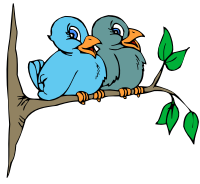


RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

MAY 2006

| | | | |
|----|---------|--|---------------------|
| 7 | (Sun) | SUNDAY OF THE MYRRHBEARERS 3rd Sunday of Pascha Orthros Divine Liturgy | 9:00 AM 10:00 AM |
| 14 | (Sun) | SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC 4th Sunday of Pascha Orthros Divine Liturgy | 9:00 AM 10:00 AM |
| 21 | (Sun) | SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN 5th Sunday of Pascha & STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES Orthros Divine Liturgy | 9:00 AM 10:00 AM |
| 25 | (Thurs) | THIRD DISCOVERY OF THE HEAD OF ST. JOHN THE FORERUNNER Orthros & Divine Liturgy | 9:00 AM |
| 28 | (Sun) | SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN 6th Sunday of Pascha Orthros Divine Liturgy | 9:00 AM 10:00 AM |

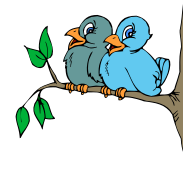




COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY 2006

Weekly Events



MONDAY

DANCE REHEARSALS

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Ta Pedakia | (5-7 years old) | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. |
| Mikri Levendia | (8-10 years old) | 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. |
| Elliniki Omorfia | (12-16 years old) | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. |
| Levendia | (17-20 years old) | 8:00 -10:00 p.m. |

(OTHER DAYS / TIMES DESIGNATED BY DANCE DIRECTORS)

DANCE DIRECTORS MTG (1st Monday/Monthly) 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

BIBLE STUDY

11:30 -1:00 p.m.

GREEK SCHOOL

4:00 -7:00 p.m.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7:30 p.m.

(First & Third Tuesdays)

AHEPA MEETING (2nd Tuesday/Monthly)

7:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY

PHILOPTOCHOS

7:00 p.m.

(First Wednesday / General Mtg.Only/ Monthly)

(Thursday - June 1st - Philoptochos Board Mtg.)

(Thursday- June 8th - Philoptochos General Mtg.)

THURSDAY

ADULT GREEK SCHOOL

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

❁ **MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR MAY 2006** ❁



| | | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Wednesday | May 3 | Philoptochos -- Small Hall 7:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday | May 10 | Parish Council Mtg. 7:00 p.m. |
| Sunday | May 14 | Mother's Day |
| Friday-Sunday | May 19-21 | GREEK FESTIVAL |
| Tuesday | May 23 | Parish Council Mtg |
| Monday | May 29 | Memorial Day – Office Closed |
| Sunday | June 4 | Sunday School Picnic |



ITEMS DONATED FOR LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER

Thank you Dear Friends for your generosity!

FLOWERS TO DECORATE THE ICON OF THE VIRGIN (DURING FIVE FRIDAYS)

**Mr. and Mrs. Gus Gialamos
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Soles
Mrs. Vivian Christian
Mr. and Mrs. George Georgakopoulos**



ALTAR FLOWERS (ROSES) FOR ANNUNCIATION

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sargologos

ANNUNCIATION ICON FLOWERS

**Mr. and Mrs. George Lambros
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sargologos**



FLOWERS (500 DAFFODILS) FOR FEAST OF THE CROSS

**Mr. & Mrs. Larry Chrest
Nickolas & Angela Siokos**

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

**Mr. and Mrs. Nikki Hussein
Ms. Christina McDonald**

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR PALM SUNDAY

Mr. & Mrs. Leon Gabrielian



PALM SUNDAY PALMS

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Winders

BANNER OF RESURRECTION

Mr. & Mrs. George Massouris

LARGE PASCHAL CANDLE USED BY PRIEST FOR EASTER SEASON

Mr. & Mrs. James Wronski

WREATH FOR HOLY CROSS

Mr. & Mrs. John Hadjis

ALTAR FLOWERS (EASTER LILIES) FOR PASCHA

Mr. & Mrs. Lex Rooker

FLOWERS FOR THE PORTABLE RESURRECTION ICON ICONOSTASIS

Mr. & Mrs. Lex Rooker

EASTER POTTED LILLIES

Mr. and Mrs. Tyke Camaras

FLOWERS TO DECORATE ICON OF CHRIST FOR HOLY MONDAY

Mr. & Mrs. George Lambros



SPECIAL INCENSE FOR HOLY WEEK

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Panagakis

SPECIAL 100% BEESWAX CANDLES FOR CROSS AND ALTAR TABLE

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Panagakis



FLOWERS FOR THE ICONOSTASIS ICON OF THE RESURRECTION

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Papadon

Commentary by Fr. James

Stewardship: The Main Reason I Pledge”

Dear friends,

The opportunity this blessed day gives us to be together, requires that I revisit a subject crucially vital to our Church’s well-being and progress. Even at the risk of being misunderstood and even criticized, my love of Christ and our Holy Orthodox Church requires of me that I share some “heart-to-heart talk” with you, the members of this beloved parish and community of St. John the Baptist, Greek Orthodox Church. My subject deals with Stewardship and specifically the financial support of OUR Church.

