A CELEBRATION OF GREEK HERITAGE
WOOSOX HOST GREEK NIGHT

FESTIVAL MENU
TRADITIONAL FOODS, YIAVIA'S KITCHEN & MORE

RAFFLE
$5,000 CASH PRIZE

TRIP AROUND GREECE
FUN FACTS ABOUT GREECE

GRECIAN FESTIVAL
SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
SEPTEMBER 2022

GRECIANFESTIVAL.ORG
WORCESTER’S LARGEST INDEPENDENTLY OWNED SECURITY COMPANY

OUR GROWING FAMILY IS PROUD TO SPONSOR THE
SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL GRECIAN FESTIVAL

1142-C
Massachusetts Certificate of Clearance 1091
Welcome

DEAR BELOVED PARISHIONERS AND PATRONS OF GRECIAN FESTIVAL ’22,

On behalf of the whole community, I want to thank you for your participation in this, our first festival in four years. This community has had a long history of offering the finest in Greek entertainment for our patrons, the best food and art exhibits anywhere. Our beautiful Cathedral Church and all of our facilities make this truly the best place to celebrate from one of the richest ethnic tradition the world has ever known.

As a young boy and early into my adult years, I remember hearing about the Grecian Festival in Worcester from many people in Lowell, where I grew up. In fact, in my mid-20s, when I was the General Chairman of our own festival at the Transfiguration Church, I remember coming here to St. Spyridon to investigate what they did and how they did it. For many years, our festival was like a carbon copy of this one, the largest festival of its type in New England.

Now, as the priest of this 108-year-old community, it is my true honor and pleasure to welcome you back after a long and difficult absence. Despite everything happening in our world, I feel like it’s up to us to carry on the traditions, the faith, and the culture that brought nothing less than civilization itself to the western world. It’s up to us to show our children that the good things of the past can and should never be taken for granted or they will be lost. Our children need this. Our community and our world need this.

Your involvement in whatever way helps us to continue the soul-saving ministry that began here in Worcester in 1914, a ministry that thousands of people still depend on both inside and outside of our church community. Truly, our food here translates to thousands of people being fed over the course of the year. Your plate of melomakarona means that ministry can continue here. Your bowl of loukoumades means that an abundance of spiritual life can be offered through the grace of God. Please don’t take it for granted or think that your contribution is insignificant. Every little act of kindness and generosity makes a difference.

Once again, thank you. I look forward to seeing you out on the dance floor and, perhaps, in one of my church tours over the weekend. God bless you.

Sincerely,

Fr. Christopher H. Stamas | Presiding Priest
With our utmost gratitude, we would like to thank those who have contributed their personal recipes as well as their time above and beyond our expectations:
Aliki Binici, Rita Panagopoulos, Maria Stefanakos
Welcome, to the 46th year of our Grecian Festival! St. Spyridon is proud to share and celebrate our faith, culture, and heritage with Worcester County and Central Massachusetts for the first time since the pandemic! Thank you for joining us during these three fun-filled days of music, dance, and delicious food. This year’s festival features Cathedral tours, traditional Greek dance performances, live music, shopping at the Agora (marketplace), and a raffle. As always, there will be plenty of delicious traditional food. Also, be sure to enjoy a freshly-made cup of Greek coffee with a piece of baklava.

I would like to thank our St. Spyridon parishioners for their hard work and dedication. In over 40 years of involvement with St. Spyridon Cathedral, I have witnessed our volunteers’ devotion in the countless hours they have contributed, lending their talents, to ensure the success of this festival along with our other important endeavors. I also wish to express my gratitude to all of our sponsors for their generous support of St. Spyridon Cathedral throughout the years. The Grecian Festival is our biggest fundraiser that provides for our programs, activities, and helps support those in need in the community!

We warmly invite you to enjoy a bit of Greece with us!

