

**Christmas Gingerbread House Making**  
*December 17, 2018*



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*See More Photos Inside!*

Fr. Michael's Office Hours:

Wednesdays, 9am - 12pm or by appointment  
Church Office

Please stop by and chat!

# **THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE**

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Georgiana Wilton, Parish Council President [georgiana.wilton@gmail.com](mailto:georgiana.wilton@gmail.com)

**Parish Council Officers:** Tom Cameron, Vice President; Bruce Hansen, Secretary, Niko Papadopoulos & Scott Storck, Treasurers. **Members:** Petros Anagnostopoulos, Christy Chappell Belkin, Conn Choles, Dori Hosek, Georgia Marsh, Mike Smith, Nick Topitzes. **Alternates:** Carol Griskavich, Jane Schirmer.



Where does Christ, and our Church, fit into your life?

Yeah...here I go again...two months in a row I'm asking the tough questions.

I spent a very rewarding (and enlightening) 4 minutes and 51 seconds watching a YouTube video [goarch.org](http://goarch.org). It hit home the message in its opening, "The ways we spend our time and money say a lot about what we actually love. And our actions may reveal we don't love God as much as we'd like to think. Let's take an honest look at our lives so we can make some much-needed changes in the year ahead."

This is the closest I'll get to a 'New Year's Resolution' (you all know by know how I feel about those grand-standing pat-me-on-the-back resolutions). But, a friendly reminder, check-in, litmus test...whatever you want to call it...can be a good way to look at what we prioritize.

Please take a moment to watch:

<https://www.goarch.org/-/new-year-new-focus?inheritRedirect=true>

After watching I reviewed my 2018 budget and my calendar showing where all my free time in retirement is spent. Financially I spent more on food, property taxes, my mortgage and my daughter's wedding than I did on Church in 2018. But...my clothing, household expenses and everything else came in lower. Does that mean I did well? You don't have enough data yet to answer that question...because I also looked at my time. Am I working to help the Church on days other than Sunday? Besides Greek Fest, what do I do? Is my time limited to Sundays and one weekend in July? I volunteer with several non-profits in Madison—and am active in three. Do I balance my time well? Do I prioritize Christ and Church?

I'll be continuing to look at the ways in which I spend my time and my money...and continue to shed light on what my priorities really are.

There is no right or wrong, no judgment, no anything—because we are all at different stages in our lives. I'm retired, my daughter lives out-of-state, and I live reasonably close to Church. You should expect more from me. But the exercise was fun...and a great way to spend a lazy afternoon.

As always...my phone is on, and my email is active. Let me know how I can help!

## **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**

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Patti Cameron, President [pcameron@tds.net](mailto:pcameron@tds.net) 608-219-1659

### **National Obligations:**

- St Basils Academy – Proceeds from St. Basil's Dinner

\*\*\*We are in need of vasilopita bread bakers for the St. Basil's dinner on Sunday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>. If you are able to bake a couple, please contact Maria M by Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 608-835-0184.\*\*\*

## **Local Donations:**

OCF Semester Care Packages – Patti Cameron & Margo Schmidt

Homebound Christmas Baskets (6)– by Elene Patenaude

## **Coffee Hour Update:**

We could use some additional hosts for coffee hour. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Patti C at 608-219-1659. Please consider this hospitality ministry of our church. This is a good way for new parishioners to connect with our congregation. Thank you.

## **Upcoming Events:**

*Saturday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>* 9:00-11:30 Church hall: Philoptochos Meeting and koliva cooking demo

*Sunday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>* St. Basil's Dinner- Maria Molzahn, Jane Schirmer & Betty Luck co-chairs.

*Tuesday, Jan 29<sup>th</sup>* Grace Episcopal Meal: Contact Ilektra, 608-358-2060 if you are able to help.

