



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΩΝ
ΤΑΧΙΑΡΧΑΕ/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

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Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes, Parish Priest

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February 11, 2024

16th Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from Matthew 25:14-30.

Memorial

40 day - *George Chakalis*

Trisagion

7 year - *Evangelia Chakalis*

8 year - *Katerina Chakalis*

13 years\ - *Edward Novitsky*

May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η Μνήμη!

WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:

Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - Every Thursday at 6 PM.



HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord by His Might, has created a Dominion. He has conquered death by death, and become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

Εὐφραίνεσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιᾶσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Blaise in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Blaise. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

Καὶ τρόπων μέτοχος, καὶ θρόνων διάδοχος, τῶν Ἀποστόλων γενόμενος, τὴν πράξιν εὗρες Θεόπνευστε, εἰς θεωρίας ἐπίβασιν, διὰ τοῦτο τὸν λόγον τῆς ἀληθείας ὀρθοτομῶν, καὶ τὴ πίστει ἐνήθλησας μέχρις αἵματος, Ἱερομάρτυς Βλάσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

The protection of Christians unshameable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, do not turn from the prayerful cries of those who are in sin; instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercession and speed now to supplication as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε. Μὴ παρίδης ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἰκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

Receiving Holy Communion - We welcome to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy those Christians who are from other Christian Denominations and who are not fully united with us. Sadly, it is a consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to you an invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is the work or action of the celebrating Community signifying a oneness of faith, life, and worship of the believing Community. Reception of Holy Communion by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must pray. **However, all present** are welcome to partake of the Antidoro (blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the Liturgy.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Third Mode. Psalm 46.6,1.

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10.

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Epistle Reading

Προκείμενον. Third Mode. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 46.6,1.

Ψάλατε τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε.
Στίχ. Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κροτήσατε χεῖρας.

τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 6:1-10.

Ἀδελφοί, συνεργοῦντες δὲ καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ δέξασθαι ὑμᾶς - λέγει γάρ, Καιρῷ δεκτῷ ἐπήκουσά σου, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σωτηρίας ἐβοήθησά σοι· ἰδοὺ, νῦν καιρὸς εὐπρόσδεκτος, ἰδοὺ, νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας - μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπήν, ἵνα μὴ μωμηθῇ ἡ διακονία· ἀλλ' ἐν παντὶ συνιστῶντες ἑαυτοὺς ὡς θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῇ πολλῇ, ἐν θλίψεσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαῖς, ἐν φυλακαῖς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγρυπνίαις, ἐν νηστείαις, ἐν ἀγνότητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἀγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτῳ, ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει θεοῦ, διὰ τῶν ὀπλῶν τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας· ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς· ὡς ἀγνοοῦμενοι, καὶ ἐπιγινωσκόμενοι· ὡς ἀποθνήσκοντες, καὶ ἰδοὺ, ζῶμεν· ὡς παιδευόμενοι, καὶ μὴ θανατούμενοι· ὡς λυπούμενοι, αἶψα δὲ χαίροντες· ὡς πτωχοί, πολλοὺς δὲ πλουτίζοντες· ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες, καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.

GOSPEL

The Reading is from Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'" As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

