

The Vineyard

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

JULY/AUGUST 2008

VOL. XXVIII, NO. 21

PROISTAMENOS MESSAGE

NATURE: GOD’S HANDIWORK THE CREATOR’S SELF-DISCLOSURE

With the advent of summer, vacation plans are now being realized. We all look forward to spending part of summer visiting relatives or going to places, near or far. Many will take time to tour, to camp out, go to the beach, fish, attend a sporting event or just plain relax in their back yard perhaps tending to their flowers and vegetable gardens. Still others will travel to some idyllic spot in America or elsewhere in this wonderful planet.

As we enjoy the extended hours of daylight and the welcome warmth of the summer sun, we tend to appreciate this season for its benefits even though we may complain about the rise in temperature and the price of gas.

Basking in the benefits which this season offers us we often take them for granted. While we welcome the chance to do “something different” with our lives we also forget to reflect on what the word “recreation” is all about. Dissect this word and you come up with the interesting phrase, to re-create, which translates to experience a rebirth or a regeneration. However, these benefits are often not part and parcel of our conscious awareness. In other words, we never really stop to consider how important it is for our body—and our psyche—to

experience a rebirth and regeneration. We may “enjoy” the benefits of recreation/vacation but we don’t place them in this context.

Something else needs to be said. Shouldn’t we at least give some consideration to the role played by our host, this small, most hospitable planet, this created masterpiece of the Creator, in our existence?

“God uses the material stuff of the universe to communicate with us not only who He is but also what he wants of us.

This requires a reverence for nature and choosing to make

Yes, do we ever stop to consider nature’s contributions to our physical and spiritual well-being? A right understanding of the created order and its ultimate aim and purpose will astound us. First and foremost,

nature, in its many facets, provides us with everything needed to sustain our very lives. The earth, sun, moon; the air, the water, the trees and other myriad plants (some still awaiting discovery); the lakes, oceans and rivers; the mountains and the sky, all contribute to provide our many life sustaining needs. Consider also the vast species of animals and marine life, the many resources of energy we require and greedily consume such as oil, coal, and natural gas; the precious gems of gold, silver, diamonds, rubies, emeralds; and the huge variety of animals which offer us food, clothing and other benefits. In my travels, whenever

(Continued on page 3)

THE VINEYARD

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

EDITOR: FATHER JAMES S. DIAVATIS

REV. FR. JAMES S. DIAVATIS, PROTOPRESBYTER

REV. FR. NICHOLAS ANDREWS, OIKONOMOS

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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 Sunday of the Month

Little Angels - 3rd Thursday of the Month

G.O.Y.A - 1st Sunday and 3rd Friday 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>

NATURE: GOD'S HANDIWORK

THE CREATOR'S SELF-DISCLOSURE

(Continued from page 1)

I see the ubiquitous and lowly dairy cow, or for that matter the sheep and goats, I reflect on their many contributions which sustain us and I offer thanks to God. Think about that, when you wear that woolen garment or consume some fine cheeses or ice cream on a hot day.

As we pause to consider the role of creation in our lives, above all, we need to prayerfully reflect on the beneficent Creator who is responsible for its existence. In one of the Church's creedal confessions, the Nicene Creed, we assert our belief in one God and proclaim that He is "maker of heaven and earth". This affirmation rooted in God's self-revelation in Holy Scripture is one of the cardinal verities of our Christian faith. However, we get caught up in enjoying the fruits of creation while we often forget the One whose immense love and providential goodness has provided and continues to grant us everything we need. Ostensibly, many fall into the worship of created order while denying the very author of all things, "seen and unseen". We do not hesitate to acknowledge and appreciate the many benefits of the created order, but somehow are hesitant to acknowledge—with profound thanks and singular affirmation—the God who out of nothing brought everything into being, including us, unworthy as we are, of this great gift of life.

During the Great Lenten Friday evening's service of Salutations (Cheretismoi), in the canon, there is a telling phrase referring to the three Jewish youths exiled in Babylon who did not deny the worship of God even when they were threatened with being thrown into a fiery furnace; "The God-minded youth ***did not worship creation rather than the creator.***" The many sterling examples of true faith, of the many men and women who gave their lives for Christ rather than

deny him should be our continuous example. They gave God glory for their lives and all his gracious gifts while unabashedly worshiping him rather than creation.

We need to consider something else. God uses the material stuff of the universe to communicate with us not only who He is but also what he wants of us. This requires a reverence for nature and choosing to make right use of its many offerings. A careful examination of these gifts provided by nature should lead us to recognize God, our benefactor, who in his infinite great love for you and me has bestowed on us such rich blessings.

In psalm 104, known as the ode to creation, the psalmist glories in God's creation and is led to exclaim:

"O Lord, your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom; The earth was filled with your creation."

And he adds, "bless the Lord o my soul." God is to be blessed because he is the lover of man and proves this through his gift of creation. His care is filled with his providential goodness.

Friends, always pause to give glory to God. Wherever you may go this summer, you will come face to face with God's beautiful creation. Offer him spontaneous glory and thanks. Don't ever stop blessing the Lord.

"Bless the Lord O my soul, and everything within me, bless his holy name."

May you have a safe and restful summer!

