

# 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

June 21<sup>st</sup> ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Matthew

## TODAY AT ST. JOHN

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

Memorials: Jimmie Lazaris 40 Days, Dino Lazaris 12 years, Asimina Glavas 9 months, Christos Grapsidis 7 years, Athina Grapsidis 4 ½ years, Georgios Geneos 57 years, Efstathia Geneou 39 years, Grigoris Grapsidis 27 years, Athina Grapsidis 30 years



Wedding -Saturday, June 27: Chris Polyzois and Francesca Schena

### Mark your Calendars

August 17 St. John Golf Outing

- ❖ Please support St. John Summer Survival!  
[give.tithe.ly](http://give.tithe.ly) Summer Survival

### NEWS

We have exciting news!

St. John has updated both our website and our credit card processing system for online stewardship and donations. If you currently make contributions online, please visit our giving page at: [www.stjohngoc.net/give](http://www.stjohngoc.net/give) and click the "DONATE NOW" button to set up your account in the new system. For those who are making recurring donations, when you set up your giving on the new platform, we will cancel your recurring payments on the previous platform.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Chris Shafkalis of our IT Committee at 586-292-6657

## Epistle Lesson

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 5:1-10 Prokeimenon. Mode 2 Psalm 117.14,18

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

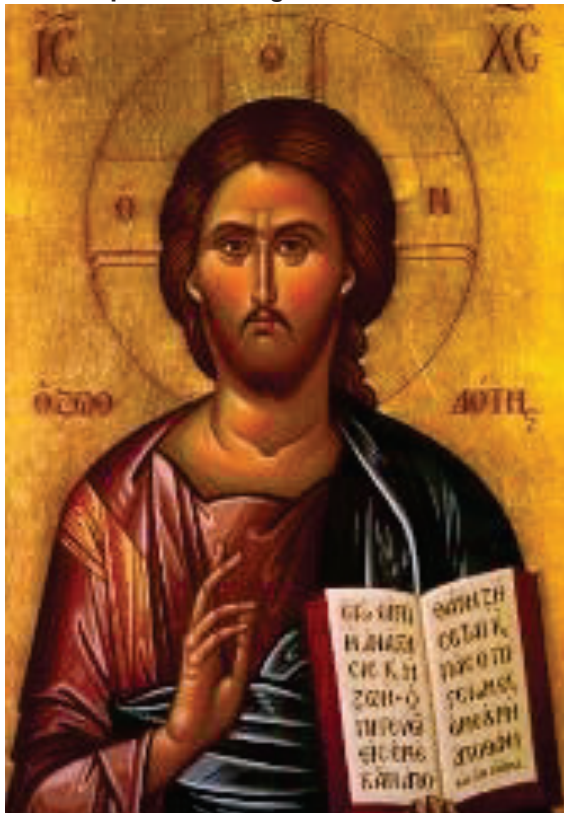
The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 5:1-10

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.



## Gospel Lesson

The Gospel According to Matthew 6:22-33



The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father

knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

# SUPPORT SUMMER SURVIVAL 2026

|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Lawn Care<br/>\$800</b>                | Mary & Nick Souris                          | Steve & Angela Kotsonis  | Ted & Mary Tangalos*               | Katherine Kotsis* |  |
| <b>Building Maintenance<br/>\$750</b>     | Nicholas & Erin Papakonstantinou and Family |                          | Daniel & Paulette Szajna*          |                   | John & Katina Papakonstantinou and Family* |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Dear Friends Front Cover<br/>\$650</b> |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Dear Friends Back Cover<br/>\$600</b>  |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Youth<br/>\$550</b>                    | Yanni & Becky Patouhas and Family*          | George & Ellene Balalas* |                                    |                   |  |
|   | Sotiri & Shanelle Kalliantasis and Family*  |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Electric<br/>\$450</b>                 | George & Kathy Demetriou and Family*        |                          | Alex & Irene Kourtesis             |                   | Nick Prantzalos Family*                    |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Consumers Energy<br/>\$350</b>         | Andreas & Marina Kyprianides*               |                          |                                    |                   |  |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Water<br/>\$250</b>                    | John & Kiki Hanjiantoniou*                  |                          | Sophia Bargaonkar*                 |                   | George & Jennifer (Glacken) Singos*        |
|   | Demetrios & Afroula Dionisopoulos*          |                          | Demetrios & Afroula Dionisopoulos* |                   |  |
|   | Senior Citizens*                            |                          | Senior Citizens*                   |                   |  |
| <b>Office Supplies<br/>\$200</b>          | Alex, Linda, Felicia Boosalis               |                          | Koutelas Family*                   |                   | Joanne Paul*                               |
|   | Ed & Georgia Mansell                        |                          | Ipsilantis Moschos Family          | Mike Syropoulos   | Katherine Kotsis*                          |
| <b>Phone<br/>\$150</b>                    | Andreas Demetriou*                          |                          | Alexander Demetriou*               |                   | Tasso & Terry Ayan*                        |
|   | Jeff Bontsas*                               |                          | Jeff Bontsas*                      |                   |  |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Cleaning Supplies<br/>\$125.00</b>     | Taylor & Kristina Sourvelis*                |                          |                                    |                   |  |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |
| <b>Insurance<br/>\$100</b>                | Bariatakis Family*                          | Kathy Stewart Family*    |                                    |                   |  |
|   |   |                          |                                    |                   |  |

