

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CHICAGO



The Assumption *Newsletter*



Third Issue, 2010

AssumptionChicago.org
e-mail: AssumptionChurch@aol.com

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.
--Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Our Dear Beloved Parishioners and Co-Workers in the Lord,

Christ is in our midst! With the love of Christ Jesus and humbly giving glory to Him, we greet you on behalf of the esteemed members of the Parish Council. It gives us great joy to announce that in this year 2010, we celebrate the eighty-fifth Anniversary of founding and establishment of our Spiritual Home called our **Parish of Panagia**. The quote selected is from the Book of Ecclesiastes of the Old Testament, and serves as the theme chosen for our year of celebration titled: **"Panagia: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"**.

With a memorable and meaningful history, our **Parish of the Assumption** served the spiritual needs of thousands of families who made this their home, their refuge, their shelter, and their oasis. Each of us has his/her own special attachment to this Parish, and each one is genuine, unique, and individual. But we all share a common thread... that being our attachment to our Blessed Panagia, where we were nurtured, cared for, and matured as Orthodox Christians. And as each generation emerges, it joins our forefathers of yesterday to share in that spiritual attachments as members and stewards of our blessed Panagia.

So appropriately, this year we share in this milestone of our Parish. The Assumption Church shines on Her eighty-fifth birthday just as She did when Her doors first opened to those pioneers before us in 1925. On October 17, 2010, we will commemorate our Church's founding with a very special Dinner Dance at the Esplanade Lakes in Downers Grove, Illinois. On this evening, our Community will also recognize our Proistamenos, Father Timothy Bakakos for thirty years of ordained service to our Holy Metropolis and Archdiocese. As a former Assumption altar boy, Fr. Timothy was ordained to the Holy Priesthood at his home parish on October 5, 1980. Father Timothy is the only son of Panagia to return to serve our Community as Proistamenos. Very shortly, more information will be made available. It is our hope that you will plan to be with us and share in the joy that we all have for our **Church Home**.

In closing, we humbly ask the Holy Virgin Mary continue to bless your family. May She and Her Divine Son continue to watch over you and your loved ones and keep you safe always. And may we, as a "Church Family", continue to let our light shine as we celebrate and continue to give glory to our Lord Who blesses us so abundantly. Wishing you well always, we remain,

In the Vineyard of the Holy Theotokos,

Mr. James Lakerdas

Mr. James Lakerdas
Parish Council President

Very Rev. Timothy G. Bakakos

Very Rev. Timothy G. Bakakos
Archimandrite



Special 85th Anniversary Information...

My Dear Fellow Parishioner and Supporter of our Blessed Panagia Parish,

As part of our 85th year celebration, we are developing a multimedia presentation of our beloved Panagia Church throughout the years. Our multimedia committee is going through thousands of photos and videos that we have acquired over the years, to deliver the most compelling content for that presentation. Our Panagia Community would not have been the *jewel* that it is today without the continuous support of our so many leaders and supporters since day one. And in the spirit of that collective effort, we are asking for your help as we prepare this multimedia presentation for the evening of October 17th.

Specifically we are looking for photos and videos that portray our Church, our Community, our faith and our culture since the establishment of this Parish, so that they can be used as part of our presentation. We have included a list of themes to better assist and guide you on the types of content we need:

THEMES:

Please note that the list below applies to *BOTH* pictures and video:

- Sunday Church School class pictures between the years of 1925 – present (group shot).
- Greek school class pictures between the years of 1925 – present (group shot).
- Wedding ceremonies that took place in this Parish between the years of 1925 – present.
- Baptism ceremonies that took place in the Parish between the years of 1925 – present.
- Easter Services/celebrations between the years 1925 – present (group shot).
- Images of the Good Friday Epitaphios and Holy Week Services between the years 1925 – present.
- Close-ups of the priest who served this Parish between the years 1925 – present.
- Close-ups of laypersons of our parish recognizable to many between the years 1925 – present. *Examples: past presidents, Philoptochos, chairpersons, teachers, choir, SCS, Plato School, etc.*
- Baby/children's pictures of parishioners of our Parish between the years present – *Examples: youth activities, SCS, Greek School, Plato School, Cub/Boy Scouts, Altar Boys, GOYA/JOY, Sacraments, etc.*

** We can use any video format (Cassette, 8mm or DVD) as well as digital & regular images in both color and black & white
**

Here is how the submission process works:

- Pick up one of our designated yellow envelopes from our Church office;
- Place your images or video in the envelope and seal it with the metal clasp;
- Write your name & FULL mailing address on the designated area (Please print clearly);
- Return the envelope to the church office.

Once we copy the material we need, we will mail the content back to you in the address you provided.

Please note that submission of content does **not** guarantee that it will be used as part of the presentation, but it will allow us to select from a cross-section our Parish throughout the decades. The multimedia committee is working hard in creating a memorable, compelling and engaging presentation that best portrays the past, present & future of our religious community.

We thank you in advance for your zeal & participation in our effort.

Sincerely,
Andrew Kanel
Program Committee Chairman

Special 85th Anniversary Information...

ASSUMPTION
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF CHICAGO

Very Reverend Timothy G. Bakakos - Archimandrite

Panagia: 
Yesterday,
Today and Tomorrow
85th Anniversary Celebration



For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Stewards and Friends of the Assumption Church:

Solomon's words introduce the theme for our community's 85th Anniversary Celebration

Panagia: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

As we enter the fourth generation of Assumption stewards, we celebrate the past, confront the present, and await the promise of the future. On October 17, 2010, we commemorate our Church's founding at the Esplanade Lakes in Downers Grove, Illinois.

Our forefathers left poverty and despair for the hope of the New World. Though challenged by language and culture, that generation's faith in Christ and the Theotokos guided them in 1925 as they forged a Greek Orthodox community on Chicago's west side. Eight-five years later, the Assumption Church remains a beacon for the faithful.

On October 17, our community will also thank Father Timothy for thirty years of service to our Metropolis and Archdiocese. On October 5, 1980, former Assumption altar boy, Timothy Bakakos was ordained to the Holy Priesthood at his home parish. Father Timothy is the only son of Panagia to return to serve our community as Proistamenos.

We invite you to join these celebrations by participating in our Patron Book of "Assumption Angels." There can be no greater recognition of the angels of the past, than to become an angel of the present. The enclosed Patron Book form should be returned to the Church Office by October 1, 2010. We thank you for your support of Panagia.

In the Service of Christ and the Blessed Theotokos.

James G. Lakerdas
Parish Council President

John Vassiliades
Anniversary Co-chair

Bill J. Vranas
Anniversary Co-chair

Peter J. Panton, M.D.
Patron Book Co-chair

Louis G. Malevitis
Patron Book Co-chair

601 South Central Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60644-5089

Telephone: (773) 626-3114 • Fax: (773) 626-3141 Web: www.assumptionchicago.org • E-mail: office@assumptionchicago.org

Special 85th Anniversary Information...

