



REJOICE!

The Monthly Publication of the

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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The following is a revised article from the September, 2021 issue of the *Rejoice*.

Beloved in Christ,

Another new ecclesiastical year is upon us as we enter the glorious month of September. Once again, we begin the annual liturgical cycle of our holy Orthodox Church. Since everything in life is cyclical, it is quite logical that the Church's liturgical life should also be cyclical. Each year we celebrate the same feast days, repeat the same scriptural readings, and hear the same seasonal hymns at their appointed times. This liturgical repetition serves us well, for in this way we look forward to celebrating the various feasts and enjoying the rich hymnody of our Church, as well as hearing the Lord's magnificent teachings through His holy Word. The outsider looking in may see this as monotonous, however, the Church in her wisdom, knows the value of our unchanging Holy Tradition, through which we believers benefit spiritually.

How many of us would think of complaining about the changing seasons of the year? Most people look forward to each coming season with its particular beauty and feel. Throughout our life we will continually experience the changing of the seasons, and will always accept and anticipate these changes with joy.

In the same way, each September 1st we joyfully welcome the new ecclesiastical year with its various feasts and fasts, culminating in the greatest of feasts – Holy Pascha. In fact, many Orthodox Christians have such great love for Lent, Holy Week and Pascha, that they begin anticipating the coming Lenten season as soon as Pascha is behind them!

But more important than the good feelings we get during the liturgical year, is the potential for *spiritual transformation*, which is part and parcel of keeping the various feast days and fast periods of our holy Orthodox Church. Remember, the goal of an Orthodox Christian in this world is achieving union with God through the vehicle of the Church. We seek to transform ourselves to reflect the reality of not being *of the world*, which is only possible by living the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, and through our personal prayer lives. Our path to salvation is only found through the Church and her Holy Tradition.

When we fully grasp and comprehend these concepts, we can then embrace the routine of the liturgical cycle of the Church, knowing that this is our way of growing from “glory to glory” as we seek spiritual growth in the image of Christ. Those who live the faith in this fashion never have a sense of liturgical monotony. In fact, neither do focused Orthodox Christians have concerns regarding the length of services, the repetitions heard within services, the addition of extra rituals after liturgy, and other related issues.

Oddly enough, even though some people may find things about church tedious and monotonous, in our secular lives we deal with monotonous routines every day – some obligatory, others not. It's interesting to see how many people have very repetitive social routines – dinner out on a particular night each week, regular meetings of organizations, golfing, bowling, or gym workouts on other days, movie night with the family, etc., all of which

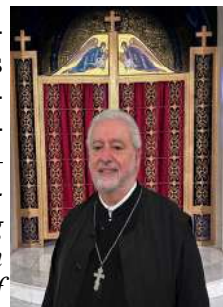
take extreme importance on one's weekly calendar. Here the question must be asked – *do we include worship of God along with our brethren in Christ at the top of the priority list?*

If we don't have an established, solid routine for church attendance, perhaps we can make an “ecclesiastical new year's resolution” in this regard. Many of us are extremely regular with Sunday church attendance. Perhaps we can attempt to expand our liturgical experience by attending other services offered during the week, especially on feast days. As I have mentioned in church, it would be a great blessing for families to celebrate the great feast days of our Lord and the Theotokos, by at least attending the Vespers held on the eve of these feasts when offered. Considering the obligations of work and school, families could still plan ahead and come to Vespers to hear the hymns of the feast, and be able to at least venerate the icon of the feast and receive the Lord's blessing.

Let us all take a renewed look at our liturgical and sacramental routines, as well as our spiritual lives in general, as we enter this new ecclesiastical year. May we all pray about this most important area of our lives, so that the Holy Spirit may enlighten and guide us along the path toward salvation.

In Christ's love,

+Fr. Anthony



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

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Parish Council Ministry Team

President: Shana Mitropoulos

Vice President: Michael Frudakis

Secretary: Robin Schumaker

Treasurer: Connor Haywood

Assistant Treasurer: (open)

Members: Mark Canney, Cyprian Fresh, Anne Georgakilas, George Georgakilas, Kimon Lalas

