THE INFANT JESUS FLIGHT TO EGYPT.
Continuing with the theme from last month’s issue of how Christmas has fallen way out of line in today’s American society is also the topic of St Joseph, the Guardian of our Lord in the flesh.

On our cover is the depiction of the Bible Passage what is commonly known as the “Flight to Egypt”… just three short sentences Matt 2:13-15. After the wise men depart from their visit to Bethlehem, an angel warns Joseph that King Herod will be searching to destroy the infant Jesus and tells Joseph to flee to Egypt for safety.

Look at the icon carefully…how many people are in it? That’s right, 4 people, not 3. Who is this 4th person?

Tradition holds that 4th person (the young lad walking behind the horse) is Iakovos, the “brother” of Jesus, who is actually one of Joseph’s sons, technically the “stepbrother to baby Jesus.” How can this be, was Joseph married to someone other than Mary? The short answer is that - he was married and that he was never married to Mary.

Herein lies the conflict between our Eastern awareness of who Joseph was and the Western Christian view of him that pervades our American environment. I wish to first of all apologize for last year urging our families to watch a highly acclaimed 3 part TV series about Jesus’ life. I saw the 1st part and thought it was excellent. Then in part two I was so disappointed for it presents Joseph as a young man, dating Mary and the program shows them getting married, dancing at the wedding reception even and then a little latter on they have a baby who is named Jesus. Again, I apologize as I put out an instant email last year stating so. I knew academically in my mind that this was the basic western approach to Joseph, but this was such an acclaimed production studio, I thought they would know “better” for after all part 1 of the program was so historically accurate and nicely filmed.

SO WHO IS JOSEPH? He was of noble character and lineage going back directly to King David, through his father Jacob and grandsires Abraham and Solomon. At the time of the events leading up to the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary (pregnancy of the Holy Spirit), Joseph was of advanced age and a widower with 3 sons. Thus in Eastern styled icons, Joseph always has a gray beard. In western style, he has a brown beard (inferring he is young).

It was a practice of the Jews that elderly men would be assisted in their care by younger women. Mary was the younger woman assigned to help him. The Bible uses the word “betrothed” which can indicate a marriage will follow. But it also can mean “assigned to.” The Eastern Christian view of Joseph is exactly this, Mary was assigned to help Joseph in his old age for one of his 3 sons was still quite young. But in God’s larger divine plan, Joseph then became the protector of Mary and the Guardian of baby Jesus.

In the Orthodox Church, Joseph is remembered both on December 16 and on the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ.
**OUR CLERGY NAME DAYS**

The Vespers for the Eve of St Andrew (Nov 29) falls this year on the day after Thanksgiving Day, a Friday. The Vespers will be held at 6PM as usual, but Fr Andrew has opted to not do a fellowship reception afterwards due to the concurrence of many things that night. In it’s place, he will merge with Fr Nick’s name day Vespers, which will be Thurs Dec 5 at 6PM. That night, a joint reception will be offered and all Nicholas / Nicoles/ Andrews/ Andreas can all celebrate jointly and share in offering something sweet and nice together.

**Council Nominations Due Before Dec 1st**

Our fall Parish Assembly as noted elsewhere in this mailing will be held on Sun Dec 1 after coffee hour. Amongst the agenda items will be nominations for Parish Council. Those who desire to nominate themselves may do so after reviewing eligibility requirements online at <Goarch.com> and if eligible, submit their name to the Board of Elections Chair, John Psikakos at 944-6856. Nominee should also register to attend an Orientation Seminar with Fr Andrew on Thurs Dec 5 running 7:30-9PM.

**Christmas Card Participation Deadline is December 4th**

Please have your name or family names submitted to the office by the above date. You may email the office with your information and then mail your donation in. This is a **firm deadline because of the printers need for prep time and for us to mail out by Christmas**.

*Thank you for participating.*

**St. Nicholas Brunch—Sunday Dec 8**

The St. Nicholas Brunch is set on Sunday December 8th following the Divine Liturgy.

Eggs, various breads / pan cakes / oatmeal & more!