“CALL NO MAN FATHER”

by Fr. Nicholas Andrews

Most Orthodox Christians respect their clergy. Knowing that the clergy are servants of God, devoting their life for the salvation of their flock, the Orthodox Christian expresses his/ her gratitude to them on every occasion. In the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 23:9 the question of calling the Priest “father” is sometimes misconstrued. Some Protestant interpreters are sure that Jesus is warning here against addressing the Church leaders as “father.” They, of course, are interpreting “father” in this Scripture to mean, “spiritual father” Therefore, they refuse to call their clergyman “father” preferring instead such titles as “pastor, “reverend” or sometimes even “brother” At the outset, therefore, let me point out, that “spiritual father” is an interpretation of the Lord’s statement rather than what he actually said. Mind you, I am not denying the need for the interpretation of Scripture. Instead, I am pointing out that the Lord said, “father” not “spiritual father”. What is at issue here? Simply taken, at face value, Jesus’ warning against calling any man “father” would not only seem to rule out calling a clergyman “father”, it would keep us from using the title for earthly fathers and grandfathers, godfathers, or even ancient Church fathers, would it not? For in reality, the Lord’s statement as it appears in the text, is that only one Person is ever to be called “father” namely, our Father who is in heaven. But is Christ’s saying to be taken at face value? If so, several other passages in the Bible are immediately in conflict, including some statements by the Apostle Paul in the New Testament.

First, the priest is addressed as “Father” by all, for he is the spiritual father of his flock; he is their teacher, confessor, sanctifier, and healer. Let us consider the words of St. Paul, “For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the Gospel” (1 Corinthians 4:15) When we also read in the Gospel according to St. Luke, we find the rich man calling up Abraham in heaven with Lazarus in His bosom, and addressing him as “Father Abraham” (Luke 16:20-31) Abraham’s response was not “Do you not realize that only God the Father is to be called Father?” Rather, he replied, “Son remember...”

Second, when people greet their Priest , many times they kiss his hand as a sigh of respect, as recognition of his Priesthood, and as a veneration to the Holiness of his sacred office and duties. The fact that the priest consecrates and handles the Holy of Holies, that is, the very Body and Blood of Christ, when he celebrates the Divine Liturgy, is recognized by Orthodox people, throughout the world, as a great and awesome privilege. The very hands that offer the Bloodless Sacrifice on the Holy Altar, the hands that baptize and anoint us with Holy Chrism; the hands that absolve us in the Sacrament of Penance; the hands that bless our wedlock in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony and anoint our bodies with the healing oil of the Sacrament of Holy Unction; the hands that sprinkle upon us the Holy Water of Sanctification.; the hands that bless us, alive and dead, these hands are vessels of saving grace, and therefore instruments of salvation. For this reason, Orthodox Christians through the centuries have kissed the hand of the Priest when we greet him in either in the church when he distributes the “Antidoron” at the end of the Divine Liturgy or outside the church whenever we meet him.

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“CALL NO MAN FATHER”

(Continued from page 4)

But let us not stop here. For after saying only “One is your Father” Jesus proceeded to declare, “And do not be called teachers; for One is your teacher, the Christ.” (Matt.23:10) Yet He Himself acknowledged Nicodemus to be a “teacher of Israel.” (John 3:10) And in the church at Antioch, certain men were called “prophets and teachers” (Acts 13:1) Then again, the Apostle Paul not only recognized teachers as gifts of God to the Church, but also did not hesitate to call himself “a teacher of the Gentiles. (2 Tim. 1:11) Furthermore, in this present day, almost all of us have at one time or another called certain people Sunday School teachers. The discussion thus goes far and beyond any Protestant-Catholic lines. Therefore, in saying we should call no man “father” and “teacher”, except God the Father and Christ Himself, the Lord Jesus appears not to be taking issue with the use of particular titles in and of themselves. The context of this passage gives us the interpretive key we are looking for. In this “call no man father” passage, our Lord is contending with certain Rabbis of His day that were using these specific titles to accomplish their own needs. And had these same apostate rabbis been using other titles, such as “reverend” and “pastor”, Jesus, it would seem to me would have said these as well. “Call no one reverend or pastor.”

My brothers and sisters in Christ, I close my remarks with the words of St. Paul: “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life and imitate their faith; Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings. Obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give an account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you” (Hebrews 13:7-9, 13, 17).

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM FR. NICHOLAS

I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals for their immeasurable help and support with the Youth Ministries:

Raza Kitsigianis for her help and support with the Little Angels and HOPE Ministries; Diana Jung for her help and support with the JOY Ministry; George Stephens, Nancy Foxhall and Kostas Kapogianis, who tirelessly served as GOYAAdvisors. Also, a big thank you to Kiki Chryssogelos for her immeasurable support with the GOYA Ministry. Harry Benetatos, President, Board of Trustees, Rene Jones, Secretary, Board of Trustees, who served as both as a GOYA advisor, as well as a liaison between the Board and GOYA as well as the rest of the board members, including Steve Kitsigianis, who served as the board liaison to the HOPE and Joy Ministries. To all the parents who took the time and effort to drive the children to the various meetings and activities. To Georgia Bogris, for her support with the YAL group, who, after several months of perseverance, was able to reunite the core group of the YAL and get it back on track. Thanks also to George Futris who set up a beautiful web site for the YAL Ministry; and last, but certainly not least, to Father James for his paternal love, advises and continued support

I thank you all for your help, as I could not have done it without you. May God bless you and your families with health. I look forward to working with all of you in the '08-'09 Ecclesiastical year.

Feasts/Saints of July/August

July 6

Our Holy Father Sisoës the Great of Egypt (429)

One of the greatest of the Desert Fathers, he lived in asceticism at Scetis in Egypt. After the death of St Anthony the great, Abba Sisoës became a hermit in Anthony's cave, saying "Thus in the cave of a lion, a fox makes his dwelling." In his own lifetime he was granted the grace to heal the sick, drive out unclean spirits, and even raise the dead.

