

THE BEACON

OCTOBER 2010

**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

October 2010

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

October is always one of the busiest months in the yearly life of a Parish! September brings a slow restart of our spiritual and physical forces as we return from summer vacations and get the kids back to school. November already begins to anticipate the busyness of the holidays. And then comes winter with its uncertainties of weather. And so, we concentrate most of our efforts into October.

This is also true once again this year of our own Parish Family of the Annunciation. We begin the month with a perfect way of manifesting the truth of our faith by participating in the Hike for Hope for Lazarus House on October 3. The following Sunday, October 9, will find us having a good time celebrating Oktoberfest during Fellowship Hour after Liturgy, and the voluntary donations collected will aid the Evangelism Team in supporting our African seminarian, Fr. Evangelos, as well as other programs. October also highlights another important ministry of our Church, the Music Ministry provided by our choir and chanters. We pray that their patron, St. Romanos, will intercede that what they sing with their lips will abide in their hearts as well as in ours.

A very important fundraiser for the Church is our Taverna Night. We are invited to be transported to a Greek village to enjoy and celebrate life in good company, good food, and good dancing. Our Sunday School children will be celebrating on the 24th in the heavenly village at their All Saints party, where they not only dress like a saint, but find something out about their lives. October 26, of course, celebrates one of the great soldier saints, Demetrios, the Myrr-streamer of Thessaloniki. How wonderful it would be to see more than just a handful asking the intercession of this great saint to make us worthy soldiers of Christ as we promised at our Baptism!

Our month concludes with an important spiritual event for our Parish, an overnight retreat for Families and Singles at the Retreat Center in Contoocook, NH, from the evening of October 29 through the early afternoon of October 30. We will enjoy the beautiful accommodations of our new Retreat Center as well as learning about the Family as the Church in the Home. Information and a registration form can be found in this Beacon.

In the midst of all this hustle and bustle, the beautiful display of New England color reminds us of God's hand present in his creation. The transition from summer through fall into winter, all creation goes to its rest, should also remind us of the transitory nature of this life, and redirect our thoughts to the one thing that matters, our relationship with God.

May God grant that all our activities this month and throughout the whole year be to his glory!

Fr. Constantine Newman

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Deadline for material is the 10th of each month.

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

St. Basil's Soup Kitchen

Church Custodian/Sexton

Bill Angelos <aliasjohnwayne02billy@verizon.net> • (978) 465-1502

Liturgical Schedule



SUNDAY SERVICES

No Orthros

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

2nd Sunday of Luke

The Holy Priest-Martyr Dionysios the Areopagite

2nd Tone 8th Morning Gospel

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9

Gospel: Luke 6:31-36

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

3rd Sunday of Luke

3rd Tone 9th Morning Gospel

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Luke 6:11-16

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

4th Sunday of Luke

Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council in
Nicaea

4th Tone 10th Morning Gospel

Epistle: Titus 3:8-15

Gospel: Luke 8:5-15

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

6th Sunday of Luke

The Holy Great Martyr Arethas and his Companions

Plagal 1st Tone 11th Morning Gospel

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18

Gospel: Luke 8:27-39

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

The Holy Great Martyr Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer

Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:1-10

Gospel: John 15:17-27; 16:1-2

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

5th Sunday of Luke

Plagal 2nd Tone 1st Morning Gospel

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31



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

October 3	Andrea Jones	November 7	Tina Klidas
October 10	Lisa Housianitis	November 14	Andrea Jones
October 17	Kathy Tsiantas	November 21	Lisa Housianitis
October 24	Stella Andriotakis	November 28	Kathy Tsiantas
October 31	Anna Chetsas		

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

Happy fall, y'all!

That doesn't have quite the same ring to it here in New England as it does where my family is from in Mississippi. But the fall season is definitely upon us and there is no denying it now – Friday night football at the local schools, Pumpkin Spice Latte's at Starbucks, cool weather in the forecast and of course the spectacular beauty of the trees.

