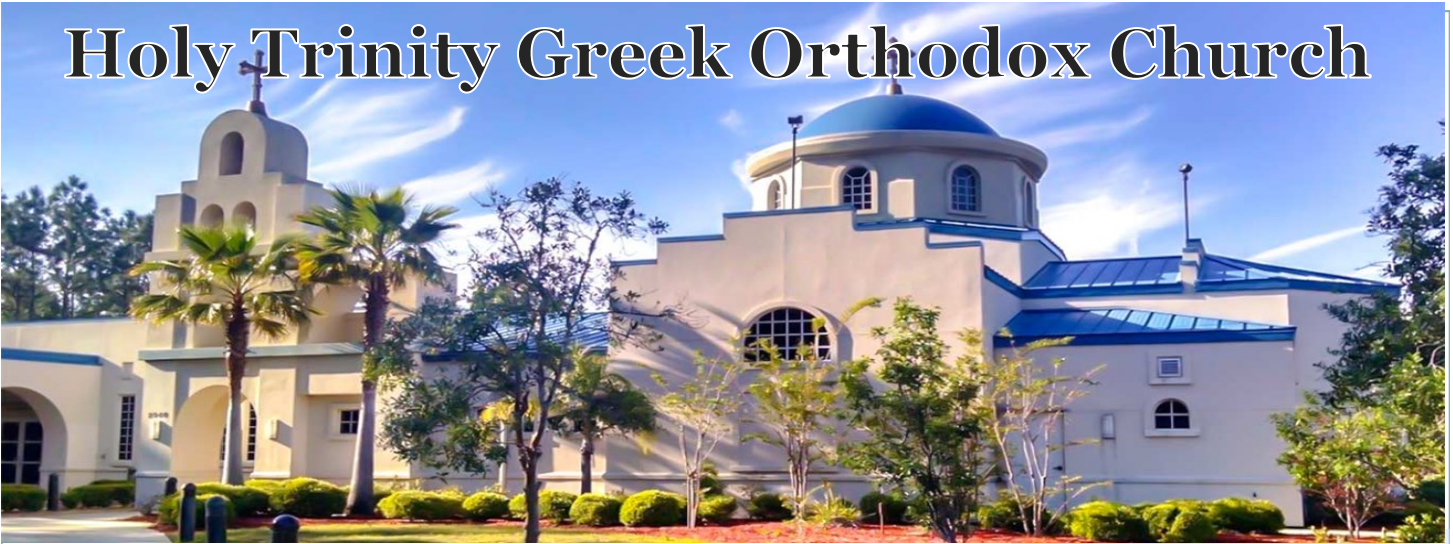


# Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church



**V. Rev. Father Maximos Politis**  
**Parish Priest**

## **“New Ecclesiastical Year”**

September 1 is considered the beginning of the New Ecclesiastical Year.

At the same time, however, September marks the beginning of sowing. The farmers are preparing to sow the seed in the field so that at the right time they can reap the fruits. From a Christian point of view, the beginning of the church year is an occasion for the renewal of our spiritual efforts that will bear the expected fruits.

This is reminiscent of a parable of the Lord. According to this, in a field there was a tree, a fig tree, which for a number of years did not bear fruit. That's why they wanted to cut it. Then the gardener who was in charge of the tree asked the owner of the property not to cut it but to wait another year. "Lord, let it alone this year also," the text of the gospel says. The gardener asked for this postponement in order to dig the soil around the tree, to also put fertilizer, lest it bear fruit.

Christ in this parable meant that God gives us life. There is a reason that allows us to live. This is because He expects us to bear spiritual fruit.

Man did not come into this world simply to have a family, to do his business, to have fun, or to suffer. He did not come just to have his dreams or nightmares, to have a good time or to live with the threats of war and disease. The only reason we have come to life is the spiritual fruitfulness that leads to the sanctification of the soul. This is why God allows us to live "this year also."

We often say, "As I was last year, so I am this year." This stagnation is not a good thing. Man must work spiritually unceasingly. If he is distracted and sleeps spiritually, he is lost. How we admire the eagle! How high can he fly! In each of his flights there are moments when he stops. But he still goes on. If he loses height, he will regain it. But if he stops and is distracted there is a risk of falling and being killed.

