FEBRUARY 2014

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The deadline for the March bulletin is February 15th!

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<td>Θεία Λειτουργία</td>
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## PARISH COUNCIL
### Executive Board
- George Alexis, President
- Joanna Stellakis, Vice President—Administration
- Theodoros Ntakoulas, Vice President—House & Grounds
- Perry Savas, Treasurer
- Nicholas Alexiou, Assistant Treasurer
- Jon Buterbaugh, Secretary

### Members of the Board
- John Karolemeas
- Christos Kotsiopoulos
- John Papadopoulos
- Stephen Passias
- Ethel Savas
- George Terzakis
- Phillip Tsionis
- Avraam Vardaxis

## PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
### Executive Board
- Heido Barbas, President
- Eleni Stamboulidis, 1st Vice President
- Tina Tsarhopoulos, 2nd Vice President
- Pegi Ciulla, Recording Secretary
- Tina Boutas, Corresponding Secretary
- Lori Stasiewski, Treasurer
- Erlinda Anthony, Assistant Treasurer
- Despina Papadopoulos, Advisor

### Members of the Board
- Helen Holevas
- Ann Marie Horne
- Liz Karolemeas
- Penny Kazis
- Ethel Savas
- Sophia Terzakis

## 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
- Konstantinia Goudananas

### GOYA
- Jon Buterbaugh

### Jr. GOYA
- Suzanne Barrus

### JOY & HOPE
- Irena Mroz
- Paula Tsitsopoulos

### Adult Greek Classes
- Arthur Krikis

### OPA! Group
- Pegi Ciulla

### Koliva
- Ladies Philoptochos

### Coffee Hour
- Tina Boutas

### Shut-In Visitations
- Ladies Philoptochos

### Basketball
- Stephen Passias

### Dance Group
- Jon & Penny Buterbaugh

### Junior Choir
- Corinne & Heidi Mason

### Oratorical Festival
- Rhoda Economos

### Bookstore
- Joanna Stellakis
- Linda Sakelaris
- Stephen Savas
- Chris Kotsiopoulos

### Webmaster
- George Theodossiou
- helpdesk@annunciationbrockton.org
An Open Letter to Our Beloved Families

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Since becoming your priest and spiritual father five and one-half years ago, I have come to know many of you and your children very well. There are other families that I have not had the pleasure of getting to know as well, and in some cases, hardly at all – perhaps just a quick greeting while distributing antidoron after liturgy, or passing each other in the coffee hour. In all cases, what I do see in you are parents who are devoted to our church, and to their children’s spiritual, physical, moral, and emotional growth and well-being – the best “recipe” for a healthy Orthodox family unit.

With the amount of dedication and involvement that many of our non-Orthodox parents clearly demonstrate toward their families and the life of our parish, I have many times wondered if conversion to the Orthodox faith has ever been considered. Having said this, I would like to immediately express the fact that Orthodox clergy never pressure or coerce people into conversion, and neither should any member of the Orthodox Church. When meeting with couples that will be marrying, I always make this point very clear – that neither the Orthodox partner, his/her family members, or the priest should ever pressure anyone into conversion. The desire to convert is a highly personal decision, and one that should only be considered for the correct reasons.

What I will state without hesitation, are the multiple benefits of having one faith tradition within a family. A family united in the Orthodox faith would follow the entire Church year together, unified in the observance of the annual cycles of feasting and fasting surrounding all the major holy days and seasons of the year. A fully Orthodox family would uphold the various traditions maintained in the home, with everyone as an active participant. A family with two Orthodox parents would provide a unified effort in spiritually nurturing their children in the Orthodox faith, into which they have been baptized. When both parents are Orthodox, there will be less confusion for the children regarding the religious background of the non-Orthodox parent. And most importantly, a fully Orthodox family would be able to receive the spotless Body and Blood of our Lord together as a family at the Divine Liturgy. These, obviously, are valid reasons that a non-Orthodox parent would consider conversion.

When someone considers converting to the Orthodox Faith, we must be clear that the person’s current denomination, and any other prior denomination to which he/she may have belonged, is not to be shunned or condemned as being heretical. A candidate for conversion should see his/her Christian upbringing as a foundation upon which he/she continually builds. Upon coming into the Orthodox faith, we would state that the convert has now entered into the fullness of the Christian faith – the original Apostolic faith that was given on earth by our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, who is the Head of the Orthodox Church. A simple study of Church history would clearly reveal the uninterrupted life of the Orthodox Church, from the day of Pentecost in 33 AD up to today. As a new Orthodox Christian, a convert would be covered by the “umbrella,” so to speak, of this uninterrupted and pristine faith tradition.

