



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

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Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

Bulletin

Issue 93

February 2010

Η ΥΠΑΠΑΝΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ



THE MEETING OF OUR LORD

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF BROCKTON

DIRECTORY 2010

Priest: Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

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1st Vice President (Administration): Stephen Passias

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SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Alexandra Alexopoulos, Tina Boutas, Dina Coon, Rhoda Economas

GREEK SCHOOL TEACHERS

Konstantina Boutas, Konstantinia (Dina) Gountana, Vicky Papaioannou

YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

AnnuciationYMT@yahoo.com

GOYA

Advisors:

Katherine Angelis,

Jon Buterbaugh, Victoria St. Martin

JOY / HOPE

Advisors:

Barbara Mantalos

Adult Greek Classes: Arthur Krikis

Koliva for Memorial Services: Ladies Philoptochos

Coffee Hour: Bertha Weinberg

Office Administration: Venice Mazarakis

Custodian: Jim DiMarco

Church E-mail addresses:

Fr. Anthony ~ priest@annunciationbrockton.org

Church Office ~ office@annunciationbrockton.org

Church Web-site address: www.annunciationbrockton.org

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ/CHURCH SERVICES ~ ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2010 / FEBRUARY 2010

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ	ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ	ΤΡΙΤΗ	ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ	ΠΕΜΠΤΗ	ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ	ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Vespers for the Feast of the Meeting of Our Lord 7:00 PM	2 The Meeting of Our Lord (Presentation) <i>Orthros 9:00 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM</i> <hr/> ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM <hr/> PHILOPTOCHOS POT LUCK SUPPER MEETING 6:30 PM	3 Small Vespers 7PM <i>Followed by Adult Religious Education</i> (fast day)	4	5 (fast day)	6 St. Photios Saturday of Souls <i>Orthros 9:00 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM</i> GREAT VESPERS 6PM
7 SUNDAY OF LAST JUDGMENT (MEATFARE) ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM (last day for meat until Pascha) JOY "HAVE A HEART" LUNCHEON	8 <i>(dairy products & eggs permitted through Sunday; see bulletin entry for more details)</i>	9 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7 PM <hr/> ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM	10 St. Haralambos the Martyr <u><i>Orthros only</i></u> <i>10:00 AM</i> <hr/> Small Vespers 7PM <i>Followed by Adult Religious Education</i>	11	12	13 Saturday of Ascetic Souls <i>Orthros 9:00 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM</i> GREAT VESPERS 6PM
14 SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESEFARE) ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM <i>Vespers of Forgiveness 5:00 PM</i> (last day for animal products until Pascha; see bulletin entry for Lenten guidelines)	15 Clean Monday (Καθαρά Δευτέρα) GREAT LENT BEGINS <i>Lenten Orthros 10:00 AM</i> <i>Great Compline w/1st part of Great Canon 7PM</i>	16 <i>Great Compline w/2nd part of Great Canon 7PM</i>	17 9th Hour 5:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 PM <i>3rd part of Great Canon only (without Compline) 7:30 PM</i>	18 <i>Great Compline w/4th part of Great Canon 7PM</i>	19 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM <i>Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM</i>	20 St. Theodore of Tyre (miracle of kollyva) <i>Orthros 9:00 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM</i> GREAT VESPERS 6PM
21 1ST SUNDAY OF THE FAST SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM 28 2ND SUNDAY OF THE FAST ST. GREGORY PALAMAS ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM	22 <i>Great Compline 7 PM</i>	23 ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM	24 9th Hour 5:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 PM With participation of parish youth, followed by Lenten supper	25	26 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM <i>Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM</i>	27 GREAT VESPERS 6PM

From Father Anthony

As we stand at the threshold of Great Lent, let us *sin-
cerely* ask ourselves how we plan on experiencing this Lent
differently than prior ones. Here are some of the questions we
could be pondering: *Am I seriously preparing for Great Lent
so that I will be truly ready to reap its spiritual benefits? Am I
planning on increasing church attendance during Lent, or only
attending church on Sundays as I do all year round? Will I
make a serious effort to fast, pray more, and do charitable
works for my spiritual benefit? And lastly, by truly humbling
myself, will I seek repentance for my sins and approach the
Church to be forgiven through Holy Confession?* In order to
answer these questions, perhaps we need to look deep within
ourselves to see what may be keeping us from doing these
things.

