ASCENSION THURSDAY—JUNE 6
Orthros / Liturgy / Senior Citizens Luncheon Following

The story of the Ascension of our Lord, celebrated as one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church, is found in the book of the Acts of the Apostles 1:3-11. It is also mentioned in the Gospels of Mark (16:19) and Luke (24:50-53).

The moment of the Ascension is told in one sentence: "He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight" (Acts 1:9).

Christ made His last appearance on earth, forty days after His Resurrection from the dead. The Acts of the Apostles states that the disciples were in Jerusalem. Jesus appeared before them and commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the "Promise of the Father". He stated, "You shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now" (Acts 1:5).

After Jesus gave these instructions, He led the disciples to the Mount of Olives. Here, He commissioned them to be His witnesses "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). It is also at this time that the disciples were directed by Christ to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Jesus also told them that He would be with them always, "even to the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

As the disciples watched, Jesus lifted up His hands, blessed them, and then was taken up out of their sight (Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9). Two angels appeared to them and asked them why they were gazing into heaven. Then one of the angels said, "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him going into heaven" (Acts 1:11).
As previously communicated, a parish-wide survey of 30 very active parishioners will be held on Sunday May 19, after Liturgy.

Starting in June, parish-wide focus groups will be held for all parishioners who would like to learn about the survey results.

The Focus Groups will review and communicate the findings of the Orthodox Natural Church Development survey. We will also discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Parish identified by the survey, and issues related to the Parish’s strengths and weaknesses.

**The dates of the first 4 Parish Focus Groups have been set for June:**

1) Saturday, June 8 at 10 AM
2) Tuesday, June 11 at 10 AM
3) Thursday, June 20 at 6:30 PM
4) Sunday, June 23 after Liturgy

Each focus group will be limited to 12 participants; all other parishioners are welcome to attend as listeners, and observers.

**Please contact Fran in the parish office,** if you would like to reserve a seat in one of the first four Focus Groups. The office phone number is (401) 942-4188.

Natural Church Development has identified eight essential elements in healthy churches and concluded that God’s church will grow naturally if it is functioning in a healthy manner. The job of the parish then is to be aware of these elements and ensure they are functioning well.

**EIGHT ELEMENTS OF CHURCH HEALTH**

- Empowering Leadership / Gift-orientated Ministry / Passionate Spirituality/
- Functional Structures / Inspiring Services / Holistic Small Groups /
- Need-orientated Evangelism / Loving Relationships

For more information about Orthodox Natural Church Development (ONCD), please visit, [www.oncd.us](http://www.oncd.us)

+ 

**Faithfully Serving our parish and planning for its future,**

Paul Pliakas, Team Leader / Fr Andrew G. George, Protopresbyter

Parish Revitalization Team Members:
Fr Nicholas Lanzourakis, Maria Leroux, Theofanis Markos, Marianne & Kevin Phelan, Elaine Otto, Emile Sarkis, Lisa & Russ Wheatley
Metropolis Award - Sunday June 9
The parish council has selected Elizabeth Degaitas to be this year’s recipient from our parish of the Metropolis of Boston Award.
In recognition for her dedicated service to our parish and her long time volunteering, cooking, hall rentals, numerous Parish Council years, and in so many other areas of the parish, over the years.
The Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday June 9th at Lombardo’s in Randolph, MA and is open to the public. Reception at 5:00PM and dinner at 6:00PM. Donation is $75.00 payable to the “Annunciation Church”, memo line “Metropolis Awards Dinner.”
Send your check as reservation to the parish office before May 30th to reserve your seat.

HC/HC COMMENCTMENT – Sat May 18
As a follow up from the April 14 visit of Rev Dr Christopher Metropoulos, a reminder is given for parishioners to visit the beautiful campus in Brookline, at 50 Goddard Avenue. An ideal time to do that is for their commencement activities…Orthros / Liturgy in the Holy Cross Chapel at 8am, followed by the Commencement Ceremony in the Pappas Gymnasium at 11am.

PARISH SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE – THURSDAY MAY 23
Be reminded that applications for our various parish academic scholarship are due May 23. Note that the current school’s transcript MUST be included with the actual application. Youth who may have received twice previously, are not eligible, as well as those with GPA less than 2.5 (without an explanation).

YOUTH PROTECTION MANDATE
As previously reported, our Archdiocese has a mandated procedure of certification for all who have any involvement in the parish, with youth on any and all levels.
This training and verification process is scheduled to be implemented in the fall.

