

# The Vineyard

“I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES” (John 15:51)

NOVEMBER 2007

VOL. XXVIII, NO. 12

PROISTAMENOS MESSAGE

## OUR CONDUCT SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS ARE WE LIVING OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?

My dear parishioners and friends,

Recently right here in America, the anti-religion groups have instigated many anti-Islamic and surprisingly, anti-Christian attacks. Atheism in America is on the rise. Consider the many books which attack our Christian faith with some appearing on the New York Times best seller. (e.g. Christopher Hitchen's *“God is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything.”*) These books are filled with blatant anti-God and anti-Christian diatribes. And they have influenced a very vocal minority which seeks to undermine whatever faith remains among Christian people.

These pervasive and pernicious attacks which are aimed at those of us Christians who strive to live our life according to Christian values are making inroads especially among the youth. In a recent poll by a very respected firm, 22, 000 college students of various creeds were asked if they planned to return to their respective churches after their graduation. Surprisingly 6 out of 10 said no. Back in the sixties and seventies church participation was at an all time high. Christians of all stripes, Catholics and Protestants, flocked to their respective Churches. And yes, a very high

percentage of young adults was present. History teaches us that America was founded on Christian principles by those who left Europe in order to worship freely as they chose. Just as Europe has turned its back on the Christian faith which formed it and nourished it, so now Christians in America are being challenged on every side. What can be done?

“When are we going to give the Church the tools it requires to move forward in order to better serve upcoming generations who will follow us?”

We Orthodox Christians can begin by reasserting our faith in and trust of Christ our Lord and God. We should not let anyone in the name of freedom seduce us to their outrageous attacks. We need to stand up and defend our Christian faith. This can come about to the extent that we

become more committed and proactive in defense of our Faith by becoming more committed to the Church.

There are too many Christians, of all stripes, who are at best luke-warm and apathetic towards their church. We Orthodox are also in need of some serious soul searching. We need to cultivate an Orthodox phronema, (mindset). Once we come to understand and appreciate our beloved Orthodox Christian faith we can become more committed to our goal of growing in Christ.

(Continued on page 3)

# THE VINEYARD

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH,  
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

**EDITOR: FATHER JAMES S. DIAVATIS**

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**REV. FR. JAMES S. DIAVATIS, PROTOPRESBYTER**

**REV. FR. NICHOLAS ANDREWS, OIKONOMOS**

Parish Council President.....*John Ohanian*  
Philoptochos President .....*Mary Ohanian*  
Religious Education.....*Ann Lewis*  
Chantor .....*John Mestakides*  
Sexton .....*Theofilos Russos*  
Senior Citizens (St. John's Golden Stars) .....*Freda Chrest*  
Organist/Choir Director .....*Elsa Libowitz*  
Office Manager .....*Sarah Smathers*  
Secretary .....*Angie Chakos and Anna Prasongsy*  
Custodians .....*Jose Perez*

## *Schedule of Sunday Worship Services*

**Orthros & Divine Liturgy.....9:00 A.M.**

Memorials at Conclusion of Divine Liturgy  
Fellowship in Church Hall Following Divine Liturgy

**WEEKDAY/HOLY DAY SERVICES.....9:00 A.M.**

## *Parish Programs*

**ADULT GREEK CLASS** - Thursdays 5:30 & 7:00 P.M.

**ALTAR BOYS** - Each boy serves in the Altar once every four weeks.

**BIBLE STUDY** - Tuesdays 11:30 A.M.

**CHILDREN'S GREEK CLASS** - Tuesdays - 4:00 P.M.

**CLASS FOR THOSE ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED** - As scheduled.

**CLASS ON THE ORTHODOX FAITH** - Wednesdays - 7:00 P.M.

**FOLK DANCE GROUPS** - Rehearsals Monday - 4:00 P.M.

**J.O.Y & H.O.P.E** - 3rd Thursday of the Month

**Little Angels** - 3rd Thursday of the Month

**G.O.Y.A** - 1st Sunday and 3rd Thursday of the Month

**Y.A.L** - To be Announced

**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY** - First Wednesday of the month - 7:00 P.M.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** - September to June each year.

**CHOIR** - Thursdays 7:00 P.M.

**ST. JOHN'S GOLDEN STARS** - Meets informally.

Now on the internet at: <http://www.stjohnanaheim.org>

# OUR CONDUCT SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS ARE WE LIVING OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?

*(Continued from page 1)*

Yes, we can do better, much better if Christ the Lord means anything to us. If his sacrifice on two pieces of wood is worthy of our faith in and love of Him, then we need to show it. Because some of us lack true commitment the enemies of Christ have seized the opportunity to malign our faith. When are we going to give the Church the tools it requires to move forward in order to better serve upcoming generations who will follow us? Even the example of the few truly committed Orthodox Christians will cause others to follow suit. That's what we need today. People who love the Lord and show it will be the catalyst needed for a reawakening. When will the message of the Orthodox Christian Church resonate in the lives of its respective members? When will we determine to live our Faith's major tenets in such a way that will allow us to grow in Christ?

I pray for you. I pray for you and your family's health and well being. I also pray that you will be strengthened to respect your Orthodox faith. I further pray that you LEARN your Orthodox faith and that you will LIVE your Orthodox faith way. By taking the requirements of your Greek Orthodox Church more seriously you and your family will gain much that will enrich your lives.

Do this and your will experience what I am talking about and what the many converts to our venerable faith are finding out as they take the giant step by accepting our Orthodox Church. For many neophytes this serious acceptance of our holy Church comes after many years of searching. They read many books, they attend many services and when they ask to be received into the fellowship of the Orthodox faith, they

are truly sincere in their desire to live the requirements of their new faith. And they do so many times, even better than many cradle Orthodox.

Friends, if these words, which are penned with much love and abiding concern for the welfare of this parish mean anything, please demonstrate your faith in and love of Christ. Your whole life depends on it. Your Church is worthy of your total giving of yourself to its sacred aims and

## ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA (4<sup>th</sup> century)

**Question 1: Why on earth did God go to the trouble of making man.?**

Answer: "For it was not right that light should remain unseen or glory unwitnessed, or goodness unenjoyed or that any aspect of divine nature should remain idle with no one to share it".

**Question 2: But there is so much evil and suffering inherent in man that it would have been better perhaps if man had not been created at all.**

Answer: Man was endowed with the gift of liberty and free will and brought this suffering upon himself. It is not God's fault. "If a man in broad daylight of his own free will closes his eyes, the sun is not responsible for his failure to see". It was man who destroyed man and therefore God came down in human form to rescue him.

**Question 3: Why was it necessary for God to come down to earth in the form of a man, to suffer birth and growth, eating and drinking, weariness, sleep, grief, tears, false accusations, the trial, the Cross and the tomb. Why go through it all.**

Answer: "Man was sick and needed a doctor. He had fallen and needed to be raised up. He had lost his life and needed his life restored. He was shut up in the dark and needed the light. He was the prisoner and needed to be ransomed. He was the slave and needed to be free."

Fr. James Message

# DO YOU LOVE CHRIST?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As one who has to give God the Awesome Judge an accounting of my ministry, I appeal once again to you in hope that my words will not fall on unwilling ears.

As priests our one and only aim is to bring you and your children closer to Christ. As co-workers with God you and we have a sacred obligation, to bring ourselves and our children to Christ. There are those who are giving evidence of their love of and faith in Jesus Christ by doing just that. They come to church without fail together with their children and participate in our youth ministries. Yet, many others are not participating. I will not judge them, but simply pray fervently that they will turn FROM the enticements of the world TO Christ.