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GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF CHICAGO

Very Reverend Timothy G. Bakakos - Archimandrite

Panagia: 
Yesterday,
Today and Tomorrow
85th Anniversary Celebration



85TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE

October 17, 2010

Esplanades Lakes – Downers Grove

Join the Choir of Angels and Proclaim Your Love for Panagia

Patron Book Listing

Seraphim*	\$5,000.00
Cherubim*	\$2,500.00
Dominions*	\$1,000.00
Virtues	\$500.00
Archangels	\$250.00
Angels	\$85.00

**Seraphim, Cherubim and Dominions may include copy of a full-page greeting.*

Please detach and return this slip with your tax-deductible contribution to:

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

601 South Central Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60644-5089

Telephone: (773) 626-3114 • Fax: (773) 626-3141 Web: www.assumptionchicago.org • E-mail: office@assumptionchicago.org

Panagia:  Yesterday,
Today and Tomorrow
85th Anniversary Celebration

*Proceeds to benefit Church Capitol Improvement Fund
Deadline: October 1, 2010*

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seraphim \$5,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dominions ... \$1,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Archangels \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cherubim \$2,500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Virtues \$500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Angels \$85.00 |

Please print name as you wish it
to appear in the Patron Book:

**ASSUMPTION CHURCH
OF CHICAGO**

GREAT FAMILY FUN!



GREEK FEST



2010

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 5TH
NOON TO 10 PM**

**MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 6TH
3 PM TO 9 PM**

**GREAT GREEK FOOD AND PASTRIES!
MUSIC & DANCING! • RAFFLE!**

EUROBUNGY! GAMES! CRAFTS! CHURCH TOUR!

Admission \$2.00
Kids 12 & Under FREE
www.assumptionchicago.org

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GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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601 SOUTH CENTRAL AVE. (CENTRAL & EISENHOWER EXPY)



DO YOU HAVE A FORGIVING SPIRIT?

Eleventh Sunday of Matthew

Matthew 18:21-35

Very Rev. Timothy G. Bakakos

While Jesus was still with His Disciples, He often told them of their need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He also told them that they must be of a forgiving spirit. In the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 18, Jesus told His Disciples that ***“the Father in Heaven will not accept you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”***

I think that is a very appropriate and penetrating question to ask and for us to give thought about. And I believe that each of us should answer the question in the quietness of our own heart but with total honesty, because we fool and hurt no one but ourselves. And the question is: *“Do you have a forgiving spirit?”* and *“Is it your nature to forgive?”*

You could probably answer this question with both a yes and no, because when it comes to the difficult subject of forgiveness, there are always limitations, always conditions, always circumstances, and varying qualifications to the answer we give, many times predicated on who we are asked to forgive!

I would assume that you will agree with the Christian Church and with Jesus, Himself, that preaches forgiveness being central and very basic to the living out of the Christian faith. We pray every week together in our Divine Liturgy our *Lord's Prayer* by reciting the following petition: ***“Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.”*** Also, in the Nicene Creed, week after week we pronounce the words, ***“I believe in the remission of sins.”***

Yes, **forgiveness** is very present and an essential piece in our Liturgical Services. But, the fact of the matter is, our actions toward life, in general, and each other, oftentimes specifically speak otherwise. Forgiveness is something so powerful that it can frustrate us, frighten us and freeze us into an assortment of human behaviors that can paralyze us in many detrimental ways. But if we live the life of Jesus, it can also free us to love more deeply.

In our Bible Reading that is read on the Eleventh Sunday of Matthew, the Gospel Writer brings this to very point to the forefront in Chapter 18 of his Gospel when he writes that it frustrates Peter so much, that Peter asks our Lord Jesus Christ, ***“Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother?”*** It was as though Peter was saying, ***“Preacher, make it plain, so I can understand.”*** By the time this question came up, Peter had been traveling with our Lord Jesus Christ for quite a while from towns to villages to cities. He had probably heard our Lord Jesus share great teaching stories and parables with the various groups of people as He taught about the necessity of forgiveness and the grace of God. Certainly in Peter's mind, he probably already had been stirred by the famous parable of the Prodigal Son. Peter had witnessed with his very own eyes the attempted stoning of the woman caught in adultery. So by now, he was beginning to see that this thing called *forgiveness* was an integral part of this *“new kingdom and new life”* that Jesus was ushering in called ***“Christianity”***! It was not just theological jargon, but a lifestyle of obedience to the work of our Lord. Peter knew that forgiveness was both difficult and demanding to the human spirit, and he wanted to know just what he was getting himself in for.

So Peter, as we have heard over and over, was never one to be bashful and to open his mouth, took the direct route and asked straightforwardly, ***“Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother?”*** Just as we are confronted and often made uneasy about the need to forgive, and that includes our enemies, here we see Peter asking for help about this very subject called *forgiveness*. The disciples faced the same dilemma that each of us faces on a daily basis. So, I can ask the question again, *“do you have a forgiving spirit?”* It is a subject that is easy to avoid, but, because of our pride and stubbornness, not at all easy to answer with total honesty and humility. Why? Well, because some of us do **not** want to forgive, but surely demand to be forgiven by all who are around us.

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DO YOU HAVE A FORGIVING SPIRIT?

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FORGIVENESS OFTENTIMES IS VERY DIFFICULT, ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE, UNLESS WE FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST. Forgiveness is never easy, but it is the will of God. Forgiveness is not something based on popularity as determined by the most recent Gallop Polls, or *who* is the most popular at work or in school, or *what* is the preference by a select group of parishioners in a Church. It is a biblical mandate that is reflected in God's salvation through His own crucifixion and resurrection. Standing up for what is right in the face of overwhelming opposition is what is paramount and matters most! And forgiveness is essential in all those situations and relationships.

There is a story about a man named Fred Snodgrass, who was a successful baseball player for the Then New York Giants. Even with all his accomplishments and successes, he was most remembered for one of his failures. In the 1912 Baseball World Series, he dropped a pop fly ball, and as a result, his error set up the winning run, because the next batter up hit a single. Consequently, the Giants lost the game and the World Series. When he died in 1974, the New York Times printed this headline: "Fred Snodgrass, dead at age 86; Ballplayer who was best known for muffed fly causing the N.Y. Giants to lose World Series in 1912". Imagine that...sixty-two years later, and yet, they could not forget his mistake. Never mind the fact that Fred later became that Mayor of the City of Oxnard, California, and was a successful banker and rancher and raised a fine family. He dropped a pop-up in the 1912 World Series, and they could not forget his mistake. We know all too well how confused, oftentimes, our own priorities become. But how different it is with Christ; Who not only forgets our mistakes, but forgives them as well.

