

## DEPOSITION OF THE PRECIOUS ROBE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN VLACHERNAE

Feast day: July 2<sup>nd</sup>

During the reign of Leo the Great (457-474) two patricians and brethren on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land lodged with an old widow, a Christian of Jewish descent. Seeing the many miracles wrought at a small shrine in her house, they pressed her until she revealed to them that she had raiment of the most holy Theotokos kept in a small coffer. Our Lady had had two virgins in her lifetime who attended upon her; before her holy dormition, she gave each of them one of her divine garments as a blessing. This old widow was of the family of one of those two virgins, and it had come through the generations into her hands. With the permission of God, that this holy relic might be had for the profit of many, the two men took the garment by stealth and brought it to Blachernae near Constantinople, and building a church in honor of the Apostles Peter and Mark, they secretly enshrined the garment therein. But here again, because of the multitude of miracles that were worked, it became known to the Emperor Leo, and a magnificent church was built, as some say, by that same Leo, but according to others, by his predecessors Marcian and Pulcheria, and enlarged by Leo when the holy raiment was found. The Emperor Justin the Younger completed the church, which the Emperor Romanus IV Diogenes raised up immediately again after it had burned in 1070. It burned again in 1434, and from that time it remained a small house of prayer together with the renowned holy spring. After the seventh century, the name Blachernae was given to other churches and monasteries by their pious founders out of reverence for this famous church in Constantinople. In this church John Catacuzene was crowned in 1345; also, the Council against Acindynus, the follower of Barlaam, was convoked here (see the Second Sunday of the Great Fast).

At the end of the fourteenth century, part of the Robe of the Mother of God was transferred from Constantinople to Rus by Saint Dionysius, Archbishop of Suzdal (June 26).

The holy Robe of the Mother of God, which previously saved Constantinople, later saved Moscow from hostilities. Tatars of the Horde of the princeling Mazovshi approached the walls of Moscow in the summer of 1451. Saint Jonah, Metropolitan of Moscow, with constant prayer and church services, encouraged the defenders of the capital. On the night of July 2, the Chronicle relates, great confusion occurred within the Tatar camp. The enemy abandoned their plundered goods and speedily departed in disarray. In memory of the miraculous deliverance of Moscow, Saint Jonah built the church of the Placing of the Robe in the Kremlin, making it his primary church. It burned, but in its place in the years 1484-1486 a new church, also dedicated to the Feast of the Placing of the Robe of the Mother of God, was built thirty years later. This temple, standing at present, continued to serve as the primary church of Russian metropolitans and patriarchs until the cathedral of the Twelve Apostles was built under Patriarch Nikon.

### **Apolytikion of Robe of the Theotokos**

*Plagal of the Fourth Tone*

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, shelter of mankind, thou hast bestowed upon thy people a mighty investure, even thine immaculate body's raiment and sash, which by thy seedless childbirth have remained incorrupt; for in thee nature and time are made new. Wherefore, we implore thee to grant peace to the world, and great mercy to our souls.

### **Kontakion of Robe of the Theotokos**

*Fourth Tone*

O godly shelter that dost cover all mankind, the sacred robe that covered thy sacred body hast thou bestowed on all the faithful graciously, O pure Virgin, as a robe of divine incorruption. As we celebrate with love its august deposition, we cry to thee with fear, O graced of God: Rejoice, O modest one, boast of the Christian race.



Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church  
674 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Ogden, UT. 84403

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*Philokalia, Vol. 1 p.58*

*Evagrius the Solitary*

Prayer is the flower of gentleness and of freedom  
from anger.



# TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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July 2025

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the second Sunday of this month, the Church commemorates the Holy Fathers who came together at the Council in Chalcedon in 451. Beginning in the year 325 AD through 787 AD these Fathers gathered for the benefit and guidance of the Church. Through their gathering, the Church spoke with one unified voice keeping the Faith handed them by our Lord through His apostles.

The Fourth Council, of 630 Fathers assembled in Chalcedon, condemned Eutyches, who taught that there was only one nature, the divine, in Christ after the Incarnation. The issues resolved were serious and threatened the unified teaching of the Church. This same unified understanding is what the Church espouses today.