Since early August Fr. Nicholas and I have been working on an expanded youth program. Mothers, in August you received my personal, first class letter addressed to you by name and each one individually signed by me inviting you to enroll your child(ren) in the appropriate age group ministry of our TEN youth programs. Apart from the tepid support for the **FOLK DANCE GROUPS**, the **BASKETBALL**, **GREEK SCHOOL** and **GOYA** very little support has been shown for **LITTLE ANGELS**, **HOPE**, **JOY**, **ALTAR BOYS**, **SUNDAY SCHOOL** and **JR. CHOIR**.

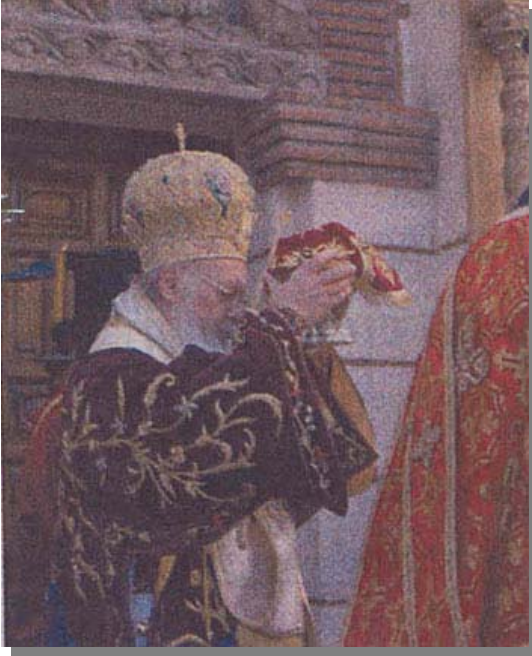
We can do better! All it requires is a little co-operation.

Fr. Nicholas abides by my direction and together we have put together a program which will benefit our beloved young people. Our kids are vulnerable to the falsehoods which are rammed down their throats by the enemies of God. Make no mistake about it. We can confront the insidious lies which are perpetrated and which seduce the young to accept their errors. We owe it to Christ, who came to die for us thus securing happiness and joy in this life and an existence which does not end at the grave.

Will you assist us? We count on you! And we also need some dedicated assistance on the part of a few of you to act as advisors.

# Have We Given Thanks?

“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.  
Be thankful to Him and bless His Holy Name”- Psalm 100:4.



Beloved faithful,

Through God’s grace, we have been blessed to enjoy one more year of life on this earth. It seems that only yesterday we were celebrating “The Holidays” and yet, a whole year has passed. Where did it go? How appropriate it is indeed that the first holiday of the “season” is the day that has been set aside in order to reflect and to give thanks to our Lord and Savior for the abundant blessings that he has bestowed upon us, not only this year, but throughout our life.

Our Savior takes notice of those who give thanksgiving and those who don’t. This is shown in Luke 17:15-19, after our Lord cured the ten lepers, only one of them came back to offer thanksgiving. “And he fell down on his face, at His feet giving him thanks.” So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the

nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” And he said to him “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

How many blessings did we receive and give thanksgiving for this year? How about the fact that we live in a country where we can practice our Orthodox faith without persecution? How about our health and our families? The list is obviously inexhaustible. In addition to God, it is important to remember the people who helped us during the last year; our spouses, our friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Let us not be like the nine who did not return, but rather like the Samaritan who remembered and took the time and effort to return to give thanks.

Let us approach this Christmas season, first and foremost, with the light of Christ glowing brightly in our hearts, acknowledging his abundant blessings that he bestows upon us so that we can reflect, as well as share this light with others.

In his service,

Fr. Nicholas

# Home for the Greek Orthodox

By J. Michael Parker

**KENDALIA**-Off FM 473, 6 miles east of here near U.S. 281, a modest sign directs visitors down a meandering 3-mile road to an oasis of Greek Orthodox spirituality hidden in the middle of the Texas Hill Country.

Each Sunday, 80 to 100 visitors gather to attend a 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy at the Holy Archangels Greek Orthodox Monastery. Those who don't live in San Antonio, Austin or the Hill Country rent nearby motel rooms.

Founded in 1996, Holy Archangels is less known these days than the 25-year-old Christ of the Hills monastery 5 miles southwest of Blanco.

Christ of the Hills has courted frequent publicity, with a "weeping" icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary that attracted thousands of visitors for years and with recent charges of sexual assault against several of its monks.

The Blanco monks' only affiliation with any recognized ecclesiastical jurisdiction-the New York-based Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia-lasted from 1991 to 1999. A church spokesman said its recognition was revoked because the Blanco monks refused to abide by church discipline.

But Holy Archangels is affiliated with the 1.5 million-member Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, the largest nationwide Orthodox jurisdiction in the United States. The Greek Orthodox Bishop of Denver, Metropolitan Isaiah, is its regional superior.

"People have always confused us with them, but we have no connection," said Father dositheos, 38, the Canadian-born abbot of Holy Archangels.

The two groups of monks wear similar black robes and have long beards.

## Beginnings

The eight monks of Holy Archangels are veterans of monastic life on Mount Athos in Greece. They left the "holy mountain" to join other pioneers in establishing Greek Orthodox monasticism across the United States.

Holy Archangels is Texas' first Greek Orthodox monastery and one of 15 built in this country since 1989. A monastery for women was recently dedicated in Washington County near Brenham.

Matching the church's architecture is a modern, spacious dining hall that's much too big for just eight monks.

But perhaps the monks' boldest statement of confidence in the future is a building still perhaps two years short of completion: a three-story, 40,000-square-foot dormitory designed to accommodate not eight monks but 50.

Father Dositheos said progress on the building depends on continuing donations, the complex's only source funding.

**"We don't Collect a certain level of funds and then say, 'Let's begin,' he said. "We just keep moving forward. People appreciate seeing progress each time they come, and they keep helping."**

*Article taken from [www.mysa.com](http://www.mysa.com)*



# An Orthodox balm for Europe

By Nicolai N. Petro

***Editor's Note: This article appeared recently in the Christian Science Monitor. It speaks of the growth of Orthodoxy and concludes that the West must take the Orthodox Church more seriously.***

For decades, many social scientists had pretty much two things to say about Eastern Orthodox Christianity: 1) that like all religions, it was disappearing with the advance of modern civilization; 2) that it derived most of its support from the reactionary tides of authoritarianism and nationalism.

Those pronouncements are being proved wrong. Today, as in the parable of the prodigal son, throughout Eastern Europe people are returning to the Orthodox Church in droves, and the effect in the public sphere, contrary to most expectations, is quite benign.

Though historically viewed with suspicion by Catholic and Protestant Europe, Orthodox Christianity can actually help bridge the Russia-West gap.

At the heart of much of the miscommunication between Russia and Europe today lies the unacknowledged and untapped longing of Orthodox Christians to be recognized as part of a common European cultural family again. The latest effort to bridge this divide was Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei II's remarks in France, where he spoke poignantly of how the Christian identity Europeans historically share should promote dialogue on issues like human rights and peace, even with atheists and members of other faiths.

The patriarch was pointing out that, while they may differ on specific political issues today, a profound religious bond actually underpins

Western and Eastern European cultural and political values. Sadly, this common bond is rarely mentioned, in either Russia or the West. Today's Slavophile Russian nationalists seem uncomfortable recalling that, despite his uncompromising critique of Western secularism, their avatar Fyodor Dostoyevsky always regarded Europe as Russia's "mother" civilization.

