May 2016

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Great Vespers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td>Orthros</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Divine Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekdays</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Orthros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Divine Liturgy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Resurrection
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos
George Stavropoulos, Chanter
Kristina Yepez, Choir Director
Ona Calogrias, Organist

PARISH COUNCIL
Executive Board
Nicholas Babanikas, President
George Panagoulopoulos, 1st Vice President Administration
John Papadopoulos, 2nd Vice President Maintenance
Joanna Stellakis, Secretary
James P. Mihos, Treasurer
Tulla Giannaros, Assistant Treasurer

Members of the Board
Nicholas Alexiou
Konstantina Boutas
Dino Constantinou
John Kolentsas
Ted Ntakoulas
Stephen Passias
Ilias Potsis
Temi Stamboulidis
Philip Tsionis

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
Executive Board
Pegi Ciulla, President
Tina Boutas, Vice President
Penny Kazis, 2nd Vice President
Anne-Marie Horne, Recording Secretary
Erlinda Anthony, Treasurer
Lori Stasiewski, Assistant Treasurer
Heidi Barbas, Advisor

Members of the Board
Ana Manos
Despina Papadopoulos
Ethel Savas
Sophia Terzakis

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Heidi Barbas, Advisor

Members of the Board
Ana Manos
Despina Papadopoulos
Ethel Savas
Sophia Terzakis

OTHER MINISTRIES
Sunday School
Tina Boutas
Rhoda Economos
John Nenopoulos
Greek School
Ioanna Andreopoulou
Katerina Tsiantoulas
Tina Boutas
G.O.Y.A.
Jon Buterbaugh
J.O.Y. & H.O.P.E.
Barbara Mantalos
Gianna Tiliakos
OPA! Group
Pegi Ciulla
Koliva
Ladies Philoptochos
Coffee Hour
Tina Boutas
Shut-In Visitations
Ladies Philoptochos
Basketball
Stephen Passias
Dance Group
Jon & Penny Buterbaugh
Oratorical Festival
Rhoda Economos
Bookstore
Pegi Ciulla
Linda Sakelaris Poole
Stephen Savas
Joanna Stellakis
Webmaster
George Theodossiou
helpdesk@annunciationbrockton.org

EMAILS
Father Anthony
priest@annunciationbrockton.org
Liz Karolemeas
office@annunciationbrockton.org
Beloved in Christ, we have once again reached the holiest and greatest feast of the ecclesiastical year – the Lord’s Great and Holy Pascha. Many weeks of preparation have preceded this holy feast, and hopefully, those of us who prepared ourselves spiritually and physically during the Lenten period, have grown further in Christ and have further ascended the spiritual ladder toward salvation. After all, this is the goal of every Orthodox Christian. Let us all thank God for our Holy Orthodox Church and her Holy Tradition, which offers us every opportunity for spiritual health and growth, most especially during Great Lent and the celebration of Holy Pascha.

Our sense of gratitude and love for our Orthodox faith needs to grow even stronger as we proceed into the future. As the world around us becomes more secular, Christianity – especially its more traditional and conservative branches – is being either ignored, criticized, or even ridiculed as antiquated and irrelevant. Even worse, some Christian denominations have “watered down” basic Christian theology, and have allowed societal mores and trends to direct their path. Another sad reality is that many people who came from Christian backgrounds have little or no connection to their Christian heritage. One major example of this complete disconnect to Christianity is the feast of Christmas, which has all but lost any aspect of what it is truly about. You have heard me speak of this many times, as well as in written messages. Even worse is the complete obliteration of the meaning of Easter – the primary and most important Christian feast.

In preparation for the Lenten suppers after each Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy, I had searched for appropriate YouTube videos on various aspects of our Orthodox faith. Through one of my searches I came across videos of Evangelical Christians interviewing random people on the street with one basic question: “Do you know what Easter is about?” Sadly, many of those interviewed either had no idea, or thought that it was a special celebration focused on children so that they can receive new outfits, hunt for eggs, receive candy, see the Easter bunny, and other such things. A few people actually knew that it was a Christian holiday, but weren’t clear on the purpose of the feast, guessing that it may have to do with the birth of Christ (clear proof that many have no idea that Christmas celebrates His birth!).

This is why, beloved, we need to give thanks daily for the purity and clarity of our Orthodox faith. There is no way that an Orthodox Christian, or a potential convert for that matter, could mistake anything about the meaning of Holy Pascha as presented and celebrated in the Orthodox Church. As parents, the only mistake we could make in this regard is to be overly influenced by the secular mindset of friends and even family, which could lead to the spiritual misguidance of our children especially during their most formative years.

