



Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

457 Oak Street
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Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

Bulletin

Issue 94

March 2010

Ο ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ



THE ANNUNCIATION

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF BROCKTON

DIRECTORY 2010

Priest: Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

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1st Vice President (Administration): Stephen Passias

2nd Vice President (Maintenance): John Papadopoulos

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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, Paula Tsitsopoulos

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 ~ ΜΑΡΤΙΟΣ 2010 / MARCH 2010

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ	ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ	ΤΡΙΤΗ	TETARTH	ΠΕΜΠΤΗ	ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ	ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Great Compline 7 PM	2	3 9th Hour 5:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 PM	4	5 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM	6 GREAT VESPERS 6PM
7 SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM	8 Great Compline 7 PM	9 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7 PM ----- ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM	10 9th Hour 5:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 PM	11	12 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM	13 GREAT VESPERS 6PM
14 SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM	15 Great Compline 7PM	16 ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM	17 9th Hour 5:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 PM	18	19 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM Akathist Hymn 7 PM	20 GREAT VESPERS 6PM
21 SUNDAY OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM	22 <i>(Fr. Anthony away</i> <i>on pilgrimage)</i>	23 <i>(Fr. Anthony away</i> <i>on pilgrimage)</i> ADULT GREEK CLASS 6:30 PM	24 GREAT VESPERS OF THE ANNUNCIATION W/ ARTOKLASIA 7 PM <i>Followed by</i> <i>Philoptochos</i> <i>reception</i>	25 FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION (PARISH FEAST DAY) ORTHROS 9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM <i>(fish, wine & olive</i> <i>oil permitted)</i>	26 9th Hour 9:45 AM Presanctified Liturgy 10:00 AM	27 SATURDAY OF LAZARUS ORTHROS 9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM VESPERS OF PALM SUNDAY 6PM
28 PALM SUNDAY ORTHROS 8:45 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM <i>(fish, wine & olive</i> <i>oil permitted)</i> <i>(for a listing of</i> <i>Holy Week ser-</i> <i>vices, please refer</i> <i>to the program</i> <i>book that was</i> <i>mailed home)</i>	29 HOLY & GREAT MONDAY	30 HOLY & GREAT TUESDAY	31 HOLY & GREAT WEDNESDAY			

From Father Anthony

As we continue on our Lenten journey, I would like to share a few thoughts and reflections on this holiest period of the liturgical year, as well as Holy and Great Week.

During the remaining period of Great Lent, there are two particular Sundays on which I would like to focus. The first of these Sundays, which is the fourth Sunday of the Fast, is dedicated to the memory of St. John Climacus, or St. John of the Ladder.

St. John is commemorated during Lent because of his great spiritual work called *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. Although this work was written specifically for the monastic world, the author being a monk himself, St. John's "Ladder" is a classic work of Orthodox spirituality that speaks to all members of the Church, in all places and in all times. His book presents us with a spiritual ladder ascending to heaven, with each rung representing a particular vice or passion to be conquered in order to proceed upward. The approach is very straightforward and logical, being that going that next step in our spiritual growth necessitates overcoming the sinful obstacles, which have kept us in the state where we presently find ourselves.

An important part of understanding our spiritual lives as an *ascent*, is the possibility of falling down a few rungs, or even completely off the ladder, which is the reality that we constantly face. In fact, the classic icon of St. John and his ladder clearly depicts the successful ascent of those truly holy and spiritually advanced monks, versus those who have succumb to various passions, causing them to fall into the pit of hell.

The following Sunday, the fifth Sunday of the Fast, we commemorate our Venerable Mother, Mary the Egyptian. This former prostitute who sought tearful reconciliation with Christ and became a desert wanderer in order to live out her repentance, is the example *par excellence*, of the repentant sinner. Her story is quite moving, and very motivating to anyone who is unrepentant and continues to carry the burden of sin.

