November 2014

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Blessed be the Name of the Lord

Church Services

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PARISH COUNCIL

Executive Board
George Alexis, President
Joanna Stellakis, Vice President—Administration
Theodoros Ntakoulas, Vice President—House & Grounds
Spyros Savas, Treasurer
Nicholas Alexiou, Assistant Treasurer
Jon Buterbaugh, Secretary

Members of the Board
John Karolemeas  Christos Kotsiopoulos  John Papadopoulos
Stephen Passias  Ethel Savas  Themi Stamboulidis
George Terzakis  Phillip Tsonis  Avraam Vardaxis

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Executive Board
Heido Barbas, 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

OTHER MINISTRIES

Sunday School
Tina Boutas  Dina Coon
Rhoda Economos

Greek School
Chris Kotsiopoulos
Ioanna Andreopoulou
Katerina Tsiantoulou  Tina Boutas

GOYA
Jon Buterbaugh

JOY & HOPE
Irena Mroz
Paula Tsitsopoulos

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
Heidi Mason
Corinne Mason

Oratorical Festival
Rhoda Economos

Bookstore
Joanna Stellakis
Linda Sakelaris Poole
Stephen Savas
Chris Kotsiopoulos

Webmaster
George Theodossiou

EMAILS
Father Anthony.............................. priest@annunciationbrockton.org
                            office@annunciationbrockton.org
During our annual festival I conduct a number of church tours, during which I usually receive a variety of questions about our faith. One question that is posed quite frequently is regarding the difference between the various Orthodox jurisdictions. Many people will specifically ask what the difference is between Greek and Russian Orthodoxy, assuming that they are two distinct faith traditions. Even many “cradle” Orthodox can be confused regarding the various canonical jurisdictions of worldwide Orthodoxy, especially in regard to the use of the old and new calendar. I would like to take this opportunity to briefly clarify these issues for everyone’s edification.

First of all, we need to go back to the early history of the Church to refresh our memory regarding the five original ancient administrative centers of Orthodox Christianity. These are Jerusalem (where the Church originated on the day of Pentecost); Antioch (currently located in Damascus, Syria); Alexandria, Egypt; Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul, Turkey); and Rome (up to the Great Schism of 1054 AD). The first four centers mentioned above continue to be the ancient Patriarchates of Orthodox Christianity, which still have jurisdiction over their immediate geographic areas, and in some cases, over parishes in the diaspora. Obviously, because of the Great Schism, Rome went in her own direction to create the Roman Catholic Church by separating from the remaining body of Christianity – the Eastern Orthodox Church.

It should be noted that the Patriarchate of Constantinople – the Ecumenical Patriarchate – is so named because of its primacy of honor as the symbolic spiritual leader of world-wide Orthodoxy, not to be confused with the Catholic understanding of the papacy as supreme head of world-wide Catholicism. This primacy of honor is based on the central role of Constantinople, as the former capitol of the Byzantine Empire, in all aspects of the Church’s growth and maturation.

Eventually, many ancient local Churches under the jurisdiction of some of the ancient Patriarchates were granted autocephaly, a term denoting self-rule without the oversight of the Mother Patriarchal Church. Two such examples with which we are quite familiar, are the Churches of Greece and Cyprus. A small group of Orthodox Churches has been granted autonomy, which denotes partial self-rule with oversight of the respective Mother Church. Many autocephalous Churches are considered patriarchates, such as the Churches of Bulgaria, Romania, and Russia. To clarify our situation as the Greek Orthodox Church to refresh our memory regarding the five original ancient administrative centers of Orthodox Christianity. These are Jerusalem (where the Church originated on the day of Pentecost); Antioch (currently located in Damascus, Syria); Alexandria, Egypt; Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul, Turkey); and Rome (up to the Great Schism of 1054 AD). The first four centers mentioned above continue to be the ancient Patriarchates of Orthodox Christianity, which still have jurisdiction over their immediate geographic areas, and in some cases, over parishes in the diaspora. Obviously, because of the Great Schism, Rome went in her own direction to create the Roman Catholic Church by separating from the remaining body of Christianity – the Eastern Orthodox Church.

