

THE CROSS+ROADS

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Hi-Lites

- Sunday of Orthodoxy—
March 5
- St. Gregory Palamas—
March 12
- Sunday of Holy Cross—March
19
- St. John Climacus—March 26

† FROM FATHER GEORGE

THE LENTEN MIRROR

With the arrival of Great and Holy Lent we find ourselves in a period of time of which prayer and fasting are only two aspects of what this period should contain for us.

Great and Holy Lent is a period for self-examination. Our names serve as our identity, but who are we as Orthodox Christians? Do our actions or our lack of action describe each one of us? The Gospel readings leading up to Great and Holy Lent gave us the examples of what our state of mind should be. Rev. Alexander Schmemmann, of Blessed memory, in his classic book "Great Lent: Journey to Pascha" described the purpose of Great and Holy Lent as "a period to "soften" our heart so that it may open itself to the realities of the spirit, to experience the hidden thirst and hunger for communion with God".

Why would our communion with God be described as hidden? Should not our communion with God be out in the open, clearly visible and able to be heard? Things get hidden to be protected. Our ability to express prayer should not be covered, but rather exposed to further cultivate the richness of our Orthodox faith. If communication is a strong ingredient of marriage, then why is communi-

cation not seen in the same way regarding our Orthodox Faith?

The Lenten journey begins with the services of Compline, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts and the Salutations to the Theotokos as hymns and prayers that will be our "GPS" in order to reach our destination of the Resurrection. When we drift off course, the liturgical life will redirect us and place us into the open hands of God, just as the loving and forgiving father's hands were open to receive his sinful son in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. What Jesus preaches and teaches does not get old and stale over a long period of time.

The march edition of Crossroads has the calendar of services. These services were not placed on the Calendar in order for the Priests and the Church musicians to have something to do, but rather for us to come together as a Community and pray and read together the psalms and to sing praises to our God.

Look at the Lenten mirror and see what you see and think about what kind of Christian should be depicted in that mirror.

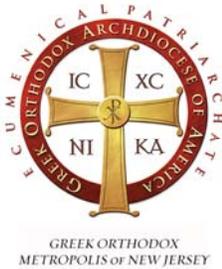
WELCOME OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR



My name is Benjamin Franks. I was born in Gainesville, FL and lived in Jonesboro, AR until I was 14. I was raised by very devout and loving parents who brought me up in the Baptist Church and taught me the Holy Scriptures and the love of God. In October of 2009 I moved with my parents and little sister, Emily, to Olsztyn, Poland as Baptist Missionaries. I spent my high school years involved in ministries to the poor citizens of rural Poland.

I moved back to the United States in order to attend school at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. I graduated in December 2016 with a degree in English. While there I discovered the Church Fathers through the writings of Martin Luther. When I began reading the fathers, especially the Apostolic Fathers, Jus-

(Continued on page 6)



Glory Be To God

**Saints Constantine & Helen
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Parish Council

Barry Hendricks, President

Greg Bicouvaris, V.P.

Zena Mageras, Treasurer

Nick Matthews, Assistant

Treasurer

Robert Demson, Secretary

Elias Doulerakis

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Peter Johns

Howard Mandeville

Chanters

Tim Sofis

Harry Fotiou

John Williams

Ben Franks

Church Secretary

Sylvia Marcin

Archdiocese on the web
www.goarch.org

MARCH 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 βασιλεύσιν, Ἀπόστολός σου Κύριε, Βασιλεύουσαν πόλιν τῆ χειρὶ σου παρέθετο ἦν περιώζε διὰ παντὸς ἐν εἰρήνῃ, πρεσβειῆς τῆς Θεοτόκου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

MARCH 5

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40

GOSPEL READING

John 1:43-51

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Peter, when after so many miracles and such high doctrine he confessed that, "Thou art the Son of God" (Matt. xvi. 16), is called "blessed," as having received the revelation from the Father; St. John Chrysostom

Homily 21 on John 1, 1. B#58, pp. 72, 73, 4th Century

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Sun. of Orthodoxy in the Second Mode

We worship Thine immaculate icon, O Good One, asking the forgiveness of our failings, O Christ our God; for of Thine own will Thou wast well-pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, that Thou mightest deliver from slavery to the enemy those whom Thou hadst fashioned. Wherefore, we cry to Thee thankfully: Thou didst fill all things with joy, O our Saviour, when Thou camest to save the world.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your

ACOLYTES

MARCH 19

Team A

Jorgie Polyzos

Yianni Tsimplekis

James St. Martin

Dean Peri

MARCH 5 & 26

Team B

Ethan Detweiler

Anthony Capobianco

Cris Campbell

Soterios Tofalli

Kyprianos Tofalli

MARCH 12

Team C

Hayden Hendricks

Georgios Haramis

Christos Konstantinou

Christopher Myers

EPISTLE READERS

MARCH 5

Dianne Sun

MARCH 12:

Chris Konstantinou (GOYA)

MARCH 19

Howard Mandeville

MARCH 26

Joe Saur

Please contact

Barry Hendricks if you are interested in reading the Epistle during the Sunday Divine Liturgy.

bhendricks@cox.net

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Philoptochos

Trish Demson, President

Religious Education

Viola Nicholls Allen, Director

Greek School

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)

Fofi Gouletas, President

Kent Paumier, Advisor

Young Adult League (YAL)

Anastasia Theodorogiannis, President

Golden Hearts

Helen George, President

Order of AHEPA

Nick Matthews, President

Daughters of Penelope

Joanna Vallas, President

Hellenic Womens Penelope Society

Marika Anthony, President

Hellenic Youth Dancers

Bobby Garofalis, Director

city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Sunday of Orthodoxy
 Conon the Gardener
 Mark the Ascetic
 Righteous Father Mark of Athens
 John the Bulgarian