*Saturday, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>* Mid Winter Luncheon 11:30 in the church hall. See attached invitation

*Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>* 9-11 Church Women United at our church. We will need Philoptochos women to help host this event. Please contact Helen if you are able to help: Thank you. 608-238-5342

**Peace to all in the New Year!**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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Jenny Josheff, Director, [agocssdirector@gmail.com](mailto:agocssdirector@gmail.com), Fr. Michael, Spiritual Advisor, [frmichael@agocwi.org](mailto:frmichael@agocwi.org)

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year! Many blessings for 2019.

We want to remind parents that families should stay together on January 6th as we are encouraging families to celebrate Epiphany and the epiphany service together after Liturgy. Therefore, we won't be holding class after communion on January 6th.

2019 will bring some changes to Sunday School as Ms. Korinna hands her torch over to Nick, who will be taking over the 4th grade. Thank you, Ms. Korinna, for your many years of service to our children and to the community!

Sunday School is still looking for help. We are looking for a director and a couple more teachers. Please contact us if you are interested.



## SHARE – A – PRAYER

Thank you for embracing Share-A-Prayer when you light a candle at Church. When we light a candle—we say a prayer. The candle has much more of a purpose than simply providing light and heat...it keeps our prayer going. When the ushers put out the candles after services, they save the bigger ones to be relit.

When you choose a pre-lit candle, you add your prayer to the previous prayer and keep them both going!

Recycling...sure, that plays into it. No need to waste anything on this earth. But, more importantly, the prayers continue!

Please continue to embrace Share-A-Prayer and keep our prayers shining bright!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### J and M Home Helpers

AGOC's handymen, John and Mike, will do minor home repairs and maintenance for \$25/hour, with the money for their work being donated to the church.



**Call Mike at (608) 516-9188 and John at (608) 575-1014 today!**

## SACRAMENTS DURING DECEMBER 2018

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Weddings: 0 Chrismations: 0 Baptisms: 0 Funerals: 0

# Christmas Gingerbread House Making

## *December 17, 2018*

*On Monday evening, December 17, 2018, over 15 of our AGOC youth gathered in the church hall to make gingerbread houses for Christmas! Thank you, Saed and Susu Akkawi, for spear-heading this operation!*



# January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 30 <b>Sunday after the Nativity</b>  Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	December 31 <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>  Great Vespers of the Feast of St. Basil 6:00 pm	1 <b>St. Basil the Great / Circumcision of Our Lord</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	2   Choir Practice 7:00 pm	3	4	5 <b>Pre-Theophany</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am  Great Blessing of the Waters Service
6 <b>Theophany</b>  Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  Great Blessing of the Waters Service  Sunday School Resumes	7 <b>St. John the Baptist</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	8	9   Choir Practice 7:00 pm	10	11	12  <i>Russian Orthodox</i> Divine Liturgy 9:00 am  Philoptochos Meeting and Koliva Cooking Demo 9:00 – 11:30 am
13 <b>Sunday After Theophany</b>  Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  Sunday School Classes Resume	14	15	16   Choir Practice 7:00 pm	17 <b>St. Anthony the Great</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	18 <b>Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	19
20 <b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>  <b>Ten Lepers</b>  Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	21 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>	22	23   Choir Practice 7:00 pm	24	25 <b>St. Gregory the Theologian</b>	26  <i>Russian Orthodox</i> Divine Liturgy 9:00 am
27 <b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>  <b>Zacchaeus</b>  Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  <b>St. Basil's Dinner</b>	28	29   5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month / Grace Episcopal Meal	30 <b>Three Hierarchs</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am  Choir Practice 7:00 pm	31	February 1	February 2 <b>Presentation of Our Lord</b>  Divine Liturgy 9:00 am  Mid-Winter Luncheon 11:30

# January - March 2019 Liturgies and Services

## December 31

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Great Vespers of the Feast of St. Basil - 6:00 pm

