



THE MESSENGER

A Monthly Publication of St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church

SEPTEMBER 2026



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OUR MISSION

St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church is a **community** that **worships** the Holy Trinity and lives out the gospel of Christ as Orthodox Christians. We seek to do God's will, while **sharing the Faith** and **serving others** as we **pursue salvation** in Christ.

4548 Wallings Road • North Royalton, Ohio 44133-3121 • Phone: (440) 237-8998 • www.stpaulgoc.org

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A NEW ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR — A NEW BEGINNING

September 1st brings us to the beginning of a New Ecclesiastical Year!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

What a blessing it is to begin again, to pause, refocus, and remind ourselves of the goal that lies before us, both as individuals and as a parish family. That goal is to journey, day by day, toward the Kingdom of God. Salvation is our ultimate goal.

Our Christian life is about experiencing, even now, a foretaste of the Kingdom of God and preparing ourselves for the fullness of that Kingdom in the life to come.

As we begin this New Ecclesiastical Year, I invite each of you to take a few moments to reflect upon your own place in the larger family we call **St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church**.

Our journey toward salvation begins with a commitment to Christ. It is strengthened as we gather together to worship Him in our beautiful church. In our common prayer, we are given the opportunity to examine our lives, to repent of our sins and shortcomings, and to receive God's forgiveness and grace.

And at the center of our life together is the **Divine Liturgy** and the **Holy Eucharist**. In the Eucharistic gathering, we have the extraordinary privilege of receiving Christ Himself through the precious Holy Gifts.

Nothing can replace our participation in the worship and sacramental life of the Church. Everything else we do as a parish should flow from that life and be nourished by it. It is through prayer, worship, repentance, and our participation in the Holy Mysteries that we are strengthened in our faith and given the grace to live as Orthodox Christians.



This has been the experience of the Church throughout the centuries. There have been times and places when Orthodox Christians lived under severe oppression and were permitted little more than to gather for the Divine Liturgy. Bible studies were not possible. Religious education was restricted. Other parish programs and activities could not take place.

And yet, the Church survived. Why?

Because there is an incredible strength in God's people gathering together in prayer, worshipping the Lord, and humbly coming forward to receive the precious Body and Blood of our Savior.

From that sacramental life comes the strength to serve. From our union with Christ comes our ability to love one another, to care for those in need, and to use the gifts God has given each of us for the building up of His Church.

Our Parish Family Ministry Team has recently met, and we are once again preparing for an exciting year ahead. On Sunday, September 13, we will hold our annual Parish Fair. I invite everyone to come and learn about the many ministries and opportunities for service available here at St. Paul.

But I must emphasize that the success of these ministries depends greatly upon your participation. You and your family are an important part of our parish family.

Where can you become involved? Begin, of course, by coming to church and participating regularly in the Divine Liturgy. Then, look for an area that interests you, an opportunity where you can become involved and put your God-given talents to work.

Find an opportunity to give your time, your talent, and your treasure.

Become a "Shepherd of St. Paul" through our Stewardship ministry. Participate in one of the many outreach opportunities that feed, clothe, comfort, and serve those who are less fortunate in our community. When we serve with love and dedication those whom Christ calls "the least of these," we are serving Christ Himself. And when we serve the people whom our Lord places before us, we discover something beautiful: God gives us an inner joy, peace, and fulfillment that cannot be found anywhere else.

(continued on page 4)



OUR PARISH LIFE

BAPTISMS

JULY 26th

Emmanuel ~ son of Alexia Gangos & Jordan Morales
Godmother ~ Eugenia Kafantaris

AUGUST 14th

Evan ~ son of Angelo & Amanda Hronis
Godfather ~ Ioannis C. Hronis



WEDDING

AUGUST 22nd

Jackson Whetstone & Isabel Saridakis
Koumbari | Andrew & Stephanie Olsen



FUNERAL

May Her Memory Be Eternal

AUGUST 11th | Mary Pagonakis



CONGRATULATIONS

JULY 13th

Congratulations to Nick and Mary (Hiras) Karas on welcoming their son, George Michael, weighing 6 lbs 3 oz and 19 inches long. First grandchild of George and Judy Karas and first great-grandchild of Dea and the late Chris Karas.



(continued from page 3)

To all those who gave so generously of your time and talent during our annual St. Paul Grecian Festival, I offer my heartfelt thanks. Your hard work and dedication are a beautiful expression of your love for our parish.

As we begin this New Ecclesiastical Year, I encourage everyone to make a renewed commitment to growing in faith and in love for Christ and His Church.

Visit our **St. Paul Bookstore**. There are many wonderful books available to help us deepen our understanding of our Orthodox faith.

Come to our **Bible Study**. Take advantage of the classes and educational opportunities offered throughout the year, including those offered on Sundays after Communion and our online studies for women.

And, parents, please make sure that your children are registered and participating in **Sunday School**. While our children are in our care, we have a precious opportunity—and a tremendous responsibility—to give them the foundation of our Orthodox Christian faith. If they do not have a strong foundation, upon what will they build when they leave home?

The years pass quickly, and we cannot afford to lose

those precious opportunities. Our children will encounter many different influences when they leave home and go to college. We want them to leave us with a faith that is strong enough to sustain them and guide them throughout their lives.

Fr. Anastasis continues to provide wonderful opportunities for our young people to grow in their relationship with Christ and in their understanding of our Orthodox faith. Parents, please do your part and make sure your children participate. What we invest in them today will bear fruit for many years to come.

Of course, in addition to our time and talent, our parish also depends upon our financial stewardship. Your generosity allows us to continue the many ministries, programs, educational opportunities, and services that take place here at St. Paul.

Every gift matters - whether it is as little as \$10. Every contribution helps us continue the wonderful work that God has entrusted to this parish.

I also want to share an update regarding the ongoing work around our church. **The Home Committee** continues to oversee projects, both large and small, that contribute to the upkeep and beautification of our parish complex.

The interior of our church has been completed. Our new front doors have been installed, along with the beautiful icon above the entrance. The landscaping and grounds in front of the church have been completed, along with the new concrete staircase.

And now, the **Deck Project** has begun. In the coming weeks and months, we will see a wonderful transformation of that space.

All of these improvements are a reflection of the love, generosity, and commitment of so many of our parishioners. **I am deeply grateful.**

I am hoping to provide a more complete report in next month's Messenger, acknowledging the many generous contributions that have made these projects possible. So many have given quietly and generously, and I want to make sure their generosity is properly recognized and appreciated.

As we begin another Ecclesiastical Year, I give thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon our parish.

I am especially grateful for all of you—for the loving, dedicated, and supportive parishioners who make up our St. Paul family.