Parish Ministries and Services Contacts

Alkistis Ladies Society.....	Vula Lalas
Altar Servers.....	Fr. Anthony
Annunciation Mothers' Group.....	Jessica Awad, Katharine Gilman, & Miranda Vaughan
Annunciation Young Adults.....	Cyprian Fresh
Bookstore.....	Cyprian Fresh
Cemetery.....	Michael Frudakis & Kimon Lalas
Chanters.....	Fr. Anthony
Church School.....	Nikola & Laura Blagojevic
Coffee Hour Coordinator.....	Sarah Canney
Festival Committee	Rebecca MacName & Robert Mitropoulos
Flowers.....	Deborah Sousane
GOYA.....	Mark Canney & Keith Hill
Hellenic Center Rentals.....	Jeff Savage
HOPE/JOY.....	Laura Blagojevic
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Maintenance Coordinator.....	Peter Lampesis II
Outreach Committee.....	Presvytera Themmi
Parish Council President.....	Shana Mitropoulos
Parish Youth Safety Administrator.....	George Coussoule
Prosphoron Bakers.....	Anthi Delintsiotis, Christina Elios, & Paraskevi Stamelos
Scholarship Committee.....	Casey Gemas
Soup Kitchen.....	Brett Bergeron & Judy McLeod
Stewardship Committee.....	Steven Poole
Technology Team.....	Jameson Savage (office) Dexter Tarbox (website)

Affiliated Organizations

Daughters of Penelope.....	Maryann Charos & Melanie Nelson
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Editorial Board: Fr. Anthony Evangelatos, Nancy Lipitaki

Please send submissions to: annunciationdover@gmail.com,

and state "Newsletter Submission" in the subject line.

FROM FR. ANTHONY

From the Hymnody of Our Church

Selections from the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, 9/8:

God who abides amid heavenly thrones, today prepares for Himself a holy throne on earth. He who in wisdom made firm the heavens, has out of love fashioned a living heaven. For out of a barren root, He has brought forth His own Mother, a life-giving plant. God of wonders and hope of the hopeless, glory to You. (from the stichera of Great Vespers)

This is the day of the Lord; peoples rejoice. Behold, the bridal chamber of light; the book of the word of life, emerges from the womb. And the gate to the East opens to await the entrance of the Great High Priest. That alone is the gateway which brings Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls. (the doxastikon of Orthros)

Selections from the feast of the Holy Cross, 9/14:

Rejoice, life-creating Cross, invincible banner of faith, gateway to Paradise, support of the faithful, rampart of the Church, by which death was abolished and its power swallowed up, while we were raised up from earth to the heavens. You are the unconquerable weapon, the adversary of demons, the glory of Martyrs and pride of Saints, the haven of salvation, granting the world great mercy. (from the aposticha of Great Vespers)

The Cross is the protector of the universe; the Cross, the Church's splendor; the Cross, strength of rulers; the Cross, support of the faithful; the Cross, the glory of the Angels and the downfall of demons. (the exapostelaron of Orthros)

Reflections on the Holy Cross

The following is taken from *Orthodox Dogmatic Theology*, by Fr. Michael Pomazansky, St. Herman of Alaska Brotherhood, 1994.

It is clear that in the mystery of redemption the Cross and Resurrection of the Lord are inseparable. In the consciousness of the Church this truth is expressed in full measure in the Paschal hymns, which confess the power of the Resurrection of Christ not only for the personal salvation of the Christian, but also in the final, complete justification of the world... By the Cross has been accomplished the cleansing of the sins of the world, the reconciliation with God; by the Resurrection new life has been brought into the world.

The Orthodox path of the Christian is the path of the cross and of struggle. In other words, it is the path of patience, of the bearing of sorrows, persecutions for the name of Christ, and dangers from the enemies of Christ, of despising the goods of the world for the sake of Christ, of battling against one's passions and lusts.

Such a path of following Christ was taken by His Apostle. 'I am crucified with Christ,' writes the Apostle Paul (Gal. 2:20). 'God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world (Gal. 6:14)'...

All believers are called to struggle according to their strength: 'They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the passions and lusts (Gal. 5:24).' The moral life cannot exist without inward battle, without self-restraint. The Apostle writes: 'For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ; whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things (Phil. 3:18-19)'...

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Parish Chronicle

Chrismations

- 7/19 – Richard Clarkson, who took the name, *Patrick*. Sponsor, Mark Canney.
7/19 – Colleen Clarkson, who took the name, *Mary*. Sponsor, Jessica Awad.
8/02 – Scott Morgan, who took the name, *Spyridon*. Sponsor, Cyprian Fresh.
8/09 – Josane Cumandala, who took the name, *Maria*. Sponsor, Pam Byers.

Baptisms

- 7/19 – Cedric, son of Richard and Colleen Clarkson, who was given the name, *John*. Sponsor, Mark Canney.
7/19 – Makena, daughter of Richard and Colleen Clarkson, who was given the name, *Photini*. Sponsor, Sedona Hill.
7/19 – Sonia, daughter of Richard and Colleen Clarkson, who was given the name, *Sophia*. Sponsor, Sedona Hill.

