On Our Cover

As we head into the beginning of the Triodion Period toward Great Lent, it is important to note that there will be a number of television programs available and news articles which challenge core teachings of the Church. The History Channel in particular has shows such as Ancient Aliens and Amazon Prime airs programs such as Bible Conspiracies for streaming. These programs receive viewership and are catching to the eye. Asking individuals to read scripture, invite them to research from a credible historical perspective, well that would be too much, even boring. However, ask them to uncover a secret that is just now being discovered and their ears will instantly perk up! We are prone to wanting the latest, brand new, or cutting edge information, diets, or news. This is also seen in the way we learn information, text, order food, date, and so forth.

As these programs attain more and more viewership it is important to note that as Orthodox Christians we are called to be sober minded, temperate, and drawn to the teachings of the Church. St. Paul writes, “Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us walk in the spirit.” (Galatians 5:24-25).

St. Paul is very aware that it is not fun to crucify your ego and desires or to commit yourself to Godly reasoning. He is aware that for certain individuals finding the newest and latest is fun, fixating on the sensational is fun, instead of committing to reading a portion of the scripture per day, saying a prayer before going to bed etc. St. Paul is aware that as brothers and sisters in Christ we can be prone to feud or be subliminally hurtful to each other. As TV shows and media are prone to glamorizing sex and violence we must be more committed to “putting on the full armor of God” (Ephesians 6:11).

TV shows such as Game of Thrones (last season coming in April) may be enticing to watch as well as TV shows such as the Bachelor, but we must also offer ourselves content that is spiritually enriching so that we do not become conformed to the way the media wishes us to think and operate. Instead, we have control over what we expose ourselves to, how what we expose ourselves to affects us and how we nourish ourselves with lives of the saints, teachings of the scripture, and commitment to renewal. There are plenty of good Orthodox media sources.

Another great source is a “Be the Bee Video-Preparing for Pascha”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgPBkbQo8wc

Here is also the “Be the Bee Channel which lists all of their videos!
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbyQMR-_r8bJTrcWpWxSUPdJHdZJsqq_zG

May you all have a blessed Triodion season and preparation as we go together toward Great Lent and the Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.

With Love in Christ,
Fr. Nick
In the daily rush of our life we have no time to think about it, we simply take it for granted that we must go to confession, receive absolution, and then forget all about it until next year. Yet there must be a reason why our Church has set apart ten weeks as a special time of repentance and calls each Orthodox Christian to a special spiritual effort. And this reason must obviously concern me, my life, my faith, my membership in the Church. I must try to understand it, to follow as much as I can the teachings of my Church, be Orthodox not only by name, but in life itself. What then is repentance? Great Lent gives the answer to this question. It is indeed a school of repentance, to which each Christian must go every year in order to refresh the understanding of his faith. It is a wonderful pilgrimage to the very sources of Orthodoxy, a rediscovery of a truly Orthodox way of life. Let us try to make these forty days as meaningful, as deep, and as rich, as possible.

SPECIAL & NEW FOR GREAT LENT & HOLY WEEK

1)- With our new parish hours for our Greek Language School this year (4:15—6:15PM), we will ADJUST our evening Lenten Services to start at 6:15PM.

2)- Now that we have a full time second priest, we will also serve the Lenten Service of the Great Compline (APODEPNON) more regularly during Lent, the traditional pattern being on Mondays....of course at 6:15PM for consistency.

3)- As Holy Week arrives, we will also institute the practice of having “honorary myrrh bearing girls (MYROFORI) at the Lamentation Service on Holy Friday Night. Traditionally, an extra liturgical practice common in Greece this involves the participation of elementary age and older girls. More on this will be announced soon.

Donation for Floral Icons & Other Liturgical Items

We have already accepted donations for the Lenten Icons for 2019 and Holy Week .

If you would like to have a loved one remembered during Holy Week, start early and make a donation. You may do so by emailing or calling the office. Email: office@annunciationri.org or 401-942-4188
Parish Council 2019

We proudly would like to announce and welcome our new additions to the Parish Council. Paul Kallis, Michael Psikakos and Christian Frangos.

OFFICES FOR 2019:
Theofanis Markos—President, Kevin Phelan—Vice-President, James Silva—Treasurer, Jason Maintainis—Assistant Treasurer, Sandra Maliangos—Secretary.