Having said this, I’m not implying that an Easter egg hunt and the receipt of candy should have no place in our children’s Paschal celebration. These things can be done as a supplement to the true celebration of the feast, which begins in church and follows us home. The Church’s traditions are what will have the greatest impact, and that our children will remember into adulthood and hopefully carry on with their own children, God willing.

Those of us who were raised with a correct understanding of the meaning of Pascha, and were brought to Holy Week services from a young age, are those who are today’s regular participants in these services, and church services in general. Fortunately there are also many of us who were not exposed to a great extent to the Church and her traditions, but have also learned to love and appreciate the liturgical life of the Church, especially the period of Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha. I can speak to this very personally because I am one of them. Sometimes many are surprised to hear that priests do not always come from the ideal ecclesiastical background that one would expect. Due to family circumstances, my family did not attend church on a regular basis. After my father’s work schedule underwent a major change, we began to attend regularly when I was 12 years old. From that point on, the Church became a major part of our family’s life.

The point here is that everyone can benefit by turning to the Church in a major way at any stage of one’s life. However, it must be re-emphasized that the best and most influential time for church exposure is in early childhood. In our Orthodox tradition, Lent and Holy Week comprise the period with the greatest impact on us spiritually. Families would greatly benefit from what the Church offers during this sacred season. Adults who have not yet “dived in with both feet” may want to start getting their feet wet and eventually jump in all the way. Unless we take this approach, we and our children run the risk of becoming secularized and indifferent toward our Holy Church, which has been established by Christ Himself for our salvation, and will remain until His glorious Second Coming.

So again, let us rejoice in the great treasure we have through our Orthodox faith. And let us remain faithful to our Holy Tradition – our doctrines, dogmas, and liturgical practices – so that we will always know who we are and what we believe as Orthodox Christians.

In the Risen Christ,

+Fr. Anthony
**SPIRITUAL WISDOM**

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. Let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Saviour’s death has set us free. (St. John Chrysostom)

Every time a miracle occurs, the Holy Spirit acts, and for someone to receive the Holy Spirit an open heart is necessary, and it is made open by faith. Just as the reception of radio waves necessarily requires an antenna, similarly for the reception of divine grace, a pure heart full of faith is needed. (St. Luke the Surgeon of Simferopol)

Enlightened by baptism, people believe in God. But there are some who even know Him. To believe in God is good but it is more blessed to know God. Nevertheless, those who believe are blessed, too, as the Lord said to Thomas, one of the twelve: ‘Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.’ (St. Silouan the Athonite)

He who is careless about prayer is careless about his salvation; he who quits prayer renounces his salvation. (St. Ignatius Brianchaninov)

The soul of a humble man is like the sea: throw a stone into the sea – for a moment it will ruffle the surface a little, and then sink to the bottom. Thus for a moment it will ruffle the sea – for a moment it will ruffle the surface a little, and then sink to the bottom. Thus stone into the sea – for a moment it will ruffle the surface a little, and then sink to the bottom. Thus stone into the sea –

**IN APPRECIATION**

As we do each year after Pascha, we pause to recognize all the volunteers who helped throughout Great Lent, Holy Week, and the celebration of Holy Pascha. From the liturgical end this includes our chanter, George Stavropoulos, our volunteer chanters and readers, our altar servers, and the choir. For the decorations and other preparations, this includes our Philoptochos ladies, the Holy Week decorating committee, and the various individuals who did their part to assist in various ways. We also thank the Parish Council for their time and effort, especially during the very busy week of our Lord’s Passion.

Lastly – and this has been an oversight in the past on my part – I would like to personally thank Fr. John Kiramarios for his willingness to assist during Holy Week and Pascha again this year. This is the most taxing time of the year for a priest, and his assistance was most greatly appreciated.

**REFLECTION ON PASCHA**

(The following is taken from Great Week and Pascha in the Greek Orthodox Church, by Rev. Dr. Alkiviadis Calivas, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1992)

The death of Christ is the greatest miracle as well as the ultimate manifestation of God’s boundless love for his whole creation. It is no mere man who died. The One who was laid in the tomb is none other than the eternal and deathless Word of God, who taking on flesh humbled Himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross (Phil 2.8). Pascha has nothing to do with romanticism and sentimentalities. Someone put it in these bold, vivid terms: ‘Easter is not about the return of the robin in spring or crocuses or a butterfly coming out of the cocoon or any of that pagan drivel. It’s about a Body that somehow got loose. The Gospel accounts strain to describe what happened, but don’t make any mistake about it, they’re trying to describe something unearthly: death working backwards. So I can’t talk about “the eternal rebirth of hope” or “Jesus living on in our hearts.” We’re talking about a dead Jew, crucified, who came back to life...This is God we’re talking about, a real God, people, not some projection of our ego.