Weddings

- 7/26 – Jeffrey and Ashlie Machado had their civil marriage blessed through the Orthodox rite of marriage. Sponsor, Alexander Ruggeri.
8/22 – Mark Hernandez and Gabrielle Boston, conducted by Mark's uncle, Fr. Demetrios Costarakis. Sponsor, Peter Hernandez.
8/30 – Gabriel Childs and Maria Kacoyanis. Sponsor, George Kacoyanis.

Funerals

7/18 – Ekaterini Tsouramanis

Memorials & Trisagions

- 8/09 – Ekaterini Tsouramanis, 40-day memorial
8/30 – Jo Anne McMahon, 40-day trisagion

Deaths

- 7/24 – Jo Anne McMahon
7/30 – Elaine Collins
8/12 – Christopher Sintros, father of Lisa Primes
8/24 – James Houreas, brother of Nancy Trudeau

Donations

- Decoration of the Icon of the Transfiguration on 8/6 - Nick and Shana Mitropoulos
- Decoration of the Icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos on 8/15 - Christos and Nancy Kastrisios

Donors of the Official Archdiocesan Pew Edition Liturgy Books (in the order received)

Steve & Alice Poole, Dragisa & Shari Blagojevic, Voula Stamelos, Michael Brackett, Tommy & Alisa Fiske, Tony & Christine Verespe, Brett & Melanie Bergeron, Nick & Shana Mitropoulos, Jeff Machado, George & Althea Cousoule, Richard Clairmont, John & Sharon Lampros, Paul & Paula Maskwa, Nick & Faye Labanaris, Jess Quigley, Luis & April Berdecia, Paul & Nicole Knight, Michael & Sarah Plocharczyk, Toby Weir.

Note: If anyone made an electronic donation that was not labeled as “pew liturgy books,” your name may have been overlooked. If this is the case, we apologize for the omission.

We sincerely thank all of you for your most generous donations! These official Archdiocesan liturgy books will be immensely useful to our inquirers, catechumens, and all those who would like to follow along during the Divine Liturgy. May this be a blessing to all our donors!

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Parish Prayer List

Please pray for our brothers and sisters:

Elizabeth, Deborah, Demetrios, Katie

In keeping with a common Church tradition, we will keep names on the parish prayer list for **40 days**. If you wish to offer names for prayer, please send those via e-mail to the church office at:

annunciationdover@gmail.com,
or call the office at 742-7667.

Please give first names only, and preferably full names, not nicknames.

Regular Sunday Service Hours Resume 9/6

On Sunday, 9/6, the regular Orthros and Divine Liturgy schedule resumes for both Sunday and weekday services as follows:

- Orthros, 8:45 am
- Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am

Please note that Saturday evening Great Vespers continue to be held at the regular time of 6:00 pm, year-round.

Icon Decorations for September

- Icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos on 9/8
- Icon of the Elevation of the Holy Cross on 9/14*

*Also needed for the Elevation of the Holy Cross is fresh basil. For those who have grown basil this summer and would like to offer some for the decoration of the tray with the Cross, **please bring your basil on Sunday, 9/13, and leave it in the library.**

Parish Volunteer Workday – Saturday, 9/19

A special parish workday has been organized by parish council member Mark Canney, for Saturday, 9/19, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Many tasks that have come to the parish council's attention will be addressed that day. Although a good number of parishioners have already committed to Mark, more hands are certainly welcome. If interested in assisting, please contact Mark Canney, directly.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Fr. Anthony Away From 9/15 through 10/1

Please note that Fr. Anthony will be away on the dates mentioned above, which will include two Sundays – 9/20 and 9/27. We would like everyone to be informed of the possible scenarios on either or both of these Sundays as follows:

- If a visiting priest will be available on either or both Sundays, both Orthros and the Divine Liturgy will occur at the normal times.
- If a visiting priest **is not** available on either or both Sundays, the church will be open for one hour from 10:00 to 11:00 am, for candle lighting, icon veneration, and personal prayer.

IMPORTANT: Church School classes **will be held** during this one-hour timeframe, so families, please come to church with your children!

- Alternatively, in the absence of a visiting priest, you may choose to attend Liturgy at St. Nicholas in Portsmouth, especially if you are planning on receiving Holy Communion.

As always, each Friday's e-bulletin will inform the parish accordingly, so please remember to check prior to both Sundays.

Conflicts With Divine Services

As the new ecclesiastical year begins and our many ministries resume "full-throttle," we wish to remind everyone that meetings, work parties, events, etc., should never be scheduled simultaneously with any divine worship service. When in doubt please check as follows:

- Each month's calendar in the *Rejoice* and on our website, clearly lists all scheduled weekday services.
- Each Friday's e-bulletin and the hard-copy Sunday bulletin, also list scheduled services for the week.
- You may also call the church office during Nancy's scheduled office hours for clarification and guidance.