Let us enter this New Ecclesiastical Year with renewed faith, renewed commitment, and renewed enthusiasm.

May God bless you, your families, and our entire St. Paul parish family.

Why do thousands of people each year travel into the mountains of western Greece to venerate an icon of the Panagia? There is no shortage of icons in all of Greece, so why would anyone travel out of their way specifically to prostrate before and venerate any particular icon?

This summer, Presvytera and I drove through windy mountain roads and tunnels to reach a particular icon of the Virgin Mary. The roads we took many times had rocks on them that had fallen from the cliffs along the edge of the road. We weaved around treacherous corners. At one point, we spotted a large bus rounding the corner just in time and threw the car into reverse.

When we reached our destination, we saw a monastery on the precipice of a mountain. It clung to the side of a cliff with no visible support, almost floating. It was the monastery of Panagia Prousiotissa.



How did the monastery come to reside in such a precarious location? The story begins with an icon.



This icon was painted by the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke. It was taken from the city of Prousa, which was located near Constantinople. The god-fearing son of a member of the Emperor's court rescued the icon from being destroyed by an iconoclastic emperor.

As the son journeyed to the city of Patra, he lost the icon. Only shepherds and a few faithful Christians who were fleeing iconoclasm lived in the mountains where the monastery is today. One of the young shepherd boys saw, at night, a pillar of light. No one believed the shepherd boy, but he showed his father, who also saw the pillar of light. A group of shepherds and faithful explored the cave where the light emanated from and discovered the icon of the Virgin Mary. They offered prayers and incense continually at this location.

The young man who had lost the icon heard news of the discovery of an icon in the mountains. He went with his servants to retrieve the icon. When they arrived, he recognized the icon as the one he had rescued. The young man and his servants took the icon and began their journey home. The shepherds were greatly saddened by the loss of this precious icon. The young man and his servants stopped to rest on their journey, and as they slept, the icon disappeared. When they woke up, they suspected that the shepherds had stolen it.

While they journeyed back to the remote mountain, the young man heard a voice. "Oh young man, be saved; go in peace and do not toil anymore. I am pleased to remain here in this rugged wilderness with the shepherds and peasants and not to be in cities with people who preach heresies: and if you wish to stay with me, come where you found me. This will be good for you."

The young man freed all his servants, and he returned to the remote area. The icon was in the cave where it was discovered. He and one of his servants who stayed with him were tonsured monks and built a church around that cave. They built cells there, and the monastery began. It would be destroyed and rebuilt many times over the hundreds of years since. The icon of Panagia Prousiotissa remains in that cave today.



There, through the grace of God and the intercession of the Theotokos, many find healing.



Presvytera Angelique and I went to offer thanks to the Mother of God for something she did in the life of someone we know through the miracle-working icon of Panagia Prousiotissa.

While we were visiting, we participated in a Paraklesis service and venerated the holy icon.

Returning to my original question, the grace of God many times works in the humble and the quiet. In our modern world, only the loudest, most outrageous get attention. When our Lord became man, He was born in a quiet town to a humble woman. He chose to act in this way to draw us to love and truth, not through fanfare or outward illusions.

We are encouraged to slow our lives down and concentrate on what is most important to cultivate a relationship with God. The spiritual life is a lot like a journey on mountain roads. We are surrounded by cliffs of spiritual danger on all sides, but when we focus on the path towards Christ, we are safe. It takes patience and a desire to reach our destination. We must avoid distractions and pitfalls, and we will reach our destination.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2026-2027!

sundayschool@stpaulgoc.org

We are excited to announce the start of the 2026-2027 Sunday School year! Classes will commence on **Sunday, September 13th**, immediately following Holy Communion. Parents, registration for our Sunday School program is now open. Please register your students. Registration is free and helps us better plan for the year ahead.

Registering for Sunday School helps us keep the information for all our youth ministries up to date. By signing up for Sunday School, you ensure that the correct phone number and email are used to contact you about all our youth ministries.

Ways to Support Sunday School:

- 1. Register Your Students:** Complete the registration form as soon as possible.
- 2. Volunteer Opportunities:** We rely on volunteers to make our Sunday School successful! Last year, over 120 students attended our classes, and your involvement can make a difference. There are various ways to contribute, and we welcome everyone's time and talents. Please consider how you can support our program by volunteering.

For more information, to volunteer, or with other inquiries, please email sundayschool@stpaulgoc.org.

We look forward to welcoming your children to an enriching Sunday School experience!



St Paul Greek Orthodox Church North
Royalton OH

2026 - 2027 Sunday School Registration



<https://tinyurl.com/STP-SundaySchool26>

**First Day of Classes
Sunday, September 13th 2026**

Questions? Email:
sundayschool@stpaulgoc.org

ALTAR BOY SEMINAR

ST PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORTH ROYALTON, OH

Altar Training followed by Mini-Golf

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH 2026

Training at Church 10:30-11:00am

Mini Golf 11:15-12:00pm

Fore Corners Mini Golf
12980 W Sprague Rd.
Parma, OH 44130

Young Men Grades 3-12 are invited to learn
and share in fellowship

Contact Fr Anastasis to sign up: aphyrillas@stpaulgoc.org 610-401-1030

HELLENIC DANCERS

dance@stpaulgoc.org



Now that the 2026 Festival has concluded, we would be remiss not to once again thank everyone who helped make this year's dance performances such a memorable success!

First, **to all the families** involved in the dance program: your support in this ministry is vital, from bringing dancers back and forth to practice, to always pitching in when necessary, to reading hundreds of emails and texts, and always being flexible when we had to pivot! **THANK YOU!**

To our amazing and dedicated instructors:

- **Seniors:** Chrissy Downing, Anastasia Symonds, Chrissy Psellas
- **Juniors:** Georgann Poulos, Tina Asmis, Kristine Theodorou, Maria Whitaker, Chrissy Psellas, Nikki Umina
- **Beginners:** Stamatia Giatis, Elena Giatis, Erin Kubat, Joanne Sitaras, Christina Maggos, Anna Blair, Erika Moundros

You all are **AMAZING** and give so much of your time and juggle so much to make this program what it is! Your patience and instruction are reflected each time the dancers perform. I cannot **THANK YOU** enough for all the time and energy you give forth!

A very special shoutout to two incredible instructors who are retiring - **Anastasia and Georgann!** You have both been such an integral part of this program, sharing your passion, talent, and dedication with so many dancers over the years. Your impact will be felt for years to come, and you will truly be missed. Wishing you both all the best in this exciting new chapter!

To **Fr. Costas and Fr. Anastasis** - your love, support and guidance with this program has allowed us to flourish! **THANK YOU!**

To **Elaine Nackowiz & Thal Makroglou**, the festival chairs - Thank you so much for the time you give our dancers to perform under the tent and in the Hellenic Center during each pop-up. We really appreciated it! Your support for the program means a lot!

