

THE BEACON

JULY 2011

**ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS**



S H I N I N G F O R T H T H E G O O D N E W S

A Message from the Priest

July 2011

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are now in the midst of the final preparations for our Greek Food Festival! The last of the workshops are coming up, the tents will soon be set up, the hall arranged to receive the thousands of guests who will come through our doors, all the last minute preparations will soon be complete. I would like to thank all the many volunteers, the workshop chair people and all those who have given of their time to help make the Festival the success that it always is. As Orthodox Christians we believe that our whole life can become sacred; sacredness is not just confined to our “religious” actions. Rather, everything we do for the love of God is an act of worship. Because God became a human being, he has sanctified and given us the possibility to sanctify every action done according to his will. And so, when we gather together to make 50 trays of spanakopita or 5000 koulourakia, these acts, too, can be sanctified; they can be acts of worship and prayer, bringing us closer to God and to one

another. We must always keep that attitude toward our work at the Festival—it is primarily worship and only then a good fund raiser for the Parish!

July also finds many of our Parish Family Members enjoying some time together on vacation. Time away helps to refresh us, soul and body. Vacations too can be a gift from God to recharge us, and to enable us to return to our daily routines in job and family with a new and renewed vigor. But a vacation from work does not mean a vacation from God! God continually “works” to keep us in existence, to watch over us and to guide us, to be with us in joys and sorrows. Let us not take a vacation from him. If we can, we should not take a vacation from Sunday Liturgy; what a wonderful lesson parents can teach their children about the importance of worship when we take a little time out of our vacation to come to the Divine Liturgy and receive Communion! If that is not possible, we certainly should not take a vacation from daily prayer. There are always moments throughout the day to say the Jesus Prayer, to focus our minds and our hearts on God.

I hope that everyone has signed up for at least one shift at the Festival. Everyone should come and enjoy at least one workshop. Remember—this Festival belongs to all of us, and all of us have a responsibility to help out to the best of our ability.

May God bless us!

Fr. Constantine Newman

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Presbytera Anna Newman • (603) 692-7603

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Michael Marcantoni • <ejmar0208@yahoo.com> • (254) 458-6615

Sr. GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America)

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YAL (Young Adult League)

Ryan & Jennifer Jansen • <umlhawk@yahoo.com> • (978) 465-2493

St. Basil's Ministries

Don Argyrople • <dargyrople@comcast.net> • (978) 374-6382

Prosforo: An Offering of Faith

Of the many ways of supporting our Church, there are few which stand out as uniquely personal offerings of faith. The offering of Prosforo bread for the Divine Liturgy is one of them. We are thankful to all who have faithfully fulfilled this responsibility and invite more of our faithful to make this a part of their lives as well.

Prosforo Schedule

July 3	Tina Klidas	August 7	Stella Andriotakis
July 10	Anna Chetsas	August 14	Anna Chetsas
July 17	Andrea Jones	August 21	Melinda Patrick
July 21	Lisa Housianitis	August 28	Lisa Housianitis
July 31	Kathy Tsiantas		

Joanna Tsiantas is responsible for the Prosforo Schedule. If you have any scheduling conflicts or requests, need to have the Prosforo brought to the church early Sunday morning or wish to add your name to the schedule, please contact Joanna at (978) 465-1405.

A Message from the President

July 2011

Dear Parishioners,

Summer is finally here! I hope you are all enjoying the fabulous weather.

It's Festival Time! Festival! Festival! Festival! This is the one event of our parish which may well define how our Church works together as a team. If you haven't already put in your 2 hours to assist the Church, here's your opportunity! For those who have worked the festival in the past – you all know it takes more than 2 hours of your time, and I thank you for that. It would be so nice to see some new faces at the weekly festival meetings – with new ideas, new approaches and with new enthusiasm. Every parishioner is welcome and encouraged to participate and be part of the festival team!

The Council is very pleased with the cooperation during Holy Communion. In making the effort to abide by the new traffic flow arrangement, it truly does make a difference in the overall organization of receiving the Sacrament. Thank you.

Once again I would like to congratulate Jim and Melinda Patrick for receiving the Laity Award this year. Good Job! Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Joe Spaulding, President

Meet the Saints of July

August 1—*Holy Seven Maccabees, their mother Solomonía, and their teacher Eleazar (168 BC)*

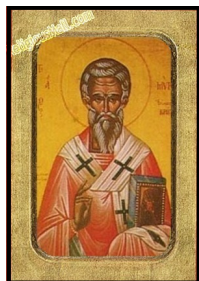


The story of the Maccabees, and their heroic struggle to free the Hebrew nation from the godless rule of Antiochus Epiphanes, is told in the Old Testament books of the Maccabees. (If your Bible does not contain these books, get one that does!) The wicked king once commanded all the Jews to eat pork, in violation of the Law

of Moses. The seven pious youths, together with their teacher Eleazar and their mother Solomonía, were arrested and, when all of them refused to transgress the Law, were subjected to the cruelest tortures. Eleazar died first, by burning, then each of the youths, from the eldest to the youngest. All stood firm in their faith until the end. When Solomonía saw her youngest son, a mere boy, seized for burning, she threw herself into the fire, commending her soul to God. This was in the year 168 BC.