We thank all ministry leaders in advance for respecting our primary purpose and reason for existence – *the liturgical life of our Holy Orthodox Church!*

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear ...Parishioners of the Annunciation,

Our family would like to express our deepest and most heartfelt gratitude for your love, support, and generosity.

In a moment of great loss and uncertainty you came to our rescue and lifted us up with your compassion and care.

Through your kindness we have experienced the love of Christ.

Your prayers have strengthened us, your generosity has sustained us, and your encouragement has reminded us that we are never alone.

Words cannot express how thankful we are for your generosity.

With heartfelt thoughts and love in Christ.

Alexander & Melissa

SOUP KITCHEN

Dear Soup Kitchen Volunteers,

We have exciting news: Annunciation has accepted an opportunity to add six more dinner slots to our annual soup kitchen commitment!

This is a huge step for us, since before we were serving four to five dinners per year, and now we will be serving ten to eleven. I fully believe in you to help make this happen.

With this new addition, here are the next soup kitchen dates: September 8th and September 29th. Please mark your calendars.

As always, I will send reminders with more details as we get closer.

Here are the specifics of how our new schedule works:

Our existing commitment is to host dinner on any month with a fifth Tuesday, which amounts to four to five dinners depending on the year. Now in addition to this, we added the second Tuesday of every odd month (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov); so six more dinners, for a total of ten to eleven dinners per year.

We were granted this opportunity because another church in the area relinquished their soup kitchen commitment, and Annunciation was asked to step up to the plate. We happily accepted.

Please email me privately if you have any input, or if:

- You would like to get involved with prep work such as shopping and cooking
- You have an idea for another meal in addition to our classic "meat sauce and pasta" meal, since it would be good to have two go-to meals that we can alternate
- You can help us get recurring food or monetary donations

Thank you and God Bless,

Brett Bergeron

Upcoming Soup Kitchen Dates:

- **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**
- **Tuesday, September 29, 2026**
- **Tuesday, November 10, 2026**
- **Tuesday, December 29, 2026**

We look forward to seeing you and working together!

ANNUNCIATION YOUNG ADULTS

The AYA wishes everyone a blessed autumn. We continue to receive more and more young adults into full communion with the Orthodox Church, and look forward to several more in the coming months. We also look forward to AYA members assisting at the Greek Festival. Many years to all our new brothers and sisters in the faith!

CHURCH SCHOOL

Hello, Church School families, and **welcome!** *We are excited to debut a few changes this year.*

First, we want to welcome three new additions to the Church School team!!

- **Ms. Terry Hill** will take the lead in our *Early Elementary classroom*.
- **Ms. Nicole Knight** will serve as a classroom aide in the *Early Elementary and Late Elementary classrooms*.
- **Mr. Keith Hill** will teach the *High School students*.
- Returning team members **Ms. Laura Blagojevic** and **Mr. Mark Canney** will retain the *Late Elementary and Middle School classrooms respectively*.

Second, we will be following the brand-new, official Church School curriculum published by our Archdiocese. All materials are available at <https://www.goarch.org/departments/religiousused> if you would like to follow along!

Important: The first day of Church School is **Sunday, September 13th**. Prior to Holy Communion on this day, Fr. Anthony will bless the students and teachers. After Communion, we will ask parents to come down with the children so we can gather registration information, and sort them into their class groups.

Finally, we hope to see you at our Ice Cream Social on **Saturday, September 5th**, in the church hall!

In Him,

Your Church School Team

CHURCH SCHOOL

Annunciation Church School Special Events 2026-2027

Classes will be held every Sunday between Sept 13-May 16 unless otherwise noted below.

September

- 12: (Saturday) Ice Cream Social/Registration: hosted by HOPE/JOY & Church School
- 13: **Classes Begin; Blessing for Church School Students**

November

- 29: Pageant Role Assignments/Costume Sizing

December

- 6: St. Nicholas Feast Day Event
- 13: Nativity Pageant Rehearsal & St. Lucia: Hosted by Lucy Rickford & HOPE/JOY
- 20: Nativity Pageant
- 27: Church School vacation

February

- 14: Church School vacation

March

- 21: Sunday of Orthodoxy- Procession With Icons

April

- 4: Sunday of the Holy Cross
- 25: Palm Sunday
- 30: (Friday) Holy Friday Event: hosted by HOPE/JOY

May

- 2: Pascha- Egg hunt following "Agape" Vespers: hosted by HOPE/JOY
- 16: **Classes End**
- 29: (Saturday) End of Year Carnival: hosted by HOPE/JOY & Church School

*Subject to change

Be sure to fill out the Sunday School Registration form by using the link or scanning the QR code below:



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc8-0URQjSWMc5KxWFK93ke1-psxoBo7uQTebkJ2eEeUr5fCw/viewform?usp=preview>

Church School Co-Directors:

Nikola Blagojević: nikolablag@gmail.com
Laura Blagojević: 19lb88@gmail.com

HOPE/JOY

Hello HOPE & JOY Families! Holy Orthodox Primary Education (HOPE) and Junior Orthodox Youth (JOY) is our combined fellowship ministry for elementary-school-aged children.