A check of the enclosed Membership List, shows those of us who make possible the existence and the many programs and ministries of St. John’s. We thank these members for their support and also those who will eventually send in their Stewardship gift which we call the PLEDGE.

At this time, I wish to share with you why I submit my Annual Pledge to our parish.

Presbytera and I offer our gifts because our love for Christ requires it. And not because of the “membership requirement” in our local Parish By-Laws. In fact some may be surprised to learn that we have no “voting” rights at the various Parish Assemblies nor other “privileges” of a contributing member. Nevertheless, we gladly offer to Christ our God the best that we have of our time, talents and yes our money. To give anything less would not be right; nor would it reflect our profound thanks for what Christ the Lord has done for us. Our giving is conditioned by our abiding faith and trust in God. He is our Creator, our Sustainer and our Redeemer who shed his blood that we may have life for evermore. Because of that we are truly pleased to contribute to our Church more than 3% of our **combined** income.

Although about sixty-three members contribute \$1,000 or more, the average gift to our parish comes to only \$520 per year. That concerns me! When I arrived in Anaheim almost 25 years ago, the **required minimum** pledge per family was \$200. Sadly, we still have very many members who are contributing that and even less, much less. Consider also that **less than half** of our operating budget of \$550,000 comes from members pledges.

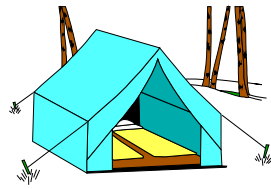
Finally, I wish to invite all those many who contribute either a very small token gift, or **nothing** at all, to reconsider. If we are truly one with Christ (and I pray for that regularly), we **MUST** come to the realization that the “NEED OF THE GIVER TO GIVE, IS GREATER THAN THE NEED OF THE CHURCH TO RECEIVE.” To refuse to support one’s Church is not right. Withholding my support of the Church will only bring me ruin; it will shrivel me and only impoverish me.

Many generous givers will also tell your that the more they give the more they receive. Real satisfaction, joy and inner peace, are some of the rewards generous givers receive.

Friends, it is only by a continuous generous self-giving that we will be able to achieve our true potential as children of God. The Lord Jesus, whose awesome passion and awful death on a Cross we relive this week warned us about the dangers of covetousness with the stirring and soul-searching words, “**what does it profit one if he gains the whole world but loses his soul.**” We should pay attention lest we too “gain the whole world” but “lose our life”

Friends, in my life I have discovered many truths about giving but the greatest is the Lord’s own words. “**It is more blessed to give than to receive**”.

Fr. James



**ST. NICHOLAS RANCH
SUMMER CAMP 2004**

"From Creeds to Deeds"

July 11-17, July 18-24, July 25-31

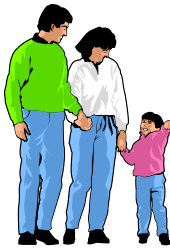
Horseback Riding ♦ Archery ♦ Roping ♦ Canoeing

www.stnicholasranch.org/summercamp.htm

Brochures are in the Church Office



**THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND FAMILY-BUILDING ALTERNATIVE
SPRING FAMILY CAMP: REMAKE THE LAKE!**



Family Fun and Adventure

Archery ♦ Canoeing
Fishing ♦ Ice-Cream Making
Hayrides ♦ Campfires
Bar-Be-Que ♦ and More!



Participate with other families in a Ranch lake restoration project which will include building a boat dock and renovating the lakeside fire pit and stage.

For more information call 559-338-2103

info@stnicholasranch.org www.stnicholasranch.org/GroupCamp.htm

Flyers are in the Church Office.

**SAINT SOPHIA
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show



"Shopping in Style with Mom"

Featuring Designs by

David Hayes

Saturday, May 8th, 11:00 a.m.

The Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel

9500 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills

For information call:

Georgia Vasila 213-380-4228 or

Diane Starros 323-661-8583



"FROM THE HEART"

Sunday, May 9th

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST



Antenna Satellite is organizing a six-hour telethon **"From the Heart"** for Deborah Hospital's special program "Children of the World." This program has helped over 3,000 children, from 83 countries, receive treatment at no cost. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated. For information, call 212-688-5475

CHOIR NEWS FROM THE LOFT

By Mary E. Futris

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

A big thanks goes out to our choir people who attended regularly to sing at the various Paschal services. Although many work and have other outside activities, they still find time to sing their praises to our Lord and Saviour.

These same people have also volunteered to work at the various booths for St. John's annual Greek Festival, which will be held May 21-23. Not only are our choir people working at the festival booths, but a few of them have also "adopted" booths. We not only sing together, we play together, and we work together.