GOSPEL

Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 25:14-30

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· ἄνθρωπος ἀποδημῶν ἐκάλεσε τοὺς ἰδίους δούλους καὶ παρέδωκεν αὐτοῖς τὰ ὑπάρχοντα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὧ μὲν ἔδωκε πέντε τάλαντα, ὧ δὲ δύο, ὧ δὲ ἓν, ἐκάστῳ κατὰ τὴν ἰδίαν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀπεδήμησεν εὐθέως. πορευθεὶς δὲ ὁ τὰ πέντε τάλαντα λαβὼν εἰργάσατο ἐν αὐτοῖς καὶ ἐποίησεν ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα. ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ τὰ δύο ἐκέρδησε καὶ αὐτὸς ἄλλα δύο. ὁ δὲ τὸ ἐν λαβὼν ἀπελθὼν ὥρυξεν ἐν τῇ γῆ καὶ ἀπέκρυψε τὸ ἀργύριον τοῦ κυρίου αὐτοῦ. μετὰ δὲ χρόνον πολὺν ἔρχεται ὁ κύριος τῶν δούλων ἐκείνων καὶ συναίρει μετ' αὐτῶν λόγον. καὶ προσελθὼν ὁ τὰ πέντε τάλαντα λαβὼν προσήνεγκεν ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα λέγων· κύριε, πέντε τάλαντά μοι παρέδωκας· ἴδε ἄλλα πέντε τάλαντα ἐκέρδησα ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ· εὐ, δοῦλε ἀγαθὲ καὶ πιστέ! ἐπὶ ὀλίγα ἢς πιστός, ἐπὶ πολλῶν σε καταστήσω· εἰσελθε εἰς τὴν χαρὰν τοῦ κυρίου σου. προσελθὼν δὲ καὶ ὁ τὰ δύο τάλαντα λαβὼν εἶπε· κύριε, δύο τάλαντά μοι παρέδωκας· ἴδε ἄλλα δύο τάλαντα ἐκέρδησα ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ· εὐ, δοῦλε ἀγαθὲ καὶ πιστέ! ἐπὶ ὀλίγα ἢς πιστός, ἐπὶ πολλῶν σε καταστήσω· εἰσελθε εἰς τὴν χαρὰν τοῦ κυρίου σου. προσελθὼν δὲ καὶ ὁ τὸ ἐν τάλαντον εἰληφώς εἶπε· κύριε· ἔγνων σε ὅτι σκληρὸς εἶ ἄνθρωπος, θερίζων ὅπου οὐκ ἔσπειρας καὶ συναγὼν ὅθεν οὐ διεσκόρπισας· καὶ φοβηθεὶς ἀπελθὼν ἐκρύψα τὸ τάλαντόν σου ἐν τῇ γῆ· ἴδε ἔχεις τὸ σόν. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ

εἶπεν αὐτῷ· πονηρὲ δοῦλε καὶ ὀκνηρὲ! ἦδεις ὅτι θερίζω ὅπου οὐκ ἔσπειρα καὶ συνάγω ὅθεν οὐ διεσκόρπισα! ἔδει οὖν σε βαλεῖν τὸ ἀργύριόν μου τοῖς τραπεζῖταις, καὶ ἐλθὼν ἐγὼ ἐκομισάμην ἂν τὸ ἐμὸν σὺν τόκῳ. ἄρατε οὖν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ τὸ τάλαντον καὶ δότε τῷ ἔχοντι τὰ δέκα τάλαντα. τῷ γὰρ ἔχοντι παντὶ δοθήσεται καὶ περισσευθήσεται, ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ μὴ ἔχοντος καὶ ὃ ἔχει ἀρθήσεται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. καὶ τὸν ἀχρεῖον δούλον ἐκβάλετε εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον· ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων.

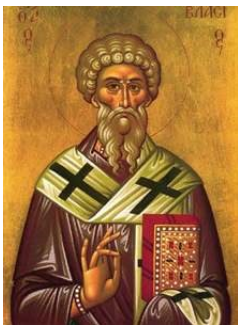
Saints and Feasts



February 11

Theodora the Empress

Theodora the Empress As for the renowned Empress Theodora, she was from Paphlagonia and was the daughter of a certain Marinus, the commander of a military regiment. While being the wife of the Emperor Theophilus, the last of the Iconoclasts, she adorned the royal diadem with her virtue and piety; as long as her husband Theophilus lived, she privately venerated icons, despite his displeasure. After his death, she restored the holy icons to public veneration; this is commemorated on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, the First Sunday of the Great Fast. She governed the Empire wisely for fifteen years, since her son Michael was not yet of age. But in 857 she forsook her royal power and entered a certain convent in Constantinople called Gastria, where she finished the course of her life in holiness and reposed in the Lord. Her sacred incorrupt remains are found in Corfu, in the Church of the Most Holy Theotokos of the Cave, in the capital city of the island (see also Dec. 12).



February 11

Blaise the Hieromartyr of Sebastia

Saint Blaise was Bishop of Sebastia. Divine grace, through which he healed the diseases of men and beasts, and especially of infants, made his name famous. He contested for the Faith under Licinius in the year 316. Saint Blaise is invoked for the healing of throat ailments.

