

WELCOME!



GRAND RAPIDS

YASSOU!

GREEK CULTURAL FESTIVAL



EAT, DANCE, BE GREEK!

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church | 330 Lakeside Dr. NE, Grand Rapids, MI | 616.454.6563

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16
3 pm - 10 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17
11 am - 10 pm



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WELCOME!

"Yassou!" means "Welcome!" and we welcome you to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. We are thrilled to bring Grand Rapids an event celebrating the culture and traditions of the Greek Orthodox people. We look forward to sharing our music, dances, gifts and our food with you! We welcome you to visit and tour our beautiful church and ask about our Orthodox Faith. Please spend some of your weekend with us – we are sure you'll be glad you did. Opa!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, August 16, 2024

3:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Live music from 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm,
featuring Oneiro

2:30 pm

Opening Blessing

4:30 pm

Greek Cooking Demonstration

5:00 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Little Angels & Elementary Group

6:00 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Middle School Group

7:00 pm

Church tour

7:30 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

High School Group

8:30 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Young Adult Group

8:45 pm

Dance Lessons and Open Dancing for All!

Saturday, August 17, 2024

11:00 am - 10:00 pm

Live music from 3:00 pm - 10:00 pm,
featuring Oneiro

1:30 pm

Church Tour

3:30 pm

Greek Cooking Demonstration

4:00 pm

Church Tour

5:00 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Little Angels & Elementary Group

5:30 pm

Greek Cooking Demonstration

6:00 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Middle School Group

7:00 pm

Church tour

7:30 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

High School Group

8:30 pm

Traditional Greek Dance Performance

Young Adult Group

8:45 pm

Dance Lessons and Open Dancing for All!



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ABOUT THE FESTIVAL, FOOD, AND ACTIVITIES

There is a lot going on during Yassou! and we don't want you to miss a thing. This paper is your guide to the festival – including menus, activities, and schedule of events. Here are some highlights:

Dancing

Traditional Greek dancing serves primarily as a social function. It brings the community together at key points of the year, such as Easter, the grape harvest or patronal festivals, and at key points in the lives of individuals and families, such as weddings. We invite you to come see Holy Trinity's very own youth dancers as they don traditional Grecian dress and perform some of these spectacular dances for you! Opa!

Food

The smell of lemon, oregano, and garlic fill the air as fresh meats are grilled over open flames and the sight of the pastry table proves to be more than anyone's will power could bear! Tremendous focus has been put into obtaining fresh, local, ingredients wherever possible—from the eggplant in the Moussaka to the tomatoes on your Gyros and in your salad! Food items are available as complete meals or a la carte. Prices range from \$3 for a la carte items to \$18 for meals. Don't miss the handmade pastries and loukoumades for dessert!

The Taverna

Greece is one of the oldest wine-producing regions in the world! Evidence of wine production dates back more than 6,500 years! Since that time, wines have been shared and enjoyed not only in households, but in communal celebrations like ours. And what cultural celebration would be complete without exposure to the local libations? As part of our commitment to our heritage and our local community, you will find that we are primarily offering beers and wines that are either from Greece or Michigan. See below to find out beer and wine offerings.

Activities

There is something for everyone at Yassou! – from a live band and dance performances to cooking classes and church tours. Don't miss the "agora" or marketplace—a great opportunity to buy authentic Greek arts, crafts, and jewelry.

Charity Sponsor

This year, Yassou! will be supporting the Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding.

The Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding: We provide quality of life through equine-based therapy to physically, mentally and socially/ emotionally challenged individuals. Our unique program integrates academic, social, and physical skills, using the horses as a catalyst.

ESTIATORIO

"THE RESTAURANT"

Greek Entrées

Lamb Shank Dinner \$18

Tender, slow-roasted, Greek-style, lamb shank served with Arakas (peas), rice, Greek salad, and pita bread.

Kotopoulo Lemonato

Dinner - \$16

Slow-roasted lemon chicken (1/2 chicken, on the bone) seared on the charcoal grill, served with Arakas (peas), rice, Greek salad, and pita bread.

Spanakopita Dinner - \$14

Two pieces of spanakopita, served with Arakas (peas), rice, Greek salad, and pita bread.

Souvlaki Dinner - \$14

Char-grilled marinated pork served with Arakas (peas), rice, Greek salad, and pita bread

Moussaka - \$10

A Greek lasagna layered with potatoes, eggplant, Greek meat sauce, and topped with a white cream sauce.

Gyro Sandwich - \$10

Combination of marinated lamb and beef, onions, tomatoes, tzatziki sauce (traditional sauce made of Greek yogurt, fresh cucumber and garlic) on pita bread.

Large Greek Salad - \$8

Leafy greens tossed in tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, olives, and feta cheese.

Souvlaki on a Pita - \$8

The famous item served at Festival of the Arts for over 30 years! Pork on a stick marinated in our own Greek seasoning, char-grilled over an open flame and served on a pita.

Saganaki - \$7

Flaming cheese on pita bread.
OPA!!!

Dolmathes - \$6

Hand-rolled grape leaves stuffed with beef, rice and fresh herbs.