With Easter having passed, the choir members are now also preparing for the Church Music Federation's annual choir conference. This year the conference will be held at the New York, New York Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada during the weekend of June 17-20. Bill Bobolis, Choir Director of the Sacramento Annunciation Choir, will be the guest conductor for the Liturgy. This year the Church Music Federation has chosen the Dr. Frank Desby Liturgy to be sung (this is the same liturgical music we sing here at St. John's). With the conference in mind, on the 18th of April, the members took their annual group choir photograph, which will be placed in the conference souvenir album. From what has been heard, there will be many of our members attending this year's conference.

On Saturday, May 8, a joyous occasion occurred--the baptism of the choir's mascot (that's what we have been calling him), John Kouloumbis, son of Sahar and George Kouloumbis. Sahar and George have been bringing little John upstairs to the hallway of the choir loft where we have occasionally heard him try to sing along with the choir. What a blessing he is. Congratulations on his baptism.

We wish those born during the month of May a very Happy Birthday: Electra Christ, George Kouloumbis. To those celebrating their namedays in May, a Happy Namesday to them: Helen Colclasure, Deno Soteropoulos.

"Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts." -- Psalm 33:3



NEWS FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES AND OTHER INFORMATION.....

AHEPA/ University of IndianapolisAthens Campus Announce Launch of Journey to Greece Program for Students between the ages of 17 and 20. The journey starts July 20 and ends August 20, 2006. Application deadline is May 1, 2006. For more information, call +30 210 323 7077 or visit our website @ www.uindy.gr.

St. Sophia Philoptochos Debutante Presentation Ball - 2007

Plans are underway for St. Sophia Philoptochos Debutante Presentetation Ball to be held on Sat., January 27, 2007, at the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Call Tina Callas at 818-986-7659 or at calset@aol.com for more information.

St. Sophia's welcomes Eleni N. Gage, Author of "North of Ithaca", on Thurs, May 18 @ 11:30am luncheon, & 1pm-speaker. Call Sophie Mastor @ 310-476-4638 or Diane Sarros @ akpita@sbcglobal.net

St. Paul's Parish-Pot Luck Luncheon Senior Citizens. June 1st @ 11:30 a.m
Address: 4949 Alton Pkwy., Irvine, CA
R.S.V.P. John & Jo-Helen Argos
714-549-2503. Anaheim, Cardiff by the Sea, Long Beach, & Irvine parishes will be joining us. Come for the Divine Liturgy of Ascension before the luncheon.

DATES TO REMEMBER.....

May 7- Bake Sale sponsored by by the Folk Dance Groups.

June 17- Senior Pot-luck in small hall.

IONIAN VILLAGE AN ORTHODOX

SUMMER CAMP IN GREECE

Summer Travel Camp- 7th-9th grades

June 29-July 16, 2006

Byzantine Venture - 10th-12th grades

July 24-August 13, 2006

For more information, or a registration packet, visit our website at www.ionianvillage.org or contact Ionian Village at (646) 519-6190 or via email at ionianvillage@goarch.org.

ECHOES OF THE AEGEAN AND CARIBBEAN THE GREEK HERITAGE

SOCIETY presents an encore concert with Greek-Venezuelan-American Pantelis Palamidis performing his songs with a blend of Mediterranean and Latin American beast and an anthology of songs by renowned Greek composers in Greek, English and Spanish. This function will be held at the Barnsdall Gallery Theater in Los Angeles, \$50.00 per person, on Sunday, May 7, 2006 at 7pm. For more information, 310-216-9391, Irene.Andreadis@linquest.com

The Hellenic American Medical and Dental Society of So. California invites medical and dental students of Hellenic descent to apply for S. James Vamvas Scholarships for the

academic year 2006-2007. The scholarships are awarded to Greek-American medical & dental students attending accredited Calif. Schools & Calif. residents attending schools in other parts of the U.S. For info. and applications, contact George Emmanouilides, M.D. @ 310-377-6643 or 310-222-4000. Deadline: 7/31/06

2006 BASKETBALL GAMES
5/7- SUN-FINALS/BQT-PASADENA

*His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos
of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco and the
Metropolis Philoptochos Board,
cordially invite you to attend*

The Annual Reception to Benefit "Kids 'N' Cancer"

Sunday, May 7, 2006

**Where: at the home of Esther and Ted Vavoulis
4257 Chula Senda Lane, La Canada, California 91011**

When: 1 - 5 PM

LADIES WE NEED HELP!!!!

May 10 - Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. - Diples

**May 15 - Monday - 9:00 a.m. - Honey Diples &
Melomacaronas**

May 17 - Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. - Make Gift Boxes

**Also, need help in pastry booths during the Festival.
Thank you for all your support.**

Julie & Nancy (714-522-7737)



