# Taxiarchae/Archancels Greek Orthodox Church Watertown, Massachusetts www.goarchancels.com

THE **ARCHANGEE's** 

#### **A SPIRITUAL PHERIMAGE: NAVIGATING THE GREAT LENTEN JOURNEY** Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes

In the Orthodox Christian tradition, the Great Lent is a sacred and transformative period that invites believers to embark on a spiritual journey of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lasting for 40 days, it symbolizes Christ's own 40 days of fasting in the wilderness and culminates in the celebration of His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. Each Sunday of Great Lent marks a milestone in this journey, shedding light on different aspects of our faith and revealing the richness of our tradition through the commemoration of significant feasts.

#### The Journey of Great Lent

As we embark on the Great Lenten journey, we are called to examine our hearts, repent of our sins, and draw closer to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time of introspection and spiritual discipline, a period of preparation for the joyous celebration of Pascha.

#### The Sundays of Great Lent

The Sunday of Orthodoxy: On this first Sunday of Lent, we commemorate the restoration of the holy icons in the 9th century. It is a celebration of the victory of the true faith over iconoclasm and a reminder of the importance of sacred images in our worship.

#### The Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

This second Sunday of Lent honors St. Gregory Palamas, a 14th-century theologian and mystic known for his teachings on prayer and the divine energies. His life and writings inspire us to seek the radiant light of God's presence in our own spiritual journey.

#### The Sunday of the Cross

The third Sunday of Lent focuses on the veneration of the Holy Cross, reminding us of Christ's sacrifice and inviting us to take up our own crosses and follow Him. It is a day of reflection on the transformative power of the Cross in our lives.



#### The Sunday of St. John Climacus

On the fourth Sunday of Lent, we commemorate St. John Climacus, whose spiritual classic, "The Ladder of Divine Ascent," is a spiritual masterpiece that outlines the steps of spiritual growth and challenges us to strive for holiness. It also offers us a roadmap for asceticism and inner purification. His teachings guide us in our ascent towards God.

## The Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

This fifth Sunday of Lent tells the remarkable story of St. Mary of Egypt, a repentant sinner who found redemption in the desert through her profound penitence and fervent prayers. Her life serves as a



model of humility and perseverance for us all.

**CALL** <u>ΦΩΝΗ ΑΡΧΑΓΤΕΛΟΥ</u>

#### Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday

The 40 days journey of Great Lent ends on the Friday before Lazarus Saturday. From Lazarus Saturday begins Holy week. These two days immediately precede Holy Week and prepare

us for the celebration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Lazarus Saturday commemorates the raising of Lazarus from the dead by Jesus, while Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the Lord's Passion.



As we journey through Great Lent and contemplate the significance of each Sunday and feast, may we grow in faith, deepen our relationship with God, and emerge from this sacred season renewed and transformed. Let us embrace the spiritual disciplines of Lent with reverence and devotion, trusting in the grace of God to guide us on our pilgrimage towards Pascha, the feast of feasts.

#### 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.

Layout and production by Cynthia Mitaras Alex Cover Design by Alexandra Roll Published by the Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church, Watertown, MA

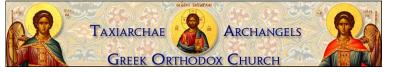
#### Parish Ministry Team

Administrative Assistant: Irene Apostolou Cobb AHEPA: John Abate Altar Boy Ministry: George Antonakas, Nick Yiokarinis Athletic Ministry: George and Peter Karalis Bookstore: Charles & Maria Patsios, Richard & Ileana Strakus Chantor: Costa Magimbi Choir Director: Cynthia Alex Computer and Internet Ministries: Tim Papakyrikos

Family Ministries Coordinator: Christina Kourkoulis GOYA: Demetri Dogias JOY/Youth Ministry: Christina Kourkoulis Greek School Director: Agni Thurner Hellenic Cultural Center: Irene Apostolou Cobb Helping Hands: Jody Bitsikas Holy Cross Seminarian: Demetri Dogias Hospital/Nursing Home Visits: Fr. Athanasios **IOCC Representative:** Frank Catrickes Kali Parea Senior Ministry: Cynthia Alex, Drew Bililies Marion's Philotimo Chat Group Philoptochos President: Fotoula Kopellas Photography Group: Nick Vakalopoulos Prosphoro Group: Fr. Athanasios, Ellea Polimou Sexton: Nicholas Yiokarinis Social Services: Costa Magimbi Sunday School Director: Costas Karageorgis

Veterans Ministry: Peter Vergados

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, ProistamenosCell: 914.479.8096Email: anenes@goarchangels.com

#### Parish Council 2024

President: George Faggas Vice President: Patricia Asimacos Treasurer: William Alex Secretary: Chrisoula Salamanis-Rivera Stewardship Chair: Evelyn Haralampu

> Honorary Lifetime Member: Ernest G. J. Anastos

Council Members:

John Abate Harry Berlis Georgia Bitsikas George Brakoumatsos Harry Chehames Teli Kandilas Frances Levas Anthony Kapadoukakis Nick Papakyrikos Costa Zahos

#### PRESIDENT'S NOTES



Dear Parish Family,

On Sunday, April 7, we will participate in the Greek Independence Day Parade (see page 9). Please make every effort to join us or be on Boylston Street to cheer us on. If you would like to march with us, please contact the church office.

