

THE ARCHANGEL'S CALL

ΦΩΝΗ ΑΡΧΑΓΓΕΛΟΥ

TAXIARCHAE/ARCHANGELS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS WWW.GOARCHANGELS.COM

THE HOLY CROSS AS A SYMBOL OF VICTORY OVER DEATH by Fr. Athanasios Nenes



SEPTEMBER 2023

The feast of the universal elevation of the Holy Cross is the first Lord's feast of the ecclesiastical year. In it, the highlight of Divine Providence, the crucifixion of Christ, is emphasized, as the greatest symbol of God's love for man, which is the Holy Cross, is raised before us as a trophy of victory over death. The holiday conveys the joyous message that *"Through the decay of wood, the death that comes to mankind, through the Cross is removed today"* (hymn of the matins of the feast) as an answer to the problem of death.

The resurrectional sermon of the feast leads us to experience the crucifixion of Christ as a new spiritual "Pascha" and a prelude to the age to come. With the Cross of Christ, a new reality is inaugurated, in which the resurrection that "renew the universes" is projected as the final solution to the human historical drama, with Christ being the *"First of those who have fallen asleep"* (1 Cor. 15:20).

The resurrection of the dead is the certain expectation of the faithful that is renewed through the presence of the Holy Cross in everyone's life. Participation in the celebration of the elevation of the Holy Cross gives the life of the faithful an eschatological direction and in the present time its eternal extension. The Holy Cross, as a symbol of victory against death, reminds us that humanity, with Christ's sacrifice on the cross, gains immortality and life as the permanent and dignified solution to the terrible fact of death. With the Holy Cross from which life finally sprung forth, the immutable law of true life is confirmed according to which *"the seed you sow does not come to life unless it dies"* (1 Cor. 15:36). With the crucifixion of Christ, *"the foundations of death were shaken"* (matins of the feast) and man was given the opportunity to face death with courage as a gateway to eternity and not as an eternal loss. Indeed, Christ's death on the cross is a death of immortality, with which Adam's handwriting



was torn, because the Lord Redeemed us from the curse of the law with His precious blood.

With the celebration of the universal elevation of the Holy Cross, it is understood that with the cross of Christ *"by the fallen, death's power"* (vespers of the feast) man is raised to a new life of joy and incorruption, freed from the fear of death by the personal experience of co-crucifixion and co-resurrection with Christ. With the Cross of Christ, man is no longer tied to death, but moves from death to life.

The symbol of the Holy Cross, by which death was brought down to the end, proves that man is created to live in the joy of resurrection not as a kind of philosophical concept, but as a guarantee for the fulfillment of the resurrection of humankind. The faithful, participating in the sacrifice of Christ with the Holy Cross, despises his own death, treating it as a simple impression and temporary condition. Christ *"who through the Cross abolished death and set us free"* (matins of the feast) conveys the certainty of the resurrection of the dead, which abolishes the fear, pain, and despair of death, while strengthening hope and strengthening faith in the afterlife eternity. Now with the Cross of Christ death acquires a positive value.

Modern man is called to perceive death as mysticism who brings out the meaning of the mystery and the dimension of the depth of life in the light of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. As long as man is aware of the new world that opens before him with the Cross, he breathes the free air of resurrection.

In this way the cross of the Lord is transformed from a symbol of horrible condemnation for its time into a universal symbol of glory, life, and victory over death. The willingness of Christ with the cross sacrifice and death, leads us to the kingdom of life and opens the way of resurrection.

(Continued on page 3)

The Archangel's Call

is the monthly newsletter of the
Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church
 25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472
 Phone: 617.924.8182 Fax: 617.924.4124
 Email: office@goarchangels.com

The Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church is a parish under the spiritual and ecclesiastical shepherding of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

The Mission of the Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church is to proclaim the Gospel of Salvation through the Orthodox Christian Faith for the glory of our Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are a community of believers who journey towards our Lord Jesus Christ and one another through our WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WITNESS, and SERVICE. We invite all people to join us on this journey toward the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Archangel's Call is published on the first of each month. The deadline for submissions to this newsletter is the tenth of the prior month.