We're back from summer break and ready to start a new year of activities. HOPE/JOY and Church School are joining up again for the Second Annual Ice Cream Social! We hope all our church school families can join us on September 12 at 1:00 to meet new and see returning friends.



The graphic is a calendar titled "HOPE/JOY Events" with a decorative background of stylized leaves and wavy lines. It lists eight events in a grid format, each in a colored box with the month, date, event name, and time.

Month	Date	Event	Time
SEPT	12	CHURCH SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL	1PM-3PM
OCT	24	"CANDY CRAWL"	4PM-5:30PM
NOV	14	"FRIENDS-GIVING"	11:30AM-1:00PM
DEC	12	NATIVITY CRAFT	1PM-3PM
FEB	13	SWEETHEART COOKIE FUN	1PM-3PM
MARCH	20	MARY GARDEN FOR THE ANNUNCIATION	1PM-3PM
APRIL	30	HOLY FRIDAY ACTIVITY	12:30PM-2:30PM
MAY	2 and 29	2: EGG HUNT 29: END OF YEAR CARNIVAL	1PM-3PM

Events subject to change based on availability
Egg Hunt immediately follows Agape Vespers

We have lots of activities planned this year, more information to follow.

*Please note, dates & events are subject to change.

To be added to the HOPE/JOY email list, please contact Laura at 19lb88@gmail.com

2026 DOVER GREEK FESTIVAL



LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 4-5 2026

FRIDAY 4PM-9PM, SATURDAY 11AM-9PM



AUTHENTIC GREEK FOOD • HOMEMADE PASTRIES
GREEK TAVERNA • AGORA MARKETPLACE

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT
FEATURING OPA! ENTERTAINMENT



THE HELLENIC CENTER

219 LONG HILL RD • DOVER NH



FOR MORE INFORMATION:



ALKISTIS NEWS



As summer slowly begins to draw to a close, we find ourselves looking ahead to a wonderful fall season filled with *friendship, fellowship, and exciting events!*



We are still fortunate to enjoy these beautiful warm afternoons, perhaps taking one more walk along the beach, gathering with friends, or simply savoring the last days of summer.

We look forward to all that the season ahead will bring!

Upcoming Events

Sip n' Paint Night

Monday
October 12th
6 pm – 8 pm

Fr. Athans Hall



Alkistis Fall Dance

Saturday
November 7th
6 pm – 10 pm

Hellenic Center



More Information to follow!

Please Join us at our next meeting on
September 15, 2026 @ 5:30 pm
in the Church Library

We look forward to gathering again in September and beginning another wonderful season together!



COFFEE HOUR MINISTRY

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

- Romans 15:7

"Participation in the life of the church brings together spiritual reality and physical reality."

-Dr. Zachary Porcu, from Journey to Reality

On Sundays we have two meals. First, we partake in the body and blood of Christ during Holy Communion. This feeds our souls, satisfying our spiritual needs. Then we participate in what was called by the early church the "agape feast," and we now know as Coffee Hour. This satisfies our physical needs.

Our participation in both is critical to the life of the church. Coffee Hour is where we really connect with the people around us. We learn their names, their history. We make friends. We help them in times of need, and in return are helped in times of need. Linger after liturgy is where the church becomes family, where our lives are woven together and we live out the message of the gospel. When we gather together, we become the church.

Coffee Hour is also an opportunity to welcome newcomers, inquirers and catechumens who are exploring the Orthodox faith. Being welcomed and feeling the generous hospitality of the parish is a way to say: *we're so glad you're here.*

Practically speaking, Coffee Hour is often the first meal of the day for those who have fasted before receiving communion. And for some of our young families, the food provided is the difference between a child melting down and hanging on for an hour or two longer so their parents can chat and get to know people. In addition, younger generations have few experiences of a family meal eaten at a table. For them, sitting down to the Coffee Hour meal is a chance to make connections they have missed out on.

The food served at Coffee Hour doesn't have to be fancy or complicated, but if possible, should be abundant just as the grace and mercy offered to us through Jesus Christ. When we take Coffee Hour seriously, it shows that we take hospitality seriously. And being hospitable is a way to live out the love of Christ.