Again, I wish to stress that no one will be pressuring any of our non-Orthodox brethren to convert. Instead, we wish to offer possibilities to consider. If anyone feels they have such a desire, or at least would like to discuss this further, do not hesitate to contact me via phone or e-mail. Please know that the process of conversion is not difficult or complicated, which I can explain further with anyone interested.

May all of you and your children receive the blessings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, during this new calendar year and beyond.

In the love of Christ,

+Fr. Anthony
**SPIRITUAL WISDOM**

**Spiritual Food For Thought**
The following is taken from *The Complete Book of Orthodoxy*, by George W. Grube, Regina Orthodox Press, 2001

**Baptismal Name** – a name of a saint recognized by the Church, given at our Baptism, to signify our entrance into the Church of Christ. In this way we proclaim our belief that the Church is both an earthly organization with members struggling toward salvation, and also a heavenly Church, which will be triumphant for all eternity. Patron saints, then, are guides and intercessors who understand our earthly sorrow as they pray for our pilgrimage to the Lord. Patron saints are those upon whom we call for particular needs so they might intercede before the throne of Almighty God. We ask them to join us in our prayers and assist us in our need, remembering that prayer is always directed to God alone. In some traditions the baptismal name of the first-born is commonly that of the grandparents.

**Commemoration Lists** – the Church has always encouraged the commemoration of the departed in our prayers. It is important to the life of the Church, because of the fact that earthly believers are but a portion of the Church, remembering that those who have reposed are also members. We are therefore obliged to include the departed in the Liturgy at every appropriate opportunity.

It is known that those who have gone on to be with the Lord have appeared to the living to remind them of the great importance of these commemorations. It has always been proper to remember the departed at the Divine Liturgy, and most parishes have lists at the candle stand. These names are commemorated by the priest at the Proskomedia.

**O Heavenly King** – the brief prayer to the Holy Spirit recited or sung before the Divine Liturgy and at other services of the Church. The short invocation asks God’s blessing, and is used in daily prayer, or any special time we need the help of the Holy Spirit. The actual prayer is, “O Heavenly King, the Comforter and Spirit of truth, Who are present everywhere and permeates all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell in us, cleanse us of all sin, and save our souls, O gracious One.”

As we approach the period of the Triodion and the Fast of Great Lent, many of us will begin the process of focusing inward in order to evaluate our spiritual lives. For some, this is a frightening proposition and is avoided as much as possible. Many Orthodox Christians are indifferent and therefore, quite out of touch with their spiritual lives, so Great Lent has little impact on them. Then there are those who are spiritually prudent, who understand the manifold benefits of focusing on their spiritual lives during Great Lent and throughout the year. Whichever category pertains to us, let us pray that we will continue, or attempt to become more spiritually focused during the upcoming Lenten season.

Perhaps a simple way of seeing how healthy our relationship is with God and His holy Church, is by taking a “spiritual quiz.” Let us see where we fit in regarding the following...

1. **When I awaken each morning I always**...
   a) take a shower, get dressed, eat breakfast, and get on with my day.
   b) read the paper, check e-mails, quickly get ready, then fly out the door.
   c) get showered and dressed, say morning prayers, then finish my morning routine.

2. **Between dinner and bedtime I always**...
   a) read or watch television, no matter if I like what’s on or not.
   b) catch up with mail, paperwork, e-mails, the internet, etc.
   c) do some of the above, but make sure to allow time to say prayers before retiring.

3. **Our family’s typical Sunday morning routine is**...
   a) to sleep in and enjoy the day off.
   b) to go to church if we’re not too tired, if we don’t have other important things to do, or just because it feels good to go to church once in a while, even if it means getting there late.
   c) to wake up on time, get ready, and get ourselves to church as early as possible to show our love, respect, obedience, and thanksgiving to God our Creator.

4. **On Christmas Day our family always**...
   a) tries to sleep in, except for the children who can’t wait to open their presents, then we make a special break fast and have a beautiful day together.
   b) decides not to go to church since we try to go on Christmas Eve, or at least the Sunday before.
   c) wakes up and gets ready quickly to go to church to celebrate the Lord’s birth and receive Holy Communion – the greatest gift of all. Then we come home with a sense of joy that keeps the day holy and peaceful.
5. When friends or family begin to gossip, judge, and speak ill of others, I try to...
   a) get all the dirt I can, so I’ll have an even juicier story to tell others.
   b) pretend that I’m not interested so people respect me, but soak it all in just in case I need ammunition at a later
data.
   c) politely point out that none of us are perfect, as the Lord has taught us, and that people could have plenty to
say about us as well, unless of course we think we’re perfect and above reproach.