Also we thank are other members continuing on, Alex Carr, Elaine Crabtree, Anthony George, Paul Pliakas, Gail Erinakes.

A heartfelt Thank You to Elaine Otto who faithfully served for a 10 year period. Most of her years as Parish Council Secretary

Thank You All for your dedication to the Parish Council, we greatly appreciate your time and certainly welcome your new ideas and the decisions made to strengthen and build a stronger parish.

SPECIAL EVENT BY THE REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE SPONSORED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

FRIDAY MARCH 8, Open to All Parishioners

Father Jonathan Ivanoff is the Director of Orthodox Natural Church Development of America, and is the parish Priest at St. John the Theologian Church in Shirley, New York.

Father Jonathan's talk on Parish Revitalization will cover these topics:
- Why Do Parishes Grow and Decline?
- What Forces Affect the Health of your Parish?
- Statistics and an Overview of the Contemporary Church Scene in America
- Trends Directly Applicable to the Church of Annunciation in Cranston
- The Eight Quality Characteristics that are Critical to the Life of Healthy, Growing Parishes
- How the ONCD Survey Tool Will Help in Our Strategic Long-Term Planning for Parish Growth

Time and Date - Friday, March 8, 7 PM to 8 PM, in Demetrakas Hall
Paul Pliakas
We have to date 141 parishioners with a pledge of $72,745.00
The Actual Amount Received is $48,185.83

George Alexion, M/M James Alexion, John Alexion, Pauline Alexion, Elaine Allendorf, M/M Paul Anastasiadis, M/M Andreas Andreopoulos, Dr. & Mrs. James Andriotis, M/M James Apostolou, Alexis Arsenis, Christina Arsenis, M/M Dimitrios Arsenis, M/M Nektarios Arsenis, Kyriaki Arsoniadis, Kyriakos Arsoniadis, M/M Savvas Arsoniadis, M/M Chad Barnes, Barbara Botsaris, M/M James Brubeck, M/M Ronald Capraro, Efhimia Cavas, M/M George Cicma, Dr. & Mrs. Spiros Constantinides, M/M Thomas Coyne, M/M Stephen Cross, M/M Constantinos Dafoulas, M/M Gaby Daiaa, M/M Steve Daras, Priscilla Delis, Rosemary Demetriou, M/M Robert Devlin, M/M Joseph DiCarlo III, Dr. & Mrs. Michael DiMaio, Dr.’s Jonathan & Thomâi Dion, Maria Dygon, M/M Stephan Erinakes, M/M Louis Feula, M/M Steven Filippou, M/M Gregory Gatos, Dr. Constantine Georas, Rev. Andrew George, Anthony George, James George, Janice George, Michael Giouras, M/M Robert Goralski, M/M Nicholas Gorgievski, Dionisia Grammas, Elizabeth Grammas, Dr. & Mrs. John & Anna-Helene Grossomanides, M/M Carl Hague, M/M Anestis Halkidis, M/M Elias Haralambides, M/M Michael Haralambides, Ann Heberg, Peter Hoopis, M/M Fotios Karageorgos, Julie Karahalios, M/M Arthur Kazianis, M/M Vasilios Kotsiris, M/M Costas Kritikos, Angelo Lazarides, Jonathan Lehourites, M/M William Lehourites, Eugenia Lekos, M/M Richard Lowell, Jason Maintainis, Sandra Maliangos, Dr. & Mrs. James Manis, M/M Theofanis Markos, M/M Robert Masiello, M/M Vasilios Melanieis, George Michailides, M/M Emmanuel Michailides, M/M George Michailides Jr., M/M Peter Michael, Ann Morrell, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Morrissey, Melissa Morrissey, Stephen Morrissey, M/M Steven Muccino, M/M Christo Pakiris, M/M George Paloukas, M/M George Panas, George Panteleakis, M/M Constantine Papaioannou, Evangelia Papaioannou, Helen Pappas, Georgia Papas M/M John Paraskevakos, M/M Matthew Parisi, Dr. & Mrs. James Pascalides, M/M Constantinos Perdikakis, M/M Dean Perdikakis, Giana Perdikakis, Mary Pereira, Thomai Petropoulos, M/M Polydoros Petrout, Lillian Placido, M/M George Pliakas, M/M Brian Rawlinson, M/M Damon Ray, Alexandra Reall, M/M James Rebello III, Joanna Reves, John Reves, M/M Nickiforos Revis, Mr. & Dr. Youssef Rizk, M/M Alan Root, M/M Constantine Rougas, M/M George Samatis, Dr. & Mrs. Peter Sardella, Constantine Scapinakis, Georgia Scapinakis, M/M Grigoris Sifakis, Nikolas Sifakis, M/M James Silva, M/M Anthony Silveira, Jr., M/M Leon Stamatakis, M/M Panagiotis Stasinopoulos, M/M Alexander Sterpis, Ethel Strekouras, Vasilios Strekouras, M/M Andrew Taxiarchos, M/M Richard Towne, Dean Trigg, Dr. & Mrs. William Tsiaras, M/M Peter Tzanetos, Antonia Vanikiotis, M/M John Vanikiotis, M/M Theodore Vaphiades, M/M Peter Vassilopoulos, Adam Vinhateiro, M/M Manuel Vinhateiro Jr., M/M Dean Vose, David Wernette & Dr. Golfo Tzilos Wernett, M/M Peter Xiarhos, M/M Charles Xynellis, M/M Socrates Zafiriades Jr., M/M Frank Zavota, Gregory Zervos.