Spanakopita - \$4

Spinach, feta cheese, herbs, eggs baked in filo dough until crisp.

Hot Dogs - \$3

All right... maybe not technically Greek, but what is a summer festival without them?

GLEKA

"THE BAKERY"

Pastries & Coffee

Koulourakia - \$2

A traditional braided, Greek butter cookie. Great for dunking in your coffee!

Portokolopita - \$3

Orange pie.

Galaktoboureko - \$3

A homemade Greek custard, wrapped in buttered filo pastry, baked till crisp, then drizzled with honey.

Kataifi - \$4

A mixture of chopped walnuts, sugar, cinnamon, cloves, and butter wrapped in shredded filo dough, then covered in honey syrup.

Kourambiethes - \$3

Greek butter cookies covered in powdered sugar.

Baklava - \$3

The classic Greek pastry! A mixture of walnuts, cinnamon, cloves, and honey layered in filo dough.

Melomakarona - \$3

A soft cookie dipped in a syrup made of honey, orange, cinnamon, and cloves, then topped with walnuts.

Karithopita Cake - \$15/Loaf

A sweet cake featuring walnuts, syrup, and spices.

Ouzo Cake - \$15/Loaf

An old family favorite pairing the unique flavors of Greek Yogurt and our famous liqueur.

Loukoumades - \$5

Small, homemade pastries, (think airy doughnut) cooked to order and served warm in syrup of honey and spices.

Butter Cream Baklava

Ice Cream - \$7

Premium homemade baklava-infused vanilla ice cream, featuring Greek-to-go Baklava, created locally by Tippy Cow Ice Cream. Indulge in this Greek goodness!

Frappé or Greek Coffee - \$5

The original Nescafe hand-frothed with milk, blended with sugar and poured over ice or traditional hot coffee with a "kick."

TAVERNA!

BEER, WINES & SPIRITS

Specialty Cocktails

Frouzo! - \$7

Holy Trinity's very own special libation, concocted and served only one time per year! This delicious frozen specialty features the Greek spirit, ouzo, mixed with a number of other sweet and tart ingredients, then frozen! An absolute must try!

Ouzo - \$5

The anise-flavored aperitif that is widely consumed in Greece and Cyprus, especially during times of celebration. When served neat, it is as crystal clear as water. When poured over rocks, it turns a luscious milky white. Either way it is delicious!

Greek Wines

Patraiki Retsina - \$6

Retsina is a product unique to the Greek vineyards. This un-oaked dry white has a slightly tangy flavor with the traditional characteristic pine resin.

Santa Laura Dry Red - \$6

Product of Patras in the Peloponnese of Greece combining grapes of the Kotsifali and Mandilari varieties with aromas of red fruits and a wonderful after taste.

Santa Laura Dry White - \$6

A nice summer wine. Light and fresh, a bit sweet for a dry wine, and aromatic. Tasting notes: honey, peach and melon.

Forbidden Fruit Sangria - \$5

Simply delicious and refreshing drink with a great tradition, this ruby sangria is filled with aromas of fresh berry and citrus fruits.

Michigan & Greek Beer

Alpha - \$6

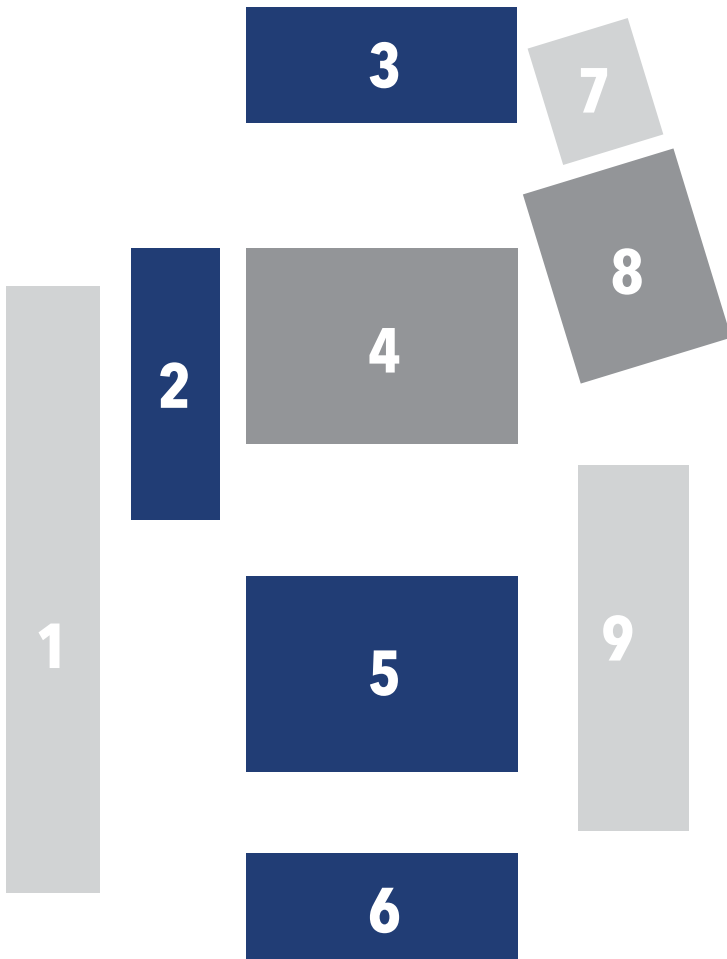
Traditional lager brewed in Greece.