It is not without significance that the icon of the Resurrection in our Church is the Descent of Christ into Hades, the place of the dead. This icon depicts a victorious Christ, reigned in glory, trampling upon death, and seizing Adam and Eve in His hands, plucking them from the abyss of hell. This icon expresses vividly the truths resulting from Christ’s defeat of death by His death and resurrection...

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the fundamental truth and absolute fact of the Christian faith. It is the central experience and essential kerygma of the Church. It confirms the authenticity of Christ’s remarkable earthly life and vindicates the truth of His teaching. It seals all His redemptive work: His life, the model of a holy life. His compelling and unique teaching; His extraordinary works; and His awesome, life-creating death. Christ’s resurrection is the guarantee of our salvation. Together with His ascension it brings to perfection God’s union with us for all eternity...

**MEMORIAL DAY CEMETERY SCHEDULE**

On Memorial Day, Monday, 5/30, 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.

2016 Floral Needs
Following is a list of remaining icons for decoration. Please note that the cost for decorating an icon is $60. To sponsor the decoration, please call the office directly during the week.

**Feasts of Christ & the Theotokos ($60)**

- 6/9 – Ascension
# May Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOLY PASCHA</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Tuesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Thursday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bright Saturday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>TO ΑΓΙΟΝ ΠΑΣΧΑ</td>
<td>(no fasting during Renewal Week)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paschal Vespers, 7:00 pm followed by Adult Relig. Ed.</td>
<td>Hungry Friends Dinner 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Feast of the Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos</td>
<td>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vespers of Agape &amp; St. George 11:00 am</td>
<td>Η Διακαινησιμος Εβδομαδας (ανευ νηστεια)</td>
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<td>GOYA Dance 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Η Αγαπη &amp; Μνημη του Αγιου Γεωργιου</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday of Thomas</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parish Council 6:00 pm</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Small Vespers 7:00 pm followed by Adult Relig. Ed.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Αντιπάσχα. Του Αγίου Αποστόλου Θωμά.</td>
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<td><strong>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mothers Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday of the Myrrhbearers</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPA 2-4 pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Small Vespers 7:00 pm followed by Adult Relig. Ed.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sts. Constantine &amp; Helen</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Κυριακη των Μυροφόρων</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Orthros &amp; Lit. Τον Άγιου Κωνσταντίου &amp; Ελενης</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday School “Cook-out”</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday of the Paralytic</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mid-Pentecost</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Του Παραλυτου</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Great Vespers 6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday School Graduation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Philoptochos Mini-Festival</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Philoptochos Mini-Festival</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sunday of the Samaritan Woman</strong></td>
<td><strong>Memorial Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Κυριακη της Σαμαρετιδος</td>
<td>(please see entry for cemetery schedule)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Please see your illustrated Archdiocesan calendar for daily Scripture readings and fasting guidelines</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ο Οικουμενικός Πατριάρχης Βαρθολομαίος, ο Πάπας Φραγκίσκος και ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Ιερώνυμος θα επισκεφθούν την Λάσβο

OIKOYMENIKON PATRIARXEION
ANAKOINΩΘΕΝ

Ανακοινώνεται ότι κατά το τελευταίο διάστημα, το Οικουμενικόν Πατριαρχείον και προσωπικά ή Ά. Θ. Παναγιώτης, ο Οικουμενικός Πατριάρχης κ. κ. Βαρθολομαίος, παρακολουθούν αργύρων τέσσερεις επιθέσεις και τέσσερα πολιομβόλες συγκρούσεις είς την ευρύτερη περιοχή της Μέσης Ανατολής και τέσσερα έκτακτα διώξεις των Χριστιανών. Ούτως, ή Ά. Θ. Παναγιώτης ο Πατριάρχης έχει εκφράσει παντοπορτότης μέχρι σήμερα την αγωνία του Αυτού διά το μέγα θέμα του κόμματος προσφύγων. 'Εν τῇ πενθήμερη τούτη, ἐπικοινώνησε δε ἐκπρόσωπος Αυτού μετά τῆς Αυτοῦ Αρχόντης τού Πάπα Φραγκίσκου κατά μήνα Φεβρουαρίου, τῆς δὲ 30ης Μαρτίου ἀπηγάνητος πρὸς Αυτὸν σχετικόν Γράμμα.