To the 100+ St. Paul Hellenic Dancers - there are not enough words that can describe how thankful we are for each of you. You have given so much of your time to come to practices, you have worked diligently to learn steps and dances, and you have shined every time you were under that tent or performing on the inside stage! All of our dancers represent St. Paul with such grace and kefi and we couldn't be more thankful for each and every one of you!! **WE THANK YOU AND LOVE YOU ALL!!!**

As we look ahead, to the 2027 Ecclesiastical year, we are excited to see our returning dance families as well as welcoming new families joining our program! Please come see us at the **Parish Fair on Sunday, September 13th** to get more information, register any new dancers and pick up the dance schedule!

We hope everyone has an amazing school year!



Pet Blessing



September 5th, 2026
10:00 AM

St Paul Greek Orthodox Church | North Royalton OH



As the Summer comes to a close, and the new Ecclesiastical Year is upon us, Philoptochos is looking forward to a year of events and volunteer opportunities. We pray you will join us as we work together serving our community.

THANK YOU!

To Frank Langos, Elaine Cooke, and their team of volunteers, with their hard work and dedication, the Dormition of the Theotokos luncheon was a huge success!

OPERATION CLASSROOM - STACK THE STAGE!

Our first event of the year! We are continuing our partnership with **John Muir Elementary School** in Parma. Donations of school supplies can be left on the stage during coffee social on **Sunday, September 13th**. Please see the flyer for needed items. We are also looking for classroom volunteers. If you have a couple of hours to spare each week, please consider sharing that time with our friends at John Muir. For more information please contact **Irene Gallas** (irenebg21@gmail.com).



KIDS' SUPPLIES	TEACHERS' SUPPLIES
Hand sanitizer**	Snacks (Goldfish, Cheez-Its, pretzels, etc.)**
Baby wipes**	Prizes (stickers, fidgets, candy, small toys)**
Kleenex**	Colored dry erase markers
Headphones (USB-C)**	Gel pens
Crayola markers	Paper towels
Crayons (24 ct)	Also in need of gently used tennis shoes, and brand new underwear sizes 5-8
Colored pencils	
Dry erase markers	
Glue sticks	
** most needed items	

WE KINDLY REQUEST DONATIONS OF ONLY THE ITEMS LISTED ABOVE, AS THESE ARE THE ITEMS MOST NEEDED. Donations of school supplies may be dropped off on the stage at the St Paul Hellenic Center. No time to shop? Monetary donations can be made online. We accept credit cards, PayPal, Venmo, and Apple Pay.



Visit:
tinyurl.com/StPaulStackTheStage

AFGHAN MINISTRY

Philoptochos continues its afghan ministry by presenting hand-crafted baby afghans to our new born parishioners as well as lap afghans for our homebound parishioners. We currently have a nice supply of adult afghans, however, we are gratefully accepting crocheted or knitted baby afghans 30 inches x 30-36 inches made from washable yarn.

We also are accepting new or gently used baby gift bags. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Angela Mount** (kitmomsup@aol.com), or **Maribeth Lekas**, (mbleka@aol.com).

HUNGER CENTER

Thank you for your continued support of our weekly Food Drive! Your donations of nonperishable food support the North Royalton Hunger Center. For those struggling with food insecurity, the need is greater in the summer. Especially for families with school age children who depend on the meals their children receive at school. Donations may be placed in the baskets at the top of the stairs. A gentle reminder to **CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATES** on all goods and **NO FRESH PRODUCE** and **NO OPENED ITEMS. SEASONAL ITEMS ONLY.**

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, October 3rd. Come join us at our third annual craft fair! We have over 60 vendors, Greek food and pastries! For more information regarding volunteer and sponsorship opportunities contact **Eleni Johnson** (johnson97005@yahoo.com).

AGAPE OVENS

Philoptochos provides a homemade meal once a month to those in our community with special circumstances or going through a challenging time. We are truly overwhelmed with the support this ministry has received. Our upcoming meal will be **Thursday, September 10th**. Pick up starts at 12pm. Meals must be reserved in advance by emailing philoptochos@stpaulgoc.org.



COFFEE SOCIAL

Thank you to all families and ministries that have agreed to host a coffee hour. Please see the calendar on the Philoptochos webpage for available dates and contact **Ellie Pantazoglou**, Coffee Social Scheduling Chair (coffeesocial@stpaulgoc.org). **WE ARE IN NEED OF HOSTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.** Sundays that do not have a designated coffee social host will be "Open Table" where we invite all parishioners to bring a dish to share.

Hello
You're invited to
HOPE & JOY Kickoff



Saints & Sundaes

**St Paul Greek
Orthodox
Church**
North Royalton OH

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 20TH
2026
AFTER CHURCH**

PLEASE RSVP Everyone who RSVPs will receive an icon of their saint or feast day.

Enjoy Ice Cream Sundaes and learn about your patron saint or feast day!

<https://tinyurl.com/saintsandsundaes>



GOYA KICKOFF

Grillin' and chillin' with us to start a great GOYA year!

COME JOIN US ON

SEPTEMBER 13TH 2026
starting at 4 pm

RSVP TO...

TINA ASMIS - 216 571 6353
MARIA ASMIS - 216 399 9471

**3199 SHELLY DR,
SEVEN HILLS OH, 44131**

St Paul Greek Orthodox
Church North Royalton, Ohio



ST. PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ICE CREAM Social & FLU SHOT Event

♥ SPONSORED BY SENIOR OPA ♥

Enjoy a sweet treat and great company!

Protect yourself, your loved ones and our community.
Please bring insurance card

DATE
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

TIME
1:00 PM

LOCATION
ST. PAUL GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORTH ROYALTON, OH

Sweet Treats. Stronger Protection.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

GriefShare®

Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement
after the death of a loved one*

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

**All Orthodox Christians
are invited to participate**

Register Today
tinyurl.com/GriefShareSTP
or call 440.237.8998

September 16, 2026
(Time is TBA)

St Paul Greek Orthodox Church
4548 Wallings Road
North Royalton OH 44133



SENIOR OPA

The seniors of our parish concluded the ecclesiastical year's activities with the annual Hot Diggidy Dog Picnic on **Thursday, August 20**, in our Hellenic Center. An afternoon filled with fun, food, fellowship, and camaraderie was enjoyed by all. We also celebrated parishioners with birthdays in July and August, wishing them many years of health, happiness, and God's blessings—may they reach 100 years and beyond in good cheer.

