



SEPTEMBER 2017 BULLETIN

ST. SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
1425-27 S. 10th Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081

NEW HOURS!

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, **11:30 am to 4:30 pm**
Church Phone: 452-2296, Fr's Home: 467-4924, Fr's Cell: 627-7735
Sunday Orthros: 8:45am, Holy Liturgy: 10:00am
Fr. Leo's email: frleo@stspyridonsheboygan.org

Sunday, Sept. 3rd, 13th Sunday of Saint Matthew

I Corinthians 16: 13 – 24, Dr. John Revelis
Matthew 21: 33 – 42
Prosfora: Argie Revezoulis
Coffee Social – OPEN

Sunday, Sept. 10th, Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Galatians 6: 11 – 18, Elene Rautmann
John 3: 13 – 17
Prosfora: Faye Sippel
Coffee Social – OPEN

Wednesday, Sept. 13th Evening, Feast Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross **5:30 p.m.**

I Corinthians 1: 18-24
John 19: 6-11, 13-20, 25-28 & 30
Prosfora: Faye Sippel
Litany and Blessing of the Sweet Basil following Holy Liturgy
*****PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.*****

Thursday, Sept. 14th, First Catechism Study, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 17th, Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Galatians 2: 16-20, Joshua Herr
Mark 8: 34 – 38 & 9: 1
Prosfora: Carol Tsagarakis
Coffee Social – OPEN

Sunday, September 24th, 1st Sunday of St. Luke

II Timothy 3: 10 – 15, Rob VandeVrede
Luke 5: 1 – 11
Prosfora: Phyllio Toniolo
Coffee Social – OPEN

Thursday, Sept. 28th, 2nd Catechism Study, 7:00 p.m.

Father's Corner

- ✚ As we can see, every Sunday in September and October is without a host/sponsor for the Sunday Coffee Social. ☹️ As I have said many times, "Coffee is good for the soul after church on Sunday." It gives us a great reason to just enjoy some fellowship.
- ✚ There is a change in the Church Office Hours. I will be in the office Monday thru Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If I don't answer the phone that means I am out on a parish call. If you would like to stop by the office, call first to make sure I am in, but if my auto is in the church parking lot, I am there. Please come in. The coffee pot is on and I usually have some goodies tucked away somewhere.
- ✚ And speaking about being out of the office, Joanne and I will be on vacation from Sunday afternoon, Sept. 17 thru Saturday, September 23rd. I will be in Church to celebrate Holy Liturgy on Sunday September 17th. Joanne and I will be hitting the road after Church.
- ✚ I hope you have noticed that the much needed tuck pointing of the church has been completed. At the previous General Assembly we approved the spending of at least \$10,000 for that project alone but we were able to have the entire tuck pointing project done for about \$4,200 and change. Our next project is the renovation of the parish hall. As we say in Greek, "KALI ARHI", OR GREAT BEGINNING.
- ✚ I would bet the ranch that you would like to know how we did at Greekfest this year. Well, we did great. Our total gross sales for the three days was a record \$90,018.67. \$90,000 Dollars. Holy Cow!!! Our total expenses amounted to \$41,758 + change, which gave us a net profit of \$48,260 + change. Our percentage of net profit against gross sales was 55%, which is very good. In the business of church festivals the benchmark is to make a net profit of 50%. We topped that by 5%, which means we had a record-setting year in sales. Our food costs increased because we added some items: corn, cheese curds, strawberry/yogurt desserts and we had some additional equipment costs, like the rental of the corn roaster. Our newly Chrismated Saint Spyridon member, Ryan Scannell, donated over four cases of cheese curds. However, we needed to order more cases. Also our food costs increased this year without us increasing prices. Food costs are determined by what it costs the farmer for feed, fuel and equipment plus what it costs him/her to maintain their farm and equipment. Those increases are passed on to the distributor, in our case Midwest Foods and or Gordon Foods. The distributor's cost of distributing to his/her customers are determined by the cost of transport and delivery and those are passed on to the customer. Maybe we need to revisit our pricing structure, but that is for next year. What is most important is that we had a banner year but together by a tremendous group of committee people headed by our Parish Council President, Dr. John Revelis and supported by you the tremendous Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Family. Thank you and God Bless and KAI TOU HRONOU!!!
- ✚ We also want to say a special thank you to Mike & Mary Holden, Mary for organizing a great outing to the Fireside Theater to see the very funny stage play, CHURCH WOMEN IN THE BASEMENT. The lunch was great, the play was very entertaining. It kind of reminded me of us, in a very good way, and the fellowship was tremendous. And Mike made a great driver of the 15 passenger bus that was loaned to us by son Robb Holden. Thank you all and GOD BLESS.
- ✚ Our fall Gyro Fry this year will be on Saturday, October 28th. A sign-up sheet will be put up in the parish hall, so you can choose when you would like to help out. We will need people from 9am – 11am to set