The Lord Jesus holds the only light that can dispel the world’s darkness.
The call of Stewardship is for us to help Him keep holding up that light.
Dr. Mary Despina Lekas Endowment Fund News

Financial Report for the period ending: 1/31/2019
Endowment Fund Portfolio $996,225.42
Endowment Fund Checking $2764.00

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Mary Samaras in memory of Joan Dolan

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Anna Demetrakas, Pauline Lamantia, M/M Michael Papigiotis,
M/M Arthur G. Pappas, M/M Steven Rothemich, M/M Constantine Rougas,
Mary Samaras in memory of Demetrios Markos

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Effie Salpoglou in memory of Nicolaos Kotsiris

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Polydoros Petrou, M/M Constantine Rougas, The Xenophontos Family
in memory of Steven Drager

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Anna Demetrakas, Rosemary Demetriou, M/M Michael Papigiotis,
in memory of Diana DiCarlo

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Gus Proyous, M/M Peter Simone, in memory of Elle Strekouras

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Philoptochos in memory of Elpis Bassakyros

We Dared To Dream!
Yes, we dared to dream and our dream is now becoming a reality, thanks to you for your
generous ongoing donations and to our beloved Dr. Mary, who has bestowed upon us yet
another of her magnanimous gifts. Her recent donation of $50,000 to our
Endowment Fund, added to the invaluable support from you,
our dedicated parishioners, is bringing us so close to our first $1,000,000 goal.
Our parish is blessed! Thank you!

Respectfully,
Mary Samaras, Secretary
Endowment Fund Committee
FINANCIAL CORNER

I would like to focus this month on the “Dr. Mary Despina Lekas Endowment Fund”

We are approaching a milestone regarding the Endowment Fund. The milestone is reaching 1 million dollars.

All the Endowment Funds are currently located in two separate accounts managed by Morgan Stanley / Smith Barney. The total value of the two accounts will go up and down depending on the volatility of the stock market. With that said, as of February 05, 2019, the total balance of the Endowment Fund accounts was $996,225.42. This means we need an additional $3,774.58 to achieve our goal of 1 million dollars. This is fantastic news. Congratulation to all who have contributed to the Endowment Fund.

It is appropriate currently to acknowledge Dr. Mary Despina Lekas. She has greatly emphasized the importance and meaning of the Endowment Fund. She has made a total of 13 (Thirteen) donations between the years 2006 and 2018. The total amount of all her very generous donations has been $566,078.06.

This is indeed extraordinary!! She has set a goal for all of us to pursue. It is time for everyone to think about donating money to the Endowment Fund. This fund is the future of our parish. This fund will be the responsibility of our children to manage.

In conclusion, I strongly urge everyone to become more familiar with the Endowment Fund and we should follow the role Dr. Mary has provided.