SECONDLY, FORGIVENESS IS NEVER EASY, BUT IT IS ALWAYS THE WILL OF GOD. A story is told about a young man who applied for a job with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. His application was accepted and he was given the job of painting the white lines on a nearby road by hand because all the machines were temporarily out of order.

The first day on the job, the man painted eight miles of road. The second day, he painted four miles. The third day, he painted two miles. The fourth day, he *only* painted one mile. His supervisor, who at first was very pleased with his performance, became curious as to why his production level continued to decrease. The young man replied, *"I am getting slower and slower because the paint can is getting further and further away."* And if we use this story as an analogy with our own level of forgiveness, or our ability to forgive, or our *inability* to forgive, and find it more and more difficult and further away from the will of God, perhaps it is because *you* are not as close as you should be to the heart and mind of the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOD'S FORGIVENESS OF US IS CONTINGENT ON OUR FORGIVENESS OF OTHERS. Some of us want the world to bow down to us and forgive, and once we have it, do not extend that same forgiveness, and even step on those poor souls and play "Pseudo-God" of an unforgiving nature. But the Bible is very clear here. IF we do NOT forgive others their trespasses, neither will our Heavenly Father forgive us. We must forgive in order to be forgiven. And, there is a good reason for this. The love of God cannot enter an unforgiving heart, and if we do NOT allow God's forgiveness to first enter "us", we can't pass on what we haven't yet received. However, once we genuinely and honestly experience it, we can do nothing else but forgive. Being unforgiving has the effect of locking the door of the heart from the inside since our God never forces His way in or kicks down the door, we must first open it from the inside. The Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is that it is both in the power and the nature of Jesus to forgive and pardon. Jesus does not forgive the sin as much as He forgives us, the sinner.

Finally, I end with the story about a lost soul of a woman who heard that the imminent return of Jesus Christ was at hand, and He was going to knock on her door at 3:00 p.m. that day for a short visit. She prepared herself and her house for the royal visit. At 3:00 p.m., the bell rang. She ran enthusiastically to the door and she was disappointed because there stood an angry, bitter, cold, frowning, grotesque looking person. She shouted out, *"Who are you?"* And Jesus said, *"Didn't you expect me to be here?"* She shouted out, *"You are not the real Christ."* He said, *"You are absolutely*

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DO YOU HAVE A FORGIVING SPIRIT?

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right, I am not. I am the Christ everyone sees when they look at you."

My dear brothers and sisters, unless we forgive 70 times 7, the **real** Christ will never live inside of us. It is a life-style, not a luxury. Who are we NOT to forgive? Yet, we expect and demand God to forgive us? The Christian way is a way of love and forgiveness. **Real** love can only be born because you have experienced God's forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

So the next time we snap back in hate and anger, let us remember that Jesus' forgiveness is both real and liberating. If we accept that gift, it will free us to forgive others and the hardest task of all; it will give us the ability to forgive ourselves.

Where are we with regards to Saint Matthew's passage on forgiving 70 times 7? How are **we** responding to Christ's offer to forgive others as He forgives us? I hope and pray that we can all stand at the foot of that Cross, and each time we do, that two truths emerge for us: first, at the Cross, we are reminded of our need of forgiveness and second, at the Cross, we are reminded that we, ourselves, are already forgiven, so we must also forgive those around us. After hearing this, what is your honest answer to the question I asked you in the beginning, "*Do you have a forgiving spirit?*"

+ A M E N



Parish Happenings...

*Do you enjoy working with people?
Do you like flexible work schedules?
Do you want to meet new people?*

Are you looking for something fun to do this labor Day Weekend?

If you answered yes to any one of these questions then...WE WANT YOU!!!!

Volunteer to help out at this year's festival. Please see Christina Arvanites or Tina Sarantos for details or email Tina Sarantos at t.sarantos@sbcglobal.net.

Let's work together to make this the BEST festival ever!

Parish Council President...

President's Report By James Lakerdas

Last month, delegates from the Assumption Church, attended the 40th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. Those representing our Parish were Father Timothy, James Lakerdas, Voula Spyropoulos and Bill J. Vranas. Also in attendance as Philoptochos delegates were Nancy Pilafas, Eleanor Georgalas, and Demetra Spyropoulos. Over 500 churches were represented from across the country, including Hawaii, with over 700 delegates in attendance.

The Clergy-Laity Congress is concerned with all matters that affect the mission, growth and unity of the Archdiocese as well as the financial, education and philanthropic concerns of our church. Your delegates attended workshops, meetings and the General Plenary sessions where 17 reports were presented and discussed during the plenary.

Your delegates also had the opportunity to discuss issues that affect other communities. Most of the communities have the same challenges that we face; declining membership; budgetary concerns and trying to make Church life relevant to young people. But like us every community is optimistic and untiring in their efforts to meet these challenges. I was impressed by the fact that some communities, much smaller than ours, fund and operate social programs that serve their communities; these communities served as real inspirations for all of us. This 49th Clergy-Laity Congress provided us with a unique opportunity to strengthen our faith and to facilitate the work of our Archdiocese, Metropolises and Parishes.

“Gather my People to My Home. Come and See.”



Submit articles to the Church Office or to Tina Sarantos at t.sarantos@sbcglobal.net or (708) 660-0154.

Philoptochos...

Current Events *By Ann Dervis*

History of Assumption Church

On the evening of May 13, Mr. Harold Peponis gave a lecture in Plato Hall on early Greek immigration to Chicago and on the establishment of Assumption church in the Austin neighborhood. The audience were impressed with the foresight and struggles of our founders. Philoptochos ladies served sweets, coffee and fruit to approximately 50 guests.

Oratorical Prizes

Parish Oratorical winners Marika Maggos (Speech) and Kristen Massouras (Essay) were presented checks on behalf of Philoptochos by Joan Leakakos at the May 16 Sunday Church School Awards Ceremony. Congratulations!

General Meeting

On May 20, Thursday morning, our general meeting was held in the St. Catherine Chapel meeting room. Plans were made for our upcoming activities (see below) and lunch was served.

Drury Lane Outing

Lunch and the musical comedy "Sugar" were on the agenda for Thursday, June 17. Thank you to Elaine Vassiliades for arranging this. A good time was had by all.

Visit to Greek-American Rehabilitation Center

The ladies went up to Wheeling, Illinois and brought treats of home-made koulouria and paximadia, cake, fruit and assorted juices to the residents. We enjoyed visiting with the residents and seeing the wonderful care they receive.

Cergy Laity Conference

Nancy Pilafas, Patricia Karabas and Eleanor Georgalas represented us in Atlanta, GA July 4-7.

Next Meeting

Our next general meeting will be July 22 at 10:30 in Plato Hall. St. Catherine Chapel renovation is in progress and Philoptochos will be donating the new carpeting. Did you know that in 2009 our National Philoptochos distributed \$1,395,393.00 to various philanthropic endeavors throughout the world? That is according to our national president, Ms. Aphrodite Skeadas. We reach out to those in need.

