

Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral **Parishioner Engagement Program**

2026-2027 Parent Volunteer Committees

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Church Event Committees:

- Community Picnic
- PTO's Campus to Cathedral Chair(s)
- Community Pumpkin Patch
- Breakfast With Santa
- Agape Social/Parish Gala
- Apokreatiko Glenti
- Lenten Lecture Series
- Youth Iconography Workshop
- Palm Sunday Luncheon
- Good Friday Retreat
- Good Friday Decoration
- Pascha Community Agape Meal
- Church Name Day Vespers Reception
- Church Name Day Luncheon

Youth Committees:

- GOYA (7th - 12th Grade) Advisor
- HOPE (K-2nd) / JOY (3rd-6th) Advisor
- Little Lambs (Pre-K) Advisor

Festival Committees:

- Sponsorship/Fundraising Committee
- PR & Marketing Committee

General Church Committees:

- Church Board Service (if elected)
- Facilities Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Membership Committee

Community Picnic

Committee Chairs:

Peter Rezos

Dean Paravalos

Event Date:

Sep 26

Event Location:

Prospect Park

Description:

Welcome back new and returning members to the community at our annual picnic in the park for a day of fellowship and connection.

Key Responsibilities:

- Plan and order food, food prep, and beverages
- Logistics for setup/cleanup
- Organize volunteers for setup/prep/cleanup
- Event promotion to Cathedral and Fantis families
- Day of volunteering and hospitality

Time Commitment:

Planning begins late summer; busiest last 2 weeks prior to event ordering food/planning logistics/setup. Must be available day of event to help with setup/food prep/cleanup.

PTO's Campus to Cathedral (C2CC)

Committee Chair:
TBD by PTO

Event Date:
Sep - Jun

Event Location:
N/A

Description:

Acts as a bridge between A. Fantis School, the PTO, and the Cathedral to strengthen communication and event coordination.

Key Responsibilities:

- Align and coordinate calendars of activities
- Cross promote activities and share marketing collateral (flyers, social media posts, email, etc.)
- Complete PTO sponsorship for seasonal holiday cards and Philoptochos sales

Time Commitment:

Light but consistent year round; busiest at beginning of school year, major feast days and fundraising events.

Community Pumpkin Patch

Committee Chair:
Mrs. Kristiana Neonakis

Event Date:
Late October

Event Location:
Church Parking Lot

Description:

Family-friendly fall event in late October featuring pumpkin decorating, food, and activities.

Key Responsibilities:

- Manage promotions and RSVPs
- Registration and check-in
- Ordering food and pumpkins
- Coordinating activities and volunteers

Time Commitment:

Planning begins September; busiest in final 2 weeks (setup/cleanup). Must be available to help at event.

Church Gala / Agape Social

Committee Chair:
Paul Apostolakis

Event Date:
Nov 21

Event Location:
TBD (2025: Hamilton Loft)

Description:

A signature fellowship and fundraising event rooted in *agape* - the love that binds us a Cathedral family - and focused on building community through food, music, dancing, and meaningful support of our Cathedral's future.

Key Responsibilities:

- Shape a strong annual tradition moving forward
- Event format, venue selection, setup, and decor
- Manage ticketing/pricing, sponsorships, and RSVPs
- Plan food/beverage package and music entertainment
- Day of hospitality

Time Commitment:

Months in advance with regular meetings and quick decision making required. Must be available to help day of event.

Breakfast with Santa

Committee Chair:
Mr. John Strzelecki

Event Date:
Dec 12

Event Location:
School Gym and Cafeteria

Description:

Mid-December festive event featuring a catered breakfast, crafts, toy drive, and photos with Santa.

Key Responsibilities:

- Manage RSVPs, seating plan, and check-in
- Event setup and decorations
- Food and drink stations
- Coordinate Photos w/ Santa
- Toy Collection and clean up

Time Commitment:

Starts in October; busiest final 2 weeks and day of event. Must be available to help day before and day of event.

Apokreatiko Glendi

Committee Chair:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
Mar 6

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Traditional festive dinner and costume party before Great Lent featuring mezze, dinner, DJ and dancing. Fun Carnival/Halloween costumes encouraged.

Key Responsibilities:

- Greek Student Dance Troupe performance, logistics, and family communications
- Manage ticketing, RSVPs, check-in
- Church Hall seating, setup, decoration, and clean up
- Food and beverage planning
- DJ/music coordination

Time Commitment:

Months in advance with regular meetings. Must be available to help manage day of event.

