



The Voice of Holy Apostles
Greek Orthodox Church of Indianapolis
Αγιοι Αποστολοι Ελληνορθοδοξη Εκκλησια Ινδιαναπολεως
+Metropolis of Detroit

4550 North Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205

WWW.HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG

INFO@HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG

Fr. John Koen Tel: 317-908-8511

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in Our Lord and His Mother!

I hope and pray that this finds everyone well in all ways during this brutal spell of heat and humidity that we had there for a while. I personally favor moderation in all things, including weather, not being fond of extreme heat or extreme cold. Actually, in life in general, I prefer balance and moderation also. I have never been fond of extremism in anything, including religion and politics. Our current times seem to be times of warring extremes in many areas.

I'm not going to get into political commentary here, only to say that I do not remember an election year this full of anger, hatred, vitriol and all manner of conflict, much of it on a very base level. It may well be that we are in the end or latter times. We definitely appear to be at a major crossroads in our country's history. It is a time for increased awareness, vigilance and MUCH prayer. It is so easy right now to get caught up in violent arguments, or even outright violence. To state the obvious, this is very much to be avoided. Inform yourselves, look, read, listen, discern, pray. What is behind all the drama? Where does all the "smoke and mirrors" come from? What's REALLY going on? We need to pray for our country, our government, our Church, the world.

August brings the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. I have said many times that She is a great one to turn to in times of crisis. She has helped, and She will help. Without Divine intervention and assistance, we are without hope, we are in peril. So, perhaps rather than wasting time in pointless arguments and rhetoric, we would better invest in heartfelt prayer for all the issues that require it. That is not to say that we cannot or should not act, in right action, in the world. But if we do not seek to have our heavenly and spiritual connection constantly renewed, then it is all too easy to become confused, cynical, hopeless, and burnt out. May this time be a time of renewed and fervent prayer and spiritual activity! Hronia Polla, in advance, for the great Feast of the Dormition! And may the Lord bless you and keep you, now and forever!

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr. John

NOTED DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

August 6: Holy Transfiguration

August 14: Parish Council meeting...if you would like to address something please let a member know

August 15: Dormition of the Theotokos

OPA! HOUSE:

We will be having our second **OPA! HOUSE**. It will be on **Saturday, October 1, from 11am-5pm**. This year our event will coincide with the Midtown Vineyard's Art Fair. To those of you who might not know who they are, they are the church that rents the hall downstairs in Northview every Sunday.

Unfortunately, Alexandra Kocoshis, due to medical reasons, will not be able to chair this event as originally planned. We would love for someone to help fill this position, which the Parish Council will be glad to assist whoever it might be. As you can see some planning has already started.

Please remember that the Parish Council cannot do this without your participation, so please help whenever asked. We will need people to sign up to help and make Greek coffee, there will be a sign up sheet on the blackboard in the coffee hour room soon.

This year we are making some changes that hopefully will bring us more profit. We will be ordering most of our desserts from Chicago, and have less choices and more uniformity in the piece sizes. Our focus will not be providing as much seating area due to the other event that will be happening, which will be less work for us.

ITEMS SELLING:

Flogeres/Baklava, Kourambiedes, Koulourakia (homemade), Tsourekia
Mezedes Tray: Dolmades, Feta, Kalamata Olives, & pita bread
Greek and regular coffee and water

Elizabeth Strickland has offered to help with advertising, which we all know this is important in promoting the event. We are sure she would like some assistance with this.

HISTORICAL IRVINGTON HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL – OCTOBER 29TH:

The Parish Council is in the process of getting us a tent space in this growing event. We will be selling a couple of Greek sweets and bread (items purchased from Chicago), and coffee and apple cider. When all is finalized, we will need people to sign up for some shifts. The event runs from **10am-5pm**.

The OPA! HOUSE and this event will be our two major fund raisers since we are no longer doing our bake sale.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS:

We just received our quarterly check from this program, which was **\$46.61**, due to only 3 families who have enrolled in this program. Now just imagine what we get if more of you would take a very little time to enroll.

If you have a rewards card and are already registered on line, then just sign in and go Community Rewards and our number is **28274**. Remember this does not take the points you earn for the purchase of gas.

If you have not registered on line, you must first set up an account on line. Go to the following website: www.krogercommunityrewards.com, or you can call the enrollment number **(1-866-221-4141)**. Make sure you have your Plus Card number on hand, and our church's number **28274**.

No, organizations will not need to enroll each year, but each member of your organization will be requested to re-enroll his or her Kroger Plus Card on an annual basis **after January 1st of each year**.

COMMUNION:

The Parish Council has decided to try a little something different in the procession to take Communion, in hopes that it will help eliminate some congestion we have been having. We will start by bringing the right side of the church up first, and then move on to the left side. If we find it is not working, then the council will readdress it.

BENEVOLENT FUND:

There had been some discussion about capping the amount in this fund. Instead, the Parish Council has decided that the basket will be passed every other month. Therefore, the next time it will be passed is **September 18th**.

COFFEE HOUR:

If you have had the opportunity to enjoy the goodies after church, please consider signing up to host one of them. It adds to the pleasant conversations and comradery following the Divine Liturgy. Also, please try to have something that is gluten free for Fr. John.

ACOLYTE:

Elijah McKnight will be training to become an acolyte for Holy Apostles, with training by Demetrios Geroulis and John Kofodimos. We are so glad to see him becoming a member of our parish.

NEW NEIGHBORS:

The day care center that had been renting the other lower rooms has relocated. The Apogee School for Gifted Children has now taken over the space. The head of the school and cofounder David Bonner said he would be more than willing to run a line into the chapel so that we can have access to Wi-Fi. We think this will be a nice relationship in the future.

PARISH NEWS:

We are glad to welcome back Christ Tsiros to our fold after returning from Greece. He has again started up his tailoring and alternation business, which is Eastgate Tailors at 710 Shortridge Road.

Thank you to Mary Kostarides and Xanthippi Darzentas for supplying Prosforo for our Divine Liturgy.

We want to thank George Pappas and Nearhos and Xanthippi Darzentas for again donating the funds that covers the cost of the additional room this year.

Holy Apostles wishes our deepest sympathy to George Pappas and Michael Pappas on the passing of their cousin John A. Siamas of Crawfordsville, on July 19. May his memory be eternal.