'Εν τῇ πλαισίον τού ἑγκαταλείφοντος κατά τῇ ἁπάντῃ ἁγώνῃ τῶν Θρησκευτικῶν Ἡγετῶν καὶ τῆς ἐπιτακτικῆς ανάγκης ἀνάληψες κοινῆς πρωτοβουλίας καὶ δράσεως κατά πρὸς εὐκαιρητοποίησιν τῆς διεθνῆς κοινῆς γνώμης καὶ τῶν άρματων Ὀργανών καὶ φορέων, ή Ά. Αγίας ἡ Πάπας Ράιμος Φραγκίσκου, ή Ά. Θ. Παναγιώτης, ο Οικουμενικός Πατριάρχης κ. κ. Βαρθολομαίος καὶ ή Ά. Μακαριώτης, ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Αθηνών καὶ πάσης Ελλάδος κ. κ. Ιερώνυμος θὰ ἐπισκεφθοῦν λίγο προσεχῆ τῆν Νήσον τῆς Λάσβος, πρὸς ἐπικοινωνίας καὶ ἐπιστημονίου τῶν έκεισ ὑποκειμένων προσφύγων.

Ἡ κίνησις καὶ πρωτοβουλία αὕτη τῶν Ἑρατευμάτων Ἡγετῶν ἴα ἐπιστημονίας ἐν αὐστηρήσει ἐν ὑποκειμένων προσφύγων καὶ θὰ επιμένῃ τῆν ἀνάληψην καταλλήλων πρωτοβουλιῶν διὰ τὴν προστασίαν τῶν ἑκειοποιοτότων Χριστιανῶν Κοινοτήτων καὶ τῆν ορθὴν ἀντιμετώπισιν τὸ μείζονος προσφυγικοῦ θέματος.

Εν τούτω Πατριαρχείῳ, τῇ 5η Απριλίου 2016
Εκ τῆς Αρχιερείας τῆς Αγίας καὶ Ιερᾶς Συνόδου

Ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Δημήτριος καλεί την Ομογένεια να υποστηρίζει το υπόμνημα της Παμμακεδονικής για το όνομα της FYROM

NEA ΥОРΚΗ – Ο Σεβασμότατος Αρχιεπίσκοπος Αμερικής κ. κ. Δημήτριος δέχθηκε σήμερα την επίσκεψη των μελών της διοικήσεως της Παμμακεδονικής Ενώσεως Ενωμένων Πολιτειών με τα οποία συνεζήτησε θέματα σχετικά με το θνητό ζήτημα της ονομασίας της FYROM (πρώην Ποιγραφολατική Δημοκρατία της Μακεδονίας).

Οι εκπρόσωποι της Παμμακεδονικής ενημέρωσαν τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο περί της προοδού των προτομισμάτων για την 70η επέτειο από την ίδρυσή της οργανώσεως και το Συνέδριο της Παμμακεδονικής που θα διεξαχθεί 23-25 Ιουνίου 2016 στη Νέα Υόρκη. Στη συνάντηση συζήτησε υπερέφερε η σύλλογος προσπάθεια που διέξης η Παμμακεδονική για την αποκατάσταση της ιστορικής αλήθειας σε σχέση με τη χρήση του ονόματος της Μακεδονίας από το κράτος της FYROM. Στο πλαίσιο της 70ης Επετείου η Παμμακεδονική Αρχίζει εισαγγελικά συλλογής υπογραφών (petition) με σκοπό την ανάκληση της λανθασμένης αποφάσεως της Αμερικανικής κυβερνήσεως το 2004 για προσωρινή αναγνώριση της FYROM με το όνομα Μακεδονία, παρά την καθαρισμένη πράξη του Ο.Η.Ε. που χρησιμοποίησε το όνομα FYROM.

«Στηρίζουμε διαχρονικά την προσπάθεια της Παμμακεδονικής και ιδιαίτερα τον νέα πρωτοβουλία για την συλλογή υπογραφών για την υποβολή υπομνήματος με το οποίο θα ζητείται η ανάκληση της αναγνώρισης της FYROM με το όνομα Μακεδονία», δήλωσε ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος Δημήτριος.
## DONATIONS

### Memorials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Droukas</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zacharia &amp; Vasiliki Karantonakis</td>
<td>$234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Tony Karantonakis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickolas Golas</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Tsarhopoulos</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. John Papadopoulos</td>
<td>$ 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Smiliotopoulos</td>
<td>$ 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vasilios Badavas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. James Lambrakis</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Peter Anastasiou</td>
<td>$ 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Follo Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Vasila Kokenes</td>
<td>$ 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demetria Phillips</td>
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### Other Donations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frances &amp; Dorotheos Cicalis</td>
<td>$ 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. James Lambrakis</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. George Kyranos</td>
<td>$ 40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Easter Offerings