Submitted by James Silva
Youth Choir

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.- Colossians 3:16

Fr. Nick would like to commend the efforts, ability, and commitment of our Church of the Annunciation Youth Choir. It is so humbling and beautiful that these voices glorify and honor God with such enormous love in their hearts. God bless all of their efforts, and a special thank you to Mrs. Beth Nichols who offers her time and talents to prepare our Youth to praise our Lord!

To get your youth involved call Beth directly 383-6708.

GOYA Godparent Luncheon

Our GOYANS hosted the Godparent Luncheon on February 3rd (Superbowl Sunday). The Luncheon was a tremendous success. It was such a joy for them to showcase all of their hard work that they have put into this year and host you all! Everyone was treated to a fantastic meal led by Mr. Jimmy Grammas and Mrs. Elizabeth Degaitas. There were over 160+ in attendance and Patriots Raffle Prizes! (Thank you to Peter Vican for these). We look forward to hosting our Godparent Luncheon next year. It was an amazing opportunity for our Godparents/Godchildren to enjoy time in fellowship following Communion.

GOYA Lock-In Friday March 1st at 7:00PM- Saturday March 2nd at 9:00AM

Theme: Staying Orthodox in and Un-Orthodox World

The GOYA Lock-In will be a great opportunity to enjoy an entire night of fellowship and fun! We will begin our evening with a Vespers. Ambassadors of Hellenic College Holy Cross will be with us. In addition the night will be filled with games, movies, and many other fun activities. GOYANS are also asked to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to our Inter-Faith Food Ministry. Please RSVP directly to me by calling or texting at: 847-942-8103 or by e-mail at Fr.Nick@annunciationri.org

Sunday, March 3rd-Oratorical Festival

For our Oratorical Festival, our Youth will prepare powerful reflections to theological questions of our time! It is a great way for students to learn the art of speech writing, theological reflection, and performing in front of others! Don't miss this opportunity! Please see Fr. Nick, Marion Pappas, or Maria Coclin for more information and to register.

Basketball

Our Youth Ministries will be attending the UMASS vs Rhode Island Basketball Game on Saturday, March 9th, we look forward to a great evening!

Metropolis of Boston GOYA Summer Camp

Registration is now open for our Metropolis of Boston Summer Camp! This camp is an excellent opportunity for our youth age 8 and up to unplug, recharge, and reinvigorate their faith! Whether you are a previous camper or a new comer, all youth can benefit from this outstanding ministry of our Metropolis. Summer Camp will be held for four sessions. We advise that you attend whichever week is best for you! Fr. Nick or Fr. Andrew will make every effort to be with our kids whichever week they may attend!

If you have any questions please see Fr. Nick.

Dates are as follows

Session 1: July 8 - July 14 / Session 2: July 15 - July 21
Session 3: July 22 - July 28 / Session 4: July 29 - August 4

For more information on our Metropolis of Boston Camp. Please Visit https://www.metropolisofbostoncamp.org/
THANK YOU!
On Saturday, February 9th we hosted our Glendi! Thank you all for making our Dance Troupe YAL Greek Glendi a tremendous success! We had over 200+ and a great time was had by all! We would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Savvas Rougas and his team for organizing, planning, and executing a successful event which brought our community together.
There was a tremendous inter generational attendance! We look forward to more lively, fun, and community-centered events going forward!

Bryant University Inter-Faith Prayer Breakfast
Bryant University Orthodox College Students from our parish and from other areas participated in the Inter-Faith Prayer Breakfast. We had a great time discussing, praying together, and taking part in everything the breakfast to offer.
We are grateful for the wonderful college students we have within the community and area who are dedicated to identifying with their faith, making their faith personal, and sharing their faith with others. We look forward to more great events with our Bryant College Students.

Friday, February 22nd-Sunday February 24th
YAL Ski Weekend
YAL will be holding their Ski Weekend Retreat in New Hampshire at the St. Methodios Camp and Retreat Center! The Cost of the weekend will be $160 which will include two nights at the facility, plus food. Please contact Fr. Nick directly if interested, also please pass info along to all YAL aged youth! We look forward to a great weekend!