*(continue on page 2)*

### **Proistamenos**

V. Rev. Father Maximos Politis  
fathermaximusa7@gmail.com

### **Parish Council**

#### **OFFICERS & MEMBERS**

Nick Lekas, President  
Bill Lulias, Vice President  
Andy Lekos, Treasurer  
Stephanie Danikas, Secretary  
Polaxeni Hillier  
Toula Zotos  
Nico Kelley  
Kaliroi Parris  
Steve Kallas

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Our parish is a living witness of Jesus Christ, serving the spiritual and physical needs of all people, through worship, outreach, and education.*



Office Hours 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Ms. Nelda Hann, Admin.  
904 829-0504  
holy3goc@gmail.com

So now that we are at the beginning of the church year, let us make a new beginning in our spiritual endeavors. And this will be done in the Church. Christ came to earth, taught, performed miracles, suffered, was crucified, was resurrected and founded the Church. Man is saved when he believes in the Church, he lives the life of the Church. It is not enough to say that "I have come to know Christ and I believe in Christ." If we do not meet Christ in the Church, then we have not met the true Christ. The Church is the body of Christ and only when we are in the Church then are we united with Christ.

Like a vehicle moving on a road without road signs. It is dangerous to get offroad. The same happens in our spiritual life as well. The Saints are signs, and signposts of our spiritual life. They show us the way to salvation.

Finally, let us learn to study the word of God. We often try to provide a solution and answer to the problems of our lives. We have to study the word of God because there is the answer.

With these thoughts, let us renew our spiritual endeavors and thank God who gave us life "this year also."

### **Νέο Εκκλησιαστικό Έτος.**

Η 1η Σεπτεμβρίου θεωρείται η έναρξη του Νέου Εκκλησιαστικού Έτους. Παράλληλα όμως ο Σεπτέμβριος σηματοδοτεί την έναρξη της σποράς. Οι γεωργοί ετοιμάζονται να ρίξουν τον σπόρο στο χωράφι ώστε την κατάλληλη εποχή να λάβουν τους καρπούς. Από Χριστιανική άποψη η αρχή του εκκλησιαστικού έτους είναι αφορμή για την ανανέωση των πνευματικών μας προσπαθειών που θα φέρουν τους αναμενόμενους καρπούς.

Αυτό θυμίζει μια παραβολή του Κυρίου. Σύμφωνα με αυτή σε ένα χωράφι υπήρχε κάποιο δέντρο, μια συκιά, που επί σειρά ετών δεν έδινε καρπούς. Για αυτό τον λόγο ήθελαν να το κόψουν. Τότε ο κηπουρός που ήταν υπεύθυνος για το δέντρο παρακάλεσε τον ιδιοκτήτη του κτήματος να μη το κόψουν αλλά να περιμένουν ακόμα ένα χρόνο. "Κύριε, άφες αυτήν και τούτο το έτος", λέει το κείμενο του ευαγγελίου. Ο κηπουρός ζήτησε αυτή την αναβολή ώστε να σκάψει το χώμα γύρω από το δέντρο, να βάλει επίσης λίπασμα, μήπως δώσει καρπό.

Ο Χριστός με αυτή την παραβολή ήθελε να πει ότι ο Θεός μας χαρίζει ζωή. Υπάρχει λόγος που μας επιτρέπει να ζούμε. Ο λόγος αυτός είναι ότι περιμένει να φέρουμε πνευματικούς καρπούς.

Ο άνθρωπος δεν ήρθε σε αυτό τον κόσμο απλώς και μόνο για να κάνει οικογένεια, να κάνει τις δουλειές του, να διασκεδάζει ή να ταλαιπωρείται. Δεν ήρθε απλώς για να έχει τα όνειρα ή τους εφιάλτες του, να περνάει καλά ή να ζει με τις απειλές πολέμων και αρρωσθειών. Ο μοναδικός λόγος που έχουμε έρθει στη ζωή είναι η πνευματική καρποφορία που οδηγεί στον αγιασμό της ψυχής. Αυτός είναι ο λόγος που ο Θεός επιτρέπει να ζούμε "και τούτο το έτος".

Πολλές φορές λέμε, "όπως ήμουν πέρυσι έτσι είμαι και φέτος." Αυτή η στασιμότητα δεν είναι καλό πράγμα. Ο άνθρωπος πρέπει να δουλεύει από πνευματική άποψη ακατάπαυστα. Εάν ξεχαστεί και κοιμηθεί πνευματικά, χάνεται. Πόσο θαυμάζουμε τον αετό! Πόσο ψηλά μπορεί να πετάξει! Σε κάθε πτήση του υπάρχουν στιγμές που σταματάει. Αλλά και πάλι συνεχίζει. Αν χάσει ύψος πάλι θα το ανακτήσει. Αν σταματήσει όμως και αφαιρεθεί υπάρχει κίνδυνος να πέσει και να σκοτωθεί.