- **$265**

### Other Donations

- **$50**

## Floral Donations

### Veneration of the Cross
- Mr. and Mrs. George Alexis $100
- Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Babanikas $225
- Mr. and Mrs. James P. Mihos $100
- Parishioner Collection $177

### Salutations to the Theotokos
- Mr. and Mrs. John Kolentsas
- Mr. and Mrs. Giorgios Giomakis (2)
- Mr. and Mrs. Ilias Lainas
- Mrs. Anastasia Apostolidis

### Palm Strips for Palm Crosses
- Mr. and Mrs. Aristotelis Roussopoulos
  For the health & well being of their family

### Palm Arrangements for Royal Gate
- Mr. and Mrs. Tony Calogrias

### Palm Arrangements for Soleas
- Mr. and Mrs. Sotirios Costarellos

### Bay Laurel Leaves for Palm Sunday
- Mr. and Mrs. Antonios Iosifidis & Family

### Icon of Nymphios
- The Evangelatos Family
  For their health & well being

### Icon of Mystical Supper
- Mrs. Georgia Petropoulos
- IMO Theokritos Petropoulos

### Wreath for Holy Cross
- Mr. and Mrs. George Petropoulos

### Icon of Resurrection
- Penny, Andrea, Maria, Steve & Kathy Papadopoulos
- IMO Elias Papadopoulos 5 years

### Banner of Resurrection
- Dee Yaitanes Fletcher & Husband Alan
- IMO James & Catherine Yataaines
Dear Parishioners,

On Behalf of Father Anthony, the Parish Council and I, we hope that you and your families have a joyous Pascha. May the Light of our Lord’s Resurrection shine on all of us throughout the year and provide us with a spiritual Rebirth in our Orthodox Christian faith.

To the Ladies Philoptochos Society and other volunteers, Thank you, for beautifully decorating our Church and Epitaphio with flowers for Holy Week and Pascha. I would also like to express our appreciation to the members of the choir, altar boys and the cantors for their tireless dedication especially over Holy Week and Pascha.

As you know on April 17, 2016 we had our Spring General Assembly. For those of you who were unable to attend, we discussed what the current Parish Council was able to accomplish in the first 100 days as well as the finances of the Church.

The following projects were completed:

1. Replacement and installation of both a heating and air conditioning system in the gymnasium;
2. Replacement and installation of both a heating and air conditioning system in the Lounge;
3. Painting of the inside of the gymnasium and replacing the tiles and lighting on the stage;
4. Instituted an updated financial system for better tracking of accounts receivable and accounts payable in the Church office;
5. Repaired blocked water drains;
6. Began the installation of the wood background for the Tree of Life;
7. The formation of the Long Term Strategic Committee.

Needless to say these projects could not have been accomplished without the hard work and dedication of Parish Council members and numerous volunteers offering their time and talents. On the financial side of things, there have been multiple years where we have been running a negative balance from $20,000 to $80,000 a year. As you know, no private or non-profit entity can continue to go in a negative direction without facing huge and difficult consequences. A special thanks to so many of you that have made much needed donations, paying your past and current Stewardship pledges, and offering your time and talents to help defray maintenance costs. With your donation we were able to complete the above needed projects without having to take out a loan.

As you know that with the assistance from the Tree of-Life contributions we will have a positive balance this year. However, our goal is to balance our budget this year without the use of funds from the Tree of Life. We would like to apply the entire income raised from the Tree of Life, if possible into a Maintenance Reserve account to take care of future repairs that will be needed in our Church.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank both Christy (Bo) Mihos and Tony Karantonakis for their time and talent in helping the Church defray a large amount of the costs associated with the drain repairs, the air conditioning and heating system in the lounge.

In closing I encourage all of you both young and old alike to come forward and join our family of volunteers working together to keep our Church strong and perpetuate our Orthodox Faith.