## January 1

### Circumcision of Our Lord / St. Basil the Great

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Colossians 2:8-12

**Gospel:** Luke 2:20-21,40-52

**Prosforo:** Jenny G

## January 5

### Eve of Theophany

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

*Followed immediately by The Great Blessing of the Waters*

**Epistle:** 1 Timothy 3:13-16;4:1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-6

**Prosforo:** Jenny G

## January 6

### Theophany

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

*Followed immediately by The Great Blessing of the Waters*

**Epistle:** Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

**Gospel:** Matthew 3:13-17

**Prosforo:** Cathy G

**Coffee Hour: (Group 13)** Nancy G, Christy C-B, Marinela M

## January 7

### St. John the Baptist

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Acts 19:1-8

**Gospel:** John 1:29-34

**Prosforo:** Cathy G

## January 13

### Sunday After Theophany

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Ephesians 4:7-13

**Gospel:** Matthew 4:12-17

**Prosforo:** Tom C

**Coffee Hour: (Group 1)** Sue S, Katerina P, Seham A

## January 17

### St. Anthony the Great

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Hebrews 13:17-21

**Gospel:** Luke 6:17-23

**Prosforo:** Tom C

## January 18

### Sts. Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Hebrews 13:7-16

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:14-19

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

## January 20

### 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke - Ten Lepers

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

**Gospel:** Luke 17:12-19

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

**Coffee Hour: (Group 2)** Eleni P, Korinna H, Jenny G

## January 27

### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke - Zacchaeus

**\*\*St. Basil's Dinner\*\***

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2

**Gospel:** Luke 19:1-10

**Prosforo:** Anna F

**Coffee Hour:** St. Basil's Dinner - Special Group

## January 30

### Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Hebrews 13:7-16

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:14-19

**Prosforo:** Anna F

## February 2

### Presentation of Our Lord

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Hebrews 7:7-17

**Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40

**Prosforo:** Elene P

## February 3

### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

**Prosforo:** Elene P

**Coffee Hour: (Group 3)** Nadya H, Athena D, Valerie M

## February 10

### Sunday of the Canaanite Woman

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Timothy 2:1-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 15:21-28

**Prosforo:** Korinna H

**Coffee Hour: (Group 4)** Nancy B, Jane S, Beth F, Susan J

## February 17

### Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee / TRIODION BEGINS

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Timothy 3:10-15

**Gospel:** Luke 18:10-14

**Prosforo:** Kathie F

**Coffee Hour: (Group 5)** Kristi P, Lisa B, Ilektra K

## February 24

### Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

**Gospel:** Luke 15:11-32

**Prosforo:** Nia C

**Coffee Hour: (Group 6)** Maria M, Nia C, Denise S

## March 2

### 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Souls

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

**Gospel:** Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36

**Prosforo:** Jane S

## March 3

### Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)

Orthos 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

# ***Icon workshops***

**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church**

In church hall

**1 – 3 p.m.**

**Saturday, January 12, 2019**

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

- Workshops will be open to members of all ages of the Assumption church community, and led by iconographer David Giffey.
- Workshops are free of charge unless specific materials are required. Costs would be minimal depending on need.
- Workshops will include topics such as: the meaning of icons; icons and spiritual practices; techniques used in painting icons; drawing of icons; painting icons; and more.
- Each participant will receive as much individual attention as possible.
- Please call David at 608-753-2199 or email [barnowl1941@gmail.com](mailto:barnowl1941@gmail.com) if you wish to attend.



**Mid-Winter  
Philanthropic  
Luncheon  
Saturday, 2/2/2019**

**11:30 am Reception  
12:15 pm Luncheon**

**Social Hall - Assumption Greek Orthodox Church  
11 N 7th St, Madison, WI  
Cost: \$20 inclusive**

**Join us for an afternoon of fun filled with Girl Talk,  
Door Prizes  
and a buffet lunch served by Freska Mediterranean Grill**

**The 2019 Exchange: Fine Dining and Leftovers: Re-homing Serving  
and Kitchen Items**

Free will donation will be collected.