Adult Donation: $8 / Children under 12: $4

**CHRISTMAS CHARITY**

Amongst the many appeals presented to us during this Christmas Season, let us focus on the uniquely Orthodox charities and ministries that only get support from us Orthodox. The various other wonderful charities out there have a bigger base to people to get support from.

*REMEMBER the true “12 Days of Christmas”*

Run from December—25 thru January 5
**Festival Thank You**

In honor of the continuous donations given, we always in our hearts will remember **Gregory Demetrakas**, in time of need always stepped forward and gave to our Annual Greek Festivals over the years.

**Thank you** Anna Demetrakas for continuing his practice; with your generous product donation in his memory for 2019.

**************************************************************************************

**Thank You! ... from Jesse**

Dear Brothers and Sisters from Annunciation,

Thank you so much for pouring out your love when I came to visit with you! It was a joy to share with you about the growing Orthodox mission in Guatemala, where over 120 Orthodox churches are thriving under the Ecumenical Patriarch.

And Thank you for generously giving more than $1,840 in cash donations during my visit – and for your online contributions as well! This will enable me to continue working with OCMC in Guatemala. Praise the Lord!

Please keep in touch so that you can see how God will multiply what you have offered among His people!

In Him,
Jesse Brandow
OCMC Missionary to Guatemala

Please continue to pray for Jesse, for the people of Guatemala, and for Orthodox missionaries all over the world that they may fulfill our Lord and Savior’s command to make disciples of all nations.

Contact Jesse through the Orthodox Christian Missions Center at http://www.ocmc.org

OCMC is the official international missions agency of the Assembly of Bishops.

For more information contact Carolyn Evangeline, OCMC Ambassador at 401-617-1109

**Thank You**

**Michael & Bessie Papigiotis** for donating the olive oil used at our Altar,

*In memory of your parents Theofanis G. & Martha Papigiotis and Harry D. & Irene Psilopoulos.*

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Donation of Oil**

Olive Oil is offered on the altar table Kandeli throughout the week. We are currently running low on our supply and are accepting donations. You may bring the actual olive oil, or monetary donations towards future purchase.

Thank you!
The Guardians of HCHC

A key immediate focus of Archbishop Elpidophoros is assisting Metropolitan Methodios in his current duties as Interim President of HCHC, in placing the school on solid foundation to continue it’s most valuable work.

Our parish has been greatly blessed by the school and its students over the years. Currently attending Holy School in the graduate program from our parish are James (Iakovos) Harritos and Sophia Petrou.

On the altar at the Holy Cross Chapel on campus stands a large silver cross which holds a precious piece of the very Cross on which Our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. For many years, this special relic has inspired faithful men and women at Hellenic College Holy Cross as they prepare for lives of service in Christ’s name. It also inspired the creation of a new category of giving in support of our school’s sacred mission—

the Guardians of Hellenic College Holy Cross.

The Guardians of HCHC are faithful Orthodox Christians committed to protecting the future of our Faith for their children and grandchildren.

Please visit www.hchc.edu/guardians, or call us at 617.850.1268 for more information on how to join this vital effort to keep our Church strong!
Dr. Mary Despina Lekas Endowment Fund News
Financial Report for the period ending 11/14/2019
Endowment Fund Portfolio: $1,077,983.25
Endowment Fund Checking Account: $3,240.00

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M James Degaitas, M/M Michael Papigiotis in memory of Peter Kanelakos

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M James Degaitas in memory of Rita Gates

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M Constantinos Dafoulas, William Frangos, Greek School,
M/M Emmanuel Mihailides, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Morrissey, M/M Arthur G. Pappas, M/M
James Pappas, M/M Andrew Rougas, Mary Samaras, Maria Zaharakos,
in memory of Konstantinos Trikoulis

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M James Pappas in memory of Elle Strekouras

A donation has been made to the Endowment Fund by:
M/M James Pappas in memory of Stylianos Fragoulopoulos

A MESSAGE OF LOVE,
May the Spirit of Christmas Be with you Always
Mary Samaras, Secretary—Endowment Fund Committee