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Just having mentioned Greek Orthodox Churches, it is also important to clarify that being Greek Orthodox is not necessarily connected to one’s ethnicity. Throughout Church history, this term has been used to identify those Churches whose liturgical language has primarily been Greek. An example of this is the Patriarchate of Jerusalem which uses the title “Greek Orthodox” because of the historical use of Greek in its services. More and more however, the Arabic liturgical language is being used so as to better minister to the Orthodox Palestinians, who are the primary members of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

In summary regarding Orthodox jurisdictions throughout the world, we can clearly see that there are many co-existing jurisdictions – both the ancient and newer Patriarchates, as well as the various autocephalous and autonomous Churches, which all fall under the umbrella of Eastern Orthodoxy. This is actually the best and most accurate term to use when one inquires about our faith tradition. No matter whether we are Greek, Arabic, Russian, Serbian, converts, or from any other jurisdiction of Orthodoxy, we are all Eastern Orthodox Christians – members of the One Holy Catholic, and Apostolic Body of Christ, founded in 33 AD.

Now, having clarified the jurisdictional matter, let us turn to the issue of the Church calendar. Historically, the Eastern Orthodox Church has used the ancient Julian calendar of the former Roman Empire. During the Renaissance in Western Europe, the Julian calendar was found to be inaccurate and was replaced by the Gregorian calendar, which is now the internationally accepted secular calendar. The two calendars currently have a difference of 13 days, with the Julian being the calendar that lags behind.

Since the switch to the Gregorian calendar was made in Western Europe after the Great Schism, this change did not affect the Orthodox world which continued to live according to the older Julian calendar, both ecclesiastically and civilly. Even after many modern nations in which Orthodoxy existed officially changed to the Gregorian calendar, many of their respective Churches did not. In fact, the majority of canonical Orthodox Churches in the world still use the Julian calendar. Note my use of the term canonical, which now introduces another issue needing clarification.

There are a number of schismatic, non-canonical Orthodox Churches under one umbrella, which are generally referred to as Old Calendarists. This movement was a reaction to those canonical Orthodox jurisdictions which chose to follow the secular Gregorian calendar. Many other issues became part of the general reaction of the Old Calendarists, which eventually led to the severance of ties with their former Mother Church. For our purposes here, I will not go into the detailed, multi-faceted history of this movement.

In summary regarding the calendar issue, we must not jump to the erroneous conclusion that an Orthodox jurisdiction using the old Julian calendar is uncanonical. In most instances, it will be one of the recognized canonical jurisdictions described earlier in this article. This is a completely separate issue than that of the splinter Orthodox groups known as Old Calendarists, as immediately described above, which obviously also use the old Julian calendar.

Beloved in Christ, I realize that I’ve shared a lot of information in this article. I hope that it has helped to clarify some of the issues that many of us have found perplexing over the years. The main point that we should all take away from this article, is that canonical Orthodoxy continues to be the undivided Body of Christ. No matter whether we are ethnically Orthodox from one of the major jurisdictions, or converts to the Orthodox faith, we are all Eastern Orthodox Christians – brothers and sisters in Christ, united by the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord that we partake of in the Holy Eucharist.

In Christ,
+Fr. Anthony
FROM FATHER ANTHONY

Hymns on Paradise

The following is taken from a collection of sacred poetry by St. Ephrem the Syrian, collectively known as “Hymns on Paradise”

HYMN II

1. Blessed is he for whom Paradise yearns. Yes, Paradise yearns for the man whose goodness makes him beautiful; it engulfs him at its gateway, it embraces him in its bosom, it caresses him in its very womb; for it splits open and receives him into its inmost parts. But if there is someone it abhors, it removes him and casts him out; this is the gate of testing that belongs to Him who loves mankind.

3. When people see that they have lost everything, that riches do not endure and carnal desires no longer exist, that beauty and power disappear and vanish, then they recollect themselves and are filled with remorse, because, choked with care, they heard with contempt those words, ‘Your possessions are but a passing dream, your inheritance, darkness.’

5. The righteous, too, perceive that their own affliction no longer exists, their suffering does not endure, their burden no longer remains, and it seems as if no anguish had ever assailed them. Their fasts appear as though a mere dream, for they have woken as it were from sleep to discover Paradise and the Kingdom’s table spread out before them.