Spiritual preparation. Basically, if we don't take Lent
very seriously, then we won't feel a need for any type of
preparation. If this is how we feel, then we will sail through
Great Lent again this year, never "jumping into the water" to
allow it to become a life-transforming event. Unless we truly
understand the purpose and benefits of Great Lent, we will
have no reason to approach this holy season with any sense of
appropriate preparation. In other words, if one is not planning
on running a race, why should he prepare for one?

Church attendance. Yes, Great Lent is all about going
to church! The Church directs us to temporarily put aside all
worldly desires and interests, in order to focus on our spiritual
lives during this holy season. The heart and soul of Great Lent
are the divine services – specifically, those offered on the
weekdays which, in essence, *are* the services proper to Great
Lent. Here at the Annunciation, we offer a very full Lenten
experience through the chanting of the Great Compline each
Monday evening, the liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on
Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings, and the Salutations
to the Theotokos each Friday evening. (Please see the en-
closed February calendar for a list of the *daily* services offered
during the first week of Great Lent.)

As I say every year, if we only come to church on
Sunday mornings during Great Lent, we will *never* feel or ex-
perience the unique beauty and spirituality of Lenten services.
Saturday evening vespers and Sunday liturgy for the most part,
are no different during Lent than the rest of the year, with the
exception of the special rituals held on the Sunday of Ortho-
doxy and the Sunday of the veneration of the Holy Cross.

With so many opportunities for Lenten worship, we
should try to overcome the annual excuses and justifications
for not attending, and make a plan that is workable for our in-
dividual situation. Why not strive for the goal of attending at
least *one different* Lenten service each week? These services
are what motivate us to deepen our spirituality, making for a
very full and beneficial Lenten experience.

Prayer, fasting, and good works. Our prayer lives can
never be over-emphasized. We *need* prayer in our daily lives

in order to grow in the image and likeness of God. This need
obviously receives even more attention during Lent. Besides
prayer, an indispensable tool that will help us achieve – to a
greater or lesser extent – the goals of Great Lent, is *fasting*.
Again I stress, as I do every year, that fasting should not be
seen as a burdensome, negative task. If understood in its proper
context, we should see that fasting is a *spiritually cleansing,
liberating, and humbling* experience. Of course, the other ele-
ment which completes this "holy trinity" of virtues, is the prac-
ticing of *charitable works*. The Church Fathers have always
emphasized the emptiness and futility of fasting, when it is not
coupled with the performing of good works.

If we continually resist fasting, then we will never have
the proper motivation to increase our prayer life, and to want to
reach out to others as the Lord has instructed us to do. The
Church is wise enough to know that not everyone is able to up-
hold a full fast. As with many other things in life, we provide
you with the proper tools and complete, "by-the-book" instruc-
tions. Your spiritual father and priest, is always available to
guide you to an appropriate method of fasting, without shun-
ning the total process.

Repentance and confession. If we make a serious effort
in all the above, then our Lenten experience should move us to
repentance. Proper preparation for Lent, increased church at-
tendance, fasting, increased prayers, and doing good works,
collectively bring us to a state of contrition and humility. "*A
contrite and humbled heart, God will not spurn*" (Ps. 50), for
this is the true fruit of Great Lent. With a heart that is forgiving
to those who may have hurt us, we too, approach Christ for His
forgiveness which He grants through His Holy Church.

