

THE CROSS+ROADS

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Hi-Lites

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- Veterans Day—November 11
- HWPS Bake Sale and 86th Anniversary

† FROM FATHER GEORGE

THE ART OF EXPRESSION

The ability to write and speak affords us the avenues for the art of expression. What a wonderful tool it is to be able to take a few thoughts and expand these very ideas into a statement. Just look at the editorials and columns that appear in our daily newspapers and read through the lines of perspectives on the issues that are around us even more in focus now as we find ourselves in the midst of elections of not only local offices but Presidential as well.

The Church has been Blessed with great writers who expressed our faith during a period of time when clarification was so desperately needed. No Saint of the Church stands out more in the limelight than Saint John Chrysostom of whom our Church celebrates on November 13th. Saint John Chrysostom was the “total picture” of what the Church needed at that time, his talent for public speaking earned him the name “Golden Mouthed” and we know that in his role as Patriarch of Constantinople Saint John saw the need to do acts of

charity as well as reform in the life of the Church. Having said this we also can see how as a reformer that Saint John Chrysostom got into “hot water” with those in the field of government and was exiled for his strong stance on the issues of the time.

We all have the God given ability to speak and it is with this very talent that we are to profess our Orthodox faith to a world that might be totally clueless as to who we are and what we do. We, the Parish of Saints Constantine and Helen need to be known for more than the Gold Dome and the Greek Festivals for is that the legacy that we want to have in Hampton Roads? I think not. The projects that are being planned by our Parish through the Port project, the acts of kindness being done by the ministries of our Parish are the methods for us to speak with golden words and acts that we are doing as we hear the words of the Lord in the Twenty Fifth Chapter of the Gospel of Saint Matthew and are doing what needs to be done.

STEWARDSHIP 2016

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THE GIFTS I'VE BEEN GIVEN?

The approaching holiday of Thanksgiving provides us a wonderful lesson in understanding the true meaning of Stewardship. Contrary to popular belief, Stewardship has nothing to do with money, but everything to do with giving of thanks to God. While the actual date of the first thanksgiving is open to historical interpretations, the reason for the holiday is pretty clear. In practically every historical account and governmental proclamation of the holiday, the day or holiday is an opportunity for us to set aside time to offer thanks to God for all the gifts He has given us. That is exactly what Christian Stewardship is all about – Thanksgiving.

True Christian Stewardship is a way of life and starts with the belief that all we have, everything we earn, all our talents, are gifts from God. That is the core belief, but true Christian Stewardship will go nowhere unless you put that belief into action. That's where the question headline of this article comes in – God has given us our life, our health, our talents, our resources; and it's what we choose to do with those gifts that make-up the “action” part of Stewardship.

Every year, we ask our faithful to take time and prayerfully review their personal circumstances and reflect on the blessings they've received in their lives, and complete a stewardship commitment form for the coming year. **Included in this issue of the Cross+Roads is your Stewardship Commitment Form for 2016.** As you hold the commitment form in your hands and prepare to fill it out, please ask yourself the following question – What am I going to do with the gifts I've been given? If, after prayerfully and personally reflecting on that question, you are moved to select working the festival and offer the same amount you pledged last year, we thank you, but we all know we can do so much better than that. If you take the time to completely fill out the form and make your commitments as a cheerful and spiritual expression of faith and thanksgiving, my bet is you might make some different selections.

November 22nd is Stewardship Commitment Sunday for our community. Please bring your completed Stewardship Commitment Form for the

(Continued on page 8)



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

Glory Be To God

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Parish Council

Barry Hendricks, President

Frank Peri, Vice President

Joanna Vallas, Treasurer

Bobby Garofalis, Assistant

Treasurer

Alex Constantine, Secretary

Elias Doulgerakis

Konstantinos Fotiadis

Barbara France

Alexis Galoozis

Tom Grepitios

Jason Holbrook

Chanters

John Siokis

Harry Fotiou

Alex Constantine

Office Secretary

Tasia Savrides

NOVEMBER SUNDAYS

Apolytikion for Saints Constantine & Helen, Equal-to-the Apostles in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

Τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου τὸν τύπον ἐν οὐρανῷ θεασάμενος, καὶ ὡς ὁ Παῦλος τὴν κλήσιν οὐκ ἐξ ἀνθρώπων δεξάμενος, ὁ ἐν βασιλεύσειν, Ἀπόστολός σου Κύριε, Βασιλεύουσαν πόλιν τῆ χειρὶ σου παρέθετο ἦν περισώζε διὰ παντὸς ἐν εἰρήνῃ, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

NOVEMBER 1 EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8

Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the

higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:19-31

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom.

ACOLYTES

NOVEMBER 1 & 22

Team A - Dominic Peri

Kostas Polyzos, Jorgie Polyzos, James St. Martin, Yianni Tsimplekis, Dean Peri

NOVEMBER 8 & 29

Team B -

Christian Detweiler

Hayden Hendricks, Michael Christou, Anthony Capobianco, Cris Campbell, Ethan Detweiler

NOVEMBER 15

Team C - Joseph Dennie

Georgios Haramis, Christos Konstantinou, Christopher Myers, Soterios Tofalli, Kyprianos Tofalli

EPISTLE READERS

November 1:

Howard Madeville

November 8:

Christina Myers
(GOYA)

November 15:

Nick Vlattas

November 22:

Dimitrios Konstantinou

November 29:

TBA

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Philoptochos

Trish Demson, President

Religious Education

Viola Nicholls Allen, Director

Greek School

Matina Mimikos, Paula Tofalli, Aphrodite Christopoulos

Youth Ministry

Stephanie Peri and Kent Paumier, Advisors

Acolytes

Barry Hendricks, Director

JOY/HOPE

Helen Micha, Director

Greek Orthodox Youth Association (GOYA)

Mary Katherine Galoozis, President

Kent Paumier, Advisor

Young Adult League (YAL)

Anastasia Theodorogiannis, President

Golden Hearts

Chris Fotiou, President

Order of AHEPA

Newport News—Tom Georges, President

Daughters of Penelope

Helen George, President

Hellenic Womens Penelope Society

Marika Anthony, President

Hellenic Youth Dancers

Bobby Garofalis, Director

Archdiocese on the web
www.goarch.org

And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazaros to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazaros in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

**David the Righteous of
Evia**

**Cosmas & Damian the
Holy Unmercenarys of Asia,
& their mother Theodota**

These Saints were from Asia (that is, Asia Minor). After the death of their father, their Christ-loving mother Theodota reared them in piety and in all manner of virtue, and had them instructed in every science, especially that of medicine. This became their vocation, and they went about healing every illness and malady, bestowing healing freely on both men and beasts alike; because of this, they are called "Unmercenarys." And thus, having completed the course of their life, they reposed in peace.