As his death approached after a long life in the desert, his brethren gathered around him. His face began to shine, and he said, "See, Abba Anthony is here!" then, "See, the choir of the prophets is here!" Seeing that he seemed to be speaking with someone, his brethren asked him who it was. He replied, "The Angels are here, and I am asking them for time to repent." Amazed, they asked him what he could have to repent of, to which he replied, "Brethren, I do not know if I have even begun to repent." Finally, his face became as bright as the sun, and he said, "See, the Lord is here, and He says, 'Bring Me the vessel of the desert.'" With this, he gave his soul up to God, and his entire dwelling was filled with light and sweet fragrance.

Some of his teaching, as told in the Prologue: "St Sisoës taught his monks: 'When temptation comes to a man, that man must give himself over to the will of God, and acknowledge that the temptation comes upon him because of his sins. If something good comes to pass, he must acknowledge that it comes about by the providence of God.' A monk asked him: 'How can I please God and be saved?' The saint replied: 'If you desire to please God, withdraw from the world, separate yourself from the earth, leave aside creation and draw near to the Creator, unite yourself to God with prayers and tears, and you will find rest in this world and in the next.' A monk asked Sisoës: 'How can I acquire humility?' The saint replied: 'When a man learns to regard every man as better than himself, he thus acquires humility.' Ammon complained to Sisoës that he could not memorise the wise sayings that he had read, to be able to quote them in conversation with others. The saint replied: 'It is not necessary. That which is necessary is to acquire purity of mind and to speak from this purity, placing one's hope in God.'"

July 8

† Holy Great Martyr Prokopios (303)

"He was born in Jerusalem of a Christian father and a pagan mother, at first bearing the name Neanias. After his father's death, his mother brought him up entirely in the spirit of Roman idolatry. When he had grown up, the Emperor Diocletian saw him at some time and was so pleased with him that he took him to court to serve in the army. When this wicked Emperor launched a persecution of Christians, he ordered Neanias to go with a detachment of soldiers to Alexandria and exterminate the Christians there. But, on the road, there happened to Neanias something similar to that which happened to Saul. At three o'clock in the morning there was a violent earthquake, the Lord Jesus appearing to him and saying: 'Neanias, where are you going, and against whom are you rebelling?' In great fear, Neanias replied: 'Who are you, Lord? I cannot recognise You.' Then a brilliant Cross, as of crystal, appeared in the sky and a voice came from the Cross: 'I am Jesus, the crucified Son of God.' The Lord went on: 'By this sign that you have seen, overcome your enemies, and My peace will be with you.' This event utterly changed Neanias's life. He caused a cross such as he had seen to be made, and, instead of moving against the Christians, set off with his soldiers against the Agarians, who were attacking Jerusalem. He entered Jerusalem victorious and told his mother that he was a Christian. Brought to trial, he took off his army belt and sword and cast them before the judge, demonstrating by this that he was a soldier only of Christ the King. After harsh torture, he was thrown into prison. There Christ the Lord appeared to him again, baptising him and giving him the name Procopius. One day twelve women came to the window of his cell and said to him: 'We also are the servants of Christ.' Arrested for this, they were thrown into the same prison, where St Procopius instructed them in the Christian faith and carefully prepared them to receive the crown of martyrdom. These twelve women were then harshly tortured. Beholding their sufferings and courage, Procopius's mother also came to faith in Christ, and then all thirteen were put to death. When St Procopius was led to the scaffold, he raised his hands towards the East and

Feasts/Saints of July/August

prayed to God for all the poor and needy, the destitute and the widowed, and especially for the holy Church, that it might grow and spread and that Orthodoxy might shine to the end of time. He was assured from heaven that his prayer was heard, after which he joyfully laid his head under the sword and went to his Lord, to eternal joy. St Procopius suffered with honour in Palestinian Caesarea, and was crowned with an eternal wreath of glory, on July 8th, 303." (Prologue)

August 6

† The Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Second "Feast of the Saviour" in August.

Read the account of Christ's holy Transfiguration (Metamorphosis in Greek) in Matthew ch. 17, Mark ch. 9, and Luke ch. 9. Appearing clothed in Light on Mt Tabor, the Savior fulfilled his promise to His disciples that "there are some standing here who shall not taste death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Mt 16:28). Christ's Transfiguration is the image of the future state of the righteous, of which He spoke when He said "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Mt 13:43). According to the Church's tradition, the Transfiguration occurred forty days before His Crucifixion; for this reason the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

August 13

Leavetaking of Transfiguration St Maximos the Confessor (662)

He was from a noble family in Constantinople, and became the private secretary of the Emperor Heraclius and his grandson Constans. But when the Monothelite heresy (that Christ possesses one divine will, rather than a divine and a human will) took hold in the Imperial court, the Saint could not bear to be surrounded by this error and left the court for the Monastery at Chrysopolis, where in time he became the abbot. From the monastery he continued to speak and write in defense of Orthodox belief. The Emperor Constans ordered him either to accept Monothelite belief or to cease speaking against it, but St Maximos would do neither. For this, his tongue was torn out, his right hand was cut off, and he was sent into exile, where he reposed in 662. He is also commemorated on January 21; see that day for a slightly fuller account.

August 15

† The Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

On the Cross, the Lord charged the Apostle John to care for His holy Mother. The Apostle settled her in a house in Jerusalem, where she lived for the rest of her days on earth, praying and offering counsel and encouragement to the Apostles. In her old age, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and told her that in three days' time she would enter into her rest. Giving thanks to God, she hastened to the Mount of Olives where she prayed continually, preparing herself to meet the Lord. Meanwhile, the Apostles, scattered in various parts of the earth, were caught up in clouds and miraculously brought by the holy Angels to Jerusalem, so that they might all be with the Theotokos at her repose. After she had blessed them, she gave up her soul to God. The Apostles buried her with all honor, solemnity and joy at Gethsemane. The Apostle Thomas, who was delayed (again!) by God's providence, arrived on the third day and went to her tomb, intending to honor her. But when the Apostles opened her grave, they found her holy body gone and only the winding-sheet remaining. That evening the Theotokos appeared to them surrounded by angels, and said to them, 'Rejoice: I will be with you always!'. Thus they learned that she had been bodily translated to heaven, anticipating the general resurrection of all. Her age at her repose is not known, but many say that she was about sixty years old.