2019 PLEDGE PROGRAM REPORT
We have to date 386 parishioners with a pledge of $211,342.00
The Actual Amount Received as of $190,450.00

Since our last newsletter, the following pledges have been received for 2019:
M/M Donald Capuano, Dr. & Mrs. Chris Chihlas, M/M Dean Costakos, Georgios Delis, Marissa Distaolo, M/M Paul DiStefano, Georgia Fortunato, William Frangos, Kenneth Gonzalez, M/M James Hosey III, Dr. Mary Lekas, M/M Christopher Mareira, Ashley Mareira, M/M David Rawlinson, M/M Efthathios Thomaidis, M/M George Tsimikas, M/M Eduardo Urrutia, George Xiaphos, Katherine Xiaphos.

Recent Deaths
Mother of parishioner Robert Clark, Keulah Clark age 78 passed away on 11/4/19. Service was private. Peter Kanelakos age 85 of Seekonk, MA passed away on 11/7/19. His funeral and burial was held on 11/12/19. John Michaels, brother of parishioners Thalia Wood and Gina Michaels passed away on 11/8/19. His burial was in Sarasota, FL. Theodora (Jefopoulos) McCormick age 88 of Greenville, RI passed away on 11/8/19. Her funeral and burial was on 11/12/2019. Ever lasting be their memory!
Our 2019 Festival Raffle Winner & Family

From left to right: Niki Kyrou our Festival Raffle coordinator, Christopher Demas, Susan and Peter Demas of Syracuse, NY (who had the winning ticket) and Fr. Andrew George.

Congratulations to the family and proud parents of their son who is attending Brown University studying to be a doctor, that is why the family was here to visit with their son and stopped by the Festival and purchased a ticket as they walked up the driveway. The Demas family upon receiving the $5,000 travel voucher at a recent Sunday coffee hour, gave back to the church ten percent of the winnings.

We thank you for your thoughtful & generous donation.

********************************************************************

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL GIVING

We wish to acknowledge a monetary gift from Georgia Fortunato, of donations given at her retirement celebration as superintendent of Schools in Lincoln, in which she requested that gifts be made in memory of her parents Samuel & Catherine Boretos.

Over the summer, some major electrical repairs along with enhancements were performed here at the Rev Peter Mihailides Center and on our grounds, for which we thank Paul & Maureen Mihailides for graciously covering this major expenditure.

We thank as well George Moragemos for his recent donation to our library table classic editions of major works: The Castles of Orthodoxy on Mt Athos, H POREIA of Alexander the Great and Philip: King of Macedonia.
An important Christmas Lesson for Young Children Often Overlooked... (Based on Matthew 2:13-23)

+ 

Parents do share it with your children and the important applicable teaching for our children today.

God sends an angel to warn Joseph about some danger. One day, after Jesus had been born... and after the shepherds had come to worship Him... and after the wise men had come and worshiped Him... and brought all their presents... the gold, the frankincense and the myrrh... (Whew... that’s a lot to say...)

Anyway, one day after all that happened, Joseph fell asleep. And that night, God sent an angel to talk to Joseph in his dream. The angel told Joseph that baby Jesus was in danger!

There were bad men who wanted to hurt baby Jesus. God told them to escape to Egypt. The angel told Joseph to get up, take Mary and the baby and flee to Egypt. (Egypt was another country, pretty far away.) God knew that they would be safe in Egypt. Joseph did what God said to do. Joseph woke up. He did just what the angel had told him to do.

He woke up Mary and they got baby Jesus and fled to Egypt. They left at night and in a hurry. The Lord watched over Jesus and His family. Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus were safe in Egypt. They stayed there for several years, until God sent the angel to Joseph again to tell him when it was safe to come back. The LORD watched over Jesus and His family. And He watches over you too!

+ 

Prayer: Let’s pray and thank God that He watches over us! Dear Gracious Lord, Thank you for watching over us! Thank you for protecting baby Jesus and His family. Thank you for Christmas. We love you and honor you, Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Amen
November 15, 2019
~Notification for Regular Fall Parish Assembly~

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to announce the upcoming Parish Assembly. This Assembly will be held at the Mihailides Center on Sunday, December 1, following coffee hour. We urge all our parishioners to attend this Assembly for you will have the opportunity to nominate Parish Council Members for the upcoming elections, and act upon the Proposed 2020 Budget while being informed directly on various important topics listed below.

