

PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
3109 Scio Church Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

May 2018



GROUNDBREAKING FOR PLAYGROUND!

We are very happy to announce that the groundbreaking for the playground at Creating Brighter Futures took place on April 18.

We have now reached our 1-1/2 year mark toward our two-year chapter challenge goal of \$30,000 and have thus far raised \$17,124.83 toward the playground.

Chris Bilakos graciously donated \$15,000 for play equipment for the space. Chris's donation is separate and in remembrance of Chris Webber. It is not a part of our Chapter Challenge. With the love of both Chris and our Philoptochos, the children of "Creating Brighter Futures" will have a lovely outdoor playspace for the children!



Pictured are Elaine Karam, co-chair, and Connie Combs of Creating Brighter Futures.

DATES TO REMEMBER!



Wednesday, May 9

Philoptochos Birthday Dinner!

6 p.m.

Travis Pointe Country Club

RSVP by May 7 to Joy Melzian

734-426-3034



Sunday, May 13

Mother's Day!



June 8, 9, 10

Ya'ssoo Greek Festival!

Wednesday, June 13

Annual Meeting

Information to follow

FLOWERS AND CINNAMON!

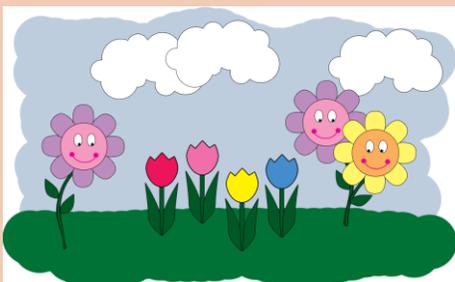
Yes, you read correctly!

Now that spring is here and the flowers are in bloom, we'll take a few moments to discover other uses for the spice we use most often for baking—but it isn't just for the kitchen.

With origins dating back to 2700 BC, cinnamon is popular all over the world for cooking and medicine. You might want to stockpile this spice by buying in bulk when you see everything it can do in your garden.

1. **Root and graft plants.** Your roses or other plants can be made sturdier after cutting and replanting by first dipping them in cinnamon powder which works like a rooting hormone.
2. **Deter pests.** Cinnamon is a good deterrent. It will actually eliminate ants because they don't like to walk where cinnamon powder lays. It also dulls their sense of smell so they won't go into your pantry or cupboards.
3. **Keep mosquitoes away from the garden.** Sprinkle a little bit of cinnamon around your plants to keep mosquitoes and other bugs away so you can enjoy your garden—even in the evening!

Read more about tending to your garden by going to www.gardeningknowhow.com



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Baked Chicken with Broccoli and Cheddar Combo



- 4 chicken breasts
 - Salt & pepper
 - 1-1/2 tsp garlic powder, divided
 - 1/4 tsp paprika
 - 1 cup finely chopped broccoli florets
 - 1/2 cup finely diced red bell pepper
 - 1 cup mild cheddar cheese
 - 1 tbsp. mayonnaise
 - 2 tbsp. olive oil
- Season both sides of the chicken breasts
- Use a sharp knife to cut a slice through the middle of the chicken breasts—but not all the way through—creating a pocket for the filling
- For the filling, place the broccoli in a microwaveable dish and add 2 tbsp. water. Cover with plastic wrap, microwave for 1 minute.
- Drain excess water. Add bell pepper, cheese, mayonnaise, garlic powder, salt and pepper to taste. Mix until combined and then set aside
- Heat a large skillet and add olive oil. Sear chicken for 3 to 4 minutes on each side, stuff, secure with toothpicks, transfer to baking dish, cover with foil, bake at 425 degrees for 15-17 minutes and enjoy!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



ANGELS ON EARTH

*There are Angels that God puts on
this earth*

*Who care for us and guide us
You can feel their love and
gentleness*

As they walk through life beside us

They do great things for us each day

*They whisper in our ears
They even hold us in their hearts
When we are filled with fears*

They are always there to give a hug

*And try to make us smile
They treat us with respect and love
They treat us like their child*

*God blessed us with an angel
I am proud to call my own
She's been with me throughout my
life*

Bears with me as I've grown

She's guided me the best she can

*She's taught me like no other
I'm thankful I'm the lucky one
Who gets to call her "Mother"*



SUCCESS! VANGIE'S 40-DAY CHALLENGE!

Vangie's challenge has resulted in 25 bags of men's, women's, and children's clothing that were donated to the Ann Arbor Thrift Shop.

The Shop gives vouchers that have been donated by local agencies and are used by the homeless people to shop for free.

Thank you, ladies, for a successful clothing drive that will help many local families!



***It is one of the most beautiful
compensations in this life that no
one can sincerely help another
without helping himself***

--Ralph Waldo Emerson