Philoptochos News

*In God's love and Keeping, May you grow stronger day by day, with unexpected Blessings all along the way...
Summer Blessings from the San Francisco Philoptochos*

July is generous with her authentic gifts. Once again the days are sunny and hot. The flowers are in bloom and it's time to feast on all the delicious fruits of summer. School is over, summer camp begins and visions of vacation dance in our heads. Our smiles deepen, our laughter increases, our hearts open. This month we rediscover that it is life's enrichments rather than the riches of life that brings us true contentment. Philoptochos wishes you a lovely and restful summer with family and friends.

This has been a good year for Philoptochos, through our many generous supporters and donations, we have been able to provide help and support for many causes. I will name a few to give you an idea how your donations help. We have helped the children at St. Basil's Academy, the blind children in Greece, earthquake and fire victims, support the Kids 'n' Cancer programs, active in raising money for children's hospitals in our Diocese, helped our church with our annual May Festival with volunteers and donations, support Hellenic/Holly Cross College, IOCC, St. Nicholas Ranch refurbish the rooms, The Student Endowment Fund, give annual scholarships and much more. Thank you again for all your generous contributions of time and money to help your Philoptochos complete its mission of helping those in need.

We would like to say Congratulations to Jerry Kallaos for being honored as Mother Of The Year. We are very proud of you Jerry and we know all the years, time and hours you have given to St. John's. You are very deserving of this award.

Congratulations also to our 3 recipients of the Fr. George Hadjis Scholarship who are also very deserving. We are blessed in our community to have so many fine students who take their education seriously. The three are Dimitri Dorlis, Nicole Kezos and Labrini Rigas.

The Philoptochos will continue to serve the Sunday Coffee during the summer months and we are always looking for volunteers during this time to help serve.

Have a great summer!

*Mary Ohanian,
Philoptochos President*



July 2008

St. John's Monthly Calendar

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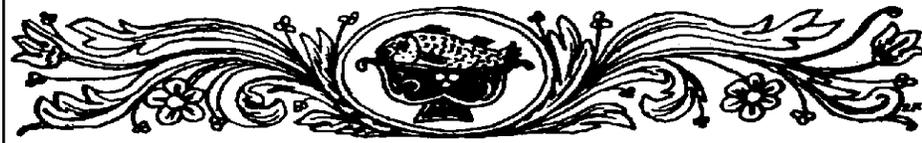
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31 11th Sunday of Matthew, Orthros & Liturgy, 9-11AM	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; margin-right: 20px;"> <caption>July</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <caption>September</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
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Worship Services

JULY/AUGUST 2008



JULY

Sunday, July 6, 2008

**3rd Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Sunday, July 13, 2008

Sunday of the Holy Fathers, 9-11AM

Sunday, July 20, 2008

5th Sunday of Matthew, 9-11AM

Sunday, July 27, 2008

**6th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Summer Liturgy hours at St. John's will continue thru Sunday, August 31st. During this time, Orthros and the Divine Liturgy will be held 9-11 a.m. Memorials will be offered at the conclusion of the Liturgy.

AUGUST

Sunday, August 3, 2008

**7th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday,

August 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 2008

Paracletic, 7PM

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

Holy Transfiguration, 9AM

Sunday, August 10, 2008

**8th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Friday, August 15, 2008

Nativity of John the Baptist, 9AM

Sunday, August 17, 2008

**9th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Sunday, August 24, 2008

**10th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Friday, August 29, 2008

Beheading of St. John the Baptist, 9AM

Sunday, August 31, 2008

**11th Sunday of Matthew,
Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9-11AM**

Church Registry

JULY/AUGUST 2008

BAPTISMS

MAY 10, 2008

Christina Nadia Dourbetas
Proud Parents: Nico & Niki Dourbetas
God Parent: James Petrohilos

Mary Sevasti Haddad

Proud Parents: Banayotis & Donna Haddad
God Parents: Majed & Mira Mansour

MAY 24, 2008

Georgios Konstantinos Syrengelas
Proud Parents: Konstantinos & Aphrodite Syrengelas
God Parent: Athanasia Syrengelas

MEMORIALS

JUNE 1, 2008

Constantine Anasis - 40 Day
Chris Chelekis - 37 Year
Bessie Chelekis - 8 Year
Ann Kominos - 7 Year
Jerry Kominos - 6 Year
George Chelekis - 1 Year

JUNE 22, 2008

Stella Maverakis - 40 Day

FELL ASLEEP IN THE LORD

April 20, 2008
Constantine Anasis

May 15, 2008
Stella Maverakis

+ *May their memories be eternal* +

PROSFORO SCHEDULE

JULY

Sunday, July 6 - Mrs. Demetra Klentos
Sunday, July 13 - Mrs. Maria Nikolaou
Sunday, July 20 - Mrs. Voula Kitsigianis
Sunday, July 27 - Mrs. Katherine Glavas

AUGUST

Sunday, August 3 - Mrs. Maria Mendonis
Wednesday, August 6 - Mrs. Joanne Kalogeropoulos
Sunday, August 10 - Mrs. Joanne Kalogeropoulos
Friday, August 15 - Mrs. Maria Frousakis
Sunday, August 17 - Mrs. Mercina Vatakis
Sunday, August 24 - Mrs. Eleni Kousoulas
Friday, August 29 - Maria Massouris
Sunday, August 31 - Mrs. Gail Mitchell

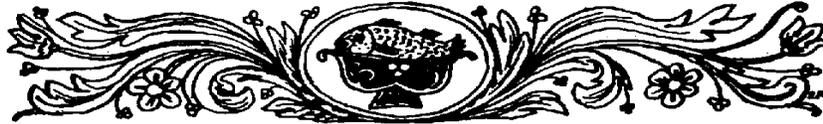
NOTE: If you are unable to bring the Prosforo on your designated date, please call Joanne Kalogeropoulos at (714) 991-8126, or (714) 848-1422.

