

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



CURRENT
FEBRUARY 2020





Dear Parish Family,

“Come and see the Christ who is Lord and Master of all things, who today by Symeon to the Temple now is borne.”

This hymn from our Parish Feast Day invites us to our church home to encounter Christ, and strengthen our relationship with Him.

Shortly after this celebration we begin Great Lent. The Fast is a time when we focus on changing our way of thinking to bring us closer to God

Still there are those who have who have not yet met the Lord. There are also those who have had a negative experience with a Church in the past.

Lent and the four weeks that precede it are a great time of year to introduce people to our Faith, or help them find their way back.

So, as we approach Great Lent, **let's spend 15 Minutes** thinking of someone who needs the Lord. Let's each think of someone whose life would be better with Jesus -and by the way, that's everyone - and invite them to something at Church!

Then, we can come together to encounter Christ. Then, we can receive Him as a Christian family, so that through us everyone will be drawn to the love of the Master of all things.

See you at Church!

FRDK

Fr. Dean



A Note from President and Stewardship Chairman Steve Markantone



The beginning of the year is a great time to set goals. It is important that we continue to grow in every facet of our lives, achieving things that previously seemed impossible. As our church has grown over the past several years, we have experienced a lot of positive changes. There has been an increase in the fellowship, Friendship, and compassion towards others.

We have something very special here at Ypapanti and it is essential that we share this with as many people as possible. I would like to set a stewardship goal of 135 Stewards. Please invite a friend to join us in church on Sunday. If you know someone that needs a friend please invite them as well.

If you have not had a chance to fill out a pledge card for this year please do so we can finish the stewardship puzzle. Once again thank you for being a member of Ypapanti

ST. CATHERINE PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

(Women of Action)

The Philoptochos of the Presentation of Christ is a group of women who work throughout the year to help those in need. They contribute financially to the National and Metropolis Philoptochos projects, such as St. Basil's Academy, the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon, medical and funeral expenses, and recovery from natural disasters—all, and more of which are described on the National Philoptochos website.

On the local level, St. Catherine was active all of 2019 in the project of Feeding the Hungry, from participating in the FOCUS and Rankin Center food programs to creating the "Warm Hugs" for homebound individuals who would welcome a home cooked meal. Philoptochos members have worked closely with Fr. Dean Kokanos on the food projects.

In May of 2019, the following officers of St. Catherine Philoptochos were elected: President—Sylvia Graziano, Vice-President—Stamatia Milburn, Recording Secretary—Roula Kyros, Corresponding Secretary—Tina Rushe, and Treasurer—Gail Mantzouridis. They encourage all of the women of the parish to become active members of Philoptochos.

Since September of 2019, our Philoptochos provided grocery store gift cards, hosted Pop-Up Pantries, held a fund-raising Soup-A-Thon, celebrated an early Thanksgiving with a Luncheon honoring the Feast Day of St. Catherine and hosted the Breakfast after the Christmas Pageant (with the help of Tasso Athans and Tom Milburn), held a Christmas Party at Edgewood Country Club, provided refreshments for the Christmas Retreat, and responded to requests of those in need, where possible.

St. Catherine offers many thanks to Stanley PrestoGeorge for providing the coffee each Sunday for the Fellowship Hour. The financial contributions of those who enjoy the Fellowship Hour and the delicious pastry that all of the women of the Church donate are very much appreciated. This activity provides a constant income for the Philoptochos to use for charitable purposes.

Some of the scheduled items for 2020 for Philoptochos include: February— Matching a contribution of the Parish Council to contribute to a charity for those affected by the fires in Australia; March--Hosting the first of the Lenten Suppers; May—Producing an entertaining Talent Show on May 30; while visiting community shut-ins when possible, continuing projects to feed the hungry, and especially planning to participate in the National Philoptochos Convention in Cleveland from June 28 through July 2, 2020, with the intention of sending two delegates to represent the St. Catherine Philoptochos Chapter. This is the first time the National Convention will be held in the Pittsburgh Metropolis.