# \$25.00 donation for 18 yrs. and under

|                        |                                 |                   |                   |                 |                |                |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Kosta Patouhas*        | Niko Patouhas*                  | Thanasi Patouhas* | Dimitri Patouhas* | Kosta Kourtesis | Anna Kourtesis | Liana Cusumano |
| Thomas Tzetzis         | Elpida Tzetzis                  | Felicia Boosalis  | Charlie Stewart*  | Eva Stewart*    | Jimmy Stewart* |                |
| Anastasia Stavropoulos | Evangelos Stavropoulos          | Evangelia Harder  | Paraskevi Harder  |                 |                |                |
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| <b>Other Donations</b> | Spiro & Sharon Sassalos Family* | Anonymous*        |                   |                 |                |                |
| <b>Other Donations</b> |                                 |                   |                   |                 |                |                |

ΑΓΙΟΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ  
**ST JOHN**  
GOLF OUTING

# 21ST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026  
12:30 PM SHOTGUN START

**\$250 PER PLAYER ENTRY FEE**

## INCLUDED IN THE PLAYER ENTRY FEE

Driving range, valet, and locker room  
18 Holes – Scramble format  
Coney Cart at the Turn  
Beer and soft drinks on the course  
Greyson Apparel (\$130 value)  
Dinner Buffet and  
Awards Ceremony

## GOLF OUTING CONTESTS

“Vegas Hole”: Double your  
50/50 tickets  
Putting Contest  
Longest Drive Contest  
Closest to the Pin  
Raffle to win a brand new set of  
irons, golf bag, and range finder  
Many more prizes!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR FOURSOME @ [STJOHNGOC.NET/2026-GOLF-OUTING](https://stjohngoc.net/2026-golf-outing)



**GREAT OAKS  
COUNTRY CLUB**

777 Great Oaks Blvd.  
Rochester, MI 48307

**FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:**  
Spiro Pliakos  
248-872-4382  
[pliakos.spiro7@gmail.com](mailto:pliakos.spiro7@gmail.com)



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

*An open call from the Byzantine Chant Ministry*

# Cantors Wanted

*Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν*

“COME, LET US WORSHIP”

*This art is not a relic, and it is not fading.*

*It is a living tradition, two thousand years unbroken, and it endures only through hands willing to take it up.*

◆ **No Experience Required** ◆  
*Beginners are welcome.*

I

## THE CALLING

We are seeking stewards of an art form. Those who hear in Byzantine chant a tradition worth a lifetime, and who will treat it as such. Reverence outweighs talent; resolve outweighs all.

II

## THE TRADITION

You will be trained in the Patriarchal method of Byzantine chant: the Eight Modes, the neumatic notation handed down from the Fathers, and the hymnography of the Orthros and Divine Liturgy in both Greek and English.

III

## THE DEMAND

Weekly group Psaltic Sessions. Faithful attendance at Sunday services and the major feasts of the liturgical year. Personal practice between sessions. This is the work of a lifetime.

◆ ◆ ◆  
**IF YOU ARE CALLED**

Speak with one of the cantors after Divine Liturgy, or write to [parish@stjohngoc.net](mailto:parish@stjohngoc.net).  
Include your name, age, and phone number.

*"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises unto our King, sing praises." (Psalm 47:6)*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST · STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

# ST. JOHN GREEK SCHOOL

## SUMMER CLASSES

Dear Parents,

Our school is willing to form summer classes if we have enough students. If you are interested, please return this form to the church or call the office (586) 977-6080.

**Summer classes:** for July and/or August. The classes will be 1 hour on

**Tuesdays – Conversational Classes for children, grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>,** starting  
July 7 – July 28, and August 4 – August 25, from 5-6 pm

**Also,**

**Tuesdays – Conversational Classes for adults,** starting  
July 7 – July 28, and August 4 – August 25, from 6:30-7:30 pm

Tuition is \$40 per class per month, prepaid when you sign up.

Deadline is Friday, June 26, 2026.

