

# St. John Greek Orthodox Church

Sterling Heights, Michigan

Phone: 586-977-6080/Emergency 513-508-0386

Web site: [www.stjohngoc.net/](http://www.stjohngoc.net/) Email: [parish@stjohngoc.net](mailto:parish@stjohngoc.net)

Parish Priest: Father Nicolaos Tzetzis

April 26, 2026 ~ Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

## **TODAY AT ST. JOHN**

8:45AM Orthros ~ 10:00AM Divine Liturgy

Memorials: Sam Raptis 6 months, Chrysoulla Efstathiou 20 years, Eleni Charalambous 34 years

❖ St. John 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Family Reception following Divine Liturgy at our Hall

## Opportunities for the Week

Tuesday, April 28

Greek School 4:30pm-6:30pm / Adult Greek School 6:30pm-7:30pm

Thursday, April 30

Greek School 4:30pm-6:30pm / Adult Greek School 6:30pm-7:30pm

Conversation on Ecclesiology 5pm

Saturday, May 2

St. John 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance @ Penna's 6pm

## Mark your Calendars

May 3 Greek Independence Day Parade

May 7 Senior Citizens Meeting and Luncheon at our Hall 12 noon

May 11 Philoptochos Meeting 6:30 pm

May 21 Greek School Graduation

May 31 Sunday School Graduation/ Picnic



Tickets for our 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance at Penna's of Sterling next Saturday, May 2 have been extended until Sunday! **We will be closing ticket sales Sunday night, April 26 and will need to give a final number on Monday morning.** Our committee is hard at work arranging tables, gathering your photos, and putting together a beautiful slideshow for the event. For the event, doors open at 6pm with appetizers and open bar. Dinner will be at 7pm followed by live Greek music and a DJ.

### **Family Style Menu:**

Stracciatella Soup

Pasta Primavera

Rigatoni Bolognese

Mixed Tossed Salad with House Dressing

Beef Tenderloin Tips/ Chicken Piccante

Santa Anna Potatoes/ Peas with Mushrooms

Ice Cream Sundaes

**For ticket information, please visit the church website or call the office.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

## Epistle Lesson

Prokeimenon. Mode 2

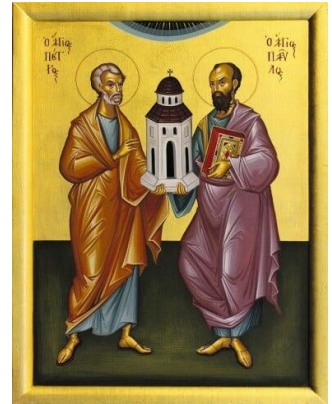
Psalm 117.14,18

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

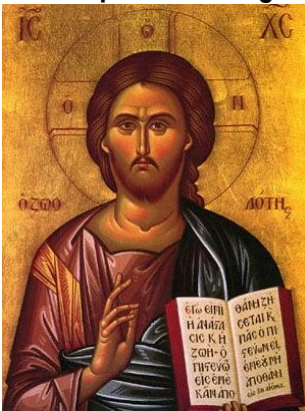
The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.



## Gospel Lesson

The Gospel According to Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8



At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας,  
καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζωὴν χαρισάμενος!**

**Christós anésti ek nekrón, thanáto thánaton patísis,  
ké tís en tís mnímasi, zoín charisámenos!**

**Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death,  
And to those in the tombs He has granted life!**

SAVE THE DATE

# *50th Anniversary*



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

Family Reception Following Divine Liturgy  
St. John The Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, April 26, 2026

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Dinner Dance  
Penna's of Sterling Heights

Saturday, May 2, 2026

# *50th Anniversary*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

Dinner Dance  
Penna's of Sterling Heights  
Saturday, May 2, 2026

Join us for our 50th!

We hope you will spread the word and share this event with your friends and family near and far. We are hard at work planning a beautifully catered event and historical slideshow intended to honor those who have worked so hard to serve this community for the last 50 years.

This event will also serve as a fantastic opportunity to invite visitors from other parishes and even from our local communities to come and see what our community is all about.

\$150



[stjohngoc.net/50th-anniversary](http://stjohngoc.net/50th-anniversary)



# DETROIT

## 24TH ANNUAL GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

DETROIT'S HISTORIC GREEKTOWN

SUNDAY | MAY 3, 2026 | 3PM

### HONORARY GUESTS

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS OF AMERICA  
HIS EMINENCE, METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT  
AND HIS GRACE METROPOLITAN EFSEVIOS OF SAMOS AND IKARIA

WWW.GREEKPARADES.COM



# THE JOURNEY OF MARRIAGE: AN ORTHODOX GUIDE TWO-DAY RETREAT

FROM SINGLES TO EMPTY NESTERS - ALL ARE WELCOME



## LOCATION:

ST. GEORGE CHURCH  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI

FRIDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
6:30PM - 8PM

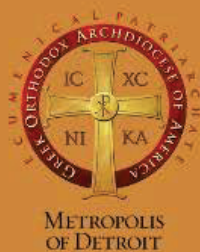
## THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE WITH:

DR. PHILIP MAMALAKIS  
PROF. OF PASTORAL CARE

SATURDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
10AM - 4PM

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE  
FIRST 5 YEARS & KIDS  
EMPTY NEST

DR. MAMALAKIS  
JOSH ENSLEY, LMFT



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

[TINYURL.COM/DETROITMARRIAGE](https://tinyurl.com/detroitmarriage)

[NKOKKALES@DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG](mailto:nkokkales@detroit.goarch.org)



## **Dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

In 2025, our membership grew to an impressive 141 members strong. Whether you are a current or past member, we thank you! We are deeply grateful for your unwavering support which makes the wonderful works of Philoptochos possible. Your continued generosity allows Philoptochos to serve our church and community in so many meaningful ways.