Ο άνθρωπος κάνει τον αγώνα του σύμφωνα με το μέτρο των δυνατοτήτων του. Δεν μπορούν όλοι οι άνθρωποι να αγωνιστούν όπως για παράδειγμα οι παλαιοί ασκητές και ερημίτες. Μπορούν όμως να αγωνιστούν. Ο Θεός βλέπει την διάθεση του ανθρώπου, βλέπει την προσπάθεια, τον κόπο του, την ταπείνωσή του και αυτά τα αμείβει με σωτηρία.

Τώρα λοιπόν που είμαστε στην αρχή του εκκλησιαστικού έτους, ας κάνουμε μια νέα αρχή στις πνευματικές μας προσπάθειες. Και αυτό θα γίνει μέσα στην Εκκλησία. Ο Χριστός ήρθε στη γη, δίδαξε, θαυματούργησε, έπαθε, σταυρώθηκε, αναστήθηκε και ίδρυσε την Εκκλησία. Ο άνθρωπος σώζεται όταν πιστεύει στην Εκκλησία, ζει τη ζωή της Εκκλησίας. Δεν αρκεί να πει ότι "γνώρισα τον Χριστό και πιστεύω στον Χριστό." Εάν δεν συναντήσουμε τον Χριστό μέσα στην Εκκλησία, τότε δεν συναντήσαμε τον αληθινό Χριστό. Η Εκκλησία είναι το σώμα του Χριστού και μόνον όταν είμαστε μέσα στην Εκκλησία τότε ενωνόμαστε με τον Χριστό.

Όπως ένα όχημα που κινείται σε δρόμο χωρίς οδική σήμανση είναι επικίνδυνο να εκτροχιαστεί έτσι και στην πνευματική μας ζωή. Σήματα, και οδοδείκτες της πνευματικής μας ζωής είναι οι Άγιοι. Αυτοί μας δείχνουν τον δρόμο που οδηγεί στη σωτηρία.

Τέλος, να μάθουμε να μελετάμε τον λόγο του Θεού. Προσπαθούμε πολλές φορές να δώσουμε λύση και απάντηση στα προβλήματα της ζωής μας. Να μελετάμε τον λόγο του Θεού γιατί εκεί, βρίσκεται η απάντηση.

## FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.  
And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets,  
third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administra-  
tions, varieties of tongues.  
(1 Corinthians 12:27 - 28)*

**Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ!**

September is a time of beginnings. Children are back in school and summer vacations are over.



The month of September was, for the Hebrews, the beginning of the civil year (Exodus 23:16), the month of gathering the harvest and of offering thanks to God. St. Nikolai Velimorovich, in *The Prologue of Ohrid*, says that It was on this feast that the Lord Jesus entered the synagogue in Nazareth (Luke 4:16-21), opened the book of the Prophet Isaiah and read the words: *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn (Isaiah 61:1-2).*

As a parish family, with this new year we are renewing ministries that have suffered in the recent past. For example, Sunday School has a new beginning this year with a new administrator, the Greek Festival is being renewed as a live event at our church, the Bookstore has received a face lift and a new dedication and we have added an Agora, both of which are open each Sunday, and the dance troupe has once again begun to come together as a group for practices and fellowship.

But what is each of us individually doing to “proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord?” Since we are the Lord’s disciples, we each must personally resolve to “preach good tidings” and “proclaim liberty to the captives.” Admittedly this may seem difficult at times. Nevertheless, In all things, we remain hopeful that “the Lord will give strength unto his people” (Ps 29), and that we may truly say, “I sought the Lord, and he heard me; he delivered me from all my fears” (Ps 34). Whatever our labor in the coming year may be, we believe that if it is in the Lord, that it “is not in vain,” (1 Cor 15:58), and we trust that the Lord will bless us and add to our number daily those who are being saved (Acts 2:47).