Unity dispels confusion whereas division breeds confusion. When we unite in faith and cause, we accomplish great things. Most importantly, the great things we accomplish we do so not for our glory but for His Glory continuing the tradition of the Fathers.

As we continue on our path, let us keep in mind the unity of the Fathers. Let us strive with one mind and purpose, to accomplish great things for His Glory. May our Lord continue to Bless and Protect you.

In His Service,

Fr. Mario

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS



### Parish Council

**President:** Kent Nabers  
**Vice President:** Lambros Bolos **Treasurer:** Drew Wilson  
**Members:** Bob Adams, Spencer Bird, Troy Cutrubus, Mihail Stephen



### Philoptochos

**President:** Pam Tsakalos **Vice President:**  
**Recording Secretary:** Annie Wilson **Treasurer:**  
**Assistant Treasurer:**

We meet the first Sunday of every month, after the Divine Liturgy in the conference room.



### Ahepa

**President:** Mike Kolendrianos **Vice President:** Gary Pilgrim  
**Secretary:** Travis Soderquist **Treasurer:** Nick Thiros  
**Education Chairman:** Dr. Bob Adams **Chaplain:** Fr. Mario Giannopoulos

We meet the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. Come Join us!



### Daughters Of Penelope

**President:** Aphrodite Koloveas **Vice President:** Jeannie Olivas  
**Secretary:** Lindsay Toulatos **Treasurer:** Larissa Dea  
**Priestess:**  
**Warden:**



### Choir

If you would like to join the choir, please contact **Stacey Henderson**.



### Sunday School

Sunday School meets every Sunday directly after Holy Communion.

If you would like more information, please contact **Travis Soderquist** or **Joan Elizondo**.



### Goya

GOYA is our middle-school and high school ministry.  
If you would like more information, please contact **Lindsay Toulatos**.



### Hope & Joy

Hope & Joy is our pre-k through elementary school ministry. If you would like more information, please contact **Stacey Henderson**.



### Book Club

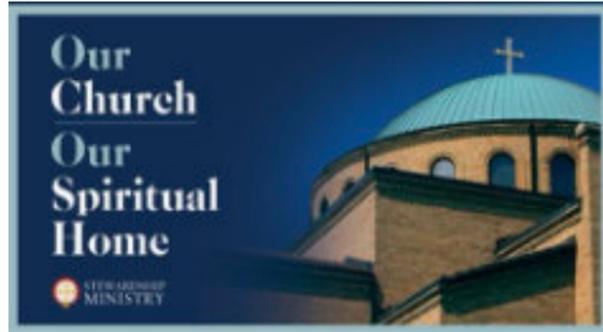
We meet every Sunday after coffee hour. Anyone can join at any time!  
If you would like more information, please contact **Kent Nabers**.



### Youth Greek Dancing

If you would like to join, please contact **Vasiliki Chaus** or **Stacey Henderson**.

# STEWARDSHIP



Hello Stewards!

Boy what a difference it makes when everyone contributes to the end goal!

The next step in reaching our goal is for those who are below last year's giving is to catch up. If this were to happen, we would be at 63% of our \$100,000.00 goal.

Each one of us has a responsibility to monetarily support the Parish. **If you haven't given yet your portion is missed. If you have, keep it up! And, if you can afford to, give a little more.....**

What we've accomplished so far this year is fantastic. Thank you. Keep it up!



Your contribution can be accepted in the Narthex (church entrance), online (church website), and through the mail. If you have any questions about stewardship, please feel free to reach out by phone, text, or email.

Sincerely,

**Troy Cutrubus**  
Stewardship Chair  
801.430.2346 Cell  
troy@cutrubus.com

## Why we give Stewardship?

Each year the Parish encourages the Steward to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment to support the Parish. We give because we are responsible for overseeing, protecting and preserving the Church and her ministries.

## How much do I give?

The question is not how much do you give but how you can thank God for your many blessings? Each person should give what they are able, not reluctantly or under compulsion. The amount of the offering is not as important to God as your attitude about the gift. Give from the heart and God will love your offering.



