

# Holy Trinity - St. John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church










**PENTECOST**

*That which came to pass at Pentecost was the ordination of the Apostles, the commencement of the apostolic preaching to the nations, and the inauguration of the priesthood of the new Israel. Saint Cyril of Alexandria: "Our Lord Jesus Christ herein ordained the instructors and teachers of the world and the stewards of His divine Mysteries ... showing together with the dignity of Apostleship, the incomparable glory of the authority given them ... Revealing them to be splendid with the great dignity of the Apostleship and showing them forth as both stewards and priests of the divine altars . . . they became fit to initiate others through the enlightening guidance of the Holy Spirit"*

## IMPORTANT DATES

- May 2 - Stewpot
- May 3 - IOCC Speaker
- May 5 - 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- May 6 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- May 7 - 5:30 pm Vespers
- May 8 - 5:30 pm Vespers
- May 9 - Greek Festival
- May 13 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- May 14 - 4:30 Women's Bible Study
- May 17 - General Assembly
- May 19 - 4:30 Women's Bible Study
- May 20 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- May 21 - 10 am Liturgy (Ascension)
- May 27 - 5:30 pm Paraklesis
- May 28 - 4:30 Women's Bible Study
- May 30 10 am Liturgy (Saturday of Souls)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:30 Paraklesis 	<b>30</b> Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11:30 a.m. Stewpot 
<b>3</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy IOCC Speaker	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> 5:30 Paraklesis 	<b>7</b> 5:30 p.m. Vespers	<b>8</b> 5:30 p.m. Vespers 	<b>9</b> 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Greek Festival
<b>10</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 5:30 Paraklesis 	<b>14</b> Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy General Assembly	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	<b>20</b> 5:30 Paraklesis 	<b>21</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy (Ascension)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5:30 Paraklesis 	<b>28</b> Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy (Saturday of Souls)
<b>31</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy	<b>1</b> 8:45 Orthros 10:00 Liturgy (Holy Spirit)	<b>2</b> Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> 5:30 Paraklesis	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

Strict Fast



Fish Allowed



Dairy Allowed



Wine and Oil Allowed



**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

**Christ is Risen! We first want to thank everyone for their hard work to ensure Holy Week was beautiful and seamless. From the decorating of the Kouvouklion, to the lilies in the sanctuary, to the food for the Pascha breakfast and picnic. Thank you.**

**The parish council met on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Topics included GreekFest, a narthex, the parish bylaws, the spring general assembly agenda, the May parish council meeting, and the music program. We have continued to meet with contractors regarding a narthex and hope to have additional information soon. It has been challenging to find someone willing to take on the project that most deem as “small”. We are confident that we will have a suitable plan soon.**

**The spring general assembly will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The agenda and additional information will be mailed and emailed soon. It will include the usual topics, but also information on recommended bylaw changes and potentially a plan for the narthex. The May parish council meeting has been canceled with GreekFest on the 9<sup>th</sup> and Mother’s Day on the 10<sup>th</sup>, general assembly on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and Memorial Day the following weekend. A special meeting will be held if needed.**

**GreekFest is a few short days away. The Committee has worked hard to assemble a plan that will allow for a fun, successful event. It will take hard work from everyone, but we are excited to enjoy this special event with each and every one of you. Please pay and pick up your t-shirt if you have not already. Volunteers are still needed, and the sign-up sheet continues to be in the hall. There will be a GreekFest-specific email going out with “day-of” instructions. Please be on the lookout for it.**

**Lastly, the music program has obviously been a topic of discussion for some time now. There will be a statement emailed out that addresses the situation next week. Please be on the lookout.**

**Your Servants,**

**The Parish Council**



## **A Message from Fr. Mike**

**Having completed the Lenten fast and celebrated the Resurrection, we feel our liturgical life gradually returning to a normal rhythm. However, we must also remember how we walked with the apostles during Holy Week, experiencing their journey through those events. When we think about that story, we realize that it didn't end with the crucifixion or even the Resurrection. The apostles were then waiting for the arrival of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, as promised by Jesus. This is where we now find ourselves as we approach Pentecost. Pentecost brought about a completely new spiritual zeal in the early Church as the gifts of the Spirit rapidly brought more people to Christ. This same spirit is what we must relive today; striving to demonstrate a real passion for sharing our faith and bringing people into the Church founded by Christ. This means looking at the way we interact with the world around us and asking ourselves if the way we conduct ourselves and build relationships with others speaks to the transformative impact of our spiritual lives. Hopefully each of us can become a source of light in the world, so that all who see that light will be drawn to come experience its source. When we begin by transforming ourselves through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can then transform our own church community and the world we live in.**

**• Fr. Mike**

## **General Assembly May 17<sup>th</sup>**

**On May 17<sup>th</sup> we will have our General Assembly following the Divine Liturgy. We hope everyone will make the effort to attend as we discuss important topics such as bylaw updates and a proposed narthex project.**



## BEACON OF HOPE: IOCC's Humanitarian Work

*Sunday May 3d, 2026*

*Holy Trinity – St John the Theologian Greek Orthodox Church*

*5725 Pearl Orchard Rd.*

*Jackson, MS. 39211*

**Louis Zagami, IOCC Development Officer – Disaster Chaplain**

will lead a discussion on IOCC's worldwide humanitarian programs and answer questions about how you support people in need around the world.

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*IOCC, in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to so respond.*

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# IOCC®

PO Box 17398 • Baltimore, MD 21297-0429

877.803.IOCC • [relief@iocc.org](mailto:relief@iocc.org)

Visit us online at [iocc.org](http://iocc.org)

# GREEK FEST

JACKSON  
2026



SATURDAY  
MAY 9  
11AM-9PM

**FOOD**  
GREEK FOOD & PASTRIES

**DRINKS**  
BEER & GREEK WINES

**MUSIC**  
GREEK MUSIC

**DANCING**  
GREEK DANCING

**MARKET**  
SHOP LOCAL & GREEK IMPORTS

**KIDS ZONE**  
ACTIVITIES & FUN



Go to [GreekJacksonMS.org](http://GreekJacksonMS.org) for more info

Holy Trinity-St. John the Theologian  
Greek Orthodox Church  
5725 Pear Orchard Rd., Jackson, MS

# **Diakonia Retreat Center**

**As many of you know, the Diakonia Retreat Center is the home of our Metropolis summer camp, where the youth throughout the Metropolis have formative experiences in faith and fellowship. It also hosts many ministries for people of all ages throughout the year.**

**The DRC was a major focus of the career of Metropolitan Alexis, who retired fairly recently. In honor of His Eminence's work in creating this spiritual oasis for the Church, it was renamed as the Alexis Retreat Center.**

**They are currently in the final phase of finishing the chapel on the property, with the roof now being worked on. The Metropolis is seeking assistance from all parishes and individuals who wish to support this shared asset which is so critical to youth ministry in particular. This is a lasting investment in the future of the Orthodox faith in the southeastern US.**

**If you wish to support this effort, you may give online or text Text "HTSJT DRC" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. You can also leave a check in the offering plate with "DRC" on the memo line. We appreciate your consideration and support as we strive to engage in this act of stewardship for our Metropolis.**

Save The Date



**JULY 1-5 2026 • CLEVELAND, OH**

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YAL@GOARCH.ORG



ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE  
GREEK ORTHODOX  
ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA



**Register Now!**

**[clergy-laity.org/yalconference](http://clergy-laity.org/yalconference)**