Our annual membership enrollment period is underway and if you have not already done so, we invite you to renew your 2026 membership by fulfilling your stewardship today. There is no better time to renew your commitment, and we encourage you to inspire others by sharing the mission and fellowship that Philoptochos offers.

For those who are not yet members or have not renewed in recent years, please consider offering your support by joining or rejoining in 2026. Philoptochos is the heart of our church, and in essence, each parish member plays a role in this beautiful ministry. Members love the work they do and the friendships they build along the way. There is a place for all parishioners over the age of 18, and everyone is welcome. Any time, talent, or treasure is invaluable and deeply appreciated. All contribution directly benefits philanthropic projects that support our church and community.

Every member's annual stewardship also helps sustain the operations of Philoptochos National and Metropolis projects and offices (\$15 and \$6, respectively). Any stewardship amounts over \$21 remain with our local chapter and are used to fund the charitable projects we choose together. Every stewardship, every donation, makes a difference.

Please complete the membership form attached and return it with your payment, made payable to **St. John GOC Philoptochos Society**. Forms and payments can be dropped off or mailed to the church. You can also visit our membership table during coffee hour through the month of April.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Philoptochos. If you have any questions or ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out to any member or to us. We look forward to seeing you this year and to celebrating all the wonderful we will accomplish together.

With love and gratitude,

Paulette Szajna  
President

Cathy Kondoleon  
Membership

# Pilates With A Purpose

May 9

Hosted by St. John Philoptochos  
in our Social Hall

- Start and sign in at 10
- Pilates at 10:30

• Please bring your mat,  
if you don't have one we will provide!

If you're not up for Pilates, please still join us at 11:30  
for brunch and fellowship!

→ Please RSVP by May 3rd, call or text and let us know  
how many will be attending to either the Pilates, brunch, or both!

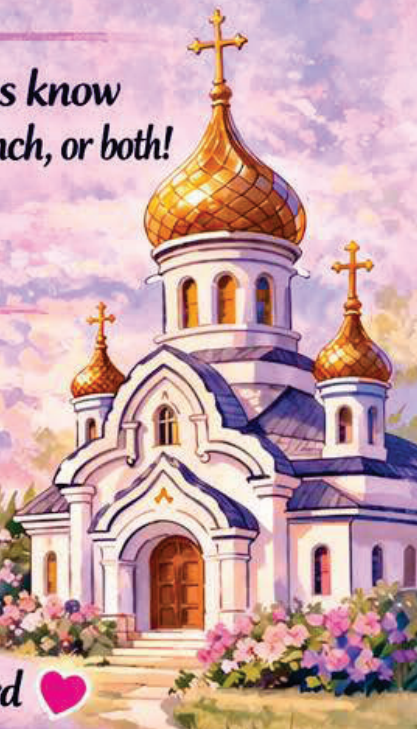
♥ Emily Shoukis 586-321-7647

♥ Vicky Samohin 586-996-0148

We are collecting \$25 per family to  
MCREST women's and kids shelter.

Let's help make a difference this Mother's Day  
weekend to the mothers and children that  
need our support to help them thrive  
and succeed in life! Be the Change!

♥ Pay at the door: Cash, Check or Credit Card ♥



# Advertise your business through St. John Dear Friends

Reasons you should consider  
advertising with St. John:

¼ page	\$200
½ page	\$300
Full Page	\$600

\*4 issues per year

Dear Friends is revamped with fresh quarterly publications that are growing in readership

Members and staff want to support businesses that support our church

Our readers trust that our church advertisers are honest, reliable businesses

You are reaching a family oriented market comprised predominantly of homeowners

Every church member lives in your community and is a potential customer

Please email us if you are interested!

Payment billed annually

 [dearfriends@stjohngoc.net](mailto:dearfriends@stjohngoc.net)

 [stjohngoc.net/advertising](http://stjohngoc.net/advertising)



# Greek Heritage Night at Comerica Park

May 5th | Red Sox vs Tigers | 6:40 P.M.



**Opa! Celebrate Greek Heritage Night at Comerica Park when the Detroit Tigers battle the Boston Red Sox! Special Ticket Package includes an exclusive Tigers Greek Heritage Jersey.**



**For purchases of 10 or more tickets, please reach out to [Nicholas.Muscarella@olyent.com](mailto:Nicholas.Muscarella@olyent.com) to unlock additional savings. Go Tigers!**

# Annual Stewardship Pledge

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Sterling Heights, MI



**Stewardship is how we manage the gifts God gives us:**

**time, talent, and treasure.**

We share our time by **volunteering** where help is needed.

We share our talent by using **our special skills** to help the Church.

We share our treasure by sharing our **resources**.

This stewardship pledge form is for committing to share our **resources**. It helps the parish to be able to plan our budget ahead of time, when we know what we are able to give. It also asks for some info like ages and religion for planning what ministries may need extra focus.

**It costs roughly \$450,000 per year to run our parish.**

## My Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you an Orthodox Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## My Spouse's Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you an Orthodox Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## My Children's Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  Y  N Baptized Orthodox?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  Y  N

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  Y  N

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  Y  N

## My household wants to commit to donating...

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per month

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per year

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CSV: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_