

THE CHAMPION

A Monthly Publication of Saint Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church

JUNE/JULY 2026



MESSAGE FROM FR. PANAGIOTIS

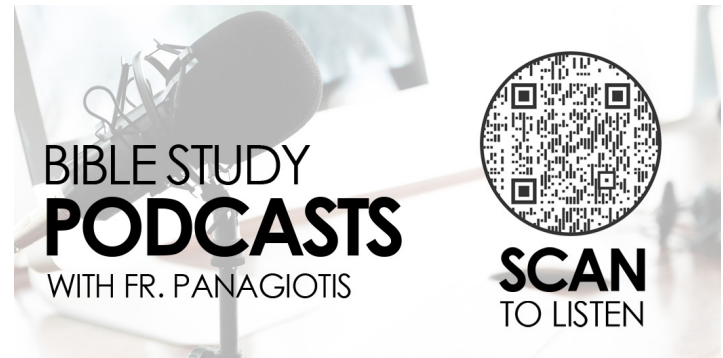
As we enter the summer months, our Archdiocese prepares for one of its most important gatherings: the Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Congress. Every two years, clergy and lay representatives from across the country come together to pray, learn, discuss, and help guide the work of our Church. This year, our parish will once again send delegates to represent our St. Athanasios family.

In many ways, the Congress reminds us of the councils of the Church throughout history. It reflects that same spirit of gathering together in Christ to seek wisdom, unity, and direction for the life of the Church. From the Apostolic Council in Jerusalem described in the Book of Acts, the Church has always gathered her leaders and faithful together to discern how best to continue the mission entrusted to us by Christ.

One of the beautiful aspects of Orthodoxy is that the Church is never meant to function in isolation. Parishes are connected to one another, clergy work together with their hierarchs, and the faithful participate in the life and mission of the Church as one body. The Clergy-Laity Congress is one expression of that unity. It gives us the opportunity to hear about ministries throughout the Archdiocese, discuss important matters facing the Church today, and learn from one another's experiences and successes.

While much of the work of the Congress involves practical matters, its deeper purpose is spiritual. The goal is not simply administration, but strengthening the witness of the Church and helping our communities grow in faithfulness to Christ. Every decision, conversation, and ministry effort should ultimately point us toward the salvation of souls and the proclamation of the Gospel.

As our delegates prepare to attend this year's Congress, I ask you to keep them in your prayers. Pray that they may represent our parish well, listen attentively, speak wisely, and return encouraged and inspired for the work ahead. Most importantly, pray that all who gather may do so with humility, love, and a sincere desire to serve Christ and His Church.



MEMORIALS

- Kathy Hiotis (40 days)
- Diamantis Hiotis (15 Years)
- Gust Kappos (3 years)
- Alexandra Kleanthis (30 Years)
- Ioannis Danos (5 years)
- Vasiliki Danos (6 years)

BAPTISMS

- Alexander Ihnatiuk
- Son of Paul Ihnatiuk

WEDDINGS

- George Manesiotis & Alexis Lyonis
- Demetrious Petrakopoulos & Kristin Schaefer
- Tyler Gillen & Sophia Geroulis

PARISH COUNCIL

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year's Spring Aurora Greek Fest such a wonderful success! The festival was a beautiful celebration of faith, fellowship, food, and community, made possible by the dedication and hard work of so many generous volunteers and supporters. Special thanks to our festival co-chairs, Tracey Collins and Frank Demas, for their leadership, organization, and countless hours of effort!

As summer begins, we look forward to many exciting parish happenings and opportunities to gather together in faith and fellowship.

On June 1 at 7pm, our College and Young Adult Bible Study begins with dinner provided. The group will also meet on the first Monday of July and August. We encourage all college students and young adults to join us!

On June 7, we will celebrate Graduation Sunday and honor our high school and college graduates. Please submit graduates' names to the church office for recognition.

On June 8, our annual Opa Open Golf Outing will take place, and we hope many of you will join us for a day of fellowship and fun.

Faith Navigators Summer Camp for grades Kindergarten–5th will be held July 28–31. Volunteers are needed, so please consider helping make this special week a success. Be sure to register your camper today!

New this year, Soul Sisters will gather casually throughout the summer months. Look for more information coming soon.

Thank you for continuing to support and strengthen the ministries and fellowship opportunities of our parish. May God bless our community with a joyful and blessed summer season!