The new Church year is well underway with Sunday School; youth group activities, the successful golf tournament and the greatly anticipated Taverna Night on the horizon. Once again our church is full of the hustle and bustle of an active family parish. It is great to see the parish come alive after the quiet summer months – well except for the festival of course.

In addition to a plethora of activity in the church, we have been engaged in some "housekeeping." Please take some time to notice the beautiful repair work on the stucco on the front of both the Church and Nicholson Hall. And before too long the Parish Council hopes to sponsor a clean up day to organize all the "stuff" of the church – we seem to be bursting at the

seams for storage space.

In less than two months it is going to be the time of year when we begin looking and praying for new leaders from the parish to serve in the ministry of the Parish Council. I found this quote recently referring to the nominating process of Parish Council members.

*Parishioners are often nominated as candidates for the Parish Council because of their education, business experience or legal background. The **best** parish council members are not necessarily those who are business-oriented, but rather, those who are Church-oriented and Christ-centered. To be a good council member, one must be active in the worship and sacramental life of the Church. The best candidates are easy to find – they are in church.*

I would like to encourage you to look around at Church on a given Sunday and pay attention to who is there. Look and see if there is someone that you think

would be a good candidate – maybe that good candidate is you! Talk to a Parish Council member and offer your suggestions for next year's leaders.

In next month's Beacon we will highlight some of our current Parish Council members so you can see the great diversity that is represented and perhaps be able to see a place for yourself in the important ministry of the Church.

Love in Christ,

Julie M. Ray

Parish Council President

The Wisdom of Mother Gavrilla
From The Ascetic of Love

When thoughts of passing judgment on another person cross your mind, pray God to take them away at once, so that you may love this person as He does. Then God will help you see your own faults. If Christ were visible, could you have such thoughts?

Through the invocation of the name of Christ, we batter our Ego.

I could not get worried, even if I tried. When we worry it is as if we say to God: "I do not agree. You don't do things right". Besides, this is sheer ingratitude.

Better a prayer of the lips than no prayer at all.

Do not trouble your mind with the various heresies, cults and masonries. All these are in the "waste basket of Vanity".

When going through a dark tunnel we cannot imagine that the other end will lead us to light. We fall into despair and see nothing but darkness. The same is true of life. The Light of Christ awaits us at the other end. And, like St. Peter, we are told: O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

It is easier to sacrifice yourself for those you love than to live with them.

The *Sermon on the Mount* and the *Epistle of St. James*...Every day!...It is a pity that we do not hear them more often.

When we are in pain, we must not forget the great honor bestowed upon us by the Lord in sharing His Crown of Thorns.

All nonsense begins with IF.

As long as we toil keeping our spirit with the Lord, our body cannot get tired. Tiredness comes only when the soul participates in the effort. So, when our spirit is constantly occupied with the Lord's Prayer ("Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me.") no work can tire us easily.

Let us live permanently in the joy of the Resurrection.

More loving, less talking...The power of darkness lurks awaiting for an opportunity. Let us not say much, because we may regret it.

Those who are all the time concerned with their physical or psychological problems have no time for others, nor do they care. They are self-centered.

We live only when we love. Otherwise we are but soul-less creatures, mere organisms.

Meet the Saints of October

October 2—*St Andrew the Fool for Christ (911)*



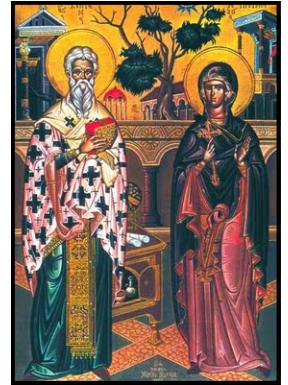
St Andrew was bought as a slave by Theognostos, a wealthy citizen of Constantinople, during the reign of the Emperor Leo the Wise. Theognostos recognized Andrew's unusual ability and taught him to read and write. Despite this Andrew, obeying a divine revelation, took

up the asceticism of folly for Christ, behaving as a madman all day and secretly praying most of the night. His master endeavored to have him cured of his apparent madness, having prayers read over him in church, but to no avail. Finally he discharged Andrew, who thereafter lived in absolute poverty in Constantinople, clothing himself in rags and living on the bread given him by kindly Christians. Anything that he received, beyond that needed for bare survival, he gave to beggars, usually mocking and insulting them at the same time so as not to be thanked or praised for his deeds. Such was the wholeheartedness of his prayers that he was given grace to see angels and demons, to discern the secrets of others, thereby turning them from their sins. It was he who, with his disciple Epiphanius, saw the vision of the Protecting Veil of the Mother of God (see October 1). After a life of profound ascetic struggle, he reposed in peace.