Please contact Talent Show Chairperson Anastasia Andrews (412-398-3194) , if you know of someone who would share his, or her talent for an entertaining night on May 30, in the Olympia Hall. Part of the proceeds from the event will benefit the Lending Hearts Charity that works with children with cancer. Mark your calendar to attend.

St. Catherine Philoptochos would like to thank the entire community of the Presentation of Christ for its constant support.

If you enjoy helping others, consider joining St. Catherine Philoptochos!



PANEGYRI





PANEGYRI

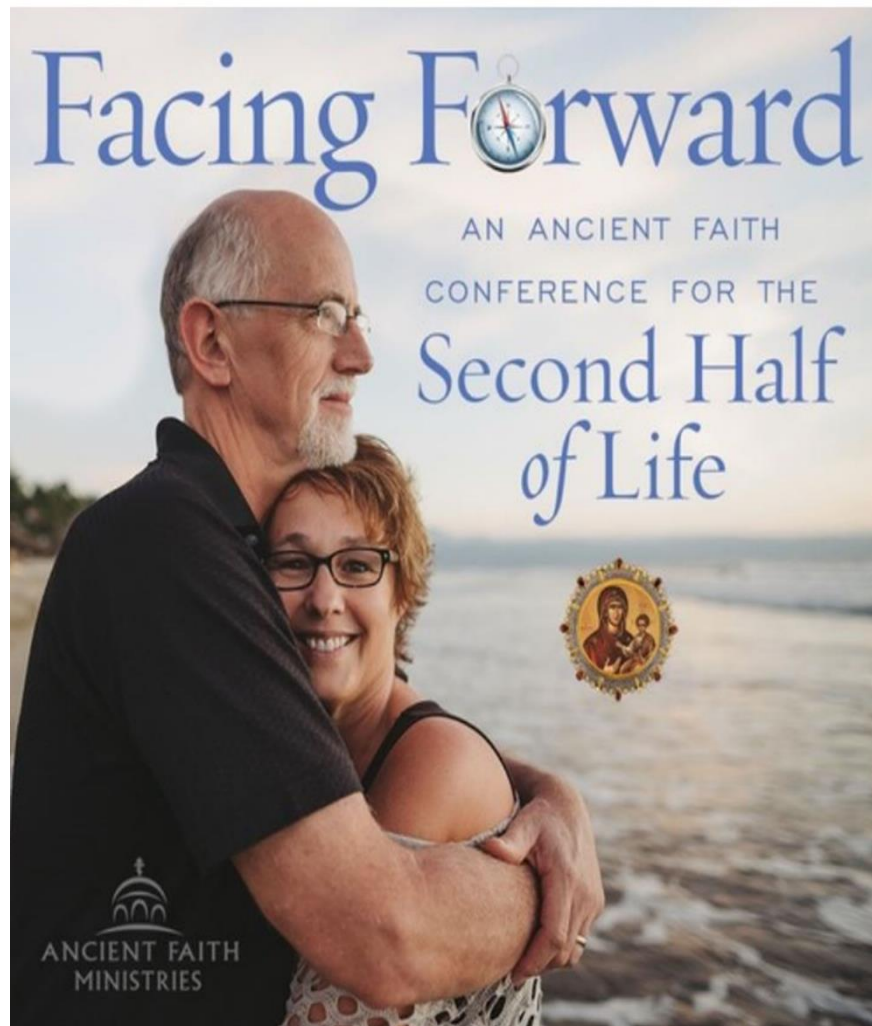




PANEGYRI



A WEEKEND OF THOUGHT-PROVOKING CONVERSATION, WORSHIP, AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP AS WE STUDY THE JOYS AND TRIALS THAT COME TO US AS GOD GRANTS US MANY YEARS.