Truly yours in Christ,

Georgia Parafestas | Parish Council President
FOOD, FOOD, FOOD
Three full days of the most delicious and authentic Greek specialties to enjoy. At this festival, we are featuring our delicious Greek foods prepared by our volunteers and community members. We have prepared a traditional and quick dining service menu that features the foods everyone loves for your dining pleasure. Check the food pages for the festival menu that includes all the following food stations listed below. They are also posted on our website GrecianFestival.org and Facebook.

GREEK FOOD STATIONS
We are pleased to report that the individual Greek Food Stations chairpeople have prepared many selections from which to choose for everyone’s discerning palate and diet. The following is a brief listing of all the delicious food you can choose all weekend long. You can even take some to go!

TRADITIONAL FOOD STATION
A wide selection of dinners and à la carte items from which to choose. Dinners served the entire weekend include Lamb Shish-kebab and Chicken Shish-kebab, sides include rice pilaf and Greek green beans (fasolakia). There is also a great selection of à la carte choices to add to the meal or eat separately.

A LA CARTE CHOICES INCLUDE:
- Spanakopita/Tiropita – Greek Spinach or Cheese Pita.
- Moussaka - baked macaroni casserole, with seasoned ground beef, eggplant, potato and béchamel sauce.
- Pastichio – baked Greek macaroni casserole, with seasoned ground beef filled with oozing cheese and béchamel sauce.
- Grape Leaves and Greek Salad with Greek seasonings, tomato, onion and feta cheese. AND crowning your meal with delicious Greek pastry will earn your “Greek for the day” title!

QUICK DINING SERVICE STATIONS - Gyro, Souvlaki, and Greek Gourmet Burger Station
- Interested in quick dining service? Try these popular Food Stations with choices such as Gyro (pronounced “yēro”) an all-time favorite Greek sandwich seasoned with a combination of ground lamb and beef cooked on a vertical "Gyro" rotisserie, where you will watch the meat carved off the spinning cone and placed in warm pita bread with Greek delicious fixings and topped with our famous Tzatziki sauce. Pork Souvlaki sandwich consists of cubes of marinated pork skewered and grilled nestled in warm pita bread with Greek fixings and Tzatziki sauce. A popular favorite is back - Greek Gourmet Burgers, succulent all beef burgers grilled "Greek style" plain or topped with Greek Feta-Tzatziki Sauce. And add our "famous" mouth-watering Greek Fries, slow cooked like our Yiayia served them. An all-time New England favorite Hot Dogs-steamed to perfection served in a bun and paired perfectly with other Greek specialties.
LOUKOUMADES STATION - Honey puffs lovingly made before your eyes by the LoukouMAMAs and LoukouPAPAs! These delights are soaked in a honey syrup sprinkled with walnuts and cinnamon (if desired).

YIAVIA’S KITCHEN—BAKERY STATION – Baklava, kourambiedes (Greek powdered sugar butter cookie), melomakarona (Vegan - A flour & olive oil cookie dipped in a honey syrup), (koulourakia (braided butter cookies), galaktoboureko (an all-time favorite dessert made with creamy custard in a crispy phyllo pastry, bathed with sweet syrup). For this festival, home made Greek sweet bread (Tsourekia) and rice pudding are also being offered. Take some home, freeze it and enjoy for months to come!

FRAPPE STATION – Offers selections such as a traditional demitasse cup of rich Greek coffee or a famous Greek Frappe (high octane coffee iceed offered your way. sweet, semi-sweet or none). Guaranteed to help you do a few extra dances after one Frappe.

AGORA
In our beautiful Saint Spyridon Family Center, you will enjoy the Agora-Greek Bazaar (Marketplace), and feel as if you have been transported to a Greek island with an eclectic collection of Greek traditional and fashionable specialties displayed by vendors for your browsing and shopping pleasure. Some of the items include jewelry, arts and crafts, clothing, spiritual items and icons, and so much more. In our Cultural Museum display, you will experience what it was like to live in a Greek home many years ago in the “old country,” like our Yiayias and Pappous did.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE
Cathedral Tours of our beautiful Byzantine style Cathedral architecture adorned with sparkling chandeliers, stained glass, icons, candles and Orthodox artifacts. Our priest, Father Chris Stamas, will offer a ½ hour presentation on the history of the community and the meaning behind the architecture.