Our resolution to follow the Lord requires personal commitment – our time, our talent, our treasure, our prayers, and our presence. We are all parts of the Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:28), and as such we must be present together in worship. In his book “*Nature, Man and God*” William Temple writes : “*Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness; the nourishment of mind with His truth; the purifying of the imagination by His beauty; the opening of the heart to His love, the surrender of will to His purpose — and all this gathered up in adoration, (is) the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable...*”. Worship requires participation. It is an intentional relationship with God on a daily basis.

As we head into the new ecclesiastical year, let us carefully discern how we might participate more fully in the work of Christ in our church by volunteering for a ministry, increasing our attendance at services, or inviting a friend to worship with us.

As Christians, our resolution to follow Christ also involves stewardship of our local parish and our metropolis. Unfortunately, our parish continues to have difficulty in terms of our stewardship giving meeting the needs of our community. A careful analysis would indicate that we are likely to experience a shortfall in the coming years. We have had several instances this year where we have had to spend from our reserves for major repairs and although they are not depleted, the level of stewardship giving is not keeping up with the spending. Through close oversight, the Parish Council has worked to keep our “normal” expenses below budgetary expectations. But there is little more that we can “cut” if we desire to maintain our current level of ministry, including our missionary efforts through the OCMC, our support of our beloved St. Photos national shrine as well as our outreach support to local organizations, and of course, our ability to maintain our church with a full-time priest.

We will soon begin to build the proposed 2023 budget - our roadmap for our next year of ministry together - to be presented in our November General Assembly. The budget will strive to honestly acknowledge the financial reality that we must rebuild and renew, and yet will do so in a spirit of hope. We will be challenged to put our treasure where our heart is (Mt 6:21), and we will all be called to action, to recognize that “the night is coming, when no one can work” (Jn 9:4). Now is the time to prepare to offer our very best (Mk 12:41-44), that we may not be found unready when the Bridegroom comes (Mt 25:6). Please pray about how you may “proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord” in 2022-2023.

Once again, it is a privilege to be your Parish Council president and I thank you all for your trust and support. I ask your continued prayers for our Church, Bishops, Priest, our entire council, and also for one another. May God continue to guide us and strengthen us each day.

Yours Faithfully in Christ, Nick Lekas



Thank you to Michael and Ingrid Fotianos for their many years of dedication to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.



Michael and Ingrid Fotianos are moving to Texas. Twenty years ago they started the parish bookstore. Through this diakonia, Michael and Ingrid witnessed the Orthodox Faith to many visitors,

## SUNDAY SCHOOL!

See Stefanie Burke  
[sburke0211@yahoo.com](mailto:sburke0211@yahoo.com)  
for sign-ups for the  
Sunday school year.  
We look forward to a  
wonderful school year!



## Parish Council 9/11 Memorial Luncheon Ministries Fundraiser

SEPTEMBER 11 (following Liturgy) *Suggestion donation \$10*



## AGORA at Holy Trinity

We are pleased to announce the opening of our very own Agora, featuring delicious imported Greek food items like cheeses, olives, olive oil, oregano, frozen tiropites and spanakopites, phyllo, chocolates, lentils, orzo and pastichio noodles, halvah, spoon sweet preserves, and household items like Greek coffee and soap. Gift baskets will soon be available.

All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of St Augustine. Please contact [holytrinityagora@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityagora@gmail.com) to place an order or see us after church at the Agora in the church hall. Online pre-ordering for pickup on Sundays at church will be available soon.

-Stacy Symeonides & Stephanie Danikas & The Agora Team

The parish council is a ministry and all those who serve are called to represent Christ and the Orthodox Faith. The council is responsible to the parish assembly for conducting all parish affairs in keeping with the mission, aims and purposes of the Church.

The council meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



### **Proistamenos**

V. Rev. Father Maximos Politis  
fathermaximusa7@gmail.com

### **Parish Council OFFICERS**

**Nick Lekas**, President  
nslekas@gmail.com

**Bill Lulias**, Vice President  
wlulias@gmail.com

**Andy Lekos**, Treasurer  
ajlekos@att.net

**Stephanie Danikas**, Secretary  
danikas.stephanie@gmail.com

### **Parish Council MEMBERS**

**Polexeni Hillier**  
phillier@stphotios.com

**Toula Zotos**  
zotost@gmail.com

**Nico Kelley**  
nekelleytuba@gmail.com

**Kaliroi Parris**  
roi.parris@gmail.com

**Steve Kallas**  
stefanos.kallas@gmail.com

*“Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7*

We pray that your worship experience with us today  
will be inspirational and uplifting.

Please introduce yourself to a parish ambassador.