SPEAKERS AND SESSIONS

- Fr. Gregory and Kh. Frederica Mathewes-Green: A Conversation for Parents of Adult Children
 - Steve and Peggy Robinson: Parenting Your Parents
- Bill Marianes: Why Are You Here? How Do You Discover Your Calling And Live A Life Of Greater Significance?
 - Steve Kellar: Managing Risk in Retirement

Thu, May 28, 2020, 5:00 PM – Sun, May 31, 2020, 1:00 PM EDT
Antiochian Village Conference Center, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA 15923

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST 2020 LENTEN PARISH FAMILY RETREAT

March 21st, 2020

*This year we will again prepare 125 care packages for the
McKeesport Homeless Shelter*



CARE
PACKAGE
CHECKLIST



-
- ONE COTTON HAND TOWEL
 - ONE COTTON WASHCLOTH
 - ONE TUBE LIP BALM
 - ONE FINGERNAIL OR TOENAIL CLIPPER
 - ONE BATH SIZED BAR OF SOAP IN THE WRAPPER
 - ONE TOOTHBRUSH IN THE PACKAGE
 - TEN STANDARD SIZE BAND-AIDS
 - ONE GALLON ZIP LOCK BAGS FOR PACKAGING
-

*Please bring donated items to the Church Community Center
by March 20th. Also accepting donations of Twin bed fitted
sheets and new or used adult size coats.*



Anyone interested in offering one of the prayers at the services of the **Salutations to the Theotokos**, held on the first five (5) Fridays of Great Lent, should contact Jamie at jorfanopoulos@yahoo.com or Fr. Dean to be placed on the schedule. Two readers are needed for each of the services, which begin at 6:30 pm and are preceded by a free dinner.

March 6th - 5:30 pm LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER
(1st Friday) 6:30 pm ***Salutations to the Theotokos (I)***

March 13th - 5:30 pm LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER
(2nd Friday) 6:30 pm ***Salutations to the Theotokos (II)***

March 20th - 5:30 pm LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER
(3rd Friday) 6:30 pm ***Salutations to the Theotokos (III)***

March 27th - 5:30 pm LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER
(4th Friday) 6:30 pm ***Salutations to the Theotokos (IV)***

April 3rd - 5:30 pm LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER
(5th Friday) 6:30 pm **Entire Akathist Hymn**



SATURDAY OF SOULS

Departed Loved Ones "For the repose of the servants of God..."



WHY DO WE COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP?

During memorial services we commemorate the souls of those who have gone before us into eternal rest. By praying for those who have fallen asleep in the Lord, we continue to ask that God may have mercy on them in His divine judgment, so they may gain the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven.

The names offered will be commemorated during the "Saturday of the Souls" services at the beginning of the Lenten season and during the Service of Proskemedi before Sunday Divine Liturgies. Please submit your names only once, as they will be used for all of the Saturday of Souls Services during this season.

Please remember your loved ones by not only submitting their names, but by attending the Liturgy to offer your own prayers for their eternal rest. Anyone wishing to do so may also bring a dish of memorial wheat (Koliva) for use during the Saturday of Souls service.

Please provide first names only:

You may mail your list of names to the Church office or leave it at the Candle Stand.

Dates for Saturday Of Souls Service for 2020 are:

February 22 nd	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
March 7 th	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

SAVE THE DATE!



*Young Adult
Spring Retreat*

ENGAGING the non-religious with
the Gospel of Jesus Christ

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FR SERGIUS HALVORSEN

MARCH 13-15 | CAMP NAZARETH, MERCER, PA

Y2AM.PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG



HOUSE AND BUSINESS BLESSINGS 2020

Every year, on the Feast of Theophany, Orthodox Christians around the world have a blessing of the waters to celebrate the Baptism of Christ and the revealing of the Holy Trinity to mankind.

We then receive the blessing of this Holy Water to renew ourselves in Christ and to remind ourselves that through Christ all things are again made clean. We also extend this blessing to our homes and businesses to wipe away temptations and attacks that might lead us away from Christ.

If you wish to have Fr. Dean bless your home and/or business, please complete the form below and return it to the Church.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Please Suggest three (3) dates that might work for a house blessing.