On April 28, the annual Palm Sunday Luncheon will

take place immediately after Liturgy. Please make your reservations, the form is on page 11. It is a beautiful time to share a delicious meal and spend time with other members and guests of our Church.

Don't forget to support our Philoptochos and purchase the great baked goods for your Easter table. We need to support our ladies, who work hard so that you can dress up your Easter table with their baked goods. See Page 7 for ordering information.

Everyone is welcome to be with us for a celebration after the Anastasi Service of Saturday midnight/Sunday early morning, May 4 and 5. Please plan to stay for the Liturgy, and join us after in the Metaxas Hall for mezethakia and more!

We have begun preparing for the FESTIVAL 2024, which will take place on June 21, 22 and 23. As you know, this is the largest fundraiser of the year. I am asking all of you to take the time to participate to the best of your ability with your TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURE. We need parishioners of all ages to commit to volunteer during the three days so that it will be successful.



We look forward to seeing our church family at the many Lenten and Holy Week services in the coming weeks. The Holy Week Schedule is on page 5.

Thank you all for your time, love and support of our church.

George Faggas, Parish Council President



#### Αδέλφια μου!

Στο μέσον της μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής, την 3<sup>η</sup> Κυριακή των νηστειών γνωστή και ως Σταυροπροσκυνήσεως, προβάλλει στο μέσον της εκκλησίας ο Τίμιος Σταυρός. Το παράδοξο είναι ότι ο σταυρός που ήταν σύμβολο θανάτου και σήψης, γίνεται δια του Κυρίου μας Ιησού Χριστού, σύμβολο Ζωής, Ελπίδας και Χαράς!

Μόνο στην θέα του στο μέσον της εκκλησίας, για μας τους χριστιανούς είναι πηγή ελπίδας και δύναμης και όταν θα φθάσουμε στο μέσον της Σαρακοστής θα αντλήσουμε δύναμη για την συνέχιση του πνευματικού μας αγώνα σε αυτήν την εκκλησιαστική περίοδο, πολύ δεν μάλλον είναι πηγή πνευματικής ανατάσεως και ελπίδας ιδίως σε αυτούς τους καιρούς που διανύουμε.

Εύχομαι το σύμβολο του Τιμίου Σταυρού να μας ενδυναμώνει όλους μας και με την Χάρη Του να μας δίνει ελπίδα και υπομονή στην ζωή μας! Ο εφημέριος σας

#### My beloved!

On the 3rd Sunday of Lent, known as the Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross, the Holy Cross stands decorated in the center of the church. The sign of the cross was a symbol of death and deceit and through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross, became a symbol of Life, Hope and Joy!

As Christians in the midst of our Lenten journey, seeing the Cross in the center of the church on that Sunday, the Holy Cross becomes a source of hope. We gain power from the Cross to continue our spiritual journey of Lent.

Furthermore, the sign of the Cross, at these times that we all are experiencing, is truly a boost of hope and strength.

May the sign of Holy and venerable Cross empower us by His Grace and gain us hope and patience in our lives!

> Your parish priest Fr. Athanasios Nenes

ейжет Өе Стер азэндаан (iak.e'16)

OVÓMATA ZÓVTOV NAMES OF THE LIVING TO BE READ AT THE PROTHESIS ON HOLY PASCHA Ισρόν Νλόν Ταξιαρχών Taxiarchae—Archangels Greek Orthodox Church, HOLY FRIDAY AND PASCHA

π. Αθανάσιος Νένες

\_ \_ \_ \_

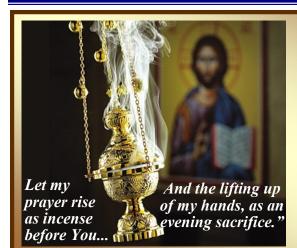
Δίπτυχον Οικογένειλ - ΓλΜΙLΥ ΝλΜΕ

Επί τῶν ἀκράηζων μινστισμοίων μικίμινη
 ποιείσθαι τῶν πιστῶς κοιμίνθεηζων. (...δαμας.)
 Ονόματα Κοκοιμημόνων

\_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF THE DECEASED TO BE READ AT THE EPITAPHIOS ON HOLY FRIDAY TRISAGION 6 PM

#### THE ARCHANGEL'S CALL - APRIL 2024



Presanctified Liturgies For the month of April will take place on Wednesdays, April 3, 10 and 17 from 6-7:30 PM Followed by family pot-luck dinner and discussion





Heretismoi Salutations to the Theotokos

Friday evenings during Lent at 7 PM April 5 and 12 The Akathist Hymn on April 19



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. The topics are selected by the group so as to be of general curiosity. Our current focus is deepening our devotion with subjects appropriate to the Lenten season, such as the worship services and their biblical elements.