To those who help make coffee hour possible, thank you! If you aren't currently on a Coffee Hour team and would like to contribute please email Sarah Canney at runfargirl@gmail.com or call 603-973-4623.



OUTREACH

Outreach is looking forward to hosting our annual **International Food Tasting** on Saturday, October 17 following Vespers.

We invite parishiners to:

- Select a country whose food you enjoy.
- Prepare three dishes - a main dish, an appetizer, and a dessert for guests to sample.
- Typically, hosts place a few decorative items on a table in the theme of the country that they are representing.
- Guests are invited to sample the various dishes.
- A free-will offering to support Outreach Committee efforts will be accepted.

The sign-up sheet will be available in early September in the Narthex.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

September 2026

Greetings to all! It has been a beautiful summer season and now the new church year officially begins. Fall is an exciting time for us. In September our young people head back to school, we host our annual great annual **Greek Festival**, our children's ministries resume on Sunday mornings, and we will soon present our second annual ministry fair. Read our bulletins and emails to stay up to the minute with all that is happening!

We thank the Lord for our stewards who have faithfully supported the church over the summer, and who do so all year long. Every form of giving honors God, and is a blessing to our community. Your special gifts, your generous response to various needs presented throughout the year are greatly appreciated, but more than anything, it is your stewardship pledges which sustain the church and allow us to budget and plan responsibly. If you have not already made a stewardship pledge, please consider doing so now as we begin another year of worship and service at Annunciation.



2026 CONFIDENTIAL STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

Dear Parishioners,

First of all, we want to thank you all for your generous support of our church over the years. Without you, none of this would be possible.

We are excited to announce the launch of our new online donation portal!

Donating online saves hundreds of hours of volunteer time compared to cash or check. When donating online, money is safely, securely, and automatically transferred to our church's bank account.

Please visit our donation portal at:

<https://annunciation.raiselysite.com/>

You can make one-time or recurring donations - no need to write checks! You can specify the intended purpose for the donation right in the online form.

We also ask our PayPal users to begin using the new donation form instead, because it is integrated with our new church management software, Aplos.

(If you continue to donate via check, cash, or PayPal, we will continue to be grateful for your generosity.)

Thank you so much for your help!

Connor Haywood,
Parish Council Treasurer



2026 Stewardship Form

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church



Name(s): _____

"Rise Up and Build" The theme of our latest Stewardship Resource packet is "RISE UP AND BUILD: Building Up the Body of Christ," from the Old Testament Book of Nehemiah. This story and the words of Nehemiah (2:19) call us today, not just to building and rebuilding with bricks and mortar, but also to a deeper, spiritual building – the rebuilding and renewal of our faith. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to respond to God's gifts with faithful stewardship. Like Nehemiah, we are called to "rise up and build," carrying on God's work in our parish our community and in the world.

The **operating budget last year** (2025) was approximately **\$389,363**, which includes salaries for personnel, utilities, costs for repairs and maintenance for our church, keeping our ministries operational, and the parish's Archdiocesan commitment. We are ever grateful to you for your support for our parish.

No matter what you are financially able to give, you are a valued member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church.

Percentage	Family Annual Income			
	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$150,000
1%	\$500	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,500
2%	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$3,000
4%	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,000

For 2026, in gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church an Annual or Monthly Tithe:

An annual amount of: ☐ \$1,500 ☐ \$2,000 ☐ \$3,000 ☐ Other: \$ _____

OR

A monthly amount of: ☐ \$125 ☐ \$167 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other: \$ _____

OR

A weekly amount of: ☐ \$30 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$60 ☐ Other: \$ _____



Household Information

Name: _____

☐ Baptized/Chrismated in the Orthodox Church

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

☐ Baptized/Chrismated in the Orthodox Church

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

To Donate:

By Check:

Please submit your donation made out to "Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church":

- In Person
- By Mail: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Attn: Treasurer
93 Locust Street
Dover, NH 03820

Online:

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Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How do I become a member of the parish?

A: Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments, or mysteries, of the Church and through our faithful offering of our entire selves to Jesus Christ. A voting member is over 18 years of age and offers stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent & treasure to the Church. Stewardship also requires the voting member to remain current on their commitments. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

Q: Why must I commit to give a specific amount?

A: Please keep in mind that your stewardship of money is kept in the strictest of confidence. However, we do compile the amounts anticipated to better plan our budget.