As always, only our parishioners, Baptized or Chrismated in the Orthodox Church, 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. These can also be executed the day of the Assembly, but it is strongly encouraged to do this through the office well before the meeting to avoid confusion at the registration table.

~Parish Assembly Agenda – Sunday, December 1, —after coffee hour~

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Election of Assembly Officers
3. Approval of the Minutes of the last Regular Assembly (June 2, 2019)
4. President’s Report – Kevin Phelan
5. Priest’s Report – Fr. Andrew George
6. Auditor’s Committee Report for 2018 Financials – Maria Markos
7. Presentation of the Proposed 2020 Budget – James Silva
   ~Proposed Budget will be available after November 26, 2019
8. 145-151 Oaklawn LLC Report – George Coclin
9. Dr. Mary Lekas Despina Endowment Report – Peter Manis
    ~Nominations for the new term on Endowment Committee – Alex Carr
10. Phase II Report – Nick Talianos
12. Unfinished Business:
13. New Business:
14. Closing Prayer

We look forward to welcoming you at the Parish Assembly on December 1, 2019

Faithfully yours,

Theofanis Markos
Parish Council President

Sandra Maliangos
Parish Council Secretary

Fr. Andrew G. George
Protopresbyter
ADVENT HAS STARTED – CHRISTMAS JUST AHEAD

Advent is the sacred season of preparation, penitence and expectancy! “Advent” means “the coming of our Lord as an infant child….as the fulfillment of all the ancient prophesies….the coming of the Redeemer!

In our Orthodox Tradition, Advent (more traditional known as the Christmas Lent) always begins on November 15.

It is a 40-day period of preparation for the Feast of the Nativity, the Blessed event of the Birth of Jesus Christ, when the second person of the Holy Trinity entered human history, that is to say, when God took on flesh.

During this season, the Church recognizes the spiritual and psychological need for readying the believer’s mind and soul for the anniversary of Christ’s Coming as the Babe of Bethlehem, for His Coming to the hearts of those who love Him.

“Lifting our minds to Bethlehem, let us ascent with our conscience and behold the great Mystery that is in the cave…” (from an Advent Vesper Hymn).

Most especially, during Advent, our Holy Church reminds us to be very careful of the secularization and commercialization of the Christmas Season. The Church also encourages her faithful to perform works of charity and penance, to practice the discipline of fasting in preparation of the up-coming feast, to spend extra time in prayer and meditation. All this, in order to prepare for celebrating as worthy as possible, the Coming of God in the flesh, the Birth of Our Lord and Saviour.

The Advent Food Fast is broken into two distinct periods.

NOV 15—DEC 12: Sun, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat. are a “light fast”. Weds. & Fri. are a “strict fast”

Dec. 13—Dec 24: All days are a strict fast with oil & wine permitted on Sat. & Sun.

As with all fasting seasons,

fasting is to be done in accordance with peoples age and health

**********************************************************************************************************************************************

CHRISTMAS—THEOPHANY CYCLE

LITURGICAL SERVICES IN OUR PARISH

Tues. (AM) Dec 24—ROYAL HOURS OF THE NATIVITY—9:30am (No Communion) ++++++++++++++

Tues. (PM) Dec 24 - Vesperal Liturgy—6PM - followed by caroling

Wed. Dec 25—Nativity of Christ / CHRISTMAS DAY- Orthros & Liturgy at usual hours

Fri. Dec 27—St Stephen the 1st Martyr—Orthros & Liturgy at usual morning hours ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Sun Dec 29—Sunday After the Nativity — Orthros & Liturgy as usual on Sundays

VESPERS—5:30PM / Followed by Family New Years Party—6:30PM

Wed Jan 1, 2020—The 8-Day Naming of Christ, St Basil & New Year’s Day

Sun Jan 5–Sunday Before Theophany—1st Water Blessing after Liturgy

Mon Jan 6—Baptism of our Lord (Holy Theophany-Epiphany)