6. When I hear about charitable giving and other types of good works, I usually...
   a) get disgusted with all those lazy bums out there who are opportunists.
   b) make some small contribution of time or money, just to feel good about myself without overdoing it.
   c) give cheerfully and without fanfare, knowing that this is what the Lord expects of us.

7. When I receive my annual stewardship mailing, my first reaction is...
   a) to say what I say every year – “All this church cares about is money! Those people have a spending problem,
yet they make us feel that there’s a giving problem.”
   b) to get upset with those who are financially comfortable, because I assume that they are not giving their fair
share.
   c) to calculate the most generous gift possible that I can give to the house of God, from which I receive spiritual
nourishment, and which prepares me and my family for eternal life.

8. When I see the Holy Week schedule each year I usually...
   a) say to myself, “Does this guy (the priest) actually think people are going to go to all this stuff? He needs to
learn about the real world!”
   b) begin to pick and choose what to go to; for instance, Holy Friday night this year since we went to the Anastasi
last year, both certainly not both – they’re way too long!
   c) begin planning with my family to make the most of this holiest season of the year, because I can’t see being
anywhere else that week.

9. When I’m about to curse, tell someone off, put someone down, or use that ever-effective cold-shoulder rou-
tine to show people how I feel about them, I stop and...
   a) search my mind for my best material because I’m so good at this.
   b) first look around to see if anyone is watching and listening, so I don’t look bad in front of others.
   c) say the “Jesus Prayer” within me in order to chase the Devil away, who influences me to do and say these
things.

10. When I hear or read about going to Confession I usually say to myself...
    a) “Why should I go? I’ve done nothing wrong – I haven’t murdered anyone or stolen anything. I always try to
be good and mind my own business.”
    b) “God is forgiving, so I can just ask forgiveness every time I say my prayers. I don’t need the priest for that.”
    c) “I want to be cleansed of my sins as the Lord taught us through His Holy Apostles, since I’m not perfect and
sinless as He is. That way, I’m always prepared for the next life.”

    Beloved in Christ, what I’ve offered above is simply a demonstration in being honest with ourselves, in order for each of us to see the real “me” inside. This is what Great Lent is all about. It is the
best time of the liturgical year for coming to terms with who we are spiritually, and subsequently turn-
ing to the Church for her remedies and prescriptions. So now is the time to begin preparing. None of
us take the health of the body lightly; let us be even more prudent and vigilant regarding our souls!

    Wishing you all a blessed Triodion,

    +Fr. Anthony
TRIODION BEGINS 2/9

With Holy Pascha falling on 4/20 this year, the period of the Triodion will commence on 2/9 – the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Triodion period covers the three preparatory weeks before Great Lent, the six weeks of Lent, and Holy Week. Following are traditional fasting guidelines for the first three weeks of the Triodion:

1st Week (2/9-2/15) – no fasting; all foods permitted daily
2nd Week (2/16-2/22) – regular Wednesday & Friday fast
3rd Week (2/23-3/1) – Meatfare Sunday, 2/23 – last day for meat until Pascha; remainder of week – dairy products & eggs permitted daily through Cheesefare Sunday, 3/2*

*Some sources state that fish is also permitted daily during Cheesefare Week. Other sources state that the consumption of fish ends on Meatfare Sunday.

LENTEN SUPPERS

Even though Christmas and Theophany are right behind us, we actually need to begin planning for Great Lent which begins on March 3rd. As has become our tradition, we will again this year offer Lenten suppers after each Wednesday afternoon Presanctified Liturgy, which also includes a short video presentation during the supper. Every year, one of our parish ministries hosts each week’s supper, starting with the Youth Ministry Team on the first Wednesday of Lent, which this year falls on March 5th. The other dates that need a host are as follows: 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, and 4/9.

We would like to invite our Parish Council, Philoptochos, Choir, and our Sunday School together with our Greek School staff and families, and one other parish ministry, to participate as in the past. This needs to be coordinated through the church office, so please call office manager Demetra Orfanos with the desired date. More details will follow next month.

MEETINGS & EVENTS DURING LENT

For planning purposes, we would like to make the following reminder regarding the first week of Great Lent, which is from March 3rd through March 8th. **Because of the particular solemnity of the first week of Great Lent, there can be no meetings or activities of any kind during the day or in the evening.** As we do each year, there will be daily services, mainly in the evening, during the first week of Great Lent. His Eminence has always made this request to his clergy, so as to encourage participation of the faithful as we embark on the soul-saving Lenten journey.