**5th Sunday of Luke
Domnina, Domna, & Kyriaki,
the Martyrs**

**HYMNS OF THE DAY
Resurrectional Apolytikion
in the Plagal First Mode**

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-

beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Apolytikion for Unmercenarys Cosmas & Damian in the Plagal Fourth Mode

O Holy Unmercenarys and wonderworkers, visit our infirmities; freely ye received, freely give to us.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

The things that have come into being have received from the Creator their proper place, their beginning and, in some cases, their end. But there is no boundary to virtue. The psalmist says, 'I have seen the end the end of all perfection, but Your commandment is very broad and is without limit' (Ps. 118:96). Now if it is true...that love never fails (I Cor. 13:8),... then love has no boundary, and both in the present age and in the future age we will never cease to progress in it, as we add light to light. St. John Climacus, Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 26: On Discernment; Paulist Press pgs. 250-251, 6th century

NOVEMBER 8 EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:2-10

BRETHREN, if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God also bore witness by signs and

wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for every one. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

GOSPEL READING Luke 8:41-56

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter,

your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

**Synaxis of the Archangel
Michael & the other Bodiless
Powers: Gabriel, Raphael,
Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, &
Barachiel**



All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb. 1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people, and guides to that which is profitable (Deut. 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He

(Continued on page 4)

NOVEMBER SUNDAYS @ SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN

(Continued from page 3)

commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps. 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Esaia 6:2-3; Matt. 18:10; Luke 15:7). In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Catholic Church, wisely honouring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him - (Dan. 7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

7th Sunday of Luke

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Synaxis of the Archangels in the Fourth Mode

Supreme Commanders of the Hosts of Heavens, we, the unworthy, importune and beseech thee that by thy supplications thou encircle us in the shelter of the wings of thine immaterial glory, guarding us who now fall down and cry to thee with fervour: Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, as the great marshal of the heavenly hosts on high.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

We advance toward humility by means of trials. He who rests on his virtue without suffering tribulation has the door of pride open before him. - St. Isaac of Syria, Homily 57, in Ascetical Homilies, p. 283, 7th century

NOVEMBER 15

EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22

BRETHREN, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows

into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Thomas, Archbishop of Constantinople
8th Sunday of Luke
Guria, Shamuna, & Habib, Martyrs & Confessors of

Edessa

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Martyr Gouria ; Companions in the Plagal First Mode

Since Thou hast given us the miracles of Thy holy Martyrs as an invincible battlement, by their entreaties, scatter the counsels of the heathen, O Christ our God, and strengthen the faith of Orthodox Christians, since Thou alone art good and the Friend of man.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

The example of the good Samaritan shows that we must not abandon those in whom even the faintest amount of faith is still alive.. St. Ambrose of Milan, Two Books of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Concerning Repentance, Chapter 11

NOVEMBER 22

EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-7

GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:16-21

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Holy Martyr Cecilia and those with her
Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

9th Sunday of Luke
Archippus the Apostle & his wife, Apphia, Onesimos the Disciple of Paul

Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

HYMNS OF THE DAY
Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos in the Fourth Mode

Today is the prelude of God's good will and the heralding of the salvation of mankind. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and she proclaimeth Christ unto all. To her, then, with a great voice let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O thou fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

Today, the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of God, enters the house of the Lord, bringing the grace of the Divine Spirit. The Angels of God praise her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Take heed, then, often to come together to give thanks to God, and show forth His praise. For when ye assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith. St. Ignatius of Antioch, Epistle to the Ephesians Ch. 13, 2nd century

NOVEMBER 29

EPISTLE READING

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19

Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' " And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven;

and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Our Righteous Father Nicholas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

13th Sunday of Luke
Paramonus, Philumenus, and their 370 Companion Martyrs in Bithynia
Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth

Akakios of Sinai who is mentioned in The Ladder
HYMNS OF THE DAY
Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Third Mode

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Love of money is the worship of idols, a daughter of unbelief, an excuse for infirmities, a foreboder of old age, a harbinger of drought, a herald of hunger. St. John Climacus, The Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 16:2,7 and Step 17:1, 6th Century

THROUGH THE BIBLE A—Z

Voice of one crying in the wilderness – Matthew 3:3
Voice of your prayers given heed by the Lord – Psalm 66:19

Vows of the Lord are binding upon you – Psalm 56:12
Wait anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life – Jude 21
Wait for the Lord and be strong and let your heart take courage – Psalm 27:14

Wait in silence for God only – Psalm 62:1

Wait on Him and He will act on your behalf – Isaiah 64:4

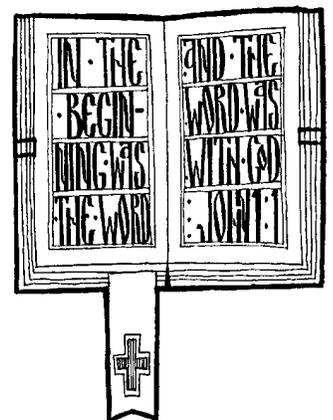
Wait on the Lord and hope in His Word – Psalm 130:5

Walk as children of Light for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness & righteousness & truth – Ephesians 5:8,9