Beloved in Christ, our celebration of the Passion and
Resurrection of Christ is brought to a higher spiritual level,
when we precede it with a full and meaningful Lenten experi-
ence. There are so many similar examples in our lives to which
we can relate. The elation of a graduation celebration, is based
on years of hard work with a specific goal in sight. Our wed-
ding day became special and meaningful through the prepara-
tion of courtship and our engagement. The excitement and sat-
isfaction of winning felt by athletes, comes from much toil and
sweat which led to victory. The examples could go on and on,
but I believe the point has been made. Again I ask, *how do we
plan on experiencing this Great Lent differently than prior
ones?*

Wishing everyone a most blessed Lent with the blessing of the
Lord,

+Fr. Anthony

From Father Anthony

LENTEN FASTING GUIDELINES

Many pious Orthodox Christians seek to uphold the Lenten fast each year as best as possible. Following are traditional guidelines that are widely accepted and practiced within the Church. These guidelines are also illustrated on your 2010 church calendar produced by our holy Archdiocese. Let me stress again this year, that these are the ideal guidelines for a full and proper fast, which not everyone can follow. Remember, our Lenten journey is much more than a revision of dietary habits – it is a beautiful time of spiritual discipline which cleanses and strengthens both body and soul, helping us to seek repentance, and to grow closer to God as we approach Holy Pascha. Whichever way we follow the Fast, let it be a spiritually enriching effort which includes intensified prayer, increased church attendance, almsgiving and other charitable works.

2nd Week of Triodion: 2/1-2/6, regular Wednesday and Friday fast

Meatfare Sunday: 2/7, last day for meat (including poultry) until Holy Pascha

Cheesefare Week: 2/8-2/14, dairy products, eggs, wine & olive oil permitted daily

- a) some sources state that fish is also permitted during Cheesefare week, since it is generally considered lighter fare than eggs and dairy
- b) other sources state that since fish is a blood animal with a backbone, it is considered meat and is therefore prohibited after Meatfare Sunday (see exceptions below)

Great Lent & Holy Week: 2/15-4/3, strict fast from all animal products (including fish), wine (all alcoholic beverages) and olive oil, with the following exceptions:

- a) wine & olive oil are permitted each Saturday & Sunday, except for Holy Saturday – a day of strict fasting, and on 2/24, the 1st & 2nd Finding of the Head of St. John the Forerunner

- b) fish, wine & olive oil are permitted on the feast of the Annunciation (3/25), and on Palm Sunday (3/28)
- c) many substitute vegetable oil for olive oil on strict fast days
- d) shellfish is permitted every day of the Fast
- e) fasting is always relaxed for those with health issues (especially diabetics), expectant or nursing mothers, growing children, travelers, and other such situations (seek out your spiritual father for guidance when in doubt)

READERS NEEDED FOR LENTEN SERVICES

As shown on the February calendar, we will have a full schedule of Lenten services each week, especially the first week of the Great Fast. These services include many psalm readings, besides the chanting of hymns. This applies mostly to the Great Compline and Presanctified Liturgy. We would like to have volunteers read in English so that our services can be balanced. Bilingual books will be available. Please contact Fr. Anthony if you are willing to help. **It would be a great blessing and rewarding experience to see some of our youth involved!**

SPECIAL YOUTH PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY & SUPPER

Unfortunately, many of our faithful are completely unaware of, and unfamiliar with the various Lenten services. These services are completely different in feel and character from the Sundays of the Fast. One such service, which can be described as the *heart* of Great Lent, is the *Presanctified Liturgy*. We would like to give families an opportunity for meaningful participation in this beautiful service, by offering a **special family worship Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday, February 24th**. We would like to have the participation of altar boys, as well as GOYANs to offer the many readings in the early part of the service. A short service of preparation (the 9th Hour) will begin at 5:15 pm, followed by the Liturgy at 5:30 pm. A Lenten supper will follow in the Lounge for all in attendance.

From Father Anthony

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

During Great Lent, Fr. Anthony will be available to hear confessions as follows:

- each Saturday evening after vespers (all year)
- each Monday evening after the Great Compline
- each Friday evening after Salutations (up to 3/19)
- during office hours by appointment (all year)

Please take advantage of this most healing mystery (sacrament) of love and forgiveness, as you make your spiritual journey toward Holy Pascha.