Do you like to bake?

Join us in Plato hall at 9:00am on these dates:

Thursday, August 5 to make Melomakarouna, (for August 14)

Saturday, August 21 to make Kourabiedes and
Melomakourana, (for the festival)

Saturday, August 28 to make Diples, (for the festival)

*Additionally, we need the following donations for the Philoptochos bakery tent:
paximada, baklava and other tasty Greek pastries.*

Youth Ministry...

The Most-Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary *By Father Athanasios Pieri*

In the theology and piety of the Orthodox Church, a special place of honor is given to the Mother of God the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, who is revered by the Orthodox as being “more honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the Seraphim.”

The Virgin Mary is honored because she is Theotokos the Mother of God not of His Divinity, but of His humanity, yet of God in that Jesus Christ was (in the theology of the Church) both God and Man, at one and the same time in the Incarnation. Therefore, the honor given Mary is due to her relationship to Christ. And this honor, rather than taking away from that due God, makes us more aware of God’s majesty; for it is precisely on account of the Son (Himself God) that she is venerated.

We also speak of the Theotokos as being Ever-Virgin, which was officially proclaimed at the **5th Ecumenical Council** (Constantinople — 553); the dogma concerning Mary as being Theotokos was proclaimed in 431 at the **3rd Ecumenical Council in Ephesus**. This notion does not actually contradict Holy Scripture, as some would think. “And His mother and His brothers came; and standing outside they sent to Him and called Him” (Mark 3:31). Here the use of the word brothers in the original Greek can mean half-brother, cousin, or near relative in addition to brothers in the strict sense. The Orthodox Church has always seen brothers here as referring to His half-brothers.

If Mary is honored as Theotokos, so too, she is honored because she is Panagia (All-Holy). She is the supreme example of the co-operation between God and Man; for God, Who always respects human freedom, did not become incarnate without her free consent which, as Holy Scripture tells us, was freely given: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38). Thus Mary is seen by the Church as the New Eve (as Christ is the New Adam) whose perfect obedience was in contrast to the disobedience of the First Mother, Eve, in Paradise. As St. Irenaeus says, “the knot of Eve’s disobedience was loosed through the obedience of Mary; for what Eve, a virgin, bound by her unbelief, that Mary, a virgin, unloosed by her faith” [Against the Heresies, III, xxii, 4].

For this reason by virtue of her solidarity with all humanity the Theotokos died a bodily death. Yet, in her case, the resurrection of the body had been anticipated; and she was assumed body and soul into Heaven; and her tomb was found empty an event celebrated in the Feast of the Falling-Asleep (or Dormition) of the Most-Holy Theotokos Aug. 15. Thus, as the hymns of that Feast proclaim, she “has passed from earth to heaven,” beyond death and judgment, living already in “the age to come.” She enjoys now the same bodily glory all of us hope to share one day.

Whereas the Church has officially proclaimed as dogmas the doctrines concerning the Trinity and the Incarnation, the glorification of the Mother of God belongs to the Inner Tradition of the Church. As the noted Orthodox theologian, Vladimir Lossky writes: “It is hard to speak and not less hard to think about the mysteries which the Church keeps in the hidden depths of her inner consciousness... The Mother of God was never a theme of the public preaching of the Apostles; while Christ was preached on the housetops, and proclaimed for all to know in an initiatory teaching addressed to the whole world, the mystery of His Mother was revealed only to those who were within the Church.. It is not so much an object of faith as a foundation of our hope, a fruit of faith, ripened in Tradition. Let us therefore keep silence, and let us not try to dogmatize about the supreme glory of the Mother of God” [“Panagia,” in *The Mother of God*, ed. E.L. Mascall, p.35].

Appellations of the Theotokos.

Ark.

The Theotokos is often called an Ark, for the Glory of God settled on her, just as the Glory of God descended on the Mercy Seat of the Old Testament Ark of the Covenant (Ex. 25:10-22).

Aaron’s Rod.

Just as Aaron’s Rod sprouted miraculously in the Old Testament, so too, the Theotokos has budded forth the Flower of Immortality, Christ our God (Num. 17:1-11).

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Appellations of the Theotokos

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Burning Bush.

On Mt. Sinai, Moses saw the Bush that was burning, but was not consumed. So too, the Theotokos bore the fire of Divinity, but was not consumed (Ex. 3:1-6).

(Golden) Candlestick.

In the Old Testament Tabernacle, there were found in the Sanctuary golden candlesticks. The Theotokos is the Candlestick which held that Light that illumines the world (Ex. 25:31-40).

(Golden) Censer.

Just as the censer holds a burning coal, so too, the Theotokos held the Living Coal. In the Apocalypse, there stands an Angel before the Throne of God, swinging a censer, representing the prayers of the Saints rising up to God. This is also seen as a symbol of the Theotokos, for it is her prayers that find special favor before her Son.

Cloud.

In the Exodus, the Israelites were led out of Egypt by a Cloud of Light, symbolizing the presence of God in their midst. So too, the Theotokos is a Cloud, bearing God within.

Fleece.

In the book of Judges we read the account of the dew which appeared miraculously on Gideon's fleece (Judges 6:36-40). So too, the Dew Christ, appeared miraculously on the Living Fleece the Theotokos.

Holy of Holies.

Into the Holy of Holies only the High Priest could enter. So too, the Theotokos is the Ho-ly of Holies into which only the Eternal High Priest Christ entered (Heb. 9:1-7).

Ladder.

In a dream Jacob saw a ladder ascending to Heaven, with Angels' ascending and des-cending on it. The Theotokos is a Ladder, stretching from earth to Heaven, for on It God des-cended to man, having become incarnate.

Mountain (from which a Stone was cut not by hand of man).

The Prophet Daniel saw a mountain, from which was cut a stone, not by the hand of man (Dan. 2:34, 45). This is a reference to the miraculous Virgin Birth which was accomplished without the hand of man.

Palace.

The Theotokos was the Palace within which the King Christ our God dwelt.

Stem of Jesse.

In the Nativity Service, the Lord is referred to as the "Rod from the Stem of Jesse" (Is. 11:1), indicating His lineage from David, which was fulfilled through the Theotokos, who was a scion (or stem) of the line of David, the son of Jesse.

Tabernacle.

The Tabernacle was the place where the Glory of God dwelt. So too, the Glory of God dwelt in the Theotokos the Living Tabernacle (Ex. 40:34).

(Holy) Table.

This refers to the Holy Table (Altar Table) on which, at the Divine Liturgy, the Divine Food is offered. So too, the Theotokos is the Holy Table which bore the Bread of Life.

Temple.

The Prophet Ezekiel speaks of the Temple whose East gate remains sealed, through which only the Lord, the God of Israel, has entered. This clearly prophesies the Virgin Birth of the Theotokos (Ez. 44:1-2).