**MARCH 12
 EPISTLE READING**

Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3

GOSPEL READING

Mark 2:1-12

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Now Matthew indeed saith, that "they brought him," but the others, that they also broke up the roof, and let him down. And they put the sick man before Christ, saying nothing, but committing the whole to Him. St. John Chrysostom, Homily 29 on Matthew 9, 1. B#54, pp. 195, 196, 4th Century

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 Sun. of St. Gregory Palamas in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Light of Orthodoxy, pillar and teacher of the Church, adornment of monastics, invincible champion of theologians, O Gregory thou wonderworker, boast of Thessalonica, herald

of grace: ever pray that our souls be saved.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas
 Theophanes the Confessor
 Symeon the New Theologian
 Gregory Dialogos, Bishop of Rome
 Phineas, grandson of Prophet Aaron

**MARCH 19
 EPISTLE READING**

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6

GOSPEL READING

Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

And see how He also makes His discourse unexceptionable: not saying at all, "whether you will, or no, you must suffer this," but how? "If any man will come after me." St. John Chrysostom, Homily 55 on Matthew 16, 1. B#54, p.339., 4th Century

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 Sun. of the Holy Cross in the First Mode

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

Sunday of the Holy Cross
 The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria
 Demetrios the New Martyr

MARCH 26

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 6:13-20

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:17-31

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Seest thou how He now proceeds to lay beforehand in them the foundation of His doctrine about fasting? ... See, at any rate, how many blessings spring from them both. For he that is praying as he ought, and fasting, hath not many wants, and he that hath not many wants, cannot be covetous; ... St. John Chrysostom, Homily 57 on Matthew 17,4,5. B#54, pp.355,356., 4th Century

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.

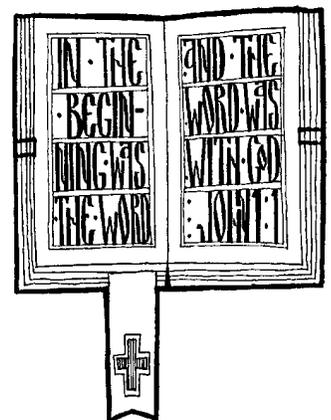
Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED

26 Martyrs in Crimea
 Sunday of St. John Climacus
 Irenaeus the Hieromartyr of Hungary

THROUGH
 THE BIBLE
 A—Z

- You have come to know and believe the love which God has for you – 1 John 4:16
- You have the mind of Christ – 1 Cor. 2:16
- You have the testimony in yourself if you believe in the Son of God – 1John 5:10
- You know love because He laid down His life for you – 1 John 3:16
- You know that you know Him if you keep His commands – 1 John 2:3
- You know the Father as His child – 1 John 2:13
- You know you are in Him if you keep His Word & in you the love of God has been perfected – 1 John 2:5
- You love because He first loved you – 1 John 4:19
- You overcome the world by believing that Jesus is the Son of God – 1 John 5:5
- You shall have no other gods before the Lord – Exodus 20:3
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor – Exodus 20:16



CHURCH REGISTRY / ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS:

Our sincere condolences to the family of **John Siokis** who died February 8 and whose funeral services were held in our Church, February 13.

Our sincere condolences to the family of **Dr. James Andre** who died in Richmond February 20. **Dr. Andre** was the brother of our own parishioner, **Nick Andre**.

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL!!!!!!

ILL AND NEEDING

OUR PRAYERS:

We wish a speedy recovery to our good friends and fellow parishioners **Nick and Dottie Andre** who were involved in an automobile accident recently. We wish a speedy recovery to our good friend and fellow parishioner **Mary Graham** who was hospitalized recently.

PERASTIKA SAS !!!!!!!

THANK YOU:

We sincerely thank all our many and wonderful friends for their cards, telephone calls and all their get-well wishes as a result of our recent automobile accident. We greatly appreciate the concern for our welfare and the love everyone has shown us. We are deeply grateful to all of you and are blessed to have so many wonderful people in our lives. Again, many, many thanks to all of you. - **Nick and Dottie Andre**

The **Siokis** family would like to thank everyone for their love and prayers, cards, flowers and food in memory of **Ioannia (John) Siokis**.

ATTENDANCE

February 5	142
February 12	145
February 19	180
February 26	147
Feb 2017 Ave	147
Feb 2016 Ave	162
YTD 2017 Ave	139
YTD 2016 Ave	140

REFRESHMENTS

We thank all those parishioners who served as hosts in February The hosts for March are:

March 5: Mrs. Katherine Yeapanis, Dr./M Chris Zambas, M/M Vasilios Zisopoulos

March 12: M/M Jesse Allen, M/M Gary Nicholls, Mrs. Connie Anastasiou

March 19: M/M Nick Andre, M/M Andy Baker, M/M Barney Barnes

March 26: M/M Iraklis Baxevanis, M/M Kostas Baxevanis, Ms. Marina Becouvarakis, M/M Christopher Belcher

Koliva

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

Helen George 251-6155
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 Viattas nvlattas@hewv.com

CHURCH, CLUB AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PHILOPTOCHOS:

Sunday, March 5, is the Sunday of Orthodoxy. On that Sunday, **Philoptochos** will pass a special tray to help fund our various philanthropic projects. Please, be willing to assist in passing the tray if asked to do so. We do thank you for all you do for our **Saint Helen Chapter of Philoptochos**.