On the subsequent weeks of Great Lent, meetings and activities may only take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, due to the regularly scheduled Lenten services each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of the Fast.

IN APPRECIATION

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Christmas decorating committee, which once again, adorned our holy temple for the Nativity season. The chairperson followed by the committee members are Merri Weinberg, Ona Calogrias, Pegi Ciulla, Ann Langway, and Maria Tsaganis Samson. The committee this year was also assisted by George and Sia Antoniou, Penny Droukas, George Nickandros, and Bertha Weinberg. We appreciate this labor of love offered each year to celebrate our Lord’s birth in the flesh. May God bless all of you!

2014 FLORAL NEEDS

Again this year, we would like to solicit donations for the decoration of the icons for all major feast days of Christ and the Theotokos. This is a blessed way to participate in these major feasts of the Church for the health and well-being of your families, or in blessed memory of a loved one. Please note that the cost of decorating an icon is $60. To sponsor the decoration of one or more of these festal icons, please call the office manager, Demetra Orfanos, directly during the week between 9am-3pm. This cannot be handled on Sundays since the office manager alone will be overseeing these donations. Special floral needs for Great Lent and Holy Week will be posted in the March bulletin. Following is the list for the year:

**Feasts of Christ & the Theotokos**

2/2 – Presentation of Our Lord
3/25 – Annunciation (taken)
5/29 – Ascension
6/8 – Pentecost
8/6 – Transfiguration
8/15 – Dormition of the Theotokos (festal icon-$60, plus an arrangement for large iconostasis icon, price to be determined)
9/8 – Nativity of Theotokos
9/14 – Elevation of the Holy Cross
11/21 – Entrance of the Theotokos
12/25 – Nativity of Our Lord
1/6/2015 – Holy Theophany

We thank all our donors in advance, and ask God’s blessings upon them. Please note that as usual, donors will be acknowledged in the bulletin at the appropriate time.
# FEBRUARY 2014

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<td>The Presentation of Our Lord</td>
<td>Abbreviated Paraklesis 7 pm followed by adult relig. educ.</td>
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<td>Great Vespers 6 pm</td>
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<td>Η Υπάπαντη του Κυρίου</td>
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<td>Sunday of the Publican &amp; Pharisee</td>
<td>St. Haralambos the Priest-Martyr Orthros &amp; Lit.</td>
<td>Small Vespers 7 pm followed by adult relig. educ.</td>
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<td>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</td>
<td>Presidents Day (office closed)</td>
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<td>No Vespers or class</td>
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<td>Saturday of Souls Orthros &amp; Lit.</td>
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<td>Του Άσωτου</td>
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<td>Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare-last day of meat)</td>
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GREEK MESSAGE

Ὁ δὲ Θεός τῆς ἐλπίδος πληρώσαι ύμᾶς πάσης χαρᾶς καί εἰρήνης ἐν τῷ πιστεύειν, εἰς τό περισσεύειν ὑμᾶς ἐν τῇ ἐλπίδι ἐν δυνάμει πνεύματος ἁγίου (Ρωμ. 15:13)

Προσφιλεῖς Ἀδελφοί καί Ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Στὴν ἀρχή ἐνός νέου χρόνου οἱ σκέψεις καί λόγοι πολλῶν εἶναι γεμάτοι μὲ προσδοκία τοῦ μέλλοντος καθὼς τὸ ἡμερολόγιο ἀλλάζει ἀπὸ τὸν ἕναν χρόνο στὸν ἕπος. Η προσδοκία καί οἱ ἐλπίδες συνιστάνται στὸ ὅτι τὸ νέον ἔτος θὰ φέρει νέες ἔμπειρες, συναρπαστικὲς εὐκαιρίες καὶ εὐλογίες ἄνευς, εὐτυχίας καί ἀσφαλείας. Γιὰ ὁρίσμονος, τὴν εὐχή «καλὴ χρονιά» ἀκολουθοῦν ἑλπίδες ὅτι ἡ νέα αὐτὴ χρονιὰ θὰ εἶναι ἀκόμη καλήτερη.