“Life and Business is like a wheel barrow ...Nothing ever happens until you start pushing.” Robert Kiyosaki

Respectfully yours,

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hungry Friends</td>
<td>Thursday, May 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School Graduation</td>
<td>Sunday, May 22nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philoptochos Food Festival</td>
<td>Saturday, May 21st and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Awards Banquet</td>
<td>Sunday, June 12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek School Graduation</td>
<td>Sunday, June 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament</td>
<td>Monday, June 27th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Food Festival</td>
<td>Thursday, September 15th -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Banquet &amp; Dance</td>
<td>Sunday, September 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall General Assembly</td>
<td>Saturday, November 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Elections</td>
<td>Sunday, November 13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Council Oath of Office &amp; Election of Officers</td>
<td>Sunday, December 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s Eve Celebration</td>
<td>Sunday, December 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10th</td>
<td>September 8th*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14th</td>
<td>October 11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12th</td>
<td>November 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August (no meeting)</td>
<td>December 13th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note this is a Thursday
Stewardship and our Parish’s Financial Challenges

As we continue to celebrate our 100th year as a Parish, we are confronted with financial challenges that we have never experienced before. With the exception of small surpluses in 2011 and 2012, our Parish has experienced deficits totaling more than $400,000 since 2005. We have used up all of our reserves and because we run deficits, we have no ability to borrow money to pay for repairs and maintenance that our building and grounds need. Our Stewardship Program has stalled and has not kept pace with our expenses that continue to increase despite efforts to cut costs wherever we can.

We have experienced increasing expenses over that past 10 years in the following categories:

- Building Insurance – has increased from $13,000 to $16,500
- Maintenance & Repairs – have increased from $24,000 to $68,000
- Utilities – have increased from $30,000 to $34,000
- Other Expenses – have increased from $5,000 to $12,000

During that same time period our Stewardship Pledges have fallen from $144,000 in 2006 to $116,000 in 2015. With a similar amount projected for 2016, we will once again run a deficit of more than $80,000. While many communities receive more than 50% of their income from Stewardship Pledges, our Parish receives only 25% of our income from Stewardship Pledges. It is unrealistic to expect that our current membership can increase their pledges to almost twice what we receive now, yet perhaps there is an ability for many of us to pledge more to help us reduce our projected deficit. There are many younger families in our Parish with children in or soon to be off to college, that would be hard-pressed to increase their pledge yet even $2, $3, $4 or $5 a week more would significantly cut into our deficit.

Many Parishes within the Greek Orthodox Communities encourage their Parishioners to pledge a percentage of their annual income. This is also a widespread practice in other faiths as well, with some faiths encouraging their followers to pledge up to 10% of their annual income. Below is a chart that is widely circulated in Greek Orthodox Parishes as a guideline if you were to consider pledging as a percentage of your annual income.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Income</th>
<th>% Range</th>
<th>Stewardship Pledge Range</th>
<th>Mid Range Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$500 to $1,000</td>
<td>$14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$1,000 to $2,000</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$1,500 to $3,000</td>
<td>$43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$2,000 to $4,000</td>
<td>$58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$3,000 to $6,000</td>
<td>$86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>2% 4%</td>
<td>$4,000 to $8,000</td>
<td>$115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know that our Buildings and Grounds are valued at between $6 and $7 million dollars? According to real estate professionals we should have been spending or setting aside between $60,000 and $120,000 every year to maintain our investment in good condition. Because we have not had the funds to do so, we are now faced with work that was delayed in the past and must be done soon.

While the Parish Council has tried to control costs whenever they can, we still spend more than we receive in income. We are fortunate that so many Parishioners volunteer their time so we can further reduce expenses and so many also donate far more than just their pledge. However we still have fixed expenses, expenses that we must pay as a Parish, that cost us almost $7,400 per week. That’s $1,057 for each and every day of the year.

We are hopeful that if you have the ability to increase your pledge, you will do so at this time as we struggle to pay our bills. Our only alternative is to avoid doing much needed maintenance work to the building and grounds but if we do, we risk the chance that severe damage will occur and our problems will only grow worse. So please take this opportunity to review your personal financial situation and determine if you are able to provide greater financial support to your Parish. Let’s work together to strengthen our Parish’s financial position.

The Stewardship Committee
Time to Tell Your Story ...

"Everyone went to church together. I remember walking down Spring Street with the family to church," said Peter Tsokanis. "We went to Greek school, to Sunday school, to church. They wanted us to know Greece and our roots."

"My dad had a restaurant on Main. We’d walk to the corner and meet our friends and walk to Sunday school and church," said Penelope Roufogalis Kazis. "We had a connection that we got from belonging."

You have memories of growing up Greek American in our Church community?

We are compiling a video and booklet to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of our parish.

- Write something short and email it to us: office@annunciationbrockton.org.
- Or write it and mail it to the office, 457 Oak St, Brockton, MA 02301. Include your phone no.
- We are interviewing some of our older members—can you suggest anyone? Would you like to tell your story on video or audio?

Call the office, 508-559-0910, or email your ideas.

We also continue to seek interesting photos, such as these (left) from the Stonehill College archives.