Usual morning hours with the Great Blessing of the Waters

Tues Jan 7– Synaxis of St John the Baptist—usual morning hours
ΣΥΓΚΛΟΝΗΣΤΙΚΟ ήταν το δράμα που έγινε στην καρδιά του Ισαχή και άλλων και της Παρθένου. Είχε προσωρινά ή ούτε καμία σκέψη που κατακατακτήσει στην έκτη και την εξής και δεν έφερε τη σπάνια σκέψη της της ότι ο ήπνοι του Ισαχή και η δέσμευσή της θα την αναγκάζουν να κατακατακτήσει. 

Αποκαλύπτεται ότι η Παρθένος και ο Ισαχής συνεπίσημα προφητεύουν την Νίσσιο, ο οποίος προετοίμασε το θυσία και δέχθηκε τους ανθρώπους. Αλλά τελικά η Νίσσιος προετοιμάζει τον Ίσωρο και οι ανθρώποι τον υποδηλώνουν. 

Συνυπακούει με την τελευταία διάσκεψη και η Νίσσιος απετάνησε τον παρεκκλεσίαν, κατακατάφερε η διάσκεψη και δόθηκε η διάσκεψη. "Είχε έτοιμη και το χωρίο τουνιαρόν κόκκινον τον Ισαχής, ο οποίος πρόετοιπε τον Ισαχή και δέχθηκε τους ανθρώπους." Παίτο, ο Ισαχής έφερε την ενότητα και τον Ισαχής, ο οποίος έκανε και έδειξε την ανθρώπινη σκέψη. 

Συνεπικύρωσε, δηλαδή, ότι η Νίσσιος έγινε συνεπικύρωση και κατακατάθηκε στην οροφή της βίας. "Είχε έτοιμη και το χωρίο τουνιαρόν κόκκινον τον Ισαχής, ο οποίος πρόετοιπε τον Ισαχής και δέχθηκε τους ανθρώπους." Παίτο, ο Ισαχής έφερε την ενότητα και τον Ισαχής, ο οποίος έκανε και έδειξε την ανθρώπινη σκέψη.
Annunciation Youth Ministries
From the Desk of Fr. Nick

Youth News
Our Youth Ministry programs are now in full swing! It has been an absolute pleasure in seeing the regular activity of all our youth ministries come to life at the parish. In just a span of one year it is truly a blessing to watch our youth grow as individuals, to take on new interests, enthusiasm and grow within the context of our Parish life. In just the month of October our HOPE/JOY had a successful first event in which they visited Salisbury Farm and picked pumpkins, did a corn maze, and had a hayride! Our GOYA has appreciated the fellowship and challenge of planning their year. They look forward to leading and guiding our HOPE/JOY Children and offering them their love and support as we re-start the HOPE/JOY Ministry. In addition, our Sunday School has appreciated all the children that are now looking forward to experiencing our Lord and Savior through catechetical study.

St. Symeon Playgroup (ages 0-4)
Our St. Symeon Play-Group will hold their Baking Fundraiser on Sunday, November 24th AT 10am in our Demetrakas Hall! All baking will take place on Saturday, November 23rd. If you are interested in assisting please contact Presvetera Eleni at eklanz17@aol.com or 617-943-6984. St. Symeon will also be participating in the Christmas Party on Saturday, December 7th!

HOPE/JOY (PRE-K-5th Grade)
Our HOPE/JOY is greatly looking forward to the GOYA sponsored HOPE/JOY Christmas Party on Saturday, December 7th from 12:00PM-4:00PM. Our Teens are greatly looking forward to leading our HOPE/JOY in activities that include games, cookie decorating, and more! Please RSVP to Fr. Nick at 847-942-8103 if interested. Or by e-mail fr.nick@annunciationri.org

GOYA (6th-12th Grade)
In addition to looking forward to the Christmas Party Saturday, December 7th, our GOYA is looking forward to participating in the Inter-Faith Food Ministry. Two Teens have committed to going every month to our Inter-Faith Food bank. To sign up, please fill out the google document that has recently gone out by e-mail or contact Fr. Nick!