WANTED!

WOMEN WHO LOVE TO BAKE!

We are looking for additional volunteers to help in this vital and ongoing aspect of Orthodox Church life. If you like to bake, and are willing to offer the Prosforo for Communion, please call the church office at (714) 827-0181, or Joanne Kalogeropoulos at the numbers listed above.

ACOLYTES OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 2008



TEAM 1	TEAM 2
<p>Armondios Vestakis Nick Basdakis George Dalis Nicholas Foutris Sotirios Eliopoulos Richard Rosentrater Kosta Dalis</p>	<p>Dimitri Pappas Bradley Jung Kyriakos Alyousef Michael Bangos Kyriakos Psaras Dimitri Hondrogiannis Stephen Stylianides</p>
<p>July 27, 2008 August 24, 2008 September 21, 2008</p>	<p>July 6, 2008 August 3, 2008 August 31, 2008</p>
TEAM 3	TEAM 4
<p>John Hourigan Pano Nikolaou Stefan Malmlund Alexander Malmlund Antonio Georgakopoulos Carl Cantonis Aleko Culp</p>	<p>George Alexopoulos Niko Begakis Argirios Alexopoulos Speros Mantas Dimitri Dimopoulos Paul Stephens</p>
<p>July 13, 2008 August 10, 2008 September 7, 2008</p>	<p>July 20, 2008 August 17, 2008 September 14, 2008</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.

The Stewardship of St. Irene Chrysovalantou - July 28



“Welcome Irene, Servant of God. Proceed to the Imperial City in joy because the convent of Chrysovalantou needs you in the community.”

This welcoming of the saintly hermit Ioannikos was rendered to a beautiful young lady from Cappadocia named Irene. It was the ninth century, the most beautiful and virtuous young women were being summoned to Constantinople so that Empress Theodora’s son, Michael, could choose a wife. Irene was from an aristocratic family of Cappadocia and she gladly accepted the invitation. The envoys of the Empress were impressed with Irene’s presence and were confident that she would be chosen to be the future emperor’s wife.

While traveling to Constantinople, Irene asked to visit Ioannifkos, a holy recluse who lived on Mt. Olympus in Asia Minor. The saintly hermit possessed the gift of spiritual insight and foresaw not only the arrival of this young girl but also her future role in the life of the convent of Chrysovalantou.

When Irene arrived in the Imperial City she was greeted by her relatives. In the meantime, however, it had been arranged for young Emperor Michael to marry another girl. Far from being disappointed, Irene gave thanks to God who had led the Emperor to make this decision. Remembering the hermit’s prophecy Irene visited the holy convent of Chrysovalantou. She was so impressed with the environment of

the monastery that she freed her slaves, gave all her wealth to the poor, and entered the convent.

While in the monastery, this young aristocratic girl served the community with humility and obedience. Not once did she reminisce about her past and she cheerfully accepted the most despised tasks of the day-to-day chores in the convent.

In accordance with discipline of the monastery, she read the lives of the saints and was impressed with the life of the great Arsenios who taught a discipline of nightlong prayers. She requested permission to emulate this teaching regarding prayer. Her devotion to communicate with God through prayer enabled her to stand for 24 hours without movement. Through abstinence and prayer, she was now totally free of worldly temptations. So great was her devotion to God that she was blessed with the Holy Spirit in the manner of St. Paul, living no more according to the flesh, but so dwelling in Christ and Christ in her that she appeared transfigured to those who sought her spiritual counsel. In time, the Abbess of the monastery would die breathing her last wishes to the nuns who had gathered in her cell. She said, **“Do not lament my departure for in my successor you have a leader who is wiser than I. Be obedient to her, this daughter of light, lamb of Christ and vessel of the Holy Spirit. Do not accept anyone but Irene.”** Then closing with the words: **“Glory to you, O Lord, in your mercy”** she committed her soul to the care of the angels. Irene would become the spiritual mother of the convent and she increased her prayer life and received wisdom from above to lead her community. The Holy Convent of Chrysovalantou grew and enriched the lives of many pilgrims who would seek the humble guidance of Irene. There are many miraculous stories that pertain to the life of St. Irene. People from all walks of life experienced a renewal of faith when they spoke with her and followed her advice.

We, too, can be strengthened in our faith if we consider the lives of the saints. The life of St. Irene Chrysovalantou offers Christian Orthodox stewards the opportunity to understand that our involvement in the Church is an expression of faith. We are expected to be humble, obedient, and faithful as individuals and as members of an assembly of the faithful who glorify the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit through ministries offered by the Church. Prayerfully and faithfully let us move forward into the 21st century encouraged by the holy example of the saints.

The Stewardship of St. Phanourios - August 27



“A spiritual man is the man who shares in the grace of God, who is a participant in divine life. Or to express it in Palamite terminology, a spiritual man is a created man who shares in the uncreated grace of God.”

Giorgios I. Mantzarides

Life’s journey for the Christian Orthodox steward may be expressed in a variety of experiences, but each steward must walk that narrow road to the Lord. In the soul’s quest for holiness, we seek union with God through theosis. This union enables the steward to love God with his whole heart, soul, and mind, and one’s neighbor as oneself.