Buffet luncheon includes meat and vegetarian dishes: spanakopita, falafel, rice, Mediterranean, Greek and tabouli salads, pitas, tzatziki, hummus, pastitsio, baklava, coffee, tea



**RSVP by Saturday, January 26 to:**

Patti Notes / 608 274-6394  
5736 Pembroke Drive  
Fitchburg, WI 53711  
Cost: \$20 inclusive  
Check payable to Philoptochos

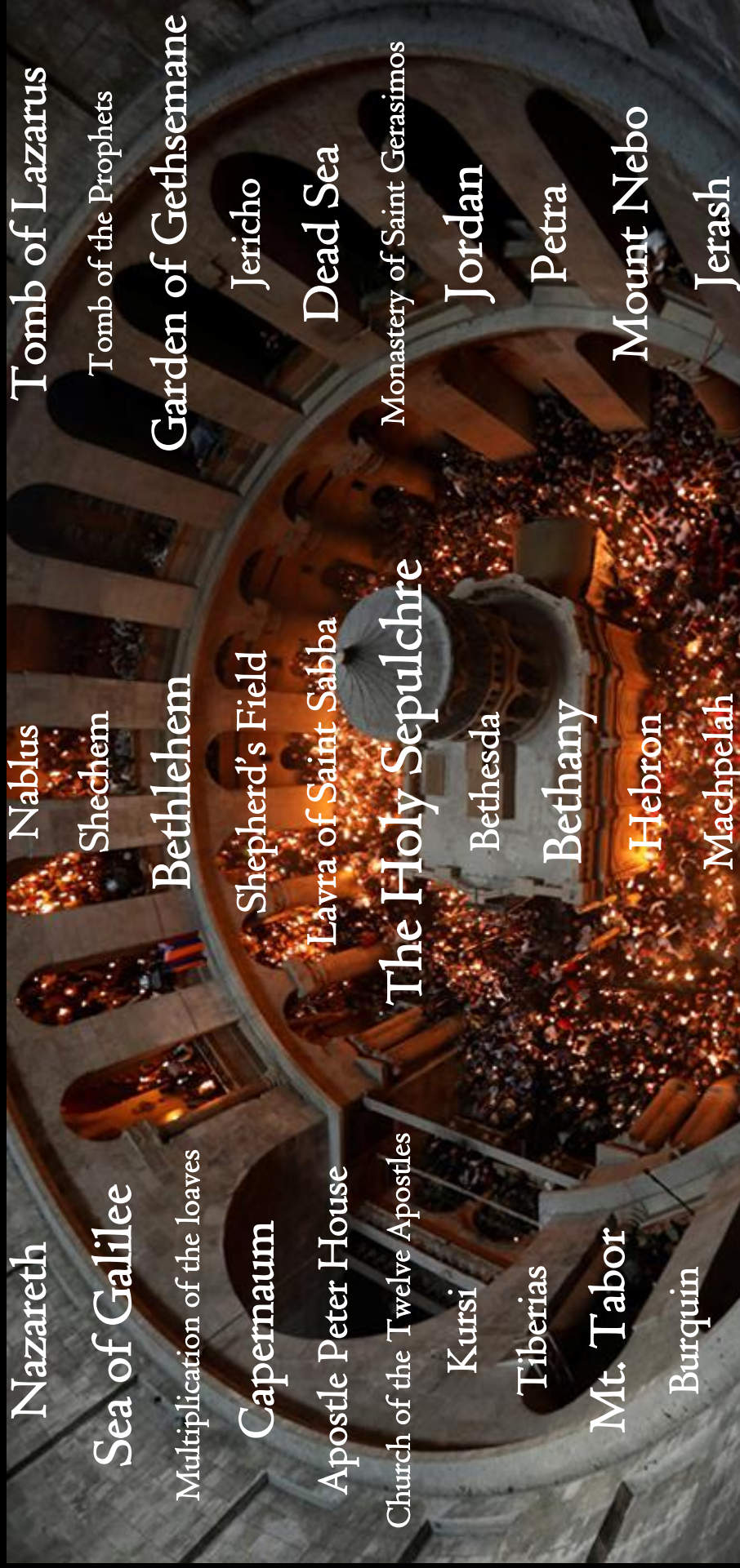
**Name(s) of person(s) attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of person(s) attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

# HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

May 6-18, 2019



For more information / To save your spot:

[holylandpilgrimage2019@gmail.com](mailto:holylandpilgrimage2019@gmail.com)

Price: \$2650 + Airfare