October 2—*Hieromartyr Cyprian and Virgin-Martyr Justina (304)*

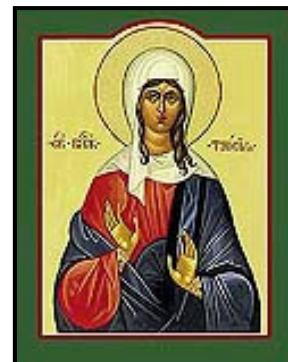
"Saint Justina, who was from Damascus, lived in virginity for the sake of Christ. Saint Cyprian, who was from Antioch, began as an initiate of magic and worshipper of the demons. A certain foolish young man who had been smitten with Justina's beauty hired Cyprian to draw her to love him; when Cyprian had used every demonic device he knew, and had failed, being repulsed by the power of Christ Whom Justina invoked, he understood the weakness of the demons and came to know the truth. Delivered from demonic delusion, he came to Christ and burned all his books of magic, was baptized, and later ascended the episcopal throne in his country. Later, he and Justina were arrested by the Count of Damascus, and

having endured many torments at his hands, they were sent finally to Diocletian in Nicomedia, where they were beheaded in the year 304."



October 8—*Saint Thais the Repentant Harlot (4th c.)*

She lived in Alexandria, where, when she was seventeen, her own mother placed her in a brothel, where due to her great beauty she was able to amass some wealth. Saint Serapion (March 21), hearing about Thais and her way of life, was moved by God to try to convert her. He dressed himself as a soldier, found her, gave her a gold piece, and went with her to her room. When the door was shut, he put aside his tunic, revealing his monastic robe, and asked if he might speak with her. With tears he told her of the doom that awaits sinners, and of the infinite mercy of God, who desires that all should be saved and welcomes every repentant sinner. Thais, her heart melted by his words, ran to the public square, burned all the fine clothes and possessions that she had acquired through her trade, and went with Serapion to a women's monastery. There he instructed her to stay secluded in her cell, beseeching God's mercy constantly and only eating every other day; she was to do this until she was instructed otherwise. Thais lived in this way for three years, with such zeal that she amazed all her monastic sisters. Meanwhile St Serapion went to St Anthony the Great to ask him if God had accepted Thais' repentance. Saint Anthony and his brethren spent a night in prayer and received a vision in which they were assured that Thais had been found worthy of God's mercy. Returning to the monastery, Serapion made the repentant Saint leave her cell, though by now she only wished to spend her life in repentant prayer. After spending only fifteen days in the common life of the monastery, the holy Thais reposed in peace.



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.

SEPTMEBER 2010 Report

Status as of September 12, 2010

Total pledges for 2010 thus far	\$76,909
Offerings received to date	\$54,079
Due towards pledged amount	\$22,830
Average pledge	\$646
Largest pledge thus far	\$3,600
Smallest pledge thus far	\$25
Number of stewards pledged thus far	119
Pledge forms received, no payments	15
Pledge form received, payment current	47
Pledge form received, payment complete	56
Payment made, no pledge form received	1

Current # of Pledges	Yearly Amount Range
4	\$2,000+
23	\$1,000–\$1,999
12	\$700–\$999
24	\$500–\$699
26	\$300–\$499
22	\$101–\$299
8	≤\$100
0	= \$0

Note: Average stewardship pledge is \$583 if the three pledges greater than \$3,000 are not included when calculating the average.