This Year’s Graduates—in Next Annunciator
Please submit the names of parishioner graduates from high school, college, university, vocational schools and graduate degree programs to the parish office by May 24 so that we may list them in the June issue of the Annunciator, sharing in the joy and success of each household with a graduate. Be sure to state name of school, degree received and future plans. These can be e-mailed to the parish office at <office@annunciationri.org> or sent in by regular mail “Attention Newsletter”. Mark your calendar as well for our annual Graduates Sunday Coffee Hour set for Sunday, June 16th.

VISITING OUR PARISH in June
One of our previous parish chanters back in the late 1980’s (and Holy Cross graduate) Patrick Viscuso, now the Rev Dr Patrick Viscuso, canonist of our Archdiocese, will visit our parish June 27-30 with his beloved wife, Susan (employed at that time at Brown University. He will offer a class that Thursday night and preach at our Sunday Liturgy. As he told me on the phone, he has so many fond memories of their time in our parish and how impactful so many of us were to them. This will be their first visit back to Providence. Details to follow soon.
2019 PLEDGE PROGRAM REPORT

We have to date 280 parishioners with a pledge of $160,922.00
The Actual Amount Received as of $114,350.00

Since our last newsletter, the following pledges have been received for 2019
M/M Dionysius Argeris, Karen Bablenis, Donna Broccoli, M/M Richard Campanella, Alex Dimitriadis, M/M Thomas Frank, George Gatos, M/M James Grammas, M/M Adam Hill, Maria Kontomerkos, M/M Spiro Kyriakakis, Niki Kyrou, M/M Demetrios Ladas, Demetra Lambros, Christopher Maniatakos, M/M Harry Nicolopoulos, M/M Alexios Nikolaidis, M/M George Nonis, M/M John Panagako, M/M Gus Pappas, Paul Pappas, Angela Provost, M/M Michael Psikakos, Dr. & Mrs. Steven Rougas, M/M Raymond Sinapi Jr., M/M Ernest Sotirakos, Peter Strekouras, Evanthia Theodoridis, M/M Soterios Tsimikas, Dr. & Mrs. Michael Vezeridis, Maria Vlahos, Dr. Walsh & Mrs. Lascarides Walsh, Mr. & Dr. Leonard Wood

Consider giving to the Pledge Program today,
all donations are accepted and not measured.
Don’t ever feel like it’s a drop in the bucket, because every drop counts!
Giving opens the door to receiving. We Thank You.

An additional donation has been made to our Choir Fund by Abu & Leah Toppin on behalf of Dr Eleni Zervos-Pappas’ 60th Birthday.

1st Greek Festival Planning Meeting
Wed May 15—7:30PM
New members welcome to join in on the effort

LENTEN FRIDAY SALUTATION YOUTH READERS
God Bless our Greek School students who prepared and read in the original Greek, the compline prayers to the Virgin & Christ...Calista & Lucas Leroux, Vasiliki Marantidis, Christodoulos Andriotis, Thea Mases, Garriella & Christian Santos, Sophia Nichols and Kostas Rougas!

Thank You to all the youth who joined us for our annual Holy Friday Youth Retreat!
We appreciate the time and effort that all the volunteers contributed to make this event possible!
A special thank you to Father Andrew, Father Nick, Lia Andrikos, Alex Carr, Hoda Daiaa, Mary Daiaa, Jim Harritos, Nancy Harritos, John Mitrelis, Beth Nichols, Nathaniel Nichols, Marianne Phelan, John Psikakos, Katerina Tori, Deborah Trikoulis and Julie Trikoulis.
It takes a team to make these events possible so
THANK YOU AGAIN! - Maria Leroux, chairlady.
Dr. Mary Despina Lekas Endowment Fund News
Financial Report for the period ending 5/8/2019
Endowment Fund Portfolio: $1,026,130.06
Endowment Fund Checking Account: $5,472.05

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Michael Haralambides in memory of Aldina Kanelakos

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Michael Haralambides, M/M Steven Muccino,
M/M Constantine Rougas in memory of Ann Hague

A donation has been made to the Endowment fund by:
Joe, Patty & Frank Morenzi, Maria Zaharakos
in memory of Georgia Kounavis mother.