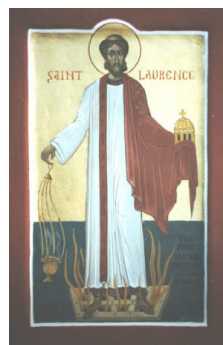
August 8—*St Myron the Wonderworker, Bishop of Crete (350)*

He was a widowed farmer who, though poor, shared the produce of his farm freely with the needy. Once he found some thieves stealing his grain. Without saying who he was, he helped the thieves fill their sacks and make their escape. His virtue became known, and he was ordained to the priesthood, then consecrated bishop. In his own lifetime he was known as a great wonderworker. He reposed in peace.



August 10—*Holy Martyrs Archdeacon Laurence, Pope Sixtus, and others with them (258)*

"This Saint, who was born in Spain, was the Archdeacon of the Church of Rome, caring for the sacred vessels of the Church and distributing money to the needy. About the year 257, a harsh persecution was raised up against the Christians by Valerian. Pope Sixtus, who was from Athens, was commanded to worship the idols, and refused; before his martyrdom by beheading, he committed to Laurence all the sacred vessels of the Church. When Laurence was arrested and brought before the Prefect, he was questioned concerning the treasures of the Church; he asked for three days' time to prepare them. He then proceeded to gather all the poor and needy, and presented them to the Prefect and said, "Behold the treasures of the Church." The Prefect became enraged at this and gave command that Laurence be racked, then scourged with scorpions (a whip furnished with sharp iron points — compare II Chron. 10:11), then stretched out on a red-hot iron grill. But the courageous athlete of Christ endured without groaning. After he had been burned on one side, he said, "My body is done on one side; turn me over on the other." And when this had taken place, the Martyr said to the tyrants, "My flesh is now well done, you may taste of it." And when he had said this, and had prayed for his slayers in imitation of Christ, he gave up his spirit on August 10, 258."



Meet the Saints of July

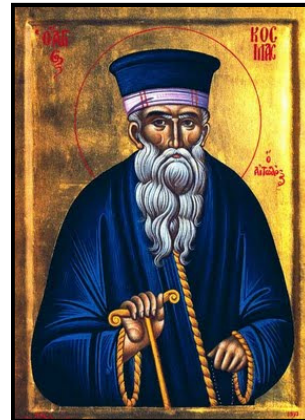
August 19—*Martyr Andrew Strateletes and 2,593 soldiers with him in Cilicia (~289)*



"He was an officer, a tribune, in the Roman army in the time of the Emperor Maximian. A Syrian by birth, he served in his native land. When the Persians attacked the imperial Roman army, this Andrew was entrusted with the command in the battle against the enemy — whence his title: commander, strateletes. A secret Christian, although as yet unbaptised, Andrew commended himself to the living God, and, taking only the cream of the army, went to war. Before the battle, he told his soldiers that, if they all called upon the aid of the one, true God, Christ the Lord, their enemies would become as dust scattered before them. All the soldiers, fired with enthusiasm by Andrew and his faith, invoked Christ's aid and attacked. The Persian army was utterly routed. When the victorious Andrew returned to Antioch, some jealous men denounced him as a Christian and the imperial governor summoned him for trial. Andrew openly proclaimed his steadfast faith in Christ. After harsh torture, the governor threw Andrew into prison and wrote to the Emperor in Rome. Knowing Andrew's popularity among the people and in the army, the Emperor ordered the governor to set Andrew free, but to seek another occasion and another excuse (not his faith) to kill him. By God's revelation, Andrew came to know of this imperial command, and, taking his faithful soldiers (2,593 in all) with him, went off to Tarsus in Cilicia, where they were all baptised by the bishop, Peter. Persecuted here also by imperial might, Andrew and his companions withdrew deep into the Armenian mountain of Tavros. There in a ravine, while they were at prayer, the Roman army came upon them and beheaded them all. Not one of them would recant, all being determined on death by martyrdom for Christ. On the spot where a stream of the martyrs' blood flowed down, a spring of healing water sprang forth, healing from every disease. The bishop, Peter, came secretly with his people and buried the martyrs' bodies in that same place. They all suffered with honour at the end of the third century and were crowned with wreaths of eternal glory, entering into the Kingdom of Christ our God."