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Cover Design by Alexandra Roll

Published by the

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Athletic Ministry: George and Peter Karalis

Bookstore: Charles & Maria Patsios,
Richard & Ileana Strakus

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Choir Director: Cynthia Alex

Computer and Internet Ministries: Tim Papakyrikos

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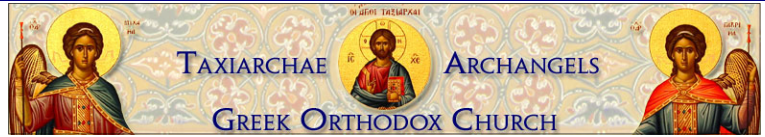
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Sunday School Director: Costas Karageorgis

Visit Our Taxiarchae Website

www.goarchangels.com

Our site is updated every week!



**His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios
of the Holy Metropolis of Boston**

The Reverend Father Athanasios Nenes, Proistamenos

Cell: 914.479.8096 Email: anenes@goarchangels.com

Parish Council 2023

President: George Faggas

Vice President: George Brakoumatsos

Treasurer: Costas Karageorgis

Asst. Treasurer: Georgia Bitsikas

Secretary: Chrisoula Salamanis-Rivera

Stewardship Chair: Evelyn Haralampu

Council Members:

John Abate

Patricia Asimacos

Harry Berlis

Harry Chehames

Teli Kandilas

Anthony Kapadoukakis

Brian Marriott

Nick Papakyrikos

Costa Zahos

Honorary Lifetime Member:

Ernest G. J. Anastos

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOTICE

A General Assembly of our Parish will take place on **Sunday, September 17, 2023** after the Divine Liturgy in our Church Hall. Please make every effort to attend and participate in this meeting.

The agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

- Opening Prayer
- Election of meeting chairperson
- Reading and approval of minutes from the last General Assembly
- Clergy Comments
- President's Remarks
- Financial Report
- Proposed 2024 Budget/Treasurer's Report
- Stewardship Update
- Update on Maintenance, Repairs
Vote on parking lot repair funding
- Parish Council nominations for 2024
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Please Note: The Archdiocese Parish Regulations stipulate that only "members in good standing" are allowed to actively participate in discussions and voting.

With love in the Lord,
 Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes, Pastor
 George Faggas, Parish Council President

Αγαπητά μέλη: Ευχαρίστως σας πληροφορούμε ότι την Κυριακή, 17 Σεπτεμβρίου, 2023 θα λάβει χώρα η Τακτική Γενική Συνέλευση στο Κοινοτικό Κέντρο με τη Θεία Λειτουργία. Παρακαλείσθε θερμότητα όπως προσέλθετε και λάβετε ενεργό μέρος.



THE ARCHANGEL'S CALL

Please let us know if you prefer to receive your monthly bulletin through email, rather than hard copy. Please email Cynthia Alex at cindialex1@gmail.com to let us know your preference. Thank you!



«Δόξα τω Θεώ Πάντων Ἐνεκεν» GLORY TO GOD FOR ALL

Αδέλφια μου!

Με την Χάρη του Θεού θα εισέλθουμε στον Σεπτέμβριο, όπου ξεκινά η Εκκλησιαστική Χρονιά ή όπως λέγεται η αρχή της Ινδίκτου. Συνάμα είναι και η αρχή της σχολικής χρονιάς. Και εμείς εδώ ξεκινάμε τώρα και τα προγράμματα της νεότητας της κοινότητάς μας. Το κατηχητικό σχολείο, η ομάδα JOY, GOYA, το Ελληνικό μας σχολείο το τμήμα μπάσκετ καθώς και η χορωδία μας. Θα ήθελα να συστήσω και ενθαρρύνω τους γονείς να εγγράψουν τα παιδιά τους στα προγράμματα της νεότητας ούτως ώστε τα παιδιά να αναπτύξουν την πίστη τους αλλά και να δημιουργήσουν παρέες και φιλίες που θα κρατήσουν μια ζωή. Επίσης παροτρύνω τους ενορίτες μας, όσοι μπορούν και έχουν το τάλαντο της φωνής, να ενσωματωθούν στην χορωδία μας. Να έχουμε λοιπόν έναν καλό και ευλογημένο ξεκίνημα!

*Καλή Χρονιά!
Ο εφημέριος σας
π. Αθανάσιος Νένης*

My beloved!

