MAY 2015

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PENTECOST–TRINITY SUNDAY

Church Services

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<td>Καθημερινές</td>
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<td>Λειτουργία</td>
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Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos
George Stavropoulos, Chanter
Heidi Mason, Choir Director
Ona Calogrias, Organist

PARISH COUNCIL
Executive Board
John Kolentsas, President
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Theodore Ntakoulas, 2nd Vice President Maintenance
Ethel Savas, Secretary
George Terzakis, Treasurer
Nicholas Babanikas, Assistant Treasurer

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Erlinda Anthony, Assistant Treasurer
Despina Papadopoulos, Advisor

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Penny Kazis Ethel Savas Sophia Terzakis

EMAILS
Father Anthony priest@annunciationbrockton.org
Liz Karolemeas office@annunciationbrockton.org

OTHER MINISTRIES
Sunday School
Tina Bouts Dina Coon
Rhoda Economos
Greek School
Ioanna Andreopoulou
Katerina Tsiantoulas Tina Bouts
G.O.Y.A.
Jon Buterbaugh
J.O.Y. & H.O.P.E.
Irena Mroz
Paula Tsitsopoulos
OPA! Group
Pegi Ciulla
Koliva
Ladies Philoptochos
Coffee Hour
Tina Bouts
Shut-In Visitations
Ladies Philoptochos
Basketball
Stephen Passias
Dance Group
Jon & Penny Buterbaugh
Junior Choir
Corinne & Heidi Mason
Oratorical Festival
Rhoda Economos
Bookstore
Pegi Ciulla
Chris Kotsiopoulos
Linda Sakelaris Poole
Stephen Savas Joanna Stellakis
Webmaster
George Theodossiou
helpdesk@annunciationbrockton.org
Tonight – at this very moment – we relive the decisive and ever present miracle of our faith. Presently, we will light our candles from the Paschal light which emanates from the life-giving tomb. It is the light of the Risen Christ – The light which enlightens humanity and conquers the darkness of apathy, of disbelief, of sin, of death.

Listen carefully to the powerful message of the angel which stunned Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and Solome. The three journeyed to the Tomb on the morning of the first day after the Sabbath. When they reached the Tomb, they discovered that the great stone was rolled away, and that the body of the Savior was no longer there. An angel dressed in a white robe said to them, “Do not be amazed: you seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He has Risen, he is not here.” (Mark 16)

Ever since that morning, this joyous proclamation spans the centuries, and resounds in the hearts and souls of men and women in every corner of the Earth. The Son of God “is not here… He is Risen!” He did not remain in the tomb because, as St. Basil teaches, “it was not possible for Him, the author of life to be held by death.” The Savior made his pilgrim way on earth among us. His journey brought Him to a cross and a tomb and to Hades. To quote St. Basil once again, “He descended into Hades that He might fill all things with Himself and loosed the pangs of death. Rising on the third day, He prepared the way for the Resurrection of all from the dead” (anaphora prayer liturgy of St. Basil)

Tonight, we relive the Resurrection of the Savior which changed the course of human history. Tonight we celebrate Easter together with our brothers and sisters – the martyrs of our time – who refused to deny their faith, and endured insult and injury and, ultimately, death with dignity.

We celebrate tonight with Christian brothers and sisters who are victims of homicidal acts of violence throughout the world.

We celebrate tonight with the 21 Coptic Christians beheaded in Libya by Isis. We draw near the life-giving tomb of our Savior on our knees – as did they – to whisper a prayer for the countless innocent brethren devastated by war – for the men and women – for the children! – being crucified and beheaded because they are Christians.

We are horrified that people can kill in God’s name, forgetting what Christ told his disciples “The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering a service to God.” (John 16:2)

We celebrate tonight, praying that the Risen Lord may forgive us for our lack of courage, for our indifference in the face of the barbaric slaughter of our Christian brethren in Kenya and in that part of the world where Christianity flourished until recently – Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Afghanistan. The few remaining Christians in the Middle East will soon disappear, while we continue being Pontius Pilates who wash our hands in the praetorium of indifference.

We come to the Tomb of the Savior to receive Light from the unwaning Light and to share it with the refugees and the displaced families who suffer unspeakable acts of violence and death.