The Church, in Her Spirit-filled great wisdom, places the memory of St. Mary of Egypt on the last Sunday of Great Lent, as a spiritual "wake-up" call to us to finish the race and accomplish the goal of sincere repentance. If we have truly made some serious efforts during Great Lent, then we hopefully have reached the point of repentance which will lead us to the holy mystery of confession, prior to the celebration of the Lord's passion and resurrection. We must remember that repentance and

confession are key components of the spiritual life, because without them there *is no* true spiritual life, but only a meager attempt, at best.

So thus, Great Lent comes to a close during the week after the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt. Specifically, Lent ends on the following Friday at the reading of the 9th hour, immediately preceding the vespers of St. Lazarus, included in the service of the Presanctified Gifts. Many of our faithful do not realize that the forty day fast ends on this particular Friday, and that Holy Week is separate from Great Lent, standing on its own as a solemn week of strict fasting in commemoration of the last days of our Lord on earth. This is important to know, because the focus of Great Lent and Holy Week are different.

Great Lent is a time for deep, personal reflection. The entire spirit of the forty day fast, is that of an intense spiritual journey that brings us back to God through our spiritual efforts, in order to be properly prepared for Holy Pascha, the greatest of all feasts. In contrast, Holy and Great Week is totally focused on the Lord and His passion and burial, hence the strict fast. In Holy Week, we follow the Lord during His last days, and hear his final teachings and warnings about the Kingdom of Heaven and His second glorious coming to earth for the final judgment. As we all know and have experienced each year, the darkness of Holy Week gradually gives way to the brightness and joy of the Resurrection. This is most profoundly exemplified in the Orthros of Holy Saturday, popularly known as the *Epitaphios Lamentation*, celebrated on Holy Friday evening.

Beloved in Christ, our Orthodox Church is at its absolute best, so to speak, during Great Lent and especially Holy Week. This is not to say that there is anything *inferior* about the remainder of the liturgical year, which in reality, is actually a reflection of Holy Pascha, which gives light and life to everything we do in the Church. It is precisely because of the magnitude of the feast of Pascha, that such liturgical beauty experienced through hymnography and ritual is presented to the faithful for their spiritual edification.

May we all take advantage of what remains of Great Lent, and thus, be prepared to enter Holy and Great Week with eager anticipation and love for the Bridegroom Christ. This should be the highlight of the year for each and every Orthodox Christian who truly loves the Church.

In Christ's love,
+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.*

Great Lent & Holy Week: *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*
- b) *fish, wine & olive oil are permitted on the feast of the Annunciation (3/25), and on Palm Sunday (3/28)*
 - a) *many substitute vegetable oil for olive oil on strict fast days*
 - b) *shellfish is permitted every day of the Fast*
- c) *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)*

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.

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!

BOOKSTORE/LIBRARY NEARS COMPLETION

By now, most of us have seen the beautiful cabinetry and shelving that has been completed for the bookstore/library. By the grace of God, all materials for this project have been anonymously donated. In addition, the construction was also donated as a labor of love by Keith Savas, in honor and memory of his beloved *yiayia*, Leila Savas. Because of these generous donations, all \$2,500 donated thus far to this project can be used toward the acquisition of inventory and other related needs. May the Lord bless all the donors who have made our bookstore/library become a reality!

From Father Anthony

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Repentance, we are told, is the beginning and the condition of a truly Christian life. Christ's first word when He began to preach was: "Repent!" (Matt.4:17). But what is repentance? In the rush of our daily life, we have no time to think about it, and we simply assume that all we have to do during Lent is abstain from certain foods, cut down on "entertainment," go to Confession, be absolved by the priest, receive (once in the whole year!) Holy Communion, and then consider ourselves perfectly "in order" till next year. There must be a reason, however, why the Church has set apart seven weeks as a special time for repentance and why she calls us to a long and sustained spiritual effort. All this certainly must concern me, my faith, my life, my membership in the Church. Is it not then my first duty to try to understand the teaching of my Church about Lent, to try to be an Orthodox Christian not in name only but in life itself?

