

Holy Trinity - St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church



ANNUNCIATION

The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth, a town of Galilee, unto Mary the Virgin, who had come forth from the Temple a mature maiden (see Nov. 21). She had been betrothed to Joseph four months. On coming to Joseph's house, the Archangel declared: "Rejoice, thou Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." After some consideration, the Virgin answered in humility: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And at this, the Holy Spirit came upon her, and the Son of God became flesh in her immaculate body (Luke 1:26-38).

IMPORTANT DATES

- March 4 - 5:30 Presanctified Liturgy
- March 5 - 4:30 Women's Bible Study
- March 6 - 5:30 p.m. Salutations
- March 10 - 5:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- March 11 - 5:30 Presanctified Liturgy
- March 13 - 5:30 p.m. Salutations
- March 15 - Parish Council Meeting
- March 18 - 5:30 Presanctified Liturgy
- March 19 - 4:30 Women's Bible Study
- March 20 - 5:30 Salutations
- March 22 - Oratorical Festival and Greek Independence Day
- March 24 - 5:30 pm Men's Bible Study
- March 25 - 10 am Liturgy (Annunciation)
- March 27 - 5:30 pm Akathyst
- March 29 - Hope and Joy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy 	2 	3 	4 5:30 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy 	5 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m. 	6 5:30 p.m. Salutations 	7 
8 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy 	9 	10 Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. 	11 5:30 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy 	12 	13 5:30 p.m. Salutations 	14 
15 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Parish Council Meeting 	16 	17 	18 5:30 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy 	19 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m. 	20 5:30 p.m. Salutations 	21 
22 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Oratorical Festival Greek Independence Day 	23 	24 Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. 	25 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy (Annunciation) 	26 	27 5:30 p.m. Akathyst 	28 District Oratorical Festival 
29 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy Hope and Joy 	30 	31 	1 5:30 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy 	2 Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m. 	3 	4 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy (Lazarus Saturday) Palm Folding and Pancake Breakfast 
Strict Fast 	Fish Allowed 	Dairy Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 			

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

First, Great Lent is here. Great Lent is a sacred season of prayer, fasting, and repentance that prepares the faithful for the celebration of Holy Pascha. It is a time of spiritual renewal, increased worship, and intentional turning back to God through humility, self-discipline, and acts of mercy. We look forward to the journey with each of you.

The Parish Council met on February 8th. Topics covered bathroom renovations, officer elections, bylaw changes, and GreekFest. The bathroom renovations should near completion by Pascha. Countertops have been measured, ordered, and paid for. This will be a welcome addition. Additionally, officer elections took place and were the following: Jonathan Hontzas as President, Michaele Glisson as Vice-President, Ben Wise as Treasurer, and Erynn Sturgon as Secretary. Each looks forward to serving the Church to the best of their abilities.

Next, we discussed bylaw changes regarding our parish council election process as our bylaws currently do not offer a parish specific process. It is no secret that over the years elections have, at times, been contentious. After speaking with numerous other parishes and reviewing their bylaws, they explicitly spell out the election process to minimize confusion, conflict, and subjectivity. That way everyone knows the process and is held to the same standard without exceptions. We are working on language that would do the same. More details to follow in time for the spring general assembly on May 17th.

On the GreekFest note, things are coming together nicely. The committee continues to work hard to pull everything together. If you have not done so already, please sign up to volunteer via the document in the dining hall. GreekFest t-shirts are also available, and we encourage everyone to purchase for \$20. This can be done via a document in the dining hall or through the form emailed from the church.

Lastly, thank you to all who were able to help with the gyro drive-through. It was successful netting over \$2,500 when counting pre-sales. The events are a great opportunity to connect us with each other, the local community, and to bring in additional revenue for the church. Now the focus can shift to GreekFest!

**Your Servants,
The Parish Council**



A Message from Fr. Mike

Later this month we will remember the Annunciation of the Theotokos. Through her obedience to God's will, the Theotokos brought Christ into the world. It was because of her humility and obedience that she was able to achieve something great. As we progress through the Lenten season, we hear many such stories from the lives of the saints which remind us that it is not through our own will, but through self denial that we are drawn closer to God and realize our own potential. This concept finds its ultimate conclusion in the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, which we relive during Holy Week. Let us all take the opportunity during this season to think of ways that we can deny ourselves in order to serve those around us, following the example of the Theotokos towards a humility which is not a form of cowardice, but of courage.

• Fr. Mike

Hope and Joy



On Sunday, March 29th after the Divine Liturgy we will have Hope and Joy. We will talk to the children about the meaning of fasting and how it can be practiced in their own lives. We will have some quiet activities and an opportunity to work on restraint and stillness.

Music Update

As our parish continues to grow, we have begun a process of streamlining and updating the musical system used by the choir in order to facilitate both the growth of the choir and the participation of the congregation. The end result will allow people to sing along through the entire liturgy using the hymnal in the pews.

For clarity, this process will take around three months total. Music classes are being held immediately after the liturgy in the conference room and will move through the liturgy in order. By the end of March we will have completed up to the sermon. About halfway through May the entire process will be finished.

We all remember when the sanctuary was being renovated and we had to have liturgy in the dining hall for a while. We had to take a small step back in order to take a larger step forward. This is similar to the liturgical process we are working through now. We appreciate everyone's patience and support as we make this adjustment.

We invite everyone to participate by coming to the classes after the liturgy, in which we not only learn to sing the material, but learn more about how the liturgy is put together. We will hope to see everyone there.



SUMMER 2026

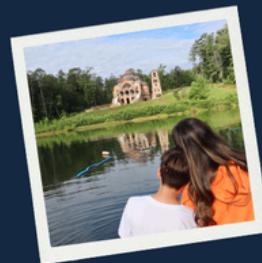
WEEK 1: JUNE 21 - 27

WEEK 2: JUNE 28 - JULY 4

WEEK 3: JULY 5 - JULY 11

WEEK 4: JULY 12 - JULY 18

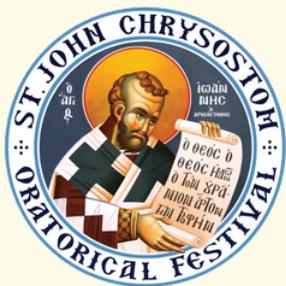
WEEK 5: JULY 19 - JULY 25



Cost: \$555
Deposit: \$250

Camper Registration Opens
Thursday, March 5
12:00 PM ET

Grades
6-12



St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

On Sunday, March 22nd after the Divine Liturgy we will have the parish level Oratorical Festival. The festival offers an opportunity for middle and high school Orthodox students to learn more about their faith and practice public speaking. We hope that the youth in our community will take this opportunity and represent our parish and the higher levels of the competition as they strive to win a scholarship.