Young Adult Breakfast
Following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 17th our Young Adults will be going to Breakfast for fellowship! If interested please RSVP to Fr. Nick at Fr.nick@annunciationri.org!
Good morning: Fr. Andrew, Fr. Nick, and members of the parish. I am Jason Maintainis assistant treasurer of the parish council. Today we observe one of the most significant observances - that of Godparent Sunday. Baptism is the sacrament that bonds us to each other but also bonds us to the Church. I have always been appreciative of my Godparents Kosta Mares and Kathy Grammas during my childhood; which still influences me to this day and by extension connects me to the parish.

All Christians should provide and assist their local parish so future baptisms can be held here and not simply baptisms -- BUT all that the church does for its people.

I am honored to serve as the assistant treasurer of the parish council; now in my second year in this role. It is an eye opening and beneficial experience to be doing this. I now see the needs of the parish in a more clear manner and I wish to share the following thoughts with you….

We hear the following phrases everyday: somebody else will do it, $1.08, and what a bunch of rocket scientists. What do these three unrelated phrases have in common? What do they have to do with parish life aspects? The answer is that, they all have something in common as well as have a function here in the parish. As parishioners we are called to take ownership of the parish through time, treasuries and talents.

Let us go back to the first phrase: someone else will do it. This is a phrase that I hear when there are various events in our parish: the annual festival, the food fair, the bazaar, and other activities that are held in the parish. People will say Mr. Jones will do that or Mrs. Smith does that. Everyone always ASSUMES that someone else will do it and or someone else will continue doing that. This creates the dependency effect: people will think that the same people will do it. It also creates a bystander effect, people will keep walking by and say some else will do it I have other things to get done. With this said, the same 4 or 5 people who always do things: will some day retire, slow down, leave the parish or even pass away; leaving a void to be filled. Is this a WISE way for our parish to function?

While we hear the phrase someone else will do it - we also hear another phrase and that is $1.08. A dollar-eight cents - is the price of any size cup of coffee at McDonalds. If a cup of coffee is purchased each day that is $7.56 per week. As a parish we depend heavily on stewardship to pay out our bills and expenses. As the assistant treasurer I see firsthand how important this is to the parish. We are continually going to the festival account just to make ends meet, taking funds away from major capital improvements such as the repainting of the dome and electrical projects to name just two major needs. While putting a dollar in the basket does help the needs of the parish the same dollar does not buy what it use to 5, 10 or even 20 years ago.
Today’s Gospel of the Talents, connects nicely to our baptism vows and our ownership of the parish to which we should adhere to. This is what I mean…. on our baptism day we are christmated by the Holy Spirit which gives us our talents and graces which then need to be cultivated. The people in the bible that had the 10 talents (let’s view the word as “abilities”) or 5 abilities, and even the person with one ability were asked to “use it” in a valuable and beneficial way. WHAT IS OF MORE VALUE THAN “investing” our abilities into the parish and doing it recognizing—that as baptized people—we are called to do so.

The last phrase that we hear = is what a bunch of rocket scientists? Now you may ask what does this have to do with parish life. I often hear from other people “how come we are still doing things this way, why can it not be done another way”, as well as “I do not like the way things are done.”

To answer this question… as a member of the parish council I do not have all the answers (for I am not a rocket scientist but just a simple parish member) and as a parish council collectively, we do not have all the answers. I would like to give an example of this.

When I first arrived on the council we were going over the financial reports; and when they were presented these reports had various information about account numbers that would not be needed for a meeting and or to be shared. I asked the question why are the accounts displayed in this format? The answer was = it has always been that way. I then stated = perhaps we could try it another way.

The council members (many of them serving for many years) responded to me, good point, let’s make the change. I have also observed on the council that at times if we do not have the answers on a particular topic, = we will contact experts to help us come to a conclusion.

To tie these three phrases together -- we must pull our time, treasury and talents together. Perhaps volunteering for a committee we have never served one, or an extra set of hands at an event = and if we have being volunteering for a long time (and bless all who have been) = continue to take active roles with more enthusiasm. One might simple enroll in the pledge program who has not done so, or join the stewardship committee.

I thank the parish council for agreeing to have me speak today and thank each of you for listening to me. Being born, baptized and raised in this parish, this is really special to me to serve on the council in which I am giving my time, treasurer and talents following the example OF SO MANY OF YOU, who have inspired me over the years.