**We are happy that you are with us today!**

Holy Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who are in good canonical standing  
with the church and who have prepared through prayer and fasting.

Everyone is invited to receive the Antidoron (Blessed Bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

**Order for Holy Communion—With Sunday School back in session, the order for  
Holy Communion will be as follows:**

- 1. Newly illumined – recently baptized and babies.**
- 2. Sunday school teachers and students (who will line up in middle aisle  
before Communion) – all visiting children are invited to join us!**

**The remaining congregation as directed by the usher.**



## HAPPY NAME DAY AND BIRTHDAY FATHER MAXIMOS!

The parish celebrated on August 14  
Father Maximos with songs and  
cake in honor of both his Name Day  
and birthday.

**God grant you many years  
dear Father!**



## The Feast Day of Phanourios the Great Martyr & Newly Appeared of Rhodes

### Saint Phanourios Celebration



Very little has been passed down about the life of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Great-martyr Phanourios the Newly Appeared of Rhodes, the Miracle-Worker (commemorated on August 27). Around 1500, a previously forgotten chapel was unearthed in Rhodes. All the icons in the chapel were disfigured or crumbling, but one was still intact. It features a young man named as "St. Phanourios," holding a candle-topped cross. Surrounding the central icon are a series of twelve smaller icons depicting the saint's refusal to give up his faith and the tortures that he endured in the process.

Because of the icon's miraculously fresh appearance, as well as the evidence that St. Phanourios maintained the Faith through his tortures all the way to his martyrdom, the Church agreed that he should be revered as a saint. People began to venerate the icon, and they became aware that the prayers of the saint are blessed with miraculous intervention, asking St. Phanourios to pray that they would again find lost items and/or that they would regain their health.

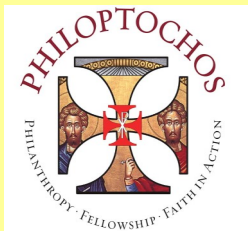
People began to bake a special sweet bread to share in thanksgiving for the saint's prayers and honoring him through a symbolic cake, called the "Phanouropita," which can be brought to the church at any time for a blessing. Phanouropita should be baked as a request to the saint for help, or in thanksgiving after he has helped, and then shared.

On August 28, with our visiting priest Fr. Michael Byars, prayers in honor of St. Phanourios were read over the many Phanouropitas that were offered. Through the prayers of St. Phanourios, may we find blessings and small miracles.

-Angela Lekos







## Dormition of the Theotokos Philoptochos “Kimisis Tis Theotokou”

### Philanthropy – Fellowship – Faith in Action

Join us—Contact Irene Pergeorelis ([iperge45@gmail.com](mailto:iperge45@gmail.com)) Or Toula Zotos ([zotost@gmail.com](mailto:zotost@gmail.com)).

Our Philoptochos chapter had a diaper drive in **May** to benefit the Betty Griffin Center and the Alpha Omega Miracle Home. Both organizations greatly appreciated our donations, especially the baby wipes.

**In July** we had our annual school supply drive and we're blessed with a generous Out pouring of donations that included 25 bookbags with assorted supplies inside, binders, assorted notebook paper, #2 pencils, folders, colored pencils and pens. These were taken to St. John's Technical which serves grades 6 through 12. The assistant principal was so happy to get our donations as they had given away all their supplies just before school started and had nothing left to give.

**In August**, we hosted our annual Dormition Luncheon to celebrate the name day of our chapter. We all enjoyed the crab cakes and all the effort our chef, Nick L., put into preparing the food for the luncheon.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Andrew Lekos, Treasurer

### **Bank Balances** (as of 7/31/2022)

Operating account: \$4,687

Festival account: \$15,000

Mortgage balance: (\$794,314)

### **Reserves**

Reserves: \$195,426

Investment: \$14,301

### **Profit & Loss (July 2022)**

Revenue: \$16,215

Expense: \$24,345

Net: (\$8,130)

## The duty of members of the Church is to give financially.

We need everyone's support to continue to give cheerfully so that we stay on track with our church budget.

Recurring online gifts are helpful. They not only help our church plan better, but they help givers save time and be more consistent in their donations. Our community can benefit using recurring gifts. If we set it and forget it with recurring monthly gifts, we make it a habit automatically. It's also more convenient.

It takes longer to write a check than it does to set up recurring giving, which you only have to do once.

