



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO

## SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### **FAITH AND LEARNING CATECHISM PROGRAM**

#### INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY

**WINTER/SPRING 2024**

**Mondays 7:00-9:00 PM**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
January 8	Introduction	Fr. Richard Andrews
January 15	NO CLASS - Martin Luther King Holiday	n/a
January 22	God- Holy Trinity	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos
January 29	Mankind- Creation, the Fall, Messiah	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
February 5	Christ I- Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints	John Kokenis, MDiv
February 12	Christ II- His Work & Teachings	Mrs. Anna Kallis, MDiv
February 19	Church I- Birth, Mission, Structure	Mr. John Anton, MDiv
February 26	Church II- Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition	Fr. Sotirios Malamis
March 4	Sacraments I- Baptism, Chrismation, Confession, Unction	Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos
March 11	Sacraments II- Eucharist, Liturgy, Worship, Prayer	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
March 18	NO CLASS – CLEAN/PURE MONDAY – 1 <sup>ST</sup> DAY OF GREAT LENT	
March 25	Sacraments III- Marriage & Monasticism	Fr. Thomas Alatzakis
April 1	The Goal- Second Coming & Living the Christian Life	Fr. Richard Andrews
April 8	Conclusion- Orthodoxy in America, Jurisdictions, Q&A	Dr. Helen Theodoropoulos

**Texts:** *Introducing the Orthodox Church* by Anthony Coniaris (1982); *The Orthodox Church* by Kallistos Ware (5<sup>th</sup> ed., 2015); *The Orthodox Way* by Ware (rev. ed., 1995); *Welcome to the Orthodox Church: An Introduction to Eastern Christianity* by Frederica Mathewes-Green (2<sup>nd</sup> printing, 2016); *Becoming Orthodox* by Peter Gilquist (3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2009); *The Faith* by Clark Carlton. Texts can be obtained in church bookstore, Amazon.com or other supplier.

**Cost of Class:** FREE (Sponsored by Saints Peter & Paul Church)

**Location:** Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, IL 60025, 847-729-2235, [www.ssppglenview.org](http://www.ssppglenview.org)

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.ssppglenview.org](http://www.ssppglenview.org) OR <https://forms.gle/RVsJdMs4eynZUbWSA>

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU ORTHODOX: YES NO (circle one)

IF NO, WHAT RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT BEST DESCRIBES WHY YOU ARE ATTENDING THIS CLASS:

1. Just interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith.
2. Seeking to prepare to join the Orthodox Christian Faith.
3. Not sure yet.

REGISTRATION FEE: FREE

PREFERRED BOOK: \_\_\_\_\_



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO

## SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### INSTRUCTORS

**Fr. Richard Andrews** is a pastor/priest of Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, IL (since 2019). He is a graduate of Argosy University (Doctorate Marriage & Family Therapy, 2019), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Master of Divinity 1994) in Boston and the University of Minnesota (BS Business Admin & Marketing 1988). Fr. Rick previously served St. George Church in St Paul, MN (1999-2019), St. Paul Police Department volunteer chaplain (2006-2019). He is president of Chicago Clergy Syndesmos (2022-2024) and Vicar of Clergy Wellness. He is married to Presvytera Jane and has one adult son and daughter-in-law.



**Dr. Helen Creticos Theodoropoulos** is a lifelong member of Saints Peter & Paul Church. She is a graduate of University of Chicago Divinity School (Ph.D. in Theology 1995; M.A. in Theology 1978), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Master Degree Theological Studies 1981). She is currently adjunct professor of theology at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology in Libertyville, IL. She was a Lecturer (in the Department of Spiritual Theology) at the University of St. Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary (Roman Catholic) in Mundelein IL. She and her husband Evan are parents of three, and grandparents of two.

**Fr. Sotirios Malamis** is the Parish Priest at Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church in Lincolnshire, IL since 2014. He is a graduate of DePaul University Chicago (Bachelor of Arts Psychology) and Holy Cross School of Theology Boston (Master of Divinity with Distinction 2001). He continued his theological studies at the University of Athens in the field of Pastoral Theology and Religious Education. He has served on the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Council and the Metropolis of Chicago Council. Fr. Sotirios and Presvytera Stefanie have three children, Maria, Niko, and Aimilianos.



**Mr. John Kokenis** graduated from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Masters of Divinity 2019) and Hellenic College (BA Religious Studies 2016). He currently works as an account manager with Delta Oil Co (Oakbrook IL) and is a Chaplain Candidate with the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Navy Reserve. He previously worked as pastoral assistant and chanter at St. John the Baptist Church (Tampa FL, 2019-2020) and as assistant to the chancellor at the Metropolis Boston (2013-2014). John is proficient in Latin, Modern Greek and Liturgical Greek. He is married to Konstandina and they have two children: Demetrios 3 and Nefeli 1.

**Anna Kallis** is a youth and young adult ministry professional with many years of experience developing and running various programs, retreats and workshops in the Orthodox Church. Currently, she is the Project Director of TelosGamma, an initiative developing young adult ministry in the Chicago Metropolis. She is also the Assistant Director of Lighthouse, a camping ministry of the Chicago Metropolis. She is a graduate of Holy Cross School of Theology (Master of Divinity 2013), emphasizing Religious Education and Youth Ministry. Additionally, Anna worked for the CrossRoad Summer Institute for five years in the roles of Assistant Director and Director. She is very active in the youth ministries at Saints Peter & Paul in Glenview, IL.



**John L. Anton** is the Pastoral Assistant at Ascension of Our Lord Greek Orthodox Church (Lincolnshire, IL). He is a graduate of Hellenic College (BA in Religious Studies 2018) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (M.Div.; Certificate in Byzantine Music). John has served the Chicago Metropolis and numerous parishes including chanting and teaching Byzantine Music, coordinating Youth and Young Adult events like the YAL Chicago Conference; and Staff Director at the Fanari Camp Ministries.

**Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos** was born in Melrose Park, IL. He is a graduate of Loyola University (BA Mathematics & Statistics Summa Cum Laude 1994) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (M.Div with High Distinction 1997). He currently serves St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Niles (since 2021) and previously served St. Spyridon Church in Palos Heights IL (2004-2021), Holy Trinity Church in Sioux City Iowa (2001-2004), and Assumption Church in Chicago (1999-2001). He is married to Presvytera Georgia and they have three children.



**Fr. Thomas Alatzakis** is parish priest of St. Demetrios Church in Libertyville, IL. He is a graduate of Hellenic College (BA Religious Studies 2007) and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (M.Div 2011). He was ordained to the diaconate in February 2012 and the priesthood in June 2012. He previously served the Greek Orthodox parishes of St Mary in Minneapolis (2012-2014) and Assumption in East Moline, IL (2014-2020). Fr. Thomas is married to Presvytera Angela and has a 4 year old son.