Yes, I am interested in \_\_\_\_\_ class.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

# 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)

**SAINT  
PANTELEIMON  
GREEK ORTHODOX  
CHURCH**

**FESTIVAL AND FEAST DAY**

**SUNDAY,  
JULY 26, 2026**

9:30am  
Orthros

10:30am  
Divine Liturgy

**Festival Following  
Divine Liturgy**

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**MONDAY,  
JULY 27, 2026**

**Feast of St. Panteleimon**

9:30am  
Orthros

10:30am  
Divine Liturgy  
Refreshments available

**FESTIVAL  
INFORMATION**

**SUNDAY** after Divine Liturgy

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**FREE PARKING AND  
PICNIC AREA**

**LAMBS ON THE SOUVLA**

**SOUVLAKIA AND RICE**

**PASTRIES AND  
BEVERAGES**

**GREEK MUSIC AND  
DANCING**

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**SAINT PANTELEIMON CHAPEL**  
7143 Cedar Road - Lexington, Michigan



# *The 75th Anniversary of*

## **METROPOLIS OF DETROIT SUMMER CAMP**

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**SATURDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026  
AT ST. NICHOLAS IN TROY, MI**

**COME JOIN US FOR A STROLLING  
DINNER, OPEN BAR, DANCING, CAMP  
AUCTION, A WALK THROUGH CAMP  
HISTORY, AND MUCH MORE!**

**AGES 21+**

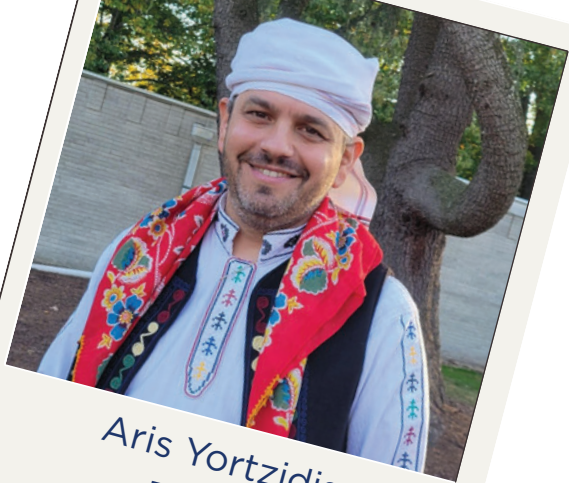


**GET TICKETS AT  
[GOMDSC.ORG/75-YEARS](https://gomdsc.org/75-years)**

**GALA ADMISSION \$125**

**EARLY BIRD \$100**

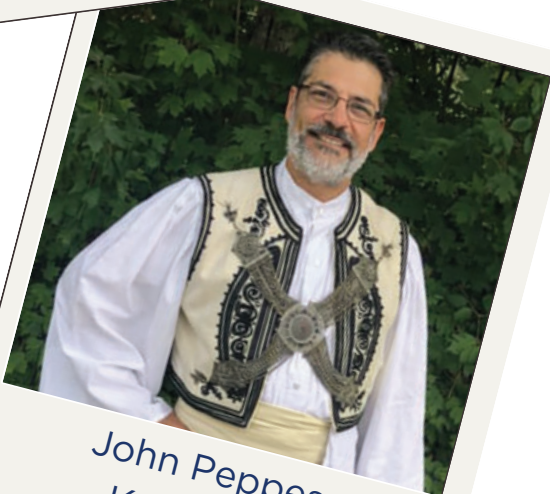
**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE INAUGURAL**



Aris Yortzidis  
Pontos



Aristoula Toli  
Epiros



John Peppes  
Kalymnos



ENDASI

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**XOROS HELLENIC DANCE CONFERENCE**  
**OCTOBER 9-11 2026**  
**DAYTON, OHIO**

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Guest Instructor Discussion Panel  
& Service Project  
Workshops & Dinner-Glendi with Endasi  
Divine Liturgy & Workshop Exhibition



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT



[www.detroit.goarch.org/xoros](http://www.detroit.goarch.org/xoros)

Orthodox Christian Women of Michigan (OCW) presents  
**ANNUAL OCW RETREAT**

**Saturday, July 25, 2026, 8:45 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**  
(Divine Liturgy, Memorial, Lunch, and Presentation)

# ***Why It's Important to be an Unmercenary***



Special Guest Speaker

**Dr. Carla Thomas**

ER doctor, author, board member of the Fellowship  
of St. Moses the Black, Axia (Orthodox Women),  
St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary,  
and Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery  
3389 Rives Eaton Road, Rives Junction, MI 49277-9739  
[www.dormitionmonastery.org](http://www.dormitionmonastery.org)  
Mother Gabriella, Abbess

Driving Directions from the east: Take I 94 West to Exit 138-Rte. 127 North. Go approximately 7.5 miles and exit at Berry Road/Rives Junction. Turn left. Go to the end of Berry Rd. and turn right at the stop sign.

Go approximately 0.3 mile. The monastery is on the left side of the road.

Appropriate attire must be worn at all times: no shorts, revealing tops, or miniskirts.

Head covering is recommended for Church. Smoking is strictly prohibited on the monastery grounds.

Pets are not permitted

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026**

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**2026 Retreat Cost: OCW Members: \$30; Non-members: \$35**

Please contact us at  
[ocwmichigan@gmail.com](mailto:ocwmichigan@gmail.com)  
for more information

# **SAVE THE DATE**

Oct. 23-25, 2026

**Fellowship of St.  
Moses The Black 33rd  
Annual Conference**

Saints Peter & Paul  
Romanian Orthodox Church  
Dearborn Heights, MI



# 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

Baptized  
Orthodox?

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

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Y

N

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 \_\_\_\_\_