March 2013

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Due Date for April Bulletin
March 15, 2013
### PARISH COUNCIL

**Executive Board**
- John Karolemeas, President
- Stephen Passias, 1st Vice President Administration
- John Papadopoulos, Vice President of House & Grounds
- Ethel Savas, Treasurer
- Nicholas Alexiou, Assistant Treasurer
- Joanna Stellakis, Secretary

**Members of the Board**
- Jon Buterbaugh, Jr.
- George P. Costas
- Charles Efremides
- Tulla Giannaros
- Steve Lainas
- Thomas A. Sedell
- Katerina Tsiantoulas
- Philip Tsionis
- Avraam Vardaxis

### PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

**Executive Board**
- Despina Papadopoulos, President
- Heido Barbas, 1st Vice President
- Penny Kazis, 2nd Vice President
- Ethel Savas, Recording Secretary
- Tina Boutas, Corresponding Secretary
- Lori Stasiewski, Treasurer
- Liz Karolemeas, Assistant Treasurer

**Members of the Board**
- Peggy Cuilla
- Maria Fitopoulos
- Helen Holevas
- Ann Marie Horne
- Soutiana Kotsiopoulos
- Kelly Scappaticci
- Eleni Stamboulidis
- Vasiliki Syrniotis
- Sophia Terzakis
- Tina Tsarhopoulos

### EMAILS

- Father Anthony       priest@annunciationbrockton.org
- Demetra Orfanos, office mgr office@annunciationbrockton.org

### OTHER MINISTRIES

- **Sunday School**
  - Tina Boutas
  - Dina Coon
  - Rhoda Economos

- **Greek School**
  - Tina Boutas
  - Sofia Trikalas
  - Konstantinio Goudanas

- **GOYA**
  - Jon Buterbaugh

- **Jr. GOYA**
  - Suzanne Barrus

- **JOY & HOPE**
  - Irena Mroz
  - Paula Tsitsopoulous

- **Adult Greek Classes**
  - Arthur Krikis

- **Koliva**
  - Ladies Philoptochos

- **Coffee Hour**
  - Bertha Weinberg

- **Shut-In Visitations**
  - Soutiana Kotsiopoulos

- **Basketball**
  - Stephen Passias

- **Dance Group**
  - Jon & Penny Buterbaugh

- **Junior Choir**
  - Corinne & Heidi Mason

- **Oratorical Festival**
  - Rhoda Economos

- **Bookstore**
  - Joanna Stellakis, Stephen Savas, Linda Sakelaris Poole
The Sacrament of Penance and Confession of Sins

Penance is a sacramental act through which we are reconciled with God when sin has severed our relationship with Him and the Church. The Sacrament of Penance takes us back to our Baptism when we were cleansed of our sins and we became members of the Body of Christ, the Church. In the Tradition of the Holy Orthodox Church, Penance is indeed considered a return to our baptism when we were initiated into the fullness of life in communion with God.

There are three conditions that make the Sacrament of Penance a living and life-giving experience for the person seeking to re-establish full communion with God through His Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for the expiation of our sins. The first condition is Repentance, or Contrition, that is, feeling sorrow for our sins. Repentance must come from the depths of our hearts. Without the true feeling of sorrow, Penance is no more than a mere ritual formality, and indeed hypocrisy. The second condition is Confession, an open and full acknowledgment of our sins. “First declare your iniquities and you will be justified” (Isaiah 43:26). To be worthy of God’s forgiveness, we must confess our mistakes sincerely and from the heart with love and with faith. It is a grave (mortal) sin when we knowingly hide a sin and refuse to confess it.

The third condition of the Sacrament of Confession is the Absolution through which the penitent receives God’s forgiveness through Christ and His successors on earth, the priests. The absolution may involve what is often called an act of penance as reparation for sins committed. The act or acts of penance designated by the Church depends on the number and severity of the sins. The penitent must accept and fulfill the assigned acts of penance willingly and cheerfully, not as a punishment but as a way of rebuilding one’s spiritual and moral life, which was weakened by sin. Acts of penance may include a longer period of daily prayer, fasting, clearly understood and focused sacrifices, defined works of charity, and in the case of very grave sins, suspension of Holy Communion for a period of time.