Anna Caniglia
Parish Council President

Monday, June 8, 2026

OPA OPEN

Presented by
Saint Athanasios Church

Location



21200 S Carillon Dr,
Plainfield, IL 60544
(815) 886-2132
www.carillongolf.com

Event Details

Registration
& Lunch: **11:30-12:15 PM**

Tee Off: **12:30 PM**
Shotgun-Scamble

On course contests for
players of all abilities

Dress Code: Golf Attire

Dinner: **5:30 PM**

Raffle & Auctions

More Details to Follow Soon



How Do We Sign up?

Call church office: 630-851-6106
Web: saintathanasios.com/golf

Questions?

Contact Frank Demas at
224.805.6920 OR Pete Nassos at
panassos@gmail.com

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?



GOLFERS
\$185
\$125 Jrs.
INCLUDES
GOLF, ON-COURSE GAMES
LUNCH & DINNER



NON-GOLFERS
\$50
INCLUDES
DINNER ONLY
FUN!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO NANCY A. GLADIS FOUNDATION AND ST. ATHANASIOS MINISTRIES



EVENT SPONSOR \$1000
INCLUDES PROMOTION AND ADVERTISING FOR THE
OPA OPEN AND FALL AURORA GREEK FEST
CONTACT FRANK DEMAS AT 224-805-6920 FOR MORE INFORMATION



SPECIAL SPONSOR \$500
BEVERAGE, CART, RAFFLE
AUCTION OR LUNCH



CONTEST/GAME SPONSOR \$300
ON COURSE GAMES OR
PUTTING CONTEST



HOLE SPONSOR \$175

REGISTER TODAY!

Go to www.saintathanasios.com/golf to register and pay for the outing participation fee (Includes Golf, on course games, lunch and dinner) and purchase sponsorships. Or visit us after Sunday Services in the Church Hall or call the Church office (630) 851-6106.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2026!

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



PETER DAGIANTIS
BENET ACADEMY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



FRANNY DULLES
DOWNERS GROVE SOUTH HS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



NICKOLAS ROMIOS
NEUQUA VALLEY HS
COLLEGE OF DUPAGE

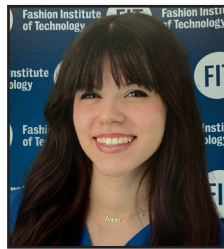


TAMMI PETMEZAS
KANELAND HS
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE/TECH GRADUATES



KATE GRAWE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



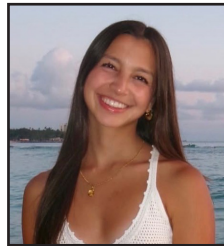
ALYSSA AGNOS
FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



ANDREY VOROPAYEV
LEWIS UNIVERSITY



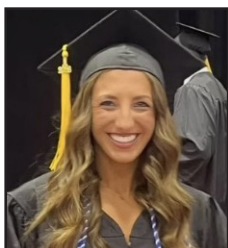
ALEXANDRA METROU
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



MIA PARK
UCLA



HELENA HARALAMBOPOULOS
FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



ALEXANDRA KARALIS
NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE



ZOE KOHLER
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



ELIA HOUSTON
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

ETHAN KRAULOS
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

PARISH CALENDAR

All services are live streamed on our YouTube Channel.

Orthros begins at 8:30am with Divine Liturgy following at 9:30am (unless otherwise noted below)

Monday, June 1

7pm Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, June 4

6:30 pm Philoptochos End of Year Party

Friday, June 5

6:30pm JrGOYA Sun, Fun, & Summer's Just Begun Party

Sunday, June 7

Divine Liturgy - The Sunday of All Saints
Graduation Sunday
4:00pm GOYA Fun, Sun and Summer's Just Begun Party

Monday, June 8

12 pm OPA Golf Outing

Wednesday, June 10

6:30pm Vespers - Metropolitan Nathanael Feastday
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
2501 S Wolf Rd, Westchester, IL 60154

Thursday, June 11

9:30am Divine Liturgy for Met Nathanael's Nameday
Annunciation Cathedral Greek Orthodox Church
1017 N LaSalle Dr, Chicago, IL 60610

Saturday, June 13

9am Pilgrimage to Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Monastery

Sunday, June 14

Divine Liturgy - 2nd Sunday of Matthew

Wednesday, June 17

7pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, June 21

Divine Liturgy - 3rd Sunday of Matthew

Wednesday, June 24

4:30pm Joint JrGOYA & GOYA Parish Cleanup Night
7pm Choir Conference 2026 Rehearsal