If there are any omissions or errors in the September 2010 Report, please contact John Gogolos, Stewardship Committee Chairman (978) 465-3274 <j.gogolos@comcast.net>



Stewardship Comparison with Past 3 Years

	September 2009	September 2008	September 2007
Pledged Amount	\$80,547	\$82,449	\$68,645
Actual Paid	\$52,612	\$56,221	\$51,210
Amount to be Collected	\$27,935	\$2,2286	\$17,435
Number of Stewards	144	151	139
Average Pledge Amount	\$559	\$546	\$494
Maximum Amount Pledged	\$3,300	\$3,180	\$3,000
Minimum Amount Pledged	\$50	\$0	\$20

Stewards as of 09/12/10

*Alexander, Rick
Anderson, George C Jr. and Sharon L.
Andres, Wayne and Linda
Andriotakis, Louis and Stella
Angelos, William W.
Annas, Agnes
Argyrople, Don and Jill
Beck, Bruce and Kimberley Patton
Bruno, Mark and Rosanne
Byron, Joe and Alexandra
Chadwick, Cathleen
Chetsas, Leon and Anna
Chetsas, Peter and Susan
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.
Fountis, Stavros and Lisa
Gentile, Amy
George, Barbara
George, Emery and Susan
Georgopoulos, James and Tracy
Gigis, Stella
Gogolos, John and Patricia
Goodrich, Oliver
Gravel, Elaine
Halkiotis, Penelope
Halliday, Olga
Hansen, Eric and Diane
Haraktsis, Anastasios and Aikaterini
Harris, Andrew and Rebecca
Heath, Warren and Patricia
Housianitis, Arthur and Lisa
Housianitis, John
Jacobson, Casey
Janos, Louis and Chrys
Janos, Mark and MaryAnn
Jansen, Ryan and Jennifer
Johnson, Emily
Kacher, Bill and Andrea Jones
Kafalas, Andrew
Katsoulis, Nicholas and Irene
Keefe, Zachary and Elizabeth
Kevorkian, Jeff and Stacey
Klidaras, Steven and Laura
Klidaras, Tina
Knapp, Jennie
Kopoulos, Harry
Koukkos, Gabriel
Ladies Aid Society, AGOC
Maloof, Michael and Ann
Malonis, Christos and Mary
Mamakos, Michael and Kara
Mamakos, Peter and Anna
Mansour, Louis and Genie
Markos, Frank and Suzanne
Mathieu, Cornelia
Matthews, Byron J. and Helen
Matthews, John and Christina
Matthews, Paul and Christine
Matthews, Peter and Teri
McGrath, Thomas and Rose Papanickolas
Monoxelos, Milton and Catherine
Nabhan, Jamile
Nakis, Menelaus
Nakis, Paul and Connie
Neos, Charles
Newman, Rev. Fr. Constantine and Presbytera Anna
Newman, Nicholas
Novack, Jason and Melissa
Panas, Ann
Panas, Peter
Panas, Stephen and Joanna
Pantelakis, Ted and Gayle
Papadakis, Emmanuel and Bertha
Papoulias, Charles
Pappas, Perry
Patriakeas, John and Joan
Patrick, James and Melinda
Pavlik, Kristyne
Pentoliros, Tina
Perreault, Joanne and Chris
Pomerleau, Bruce and Viki
Rallis, Elaine V.
Rallis, Mary S.
Rallis, Pauline
Ray, Julie M.
Sakorafos, Christopher and Robin
Sawyer, Tepsie
Schaeffer, Frank and Genie
Short, Ian and Jacqueline Hembrook
Smith, Don
Spaneas, Mary F.
Spangler, Robert and Stella
Spaulding, Joe and Dale
Sperelakis, James
Stanton, Sophia
Stickney, Raymond and Kalliope
Terzis, Alexios
Tikellis, Daphne
Tsakirgis, John
Tsiantas, Kathy
Tsopeas, Angela
Uttley, Christen
Uttley, William and Diana
Varoudakis, Joanne
Yavorski, James and Stacey
Yeroshkina, Maryna*

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:

Donations: We wish to thank those who have made recent donations to the Annunciation Church