August 24—*New Hieromartyr Kosmas of Aetolia, Equal-to-the-Apostles (1779)*

This recent Equal to the Apostles was born in Mega Dendron (Great Tree) in Aetolia. He became a monk on Mt Athos, where he lived and prayed for many years. But he was troubled by the ignorance of the Gospel that had fallen on many of the Orthodox people, living under the oppression of the Ottoman Turks. He went to Constantinople, where he studied the rhetorical arts and received the blessing of Patriarch Seraphim II to preach the Gospel. He travelled throughout Greece, Macedonia, Serbia and Albania, preaching at every town he visited. Often not only Greeks but many Muslims would come to hear him, so great was his reputation for holiness. Though he always sought the blessing of the local bishop and the local Turkish governor before he preached in an area, his strong condemnations of dishonest business practices aroused the enmity of Orthodox Christian and Jewish merchants, who falsely accused him to the authorities. He was strangled by the Turks and thrown into a river in Albania, but his wonderworking relics were preserved. He reposed at the age of sixty-five.



Stewardship Report

Let us commit ourselves and our whole life to Christ our God!

Our stewardship commitments (time, money, and talent) are tangible evidence of our love and devotion to God and His Church.

June 2011 Report

Status as of June 12, 2011

Total pledges for 2011 thus far	\$77,376
Offerings received to date	\$36,935
Due towards pledged amount	\$40,441
Average pledge	\$661
Maximum pledge thus far	\$3,600
Minimum pledge thus far	\$25
Number of stewards pledged thus far	117
Pledge forms received, no payments	tbd
Pledge form received, payment current	tbd
Pledge form received, payment complete	na
Payment made, no pledge form received	na

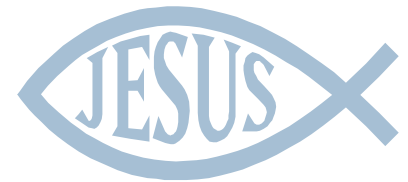
Upcoming Stewardship Committee Activities:

- Reach out to parishioners that have left our community and find out reasons for leaving.

Next Stewardship Committee meeting
TBD.

Note: Average stewardship pledge is \$661 if the pledges greater than \$3,600 are not included when calculating the average.

If there are any omissions or errors in the June 2011 Report, please contact John Gogolos, Stewardship Committee Chairman (978) 465-3274 <j.gogolos@comcast.net>



Stewardship Comparison with Past 3 Years

	June 2011	June 2010	June 2009	June 2008
Pledged Amount	\$77,376	\$74,147	\$76,384	\$76,237
Actual Paid	\$36,935	\$36,215	\$40,081	\$40,465
Amount to be Collected	\$40,441	\$36,933	\$36,301	\$35,772
Number of Stewards	117	112	133	134
Average Pledge Amount	\$661	\$653	\$574	\$569
Maximum Amount Pledged	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,300	\$3,180
Minimum Amount Pledged	\$25	\$5	\$50	\$0

Stewards as of 06/12/11

Alexander, Richard
Anderson, George and Sharon
Andriotakis, James and Lisa
Andriotakis, Louis and Stella
Angelos, William W.
Annas, Agnes
Argyrople, Don and Jill
Argyrople, Nicholas and Anita
Beck, Bruce and Kimberley Patton
Boucher, Bonnie and Al
Bruno, Mark and Roseanne
Chadwick, Cathleen
Chetsas, Leon and Anna
Chetsas, Peter and Susan
Christo, Julia
Christopher, Faye
Connor, Edmund J. III and
Joanna Tsiantas
Connor, Kevin and Maria
Cooper, Brendon and Jennifer
Cusack, Michael and Dawn
Davis, Peter and Dorothy
Desses, John and Agnes
Dollas, Christopher and Mary
Dollas, Mary
Dubus III, Andre and Fontaine
Dussi, John and Gina
Falite, Irene
Faskianos, Dr. James and Maria
Fiasconaro, George and Elaine
Fotos, Soteris H.
Gentile, Amy
George, Barbara
George, Emery and Susan
Gigis, Stella
Gikas, Dennis and Melina
Ginieres, Peter and Mary
Gogolos, John and Patricia
Gravel, Elaine
Gravelle, Nathan and Jennifer
Halkiotis, Penelope
Hansen, Eric and Diane
Haraktis, Anastasios and Aikaterini
Hight, Stephen and Joanne Hight
Hill, Dick and Donna
Housianitis, Arthur and Lisa
Housianitis, John
Janos, Louis and Chrys
Jansen, Ryan and Jennifer
Kacher, Bill and Andrea Jones
Kafalas, Andrew
Kafalas, Anne
Katsoulis, Nicholas and Irene
Keefe, Zachary and Elizabeth
Klidaras, Steven and Laura
Klidaras, Tina
Koukkos, Gabriel
Ladies Aid Society, AGOC
Lagasse, Michael and Niki
Machiros, Chrysanthe
Maistrellis-Ryng, Elisa and David
Malonis, Christos and Mary
Maloof, Michael and Ann
Mamakos, Cathryn
Mamakos, Peter and Anna
Mansour, Kristina
Mansour, Louis and Eugenia
Mansour, Nicole
Mansour, Stephanie
Markos, Frank and Suzanne
Markos, T. Sammy
Mathieu, Cornelia
Mattheos, Steve and Regina
Matthews, Byron J. and Helen
Matthews, John and Christina
Matthews, Paul and Christine
Matthews, Peter and Teri
McGrath, Thomas and
Rose Papanickolas
Micu, Marius and Ileana
Monoxelos, Milton and Catherine
Nakis, Connie
Nakis, Paul
Neos, Charles
Newman, Rev. Fr. Constantine
and Presbyteria
Novack, Jason and Melissa
Panas, Ann
Panas, Peter
Panas, Stephen and Joanna
Pantelakis, Ted and Gayle
Pappas, Perry
Patriakeas, John and Joan
Patrick, James and Melinda
Patrinos, Christos
Pavlik, Kristyne
Peralta, John and Ann
Perreault, Joanne and Chris
Pomerleau, Bruce and Viki
Rallis, Elaine V.
Ray, Julie M.
Reilly, Michael and Nicole
Sawyer, Tepsie
Scaramozza, Joseph and
Catherine
Schaeffer, Frank and Genie
Short, Ian and Jackie
Smith, Don and Gladys
Solbo Jr., Steven and Alaina
Spaneas, Mary F.
Spaulding, Joe and Dale
Sperelakis, James
Stanton, Sophia
Stickney, Raymond and Kalliope
Tikellis, Daphne
Tsiantas, Kathy
Tsiplakis, Ioannis and Rhonda
Tsopelas, Angela
Uttley, William and Diana
Veth, Brian and Teena
Yavorski, James and Stacey