To the questions: What is repentance? Why do we need it? How are we to practice it? – Great Lent gives the answer. It is indeed a school of repentance to which every Christian must go every year in order to deepen his faith, to re-evaluate, and, if possible, to change his life. It is a wonderful pilgrimage to the very sources of Orthodox faith – a rediscovery of the Orthodox way of life.

It is through the forms and the spirit of her lenten worship that the Church conveys to us the meaning of this unique season...It is my hope that the reader may discover for himself that in this world nothing is as beautiful and deep, as inspired and inspiring, as that which the Church, our Mother, reveals and freely gives to us once we enter the blessed season of the "lenten spring."

(from *Great Lent*, by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1990)

SPIRITUAL WISDOM

Do not say, after spending a long time in prayer, that nothing has been gained; for you have already gained something. And what higher good is there than to cling to the Lord and persevere in unceasing union with Him?

St. John Climacus

Strive to enter the temple within yourself, and you will see the heavenly temple.

St. Isaac the Syrian

With the gift of God's wisdom, I curb incontinent anger; with this, I quiet corrosive envy; with this again, I quell grief that shackles the heart; with this, I moderate hatred, but not love: the one we should moderate; the other, knows no limit.

St. Gregory the Theologian

IN APPRECIATION

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the *Have a Heart* Luncheon committee for this year's successful event – Maria Fitopoulos, Liz Karolemeas, Barbara Mantalos, and Paula Tsitsopoulos. Besides these four ladies, there were many others involved in various aspects of the event. God knows who they are, and we thank them, as well. May our generous contribution to the Hellenic Cardiac Fund bring healing to the children it serves!

DONORS NEEDED

Unfortunately, since the December/January bulletin seems to have been lost by the post office, most of us did not see the following donation request. Another request was included in the "mini-bulletin" sent with the 2010 calendars, to which no one has yet responded. The two requests are as follows:

- \$275 for 400 holy water bottles for Theophany
- \$1,000 to cover the necessary sound system upgrade in the church, due to FCC technical changes

Perhaps some of us will consider contributing toward these needs, as a lenten gesture of Christian charity. May God bless everyone who is so moved!

Consecration News

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton, MA.

The Good News: The Church's Consecration

As we move into a new decade in the Christian calendar, our Church is also taking a great step forward. We are pleased to announce that, with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, we will consecrate to God our beloved Church of the Annunciation during the weekend of October 9 and 10, 2010. This is a most special occasion: the religious services and ceremonies of the consecration are celebrated only once in the lifetime of an Orthodox Church.

Many events and activities will be taking place on that weekend. We hope you will be a part of this history with us!

On Saturday evening, October 9th, the Great Vespers services will be held to herald the ceremonies of the next day, followed by an evening reception. Then, on Sunday morning, October 10th, the Divine Liturgy of the Consecration will take place, followed by a luncheon where we will gather to break bread together after this moving event.

Our Invitation for All to Participate in the Consecration

Committee Volunteers

Great Vesper Reception Committee	Album Committee
Banquet/Luncheon Committee	Ecclesiastical Committee
Finance Committee	Liturgical Pamphlet Committee
Public Relations Committee	Audio-Visual Committee
Youth Ministry Committee	

If there is a particular committee you would like to join, we would welcome your help and enthusiasm! Please feel free to contact the church office to indicate which committee most interests you! A complete list of committee chairmen is available.

Sincerely yours,

Christos Tsaganis,
Honorary Chairman

Thalia Lingos Huser, Christy J. Mihos, Rocky Savas,
Co-Chairmen

Consecration News

**Under the Auspices of
His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios
Rev. Father Anthony Evangelatos**

Honorary Chairman: Christos Tsaganis

Co-Chairmen: Thalia Lingos Huser, Christy J.Mihos, Rocky Savas

Liaison: George Alexis, President Parish Council
Christine Karavites, Secretary

ECCLESIASTICAL ARTICLES AND VESSELS

Rev. Father Anthony Evangelatos

GREAT VESPER RECEPTION

Chairman: Despina Papadopoulos

BANQUET/LUNCHEON

Chairmen: Peter Giannaros Gigi Tsaganis Johnson

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chairmen: Pat Giannakoulis Christine Karavites