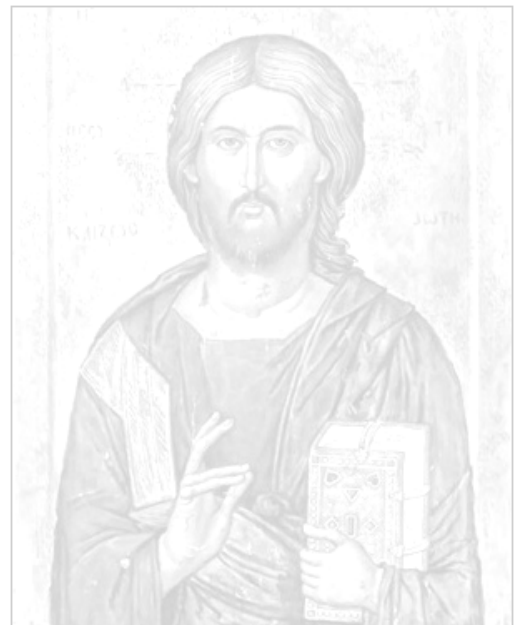
Christus Synodinos for Support A Mission Priest program
Mary & Chris Malonis
Alicia & Thomas Spiro

We wish to thank those who have made recent donations to St. Basil's Kitchen

Joe Spaulding
Gladys Gittings

In Memory of Elaine Kosta-Smith

Christine Christopher



Parish News & Notes



Sunday School News

Sunday School classes have been underway for the last few weeks. We another smooth transition into the new year thanks to our dedicated staff. We would like to welcome two new teachers who will be working with us this year, Diane Hansen and John Patriakeas. Diane is teaching 5th and 6th grade with Andrea Jones and John will be teaching 3rd and 4th grade with Elena and Casey Newman. Thank you to all our returning Sunday School teachers for giving of their time and talents again for another year, I have included the October schedule for Sunday School. I hope this helps with planning for our upcoming events!

October

- 3 - Classes/ Hike for Hope Lazarus House
- 10 - Classes
- 17 - Classes
- 23 - ALL SAINTS PARTY 6:30- 8:30
- 24 - Classes /STAFF MEETING
- 31 - Classes

Blankets for Lazarus House

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMPETITION:

Blanket Collection now through end of November!

The Sunday School classes are collecting blankets for Lazarus House. The class with the most blankets wins a pizza or ice-cream party! Please support your favorite class by bringing in blankets by the last Sunday in November. When you bring in your blankets, please label them with your favorite Sunday school class!



Golf Tournament —

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church recently held its 4th Annual Golf Tourney at Ould Newbury Golf Club. The event was very successful with a large field of golfers participating. The weather was very cooperative, with warm sunshine and clear skies. A dinner was held at Nicholson Hall after the golf tourney, where a meal of lamb and chicken kabobs along with a variety of Greek vegetable dishes, rice and desert was served to the players. Following the meal, a raffle was held and prizes were awarded to the winners of the tournament.

We would like to thank the following sponsors:

Gold Sponsor: The Demoulas Foundation;

Silver Sponsor: Institution for Savings;

Bronze Sponsors: Paul Rogers & Sons and SPS New England.

Also, general sponsors were Northeast Planning Associates, Inc., Peter L. Chetsas Insurance Agency, Market Place of Rowley, Woodman Associates Architects, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Daniel L. Lynch, Pharmacy, TD Bank North, Sheriff Frank Cousins, Rochester Electronics, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union, The Housianitis Family, Racquet Club of Newburyport, The Provident Bank, The Newburyport Bank, Schooner Financial Associates, Newburyport Whale Watch, J.F. Spaulding Landscaping, Peter & Dorothy Davis Family, Clipper City Car Wash, Nicholson Hall, Greek American Golf Tourney of Haverhill, John Tsakirgis Family, Annunciation Church Choir, Auto Mania, Northeast Refrigerated, Life's to Short – Mobil on the Run, Angie's Restaurant, Annunciation Sunday School, John Dussi Family, and Annunciation Church Ladies Aid Society, Clipper City Car Wash, Tewksbury Mobil on the Run, and Northeast Refrigerated Dist. Co.