Sunday, June 28

Divine Liturgy - 4th Sunday of Matthew
11am OCMC Missions Sunday
7pm Vespers - Sts Peter & Paul
Sts Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church
1401 Wagner Rd, Glenview, IL 60025

Monday, June 29

Divine Liturgy - Saints Peter & Paul
7pm Vespers - Synaxis of the Holy Apostles
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
2501 S Wolf Rd, Westchester, IL 60154

Tuesday, June 30th

Divine Liturgy - Synaxis of the Holy Apostles
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
2501 S Wolf Rd, Westchester, IL 60154

Sunday, July 5

Divine Liturgy - 5th Sunday of Matthew

Monday, July 6

7pm Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, July 8

7pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, July 11

1pm Pilgrimage to St John Chrysostomos Greek Orthodox Monastery

Sunday, July 12

6th Sunday of Matthew

Thursday, July 16

6:30pm Joint JrGOYA & GOYA Nerf War Fight Night

Sunday, July 19

Divine Liturgy - Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Monday July 20

Divine Liturgy - Elias (Elijah) the Prophet

Sunday, July 26

Divine Liturgy - 8th Sunday of Matthew/St. Paraskevi

Monday, July 27

Divine Liturgy - St Panteleimon the Great Martyr
5:30pm Summer Camp Volunteer Dinner & Training

Tuesday, July 28

Summer Camp

Wednesday, July 29

Summer Camp

Thursday, July 30

Summer Camp

Friday, July 31

Summer Camp

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Help to promote fellowship, community, and friendship following Divine Liturgy by hosting Coffee Hour. Consider hosting for occasions such as Memorials, Namedays, Birthdays, 40-day Blessings, etc - or no occasion needed. You can join another family or multiple people to host as well. For more information and to sign up to host a Coffee Hour, please call the office.



FOOD PANTRY



Thank you to everyone who generously donated food to our Pantry! Your contributions make a real difference in the lives of our community members who need it most. We are so grateful for your kindness & support. 2025 totals - Money donated - \$1,010. Food - 1,541 lbs!

Please donate food that is Healing to the Hungry - Lean Proteins (Saturated Fats), No Sodium, Low Sugar Fruits, Whole Grain Items. No dented cans or open packaged foods. Expired food can not be accepted. This month's request is:

Canned Fruit & Vegetables

Please contact Betty Roussos at bettyroussos@yahoo.com with any questions.

PHILOPTOCHOS

As we lean in to the slower pace of Summer, it's a great time to look back at what we have achieved so far this year. We have been busy doing God's work!

In January we raised \$775 from our Vasilopita Throwdown, which was donated to St. Basil's Academy. February was Trivia Night, which raised \$4000. We donated \$1500 to The Presvytera's Benevolent Fund and \$1500 to the Orthodox Prison Ministry. We also partnered with the Hesed House Ministry to prepare dinner for their residents.

In March we hosted dinner for 60 parishioners as part of the Lenten Dinner Lecture series. We packed 150 lunches for Hesed House and baked about 1200 koulourakia for our Palm Sunday bake sale.

April was particularly active. We donated 112 personal care items to the Aurora West HS beauty bar; we prepared lunch for the Good Friday retreat attendees, and raised \$1840 through our Palm Sunday sales. We also partnered with the youth ministries to fill 100 snack bags for Radical Love, and we made 14 care packages for our shut-ins.

The application window for our service scholarship closed on May 24. We will award the \$1500 scholarship to a high school senior at graduation Sunday, June 7.

I'm very impressed with the dedication and drive of everyone who was involved in these activities. I hope you will join us on Thursday, June 4 at the home of Thanea Walter to celebrate our accomplishments at our year-end party. Please RSVP through our email address—philoptochos@saintathanasios.com.

Sue Manos
Philoptochos President



68TH ANNUAL CHOIR CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 9-11, 2026

SAVE THE DATE for the 68th Annual Choir Conference of the Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians on October 9–11, 2026! This is a joyful and meaningful opportunity for our entire community to come together in worship, fellowship, and service. The last time we hosted this event was in 1999, and we are excited to welcome participants from across the Metropolis back to Aurora.

