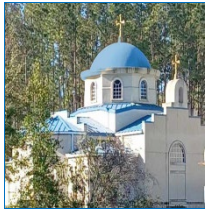


HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL



2940 CR 214
St. Augustine FL



SEPTEMBER 2024



Phone: (904) 829-0504

V. Rev. Fr. Maximos Politis – Parish Priest (347) 500-8176

FatherMaximUSA7@gmail.com

Mr. Nick Lekas – Parish President (904) 814-4930

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

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.*

CONTENTS:

- Calendar (Services – Events – Activities)
- Philoptochos
- GOYA
- Sunday School
- Stewardship
- Agora (Greek Market)
- Book Store
- Special Announcements
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL

Calendar

9/1/2024	Ecclesiastical New Year
9/1/2024	Sunday Services Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10am
9/2/2024	Labor Day - Parish Office and Archdiocese offices are closed
9/6/2024	Carey is out of Office Friday 9/6/2024 to 9/10/2024
9/8/2024	Sunday Services Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10am <u>Philoptochos Meeting following liturgy (12:30pm)</u>
9/8/2024	Sunday School Starts
9/13/2024	Fr. Maximos returns from vacation
9/15/2024	Sunday Services Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10am Mortgage Reduction Campaign
9/16/2024	Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm
9/18/2024	Carey is out of Office 9/18/2024 to 9/28/2024
9/22/2024	Sunday Services Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10am
9/22/2024	Memorial Service for Ifigenia Trakas Couchell, mother of Metropolitan Dimitrios
9/29/2024	Sunday Services Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10am

Click the link below to view the Calendar of Saints, Feasts and Readings in the Orthodox Church.

www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar

If you have any updates to the calendar, please contact the church Office or Kaliroi Parris
roi.parris@gmail.com

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. AUGUSTINE FL

PHILOPTOCHOS

Paula Marchman Lekas – Philoptochos Chapter President paulamarchman@yahoo.com



Our Dormition of the Theotokos luncheon was such a memorable event to honor our Panagia.

Thank you to everyone who helped add so much love to this event. From the cleaning of the outside entrance and beautiful plants and benches that are now part of our church to the preparing the tables and flowers to enhance our Ballroom. So much gratitude to our committee that prepared an amazing luncheon feast for all to enjoy! All of us shared how joyous and wonderful it was to work together on this event!

A special thank you to Polly Hillier for the presentation she shared with us with the assistance of Alex and Julianna.

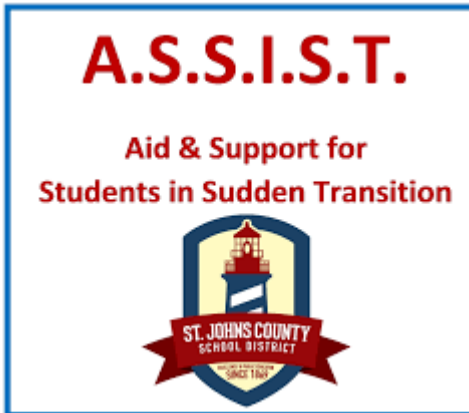
Thank-you to the Antonatos Family for all the sweets and precious memorial toast to their beloved Husband and Father.

We even celebrated the birthday of our Landon as one big family!

Thank you, thank you so much to all who came to celebrate with us!

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Thank you to our Faye, Paula and Toula for delivering all the wonderful gifts that our church collected for this program. Thank you to everyone who participated in bringing in new book bags, notebooks pencils, etc. they were very thankful.!

Upcoming Event:

Mark Your Calendars, **September 8th Sunday** (after coffee hour) for our next meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you where we will continue coming together to work and plan our Autumn schedule.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. AUGUSTINE FL

Sunday Coffee Hour Hosting



Each Sunday's social hour is chaired by Philoptochos.

A volunteer coordinates a given week's plan. That means that regardless of experience, anyone can volunteer to provide a snack and be a host! This is not limited to Philoptochos members or even just to women!

Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4BA9AB29ABF58-47162771-holy>

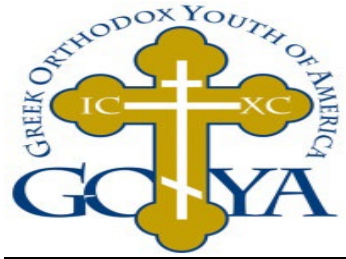
Please contact Gigi Ray at <gigiray703@gmail.com> or call her at 404-375-5859; or email Kaliroi Parris at <roi.parris@gmail.com>. You can speak to them after church, and they can sign you up also.

Thank you!

We invite all Orthodox Christian women to attend any of our monthly meetings and learn more about how we work together to make a difference!

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. AUGUSTINE FL

GOYA YOUTH MINISTRY



The Holy Trinity Church GOYA is for youth in sixth through twelfth grades.

It integrates worship (liturgy), fellowship (koinonia), service (diakonia), and witness (martyria).