Looking at the Sacrament of Penance as a journey from a state of broken relationship with God caused by sin to a state of reconciliation of the penitent with God and his fellow human beings, the last and ultimate act of the penitent is the reception of Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which He offered to all humanity for all times to cleanse us from our sins and to restore our broken relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Let us in the coming weeks reflect on our relationship with Almighty God and our brothers and sisters in Christ, and come forward and confess our sins humbly and with repentance so that we may be reconciled with God and each other. Then we can worthily receive Him in the Blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion during Holy Week and Pascha.

“...If you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

(Matt. 5:23-24)
SPIRITUAL WISDOM

The following is taken from *The Lenten Spring* by Fr. Thomas Hopko, SVS Press 1983.

**O Lord and Master of My Life**

The lenten prayer par excellence in the Orthodox Church is the prayer of St. Ephraim of Syria. It is chanted at every lenten service, sometimes more than once. For many people, the spirit of Lent, the very breath of the lenten spring, is contained in this brief prayer.

*O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power and idle talk; But grant rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant. Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgression and not judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The prayer of St. Ephraim is translated into English in many different ways. Almost all mistranslate the first sentence, as we have quoted above. The prayer does not say “take from me” the spirit of sloth. It says rather “do not give to me.” This small point is an important one. It reminds us that everything is from God, good things and bad. It underscores the critical fact that even the evil spirits, and not only the good, are in God’s hands. It emphasizes the truth that God is the God of everything: light and darkness, good and evil, angels and devils, life and death. All things are in God’s hands, and He is the Lord over all.

**My Soul, My Soul – Arise!**

The lenten season is a time for labor and effort. It is a season when we strive to energize ourselves, to wake ourselves up, to motivate ourselves to spiritual feats. It is a time when we declare a conscious struggle against sloth, and beg the Lord not to give us this evil spirit, but to take it from us when we are caught in its snares.

*My soul, my soul – arise! Why are you sleeping? The end is at hand; destruction hangs over you. Come again to your senses that you may be spared by Christ our God, who is everywhere, filling all things.*

- Kontakion of the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

...A person who loves the Lord and lives with Him will never be idle. He will always be working. He will never be spiritually weary in well-doing, for he does not labor by his own efforts and powers but by the grace and strength of his Master. Thus, a person who is spiritually exhausted is the gravest of sinners...

During Great Lent we work to wake up and to overcome our weariness. We labor to come alive and to conquer our laziness. We strive to come to our senses and to displace the spirit of sloth with the uncreated energies of God which are given through His Spirit to those who love Him...

**PREPARING FOR PRESANCTIFIED LITURGIES**

Because of the heightened spiritual focus during Great Lent, many of the faithful choose to receive Holy Communion at the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.

For those who plan on receiving at the Wednesday evening liturgies, it is permissible to have breakfast and a light noontime meal, and then fast from all food and drink until the liturgy. For growing children, it may be necessary to offer a lenten snack after school to hold them (nuts, peanut butter, fruit, etc.). The Church allows this through compassion for those who work or study during the week. Needless to say, whether one is fasting strictly or not during Lent, any meals taken on the day one will commune at a Presanctified Liturgy should be strictly Lenten.

For more detailed information on the Lenten fast, please see the specific bulletin entry in this edition.

*“The sun knows the time of its setting. You establish darkness and it is night. How great are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have wrought them all.”*
Lenten Suppers

As we did last year – which was well-received – we will continue with the Lenten Suppers following each Wednesday evening liturgy, sponsored by various parish organizations/ministries. We will begin with the Youth Ministry Team on the first Wednesday of Great Lent, 3/20, followed by the Philoptochos on 3/27, and the Parish Council on 4/3. The three remaining Wednesdays of April are available for the Choir, Sunday & Greek Schools, or other organizations to participate.