Walk at liberty by seeking the Lord's precepts – Psalm 119:45

Walk by faith not by sight – 2 Cor. 5:7

Walk by the Spirit – Galatians 5:16



CHURCH REGISTRY / ANNOUNCEMENTS

40-DAY BLESSING:

The infant daughter of **Christopher & Amy Van Valkenburg** received her 40-day blessing in our Church, September 27. May the blessings of our Church be with the newly-church infant, and our best wishes to her and her entire family,

WEDDING:

The marriage of **James Moody & Constance Pantas** was solemnized in our Church Sunday, October 11. **Ms. Mary Garecht** served as the koumbara. Our sincere congratulations and best wishes to the newly-weds, their koumbara and their entire family. **Na zisetel!!!!!!**

BAPTISM:

The infant son of **James and Constance Moody** was baptized in our Church, October 11 and given the name **Johnathan** by his godmother, **Ms. Mary Garecht**. Our best wishes to the newly-baptized infant, his parents, godmother, grandparents and his entire family.

Maternal grandparents, **George & Joanne Pantas**. **Na sas zisi!!!!!!**

RECENTLY ILL AND

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS:

We continue to pray for the quick and complete recovery of our friends and fellow parishioners who have been ill and/or recently hospitalized: **Mike Anastasiou, Irene Christou, Terry Drivas, Rosa Hontos, Rena Mantlis, Jason McCarter (son of Maggie Thompson), Harita Stavrou & Dianne Sun.**

Perastika sas !!!!!

THANK YOU:

Mike Anastasiou would like to thank all those who sent cards and letters wishing him well during his recent hospital stay.

DEATHS:

Our sincere condolences to the family of **Maha Stephan** who died September 23 and whose funeral services were held in our Church October 1.

May her memory be eternal!

VETERANS DAY

HONOR & CELEBRATION:

On Tuesday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m. there will be an Artoklasia and Trisagion Service in honor of Veteran's Day hosted by the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral at 7220 Granby Street in Norfolk. A reception will follow with service dress uniform optional.

ATTENDANCE

September 27	173
October 4	115
October 11	153
Oct 18 /25	136/158
Oct 2015 Ave	141
Oct 2014 Ave	144
YTD 15 Ave	155
YTD 14 Ave	145

REFRESHMENTS

We thank all those parishioners who served as hosts for the month of October. The hosts for November are:

Nov. 1: Ms. Tessie Savrides, Ms. Athena Savvas, Ms. Pauline Schlim

Nov. 8: Ms. Christine St. Martin, Mr. Nick Stratas, M/M Paul Summa

Nov. 15: M/M Peter Sun, M/M Angelo Theodorogiannis, M/M John Thomas

Nov. 22: M/M Mark Thompson, M/M Chris Tofalli, M/M Sotos Tofalli

Nov. 29: Ms. Roula Valentin, Ms. Joanna Vallas, M/M Greg Vassilakos



Congratulations to Katie Anas Birnbaum for receiving the 2015 Patriarch Athenagoras Medal at the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (Metropolis of New Jersey) annual conference in October at the Annunciation Cathedral in Norfolk. *'The National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians awards the Patriarch Athenagoras Medal to individuals who have made exemplary contributions to church music in their Metropolises.'* Katie was a choir member in Newport News and has been a choir member at St. Katherine in Falls Church since 2004. For nearly 10 years Katie has served on the board of the choir federation as editor of the First Mode newsletter and as the Virginia District Supervisor. She is also the organist for St. Katherine's choir. Katie and Adam live in Burke, VA with their children Hayley and Ryan. Adam is a previous recipient of the Athenagoras Medal. Katie is an elementary school teacher and math tutor. Proud parents are George and Jackie Anas.

Photo above from left to right: Nick Kyros, Communications for EFGOCM; Maria Keritsis, President of the National Forum; Katie Anas Birnbaum; and Fr. George Bessinas of Annunciation Cathedral.

VASILOPITA REMINDER

Vasilopita Bread Orders must be placed by Sunday, December 6th

Please contact:

Voula Vretakis 596-3223

Dottie Andre 868-7898

Helen George 969-5533

Pick up orders by Sunday, December 13th

Cost: \$8.00 payable to Philoptochos

Open Call to Discipleship Stewardship Ministry Leader Needed

As mentioned during the Fall General Assembly, the time has come for new leadership of our Stewardship Ministry starting in 2016, Barry Hendricks will step aside and let someone with new ideas and energy move our Stewardship Ministry to the next level. Transitioning of responsibilities should start as soon as possible. We thank Barry for his leadership and commitment to this ministry for many years.

Please look at this as a call to discipleship to lead a vital ministry for our church. If interested, please contact either Father George or Barry Hendricks at (757) 218-2053.

Koliva

If you would like to purchase Koliva for memorials, you may contact:

Helen George 722-0610
Anastasia Savrides 595-1581
Athena Savvas 599-8455

Cross+Roads

CHURCH EMAIL LIST

Subscribe to the church email list for monthly links to the Cross+Roads and important church announcements at:

www.schgochurch.va.goarch.org

DEADLINE

Please email information no later than the 20th day of the month to Nick Vlattas
nvlattas@hewv.com

CHURCH, CLUB AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PHILOPTOCHOS

As we do in every issue of the Cross+Roads, we, again, wish to remind our members, as well as our fellow parishioners in general, that we continue to perform our **ACT OF KINDNESS** by visiting the patients receiving chemotherapy at **Virginia Oncology** every Monday and treating them to lunch by bring them sandwiches, chips, cookies, etc. They look forward to our visits and are so very grateful for them. Once again, we ask that if you have not as yet participated in this most worthwhile **ACT OF KINDNESS**, please, please consider doing so in the near future. Call **Ellie Costulis, 833-8181**, and offer your services in any you can. Ask **Ellie** how you can help. Our thanks for your consideration.

