



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΩΝ  
TAXIARCHAE/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

**Phone:** 617.924.8182 Phone

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**Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes, Parish Priest**

**Cell Phone:** 914.479.8096 **Email:** anenes@goarchangels.com

**February 25, 2024**

**Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee:  
Triodion Begins Today**

**Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.**

**Epistle Reading**

**St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15.**

**Gospel Reading**

**The Reading is from Luke 18:10-14.**

**Memorial**

40 day – *George Delyani*

40 day – *John Dinopoulos*

3 year - *Stanley Metaxas*

7 year - *Presbytera Penelope Metaxas*

13 year - *+Fr. Emmanuel Metaxas*

**Trisagion**

*Konstantina & Konstantinos Patsiocostas*

*George & Efterpi Soffronas*

*May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!*

**WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:**

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



## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### *Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode*

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O Faithful, let us sing a hymn of praise and worship to the Logos, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of His own will He went upon the Cross in the flesh and suffered death, to raise the dead through His glorious Resurrection.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

### *Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode*

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Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn through our own sighs of sorrow the humility of the Publican. Let us cry out to the Savior, "Have mercy on us, for through You alone are we reconciled."

Φαρισαίου φύγωμεν ὑψηγορίαν, καὶ Τελώνου μάθωμεν, τὸ ταπεινὸν ἐν στεναγμοῖς, πρὸς τὸν Σωτῆρα κραυγάζοντες· Ἰλαθι μόνε ἡμῖν εὐδιάλλακτε.

**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. Plagal First Mode. Psalm 11.7,1.**

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.  
Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

**The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15.**

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

## Epistle Reading

**Προκείμενον. Plagal First Mode. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 11.7,1.**

Σὺ Κύριε, φυλάξαις ἡμᾶς καὶ διατηρήσαις ἡμᾶς.  
Στίχ. Σώσον με, Κύριε, ὅτι ἐκέλειπεν ὁσῖος.

**τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα Πρὸς Τιμόθεον β' 3:10-15.**

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, παρηκολούθηκάς μου τῆ διδασκαλίᾳ, τῆ ἀγωγῇ, τῆ προθέσει, τῆ πίστει, τῆ μακροθυμίᾳ, τῆ ἀγάπῃ, τῆ ὑπομονῇ, τοῖς διωγμοῖς, τοῖς παθήμασιν, οἷά μοι ἐγένετο ἐν Ἀντιοχείᾳ, ἐν Ἰκονίῳ, ἐν Λύστροις, οἷους διωγμούς ὑπήνεγκα· καὶ ἐκ πάντων με ἐρρύσατο ὁ κύριος. Καὶ πάντες δὲ οἱ θέλοντες εὐσεβῶς ζῆν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ διωχθήσονται. Πονηροὶ δὲ ἄγθρωποι καὶ γόητες προκόψουσιν ἐπὶ τὸ χεῖρον, πλανῶντες καὶ πλανώμενοι. Σὺ δὲ μένε ἐν οἷς ἔμαθες καὶ ἐπιστῶθης, εἰδὼς παρὰ τίνος ἔμαθες, καὶ ὅτι ἀπὸ βρέφους τὰ ἱερά γράμματα οἶδας, τὰ δυνάμενά σε σοφίσαι εἰς σωτηρίαν διὰ πίστεως τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.

## ***GOSPEL***

### **The Reading is from Luke 18:10-14**

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## ***GOSPEL***

### **Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 18:10-14**

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· ἄνθρωποι δύο ἀνέβησαν εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν προσεύξασθαι, ὁ εἷς Φαρισαῖος καὶ ὁ ἕτερος τελώνης. ὁ Φαρισαῖος σταθεὶς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ταῦτα προσηυχέτο· ὁ Θεός, εὐχαριστῶ σοι ὅτι οὐκ εἰμί ὡσπερ οἱ λοιποὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄρπαγες, ἄδικοι, μοιχοί, ἢ καὶ ὡς οὗτος ὁ τελώνης· νηστεύω δις τοῦ σαββάτου, ἀποδεκατῶ πάντα ὅσα κτῶμαι. καὶ ὁ τελώνης μακρόθεν ἕστώς οὐκ ᾔθελεν οὐδὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάραι, ἀλλ' ἔτυπεν εἰς τὸ στήθος αὐτοῦ λέγων· ὁ Θεός, ἰλάσθητί μοι τῶν ἁμαρτωλῶν. λέγω ὑμῖν, κατέβη οὗτος δεδικαιωμένος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ ἢ γὰρ ἐκεῖνος· ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ὑψῶν ἑαυτὸν ταπεινωθήσεται, ὁ δὲ ταπεινῶν ἑαυτὸν ὑψωθήσεται.