Lenten Study Series

Committee Chairs:

Fr. Evagoras

Mr. John Strzelecki

Event Date:

Weekly each Wed @7pm
during Great Lent (Mar-Apr)

Event Location:

Cathedral

Description:

Weekly gatherings to deepen parishioner faith through book discussions, guided lessons, guest speakers, or special lectures shaped each year by spiritual needs of the parish.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist in shaping theme, content, and format
- Coordinate series schedule and guest speakers
- Promotion of activities and handout/material prep
- Help with hospitality and engagement each session

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings in Fall/Winter and weekly commitment during Great Lent.

Youth Iconography Workshop

Committee Chairs:

Mr. John Strzelecki

Pres. Maria Constantinides

Event Date:

March

Event Location:

Cathedral and Church Hall

Description:

Hands-on youth* workshop teaching the beauty, history and spiritual meaning of Byzantine iconography. Children will paint their own icon while learning about the style and materials of this sacred art.

*Open to Kindergarten and up with K-2nd accompanied by parent.

Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinate overall structure and logistics
- Registration, check-in, setup
- Secure supplies, food and beverages
- Hospitality and family assistance day of event

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings in Winter/Spring and setup/coordination/cleanup day of event.

Palm Sunday Luncheon

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
April 25

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Annual parish fellowship luncheon of a traditional lenten meal following Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promotion
- Reservations/ticketing and check-in
- Plan menu, food ordering, and preparation
- Church hall seating and setup
- Coordinate volunteers for setup, food service, clean up

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings in Winter/Spring and setup/coordination/cleanup day of event.

Holy Friday Youth Retreat

Committee Chairs:

Mr. John Strzelecki

Event Date:

April 30 (10am-2pm)

Event Location:

Cathedral and Church Hall

Description:

Youth activities on Holy Friday morning helping children enter into the meaning of Holy Week through prayer, service, church beautification projects, and various activity stations.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promotion, volunteer signup, and family communication
- Registration and check-in
- Activity design, procure supplies, setup
- Plan and prepare snacks/food
- Facilitate activities and manage volunteers

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings late Feb/Mar and must be available for setup/coordination/cleanup day of event.

Holy Friday Decoration & Service

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
April 30 (8am-2pm)

Event Location:
Cathedral

Description:

Prepare the church for Easter weekend through a morning of community service, fellowship, and prayerful work, including decorating the church and Kouvouklion.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promotion, volunteer signup, and family communication
- Organize and direct volunteer decorating efforts
- Coordinate with church office for flower/supplies orders
- Plan and manage lunch service

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings weeks prior and active participation on Holy Friday morning.

Pascha Community Agape Meal

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
May 1 & 2 (following
Midnight Service)

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

A joyful gathering held immediately following the midnight Pascha service. After proclaiming the Resurrection of Christ, the Cathedral community comes together in the church hall for fellowship, food, and celebration. The meal typically includes burgers, soup, wine, and other simple refreshments.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promotion and volunteer signup
- Plan menu, food ordering, and preparation
- Church hall seating and setup
- Coordinate volunteers for setup and clean up

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings weeks prior and active participation on late night/early morning Pascha.

Church Name

Day Vespers

Reception

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
May 20 (evening)

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Light reception following Great Vespers for the feast of Saints Constantine and Helen. A simple gathering welcoming parishioners, guests, clergy, and visiting hierarchs featuring desserts prepared by the Philoptochos.

Key Responsibilities:

- Ensure sweets and light refreshments are available
- Church hall seating, setup, and clean up
- Stage food and refreshments
- Hospitality for visiting hierarchs, clergy, and guests

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings weeks prior and active participation evening of event.

Church Feast Day Luncheon

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
May 21

Event Location:
Church Hall / Parking

Description:

A parish celebration feast honoring the patron saints of our cathedral following Divine Liturgy. Gather and celebrate our church's name day with fellowship and food including souvlaki and lamb.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promotion and volunteer signup
- Plan menu, order food, and food preparation
- Coordinate volunteers for setup, food prep, clean up
- Hospitality of guests day of event

Time Commitment:

Planning meetings weeks prior and active participation on night before and morning of our feast day.

GOYA Advisor (7-12th Grade)

Committee Chairs:
GOYA Advisory Team

Event Date:
Monthly

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Guide and support the Cathedral's teen ministry for students in 7th-12th grade through our Youth Committee. GOYA gives our teens opportunities to grow in their faith, build friendships, participate in service, attend church together, and stay connected to the life of the Cathedral.