Also, please continue helping our **Literacy Committee** by bringing us the "**box tops for education**", **Farm Fresh Receipts** and the labels from the cans of **Campbell Soup**. Through these items we help a number of local schools get needed materials that they cannot afford to get through their allotted state and city funds.

Our obligations to the **National** for the month of **November** are: The tray collection on Sunday, November 1 -**Feast Day of SS Cosmas and Damianos, patron saints of Philoptochos** plus \$100.00 from our treasury to benefit the **Philanthropic programs and the charities of the Ecumenical Patriarchate** and a contribution to the **National Sisterhood of Presvyteres -APC -NSP Benevolent Fund** which provides short term support for clergy and their families in time of crisis.

Ladies, our November meeting will be **Monday, November 2, starting with refreshments at 6:30 pm in the Community Center**. hosting this meeting will be **Mdmes. Beth Campbell & Helen Dennie**. Since we missed the October meeting due to inclement weather, we need everyone's attendance. Remember, we shall be baking **vasilopites Dec. 9,10 & 11- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, SO, WE NEED FOR EACH**

ONE OF US TO COMMIT TIME AND EFFORT TO THIS PROJECT. IT IS OUR #1 FUNDRAISER.

Philoptochos is hosting the Golden Hearts Luncheon on Nov. 10th, Norfolk members will be in attendance as well.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

The **DOP** was founded on November 16, 1929 by **Alexandra Apostolides Sonenfeld** with the help of her husband, a devoted **AHEPAN**, The **Daughters of Penelope** is part of a Sisterhood with 350 chapters and some 7,000 members in the U.S., Canada, Greece, Cyprus and Australia. We give to those in need, and we provide scholarships to young people beginning their adult life. The **Mission Statement of the AHEPA FAMILY** is short but very clear - **To promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence**. On this, the 86th year since its founding, we are proud to be part of the **Daughters of Penelope** and proud of its work locally, nationally and internationally, and we invite every woman willing to contribute to the work of the **DOP** to join us.

We, again, remind our members that **Kathy Matthews** has volunteered to take various grooming items to local shelters which are always in need of them. Please, remember to bring some of these kinds of items to our meeting so that **Kathy** can bring them to the shelters that need them.

The next meeting of the **DOP** will be **Thursday, November 19, starting with dinner at 6:45 pm.**

HELLENIC WOMAN'S PENELOPE SOCIETY

The Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society (HWPS) will celebrate its **86th Anniversary on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at the Hellenic Center, beginning at 6:00 PM.** **Helen George, Elaine Jansen, Anna Mageras and Zena Mageras** will be the hostesses.

After a joyous social hour and an anniversary celebration, we will have a short meeting during which we will **review our pro-**

posed budget, hear the report of the auditing committee, and have a progress report from Stephanie Kailos on our research into the future. The second album of our **archival history**, as put together by **Beth Campbell**, will be available for our perusal. We hope to have many of our members in attendance for this special occasion. **ALL MEMBERS ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR HWPS BOOKS TO BE UPDATED.**

On **Sunday, November 15**, we will have a **Trisagion for all HWPS deceased members**. Please make every effort to be in church that Sunday to honor the memory of all those who worked so diligently through the years for our Orthodox community as well as the community at-large.

Our **Fall Bake Sale** will take place on **Saturday, November 21st from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM** in the foyer of the Sacalis Hall. The pastry preparation will take place on the following dates:

Monday, November 16th - baklava and kourabiethes
Wednesday, November 18th- finikia and koulourakia
Thursday, November 19th - finikia dipping
Ravani and Lemon Torte will be prepared by special request.

Advanced orders are requested by calling 596-6909. ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS BAKE SALE WILL GO TO PAY BACK OUR WONDERFUL ANONYMOUS DONOR WHO LOANED US \$3,000 TO SUPPLEMENT THE COST OF AN ADDITIONAL 50 BANQUET CHAIRS, WHICH WERE NEEDED FOR A RECENT WEDDING.

WE ARE VERY CLOSE TO FULLFILING OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH OF 400 BANQUET CHAIRS, AND WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE THE REMAINING 50 CHAIRS BY THE END OF 2016.

On **October 21st** our book group hosted the **Annunciation Cathedral's Book Group** for a joint discussion of **The Return** by **Victoria Sislop**. Prior to the meeting, **we met in the Biblical Garden for a joint prayer for the protection of the environment**. In the last issue of the **Orthodox Ob-**

server, we were pleasantly surprised to read the article on the Patriarchal encyclical, which was sent out to all Orthodox churches around the world in 1997, with an appeal to observe September 1st as the "Day for the Protection of the Environment." WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT WE WERE THE FIRST ONES ON THE EAST COAST AND PERHAPS IN THE COUNTRY TO BE OBSERVING THIS DAY SINCE 2009 WHEN WE DEDICATED THE BIBLICAL GARDEN.

The Book Group members are reminded to begin reading the novel, **Sunrise**, by **Victoria Sislop**. The plot of this novel takes place in **Cyprus**.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

JOY / HOPE FALL FESTIVAL

The Annual **JOY/HOPE Fall Festival** will take place in the Hellenic Community Center on Sunday, November 1st following the Divine Liturgy and Sunday School. All children, ages 3-12, are encouraged to attend. Join us for some fall fun; Bounce Houses, Face Painting, Games, Crafts & Snacks. If you are interested in making a donation for this event please contact Helen Micha, 757-750-6044.

PORT HOMELESS SHELTER

A Port Project planning meeting is scheduled in our hall Nov. 19th at 6pm. All interested parties are invited to attend.

The next Philoptochos meeting, Nov. 2nd, will have guest speaker, Sister David Anne Niski give a short presentation on the Port Project. Please attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

The 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School class will be collecting blankets, towels and sheets until December 15, 2015 to donate to the SPCA. This is class project chosen by the students to be an example of "Sharing God's World". If you would like to donate, there will be a donation box available in the classroom. Thank you!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: PARISH ASSEMBLY—OCT 18, 2015

My brothers and sisters in Christ, During our General Assembly in March (just seven short months ago), I described some observations and laid out some initiatives for our community. I'd like to take a few minutes and give you an update on a few of these initiatives and share some thoughts on where we might focus our efforts as we move into 2016.