Please Note: If your name doesn't appear on this list that means that we have not received a stewardship pledge form for 2011.

Donations Report

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"

(II Corinthians 9:7)

Thank You (Efharisto!) for the following donations:

We wish to thank those who have made recent donations to the Greek Church

In Memory of Ingrid Kacher McSweeney

JOHN MAYNARD AND ELLEN NESTERVICH
CHARLIE NEOS AND PATRICIA YANAKAKIS
SHELLEY & MARTIN KRUEGER
BRUCE & VIKI POMERLEAU

In Memory of

Mary Spaneas in memory of Thelma Frangules
TOM HARRINGTON III in memory of
BESS VASILE HARRINGTON (1st anniversary)

Easter Offerings:

Milton and Rena Monoxelos

Easter Flowers

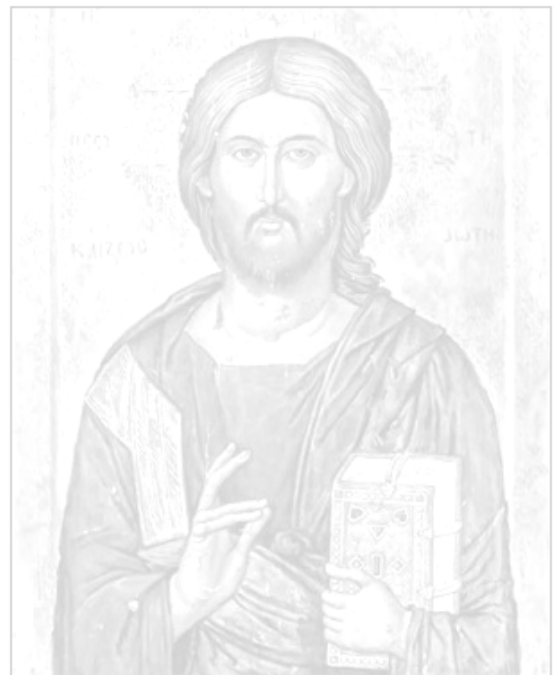
Elaine Rallis—Flowers for the Cross
Bill Kacher and Andrea Jones—Flowers for the icon

Altar Fund:

ESTATE OF ASIMINA (NINA) W. MARKOS
STELLA GIGIS in memory of her parents
EVANGELIA & EFSTRATIOS CONDRUBES

Thank you for helping The Giving Tree bear fruit!

Agnes Annas
Anonymous
Cathy Chadwick
Julia Christo
Dorothy and Peter Davis
Mary Dollas
John & Gina Dussi
Irene Falite
Elaine & George Fiascanaro
Peter & Mary Ginieres
Housiantis Family
Tina Klidas
Chris and Mary Malonis
Peter & Anna Mamakos
Ileana and Marius Micu
Charlie Neos
Charles Papalias
Elaine Rallis
Don & Gladys Smith
Joe & Dale Spaulding
Angela Tsopelas
Joanne Varoudakis



Parish News & Notes



Sincere Thanks....