In the West, this oversight has more to do with the fact that Catholic and Protestant Christianity have so often denied an equal voice to those who disagreed with them. In both instances, Orthodox Christianity is seen as part of the problem in East-West relations, instead of part of the solution, as it should be.

Western suspicion of Eastern Orthodoxy can be traced back to before the Great Schism that divided the Christian Church in 1054. One hundred and fifty years later, it fueled the Crusaders' zeal for the sacking of Constantinople. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it became a main theme of Edward Gibbon's influential interpretation of the Roman Empire, which was later echoed in the writings of Oswald Spengler and Arnold Toynbee. And in modern times, Samuel Huntington, among others, has warned direly of the potential for clashes between "Slavic-Orthodox" civilization and the Catholic-Protestant West.

With the exception of Greece, this sad legacy has made Western Europeans notoriously slow to

*(Continued on page 8)*

# An Orthodox balm for Europe

By Nicolai N. Petro

*(Continued from page 7)*

accept countries with large Orthodox populations into pan-European institutions. In the current expansion eastward, however, it is inevitable that the values and mores of European institutions and alliances will be shaped more and more by the traditionalist views of Orthodox Christian believers and less and less by the modern, secularized Protestant assumptions of Western European democracies. Orthodox believers already far outnumber Protestants across Europe, and by some estimates they may eventually even surpass Roman Catholics. If 21<sup>st</sup>-century Europe ever develops a religious complexion, it will predominately Eastern Orthodox.

In the long run, therefore, while the greatest challenge to Europe's cultural and political identity may come from the growth of Islam, its more immediate challenge is how to deal with some 40 million to 140 million Orthodox Christians who, when given a voice in European policymaking, will argue that churches should have a more prominent voice than heretofore in the shaping of social policy.

There are two ways of dealing with this challenge. One way is to stick to a narrow definition of "the West." Make modern-day secularism the gold standard of democracy and decry will challenges to secularism as examples of a "values gap" between East and West. This tried and true formula has the advantage of already being familiar, thanks to the cold war. Unfortunately, it is also a recipe for a conflict within European institutions. And, given the rapidly growing numbers, influence, and wealth of the Orthodox Churches of Eastern Europe, it is a conflict Western Europeans are likely to

lose.

Another way is to expand the definition of what is "Western" through dialogue with Orthodox Christians. The goal of such a dialogue would be to stress the common roots that bind various religious traditions, to encourage models of tolerance that do not presume secularism, and the different ways to balance the disparate roles of church and state, while avoiding total estrangement of one from the other.

Such a dialogue would allow Europe to build a new foundation for East-West relations that is based on the common Greco-Roman and Christian heritages. Most important, it would promote a greater understanding in the West of the Orthodox churches' de facto role as the largest nongovernmental organization in Eastern Europe. In this capacity, they inspire the philanthropy, social welfare, and civic activism that help establish a healthy civil society.

It's time to rethink old assumptions about Orthodox believers and to tap the enormous contributions that they can make to the creation of a peaceful

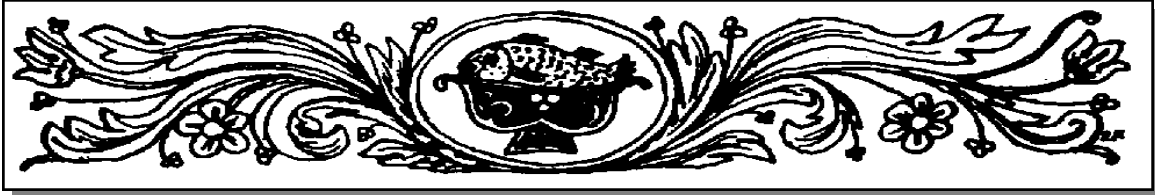
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# Worship Services

NOVEMBER 2007



## Sunday, November 4, 2007

**5th Sunday of Luke**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Thursday, November 8, 2007

**Synaxis of the Archangels**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Friday, November 9, 2007

**St. Nectarios**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Sunday, November 11, 2007

**8th Sunday of Luke**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Sunday, November 18, 2007

**9th Sunday of Luke**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Wednesday, November 21, 2007

**Entrance of the Theotokos**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

**Vesperal Liturgy for Thanksgiving**  
7pm

## Sunday, November 25, 2007

**St. Katherine the Great Martyr**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am

## Friday, November 30, 2007

**St. Andrew the Apostle, Founder of the  
Church of Constantinople**  
Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
9am



**MESSAGE FROM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

A special thank you to the ladies that took the time to paint the beautiful detail in the Sunday School. If you haven't seen it, walk through the hall and see the difference. Thank you Jamie Amerine, Cynthia Kezos, her mom Nickey Kezos and Lea Kiapos. God Bless you, Ann Lewis-Director.

**PHILOPTOCHOS  
MEETING**

Our next Philoptochos Meeting is Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00PM. Our program includes a napkin folding demonstration and other decorating ideas just in time for the holiday season. Join us for a fun evening.

**HOLIDAY GIFT  
BASKETS**

Philoptochos will be preparing Gift Baskets this upcoming Holiday Season for needy families in and around our community. We are accepting donations at the Coffee Bar during the Social Hour after Church. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

\*Philoptochos will also have a **Bake Sale on Sunday, November 18th**, with the proceeds going towards the Holiday Gift Basket program and other

# Community Calendar

NOVEMBER 2007

## **MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2007**

**November 4, 2007**

Daylight Savings Time Ends  
G.O.Y.A.'s Trip to St. Nektarios

**November 5-6, 2007**

Clergy Retreat

**November 6, 2007**

Parish Council Meeting, 7PM

**November 7, 2007**

Philoptochos Meeting, 7PM

**November 11, 2007**

Veterans Day

**November 14, 2007**

Y.A.L Meeting, 7PM

**November 15, 2007**

Little Angels & H.O.P.E. Meeting, 4PM  
G.O.Y.A Meeting w/ Guest Speaker, 7PM

**November 18, 2007**

Philoptochos Bake Sale, following Liturgy  
J.O.Y. Mtg., 12PM

**November 20, 2007**

Parish Council Meeting, 7PM

**November 22-23, 2007**

Happy Thanksgiving!!

\*Office Closed

# November 2007

## St. John's Monthly Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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# Church Registry