With all the challenges we face, the past seven months has seen plenty of successes. There is no question for the love you all share for our church and these successes are a direct reflection of that love. Examples include:

- A spiritually enriching Lent and Holy Week that led to a beautiful Pascha service. The Agape Vespers included proclaiming of the Gospel in eight different languages from members young and not so young. And the Daughters of Penelope continued to sponsor the traditional Easter Egg Hunt that is enjoyed by our youngest members, with proud family members taking picture after picture.

- The name day of the our church was celebrated this past May with a moving vesper service and our Ladies Philotochos hosted the traditional reception that included some wonderful fellowship, and not to leave out some pretty good chow.

- Our Spring Greek Festival was a tremendous success and exceeded all proforma projections. The first question many always ask is, "how much did we make?" and that is important, very important, but I feel the true measure of success for the Festival is how we as a community come together to put on what I would imagine is the largest ethnic festival in Newport News (and I would be willing to bet the longest running annual event of its kind in the city). It starts with the steering committee, led by Chris Zambas, meeting and planning in the months leading up to the festival, and ultimately moves to execution and involves practically every member of our community, from some of our youngest members serving dinner rolls on the food line, to our award winning Hellenic Youth Dancers performing to a packed house of guests who have enjoyed delicious food prepared by some of the best cooks in the region, to some of our members that probably shouldn't be working, but continue to offer their service as long as they are able.

- The renovation to the Sacalas Hall has started to pay dividends. We have secured some steady rentals that are bringing in some much needed income. These include a weekly men's Bible Study Breakfast as well as a monthly breakfast for retired

shipyard workers. Neither of these would be the success they are without the dedicated efforts by the kitchen crew led by Barbara France and includes Athena Savvas, Mike Anastasiou, John Dermanis, Frank Peri, and Bobby Vidakis. We've also become a popular rental for a traditional Hispanic birthday celebration. And we now have a beautiful space for special occasions such as weddings. And I would be remiss if I didn't publicly thank the Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society for their generous donation of the 350 chairs that are available as a rental to these special events and add a special touch of class to the event.

These are just a few examples, and I know there are more, from our religious education program, to Youth Ministry, to our Music Ministry, to Greek School, to activities for some of our more seasoned members offered by the Golden Hearts. When you look for a common thread in all of this, it is our faith and the church we have to practice that faith that ties it all together.

Now, there are two initiatives that I discussed in March that I'd like to update you on:

The first of these is Missions and Outreach Ministry. If you recall, we wanted to reenergize our Missions and Outreach Ministry and set a goal where 15% of our members are involved in hands on mission work. While there is more work to be done to reach this, I'm proud to update you that there has been some positive movement. A little over two years ago we looking into the opportunity to serve as a "host" church in support of the People Offering Resources Together (PORT) Winter Shelter Program in Newport News. We asked the PORT project coordinators to look over our facilities as a potential host site for the winter shelter program and we were ready to proceed, but implementation slipped to the right due to the hall renovation project.

Earlier this year, we received a mass email from the PORT project coordinator, asking if a church was able to serve as a host December 16th to the 23rd. We met with the PORT coordinators for another relook of our facilities. They said it was a perfect location and we agreed to host on those dates. We are working out the details and logistics now and will meet next month with the partner churches who will assist us that week.

This opportunity was presented to us and I'll be honest, it was difficult for us to say no, particularly since it occurs during the Christmas season. It is a terrific way for us to engage our

faithful in that "hands-on" mission work I spoke of earlier and help those less fortunate in our community. It might not be the 15% I spoke of in March, but friends, it's a start.

The next initiative I'd like to update you on is the Centurion Campaign. This past March I announced the start of a structured and organized campaign with the goal to raise \$126,000 by September 1st, 2016 to 1) Pay off our remaining financial obligations on the Sacalas Hall renovation which today stands at roughly \$72,000, 2) Establish an emergency capital expense reserve of \$40,000, and 3) Make a community donation of at least \$12,000 to the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine in New York City. All of this is separate from our annual Stewardship commitments. There was the announcement made in March during the General Assembly, there was an article in the Cross+Roads, and we have started going out and talking to people face to face. To date, we have received pledges and commitments from 16 parishioners totaling \$23,850.

Friends, this is something we must do - we have to pay off the work and financial obligation on the hall renovation that this body approved of, we must have something in reserve for when the time comes we must replace a large capital item such as air conditioner units, and we must make a contribution to the national shrine of our faith at one of the most heavily visited areas in New York City. We have some work ahead of us and I encourage everyone here to complete a commitment form and start contributing to this worthwhile endeavor.

In closing, you know, Christ wasn't kidding when said to his disciples in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Friends, we have a lot of work to do here at Saints Constantine and Helen. As I look out over this assembly, I see parishioners who have offered so much to this church over the years... so much. But my brothers and sisters in Christ, we have work to do right now, and much more work to do as we move into the future. Both in walking our own journey in faith, and then carrying that faith through the work of the church. Far too many times when we reference scripture, we tend to focus on one particular passage or verse to emphasize a message or get a point across - in this case, the Lord is telling his disciples, the work in the vineyard ain't easy, and there isn't very many of you to do that work. But you have to read the next verse to get

STEWARDSHIP GIVING 2016

(Continued from page 1)

coming year of 2016 that day, and at the conclusion of the Liturgy, we will collect everyone's completed Stewardship Commitment forms starting with Father George, then the Parish Council, and then the rest of the community. Following the collection, our community's commitment forms will be blessed with an appropriate offertory prayer. If you are unable to attend, you can still submit your Commitment Form to the Church Office before that date so it can be blessed with the other forms. You can also complete and submit the form online under the Stewardship Ministry link on the Parish website.