RESTRICTED MEETING/EVENT DAYS

As a reminder to all church and affiliated organizations, meetings and events cannot be scheduled simultaneously with any liturgical service. It should be obvious to everyone that worship of God is our number one priority, and reason for existing. Potential conflicts are listed below for convenient reference:

- Saturday vespers (all year)
- Wednesday vespers (as scheduled)
- Vespers of major feasts
- Orthros & Liturgy of any feast or holy day
- During Great Lent: each Monday evening (Great Compline), each Wednesday evening & Friday morning (Presanctified Liturgy), each Friday evening (Salutations to the Theotokos) (**note: during the 1st week of Lent, there will be services each evening**)
- Paraklesis to the Theotokos (usually most evenings from 8/1-8/13)

In looking ahead, we ask each organization to please plan accordingly, especially during Great Lent with its many services. For further clarification, please check with Fr. Anthony directly.

NEW PHILANTHROPIC MINISTRY

All of our youth groups, under the guidance of the Youth Ministry Team, will be sponsoring a permanent food collection ministry for the needy of our local and surrounding communities. A food receptacle will be located in the foyer outside of the Lounge and Narthex for everyone's convenience. With this ministry in place, we can follow the words of our Lord who said, "...I was hungry

and you gave Me food...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 25:35,40). Please remember that the food barrel is **not** a dumpster for cleaning out your pantries of old food and candy. We should only bring non-expired, nutritious sources of protein such as canned tuna, peanut butter, pasta, dried beans, and other such non-perishable items (please, no "junk" food or treats). May the Lord bless all of you who will be donating to this ministry!

SPIRITUAL FOOD

The following is reprinted with permission of Fr. Andrew George, from the February, 2004 edition of *The Annunciator* – the monthly bulletin of the Annunciation Church of Cranston, RI.

BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PRAY!

How many times have we heard this or thought it ourselves? We're too rushed, too busy, too distracted, or too tired. And yet we want to pray more, or at least we know we should pray more. But how?

I found this little tidbit on the Archdiocese web site, goarch.org. It comes from a "Focus on the Faith" topic on the Jesus prayer:

"Prayer is then not merely a part of life which we can conveniently lay aside if something we deem more important comes up; prayer is all of life. Prayer is as essential to our life as breathing. This raises some important questions. How can we be expected to pray all the time? We are, after all, very busy people. Our work, our spouse, our children, our school – all place heavy demands upon our time. How can we fit more time for prayer into our already overcrowded lives? These questions and many others like them which could be asked, set up a false dichotomy in our lives as Christians. To pray does not mean to think about God in contrast to thinking about other things, or to spend time with God in contrast to spending time with our family and friends. Rather, to pray means to think and live our entire life in the Presence of God. As Paul Evdokimov has remarked, 'Our whole life, every act and gesture, even a smile must become a hymn of adoration, an offering, a prayer – prayer incarnate.' This is what St. Paul means when he writes in Corinthians that 'whatever you do, do it for the glory of God' (I Cor. 10:31)"

From Father Anthony

In other words, prayer is not “either or” – either I pray OR I get ready for work; either I pray OR I deal with this crisis; either I pray OR I do my job, spend time with my husband and children, pick up groceries, etc. Prayer is not “either or” but “both.” We pray while we are getting ready for work, while we are dealing with the crisis, while we are doing our jobs, while we are spending time with our family and friends. It’s as simple as a prayerful thought, “Lord, while I’m dealing with rude people at work today, don’t let me forget that I stand in Your Presence. Let me be a light to those around me and give me the patience to deal with whatever comes my way.”