NOVEMBER 2007

## BAPTISMS

**October 13, 2007**

**Alexandros Syrengelas**

*Proud Parents: George & Georgia Syrengelas*

*God Parents: Andreas & Niky Syrengelas*

**October 14, 2007**

**Elizabeth (Alizia) Zavitsanos**

*Proud Parents: Terance & Christina Zavitsanos*

*God Parent: Georgia Eid*

**October 21, 2007**

**Andrew Coccas**

*Proud Parents: George & Julie Coccas*

*God Parents: Steve & Olga Tsatas*

## MEMORIALS

**October 7, 2007**

**Athena Andrews** - 40 Days

**Sophia Roumpos** - 6 Months

**October 14, 2007**

**Steven Kirlakitsis** - 11 Years

**Minnie Kirlakitsis** - 9 Years

**Diamond Siokos** - 39 Years

**Achilles Siokios** - 60 Years

**Athanasios (Tom) Nicolaou** - 12 Years

**Antonio Savva** - 10 Years

**October 21, 2007**

**Konstandina Kalogeropoulos** - 5 Years

**Athanasios Stavrakas** - 6 Months

**Eftihia Tambouris** - 1 Years

**October 28, 2007**

**Gus Sigas** - 40 Days

**Emmanuel Antonaras** - 3 Years

**Lazarus (Larry) Chrest** - 6 Months

## SLEEPING IN THE LORD

**September 24, 2007**

**Gus Sigas**

**October 21, 2007**

**Pete Pantelis**

**+ *May their memory be eternal* +**

## PROSFORO SCHEDULE NOVEMBER

**Sunday, November 4**

Mrs. Gail Mitchell

**Thursday, November 8**

Mrs. Maria Mendonis

**Friday, November 9**

Mrs. Maria Mendonis

**Sunday, November 11**

Mrs. Joanne Kalogeropoulos

**Sunday, November 18**

Mrs. Mersina Vatakis

**Wednesday, November 21**

Mrs. Demetra Klentos

**Sunday, November 25**

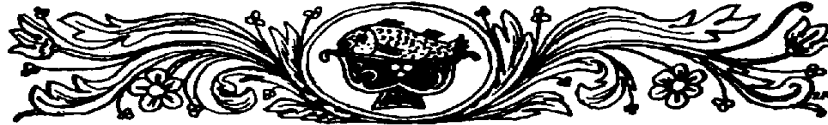
Mrs. Maria Massouris

**Friday, November 30**

Mrs. Voula Kitsigianis

NOTE: If you are unable to bring the Prosforo on your designated date, please call Joanne Kalogeropoulos at (714) 991-8126, or (714) 848-1422.

# ACOLYTES OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 2007



TEAM 1	TEAM 2
<p>Armondios Vestakis Nick Basdakis George Dalis Nicholas Foutris Sotirios Eliopoulos Richard Rosentrater</p>	<p>Dimitri Pappas Bradley Jung Kyriakos Alyousef Michael Bangos Kyriakos Psaras Dimitri Hondrogiannis Stephen Stylianides</p>
<p>October 21, 2007 November 18, 2007 December 16, 2007</p>	<p>October 28, 2007 November 25, 2007 December 23, 2007</p>
TEAM 3	TEAM 4
<p>John Hourigan Pano Nikolaou Theodore Kapogiannis Stefan Malmlund Alexander Malmlund Antonio Georgakopoulos Carl Cantonis</p>	<p>George Alexopoulos Niko Begakis Argirios Alexopoulos Spiros Mantas Dimitri Dimopoulos Paul Stephens</p>
<p>October 7, 2007 November 4, 2007 December 2, 2007</p>	<p>October 14, 2007 November 11, 2007 December 9, 2007</p>

- 1.) The Divine Liturgy begins promptly at 10:00 AM. Please be vested no later than 10:05 AM.
- 2.) Clothing preference is white (or light) shirt and tie with dark shoes. NO SNEAKERS PLEASE.

# Parish Programs

FALL 2007

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Held Tuesday Mornings  
11:30AM-1PM

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Every Sunday through June.

## **CLASS ON THE ORTHODOX FAITH**

Wednesday Evenings 7-8:30PM

## **GREEK FOLK DANCING MONDAYS**

Training Group 4 - 5PM

Ta Pedakia 4 - 6PM

Mikri Levendia 5 - 7PM

Elliniki Omorfia 6 - 7:30PM

## **YOUTH ADULT LEAGUE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

To Be Announced.

## **GREEK ORTHODOX YOUTH OF AMERICA**

For all teenagers ages 12 - 18.  
1st Sunday & 3rd Thursday of the Month

## **LITTLE ANGELS YOUTH PROGRAM**

3rd Thursday of the Month, 4PM

## **JUNIOR ORTHODOX YOUTH**

3rd Sunday of the Month, 12:15PM

## **H.O.P.E YOUTH PROGRAM**

3rd Thursday of the Month, 4PM

## **PROSFORO MINISTRY**

Bread for Holy Communion  
Please consider making and offering the  
prosfora on Sundays.  
Contact: Joanne Kalogeropoulos

## **ACOLYTES**

Young men ages 9 & up are invited to  
participate in this sacred ministry. Each group  
serves once every four weeks. Contact Fr.

## **PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

Meets the first Wednesday of  
every month at 7PM.

## **PRE-MARITAL CLASS**

This is a diocese requirement for all persons  
wishing to marry in the Church.

## **CHOIR (ADULT)**

Practice is held Thursdays  
7-9PM

All are invited to join and offer praise to God.

## **ST. JOHN'S GOLDEN STARS**

For retired parishioners.  
Meets informally as announced.

## **GREEK SCHOOL**

Children - Tues. & Thurs. 4 - 7PM

Adults - Thursdays 5:30 - 8:30PM

Contact the office for schedules.

## **JR. CHOIR**

Soon to be Announced by  
Elsa Libowitz

# PARTICIPATE IN OUR MINISTRIES

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY-ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN**

## INTRODUCING OUR YOUTH AND ADULT MINISTRIES

### G.O.Y.A.

Next meeting of our Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA) for ages 12-18 will take place next **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4**. Fr. Nicholas will take the kids on an outing to **St. Nektarios Shrine in Covina**. There they will be given a tour of the Shrine, venerate the blessed and holy relics of this beloved St. Nektarios the Wonderworker. (Thaumaturgos) and listen to a presentation on the life and work of this newest saint whose feast day is November 9. Goyans from St. Nektarios will join us for lunch.

*G.O.Y.A Continued...*

The Goyans participated in the annual **HALLOWEEN HAUNT** at Knott's Berry Farm on Friday, October 19.

On **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15**, the Associate priest of St. Paul's in Irvine, Fr. Stephen Karcher will offer a presentation on Teenage Issues.

Our Goya Advisors are the following: **Fr. Nicholas, George Stephens, Nancy Foxhall, Jenny Kantzavelos, Kosta Kapogiannis, Joanne Vestakis and Renee Jones**. We call upon parents of our teenagers to actively allow their children to participate in this most worth-while ministry. It's a good investment.

The GOYA BOARD which will serve for one year is comprised of the following. **President; Angelina Psaras, Vice President-Theodore Kapogianis, Recording Secretary, Melina Panagiotou, Corresponding Secretary-Christina Mantas, Treasurer- Georgiana Vestakis, Historian- Georgia Mantas**.

Other members of the Executive Council include **Chrysoula Gabriel, Armodios Vestakis, Sophia Shakola, and Richard Rosentrater**.

### LITTLE ANGELS AND HOPE

This ministry is offered to those children ages 3 and 4 (**Little Angels**) and ages 5-7 (**Hope**) The next meeting will be held on **THURSDAY, November 15 at 4 p.m.** At this meeting the children will be given a lesson relating to the importance of THANKSGIVING. They will also make gift baskets for the poor.

We invite the parents of this group to bring their children for this **once** per month youth ministry. If we have enough interest we will separate these two groups.

Our Advisors for this group are **Raza Kitsigianis, and Charisse Kitsinis**. We could use two more advisors.

### JOY

This ministry is geared for those children between the ages of 8-11. This group meets **once** per month on the **third SUNDAY following services**. The next meeting will be held on **Sunday November 18**. Fr. Nicholas will give a brief talk on the importance of giving thanks to God and the meaning of Thanksgiving day. For an

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# PARTICIPATE IN OUR MINISTRIES

activity we will show a Holiday theme movie OR play bingo We will also offer refreshments. **Our sole advisor to date is Charisse Kitsinis. We could use three or four more.**

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Sunday School)**

On Sunday, October 7 which was designated as Family Sunday we had only 67 students attend. And on Sunday, October 14 only 67 showed up. We fervently pray that the parents support our catechetical efforts for the benefit of our beloved children.