Q: What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

A: During the course of a year, circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

93 Locust Street

Dover, New Hampshire 03820

Phone: (603)742-7667

Online: www.annunciation.nh.goarch.org

Church Office: annunciationdover@gmail.com

Rev. Father Anthony Evangelatos: franthony@annunciationdover.org



2026 Greek Festivals

IN NEW ENGLAND

MAY 15-16 ST. PHILIP CHURCH NASHUA, NH	JUNE 20-21 ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH MANCHESTER, NH	AUGUST 22-23 ST. GEORGE CHURCH PITTSFIELD, MA	SEPT 17-20 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH BROCKTON, MA
MAY 22-24 ST. VASILIOS CHURCH PEABODY, MA	JUNE 25-27 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH PORTLAND, ME	AUGUST 29 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH HOLYOKE, MA	SEPT 17-19 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NORWICH, CT
MAY-JUN 29-31 TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH LOWELL, MA	JUNE 26-28 ST. CATHERINE CHURCH BRAINTREE, MA	AUGUST 29-30 ASSUMPTION CHURCH MANCHESTER, NH	SEPT 18-20 ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL – BOSTON BROOKLINE, MA
MAY-JUN 29-31 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH WOBURN, MA	JULY 10-11 ST. GEORGE CHURCH CENTERVILLE, MA	SEPT 4-5 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH DOVER, NH	SEPT 18-20 ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL MANCHESTER, NH
JUNE 4-7 ST. ATHANASIOS CHURCH ARLINGTON, MA	JULY 10-11 ST. GEORGE CHURCH DARTMOUTH, MA	SEPT 4-5 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH LEWISTON, ME	SEPT 19-20 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH ANDOVER, MA
JUNE 6-7 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH DANIELSON, CT	JULY 10-12 ST. DEMETRIOS CHURCH SACO, ME	SEPT 4-6 ST. GEORGE CHURCH LYNN, MA	SEPT 19-20 ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST – BOSTON BOSTON, MA
JUNE 12-14 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH LOWELL, MA	JULY 11-12 ASSUMPTION CHURCH IPSWICH, MA	SEPT 4-6 STS. ANARGYROI CHURCH MARLBOROUGH, MA	SEPT 25-27 ST. NECTARIOS CHURCH ROSLINDALE, MA
JUNE 12-14 TAXIARCHAE CHURCH WATERTOWN, MA	JULY 17-19 ST. SPYRIDON CHURCH NEWPORT, RI	SEPT 11-13 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH CRANSTON, RI	SEPT 26 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CONCORD, NH
JUNE 18-21 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH CAMBRIDGE, MA	JULY 24-26 ANNUNCIATION CHURCH NEWBURYPORT, MA	SEPT 11-12 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH FITCHBURG, MA	OCT 16-17 ST. LUKE CHURCH EAST LONGMEADOW, MA
JUNE 19-20 ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH PORTSMOUTH, NH	JULY 25 DORMITION CHURCH BURLINGTON, VT	SEPT 11-13 DORMITION CHURCH SOMERVILLE, MA	NOV 4-6 ST. SOPHIA CHURCH NEW LONDON, CT
JUNE 19-21 ST. SPYRIDON CATHEDRAL WORCESTER, MA	AUGUST 21-23 ASSUMPTION CHURCH PAWTUCKET, RI	SEPT 11-13 ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL SPRINGFIELD, MA	NOV 6-7 HOLY APOSTLES STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH HAVERHILL, MA
	AUGUST 22 ST. GREGORY CHURCH MANSFIELD, MA	SEPT 12-13 STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH WEBSTER, MA	DEC 5 ST. GEORGE CHURCH KEENE, NH



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September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Regular service hours resume on Sunday, 9/6.</u> On both Sundays & weekdays: Orthros, 8:45 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am.		1 Beginning of New Ecclesiastical Year Orthros only 10:00 am	2	3	4 Greek Festival at Hellenic Center 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm	5 Greek Festival at Hellenic Center 11:00 am to 9:00 pm No Vespers
6 Orthros & Liturgy	7 Great Vespers of the Nativity of the Theotokos 7:00 pm Labor Day (office closed)	8 The Nativity of the Theotokos Orthros & Liturgy Soup Kitchen 4:00 - 6:00 pm	9 Parish Council 6:00 pm	10	11	12 Great Vespers 5:00 pm, followed by potluck dinner at 6:00 pm
13 Orthros & Liturgy 1st Day of Church School (blessing of students & teachers)	14 Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthros & Liturgy (strict fast)	15 Fr. Anthony away through 10/1	16	17	18	19 No Vespers
20 Orthros & Liturgy (pending with visiting priest)	21	22	23	24	25	26 No Vespers
27 Orthros & Liturgy (pending with visiting priest)	28	29 Soup Kitchen 4:00 - 6:00 pm	30	If a visiting priest is not available for either 9/20 or 9/27, the church will be open from 10:00 am to 11:00 am for	candle lighting, icon veneration, and personal prayer. In addition, Church School classes will also be held during	this 1-hour timeframe. You may also consider attending Liturgy at our sister parish of St. Nicholas in Portsmouth.