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Michael Papigiotis, Philoptochos Society, Mary Samaras
in memory of Ruth Moragemos

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Steven Rothemich, Mary Samaras in memory of John Rengigas

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Helen & Georgia Pappas, M/M Constantinos Perdikakis
in memory of Demetrios Markos

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
Julie Karahalios, Jean Mihelakos, Mary Samaras, Carole Xanthakis
in memory Elizabeth Marses 1st Anniversary

A donation has been made to the Endowment fund by:
Alan Shawn Feinstein in honor of his friend & neighbor Mary Samaras

+ Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another.
Can we, will we, absolutely do this again?
With persistence & determination
we shall achieve another milestone!

Respectfully, Mary Samaras, Secretary Endowment Fund Committee
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PHASE 2
Our Capital Improvement Fund Raising donations have slowed down but our efforts continue. We have received three new pledge donations.
Ms. Dina Mihos, Mrs. Andrea O’Hair and Dorothy Stergis.
Thank you very much for your generous donations.

We have now received a total of 175 pledges totaling $341,362.00.
We have deposited $337,462.00 and there is still $3,900.00 unpaid yet.

Currently our contractors are installing the final stages of the new Air Conditioning system. This system should be up and running shortly.
We will need to make the final payments to the Air Conditioning contractor when the installation is completed.

If you have not yet submitted a pledge donation, please do.
If you have not yet fulfilled your pledge donation, please do.

Thank you all for your continued support of your church.
Submitted by James Silva

GREEK SPRING FOOD FAIR REPORT

As you know we recently completed our 10th Two Day Greek Food Fair which was held on Saturday May 04 and Sunday May 05.
This event is typically offered during the month of May each year.
It is a very successful event and many Greeks and non-Greeks look forward to enjoying the delicious food.
I would like to provide you with a summary of the financial data associated with the past Food Fair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Food Fair</th>
<th>2019 Food Fair (Preliminary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
<td>$41,151.30</td>
<td>$31,085.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$19,426.11</td>
<td>$10,763.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit</td>
<td>$21,725.19</td>
<td>$20,321.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that the 2019 data is preliminary, and all the expenses are not listed. I anticipate an additional $2,000.00 in expenses. Even though this event involves a lot of work, it is very profitable.

Thank You all who worked this year!!!!!
Easter Offerings
Josephine Aliferakis, Elaine Allendorf, M/M Christodoulos Andriotis, M/M Dionyssios Argeris, M/M Dimitrios Arsenis, M/M Savvas Arsoniadis, Karen Bablenis, Nicholas Bouris, M/M Michael Campopiano, M/M Gerald Carignan, Sherri Cesario, Mary Cleary, Andrew Coclin, M/M George Coclin, M/M Thomas Coyne, M/M Constantinos Dafoulas, M/M Wilfred Ders, M/M Gregory Demetrakas, Rosemary Demetriou, Claire DiNobile, Nicholas Filippou, M/M Hercules Fircanis, Fr. Andrew George, Constance Georgeadys, Panayota Gionis, M/M Constantine Grammas, Dionisia Grammas, M/M James Grammas, George Hantzakos, M/M Michael Haralambides, Margaret Janikies, Dr. & Mrs. Apostolos Kallis, Julie Karahalios, M/M Basil Karanikos, M/M Arthur Kazianis, James Kripotos, M/M Spiro Kyriakakis, Niki Kyrour, M/M Mark Lavoie, Angelo Lazarides, M/M William Lehourites, M/M Vasilios Liakos, Jason Mainlandis, Dr. & Mrs. James Manis, Peter Manis, M/M Theofanis Markos, Marianthi Mastriano, M/M Vasilios Melanis, M/M Emmanuel Mihailides, M/M Andrew Mitrelis, M/M John Mitrelis, Theodore Moran, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Morrissey, M/M Steven Muccino, M/M Harry Nicoloopoulos, Andrea O’Hair, M/M Richard Otto, M/M Michael Papigiotis, M/M John Paraskevacos, Mary Pereira, Thomai Petropoulos (in memory of Arthur Petropoulos), M/M Kevin Phelan, Angela Provost, M/M Gus Proyous, John B. Quinn, Mary Quinn, M/M Steven Rothemich, Mary Samaras, Panayota Saviou, M/M Raymond Sinapi Jr., M/M Ernest Sotirakos, M/M Leon Stamatakos, M/M Panagiotis Stasinopoulos, Ethel Strekouras, Virginia Strekouras, M/M Jose Torres, M/M Stelios Trikoulis, M/M Basilios Tsimikas, Sophia Tsanetos, Antonia Vanikiotis, M/M John Vanikiotis, Peter Vezeridis, James Vose, David Wernette & Dr. Golfo Tzilos, M/M Christos Xenophontos, Katherine Xiarhos, Zambeta Xiarhos, M/M Socrates Zafiriades Jr., Maria Zaharakos, M/M Frank Zavota.