Ὡς Ωρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί, καθοδηγούμεθα ἀπὸ τοῦς λόγους τοῦ μεγάλου Ἀποστόλου Παύλου γιὰ νὰ γνωρίσουμε τὴν ἀληθινὴ πηγὴ τῆς ἐλπίδος ἡ ὁποία πρέπει νὰ γεμίζῃ τὴν καρδιά καὶ τὸν νοῦν μας. Ἡ διαρκὴς ἐλπίδα ἢ ὁποῖα προέρχεται ἀπὸ τὸν Ἁγίον Πνεύμα ἢ ὁποῖα προέρχεται ἀπὸ τὸν Θεόν ἢ ὁποῖα προέρχεται ἀπὸ τὸν Θεόν εἶναι τὸ ἀποτέλεσμα τῆς πίστεως. Εἴμεθα χαροῦμεν καὶ γαληνοὶ καὶ ἐλπίζουμε στὴν δύναμη καὶ ἐπανέκριση νὰ προσφέρουμε διακονία ἐλπίδος στοὺς συνανθρώπους μας. Κάθε χρόνο, τὸν μήνα Ἰανουάριο, ὑπὸ τὴν ἡγεσία τῆς Ἐθνικῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος Κυριῶν καὶ τῶν ἐνοριακῶν παραρτημάτων αὐτῆς, καλούμετας νὰ προσφέρουμε εἰδικὴ εἰσφορὰ στὴν Ἀκαδημία Ἁγίου Βασιλείου. Κάθε χρόνο, τὸν μήνα Ἰανουάριο, ὑπὸ τὴν ἡγεσία τῆς Ἐθνικῆς Φιλοπτώχου Ἀδελφότητος Κυριῶν καὶ τῶν ἐνοριακῶν παραρτημάτων αὐτῆς, καλούμε οἱ ἐπιστολὲς καὶ τὰ θεολογικὰ συγγράμματά της ἀναφέρουν μὲ διάφορα εὑρήματα καὶ ἀρκετὲς ἀρκετὲς ἀρκετὲς ἀρκετὲς ἀσφαλείας καὶ ἀσφαλείας καὶ ἀσφαλείας.
Message from the President

On behalf of Fr. Anthony and the members of the Parish Council, I wish all of you a Happy New Year. A special thank you to the former parish council members George Costas, Charles Efremides, Tulla Giannaros, Steve Lainas, Thomas Sedell, and Katerina Tsiantoulas for their dedication and commitment. Please join me in welcoming and congratulating our new council members Chris Kotsiopoulos, Perry Savas and George Terzakis.

This year will be both exciting and challenging. Exciting because we are starting to formulate ideas and establish a committee to prepare for our church’s 100 year anniversary celebration in 2016. Also as you can see from our monthly bulletin our established parish ministries and committees are busy with their ongoing efforts to support our church and youth. Any parishioner interested in helping are welcome. We encourage you to consider joining by contacting the church office. Our challenge will be to increase our income while not exceeding our projected expenses. We are considering some additional fundraisers for this year and continue to explore methods using energy efficient technology to help reduce costs and preserve the environment. Although the new roof is completed, we are continuing our effort with the roof replacement fund to help reduce our current loan. We thank all of our 2013 donors and ask those that have not yet contributed to please consider making a monetary donation at this time.

Sincerely,

George Alexis
Parish Council President

2014 Calendar of Events

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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have a Heart Luncheon</td>
<td>Sun, Feb. 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenten Luncheon</td>
<td>Sun, Mar. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annunciation Vespers &amp; Philoptochos Reception</td>
<td>Mon, Mar. 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Day Parade</td>
<td>Sun, Apr. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring General Assembly</td>
<td>Sun, May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182 Hungry Friends Dinner</td>
<td>Thu, May 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philoptochos Food Festival</td>
<td>Sat, May 17 &amp; Sun, May 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School Graduation</td>
<td>Sun, May 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Musical Concert</td>
<td>Sat, May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek School Graduation</td>
<td>Sun, Jun. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Food Festival</td>
<td>Thu, Sep. 18 through Sun, Sep. 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall General Assembly</td>
<td>Sun, Nov. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Elections</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Oath of Office &amp; Election of Officers</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 21</td>
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2014 Parish Council Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>January 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>July (no meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>February 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>August 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>March 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>September 9</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>April 8</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>October 14</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>May 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>November 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>June 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>December 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PARISHIONERS CAN MAKE DONATIONS USING OUR WEBSITE!

Our Online Bill Pay option works like this:

- Go to our church website at http://www.annunciationbrockton.org
- Scroll down the home page.
- Select (left click) one of the 4 Bill Pay options listed and follow links for more information and options.