Sermon

TALENT, THE WEALTH OF CHRISTIANS

Talants or talents are words that we are all interested in order to acquire them. As Christ assures us in today's gospel passage, talents are not the acquisition of only privileged people or saints, but they were given and are given to all people in proportion with the powers, the abilities that everyone has to utilize and multiply them. The Lord is generous to all of us; however, He awaits our own participation and response.

However, immediately after reading the parable, a question is born in us: What purpose do the talents and abilities that God gives us, serve? We see how some people are cultivated by them spiritually, and others are harmed by them.

The Value of Talents

Today we live in a society where the talants or talents that God gives, lead most people to the acquisition of wealth, power and publicity. This multiplication of talents - leads them to spiritual death through arrogance and conceit. Without Christ, the talents, that is, the possibilities and abilities we possess, result in vanity and an existential void. As soon as these are lost, in the first test, everyone departs, and the talented egotists are left alone and live in the misery of insecurity. Of course, it does not mean that we will not accept God's gift and we will not strive to multiply the gifts He gave us. This will be ingratitude and rashness. Let's think about the possibility of if the Holy Three Hierarchs had not cultivated their talents. If the great ascetics had remained indolent, such as Saints Anthony and Savvas. If Saints Damascene and Gregory Palamas had not written hymns and theological texts. If the great martyr Saints Demetrius and George had not endured the martyrdoms.

Talent Management

However, there is a difference in the management and exercise of the talents. The Christian uses God's gifts and multiplies them only to glorify God's name. He knows that everything is given by Him and without Christ, he can lose everything from one moment to the next. Everything belongs to God and to Him they must return. The person who believes that the talents are the gifts that were given by God, and he must manage them properly, does not seek publicity or wealth. He does not fight people in order to rise. He does not want hollow praise and applause. He cultivates the talents, to be freed from the passions, to find a solution to life's impasses, in order to glorify God and serve people.

If we do not give our talents to the ministry of our brothers, who need us, then we will be like the servant who buried the talent, in order to hand it over to his Master. We will have his course, that is, we will live in the darkness of misery. The more gifts we have, the greater our agony and our responsibility to serve our brothers.

We received the gifts for free from the Creator, and we must offer them freely to people. Then they

are multiplied a hundredfold by God and become an inexhaustible source of offering and love towards man. The greatest talent is our offering to God and to people. To God we offer worship and prayer, and to people, practical love. Attention, diligence, industriousness and activity are needed from us, so that the blessing of Christ will come, which will fill our lives with joy, advancement and happiness.

We Welcome all who worship with us today.

Memorial

40 day – *George Chakalis*

Trisagion

7 year - *Evangelia Chakalis*

8 year - *Katerina Chakalis*

13 year - *Edward Novitsky*

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by the ***Chakalis family*** in memory of their loved one.

If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Fellowship, please contact the Office.

Announcements

TODAY is Godparent Sunday We ask your child(ren) to invite their Godparents to attend. They can sit in Church & receive Holy Communion together. Following Communion, Godparents are asked to attend/participate in their Godchild's Sunday School class. If a Godparent cannot attend, yiayiades, papoudes, aunts, uncles or parents are invited.

2023-2024 Capital Improvement Campaign Fund

— \$150,000

— \$75,000

— \$0



Church Capital Improvement Campaign update. To date we have raised \$43,000 of the \$150,000 we need to raise for much needed improvements to our Church. We used approved monies from the operations account for the parking lot improvement but need to repay the operations account once we have raised the money. Thank you to those that have donated! If you would like to donate please visit the Church website, click on Donate, then Capital Improvement Campaign.

DONATE TODAY!

Purchase Your Tickets on our Website.
Use the drop down "Menu", purchase in Taxiarchae Store.
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 24th!!!