Greek Dance Performances – by children, youth and adult groups in traditional costumes for all to enjoy. Look for the schedule posted at the festival.

Live Greek Music and DJ Music – You will be serenaded by our DJ’s special selections with both traditional and top-40. Greek music. Live music from Fotia. Live featuring vocalists Voula Berdos and Nikos Savvas serenading us on Friday night, and guest Clarinetist Nikos Spaniotis on Saturday and Sunday evenings, with Orfeas Orchestra. The music is meant to encourage everyone to get up and join the dance lines weaving throughout the dance floor as the stars start twinkling in the night. Shy? Forget about it! Not at the Grecian Festival. Everyone is family here. Stroll through our Art & Culture Center in the Tonna Room, enjoy vintage photos of Worcester’s Tercentennial celebration and other cultural displays. And a special feature: an Historic Display of Worcester and Elm Park Neighborhood by the Worcester Historical Society. Also, enjoy a collection of Greek artifacts and traditional clothing from the personal collections of our parishioners.

AND a Youth Activity Center with many fun activities for all ages from the littlest fans to teens.

CASH RAFFLE - Your chance to win $5,000 cash Grand prize or 5 runner-up prizes of $1,000 each with our Raffle.

All under the largest custom designed tent at St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral grounds.
The Grecian Festival has been a highlight of Worcester and Central Massachusetts for the last 46 years. It has become the finest and the largest festival of New England, with attendance in the past exceeding 20,000 people. During the festival, the Greek Community recognizes and celebrates our forefathers, Greek Immigrants who came to Worcester to work and create a new life, and in doing so made lasting contributions to the political, economic and cultural development of Worcester. It’s also a time to join in the festivities of our Hellenic Heritage. The Grecian Festival is one of our largest fund raisers that supports all our educational, cultural, spiritual programs and activities; youth and senior programs, our Board of Education certified Pre-School, our Orthodox Food Pantry (working with the Worcester County Food Bank) that feeds more than 200 families a month, missions to help build homes in poor countries, food and gift baskets provided to the poor and needy, and much more. Our Cathedral is an active community for all ages.

Our ministries include:

- Altar Boys
- Sunday School
- Chanters
- Choir
- JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth)
- GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America)
- Mr. and Mrs. Club (for married couples)
- Greek Dance Troupe
- Orthodox Singles Association
- Basketball
- Greek Afternoon School
- Greek School Alumni Association
- A fully certified Preschool ranked #1 in the city
- Orthodox Food Pantry
- Senior Parishioners
- Ladies Philoptochos Society
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Feeding Ministry

Affiliates:

- Metropolis of Boston Camp
- Orthodox Christian Fellowship (college ministry)
- Orthodoxy on Tap (young adult ministry)
- AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association)
- Daughters of Penelope
- Maids of Athena
- Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility Home (5* rated facility)
- Panepirotic Federation of America
- Hellenic Arts Society
- Cultural Center Hrisohorafiton
- Greek American Veterans
FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

ADMISSIONS
George Kalogeropoulos
Joanne Tsatis McMahan
Sandy Bazoukas
Dimitrios Vasilisidis
Bessie Drakodaidis
Barbara Douka-Efstathiou
Lena Panagiotidou
Pat Pappalilo
Irene Stefanakos

AGORA
Dr. Matt Panagiotou
Father Chris Stamas
Kathy Ganiotis
Christos Tsigas
Christos Tsigas
George Gourousis
Arthur Pappas
Yeoryia Giolekas
Frank Peepas
Tina Niedbala

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Mike & Janice Dionis
Telly & Maria Kassos
Gus Giannakis
George Gourousis
Paul Barber
George Gourousis
Christina Andrianopoulou
Eleni Pirperis
Dimitri Vasilisidis
Zoe Paleologos
Kosta Paleologos
Ev Stefanakos
Olga Fotos
TBD