With the Grace of God we will enter September, where the ecclesiastical Year begins or as it is called the beginning of the Indictus. It is also the beginning of the school year. Here in our beloved Taxiarchae family, we are now starting the youth ministry programs of our community, Sunday school, JOY, GOYA teams, our Greek school, basketball-sports as well as our Choir. I would strongly recommend and encourage parents to enroll their children in the youth ministry programs so that the children can develop their faith and create friendships which will last a lifetime. I also encourage our parishioners, those who can and have the talent of the voice, to join our choir. So, let's have a good and blessed start!

*Your parish priest.
Fr. Athanasios Nenes*

THE HOLY CROSS AS A SYMBOL OF VICTORY OVER DEATH (Continued from page 1)

So, with the feast of the elevation of the Holy Cross, we live in the sovereignty of the resurrection and in the certainty that Life is stronger than death. This helps us to hope that after all death is not the final stage in a long course of decay but the beginning of resurrection. What we expect for the end times, the end of human history, this gives meaning to every moment of life. Such a cross-resurrected attitude of life is the fruit of our faith and hope in the Holy Cross of Christ.



All are warmly invited to join the Bible Study Group which meets via zoom every week on Monday evening at 8 PM. With the participation of Father Nenes, and facilitated by Dr. Nicholas S. Racheotes, we engage in lively, thoughtful, and uplifting discussions of Holy Scripture in what always proves to be a fast-moving hour. Our focus to begin this liturgical year is an exploration of the Gospel readings from Pentecost to the Adoration of the Holy Cross. At the request of one of our members, we undertake this review in recognition of the fact that our participation in Sunday services is a bit irregular during the summer months.

To become part of this welcoming group, you need only contact Frank Catrickes at fdcatrickes@gmail.com



Celebrating the Feast of our Icon of Panagia Gorgoepikoos Η Παναγία η Γοργουπήκοος

**Sunday, October 1, 2023
Artoklasia will be offered at the conclusion
of the Divine Liturgy.**

Numerous miracles of all sorts are attributed to the Panagia Gorgoepikoos, she who is "Quick to Hear," for the icon reminds believers that the Holy Virgin is quick to come to the aid of those who call upon her with faith.

Beginning in October, we will resume the Paraklesis services every Thursday evening at 6:00 PM.

BLESSINGS OF PETS



**Please join us on the Feast Day of
St. Sozon the Martyr
for a special blessing of your pets!
Thursday, September 7 at 6:30 PM
in the Taxiarchae Church Parking Lot
(side door of church)**

GRECIAN FESTIVAL 2023 PROFIT AND LOSS REPORT

INCOME	
Sponsors	52,210.00
Food and Beverage	
Food Line	79,584.94
Gyro	74,302.00
Kafenio	2,644.00
Pastries	20,418.00
Loukoumades	12,894.00
Beverages	32,257.60
Candy	681.00
Post Festival Food Sales	754.20
Tips	13,542.96
Sausage	2,261.00
Total Food and Beverage	239,339.10
Vendor Retailers (Tables)	3,700.00
Bazaar	1,803.00
TOTAL FESTIVAL INCOME	297,052.10

EXPENSES	
Food Supply	41,090.46
Bar	4,972.36
Entertainment	6,500.00
Equipment	25,044.21
Advertising	1,150.00
Printing	2,194.25
Supplies	9,373.88
Security	1,641.20
Contract Labor	9,037.00
Waste Disposal	100.00
Square Fees	4,536.13
TOTAL FESTIVAL EXPENSES	105,639.49

NET INCOME 191,412.61




MANY THANKS
TO ALL WHO
CONTRIBUTED
TO THE
SUCCESS OF
FESTIVAL 2023!



This is an exciting time of year — the beginning of the ecclesiastical year as well as the time for Sunday school and Greek school registration. Please go to our website for registration or call the office to register your children. Registration information for both schools, as well as the Sunday School registration form, can be found on pages 6 and 7 of this issue.

On October 1, we will have a Ministry Sunday where you can learn more about what our ministries have to offer and how you can participate. Do you enjoy working with children? Perhaps you can assist with Sunday School, Greek School or GOYA (pgs.6,7,8). Would you like to take a more active part in our Liturgical Services? Encourage your children to become active in the Altar Boy Ministry, or you and your older children could join the choir (pg.9). Would you be willing to assist or serve on the Parish Council? Have you considered becoming a member of Philoptochos (pg.5) or helping in any of our outreach programs (pg.5). We need the help of our parishioners in order to move forward and grow.