6. By those who are outside, the summit cannot be scaled, but from inside, Paradise inclines its whole self to all who ascend it; the whole of its interior gazes upon the just with joy. Paradise girds the loins of the world, encircling the great sea; neighbor to the beings on high, friendly to those within it, hostile to those without.

We are seeking a donor for holy water bottles for Holy Theophany.
Please contact Fr. Anthony for details.

From St. Basil the Great

Let the end of your harvesting be the beginning of a heavenly sowing.

Of all the goods possessed by human beings, the ones which appear to be the greatest and most reliable are wisdom and prudence.

If we really want to turn our burdensome wealth into something that benefits us, let us distribute it to many people.
FROM FATHER ANTHONY

Nativity Fast Begins November 15

The Orthodox Church’s preparation for the Nativity of Christ is very different from other Christian traditions, and totally opposite of the worldly, secular observance during the weeks prior to the Nativity. Ours is a quiet, spiritual preparation through a 40-day fast. We remind all our brethren of this very ancient fast period of the Church, in order that we spiritually prepare for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh. Let us all strive as best as possible, to follow the fast as prescribed by our Holy Church. Following are the general guidelines traditionally accepted.

- **From 11/15 – 12/12:** Fasting from all meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy products. Fish, wine and olive oil may be consumed every day except for Wednesdays and Fridays, with some exceptions. Shellfish may be consumed daily.

- **From 12/13 – 12/24:** Strict fasting (as in Great Lent) from all animal products, including fish, and from wine and olive oil. On Saturdays and Sundays, wine and olive oil may be consumed. Again, shellfish may be consumed daily.

Note: The Holy Archdiocese of America has traditionally interrupted the Nativity fast on Thanksgiving Day. Also, keep in mind that fasting is always relaxed for the infirm, growing children, expectant and nursing mothers, etc.

Please remember that the Church always presents the ideal method of fasting for our spiritual benefit, as a starting point. Each Orthodox Christian should prayerfully approach the subject of fasting, and seek the guidance of his/her spiritual father. Let us try not to ignore the fast completely, but instead, seek to incorporate as much of it as possible into our lives – especially the final period starting on 12/13.

Meeting and Event Planning

As we ask each year, church ministry groups and affiliated fraternal organizations should not plan meetings, events, or workshops at church on any morning when there is a liturgy, or any evening when a service is scheduled.

As mentioned in this bulletin, the Wednesday evening Small Vespers and adult religious education have commenced, therefore, Wednesday evenings are not available for any other function.

In planning meetings and events on other evenings, all groups should first check the monthly calendar for scheduled services. You must then call the office manager, who will verify the availability of requested dates before officially booking any event or meeting. This announcement will be updated and repeated prior to Great Lent, when the liturgical schedule will increase. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation in upholding the primary focus of an Orthodox parish – the liturgical life!

Adult Religious Education

Our Wednesday evening program of adult religious education has resumed. Our weekly program always begins at 7 pm with the service of Small Vespers in English (or an abbreviated Paraklesis on the first Wednesday of the month) which lasts one-half hour, followed by a one-hour session in the conference room.

We generally begin with a Scriptural reflection, a short reading of the life of one or more saints of that day, a presentation on a particular topic, followed by an open period of questions and answers. Our regular attendees would love to see new faces with which to enjoy these sessions, so please join us!
## November 2014