All that is required for the sponsoring group is to coordinate an adequate amount of Lenten food and beverages. Please refer to the Lenten fasting guidelines in this edition for guidance in meal coordination.
Having already entered Great Lent, the Church once again asks us to rededicate ourselves to meet the challenges of this life, striving for the heavenly and incorruptible crown of virtue, which our Lord will grant us. Christ Himself cleared the path towards our deification by taking on human nature through His ineffable mercy, although He Himself was God! This good news serves as the basis of the Gospel, and finds completion in our Lord’s triumphant Resurrection.

Amidst this month's many holy services, there shines a truly special holiday that marks our faith and the history of the Greek people. On March 25th, the Christian world celebrates the Annunciation of the Theotokos, and the Greek nation celebrates its independence from four centuries under the Ottoman yoke. This double holiday affords us the opportunity to consider the meaning and concept of Freedom.

The words of the hymnographer, “Wherever God wills, the order of nature is defeated…” attempt to illustrate the important role of freedom in our faith. The search for this very freedom has heavily colored Greek history and culture from its inception.

The message of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary may have appeared irrational to human ears, but it became and remains good tidings for all mankind. These news were crucial and decisive – especially for the ever uneasy Greek people. God Himself accepts to take on the nature of his creation, for the sole sake of His manic love for the human race. This ecstatic love will lead Him to accept the most disgraceful of deaths, in order to ensure freedom (which through Christ was bestowed upon human nature) from the laws of nature and biological order of life, through His life-giving Resurrection!

With this in mind, let us complete the fast of Great Lent all together, so we can reach the joy of the Resurrection. In our common struggle, let us all place the changing of our mode of existence from the individual to the personal as our chief goal!

Fr. Cleopas Strongylis

Food for Thought

Often, when children play in competitive games, one will call out “that’s a do over!” Haven’t we all wished for that chance to undo the past and start over? Repentance offers us this new beginning.

When we fall away from God, we have removed ourselves from His communion – with Him and with other Christians. We have excommunicated ourselves. To re-enter communion with God is the on-going activity of all Christians. We fall away daily in some way or another. No one is exempt.

We are telling God that we have changed our mind about our past direction and want to be back in communion with him. The Greek work for repentance, metanoia, implies a very deep change in the way we see ourselves, our world, and our relationship to God. To change our mind in repentance is the starting point in our Lenten journey. We leave behind regret as we move toward hope.

Repentance is not a single action but an attitude, a frame of mind. Think back over your life of things which you regret having said or done – hurtful, inconsiderate, selfish, deceitful. Think also of those things which you have done which may not have directly affected others, but which you know to be wrong according to the teachings of the Church. Bring them to mind as if they were occurring right now. Think of how it would have been if you had acted differently.

Take this regret and turn it into repentance. Acknowledge that you have offended another person or the Church, and in doing so you have offended God. If we are to be forgiven by God, He requires of us that we also forgive one another. For many of us, this is the most difficult aspect of repentance and confession. Yet we say it each time we pray the Lord’s Prayer, “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

Just as God’s love for us is personal, so must ours be for Him. As the Christian grows from child to adult, his or her personal response to God becomes crucial. This personal response is the act of confession.

From: “Our Lenten Journey: Preparing for the Passion & Resurrection of our Lord,” Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.
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<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fr. Anthony on vacation through 3/11</td>
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<td>Του Άσοτου</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare-last day of meat)</td>
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<td>Parish Council 6 pm</td>
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<td>Της Άποκρεω (visiting priest)</td>
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<td>1st OPA gathering 2 - 4 pm</td>
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<td>Small Vespers 7 pm followed by adult relig. ed.</td>
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<td>PURE MON (LENΤ BEGINS) Orhros 10 am</td>
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<td>Gr. Compline w/2nd part of Gr. Canon 7 pm</td>
<td>9th Hour-5:15 pm, Presanctified Lit. 5:30 pm, followed by Lenten supper</td>
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<td>ΚΑΘΩΡΑ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ</td>
<td>Gr. Compline w/4th part of Gr. Canon 7 pm</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Vespers of Forgiveness—5 pm</td>
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<td>Gr. Vespers after supper</td>
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<td>Sunday of Orthodoxy Της Ορθοδοξίας Gr. Vespers of the Annunciation - 7 pm</td>
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<td>Annunciation of Theotokos Orhros &amp; Lit. PARISH FEAST</td>
<td>9th Hour-5:15 pm, Presanctified Lit. 5:30 pm, followed by Lenten supper</td>
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<td>Του Αγ. Γρηγορίου του του Πάλαμα</td>
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<td>Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas</td>
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Also, please refer to the bulletin entries regarding Great Lent for further guidance on the Fast.