Our new calendar of activities begins with our annual Flu Shot and Ice Cream Social on **Thursday, September 17th**, at 1:00 PM. in the Hellenic Center. Everyone is encouraged to attend, whether to receive a flu shot, enjoy a refreshing cup of ice cream, or simply spend a pleasant afternoon with friends.

Please stop by the Seniors' Booth at the Parish Fair on **Sunday, September 13th**, to pick up the 2026-2027 OPA Seniors Activities Calendar.

Everyone—young, not-so-young, and young at heart—is welcome to participate in our monthly OPA activities.

Together we strive to live out the meaning of OPA:
Orthodoxia, Philotimia, and Agape.

May God bless us all with a healthy, joyful, and blessed autumn season.

A special message from Senior OPA:

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved **Mary Pagonakis**. Mary was an extraordinary and unique individual—a true gift to our community, our parish, and the many organizations she faithfully supported. She lived her faith through service to others and unwavering devotion to prayer. Her example of love, generosity, and commitment will continue to inspire us for years to come. As our Lord teaches, "Go and do likewise," and, borrowing the words of St. Paul, we might say, "Imitate Mary."

May her memory be eternal.



*Next service held at
St Herman House*



September 8, 2026
4:00 PM

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
FOR DELIVERY FROM ADDICTIONS TO
Saint Anastasia
the Pharmacologist
WRITE THE FIRST NAMES OF OUR LIVING
BROTHERS & SISTERS WHO ARE IN NEED
PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY**

ORTHODOX

NON-ORTHODOX

[illegible]

GREEK SCHOOL

greeksschool@stpaulgoc.org

Greek School will begin on **Monday, September 14th**. Classes are held every Monday from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM for students in Kindergarten through 6th grade, running from September through the end of May.

Students should meet in the Teen Room, where **Fr. Anastasis** will offer an opening prayer and Agiasmos (the Blessing of the Water) before students meet their teachers and begin their lessons.

Adult Greek language classes will be held on Wednesdays. The Beginner Class meets from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM and the Intermediate Class meets from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

We invite you to visit our table at the **Parish Fair** on **September 13th** to meet our teachers, browse our textbooks, and learn more about our Greek School program and adult classes.

Information and registration is available at tinyurl.com/GreekSchoolSTP or call the church office at 440-237-8998. In order to properly prepare for the first day of class, please register your child/children by **September 8th**.

On behalf of all the teachers, we are looking forward to a wonderful year!



St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church
North Royalton OH

2026—2027 Greek School Registration Fees

	Members	Non-Members
First Child/Adult *	\$325/year	\$425/year
Second Child/Adult*	\$250/year	\$350/year
Third Child/Adult*	\$200/year	\$300/year

Classes will be held on Monday's from 5:30–7:30 PM September–May
*Adult classes will be held on Wednesdays based on enrollment

- \$40 **BOOK FEE** for students in K–6 classes (in addition to above fees)
- \$55 **BOOK FEE** for Adult students (in addition to above fees)
- Registration forms can be mailed to the church office or [completed on our website](#) by September 7th
- Invoices will be sent once membership has been verified.

HOUSE BLESSINGS

WHAT IS A HOUSE BLESSING? Orthodox Christians invite Christ into their homes and call upon Him to bring the blessings of the Jordan into our daily lives. We do this by having the priest bless our homes with the Holy water from the service, offering prayers for our health, our family and the Lord's abundant blessings in the coming year.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO? Consult the list below to find out when one of our priests will be visiting your area. Before the priest arrives for the blessing, prepare a deep bowl of water, a candle, a censor (our priest will bring one with him in case you don't have one), and a list of names of all the Christians in your household on a table. When the priest arrives at your home, please turn off the TV and radio, and have everyone stand in reverence for the brief service. Everyone is welcome to participate in this service by singing the responses with the priest.

In order to better serve those who wish to have their homes blessed, we ask that you communicate with our parish office by doing one of the following by **Friday, September 11th**:

- 1) Call the office at (440)237-8998
- 2) Complete and submit the online form: <https://tinyurl.com/STPaulHouseBlessing>
- 3) Complete and return the form on this page to the parish office

Please note that our priests will be visiting homes according to the schedule below:

Monday	Sept. 14	North Royalton Hinckley
Tuesday	Sept. 15	Strongsville
Wednesday	Sept. 16	Parma Parma Hts.
Thursday	Sept. 17	Brecksville Broadview Hts.
Friday	Sept. 18	Seven Hills Independence

ALL appointment days and times are confirmed by the priest before he arrives. For areas not covered on the above list, one of the priests will call to set an appointment once we receive your form requesting a house blessing.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Check one: ☐ Morning ☐ Afternoon ☐ Evening



A Message From Paul Contoveros: "I had the privilege of being a delegate to the 48th Clergy Laity Conference held in Cleveland. I attended two workshops in regard to planned giving. I am sharing the model put forth by the Archdiocese showcasing the intent for each of three sources of planned giving for the health of each parish, including the endowment fund. Together, we fulfill our call as Orthodox Christian Stewards."



Annual Stewardship
First fruits from our gifts of income



Major Gifts
Time-bound offering to address specific needs



Planned Giving
One time offering of the first fruits of our wealth or gain



Endowment
Provides for the long-term security of the parish while giving back to the community

Together, we fulfill our call as Orthodox Christian Stewards

Annual Budget
Supports the operations of the parish

Capital & Special Projects
Funds facilities and program improvements



PARISH
PLANNED GIVING

THANK YOU!

48th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress

John & Effie Trihas

CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS
CO-CHAIRS



To our beloved St. Paul family,

Thank you for your generosity, heartfelt hospitality, and unwavering support. We are deeply grateful and forever thankful for the love and commitment you showed in welcoming our Archdiocese to Cleveland.

WITH GRATITUDE TO

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

SPONSORS & DONORS

VOLUNTEERS



Thank You!

YOU MADE OUR
GREEK FESTIVAL
Unforgettable! ♥

To our incredible sponsors, volunteers, vendors, clergy, and community—
thank you for your support, time, and generosity.



ST PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



SPONSORS
Thank you for believing in our mission and investing in our community!



VOLUNTEERS
Thank you for giving your time, energy, and heart to make it all happen!



VENDORS
Thank you for bringing amazing products, flavors, and culture to our festival!



CLERGY
Thank you for your guidance, prayers, and spiritual leadership!