1.) _____

2.) _____

3.) _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. You may place it in the Sunday collection basket, mail it to the Church, or email it to Fr. Dean at
FatherDeanKokanos@gmail.com

1672 Electric Avenue • PO BOX J • East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

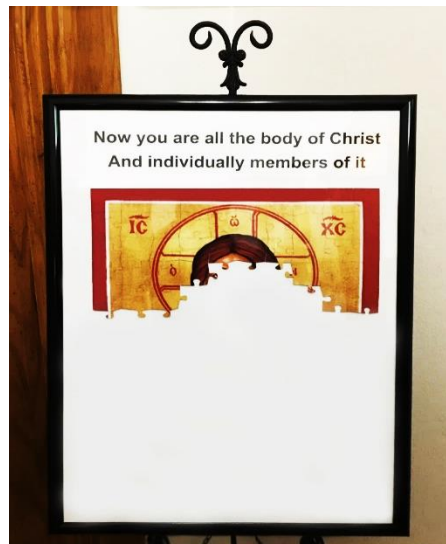
*Did you turn
in your 2020
pledge card!*



Just click the "online giving!" Tab on the website!

(You can still do it at Church or through the mail - Don't forget to fill out the back!)

Every card gets us closer to completing our icon!





**INTRODUCING
LITTLE LAMBS
SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

**LITTLE LAMBS SUNDAY SCHOOL
MEETS DURING
COFFEE HOUR IN THE LIBRARY**

AGES 3-5

Each lesson includes a prayer, the Saint of the Day, an activity, a story, and a song related to the monthly theme

Please walk your Little Lamb to the library after church!
(Grownups are welcome to stay!)

SEPTEMBER	<i>The Cross</i>
OCTOBER	<i>Going to Church</i>
NOVEMBER	<i>The Saints</i>
DECEMBER	<i>Nativity</i>
JANUARY	<i>Icons</i>
FEBRUARY	<i>Stories of Jesus</i>
MARCH	<i>Great Lent</i>
APRIL	<i>Pascha</i>
MAY	<i>Review of the Year</i>



A GOOD WORD—Λόγον Αγαθόν

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

ISSUE 28 — FEBRUARY 2020



EXPLORING MUSICAL CONNECTIONS

“How Sweet the Sound” is an innovative musical event taking place February 1 at 3:00 p.m. at Annunciation Cathedral in Columbus. Through the performances and presentations, the conference asks: What can a musical style from one Christian tradition reveal about another? What can we learn about one another through musical collaboration and experimentation? And how can music help us build bridges across communities? This event will explore the connections between Eastern Orthodoxy and Black Gospel music by presenting a newly-composed setting of the Orthodox Vespers in a Black Gospel style. The composer, Dr. Shawn Wallace, is a professor of jazz at The Ohio State University and a convert to Orthodoxy. The performers are experts in the Black Gospel tradition.

The performance will be preceded by presentations from Dr. Peter Bouteneff, a professor of Systemic Technology at St. Vladimir’s Seminary (who also directs of the Arvo Part project there) and Father Moses Berry, a priest of the Orthodox Church of America who specializes in the connections between African Orthodoxy and the African-American experience.

Tickets are free but obtaining one before January 31st is requested. For more details, visit: <http://www.howsweetthesound.net>



OCF COLLEGE CONFERENCE

Testimonial by Nicholas & Sophia Goussetis

As Orthodox college students, we are often at odds with the experiences we are subjected to on our



campuses. For many of us, attending university presents the first time in our lives where we must consciously choose to be practicing Orthodox Christians. While we have countless opportunities to make choices consistent with the teachings of the faith, and many of us are blessed to take part in events and fellowship with our local OCF chapters, being an Orthodox Christian student at university can be a challenge.

We know we speak for others when we say that College Conference is a highlight of being an Orthodox college student. College Conference is a wonderful opportunity to develop knowledge of the faith, discuss meaningful and relevant topics, and cultivate connections with a pan-Orthodox group of students. We are always eager to enter an environment in which shared beliefs and backgrounds allow us to form lasting bonds and learn from our peers and the esteemed speakers.