This Thanksgiving, as we gather with our families and friends, spend time to reflect on real reason for the holiday, that being the offering thanks to God for the many gifts He has bestowed on you. And let's carry that same message of thanks in our offerings back to God and His Church through our Stewardship Ministry.

the answer, the Lord tells the disciples, "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Pray, pray the Lord sends out laborers. But we all know the Lord wasn't saying just to pray and workers will magically appear. He knew prayer alone won't get it done - prayer must be put into action. And this is where you come in - we need everyone to help with the harvest, not just this year's harvest, but next year's, and the next, and beyond. We need those of you in the room, we need your children (both adult children and the youth), we need those not here for whatever reason, we need those that are lost and need faith and direction. We need everyone to answer the call to discipleship and put our faith into action. I invite you to join with Father George and the rest of the Parish Council as we move forward to the future.

Barry Hendricks
Parish Council President

HWPS CELEBRATES 86TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE

The Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society (HWPS), the first Hellenic woman's organization on the Virginia Peninsula, was founded on November 17, 1929 by Mrs. Helen Critzos, Mrs. Anna Kumas, Mrs. Olga Orphanidis and Mrs. Mary Rentzos. The need for promoting love and solidarity among the members of the unorganized community was foremost in the minds of these visionary women.

The Society became the backbone of the Orthodox community and initiated a multitude of programs. It promoted various civic, educational, cultural and humanitarian projects and acted as the women's liaison with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. It was instrumental in arranging, in 1934, Archbishop Athenagoras' (later Patriarch) visit to Newport News; assisted in the establishment of the first afternoon Greek school; raised funds to occasionally bring the priest from the Norfolk church to Newport News to celebrate the Divine Liturgy at St. Paul Episcopal Church; sponsored cultural programs to enrich the youth; and provided immense moral and financial support in the construction and decoration of our first church, such as the sponsoring of fundraisers, donating the pews, the organ, and the decor of the stage at

the church hall. During World War II, the members answered the call to action and worked diligently for the American Red Cross and the American Greek War Relief Association, collecting more than 25,000 pieces of clothing, for which the Society was awarded the Certificate for Meritorious Service.

In the early 1960s, the Society held a reception at the Warwick Hotel and the young adult daughters of members were invited to join. The response was overwhelming and a new generation of members came on board. In 1969-1970, the scope of the Society was expanded to encompass projects of civic and educational nature beyond the confines of the Orthodox community. Among the multitude of projects initiated since then are:

The Gregory Makris Scholarship and the Anna Kumas Scholarship. To date (2015), the Society has awarded 73 merit scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students.

Sponsored a child from the Virginia School of the Deaf and the Blind.

Participated annually, for many years, in the Literary Council's International Dinners.

Sponsored Lois Gibbs, activist, author, and founder of Citizens Clearinghouse of Hazardous Waste.

Assisted in the Shelter for Bat-

tered Women.

Published two cookbooks, Our Greek Kitchen and Culinary Gifts from the Greeks.

Presented 12 Noel Balls, 2 Mardi Gras Balls, and 2 Debutante Balls, benefit of the Building Fund of the Hellenic Center.

Founded the original Senior Citizens Club.

Established the Hellenic Library. Purchased the organ in our present church.

Contributed \$1,000 to the Orthodox Mission for the Tsunami victims and a total of \$2,000 for the Katrina, Isabel and Haiti Victims Funds.

Donated more than \$75,000 to the Building Fund of the Hellenic Center.

Contracted and financed the décor of the Sacalis Hall in the 1970s.

Contributes annually to local and national charities, such as Alzheimer's Assoc., American Cancer Society, American Heart Assoc., Habitat for Humanity, Lackey Free Clinic, Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters, Daily Press Christmas Fund, Diabetes Assoc., Missions Walk, St. Jude's Children's Cancer Research Partners in Hope, Wounded Warriors and United Way.

From 1992 to 1997, the Society's main ongoing project was the spon-

sorship of the Newport News LINK'S Annual Dinner, a major fundraiser, thereby earning the distinction of being LINK'S largest single contributor.

In 1999, the Society revived its long tradition of dinner theaters and presented the Poquoson Island Players in "Moon over Buffalo." Since then the Society has sponsored 16 Dinner Theaters, with the latest one being scheduled for February, 2016.

In 2007, the Society established the Biblical Garden, adjacent to our church edifice, which serves as a place of prayer and spiritual reflection. It is also used by many brides as a venue for their wedding pictures.

Our most recent project is the purchase of 350 out of 400 elegant banquet chairs which we donated to our church to be rented out for weddings and other formal functions, thus helping the church to generate more funds.

The Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society is a very dedicated group of women who work diligently to make our community a better place for all of us. Our strength lies not in our numbers but in our commitment to our church and to our community at large.



Centurion Campaign Commitment

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I / We wish to make a commitment to the Centurion Campaign in the amount of:

- \$1,800
- \$1,350
- \$1,000
- Other \$ _____

Please return to the Church Office or place in the collection tray during Liturgy.

Centurion Campaign Goals		
Donation Category	Number of Donations	Donation Goal Totals
\$1,800	20	\$36,000
\$1,350	30	\$40,500
\$1,000	50	\$50,000
TOTAL	100	\$126,500
\$126,500 will support:		
Renovation / Reserve (90%)	\$113,900	
Saint Nicholas (10%)	\$12,600	

CAMPAIGN GOAL \$126,500 by 9/1/2016: 1) Pay off our remaining financial obligations on the Sacalis Hall renovation; 2) Establish an emergency capital expense reserve; and 3) 10% of funds raised for parish donation to the Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Shrine.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

I: Call to Order & Opening Prayer:

The meeting convened at 1918 with an opening prayer by Father George. The spiritual education topic was the ecclesiastical year. The following items were discussed, with action items in bold script:

Present: Father George Chioros, Alex Constantine, Barry Hendricks, Barbara France, Joanna Vallas, Bobby Garofalis, and Alexis Galoozis

Absent: Elias Doulgerakis, Tom Grepitotis, Gus Fotiadis, Jason Holbrook, and Frank Peri

Guests/Visitors: Dr. Marika Anthony, Mrs. Helen Vaughan, Mrs. Athena Savvas

II: Minutes:

Barbara France made a motion to approve the 31st August 2015 meeting minutes; seconded by Dr. Bobby Garofalis. Passed unanimously

III: Correspondence:

Letter dated September 2015 from the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, providing notification of the Archdiocesan declaration that 4th October is National Church Music Sunday

Also included was a request for a donation, which was covered by the choir.