My brothers and sisters, no matter how intense the darkness that surrounds us, no matter how bleak the world is, no matter how overwhelming the problems we face, the light of the Risen Christ shines on all of us. The darkness of inhumanity, brutality, and barbarity is indeed oppressive, but it cannot overcome the light of compassion, sensitivity, and humanity that shines forth in the Risen Christ. The darkness of destruction rages in the world around us, but it cannot overshadow the light of peace which shines forth from the life-giving tomb.

We believe that Jesus took upon Himself the suffering, the pain, the violence and the death of every human being and, in His resurrection, He has given us the sure hope of everlasting life.

We believe in the Risen Lord… that love has triumphed over hatred, goodness over evil, and life over death!

May we all be enlightened by the radiance of the Resurrection. May we be inspired to build a future of tolerance, of truth and of love, where every human life is respected!

Let us approach “to receive light from the unwaning light and let us glorify Christ who is Risen from the Dead.”
Ἀπόψε, τούτη την στιγμή, βιώνουμε καὶ πάλι τὸ ἀποφαινετικό καὶ άει παρὸν ϑαῦμα τῆς πίστεως μας. Ἐντὸς ὅλης, θὰ ἀνάγουμε τὰ κερία μας μὲ τὸ Πασχάλιο φῶς που πηγάζει ἐκ τοῦ ζωοφόρου τάφου. Εἶναι τὸ φῶς τοῦ ἀναστάντος Χριστοῦ: τὸ φῶς τὸ ὅποιον φωτίζει τὴν ἀνθρωπότητα καὶ κατακυριεύει τὸ σκότος τῆς ἁπάθειας, τῆς ἀπίστιας, τῆς ἀμαρτίας, τοῦ θανάτου.

Ἀκούσατε μετὰ προσοχῆς τὸ μήνυμα του ἀγγέλου τὸ ὅποιον ἐξέπλησε τὴν Μαρία τὴν Μαγδαληνή, καὶ Μαρία τοῦ Ἰακώβ, καὶ Σαλώμη. Αἱ τρεῖς τοῦτες γυναῖκες μετέβησαν εἰς τὸ ζωοκεφαλισθέντος τοῦ ἄνθρωπος τῆς πίστεως καὶ κατάφεραν ἐν τῇ Αὐτῆς ἀνάστασιν νὰ δεῖπνο κατακυριεύει τὸ σκότος τῆς ἁμαρτίας τῆς πίστεως. Οὰ ἀκούσατε τὸ μήνυμα του ἀγγέλου τὸ ὅποιον ἐνεπέλεσε τῇ Μαρίᾳ τῆς Αὐτῆς ἀνάστασιν τοῦ ἄνθρωπος τῆς πίστεως, καὶ κατάφεραν ἐν τῇ Αὐτῆς ἀνάστασιν νὰ δεῖπνο κατακυριεύει τὸ σκότος τῆς ἁμαρτίας τῆς πίστεως.

Ἡ εἰρήνη τὴς ἀναστάσεως ἀναστέλλει ἐκ τῆς αἰωνίου ζωῆς. Τὸ σκότος τῆς καταστροφῆς μαίνεται ὁλόγυρά μας, δὲν δύναται, ὡστόσο, νὰ συσκοτίσει δὲν δύναται νὰ ὑπερνικήσει τὸ φῶς τῆς συμπόνιας, τῆς εὐαισθητοποίησης, τῆς ἀνθρωπιᾶς τὸ ὁποίο ἀναφαίνει ἐκ γύρω μας, ὅσο καὶ ἄν μᾶς καταβάλουν τὰ προβλήματά μας, τὸ φῶς τοῦ ἀναστάντος Χριστοῦ μᾶς καταυγάζει μὲ τὶς προσφυγικὲς καὶ ἀνέστιες οἰκογένειες αἵτις ὑποφέρουν ἀκατανόμαστην βίαν καὶ θάνατον.