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SACRAMENTS, DONATIONS

BAPTISMS
2/24 Dimitrios, son of E. Russell and Isabel Eonas; godparents, Nicole and Ana Inguanti.

FUNERALS
2/12 Chris Tsaganis
2/19 Ourania Sarantos

DONATIONS
- $500 toward cleaning and repair of chandeliers, anonymous
- Decoration of the Icon of Panayia, First Salutations, Stephen Savas
- Alexander Stratoudakis, $60

MEMORIAL DONATIONS
- Thomas, Theodora, & Fotini Psilekaris, $200, in memory of Demetrios & Ourania Psilekaris
- Christy P. Mihos, $200, in memory of Marie Mihos
- Christos & Elizabeth Tsianakas & Family, $500, in memory of Efthalia Mylonas
- Frank & Madeline Mylonas, $500, in memory of Efthalia Mylonas
- Mr. & Mrs. John Giannenakis, $100, in memory of Efthalia Mylonas
- Steve & Katerina Angelis & Family, $100, in memory of Efthalia Mylonas
- Eleni & Arthur Karaliolios, $50, in memory of Efthalia Mylonas
- In memory of Christos Tsaganis, $1,970
- Annunciation Ladies Philoptochos, $1,000, in memory of Christos Tsaganis
- The Epstein & Rubenstein Families of Horizon Beverage Company, $1,000, in memory of Christos Tsaganis
- Nikoletta & Maria Kallis, $20, in memory of Madeline Richwein, mother of Mrs. Adrienne Spyropoulos
- In memory of Ourania Sarantos, $130

ROOF REPAIR DONATIONS
- Mr. & Mrs. Philip Tsionis, $1,000
- Fotine Boutas, $1,000
- Anastacia G. Ellard, $1,000
- Nick & Samira Giannaros, $1,000

Open to me the gates of repentance, O Giver of Life, for my soul rises early to pray toward your holy temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled. But in Your compassion, purify me by the loving kindness of Your mercy. - from Sunday matins of the Triodion period
Η Ιερά Αρχιεπισκοπή Αμερικής Εκτιμέει ότι $200,000 δολάρια προς τον Οργανισμό IOCC για την Θέρμανση Κοινωνικών Ιδρυμάτων στην Ελλάδα

7 Φεβρουαρίου 2013

ΝΕΑ ΥΟΡΚΗ – Η Ελληνική Ορθόδοξη Αρχιεπισκοπή Αμερικής εκτιμά ότι ο διαμεσολαβητής του Άγιου Σπυρίδων (IOCC) για την Ελλάδα θα επιδεικνύει την μεταβλητικότητα της επίτευξης της στήριξης της Ελλάδας. Η ιδιότητα της Ελλάδας στον Διεθνή Οργανισμό Χριστιανικής Φιλολογίας (IOCC) θα παρατηρηθεί μετά την παραμορφωτική πλήρη μεταβλητικότητα της Ελλάδας.

Πράγματι, η Ελληνική Ορθόδοξη Αρχιεπισκοπή Αμερικής υποστηρίζει την προσπάθεια του IOCC για την θέρμανση της Ελλάδας. Η Ελληνική Ορθόδοξη Αρχιεπισκοπή Αμερικής θα επιβεβαιώσει την προσωπική στήριξη της στα συμπεράσματα του IOCC.