Finally, please remember to support your parish with your 2023 Stewardship. Please fill out the Stewardship form below and return to the church office, or go to our website—www.goarchangels.com. (Stewardship list as of 15 August on pg.11.)

<p>Information</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Name of Spouse (if married) _____</p> <p>Street Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p>Home Phone _____</p> <p>Mobile Phone _____</p> <p>EMAIL ADDRESS _____</p> <p>Email Address of Spouse (if married) _____</p>	<p>TREASURE</p> <p>In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church</p> <p>\$ _____ each week/month/annually</p> <p>PLANNED GIVING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I wish to speak with someone about how to remember the church in my will, trust, or estate plan.</p> <p>Dependent Children's Names and Birthdays _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>May we add you to our Parish Email list?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>How would you prefer to receive the Archangels Call Monthly Newsletter:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> hard copy/postal mail</p>
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PHILOPTOCHOS
Chapter of the Good Samaritan – Member of the National Ladies Philoptochos Society

Dear Parish Family, **Welcome back! Καλή Αρχή!**

As we begin the Ecclesiastical year, my hope is that we will be seeing more and more of each other. Our hope is to have an open meeting soon, sometime in late October, so that we can see each other and discuss what activities or events the membership would like to participate in. Let's plan the year together. We will keep you posted on the date. We want to see everyone there. If you are not a member, kindly consider becoming one. YOU can make a difference in people's lives.

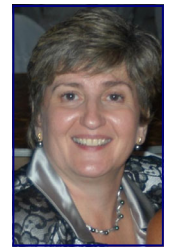
Please save the date Saturday, November 4th, when we plan to have Stella Nahatis who wrote a book, "Taxi to America—A Greek Orphan's Adoption Story", the story of her journey to the United States. I know that we have all heard the stories from our own families, but let's get together and have some coffee and listen to her story.

We are here to assist parishioners, should they need help. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office and leave a message for me.

Our Church is with us wherever we are. Our Faith is still strong. On behalf of the Philoptochos Taxiarchae Ladies Society The Good Samaritan, I am sending our love and hugs to all. May God bless us all and keep us in good health.

With sisterly love,

Frances



American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association
"HARRIS J BOORAS" CHAPTER #406, ORDER OF AHEPA

GYRO LUNCH



Join us on October 22 after Liturgy for a delicious GYRO lunch! Dine in or Take out. Pre-orders for take out will be available on the church's website in October. Watch for more information in the October issue of the Archangels Call!

Please let us know if a brother is sick or in need.

President: John Abate	617.797.9499/617.484.5946
Vice President: Adam Zapris	978.794.1049
Secretary: Charles Pentikis	781.893.1264
Treasurer: E. Deamantopulos	978.663.6549/617.599.9261
Demetri Tsatsarones	781.893.5988/781.266.8001



Wish List: This is just a guide. The Pantry will take all food.

- Flour and Sugar
- Cereal
- Old Fashioned Oats
- Kids' Snacks
- Canned Vegetables and Fruits
- Spam
- Coffee and Tea
- Condiments, Cooking Oil
- Cleaning Products
- Personal Hygiene Products
- Shampoo and conditioner

September is coming— we will need lots of school snacks!!

This month, the Food Pantry is especially in need of CANNED TUNA.

Questions?
Contact Christina Kourkoulis,
Outreach Ministries
Coordinator at
ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org



FINEX HOUSE
PO Box 300670
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
<https://www.finexhouse.org>

Items requested are:

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

We are grateful for your generosity with the non-perishable food donations! **Please be sure to check the expiration date.** The Health Dept. will not allow the food pantry to accept any expired items. Shown here is a Wish List for the food pantry and for FINEX House. God bless you for your support!



The HELPING HANDS MINISTRY'S sole purpose is to make the lives of our Parishioners easier in view of the restrictions many are facing today. The services we offer are: **RX pickup/drug store, Postal needs, Grocery shopping.** If you know someone from our church who may need these services, please contact Georgia (Jody) Bitsikas by email gbitsikas@aol.com or by calling 617-653-2461.

Greek School

Vacation is medicine for the soul, «οι διακοπές είναι φάρμακο για την ψυχή». As always, this summer has gone by fast, and we hope you enjoyed every second of your vacation and have rejuvenated physically and mentally.