Ἐλάχιστοι ἐναπομείναντε Χριστιανοὶ τῆς Μέσης Ἀνατολῆς καὶ κεῖνοι συντόμως θὰ ἐκλείψουν, καθ᾽ὅσον ἐμεῖς Χριστιανισμὸς ἥνθησε μέχρι προσφάτως—στὸ Ἰράν, στὸ Ἰράκ, στὴν Αἴγυπτον, στὴν Συρία, καὶ στὸ Ἀφγανιστάν. Οἱ λόγον τὸν ὁποῖον ὁ Χριστός ἀπήυθυνε πρὸς τοὺς μαθητὰς του: “ἔρχεται ὥρα ἵνα πᾶς ὁ ἀποκτείνας ὑμᾶς δόξῃ καὶ ἀποκεφαλισθέντων μόνον ἐπειδὴ ὡμολόγησαν ὅτι εἶναι Χριστιανοί.

Ἀπόψε, βιώνουμε καὶ πάλι τὴν ἀνάστασιν τοῦ Σωτῆρος ἢτις ἠλλαξεν τὸν ρούς τὴν Ἰστορίας. Αἴσθησις ἀναγνώσματον ἡ ἀνάστασις τοῦ Σωτῆρος μᾶς ἀνήκει πρὸς τὸν πολέμο καὶ τὸν τάφο. Οἱ αὐτοί μὲ τὴν ἀνάστασιν τοῦ Σωτῆρος αἴνεται τὴν καταστροφήν τὴν ξάνθησαν, τὸ φῶς τοῦ Ζωοφόρου τάφου. Εἶναι τὸ φῶς τῷ ἀναστάντος Χριστοῦ. Τὸ σκότος τῆς καταστροφῆς μαίνεται ὁλόγυρά μας, δὲν δύναται, ὡστόσο, νὰ συσκοτίσει δὲν δύναται νὰ ὑπερνικήσει τὸ φῶς τῆς συμπόνιας, τῆς εὐαισθητοποίησης, τῆς ἀνθρωπιᾶς τὸ ὁποίο ἀναφαίνει ἐκ γύρω μας, ὅσο καὶ ἄν μᾶς καταβάλουν τὰ προβλήματά μας, τὸ φῶς τοῦ ἀναστάντος Χριστοῦ μᾶς καταυγάζει μὲ τὶς προσφυγικὲς καὶ ἀνέστιες οἰκογένειες αἵτις ὑποφέρουν ἀκατανόμαστην βίαν καὶ θάνατον.

Ἐκφράζουμε ὁ Άγγελος τοῦ Θεοῦ συνεορτάζουμε τὸ Πάσχα μετὰ τῶν ἀδελφῶν μας τῶν μαρτύρων, οἱ ὁποῖοι ἐγένοντο θύματα τῆς ἁμαρτίας, τοῦ θανάτου. Τὸ σκότος τῆς καταστροφῆς μαίνεται ὁλόγυρά μας, δὲν δύναται, ὡστόσο, νὰ συσκοτίσει δὲν δύναται νὰ ὑπερνικήσει τὸ φῶς τῆς συμπόνιας, τῆς εὐαισθητοποίησης, τῆς ἀνθρωπιᾶς τὸ ὁποίο ἀναφαίνει ἐκ γύρω μας, ὅσο καὶ ἄν μᾶς καταβάλουν τὰ προβλήματά μας, τὸ φῶς τοῦ ἀναστάντος Χριστοῦ μᾶς καταυγάζει μὲ τὶς προσφυγικὲς καὶ ἀνέστιες οἰκογένειες αἵτις ὑποφέρουν ἀκατανόμαστην βίαν καὶ θάνατον.
Beloved in Christ, as we enter the month of May we continue to bask not just in the sunshine of spring, but also in the Light of the Holy Resurrection of our Lord. In the northern hemisphere, it is always a blessing to celebrate Pascha simultaneously with the renewal of all God’s creation around us. The physical renewal of plant life in spring can only occur after the dark and bleak days of dormancy during winter, thus spring is focused on the renewal of life. In the same fashion, Orthodox Christians are spiritually renewed each year at Pascha as we celebrate eternal life – a direct consequence of the Lord’s Resurrection. During Holy Week we are surrounded by many venerable traditions, both during liturgical services and in the home. Many of our beloved traditions of Pascha – both “small T” and “big T” – are clear reminders and symbols of the message of Pascha. Let us look at this aspect of our paschal celebration a bit deeper.