Throne.

The Theotokos is the Throne upon which Christ, the King of All, rested.

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Appellations of the Theotokos

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(Golden) Urn.

In the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant contained within itself a golden urn filled with the heavenly manna. The Theotokos is the Urn which contained Christ, the Divine Manna (Heb. 9:1-7).

Vine.

The Theotokos is the Vine which bore the Ripe Cluster (of Grapes), Christ our Lord.

ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΗ ΚΑΤΕΡΓΑΡΙΑ

Διαβάζουμε στο Λειμωνάριο την εξής διδακτική ιστορία.

Ένας άρχοντας παράγγειλε σε ένα χρυσοχόο να του φτιάξει ένα σταυρό καταστόλιστο από πετράδια, για να τον χαρίσει στην Εκκλησία. Ο χρυσοχόος, νέο παιδί, έτυχε να είναι ένας ευσεβέστατος Χριστιανός. Σκέφθηκε λοιπόν ως εξής:

-Αυτός εδώ ο άρχοντας προσφέρει στο Χριστό ένα τόσο μεγάλο θησαυρό. Γιατί, τότε, να μη βάλω κι εγώ σ' αυτόν τον σταυρό την αναλογία του χρυσαφιού που δικαιούμαι για την αμοιβή μου, για να με λογαριάζει κι εμένα ο Χριστός, όπως την φτωχή εκείνη χήρα με τα δυο της λεπτά;

Υπολόγισε λοιπόν καλά τί έπρεπε να πάρει φτιαχτικά, το έκαμε χρυσάφι και το έβαλε στο σταυρό.

Όταν ήρθε ο άρχοντας, πριν να δεθούν τα πετράδια, ζύγισε το Σταυρό. Και βρήκε, πως το βάρος του σε χρυσάφι ήταν περισσότερο από αυτό που είχε δώσει. Άρχισε λοιπόν να φοβερίζει και να φωνάζει, πως κάποια κατεργαριά έχει γίνει, και πως έχει νοθευτεί το χρυσάφι. Και τότε ο νεαρός χρυσοχόος του είπε:

-Ο Θεός το ξέρει πως δεν έχω κάνει τέτοιο πράγμα. Αλλά επειδή είδα πόση περιουσία προσέφερες εσύ για το Χριστό, σκέφθηκα να προσθέσω κι εγώ την αμοιβή μου, για να έχω κι εγώ έτσι κάποιο μερίδιο μαζί μ' εσένα, και να δεχθεί το μικρό μου κόπο ο Χριστός, όπως δέχθηκε τα δύο Λεπτά εκείνης της φτωχής χήρας.

Τότε ο άρχοντας, έκπληκτος από την αγαθότητα και την ευλάβεια του νέου, τον αγκάλιασε και τον φίλησε, λέγοντας;

-Από σήμερα θα σε κάνω παιδί μου και κληρονόμο μου...

Τυχερός ο νεαρός, που αξιώθηκε να γίνει θετό παιδί και κληρονόμος ενός τέτοιου άρχοντα!

Ασύγκριτα πιο τυχερός είναι εκείνος που θα αξιωθεί να γίνει παιδί και κληρονόμος, όχι κάποιου επίγειου άρχοντα, αλλά του Κυρίου του ουρανού και της γης. Του Χριστού! Μόνο που αυτό δεν είναι και τόσο... θέμα τύχης! Εξαρτάται πρώτα από όλα από μας. Εξαρτάται από το αν εμείς τιμάμε όπως πρέπει το Σταυρό του Χριστού.

Γι' αυτό ανέβηκε ο Χριστός στο Σταυρό. Για να μας κάνει παιδιά Του και κληρονόμους Του.

Όμως, πόσες φορές αρνιόμαστε -όχι, βέβαια, να δώσουμε ένα μεροκάματο σε χρυσάφι- αλλά να κάνουμε άλλα πολύ «φθηνότερα» πράγματα, για να τιμήσουμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού!

Πώς τιμάμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού, όταν κάνουμε το σημείο του σταυρού όσο γίνεται πιο βιαστικά και απρόσεκτα;

Πώς τιμάμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού, όταν την ώρα της Θείας Λειτουργίας (τουλάχιστον της Κυριακής) απουσιάζουμε από το Ναό του Θεού;

Τί άλλο είναι η Θεία Λειτουργία, παρά η ζωντανή επανάληψη της σταυρικής θυσίας του Χριστού;

Πώς τιμάμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού, όταν περιφρονούμε τη νηστεία (τουλάχιστον) της Τετάρτης και της Παρασκευής;

Πώς τιμάμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού όταν δεν θέλουμε με κανένα τρόπο να συγχωρήσουμε τον εχθρό μας; Άραγε μας έβλαψε περισσότερο από όσο οι σταυρατές το Χριστό; Γιατί Εκείνος τους συγχώρησε; Και γιατί δεν Τον παρακαλούμε να μας βοηθήσει να κάνουμε κι εμείς το ίδιο;

Πώς τιμάμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού, όταν αμελούμε να πάμε στον πνευματικό να εξομολογηθούμε τις αμαρτίες μας; Υπάρχει χειρότερος τρόπος για να πούμε στο Χριστό: «Τζάμπα σταυρώθηκες»; Υπάρχει άλλος λόγος που σταυρώθηκε ο Χριστός, παρά η άφεση των αμαρτιών μας;

Επιτέλους! Αν αυτά τα «μικρά έξοδα» τσιγκουνευόμαστε να τα κάνουμε για να τιμήσουμε το Σταυρό του Χριστού, με τί μούτρα περιμένουμε να γίνουμε ΠΑΙΔΙΑ και ΚΛΗΡΟΝΟΜΟΙ Του;

(Αρχιμ. Βαρνάβα Λαμπρόπουλου, «Μηνύματα από την ΛΥΧΝΙΑ»)



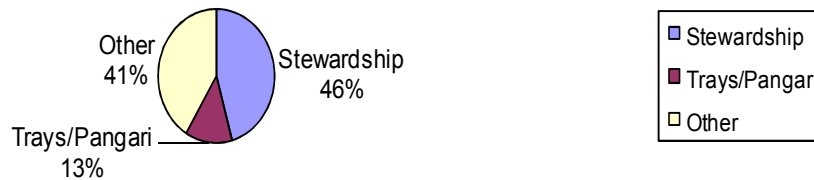
Stewardship...

