



**Annunciation Greek
Orthodox Church**
*Rev. Father Simon Thomas,
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2016

Lenten Lecture Series and Dinners

SPEAKERS & HOSTS

MARCH 16 - EVA KOKINOS-KOSTANTAKOS

Dinner sponsored by Families of Children & Youth of Annunciation

MARCH 23 - REV. FR. GREGORY HOHNHOLT

Dinner sponsored by Men of AHEPA

MARCH 30 - MOTHER NEKTARIA

Dinner sponsored by Daughters of Penelope

APRIL 6 - REV. FR. PHILIP ROGERS

Dinner sponsored by Romanian Families

APRIL 13 - ANDREW & LEAH HORVATH

Dinner sponsored by Elpis Philoptochos

APRIL 20 - REV. FR. CHRISTOS CRISTAKIS

Dinner sponsored by the Sinis Family



MARCH 16
EVA KOKINOS-KOSTANTAKOS

TOPIC: Walking with Youth on the Path to Salvation: Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministries

BIO: Eva (Kokinos) Kostantakos is a native of Anderson, IN. She has been serving as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit since September 2003. She received a B.A. in Speech Communications from Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Eva is a graduate of Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA, receiving a Masters in Theological Studies in 2003. She married her husband Sam Kostantakis in the fall of 2013. Eva and Father Simon met many years ago when the two of them were counselors at St. Nicholas Summer Camp in the Metropolis of San Francisco.



APRIL 30
REV. FR. CHRISTOS CHRISTAKIS

TOPIC: Thoughts on Spirituality

BIO: Fr. Christos was born in Athens, Greece in 1968. He is the eldest of three children. His parents, brother and sister reside in Athens, Greece. He is married to Presvytera Lisa (Parthenakis) of Cincinnati, Ohio. Father and Presvytera have four children, Basil, Nicholas, Jonah and Maria Angelica.

Fr. Christos studied theology at the University of Athens. He graduated from the theological school of this University in 1990. He completed a Master of Theology at King's College, University of London. He received a Ph.D in Patristic Theology in 1996 at King's College, England, UK.

Fr. Christos was ordained a deacon by Metropolitan John (Zezioulas) of Pergamon and a priest by Metropolitan Kallinikos of Piraeus in 1996. He served at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, London, England until 1999 and at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Middletown, Ohio until 2007 when he was appointed to the Hellenic Orthodox Church of the Annunciation in Buffalo, New York, a parish of 750 families in the Metropolis of Detroit (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America)

Fr. Christos has published articles in various Greek and English journals and has presented papers at seminars and conferences. His Masters of Theology thesis, "A Woman Christian Sage of the Fourth Century: Macrina the Virgin Philosopher", was published in 1995. His areas of interest include the study of the Early Church, Eastern Orthodox Church and the modern Ecumenical Dialogue. He is currently adjunct professor at Canisus College, Buffalo, where he teaches a course on the history and theology of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Fr. Christos is currently the theological secretary of the International Commission of Anglican-Orthodox Dialogue, a position he serves since 1994. He has a great interest in the modern theological dialogue between the Christian churches and has participated in numerous Ecumenical meetings and conferences.



APRIL 13
ANDREW & LEAH HORVATH

TOPIC: Orthodoxy's Approach to Mission Work

BIOS: Andrew Mark Horvath earned his B.A. in Liberal Arts from Hellenic College of Boston, MA in 2008 with Highest Distinction. He then entered Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology and earned his Master of Divinity graduate degree in 2011, again with Highest Distinction. Upon graduation, Andrew completed a juris doctor degree in 2014 from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis and is a licensed attorney practicing with the Spence Law Firm, PLLC. His practice focuses primarily on business and corporate litigation, municipal and governmental liability, constitutional rights and remedies, and class action lawsuits. He is married to the lovely Leah Marie Apalodimas, and together they are enjoying their first child, Michael Francis Horvath, who is often found exploring the corridors of the Annunciation Church during liturgy. Both Leah and Andrew share a passion and love for global Orthodoxy, especially the San Inocencio Orphanage and Project Mexico in Tijuana, Mexico.

Leah Apalodimas Horvath is a Critical Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with 9 years of clinical experience in specialized intensive care environments and currently practices at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing from Saint Louis University and is honored with inclusion in Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing. At Le Bonheur, she developed and directs a music therapy fellowship with Rhodes College.

Orthodox mission work is central to her ministry in the Church. Having served on four international Orthodox mission teams, her initial exposure to mission work occurred on a trip to Project Mexico. Additionally she has done mission work in El Salvador and a month long medical mission in Uganda. She welcomes the opportunity to speak about her experience serving on diverse Orthodox mission trips and enjoys inspiring others to find their unique ministries within the Church.



MARCH 23
REV. FR. GREGORY HOHNHOLT

TOPIC: Battling Addictions: How Lent can help.

BIO: Fr. Gregory Hohnholt was born in El Dorado, KS on January 21, 1977. He grew up in Corpus Christi, TX. He graduated High School 3rd in his class and was named "Academic All-State" for his basketball performance. He attended Texas Tech University receiving a BA in Engineering with a double-minor in Mathematics and Electrical Engineering.

Fr. Gregory and Presvtyera Sofia were married in May of 2000 at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Lubbock, TX. Presvtyera Sofia has her Master's degree in Analytical Chemistry from Texas Tech University. Father attended seminary at Holy Cross and graduated with a Masters of Divinity. Fr. Gregory was ordained a priest on June 13, 2004 by Metropolitan Isaiah at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Dallas, TX. He served the Holy Trinity community from June of 2004 until March of 2008. In March of 2008, he was transferred to be under the Omophorion of Metropolitan Nicholas and was assigned to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Nashville, TN. There he continues to serve as the Presiding Priest. Father and Presvtyera have two sons, Thomas and Stephen, who are both 9 years old. Presvtyera uses her scientific background and knowledge to help Thomas navigate through his autism, and spends time researching scientific and biomedical articles related to the rise of autism in our day and what can be done about it, as well as health and well-being in general. When Father is not at the parish or doing parish related work, he loves to spend his free time with his family in active pursuits such as hiking and exercising. The whole family loves to read.



MARCH 30
MOTHER NEKTARIA OF ST. PAUL
SKETE

TOPIC: "Ladder of Divine Ascent"

BIO: Mother Nektaria entered the monastic life at the Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration in Ellwood City, PA, in 1987 and was tonsured a nun in 1994 at Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, MI. In 1997 with the blessing of her abbess and her spiritual father, she came to Memphis, TN, in response to a request for a monastic presence in the Mid-South and moved to Grand Junction in 2004 to establish St. Paul Skete under the jurisdiction of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.



APRIL 6
REV. FR. PHILLIP ROGERS

TOPIC: The Church, Our Hospital

BIO: Fr. Philip Rogers is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, where he met his wife of 11 years, Kathryn. He is also a graduate of St. Vladimir's Seminary. He served as Pastor of Archangel Gabriel in Lafayette, LA for 9 years. Fr. Philip is currently the Assistant Pastor of St. John Orthodox Church here in Memphis, serves as the Camp Director for his Diocese summer camp, Camp St. Thelka and is the Spiritual Advisor for his Diocese SOYO.