First of all, let us remember that in Orthodox liturgical theology, we never separate the events of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord. The Church has always considered the three day period from Holy Friday through the Sunday of Pascha, as one continuous liturgical commemoration. After all, without the Lord’s death on the Cross there could be no Resurrection.

When we attend the service of the passion of Christ on Holy Thursday evening, it is traditional for the faithful to hold lit candles from the end of the fifth gospel reading to the end of the service. If we meditate a bit on this tradition, we should be able to see how the candle represents us – persons created in the image and likeness of God. In general, the candles we light in church remind us of the mystery of our being – a union of body and soul represented by the candle and the flame. By being given light from the altar on Holy Thursday evening, we thereby receive the Light of Christ Himself, just as our bodies contain the Light of Christ given to us at baptism. As we hold our lit candles during the service, we should clearly comprehend that we are participants in the death of our Lord. Our goal each year at Pascha is to spiritually die with Christ in order to be risen with Him.

Another venerable tradition upheld on Holy Friday, is that of passing under the Epitaphios as we re-enter the church after the procession. Through this gesture we demonstrate our humility as we bow our heads and necks in order to pass underneath. Humility is one of the fruits of our Lenten struggle, so therefore, we should come to church on Holy Friday in order to bury our egos. After the service, we are all given a flower to take home, again, as a reminder of our participation in the death and burial of Christ. We can also extend the symbolism of the flower both as a reminder of the negative things in our lives that should have died and been buried, as well as a promise of eternal life which pours out from the Tomb.

When we come to the vigil liturgy of Pascha on Holy Saturday morning, we see the priest toss bay laurel leaves and rose petals used at the burial of Christ, just prior to the announcement of His Resurrection. The ancient Greeks used laurel leaves as a sign of triumph and victory, as seen by the use of laurel wreaths to crown victorious athletes. Christ’s death and resurrection were His ultimate victory against the power of the Devil over mankind, thus we clearly pronounce this message through this venerable ritual and immediately after, through the holy word of God.

This brings us to the main celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord commencing late Holy Saturday night. As we all know very well, the main symbol of the Resurrection is the lit candle which we hold throughout the Orthros and Liturgy of Pascha. We have already spoken above of the symbolism of the candle; however, in this case we clearly understand the flame as the Light of the Risen Christ. The Light comes from the “sleepless vigil lamp” constantly burning on the Holy Table, which represents both the Throne of God and the empty Tomb. The distribution and receipt of the Light of the Resurrection should also remind us of the annual miraculous appearance of the Holy Fire in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem (for more information on this miracle, do a google search for articles, as well as a YouTube search for many videos on the miracle).

A secondary symbol of the Resurrection are the red paschal eggs, which are traditionally dyed on either Holy Thursday or Saturday (never on Holy Friday!), and blessed in church after the liturgy of Pascha. It is important for us to teach our children that these are blessed eggs that represent important theological teachings – very different from the multi-colored Easter eggs used in eggs hunts that seem to have more of a connection to bunnies and springtime, than with the death and resurrection of our Lord. Now please do not misunderstand that there is any wrong with multi-colored eggs and egg hunts. We can incorporate such traditions in our celebration as long as we teach the importance and significance of the red eggs, which should be quite obvious. The red color of course represents the blood shed by our Lord in His passion and death on the Cross, while the egg itself represents both the tomb of Christ and new life.

Along with red eggs being a tradition in our homes, there is also the sweet bread baked for the feast known as lambropsomo, which usually has a red egg baked into the loaf. With this tradition we don’t just see a symbol of the death and resurrection of our Lord through the red egg, but also the emphasis on the sweetness of eternal life in the Kingdom granted through the Resurrection. Of course, the paschal celebration is never complete without the presence of roast lamb. Again, this is an obvious symbol of Pascha – the new Passover of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, who is the final and perfect sacrifice offered for the redemption of mankind.

Beloved in Christ, hopefully with these in-depth descriptions and commentary on the various traditions of Holy Week and Pascha, you will come to appreciate them even more from year to year. We should always strive to continuously learn about our Orthodox faith, especially when we are raising children, so that they can learn early on how and why we do certain things in church and in the home. Many parishioners will comment on how their parents would always answer their questions about Church with, “that’s just how we do it.” Hopefully we can take this up a notch by giving well-informed answers that make sense!