OUR COMMUNITY
Thank you to everyone who came out, joined in, and supported our Greek festival!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
		6:30 PM Home Committee Mtg	6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Mtg	6:00 PM Endowment Committee Mtg	4:00 PM Rehearsal	10:00 AM Pet Blessing
6 14th Sunday of Matthew	7 Labor Day	8 Nativity of the Theotokos	9	10	11	12
12:00 PM Greek Corner 2:00 PM Wedding	Office Closed	8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Liturgy	7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting	11:30 AM Agape Ovens		10:30 AM Altar Boy Seminar
13 Sunday Before Holy Cross	14 Exaltation of Holy Cross	15	16	17 St. Sophia and her 3 daughters - Faith, Hope, & Love St. Anastasios of Cyprus	18	19
Sunday School begins Parish Fair Stack the Stage Presented by Philoptochos	8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 PM Liturgy 5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism		Time TBA GriefShare	8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Liturgy 1:00 PM Senior OPA Ice Cream Social 7:00 PM Bible Study		
House Blessings						
20 Sunday After Holy Cross	21	22	23	24	25	26
12:30 PM HOPE JOY Kickoff with Saints & Sundaes	5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism			7:00 PM Bible Study		9:00 AM Metropolis Clergy Laity
27 1st Sunday of Luke	28	29	30			
	5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism					

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				Father Costas Away		
						9:00 AM Philoptochos Craft Fair
4 2 nd Sunday of Luke	5	6 Thomas the Apostle	7	8	9	10
Father Costas Away						
12:00 PM Greek Corner	5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism	6:30 PM Home Committee Mtg		11:30 AM Agape Ovens 7:00 PM Bible Study	5:00 PM Rehearsal	4:00 PM Wedding
11 Sunday of the 7 th Ecumenical Council	12	13	14	15	16	17
	5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism		7:00 PM Parish Council meeting	7:00 PM Bible Study	6:00 PM Rehearsal	2:30 Wedding
18 Luke the Evangelist	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Father Costas Away					
12:30 PM Baptism	5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism			7:00 PM Bible Study		3:00 PM Baptism
25 6 th Sunday of Luke	26 Saint Demetrios	27	28 OXI Day	29	30	31
12:30 PM Baptism 6:00 PM Great Vespers at St. Demetrios in Rocky River	Services at St Demetrios in Rocky River; 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Liturgy 5:30 PM Greek School 6:00 PM Catechism			7:00 PM Bible Study		

STEWARDSHIP 2026

Rise Up and Build
- Nehemiah 2:18

"RISE UP
AND BUILD"

Building Up the Body of Christ

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

This story from the Old Testament Book of Nehemiah call us today, not just to building and rebuilding with bricks and mortar, but also to a deeper, spiritual building - the rebuilding and renewal of our faith. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to respond to God's gifts with faithful stewardship. Like Nehemiah, we are called to 'rise up and build,' carrying on God's work in our parish, our community, and in the world. *A new theme will launch later this month!*

Where Are We as of 08.19.2026 for 2026?

- 2026 Annual Budget \$ 1,207,627.00
- 2026 Pledge Goal \$ 500,000.00
- Total Pledged as of 08.19.2026 \$ 439,262.56
- Total Received as of 08.19.2026 \$ 349,928.57
- Stewardship Other donations (i.e., candles, flowers, special envelopes, etc.) \$ 58,219.84

STEWARDSHIP

Guided by our mission and our calling as Orthodox Christians, the Stewardship Committee is excited to introduce **St. Paul Shepherds**. This new initiative features an updated theme and communications designed to inspire our community. We hope this fresh approach truly resonates with you:

ST. PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORTH ROYALTON, OHIO

STEWARDSHIP
is our
Way of Life

REACHING OUT TO
THE FLOCK OF CHRIST

IT'S NOT (JUST) MONEY.
IT'S TIME. TALENT. TREASURE.

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me. — MATTHEW 25:40

TIME
Be Present

Time spent volunteering in the service of others is priceless.

TALENT
Be Involved

Your God-given strengths in skills and hobbies in your daily life can help the church and others in practical and needed ways.

TREASURE
Be Creative

Stewardship isn't just about monetary donations - it's also about participating in outreach opportunities and donation drives.

TOGETHER, WE ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST
BECOME A SHEPHERD OF ST PAUL TODAY
VISIT: tinyurl.com/OutreachStPaul

Church giving remains strong in 2026, with total pledges, financial receipts, and participating families all exceeding the same period from 2025 through July. **Thank you for giving and considering the 2% of household income challenge to help us meet 2026 goals!**

Our stewardship goals for 2026 are:

- Pledge Goal: \$500,000.00
- Collections Goal: \$500,000.00
- Pledge Participation Goal: 500 families

We are still moving forward with our Prison Ministry! The Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is currently updating its program to align with Ohio laws. We are very close to launching. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to me, **Soultana Lignos**, or any member of the stewardship committee.

We are also looking for volunteers to help plan future events and encourage our St. Paul family to get involved in local outreach. If you have a heart for service and want to help organize these events, please call or text me at: **678-296-0264**.

St Paul Greek Orthodox Church 4548 Wallings Rd | N Royalton OH 44133
<https://www.stpaulgoc.org/> 440-237-8998

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We make the following commitment to the ministries of St Paul Greek Orthodox Church:

- ☐ \$145 Monthly / \$1,700 yearly [1/2 Day of Parish Support]
- ☐ \$285 Monthly / \$3,400 yearly [1 day of Parish Support]
- ☐ \$575 Monthly / \$6,800 yearly [2 Days of Parish Support]
- ☐ Other \$ _____ [circle one]
weekly monthly quarterly annually

Or pledge online at: stpaulgoc.org/ministries/stewardship/

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
City State ZIP: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

- ☐ I/We are interested in learning more about including St Paul Endowment Fund in my/our estate planning

Thank you for offering your Treasure to St Paul!

To put your Stewardship in action please visit:
tinyurl.com/ShepherdOutreach

Introducing The Orthodox Church



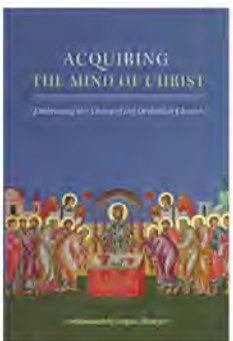
INTRODUCING THE ORTHODOX CHURCH | ITS FAITH AND LIFE

An invaluable introduction to the beliefs and practices of Orthodox Christianity. Written in a popular and easy-to-read style, this book touches all the important bases without sacrificing balance or accuracy. A good choice for the inquirer or potential convert to Orthodox Christianity who is not looking for an academic treatment of the faith



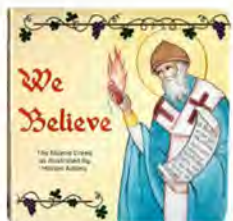
EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ICON

The Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorates the discovery of Christ's Life-Giving Cross in Jerusalem by St. Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, in the fourth century. This icon reminds us of the power of Christ's sacrifice and the triumph of the Cross as the instrument of our salvation.