Prayer doesn’t have to mean standing for a certain period of time in front of our icon corner, although that too is important. Every moment of every day provides us with food for prayer, reason to reach out for Christ’s healing touch, for ourselves and for those around us. Getting cut off in traffic is an opportunity to pray for patience and the safety of all drivers; dealing with rude patients or angry clients or grumpy bosses is an opportunity to pray for forbearance, humility, and peace in our own hearts. The stress of everyday life is, in and of itself, an opportunity to pray for the ability to always be mindful of Christ’s presence, in us and in the world. If we use our stress and busyness as an opportunity for prayer instead of roadblocks to prayer, we will indeed find ourselves “praying without ceasing.”

ANNUAL LENTEN LUNCHEON

Sunday, February 28, 2010

*Immediately Following
The Divine Liturgy*

\$15.00 Shrimp Dinner

\$5.00 Pizza Dinner

*Please call the Church Office
or see any Parish Council Member for Tickets*



Consecration News

CONSECRATION DATE:

10-10-10!

Beloved parishioners and friends of the Annunciation Church,

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, our spiritual leader, we will be consecrating to God our beloved Church of the Annunciation, during the weekend of **October 9-10, 2010**. For those who are not familiar with this process, let us explain a bit about the consecration of an Orthodox temple.

From the early centuries of the Church, it has been the practice to *consecrate* – literally, *to make sacred* – Orthodox houses of worship. The various rituals performed will set apart this holy temple as a sacred place, dedicated solely for the worship of the living God. The main focus of the ritual of consecration is the Holy Altar – the most sacred part of the temple.

The altar table will be washed and prepared for the deposition of the holy relics of three saints. The table will then be anointed with Holy Chrism, as well as the walls of the church. Basically, the Holy Altar and the entire temple will be *baptized and chrismated*, just as each Orthodox Christian upon joining the Body of Christ. The final act that *seals*, so to speak, the consecration of the Holy Altar, is the celebration of the Divine Liturgy upon the newly consecrated altar table.

These beautiful and solemn rituals will bring grace and spiritual renewal, not only upon the physical structure of our Church, but also upon each and every one of us as members of the mystical Body of Christ. Our holy temple of the Annunciation will be consecrated to the glory of God, and toward the spiritual nourishment of all of us, and our posterity.

Therefore, let us all plan on being together as a family in Christ on the consecration weekend, in order to participate in these sanctifying rituals!

CONSECRATION UPDATE

- Our first official meeting was held on the Feast of Holy Theophany, January 6th – a blessed day for the beginning of our sacred task! A general overview of the event, and discussion about committees and tasks was the focus.
- A mailing will soon be going out to each household with more details about the consecration, with a special focus on seeking everyone's participation and support, since this event truly involves each and every parishioner.
- Our committee chairs, under the guidance of the Consecration Committee, are currently organizing their committees and tasks.

Honorary Chairman: Christos Tsaganis
Co-Chairmen: Thalia Lingos Huser, Jim Mihos, Rocky Savas

Church News



BULLETIN DEADLINE

All Submissions for the Bulletin are due 15th ~ 20th of the month.

COFFEE HOUR

If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please call Bertha Weinberg at (508) 586-1030, or the Church Office at (508) 559-0910.

HALL RENTAL

Do not forget that our church gymnasium and / or lounge area are available for your special functions. Please call the church office for details.

SERVICE CANCELLATIONS

During the winter months, service cancellations on bad weather days will be announced on the church's voice-mail system. Simply call the church and select #2 on the main menu – “church services for the current week.” Make sure to check before departing for church, since the decision to cancel is usually made in the morning, or late afternoon for evening services.

THE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT. REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR PLEDGE. PLEDGES ARE THE GREATEST SOURCE OF INCOME FOR OUR CHURCH

ΤΑ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΑ ~	ΜΕΓΑΣ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ:	6:00 MM
ΤΙΣ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΕΣ ~	ΟΡΘΟΣ: ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ:	8:45 ΠΜ 10:00 ΠΜ

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please notify the church office if you are moving, so we may update our database in order to serve you better.