After participating in the keynote address, workshops, discussion groups, and church services, we leave College

(Continued on page 2)



SUPPORT HIS EMINENCE AND THE METROPOLIS MINISTRIES

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

(Continued from page 1)

Conference with many tools to enrich and reinvigorate our campus lives. Inspired by beautiful examples of Orthodoxy, we feel encouraged to share the same joy, love, and wisdom on our campuses.

Year after year, College Conference has been essential to our college experience. Though the conference only lasts a few days, it truly has a lasting effect on our spiritual journeys, giving us a renewed sense of the meaning of our faith. College Conference is the perfect opportunity to learn, reconnect, and continue to choose Orthodoxy.



Cleveland CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS

JUNE 28 - JULY 3, 2020

More information for the Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Congress will be in the next issue., or visit the official Congress website, where things will be posted as they become available: <http://www.clergylaity.org/>



YOUTH SAFETY UPDATE

Want to work with youth in your parish? Then you must become a Youth Worker.

Register. Screen. Train.

y2am.pittsburgh.goarch.org/safety or goarch.org/safety

All parishes must be complaint by 1.31.2020

Youth Workers must be registered - screened - trained

SAVE THE DATE!

Young Adult Spring Retreat

ENGAGING the non-religious with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FR SERGIUS HALVORSEN

MARCH 13-15 | CAMP NAZARETH, MERCER, PA

Y2AM.PITTSBURGH.GOARCH.ORG

CROSSROAD PRIORITY DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1

CrossRoad is a ten-day academic summer institute that prepares high school juniors and seniors to make big life decisions and invites them to connect with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition. Participants from all over the country come together to experience daily worship, take theology classes from some of the best professors in the country, visit local parishes, serve their neighbor, tour the city, and even spend a day at the beach.

Numerous students from the Metropolis have participated in the program since its inception. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.crossroadinstitute.org>



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

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

His Eminence Metropolitan SAVAS of Pittsburgh, Presiding Hierarch

Fr. George Callos, Chancellor

Pres. Eileen Sedor, Receptionist

Marina Papafil, Camp Ministries Coordinator

ADn. Ryan Gzikowski, Asst. to Metropolitan & Registrar

Rhea Ballas, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Director

Maria Stamoolis, Director of Greek Education and Culture

Stacey Stathulis, Stewardship Ministries Coordinator

2019 – 2020 Fellowship Hour Schedule

September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29	October 6	October 13
Philoptochos	Sylvia Graziano Adrienne Prestogeorge	Argy Giannikas Stephanie Giannikas	Toula Bargas Tina Rushe	Lori Voltz	Katina Harem Diane Kampetis Natalie. Mayfield	Josie Markantone Mindy Markantone Desiree Markantone
October 20	October 27	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24	December 1
Gen Assembly Appreciation Luncheon	MargeTsudis Kay Zanic Shirley Zafris	Nancy Russon Tootie Pranis	*Fasting St Catherine Luncheon	*Fasting Stephanie Neuschwander Mary Papazis	*Fasting Philoptochos	*Fasting Toni Morgan Gloria Batis
December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29	2020	January 5	January 12
*Fasting Philoptochos	*Fasting Tootie Pranis Lucy Koutsavlis	*Fasting Children's Christmas Lunch	Paula Borsch	HAPPY NEW YEAR	Anna Dudek Claudia Farmer	Becky. Leventopolous Deanna. Leventopolous
January 19	January 26	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23	March 1
Katie Kwiatkowski Carol Snyder	Kathy Athans Filia Arvanitis	Ypapanti Name Day Celebration	Sylvia Graziano Alaina Graziano	Marguerite Ellis Alexis Breen	YASOU Memorial	Rebecca Fritzius Kim Fritzius Julie Surma
March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29	April 5	April 12	April 19
*Cheese Fare Angela Stupakis Katherine Armstrong Theodora. Stupakis	*Fasting	*Fasting Lucy K. Samantha Koutsavlis Sophie Koutsavlis	*Fasting Marguerite Ellis Alexis Breen	*Fasting Philoptochos	PALM SUNDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
April 26	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31	June 7
Mary Doreza Tessie Stupakis Helen Siderakis	Gail Mantzouridis Lucy. Koutsavlis	Mother's Day Choir	J. Augoustidis A. Augoustidis A. Mamakos	A. Margaros C. Karystinos D. Grysiak	Stamatia Milburn Athena Caldwell	General Assembly
June 14	June 21	June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Father's Day Philoptochos	M. Ferrari Frosso. Kolokouris	Kathy Panagos Pota Seitanakis	Cindy Kypriotakis Eleni Papageorgiou Flora Hamborsky	Mary Ann Sfanos Josie Caruso	Philoptochos	Georgina Callas Maria Krishnaswamy
August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30		
Malamo. Countouris- Hensley Paula Borsch	Roula Kyros Stella Stratigos Elizabeth White	Joan Kenney Anastasia Andrews	Food Festival	Chris Burns Artemis Apostolopoulou		