Our membership committee is now collecting dues for the 2017 year of the 2016-2017 term. Please, do pay your dues on a timely basis. **Zena Mageras**, chair of the membership committee, and, along with committee member **Beth Campbell**, would like to be able to have collected dues from every members by the time they need to remit our **Metropolitan and National Obligations** in early April. **Philoptochos** dues for this year are \$30.00. If, for any reason, it is not possible for you to meet this obligation, arrangements can be made to serve your particular needs. Please, help us in any way you can so that we, in turn, can help those in need.

Our **AOK Cancer Care Committee** continues its visits to the patients receiving chemotherapy transfusions at Virginia Oncology. As we have said many times before, if you wish to become a participant in this most worthwhile project, do contact **Ellie Costulis, 833-8181 (c 303-3080)** and let her tell you how you can help.

We remind our members and all those wonderful guys, whose help we find indispen-

sable and for which we are most grateful to them, that our **Easter Tsourekia Baking will be April 4,5 and 6 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)**. Do mark those dates on your calendar and be at the Community Center on any and all of these days to help make and bake our **Easter Tsourekia**. Again, many, many thanks for all you do for **Philoptochos and those whom Philoptochos helps thru these projects**. **Tsourekia orders need to be in by April 2**. Please, contact any Philoptochos member to give your orders. If you wish you may phone in your order by calling **Dottie Andre, 868-7898, Helen George, 251-6155 or Voula Vretakis, 596-3223**. **Tsourekia orders may be picked up anytime after April 6 and no later than April 9**.

Our obligations to the **National** for the month of March are: A contribution to the **Orthodox Christian Mission Center - Support a Mission Priest COCMC/SAMP-** which provides support to missionary priests and teams, and, also a contribution to **Hellenic College Holy Cross Lenten Event - Veneration of the Holy Cross**, the proceeds of which provide for **Hellenic College Holy Cross** operational expenses.

Our March meeting will be **Monday, March 6**, at the Community Center, beginning with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Hosting this meeting are **Frances Polizos and Sevaste Polyzos**.

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ORDER OF AHEPA

College Scholarship Applications are available at the Ahepa Family Center Monday thru Saturday between the hours of 10am to 1pm for both local and District #3 applications and on Sundays immediately following the Divine Liturgy. High school seniors, college freshman, sophomores and juniors with GPA of 2.5+ are eligible to apply. Deadline for local submissions is April 30, 2017.

The scholarships will be awarded to the recipients during the Community Awards Luncheon to be held on Sunday, 5/21/2017 following the Divine Liturgy. The Order of Ahepa and the Daughters of Penelope will sponsor the event. Other Hellenic Community organizations are welcomed to participate in the awards ceremony. The entire Hellenic community is encouraged to attend to honor our youth as they are rewarded for their academic achievements.

On 2/5/2017, members of the Ahepa Family as well as members of the community enjoyed the hospitality and fellowship during the ANNUAL AHEPA SUPER BOWL PARTY. What a dramatic comeback by the New England Patriots! We witnessed the greatest comeback by an NFL team, led by perhaps the greatest quarterback of all time, Tom Brady. The Patriots won their 5th Super Bowl with Tom Brady leading his team in all five championships. The food was delicious and the fellowship was great! We are considering hosting a Baseball World Series Party in October, so stay tuned!

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

The **Daughters**, both within the **Charis Eleni Chapter** and in conjunction with our brother **Ahepans** have embarked on an ambitious program of activities in order to raise money to fund our many charitable and educational projects.

On May 30, along with our brother **Ahepans**, we will host the **Community Awards Luncheon**. On September 30, again together with our brother **Ahepans**, we'll sponsor the **Casino Night**. On November 11, we will again hold our **Fashion Show and Champagne Brunch**, and on **December 1 & 2**, we will once again host a **Craft Show**.

Details on all these functions will follow as we approach the designated dates on which they will be held. Fellow parishioners and friends, please mark these dates on your calendars and sisters do be ready to help when called upon.

Our members continue to take orders for **spanakopites and tyropites**, so, as **Holy Pascha** approaches, please, plan to place your orders. Call **Zoe Marcopoulos, 826-1045 (c 672-1456)** or **Athena Markos (cs870-4996)** as soon as possible to place your order.

Sisters, don't forget to continue bringing to our meetings the various items needed by area shelters so that sister **Kathy Matthews** can take them to them.

Our 4th and final voluntary obligation to the **National** for the current term is **Melissa's Orphanage for Girls** which was established in 1921. It accommodates 28 girls aged 10 to 18 years old who have been removed from their families following a court order due to instances of maltreatment, abuse or abandon-

ment. The goal of the **Orphanage** is to substitute as well as possible the care and nurture that would have been provided with a healthy family environment.

Our March meeting will be held **Thursday, March 23, 6:30 pm at the AHEPA Family Home**, starting with dinner.

HELLENIC WOMAN'S PENELOPE SOCIETY

The March meeting of the Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society (HWPS) will be held on **Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 6:00 PM** at the Hellenic Center. **Kiki Canavos** will be the hostess.

We are now making plans for our annual **Spring Bake Sale (order pick-up)**, which will be on **Wednesday, April 12th** from **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM** in front of AHEPA HALL. We will be selling **baklava, finikia, koulourakia and kourabiethes. Ravani and lemon torte** will be available upon request. **Those interested in purchasing for Easter our delicious pastries are reminded to place their orders by April 1st.**

Pastry preparation will take place on **Monday, April 10th** (baklava, finikia and koulourakia); **Tuesday, April 11th** (kourabiethes and finikia dipping); **Wednesday, April 12th** (order pick-up).