YIAYIA’S KITCHEN-BAKERY
Zoe Paleologos
Georgia Giolekas
Athena Vangos
Paul Barber
Chris Tsigas,
Gus Giannakis
Jody Athanasiou
Christina Athanasiou
Vicky Helali
Diane Karalekas

BOOK STORE
Angie Douka
Lili Resplass

CATHEDRAL TOURS
Christos Tsigas
Gus Giannakis
Christina Andrianopoulou

CULTURAL DISPLAYS/ROOM
Christo Tsigas

DJ/BAND
George Gourousis

FACILITIES/SECURITY
Konstantinos “Gus” Giannakis

FAST FOOD STATION

FINANCE COMMITTEE/COURIERS

FOOD LINES

FOOD PLANNING (PURCHASING)

FOOD-GYRO STATIONS

FUNDRAISING, PUBLICITY, PROGRAM BOOK

GRAPHIC DESIGN

GREEK DANCE

GRILLING

FRAPPE STATION

FESTIVAL CHAIR
Konstantinos “Gus” Giannakis

HONORARY CHAIRS
Father Christopher Stamas
Georgia Parafestas

KID’S FEST!

KITCHEN MANAGEMENT

LICENSES PERMITTING (LEGAL) OVERSIGHT

LOUKOUMADES STATION

RAFFLE TICKETS

SECURITY

SOCIAL MEDIA

COLLEGE - SOCIAL MEDIA

YOUTH - GOYAN OVERSIGHT
KIDS CORNER
LOCATION: NEXT TO FOOD COURT
New location and activities! Have fun with many activities all weekend, inflatable moon bounce, sand art, cornhole, basketball, ring toss, and bracelet creations. Enjoy kids food like hot dogs, Greek fries, or a variety of pastries and more offered at the Quick Service Food Station.

Check the schedule of events for times and activities.

AGORA (SHOPPING)
LOCATION: SAINT SPYRIDON FAMILY CENTER
Don’t forget to visit our Agora Marketplace, located in the Saint Spyridon Family Center, for a great selection of specialty items and gifts.

- AKB Designs - Greek themed onesies, aprons, signs and bibs
- AMC Soaps and Beauty - (Saturday only) Soaps, Candles, Bath Bombs, wax melts, wax ornaments and air fresheners
- Ariston Specialties - imported Greek olive oil, balsamic vinegars, olives, jams and honeys
- Bahnan’s International Marketplace - featuring candy, toys, nuts, dried fruit, ceramics, and a variety of souvenirs
- Christian Orthodox Gifts - large selection of gifts and religious items
- Eco-bellish LLC - The Godfeta streetwear - baseball caps, t-shirts, hoodies, island bucket hats, also, Greek blue OPA! rubber duckies, small accessory travel bags
- Herbert Berg Florist - (Sunday only) - silk wreaths, plants, and embroidered towels
- Images of America, Greeks of Worcester - newly published book by Arcadia, also featuring artifacts, images, and other items for viewing
- Kalli By DeZign Jewelry - handmade bracelets, necklaces, and earrings
- KBK Sports - sports memorabilia
- LuLaRoe Women’s Clothing - featuring LuLaRoe women’s clothing
- Meza Studios LLC - (Saturday only) range of mixed media stationary/home décor products primarily themed around flora, animals and patterns
- Neora - (Friday only) Holistic Beauty & Health products.....Skincare, Haircare, Weight management, Wellness
- Penelope’s of Greece - Greek Gold and Silver Jewelry, Icons
- Periptero - Greek Market - authentic Greek and Mediterranean specialty products. Also featuring eco-friendly Burlap bags by Just Burlap Bags
- Say it with Cards and Flowers - handmade notecards, silk arrangements and wreaths
- St. Spyridon’s Book Store - offering Greek and religious books
- St. Spyridon’s Religious Icons and Linens - featuring beautiful Orthodox Icons and handmade linens
- Taste and Art of Greece - Greek boutique celebrating the work of artists and designers of Greece
- United Health Care - (Saturday only) health care insurance provider that offers Senior Care options plan

CATHEDRAL TOURS
LOCATION: THE CATHEDRAL
(Meet with Father Chris Stamas in the lobby of the Family Center)
One of the highlights of our festival is the guided tours of our beautiful Cathedral. Allow the flicker of the candles to ignite your soul as the sparkle of the chandeliers reflect the stained glass, opening you to an experience of faith and spirituality.