We will begin meeting again after Labor Day.



Contact Connie at connie.l.espinosa@gmail.com or Andy at ajlekos@att.net for additional information.



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday Church School

Classes are starting September 8th, 2024

It is not too late to register!

Contact Kaliroi Parris 312-952-0400 roi.parris@gmail.com

We look forward to providing a fun and educational environment to help our children grown in faith.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of our gifts can help shape our world and ourselves in such a way that we can experience God's grace, love and communion in the present.



Those that Seek the Lord Shall Never be in Want of any Good Thing

(Psalm 34:10 and the Closing Hymn of the Service of Artoclasia)

On August 18th we celebrated the Miracle of the Feeding of the 5000 in the Wilderness. This event reminds us that if we offer what we are able, God will receive our gifts and multiply them to do great things in the world.

Through the boy's offering of all that he had – five loaves and two fish – he did his best with what he had, and Jesus used it to perform an incredible miracle.

We also bring what we have to Jesus. We offer bread and wine, and He returns it to us as His body and blood in Holy Communion. We offer ourselves and we become the Church, His body on earth.

We give with joy as part of our spiritual growth. Stewardship of our gifts can help shape our world and ourselves in such a way that we can experience God's grace, love and communion in the present.

Hard work may bring power and success. Only God can bring us joy, peace and love. In true stewardship, we are giving back to God with joy in thanksgiving for what He has done for us.

The Lord doesn't expect any more from us than what we have to offer, but He does expect us to be faithful and that we do our very best for Him.

We do our best and leave the rest to Him.

Toula Zotos, Stewardship Chair

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. AUGUSTINE FL

The Stewardship form is available at the church and on-line at www.holytrinitystaugustine.org You can also set up regular monthly payments through the church website or your bank.

Don't forget to use the QR code, it's an easy and convenient way to give:



Stewardship Report (as of August 31st, 2024):

Stewards - 66

Commitments - \$101,000

Collected - \$68,399.00

Outstanding - \$32,711.00

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL



AGORA (Greek Market)

Featuring **delicious imported Greek food items** like cheeses, olives, olive oil, oregano, frozen tiropites and spanakopita's, phyllo, chocolates, lentils, orzo and pistachio noodles, halvah, spoon sweet preserves, coffee, tea, honey and many more tasty items!

All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of St Augustine.

Please contact holytrinityagora@gmail.com to place an order or see us after church at the Agora in the church hall.

After hours, please make an appointment.

Stacy Symeonides, Stephanie Danikas & The Agora Team

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL



BOOK STORE

ST. THEODORA BOOK STORE AND GIFT SHOP: Give that special someone a gift or even give your home a lift with beautiful items from Greece. For info, email Paula Marchman [-paulamarchman@yahoo.com](mailto:paulamarchman@yahoo.com)

Our little shop has many wonderful new children's books on our faith, our saints and our church! They make excellent gifts, but they are also wonderful tools to teach our children and grandchildren about our beautiful faith. Don't miss out. 🙏 Do your shopping now and support our church. We also have many new books for adults.

Our gift shop has so many beautiful new items from our Artists in Greece. So many new pillows, towels, porcelains, and pomegranates, and so much more! ❤️ Come select some beautiful gifts and items for your home. We only have a few of each -they are incredibly special and well-priced. We are open on Sundays and by appointment during the week.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL



HOLY COMMUNION

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.

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 the middle aisle before Communion) – all visiting children are invited to join us!
3. The remaining congregation as directed by the usher.

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

WEBSITE - www.holytrinitystaugustine.org

Check out our new website! It's easy to navigate and we'll keep adding more ways to make it your "go-to" destination for all things Holy Trinity of St Augustine!

- ✓ Looking for the weekly bulletin? Or the Parish calendar? Or the Sunday Coffee Hour signup? They're all under "**Calendar**".
- ✓ Check out the **Photos** of our events! Also, information about our *Faith and Worship* can be found in the **Our Parish** tab.
- ✓ The *Commemorative Walkway* order form is added to **Our Parish** tab
- ✓ The Sunday School info is listed under **Parish Ministries** tab

We look forward to keeping you well informed!

NEW DONATION ENVELOPES

Notice the new envelopes in our pews? Did you notice the QR (Quick Response) code that is printed on them? This is an effortless way to buy candles or donate using your phone or tablet.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ***ST. AUGUSTINE FL***

HALL RENTAL



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
2940 County Road 214, St. Augustine, FL 32084

The John C Carlos Fellowship Hall at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in St. Augustine is available! With a cool 2500 sq. f t. space and seating for 200, this place is perfect for all your celebration needs. Want to host a reception, party, meeting, or even a lecture? Look no further! Kitchen facilities are available for all your catering desires. For pricing and reservations, Give us a call at (904) 829 - 0504 or contact by email www.holytrinitystaugustine.org. We are open Monday to Thursday from 9:00 to 1:00 and Friday from 9:00 to 12:00.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL

WAYS OF GIVING

- ✓ **On-Line:** Click “**Donate Now**” on our Church’s webpage: www.holytrinitystaugustine.org to make a gift. Give via credit card, PayPal, or set up recurrent giving through your bank. Please be sure a specific notation (ex: stewardship) is included for each transaction.
- ✓ **QR Code:** Scan the QR code with your phone



SCAN ME



- ✓ Our “**Light a Candle & Say a Prayer**” ministry lets you light a candle during divine services. Your request will be forwarded to a Council member in the Narthex to light your candle. If you wish to provide names of loved ones to be prayed for, those will be provided to Fr. Maximos.
- ✓ **Giving by Check or Cash:** Please be sure to include a notation on the memo line on checks to allow us to identify your intentions (i.e. stewardship, candles, trays, memorials, etc.). Please use a donation envelope available at the welcome desk and the Narthex and fill out the information requested.
- ✓ **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...check or cash 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 or mailed to HTGOC using the **donation envelopes are available at the welcome desk and in the Narthex.**
- ✓ **Celebrations:** Are you celebrating a special day? Birthday, Anniversary, Seasonal House Cleaning? Whatever the event, please consider celebrating it with others and making it a fundraiser for our church. People have raised \$6 billion USD on Facebook and Instagram for causes they care about. Create a fundraiser and Facebook will take care of the donation processing with no fees. You can also place the PayPal giving link for the church in your on-line message for donations to be made directly to our account. This can be a fun way to share your happy day with your friends and community and an effective fundraiser for our church. Please reach out to Fr. Maximos or Nick Lekas for details.'

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. AUGUSTINE FL

PLANNED GIVING

We wish to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our parishioners who have inquired regarding bequests and gifts to the church.

We strongly suggest that you discuss your wishes with your estate planner and financial advisor.

Your bequests and gifts to the church will help our parish meet its financial obligations as well as the philanthropic and educational needs in our community.

Our parishioners have requested information for two specific situations:

1. Qualified Charitable Distributions

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) gift is an easy way to reduce your tax bill and your RMD (required minimum distribution) from your IRA or pretax 401K accounts for any person 70 ½ or older. This can be managed directly from your Financial institution through your financial advisor.

(Click the links below to read more about these programs.)

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/qualified-charitable-distributions-allow-eligible-ira-owners-up-to-100000-in-tax-free-gifts-to-charity>

<https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/guidance/philanthropy/qualified-charitable-distribution.html>

2. Donating Stocks to Holy Trinity

Those choosing to donate stocks to Holy Trinity can do so. The church has a Fidelity brokerage account specifically for this purpose.

Thank you for your continued support of Holy Trinity Church!

CHURCH FINANCIALS as of August 31st, 2024

Income	\$11,565
Stewardship	\$6,308
Expense	\$20,741
Bank Balance	\$15,941
Reserves	\$74,918

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ***ST. AUGUSTINE FL***

THE COMMEMORATIVE WALKWAY

The commemorative walkway (aka Brick Campaign) began as a parish fundraising program for Holy Trinity at the time of the Opening of the Doors in 2008. It has become a vehicle to honor individuals who have impacted our parish, while it continues to provide a wonderful opportunity for people to create a lasting memory for a myriad of reasons.

Show your support to Holy Trinity by purchasing a 4" x 8" paver with 3 lines for \$100, or an 8" x 8" paver with 6 lines for \$250.00. The net profit supports the parish operations.

Brochures are available on the card rack in the Church Hall or alternately, please contact Connie Espinosa connie.l.espinosa@gmail.com to assist in this parish ministry.

Information and order form is also available on our website

<http://www.holytrinitystaugustine.org/commemorative-walkway>



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. AUGUSTINE FL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

KOLIVA FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES:

Koliva is used for commemorations of the departed (40th day after death; 3rd, 6th, 9th month, annually) and Saturdays of the Souls. Contact Faye Peterson, pete9839@comcast.net or Angela Lekos, angelmou1@att.net if you need Koliva prepared. There is a fee of \$100 for materials, supplies and labor.

ARTOKLASIA:

Blessing of the Five Loaves is a service of thanksgiving through which we express our gratitude for all the blessings of life. The Blessing is offered on a feast day or special occasion. If you need Artoklasia prepared, contact Angel Lekos, angelmou1@att.net.

HOUSE BLESSINGS:

To arrange for a "house blessing" please contact the priest to make an appointment.

MEMORIAL :

To request a gravesite memorial, please contact the priest.

SPECIAL SERVICE:

If you have a request for a special memorial service (traditionally a volunteered donation is given to the priest), please contact the church office in advance of the requested date with details.

To offer Holy Communion to someone in need at a hospital, nursing home, in hospice care or at home, please contact the priest

**The deadline for the weekly Church bulletin e-mail articles is before noon on Wednesday.
The deadline for the monthly Newsletter articles is the 25th of the month.**