To Bruce Pomerleau, Don Argyrople and Virginia and Lillian Anania for their donations for a yard sale that was conducted by Leon Chetsas. The amount of \$150 realized was presented to the Annunciation Sunday School.

Metropolis of Boston (MBC) Summer Camp 2011 (for youth ages 8-18)

Father, Presbyteria, Don & Jill, will be attending the Metropolis of Boston Summer Camp in Contoocook, NH Session Three, July 11th-July 17th. Some of our youth will also be attending Session 4, July 18th-July 24th.

For more information or to register:

www.mbcamp.org

MBC Summer Camp 2011 Dates

Family Camp/Session One: June 29th-July 3rd

Session Two: July 4th-July 10th

Session Three: July 11th-July 17th

Session Four: July 18th-July 24th

Session Five: July 25th-July 31st

Session Six: August 1st-August 7th

GOT NEWS ???

Have any news fit to print? Email any news you would like to share in the Beacon to Joanna Tsiantas at connor5@comcast.net by the 20th of every month.

Greek Ladies Aid Society

The Greek Ladies Aid Society met at Castaways on June 2nd and had a wonderful end of year dinner. Many thanks to Gina Dussi and her husband John who organized everything. Ted Montzuris co-owner of the restaurant with John also popped in to say hello which was very nice!

On Tuesday June 7th we had our final meeting of the year. There was a brief business discussion after which we had lots of fun creating potted plants, with flowers and herbs brought in by Deborah, a member of the Orthodox Church in Dover and florist. It was a nice way to get our creative juices flowing and end the year. Many thanks to Presbyteria for making the suggestion! Congratulations once again to the 5 young men and women who graduated from high school this year. Also best of luck to Michael Mercantoni and his wife and son Mattias. We hope that they have a wonderful journey to North Carolina. We extend our thoughts and also a donation to the victims of the Tornado that hit Springfield a few months back.

Finally please note that members of GLAS who have not yet fulfilled their dues of \$15 for this year please see Diane Hansen (treasurer) or Maria Connor (President) ...until the Fall in any case when new officers will take their place.

Please note that the \$15 dues payment is a small yearly payment which identifies those who pay it as members of a wonderful group of Philanthropic women that work together to do many wonderful things for our church and others e.g. give Christmas gifts to the needy through the Salvation Army, give to Saint Basil's Academy, make yearly donations to the Jeanne Geiger Crisis center, the Hellenic Cardiac Fund, and victims of the Tornado in Springfield and cook for Saint Basil's kitchen to name a few.

If you did not come to many meetings this year, please consider all the good things GLAS does, along with being a Steward of the Church and join us in September as we continue our good works.

Here's to a wonderful summer and best wishes for a successful church festival.

Maria Connor

President GLAS

Parish News & Notes



Greek Food Festival 2011

Q. Spring has sprung, the grass has riz* do you know when the Festival is?

A. **Friday July 29th, Saturday July 30th, Sunday July 31st.**

. Have you signed up for any of the food preparation workshops?

A. The calendar is elsewhere in this Beacon.

Q. Have you signed up for any of the numerous time slots available to help out during the three day Greek Food Festival?

A. The signup sheets can be found along the Harris Street wall in Nicholson Hall.

Q. Have you considered making a Giving Tree donation of any amount?

A. The Giving Tree can be found on an easel in the Narthex next to the Pangari.

Q. Do you wish to place an ad or your best wishes in the Greek Food Festival Ad Book?

A. You can contact either Chris Sakorafos or Brendon Cooper to do so.

As you can see, there are many opportunities for you to share your time, treasure and talent that are essential for making this year's Greek Food Festival a success.

Many hands make light work. Please let me know how you would like to help.

Charlie Neos, Greek Food Festival Chairman

H: 781-233-2806

W: 978-739-3040

C: 617-240-8313

Email: Charles.neos@MSSB.com

*Poetic License

Greek Food Festival Workshop Schedule

Keftethes

Workshop Dates:

Sun July 10 after liturgy

Chairperson: Pauline Rallis 978-388-9042

Daphne Tikellis 978-372-0469

Baklava

Workshop Dates:

Mon July 18 9am, Tue July 19 9am

Chairperson: Anna Mamakos 978-465-5471

Karithopeta

Workshop Dates:

Wed July 13 3:30 pm

Chairperson: Joanna Tsiantas 978-465-1405

Gina Dussi 978-887-9702

GFF Workshop Schedule continued

Moussaka

Workshop Dates:

Thu July 21 all day, Fri July 22 all day

Chairperson: Anna Newman 603-692-7603

Kataifi

Workshop Dates:

Sat July 23 (prep)

Sun July 24 after liturgy

Chairperson: Fr. Constantine Newman 603-692-7603

Rizogalo

Workshop Dates:

Wed July 27 3pm

Chairperson: Eric Hansen 978-462-5815

Galatoboureko

Workshop Dates:

Thu July 28 all day

Chairperson: Anna Newman 603-692-7603

Finikia

Workshop Dates: Thurs July 14 & Fri July 15 12:30 pm

Chairperson: Kathy Tsiantas 978-465-9105

Joanna Tsiantas 978-465-1405

Plaki

Workshop Date: Thu July 28 Chairperson:

Gina Dussi 978-887-9702



Man As Priest Of Creation

by Fr. Christopher Foley

I came to discover Orthodoxy during a time in my life where I was very heavily involved in performing and writing music. Growing up as an Evangelical Christian and attending a small liberal arts Evangelical College in Northeast Georgia, I struggled for a number of years with reconciling my involvement in music with my Christian faith. How does one maintain both artistic and Christian integrity? Was music only a tool to carry a message? What makes music inherently Christian or non-Christian? How does one appropriately bring the totality of one's Faith into one's music or any art form for that matter? Why this need to dichotomize everything in the Christian ghetto? Wasn't there simply a way to just "be"? Couldn't one simply be a Christian who performs music without apology? These were many of the questions that I had as a young adult. I had experienced a profound sense of the joy of the creative process while writing, performing and recording music with a band of very close friends who were also Christians.

Somehow, intuitively I sensed this as a participation in the creative energy of God. I just didn't have words for it at the time. The problem was that our band never fit the mold in the Christian music industry. We were much more content playing and pursuing music in a mainstream context. We were simply musicians who were Christians and were trying to create something worthwhile and beautiful.

It was during this time as a college student that I began to study Eastern Orthodoxy and found that it began to answer some of these tough questions. I found that the emphasis on the Incarnation of Christ stressed the goodness of creation and that now matter is united to God. This means that matter matters and beauty is not just something external to God (i.e. – optional) but an energy emanating from from God Himself – an absolute. I discovered that the early Church rejected anything that divided or separated Christ's humanity from His divinity.

As I learned more about the Orthodox faith, I found that the Orthodox teaching that every aspect of life is sacramental underpinned every teaching of Christ and the Church . This idea that matter matters speaks profoundly to faith as it relates to the creative process.

As Orthodox Christians we believe that the Lord is present and fillest all things. Because of the Incarnation of our Lord, now everything CAN become a means of communion with God IF we have the eyes to see it and if we are able to offer up our creativity to God as a priest of creation. This idea is articulated best by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann when, in *For the Life of the World* he says, man's primary vocation is to be a priest of creation who offers up all of one's life to God in thanksgiving as we pray in the Divine Liturgy,

"Thine own of Thine own we offer unto Thee on behalf of all and for all."

If, as we embark on our creative endeavors, we keep in mind these words of St John Chrysostom,

"Thine own of Thine own..."

our creative endeavors will themselves become a form of prayer and honor to our creator .

Seems easy enough, no? But if we look at the world around us, sometimes even within the church it is clear that we tend to place God in a sphere called "religious" and have ceased being able to see Him in all things. This has caused the world and everything in it to be a closed circuit. Fr. Alexander goes on to say that man,

"...does not know that breathing can be communion with God. He does not realize that to eat can be to receive life from God in more than a physical sense."

I think this can be said about the creative process. Whether one is explicitly "Christian" in one's creativity or implicitly so, God can still be glorified. The touch point between creativity and faith is the inner disposition of the heart in its relation to giving thanks and praise to God. In short, we must be sure that the Word of God is in our hearts when we articulate our God given creative spirit.

Again, seems easy enough, keep God in our heart and we can be sure our creative energy is being used for the glory of God. But to keep God in our hearts at all times requires a number of things, but most importantly it requires us to take a responsible ownership for our faith and our relationship with God. This ownership and faith is first and foremost cultivated through the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church accomplished through participation in a community of faithful. In practically applying the aforementioned ideas of Fr Alexander, in trying to offer up the totality of one's life in thanks and praise to God, we are greatly aided by the basic task of trying to live in accordance with and fulfillment of the Gospel commandments – the love of god and the love of neighbor. As we allow ourselves to see that our life is and must be one with God we then begin to make greater sense of our worship. During the Divine Liturgy we sing,

"We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, and we pray unto Thee O our God."

This includes all of our life – our pursuits, our vocation, our relationships and, yes, our creativity. Let us imagine the priest carrying not only the bread and wine but all of the tools of the creative process in procession at the great Entrance – paintbrush, computer, pen, instruments, etc. Not that we should actually carry other items in the Great Entrance, but rather that we remember that The Divine Liturgy teaches and reminds us that all of life is to be offered up to God in thanksgiving. The bread and wine are

the culmination and embodiment of all of our creative endeavors and the fullest expression of our creative tools. Is this not what our liturgy teaches us – how to bring the Life given back to us as food back into the world?