Throughout the weekend, attendees will learn and sing a liturgy by Tikey Zes, participate in enriching workshops, and enjoy time together in fellowship. We are especially proud that our own Melanie Burbules has been selected as the Conference Choir Director, which will be a wonderful representation of our parish.

We warmly invite you to take part in this event in any way you can. Consider joining the choir for the weekend, supporting the conference through a financial or in-kind donation, or volunteering your time and resources to help us prepare. Every contribution, big or small, will make a difference.

If you are interested in participating or contributing, please reach out to Margarita Altidis, Conference Coordinator, at margarita.altidis@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your support as we prepare for this special weekend!



STEWARDSHIP



RISE UP
AND
BUILD
NEHEMIAH 2:18

\$408,000

2026 STEWARDSHIP GOAL

PLEDGED
\$373,633

PAID
\$207,723

2026 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

To date, we have received 275 pledges totaling \$373,633 toward our 2026 Stewardship goal of \$408,000. If you have not yet completed your 2026 pledge, you can obtain a Stewardship packet in the Narthex or contact the Church Office.



June.July.August

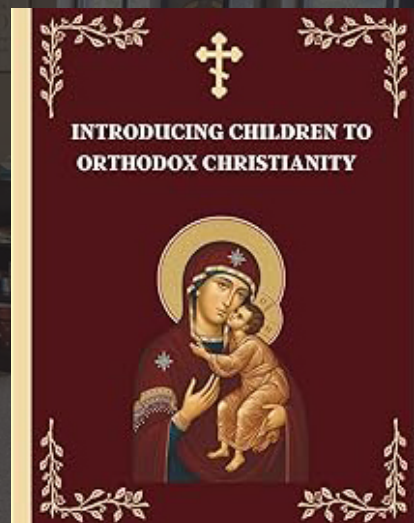
Soul Sisters is now on Instagram! Follow along for updates, events, and upcoming summer dates: [@soulsisters_st.athanasios](https://www.instagram.com/soulsisters_st.athanasios)

Stay tuned for more updates in the Friday and Sunday bulletins.

Questions? Contact Maria Lambrou at makokoslambrou@yahoo.com.

BOOK STORE

In June, we honor the Dads, Grandfathers, and other paternal figures in our lives by celebrating Fathers' Day. Check out our Bookstore for gifts such as, "Introducing Children to Orthodox Christianity: A Parents' Step by Step Guide to Teach Their Children," or "The Heart of a Father: A 52-Week Men's Devotional for Dads Leading with Purpose," or "Men's Devotional for Dads: A Year of Prayers, Guidance, and Wisdom" or icons of our Spiritual Father, Jesus Christ, and other Saints and Elders to adorn the home. Stop in soon to shop where our Bookstore team is ready to assist you with your selections!



MEN'S GROUP

Thank you all for your support and participation in this ministry.

For those of you that may not be familiar with us, we are a Group of Orthodox friends who gather to share their experiences about life, their philosophies, values, and ideas. We meet to provide charity, support, mentoring and build fellowship among the Orthodox community of men in the western suburbs.

Spring Blood Drive

Our spring blood drive exceeded our goal! Thank you to all that donated to this life saving event. Our next blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th.

Aurora Greek Fest

The Spring festival was a success. It was great to see new people volunteering their time for the love and support of our church.

Food Pantry

Each month, our church collection of donated food needs to be delivered to local food pantries. We need volunteers to transport our donations. If you are interested, please contact us for more information.

You can like and follow our Facebook page by searching for "Men's Group of St Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church"

We welcome men (21+) to join us as we grow our mission. If interested, please contact Spiro Hountalas (naperspike@aol.com), Peter Metrou (pmetrou@gmail.com) or Nick Dagiantis (ndagiantis@gmail.com).

HESED HOUSE



HeSED House ministry will be preparing and serving dinner for HeSED House on Wednesday, June 3rd. Meal prep will start at Church at 3pm and HeSED House dinner is served at 7pm.

If interested contact Bill Collins for details at bctc@sbcglobal.net.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

JUNE 1 | JULY 6 | AUG 3

Topic: **Discerning the Future**
Location: Conference Room
Dinner will be served.

We encourage all college students and young adults to join us!
Please bring a Bible if you have one.