Christ is Risen!

+Fr. Anthony
**Spiritual Wisdom**

This is our festival – that we celebrate God coming to man that man might go back to God our Father. Off with the old man, on with the new! Once dead in Adam, now alive in Christ, born with Christ, crucified with Christ, buried with Christ, risen with Christ!

St. Gregory Nazianzus

God’s commandments are not grievous but a light burden. But they are light only where there is love – if love is not present, everything is difficult. Therefore, preserve love, do not lose it, for though it is possible to recover love, this can only be at the cost of much weeping and praying, and without love, life on earth is hard. To continue in malice means death to the soul, from which may the Lord preserve us.

St. John the Theologian

On the third day, He freely rose again from the dead. He appeared to His disciples as He had been. However, He tarried for forty days so that they might be instructed by Him in the precepts of life and so that they might learn what they were to teach. Then, in a cloud spread around Him, He was lifted up into heaven – so that as a conqueror, He might bring humanity to the Father. For Christ loved man, He became man, and He shielded man from death.

St. Cyprian of Carthage

We ridiculed our Lord and sentenced Him to death; in return, He “takes revenge” on us with His infinite love and forgiveness...

(from Fr. Anthony’s spiritual father)

**In Appreciation**

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for all the assistance and extra effort, put forth by many of you during Great Lent and Holy Week. This includes all the volunteer readers, chanters, and the choir who assisted with the many services of the season; the parish ministries that sponsored the Lenten suppers; the ecclesiastical committee of the parish council; the altar boys; the palm cross weavers; the decorating committee which assisted throughout Holy Week; the Philoptochos paschal egg-dyeing crew; those who oversaw the two youth retreats, the myrrh-bearers, and the egg hunt on Pascha; and all the other behind-the-scenes volunteers who helped with many other “odds and ends.” As I say every year, the various tasks and obligations of this beautiful liturgical season cannot be fulfilled adequately, without the help of all of the above-mentioned brothers and sisters in Christ.

A special thank you also needs to be offered to the Nenopoulos, Passias (Steve), and Tsitsopoulos families for undertaking a huge task. The Metropolis approached our parish with less than a week’s notice to host the annual basketball awards banquet on Sunday, 3/29. Two of these families were already involved earlier that day with the Greek Independence Day program of our Greek School. The three families assisted with all aspects of this banquet which totaled 350+ guests, thus ensuring that it would be a pleasant experience for all. Of course, as everyone knows, Steve Passias also oversees the entire basketball ministry of our parish.

May our Risen Lord bless all of those mentioned and not mentioned, for these labors of love!

**Memorial Day Cemetery Schedule**

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th, Fr. Anthony will be at the following cemeteries:

- Melrose – 10:00 am
- Evergreen, Stoughton – 10:45 am
- Knollwood, Canton – 11:30 am

Please be ready to hand Father Anthony your list of names removed from the envelope.
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<td>Sunday of the Paralytic</td>
<td>Mid-Pentecost</td>
<td>182 Hungry</td>
<td>Small Vespers</td>
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<td>Sunday of the Samaritan Woman</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
<td>Small Vespers</td>
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<td>Philoptochos</td>
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<td>Κυριακή της Σαμαρειτίδος</td>
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<td>Food Festival</td>
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<td>Sunday of the Blind Man</td>
<td>Apodosis of Pascha</td>
<td>Great Vespers</td>
<td>Apodosis of Pascha</td>
<td>The Ascension of Our Lord;</td>
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<td>Κυριακή του Τυφλού</td>
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<td>The Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
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Προσφελέεις Αδελφοί και Αδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Προσφελέεις Αδελφοί και Αδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,
PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

2015 Calendar of Events

- Philoptochos Meeting/Elections: Tuesday, May 5th
- Philoptochos Food Festival: May 16th & May 17th
- Philoptochos Meeting/End of Year Dinner: TBA for June
- Food Festival Baking: Monday, August 17th
- Annual Christmas Party: TBD

Don’t forget to join or renew your membership for 2015!