LITURGICAL PAMPHLET

Chairmen: James Theos George Theodossiou Stephen Savas

ECCLESIASTICAL

Chairmen: Heidi Mason George Stavropoulos

FINANCE

Chairmen: John Kolentsas Tulla Giannaros

ALBUM

Chairmen: Georgia Petropoulos Besarick Nick Boufides Liz Karolemeas

AUDIO/VISUAL

Chairmen: John Karolemeas George Panagouloupoulos

YOUTH

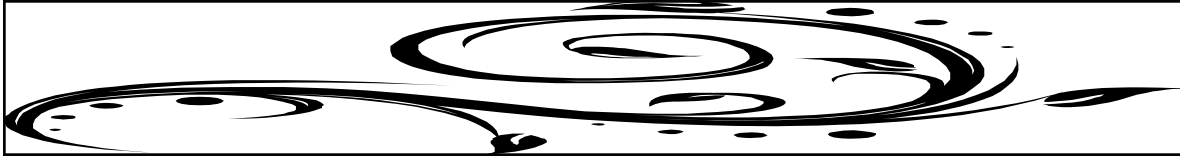
Chairmen: Youth Ministry Team

Church News

We would like to express our condolences to Presvytera Evelyn and Fr. John Kiramarios for the recent death of Presvytera's beloved mother, Demetra Booras. The funeral was held in the Panagia Church of Cohasset on Wednesday, January, 27th. May her memory be eternal!

BULLETIN DEADLINE

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



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.

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.

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

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.

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

ANNUNCIATION VESPERS AND PHILOTOCHOS RECEPTION	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24TH
GOYA SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON	SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH
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	MONDAY, JULY 19TH
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

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

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΙΕΡΩΝ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΤΕΣΣΑΡΑΚΟΣΤΗΣ

Καθε Δευτερα: Μεγα Αποδειπνον – 7:00 μμ

Καθε Τεταρτη: 9η Ωρα – 5:15 μμ, Προηγιασμενη Λειτουργια – 5:30 μμ

Καθε Παρασκευη: 9η Ωρα – 9:45 πμ, Προηγιασμενη Λειτουργια – 10:00 πμ
Χαιρετισμοι της Θεοτοκου – 7:00 μμ (μεχρι 19 Μαρτιου)

Τεταρτη, 24 Μαρτιου: Μεγας Εσπερινος του Ευαγγελισμου μετ'αρτοκλασιας – 7:00 μμ

Πεμπτη, 25 Μαρτιου: Ο Ευαγγελισμος της Θεοτοκου, Ορθρος – 9:00 πμ, Θεια Λειτουργια – 10:00 πμ

Σαββατο, 27 Μαρτιου: Του Λαζαρου, Ορθρος – 9:00 πμ, Θεια Λειτουργια – 10:00 πμ,
Μεγας Εσπερινος των Βαιων – 6:00 μμ

Church News

SACRAMENTS AND HOLY SERVICES

WEDDINGS

February 14 Ernest & Erlinda Anthony had their marriage blessed in the Orthodox Church
Sponsor: Mr. John Papadopoulos
Witness: Mr. Kosta Bokas

BAPTISMS

January 24 Alexandra (Alexa Sofia)
Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Georgantas
Sponsor: Ms. Labrini Malatantis
& Mr. Stephen Passias

FUNERALS

January 27 Demetra Booras
(mother of Presvytera Evelyn Kiramarios)
at the Panagia Church in Cohasset

February 5 Evelyn Kanelos

May Their Memory be Eternal

DONATIONS

Christmas Decorations
Ms. Merri Weinberg ~ \$200

In Memory of Anargyros Kazis
Mrs. Penelope Kazis & Family ~ \$100

In Memory of Sophocles Kotsiopoulos
Philip & Mary Kotsis ~ \$200

In Memory of Sophocles Kotsiopoulos
Mrs. Sultana Kotsiopoulos
& Mr. Chris Kotsiopoulos ~ \$100