Report on Stewardship Donations

Donations	Number of Stewards donating	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Remaining Budgeted Balance
Stewardship	403	\$161,757 46%	\$310,000 35%	\$148,243
Trays/Pangari		\$46,082 13%	\$115,000 13%	\$68,918
Other		\$146,458 41%	\$458,250 52%	\$311,792
Total		\$354,297 100%	\$883,250 100%	\$528,953
Expenses		\$324,020	\$842,000	

	2010	2009	2008
Pledged with NO donation	0		
Partially fulfilled Pledge	87	17	61
Completely fulfilled Pledge	316	626	639
Total Pledges	403	643	700
		Steward comparison	
		-240	700

2010 YTD Actual Thru May 2010



Stewardship List thru June 2010

MR JOHN ALEXANDER
MRS MARY ALEXANDER
MS PAULINE ALEXANDER
MR & MRS ORESTIS ALEXOPOULOS
MR & MRS ERNEST ANALITIS
MS CONSTANCE ANDREWS
MS DEMETRA ANDREWS
MR JOHN ANDREWS
MRS NICOLETTA ANOS
MRS GEORGIA APOSTOL
MR & MRS LOUKAS APOSTOLAKIS
MRS FRIEDA ARAVOSIS
MS CAROL ARGYRAKIS
MR & MRS GEORGE ARVANITES
MRS MARY ARVIS
FATHER TIMOTHY G. BAKAKOS
DR & MRS MICHAEL BAKALIS
MR & MRS JOHN BAKOSH
MRS NOTA BARKOULIES
MR & MRS DEAN BASTOUNES
MRS TESS BAZIOTES
MR & MRS DEMITRIOS LIVADITIS BEJANIS
MR & MRS JOHN BELTRAMO
MR & MRS GEORGE BERBAS
MR & MRS DONALD BIANUCCI
MR & MRS WILLIAM BLATHRAS
MR & MRS JAMES BOARDEN
MR JAMES BOKIOS
MR WILLIAM BOLAS
MRS GARIFALIA BOLOS
MR & MRS MICHAEL BORKOWSKI
MR & MRS JAMES BOUNARDJ
MRS TOULA BOZDOS
MR & MRS JAMES BUONINCONTRO
MR & MRS JOHN CALAMOS, SR
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER CAPRIO
MR & MRS DAN CARAS
MRS CATHERINE CATCHFORES
MR & MRS GEORGE CEPEK
MR & MRS GEORGE CHERIMPES
MR & MRS JOHN CHIAKULAS
DR & MRS NICHOLAS CHIPAIN
MR CHRIS CHULOS & MRS TANJA CHU-
LOS-
SAARINEN
MR & MRS PATRICK CIBULA
MR & MRS ANDREW COLLIS
MRS HELEN COLLIS
MR THOMAS COLLIS
MRS & MR ELAINE COLUMBUS
MR & MRS JAMES COLUMBUS
MRS & MR TINA CORRADINO
MRS JULIA CUTSUVITIS
MR PAUL CUTSUVITIS
MR JOHN DADES
MR NICK DAKALIS
MR & MRS JOHN DAKURAS
MS ANASTASIA DAMOLARIS
MS MARTHA DAMOLARIS
MR & MRS STEVE DAMOLARIS
MR TOM DARRUS
MR BILL DELIGIANNIS
MR & MRS BILL DEMAKIS
MR & MRS GEORGE DEMITROPOULOS
MR & MRS JOHN DEMITROPOULOS
MRS & MR KRESTINA DEMOS
MR & MRS THOMAS DEMOS
MRS ANN DERSIS
MR GEORGE DERSIS
MR & MRS WILLIAM DIAMANT
MR & MRS EMMANUEL DIMITRAKOPOULOS
MS KATHERINE DOUKAS
MS BASILLE EFANTIS
MR & MRS JOHN ELLIS
MS CATHERINE FERGUSON
MR & MRS PANTAZIS FILIS
MR & MRS HAROLD FITZSIMMONS
MR LEE FORRES
MR PETER FORRES
MRS MARY FOTOPOULOS
MR & MRS RICHARD FRITZ
MR GEORGE GALANOPOULOS
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER GANAS
MRS RULLA GANAS
MRS BESSIE GANGAS
MR PETER GANIOS
MR & MRS ANTHONY GARBIS
MR & MRS JERRY GARBIS
MRS SHIRLEY GATZIOLIS
MS CHRISTINE GEANON
MR & MRS WILLIAM GEIB
MRS EFFIE GEKAS
MR & MRS JAMES GEORGALAS
MR & MRS NICHOLAS GEORGIAFENTIS
MR & MRS NICK GEORGIAFENTIS
MR & MR ANTHONY GEORGIAN
MR & MRS GEORGE GEORGIYOU
MRS IRENE GERAKARIS
MR NICK GERAKARIS
MR JOHN GEROULIS
MRS TOULA GIANAKOPOULOS
MRS CHRISTENE GIANNOULIS
MRS IRENE GIARDINA
MR & MRS JOSEPH GIARDINA
MR THOMAS GIARDINA
MR & MRS CHRISTOS GOCHIS
DR & MRS CONSTANTINE GODELLAS
MR JOHN GOLEMES
MRS GEORGIA GOROS
MR LEO GOROS
MR NICHOLAS GOUTIS
MR JOHN GOUVAS
MR & MRS DOUGLAS GREEN
MR JOHN GRITSONIS
MRS HELEN GROM
MR & MRS NICHOLAS HARALAMPOPOULOS
MS SOPHIA HARITOS
MR JAMES HATZIS
MR & MRS PETER IATRIDES
MR RAYMOND ISAAC
MR & MRS STEVEN JURASEK
MR & MRS JANUSZ KACZMARCZYK
MR & MRS JAMES KAEMERER
MRS MARIA KAMBEROS
MR ANDREW KANEL
MRS CHRISTINE KANEL
MR JAMES A. KANEL
MR AND MRS NICHOLAS KANEL
MS MARIA KANELLOPOULOS
MRS CATHERINE KARABAS
MRS PATRICIA KARABAS
MISS SOPHIE KARAGIANNIS
MRS DEMETRA KARAHALIOS
MR & MRS ANTHONY KARAS
MR LAMBROS KARKAZIS
MR & MRS ANDREW KAROS
MRS MIA KASIMOS
MRS ANTOINETTE KASKAS
MR & MRS CHRIST KATES
DR NICHOLAS KINNAS
MR & MRS SPYROS KOKOLIS
MR & MRS GEORGE KOLETTIS
MS FAY KOLLIAS
MRS BETTY KONTOS
MRS ALICE KOPAN
MR GEORGE KOSIONIS & MS JAN
AUGUSTINE
MR & MRS THOMAS KOSTAS
MR DINO KOTSOVETIS
MRS KAREN KOTSOVETIS
MR & MRS JAY KOTT

Stewardship List thru June 2010...