*We Thank all of you for your Generosity!*  Total $4690.00

Holy Week Service Books Available
A new supply of the “black Papadeas” Holy Week Book is on hand.
Don’t wait till next Holy Week…..they run out fast. Visit our parish bookstore to get your copy well ahead of time.

CONFESSIONS YEAR ROUND
Yes confessions were heard during Great Lent and Holy Week, but this renewing opportunity is also available all year long. Simply call the office ahead to schedule a date and time, with Fr Andrew, or contact any Orthodox priest of your choosing.

RECENT DEATHS
Two parishioners passed during Bright Week-- Ann Hague age 82 of Cranston, RI passed away on 4/29/19. Her funeral & burial was on 5/2/19. Aldina Kanelakos age 87 of Seekonk MA., passed away on 5/1/19. Her funeral and burial was held on 5/9/19. Two clergy of our Metropolis passed recently-- Rev Asterios Gerostergios (long time pastor in Cambridge, MA) and Archimandrite Vasilios Flionis (who served in Pawtucket in the mid 1980s. Relatives of parishioners passed on recently at other locations: the sister of Michael Haralambides, the mother Georgia Kounavis, the father of John Mulrath, and the grandmother of Stephen Daszkiewicz..

~May their Memory be Eternal for all of them~

TRUST IN THE RESURRECTION
Additional Epitafios Donations
M/M Savvas Arsoniadis, Thomas Bovis, Vivian Dafoulas, M/M Gaby Daiaa, M/M Hercules Fircanis, M/M Thomas Frank, Constance Georgeadys, Dionisia Grammas, M/M Vasilios Harritos, M/M John Hatjopoulos, Catherine Louth, Jason Maintainis, Maria Markos, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Morrissey, M/M Richard Otto, M/M Constantinos Perdikakis
(in memory of John & Georgia Tesseris & George & Eleftheria Perdikakis), Angela Provost, M/M Gus Proyous, M/M James Silva, M/M Ernest Sotirakos, M/M Michael Sotirakos, M/M Richard Towne, M/M Aristotelis Tsonis, Dr. & Mrs. Michael Vezeridis, M/M Manuel Vinhateiro Jr (in memory of James & Mary Kanelos), Zambeta Xiarhos, M/M Charles Xynellis

Total $4580.00

Donation for Holy Week
Thank you Vassilios Chrysanthopoulos for the Holy Week Donation in Memory of Athanasios Chrysanthopoulos and George Andreopoulos
Thank you to Jean Daras for the Holy Week Donation
Thank you to Diana Psilopoulos for the Holy Week Donation in Memory of husband, Dennis Harry
Thank you to Helen, Georgia, Gus & Joanne Pappas for the Holy Week Donation in Memory of Ernest G. Pappas
Thank you to M/M Constantine Rougas for the Holy Week Donation
Thank you to M/M Nicholas Tanionos for the Holy Week Donation in Memory of Helen Tanionos
Thank you M/M Kostas Trikoulis for Holy Week Donation

Lenten Icons
Thank you to M/M Constantine Grammas for the Lenten Icons in loving memory of Elizabeth Marses

Thank You
Cruz Cardosa and Liliana Liakos for the donation of new tables for our Greek School. We greatly appreciate your generosity and hope many children enjoy several year’s of learning

Thank You
A heartfelt thank you for Dr. Chris Chihlas’ generous donation to replace the AED batteries and pads.

Thank You from Fadia Sarkis, coffee hour chair
To Sunday School teachers & YAL for creating, serving & sponsoring the Lenten style coffee hours for March & April.
Annunciation Youth Ministries
= From the Desk of Fr. Nick

**Saturday of Lazaros and Good Friday Retreat**
Our Youth have had great days of Spiritual Retreat!
On Saturday of Lazarus they served our Parish through Palm Cross making!
On Good Friday they took part in a retreat that was a spiritually oriented day
in the life of our parish.
Our volunteers were focused on providing our young people with an experience that involved
worship, activities, and spiritual reflection.
Our theme was “Through the Cross…. Joy!”
The retreat was centered on how Christ showed through the Cross that He was passionate about
us. This shows through the joy, love, forgiveness, and peace He has given us.
In turn, we are passionate about Him.
We look forward to more Christ-Centered opportunities for our young people
to engage their faith.