◇Click **“Donate Now”** on our Church's web page [www.HolyTrinityGOC.com](http://www.HolyTrinityGOC.com) to make a gift. Giving categories – stewardship, memorials, etc. – have been set up to allow giving to specific funds.

◇You may also **“Light a Candle & Say a Prayer”** – this allows you to light a candle during divine services on-line. Your request will be forwarded to a Council member in the Narthex to light your candle.

◇Give via credit card, **PayPal** ([https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=6YVVP3Z77BMV8&source=url](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=6YVVP3Z77BMV8&source=url))

◇Or set up **recurrent giving through your bank**. Please be sure a specific notation (ex: stewardship) is included for each transaction.

◇Use our safe and convenient **On-line giving on the Church webpage**.

**Giving by Check:** Please be sure to include a notation on the memo line to allow us to identify your intentions (i.e. stewardship, candles, trays, memorials, etc.).

**Weekly Offering:** The Lord's day is to be the time for a weekly offering for the support of His cause. Make your offering today and enable our Church to continue to enhance the spiritual growth of the Orthodox Christians entrusted to our care. Your *offering* can be made at the collection basket as you exit the service.



# Parish Council 9/11 Memorial & Luncheon Ministries Fundraiser September 11, 2022

Suggested donation \$10.00

- Nick Kelley's Famous Pasta & Meat Sauce,
- Bill Lulias' Famous Spinach and Kale Salad
- Phenomenal Baklava by Stella Bigelow

## **CELEBRATING** *'The Dedication and Naming of the Parish Bookstore Gift Shop Ministry'*

Almost 20 years ago, subdeacon Michael and Ingrid Fotianos started the parish bookstore to provide sought after items like charcoal, incense, and prayer ropes. Through this diakonia, Michael and Ingrid witnessed the Orthodox Faith to many visitors, many who joined the Orthodox Church.

Ever present, Mike and Ingrid would help cradle and convert Orthodox establish a bit of the Church into their home. Subsequently, Donna Bacon and Margo Kelley kept the bookstore open throughout the last few years. What has been missing is the consistent presence of a person or persons covering the bookstore each Sunday.

Paula Lekas and Melissa Strange are taking the *bookstore seeds* that have been sown in our parish and with the blessing and support of the Parish Council committing to a Parish Bookstore Gift Shop Ministry. As with all ministries of the parish, you are invited to support and join this witness of faith!

All are encourage to read the online article, Church Bookstore: A Ministry by Edna King, at [www.familylifeministry.atlanta.goarch.org/church-bookstore-a-ministry/](http://www.familylifeministry.atlanta.goarch.org/church-bookstore-a-ministry/). Here is an excerpt: "A bookstore can help us all to bring a bit of the "heaven on earth" feeling of our Orthodox faith into our homes by adorning our walls with icons and strengthening our faith with Orthodox music, books, prayer ropes, sacramental supplies and other resources. It also provides a peaceful haven for shy people or anyone who wants a quiet moment to browse icons, books, and other items. For me, co-managing the Bookstore is an opportunity to minister to the Parish in a quiet, behind the scenes kind of way. Parishioners drop in to seek help with book recommendations, items needed for their home altar and of course, presents. The small setting of the bookstore provides an easy venue for visitors to come in and learn more about our faith and for all of us to share books and resources that help us on our spiritual journeys".





# 25th Annual Greek Festival



Please join us Oct. 7—9, 2022

**Immerse yourself in authentic Greek culture and heritage  
October 7, 8 and 9, 2022 at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
of St. Augustine during their 25th Annual Greek Festival!**

Transport your senses to made foods, drinks and pastries (grill), Zaharoplastio (sweet and Taverna (bar). Explore Greek culinary journey.



Greece as you taste authentic home- at the Kouzina (kitchen), Psistaria shop), Kafenio (cafe), Agora (market) our online menu to begin your

For one weekend, surround music and participate in tradi- annual event also features a

yourself with the sounds of Greek tional Greek folk dancing. The 25th small arts and crafts market

showcasing Greek products as well as a Greek bookstore. You can also take a guided church tour and we welcome you to join us for our Sunday morning liturgy.

This year, the St. Augustine Greek Festival is thrilled to provide a portion of the event proceeds to support the Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County. The local non-profit agency provides transitional and permanent affordable housing to families who have encountered difficult times and are in crisis. During the Greek Fest, we will collect donations of canned goods and non-perishable foods to help stock the Homeless Coalition's pantry.