GREEK MUSIC & DANCE
LOCATION: UNDER THE STARS
DON’T BE SHY.. grab someone’s hand in the dance line snaking through the crowds... we’ll make you feel like Zorba the Greek! Live music with Fotia, performing Friday night and Orfeas Orchestra Saturday and Sunday nights. DJ Christos and DJ Niko will play a variety of Greek Music for everyone’s enjoyment.

DANCE PERFORMANCES
LOCATION: UNDER THE STARS
Enjoy our Greek Dance performances by all dancers as young as 4 years to adults.

The St. Spyridon Greek Dance Troupe aims to maintain and continue the tradition of Greek dancing by teaching the dances from all over Greece free of cost to all age groups and levels of experience, in order to promote dance as a way of preserving regional culture and building an understanding of the rich history of the country as a whole. We are thrilled to share our culture with you at this festival and hope you enjoy!

ART & CULTURE
LOCATION: TONNA ROOM
Stroll through our Art & Cultural Center in the Tonna Room. A special feature this festival, a Historic Display of Worcester and Elm Park Neighborhood by the Worcester Historical Society. Greek displays of period pieces and precious vintage items and artwork will also be on display. Also, enjoy a collection of Greek artifacts and traditional clothing from the personal collections of our parishioners.
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Art &amp; Culture Center</td>
<td>Tonna Room</td>
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<td>5:00 - 7:00</td>
<td>DJ Christos &amp; DJ Niko</td>
<td>Under the Stars</td>
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<td>5:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Yiayia’s Kitchen</td>
<td>Greek Pastry Station</td>
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<td>Loukoumades</td>
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<td>5:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Frappe Station</td>
<td>Main Tent</td>
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<td>5:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Agora (Shopping)</td>
<td>Family Center</td>
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<td>6:15</td>
<td>Cathedral Tour</td>
<td>Cathedral Narthex</td>
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<td>7:30</td>
<td>Cathedral Tour</td>
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<td>7:00 - 9:00</td>
<td>Kids’ Corner</td>
<td>Main Tent</td>
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<td>7:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>FOTIA.LIVE with vocalist</td>
<td>Under the Stars</td>
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<td>Voula Berdos &amp; Nikos Savvas</td>
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<td>5:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>Fast Food Station</td>
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**Photo Credit: Eleni Giannakis**
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>Peter Blute WCRN Radio AM830 Broadcasting Live</td>
<td>Foyer</td>
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<td>12:00 - 7:00</td>
<td>Art &amp; Culture Center</td>
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<td>12:00 - 8:00</td>
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<td>12:00 - 5:00</td>
<td>DJ Christos &amp; DJ Niko</td>
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<td>12:00 - 7:00</td>
<td>Agora (Shopping)</td>
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<td>1:00 - 7:00</td>
<td>Kids Corner</td>
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<td>2:00</td>
<td>Cathedral Tour</td>
<td>Cathedral Narthex</td>
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<td>2:00</td>
<td>St. Spyridon Dance Troupe Performances</td>
<td>Under the Stars</td>
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<td>4:00</td>
<td>Cathedral Tour</td>
<td>Cathedral Narthex</td>
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<td>5:00 - 9:00</td>
<td>Live music with Orfeas with guest musician Nikos</td>
<td>Under the Stars</td>
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<td>Spaniotis on the Clarinet</td>
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<td>6:00</td>
<td>Cathedral Tour</td>
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<td>12:00 - 8:00</td>
<td>Fast Food Station</td>
<td>Main Tent</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Grand Prize Raffle Drawing</td>
<td>Main Tent</td>
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* Photo Credit: Michael & Jan Dionis
**TRADITIONAL FOOD STATION**

**LAMB OR CHICKEN SOUVLAKI**

PASTICHIO - baked Greek macaroni casserole, with seasoned ground beef filled with oozing cheese and béchamel sauce.