**Annunciation Church Monthly Bulletin**

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| Please see your illustrated Archdiocesan calendar for daily Scripture readings and fasting guidelines. | | | | | | |-1
| 2 | 5th Sunday of Luke | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | Kυρ. 5η Λουκα | | | Abbreviated Paraklesis 7 pm followed by adult relig. ed. | | Great Vespers of the Holy Archangels at Watertown 7pm M. Εσπερίνος στο Ουατερτσαουν-7μμ | | The Holy Archangels Orthros & Lit. Των Ταξιαρχων Great Vespers 6 pm |
| 9 | 7th Sunday of Luke St. Nektarios | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | Kυρ. 7η Λουκα Του Αγιου Νεκταριου | | Veterans Day (office closed) | Great Vespers of St. John Chrysostom 7 pm, followed by adult relig. education | Feast of St. John Chrysostom Orthros & Lit. Του Αγ. Ιακωνου του Χρυσοστομου | | |
| 16 | The Holy Apostle Matthew Του Αγ. Αποστο-λου Ματθαιου | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | | | Small Vespers 7 pm followed by adult relig. educ. | Great Vespers of the Entrance of the Theotokos 7 pm M. Εσπερίνος των Εισοδίων Θεοκου | Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos Orthros & Lit. Τα Εισοδια της Θεοτοκου | | Great Vespers 6 pm |
| 23 | 9th Sunday of Luke Kυρ. 9η Λουκα | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | | Gr. Vespers of St. Catherine at Braintree-7 pm M. Εσπερίνος στο Μπραιντει-7 μμ | St. Catherine the Gr. Martyr at Braintree Orthros 8:30am Div. Lit. 9:30am (ακολούθιες στο Μπραιντει) | Fr. Anthony on vacation through 11/30 (no Vespers or class) | Thanksgiving Day (office closed) | Office closed |
| 30 | The Holy Apostle Andrew Του Αγ. Ανδρεου visiting priest | | | | | | No Vespers |

Office closed through 11/30 (no Vespers or class)
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the year 2000, during a Divine Liturgy, I turned to bless the congregation at one point and I noticed a mother of three daughters weeping bitterly. I knew this young lady from the time that she was a freshman in high school. I had presided at her wedding and I baptized her three daughters.

At the end of the service, she came up to me and I asked her why she was crying. She told me that she had just been informed that she had breast cancer. I encouraged her not to give up and continue to pray. I told her that I would call the priest at the Saint Nektarios Church (Saint Nektarios is known as the Patron Saint of cancer patients) and perhaps we could go there for a healing service. The young lady agreed. We set the date and we went with all of her family members.

At the beginning of the service, I gave her the metal reliquary box that contained the relics of Saint Nektarios. I instructed her to hold the box up to the breast where the cancer was. Later on, as I turned to the congregation for the gospel reading, I noticed that the young woman was crying again. Concerned for her, I went down to speak to her after I finished reading the gospel and asked what was troubling her. She looked at me with tears in her eyes and said, “Father, my breast feels like it’s on fire.” I told her to keep the relics there, as close to her breast as possible and not to remove it.

Three weeks later, the young lady went to the doctor for a follow-up exam. She called me soon after to tell me that the doctors informed her that there was not even a trace of cancer in her. After that frightening experience, she continues to see her doctor twice each year. I have kept in touch with this lady since that time and the doctors have found no evidence of any growth whatsoever. Praise be to God Who continues to heal through the intercessions of His Saints.

- Father Peter Costarakis
Parish Council Elections

Elections for the Parish Council will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All qualified members of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church are encouraged to submit their names as candidates for the Parish Council elections. This year eight (8) members will be elected to serve a term of two (2) years.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR IN PERSON TO THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014

In view of the desire and responsibility to properly and effectively conduct the elections, the following information and reminders are submitted from the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese.

ELIGIBILITY: Article 25, Section 2: A candidate for the Parish Council must be a parishioner in good standing of the Parish for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election and must live his or her life in accordance with the Faith and canons of the Church. The Priest determines whether the Parishioners are in canonical and financial good standing as specified in Article 18, Sections 1 through 3.

Article 18, Section 1: Every person who is baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church is a parishioner. The religious, moral, and social duties of a parishioner are to apply the tenets of the Orthodox Faith to his/her life and to: adhere to and live according to the tenets of the Orthodox Faith; faithfully attend the Divine Liturgy and other worship services; participate regularly in the holy sacraments; respect all ecclesiastical authority and all governing bodies of the Church; be obedient in matters of the Faith, practice and ecclesiastical order; contribute towards the progress of the Church’s sacred mission; and be an effective witness and example of the Orthodox Faith and Traditions to all people. A parishioner in good standing practices all the religious and moral duties as described in this Section 1. At a minimum, a parishioner in good standing must: be eighteen years of age or over; be current in his or her stewardship and other financial obligations to the Parish; abide by all the regulations herein stated; and cooperate in every way towards the welfare and well being of the Parish.