**GOYA Youth Sunday-Sunday June 2nd**
Our Youth Sunday is a Ministry opportunity for the Teens of our Parish! Our Teens will assume all Narthex Duty Activities which will involve the pangari, offering trays, and ushering.
“I came not to be served but to serve”-Luke 22:25

**GOYA Teen Hibachi Night— 4PM—Sunday June 2nd**
The Teens of our Parish will be enjoying Hibachi at Bon Asian Bistro in Johnston!
The Cost per Teen will be only $12! Two dollars per teen will be donated to our Interfaith-Food Ministry. We look forward to sponsoring all of the Teens of our Parish this Night. We will also be holding our elections for next year at this time.

**Metropolis of Boston GOYA Summer Camp-Reminder!**
We are pleased to say that many of our youth of the Church of the Annunciation are signed up for our Metropolis of Boston Camp! We would love to have more! Fr. Nick and Fr. Andrew will rotate weeks and look forward to being with our Youth Weeks 2 and 3!

**Dates are as follows**
Session 1: July 8 - July 14 / Session 2: July 15 - July 21-Cranston Week
Session 3: July 22 - July 28-Cranston week (Olympiacos Soccer Clinic as well)
Session 4: July 29 - August 4

For more information on our Metropolis of Boston Camp. Please Visit https://www.metropolisofbostoncamp.org/

**Dance Troupe Practice is in Full Swing!**
Opa! We are enjoying the participation of many of our Youth and Young Adults in our Dance Troupe! Our Dance Troupe is famous for putting on an amazing show at our Greek Festival in September. Our Elementary Division practices on Tuesday Nights and our High School and Young Adults on Thursday Nights.

PLEASE REFER TO THE PREVIOUSLY ISSUED SEPARATE SCHEDULE
Please contact Savvas Rougas if interested at srougas2@gmail.com
**Young Adult News—From the Desk of Fr Nick**

**Coffee Hours / Saturday of Lazaros Breakfast**

Thank you to our Young Adults who assisted with our Coffee Hour Ministry in the month of April. In addition, they served our Saturday of Lazarus Breakfast and assisted our Youth in making Palm Crosses.

**Dance Troupe**

We have greatly appreciated the activity of our Young Adults in the Dance Troupe over the years. This year is no different! We look forward to their leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication which will inspire the next generation! Our Young Adults practice on Thursday Nights. All who are interested should contact Savvas Rougas at srougas2@gmail.com.

**Rhode Island Young Adults Get Together**

On Holy Wednesday twenty-five of our Rhode Island Young Adults and College Student got together in attending the Holy Wednesday Nymphios Service with anointing of Holy Unction, followed by fellowship, and discussion! Many of the youth came together from Bryant University, Providence College, as well as University of Rhode Island. Our discussion focused on the responsibility of each of us who hold the Body Christ!

**Greek Festival Volunteers!**

We look forward to our Young Adults actively participating in our Greek Festival this year both on the planning committee and the actual weekend!

**May 15**th** is our first Festival Meeting!— 7:30PM**

The Young Adults of the Bryant OCF Ministry have already committed to helping us this year!

**2019 High School Grads!-Reminder!**

Do you know where you are going to College Next Year? Please contact Fr. Nick as we will be sending out regular communications to our recent Grads and look to include you!

Your involvement in parish life, youth activities, and opportunity to get to know Christ isn’t ending… It’s just beginning!
«Γίνεσθε οὖν οἰκτίρμονες, καθὼς καὶ ὁ πατήρ ὑμῶν οἰκτίρμων ἐστι» (Λουκ. 6. 36).

Ο ΥΜΝΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΑΓΑΠΗΣ
(τοῦ Ἀποστόλου τῶν ἐθνῶν Παύλου)

1. Ἡ ἀγάπη μακροθυμεῖ, χρηστεύεται, ἡ ἀγάπη εἰς ἔκτις, ἡ ἀγάπη οὐ προφητεύεται, οὐ προφητεύεται.

2. καὶ ἐάν ἔχω προφητείαν καὶ εἰδώ τὰ μυστήρια πάντα καὶ πάντα τὴν γνώσιν, καὶ ἔχω πάντα τὴν πίστιν, όστε όρη μεθιστάνειν, ἡ ἁγάπη ἐάν ἐχω, οὐδὲν εἰμι.