Thank you to the Golf Committee, Chris Malonis, Mary Malonis, Donald Smith, Milton Monoxelos, Peter Davis, Anna Mamakos, Don Argyrople and Elizabeth Keefe.

In addition, we would also like to thank all the volunteers, and Pro Jim Hilton of Ould Newbury for all his help. The support we received from the sponsors and those who provided the raffle items is greatly appreciated from all the members of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Newburyport.

Rena Monoxelos and Byron Matthews

Co-Chairs, Annunciation Church Golf Committee

Parish News & Notes



GLAS—Greek Laides Aid Society

The GLAS is hosting its 3rd annual Luncheon and Fair on Saturday, November 20th from 10:00 to 3:00. Please look for information in the Sunday Bulletin regarding ways you can help. GLAS welcomes and appreciates whoever is willing and able to contribute. If you're not able to help, please join us for lunch and Thanksgiving/Christmas shopping!

The second GLAS meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, October 5th, then Tuesday, November 2nd. Please come!

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

We all enjoy having a cup of coffee and some delicious treats following Sunday Liturgy. It's a nice custom that reminds us to catch our breath and spend some time with friends before focusing on the demands of the week ahead. Help us keep the coffee brewing by signing up to host a Coffee Hour! Hosting or sponsoring a Coffee Hour is easier than you think!

Here's what you need to know:

- Choose an available Sunday on the Coffee Hour Sign-Up Sheet located in Nicholson Hall
- You can serve whatever you like or bring in these suggested basics: donuts or coffee cake, fruit, cheese & crackers, bagels & cream cheese, a gallon of fruit juice or punch, and cream for the coffee.
- The coffee and paper goods are provided by the church or you can bring your own.

Remember to clean up afterward so the hall will be tidy for the next group or event.

Not up to the task of hosting? How about sponsoring a coffee hour to honor a loved one or mark a special event? For a suggested donation of \$30, we'll do the shopping, set up, and clean up. It's that simple!

For more information or to sign up as a host or sponsor, call Joanne Perreault at 978-388-8353 or email

The.Perreaults@verizon.net.

Parish Family Night Out Begins Again!

The new 2010-2011 session of Parish Family Night Out will kick off on Sunday, October 24. Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm, and the Session will begin at 5:45 pm. This season's theme is: Celebrating the Feasts of Faith: Why and How We Celebrate the Feasts of the Church. We will begin with a look at the Feasts of the Theotokos. All Parish Family Members and Friends are welcome. Bring the kids as well; there will be a separate session for them. Enjoy good company, good discussion, and learning about your most precious possession—your Faith!

Elderly Aid Position Sought

A woman parishioner with experience working with the elderly is looking for a position as elderly companion and assistant. If you have an elderly loved one who would like some help and companionship, or know of someone who would, please talk to Fr. Constantine who put you in touch with each other.

Book Club Kicks Off

We are looking forward to another very successful and very interesting year of our Orthodox Book and Discussion Club! Our first meeting will be Tuesday, October 19 (our traditional 3rd Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 pm. Our first discussion will be about an excellent Russian-made film (with English subtitles) called *Ostrov* (The Island), and is the story of a monastery and the life of a monk who is ridden with guilt and spends his life in repentance. He is a "fool for Christ" and the film also chronicles the affect of his life on the other monks. It is an interesting film exploring the themes of sin and repentance.

After the film we will decide on future books for discussion.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΒΟΣΤΩΝΗΣ

September 6, 2010

To the Rev. Clergy, Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Societies, Catechetical and Greek Schools, Youth Organizations and all the faithful in the Metropolis of Boston

Dear brethren,

As we embark upon the new ecclesiastical year, I pray that we be blessed daily with the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. May it be a year of a spiritual growth and maturity for the clergy and laity of our beloved Metropolis. May this year be especially dedicated to relieve the suffering of our fellow human beings throughout the United States and the entire world.

Who among us can be unconcerned with the plight of millions of brethren in Haiti, Chile, Pakistan and China victimized by various catastrophes? And, who can be indifferent to our fellow Americans in New Orleans, still homeless five years following hurricane Katrina?