The last 50 elegant chairs for the Hellenic Center have been ordered and will be arriving in about four weeks. **This last order brings the total of chairs we donated to the Church to 400.**

Our 2013 edition of our cookbook, **Culinary Gifts from the Greeks**, may be purchased by calling **Marika Anthony (596-6909)** or **Tessie Dakis (826-2910)**. They make wonderful gifts for bridal showers, weddings and many other occasions. **We will gladly gift wrap them ac-**

ording to the occasion free of charge.

Applications for the **Father Peter and Gregory Makris Merit Scholarship** for undergraduate students may be obtained from **Maria Vidakis** by calling her at **867-7848**.

We extend our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the families of **Presvytera Marika Canavos** and **John Siokis**, who both recently passed away. May their memories be eternal.

WE WISH A SPIRITUAL AND FULFILLING LENTEN SEASON TO ALL.

ANASTASIOS L. DANIEL SCHOLARSHIP

The Parish Council will once again administer an annual scholarship established by the Estate of beloved parishioner Anastasios 'Danny' L. Daniel. We welcome graduating High School seniors of the Orthodox Faith to apply by picking up an application in the Church office. Additional eligibility information and requirements as outlined by the estate will accompany the application. Completed applications must be returned to the Church postmarked by May 1, 2017

THANK YOU JACK AND MARY GEORGALAS FOR THE GENEROUS DONATION

Thank you to **Jack and Mary Georgalas** for their generous donation to replace the heating and air conditioning system in Sacalis Hall and the walk-in refrigeration box in the kitchen.



FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 19



Thanks to Dianne Sun and the Welcome Ministry for organizing Friendship Sunday on February 19 with the goal of inviting friends and family to church to learn about Orthodoxy, to show them our beautiful church and Divine Liturgy and to share our faith. A special coffee hour took place following the Divine Liturgy.

PARISH WELCOMES DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES—BEN FRANKS

(Continued from page 1)
tin Martyr, and Augustine of Hippo, it was a time of great person discontent with the protestant faith. I began attending Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Lynchburg and was Chrismated at Pascha of 2015.

I always say that in Orthodoxy I have found the relationship with Our Lord that was always promised to me as a Protestant. Above all it is love for Christ, who is Himself Love, that I pray I might be

able to show our kids. I met my fiance Emily Davis at the William & Mary OCF retreat in 2016. We became engaged on November 20 and are planning on being married on May 27 in Lynchburg. I have an open door policy and encourage anyone who has concerns or comments to feel free to call or drop in at any point. I am very excited to begin youth ministry here and ask that you all keep me and our youth in your prayers.

MODERN GREEK ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD



Evangelia Allea Maurakis and Ioanna Stathopoulos achieved academic excellence in the Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek Language through St. Demetrios Greek School Afternoon Program in Williamsburg, Virginia under the direction and instruction of Mrs. Eva Zestos.

This program is developed by the Department of Education of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America New York State Education Department for Comprehensive Examinations in Modern Languages. Students who pass the Examination are known to be awarded three college credit hours in foreign language studies and receive a Regent's diploma and advanced designation.

Both students received their awards and certificates on Saturday, January 28, 2017 from His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios

of America during a ceremony at The Cathedral of Holy Trinity in Manhattan, New York. The event was coordinated in conjunction with the honoring of the Three Hierarchs Feast Day of January 30th and Fathers of our Greek Orthodox Faith - St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian and St. John Chrysostom.

The evening was concluded with a reception in the Cathedral's Ballroom. Congratulations and best wishes to the award recipients, their families and the leadership of their teacher, Mrs. Eva Zestos.

BOTTICELLI AND THE SEARCH FOR THE DIVINE EXHIBIT

The Muscarelle Museum of Art

EXHIBITION DATES

February 11, 2017 – April 5, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call 757-221-2709

<http://muscarelle.org/exhibitions/current/>



The AHEPA Family Christmas Party on December 8 took a free will donation of \$185.00 and was presented to Father George to be given to PORT to cover the cost of feeding the homeless on Sunday, December 17.

PARISH ASSEMBLY—FEBRUARY 26



President's Report

Submitted by Barry Hendricks

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I'd like to take a few minutes with my report to highlight some of the successes we've seen since the last time we assembled in mid-October, review and update you on some on going initiatives in our community, and end with some goals as we move into 2017 and beyond.

Our Fall Festival was a tremendous success and we exceeded projections in all areas. Thanks to John Dermanis for leading and organizing the effort, and for once again agreeing to lead this year's Fall Festival as a co-chair along with Barbara France.

Our support of the PORT Project by hosting those less fortunate in our local community from December 14th to 21st was not only the right thing to do, but was spiritually uplifting for those that volunteered. If the opportunity presents itself again this year, we are ready to answer the call. Thanks to Trish Demson and the Saint Helen Chapter of Philoptochos for helping organize our participation.

The Sacalis Hall renovation continues to pay dividends. Our recurring breakfast catering rentals of the weekly men's Bible study and monthly meeting for retired shipyard workers continues their successful run. I'd like to take a minute to once again thank the "Breakfast Club" volunteers led by Barbara France for their dedicated service in working these catering commitments. We have also secured rentals for events such as wedding receptions, birthday celebrations, organization dinners and socials, and school testing (several of these rentals are return customers). For the past few years, much of the work in ensuring these events were booked and conducted were in no small part through Joanna Vallas' dedicated service the House Chairman. I'd like to pause and thank her for her work and sacrifice.

If you recall, during last October's General Assembly we spent considerable time discussing two key initia-

tives. I'd like to update you on these, starting with the Centurion Campaign.