Our Taxiarchae Greek School reopens Thursday September 7 and Saturday September 9, respectively. The teachers and I have been preparing and looking forward to the new school year with anticipation. There is still a lot of Greek to learn! The study of the Greek language and literature promotes critical thinking, analytical skills, and cultural awareness. Greek Language stands as a pillar of human history, culture, and knowledge. How lucky your children are to have this opportunity to learn Greek.

If you have not registered your child yet, please do so as soon as possible. Registration is still open.

SCHEDULE

Students have the option to attend one of the following days: Thursdays, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM or Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Please note that our school calendar corresponds with the school closings and vacation schedules of the Watertown Public Schools.

Classes begin — Agiasmos Services on
 Thursday, September 7 at 4:30 PM
 Saturday, September 9 at 10:00 AM

SEPTEMBER REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year has begun and will extend through the end of September. Please log on to the church website <https://goarchangels.org> and select **Greek School** from the menu to view all information on tuition and to register. Please note: Health regulations require that a copy of your child's most recent health form be on file.

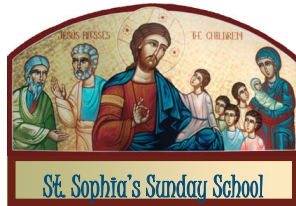
Register online and we will email you an invoice to be paid within 14 days of receipt with credit card, cash or check payable to **Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church/Greek School**. Please include invoice number or names of registered students with your payment. Please deliver or mail to:

Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek School
 25 Bigelow Avenue Watertown, MA 02472

TUITION	
Parish Stewards*	Non-Stewards
\$675/child	\$1,100/child
\$300 for each additional child	\$500 for each additional child

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Agni Charalambous Thurner, Director
 Phone: 617/610-9369
 Email: athurner@goarchangels.com



We are excited that the new school year is beginning! The first day of Sunday School classes will be on **Sunday, September 24th**. Registration is ongoing throughout the year. We will offer online registration. Look for an email inviting you to register online or you can find a link from our Church's website. Forms will also be available in the Church office and on Sundays during class. You may also

use the form in this bulletin. All youth of our parish should be enrolled for their respective classes. There are classes for everyone, from the Pre-K class for our youngest students all the way to our high school seniors.

Sunday School classes begin with the Divine Liturgy at 9:45 AM. Following Holy Communion, students will proceed to their classrooms. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the Divine Liturgy on time with their children and be actively involved in our Sunday School program. Visit our Church's website for more information about our Sunday School program.

Anyone who is interested in teaching or assisting in this most vital program of our Church is asked to speak with Fr. Thanasi as soon as possible.



*Costas Karageorgis,
 Sunday School Director*

Some important dates to keep in mind are below:

- Grandparents Sunday October 22nd
- Giving Tree November 26th to December 17th
- Christmas Pageant December 17th

Ministry Sunday October 1

Following the
 Divine Liturgy
 during the Coffee
 Fellowship Hour

Please join us!

Find out more about the
 various ministries
 of our parish.

**“ST. SOPHIA” SUNDAY SCHOOL—ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟΝ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΝ ΑΓΙΑ ΣΟΦΙΑ
2023-2024 SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Last Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Father's Name: _____ Contact phone number: _____
 Mother's Name: _____ Contact phone number: _____
 Father's email address: _____ Mother's email address: _____

Child 1:
 First Name: _____ Baptismal Name: _____ Name Day: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade in Public School as of September 2023: _____
 What/Where School You Attend: _____
 Any special needs/allergies/things we should know? : _____

Child 2:
 First Name: _____ Baptismal Name: _____ Name Day: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade in Public School as of September 2023: _____
 What/Where School You Attend: _____
 Any special needs/allergies/things we should know? : _____

Child 3:
 First Name: _____ Baptismal Name: _____ Name Day: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade in Public School as of September 2023: _____
 What/Where School You Attend: _____
 Any special needs/allergies/things we should know? : _____

Parental Volunteer: We ask that all parents assist our Sunday School program by providing snacks for children twice during the year. **Please write the two months during which we can call upon you to provide a snack:**
 _____ and _____.