June 5 at 6:30pm - Jr. GOYA: Sun, Fun, and Summer's Just Begun Party

June 7 after Divine Liturgy - Graduation Sunday

June 7 at 4pm - GOYA: Sun, Fun, and Summer's Just Begun Party

June 8 - Sunday School: School registration opens

June 24 at 4:30pm to 8:30pm - Parish Clean Up Night

June 30 at 6:30pm - Bardwell Night

July 16 at 6:30pm - Nerf War Fight Night

July 22 at 6:30pm - Bardwell Night

July 27 at 5:30pm to 8:30pm - Summer Camp Volunteer Dinner & Training

July 28 - July 31 9am to 12pm - Summer Camp

August 4 at 6pm to 8:30pm - Sunday School Teacher Meeting & Dinner



Check Band for upcoming Coffee with Voula dates! Come hang out with Voula at different coffee shops around the area for drinks, snacks, and real conversations. Bring a friend and stop by!

2026 SUMMER CAMP

Faith Navigators: We Believe! One God • One Church • One Creed

Join us this summer as our students set out on an unforgettable journey of faith! Through hands-on activities, music, crafts, and outdoor adventures, campers will explore the Nicene Creed and discover what we truly believe about God, Christ, and His Church.

Each day, our Faith Navigators will follow the "map" of the Creed — learning how these timeless truths guide our lives and lead us closer to Christ.

July 28 – July 31

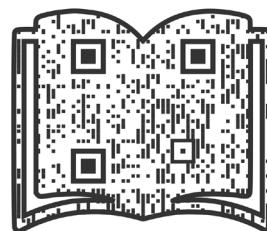
Rising Kindergarten through 5th Grade

Volunteers Needed - 6th Grade and Higher

Come journey with us as we grow in faith, build friendships, and learn what it means to truly live what we believe.



REGISTER TODAY!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

As our Sunday School and ministry year heads into summer, we are thankful for a truly blessed year filled with growth, learning, and life in Christ. We are deeply grateful for each of you—our devoted Sunday School teachers, dedicated youth advisors, supportive families, eager students, and generous volunteers. There are truly too many to name, but you know who you are, and we are so thankful for the love, time, and care you have poured into these ministries throughout the year. Your faithfulness and commitment are a blessing to our parish and a witness to the life of Christ among us.

While our Sunday School program pauses for the summer months, the life of the Church continues on. Our faith is not something we set aside—it is something we live, celebrate, and grow in each and every day. We encourage all of our families to remain rooted in the life of the Church through worship, prayer, and fellowship. Be sure to check the Band app for youth ministry events and opportunities we will be hosting throughout the summer months.

Thank you for a beautiful and blessed year. May you have a restful, joyful, and Christ-filled summer—we look forward to gathering again for Sunday School in September!



dahlia
weddings and baptisms
dahliawb.com
630.596.6826

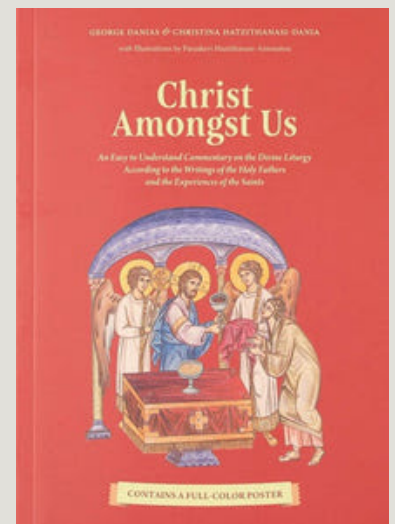
Weddings
Baptisms
Christmas
Easter



DID YOU KNOW...?

The Great Entrance

Upon hearing the Cherubic Hymn, the faithful prepare for the Great Entrance—they ready themselves to welcome the King of Glory who is now entering the Holy City to be crucified for all of us, escorted by the angelic orders. Starting from the holy Prothesis, the priest makes a deep bow before the Precious Gifts, and then reverently carries them aloft and exits the holy Sanctuary. After the choir has chanted the first part of the Cherubic Hymn, up to the words,... so that we may receive the King of all..., it stands silent, waiting for the celebrant(s) to appear and begin the procession. The priest, holding the Precious Gifts, escorted by candles and incense, slowly passes through the congregation. The transfer of the Holy Gifts from the holy Prothesis to the Altar table symbolizes the Lord's entry from Bethany to Jerusalem. The king of all is entering the Holy City. The priest becomes the donkey's colt, which was blessed to carry the Lord. The faithful, instead of laying their garments on the ground, place themselves on the ground by kneeling. In a loud voice the priest says: May the Lord God remember all of us you, in His Kingdom, always now and forever, and to the ages of ages, praying that Christ remembers all of us when, in a few moments—at the Consecration—He sacrifices Himself for us. This is what the good thief asked while hanging on the Cross: Remember me Lord, when you come in your Kingdom. (Luke 23:42)



