



# PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

April 2016

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

## APRIL NEWS BRIEFS

“Thank you, Ladies!” We have received many compliments on our new “Philoptochos Corner” newsletter. Please let us know what you would like to see in future newsletters. Many ladies have mentioned that they like the “Recipes” section so we will continue featuring recipes monthly.

Once again, if you have suggestions for activities that you would like our Philoptochos to consider and become involved in within the local community—such as a specific charity—please let us know.

### A Special “Thank You” to . . .

- Diana Rooks and her committee for doing a great job making 112 “Easter Baskets for Tots” to aid Saline Social Services
- Theanne Ballios, Mary Price, and Joanne Savas for planning and organizing the Student Lenten Dinner and to all of the ladies who brought food for a most delicious meal. Everyone had an enjoyable evening!

### 40-Day Challenge

This isn’t really a “diet.” We can look at it as “streamlining” our closets. At our March meeting you received bags, and we hope you have begun gathering clothing and/or accessories that you would like to donate to the Ann Arbor Thrift Shop. This includes men’s, women’s, and children’s items that are in good condition. Please bring them by May 7 to the Social Hall; look for the table to the

right of the door as you enter. Thank you!  
*Καλή Ανάσταση!*

*~Vangie Kolokithas, President*

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## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



**APRIL 3**

*Used Book Sale after Divine Liturgy*

**Tuesday, APRIL 5**

*Bed Pad Sewing, 9:30 a.m.*

**Wednesday, APRIL 13**

*Philoptochos Meeting, 7:30 p.m.*

**APRIL 24**



***Palm Sunday Luncheon***

## COMING UP!

**Wednesday, May 11**

*“Philoptochos Birthday” Meeting*

**Wednesday, June 15**

*Annual Meeting, Travis Pointe Country Club  
Information to follow*

*“And though every day a man lives may rightly be a day of repentance, yet is it in these days more becoming, more appropriate, to confess our sins, to fast, and to give alms to the poor; since in these days you may wash clean the sins of the whole year.” ~St. John Chrysostom*

## EASTER RECIPE

### Tsoureki—Τσουρέκι

Tsoureki is a sweet bread similar to “choreq” in Armenia and “choreg” in Turkey. This bread is traditionally served at the breaking of the Lenten Fast.

The Greek word “Lambropsomo” is derived from Λαμβρή—the Greek word meaning “bright light” and ψωμί, meaning “bread” referring to the light we believe is given to us through Christ’s Resurrection. It is served with red Easter eggs representing the blood of Christ. It is said that the three-strand braid represents the Holy Trinity.

4 cups all purpose flour

1 packet of yeast

¼ tsp. salt

¾ cup warm milk

½ cup butter, softened

¾ cup sugar

Zest of ½ lemon

Zest of ½ orange

1 tsp. vanilla extract

1 tsp. mahlepi or anise flavoring (optional)

2 eggs

To brush the top:

1 egg for egg wash (mixed with splash of water)

¼ cup sliced almonds—add more or less for taste

Red hard-boiled eggs (optional)



## PREPARATION

- ❖ In a large bowl, combine 2 tbsp. sugar, 2 tbsp. flour, salt, and milk together. Let sit for 10 minutes to activate yeast
- ❖ Add butter, eggs, rest of sugar, orange zest, lemon zest, mahlepi (or anise) and vanilla with the yeast; mix well
- ❖ Add remaining flour a little at a time; mix until dough is formed; add flour as needed
- ❖ Knead 5-7 minutes on well-floured surface
- ❖ Sprinkle flour in large bowl and place dough in bowl. Cover and let rise in warm place until it doubles in size, about 2 hours
- ❖ Divide dough into 6 parts; roll out until they are long and take each set of 3, pinch top together and braid
- ❖ Place each braided loaf onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and let rise again (about an hour)
- ❖ Make egg wash and brush tops of each loaf and sprinkle with almond slices
- ❖ Press in one or two hard-boiled egg into each loaf (optional)
- ❖ Bake in 350 degree preheated oven for 30-40 minutes or until golden and center is cooked through
- ❖ Remove, let cool on rack—and ENJOY!

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*A LIST TO LIVE BY*

<i>The greatest joy</i>	<i>Giving</i>
<i>The most satisfying work</i>	<i>Helping Others</i>
<i>The greatest natural resource</i>	<i>Youth</i>
<i>The greatest "shot in the arm"</i>	<i>Encouragement</i>
<i>The greatest problem to overcome</i>	<i>Fear</i>
<i>The most destructive habit</i>	<i>Worry</i>
<i>The greatest loss</i>	<i>Self-Respect</i>
<i>The ugliest personality trait</i>	<i>Selfishness</i>
<i>The most endangered species</i>	<i>Dedicated Leaders</i>
<i>The most effective sleeping aid</i>	<i>Peace of Mind</i>
<i>The most crippling failure disease</i>	<i>Excuses</i>
<i>The most dangerous pariah</i>	<i>A Gossip</i>
<i>The worst thing to be without</i>	<i>Hope</i>
<i>The deadliest weapon</i>	<i>The Tongue</i>
<i>The most worthless emotion</i>	<i>Pity</i>
<i>The world's most incredible computer</i>	<i>The Brain</i>
<i>The worst thing to be without</i>	<i>Hope</i>
<i>The two most power-filled words</i>	<i>"I Can"</i>
<i>The most prized possession</i>	<i>Integrity</i>
<i>The most contagious attribute</i>	<i>Enthusiasm</i>
<i>The most powerful channel of communication</i>	<i>Prayer</i>
<i>The most beautiful attire</i>	<i>A SMILE</i>

*Take time to be FRIENDLY . . .*

*It is the Road to Happiness*