APPLICATION FOR PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDACY

I wish to be a candidate for the Parish Council of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton, MA. Επιθυμώ να υποβάλω υποψηφιότητα γιά το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο της Εκκλησίας μας, του Ευαγγελισμού του Μπρόκτον.

Date________________________
Signature of Candidate ______________________________________________

Note: In order to avoid mistakes on the ballot, we require the following information:

Print Name____________________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________________________
City__________________________ State________ Zip Code__________
Telephone___________________________________________

Applications for Parish Council Candidacy must be submitted by mail or in person at the Church Office no later than SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014.

Αιτήσεις υποβάλλονται μετά και τη ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 16 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ, 2014.

OFFICE USE ONLY - Date Received____________________
Received By ________________________________
Fall General Assembly
Sunday, November 16

Agenda

Secretary’s Report, Spring General Assembly

Treasurer’s report,
- Financial year to date (1/1/14 - 10/31/14)
- 2014 Festival

President’s Remarks

Fr. Anthony Evangelatos Remarks

Old Business:
- Playground Update
- Building and Ground Maintenance

New Business:
- Board of Election Nominations
- Board of Auditors Nominations
- 2015 Budget Presentation and Approval
- 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

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
9/28—Kristen Clark, who took the name Christina, fiancée of Dimitrios Palantzas; sponsor, Vasiliki Palantzas

Weddings
10/4—Dimitrios Palantzas and Kristen (Christina) Clark; sponsors Matthew Bazarian and Christopher Savas

Funerals
10/3—Irene Sarhanis

Memorial Donations
One case of altar candles in memory of Areti Potsis, from Illias and Christine Potsis
New, gold-plated chalice set from Fr. George and Pres. Francine Tsoukalas, in memory of Presvytera’s mother, Theodora Bacas

Floral Donations
Icon decoration for the Entrance of the Theotokos on November 21 by Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Costarellos, for the health of the family.

STEWARDSHIP

Remember Your Pledge for 2014!
Please do not forget to submit your 2014 Stewardship obligation.

Stewardships are the greatest source of income for our Church. Please feel free to contact the Church Office with any questions.

Thank you kindly!

Υπενθύμιση για το 2014!
Άγιατοι Ενορίτες,
Σας παρακαλούμε μη ξεχάσετε να αποτείλετε την ετήσια προσφορά σας για το παρόν (τούτο) το έτος 2014.

Η ετήσια προσφορά σας αποτελεί τη βασικότερη πηγή εισοδήματος για τη συντήρηση και τις καθημερινές ανάγκες της Εκκλησίας μας.

Σας ευχαριστούμε θερμά.
2014 Food Festival Donations

Food and Beverages
Irakli Savas, 1,000 pounds of flour
Cappy’s Pizza, 20 cases tomatoes
Demoulas Market Basket, all ingredients for loukoumathes
Cousins Pizza, spinach, cottage cheese, vegetable oil
Athena International, Mythos Beer
Cape Cod Café, feta cheese
Coca-Cola Co., 25 cases of soda
Georgio’s Pizza & Roast Beef, $300 towards purchase of half chickens
Ilias Potsis, 3 cases of liquor
Dunkin Donuts, coffee, cups, boxes
Wine Basket, 15 cases of assorted Greek wines

Monetary
Lingos Foundation, $10,000
Steven Siogros, $100
Helen & Nonda Gioulis, $100
Eric & Maria Terzis, $200
Stephanie Nasios, $100
Mr. & Mrs. Ilias Potsis, $200
Evangelatos family, $50
Spiro & Athena Giannaros, $300 in loving memory of Papou Ambrosios
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Bulgaris
Jane Thompson, $100
Nicholas Spanos, $200
Demetra Carafioles, $50
Penny Kazis & Family, $100 in loving memory of Anagyros Kazis
Catherine & Harry Livanis, $100
Sotirios & Eugenia Castarellos, $250
Nicoletta & Maria Kallis, $100 in loving memory of Nicholas Kallis
Supreme House of Pizza, $700

Raffle
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Korbas, Samsonite luggage set
Anonymous, Keurig coffeemaker
Anonymous, $100 Macy’s gift card

Other
Paul Dorsey, credit card machines at no charge

Thank you so much to all who contributed!