HOPE/JOY and GOYA Recreation Night
Our HOPE/JOY and GOYA Recreation Night is off to a great start! We had our first night of games that included dodgeball, basketball, and jump roping! Recreation is held every Friday at Hope Highlands Middle School in Cranston at 7:00PM.

Sunday School
Our Sunday School is off to a great start! BUT WE DO MISS OTHERS.
Please bring your Children to take part in a Blessing Bag Activity on Sunday, November 24th! Following the reading of the Gospel during Divine Liturgy our Children will be taken to prepare care bags for those that are less fortunate! This is a wonderful ministry and opportunity that our Sunday School is
Orthodoxy on Tap
Our First Pan-Orthodoxy on Tap- Providence was a tremendous success! We had 75 Young Adults present who enjoyed free Greek Artisan Pizza, drinks, fellowship, and a talk given by Seminarian Panos Coufós. He spoke on the need for Young Adults to find their identity as Orthodox Christians and to continue to grow in their love of God. For more information or to learn how you can help with this effort please contact fr.nick@annunciationri.org

Annunciation Young Adult and Young Professional League
We have elected new Officers for our 2019-2020 Ecclesiastical Year! President- Christian Frangos, Vice President-Nicholas Soucy, Treasurer-Alexis Arsenis, Secretary Ken Gonzales. We ask your prayers as they take on their new roles for the glory of God!

St. Nicholas Brunch
The St. Nicholas Brunch is set for Sunday, December 8th following the Divine Liturgy. The menu will include, eggs, various breads/ pancakes/ oatmeal & more! Adult Donation $8 / Children under 12 $4

Orthodox Christian Fellowship
Our OCF Chapter at Bryant and URI have been meeting frequently! We have enjoyed discussions, activities, as well as opportunities to go to College Retreats.

Save the Date
Our YAL sponsored Blood Drive will take place on January 26th, 2020. Our YAL is focused on the needs of the Rhode Island Hospital! Please plan on participating!

Winter Retreat
Our YAL Winter Retreat dates will be announced soon! The weekend will consist of a trip to Pats Peak, hiking opportunities, movie nights, and break out sessions!

Info soon to follow!

OCF College Conferences
Each year during Christmas Break, OCF’s College Conference hosts hundreds of college students from across North America for four days of fellowship, education, and prayer. Join as they as explore the Conference Theme, "The Light Shines in the Darkness"

College Conference East-Pittsburgh-December 27th-December 30th-Sold Out!

College Conference-Midwest-Wisconsin-December 27th-December 30th is still open!

For registration and more info please go to https://www.ocf.net/events

Pan Hellenic Scholarship Opportunity
The Pan Hellenic Scholarship is an opportunity for all Greek American Students! The deadline to apply is Friday, January 31, 2020. Please visit https://www.panhellenicsf.org/
As Chairlady of this year’s Greek Food Fair & Christmas Bazaar, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Philoptochos President, the Board of Directors, members of our chapter, parishioners and friends who came down to the center and baked pastries, the men and women who helped throughout the week in the kitchen and the ladies to chaired and help setup the booths for the Bazaar. I would also like to extend my gratitude to the many donors, too numerous to name, that helped us both financially and with supplies and prizes.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all of you. We could not have had such a successful Greek Food Fair and Christmas Bazaar without your support and generosity.

God Bless you All,
Georgia J. Pappas
Bazaar Chairlady

OTHER PHILOPTOCHOS HAPPENINGS

BUY NOTHING DAY – Nov 29: We are collecting gently used winter gear for the Coat Exchange held on the RI State House Lawn. Boxes are in the Demetrakas Hall lobby for this purpose.

HOLIDAY BREAK BREAKFAST FOOD DRIVE (thru Dec 8). Following up on the donations made for school supplies, we now are seeking non-perishable breakfast food items to assist families who attend Edgewood Highlands School here in the eastern section of Cranston, to brighten up the Christmas break for families in need. Boxes for this purpose are also in the Demetrakas Hall lobby.