**The Taxiarchae Church
and St. Sava Cathedral invite
you to
an evening of
music, dance, food & fun**



March 9, 2024 7 pm - 11 pm

Greek music by The Makredes Ensemble
Serbian music by - DJ
Enjoy Greek and Serbian Cuisine

Admission: \$60

Kids 12 and under - free

MUST RSVP by February 24, 2024

Taxiarchae 25 Bigelow Ave, Watertown, MA 02472



RESCHEDULED
FAMILY MINISTRIES
A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
SLIME PARTY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH 6-8 PM
PIZZA AND A TREAT
WILL BE PROVIDED
YOU MUST RSVP TO
CKOURKOULIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG BY
FEBRUARY 9TH TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION
AND AVAILABILITY



Join us for
March Joy
Junior Orthodox Youth
Ages 5 to 12
T-shirt Decorating
FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH
5-7 PM
PIZZA AND A TREAT
WILL BE PROVIDED
You must RSVP to
ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org
by March 1st to ensure availability
and participation

Taxiarchae Oratorical Date: April 21, at the conclusion of the Liturgy

Parish Chairperson: Costas Karageorgis

Contact Information: Ckarageorgis@goarchangel.com

Please contact Costas or Fr. Nenes if interested.



**JOIN THOUSANDS OF
YOUTH ACROSS
THE NATION AND
SHARE YOUR FAITH!**

2024 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Junior Division (Grades 7-9) | Senior Division (Grades 10-12)

AWARDS

National finalists are eligible to receive the following
St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: \$500 to \$2000
FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism: to be announced

SCHOLARSHIPS

Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following
Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year

LOCAL INFORMATION

Parish Festival Date & Time: _____

Parish Chairperson: _____

Contact Information: _____

Find topics, tips, manual, & award info at
www.religioused.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Department of Religious Education (DRE)





Friday, March 1st
6:30 pm

GREEK MOVIE NIGHT

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3

Light refreshments will be served
before the film begins

Free Will Donation

Contact Ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org
to RSVP or with any questions



YOUTH MINISTRIES

Youth Ministries are collecting "Gently Used" Prom Dresses for the Belle Ball program! Donate Prom Dresses to Local Students in Need.

Deadline for donations - Thursday, March 28th.

Please leave your donations on the COAT RACK in the LOBBY.

Thank you.

Collecting Prom Dresses ONLY!



*Belle
of the
Ball*

**Donate Prom Dresses
To Local Students in Need**

Now through March 28th

*Please hang the Prom Dresses on
the Coat Rack located in the Lobby.
Thank you!*

Collected dresses are professionally cleaned by Anton's and displayed at an invitation-only event in Boston for qualifying students.

For more information about Belle of the Ball or to refer students in need, visit: antons.com/belle

MASSACHUSETTS
CONVENTION CENTER
AUTHORITY





CROSSROAD

Are you a high school **junior** or **senior**?

Fill your

summer
with what **counts**

Join one of our
four sessions:

SESSION 1 | Boston June 8-18

SESSION 2 | Northern California June 18-28

SESSION 3 | Boston June 22-July 2

SESSION 4 | Chicago July 6-16

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Priority: January 16, 2024

Regular: February 20, 2024

Youth Ministry

Ongoing FOOD DRIVE - Collecting for the Watertown Food Pantry

Your donation of food items can be put on the table, located in the Lobby.

We will deliver them to the Watertown Food Pantry every Tuesday.

Thank you for helping your local community!

ESPECIALLY NEEDED - CANS OF TUNA & BREAKFAST CEREAL.

As always, the Food Pantry is still in need of school snacks.

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.

INCREASED STATISTICS ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
[HTTPS://WWW.NEJM.ORG/DOI/FULL/10.1056/NEJMP2024046](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMP2024046)

A pandemic within a pandemic: There are more cases of violence in the home than ever before. This means more families living in crisis.

We are collecting for monthly drop-offs each second Monday of the month, beginning with December 14th.

Items requested are:

Sanitary napkins
Shampoo
Vaseline
Cocoa butter
Baby shampoo
Baby lotion
Deodorant
Tooth brushes
Tooth paste

With any questions, please contact [REDACTED] or
Christina Kourkoulis at CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org

**RECOGNIZE.
REPORT.
PREVENT.**

FINEX HOUSE

+Finex House
PO Box 300670
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
<https://www.finexhouse.org>

Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center

Planning a party or reception? Our beautiful venues are now updated and ready for any & all of your event needs, up to 500 people.

For information and assistance in planning your future event, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: functionmanager@goarchangels.com



DREAM IT AND IT
CAN COME TRUE!
YOUR EVENT CAN BE
EVERYTHING
YOU WISHED.