We need your assistance as a teacher, assistant, special project leader, or general volunteer. If you are interested in assisting us, please indicate your preference below and we will contact you.
 Teacher **Assistant Teacher** **Special Project Leader** **General Volunteer**

Parental Permission: Do you give permission for your child's picture to appear on our church's website and print media without a name? **Yes** _____ **No** _____

Parental commitment and signature: I, as the parent of the child(ren) listed above, commit myself to bring my child(ren) to church every Sunday, and I will encourage my child(ren) to participate in all of the activities and programs of the Sunday School and of our Church. I am enclosing my donation of \$_____ to help cover the costs of books and materials for the Sunday School program.

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

Suggested Donation: \$40 for first child and \$25 for each additional child. Please note that we will again offer pre-school programs: Pre-School Class-Pre-K for children ages 3 & 4; and Kindergarten for children 5 yrs. old. **Thank you!**

MARION'S PHILOTIMO CHAT GROUP

Men and women are welcome! Get creative, make connections!

THIRD THURSDAY September 21



Please join us—men and women - Bring a friend! Our group is growing! We hope to see you there.



Costa Magimbi, our chanter, is available to assist and guide parishioners who are having problems navigating the Massachusetts Social Services

system. You can meet with Costa on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy to set up an appointment.



Best Wishes to our Newlyweds

Baptism of the newest member of our church family!



May 26, 2023
Evan Moretti and
Toula Papadopoulou
Koumbara
Christina Pantazopoulos



July 23, 2023
Michael Leonidas Pantazopoulos
Godmother Hariklia Pavlidis
Parents: Peter & Olga



Join us Friday, September 8th, 5-7 pm for

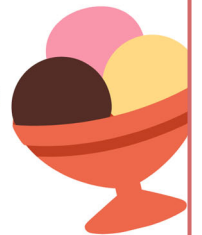
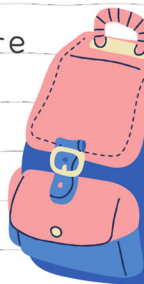
JOY

Pizza and a treat will be served and we will make a craft

Please RSVP to CKourKoulis@goarchangels.org

September 1st to ensure availability and participation

SEE YOU THERE



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE FAMILY MINISTRIES ANNUAL

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH 6-8 PM

PIZZA WILL BE SERVED

PLEASE RSVP TO CKOURKOULIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG BY SEPTEMBER 8TH TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION AND AVAILABILITY





When it comes to pursuing hobbies and activities that bring joy and fulfillment to our lives, joining a choir often goes overlooked. However, the benefits of participating in a choir are numerous and can positively impact various aspects of your life. SO....

SHOULD I JOIN THE CHOIR??? OF COURSE YOU SHOULD!! HERE'S WHY:

1. Relieve Stress

Singing in choir provides a powerful outlet for stress relief. The act of singing releases endorphins, the brain's natural "feel-good" chemicals, which can promote relaxation and reduce anxiety. Engaging in group singing also encourages deep breathing and controlled breath support, having a calming effect on both the body and mind. Joining the choir offers a nurturing and supportive environment where you can temporarily escape the pressures of everyday life and find solace in the beautiful music of our church.

2. Boost Confidence and Self-Esteem

Singing in a group setting allows individuals to overcome shyness and stage fright, as the focus is on the collective sound rather than individual performance. The support and encouragement from fellow choir members will help you enhance your singing abilities. As you witness your progress and contribute to the collective musicality, your self-assurance will soar!

3. Learn to Read Music

As a choir member, you'll learn to read sheet music, understand musical notation, and navigate complex harmonies. Mastering these skills not only deepens your understanding of music but also enhances your ability to appreciate and interpret a wide range of musical genres.

4. Build Long-Lasting Friendships

Our choir provides a unique setting for forging deep, long-lasting friendships. Working closely with fellow singers towards a common goal fosters a strong sense of camaraderie and connection. The shared passion for music creates a supportive and inclusive community where individuals from diverse backgrounds come together. Choir rehearsals, performances, and social events offer ample opportunities to bond with like-minded individuals, creating friendships that extend beyond the realm of music. The support and companionship of your choir mates can enrich your life in profound ways.

5. Share Your Voice and Bring Smiles to Your Community

As a choir member, you have the privilege of singing/chanting, not only for our parishioners, but for other audiences as well, such as in our concerts and other combined choir performances. The power of music to uplift spirits and touch hearts is immeasurable. By sharing your vocal talents, you bring smiles, inspiration, and emotional healing to your community. The impact of your collective voices can create an atmosphere of unity and togetherness. Joining choir offers many benefits beyond the joy of making music. From stress relief and increased confidence to the cultivation of lifelong friendships and the ability to positively impact your community, the reasons to join our choir are compelling. Whether you are an experienced singer or someone who has never sung before, the inclusive and supportive nature of choirs makes them an ideal space to explore and develop your musical abilities.