According to Christian Orthodox teaching, authentic Christian living requires a synergy, cooperation, between the Christian and God. The synergy that takes place does not mean that God does half the work and the Christian the other half. It does mean that while God does all the work necessary for our salvation, the Christian responds freely and completely to God. There can be no intimate union with God if our own will is not surrendered and conformed to the divine will.

In our study reflecting the Stewardship of the Saints we recognize many Christian stewards who have distinguished themselves and continue to be very popular among the faithful people of God. St. Phanourios is a saint who, though his life story is unknown, is well known and venerated by our Church. We are not sure when or where he lived or what he accomplished. What we do know is that he is greatly respected on the islands of Rhodes and Crete. Whatever else we know is taken from studying his icon.

First, we must learn how the icon of St. Phanourios came about. The island of Rhodes was invaded and pillaged by the foreign intruders. As these malefactors looked for treasures among the rubble of one of the churches they had destroyed, they came across a number of icons that were in decay, except for one. That one icon appeared as if it had been written that day. The invaders gave no significance to this icon and left it with the rest. Watching the events from a hidden vantage point, a group of monks observed what had happened. When it was safe, the monks went to the church and retrieved the icon dedicated to St. Phanourios. Upon inspecting the icon, they became visibly moved by what they saw. Bordering the icon were twelve scenes depicting the persecution that the saint had suffered. The monks desired to learn more about the life and martyrdom of St. Phanourios, but their research proved unsuccessful. Only the icon remained as a witness to the life of this saint who remained steadfast in his faith. There is one story about the saint that does remain. It is said that his mother was a great sinner who refused to accept Christianity. Saddened by her decision to deny Christ, St. Phanourios prayed fervently for his mother’s salvation. While he was being tortured and about to surrender his soul to God, St. Phanourios prayed: **“For the sake of these my sufferings, Lord, help all those who will pray to You for the salvation of Panourios’ sinful mother.”** Lost and forgotten for many years, the recovery of the icon is the reason that St. Phanourios is known as the patron saint of lost things.

Reviewing the lives of the saints enables us to realize the holiness of life that they have lived in a stewardship that transforms the world. Though our deeds and efforts may be largely unknown by many, it is our faith that will be revealed for eternity. By managing the resources that God has given us, that is, our Time, Talents, and Treasure, as those saintly Christian stewards exemplify what it means to be obedient stewards of Christ and His Church.

Stewardship 2008

The following have submitted their 2008 pledge cards.
We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Rev. and Mrs. James S. Diavatis	Mr. & Mrs. Nicolas Charalambous	Mr. Harry Gallanes	Mr. & Mrs. Savas Kallaos
Mrs. Arlene Agalos	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Chatzipetrou	Mr. & Mrs. Nicos Ganis	Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Kallaos
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Akkerman	Mr. & Mrs. George Chatzis	Mr. & Mrs. Jose Garcia	Mr. John Kandara
Mr. & Mrs. George Alavizos	Mrs. Freda Chrest	Mrs. Sophia Garrity	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kapogianis
Mr. & Mrs. Themis Alexopoulos	Miss Catherine Christ	Mr. & Mrs. George Gatsinaris	Mr. John Kapogianis
Ms. Mary Amandos	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Christ	Dr. & Mrs. Vasili Gatsinaris	Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Kapogianis
Mr. George Ambatielos	Mrs. Vivian Christian	Ms. Patricia Gauvain	Miss Ann Karagines
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Amerine	Mr. & Mrs. William Christian	Mr. & Mrs. Magdalen Genkos	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Karagines
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Anas	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Christides	Miss Constance George	Mrs. Thelma Karagines
Mr. & Mrs. Conatantine Anasis	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Chryssogelos	Mr. & Mrs. Peter George	Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Karambelas
Mrs. Loula Anderson	Mr. Michael Close	Mrs. Demetra Georgouses	Mr. & Mrs. Hristos Karanastasis
Mrs Connie Andros	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Cokas	Mr. Fred Gerth	Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Karpouzis
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Angelatakis	Mr. & Mrs. Dukas Contos	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Gialamas	Mrs. Stella Karvouniaris
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Anton	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cote	Mr. & Mrs. Kiriakos Gianakakos	Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Kazas
Mrs. Maria E. Antonaras	Mr. & Mrs. Gary Culp	Ms. Athena Gianakakos	Mrs. Alberta Keffalas
Mrs. Alice Antoniou	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Dalis	Mr. & Mrs. E. Giannetakis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kesoglou
Mrs. Joyce Attard	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Dallas	Mr. & Mrs. John Giforos	Ms. Cynthia Kezos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Attard	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Darling	Ms. Giota Glavas	Mr. & Mrs. James Kezos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter P. Attard	Mr. Chris Deralas	Dr. & Dr. Constantine Glezakos	Mrs. Nickey Kezos
Mr. & Mrs. Louie Attard	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Deralas	Mrs. Grammatia Glinkie	Mr. John Kiouisis
Mr. & Mrs. August August	Mr. & Mrs. William Deralas	Miss Bessie Gonos	Mr. Nick Kitakis
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Baglin	Ms. Janet Diamant	Mrs. Mary Goode	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kitsigianis
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Badounas	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Diamant	Mr. & Mrs. Arty Grammas	Mrs. Voula Kitsigianis
Mrs. Kiki Ballas	Mr. & Mrs. Argirios Dimopoulos	Dr. & Mrs. Dimitri Grammas	Mr. & Mrs. George Kitsinis
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Barouxis	Mr. John Dimopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George Hadjis	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Kitsios
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Basdakis	Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Dodge	Mr. & Mrs. John Hadjis	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Klentos
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Begakis	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Dorlis	Mr. & Mrs. Christ Hadzoglou	Mr. & Mrs. Haralambos Klentos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Begakis	Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Doukos	Mr. & Mrs. Larry Halfhill	Ms. Jean Koclanakis
Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Benardis	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Dourbetas	Mrs. Shirley Picoulas Hallock	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kokkinos
Mr. Peter Benardis	Mr. & Mrs. Nico Dourbetas	Mr. & Mrs. Christos Harbilas	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Benetatos	Nicholas & Lillian Dovalis	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Harbilas	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mrs. Venetta Birakos	Mr. & Mrs. Angelos Dritsopoulos	Mr. Harris G. Harisis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mrs. Maria Bizakis	Mrs. Joanne Drulias	Mr. & Mrs. R. Michael Hartman	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bogris	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Duvall	Mr. & Mrs. John Hatzidakis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Bogris	Mr. & Mrs. George Eleopoulos	Mrs. Demetra G. Harvalos	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Bonorris	Mr. & Mrs. Xenophon Eliopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Hashtroudi	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. George Borovilos	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fidelis	Mr. George Hassapis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Miss Mary Borovilos	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Fields	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hassapis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Bostinelos	Mr. & Mrs. Flynn	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hatzis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Boussiacos	Mr. Athanasios Foskaris	Mr. John Hatzis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Bozekas	Miss Maria Foskaris	Mr. & Mrs. James Hill	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Aleksander Bozovic	Mr. George Founaris	Miss Christina Hioureas	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. Mihale Brailas	Mrs. Mina Fourtounis	Miss Eleni Hioureas	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Buelna	Mr. & Mrs. George Frousiakis	Mr. & Mrs. Denny Hocking	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Nikki Burns	Mr. & Mrs. Dino Foutris	Mr. & Mrs. Tim Holtermann	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. James Callas	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Futris	Mr. & Mrs. Spiros Hondrogiannis	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. Andrew Canellos	Mr. George Futris	Mrs. Ruby Hopkins	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Cantonis	Mr. & Mrs. Spiros Gabriel	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hourigan	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. George Cantonis	Mr. Gavriel Gabriel	Mr. & Mrs. Ken Jones	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. William Carkagis	Mr. & Mrs. Leon Gabrielian	Mrs. Olga Joseph	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. John Chakos	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Gallanes	Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Jung	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Chapralis		Mr. & Mrs. H. Kalogeropoulos	Mr. & Mrs. John Kolias