Thank You Card dated 2nd September 2015 from the choir in appreciation of the Parish Council's support for their attendance of the Metropolitan Choir Conference in Norfolk

IV: Treasurer's Report:

\$105K in from the festival committee, for a total of \$185K total from the festival

There are a few closeouts/unreconciled accounts remaining which will further adjust these figures \$120,871.94 available in the Parish Account as of Thursday, 17th September 2015

Stewardship has been trending in an encouraging direction

V: Visitor's Comments:

Helen Vaughan:

Discussed the chairs purchased by HWPS for the church

To date, 350 were purchased – HWPS requests a thank you note from the PC to the membership of HWPS for their efforts to purchase the chairs

Concern over dues owed to the church for the rental of the kitchen – cheque was prepared this past March and is available but was not submitted pending a request for exemption to the fees and affirmative response to the request

Athena Savvas:

Requested information about the non-interference/n-cost basis provision for use of the Hall

Book Club meeting was not al-

lowed to use the Main Hall due to a conflict with Golden Hearts and the GOYA basketball practice

Mr. Hendricks: Were the classrooms available upstairs?

Yes, but the club did not want to take their items (refreshments, et.) upstairs

There are more conflicts now due to the increased use of the Hall and more diligent scheduling

The HWPS did note that the date changed very recently

The PC reminds the membership that the House Committee needs to have appointment information early enough to de-conflict

Dr. Anthony:

Expressed concern over the outstanding note for the renovation of the Hall; wished to reacquaint the PC with several proposals she presented to help build the coffers including not filling several positions and soliciting support from parishioners in the form of no-interest loans

Dr. Anthony asked why the money saved from salaries was not earmarked for the renovation and suggested in future the PC consider earmarking savings for use to pay down the note

Mr. Hendricks reminded the visitors that the decision to issue a note to pay for the renovation was taken by the General Assembly

The intent was to repay the note through the increased use of the hall in concert with stewardship, however stewardship declined and expenses increased, hence the budget was not available for paying off the note, hence the Centurion Campaign

Dr. Anthony:

Asked that the PC's decision to allow the HWPS to use the chairs once per year for the dinner theatre be expanded to include any one of their activities in the event the dinner theatre does not occur

PC discussed and agreed to amend the provision to "1 event per year"

Motion made by Barbara France, seconded by Bobby Garofalis, passed unanimously

Ms. Vallas: The provision for providing the Kitchen free of charge applies only to contributions given without earmarks for the general use of the hall

Proposal to Waive Fees: The PC discussed the proposal and resolved that the House Rules provide adequate provision for the rent-free use of the hall when monies are donated to the Renovation or General funds without additional earmarks and declined to make any additional changes

The PC gratefully accepted HWPS' contribution for their use of the kitchen and thanks HWPS for their continued support of the Parish and all the many years of hard work towards the benefit of the community

VI: Committee Reports:

Stewardship Ministry:

August statements went out and resulted in several parishioners submitting pledge cards

Youth Report:

Discussed during Priest's Report

House:

Ms. Vallas: The committee will discuss fine-tuning the rules to include provisions for up-front remittance of fees to mitigate the amount of follow-up action required by the committee to collect outstanding fees

The Hall calendar is filling up – PC discussed ensuring ecclesiastical dates are included and synchronized

Fr. George: Yesterday's meeting was excellent and helped de-conflict many issues

The parishioners and parish ministries / organizations are encouraged to work with the house committee to plan their events as far in advance as possible to ensure their preferred dates are reflected in the reservation calendar

Festival

Fall: Scheduled for 22nd-24th October

Mr. Dermanis is planning on a meeting this next week (w/o 28th September) and will send an announcement in the coming days

Maintenance Committee

The water was left running in the Biblical Garden by the landscaping contractor a few weeks ago

Arrangements have made with Ted Fotiou and Commonwealth Fire Systems for the week of 26th October to accomplish the fire suppression system replacement

Painting: Picasso began painting Saturday with crack repair and will begin with his crew this week

Parking lot repainting will be this weekend, weather permitting – call will be made Friday and distributed via e-mail, text message, etc in the event of rain cheque

Total cost expected to be ≤\$300 and some donations have been received already

There is broken glass in the ladies room upstairs which needs repair

Additionally there's a roof leak which Mr. Fotiou plans to repair this week

The roof on the salad shed and garage has been repaired by Mr. Doulgerakis

Internet Ministries

Nothing Significant to Report

Centurion Campaign

Several donations have been received after the article in Cross+Roads

Contacts with individual donors is on going

Other Committees

Nothing Significant to Report

VII: Priest's and Youth Report

13th September: 1st Day of Sunday School

20th September 2015: Donation was collected and sent to Holy Cross in commemoration of the name day of the Seminary

26th September 2015: Father Savas Constantinou memorial walk (weather permitting)

Proceeds fund seminarians, scholarships, and various charities

Last year's walk funded \$10K in charity

Flyer attached to the minutes and available in the church

2nd October-10th January: The Saints and Dragons exhibit opens at the Chrysler Museum of Art, Free admission

Flyers available in the Narthex

An invitation came in for the opening ceremony including a blessing of the water on 1st October to open the exhibit

10th-11th October 2015: Next Garage Sale

Parishioners are asked to bring their items to Church

17th October 2015: The National Archonate sent an announcement of Vice President Biden's address at the national clergy-laity conference and his receipt of the Athenagoras Human Rights Award