So, take a leap of faith, join our choir, and grow not only as a musician but as a person as well. Our first Choir Sunday will be Sunday, October 1. If you would like to join us, please email me cindialex1@gmail.com

Cynthia Alex, Choir Director



Mark your calendars for our Choir's Christmas Concert! Once again this year there will be two performances:
 at St. George Church in LYNN—on Saturday, December 9 and
 at Taxiarchae in WATERTOWN—on Sunday, December 10. Save the date!!



**METROPOLIS OF BOSTON FEDERATION
 GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS**

*I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
 I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
 Psalm 104:33*

Music Scholarship Opportunity

The Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Musicians offers a scholarship to promote Church music education. This program is open to all students accepted into or currently enrolled in a university, majoring in music, choral conducting or chant and/or current choir directors, organists or members who wish to enhance their musical skills. Application deadline is Sept. 30, 2023. Application and more information can be found at www.boston.churchmusic.goarch.org or contact Choir Director, Cynthia Alex at cindialex1@gmail.com.



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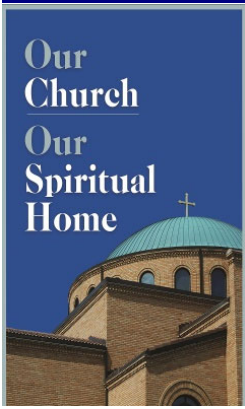
*Blessed is the wherein you walk today;
 for there is prepared for you a place of rest.*

Remember in your prayers our brothers and sisters who passed from this life...

- ...on June 26, Virginia (Menidis) Politis
- ...on July 18, Vassilios "Bill" K. Spirounis
- ...on July 20, Spiros Pippas
- ...on July 30, Christopher S. Drakos
- ...on August 3, Vicky S. Markantonis

May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η μνήμη





STEWARDSHIP 2023

We ask you to share your talents with our parish. Please contact Father Athanasios Nenes (anenes@goarchangels.com) or any other members of the Parish Council. If you have already paid or committed this year's Stewardship, we sincerely appreciate your generosity. If you have not yet made your contribution or commitment, we humbly ask for your Stewardship gift this year. For your convenience you can make your donation via the link to PayPal found on the parish's website, or by mailing a regular check. May the grace of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you and your loved ones.

*Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes,
Parish Priest*

2023 STEWARDSHIP (as of August 15) 276 Stewards

If any names have been mistakenly omitted from this list, please notify the church office and we will make corrections in our next bulletin.

Εάν έχει γίνει παράλειψη ονομάτων, παρακαλούμε αμέσως όπως αποτανθήτε στο γραφείο της εκκλησίας να κάνουμε διορθώσεις στο επόμενο τεύχος.

- | | | | | |
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Schedule: Orthros: 8:30, Doxology, Divine Liturgy: 9:30 AM Weekday Liturgies: 8:30 AM Greek School: Thu 4:30-6:30 PM; Sat 10 AM-12 PM					September 2023	
					1 Ecclesiastical New Year	2
3 1st Sunday of Matthew Epistle: I Corinthians 16:13-24 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42 	4 Bible Study p.3	5 	6	7 Greek School Agiasmos p.6 Blessing of the Pets 6:30 PM p.3	8 Nativity of the Theotokos Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 AM JOY Pizza 5-7 PM p.8	9 Greek School Agiasmos p.6
10 Sunday before the Holy Cross Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18 Gospel: John 3:13-17	11 Bible Study p.3	12	13	14 Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30 AM Philotimo Chat Group p.8 Greek School p.6	15 JOY Ice Cream Social 6-8 PM P.8	16 Greek School p.6 
17 Sunday after the Holy Cross Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 Gospel: Mark 3:34-38; 9:1 General Assembly p.2	18 Bible Study p.3	18 	20	21 Greek School p.6	22	23 Greek School p.6
24 1st Sunday of Luke Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 First day of Sunday School!	25 Bible Study p.3	26	27	28 Greek School p.6	29 	30 Greek School p.6