You can fulfill your Stewardship or make other payments by credit card, including Roof Donations. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office for assistance.
SACRAMENTS & DONATIONS

BAPTISMS
12/15 - Noah, son of Michael and Emily Blake; sponsors, Krystal and Katia Babalas
1/19 – Sakellarios, son of Michael and Eftihia Vallas; sponsors, Dimitris Ginis and Eftihia Milatos

FUNERALS
12/28 – Christy Karr
12/31 – Garifalia Kotsiopoulos
1/9 – Ambrosios Lymberopoulos
1/20 – Zaharias Karantonakis (Athens, Greece)

DONATIONS
The Demoulas Foundation, $5,000
Ilias & Christine Potsis, $300, for the Areti Potsis Scholarship
Irakli Savas, $1,000, for the Savas Family Trust
Lillian Mavrelion, $100

MEMORIAL DONATIONS
In memory of George Capernaros, $425
In memory of Erifili Tsitsos, $1,240
In memory of Evripidis Dalkouras, $755
In memory of Garifalia Kotsiopoulos, $750
In memory of Ambrosios Lymberopoulos, $1,700
Nikoleta & Maria Kallis, $50, in memory of Nicholas Kallis
Bob, Judy, & Emily Fishman, $50, in memory of Victoria Hatsiopoulos
Jennifer Haumann, $50, in memory of Victoria Hatsiopoulos
Dr. Chris & Nafsika Constantinou, $50, in memory of Soultana & Sophocles Kotsiopoulos
Paul & Tina Tsarhopolous, $100, in memory of Evripidis & Stella Dalkouras
George Panagoulopolous, $100, in memory of Stella Panagoulopolous
William & Anastasia Kopellas, $100, in memory of Aristidis & Euthalia Mylonas
Maria Georgitsis, $100, in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Spyropoulos
Christos & Alexandra Liapopoulos, $1,000, in memory of Antonia Marakoulos
Chris Kotsiopoulos, in memory of Soultana Kotsiopoulos,
a Large Multi-Purpose Smart TV for the Foyer
Ilias & Christine Potsis, a case of altar candles, in memory of Areti Potsis
& for the health and well being of the family

ROOF DONATIONS
Nicholas Spanos, $100
Vasilios & Galatia Tsilis, $100
Vasilios & Sofia Lucas, $500
Nicholas & Laurie Giannaros, $500, in memory of Erifili Tsitsos
Mr. & Mrs. John Papadopoulos & Family, $1,000
Mr. & Mrs. George Stavropoulos, $300
George & Toula Petropoulos, $650
Irene & Rhoda Economos, $500
Patricia Giannakoulis, $100
The James C. Mihos Family, $1,000, in memory of James C. Mihos
The Terzakis Family, $1,000, in memory of Nicholas Terzakis
COMMUNITY NEWS

STEWARDSHIP

2014 is off to a good start - we had our 1st meeting of the year and discussed a number of topics and ideas. We currently have a committee that is comprised of 6 individuals. In order for us to follow-thru with some of our ideas we need the support from our parishioners. This year we would like to double the number of members on our committee. If you have ideas that can benefit our church, community, and parishioners we want to hear about them.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 6th, at 6:00 pm. Please make an effort to join our TEAM!

Book Club

One of the goals of the Stewardship and Book Store Ministries for this year is to establish a Book Club. We will have a table set-up on Sunday, February 9th for anyone who is interested in joining.

Stewardship Pledges

In 2013 we received $110,552 in Stewardship Pledges. Our parish’s total expenses for 2013 were $493,554. Below is a chart that reflects how each unit (individual/family) contributed.

With Christ,
The Stewardship Committee

2013 Stewardship

317 Total Units = $110,552

- 23% Under $249 (72)
- 4% $250 to $499 (158)
- 23% $500 to $999 (75)
- 50% $1000 + (12)
### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Service Cancellations
For those of you who are not on the church’s listserv to receive automatic e-mail announcements, please remember that you can check for service cancellations using the church’s voicemail system. If you call outside of office hours, please listen to the menu and select #5 for the listing of church services for the current week. This message will always be updated regarding cancellations. Please note that a decision may not be made until late afternoon for an evening service, or early morning for a morning service, so please double-check before preparing to leave for church.

#### Technology (IT) News
**Weekly Newsletter**
To receive our eNewsletter, you will need to subscribe to our Parish Listserv, which is easy to do! Type the following link into your internet browser and hit enter:

http://www.goarch.org/listssubscribe?l=BROCKTON

You will then be prompted to enter your First Name, Last Name, and your email address. If you prefer, you can also send an email to our Webmaster, George Theodossiou, at helpdesk@annunciationbrockton.org along with your first and last name, and request to be added.

**Monthly Bulletin**
If you haven’t heard, we can provide you with immediate access to our Parish Monthly Bulletin before it goes out in the mail. We can save on the cost of printing if you decide that receiving the bulletin through email works for you. Just send an email back to us and request to be taken off of the bulletin mailing list.