3. καὶ ἐάν γιομίσω πάντα τὰ ὑπάρχοντα μου, καὶ ἐάν παραδώ τὸ σῶμά μου ἕνα καυθήσωμαι, ἡ ἁγάπη ἐάν ἐχω, οὐδὲν ὄφελούμαι.

4. Ἡ ἁγάπη μακροθυμεῖ, χρηστεύεται, ἡ ἁγάπη εἰς ἔκτις, ἡ ἁγάπη οὐ προφητεύεται, οὐ προφητεύεται.

5. οὐκ ἀσχημονεῖ, οὐ διαχεῖ τὰ ἐντυχεῖς, οὐ παροξύνεται, οὐ λογίζεται τὸ κακόν.

6. οὐ χαίρει ἐπὶ τῇ ἀδικίᾳ, συγχαίρει δὲ τῇ ἀληθείᾳ.

7. πάντα στέγει, πάντα πιστεύει, πάντα ἐλπίζει, πάντα ὑπομένει.

8. ἢ ἁγάπη οὐδέποτε ἐκπίπτει, εἰτέ δὲ προφητείᾳ, καταργηθήσονται εἰτέ γλῶσσαι παύσονται εἰτέ γνῶσις, καταργηθῆσον τ... (Ἰωάν. 4, 8)

13. νυνὶ δὲ μένει πίστες, ἐλπίς, ἁγάπη, τὰ τρία ταῦτα, μείζον δὲ τούτων ἡ ἁγάπη.

(Ἄρκος 13, 1-8, 13)

«Ἐν τούτῳ γνώσονται πάντες ὅτι ἐμοὶ μαθηταί ἐστέ, ἐάν ἁγάπην ἔχητε ἐν ἄλληλοις» (Ἰωάν. 13, 34)

Ἐνθύμιον ὁ Ὀρθοδόξου Φιλοθέου Μαρτυρίας
PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Christos Anesti!

As we close out the end of our year and the terms of the current officers, I would like to thank all the members and officers for their time and talent in serving our chapter. Your unwavering support of Philoptochos helps our chapter in supporting our charities both locally and nationally as well as continuing lifelong friendships and starting new ones.

Also, thank you to all those who made their membership and sisterhood payments. Know that your membership payments support many national, metropolis and local charities and you are always welcome to our meetings. We need your talents and your time to accomplish both our established projects and new events and projects.

Thank you to all those who supported our activities during Holy Week and Easter especially the Quinn and Argeris Families for the Easter Bread sales and those who worked tirelessly on Great Friday to decorate and venerate the Epitafios. A special THANK YOU to those who visited our shut-ins with Father Andrew and Father Nick. Our visits brightened their days and provided spiritual comfort. Another heartfelt thank you to Bessie Papigiotis who, on behalf of our chapter, provided food for the guests at the Philoxenia House on Easter Sunday.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 20th with our board meeting starting at 6:30 and general meeting starting at 7:00pm in the Demetrakas Hall.

Our most recent event was the Metropolis of Boston event, ‘An Evening With Chef Maria Loi and Dr. Stefanos Kales’. The entire evening was delightful and filled with friendship, delicious food and interesting discussion. Stayed tuned to seeing Chef Maria on our local PBS stations. Thank you to several ladies from the Pawtucket chapter who joined us.

Upcoming events include our hosting the Senior Luncheon on June 6th and our hosting a barbecue for the guests at Philoxenia House in June. Stay tuned on Facebook and emails inviting you to summer gatherings at local restaurants or events where we can meet up to enjoy each other’s company.

In closing “Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.” Author unknown.

Sincerely, with sisterly love—Marianne Phelan, Philoptochos President
Women & Infants Nurse Pontikes Receives DAISY Award

Thursday, April 11, 2019
GoLocalProv News Team

Cranston nurse Angela Pontikes was presented with the DAISY Award by Women & Infants Hospital.

The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the everyday efforts of nurses.

“Every person who comes into contact with Angela during their visit leaves knowing that there is one more person in this world who genuinely cares about their well-being. While providing exceptional care to every patient, she manages to listen to the patient and their family in order to make sure all of their needs are met before they leave. A specific example of her immense capacity for caring is when she recently had a patient admitted to Women’s Progressive Care Unit who, after bonding over a few visits...she visited every day that she was here until the patient was transferred to Rhode Island Hospital (RIH)...Angela then bought four coffees and used her break every day to go to RIH and check in on the family. Her time caring for them was long over but she continued to care for their emotional needs despite the fact that they were no longer at Women & Infants. Once a patient has had Angela as their nurse, they will always remember her name,” said Women & Infants Molly Hanlon, RN, assistant nurse manager.