Please remember to bring creamer, cups and juice. If you need to change your day or would like to volunteer for an extra day where "Philoptochos" is noted, please call Lucy Koutsavlis at 412-916-4590 or Coula Karystinos at 412-824-8989.

Revised as of February 4, 2020

~ Tentative ~

February

~ Tentative ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<p>2</p> <p>Presentation of Our Lord Into the Temple</p> <p>8:15 AM, Matins</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11 AM, Panegyri</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11:00 AM, YASOU Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Feast of St. Photios</p> <p>8:30 AM, Matins</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p> <p>At Holy Trinity in Allison Park with lunch to follow at Valliant's Diner</p>	<p>7</p> 	<p>1</p> <p>7 PM, Great Vespers</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM, Matins</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p> <p>12:00 PM, Philoptochos Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11 AM, YASOU Meeting</p> <p>7:00 PM, Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>2 PM, Dinner prep for FOCUS Pgh</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10 AM, Paraklesis</p> 	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM, Matins</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>11 AM, YASOU Anniversary Lunch at the Wooden Nickel in Monroeville</p> <p>7 PM, Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30 PM, Paraklesis</p> <p>7:30 PM, Orthodox Adult Education</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Saturday of Souls</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Meatfare Sunday</p> <p>8:30 AM, Matins</p> <p>9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11 AM, YASOU Memorial</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7 PM, Sandwich Prep for Rankin Center</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7 PM, Movie Night</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 AM, Paraklesis</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Men's Retreat</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Leap Day</p> 

Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church

1672 Electric Avenue, PO Box J, East Pittsburgh, PA 15112 - 412-824-9188

Website: www.PresentationofChristPgh.org Follow us on Facebook
@PresentationofChrist

Under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, His Eminence Elpidophoros Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and His Eminence Metropolitan Savas. The mission of the Presentation of Christ is to proclaim with joy the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to teach and spread the Orthodox Christian Faith and to be a community devoted to and energized by the love of God and our neighbor.

Rev. Fr. Constantine Kokanos
Cell Phone: 412-760-7203
Email: FatherDeanKokanos@gmail.com

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

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

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

Nancy Philpot, Admin Assistant
Nancy's Office Hours: 9 to 3, Tuesday to Friday

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

2020 Parish Council Members

Steve Markantone President	724-325-1729	Paula Borsch Treasurer	412-721-1840
Stan Prestogeorge Vice President	412-824-5033	Anastasia Andrews Treasurer	412-398-3194
Tom Rosvanis Vice President	412-373-5057		
Peter JAnthony	412-596-5348	Petros Mantzouridis	412-780-0201
Tasso Athans	724-864-5252	Jaime Orfanopoulos	412-302-1495
Deborah Grysiak	412-371-2465	Tootie Pranis	412-373-1270
Ernie Kampetis	412-892-9096	Richard Voltz	412-798-8177
Sophie Koutsavlis	412-461-8246		

Organizations & Committees

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