### PHILOPTOCHOS

#### KOLIVA
If you are planning a memorial service and would like to order koliva, please call the Church office at 508-559-0910 at least one week in advance of the memorial service. The cost is $85 and checks should be made payable to the *Ladies Philoptochos Society*.

#### COFFEE HOUR
If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please contact Tina Boutas at 508-588-8891 or call the Church office at 508-559-0910.

#### Shut-In Visitations
Anyone who would like a visit from the Ladies Philoptochos, please contact the Church office at 508-559-0910.

### Upcoming Events

#### Membership Meeting
February 4, 2014 7:00 PM  
*In the Church Lounge.*

#### Philoptochos Lenten Retreat
March 14-15, 2014  
*Details coming soon!*

#### Annunciation Great Vespers & Reception
March 24, 2014 7:00 PM

### Membership
Please remember to send in your Philoptochos membership ($25.00 annually) for 2013 & 2014!

Thank you!
Thank You!!

On behalf of the Metropolis Philoptochos of Boston and the Annunciation Philoptochos of Brockton, I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all who so generously supported with funds and merchandise the Housewarming Basket project for Homeless Veterans. As an initial step, your generous gifts allowed us to complete twelve (12) large housewarming baskets with assorted household items. The baskets have been delivered to the VA Medical Center in Brockton and distributed to the appropriate veterans preparing for discharge as we continue to prepare more baskets for distribution. You have provided the means for our veterans to ease their transition into the community at large.

Please accept our deepest gratitude for your generosity.

Respectfully,
Eleni Stamboulidis
Philoptochos Vice-President

Σάς Ευχαριστούμε!!

Εκ μερος της Φιλοπτώχου Μητρόπολος Βοστόνης και του Ευαγγελισμού Φιλοπτώχου αδελφότητα του Brockton, θα ήθελα να εκφράσουμε την Ευγνωμοσύνη και την ευχαρίστηση μας σε όλους που τόσο απλόχερα υποστηρίζατε με χρήματα και άντικειμένα το έργο εγκαίνιας σπιτιού για τους άστεγους βετεράνους. Ως ένα πρώτο βήμα, η γενναιόδωρια σας μας επέτρεψε να ολοκληρώσουμε δώδεκα (12) μεγάλα εγκαίνιας σπιτιού καλάθια με διάφορα είδη οικιακής χρήσης. Τα καλάθια έχουν παραδοθεί στο VA ιατρικό κέντρο στο Brockton και διανέμονται στους βετεράνους, καθώς συνεχίζουμε να προετοιμάζουμε περισσότερα καλάθια για διανομή.

Παρακαλώ δεχτείτε τη βαθύτατη ευγνωμοσύνη μας για την γενναιόδωρια σας.

Με σεβασμό,
Ελένη Σταμπούλιδη
Αντιπρόεδρος Φιλοπτώχου Αδελφότητος
Get Togethers:

Gathering Dates:

Tuesday, February 25, 2014
Tuesday, March 18, 2014
Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Happy New Year

Please join us for an Afternoon of fun with friends!

We meet every third Tuesday of the month from 2–4pm.
(except for this February, which falls on the fourth Tuesday)
At Our Bookstore
For Sale or to Lend

Book Club is Forming
A book club is forming to read and discuss books in our collection or items from elsewhere we can acquire and lend to readers. Volunteer to lead the group! Sign up after Church on February 9 or email: annunciation.bookstore@gmail.com

Short booklets talk to young children about whining, bad words, bullying, stealing … and prayer. Ages 2-7

Feel restless in church? There are reasons to attend worship and ways to remain engaged. Also in ebook.

Survival Guides for Orthodox Teens
Bullies use physical force, insults or threats to ignore or hold power over someone else. It is more common than you think.
Even when it seems like everyone is against you, the Lord is always on your side. This doesn’t mean the bullying will go away if you ignore it. It means God will give you the strength to come forward.

Other Guides: On Body Image, Managing Stress, Dealing with Gossip, and Peer Pressure

Our Bookstore is open to you!
Visit our collection - borrow or purchase. If we are not present, don’t hesitate to email or call. annunciation.bookstore@gmail.com
Or leave a message at the office, 508-559-0910

From our collection
Roasted Red Pepper Bean Dip

1 red bell pepper
1 medium yellow onion
2 large garlic cloves
1 15-oz can cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
2 T lemon juice
1/2 t salt
1/8 t pepper

Cut red pepper into quarters and remove stem and seeds. Peel the onion and slice thickly, about 1/2 inch. Lay pepper and onion on the baking sheet and broil for 7-10 minutes. Turn the onion and place garlic cloves on the baking sheet along with the pepper and onion, and return to the broiler. Broil another 7-10 minutes until the skin of the pepper has blackened and blistered. Remove from the broiler and let cool. Remove the skin from the pepper and remove any completely blackened onion.