On March 1st, 2015 (almost exactly two years ago), I announced the start of the Centurion Campaign, a structured and organized 18-month campaign with the goal to raise \$126,000 from 100 donors in order to accomplish some very specific fund raising objectives:

1) Pay off our remaining financial obligations on the Sacalis Hall renovation – at the time, that obligation was \$75,000

2) Establish an emergency capital expense reserve for impending repairs on our aging infrastructure – the number we started with was an estimated \$40,000

3) Make a community donation to the rebuilding of our faith's national shrine, the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine in New York City – which was in response to a request from His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey for a \$10,000 donation from every parish in the Metropolis.

Over the past two years, the campaign received donations from 38 parishioners totaling over \$67,000. From those donations we have paid over \$24,000 towards the renovation loan and \$7,000 towards the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas. Due to the success we've had with hall commitments and our festivals over the past two years, we made payments from the church operating account of \$18,000 towards the renovation loan and this past December we met our requested \$10,000 gift towards the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas with a \$3,000 offering. In addition, earlier this week, Jack and Mary Georgalas made a significant and generous gift to our community that will fund new HVAC units for the community center, as well as some improvements to our kitchen freezer unit (which planning work has already started under the supervision of Bobby Vidakis and Roger Headrick). And I'm proud to report that just a few days ago, the remaining balance of \$23,684 on the hall renovation loan was paid off with funds that had been donated to the Centurion Campaign.

So, you might ask, what's next with the Centurion Campaign? The easy answer would be to simply plant a flag, declare victory, and just plan for the next event on the calendar. But friends, we have so much more work to do, particularly with storm and water damage to the church building. Therefore, the Centurion Campaign must and will

continue until the end of this calendar year, but with a renewed and updated focus where 100% of donations will go towards capital repairs to our aging infrastructure. You will be briefed on some of these expected repairs and updates later in the meeting. These are updates and repairs that must be made and we all have a part in paying for these repairs. If you didn't donate to the campaign because of an objection that a portion of the donations were going to Saint Nicholas, you now have a renewed opportunity to give to the Campaign where 100% of your donation will stay in our community. If you didn't donate to the Campaign in the past two years for whatever reason, you now have the chance.

The next initiative I'd like to update everyone on is hiring actions, in particular the Director of Youth Ministries position. If there was one clear and distinct message that came out of the General Assembly one year ago was a desire to see significant movement on the search and hiring of a Director of Youth Ministries. This past October I briefed the General Assembly on the work we had done thus far in this search, unfortunately, we were still no closer than we were eight months prior. We were receiving various inquiries to the job posting, however, none proved fruitful. That is until Ben Franks submitted his inquiry about the position in early December. We met with him, conducted an interview, and requested the blessing from His Eminence to hire him – which we received earlier this month.

Brothers and sisters, we have been praying and working for this opportunity for some time. As you get to know Ben (as well as his fiancé Emily) you will quickly find out that they both have a solid spiritual foundation and a strong desire to work with and inspire our young people. But he cannot do this alone – a strong and vibrant youth ministry program is a team effort and Ben will need all our help and support. This is an exciting time for our community. I'm ready to serve alongside him in this vital ministry and I invite everyone here to do the same.

I've spent enough time talking about the past. It is now time for us to start looking to the future and where we see ourselves moving the rest of this year, the next three to five years, and into the next generation.

During our first meeting of the year, I asked the members of the Parish Council what they wanted to

focus on this year and here key items we discussed:

- Increase Church attendance
- Build our Youth Ministries
- Work on Education and Outreach
- Better communication
- Set examples as Orthodox Christians

- Live Stewardship enthusiastically and as a way of life

- Meet all fund raising goals of the Centurion Campaign

Before we get after anything on that list we need to first answer one simple question about our church – What is our purpose? Or to put it another way, what is our WHY? Why do we exist? Why are we here? At its very core – we exist to help men and women know God. Everything else flows from that. And the best place to start in getting to know God is through regular worship and that starts to get after the first item identified by Parish Council, "Increase Church Attendance."

And it starts with each and every one of you – Make regular attendance at church a priority in your lives.

And while you are in church – be involved and participate, examples include:

- Arriving to church on time – this goes without saying, but in order to get the full experience of our Liturgy, you need to be part of it, all of it, from start to finish.

- Share in the Liturgy by preparing and making regular offerings of Prospyra. And if your family is remembering a loved one with a memorial service, make the Kolvia for that service. If you don't know how... learn.

- We have a dedicated cadre of parishioners who read the Epistle every week, but more of you can participate in this important part of the Liturgy.

- Join in the responses that are marked "People" in your Liturgy book

- Instead of mumbling the Creed, proudly recite it, if you want to know what we believe in, it starts with the Creed.

- Recite the prayer before communion

These are just a few examples, but to start, you need to be present and engaged in the Liturgy – Liturgy after all means "work of the people"

The next two areas we discussed – "Build our Youth Ministries" and "Work on Education and Outreach"

I've touched on some of this earlier when discussing our Youth Ministry Director position, and Ben will also cover it in his report, but I'd

(Continued on page 9)

ΚΑΛΟ ΠΑΣΧΑ
Happy Easter



Tsourekia Sale Order
Now

Be sure to place your order by:
Sunday, April 2nd
Pick up orders on: **Sunday, April 9th**
Call:

Maggie Thompson 877-8039
Voula Vretakis 596-3223
Dottie Andre 868-7898
Cost: \$9.00
(payable to Philoptochos)

Thank you for supporting the Philoptochos Society in their fundraising efforts.