In Memory of Parents of Soteri Arvanitidis
Philoptochos Society ~ \$100

In Memory of James & Jon Mihos
Mrs. Marlene Mihos ~ \$100

In Memory of Panagiota Coustoumbou
Mrs. Marlene Mihos ~ \$50

In Memory of Panagiota Coustoumbou
Mrs. Stella Beal ~ \$50

Donation

Adult Basketball League ~ \$500

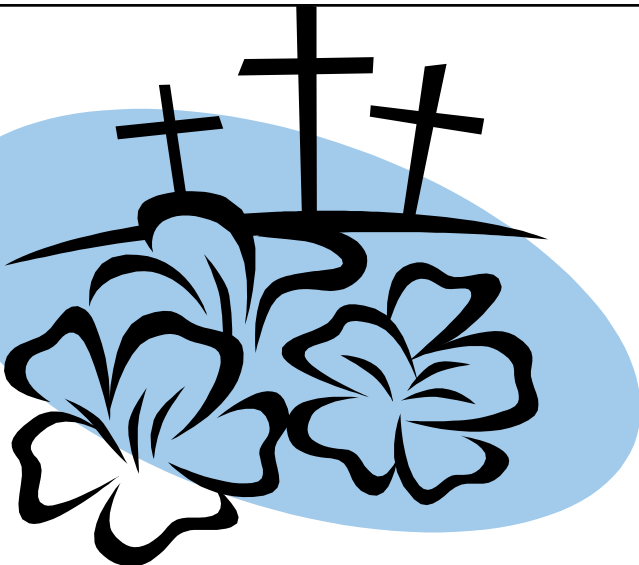
Donation

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Ntakoulas ~ \$100

Donation of flowers

for the Icon of the Presentation of Christ
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsitopoulos ~ \$60

Note: The special collection made towards the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund and forwarded to the Metropolis came to ~ \$1,550



Philoptochos News & Views

Pot Luck Supper & Meeting

Our Pot Luck supper & meeting was held on Thursday, February 2nd 2010. I like to thank Ethel Savas and Penny Kazis for chairing the event. Thank you all for attending the meeting.

Koliva

For 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.

Vesper Service Reception

On the Eve of the Annunciation (Wednesday, March 24, 2010) there will be Vesper Service at our church at 7:00 PM. A reception hosted by the Philoptochos will follow.

Visit to Shut ~ Ins

The Ladies Philoptochos will be making their annual Easter visits to our seniors who are unable to get out from their homes. If you would like to add a name to our list, please contact our chairlady Sultana Kotsiopoulos (508) 584~ 8838 with the information.

Easter Preparations

Egg Coloring & Decorating ~ Thursday, April 1st, 2010
All night church vigil ~ Holy Thursday evening, April 1st
following church services, all are welcomed.
Epitaphios Preparations ~ Friday, April 2nd at 9:00 AM

Up Coming Dates to Remember !!!

March 2nd ~ Meeting at 7 PM
April 6th ~ Meeting at 7 PM
May 4th ~ Meeting at 7PM

UP COMING DATE TO REMEMBER!!!

Saturday, May 22, 2010
Philoptochos One Day Food Festival

The Philoptochos Society is planning their 1st Annual Food Festival

Details to follow!!



Tsourekia & Koulouria

Easter Baskets

Greek Pastries

**Annual Philoptochos
Palm Sunday
Bake Sale
Sunday, March 28, 2010**

To order Tsourekia & Koulouria in advance please call

Sophia Terzakis
(508) 587 ~ 9297

Haido Barbas
(508) 584 ~ 2560

Church News

Greek Independence Day Flag Raising Celebration

Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2010

Place: City Hall

Time: 4:00 PM ~ 4:30 PM

**ΤΗ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ 25 ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ @ 4:00 ΣΤΟ ΔΗΜΑΡΧΕΙΟ ΤΟΥ BROCKTON ΘΑ ΑΝΑΡΤΗΘΕΙ
Η ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΣΗΜΑΙΑ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΠΕΤΕΙΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΘΝΙΚΗΣ ΜΑΣ ΠΑΛΙΓΓΕΝΕΣΙΑΣ.
ΣΤΗ ΤΕΛΕΤΗ ΑΥΤΗ ΠΡΟΣΚΑΛΟΥΝΤΑΙ ΟΛΟΙ ΟΙ ΕΝΟΡΙΤΕΣ ΜΑΣ**