This is what St. Maria Skobstova calls the

“eternal offering of the divine liturgy beyond the Church walls”

or what St. John Chrysostom called the

“Liturgy after the Liturgy.”

The creative and faithful

“priest of creation” is one “who makes of one’s life a liturgy, a prayer, a doxology, to make of it a sacrament of perpetual communion,”

as Paul Evdokimov says.

The artist, through this God given creativity, has the responsibility to offer up this talent to God and to do something with it like in the parable of the talents. We are to glorify God in everything that we do. Thus to create something beautiful with a spirit of excellence and attention to detail, one can lift up and offer oneself to God. This is really how faith and creativity can converge for the Orthodox Christian. Paul Evdokimov sums it up nicely as a vision for life when he says,

“all of life, every act, every gesture, even the smile of the human face, must become a hymn of adoration, an offering, a prayer. One should offer not what one has, but what one is.”

We can simply add that for an Orthodox Christian who is involved in the creative process every note, every stroke of the brush, every word must be something offered up in thanksgiving and praise to God as the Creator Himself – the source and origin of all things.

Glory to God for all things!

Congratulations and Good Luck!



Austin Dubus
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Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of Boston

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Rev. Dr. Constantine Newman, Pastor

6/13/11

Dear Business Owner,

Thank you for your past support of The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Newburyport Greek Food Festival. The church will be holding its annual Greek Food Festival again this year on July 29th-31st. As always this is a wonderful way to advertise your business and we have made it even easier for you to take part. We expect this year's booklet to be viewed by over 1500 people, with a primary focus on local individuals, (your customer base). In addition the Greek Food Festival is also the kick off to the Yankee Homecoming festivities.

We have included a form for you to fill out below. You may attach your business card or similar advertisement that you would like displayed in this years booklet. Or if you would like for us to use the exact same advertisement as last years, please simply inform us of this by responding back. Of course you may contact us as well to answer any question on specifics or to help you with your ad if need be. We provide many options to take part and display your business in the booklet. Upon receipt of this letter, please review and inform us of which option is best for your company. We have provided a preaddressed envelope for you to immediately return the bottom half of this letter to us with your requested ad. Or if you wish, you can email your ad back to brendoncooper@comcast.net and attach your ad to the email. Please note that the finer the print quality and pixels of your ad, the better. *****All ads are due back no later than Monday July 12th, in order to make it into this year's booklet.*****

Thank you for your time, consideration and patronage with regard to participating in our 2011 Ad Booklet. We appreciate your support and hope to see you at our festival!

Thank you,

Brendon Cooper & Chris Sakorafos

GFF Ad Book Committee

Phone-978-821-6696

[Email-brendoncooper@comcast.net](mailto:brendoncooper@comcast.net)

_____ **Company Name/ Family Name ***Please provide*****

_____/_____ **Contact Name, phone number**

_____ **Email address**

Your Advertising Options:

(Please indicate the line you are interested in, enclose your ad or logos and a check made out to Annunciation G.O.C.)

_____ \$200 Full page (5"x7")

_____ \$100 half page

_____ \$50 Business card size

_____ \$25 Single Line Entry (10 words)

****Ads must be received back by Monday, July 12th****

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Harris & Park Streets, P.O. Box 575, Newburyport, MA 01950

Tel: (978) 465-5757 Fax: (978) 465-1793

The Giving Tree

Greek Food Festival 2011

*Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit...
As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself...*

Can you help bear fruits of the tree?



You may donate a portion of the cost of an item or choose to donate the entire cost. All donations – large or small – are greatly appreciated and recognized on *The Giving Tree*, which will be prominently displayed in the Narthex of the church.

Your name will be proudly displayed on one of the fruits and attached to a leaf on the tree branches.
Watch the tree bloom with success!

*Be a part of your Church's future . . .
. . . take part in our Festival.
Be a part of The Giving Tree!*

Please fill out the stub below and submit it with your donation by July 24, 2011 to:

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
PO Box 575
Newburyport, MA 01950
Attn: Angela Tsopelas, GFF (Greek Food Festival)

If you have any questions, please contact Angela Tsopelas at 508-878-11988 or atsopelas@aol.com

I would like to donate the following item(s) from the reverse side of this form:

Item Number	Item Name	# of Items or Cost
(Example) 16	Baklava	1 tray (\$30)

Donor's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
(as you wish it to appear on *The Giving Tree*)

(See reverse side for list of items)

Greek Food Festival 2011 / Giving Tree Items Needed:

#	Item Name	In Need Of	Estimated Cost
1	Spanakopita	40 37trays	\$25/tray
2	Pastichio	30 26 trays	\$25/tray
3	Meatballs/Kefkethes	Ingredients	\$320 total
4	Rice Pilaf	Ingredients	\$320 total
5	Dolmathes	Ingredients	\$850 total
6	Pita Bread	1,000 pieces	\$130 total
7	Dinner Rolls	180 dozen	\$375 total
8	Salad Mix	10 cases	\$25 each
9	Onions	4 cases	\$15 each
10	Tomatoes	10 cases	\$18 each
11	Tzatsik i	20 gallons	\$60 total
12	Feta	17 lbs	\$85 total
13	Salad Dressing	2 cases	\$30 total
14	Gyro Meat	4 cones + 8 cases sliced meat	\$45/cone
15	Souvlaki	1,750 pieces	\$4,200 total
16	Baklava	24 trays	\$30/tray
17	Koulourakia	Ingredients	\$250 total
18	Kourambiethes	Ingredients	\$130 total
19	Beer	20 cases	\$20/case
20	Wine	16 cases	\$55/case
21	Soda	60 14 cases	\$10/case
22	Water	25 34 cases	\$8/case
23	Iced Tea	15 cases	\$4/case
24	Honey	3 gallons	\$25/gal
25	Olives	1 case	\$50 total
26	Haddock	85 lbs	\$500 total
27	String Beans	102 cans	\$625 total
28	Loucanico	90 45 lbs	\$300 total
29	Moussaka	25 trays	\$25/tray
30	Kataifi		\$200 total
31	Rice Pudding		\$315 total
32	Table Rentals		\$275
33	Refrigeration Truck		\$525
34	Plastic Bags		\$80
35	Propane/Charcoal (Fri)		\$110
36	Propane/Charcoal (Sat)		\$110
37	Propane/Charcoal (Sun)		\$110
38	Big Tent		\$425
39	Trash Bags		\$100
40	Plates (6")		\$225
41	Plates (9")		\$225
42	Utensils		\$325
43	Paper Cups		\$135
44	Plastic Cups		\$135
45	Aluminum Trays		\$625
46	Plastic Table Cloths		\$75
47	Aluminum Foil		\$110
48	Creamers		\$30
49	First Aid Supplies		\$40
50	Plastic Gloves		\$50
51	Deli Paper		\$50
52	White Trays		\$160
53	Cleaning Supplies		\$75
54	Storage Trailer		\$185
55	Sterno		\$80
56	Rope Stanchion Rental		\$110
57	Ice		\$210
58	Lamb Shanks	600 shanks	\$3300

Summer Church Vacation Camp

August 8—13

The Water of Life *Water Stories and the Sacraments*

Bible Stories, Crafts, Activities and Cooking

Monday—Wedding

Bible Story—Marriage Feast at Cana, changing water to wine

Cooking—Kourambiethes

Tuesday—Baptism

Bible Story—Samaritan Woman

Cooking: Spanakopita

Wednesday—Ordination

Bible Story—Washing of the Feet

Cooking—Artoklasia

Thursday—Confession

Bible Story—Parable of the Houses Built on Rock and Sand (brought down by rain)

Cooking—Tyropita

Friday—Funeral

Bible Story—Jonah in the Whale

Cooking—Kollyva

Saturday—Wrap-Up

Morning Prayer—Memorial Service



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To become a Sponsor, contact Gina Dussi, e: gdussi@aol.com, t: (978) 887-9702.

The sponsorship rate includes placement in *The Beacon*
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JULY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL					1	2
3 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	4 St. Basil's Kitchen	5	6	7	8 Lamb Shank Workshop	9 Lamb Shank Workshop
10 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Keftethes Workshop	11 St. Basil's Kitchen	12	13 Karithopeta Workshop 3:30	14 Finikia Workshop 1 pm	15 Finikia Workshop 1 pm	16
17 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	18 St. Basil's Kitchen Baklava Workshop	19	20	21 Moussaka Workshop	22 Moussaka Workshop	23 Set Up, tent, takeout, etc.
24 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Kataifi Workshop	25 St. Basil's Kitchen	26	27 Rizogalo Workshop	28 Galatoboureko Workshop	29 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL	30 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL

AUGUST 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>Fast of the Dormition</p> <p>Festival Take Down Small Paraklesis 6:30pm</p>	2	3	4	5	<p>6</p> <p>The Transfiguration of our Lord Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Followed by Blessing of the Grapes</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30 am</p> <p>Fast of the Dormition</p>	<p>8</p> <p>St. Basil's Kitchen Summer Church Vacation Camp</p> <p>Small Paraklesis 6:30pm</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>Small Paraklesis 6:30pm</p>	11	12	13
<p>14</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30 am</p> <p>Fast of the Dormition</p> <p>→</p>	<p>15</p> <p>St. Basil's Kitchen The Dormition of the Most Holy The- otokos and Ever- Virgin Mary Divine Liturgy 9:30</p>	16	17	18	19	20
<p>21</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30 am</p>	<p>22</p> <p>St. Basil's Kitchen</p>	23	24	25	26	27
<p>28</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 9:30 am</p>	<p>29</p> <p>St. Basil's Kitchen</p>	30	31			