MOUSSAKA - baked macaroni casserole, with seasoned ground beef, eggplant, potato and bechamel sauce.

**À LA CARTE CHOICES**

PASTICHIO - baked Greek macaroni casserole, with seasoned ground beef filled with oozing cheese and béchamel sauce

SPANAKOPTA - a tasty blend of spinach, scallions, parsley, dill, salt and pepper, generously sprinkled with feta cheese, mixed with beaten eggs, and layered in buttered-crispy phyllo baked and served in generous portions

TIROPITA - a creamy blend of feta and cottage cheese mixed with fresh herbs, beaten eggs, salt and pepper, layered in buttered-crispy phyllo baked and served in generous portions

GREEN BEANS (FASOLAKIA) - Yiayia’s recipe of sautéed green beans slowly cooked with olive oil, onions, garlic, carrots, parsley, dill, salt, pepper in a rich whole and crushed tomato broth

DOLMADES - Grape leaves stuffed with seasoned rice and splashed with olive oil and lemon - a vegetarian delight

GREEK SALAD - lettuce, tomato, onion, tossed with Greek dressing, Greek seasonings and sprinkled with feta cheese

RICE PILAF - A flavorful combination of long grained rice with onion, garlic, and seasonings, accented with pasta browned with butter, a perfect vegetarian delight

**GYRO, SOUVLAKI & GREEK GOURMET BURGER STATION**

GYRO - All time favorite, roasted blend of seasoned beef and lamb carved off spinning vertical rotisseries and placed on warm pita, topped with Tzatziki

PORK SOUVLAKI WRAP - skewered and roasted marinated pork cubes, served on warm pita with Greek fixings and Tzatziki sauce.

GREEK GOURMET BURGERS - succulent all beef burgers grilled “Greek style” plain or topped with Greek Feta-Tzatziki Sauce.

GREEK FRIES - our “famous” mouth-watering Greek Fries, slow cooked like our Yiayia served them, and an all-time New England favorite

HOT DOG - steamed in a bun

**LIQUOR, BEER & WINE**

GREEK BEER – Mythos

GREEK WINE – ZOE red and white

ALMYRA - Red

A SELECTION OF OTHER ALCOHOLIC AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
BAKERY ITEMS

BAKLAVA
Layered phyllo dough with walnuts in a honey syrup

GALAKTOBOURIKO
Semolina-based, egg & milk custard in phyllo with a syrup

KOURAMBIEDES
NUT FREE- Butter cookie covered in powered sugar

MELOMAKARONA
VEGAN- A flour & olive oil cookie dipped in a honey syrup

KOULOURAKIA
A buttery cookie with a hint of vanilla

TSOUREKI
A sweet, yeast bread made with flour, eggs, milk, & butter

RICE PUDDING
A sweet, creamy mixture of rice & milk with a sprinkle of cinnamon

SPANAKOPITA
Spinach, feta, & seasonings baked in a buttery phyllo dough

TIROPITA
Various types of cheese baked in a buttery phyllo dough

COFFEE
Greek Coffee - An espresso-like, strong brew coffee with grinds at the bottom

American Coffee

LOUKOUMADES STATION

LOUKOUMADES
Lovingly prepared by the LookouMAMAS & LoukouPAPAS
In Memoriam

To our Beloved Parishioners who are no longer with us.
We express our deepest appreciation for their dedication,
generosity, and countless hours devoted to
St. Spyridon Cathedral since the Festival's inception in 1976.
Thank you!