How to turn in photos:

If you have a scanner, scan the photo to jpg (color or b&w) and email it to office@annunciationbrockton.org. Please provide any names and an estimated time period, if possible.

OR

Bring the photo to the church office. Make sure your name is on the back, with the time period and the names of people or groups you can identify. Thanks!
**PHILOPTOCHOS**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**May 3rd, 2016**  
**Tuesday @ 7:00 pm**

We look forward to you joining us as we discuss Preparations for the Food Festival Planning, Our paint night Outing, Plans for our next year & much more.

**COOKBOOK**

Planning has begun for our cookbook and recipes are being collected. At our meetings, if you would like to add a recipe to our cookbook Please bring it along with you to our next meeting.

This month we will be focusing on your favorite desert recipes.

Recipes can be submitted to the church office please mark the envelope “TEST KITCHEN” or email us at greekcookbook@gmail.com

**KOLIVA**

If you are planning a memorial service and would like to order koliva, please contact the Church office at (508) 559-0910 at least one week in advance The cost is $100 and checks should be made out to the Annunciation Ladies Philoptochos Society

**COFFEE HOUR**

If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour please contact Tina Boutas at (508) 588-8891

**FOOD FESTIVAL**

There will be a sign-up sheet for The many tasks needing to be done—Please let us know what area you would like to help with or Sign-up at the meeting.

**SUMMER OUTING**

Monday, June 13, 2016

Please see co-committee chairs, Tasha Pavlidis, Demetra Cariofiles And For more information on this wonderful Paint Night Event.

100th Anniversary Event Participation Philoptochos has been a great part of our community for 85 years. It would be great to get some pictures remembering our long and beautiful past.
### UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 7th</td>
<td>GOYA Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 13th</td>
<td>GOYA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 15th</td>
<td>Sunday School Cookout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 22nd</td>
<td>Sunday School Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 21st</td>
<td>GOYA Yard Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 5th</td>
<td>Greek School Graduation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOYA

On Friday, May 13th we will hold our monthly meeting at 6:30 pm. We will be joined by a guest speaker, Timothy Rassias. The discussion will be on Opiates in our community. Timothy grew up in the Greek Orthodox community in Worcester. He is an ex-addict and has been in recovery for over 22 years. He sits on an Opiate Task Force in Massachusetts. Parents are welcomed as well.

We also have our Yard Sale the weekend of the festival. A pod will be available to store the items. See flyer in the back.

### ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

At the District Oratorical Festival held in Cranston, RI on Saturday, April 2, 2016 participants from our Parish were Eleni Constantinou speaking on the topic “Discuss how the arts (music, painting, sculpture, architecture and others can inspire a greater connection between God and an individual or community.”

Christodoulos Constantinou spoke on the topic “In light of Genesis1:24-27, the sixth day of creation, discuss how all living beings are connected and its impact on our responsibility for the planet.

Parishes represented were Cranston, Newport and Pawtucket, RI and Mansfield and Brockton, MA. Winners will participate at the Metropolis in May. The finalists will speak in June in Charleston, SC.
Inspiration During Lent and Beyond

"Hear Me"

"Welcome to your personal prayer book... begins a powerful book for young adult Orthodox Christians...

It offers discussion about how to stop doing hurtful things, how to help friends who are sad, how to soothe your own worried heart.

Read a sample chapter at www.ancientfaith.com

Oh, Death, Where is Your Sting?
Set of 10 Pascha cards
Other cards available at www.ancientfaith.com

We have Holy Week books to lend and sell.

Also an assortment of lenten service books, to lend or sell.

Every time Annie walked in the yard, she would hear a bird or a frog, and her angel hears a similar song of praise in heaven. Heaven and earth are not so far apart, after all.

Take a gift to your host at Pascha dinner ...

We have incense, icons, and more

How about a Greek kitchen towel? (right)

Visit our collection on Sundays after Church
Email us, annunciation.bookstore@gmail.com
Or call the office at 508-559-0910

Short videos to inspire, educate and grow our faith.

www.livingorthodox.com
Join us for
THE HUNGRY FRIENDS
RAFFLE & DINNER
To benefit the
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Celebrating 100 Years
Thursday, May 5, 2016
To be held at The Greek Church Community Center

6 PM   Cocktails & Appetizers
7 PM   Buffet Greek Dinner
(presented by The Arvanitidis Family & Westside Foods)
8 PM   Raffle

$9,000 in PRIZES

Grand Prize - $3,000
Plus 24 Additional Prizes

1st Place $1,500
2nd Place $750
3rd Place $500
4th Place $500
5 Prizes of $250
15 Prizes of $100

DONATION - $125
Additional Meal only $25

See a Parish Council Member for tickets or
call the Church Office at 508.559.0910
CHURCH DIRECTORY

PHOTO SESSION
Last Dates:
MAY 14 & 15, 2016

Our Families Today

Sign up online,
Sundays in the Lounge
or call 1-866-756-0281

Our Future:
School Classes Pictures

Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating

Student Class pictures will be taken
Sunday, May 15th
Student are to meet in the lounge at 10:15 a.m.