Leinenkugel Summer Shandy - \$6

Oberon Summer Ale - \$6 **Coors Light - \$5**

Long Drink - \$5

FESTIVAL MAP



1. CHURCH

2. AGORA

(MARKET)

3. ESTIATORIO

(RESTAURANT)

4. SEATING

5. TAVERNA

(DRINKS)

6. GLEKA

BAKERY)

7. WASTE DISPOSAL

8. SEATING/EVENTS

9. STAGE

ABOUT ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY



What is Orthodoxy? We're the original Church, with an unbroken chain ("apostolic succession") to the faith delivered by Christ to the apostles. Our daily discipleship – the way we live dogmatic beliefs – is consonant with the first 1500 years of Christianity. Yet we're not a dusty museum; unchanging truths are lived out creatively in varying contexts. How the saints of old believed and lived, we uphold.

Why are people becoming Orthodox? Interest in Orthodoxy is on the rise. Many inquirers come from Protestant / Catholic backgrounds. Today's world is spiritually thirsty. A few reasons people are attracted to Orthodoxy:

- **Sacramental worship:** Orthodoxy is grounded in an ancient, holistic framework that engages the senses. In worship (especially Divine Liturgy), Heaven meets the earth. We touch God, commune with Him. Our orientation is toward encountering the living God, not toward a particular person or intellectual understanding. The word for Liturgy (Λειτουργεία) means "the work of God through the people."
- **Stability:** In an ever-shifting world, we remain the same. We're not one of many branches of Christianity. Our living link to the ancient Church is preserved through 'ecclesiology', the structure of the divine-human Church. Authority doesn't rest with certain individuals, no matter how holy they may be or what title they may have. We express truth collectively – preserved by all, controlled by none. This gives a rootedness in the greater Tradition, which is the life of God Himself.
- **Spiritual disciplines:** The Church exists to change us, not for us to change the Church. In repentance, we submit to the Church's 2000-year-old spiritual 'program': private prayer, fasting, almsgiving, prostrations, veneration of icons, confession, fasting, inner vigilance, etc. Regular asceticism ("exercise") trains the soul and attracts God, whereby we are divinized and become 'little gods' by grace (theosis, the process of deification). Holiness is our aim; God gives us tools through His Church.

LEARN MORE ABOUT ORTHODOXY



Our Parish: All Orthodox parishes in America have ethnic roots. Immigrants arrived from the 'old country' and established churches wherever they settled. American Orthodoxy has now progressed into its natural evangelistic ethos. Our parish of Holy Trinity is comprised of converts, catechumens preparing to become Orthodox, and faithful with roots in Orthodox countries (e.g. Greece, Romania, Serbia, Eritrea, Bulgaria). We speak English and worship in English – a home for all who seek to love Christ, as expressed in Orthodoxy's ancient, living tradition. Eventually, we'll be a united American Orthodox Church, without ethnic designations.

"Come and see": The best way to learn about Orthodoxy is to experience it firsthand. You're welcome to join us any Sunday for Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am, preceded by Matins at 8:20 am.

Church Tours: As part of our Yassou Festival offerings, we hold guided Church Tours as follows:

- **Friday, August 16:** 7:00 pm
- **Saturday, August 17:** 1:30 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm
- Before and after formal tours, you may participate in a selfguided tour using the informational signs placed throughout the narthex and sanctuary.

Speak with Fr. Joshua: Our priest, Fr. Joshua, would love to meet you. He can be reached at frjoshua@holytrinitygoc.org or (616) 454-6563. You may also catch him walking around the Festival grounds.

Outdoor Gift Shop: A wide range of items are available outdoor Gift Shop, including icons, prayer ropes, and books. Book topics include: Intro to Orthodoxy, Spirituality, Divine Liturgy, Worship & Sacraments, Church History, Church Fathers, Contemporary Elders/ Saints, Iconography, Contemporary Issues, Differences between Christian Confessions.

Online Resources: Aside from our parish website, a great number of online resources about Orthodoxy are now available. We recommend especially www.orthodoxintro.org.

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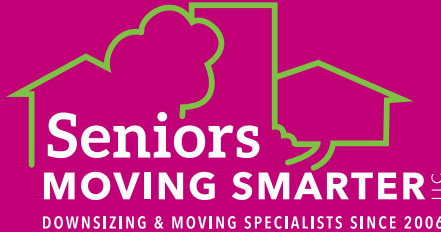
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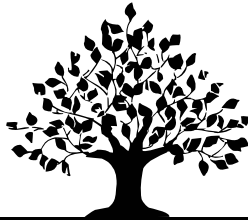
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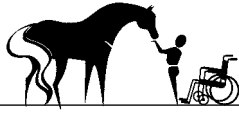
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Best wishes for a fun and successful Yassou! festival with love from Joan Panopoulos and family. OPA!



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YASSOU!

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