Additional donations will be reported in the December bulletin.
PHILOPTOCHOS

Membership
Please remember to send your Philoptochos membership ($25.00 annually)

Thank you!

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.

In honor of Veteran’s Day this month
Housewarming Baskets for Our Homeless Veterans

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston is undertaking a mission to assist homeless veterans who transition to independent living in coordination with the Department of Veteran’s Affairs, New England Healthcare System.

Items listed below represent the homeless veteran’s needs as identified by the veterans, to establish their home in the community. Please provide any of the listed items. Monetary contributions or gift cards in lieu of the listed items are also welcome. Please make checks payable to Metropolis Philoptochos of Boston.

Below are high priority items that can complete one housewarming basket:

- Broom, dustpan
- Bucket
- Shower curtain
- Dishpan
- Dish cloth/towel
- Flashlight/batteries
- Dish soap
- Bar soap, pkg of 4
- Toilet paper, pkg of 4
- Bath towel, wash cloths (2)
- Small bathroom trash container
- Mop
- Toilet brush and holder
- Shower rings
- Dish rack/tray
- Cleaning sponge
- All purpose cleaner
- Toothpaste
- Liquid hand soap
- Paper towels, pkg of 4
- Trash container bags
- Laundry detergent
THE METROPOLIS OF BOSTON PHILOPTOCHOS INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

LIGHTS FASHION PHILANTHROPY

LUNCHEON AND RUNWAY STYLE SHOW PRESENTATION
AND A POP-UP BOUTIQUE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014
LOMBARDO’S
SIX BILLINGS STREET
RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS

RECEPTION  11:00 A.M.
LUNCHEON  12:00 P.M.
$85.00 PER PERSON

PAJAMA PROGRAM
IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE MISSION OF PHILOPTOCHOS, WE ASK EACH GUEST TO BRING NEW PAJAMAS, SIZE INFANT TO 18 YEARS, AND A NEW BOOK, WHICH WILL BE DONATED TO THE PAJAMA PROGRAM.
WWW.PAJAMAPROGRAM.ORG

KINDLY RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 1, 2014

M___________________________________
WILL ATTEND __________
TELEPHONE _________________________

I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT ENCLOSE A DONATION OF $__________

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO METROPOLIS OF BOSTON PHILOPTOCHOS.

TABLES OF 10 WILL BE RESERVED ON A FIRST-COME BASIS. PLEASE LIST NAMES AND SEATING REQUESTS ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

MS. DIANE STAMATOPULOS
8 POND STREET
PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS 01960

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ELENI STAMBoulidis AT (508) 807-1828
Thank You to all that Attended the wonderful Day Outings with OPA

Tuesday, November 18, 2014
Thanksgiving Get-Together 2-4 p.m.

BHS Holiday Concert—Wednesday, December 17, 2014 @ 7pm
A South Shore seasonal favorite, the Brockton High School Holiday Concert is one of the hottest tickets in town. A bevy of bands and choruses will take the stage to provide concertgoers with a wide selection of holiday favorites, and a peek at some of the newest in festive fare.
The OPA Group Gets Around!

Volunteers Needed for Local Charity

10 volunteers are needed to wrap holiday gifts
6 to 8 p.m. December 15
My Brother’s Keeper in Easton

For more information, contact Paula Odierno at pckodierno@gmail.com or call the Church Office.

What is My Brother’s Keeper?

My Brother's Keeper is a Christian ministry that picks up donations of used furniture in good condition, including couches, kitchen tables, chairs and dressers. Items are delivered free to families in need.

We are collecting at our church on a regular basis items such as baby diapers, baby wipes, linens (sheets), towels and canned goods. You can also schedule a pickup of items from your home by calling My Brother's Keeper at 508-238-7512.
Annunciation Sunday School Supports World Humanitarian Efforts

The Annunciation Sunday School students have contributed $365 this year to International Orthodox Christian Charities, which offers food and development assistance to people displaced by conflict, disaster and disease.

The IOCC appreciates the **time, money and good deeds** of the Annunciation Sunday School, so IOCC can quickly respond to emergencies with food and personal care items, empowering people to overcome.