May their memory be eternal.
Αἰωνία αὐτῶν ἡ μνήμη.
O'Connor Brothers Funeral Home recognizes that our community is comprised of diverse preferences of religion, philosophies and beliefs. Our firm is responsive to your needs and wishes. By offering a wide range of services, each family has the ability to create a meaningful and appropriate way to remember their loved one.

Proud Supporters of the Grecian Festival Raffle!

508-754-2431
592 Park Avenue, Worcester, MA 01603
www.oconnorbrothers.com
Proud to Support
the Saint Spyridon Grecian Festival

Καλή Διασκέδαση - Our dance groups are proud to perform at the Grecian Festival!
Cultural Center Hrisohorafiton Alexander the Great
880 Main Street • Worcester, MA 01610-1455 • 508-762-9380
Val, Christos, and Family would like to thank all our amazing customers for support throughout our tenure. Our Greek heritage shines through with Avgolemono, Spanakopita, Gyros, Kabobs and other Greek favorites. Please be our guest Wednesdays and Thursdays 11 PM-8:30 PM, Fridays and Saturdays 11 AM-9 PM, and Sundays 11:30 AM-7 PM

75 Reservoir Street | Holden, MA 01520
(508) 829-0900
Best Wishes for a Successful Festival

Worcester AHEPA Family

AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
Peter L Bell, Worcester Chapter 80

DAUGHTERS of PENEOPE
THEANO 122

The Mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family, and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism.
Come Join Us
2022 Grecian Festival
Kids Corner

Bounce house, sand art, cornhole, basketball, ring toss, and bracelet creations

Kids Corner hours
September 16th - 7 to 9 p.m.
September 17th - 1 to 7 p.m.
September 18th - 1 to 7 p.m.
Saint Spyridon’s Cathedral
102 Russell St.
Worcester MA

St. Spyridon Preschool
102 Russell St., Worcester, MA 01609
Excellence in Early Childhood Education since 1980
508-752-5354
www.stspyridonpreschool.com

NOW Enrolling for 2022/2023 School Year
GRAND PRIZE
SAINT SPYRIDON
GRECIAN FESTIVAL
Sept. 16, 17 & 18

5 FIRST PRIZE WINNERS
$1,000 each

For official rules & details visit www.SpyridonCathedral.org

Drawing to be held September 18 at 8pm

St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral
102 Russell Street, Worcester, MA
We offer a wide selection of our freshly prepared dishes and desserts, we also import international ingredients so that you can explore the fascinating Mediterranean flavors in your home.

**Sold per Slice**
- Spinach Pie
- Cheese Pie
- Pastitsio
- Moussaka

**Sold per Piece**
- Farafel
- Kibbeh
- Meat Pie
- Vegan Grape Leaves
- Meat Grape Leaves

**Sold per Piece**
- Melomakarona (honey-walnut cookies)
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Greece is the only country in the world that receives more than double its population in tourists.

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Greece is the sunniest country in Europe enjoying an average of more than 250 days of sunshine each year.

Greece is the third largest producer of olives in the entire world and Greeks consume more olive oil per capita than any other group of people.

Feta is the national cheese of Greece. True feta cheese can only be produced from goat’s milk in Greece.
The first modern Olympics were held in Greece in 1896, as well as the first ever Olympics during ancient times 776 B.C.

Greece has more than 6,000 islands of which only 227 are inhabited, even though the country ranks as the 97th largest country.

Greeks celebrate name days more than birthdays - a name day being the day that a Saint is commemorated in the Orthodox Christian Church.

Greek is the oldest, richest and most influential written language still in existence. It counts more than 5,000 years of continuous usage.

Athens is Europe's oldest capital city and the birth place of democracy.