Book is on sale
in the bookstore

"Christ is Amongst Us" by George Danias & Christina Hatzithanasi-Dania with Iconography by Paraskevi Hatzithanasi-Anthonatou pages 48-52

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Many parishioners have asked how the ongoing capital campaign at Saint Athanasios connects with our broader emphasis on stewardship and financial independence. In truth, these efforts are closely aligned and mutually reinforcing.

Our capital campaign is not simply about meeting immediate needs. It is a forward-looking effort designed to prepare our parish for the significant investments we anticipate over the next decade—maintaining and improving our facilities and addressing major capital expenditures as they arise. By planning ahead, we reduce the likelihood of reacting to urgent needs under pressure and instead act with intention and care.

At the same time, our commitment to stewardship independence reflects a desire for long-term financial stability. By strengthening our financial foundation today—through thoughtful giving, disciplined management, and prudent planning—we seek to rely less on special events and fundraisers and more on the consistent support of our parish community.

Together, these two efforts form a unified vision: to provide for the needs of today while responsibly preparing for tomorrow. The capital campaign gives us the means to address upcoming major expenditures, while stewardship independence ensures that we do so in a way that preserves and strengthens the financial health of Saint Athanasios Church.

We are grateful for the continued generosity and faithfulness of our parish community, and we ask for your ongoing prayers and support as we work toward these shared goals.

Mike Tsimouris and Phil Nassos
Capital Campaign Committee



Special childrens' activities for 9 years old and younger - No Extra Fee. Go to registration links for more details.

COLLEGE MINISTRY



Andrey Voropayev

Andrey Voropayev is attending Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois. His major is in "Cybersecurity", and he expects to graduate in May 2026. His favorite class has been "Digital Forensics". After graduation, Andrey's plan is to find a job in the IT industry and to pursue a Master's Degree. Andrey has been attending our Saint Athanasios church, and he loves the welcoming community and the fact that it is a serious place of worship! Andrey's favorite sport is basketball, and his favorite team is the Chicago Bulls. He enjoys playing guitar, and also Fish tournaments. His favorite season is Summer, since the good weather brightens the mood. His favorite restaurants are the Pomegranate Café and Fogo de Chao.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION OF FAITH - SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

ANNUAL HOLY APOSTLES MISSIONS LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026 | 11 AM - 12:30 PM

ST. ATHANASIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH - ST. MATTHEW HALL

Fr. Stephanos Ritsi will share his vision for OCMC's next 40 years. As former missionary to Albania, he'll reflect on his service there where he was inspired by Archbishop Anastasios of blessed memory. From his early years in Kenya to his journey from Political Science major to Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and on to Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, Fr. Stephanos shares experiences that shaped his life and love for Christ.

\$10 per adult, children 12 years & younger free.
Please RSVP by June 21st using the QR or link below.
Unable to attend? Donations welcome.



www.ocmc.org
www.ocmc.org/aurora-luncheon
events@ocmc.org



MONASTERY PILGRIMAGES FOR SUMMER 2026



Saturday, June 13 Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Monastery

Liturgy and interact with the monks.

6:30am Depart from St. Athanasios

8:00am - 09:00am Liturgy

9:30am Presentation / discussion with

Fr. Akakios and/or Fr. Iosif

11:30am Depart from Monastery

1:00pm Arrive at St. Athanasios



Saturday, July 11 St. John Chrysostomos Greek Orthodox Monastery

Interact with the nuns and attend vespers.

1:00pm Depart from St. Athanasios

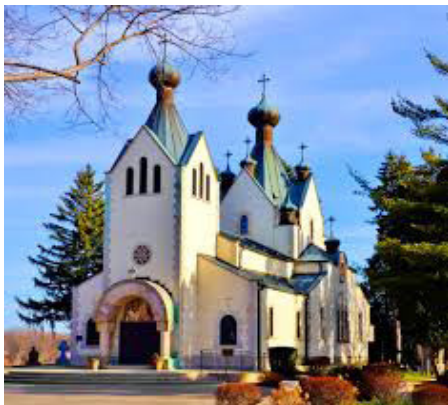
2:30pm Tour monastery grounds & visit gift shop

3:00pm Presentation / Q&A led by Sister Vrieni

5:00pm Vespers

6:30pm Depart from Monastery

8:00pm Arrive at St. Athanasios



Sunday, August 2 Serbian Orthodox Monastery of St. Sava & New Gracanica Serbian Monastery

Venerate incorrupt saint and visit impressive architectural
Orthodox churches & iconography.