CHRISTMAS EVENT (RSVP DUE Dec 8). This year’s Christmas Dinner will be held on Thur Dec 12 at Cucina Rustica / 555 Atwood Ave Cranston at 6PM. There are 3 menu choices, price range being $44-50. Reserve thru Maria Coclin at 401-474-3364 or by email at <mariacoclin@aol.com> by Dec 8.
LOOKING FOR GREEK CHRISTMAS BREADS ????
+ The Assumption Parish Philoptochos has them!

Call Elaine Sioras
401-617-7950 or 401-724-1031

Before Nov 29
Donation of $8.00

A Family that has Served Local Families for 4 Generations...
Still Is.

“Our family has been a part of the Rhode Island community for over 100 years, so we know what a special place it is. As caring neighbors and close advisors, we have always been there for families through difficult times. We are committed to providing the very best service before, during, and after the funeral.”

NARDOLILLO
FUNERAL HOME INC.
EST. 1906

Robert A. Nardolillo, Jr., Founder
Robert A. Nardolillo, Jr.
Angelo M. Nardolillo
Robert A. Nardolillo, III
Robert J. Nardolillo
Angelo M. Nardolillo Jr.
Anthony A. Nardolillo

Angelo M. Nardolillo
Robert A. Nardolillo, Jr.
Anthony A. Nardolillo

1328 Park Avenue
Cranston, RI 02910
(401) 942-1220

1111 Boston Neck Road
Narragansett, RI 02882
(401) 789-6300
IOCC SUNDAY—November 24
International Orthodox Christian Charities since its inception, has provided over $692 million in humanitarian assistance in more than 60 countries.

IOCC responds solely on the basis of need to survivors of natural and manmade disasters—families, refugees, schoolchildren, people with disabilities, and the elderly. Gifts are used to meet emergency needs such as food and shelter, as well as for long-term projects that provide education, job training, and disease prevention. In the spirit of Christ’s love, you can bring comfort to those who are suffering and in need around the world through IOCC.

International Orthodox Christian Charities *
P.O. Box 17398 * Baltimore, MD 21297-0429 * Toll Free: 877,803.IOCC (4622) *iocc.org *
Email: relief@iocc.org
“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
Michael P. Tasca, President
Susan M. Tasca, Funeral Director
Robert J. Lepore, Assistant to the Director
Personalized assistance with Advanced Planning
www.WoodlawnGattone.com

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Coclin Associates
P. O. Box 8485
Cranston, RI 02921
(401-944-7792
Email: coclinassociates@aol.com

We support the 2019 Pledge Program!

- Internal Auditing
- Bank Consulting

---

Complete line of soft breads and rolls, we bake an assortment of variety breads and English muffins
401-434-0551
WWW.HOMESTEADBAKING.COM
Cowboys and Cowgirls
WANTED to celebrate
The New Year
2020
Tuesday December 31 6:30pm-12:30 am
Our ho-down will feature DJ Rakis and enjoy a wild west buffet yee-ha!

Adults $25 (18 plus)
Kids $10 (ages 6-17)
5 and under free

Contact Maria at maria_leroux@hotmail.com by December 29. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Vespers begin at 5:30pm
**Mid—November 2019 - December 2019**

*Divine Services (year round)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>Orthros (morning prayer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Liturgy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Mon evening Nov 18 — Tues Nov 26, Fr Andrew will be out of state on vacation**

Sun Nov 24—Sun 13 of Luke / Clement, Bishop Rome / Peter, Bishop Alexandria  
- St Symeon Infant Play Group Bake Sale in coffee hour  
- Cranston Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service—3PM (Woodridge Congregational)

Mon Nov 25—**St Katherine the Great-Martyr** /services per usual morning hours

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**Tue Nov 26—  AHEPA MEETING—7PM**

Thu Nov 28—A Blessed Thanksgiving Day to all. Office closed both Thursday & Friday

**Fri Nov 29— Eve of St Andrew / Patron of our Patriarchate: VESPERS—6PM**

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**Sat Nov 30—St Andrew the 1st Called Apostle—services per usual morning hours**