MS KATHERINE KOTT
MR & MRS WALTER KOTT
MR & MRS GUST KOUIMELIS
MR & MS DEMETRIOS KOULOURIS
MR ANGELO KOURETAS
MS SOPHIE KOUTSELAS
MRS GEORGIA KOUVELIS
MR & MRS PETER KOUVELIS
MS EUGENIA KRIBALES
MRS HELEN KRILLIES
MRS BESSIE KUCHURIS
MRS CALLIOPE KUTRUBIS
MRS GEORGIA KYRIAZES
MR & MRS KYLE LAFONTAINE
MR & MRS CHRIS LAGEOTAKES
MR PETER LAGEOTAKES
MRS PANAGIOTA LAGGAS
MRS KYRIAKI LAGON
MRS DEMETRA LAKERDAS
MR JAMES LAKERDAS
MRS ANASTASIA LAMBESIS
MR & MRS CHARLES LAMPROS
MR & MRS JAMES LEAKAKOS
MR & MRS NICK LEKOUSIS
MISS BETTY LEONTIOS
MISS EUGENIA LEONTIOS
MS ALEXANDRA LEVADITIS
MRS DENA LEVADITIS
MR & MRS ARISTIDES LIAKOURAS
MR & MRS WILLIAM LIMPARIS
MR CHRIS LIMPERIS
MRS HELEN LIMPERIS
DR JANICE LIMPERIS
MR & MRS NICHOLAS LINARDOS
MRS MARY CLARA LIVADITIS
MR & MRS ILIAS LOULOUSIS
MR & DR DEAN MAGGOS
MRS HELEN MAGGOS
MR LOUIS MALEVITIS
MRS MARY MAMAIES
MR & MRS DEAN MAMALAKIS
MR GEORGE MANIATES
MRS HELEN MANIATES
MR & MRS GEORGE MANIATIS
MR & MRS THEODORE MANIATIS
MR & MRS NICHOLAS MANOS
DR & MRS CHAD MANSOUR
MR & MRS NICHOLAS MANSOUR
MRS MARY MARAS
MR & MRS CHRIST MARKOU
MRS POTA MAROS
MR & MRS THOMAS MASSOURAS

MRS BESSIE MAVREAS
MISS JANE MAXOURIS
MRS HELEN MIHAIL
MR & MRS GEORGE MILLER
MR & MRS THOMAS MOLLSON
MR & MRS TIMOTHY NASH
MS PHYLLIS NICHOLAS
MR VINCENT NICHOLAS
MRS AMELIA NICHOLS
MR & MRS DEAN NICHOLS
MRS HELEN NICOLOPULOS
MR & MRS LARRY PALMISANO
MR & MRS GEORGE PANAGAKIS
MRS FREDA PANAGOS
MR & MRS CHRISTOS PANOS
MR & MRS PETER PANOS
DR & MRS JOHN PANTON
DR & MRS PETER PANTON
DR & MRS ROBERT PANTON
MR & MRS DIONYSIOS PAPAFOU-
LOS
MR & MRS NICK PAPAFOUPOULOS
MRS SOPHIA PAPAGEORGE
DR & MRS STEVEN PAPAGIANNPOULOS
MRS ANITA PAPANEK
MRS GEORGIA PAPPADIMITRIOU
MISS ANASTASIA PAPPAS
MR GEORGE PAPPAS
MR & MRS THEODORE PAPPAS
MISS VIVIAN PAPPAS
MISS KATHERINE PATRINOS
MR & MRS ANDREW PENESIS
MRS DIMITRA PEPPAS
MRS MARY PETENES
MRS GEORGIA PETREE
MRS ELIZABETH PHILLIPS
MRS LILLIAN PIERCE
FATHER & PRESBYTERA ATHANASIOS
PIERI
MRS RITA PIETRZYK
MR & MRS ANGELO PILAFAS
MS ANN PILAFAS
MISS NANCY PILAFAS
MRS TOULA PITSIS
MRS HELEN PLEVITIS
MRS HELEN PONTIKES
MRS ELAINE PONTIKIS
MR & MRS GUS PONTIKIS
MR & MRS ANTHONY POTOGLOU
MRS NIKI POULOS
MR & MRS THOMAS POULOS
MRS THERESA PRESVELOS

MRS MARY PREVAS
MR GEORGE PREVOLOS
MR & MRS ALEXANDER PSARRAS
MS GEORGIA PSICHOGIOS
MRS HELEN PSICHOGIOS
MS KEKE RAFTELIAS
MS MARY RAFTELIAS
MR & MRS ELIE RAFTOPOULOS
MS TERRY RAFTOPOULOS
MS ANN RANTIS
MR & MRS WILLIAM RANTIS
MRS HELEN RAPTIS
MR ANTHONY REBAPIS
MR & MRS JAMES REGAS
MRS SOPHIE RENDAS
MR & MRS RAYMOND RIHA, JR
MR AND MRS RAYMOND RIHA, SR
MR AND MRS PETER ROMAS
MRS SOPHIE ROMAS
MRS IRENE ROMBAKIS
DR & MRS WILLIAM ROUMAN
MR & MRS KEN RUBENSTEIN
MR & MRS SEAN RYAN
MR JOHN SANDORS
MR & MRS DEAN SARANTOS
MR & MRS HARRY SAUNDERS
MS MARIA SCHMIDT
MR & MRS NICK SCOURLETOS
MS CHRISTINE SEDARES
MRS CONNIE SEDARES
MS TESSIE SELIMOS
MS BETTY SELLAS
MR RANE SIMONS
MR & MRS KOSTA SKOULIKARIS
MR & MRS KOSTAS SKOULIKAS
MS IRENE SKUTERIS
MR & MRS SPIRO SKUTERIS
MR & MRS GEORGE SOULELES
MS TASOULA SOULIDES
MR & MRS HARRY SOUMAKIS
MR & MRS NICK SPYRIDAKOS
DR BASIL SPYROPOULOS
MR & MRS PETER SPYROPOULOS
DR STAVROULA SPYROPOULOS
MRS GEORGIA STAVROPOULOS
MISS JOANN STAVROPOULOS
MR & MRS PAUL STAVROPOULOS
MR & MRS JOHN STEC
MARGARET & BRIAN STEINHAGEN
MRS ROSE MARIE STEWART

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Stewardship List thru June 2010...