ACQUIRING THE MIND OF CHRIST | ENBRACING THE VISION OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

"St. Paul clearly states: 'Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...' (Phil 2:5.) How do we acquire this Mind of Christ and where is it to be found? This small book hopes to begin to answer how acquiring the Mind of Christ is possible and why it is necessary in our lives today.



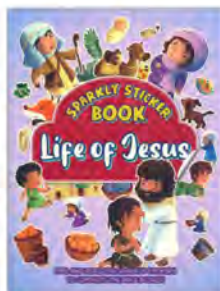
WE BELIEVE | THE NICENE CREED

We Believe is a visual exploration of the Nicene Creed in a sturdy board book for children. We Believe will more firmly cement in hearts (young and old!) both the words and theology of the Nicene Creed. It's perfect for little ones to better grasp the meaning behind the words we recite so often.

A YEAR OF THE LORD | LITURGICAL BIBLE STORIES | BOOKS 1 THROUGH 4



A Year of the Lord: Liturgical Bible Studies is a five-volume series by Theodore Stylianopoulos. Books 1 through 4 cover the liturgical seasons from early fall through Pentecost, linking prescribed scriptural readings with church holy days and seasons.



SPARKLY STICKER BOOK | LIFE OF JESUS

Make Bible stories come to life in a sparkly new way! Now girls and boys ages 4 and up can finish their favorite Bible scenes by finding and matching the stickers with the missing spots. They will feel like they made their very own book and will enjoy reading it over and over again!



THE MONK WHO GREW PRAYER

A monk prays deep in the forest. It looks like he is doing just simple, ordinary tasks, such as chopping wood and tending to his garden. But as he works he is really growing prayer. The monk prays continually throughout the day and night, and, as the seasons pass, he becomes a holy man. This delightful, beautifully illustrated book teaches children that no matter what they are doing, or what hour of the day it is, they too can pray.



I PRAY TODAY

When you're a toddler, every day is full of beautiful ups and difficult downs. And yet from sunrise to sunset, each day, each moment even, can be met with a powerful prayer that young children can remember: Lord, have mercy.



PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 8, 2026

Call to Order | President James Trakas called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM with a quorum.

Invocation | Father Costas Keares provided the invocation for the meeting.

Roll Call/Attendance

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ☒ Fr. Costas Keares | ☒ Jerod Downing | ☐ Thal Makroglou |
| ☒ Fr. Anastasis Phyrillas | ☒ Jim Economou | ☒ Andrew Wilson |
| ☐ George Anagnostou | ☒ Jason Ganim | ☒ Alexander Phillips |
| ☒ Nick Poulos | ☒ Steve Lekas | ☒ James Trakas |
| ☐ Karissa Steffas | ☒ Mike Lignos | ☒ Andy Rokakis |
| ☐ Mike Dadas | ☒ Stathi Papandropoulos | |
| ☒ Elaine Nackowiz | | |

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from June 10, 2026 were reviewed and accepted as submitted.

Correspondence

Hope Demitry from the National Greek Orthodox Church Musicians sent a thank you letter for the \$200.00 donation approved at the June 10, 2026, Parish Council meeting.

North Royalton Mayor Paul Marnecheck sent a thank you letter for our \$250.00 donation for their North Royalton Home Days.

Motions Summary

Mike Lignos moved, and Alex Phillips seconded the motion, to change the December Parish Council Meeting to December 8, 2026, starting at 6:00 pm at Corleone's Restaurant in Parma. The motion passed unanimously.

Clergy Report *Father Costas Keares* | The Clergy-Laity consumed most of our time since the last Parish Council Meeting. Father has received an overwhelming positive response and gratitude from everyone attending, including all the clergy. Thank you to all that assisted in church and at the Clergy-Laity Congress. The Convention Center, the Exhibit Hall, and all the additional venues were praised and well liked for the Clergy-Laity Conference. Now we are focused on the Festival. Please volunteer and engage the community for the upcoming Festival.

Bylaws *Jim Economou* | Jim is working on scheduling the next meeting after the Festival to finalize the Bylaw changes for Parish approval.

Youth Report *Father Anastasis Phyrillas* | Fr. Anastasis extended a thank you to Father Costas and the Parish Council for the opportunity to attend the Clergy-Laity Congress. This was the first time Fr. Anastasis was able to attend and is very grateful for the opportunity. Fr. Anastasis attended the Metropolis Summer Camp last week and this week. It is going well and everyone has been excited to attend. In August we will have Vacation Church School in a different format. We will have three separate Sundays in two larger classes (5th and 6th grade in one classroom and the K- 4 will be in the Teen Room. The format will be an informal lesson and some games to prepare students to return to Sunday School

Financial Secretary *George Anagnostou* | May and June Financial Reports are in the process of being finalized. Full reports will be available for review by the next Parish Council meeting. The Hierarchical Luncheon PC Report was submitted by Pres. Nicole and Dena Wilson (on file for review) and read by Jim Trakas. The total income was \$6,797.75 with total expenses of \$12,902.42 leaving us a net loss of \$6,104.67. Everyone's assistance and attendance was greatly appreciated.

Festival Committee *Elaine Nackowiz and Thal Makroglou* | Sponsorship is up 27% this year. Parish Council has agreed to be a sponsor (\$11 per PC Member paid to Elaine) for the Festival. Vendors are starting to set up. All vendors are to be set up at the west end of the large main tent. All food items have been ordered. We are renting grills (scraping old ones) for the Souvlaki area. A new cash register system has been rented for this year with onsite support. There will be a 2% credit card service fee to be charged for credit card purchases. Menu pricing has been set. We have not raised prices in 7 years but due to food price increases, adjustments have been made. Sara has been posting on social media sites. An ad was run yesterday in the North Royalton Recorder plus flyers added were distributed at North Royalton Homes Days. TV shots secured with the two stations at the same time Thursday at church. Festival setup to start Sunday after church with parishioners encouraged to bring a change of clothes to begin helping after church service. Please check out our volunteer page and sign up for needed positions where/when possible. We need additional volunteers. Register Training will be Tuesday at 6:00 pm and Wednesday at 2:00 PM. Jason Ganim asked if the Register Training could be recorded. Elaine would look into that. We will have medical supplies on hand and available to all Festival volunteers and attendees. We are staggering the food deliveries to give needed storage space for these items throughout the Festival and to attempt to reduce costs/waste.

(continued)

(continued)

Home Committee Steve Lekas | Full report on file for review.