Koliva

For Koliva please call the church office at 508-559-0910. We would appreciate one week’s notice in advance of the memorial service to prepare your koliva. The cost is $85 and checks should be made payable to the Ladies Philoptochos Society.

Shut In Visitations

Anyone who would like a visit from the Ladies of Philoptochos, or knows of someone who would like some company, please contact the office.

Dear National Board Members, Chapter Presidents and Stewards of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society,

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

On Pascha we celebrate the moment when good conquered evil and life triumphed over death. Just as Spring brings warmth and bright colors to the earth after a harsh Winter, Pascha brings joy and new life to the spirit, offering us the hope of renewal and a time to recommit ourselves to our Faith, our Holy Church, our families and friends, and, of course, to those in need.

As faithful stewards of Philoptochos, we have a daily opportunity, indeed an obligation, to follow the selfless example of Christ’s love, to share the “light” by helping those in need. Some of you may have heard about the Butterfly Effect, a physics concept, which suggests that a single butterfly flapping its wings on one side of the globe can, in theory, cause a significant weather event on the other side of the world. What if a simple act of kindness, a very small change not unlike the movement of a butterfly’s wings, could also result in significant consequences?

We in Philoptochos can be that small change. Unknown good and great things can flow from every kindness we show – without our knowledge or design. There are things we can do right now to start the change. Today, 50 million Americans struggle with hunger. Even more disturbing is that one in five children in our country, the richest in the world, goes to bed hungry.

Philoptochos chapters across the country have recently been challenged to serve 250,000 meals to those in need by Summer 2016. Imagine that each person we help then helps another and another and another. We could be the start of a network of unanticipated kindness, a renewed goodness in our lives. The possibilities are extraordinary and boundless.

On behalf of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society and the people we help, I thank you for your devoted service to Christ and His Church.

With love in the Resurrected Christ,

Maria Logus
National Philoptochos President
UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 3rd  
GOYA Meeting  
Family Fun Day

Sunday, May 17th  
Sunday School Graduation

Saturday, May 30th  
GOYA Six Flags Trip

Sunday May 31st  
GOYA Meeting

Sunday, June 7th  
Greek School Graduation

Sunday, June 14th  
GOYA Meeting

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christos Anesti!

We hope everyone had a blessed Pascha. We are coming to the end of our Sunday School year. The remaining classes are as follows:

May 3rd—Regular Classes
May 10th—Regular Classes
May 17th—Graduation!

Please note that on May 17th Sunday School will start at 10:30 and awards will be held in the church following the Divine Liturgy.

GOYA

Christos Anesti GOYAns and parishioners!

On the weekend before Easter we had a Lenten Retreat at our church. We had 9 members of the MBC Staff come down from NH to help us. The Retreat involved making of Palm crosses, discussions, church services, fun and games, a sleepover and to finish it off a breakfast after Communion. Everyone had such a great time!

The month of May will be a busy and fun month as well. On Sunday, May 3rd we have our GOYA meeting and there is a Family Fun Day event at the church. On Mother’s Day we will be handing out carnations at the church and on May 30th we have a trip planned to Six Flags which is open to the church. Anyone interested in joining us please see a GOYAN or one of the advisors.

In June we plan to hold elections for next year’s officers.

Always remember, new members are always welcomed! If you know someone who is in grades 6 thru 12 send them our way!
Dear Parishoners,

Christos Anesti! On behalf of Father Anthony and the Parish Council we would like to thank all of our Parishoners who generously donated their time and talent to making Holy Week successful. We also want to thank Father John Kiramarios for joining us throughout the week.

We also want to thank all the parishoners who attended our Spring General Assembly. It was a great opportunity to showcase all of the hard work our committees and ministries have accomplished over the past year.

On May 2nd the Parish Council will be hosting a concert featuring The Greek Music Ensemble. There will be a buffet and a cocktail reception. If you are interested in purchasing tickets you may call the office or see Dr. Dino Constantinou. This event was completely sold out last year so get your tickets early.

On May 7th our annual 182 Hungry Man Dinner event will be taking place. This is always a sell-out occasion and all proceeds go to the church's operating expenses. If you are interested please contact the church office or see a Parish Council member.