May I share with you a concern. A good number of parents have voiced strong feelings about the importance of their children attending the Liturgy as opposed to Sunday School. We understand their concerns. However, the children need to be catechized with the basic tenets of our faith. We can do both!

**Although FAMILY SUNDAY was not as successful as we had hoped, we will continue that format the first Sunday of each month because the kids and many adults will benefit from a liturgy which is mostly in English and which is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. We urge you to please give us your support.**

***SPECIAL NOTICE. The Sunday School staff requests that the parents refrain from asking their child(ren) be excused from their class before 12:00 noon. The teachers need the time to adequately present their lesson. Why not participate in the coffee fellowship? This way you get to meet your fellow parishioners whom you may not know. This builds up the church family.***

## **OUR GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

We invite our members to enroll their children in our Greek Language classes. The classes meet on **Tuesday and Thursday**.(6th Grade and Adults) Our teachers are all Degree holders in Education. They are **Bessie Halfhill, Georgia Kanatsoulis, Foula Vanikiotis and Eugenia Konstantouros**. They are truly dedicated to bringing our children the knowledge of this immortal language. We appreciate their efforts which when coupled with parental assistance at home, the kids truly learn.

Our children deserve to be exposed to one of the world's most important languages, the language of our beloved parents. The Greek language shaped our Western culture and was the language which brought us God's Word, the Holy Bible. You may find enrollment forms in our office and its not too late to register.

## **ALTAR BOYS**

We call on those boys between the ages of 9 to 18 to serve in the Altar. We have several vacancies which need to be filled. Attendance has been very encouraging. **We remind the boys that they should follow the schedule and attend the day for which they are assigned. The other Sundays they are to attend Sunday School class.** Please be on time. Contact Fr. Nicholas if interested.

## **JR. CHOIR**

Choir Director and first class musician Elsa Libowitz has been busy working with our young people and she has

*(Continued on page 17)*



# PARTICIPATE IN OUR MINISTRIES

done an excellent job considering the many limitations she has to work around.. Between 25 and 30 of our young people sang the liturgy. Truly a moving experience! We also thank Sunday School Director Ann Lewis for her part in bringing the young people together for practice. And yes, dear parents, we thank you for your efforts. Didn't you feel proud to hear the angelic voices of your children sing our most beautiful Liturgy?

The Jr. Choir will sing once a month, but Elsa says maybe more frequently. We must encourage more of our young people to participate in this ministry. Singing the sublime hymns of our faith serves to elevate the minds and hearts not only of our young, but all of us as well. Now is the time for us to cultivate the singing of our glorious Orthodox hymns among our children. Many of our present Sr. Choir members started singing in the Choir at a very young age. We need to consider that without these young singers we have no future. Please, do your part dear parent to speak to the heart of your child about taking part in this most important choral ministry. Both of you will benefit. And so will our Church.

## OUR FOLK DANCE GROUPS

One of the most popular ministries of our parish is the Greek Folk Dance groups. Over the years this program has brought together hundreds of our beloved children and united them by teaching them the epic dances of our people. This cultural program which rightly celebrates our heritage should be supported. We have the following groups who have started preparing for the 2008 Folk Dance Festival. You may check with **Demetra Kantzavelos** on current openings. Practice for all groups is Monday, 4-10pm.

**TRAINING GROUP (ages 4-5) Co-Directors Cathy Georgopoulos and Aliko Gianakakos.**

**TA PEDAKIA (Ages 6-8) Nancy Kantzavelos and Kandia Triantos**

**MIKRI LEVENTIA (Ages 9-12) Director, Jenny Kantzavelos, Assistant Director, Paul Mandas**

**ELLINIKI OMORFIA (Ages 13-17) Director Athanasia Medenas**

**LEVENTIA (Ages 18-21) Director, Nick Delis**

Our Folk Dance Board at present consists of the following.

**President -Demetra Kantzavelos,**

**Treasurer- Andrea Mandas-Sdrales**

We thank the former members of the Board **Stella Christoforakis** and **Tasoula Panagiotou** for their positive contributions to our program. We also thank Dennis Sourvanos who led our senior group LEVENTIA for his most valuable services. Dennis has decided to withdraw his services. We welcome the return of Nick Delis our former director for many years of Leventia who assumes once again the position of director.

## GOYA BASKETBALL

The popular game of basketball will soon be upon us. St. John's is part of the GREEK ORTHODOX GOYA BASKETBALL LEAGUE. We usually have two Junior and two Senior teams for both boys and girls. The Junior teams consist of boys and girls from 12 to 15 years of age. (Sometimes 11 years old are allowed to play with the permission of Fr. James.) The Senior team is made up of boys and girls from 16 to 19. We invite our young people to participate in this wonderful sport. Over the years our teams have won many championships which the pictures in the gym offer proof. We will begin practice soon. However, we first must meet with all interested participants to go over the rules and regulations and to complete the registration forms. We also want

*(Continued on page 18)*

# PARTICIPATE IN OUR MINISTRIES

to remind all of last year's players that at the first meeting we expect everyone to turn in their uniforms. **There will also be a fee of \$65 payable to GOYA of which \$30 will be refunded once the uniform is surrendered and in good shape. Father Nicholas will maintain the uniforms and keep record of the Registration fee, etc.** The group functions under his direction.

**SPECIAL NOTICE: THE RULE ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. ANYONE WHO DOES NOT ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL 3 OUT OF THE 4 SUNDAYS PER MONTH WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY NO MATTER WHAT EXCUSES THEY OFFER.**

## ADULT MINISTRIES

### BIBLE STUDY CLASS

We invite members and non-members to participate in our Adult Educational ministries. Our **Bible Class is held every Tuesday morning** (11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) We are currently studying **St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, chapter five.** (*Righteousness as a Living Reality*), one of the most important of Paul's epistles. Its content is very challenging for the faithful, especially in today's most anti-Christian times. The Bible is God's inspired word and He speaks to us by these writings. We **MUST** take the time to read and **STUDY** this blessed book. Our whole life is at stake. Don't neglect to attend this vital class. You will benefit immensely. Father James leads this ministry.

### SENIOR CHOIR

Our Senior Choir is a welcome and most vital part of our worship experience. In addition to singing the responses they attend weekly practice every Thursday evening. In order to truly appreciate this fine group of men and women who love to sing, one should imagine attending Services without a choir. It has been said that one is often not appreciated until he ceases to be. I'm certain that is not the case here at St. John's.

**However, those who truly appreciate the Choir members and their many contributions need to consider the following. They can join this group and share in the joy of praising God. There are many who attend services regularly who would make a welcome addition to the Choir.**

**With October being Choir Recruitment month, I encourage more adults to join the Choir.**

Please consider joining the Choir and do it today. You will meet some of the finest people—and voices— who grace the choir loft. Do join them.

Come to practice next Thursday and experience the joy of singing praises to our Creator.

### CLASS ON THE ORTHODOX FAITH

On **each Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.** Fr. James offers a class on the Orthodox Church . The subjects covered are basic to our understanding of the Orthodox faith. We look forward to greater participation and invite our members to announce these presentations to their Orthodox and Roman Catholic friends.