Greece isn't really the country’s name. Greeks refer to their country as Hell as or Hellada but its official name is the Hellenic Republic.
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On Thursday, September 22, at the fourth-to-last home game of the 2022 season, the Worcester Red Sox will host “A Celebration of Greek Heritage at Polar Park.” The event will feature Greek music and dancing, and pre-game ceremonies will honor local Greek-owned businesses, such as Table Talk Pies and George’s Coney Island—both partners of the WooSox. Five dollars of every ticket purchased at fevo.me/GreekNight22 will benefit the philanthropy fund of Worcester’s Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Christina Andrianopoulos, Festival Chairwoman Publicity and Outreach, spoke with Dr. Charles Steinberg, WooSox President and CEO, Friday, August 26, to learn more about the WooSox’ growing relationship with the Greek community in Worcester.

Interview by Christina Andrianopoulos- This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Christina Andrianopoulos: Please share with us the history of the WooSox and its involvement in Greek culture.

Charles Steinberg: I think the story starts with [WooSox Chairman and Principal Owner] Larry Lucchino’s history, and the history of our relationship, which has taken us through various cities. Larry’s baseball career began in Baltimore, and that’s my hometown. Baltimore had wonderful downtown celebrations that were called ethnic festivals. We had Greek festivals and Polish festivals and Jewish festivals and Italian festivals and Irish festivals. They were such blossoming points of pride within the community. Of course, local news stations promoted these festivals in advance, so I remember watching reporters eat every kind of food. For example, to promote the Greek festival, there was always spanakopita pie and moussaka. Food is so important to a culture, and I grew up loving these celebrations of different cultures.

Larry is from Pittsburgh, another city where there is this harmony of various cultures. After we built Oriole Park at Camden Yards [in 1992], we moved to San Diego, where there is a ton of multicultural opportunity, with many Mexican American fans and Mexican fans. After building Petco Park, we then moved to Boston, which has its own cultural flavors. But in Boston, the focus seemed to be 90 percent on baseball. Red Sox fans hadn’t had a championship team since 1918, and they wanted one; and our focus was on saving Fenway Park.

So, then I came back to the Boston Red Sox, and Larry acquired the Pawtucket Red Sox. We had won three World Series with the Red Sox by that point, and Larry wanted to secure the future of the Triple-A affiliate, at least in New England and preferably in Rhode Island. But the state of Rhode Island and City of Pawtucket didn’t enjoy the same harmony as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Worcester, so that’s what ultimately led us up I-146 from Pawtucket to Worcester. And we needed to learn more about our new home.

We needed to dive into Worcester, and that dive was like diving into a beautiful swimming pool on a 95-degree day. It was delicious. What we immediately learned was that Worcester has a flourishing multicultural embrace. It wasn’t just the celebration of different cultures; it was that the various cultures celebrated each other unlike any other city I had ever seen.

When the Puerto Rican community is helping the Vietnamese community, which is helping the Dominican community, and the Dominican community is helping the Greek community—that’s so special. And it’s inspiring to bring into baseball. And then here comes [Co-Captain of the WooSox Ambassadors] Marianna Colantuono, who is Greek and Italian, and she mentions the idea of hosting a Grecian festival. What we had learned about Worcester is that Worcester holds dear certain institutions—George’s Coney Island, Table Talk Pies and others. There’s nothing more Worcester than a Coney Island Hot Dog or a Table Talk Pie. My first meeting with [Table Talk Pies President] Harry Kokkinis, we spoke about his grandfather and the history of Table Talk Pies and his family. And now, go look near section 14 on the main concourse; there’s his grandfather. So, when you can connect generations and perpetuate the historical legacy of these cultures, you’re enhancing Worcester’s future by connecting it with its past.

And let’s not forget the local hero who convinced Larry Lucchino to move the team to Worcester, former city manager of Worcester, the honorable Ed Augustus—yup, very Greek. Next season, we’d love to have an Irish Night, and an Italian Night, and a second annual Greek Night. I’m so thrilled we’re beginning this now, in 2022, as a prototype to build on for many cultures in 2023. And I’m thrilled that Greek Night will be our pilot program, if you will.
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Remembering you is easy, I do it every day, but missing you is a heartache, that will never go away.

I hold you tightly within my heart, and there you will remain. As my life goes on without you, it will never be the same.
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