Stewardship 2008

The following have submitted their 2008 pledge cards.
We thank them and we invite the others to make their gift to their church.

Mr. & Mrs. James Learakos
Ms. Anna Les
Mrs. Koula Les
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Libowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Linn
Mr. & Mrs. Devon Liss
Mrs. Katherine Livieratos
Mr. Earnest Love
Mr. Evangelos Magiatis
Mr. & Mrs. Bjorn Malmund
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Mandas
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mandas
Mr. & Mrs. Christ Manes
Mr. & Mrs. Rouso Manos
Mr. & Mrs. Aristos Mantas
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Mantas
Mrs. Nada Margaretis
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Margias
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Margias
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Marinovich
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. Chris Mellas
Mrs. Marie Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Mitchell
Mrs. Mary Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. William Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. G. Mousmoules
Mrs. Sofia Moysidis
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Mull
Mrs. Mary Naylon
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Nichols
Mr. Pete Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. Nicolas Nicola
Mrs. Maria Nicolaou
Ms. Peggy Nicolaou
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Nikolau
Ms. Zia Nisani
Miss Barbara Nonis
Mr. & Mrs. John Ohanian
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Pafilas
Mrs. Eugenia Pagalides
Mrs. Belia Palas
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Panagiotou

Mr. & Mrs. Pete Pandeles
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Panos
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Papadon
Mr. & Mrs. James Papastathis
Mr. & Mrs. George W. Pappas
Mrs. Georgia Pappas
Mr. & Mrs. James Pappas
Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Pappas
Mr. & Mrs. Pano Pappas
Mr. Timothy Pappas
Mr. Anthony Pashalides
Mrs. Argie Pastis
Mr. & Mrs. Vasili Paxos
Ms. Connie Perakis
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Persakis
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Petropoulos
Mr. & Mrs. John Petropoulos
Ms. Ria Petropoulos
Mr. James Petros
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Petros
Mr. & Mrs. George Petsas
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Phillips
Mrs. Shirley Picoulas Hallock
Dr. & Mrs. Denis Pieratos
Mr. & Mrs. James Pierce
Dr. & Mrs. James Pilafas
Mr. & Mrs. Stavro Pilafas
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantine Poulidis
Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Pouloupoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Vlash Pullos
Mr. & Mrs. Spyridon Rados
Mr. & Mrs. Georgios Rigas
Ms. Mary N. Riley
Miss Sophia Rinos
Mr. & Mrs. Cristo Ristas
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Roumpos
Mr. & Mrs. Julian Rusinek
Mr. & Mrs. John Russell
Mr. & Mrs. Theofilos Russos
Mr. Paul Sarandos
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Sarantos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sargologos
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Sarres
Mr. & Mrs. Randal Schoeman
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sdrales
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Sigas
Mr. & Mrs. Nickolas Siokos
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Siouris
Mr. Alexander Soles
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Soles
Mr. & Mrs. Petros Sourias
Mrs. Bess Stavrakes