up. We will need servers, runners and fryers for two shifts, 11-3 and 3-6 (which includes a little clean-up.) Please show your support of this event by offering your time and talent. Many thanks in advance!!

✚ On September 1st we begin a new Ecclesiastical Year in the Orthodox World. It is a new ecclesiastical beginning for all of us. We have had growth in many respects over the past couple of years and we owe that to Dr. John Revelis and the fine men and women on our Saint Spyridon Parish Council. These men and women are committed to the continuous growth and development of our fine parish in all respects, spiritual, social, and of course in the matters of finance. As we begin this new spiritual year I pray that we will continue to grow in membership, church attendance and in our spiritual development.

✚ We have grown in leaps in terms of our Stewardship Commitments. We have about 85 families, both here locally, in the Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Chicago areas, and in the states of Georgia, Minnesota and Washington, DC, who are contributing Stewards because we all love our Saint Spyridon Parish. As we come closer to the end of this Ecclesiastical year, let's make sure that we complete our Stewardship commitment that we made at the start of 2017 and let's start thinking about our Stewardship commitment for 2018. That's it. Thank you so much for your constant support in so many ways and God Bless!!!! Always.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As we begin the new Ecclesiastical Year, we have much to be grateful for. Our St. Spyridon community has seen many great things. New members to the faith; an extremely successful Greek Fest; a cooperation to find common ground on a Greek-English balance; committed and fulfilling leadership from our spiritual leader, Fr. Leo; increased stewardship participation; and some much needed building maintenance! What a great time to be part of St. Spyridon Sheboygan!

Spread the word that great things are happening here. Come and be part of the Good News. I ask that we keep this momentum going. We still are short of meeting our operating budget with stewardship. Remember to fulfil your pledge for 2017, and begin thinking and praying to God about his plan for your 2018 pledge. Keep our three big fund raising dates on your calendar: Gyros Fry on October 28, 2017, Taste of Greece on March 3, 2018, and Greek Fest on June 22-24, 2018. These are important fund raising events, but for those who have participated, they will attest just how much fun and community building these events are. Last of all let us all remember why we are here. Our spiritual fulfillment and growth through Jesus Christ should be our guiding principle. Make it a point to grow that relationship with Jesus with regular church attendance. He wants to see you in his house. Let's all strive to fill the church every Sunday! I hope this next church year is fulfilling for all of you and I pray for St. Spyridon's mercy and protection for all of you.

----John Revelis

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY BY SAINT THEOPHAN THE RECLUSE

"Behold, there went out a sower to sow. Since the time that this sower went out to sow, he has not ceased to sow. In the beginning he personally sowed, then thru the apostles and at last through Divine Scripture and divinely-wise teachers. To this day the word of God's truth is being sown everywhere. Just be prepared to show yourself as good ground and without fail you will be sown. God will raise up what has been sown. How do you make yourself into good ground? With attention and the study of the word of God, sympathy and love toward it, and the readiness to immediately carry out what you learn. With such a mindset, not a single word will lie on the surface of your soul, but all will pass within. Uniting there with the elements of the spirit which are native

to it, it will take root and sprout. Being nourished then-from above through spiritual inspirations, and from below through good desires and labors it will grow into a tree, give flower and fruit. God himself arranged everything around us this way in order that we may flourish and grow in spirit in the ways of the Lord.”

Always strive to be a blessing to others and God will be a blessing to you. My note. God Bless always.