

ASCENSION YOUTH MINISTRIES

Summer Camp

(Ages 8 - 17 Years Old)



Ascension Summer Camp located at the beautiful YMCA Camp Ravencliff in Redway, CA in mid-June. Campers are invited to join us for an exciting week full of activities, fun and building life-long

friendships through Christ. Activities include art and crafts, swimming, athletics, archery, canoeing, hiking, inner-tubing, and much much more! Registration opens in the spring.

Contact: Camp Director Dr. Peter Anastopoulos (panastopoulos@gmail.com) or visit ascensioncathedral.com/summercamp

Sunday School

(Ages Infant - 8th Grade + High School Orthodox Life)



The Sunday School Ministry is dedicated to bringing our youth together in community to learn about our Orthodox Faith. All are welcome to participate. We offer classes for children ages Preschool through 8th grade, with a Parents and Tots fellowship group for infants and toddlers.

Special Highlights:

- Orthodox Life: Faith-based fellowship once a month for our high school students.
- Rededication: Focused learning for 7th and 8th graders to deepen their faith and prepare them to rededicate their lives to Christ.
- Great Feasts Experience, Nativity Pageant, and Holy Week Experience
- St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival and Festival of Faith.

Contact: Christina Yiannakopoulos (cfiliosyianna@gmail.com)

Youth Choir

(3rd - 12th Grade)



Participate in the Divine Liturgy and church services with the adult choir led by Laura Kakis Serper. Sing at the annual choir Christmas Concert and Greek Festival choir concerts. Learn Byzantine chant with

Nektarios Antoniou, possibly performing at events like the Metropolis Folk Dance & Choral Festival (FDF).

Contact: Edith Gowan (edith.gowan@gmail.com)



ASCENSION GREEK
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

YOUTH PROGRAMS 2023-2024

FAITH, FELLOWSHIP,
FOREVER FRIENDS

Scan QR code to get information on the youth programs offered.



Get involved, grow in faith, build lifelong friendships.



*“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6*

Youth Council of Ascension Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Email: ascensionyouthcouncil@gmail.com

Address: 4700 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602

Website: ascensioncathedral.com/youth-ministries

Ascension Parea Groups

Parea (pronounced pah-REH-ah): A cherished Greek word for friendship, togetherness, and joyful camaraderie.

Infant/Toddler Parea

(Ages 2 Years and Under Prior to August 1st)

Provides an easy path for new and expecting parents to introduce Orthodoxy to their children, and a welcoming and supportive environment to explore the ministries, events and traditions of the community.

Leaders: Presv. Dena Mueller (dfehrenbacher@gmail.com)

Preschool Parea

(Ages 3 and 4 Years as of August 1st)

Allows young families to firmly root their preschooler in Ascension life and community with age-appropriate programming and activities to strengthen connection and sustain engagement.

Leaders: Athan Bezaitis (athanbezaitis@gmail.com),
Liza Koukkou (lizabeta83@gmail.com)



Elementary School HOPE + JOY

(TK - 5th Grade)

Reinforces fellowship, friendship, community and heritage through activities that prioritize church, spirituality and character for elementary school kids while supporting them on their journey of discovering the Orthodox faith.

Leaders: Stephanie Polyzos (svpoly@sbcglobal.net),
Maria Kubiak (mariakubiak78@gmail.com)

Middle School GOYA

(6th - 8th Grade)

Creates the chance to bond with kids of the same age and older, the opportunity for self-expression and the ability to shine while learning about God's teaching in a loving and fun environment.

Leaders: Michael Evans (cory.m.evans@gmail.com)



High School GOYA

(9th - 12th Grade)

Provides a forum for connecting with God, making memories, building friendships and finding ways to make a difference while seeking guidance in relation to Orthodoxy and daily life.

Young Adult Leaders: Alexander Boukis (boukis.alexander@gmail.com), Alex Polyzos (alex.polyzos@commercialenergy.net), Marika Bogiantzis (mbogiantzis@gmail.com)

Parent Advisors: Voula Stathopoulos (voulalah@gmail.com),
Patty Glafkides (pglafkides@yahoo.com)

ASCENSION YOUTH MINISTRIES

Ascension Cathedral offers a variety of ministries for youth to be involved in.

Altar Boys

(Boys Ages 7 Years and Older)



Assist in the celebration of services, learn about our Faith and build lasting relationships with other altar boys through this important ministry! Boys ages 7 and up are welcome to serve in the Holy Altar.

Please speak with Fr. Nick if you have any questions, and look for upcoming retreats so that you can learn about how to serve in the Holy Altar.

Contact: Father Nick Mueller (frnickm@groca.org)

Basketball/Athletics

(3rd - 12th Grade)



Participate in the Orthodox Youth Athletic Association (OYAA). No prior basketball experience needed! The league is open to both girls and boys in grades 3 through 8! This program offers fellowship and is an excellent way for our youth to observe and practice their faith through positive competition and sportsmanship.

Contact: A.G. Konstantin (agkonstantin@gmail.com)

Greek Dance

(K - 12th Grade)



Promotes, perpetuates, and celebrates the Greek Orthodox faith, heritage, and culture through traditional music, song, and dance in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship.

Contact: ascensiondanceministry@gmail.com

Meal Ministry

(K - 12th Grade)



Prepare bagged lunches as a community monthly for the food insecure of Oakland. "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

Contact: Maria Woods (fakarina@aol.com)