE AND THE METROPOLIS MINISTRIES

It costs approximately \$1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis—including Metropolitan Savas’s pastoral visitations, preparations for Summer Camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry (tracking marriages, baptisms, chrismations, and deaths), and more. Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis. To contribute, visit <https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/support>

20TH ANNUAL YOUTH & CAMP WORKERS CONFERENCE

Orthodox Youth Workers from around the country have the opportunity to attend a conference with fellow Youth Workers from other jurisdictions to learn from one another and share best practices. The 2021 conference, which was scheduled to take place in Cleveland, will take place online at a cost of \$25 per person.

Please visit www.orthodoxyouth.net for more information and to register. The conference is being held Jan. 28 (from 6:30 to 9 PM Eastern) and Jan. 29 (from 11 AM to 5 PM).



ST. NICHOLAS'S PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM INTRODUCED



In the midst of the challenges of the pandemic, St. Nicholas G.O. Cathedral in Bethlehem, PA has introduced a 14-week curriculum for preschool students. The Academy of Orthodox Faith & Learning is an online outreach program offering daily emails with prayers and lessons for preschool students.

"This is a daily routine of prayers and other lessons meant to maintain the connection with church and develop children's mind and soul," said Fr. Alexandros Petrides, assistant priest at St. Nicholas. "It's a great way for kids and families to start their day."

You can sign up for this free daily email at www.orthodoxfaithandlearning.org and can share it with others regardless of their location in the Metropolis or Archdiocese.

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

5201 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232 - <http://pittsburgh.goarch.org> - info@pittsburgh.goarch.org
412-621-5529 (Main) - 412-465-0460 (Camp) - 412-621-8543 (Youth) - 412-621-1522 (Fax)

His Eminence Metropolitan SAVAS of Pittsburgh, Presiding Hierarch

Fr. George Callos, Chancellor

Rhea Ballas, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Director

Stacey Stathulis, Stewardship Ministries Coordinator

ADn. Ryan Gzikowski, Asst. to Metropolitan & Registrar


Marina Papafil, Camp Ministries Coordinator

Maria Stamoolis, Director of Greek Education and Culture

~ Tentative ~

February

~ Tentative ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<i>"Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to Your people Israel."</i>				
31 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 4:00 Zoom Sunday School	1 Feast of the Presentation of Christ Great Vespers 6:30 PM	2 Feast of the Presentation of Christ 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	3 6:30 PM Paraklesis 7:30 PM Book Club	4	5 Vigil: Feast of St. Photios 5:30 PM Matins 6:30 PM Divine Liturgy	6 Feast of St. Photios Pittsburgh Metropolitan Council Meetings - Zoom
7 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 4:00 Zoom Sunday School	8	9 9:00 AM Morning Prayer – 1 st and 3 rd Hour 7:00 PM, Parish Council Meeting	10 2:00 PM, Dinner prep for NRP	11	12	13
14 8:30 AM, Matins 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 4:00 Zoom Sunday School	15 	16	17 6:30 PM Paraklesis 7:30 PM Book Club	18	19	20
21 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 4:00 PM Zoom Sunday	22	23 9:00 AM Morning Prayer – 1 st and 3 rd Hour 10:00 AM, Sandwich Prep for Rankin Center	24	25	26	27 10:00 AM, Pop Up Food Pantry 11:00 AM Hot Meal Distribution
28 8:30 AM Matins 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 4:00 PM Zoom Sunday School						

Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church

1672 Electric Avenue, PO Box J, 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. Constantine Kokanos
Cell Phone: 412-760-7203
Email: FatherDeanKokanos@gmail.com

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

Stefanos Giannikas, Chanter
Filia Arvanitis, Chanter
Thomas Rosvanis, Chanter

Paraklesis Service – Wednesday at 6:30 PM
Orthodox Adult Education - Wednesday at 7:30 PM

Church Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9AM-3PM

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

2020 Parish Council Members

Steve Markantone President	724-325-1729	Paula Borsch Treasurer	412-721-1840
Stan Prestogeorge Vice President	412-824-5033	Ernie Kampetis Treasurer	412-600-7986
Tom Rosvanis Vice President	412-373-5057		
Peter JAnthony	412-596-5348	Petros Mantzouridis	412-780-0201
Tasso Athans	724-864-5252	Jaime	412-302-1495
Deborah Grysiak	412-371-2465	Orfanopoulos	412-373-1270
Ernie Kampetis	412-892-9096	Tootie Pranis	412-798-8177
		Richard Voltz	

Organizations & Committees

Y.A.S.O.U.	Tootie Pranis, Co-President; Mike Orson, Co-President
Philoechochos	Sylvia Graziano, President
Choir	Tom Rosvanis, Director & President
Organists	Marguerite Ellis; Roula Kyros
Young Professionals	Steve and Chris Burns
Y.A.L.	Nick Stupakis; Dean Leventopoulos
Grecian Odyssey	Mary Doreza, Director; Elias Bardis, President
Dancers	
Junior Olympian	Michelle Kotsagrellos, Director; Jamie Orfanopoulos, Director; Elias
Dancers	Bardis, Asst. Director; Maria Bardis, Asst. Director
GAPA	Elias Bardis, President
Book & Icon Store	Deborah Grysiak