I ask that if you are not currently doing so yourself….that you begin to do so, and this way our parish can - F L O R I S H   M O R E.  

**By: Jason Maintanis**

*Stewardship Sunday Sermon of  Feb 3. 2019*
Mind your “Zs” and your “Qs”

Scrabble was invented in 1931 by Alfred Butts, an unemployed architect (who wasn’t himself a good Scrabble player and admitted that the game should have had fewer “I”s). Originally called Lexico, the game did not become popular until 1952, when the chairman of Macy’s department store became addicted playing it on his vacation and placed a large order for the store. Currently, Scrabble is produced in 29 different languages—including Afrikaans, Hebrew, and Malaysian. More than 100 million games have been sold in 121 countries. The highest score that can be achieved when you’re the first player and the board is empty is 126, providing you have the letters to spell quartz or squeezy. Of course that takes into account the 50-point bonus for using all 7 tiles in one move. The highest score ever achieved in a competition when others were there to verify it was 392 for caziques that included two triple letter-word scores. And all good players know there are 109 permissible two letter words, including jo (a northern sweetheart), ka (an attendant spirit), xi (a letter in the Greek alphabet) and qi (a Chinese term meaning “life force”).

**JO QUARTZ**

+++++++++++++++ Looking Ahead ++++++++++++++++++++++++

Fri. April 5, Philoptochos over night retreat, NH
Sat. April 6, Family Night w/Dr. Pauline Pappas
Greek Parade in Boston April 7
Palm Sunday is April 21
Great & Holy Friday is April 26
Pascha is April 28
Spring Greek Food Fair May 4th & 5th—Sat/Sun
* Save time from now to take a work shift*
Already February is almost gone and we are moving towards Great Lent and Easter with our many projects of philanthropy and perhaps a few new ones that are in the planning stages. I have been remiss in wanting to express my many thanks to those involved in our fall activities.

*Thank you* to the 42 Team Opa walkers supporting the September Downs Syndrome event and the Dean Andrikos family.

*Thank you* to those who attend the outstanding Pavlo concert and reception. A special thank you to the dynamic team of Koula Rougas and Roula Proyous who provided the food and decor that was just outstanding!

*Thank you* to our Bazaar chairlady Georgia Pappas and her committee including Koula Rougas, Bessie Papigiotis, Anna Demetrakas and Nancy Harritos. It was our most successful bazaar yet and I thank all the booth chairs who worked tirelessly to make this happen. To our many volunteers for helping us during the weekend.

*Thank you* to those who attended the Agape Tea, participated in the ‘Share The Warmth’ donations, enjoyed the Christmas Holiday Pops Concert and Dinner.

*Thank you* to our members who diligently support our Sisterhood and Dues year after year and to those members who come to our meetings and especially to our hostesses.

*Lastly, the Ordination Luncheon* for our Father Nick and his family was our showpiece event! I cannot thank you all enough for your many hours of volunteerism. *Thank you* Father Andrew for your guidance, *Fran* for all she did and for coming in on Saturday to help us, Harry Nicolopoulos for his donations, Koula Rougas and Bessie Papigiotis for overseeing the event, Anna Demetrakas for donating the beautiful floral table arrangements. You, our members, who came and set the tables and helped in every way possible. Lastly, to our Parish Council and Elizabeth Degaitas who provided the kitchen support and to John Degaitas and Vasili Tsimikas who provided the finishing touches!

Looking forward, we will be volunteering at Amos House by hosting a Mardi Gras party, having a Retreat at our Metropolis Retreat Center and serving at the Annunciation Vespers reception. Our next meeting will be March 18th and stay in touch with our Philoptochos Cranston Facebook Page.


With Philoptochos Love,
Marianne Phelan, President
Computers are the Future
Although we do not want to admit to ourselves that computers are an asset to everyone's life, there are still a percentage of people who do not own a computer or know how to use one. Which is fine, because back years ago computers were unheard of in schools, work, homes, even laptops that travel with you. We all have had to adapt in our workplace especially, they are needed. Here at the Church we try our best to put all upcoming events and announcements in our Annunciator for the percentage that do not use a computer. Also, using our list-serve computer program, information is sent electronically so the percentage that use a computer, they may receive it more promptly. If you do not have a computer and are in doubt of any event, church service, sacrament etc. Please check your Annunciator calendar page (19) or call the office 401-942-4188 and we will give you the information you need. Note as well, from the moment the Annunciator is printed, changes always occur to that printed calendar.