GREEK PASTRY
BAKE SALE

Wednesday, April 12th, 2017
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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

All interested are urged to place their orders by April 1st
Please call: (757) 596-6909

BAKLAVA	\$2.50/piece or \$27/dozen
FINIKIA	\$1/piece or \$12/dozen
KOURABIEDES	\$1/piece or \$12/dozen
KOULOURAKIA	\$.75/piece or \$9/dozen
VARIETY PACK	\$10.00
RAVANI & LEMON TORTE	UPON REQUEST

Sponsored by: Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society
Benefit of the Father Peter and Gregory Makris Scholarship

GOYA Spring Lenten Retreat
at Camp Piankatank

March 10-12 2017



Theme:

"Be Still and Know that I am God" (Psalm 45:11)
Finding God in a Noisy World

What: A weekend Lenten retreat for all GOYAnS
hosted by Holy Cross Seminary Ambassadors!

Where: Camp Piankatank in scenic coastal Virginia
(1586 Stampers Bay Rd, Hartfield, VA 23071)



Cost:
\$50 per GOYAn



Registration
Deadline:
Monday, March 6th

To Register: Email Thomas Manuel at Thomas@Annunciationva.org



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION CONCERT

SingTennial:

Orthodox Hymns
Through the Centuries
Evolution from Ancient to Modern Times

Saturday, March 18, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.

Saints Constantine and Helen
Greek Orthodox Cathedral
30 Malvern Ave. • Richmond, VA 23221

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



Presented by
The Cathedral Choir & Friends

(Continued from page 7)
 like to also add some comments about Education – Across the Archdiocese, the best examples of strong and vibrant youth ministry programs are the ones that are accompanied by a serious, robust, and proactive adult education program. Brothers and sisters, if we want our kids to stay Orthodox, we must learn what Orthodoxy is, or put another way – we will never pass on to our kids what we ourselves do not possess. If we lovingly feed them the faith, they will keep everything we so value, if we don't, well... I'd hate to think of the result. During our Stewardship Ministry meetings, we've discussed starting Adult Education seminars using the "Journey to Fullness" series as a start point. Look for information to come out in the near future.

One of the other areas we discussed, was "Better Communication" – If you recall, this has been one area I've wanted to expand, and in particular how we reach out to our faithful using the tools available to us through the Internet – to include our web presence, social media, and email. Peter Johns has volunteered to lead this effort, starting with our website and making improvements throughout, building an email version of our weekly bulletin, utilizing social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter as ways to communicate, and setting up online giving through PayPal (or some other secure online giving application). There is simply no good reason for a community with as much online talent (and activity) that we have to not utilize the tools available to us. I've said it before, if there is one ministry where a young

person can come in and make an immediate impact, it is this one.

That takes us through this year – now, we need to look to the future. Where do we see ourselves headed in the next few years? And even further, the next generation? What will our calling be? What will our priorities be? What is our vision for the future? Here's what I see:

We are the church of choice on the Peninsula for Orthodox Christians from all ethnic backgrounds, as well as the church that invites and welcomes those seeking the Orthodox Christian faith, where together, we all find transformation in Jesus Christ.

Church of choice means our faithful make Christ and His Church a priority in their lives, choosing to make Saints Constantine and Helen their church home. Orthodox Christians from all ethnic backgrounds mean we seek to essentially be an Orthodox Christian community without borders, drawing strength from our different backgrounds, where together we can grow and strengthen our faith. We must be an inviting and welcoming community to those seeking the Orthodox Christian faith. The result, transformed lives – changed lives through Christ.

Does that sound like a church you want to be a part of? None of this will happen overnight or by itself – we must work together as a community and make the commitment to start moving towards making that vision a reality.

Stewardship Ministry
Submitted by Nick J Matthews

Every day, every minute, every breath is truly a gift from God.

Stewardship Ministry Members:

Fr. George, Barry Hendricks, Nick Vrettos, Elaine Jansen, Tessie Baker, Dianne Sun, Nick Vlattas, Tom Grepitotis, Faye Evans, Michael Chalkias, Howard Manderville, John Thomas, and Nick Matthews.

We started with seven members and we have increased to thirteen. We asked our new Director of Youth Ministry to recruit two GOYAN's to join. Our goal is to get as many Stewardship Ministry members as possible; everyone is invited to be a member of this important Ministry.

2016 Stewardship
 246 Families - \$209,389.74
 Average per Family – \$851

2017 Stewardship
 86 Family Pledges—\$98,865
Stewardship Ministry Mission Statement:

The Stewardship Ministry of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church supports the overall mission of our beloved Church and provides guidance for the spiritual renewal of our faithful by nurturing a culture of worship focused on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Encouraging opportunities to serve and return Gifts (time, talent and treasure) to the Lord and His Church and her missions; supporting the spiritual development of all our faithful; and shepherding all generations to sustain and enhance a divine connection to Christ and His Church.

The theme for the 2017 Stewardship Ministry from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America is "AS the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Jesus Christ sends us to be His voice in a changing world.

We have the opportunity to profess our faith many ways every day.

When we say the LORD'S PRAYER we affirm "thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

As Orthodox Christians when we say "I Believe..." the Nicene Creed, this is the confession of our Faith.

Stewardship is a way of life; we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a Gift from God.

A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith.

Stewardship is doing kind deeds and caring for the needs of others.

An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church.

Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts.

"AS the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, sent His Disciples into the crowd to ask that they give what they could for the benefit of all.

Always remember what Gifts are given from the heart and offered to Christ with FAITH and LOVE will be multiplied and become an overabundance, Christ Multiplies our Gifts.