Yes, there is much suffering around us. Recently, administrators from the well known Pine Street Inn came to my office to thank the Metropolis Philoptochos Board for their outreach to the hungry and homeless in the Greater Boston area. I learned from the Program Director that the Pine Street Inn prepares meals for over 1500 men, women, and children every day. If we multiply this number with the many other similar philanthropic institutions in Boston alone, we may begin to fathom the plight of the needy in New England and throughout America.

The financial crisis our nation and the entire world is facing since 2008 has affected thousands—if not millions—who are suffering, having lost their savings, their jobs and their homes. These are not merely statistics. They are our neighbors, our brothers and sisters in the household of God. I remind you of the

Parables of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10, 25-37) and the Last Judgment (Matthew 25, 31-46) in order to strongly encourage you to embrace "the least of our brethren" who need us. Sadly, there are many in our midst like the beggar Lazarus (Luke 16, 20) "full of sores who lay at the gate" of us Christians "desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fall from our table". Sadly, they are often ignored.

It is not enough to remember the hungry and homeless only on Thanksgiving and Christmas, but every day of the year. I commend those Parishes, Philoptochos Chapters and individuals that generously contribute to disaster relief efforts and support programs which benefit soup kitchens and shelters throughout New England. I am particularly thankful to our Catechetical and Greek School children as well as our GOYAns and Young Adults for being especially cognizant of and responsive to needy brethren in our cities and towns. Emulating their sterling example, and in conjunction with the Clergy-Laity Congress theme, "Gather my People to my Home, Come and See", I urge all Parishes in the Metropolis of Boston to dedicate this ecclesiastical year to reach out and minister to brethren in the community at large who are suffering, especially the hungry and homeless. Let us identify Christ the Savior in the persons of those who suffer, calling to mind His assurance, "inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me" (Matt. 25, 40).

Let us call to mind the admonition of Saint James, "What does it profit my brethren if someone says he has faith but does not have works?" (James 2, 14). "Faith by itself, if it does not have works is dead" (2, 17). Let us thank Almighty God for providing us with "every heavenly gift that is from above", and let us share the love of our benevolent and merciful Lord with our fellow human beings.

With Episcopal love,



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CELEBRATING THE FEASTS OF FAITH Why and How We Celebrate the Feasts of our Church

Families and Singles all Welcome!

There will be a special session for young people!

First Meeting

Sunday, October 24

Dinner—5:00 pm

Session—5:45 pm

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Friday October 29 arrival: Between 6 and 7 pm; Dinner served

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The Family as the Church in the Home

Registration

Family Name: _____

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Number of Adults: _____

Number and Ages of Children:

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OCTOBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31					1	2
3 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Walk for HOPE	4 St. Basil's Kitchen Choir 7 pm	5 Ladies Aid Meeting 7 pm	6	7	8	9
10 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Oktoberfest	11 St. Basil's Kitchen Choir 7 pm	12 Parish Council Mtg 7 pm	13	14	15	16 Taverna Night 7-11 pm
17 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	18 St. Basil's Kitchen Choir 7 pm	19 Book Club 7 pm	20	21	22	23
24 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Family Parish Night 5 pm	25 St. Basil's Kitchen Choir 7 pm	26	27	28	29 Church Retreat at St. Methodios Heritage & Retreat Center 	30

NOVEMBER 2010

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

5

6

Ladies Aid Mtg
7:30 pm

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Divine Liturgy
9:30 am

St. Basil's Kitchen

Choir 7 pm

Parish Council
Mtg 7 pm

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

Divine Liturgy
9:30 am

St. Basil's Kitchen

Choir 7 pm

Book Club 7 pm

**Ladies Aid Fall
Harvest**

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

Divine Liturgy
9:30 am

St. Basil's Kitchen

Choir 7 pm

Stewardship Sunday/
General Assembly/
Lunch will be served

THANKSGIVING

28

29

30

Divine Liturgy
9:30 am

St. Basil's Kitchen

Choir 7 pm

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