- The new church doors were installed, but they are back down needing adjustments. They are keyed from the outside as requested. All the hardware will be attached and ready when replaced on the church.
- The Icon Cabinet ETA is July 20, 2026, but the builder is pushing the date. We need to install it ourselves once it arrives.
- The Dome Cross lighting was received and is being adjusted.
- The Outdoor Staircase is poured and functional without rails. It is being measured for rails. The rail costs are estimated at \$20,383 and are also being donated in full by Mike and Nancy Stamas. Most of the landscaping was completed with some additional plans for after the staircase installation by Mike Stamas.
- The former Dome Cross installation is complete, and The final invoice of \$750 needs to be paid.
- The Portico ceiling and columns were plastered and painted.
- The stair lighting and tread next to the Choir is temporarily installed and awaiting approval.
- The Sacristy bathroom upgrade was completed under budget, and the icons in the narthex were hung.
- Four security cameras are currently out. We may need to replace the full system because the company went bankrupt and is closing next summer. We need to obtain a new security camera vendor.
- The icon shelving unit was placed.

Deck-Pavilion Committee Mike Lignos & Mike Stamas | The plans have been fully approved by the City. The plans will be picked up with the signed check delivered to the City by Elaine tomorrow. Next, we will provide the contractor with these plans and push to get an August start on the deck. Once all the materials are received, we should get the estimated completion dates. We are pushing for full completion by the end of October for the November 14, 2026, 60th anniversary church event.

Family Ministry Nick Poulos | A meeting with the ministries will be set up for late August to review calendars for the upcoming Ecclesiastical New Year beginning in September.

Catering and Leasing Alex Phillips | Alex is starting to look for chair replacements options for the Hall. Alex will bring ideas to the next parish council meeting. Also, Alex is looking into possible use of the Wishing Well area for year-round day-care options. These conversations are to start now that the contract is signed.

Stewardship Committee Jason Ganim | Report reviewed by Jason and is available on file for review. Our stewardship numbers are fantastic for the year. The average is ~\$1,200 annually per family.

➤ 2026 Stewardship Statistics – many record numbers at midpoint of the year, doing very well.

YTD vs 2025: pledges + \$40K, % complete + 8.6, % complete + 2.8%

(1) YTD vs Plan: % budget +20%, 2 pledges +25, % complete +2.8%

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Pledged	1,275	1,400	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,900
Received YTD	1,215	1,315	1,415	1,515	1,615	1,715	1,815

St. Paul Outreach has been losing some steam, so we are going to talk about how to better promote at the coffee hours and other methods in the upcoming meeting at the end of July.

OCPM gave some Saturday Training, which turned out to be more in depth than thought. Team working to finalize training and move forward with visits.

Next year's theme will be coming out in August/September and the next Stewardship Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2026.

Old Business | The full Golf Outing updates to be presented by Jason Ganim at the next Parish Council Meeting in August. We had the most golfers ever signed up and attended. There was a rain out halfway through the outing. The entire team did a phenomenal job and are greatly appreciated.

New Business | The Parish Council needs to set and schedule the yearly December Parish Council Meeting. We would like to have it at Corleone's Restaurant in Parma on December 8, 2026, at 6:00 pm. Mike Lignos moved, and Alex Phillips seconded the motion to change the December Parish Council Meeting to December 8, 2026, starting at 6:00 pm at Corleone's Restaurant in Parma. The motion passed unanimously.

Today Nicholas Bodle submitted his resignation letter as Cantor and Choir Director to Father Costas to be effective August 30, 2026.

Roundtable | After the Festival, Jim Trakas wants to brainstorm with the Parish Council on two additional Church fundraisers beyond the Festival. Possibly a Greek Fish Fry and a Fall Gyro and/or Loukoumades drive thru. We need to set a date and meeting to further explore these ideas.

We need a volunteer to take official pictures during the Festival.

Adjournment and Benediction | Mike Lignos made a motion, seconded by Andrew Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM; motion passed and Father Anastasis offered the benediction.

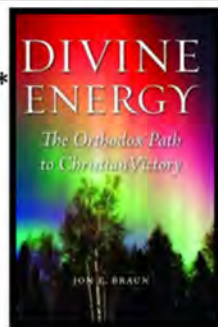


Women's Book Study
Please Join us *via Teams**
Wednesdays

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

*Teams Link found on Calendar
on the Church Website.

Our New Book is...



**"Divine Energy -
Orthodox Path to Christian Victory"**

by Jon E Braun

Applies time-tested Orthodox spirituality
to contemporary Christian living.
A true "back to the basics" book which shows
how Christians can fight and win
the struggle against temptation, sin,
and spiritual lethargy
through the divine power of Christ's Incarnation.

Explains in easy-to-understand laymen's terms
basic theological truths, such as the three
Persons and one nature of the Trinity..

Please Join Us!

Classes resume

Wednesday, September 23, 2026.

Continue through November 18, 2026

Adult Sunday Catechism

Immediately following
Holy Communion
In-Person,

*(all the way around the
Classroom hallways - last door
on left before heading
into the Kitchen)*

-OR-

via Teams!

*Teams Link found on Calendar
on the Church Website.



"The Faith" by Clark Carlton

"Quite simply, the Faith is the best single-volume
introduction to Orthodoxy in the English language.

The 'Faith' is beautifully written book that truly
answers the questions, "What is it that you Orthodox
believe?" Perfect for inquirers and study groups,
high-school age and up."

"The Faith is an indispensable guide for Orthodox
Christians who want to know their faith and for
those who are in search of authentic Christianity." ~
Archbishop Dmitri of Dallas

"The merit of The Faith is that the author is able to
present eternal truths in a way that is
comprehensible to modern man."

~ Archimandrite Peter Holy Trinity Monastery

Please Join Us!

Classes resume Sunday, September 20,

Continue through September 22, 2026

ST PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORTH ROYALTON OH

ORTHODOX CATECHISM



Mondays, September 14th to November 30th at 6:00PM



tinyurl.com/StPaulCatechism

An introduction to the Orthodox Faith, Tradition,
and Life. Open to all inquirers, catechumens, and
anyone seeking a deeper understanding.