18th October 2015: Parish General Assembly – parishioners encouraged to attend

3rd-6th November 2015: National Clergy Retreat – Registration will be due prior to 2th October to keep fees down

16th-23rd December 2015: PORT Project – Sts. Constantine and Helen will host, and has made contact with the supporting partner churches

The PC signed a release form for the Newport News Police to enforce anti-trespassing rules on Church property without prior notification

VIII: Unfinished Business:

Church Directory Update

At the printers

Fall General Assembly

18th October 2015

Agenda Items: Auditing Committee, Ministry/Committee Updates, New Years' Eve Party, PORT Project

The Hellenic Youth Dancers will

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

provide the meal for the General Assembly

The PC discussed moving the regular meeting prior to the GA and settled on 12th October

Parish Council Nominating and Electing Committee

1st November 2015 scheduled election, 5 slots are available

Nominating Committee: The committee requires at least 1 person

The PC discussed who to approach to lead the committee and will make the requests this week

Election Committee: The committee requires at least 3 individuals

The PC discussed candidates and will reach out this week

VIII: New Business:

PORT Project

Sts. Constantine and Helen will host PORT 16-23 December beginning with Dinner on the 16th and finishing with Breakfast on the 23rd

Hosting responsibilities: We will set up facilities and the partner churches provide the manning for meals and other areas

Also discussed serving as a partner church on 17th January in support of Tabernacle Baptist

CY16 Budget

PC discussed starting the budget early in preparation for the New Year Potential Budget Committee

Members were discussed and several names identified to lead the com-

mittee

Clubs and ministries are asked to begin to prepare their needs for submission to ensure they are accounted for in the budget

Meeting Date Discussion: Is the 3rd Monday of the Month Still a Good Date?

Consensus of those present was to maintain the current meeting schedule

Round Table

Alexis Galoozis: Proposal for a "Love Committee" to endeavor to connect with the community and increase fellowship, participation, and support for the community

Discussed planting seeds for ministries - mission and outreach - there's a lot of wonderful work going on in this community and it is important to communicate it all

The PC will gather ideas for ways to involve the entire community in PORT this season - i.e. caroling, decorations, and so on - the Church's commitment of time is small, these activities would add warmth and joy for the guests during this holiday season

X: Adjournment:

Fr. George offered the closing prayer at 2207. Next meeting 12th October 2015.

X: Certification:

Respectfully Submitted
Alexander N. Constantine
Secretary

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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					

1 Sunday

5th Sunday of Luke

Sts. Cosmas & Damianos
Orthros 8:45am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Philoptochos Memorial Service
Parish Elections

2 Monday

Philoptochos Meeting 6:30pm

3 Tuesday

Greek School 6:00pm 8:00pm

4 Wednesday

Greek School 6:00pm-8:00pm
Choir 7:15pm

8 Sunday

7th Sunday of Luke

Orthros 8:45am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

9 Monday

St. Nektarios
Orthros 9am
Divine Liturgy 10am
GOYA Basketball: Girls/Boys
5:45pm/6:45pm

10 Tuesday

Golden Hearts Luncheon w/
Norfolk Guests
Greek School 6:00pm-8:00pm
Vespers 6:30pm at Annunciation

11 Wednesday

Greek School 6:00pm 8:00pm
Paraclesis 5:45pm
Adult Education 6:30pm
Choir 7:15pm

12 Thursday

HWPS Meeting 6:30pm

13 Friday

Saint John Chrysostom
Orthros 9:00am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

15 Sunday

8th Sunday of Luke
Nativity Fast Begins
Orthros 8:45am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

16 Monday

GOYA Basketball: Girls/Boys
5:45pm/6:45pm
6:30pm Holy Unction Service at
Annunciation in Norfolk

17 Tuesday

Greek School 6:00pm 8:00pm

18 Wednesday

Greek School 6:00pm-8:00pm
Paraclesis 5:45pm
Adult Education 6:30pm
Choir 7:15pm

21 Saturday

Entrance of the Theotokos
Orthros 9:00am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am
10:00am-1:00pm: HWPS Bake
Sale
1:00pm Baptism

22 Sunday

9th Sunday of Luke
Stewardship Sunday
Orthros 8:45am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

23 Monday

GOYA Basketball: Girls/Boys
5:45pm/6:45pm
Parish Council 7:00pm

24 Tuesday

Greek School 6:00pm-8:00pm

25 Wednesday

St Katherine
Orthros 9:00am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

26 Thursday

Thanksgiving Day
Saint Stylianos
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

28 Saturday

Baptism 12:00pm

29 Sunday

13th Sunday of Luke
Orthros 8:45am
Divine Liturgy 10:00am

30 Monday

Apostle Saint Andrew
Orthros 9:00am

**GREEK PASTRY
BAKE SALE**

Saturday, November 21, 2015
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

HELLENIC COMMUNITY CENTER
60 Traverse Road, Newport News, VA 23606

All interested are urged to place advanced orders,
as we will bake limited quantities.

Please call: (757) 596-6909

BAKLAVA	\$2.50/piece or \$27/dozen
FINIKIA	\$1.00/piece or \$12/dozen
KOURABIEDES	\$1.00/piece or \$12/dozen
KOULOURAKIA	\$.75/piece or \$9/dozen
VARIETY PACK	\$10.00

RAVANI & LEMON TORTE (upon request)	\$2.00/piece or \$24/dozen
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COME WORSHIP THE GLORY OF GOD



Sunday Services

8:15 a.m. Matins
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:15 a.m. Religious Education (Sep-May)
11:30 a.m. Christian Fellowship (Hellenic Center)

Mission Statement

The mission of Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Newport News, Virginia is to keep, practice, and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith. The work and ministry of our Parish will include proclaiming the Gospel, sanctifying the faithful through God's grace in worship, the Divine Liturgy and the Sacraments, and enhancing their spiritual life. We will fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by inviting others into the Church through Baptism and/or Chrismation, educating them in the Orthodox Faith through the establishment of programs, schools and philanthropic activities, and implementing Christian ministries.