Medea Seminar at Assumption in Pawtucket
Beginning Monday, February 25 to April 8th, an adult class will be offered on Euripides' classical masterpiece.
Medea, a Greek tragedy is a mirror through which the individual can discover his "dark" side and flaws, acknowledge them and learn from his errors- if he does- in order to achieve the cleansing of his soul and be released from inner conflicts.
In Medea, Euripides-, the "most tragic of all dramatists"- with deep psychological insight, explores the powerful nature of the human passions, particularly that of anger and revenge, which led her tortured soul to kill her own children.
Medea is a tragedy of a battlefield between passion and reason in which the powerful emotions win and lead to destruction.
Only the tempering and taming of the passions can avoid catastrophe.
The class will be held every Monday from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Community Center of the Assumption.
For further information please call John Lyssikatos at 401-728-4452.

Recent Deaths
Steven Drager age 65 of Warwick RI, passed away on 1/13/2019. His funeral and burial was held on 1/18/2019. The father of Vasilios (Bill) Kotsiris, Nicholaus Kotsiris, age 72 of Barrington, RI, passed away on 1/24/19. His funeral and burial was held on 1/29/2019. The father of Theofanis Markos, Demetrios Markos age 98 passed away in Fort Worth, TX. on 1/24/19. His funeral and burial was in Texas. Christopher Xynellis age 83 of Warwick RI, passed away on 1/28/19. His funeral and burial was held on 2/4/19.
God created winter and that is the reason for this season.

Winter is short days and long nights giving us time to thank God for everyday and to pray.

Winter is Truly a Blessing

A Family that has Served Local Families for 4 Generations...
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Office Manager
Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old He will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

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SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY APRIL 14
“Hellenic College Holy Cross Seminary Day in our Parish”

Guest Chanter the President and students to be with us!

Watch for details SOON!

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We support the 2019 Pledge Program!

• Internal Auditing
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RI Orthodox Clergy Fellowship Services for Great Lent 2019
~Open to All~

Sunday March 17 - Orthodoxy Sunday – St Mary’s- 5PM
249 High St Pawtucket / 401-726-1202 = Preacher – Fr Aaron Walker

Sunday March 24 – Festal Vespers Annunciation – Cranston
6:15PM
175 Oaklawn Ave / 401-942-4188 = Preacher – Fr Shnork Souin

Sunday March 31 - St John's Parish – Woonsocket- 5PM
501 East School Street / 401-766-3343 = Preacher – Fr George Economou

Sunday April 7 - St Michael’s Parish – Woonsocket- 5PM
74 Harris Ave / 401-401-762-3939 = Preacher – Fr Elie Estephan

Sunday April 14 - St Mary/Mena - (Hope) Cranston- 5PM
2433 Scituate Avenue / 401-864-7111 = Preacher – Fr Boris Korner
Mid February—March 2019

Divine Services (year round) Orthros (morning prayer) 8:15 am / Liturgy 9:30 am
Fr. Andrew is away 2/19/19—2/23/19 / Schools winter vacation week

Tue Feb 19– Parish Council—7:30PM
Fri Feb 23- Yal Ski Trip Retreat Weekend—at St Methodios Faith & Heritage Center

Sun Feb 24– Prodigal Son / 1st—2nd Finding Head of Holy Baptist John
- MEMORIALS-  Steve Drager—40days, Nicholas Campanella—1/yr.

Tue Feb 26- St Photine the Samaritan Woman— services per usual morning hours
Goya Officer / Advisor Meeting - 7:00pm

Thu Feb 28- Orthodoxy 101 (Part 2) - 6:30-8:30PM
Marriage Prep (Part 1) - 7:00—9:30PM

Fri Mar 1- Goya overnight Lock In- 7pm (thru Sat morning at 9am)

Sat Mar 2- 1st Saturday of Souls—usual morning hours w/ Memorials
Orthodoxy 101 (Part 3) - 2-4PM