Key Responsibilities:

- Advise GOYA Student Board, Fr. Ev and Mr. John
- Assist planning of meetings, events/activities, outings, service projects and church participation
- Foster a welcoming and engaging environment

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings plus oversight at GOYA events and major parish events.

HOPE/JOY

Advisor

HOPE (K-2nd Grade)

JOY (3rd-6th Grade)

Committee Chairs:

HOPE/JOY Advisory Team

Event Date:

Monthly

Event Location:

Church Hall

Description:

Guide and support the Cathedral's youth ministry for students in K-6th grade through our Youth Committee. HOPE and JOY are designed to grow in their faith, build friendships, participate in church life, and feel connected to their church from a young age.

Key Responsibilities:

- Advise Youth Committee, Fr. Ev, and Mr. John
- Assist planning of meetings, events, outings, service projects and church participation
- Foster a welcoming and engaging environment

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings plus oversight at HOPE/JOY events and major parish events.

LITTLE LAMBS

Advisor

(PK3-PK4)

Committee Chairs:
LITTLE LAMBS
Advisory Team

Event Date:
Monthly

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Guide and support the Cathedral's intro-level youth ministry for Pre-K students and young families through simple fellowship, play, and prayer. This is a fledgling ministry that you will help shape!

Key Responsibilities:

- Advise Youth Committee, Fr. Ev, and Mr. John
- Plan family-centered gatherings and small events
- Foster a welcoming and engaging environment

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings weeks plus oversight at LITTLE LAMBS events and major parish events.

Festival Sponsorship

Committee Chairs:
TBD

Event Date:
April & May

Event Location:
Remote

Description:

Strategize, organize, and deliver a cohesive corporate and family sponsorship drive for the Brooklyn Greek Festival - the Cathedral's largest fundraising effort of the year.

Key Responsibilities:

- Build a sponsorship solicitation roster from existing and referred resources
- Organize a team of volunteers to coordinate a multi-channel outreach effort and track progress
- Coordinate with Festival Chairs, Church Office, and A. Fantis teams for contacts and goals

Time Commitment:

Weekly meetings, progress reports, and daily solicitation

Festival PR & Marketing

Committee Chairs:
Festival Chairs, Fr. Ev
TBD BoT

Event Date:
May and 1st Week of June

Event Location:
Schermershorn Street

Description:

Assist with marketing and promotion of the Brooklyn Greek Festival to raise awareness and daily attendance.

Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with Fr. Ev and Festival Chairs on social media posts, influencer campaigns, street signage, emails, news/press releases, and other publicity
- Assist with asset creation and distribution
- Track performance

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings and performance tracking (likes, views, etc)

Church Board of Trustees

(elected position)

Committee Chairs:

Mr. Stavros Plangetis

Event Date:

Year Round

Event Location:

Church Hall

Description:

Run for election and serve as a member of the Board of Trustees for our Cathedral. The BoT takes on the important work of supporting, responsibly operating, and strategically investing in the needs of our community.

Key Responsibilities:

- Support parish operations and strategic projects; especially in your areas of expertise (facilities, finance, legal/risk, fundraising, education, marketing, etc.)
- Lead by example in faith and service

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings; Active participation and engagement in BoT planning, projects, and initiatives.

Facilities Committee

Committee Chairs:
TBD Church BoT

Event Date:
Year Round

Event Location:
Church Hall

Description:

Advise and assist in coordinating facility maintenance and improvement projects both big and small.

Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with BoT and Church Office to draft scopes of work, solicit proposals, present options to BoT, manage vendors, and supervise work.
- Assist in developing master plan of facility needs

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings with consistent communications and vendor management on active projects.

Fundraising Committee

Committee Chairs:
TBD

Event Date:
Year Round

Event Location:
N/A

Description:

Assist with the design, planning and execution of fundraising campaigns of the Cathedral that support the work and ministry, and enrich the physical campus.

Key Responsibilities:

- Work with the Board of Trustees to identify possible fundraising opportunities
- Design fundraising campaigns around different initiatives
- Execute on the campaign to fulfillment

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings; Active participation and engagement in BoT planning, projects, and initiatives.

Membership Committee

Committee Chairs:
TBD

Event Date:
Year Round

Event Location:
N/A

Description:

Help build the membership of the Cathedral! So many people are members in spirit or heart, and this committee will help identify those members and enroll them in a program

Key Responsibilities:

- Research possible membership platforms
- Identify members, and members in spirit
- Conduct a campaign once a year to encourage and assist in membership enrollment

Time Commitment:

Monthly meetings; Active participation and engagement in BoT planning, projects, and initiatives.