JULY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 4th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 9:00am Liturgy 10:00am	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Holy Fathers of Fourth Ecumenical Council Orthros 9:00am Liturgy 10:00am	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Prophet Elisa Orthros 9:00am Liturgy 10:00am	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 7th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 9:00am Liturgy 10:00am	28	29	30	31		

## FAST DAYS:

- Wine:** Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.
- Strict:** Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.
- Fish:** Fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs.
- Dairy:** Dairy, eggs, fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat.

**Memorial** (Mnimosino)



## MEMORIALS:

- July 6<sup>th</sup> : Chris A. Bolos - 3 yrs, **Andreas K. Bolos** - 8 yrs
- July 13<sup>th</sup> : Dawn Beseris - 5 yrs
- July 20<sup>th</sup> : **Nick Hohlios** - 40 Days
- July 27<sup>th</sup> : **Kontgas Family Memorial, Nikon Andritsakis**

# AHEPA

Thank you all so much for your wonderful support of the Lamb Dinner and Golf Tournament!

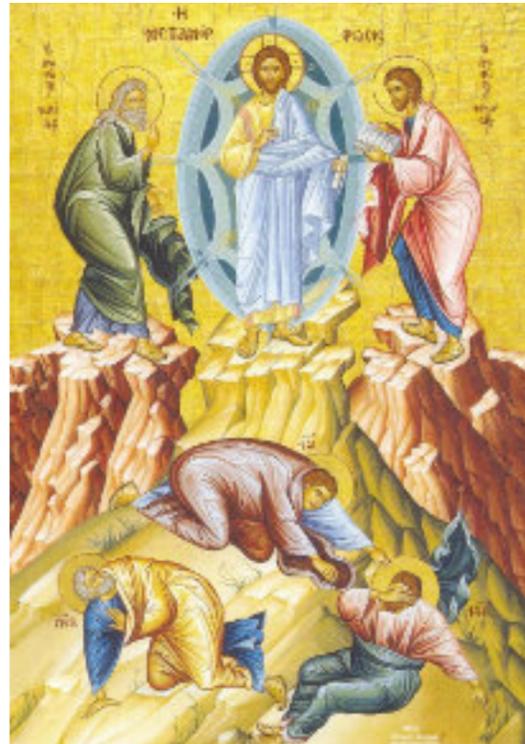
Your generosity and enthusiasm help us keep these cherished traditions going and make a real difference in supporting our scholarship fund. We're grateful for each and every one of you.

Looking forward to many more great times together!



# PHILOPTOCHOS

Join us on August 6 as we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration, the name day of our beloved church. We look forward to coming together in prayer and fellowship on this special day.



# QUOTES OF THE FATHERS

There is no man alive who does not sin. But each of us must recognize his own infirmity, and value his spiritual freedom...

**Fr. John Krestiankin**

When laziness and indifference creep in, will power is eventually weakened. What can God do if man is not willing? God does not wish to interfere, because He has respect for human freedom.

**Elder Paisios of Mount Athos**

*Spiritual Counsels Vol. II Spiritual Awakening | by Fr. Peter Chamberas p.133*

Christ is freedom and love. He extends an invitation, and does not demand and extort.

**Monk Moses**

*Holiness: Is it Attainable Today? | by Monk Moses p.9*

# FESTIVAL PREP

Get ready to stir, chop, bake, and celebrate — the countdown to our annual Greek Food Festival has officially begun! We're calling on all food lovers, festival fans, and kitchen helpers to join us in bringing the rich flavors of Greece to life. Whether you're a seasoned cook or just love being part of a joyful tradition, we need YOUR hands and heart to help us prepare the delicious dishes that make our festival unforgettable.

Here's when you can roll up your sleeves and join the fun:

## July

July 1 – Crumble cheese & melt butter

July 2 – Make Tiropites (cheese pies)

July 7 – Crumble cheese for Spanakopita

July 8 – Prep for Spanakopita

July 9 – Make Spanakopitas (spinach pies)

July 14 – Mix Keftethes (meatballs)

July 15 – Cook Keftethes

July 18 – Make sauce

July 21 – Prepare syrup

July 22 – Grind nuts for Baklava & Kataifi