Sun Mar 3—Meat Fare Sun / Martyr Eutropios / Hieromartyr Theodoretos
- MEMORIALS: Demetrios Markos– 40 days
Nicolaos Kitsiris– 40 days
- St John Chrysostom Luncheon & Festival– After Liturgy

Thu Mar 7- Orthodoxy 101 (Part 3) - 6:30-8:30PM
Marriage Prep (Part 2) - 7:00—9:30PM

Fri Mar 8- Church Development Seminar / Revitalization Initiative—7PM
- Open to all Guest speaker– Fr Jonathan Ivanoff

Sat Mar 9- 2nd Sat of Souls—usual morning hours w/ Memorials
Revitalization Initiative—11:30am
Annunciation Youth Gathering at URI Basketball—4PM

Sun Mar 10—Cheese Fare & Forgiveness Sun / Anastasia the Patrician
- MEMORIALS: Christopher Xynellis—40/days,
Savvas Xenophontos– 1 yr / Georgia Wood– 6 yrs
Stathis Harritos-7rs / Helen Harritos– 20 yrs
- Boy Scout Troop Macaroni Dinner– 3-6PM

Mon Mar 11- Orthodox Great Lent Begins—Clean Monday (KATHARA DEFTERA)
- Children/Family Compline– 4:15PM / Traditional Compline– 6:15PM

Wed Mar 13– Confessions by advance appointment
- Pre-Sanctified Liturgy— 6:15PM

Thu Mar 14- Orthodoxy 101 (part 4) - directly in church

Fri Mar 15- Salutations Service (1st Stanza) - 6:15PM

Sat Mar 16- Miracle of St Theodore with the Koliva— usual morning hours
Orthodoxy 101 (Part 4) 2-4PM—directly in church

Sun Mar 17—Sun f Orthodoxy / Alexios, Man of God Confessor Theosterikios
MEMORIALS: Helen Tannionos 1/yr.  Maria Kripotos– 5yrs / Eleni Kripotos– 25 yrs
Procession of Icons afterwards / Lenten coffee hour
Τή μορφή τοῦ Ἰησοῦ

Τή μορφή συχνά σκέπτομαι τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ὡς μᾶς τὴν παρέδωσε ἡ ζωγραφική τοῦ Βυζαντίου. Καθώς καὶ τίς σεπτές μορφές τῶν ἱερῶν Πατέρων τῶν δύσκολων πρῶτων αἰώνων τῆς θρησκείας μας.

Πόσες δυνάμεις τοῦ καλοῦ κρύβουν ἐντὸς τους τὰ κορεσμένα ἀπ’ τὴν εὐλαβεία μας τοῦτα πρόσωπα, πόσιν ἐπιβολὴν ἐξορκισμοῦ διαθέτουν κατὰ τῶν λεγεώνων σκοτεινῶν πνευμάτων.

„Αν ἐκραγοῦν οἱ μυστικοὶ πυρήνες τῶν μορφῶν αὐτῶν ὅλο τὸ σύμπαν βὰ καταναγαστεῖ μὲ τίς εὐεργεσίας τους.

Κι ὅταν ἐκλέξουμε «Πάτερ ἡμῶν», «Χριστός Ἀνέστη» ἢ «δι’ εὐχῶν τῶν ἁγίων Πατέρων» χαιρόμαστε ποὺ ἔχουμε κι ἔμεις προστάτες ποὺ δὲν εἴμαστε μόνοι στὸ λαβύρινθο τῆς ὑπαρξης.

Καὶ ἡ ἀγαλλίασθη ποὺ μᾶς μυρώνη εἶναι μία ἐγγύση γιὰ ἰκανοποίηση κάθε ἁγαθοῦ αἰτήματός μας, κι ἐκεῖνου ἀκόμα γιὰ τῇ σαρκικῇ Ἀνάστασι μας. Τὸ τελευταῖο μάλιστα τὸ θεσμοῦ πώς ἐγίνει κι ὅλας δεκτό, πώς εἶναι ἀπὸ τῶρα κερδισμένο.

Τὶς μορφές συχνά σκέπτομαι τοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ τῶν ἁγίων Πατέρων ποὺ μέσα τους στεγάζουνε τὴν ἁγωνία μας καὶ τή μορφή μας.

Μαρτινές, 3-5-1999
Θανάσης Παπαθανασόπουλος