As good stewards we are returning to God His own Gifts. Your Stewardship Commitment is kept in confidence. Jesus taught us that giving should be done quietly, generously and out of sight of others.

With a positive attitude by focusing to promote spirituality and strengthen our faith, we will have a successful Stewardship Ministry for many years.

Every day, every minute, every breath is truly a gift from God.



Centurion Campaign Commitment

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

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

- \$1,200
- \$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

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2017

I: Call to Order & Opening

Prayer:

The meeting convened at 1906 with an opening prayer by Father George. The following items were discussed:

Present: Father George Chioros, Barry Hendricks, Bob Demson, Zena Mageras, Tom Grepotis, Howard Mandeville, Peter Johns, Elias Doulgerakis, Greg Bicouvaris, Dr. Stavroula Gailey

Absent: Gus Fotiadis

Guest: Alvin Garrison, Alexa Garrison, Athena Savvas

Religious Education Topic: No topic presented.

II: Minutes:

Peter Johns made motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 2016 meeting; seconded by Greg Bicouvaris, passed unanimously.

III: Correspondence:

Letter from Southeastern Correctional Ministry, Inc dated Dec 6, 2016 requesting volunteers and/or donations to assist in their prison ministry.

Letter from St Demetrius Greek Orthodox Church, Baltimore, MD, dated December 13, 2016 with information regarding the Metropolis of New Jersey Clergy Retreat scheduled for Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2017 on the Eastern Shore near Kent Island. The cost is \$475 for Father George's registration.

Letter from the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey dated December 20, 2016, thanking our church for our \$1000 donation to support the efforts of His Eminence, Metropolitan Maximos of Selyvria in the rebuilding of a Metropolis HQs and Chapel in Selyvria dedicated to St. Nektarios.

IV: Treasurer's Report:

Alvin Garrison presented the financial report for CY16. (see attached)

Wells Fargo account in process of being closed out and funds moved to new operating account at Towne-Bank.

Centurion Campaign account current stands at \$36,509.23
Budget vs Actual Financial

Statement (see attached)

V: Visitor's Comments:

Athena Savvas congratulated all new members of the Parish Council and discussed a number of issues / concerns, to include pictures of former priests in the hallway, requesting the dates for the spring and fall festivals, and thanking Joanna Vallas for the job she did as House Committee Chair.

VI: Committee Reports:

Youth Ministry:

An interview was conducted on January 15, 2017 for the Youth Ministries Director position. We made a conditional offer contingent upon the blessing from the Metropolitan. Expected in next 2 weeks.

Our Boys B GOYA basketball team will be participating in the Richmond Basketball Tournament the weekend of January 21-22, 2017.

GOYA sponsored an Angel Tree during the Christmas Holy for the Children of St. Basil's Academy and 25 gift cards were donated and sent. Thank you to all who took a gift card and supported this annual project.

The Food Bank box remains in the Narthex and as the box becomes filled, we will take the food to the Food Bank. This project was started by our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade Sunday School classes. Thank you to all who made donations.

Thank you to Helen Micha for putting together a wonderful Christmas Program that was held on December 18th as well as coordinating the JOY HOPE Project for PORT.

The OCF Retreat will once again take place on the campus of the College of William & Mary on Feb 3-4, 2017.

Father presented Kyprianos Tofalli, Chi-Rho Boy Scout medal on Dec 11, 2016.

House Committee:

No report

Festival Committee

The dates of the 2017 Festivals are Spring Festival June 1-4, 2017 and Fall Festival Oct 19-21, 2017

Maintenance Committee

Cleaning and painting finished.

Centurion Campaign – Barry Hendricks

Barry Hendricks will prepare a detailed report for the next meeting that will include recommended actions for the future of the campaign.

Stewardship Committee

Nick Matthews scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, Jan 18, 2017

Other Committees

Barry Hendricks reported that Connie Anastasiou approached him about the Mission Ministry account at Wells Fargo that was opened when Michael Anastasiou (of Blessed Memory) lead the Missions Ministry. Since we haven't had an active Missions Ministry, they agreed the best thing would be to close the account and get the money in the operating account under control of the Parish Council. Once the Missions Ministry is active again, the money could be used as a start to hope build the ministry. Connie closed the account on December 9, 2017 and gave Barry a check for \$756.57. Check was deposited in the operating account.

VII: Priest's and Youth Report

Father George welcomed and thanked the 2017 Parish Council members (elections were ratified by the Metropolis of New Jersey and oath of office held January 15th). Congratulations to the officers elected Jan 15, 2017.

The Vasilopita Luncheon originally scheduled for Jan 8th has been re-scheduled for Jan 22 to benefit St Basils Academy in New York.

The Welcoming Committee led by Dianne Sun has selected Friendship Sunday to be held on Feb 19. We encourage our parishioners to bring their friends to Church that morning to experience Orthodoxy. There will be a reception following the Devine Liturgy.

The Spring General Assembly date in is February 26, 2017.

Father George offers a "Thank you" to everyone who served during PORT Project not only at our Church in December but also those who served dinner and breakfast in January at the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Newport News.

Father George will attend the annual Clergy Retreat this year in Kent Island, Maryland on Jan 30-Feb 1, 2017.

AHEPA Super Bowl party is Feb 5, 2017 and costs \$10 per person.

Father George delivered the Invocation at the Newport News City Council meeting on Jan 10 from an invitation from Mayor McKinley Price Jan 10 and will do the same at their April meeting.

VIII: Unfinished Business:

Zena reported that the safe deposit box inventory is complete and Ted Maroulis appraised the coins. He volunteered to sell the coins at his next show in Feb at no charge.