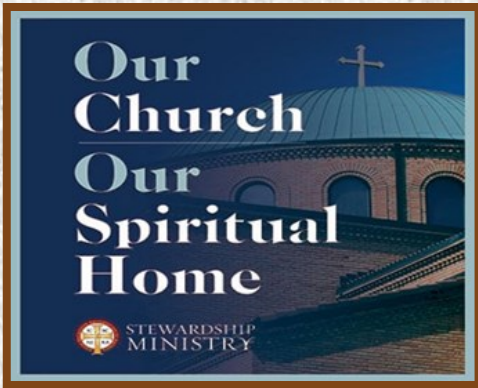
This is a FREE event, open to the public. Take out or eat in and enjoy the festivities... or better yet, eat in AND take out to enjoy later. Whole pans are available via online pre-order ONLY. Pick up on October 7th between 4 and 7 p.m.

We can't wait to celebrate with you October 7th through 9th at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of St. Augustine, located at 2940 CR 214.



Greek

Visit the official St. Augustine Fest website at <https://www.staugustinegreekfestival.com> or the Festival Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StAugustineGreekFestival> -- please "like" and share posts. Opa!



# STEWARDSHIP 2022

## Our Church, Our Spiritual Home

### “Stewardship and the Importance of my Pledge”

Luke 14; 27 - *“And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which of you intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it - lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all to see it and begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish?’*

Stewardship has always been something that we either take lightly or just overlook. As Vice President of the current Parish Council and past stewardship chair, I know the difficulties and reservations some may have to making a pledge and fulfilling that pledge.

The importance of having a pledge and an amount associated with it is simply enabling the parish council to effectively budget for the Church year. The council needs to know how much in funds that can be expected to ‘sit down and count the cost’.

If you have made a pledge, thank you, if you have not, please pray on it and pledge with your heart. We are coming up to the new Church year in September and we look to exceed our past and continue with our beautiful Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church traditions all in His name.

In His Name! Bill Lulias

## Our Vision

*Fostering an Orthodox Christian environment that encourages parishioner engagement, increasing public awareness of our faith and of our parish as a spiritual home, and nurturing and growing our stewardship commitments.*







# Coffee Hour Ministry

**We need volunteers to host coffee hour.**

**You can do it solo or share the responsibility with someone else.**

Please sign up at: [www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoE4CA5AB2AAoFFC34-sunday](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoE4CA5AB2AAoFFC34-sunday),  
email Stefanie Burke at [holy3goc.hostess@gmail.com](mailto:holy3goc.hostess@gmail.com); call 904/671-4566;  
or speak to Stefanie after church and she can sign you up.

**Thank you in advance for considering offering this hospitality to our parish family and guests.**

[Using the SignUpGenius link: click the blue box that says **SIGN UP**;  
then the brown box at the bottom of the page that says **SUBMIT AND SIGN UP** -  
this will take you to the next screen; and click on **SIGN UP NOW**]

## OUTREACH MINISTRY

From Holy Trinity to Alpha Omega Home

# 20 Handmade Quilts & Coloring Book Sets



Made by Ladies of  
St. Demetrius, Weston, MA

*Delivered as promised!*

They were thrilled. We explained the handmade quilts and coloring sets were sent to us from a sister parish in Massachusetts and that we were asked to bring them to Alpha Omega as gifts for the unwed mothers. They were thrilled!



## *Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church*

2940 CR-214

St. Augustine, FL 32084

**Holy Services: Orthros 9 a.m.—Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.**

We continue Live Stream Services on Facebook.

Please visit our Facebook page.

(<https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityGOC/>)

*OR CURRENT RESIDENT*

# 2022 Holy Service/Events Schedule:

(Orthros 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.)

## September 2022

- 1 *Ecclesiastical New Year*
- 8 Nativity of the Theotokos
- 11 Parish Council 9/11 Memorial & Luncheon Ministries Fundraiser following Liturgy—Bookstore reopening Suggested donation \$10
- 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 19 Parish Council 6:30 p.m.
- Budget Planning*
- Stewardship Drive*
- Updated HTGOC Directory*
- YTD Donation Letters to Stewards*



## October 2022

- 7-9 **Annual Greek Festival**
- 17 Parish Council 6:30 p.m.
- 26 St. Demetrios Stewardship Drive
- Check Church Bulletin and Master Calendar for more events.
- Future trip to the Holy Land proposed by PC.*