MR & MRS DANIEL STRATTON
MS JOANNE STRATTON
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS STRAVOLEMAKOS
MR & MRS MATHIEU SUSSMAN
MR & MRS PETER SUTTERLIN
MRS MARY T SZCZESNIAK
MRS SEVASTI TAGARIS
DR CHRISTOS TAKOUDIS &
DR MARIA FOUSTALIERAKI
MS ANASTASIA TEROVOLAS
MR & MRS ANGELO TEROVOLAS
MISS CRYSTELLA TEROVOLAS
MRS & MR ELENI THEODORE (FLOROS)
MS EFFIE THEODOSOPOULOS
DR & DR NICK THOMOPOULOS
MR & MRS ANTHONY TIRADO
MR & MRS GENTJAN (YANNI) TOLE
MR & MRS ANGELO TOLIOS
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
MRS HELEN TOULIOS

MR & MRS PETER TRAGOS
MR JOHN TRAHANAS
MR & MRS GEORGE TRAMBAS
MRS BESSIE TRIHAS
MR & MRS VASILIOS TSAGANOS
MR & MS JOHN G. TSIGOLIS
MR & MRS JAMES TSIOLIS
MR & MRS PANAGIOTIS TSIUOPROS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS TSIRIBAS
DR LAMBROS TSONIS
MRS KATHERINE TZOUMIS
MRS ARITA VALESSARES
MR & MRS PETER VALESSARES
MRS MARY VARVEN
MR GUST VASILIADES
PAULINE VAVASIS
MRS BEATRICE VELASQUEZ
MR & MRS THOMAS VELIS
MRS STAMATA VERVENIOTIS

MR & MRS ALEX VICKAS
MRS ALAYNA VLAGOS & MR PETER VLAGOS
MR & MRS GEORGE VLAHOS
MR AND MRS JOHN VLAHOS
MR & MRS PETER VLAHOS
DR & MRS PERRY VOORNAS
MRS MARIA VOULGARAKIS
MR & MRS PETER VOULGARAKIS
MS MARIA VOULGARIS
MR & MRS BILL VRANAS
MR & MRS JACK WOODS
MS MARY ELLEN WOODS
MR & MRS JIM XIARHOS
MR & MS GUS XINOS
MRS MARIKA XINOS
MR & MRS STEVE YANNIAS
MS TRACY YANNIAS
MRS FRANCES ZACK
MR & MRS GEORGE ZARKOS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS ZOGRAFOS



Sunday Church School...

Searching for Sunday Church School Teachers/Aides

Each year, our Church puts out the “call” for qualified and loving individuals (men and women) to join our Sunday church School teaching staff for the upcoming school year. There is no more rewarding or fulfilling feeling, nor gift that we can give back to our Lord other than to impart to His children, the Word of God and the blessed teachings of our Holy Orthodox church. Helping to mod the formation of a child’s faith and belief in the Lord is a commission that each of us has as baptized Orthodox Christians.

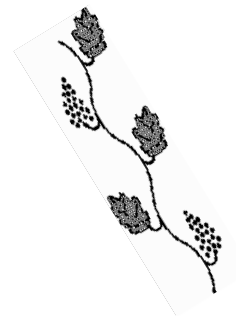


Parish Happenings...

Dedication of the Father George and Presbytera Despina Massouras Orthodox Resource Center

On Sunday, April 25th, 2010, the library adjacent to Plato Hall was re-dedicated as the Father George and Presbytera Despina Massouras Orthodox Resource Center, in honor of their 25 years of service to the Assumption community. The event included an Agiasmos service, remarks by Father Timothy Bakakos, Parish Council President James Lakerdas and Father George, an unveiling of a plaque marking the room by Father and Presbytera's grandchildren Kristen and Evan Massouras, and a fellowship reception.

Please stop by the Resource Center to see the many books related to our Faith, and borrow one of your choosing. There are texts on Orthodox theology, history, art, and saints' biographies, just to name a few topics. Also, we plan to periodically include highlights and reviews of some of these books in upcoming editions of the newsletter.



Submit articles to the Church Office or to Tina Sarantos at t.sarantos@sbcglobal.net or (708) 660-0154.

Parish Registry May -June 2010

40 DAY BLESSINGS

Daughter of Peter and Alayna Vlagos
Son of James and Stacy Buonincontro

BAPTISMS

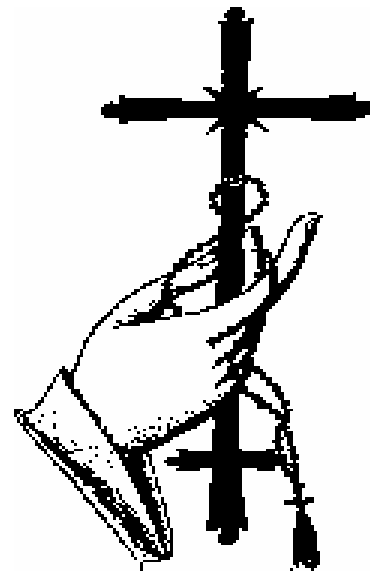
Son of Panagiota and Antonio Tirado, taking the name, *Foti*
Godparents – Maria and Dean Stratigakis
Daughter of Nicholas and Valene Georgiafentis, taking the name, *Katherine*
Godparents – Gina and George Poulos
Son of Debbie and John Chiakuas, taking the name, *Angelos*
Godparents – Crisovalanto and George Kafantaris

CHRISMATIONS

Michelle Covello, taking the name, *Marina*
Sponsors – Nicholas and Vicky Gerifalis
Erin Godellas, taking the name, *Irene*
Sponsor – Panagiota Laggas

WEDDINGS

Stavroula Stergios and Aristides Liakouras
Sponsors: Eugenia and Themilis (Tom) Galouzis
Filisa Koritsaris and George Mantas
Sponsor – Alex Papadopoulos
Roula Raftopoulos and Michael Borkowski
Sponsor – Terry Raftopoulos
Antonella Giannone and Loukas Apostolakis
Sponsor – Stephanos D. Apostolakis
Michelle Covello and Dimitrios Zografos
Sponsor – Jason Stratton
Kanella Maniatis and Antonis Rebapis
Sponsor – Marika Alexakis



FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

+ Dr. John Chiakulas	+ Agapi Shubalis	+ Christine M. Mallars
+ Patricia Makris	+ Mary Varven	+ Penelope Galanopoulos
+ Antonia (Netsa) Cosmos	+ George Dangeles	+ Pota A. Maros
+ Sophia Maniates	+ Angeline Chibucos	

MEMORIALS

Brotherhood of Kerasea	<u>10 Years</u>	Constance Economos	
<u>40 Days</u>	Connie (Constantina) Coussis	<u>1 Year</u>	Stamata (Matina) Karras
	Antonia Cosmos		Aggelike & Efstatios Nicholas
	Patricia Kokenes Makris		
	Agapi Shubalis	<u>5 Years</u>	Elaine Isaac
			Stamata (Della) Skrapates
<u>9 Months</u>	Nicholas Rodinos	<u>20 Years</u>	Nicholas Skrapates

Please deliver this newsletter to:

The Assumption
Newsletter



Third Issue, 2010

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***Important
Upcoming Dates:***

Saturday, August 14, 2010

Vespers

Dormition of the Theotokos

Sunday, August 15, 2010

Dormition of the Theotokos

**Sunday and Monday,
September 5th & 6th, 2010**

Assumption Church Greek Festival

Sunday, September 19, 2010

Welcome Back to Sunday Church School

First Day of Sunday Church School

Sunday, October 17, 2010

85th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Esplanades Lakes—Downers Grove