(Continued on page 19)

# PARTICIPATE IN OUR MINISTRIES

## **YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

### **A NEW WEB PAGE IS IN THE MAKING: StJohnyal.org**

We invite our young adults, ages 18-35, to join this new ministry for our young men and women. This age group will benefit greatly by their participation in this ministry for young adults. One of the members George Futris has started working on a Web page for our Young Adults. It is excellent. We congratulate George for offering his knowledge for the good of our young adults. We invite our young adults to tune in to this new communication tool. We look forward to your input.

Please plan on joining our young adults at their next meeting which will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m. in St. John's boardroom.

There are some very important gatherings of YAL in Southern California this fall. Be part of them.

## **ADULT GREEK SCHOOL**

Every Thursday our veteran Greek School teacher Mrs. Eugenia Konstantouros teaches a Beginners and Advanced class of Greek. Do take advantage of this offering. The Greek language deserves to be known by our adults. It is the language which makes up a substantial amount of our English language and it is the language which God chose to reveal his divine will in the New Testament

## **OCF (ORTHODOX COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP)**

We need your assistance. Many of our young adults attend Universities and Jr. Colleges in our area. (*Chapman University, Cal State Fullerton, Fullerton College, Cypress Jr. College and other institutions near by*) We are reaching out to these young members in hope that they will want to be part of the Orthodox College Fellowship movement. Many are the benefits to those who participate. **Please submit the names of any students to our office (and the institution they are attending) so that we may contact them.**

## **OUR INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES (IOCC)**

This Orthodox Christian charity group has been in existence around ten years. They have done wonders and continue in the name of Orthodoxy to serve the needs of our fellow man throughout the world irrespective of color or creed.

Our representative to this organization for several years has been **Foula Vanikiotis**. She has decided to step down. We thank her for the dedication she has shown to this most valuable ministry.

We are pleased to announce the **Nick and Angie Nicolau** have accepted to be the new parish representatives of IOCC. We thank them for offering their services.

May the Lord continue to bless both Foula and Nick and Angie.

# Class on the Orthodox Faith

FALL 2007

This informative weekly class on the Orthodox Faith, for members and non-Orthodox is geared to making our Church teachings more understandable and thus more liveable.

In a recently concluded national survey (SWAT) conducted for our archdiocese, one of the greatest weakness among our faithful from young to adults is the basic lack of knowledge of our faith.

This year we are introducing topics which we have not presented at length in the past. We believe that those who attend these classes will benefit.

## WEEKLY TOPIC SCHEDULE

**November 7**

THE TEACHINGS OF THE NEW CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND THE DANGERS THEY POSE.

**November 28**

THE CHALLENGE WE ORTHODOX FACE FROM THOSE OF OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE LEFT US OR WHO DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE NOR DO THEY SUPPORT IN ANY MANNER THE CHURCH OF THEIR FATHERS

**December 5**

THE ECUMENCIAL PATRIARCH: OUR MOTHER CHURCH. WHAT IS ITS ROLE?

**December 12**

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA. DIVERSITY & UNITY

# The Stewardship of St. John the Merciful

## November 12



*“We will soon see, Lord, which of us two will win the contest:  
You, Who ever gives me good gifts,  
or I, who will never cease distributing them to the poor.  
For I know well there is nothing of mine that is not owing to Your mercy,  
which upholds life.”*

(Prayer of St. John the Merciful)

Born in the year 555 on the island of Cyprus, the saint we remember on November 12 is a beautiful example of Christian Orthodox Stewardship. Known to us as St. John the Merciful, he was the son of the devout Christian parents who were affluent and able to provide a comfortable living for their family. His father served as governor of Cyprus and was involved in the politics and business of the island. As John grew older, he married and had children and also died from a rare disease. John’s faith in the Risen Lord gave him great comfort in dealing with the physical loss of his family. In Thanksgiving to God, he surrendered his life to Christ and the Church. He was instrumental in the establishment of hospitals, orphanages, and gave his entire estates to the poor and needy so that he could pursue a life of prayer. His reputation as a philanthropist spread throughout the Byzantine Empire and he was soon asked to become the Patriarch of Alexandria.

Among his first actions as Patriarch was call together all the clergy and trustees of the Diocese of Egypt. He sent them out register all the poor and needy people in the area regardless of whether or not they were Christian. Over 7,500 people in need were found. The Patriarch ordered that they were to be fed everyday and given the clothing they needed. He called the indigent his *“Masters”* and recognized that by serving them, God was providing an excellent opportunity to express faith in Him! As Patriarch John depleted the treasury of the Church in Alexandria, concern arose as to how future expenses would be met. Through his trust in the words of our Savior, the people soon experienced the promise of the Lord: *“Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; nor about your body, what you will put on...But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you...”* (Matt. 6:25, 33).

There is a story about a poor man who thought he could beat the system. He would receive more. This happened three times when it was finally pointed out to the Patriarch. Without hesitation the Patriarch ordered that the man be given twice as much, saying: *“Maybe he is Jesus my Savior who has come on purpose to put me to the test.”*

St. John, Patriarch of Alexandria, was recognized by his flock for being generous and kind to all people but especially to the poor and needy; for this reason, he was called, *“the Merciful”*. In being merciful to others, St. John knew that it was the Lord Himself Who grants mercy and that he was simply His humble servant.

We can learn much about Christian Stewardship from the example of St. John the Merciful. He recognized that his stewardship was both to serve the people less fortunate and to teach the wealthy to realize this opportunity as an expression of their faith in Jesus Christ. Once, when some wished to thank John for his kindness and generosity he replied: *“No more of that, brother! I haven’t shed my blood for you yet, which is what the Savior asks”*. With this in mind, let us reconsider our understanding of Christian Orthodox Stewardship and learn from the life of St. John the Merciful.

# Stewardship 2007

The following have submitted their 2007 pledge cards. We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Mrs. Arlene Agalos	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Bizakis	Mr. & Mrs. George Coccas
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Akkerman	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Blackwell	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Cokas
Ms. Constance Alavizos	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Blalock	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Conostas
Mr. & Mrs. George Alavizos	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bogris	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Contes
Mr. & Mrs. Themis Alexopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Bogris	Mr. & Mrs. Dukas Contos
Ms. Mary Amandos	Mrs. Helen Boltinghouse	Mr. & Mrs. John Cooper
Mr. George Ambatielos	Mr. Aris Bonias	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cote
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Amerine	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Bonorris	Mr. & Mrs. Gary Culp
Mr. & Mrs. George Anas	Mr. & Mrs. George Borovilos	Mr. Demetrios Dalietos
Mr. & Mrs. Nick P. Anas	Mr. & Mrs. Costa Bostinelos	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dalis
Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Anasis	Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Boussiacos	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Dallas
Mr. & Mrs. A. Anastasiadis	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Bozekas	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Darling
Mrs. Loula Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Aleksandar Bozovic	Dr. & Mrs. Theodoros Daskalakis
Mrs. Connie Andros	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Buelna	Mr. & Mrs. Pete Dedes
Mr. & Mrs. C. Angelatakis	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Burns	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Delis
Mr. Pete Angelus	Mr. & Mrs. James Callas	Mr. Chris Deralas
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Anton	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Callas	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Deralas
Mrs. Maria Antonara	Mr. Andrew Canellos	Mr. & Mrs. William Deralas
Mr. & Mrs. Pantelis Antoniou	Mr. & Mrs. Carl Cantonis	Ms. Janet Diamant
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Argyrakis	Mr. & Mrs. George Cantonis	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Diamant
Mr. & Mrs. A. Asimakopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. William Carkagis	Mr. & Mrs. A. Dimopoulos
Ms. Joyce Attard	Mr. & Mrs. John Chakos	Ms. Irini Dimopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Louie Attard	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Chapralis	Mr. Johnny Dimopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Attard	Mr. & Mrs. N. Charalambous	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dionisiou
Mr. & Mrs. Peter P. Attard	Mr. & Mrs. Gene Chase	Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Dodge
Mr. & Mrs. Chris August	Mr. & Mrs. N. Chatzipetrou	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Dorlis
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Awadalla	Mr. & Mrs. George Chatzis	Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Doukas
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Badounas	Mrs. Stella Chavos	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Dourbetas
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Baglin	Mr. & Mrs. Louis Chelekis	Mr. & Mrs. Nico Dourbetas
Mrs. Kiki Ballas	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Cherpas	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Dovalis
Ms. Lisa Balsavage	Mr. & Mrs. Larry Chrest	Mr. & Mrs. Angelos Dritisopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Barouxis	Miss Catherine Christ	Mrs. Joanne Drulias
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Basdakis	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Christ	Ms. Georgia Eid
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Begakis	Mrs. Vivian Christian	Mr. & Mrs. George Eleopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Begakis	Mr. & Mrs. William Christian	Mr. & Mrs. Xenophan Eliopoulos
Mr. Peter Benardis	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Christides	Mr. & Mrs. John Fahrnbruch
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Benetatos	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Christofer	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Fascenelli
Mrs. Patricia Benetatos	Mr. & Mrs. A. Chryssogelos	Mr. George T. Feles
Mrs. Venetta Birakos	Mr. Michael Close	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fidelis