Δήλωσε τής Αύγου Θεοτόκης Παναγίτης του Οικουμενικού Πατριάρχου κ.κ. Βαρθολομαίοι Πιστικής Επί της Ανακοίνωσης της παρατήρησης του Πάπα Ρώμης Βενεδίκτου IΣΤ'

11 Φεβρουαρίου 2013

Με λόγον επιλεγμένη την άποψη της Αύγου Θεοτόκης του Πάπα Βενεδίκτου να παρατηρήσει την θέρμανση της Ελλάδας. Η επί της Ανακοίνωσης της παρατήρησης του Πάπα Ρώμης Βενεδίκτου IΣΤ'

Το Πάπα Βενεδίκτος έβαλε ένα μετάλλημα της Επίσκεψης της επόμενης εβδομάδας της Επίσκεψη της υποκριτερίγαι, και έδωσε ως μέτρα για την θέρμανση της Ελλάδας.

Το συγγράμμα το Ελληνικό συνάδελφος της Ελλάδας, ο Πάπας Βενεδίκτος έδωσε ως μέτρα για την θέρμανση της Ελλάδας.

Το συγγράμμα το Ελληνικό συνάδελφος της Ελλάδας, ο Πάπας Βενεδίκτος έδωσε ως μέτρα για την θέρμανση της Ελλάδας.
Dear families and friends of Annunciation’s Greek School,

As we are in the middle of the month of February, it can be challenging to get through the cold, wintery days. Whenever we find ourselves feeling the winter blues, we should remind ourselves of the Greek expression "Ο Φλεβάρης κι αν φλεβίσει, καλοκαίρι θα μυρίσει." Even if February is cold, spring is around the corner.

At this time in Greece, almond trees are in bloom and spring is literally around the corner, but for us living in Massachusetts we will have to wait a little while longer! :) Yet, despite the snow and the cold, it is with much joy to see that the students of the Greek School are educationally “blooming” as this is the time of year when the children are really showing their grasp on the material and everything is coming together.

### Second Graders
- All students are working in pairs and practicing reading skills every Saturday.
- Using the Papaloizos text material, second-graders learn how to use the Greek oral and written language.
- Children enjoy childhood activities while being exposed to the Greek Language and Culture.
- Moreover, supplemental activities such as graphic organizers of Greek Traditional Foods, watching educational movies in Greek, are a great source in order to enrich the lessons.
- Second Grade reached Lesson 12 and children are working in

### Third Graders
- Third grade students are reading stories from the Papaloizos books. To reinforce comprehension skills, the stories lend to teaching realism, drawing conclusions and story structure. We have reached lesson 14.
- Every Saturday students have a spelling test, so that we can see the development of their written language.
- This month, in Grammar students are taught the use and form of Present Continuous and Past Simple.

### Ancient Greek History
- In the middle of this month, third graders started to learn about Ancient Greek History. From now on, the last thirty minutes of our Greek lesson will be devoted to Greek Mythology.
- It is very significant for the students at this grade to know about the beliefs of one of the oldest civilizations in the world.
- Through videos and discussions, we hope third grade students will acquire a glimpse of an older world, from which our ancestors came.

### Sixth Graders
- These two months after the Christmas break have been busy months.
- We continued to work on the grammatical structure of a sentence and form the plural of all three genders in all cases.
- We also continued to enrich vocabulary in real-life situations, watching educational videos.
- We spent the past month working on our vocabulary and grammar through worksheets.
- In Grammar we conjugated verbs in all tenses and in our next chapter we will learn about the conjunctions.
- In Reading Book, we are discussing the attractions of Greece and mostly of Athens.

### Reading Tips for Parents
Take turns reading a paragraph or a page then discuss the story in Greek with your child.
Sunday School

Sunday school classes are held following Holy Communion.

March:
- March 3, classes
- March 10, classes
- March 17, classes
- March 24, Sunday of Orthodoxy, classes start at 10:15 a.m.