CHURCH SERVICES WINTER HOURS

SATURDAYS	GREAT VESPERS	6:00 PM
SUNDAYS		
	ORTHROS:	8:45 AM
	DIVINE LITURGY:	10:00 AM
WEEKDAYS		
	ORTHROS:	9:00 AM
	DIVINE LITURGY:	10:00 AM

Church News

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JOY HAVE A HEART LUNCHEON	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH
LENTEN LUNCHEON	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH
ANNUNCIATION VESPERS AND PHILOTOCHOS RECEPTION	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24TH
GOYA SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON	TBA
GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE	SUNDAY, APRIL 25TH
SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY	SUNDAY, MAY 2ND
200 HUNGRY FRIENDS DINNER	THURSDAY, MAY 6TH
SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION	SUNDAY, MAY 16TH
PHILOTOCHOS FOOD FESTIVAL	SATURDAY, MAY 22ND
GREEK SCHOOL GRADUATION	SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH
GOLF TOURNAMENT	TBA
ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH THRU SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH
FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY	SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH
PARISH COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

2010 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 9, 2010	JUNE 8, 2010	OCTOBER 12, 2010
MARCH 9, 2010	JULY 13, 2010	NOVEMBER 9, 2010
APRIL 6, 2010	AUGUST 10, 2010	DECEMBER 14, 2010
MAY 11, 2010	SEPTEMBER 14, 2010	

Church News

SACRAMENTS AND HOLY SERVICES

BAPTISMS

January 10 Dimitrios
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Lambrakis
Sponsor: Ms. Constantina Apostolou

January 17 Alexander
Son of Mr. & Mrs. John Sarris, Jr.
Sponsor: Mrs. Rachel George

FUNERALS

December 2 Katerina Nellos

January 8 P. Ronald Droukas

May Their Memory be Eternal

DONATIONS

In Memory of Mary Davilas
Mr. Nick Davilas ~ \$500

In Memory of Nikolas Kallis
Mrs. Nikoletta & Maria Kallis ~ \$50

In Memory of Katerina Nellos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Nellos ~ \$200

In Memory of Jeani Kahl
Annunciation Choir ~ \$25

In Memory of Victor Fields
Charlene Fields Scholarship Fund
Total Amount ~ \$1,950

In Memory of Victor Fields
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Fields ~ \$1,000

Mrs. Kathy Malone ~ \$60

Demoulas Foundation ~ \$5,000

Donation of flowers
for the Icon of the Nativity
Mr. & Mrs. George Alexis ~ \$60

CORRECTION

In Loving Memory of Theodoros Kolokotronis
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Tsarhopoulos ~ \$ 100

In Loving Memory of Serafim Boutas
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Tsarhopoulos ~ \$100



Philoptochos News & Views

Christmas Cards

Thank you, Kathy Malone for taking care of our Christmas card for us again this year!

Philoptochos Christmas Party

Everyone enjoyed our annual Christmas party. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Lori Stasiewski & Mrs. Ann Marie Horne, our chairladies

Christmas Decorations

A special thank you to all our Christmas decorators. The Church looked absolutely beautiful. Many thanks to Merri Weinberg, Sia Antoniou, Ona Calogrias, Connie Spiros, Maria Tsaganis and Ann Langway. This was their eighth year decorating our Church. Also lending a helpful hand were Penny Droukas, Kay Vzivzis and Bertha Weinberg. Last but not least we would also like to thank Jim DiMarco for assisting the ladies.

Holiday Luncheon

We would like to thank all of our friends who attended the 8th Annual Family Christmas Luncheon. Everyone enjoyed their dinner & dessert as well as the visit by Santa Claus. Special thanks to everyone who donated toys, money or prizes and to everyone that worked in the Kitchen.

Annual Vasilopita

Our Annual Vasilopita to benefit the children of Saint Basil Academy was held on Sunday, January 3, 2010. The event was coordinated by Tulla Giannaros & Sophia Koutsoumbou who did a magnificent job. The Ladies of the Philoptochos would like to thank our parishioners for their donations to Saint Basil Academy. A check will be sent to Saint Basil from our Philoptochos for \$1500. Thank You.