# Stewardship 2007

The following have submitted their 2007 pledge cards. We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Fields	Dr. & Dr. Constantine Glezakos	Mr. John Kandara
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Flynn	Mrs. Grammatia Glinkie	Mr. & Mrs. George Kantzavelos
Mr. James Fortunes	Miss Bessie Gonos	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kapogianis
Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Foskaris	Mrs. Mary Goode	Mr. & Mrs. John Kapogianis
Mr. & Mrs. Stamatios Fournaris	Mr. & Mrs. Hariton Gouma	Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Kapogianis
Mrs. Mina Fourtounis	Dr. & Mrs. Dimitri Grammas	Miss Ann Karagines
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Foutris	Mrs. Pota Grammas	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Karagines
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Foutris	Mr. & Mrs. George Hadjis	Mrs. Thelma Karagines
Mr. George A. Futris	Mr. & Mrs. John Hadjis	Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Karambelas
Mr. & Mrs. William Futris	Mr. & Mrs. John G. Hadjis	Mr. & Mrs. Hristos Karanastasis
Mr. & Mrs. George Frousiakis	Mr. & Mrs. Larry Halfhill	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Karnezis
Mr. & Mrs. Spiros Gabriel	Mr. & Mrs. Christos Harbilas	Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Karpouzis
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Gabrielian	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Harbilas	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Karvouniaris
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Galanis	Mr. & Mrs. R. Michael Hartman	Mrs. Alberta Keffalas
Mr. & Mrs. C. Gallanes	Mrs. Demetra G. Harvalos	Ms. Cynthia Kezos
Mr. Harry Gallanes	Mr. & Mrs. A. Hashtroudi	Mr. & Mrs. James Kezos
Mr. & Mrs. Nicos Ganis	Mr. George Hassapis	Mrs. Nickey Kezos
Mr. & Mrs. Jose Garcia	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hassapis	Mr. John Kiouis
Mrs. Sophia Garrity	Mr. & Mrs. John Hatzidakis	Mr. Nick Kitakis
Mr. & Mrs. George Gatsinaris	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Hatziefstratou	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kitsigianis
Dr. & Mrs. Vasili Gatsinaris	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hatzis	Mrs. Voula Kitsigianis
Ms. Patricia Gauvain	Mr. & Mrs. James Hill	Mr. & Mrs. George Kitsinis
Mr. & Mrs. G. Georgakopoulos	Miss Eleni Hioureas	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Kitsios
Miss Constance George	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Hioureas	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Klentos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter George	Mr. & Mrs. Denny Hocking	Mr. & Mrs. Haralambos Klentos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Georgitsis	Mr. & Mrs. Tim Holtermann	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Klentos
Mr. & Mrs. George Georgopoulos	Mrs. Athena Homayouni	Jean & Heidi Koclanakis
Mrs. Demetra Georgouses	Mr. & Mrs. S. Hondrogiannis	Mrs. Gabriela Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Gerth	Mrs. Ruby Hopkins	Mr. & Dr. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Gialamas	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hourigan	Mrs. Elefteria Konstantourakis
Ms. Athena Gianakakos	Ms. Katerina Hoyo	Mrs. Eugenia Konstantouros
Mrs. Rania Giannakou-Ariqat	Mr. & Mrs. George Janis	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kort
Mr. & Mrs. John Gianakakos	Mr. & Mrs. Ken Jones	Mr. & Mrs. George Kosebas
Mr. & Mrs. Kiriakos Gianakakos	Mrs. Olga Joseph	Ms. Christina Kotsiovos
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Giannetakis	Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Jung	Mr. & Mrs. K. Kotsiovos
Mr. & Mrs. John Giforos	Mrs. Crystalia Kaiser	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Koukladas
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Glavas	Mr. & Mrs. Savas Kallaos	Mr. & Mrs. Dino Koukladas
Ms. Giota Glavas	Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Kallaos	Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Koukladas
	Mr. & Mrs. H. Kalogeropoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George Kouloumbis

# Stewardship 2007

The following have submitted their 2007 pledge cards. We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Mr. & Mrs. Yanni Kouloumbis  
Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Kouridakis  
Mr. & Mrs. James Kousoulas  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Kousoulas  
Mrs. Anne Koutzoukis  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Koutzoukis  
Mrs. Doris Koutzoukis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Koutzoukis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Kritikos  
Mrs. Angelike Lambides  
Mr. Bill Lambropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. George Lambros  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lanyi  
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Lardas  
Mr. & Mrs. Trevor Lattin  
Mr. & Mrs. James Learakos  
Ms. Anna Les  
Mrs. Koula Les  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lewis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Libowitz  
Mrs. Katherine Livieratos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Lopez  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Loukatos  
Mr. Earnest L. Love  
Mr. & Mrs. Bjorn Malmlund  
Dr. Alexander Mamounas  
Mr. & Mrs. K. Mandas  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mandas  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Mandas  
Mr. & Mrs. Christ Manes  
Mr. & Mrs. L. Maniatogiannis  
Mr. & Mrs. Rouso Manos  
Mr. & Mrs. Aristos Mantas  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Mantas  
Mr. & Mrs. George P. Mantas  
Mr. & Mrs. George S. Mantas  
Miss Tina G. Mantas  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Margaretis  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Margias

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Margias  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Maridakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marinos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Maris  
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Maris  
Mr. & Mrs. George Massouris  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael McFann  
Mr. & Mrs. Kirk McMullin  
Mr. & Mrs. Wendall Meadows  
Mr. & Mrs. George Medenas  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Medenas  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Mellas  
Mrs. Marie Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Mitchell  
Mrs. Mary Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. George Mousmoules  
Mrs. Sofia Moysidis  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Mull  
Mrs. Mary Naylor  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Nichols  
Mr. Pete Nichols  
Ms. Maria Nicolaides  
Mrs. Maria Nicolaou  
Mrs. Peggy Nicolaou  
Ms. Politimy Nicolaou  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Nikolau  
Miss Barbara Nonis  
Mr. Jason Nonis  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Novikoff  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ohanian  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Pafilis  
Ms. Eugenia Pagalidis  
Dr. & Mrs. James Pilafas  
Ms. Belia Palas  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Panagakis  
Miss Maria Panagakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Panagiotou  
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Panagiotou