## Saints and Feasts



### **February 25** ***Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee: Triodon Begins Today***

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness. Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights. ***All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.***



### **February 26** ***The Holy Great Martyr Photine, the Samaritan Women***

Saint Photini lived in 1st century Palestine and was the woman that Christ met at Jacob's Well in Samaria as recorded in the Gospel according to John (4:4-26). After her encounter with Christ, she and her whole family were baptized by the Apostles and became evangelists of the early Church. Photini and her children eventually were summoned before the emperor Nero and instructed to renounce their faith in Christ. They refused to do so, accepting rather to suffer various tortures. After many efforts to force her to surrender to idolatry, the emperor ordered that she be thrown down a well. Photini gave up her life in the year 66. *St. Photini is commemorated on three occasions during the year: February 26 (Greek tradition), March 20 (Slavic tradition), and the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman on the 5th Sunday of Pascha.*

## Sermon

### SERMON SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

In an Orthodox sermon on the Gospel of the Publican and the Pharisee with quotes from the Holy Fathers, we can draw wisdom from the teachings of the Church Fathers to deepen the understanding of this profound parable.

Beloved in Christ,

Today, we meditate on the powerful message conveyed in the Gospel of the Publican and the Pharisee—a message that resonates through the ages, guiding us towards humility, repentance, and true righteousness. The venerable St. Ephraim the Syrian teaches us, "The true fast is for those who, as the Publican, tremble at the sight of their sins. To ridicule the opponents of the Faith is not a serious matter; let us fast, brethren, not only our bodies but also our tongues." These words remind us that humility is the bedrock of spiritual growth. The Pharisee, consumed by pride, stands self-assured before God, while the Publican, aware of his unworthiness, is moved to repentance. As St. John Chrysostom beautifully articulates, "It is better to be humbled with the truth than exalted with falsehood."

The great St. Gregory Palamas instructs us, "God does not desire sacrifices and observances from us. What He seeks is a broken and contrite heart, humility, love, and thanksgiving." The Pharisee's external displays of piety pale in comparison to the sincere contrition of the Publican.

Let us heed the timeless words of St. Isaac the Syrian, who reminds us, "Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly, the Angel who guards you will honor your patience."

In conclusion, the Gospel of the Publican and the Pharisee, illuminated by the wisdom of the Holy Fathers, beckons us towards a profound spiritual truth. Let us embrace humility, cultivate repentance, and seek true righteousness in the presence of our merciful God.

May we learn from the humility of the Publican, shun the pride of the Pharisee, and strive for a contrite heart that finds favor in the eyes of the Lord. Amen.

May this sermon inspire reflection and transformative growth in the hearts of those who hear.

***We Welcome all who worship with us today.***

**Memorials**

**40 day – *George Delyani***

**40 day – *John Dinopoulos***

**3 year - *Stanley Metaxas***

**7 year - *Presbytera Penelope Metaxas***

**13 year—*Fr. Emmanuel Metaxas***

**Trisagion**

**Konstantina & Konstantinos Patsiocostas**

**George & Efterpi Soffronas**

***May their memory be eternal. Αιωβία η Μνήμη!***

Coffee Fellowship is sponsored by the ***Delyani family and the Dinopoulos family*** in memory of their loved one.

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

**Announcements**

**The National Hellenic Society's Heritage Greece Program is a complementary, 2-week cultural immersion** odyssey for accomplished Greek American college students who share their experiences with a peer group of exceptional students from the American College of Greece (ACG) in Athens, Greece or the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) in Thessaloniki, Greece. The Heritage Greece Program® goal is to connect the participants with their faith, heritage, roots, and Greek identity. For more information visit: ***National Hellenic Society | Heritage Greece***

## 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 TO PURCHASE TICKETS EXTENDED TO  
FEBRUARY 29th!!!**

**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





**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](http://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](mailto:Ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org)  
to RSVP or with any questions

PLEASE SUPPORT  
TAXIARCHAE  
GREEK SCHOOL

# 50/50 RAFFLE

## FUNDRAISER

TICKETS CAN BE  
PURCHASED DURING  
FELLOWSHIP FROM  
2/17 TO 3/24  
OR VIA VENMO FOR

### 5 for \$5

Contact [ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org](mailto:ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org)  
with any questions

**venmo**



## 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 28<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Anton's** CLEANERS **Enterprise** Bank **Jordan's** FURNITURE

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](http://antons.com/belle)

MASSACHUSETTS  
CONVENTION CENTER  
AUTHORITY



Watertown Savings Bank  
Customer Choice Awards

Please vote Taxiarchae as your favorite  
Local Non-profit!

With your help, we can receive \$

WSB is now doing all the voting online.  
(No more paper ballots).

If you need help voting, please go to any  
WSB Branch and they will guide you  
through the process.

Celebrating  
25<sup>TH</sup>  
Anniversary

Customer  
Choice  
Awards

\$100,000 FOR YOUR FAVORITE  
LOCAL NON-PROFITS!

VOTE: [watertownsavings.com/vote](https://www.watertownsavings.com/vote)

Member FDIC      Watertown Savings Bank      Member NFP

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](mailto:CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org)

**RECOGNIZE.  
REPORT.  
PREVENT.**

## FINEX HOUSE

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



**MAIDS OF  
ATHENA**  
ALPHA EPSILON ALPHA

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

**THE 3RD ANNUAL  
SPRING SEMI FORMAL**

WHEN:

Saturday April 6th,  
7 pm - 11 pm

WHERE:

Hellenic  
Cultural Center  
of Watertown  
25 Bigelow Ave



MUSIC BY:

The  
Salonica  
Boys

OPEN TO ALL:

Highschool &  
College Students

\$20 ENTRY FEE



## 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](mailto:functionmanager@goarchangels.com)



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