Pontikes has been at Women & Infants since March of 1987.

DAISY Foundation

The DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, CA, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes.

Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease.

“When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Women & Infants Hospital are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award,” said Bonnie Barnes, president, and co-founder of the DAISY Foundation.

To nominate a nurse who works at any Women & Infants affiliated location or the main hospital, submit an application online or in person.
SAVE THE DATE—Golf Tournament

Our golf tournament this year will be held on Sunday July 21, 2019—12 PM at the Cranston Country Club, 69 Burlingame Rd., Cranston, RI 02921

Registration deadline: Friday, July 19, 2019
Individual Golfer—$100
Foursome—$400

Register online: www.annunciationgolf.org
**SUN SAFETY**
This summer, make sure you take pre-cautions when out in the sun.

Wear sunscreen even when outside for brief periods.

Excess sun exposure without protection can lead to skin cancer.

There are a number of older people being treated for skin cancer who wish they had been more careful with the sun in their youth.

No amount of time spent in tanning beds is safe!
“WOODLAWN” Funeral Home
600 Pontiac Avenue
Cranston, Rhode Island
421-0289

Four Generations of Dignified Service for over 100 years…
We continue to serve our Thomas Gattone & Son families, formerly of Broadway,
Providence at our Woodlawn Family
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NOTIFICATION FOR REGULAR SPRING PARISH ASSEMBLY

Dear Parishioners, Christos Anesti!

We are pleased to inform you of the upcoming regular Parish Assembly. This Assembly will be held at the Mihailides Center on Sunday, June 2, after coffee hour. We urge all of our parishioners to attend for you will have the opportunity to hear the various matters listed below.

As always, only our parishioners, who are in ecclesiastical order, and are financially in good standing with the parish, may vote at this Assembly; your 2018 stewardship pledge must have been paid in full prior to the meeting and a stewardship pledge form for 2019 must have been submitted prior to the assembly.

The Agenda is as follows:

~Parish Assembly Agenda – Sunday June 2, 2019

1. Opening Prayer
2. Election of Assembly Officers
3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Regular Assembly
4. Presentation of the 2018 Financials—James Silva
   - Available from May 25th by email from the office or in the Narthex
5. Auditor’s Committee Report—Maria Markos / Maha Mitrelis / Costa Dafoulas
6. Appointment of Board of Elections (for the fall)
7. Report of the Phase II Planning – Nick Tanionos
8. Unfinished Business?
   - Vote on Endowment Fund restriction until 2 million is reached
9. Any New Business?
10. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

We look forward to welcoming you at the Parish Assembly on June 2, 2019

Faithfully yours,

Theofanis Markos Sandra Maliangos Fr. Andrew G. George
Parish Council President Parish Council Secretary Protopresbyter
Mid May - Late June 2019

Divine Services (year round) Orthros (morning prayer) 8:15 am / Liturgy 9:30 am

Wed May 15— Greek Festival Planning— 1st meeting— 7:30PM

Sun May 19— Sun 4th of Pascha/Paralytic Sunday - Saints Patrick, Akakios & Menander
   Church School Recognition Sunday / Faith Arts Celebration
   Revitalization Initiative Survey Sunday—after Liturgy

Mon May 20— Philoptochos Meeting & Elections; Board @ 6:30PM/ General Members-7PM

Tues May 21— Sts Constantine & Helen—services per usually morning hours
   Parish Council Meeting— 7:30PM

Wed May 22— Mid-Pentecost Observance—services per usual morning hours

Thu May 23— Marriage Preparation Seminar (Part 1) - 7PM

Sun May 26— Sun 5 of Pascha/Samaritan Woman— Sts Karpos, Alphæus & Averkios

Mon May 27— MEMORIAL DAY—OFFICE IS CLOSED
   Cemetery Prayers: (if heavy rain, prayers in church at 10am), otherwise:
   9:15am—Swan Point / 10am North Burial Grounds (old Greek Section)
   11am—North Burial Grounds (new Greek Section)