2026 PARISH STEWARDS - AS OF AUGUST, 2026

Evangelatos, Rev. Anthony &
 Presvytera Themmi
 Abbott, Tim & Sophia
 Anestis, John "Peter"
 Anestis, Peter & Lydia
 Arvenitis, Charles
 Arvenitis, Paul & Linda
 Asprogiannis, George
 Athans, John & Geriann
 Athans, Presvytera Keta
 Atkinson, Shawn & Heidi
 Berdecia, Luis
 Bergeron, Brett & Melanie
 Bessas, Konstantinos & Anna
 Bessas, Konstantinos & Nafsika
 Blougouras, Nicholas & Georgia
 Boudreau, David & Elene
 Brackett, Michael
 Byers, William & Pamela
 Canney, Mark & Sarah
 Catsoulis-O'Brien, Karen
 Charos Alexandra & Vahe Birindjian
 Charos, Evangelos & Maryann
 Chiappa, Tommy
 Clairmont, Richard
 Clarkson, Rick & Colleen
 Coussoule, George & Althea
 Cumandala, Josane
 Danie, Kyle & Kiki
 Delintsiotis, Anthi
 Delintsiotis, Claire
 Delintsiotis, Demetrios
 Demeroto, Thomas
 Demopoulos, Alaina
 Demopoulos, George
 Demopoulos, John & Anita
 Demopoulos, Nickolis
 Demopoulos, Vasilike (Zeff)
 Dobe, Matthew
 Elde, Nils & Anna
 Elios, Christina
 Elios, Victor
 Fiske, Thomas
 Frangos, Peggy
 Fresh, Cyprian

Frudakis, Hope
 Frudakis, Michael
 Georgakilas, Anne
 Georgakilas, George
 Gilman, Clifford & Katharine
 Gonzalez, A. Ramon Arango-Lopez
 Gurney, Charles & Sarah
 Harkins, Ian
 Hastings, Thomas
 Haywood, Connor
 Hoogeveen, Les & Barbara
 Kageleiry, Gregory
 Karabelas, Argeris & Eloise
 Karabelas, Arthur & Donna
 Karoutas, Paul & Eleni
 Karoutas, Periklis & Abigail
 Kastrisios, Christos & Nancy
 Knight, Paul & Nicole
 Knight, Natalie
 Kostis, George & Katie
 Kostis, John & Stacey
 Kottaridis, Kathy
 Koutroubas, Paul
 Labanaris, Nicholas & Faye
 Lalas, Kimon & Vula
 Lalas, Yanni
 Lampesis, Peter & Rea
 Lampros, John & Sharon
 Lazarus, George & Sandy
 Lewis, Mack & Nina
 Lirette, Adam & Lilly
 Machado, Jeffrey
 Machado, Odin & Gina
 Machado, Scott & Jennifer
 Maskwa, Eric & Litsa
 Maskwa, Paul & Paula
 McQuade, Brandon & Hannah
 Mednikov, Mark
 Mitchell, John
 Mitropoulos, Nicholas & Shana
 Mitropoulos, Peter & Michelle
 Mitropoulos, Robert & Ryan Eagle
 Morgan, Scott Jr.
 Morris, Bea & Howard, Rob
 Murphy, Ed & Ahn

Nelson, Alina
 Nichols, Alan
 O'Hearne, James & Rosanne
 Oschman, Nora
 Panasis, Charles & Paula
 Panasis, Helena
 Panasis, Nelos
 Paschalidis, Joy
 Passas, Constance
 Polychronopoulos, George
 Polychronopoulos, Zoe
 Poole, Emily
 Poole, Steve & Alice
 Pride, Michael
 Primes, Stephen & Lisa
 Rouman, Dr. James
 Savage, Jeffery & Evelyn
 Schumaker, Robin & Judy
 Scontras, Yota
 Southwick, Daniel
 Sousane, Deborah
 Stamelos, Paraskevi
 Strangas, Peter
 Strangas, William
 Thomas, George & Denise
 Trudeau, Nancy
 Tsougranis, Ted & Irene
 Tsouramanis, Katina
 Vaughan, Jared & Miranda
 Venetos, Jim & Nanine
 Verespe, Anthony & Christine
 Veziris, Kosmas & Christina
 Vomvoris, William & Cynthia
 Webber, Daniel & Polly
 Weir, Anthony (Toby)
 Xydias, Efthimios & Lillian
 Xydias, Panagiotis & Eleni
 Xydias, Stavroula

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