Mrs. Georgia Stavrakes
Mr. & Mrs. James Stavropoulos
Mr. Stephanos Stavropoulos
Mr. & Mrs. George Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Stratouly
Miss Athena Stump
Mr. & Mrs. John Sutch
Mr. John Stylianides
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Syrengelas
Mr. & Mrs. D. Syrengelas
Mr. & Mrs. K. Syrengelas
Miss Maria Tambouris
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Tasigeorgos
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Tavlarides
Mr. & Mrs. George Tavoularis
Miss Kathy Tavoularis
Mr. & Mrs. George Thalass
Ms. Catherine Thanos
Mr. & Mrs. William Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Tragos
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tragos
Ms. Maria Treantafelles
Miss Michele Tsachpinis
Dr. & Mrs. Bill Tsagris
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Turner
Mr. & Mrs. Perry Valaskantjis
Mr. Michael Van Duyn
Mrs. Foula Vanikiotis
Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Vatakis
Miss Lisa Vatakis
Mrs. Helen Vest
Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Vlachos
Mrs. Sophia Voulimeneas
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vovos
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Vourakis
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Wemmer
Mr. & Mrs. James Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Winders
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Xanthos
Mr. Ioannis Xilikakis
Miss Elli Yorgiadis
Mr. Marcus T. Zambounis
Mr. & Mrs. George Zonos
Ms. Josephine Zorzy
Mr. & Mrs. A. Zounatiotis

As of June 19, 2008
Total Pledges: 364
Goal: 600
To Go: 236
Total Pledged:
\$258,462.00
Budgeted Goal:
\$330,000.00
Amount left to reach
Goal:
\$71,538.00

NOTE: There are pledging members that prefer to not have their names listed, but are still members in good standing. If you prefer to not have your name listed, please contact the church office. Thank You.

2008 GREEK FOOD FEST
HIGHLIGHTS/PHOTOS 1

2008 GREEK FOOD FEST
HIGHLIGHTS/PHOTOS 2

PROJECT RESTORATION

RALPH'S COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM

St. John is now enrolled in the Ralph's Community Contribution Program, so everytime you make a purchase at Ralph's, a small percentage will be donated to our Church. You can easily register online at www.ralphs.com, simply click on communtiy contributions then click on participants and you will find St. John. You can also register by calling 1-800-660-9003. Be sure to have your Ralph's card(s) readily available to register.

**Remember purchases will not count until you have registered your

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

We are once again trying to form a OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship) ministry for college students in surrounding area. If you have children who attend the following academic institutions, please notify Fr. Nicholas at the church office, and provide him with their name(s) as well as the institution (s) that they attend.

Biola University, Cal State University, Fullerton, Chapman University, Fullerton College, Cypress College, Santa Ana College, Golden West College, Orange Coast

St. John Representatives at Clergy-Laity Bi-Annual Congress

Fr. James, Vice President of Parish Council, Paul Nicolau representing President Harry Benetatos (who will be in Greece) and Alex Soles are attending the Congress in Washington, D.C. as representatives of St. John from July 10 to July 18.

GREEK SCHOOL 2008-2009

Registration is now open for Greek School classes: Pre-School through 6th Grade. In order to properly staff Fall classes, please turn in your registration materials to the church office on or before July 1, 2008. Registration packets available in the church office, or e-mail:

Dianafas@sbcglobal.net. Please call Diana Fascenelli at (714) 639-5821 or Raza Kitsigianis at (714) 974-2056 for more information.

We congratulate all the graduates and we pray that they will use their God-given lives, talents and abilities not only for their own personal growth and progress but also for the betterment of humankind.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Elsa Alexopoulos, Athan Athanasiou, Taylor Foxhall, Christina Mantas, Spero Mantas, Ioannis Medenas, Nikolas Medenas, Victoria Medenas, Labrini Rigas, Tara Soles, Georgianna Vestakis, Litsa Xilikakis.

OUR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Anastasios (Tom) Karnezis, M.D., Columbia University Medical School
Andrea Casteel, Chapman University School of Law
James Amerine, B.A., Communication Studies, Cal State University, Long Beach
Michael Stephens, B.A., University of California , Los Angeles
Athanasia Medenas, B.A., University of California, Riverside
Nicolas N. Anas, B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara

CONGRATULATIONS **MOTHER & FATHER OF THE YEAR**

MOTHER OF THE YEAR

We congratulate Jerry Kallaos, this year's Mother of the Year. She is a proud grandmother and a long time contributor, in many ways, to the advancement and betterment of our beloved parish of St. John's. Jerry and her dear husband Savas (Sam) have distinguished themselves in many areas of Church life. We are proud to have her and her family as members of our community. Thank you for everything you do Jerry. May the Lord bless you with many years of good health.

FATHER OF THE YEAR

We congratulate George W. Pappas who was chosen St. John's Father of the year for 2008. George is a grandfather and a long time strong supporting member of St. John. He, Esther and their children attend services regularly. George, over the years has shown a great love for St. John by his stewardship of time, talent and treasure. We wish him every blessing from our benevolent Lord.

SAVE THE DATE

ST. JOHN'S PRESENTS

BASILE IN CONCERT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2008

**WATCH FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

Fall Back in Fashion

St. John the Baptist Philoptochos Society presents a

Vintage Fashion Show

Luncheon and Holiday Boutique

*Join us for a presentation of vintage fashions
from a glamorous bygone era on*

Saturday, November 15, 2008

St. John the Baptist Cultural Hall
Anaheim, California

Donation: \$35.00

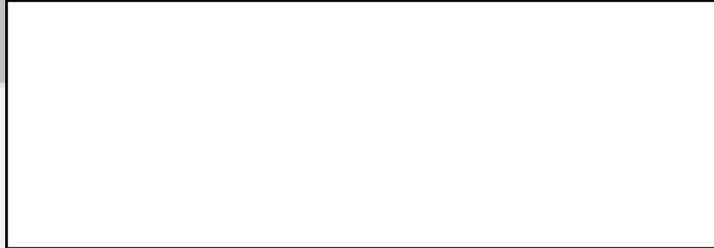
Reservations open October 1, 2008

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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)