St Paul Greek Orthodox Church | North Royalton OH

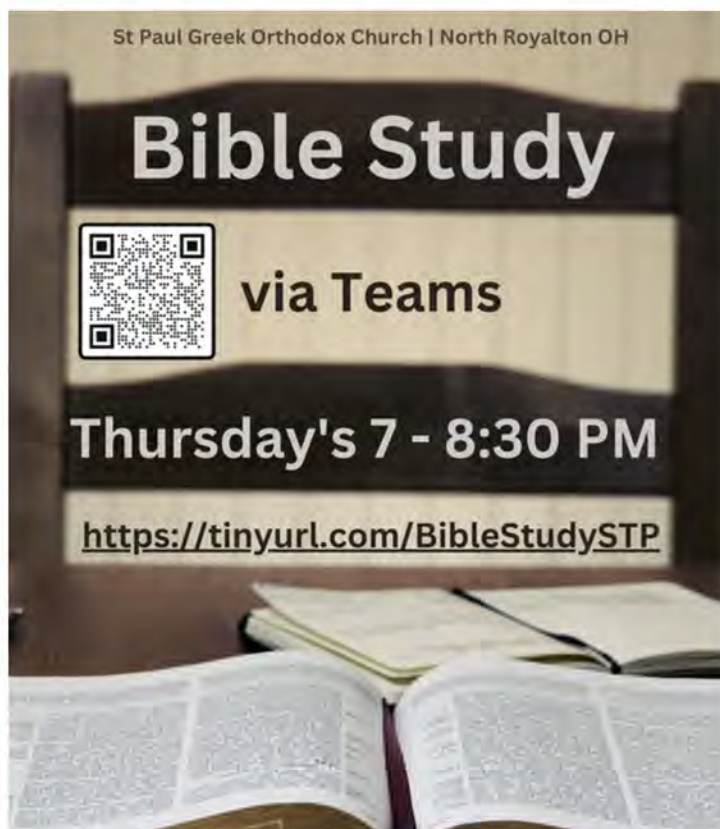
Bible Study



via Teams

Thursday's 7 - 8:30 PM

<https://tinyurl.com/BibleStudySTP>





CLEVELAND 5K Walk/Run to Benefit IOCC

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Start time: Check In 9:00am • Opening Prayer/Photo: 9:45 am
Walk/Run 10:00 am • Fellowship and refreshments immediately to follow

Join us for a family-friendly 5K walk/run to support the humanitarian work of IOCC! All ages and abilities welcome. Make your steps count and impact the lives of people in need.

Cleveland Metroparks

Race start and parking at Rockcliff Springs Parking Lot
18833 Rockcliff Dr • Rocky River, OH 44116
Individuals \$25 • Families \$70

Register online at:

ioccc.org/Cleveland

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sophia Kayafas 440-525-6914



CHIOS SOCIETY OF
CLEVELAND
CHAPTER #7



GREAT FOOD ★ GOOD COMPANY ★ FUN FOR ALL AGES!

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
19
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

St. Sava Pavilion

2151 W. Wallings Road
Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Join the Chios Society of Cleveland Chapter #7
for our Annual Family Picnic!

Bring your family and friends and enjoy an afternoon of great food, fellowship, and fun for all ages as we celebrate our Chian heritage and community together.



TICKETS
Adults: \$10
Children: \$5



PROVIDED BY THE CHAPTER
The Chapter will provide a variety of protein options and beverages as well.



POTLUCK CONTRIBUTIONS

To help make our picnic table complete, we kindly ask each family to bring something to share:

Last Names A-J:
Please bring a side dish
Last Names K-Z:
Please bring a dessert



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Many hands make for a successful picnic! Volunteers are needed for:



Setup Team: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM



Cleanup Team: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

2026 GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

FAMILY CAMP

**GRACE IS ENOUGH:
GROWING TOGETHER IN
CHRIST'S EMBRACE**

"MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU,
FOR MY POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN
WEAKNESS." **2 CORINTHIANS 12:9**



Join us for a beautiful weekend where your relationship with Christ and one another will grow and flourish!
Open to families of all ages and sizes!

**SAVE THE
DATE**

**SEPTEMBER
18-20**

Youth Keynote:
Gavrielia Constantine

Adult Keynote:
Fr. Tom and Pres. Vasiliki Constantine

AT CAMP NAZARETH
339 PEW ROAD MERCER, PA

**Registration will
open in July!**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALYSSA AT AHYRITSIS@PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG



Theotokos of Vladimir

EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD
OF GREATER CLEVELAND

Unity Through Participation

BLESSINGS

FOR THE NEW CHURCH YEAR

"THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE MERCIFUL TO YOU; THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU, AND GIVE YOU PEACE."

~NUMBERS 6:24-26

**Saturday, September 26, 2026
10:00AM**

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
6822 Broadview Road
Parma, Ohio 44134

- Fr. Christopher Moore Will Give the Blessing for the "New Church Year"
- Fellowship, Refreshments & Door Prizes
- Bring a Friend to Learn Our Christ-Centered Ministry
- Updates on Events Planned for the Year
- Annual Fundraising Dinner Discussion
- Assembly of IOCC Kid's School Kits - Annual Service Project

Are Pictures Worth More than Words? Ancient Greek Painters as Storytellers

Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell

Professor Emeritus, University of St. Thomas

**Sunday, September 27, 2026,
2:00 p.m.**

Free; Ticket Required



Cleveland Museum of Art Gartner Auditorium

The Paul and Suzanne Westlake

Performing Arts Center

11150 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106

Scan for FREE lecture
tickets with premium
seating

Post-lecture reception \$30



Saints Constantine & Helen Cathedral, Cleveland Heights, Ohio
St. Makrina Bible Study presents

Fall Retreat Light Streams In Saturday, October 17, 2026 9:00 am- 3:00 pm

*"In turbulent times, how are Christians to engage with this modern world?
We look to St. Porphyrios who teaches us to let Christ's light stream into
the darkness, and challenges us to radiate light".*

Elissa Bjeletich Davis

Orthodox Christian author, podcaster, and speaker



Checks to: Sts. Constantine & Helen Cathedral / "Retreat" in memo
3352 Mayfield Rd / Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 (Attn: Anna Warren)

More Information Toni Madden 440-840-1276

<https://pci.jotform.com/form/262124886813159>

CREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

WONDERFULLY MADE RETREAT

Open to all youth and young adults with disabilities.

**OCTOBER 17, 2026
AT HOLY CROSS G.O.C.**

123 GILKESON RD, PITTSBURGH, PA



Young Adult Fall Retreat at Camp Nazareth

October 23-25, 2026

Open to those 18-35 years of age from all jurisdictions!

Physicians of the Soul: Spiritual Fathers and the Mystery of Confession

With Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Fr. Stephen Laposky

Chancellor of the American Carpatho-Russian
Orthodox Diocese of North America



**Register
Here:**



or tinyurl.com/smxbprtp

Questions? youngadultretreats@gmail.com



Save the date for our
2026 Folk Dance Festival hosted on
November 6-8 at Holy Trinity, Camp Hill!
Registration will be opening soon.

MALLCHOK

FUNERAL HOME

5660 Ridge Road
Parma, OH 44129

440-884-9100



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IN-HOME CAREGIVERS**

Contact us today to learn more:

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ETERNITY MONUMENTS INC.

15420 Brookpark Rd., Cleveland, OH

Tim Stallman

timstallman@gmail.com

440.309.5977

eternitymonuments.com



Cemetery Monuments | Cemetery Lettering | Bronze Markers

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized
Provider

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