Finally, on May 16th and 17th, the Ladies Philoptochos will be hosting their Spring Food Festival. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring the entire family down for some wonderful food. Sunday will be a special day after Sunday School graduation, our dance group will be performing. Please make an effort to attend and support our church! We hope to see you there.

As we wind down the Ecclesiastical year, we hope to see you in church over the summer months. As a reminder your Stewardship pledges are needed. If you have not had a chance to pledge for the year, please take a moment either online or in person to acknowledge your commitment. Stewardship is and always will be our best way to maintain our church operations. Without your support we will have a difficult time maintaining this commitment.

Thank you for your continued support and let's not forget the needy and less fortunate.

God Bless

John Kolentsas
2015 Floral Needs

Following is a list of remaining icons for feasts during the year which have yet to be sponsored. To sponsor the decoration of one or more of these icons, please call the office directly during the week. As a reminder, the cost for decorating any of the festal icons listed below is $60. (Please note that during the time of printing and mailing this bulletin, some of the items listed may have already been sponsored. If so, please consider a second choice.)

Feasts of Christ & the Theotokos

5/31 – Pentecost
8/6 – Transfiguration
8/15 – Dormition of the Theotokos
(arrangement for large iconostasis icon, $75)
9/14 – Elevation of the Holy Cross
11/21 – Entrance of the Theotokos
1/6/2016 – 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.
## 2015 Calendar of Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Greek Music Concert</td>
<td>Saturday, May 2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Fun Day</td>
<td>Sunday, May 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>182 Hungry Friends Dinner</td>
<td>Thursday, May 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philoptochos Food Festival</td>
<td>Saturday, May 16th &amp; May 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School Graduation</td>
<td>Sunday, May 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greek School Graduation</td>
<td>Sunday, June 7th</td>
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<td>Ministry Awards Banquet</td>
<td>Sunday, June 14th</td>
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<td>Golf Tournament</td>
<td>Monday, June 22nd</td>
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<td>Annual Food Festival</td>
<td>Thursday, September 17th to 20th</td>
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<td>AHEPA Fall Dance</td>
<td>Saturday, November 7th</td>
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<td>Fall General Assembly</td>
<td>Sunday, November 15th</td>
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<td>Parish Council Elections</td>
<td>Sunday, December 6th</td>
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<td>Parish Council Oath &amp; Election of Officers</td>
<td>Sunday, December 20th</td>
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## 2015 Parish Council Meetings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 12th</td>
<td>September 8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9th</td>
<td>October 13th</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 28th</td>
<td>November 10th</td>
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<tr>
<td>August (no meeting)</td>
<td>December 8th</td>
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</table>

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Heidi Mason as the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton’s 2015 Metropolis Award Recipient. Please join us in celebrating Heidi’s achievement on June 14th at Lombardos in Randolph, MA. Reception starts at 5:30. Please call the church office for ticket information.
Graduation Gifts & Summer Reading!

**New Release!**

**H** is for Holy
Illustrated, introduces young children to the words of our church, from altar to “epistle.”

Visit [https://store.ancientfaith.com](https://store.ancientfaith.com) to view the book or enter your child in the “H is for Holy” illustration contest.

**Let My Prayer Arise**
A male trio of two tenors and a bass at St. Herman Orthodox Church in Littleton, CO offer fresh arrangements of traditional Orthodox hymns.

Listen to song samples online at [http://store.ancientfaith.com](http://store.ancientfaith.com)

**In Christ, Victory**
Vinyl decal with adhesive backing, weather resistant.

**Our Bookstore is open to you, offering items to borrow or purchase. Contact us at annunciation.bookstore@gmail.com. Or leave a message at the office, 508-559-0910**

From our collection
- Icons
- Incense & burner
- Pocket prayer books
- Children’s books
- Pamphlets for teens
- Orthodox study bible

Popular gift!
Guardian Angel Nightlight

See this item and other Orthodox gifts and more at [www.light-n-life.com](http://www.light-n-life.com)
2015

Get Togethers

Dates:

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 ~ Elder Law Clinic
   ~ Helpful information about wills, trusts, power of attorney
   ~ Tea with Giagia table at the Philoptochos Event