Update to Parish Website and Bulletin Builder – Peter Johns continues to work on the website and is preparing for the first e-bulletin.

Cameras for kitchen and office tested and ready to install.

Hall Construction will be reviewing the engineer report we received from the insurance adjustors and inspecting the building to provide us with an estimate the week of Jan 16th. This was delayed from the previous week because of the snow storm.

Elias and Ronnie cleaned all gutters on the church building.

VIII: New Business:

Ministry / Committee Assignments:

Stewardship: Nick Matthews

Missions: Barry Hendricks once again stated that we have not an active Missions Ministry in our community for several years, and that one of the initiatives he laid out previously was to reenergize our Missions Ministry and had asked last year to start discussions with our Ladies

(Continued on page 11)

March 2017

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	31	

(Continued from page 10)
 Philoptochos chapter to possibly lead our community in Missions Ministry. For various reasons and misunderstandings, those discussions never got off the ground. Barry still believes that there is a strong possibility for this work given the natural link of the primary mission of the Ladies Philoptochos and Missions Ministry. Barry feels this initiative could serve as an example in the Metropolis on how the Parish Council and Philoptochos could work together in this Christ-centered service. (addition following the meeting – Stavroula Gailey met with Father George and would like to serve as the Missions Ministry leader and work the relationship with Philoptochos.

Youth: Offer made to Ben Franks
 House / Rentals and Catering: Request was made to ask Barbara France. Nick Matthews will review the legal precedence for types of events the Church can hold in the Hall and report back to the Parish Council.
 Personnel: Nick Matthews
 Maintenance: Ted Fotiou / Bobby Vidakis / Elias Doulg-erakis
 Festival: Chris Zambas (spring) / John Dermanis (fall)
 Daniel Scholarship: John Dermanis
 Grounds: Randy Pingley
 Internet Ministries: Peter Johns
Parish Council Responsibilities / Meetings:
 Barry didn't feel an usher schedule is necessary. We've had one before, but nobody

followed it. The expectation is that Parish Council members are at church on a regular basis, and on time. Everyone needs to learn how to do the deposit and fill out the collection worksheet. Parish Council meetings are normally conducted on the third Monday of every month (unless there is a conflict). All agreed that is a good date. Goes without saying, attendance at meetings is important.
 A lot of business and communication is conducted over email, please check and respond to email. Believe more in consensus building for decisions vice simple majority.
 Requested that if you are working an action / initiative, please complete follow-up tasks as quickly as possible.

Goals for 2017
 (Barry asked all members what they felt should be our goals for the coming year):
 Increase attendance: The best way to strengthen our faith and grow spiritually is to attend church regularly
 Meet all fund raising goals of the Centurion Campaign
 Build our Youth Ministries
 Education and Outreach
 Better communication
 Set examples as Orthodox Christians
 Live stewardship enthusiastically and as a way of life
IX: Adjournment:
 Fr. George offered the closing prayer at 2142. Next PC meeting is Feb 20, 2017.
X: Certification:
 Respectfully Submitted
 Robert V Demson

1 Wednesday

10:00am Presanctified Liturgy
 7:00 Goya
 7:15pm Choir

2 Thursday

6:30pm HWPS

3 Friday

First Salutations
 6:00pm Soup Supper in Sacalis Hall
 7:00pm First Salutations

4 Saturday

Third Saturday of Souls
 10:00am Divine Liturgy

5 Sunday

Sunday of Orthodoxy
 8:45am Orthros
 10:00am Divine Liturgy
 5:00pm Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers
 At St. Demetrios in Williamsburg

6 Monday

6:00pm Compline
 6:30pm Philoptochos

7 Tuesday

5:00pm – 8:00pm Greek School Classes

8 Wednesday

10:00am Presanctified Liturgy
 7:15pm Choir

10 Friday

Second Salutations
 6:00pm Soup Supper in Sacalis Hall
 7:00pm Second Salutations

12 Sunday

Saint Gregory of Palamas
 8:45am Orthros
 10:00am Divine Liturgy

13 Monday

6:00pm Compline
 7:00pm Parish Council

14 Tuesday

5:00pm – 8:00pm Greek School Classes

15 Wednesday

10:00am Presanctified Liturgy
 7:15pm Choir

17 Friday

Third Salutations
 6:00pm Soup Supper in Sacalis Hall
 7:00pm Third Salutations

19 Sunday

Sunday of the Holy Cross

8:45am Orthros
 10:00am Divine Liturgy
 Goya Luncheon
 Greek School Program for March 25th

20 Monday

6:00pm Compline

21 Tuesday

5:00pm – 8:00pm Greek School Classes

22 Wednesday

6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy
 7:15pm Choir

24 Friday

Feast of the Annunciation
 6:00pm Vespers/Salutations

25 Saturday

Feast of the Annunciation
Greek Independence Day

9:00am Orthros
 10:00am Divine Liturgy

26 Sunday

Saint John Climacus
 8:45am Orthros
 10:00am Divine Liturgy

27 Monday

6:00pm Compline

28 Tuesday

5:00pm – 8:00pm Greek School Classes

29 Wednesday

6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy
 7:15pm Choir

30 Thursday

6:45pm AHEPA/DOP

31 Friday

7:00pm Akathist Hymn



**Saints Constantine & Helen
Greek Orthodox Church
60 Traverse Road
Newport News VA 23606**

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COME WORSHIP THE GLORY OF GOD



Sunday Services

8:45 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:30 a.m. Religious Education (Sep-May)
12:00 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.