April:
- April 7, Sunday of the Holy Cross, classes start at 10:15 a.m.
- April 14, family worship
- April 21, classes
- April 28, Palm Sunday/family worship

2013 Calendar of Events

- Annunciation Vespers and Philoptochos Reception Sun, March 24
- Lenten Luncheon Sun, March 31
- Greek Independence Day Parade April 7
- Spring General Assembly Sun, April 14
- 169 Hungry Friends Dinner Thurs, May 9
- Philoptochos Food Festival Sat-Sun, May 18-19
- Sunday School Graduation Sun, May 19
- Greek School Graduation Sun, June 2
- Golf Tournament Mon, July 8
- Summer Picnic Sun, Aug 18
- Annual Food Festival Thurs-Sun, Sep 19-22
- Fall General Assembly Sun, Nov 17
- Parish Council Elections Sun, Dec 8
- Parish Council Oath of Office, Election of Officers Sun, Dec 22

Parish Council Meeting Schedule for 2013

- March 12
- April 9
- May 14
- June 11
- July (no meeting)
- August 13
- September 10
- October 8
- November 12
- December 10

Consecration Albums Still Available

Albums commemorating the Consecration of our Church in 2010 are still available at the Office, particularly for those who made a generous donation. You may pick up your album Mon-Fri, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Orthodox Observer

Be sure and contact the Office if you are not receiving the Orthodox Observer due to an address change so the correct information can be submitted to the Archdiocese.

Remember Your Pledge for 2013!

Please do not forget to submit your 2013 Stewardship obligation.

Stewardships are the greatest source of income for our Church. Contact the Office with any questions.

Υπενθύμιση!

Αγαπητοί Ενορίτες,
Σας παρακαλούμε μη ξεχάσετε να αποτείλετε την ετήσια προσφορά σας για το παρόν (τούτο) το έτος 2013.
Η ετήσια προσφορά σας αποτελεί τη βασικότερη πηγή εισοδήματος για τη συντήρηση και τις καθημερινές ανάγκες της Εκκλησίας μας.
Σας ευχαριστούμε θερμά.
We have Lenten items

- Lenten Service books, others
- Lenten cookbooks

Reasonable prices.

We take donations. Donate extra copies of Lenten books to our Lending Library, for someone else to use this season.

Our Lending collection includes Lives of the Saints, Orthodox history or other details as well. Just sign out.

Free Item Basket
Basket of donated items, service books, prayer books other Orthodox items of interest.

Pocket prayer books, $7, $8

Booklets, $2.50, What Orthodox Christians Believe, about prayer, fasting, confession.

God and You: A Personal Relationship with Christ, $20

Icons, wood and plastic, variety of sizes and prices. Guardian Angels, The Trinity, Saints, Feast Days and more. Tiny folding icons offer privacy.

DVDs, hands-on books for children

Lift and Look, The Creation: Colorful, foam Bible stories, age 0-3, $8.

My First Prayer Book for Toddlers, with simple words for young children.

For Young Adults—What is Life? Why are You Here? What is Your Reason for Living? $20.

We raffle store items, sign up!

We also have gift certificates to the Bookstore, which can be a nice gift for a loved one.

Our Lending collection includes Lives of the Saints, Orthodox history or other details as well. Just sign out.

Free Item Basket
Basket of donated items, service books, prayer books other Orthodox items of interest.

Pocket prayer books, $7, $8

Booklets, $2.50, What Orthodox Christians Believe, about prayer, fasting, confession.

God and You: A Personal Relationship with Christ, $20

Icons, wood and plastic, variety of sizes and prices. Guardian Angels, The Trinity, Saints, Feast Days and more. Tiny folding icons offer privacy.

The Father is my hope; the Son is my refuge; the Holy Spirit is my protector. O All-holy Trinity, glory to thee.”

Come and visit our store every Sunday after Church
Annunciationbrockton.bookstore@gmail.com
Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos
Third Annual

**Lenten Retreat for Women**

Fri-Sat, March 29-30, 2013
St. Methodios Retreat House
Contoocook, NH

Suggested Donation $50
Includes one night lodging in the Retreat House, three meals, and Retreat program.