**The Honorable Linda Balzotti
Mayor of the City of Brockton
Is Hosting The
Greek Independence Day Celebration
Brockton City Hall
45 School Street**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2010
4:00 – 4:30 PM**

EVERYONE IS INVITED!!

**All children should be dressed in costumes or blue and white outfits.
All children should be at city hall by 3:45 PM**

CHURCH WEB SITE/ MONTHLY BULLETIN

We are very pleased to tell everyone that our church, website annunciationbrockton.org, has been updated. In addition to viewing the monthly bulletin online you will have access to many additional resources. Please visit the site as it will continue to provide everyone with up to date information throughout the year.

You will now have a choice of collecting your monthly bulletin in the church lounge, via the web site, or the default will be bulk mail. There are two sign up sheets in the lounge for you to place your name for your designation . Again, if you make no selection it will still be mailed to you.

CHURCH BOOKSTORE/LIBRARY

The Annunciation Church's Bookstore/Library Committee is proud to announce our coming opening during Great Lent. The Bookstore is located in the foyer, just outside the Narthex and Parish Lounge. In addition to books, there will be a variety of items from which to select, such as icons, censers, incense, children's items, and other items of interest. We will eventually be set-up to lend materials and take orders, as well. Some of the literature that will be available is as follows:

Introduction to the Orthodox Church

The Orthodox Church

All Ye Saints

Dictionary of Orthodoxy

Holy Week service books, and several others

We look forward to sharing this new treasure with you. Please stop by and check us out. More information will follow in upcoming bulletins.

YOUTH BASKETBALL

STEVE PASSIAS ~ passias@comcast.net

Mondays @ 4-6 pm ~ Ages 15-18

GREEK DANCE GROUP

Jon & Penny Buterbaugh ~ 508-230-3923 ~ pnasios@nasiosandgalloway.com

The Dancers performed beautifully at this year's Have a Heart Luncheon. Congratulations!!

Upcoming practices are as follows:

**March 7th, March 21st, April 11th and April 18th
(Jr. and Sr. dancers)**

We are also holding a costume fundraiser throughout Great Lent and will be selling beautifully decorated CANDLES FOR PASCHA during Coffee Hour through the month of March. 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.

HOPE / JOY

HELLENIC ORTHODOX PRIMARY EDUCATION / JUNIOR ORTHODOX YOUTH

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday, **March 13th - FAMILY DISTRICT RETREAT** 9:30am – 2pm
(see enclosed flier)

Friday, **March 26th** – Palm Making

Friday, **April 9th** – Pizza Party / Movie Night

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday, **March 6th** – Paint Day & Dave N Busters Trip & Meeting
Saturday, **March 13th** – **FAMILY DISTRICT RETREAT** 9:30am – 2pm
(see enclosed flier)
Sunday, **April 18th** – Scholarship Luncheon

JUNIOR CHOIR

Corrine Mason and Heidi Mason ~ heidim50@aol.com

Junior Choir rehearsals are now to be held
every Sunday morning @ 10:45 – 11:15 am.
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

March	7	Sunday of the Holy Cross – Students remain in church
	26	Friday Night Palm Making
	27	Saturday of Lazarus
	28	Palm Sunday – Family Worship
April	2	Great and Holy Friday (school excuse letters forthcoming)
	4	Pascha / Family worship
	18	Family Worship
May	16	Sunday School Graduation
	23	Pentecost

Sunday School Classes: **March 14 and 21 , April 11 and 25, May 2 and 9.**

Email us @ AnnunciationYMT@yahoo.com