“Your desire to help through this generous act of compassion gives hope and opportunity to some of the most vulnerable communities in the world,” said Constantine M. Triantafilou, Executive Director and CEO of IOCC. “On behalf of the people served by the IOCC, please accept our sincere gratitude.”

International Orthodox Christian Charities, Baltimore, MD
www.iocc.org

**Our Toy Drive is Underway!**

Our Sunday School children are collecting toys for all ages of needy children in the Brockton area. Toys should be new and not gift wrapped. The receptacle for the toys will be in the Sunday School hallway, across from the Kindergarten Room.

Last collection day is Dec. 7 so we will have plenty of time to sort and prepare the toys.

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**JOY-HOPE**

Our 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. We are also looking to add an advisor or two to help plan and organize events. If you are interested in becoming an advisor, or to RSVP to an upcoming event please email:

Irena at irena.mroz@verizon.net or Paula at paulatsitsop@comcast.net

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**November Class Schedule**

- Nov 2—Classes
- Nov. 9—Classes
- Nov. 16—Classes
- Nov. 23—Classes
- Nov. 28—Family worship, Thanksgiving break

New families are welcome to register children with their teacher, or by contacting Dina Coon at coon005@aol.com or (781) 871-5343
In December, GOYA is planning a winter trip to Patriots Place to go ice skating and walk around the shops.

We will finalize the date at our November meeting Sunday, Nov. 2.

GOYA Bake Sale
During Coffee Hour
November 23

Goyans will be hosting this event, offering yummy Greek and American pastries.

Just in time for Thanksgiving!  
Come support us

NEW BASKETBALL SEASON

Metropolis Basketball 2014-2015

Together with St. Catherine’s, the Annunciation Church wants to again have successful teams!

Practice is Friday, Nov 7
5:30-6:45 pm for ages 7-10
6:45-8:00 pm for ages 11-13

Games start Saturday, Nov 15 at St. Demetrios in Weston, MA

If you are interested in playing or need more information please email passias@comcast.net. I will email the times to all who respond, and you may check the Metropolis website as well, www.boston.goarch.org
We have
- Icons of all kinds
- Pocket prayer books,
- Stretch prayer rope with cross and beads
- 33-knot prayer ropes, handwoven, in black, tan, red and blue satin cord

“...The trouble with many of us is that we are empty inside, and we're trying to fill the inner emptiness with things...We keep trying to leave some space open for God, some quiet time each day for prayer and meditation and for the liturgy on Sunday, so we can hear the voice of God as it tries to get through to us with God's personal love...”

From “God and You: Person to Person” By Anthony M. Coniaris

We have lovely gifts for family and friends

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

This is your Bookstore. Please visit our collection on Sundays after Church, to borrow or purchase.

If we are not present, don’t hesitate to email us at annunciation.bookstore@gmail.com
Or call the office at 508-559-0910

We have incense, censers, vigil lights, pocket prayer books, icons, icon magnets, Orthodox bible, woven bookmarks, stories of Saints, stories for children, booklets, Lenten cookbooks, and more.
Following outstanding performances at the Fall Food Festival, and the “Dancing with the Evzones” event in Roslindale, MA, our dancers have started their season off beautifully!

We continue to welcome new dancers to the group, and we invite families who are interested to stop by a practice anytime and check us out!

As always there is no fee for instruction – we ask only for a one-time donation per dancer of $65 to assist in our purchase and maintenance of costumes and accessories, and for each family to commit to assist with food preparation for the group once or twice per year.

Our upcoming practices for all levels are on Sundays following Divine Liturgy on NOV 9, NOV 23, DEC 7 and DEC 14.

We would also like to offer our heartfelt thanks to **Tuxedos by Merian** for their support of the dance group and generous donation of garment bags for our costumes!
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

Nicholas H. Babanikas
Stephen S. Ziedman
John J. King
Konstantinos J. Babanikas
Thomas J. Dinopoulos*
Praven Shency
Louis deBenedictis
Aleksandra Magdziak Lopes

*Also admitted to Rhode Island and Florida

Boston Office
27 School Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 248-0448

New Bedford Office
355 Union Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 996-1116

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