Tues May 28— Church School Teachers Staff Meeting

Thu May 30— Choir Practice— 6:30PM / Marriage Prep (Part 2) - 7PM

Sun June 2— Sun 6 of Pascha/Blindman Sunday — Nikephoros, Patriarch CP
   GOYA YOUTH SUNDAY / Spring Parish Assembly—after coffee hour
   MEMORIALS: Ann Hague 40-days, Catherine Boretos—1-yr
   Teen Outing—4PM @ Hibachi

Thu June 6— ASCENSION DAY—40 days of Pascha— services per usual morning hours
   Luncheon following for all seniors of our parish, sponsored by Philoptochos

Sat June 8— 1st Parish Focus Group (Revitalization Initiative)- 10am
   Metropolis Philoptochos Conference— Springfield, MA

Sun June 9— Sun 7 of Pascha/ Fathers of the 1st Ecu Synod - St. Cyril, of Alexandria
   MEMORIALS: Aldina Kanelakos 40-days, Charles A Pappas-5yrs /
   Constance Ravanes-10yrs and other Pappas / Ravanes / Zervos family members
   - Greek School End of the Year Program & Graduation of the 6th grade.
   - Metropolis Awards Dinner— 5PM Lombardo's—Randolph, MA

Tue June 11— 2nd Parish Focus Group (Revitalization Initiative)- 10am

Sat June 15— Pre-Pentecost Saturday of Souls— services per usual morning hours

Sun June 16— Pentecost— FATHER'S DAY / GRADUATE SUNDAY
   - Hellenic Nursing Home “Lunch Under the Tent” - 1PM Canton, MA

Tue June 18— Parish Council Meeting— 7:30PM

Thu June 20— 3rd Parish Focus Group (Revitalization Initiative) - 6:30PM

Sun June 23— All Saints Day/ Agrippina, the Martyr of Rome
   - “4th Parish Focus Group (Revitalization Initiative) - after coffee hour
IT’S ABOUT TIME!

By Fr Angelo Artemas

In today’s corporate world, the issue of punctuality is being approached with increasing seriousness. The norm for U.S. business culture tends to allow a five-minute window for showing up for appointments, but in many other countries being on time is late.

Jim Schleckser, founder of the Inc. CEO Project, who works closely with CEOs, observes the following: I’d like to zero in on people who are habitually late and what message that behavior sends to the rest of us. In short, it tells us that our time is less valuable than theirs. If being late is one of your bad habits, you need to break it now or risk insulting friends and business associates. Show you value someone else’s time as much as you value your own. Tackle your tardiness. Punctuality shows respect.

Greek Orthodox faithful are notorious for being late to church. The same is not the case for faithful from other Orthodox jurisdictions, and certainly not the case for faithful from other Christian denominations. Why are we so late for church when we can make it to court, the doctor office, the theater, stadiums, arenas, the airport, school and work on time? Our ancestors were diligent to wake up early and make sure they opened their business as early as 5am or 6am, and would not have dared open up late. What message are we sending other people about how much we value church, and what message are we sending our children? Do we need any other data to understand why younger generations are not remaining in the church? Why should anyone take our worship seriously when people can just parade in any time they want?

The Divine Liturgy is not like some kind of open exhibit in a gallery - it has a specific beginning, an edifying and vivifying body, and a compelling dismissal. In order to fully participate and experience its richness, faithful should arrive before it begins. The Word of God (Epistle, Gospel AND Sermon) must be heard before the Word of God (the Eucharist/Holy Communion) is received. Receiving without hearing is like marching in graduation ceremonies without ever receiving course instruction. Those who receive without hearing are walking away as staged Christians; those who receive after hearing walk into the world to change it. Jesus taught the multitudes before He fed them, He taught His disciple before He celebrated the Last Supper, and He opened their minds to understanding the Scriptures before He broke bread. His disciples changed the world.

Stewardship has often been described as Time, Treasure and Talent. Average financial contributions to their churches among the Greek Orthodox faithful is far below other denominations. Is there a correlation between how we approach time and treasure?

Consistently one of the biggest pet peeves of brides and wedding planners is guests who arrive late for the ceremony. Those guests disrespect the bride on her special day. Another issue altogether is skipping the service and attending only the reception – how is this not obnoxious? No bride should to be disrespected on her day, and the Bride of God/His Church should not be disrespected on the Day of the Lord.

Enough about Greek Time! It is neither cute nor quirky, it is disrespectful. Enough about excuses and difficulties and traffic (especially that horrendous Sunday morning traffic); being on time is a choice. It is time to serve the Lord. God help us if we think our time is more valuable than His.