KOLIVA

Please call the church office @ 508/559-0910. We would appreciate one week's notice in advance of the memorial service to prepare your koliva. The cost is \$85 and checks should be made payable to the Philoptochos Society.

Pot Luck Dinner Meeting

The February Pot Luck Supper and General Meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:30 pm. Please bring an appetizer, entrée or dessert and a new member if you can.

UP COMING DATE TO REMEMBER!!!

*Saturday, May 22, 2010
Philoptochos Food Festival*

The Philoptochos Society is planning their 1st Annual Food Festival

Details to follow!!

YOUTH BASKETBALL

STEVE PASSIAS ~ passias@comcast.net

Mondays @ 4-6 pm ~ Ages 16-18
(No practices will be held on Feb. 15th)

I am sad to report that the Youth basketball for the 7th and 8th graders will not be held for this season due to low participation. If the interest increases and people can commit we can start the program back up. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any question. Thank you, Steve

GREEK DANCE GROUP

Jon & Penny Buterbaugh ~ 508-230-3923 ~ pnasios@nasiosandgalloway.com
The Dancers are planning a performance at the Hellenic Nursing Home on Sunday, January 24th.

Upcoming practices are as follows:

January 31st, February 21st, March 14th, March 21st, April 18th
(Jr. and Sr. dancers)

We are planning a fundraiser in the coming weeks to help defray the expense of the costumes we will be purchasing. Your support is greatly appreciated!!

New dancers are always welcomed to join us

GREEK SCHOOL

TINA BOUTAS ~ DINA GOUNTANA ~ VICKY PAPAIOANNOU

Please join us for our Greek Independence Day program on
Sunday, March 21st following the Divine Liturgy.

Parent / Teacher conferences TBA

HOPE / JOY

HELLENIC ORTHODOX PRIMARY EDUCATION / JUNIOR ORTHODOX YOUTH

HOPE & JOY welcome the families of all the children in these two groups
for their annual

Have-A-Heart Luncheon
Sunday, February 7th

Youth Ministry Team

Please join us with your support to the local and neighboring food pantries,
by donating a canned or non-perishable item as often as you can to
our new **food barrel** located in the office foyer area.

GOYA

GREEK ORTHODOX YOUTH OF AMERICA

December: Every year the GOYANs prepare gift baskets for children in the local area & the children of St. Basils Academy. We would like to thank all the parishioners and our GOYAN families for a very successful gift drive this year.

January: On January 10th GOYA hosted their 1st ever coffee hour. Thank you to all our GOYAN families and parishioners for all the delicious treats. Afterward we had our Christmas Retreat with Father Anthony. The GOYANs would like to thank Father Anthony for a very insightful discussion about Christmas and Theophany.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, **February 1st** - GOYA meeting 6:00pm - 8pm
Friday, **February 12th** – GOYA/Parish Council Volleyball Night 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Sunday, **February 14th** – Pre-Lenten Retreat 12:30pm - 2pm
Wednesday, **February 24th** – Youth Presanctified Liturgy & Supper – 5:15pm
Saturday, **March 13th** – District JOY & GOYA Lenten Retreat
Ski Trip -- Date/Place TBD
Scholarship Luncheon – TBA

JUNIOR CHOIR

Corrine Mason and Heidi Mason ~ heidim50@aol.com

Junior Choir rehearsals are now to be held **every Sunday morning** @ 10:45 – 11:15am.
This is in preparation for upcoming events in our church.

ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Rhoda Economos ~ (508) 587-4907

Please join us for the Local Competition of the Oratorical Festival

The Junior Division (grades 7 - 9) and Senior Division (grades 10 - 12)
Entrants will read their papers to our community on **March 14th**.
Winners will continue to compete and represent our church at the district festival.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday school this year has collected 95 toys for needy children under Toys for Tots campaign.

The Sunday of Orthodoxy icon procession will be held in the church following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, February 21st

Email us @ AnnunciationYMT@yahoo.com