Tuesday, June 16, 2015 ~ Senior Newsletter & Scrapbooking

Tuesday, September 16, 2015 ~ Healthy Planning for Healthy Aging

Tuesday, October 21, 2015 ~ 3rd Annual Fuller Museum Luncheon

Tuesday, November 18, 2015 ~ Bingo and Baklava
   ~ Boston Byzantine Music Festival or Holiday Concert

December 15, 2015
   ~ Christmas Celebration

Any changes will be posted in the monthly bulletin.
$20 yearly donation welcomed
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Brockton, Massachusetts
Proudly presents a concert featuring
The Greek Music Ensemble

Saturday, May 2nd, 2015
7 pm Buffet and Cocktail Reception
Cash bar during Reception and Intermission
8 pm - 10:30 pm Concert
457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 559-0910
Tickets $50 Adults, $15 under 18

www.grmusicensemble.com
AGOC Brockton
Family Fun Day

When: Sunday, May 3rd, 12-3 PM
What: Moon Bounce, face painting, other activities, and FOOD!

Parents are invited to come to an informal discussion group where all the youth programs of our parish will be the topic

Sponsored by the Brockton Youth Ministry Team of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton, MA
182 Hungry Friends

Join us for our annual Dinner and Raffle

**THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015**

6 pm Cocktails  
7 pm Dinner  
8 pm Raffle

The donation is $125 per person. Participants can bring a guest to dinner for an additional $25. Please see any Parish Council member for tickets.
Eat

Drink

Annunciation Ladies Philoptochos

Food Fest

2015

May 16th 11 a.m.—9 p.m.
May 17th 12 p.m.—6 p.m

Free Admission
Food to Go

Authentic Greek Food
Greek Music
Dance Performances
Join us for the Annual Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Golf Tournament!

EXCITING PRIZES INCLUDE
Foursome to the Eason Country Club (1st Place)
$25 Gift Certificates to each (2nd Place)
460cc Driver (Longest Drive Prize) - Putter (Closest To The Pin Prize)

Register & pay online at http://www.annunciationbrockton.org—we accept all major credit cards!

When: Monday, June 22, 2015
9:30 AM—Shotgun Start
8:00 AM—Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM—Golf Range

Where: Easton Country Club
256 Purchase Street
South Easton, MA 02356
(508) 238-2500

ENTRY FEE OF $125 PER PLAYER INCLUDES GREEN FEES, GOLF CART, DRIVING RANGE, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH BANQUET, AND AWARDS. DINNER GUESTS WELCOME AT $25 EACH.

Mail check & registration by June 1st to:
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA 02301
Telephone—(508) 559-0910

Contact:
Stephen Passias
passias@comcast.net
Telephone—(508) 942-8483

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s):
1)
2)
3)
4)

E-mail (e-mail address of first name)

Telephone

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

___ Golf/Food Festival Bundle: $450 (includes tee sponsorship tournament, banner & placemat ad for festival; save $150!)
___ Tee or Green Sponsor: $150
___ Putting Green: $250—2’ x 6’ Banner Ad
___ Driving Range: $250—2’ x 6’ Banner Ad
___ Breakfast: $250—2’ x 6’ Banner Ad
___ Lunch: $500—2’ x 6’ Banner Ad

___ I cannot attend, but would like to make a donation. Please accept my donation of $ ________.

Sponsor:

Telephone:

Street Address:

City: ___________________ State: ___________________ Zip: ___________________

http://www.annunciationbrockton.org

ENTRY FEE MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION
February 23, 2015

Dear Eleni Stamboulidis:

On behalf of the Brockton Campus VA Boston Healthcare System patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your generous donation of 8 overstuffed house warming baskets for homeless veterans in establishing their new homes. Your thoughtfulness reflects the concern that you feel for our Veterans and for the service they provided to all of us while in service to our country.

Without your support, we could not provide for the smaller niceties that make hospitalization more bearable. Your thoughtfulness also reflects the compassion that our community feels for our Veterans.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Leeman
Acting Chief, Voluntary Service

In accordance with VHA Directive 4721, we are required to state "The Department of Veterans Affairs did not provide you, the donor, any goods or services in consideration in whole or part for your contribution."