12(noon) Depart from St. Athanasios

1:30pm Venerate relics of Saint Mardarije at St. Sava with presentation given by Fr. Markarije

3:00pm Visit Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God Monastery / Church

4:15pm Depart from New Gracanica

5:30pm Arrive at St. Athanasios



Contact Spiro J. Deligiannis (630-677-5014) for further information and/or expression of interest to attend/join, as well as to coordinate carpool logistics.

AURORA GREEK FEST

Thank You to Our Parish Family!

As we reflect on another wonderful Aurora Greek Fest, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to every member of our St. Athanasios parish family who helped make this year's festival such a tremendous success! The dedication, generosity, and countless hours of service given by our parishioners continue to be the foundation of everything we accomplish together. Because of your support and commitment, this year's festival was not only well attended, but also one of the most successful festivals to date.

We are incredibly happy to report that through everyone's hard work and the continued support of our guests, total festival proceeds for our 2026 Spring Fest.

MEASURE	BUDGET	Actuals
INCOME	\$135,000.00	\$156,078.00
EXPENSES	\$40,500.00	\$40,377.20
NET PROFIT	\$94,500.00	\$115,700.80

Throughout the weekend, we welcomed many returning guests along with countless first-time visitors who came to enjoy our authentic Greek food, hospitality, music, and fellowship. So many people shared how welcomed and joyful they felt, which is a true reflection of the spirit of our St. Athanasios community. From the months & weeks of preparation beforehand to the final moments of cleanup, volunteers gave generously of their time and talents. Whether you worked in food prep, grilling, baking, serving, setup, cleanup, organizing, cashiering, hosting guests, giving tours, or behind the scenes in ways unseen, every contribution played an important role in the success of the festival.

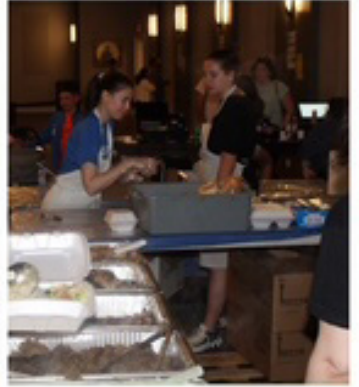
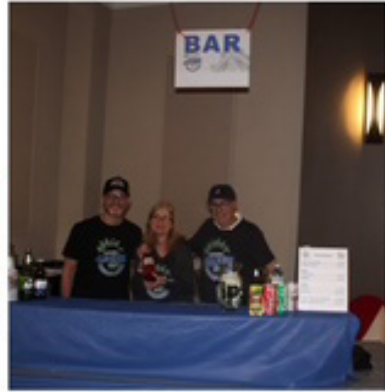
We are also proud to share that \$5,000 from this year's festival proceeds was donated to the DuPage Hundred Club in support of the important work they do for first responders and their families.

Most importantly, we thank God for continuing to bless our parish with such faithful, hardworking, and compassionate people. Thank you again to everyone who volunteered, donated, sponsored, attended, and/or supported the Aurora Greek Fest in any way!

With love and gratitude,
Your Aurora Greek Fest Chairs
Tracey Collins & Frank Demas



PHOTOS FROM AURORA GREEK FEST



JR. OLYMPICS

Glory to God for a wonderful Junior Olympics weekend! A heartfelt thank you to all of our athletes, coaches, volunteers, parents, and families who helped make this weekend such a joyful and memorable experience for our Saint Athanasios community. Thank you to everyone who coached, organized, drove, cheered, donated, brought snacks, helped behind the scenes, and supported our youth throughout the weekend. Your love, time, and dedication are truly a blessing. Congratulations to all of our athletes for their wonderful effort, teamwork, sportsmanship, and the way they represented Saint Athanasios throughout the weekend! And congratulations to Addie Bayles on earning 2nd and 4th place finishes in various swimming events!





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