For more information:
508-339-1455, barbaraorlando99@msn.com
617-571-8539, pjcondakes@comcast.net

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**2013 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival**
**Sunday, March 17**

The 2013 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival will be held on March 17 at our Church, in April for our District, in May at the Boston Metropolis, and in June at the Nationals, taking place in the Detroit Michigan Metropolis.

The Junior Division encompasses Grades 7-9 and the Senior Division includes Grades 10-12.

We will meet each Sunday after Divine Liturgy in the lounge area of our Church, to record, practice, and improve our speeches for each festival.

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a series of public speaking programs whose purpose is to give young people an opportunity to learn and speak about their beliefs, their Church, and their heritage. This stimulates enthusiasm and strengthens their understanding and appreciation about their identities as Greek Orthodox Christians.
GOYA News

- Our monthly meeting for March will be on March 8. This will be a combined meeting and Fun Night. A reminder will be sent out to all GOYANs.

- New members are always welcome. Members must be in grades 6-12.

- We had a great time at our dance. Our fellow GOYANs from St. Catherine’s church helped make our church dance fun.

- In April we will be going to the Greater Boston Food Bank. It will be on April 17 from 1-3pm. We will need parents/drivers to bring us there and back. Parents please let Jon or Suzanne know of your availability to help out.

- We hope to have a Lenten Lock-in the weekend before Easter. Last year we had a great turnout! We are hoping for the same this year.

GOYANs in the News

During his February vacation, Andreas Evangelatos and a team of 12 peers who are members of Infinity Volunteers traveled to the small village of Chevuru located in southeast India. Here they teamed up with the Association of Relief Volunteers (ARV), to take part in a unique home-building project for some of India’s poorest people – the Dalits, or ‘untouchables’ as they are commonly referred to. They worked for 12 days side by side with the local families to help with the construction of 40 homes. The project Andreas assisted with was featured by CNN at the link below:


Details of his trip to India are documented in the blog at www.indiainfinityvolunteers.blogspot.com
YOUTH NEWS

Youth Dancing Group

Our Upcoming practices are scheduled on the following Sundays, following the Divine Liturgy:

March 10
March 17

SAVE THE DATE – the Greek Independence Day parade is on Sunday, April 7, 2013!

As always, all children of our parish, ages 4-18, are welcome to join us!

JOY–HOPE

Thank you to all who participated in our Annual Have A Heart Luncheon. All the children did such a wonderful job! Details will follow in the next bulletin. We will also contact Joy and Hope members about our March meeting.
Please join us

. . . . . for the beginning of the OPA Group. This group will be open to the seniors and all members of our community. We will be organizing a time to get together and socialize on a monthly basis. We are looking for your suggestions to create an active agenda.

Παρακαλω ελατε

. . . . . στη συναντηση μας για την εναρξη του ΟΠΑ Συμπλεγμα. Καλουμε τους συνταξιούχους και ολα τα μελη της κοινοτητας μας να απολαυσουμε μαζι ενα απογευμα.

Θα θελαμε τη βοηθεια σας για να δημιουργησετε αυτο το συλλογο με δραστηριοτητες που σας αρεσουν.
Brockton Mayor Linda M. Balzotti invites you to a ceremony in honor of

Greek Independence Day
At City Hall Plaza
On Monday, March 25 at 3:30 p.m.
All Children Are Welcome!

Mayor’s Office, 508-580-7123
45 School Street, Brockton, MA

...and Save the Date:

Annual Greek Independence Day Parade
Sunday, April 7 at 1 p.m. in Boston
We are now reserving space in our monthly bulletin for advertising purposes in order to defer from the high costs of publishing. You can now advertise your business for a small cost.

The following are the advertising costs

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Space is limited and will be available “On a First Come, First Serve Basis.”

The deadline for including your advertisement will be on the 10th of each month.

If you have any questions and are interested in an opportunity that will support our Church, please contact the Church Office.
Christo's
782 Crescent Street
Brockton, Massachusetts 02302
508/588-4200
508/583-6946 FAX