Fit the food processor with the metal blade. With the machine running, drop the garlic cloves into the machine and process until the garlic is chopped. Add the beans, red pepper, onion, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Process until mixture is smooth then transfer to a serving bowl and chill until serving. Good on crackers or bread. Serves 4-6 as part of a meal.

From “When You Fast: Recipes for Lenten Seasons” by Catherine Mandell

For those who want to read Scripture, a lovely Bible.

We also have pocket prayer books and small handheld icons.
YOUTH NEWS

Greetings from the AGOC GOYA!

GOYA is heading into a busy time of the year! We have a lot planned for the upcoming months.

We will be joining with the ladies Philoptochos in a basket donations drive to help veterans in need of aid. This will be an ongoing collection.

Friday February 21 will be our monthly meeting and fun night at the church.

In March we will be going to the Philoxenia House to visit with families and provide support. Date to be determined.

In April we will be having our Annual Lenten Lock-In on April 11th and 12th. This will include helping out with the palm making, and we will also be joined by advisors from the MBC Camp who will hold youth sessions with the GOYANs. On Saturday we will be putting together bagged lunches for the MainSpring House.

Thank you for supporting the GOYA!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to all the students and parents that contributed to the Toy Drive! The toys were delivered to the Office of Children & Families to be distributed to local children in time for Christmas.

The Stewardship program is going well! A reminder - there is no need to place the child’s name on the envelope. We have received many ideas from the children on the different meanings of Stewardship.

February classes

2

9

16 - Family Worship/February Vacation

23

Registration for new students or changes to current students can be made by contacting Dina Coon at 781-871-5343 or by email: coon005@aol.com

JOY & HOPE’s monthly meetings are open to anyone in the church ages 12 and under. We hope to see a strong showing of our church’s youngest members at this year’s events. We ask that you please RSVP if you plan to attend an event to ensure we have enough supplies and attendees.

Sunday, February 23, 12:00 PM

Have A Heart Luncheon

Please see the flyer on the next page for all the details! We will be selling tickets the two weekends prior to the luncheon. As always, we are also looking to have JOY + HOPE and GOYA members volunteer to help serve the meal. If you would like to help plan the event and/or help the day of the event, please send an email to either irena.mroz@verizon.net or paulatsitsop@comcast.net

The Saint 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 of their identity of Greek Orthodox Christians.

Divisions

Grades 7-9 — Junior Division
Grades 10-12 — Senior Division

Festivals

Local — March
District — April
Metropolis — May
Nationals — June

Please see Rhoda Economos, Oratorical Festival Coordinator, for 2014 Festival topics. (Grade 8 Sunday School Teacher)
Have a Heart

Luncheon
To Benefit the
Hellenic Cardiac Fund for Children

Sunday, February 23, 2014 at 12:00pm
In the Church Lounge & Gymnasium

Please join us for the 17th Annual “Have a Heart” Luncheon to support this worthy cause. The Hellenic Cardiac Fund is an all-volunteer organization that helps 20 to 30 Greek children a year receive critical care at Children’s Hospital. All proceeds from the luncheon will be donated to the fund. This year we will be holding a charity raffle and live auction for some very desirable items.

Presented by:

Donation: $20 for Adults / $8 for Children
Appetizers and a buffet lunch will be served. Greek music and dancing.

Limited Seating. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be purchased after church on the Sundays prior to the event up until Sunday, Feb. 3rd. If you are not able to attend, please consider making a monetary donation in any amount to support this worthy cause. For more information call the Church Office at 508-559-0910.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>¼ Year</th>
<th>½ Year</th>
<th>1 Full Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Page, Inside Front Cover</td>
<td>$525.00</td>
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<td>Business Card Size</td>
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</table>

- 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.
We would like to thank the Tsaganis family for their generosity and support over the years.
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
457 Oak Street
Brockton, MA 02301

Phone - (508) 559-0910
Fax - (508) 584-8679
Email - office@annunciationbrockton.org

We're on the web!
www.annunciationbrockton.org

BABANIKAS, ZIEDMAN & KING, P.C.
1247 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301-4432
Phone (508) 588-7000 - Fax (508) 559-2775
www.bzklaw.com

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