Mr. Peter S. Panagos  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Pandeles  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Panos  
Mr. & Mrs. Pano Pappas  
Mr & Mrs. C. Papacharalambous  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Papadon  
Mr. & Mrs. James Papastathis  
Mr. & Mrs. George W. Pappas  
Mrs. Georgia Pappas  
Mr. & Mrs. James Pappas  
Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Pappas  
Mrs. Mary Parris  
Mrs. Argie Giannetakis Pastis  
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Paul  
Mr. & Mrs. Vasili Paxos  
Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Pelonis  
Mrs. Connie Perakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Persakis  
Mr. Bill Petropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Petropoulos  
Ms. Ria Petropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Petros  
Mr. & Mrs. George Petsas  
Mr. John Petsas  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip T. Phillips  
Dr. & Mrs. Denis Pieratos  
Mr. & Mrs. James Pierce  
Mr. & Mrs. Stavro Pilafas  
Mr. & Mrs. K. Poulidis  
Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Pouloupoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Preston  
Ms. Leah Psilovikos  
Mr. & Mrs. Vlash Pullos  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Rados  
Mr. & Mrs. Georgios Rigas  
Mrs. Mary N. Riley  
Miss Sophia Rinos  
Mr. & Mrs. Cristo Ristas  
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Roumpos



# Stewardship 2007

The following have submitted their 2007 pledge cards. We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Mr. & Mrs. Julian Rusinek  
Mr. & Mrs. John Russell  
Mr. & Mrs. Theofilos Russos  
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Salcedo  
Mr. Paul Sarandos  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Sarantos  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sargologos  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Sarres  
Dr. & Mrs. Randal Schoeman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sdrales  
Mr. & Mrs. Gregorios Shakola  
Mr. Van Shunda  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Sigas  
Mr. & Mrs. Nikolas Siokos  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Siouris  
Ms. Karen Sirus  
Mr. Alexander Soles  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Soles  
Mr. & Mrs. Petros Sourias  
Ms. Adamantia Sourvanos  
Mrs. Bess Stavrakas  
Mrs. Georgia Stavrakas  
Mr. Stephanos Stavropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. James Stavropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Stratouly  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Stavros  
Miss. Athena Stump  
Mr. & Mrs. John Stylianides  
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Syrengelas  
Mr. & Mrs. D. Syrengelas  
Mr. & Mrs. George Syrengelas  
Mr. & Mrs. K. Syrengelas  
Miss Maria Tambouris  
Mr. & Mrs. P. Tasigeorgos  
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Tavlarides  
Mr. Matthew Tavlarides  
Mr. & Mrs. George Tavoularis  
Miss Katerina Tavoularis  
Mr. & Mrs. George Thalass

Ms. Gloria Themaras  
Mr. & Mrs. William Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Tragos  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tragos  
Ms. Maria Treantafelles  
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Triantos  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Tsachpinis  
Dr. & Mrs. Bill Tsagris  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Tsatas  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Turner  
Mrs. Mary Van den Raadt  
Mrs. Foula Vanikiotis  
Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Vatakis  
Miss Lisa Vatakis  
Mrs. Helen Vest  
Mr. & Mrs. Lefteris Vestakis  
Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Vlachos  
Mrs. Sophia Voulimeneas  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Vourakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vovos  
Mr. & Mrs. Derek Welsbie  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Wemmer  
Mr. & Mrs. George P. Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. James Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Winders  
Mr. & Mrs. James Wronski  
Ms. Maria Xanthos-Hilding  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Xanthos  
Ms. Christina Xenos  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Xenos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ybarra  
Miss Elli Yorgiadis  
Ms. Teri Zaharioudakis  
Ms. Josephine Zorzy  
Mr. & Mrs. George Zonos  
Mr. & Mrs. A. Zounatiotis

## PLEASE RESPOND

Thank You to all the members that have mailed in their 2007 pledge cards.

If you have not yet filled out a pledge card, please do so today.

As of  
**October 23, 2007**  
**Total Pledges: 416**  
**Goal: 600**  
**To Go: 184**  
**Total Pledged:**  
**\$282, 214.00**  
**Budgeted Goal: \$330,000.00**  
**Amount left to reach Goal:**  
**\$47, 786.00**

To both those who have and those who have not pledged, we earnestly and respectfully appeal to those who have fallen behind in fulfilling their commitment to the parish to act soon and before December.

# Philoptochos News

An open home, an open heart, here grows a bountiful harvest.

-Judy Hand

**T**he turkey is in the oven, filling the air with the fragrance of anticipation, and our heart is glad. The pies will be cooling on the rack, overflowing with the fruits of the earth, and our heart is full. Conversation, companionship transform the rooms of our beloved home and our heart is at peace. This is the True Thanksgiving. We have so much for which to be thankful. So much about which to smile, so much to share. So much, that in this season of plenty we can embrace the season of giving by sharing with so many needy families, food and friendship this Thanksgiving.

Our next **Bake Sale** will be held on **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH.** All proceeds from this Bake Sale will go directly towards our **THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS** to provide food for our needy families. Thank you to all for baking the delicious pastries and for the financial support. Thank you to our chairman Argie Pastis and Raza Kitsigianis for all their hard work and effort. If you would like to help during the bake sale, please come over to the tables and help us out. We are very grateful for your help as we continue this ministry of helping the needy.

**Sunday Coffee:** If you are interested in sponsoring the Sunday Coffee for a Memorial, please call me at (714) 289-1884 or let the church office know. Philoptochos provides coffee and cookies however, some of the families like to bring paximadia. We also reserve a table for the family. The fee is \$50 and this donation is used for our Philoptochos charities.

## **COMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER:**

**Philoptochos General Meeting, Wednesday, November 7th - 7PM in the small hall.**

We are very happy to have Jan back who will show us how to fold our dinner napkins in a variety of styles, some new decorating ideas and some holiday tips. Please bring several dinner napkins to practice with. Jan feels the napkins work best if they are starched or a little stiff. Jan is delightful to work with and enjoys her time with us. See you NOVEMBER 7th with napkins in hand.

## **BAKE SALE - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH**  
**FIXING THE THANKSGIVING BASKETS**  
**FOR OUR NEEDY FAMILIES -**  
**9AM IN THE LARGE HALL**

I wish for all of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. God has truly given us much, an extravagance of riches. Give us, we pray, one thing more, the gift of grateful hearts. Hearts that will not forget what You have done.

*Mary Ohanian, President*



## Project Restoration

FR. GEORGE HADJIS  
MEMORIAL  
SCHOLARSHIP FLYER

AHEPA  
STUDY ABROAD

## HALL USAGE

ST. JOHN  
DINNER DANCE

St. John the Baptist  
Greek Orthodox Church  
405 N. Dale Street  
Anaheim, CA 92801  
(714) 827-0181

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Buena Park,  
CA

Address Correction Requested -November



Time Dated, Please Do Not Delay



"Behold, I send my messenger before thy  
face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of  
one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the  
way of the Lord, make his paths straight -- "

*(Mark 1:2-3)*