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**Sun Dec 1—Sun 14 of Luke / Prophet Nahum / Philaretos the Merciful**  
- Parish Autumn Assembly—after coffee hour

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**Tue Dec 3— Revitalization Team—7:30PM**

Thu Dec 5—Senior Citizens—12 Noon / **Eve of St Nicholas—VESPERS-6PM**  
- Book Study “Roots of Christian Mysticism” 7:30pm (Last Class)  
- SEMINAR: “What is Serving on the Parish Council all about” 7:30PM (must pre-register)

Fri Dec 6—**St Nicholas the Wonderworker—services per usual morning hours**

Sat Dec 7—Children’s Christmas Party (sponsored by Goya) so parents can shop: 12-4PM

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**Sun Dec 8—Sun 10 of Luke / Righteous Patapios / Ap Sosthenes, Apollo (one of the 70)**  
- Gifts of St Nicholas Due / St Nicholas Brunch (sponsored by Yal)

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**Wed Dec 11— Eve of St Spyridon the Wonderworker: VESPERS (6PM in Newport)**

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**Thu Dec 12— Services in Newport at St Spyridon Parish: Orthos-9am / Liturgy-10am**  
- Philoptochos Christmas Dinner—6PM Cucina Rustica (Cranston—555 Atwood)

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**Sun Dec 15—Sun 11 of Luke / Hieromartyr Eleutherios & his mother Anthia**  
- MEMORIAL: Peter Kanelakos—40days / Pageant Practice after classes

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**Tue Dec 17— Parish Council—7:30PM**

Fri Dec 20—**St Ignatios the God-Bearer / services per usual morning hours**  

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**Sun Dec 22—Sun Before the Nativity / St Anastasia the Great Martyr & Pharmacist**  
Children’s Christmas Pageant After Liturgy

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**CHRISTMAS—THEOPHANY CYCLE**

**Tues. (AM) Dec 24— ROYAL HOURS OF THE NATIVITY—9:30am (No Communion)**

**Tues. (PM) Dec 24 - Vesperal Liturgy—6PM - followed by caroling**

**Wed. Dec 25— Nativity of Christ / CHRISTMAS DAY- Orthros & Liturgy at usual hours**

**Fri. Dec 27— St Stephen the 1st Martyr—Orthros & Liturgy at usual morning hours**

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**Sun Dec 29— Sunday After the Nativity — Orthros & Liturgy as usual on Sundays**

**Tues Dec 31—Eve of the Naming of Christ / St Basil’s / Civil New Years**  
**VESPERS—5:30PM / Followed by Family New Years Party—6:30PM**

**Wed Jan 1, 2020—The 8-Day Naming of Christ, St Basil & New Year’s Day**
When did Thanksgiving become a yearly event? Surprisingly, after their first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims never celebrated the occasion again. Some of their descendants later observed a “Forefather’s Day” near the end of December. But it was not until 1863 that the feast became an annual holiday under the presidency of Abraham Lincoln “in thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent father who dwells in the heavens.”

The Pilgrims’ Thanksgiving was held sometime between September and November 1621 (there is disagreement on the specifics by historians). Clearly “how” thanksgiving was observed back then is not how it is now. Some familiar food was definitely missing from the menu.

Contrary to popular folklore, popcorn was not introduced at the first Thanksgiving. Indian corn could only be half-popped and wouldn’t have tasted very good. The Pilgrims would not have eaten corn on the cob, since Indian corn was only good for making cornmeal. There was no ham; the Pilgrims most likely did not have pigs with them. Sweet potatoes, potatoes, and yams had not yet been introduced to New England and many thought that the potato was poisonous. No cranberry sauce would have garnished the meal; although cranberries were available, sugar was not. The Pilgrims might have made a pumpkin pudding of sorts, sweetened by honey or syrup, but there would have been no crust or whipped topping.

Even though the Pilgrim’s Thanksgiving spread didn’t include what the majority of Americans consider the traditional holiday fare today, they still enjoyed a cornucopia of probable menu choices such as fish, eel, wild turkey, fowl, venison, nuts, grains, peas, cabbage, a variety of fruits, maple syrup, cheese, eggs, and honey.