Class Pictures are at no cost
Memorial Picture fee is $15/submission

You can submit a picture of a loved one to be remembered

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Noon - 6:00 p.m.

Follow the link below to register for your photo session.

Our Family Memorial Pages

Please use the envelope in this mailing to submit your memorial photographs
Write their name(s) and include their information.

contact Pegi Ciulla @ (508) 857-9551 or register on the website
Our GOYANS will host a YARD SALE at our Church on Saturday & Sunday, May 21st & 22nd from 9 am until 5 pm. It’s the same days that the Philoptochos will host their Spring Food Festival. We ask you to donate household items to the GOYA so that their YARD SALE will be a huge success. Please do not donate clothing, large furniture or anything that is broken because they will not sell. These items sell the best.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DVD's</th>
<th>Music CD’s</th>
<th>Power Tools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golf Clubs</td>
<td>Workout Equipment</td>
<td>Tennis Rackets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycles</td>
<td>Baseball Equipment</td>
<td>Ice Skates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roller Blades</td>
<td>Other Sporting Goods</td>
<td>Children’s Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Books</td>
<td>Gardening Equipment</td>
<td>Cooking Appliances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toys (not broken)</td>
<td>Giant Puzzles</td>
<td>End Tables &amp; Lamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairs</td>
<td>Shoes &amp; Boots (Good Condition)</td>
<td>Sneakers &amp; Golf Shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glassware &amp; Dishes</td>
<td>Silverware</td>
<td>Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics (that work)</td>
<td>Picture Frames</td>
<td>Clocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flower Pots &amp; Knick knacks</td>
<td>Christmas Decorations</td>
<td>LCD TV's (no tube TVs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costume Jewelry</td>
<td>Unused Cosmetics</td>
<td>Hair Dryers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Equipment</td>
<td>Hammers, Saws, Hand Tools</td>
<td>Wall Hangings (Pictures &amp; Quilts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving Trays &amp; Platters</td>
<td>Candle Holders</td>
<td>Comic Books</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will collect items at the Church on Saturdays and Sundays after Church Services beginning on Saturday, April 9th until 2 PM and on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm, unless there is a Church service scheduled.

Let’s work together to make this a HUGE SUCCESS for our GOYANS.
Authentic Greek Food

Greek Festival
Brockton

2016

Saturday May 21st 11 am—9 pm
and
Sunday May 22nd 12 pm—6 pm

Greek Music

Food to Go

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
457 Oak Street
Brockton, MA
ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 27, 2016
Registration/Breakfast/Golf Range: 8:00 am
Shotgun Start: 9:30 am

Easton Country Club, 256 Purchase St., South Easton

REGISTRATION FORM

PLAYER 1 NAME

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PLAYER 2 NAME

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PLAYER 3 NAME

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PLAYER 4 NAME

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SPONSORSHIPS

☐ GOLF/FESTIVAL BUNDLE..............................................$500
  Tee sponsorship, 4x6 Festival banner & placemat ad

☐ LUNCH BANNER.......................................................$500
  2x6 banner

☐ BREAKFAST BANNER...............................................$250
  2x6 banner

☐ PUTTING GREEN BANNER...........................................$250
  2x6 banner

☐ DRIVING RANGE BANNER...........................................$250
  2x6 banner

☐ TEE/GREEN SPONSORSHIP.......................................$150

NAME

COMPANY

ADDRESS

EMAIL

☐ $125 per player  ☐ $25 dinner only  ☐ Donation

Please make checks payable to:
“Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church” or pay by credit card
online at www.annunciationbrockton.org

Please enclose check $________ DUE by June 13, 2016

Mail payment to
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
457 Oak Street
Brockton, MA 02301

For more Information contact:
Stephen Passias    Liz Karolemeas
508-942-8483      508-559-0910
Passias@comcast.net    office@annunciationbrockton.org
The Ladies of Philoptochos preparing for their Annual Bake Sale that was held on Palm Sunday
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

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New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 996-1116

*Also admitted to Rhode Island and Florida

Concentrating in:
Personal Injury Law - Social Security - Workmen’s Compensation
Wills & Trusts - Product Liability - Real Estate Law