To become part of our welcoming group, you need only contact Frank Catrickes at <u>fdcatrickes@gmail.com</u>. NOTE: Their will be no Bible Study on the evenings of Holy Monday (April 29) and Monday of Bright Week (May 6).

Choir Notes Our Choir During Lent and Holy Week

Our Choir will sing the beautiful hymns during selected

services of Lent and Holy Week.

Fridays, April 5 and April 12—Heretismoi/Salutations to the Theotokos Friday, April 19—The Akathyst Hymn Sunday, April 28—Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy Tuesday, April 30—Nymphios Service—the Troparion of Kassiani Friday, May 3—Good Friday Lamentations Saturday/Sunday, May 4/5 Anastasi—Paschal Divine Liturgy

Please note that the Choir Loft will be available ONLY to choir members and visiting choir members who will chant with us at these services. If you would like to chant with the Choir during Holy Week, please contact me as soon as possible and arrange to attend our remaining rehearsals. All former choir members are welcome to Join us. Καλή Ανάσταση!



Sunday morning Call Time: 9:15 AM

Please join us for the viewing of the 2004 film

## The Passion of the Christ

Thursday, April 18th 7:00pm in Metaxas Hall We will be serving coffee and light Lenten refreshments





**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.

Cynthia Mitaras Alex, Choir Director E-mail: cindialex1@gmail.com

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES 2024

April 27—Saturday of Lazarus Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30/9:00 AM Weaving palm crosses

## April 28—Palm Sunday

Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30/9:30 AM The blessing and distribution of the palms Parish Family Luncheon to follow Nymphios (Bridegroom) Service, 7 PM

April 29—Holy Monday Nymphios (Bridegroom) Service, 7 PM

April 30—Holy Tuesday Nymphios (Bridegroom) Service (Hymn of Kassiani), 7 PM

## May 1—Holy Wednesday

Presanctified Liturgy, Holy Communion, 8.30 AM Holy Unction Service (for children & parents) 3 PM Holy Unction Service (*for adults*) 7 PM

## May 2—Holy Thursday

Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil, 6 AM Holy Passion, The 12 Gospels, 7 PM

May 3—Holy Friday The Service of the Royal Hours—9 AM Youth Retreat—10:30 AM—2:30 PM Pre-School and Kindergarten Retreat, 1-2:30 PM The Unnailing (Apokathelosis) Service, 3 PM Trisagion for the Departed, 6:15 PM The Epitaphios—Lamentations, 7 PM

May 4—Holy Saturday Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 7 AM Resurrection Vigil, 11 PM

## May 5—PASCHA—EASTER SUNDAY

Paschal Orthros and Divine Liturgy—12 midnight The prayer of Saint John Chrysostom to follow. Easter eggs will be distributed

Vespers of Love (Agape Service)—11 AM



## ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΣΧΑ 2024

## 27 Αποιλίου - Σάββατο του Λαζάοου

Όφθφος, Θ.Λειτουργία, **8.30 π.μ./9.00 π.μ.** Θα σχεδιάσουν σταυρούς από τα βάϊα μετά τη Λειτουργία

## 28 Αποιλίου – Κυοιακή των Βαΐων

Όρθρος, Θ.Λειτουργία, **8.30 π.μ./9.30 π.μ.** Μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία θα δοθούν τα βάϊα.

Ακολουθία Νυμφίου, <mark>7 μ.μ</mark>.

#### **29 Αποιλίου – Μεγάλη Δευτέρα** Ακολουθία Νυμφίου, **7 μ.μ.**



### 1 Μαΐου - Μεγάλη Τετάρτη

Ποοηγιασμένη Θεία Λειτουργία , 8.30 π.μ. Άγιον Ευχέλαιον, (για μεγάλους και παιδιά) 3 μ.μ. Άγιον Ευχέλαιον (για μεγάλους) 7 μ.μ.

## 2 Μαΐου - Μεγάλη Πέμπτη

Θεία Λειτουργία , 6 π.μ. Τα Άγιο Πάθη, Τα 12 Ευαγγέλια, 7 μ.μ.

## 3 Μαΐου – Μεγάλη Παρασκευή Ακολουθία των Βασιλικών Ώρων, 9 π.μ. Αποκαθήλωση, 3 μ.μ.

Τρισάγιον, <mark>6.15 μ.μ.</mark> Επιτάφιος Θρήνος, Τα Εγκώμια, <mark>7 μ.μ.</mark>

**4 Μαΐου – Μέγα Σάββατο** Θεία Λειτουργία , **7 π.μ.** Ακολουθία προ της Αναστάσεως, **11 μ.μ.** 

## 5 Μαΐου — ΠΑΣΧΑ Πασχαλινή Θ. Λειτουογία,12 μεσάνυχτα

Θα ακολουθήσει το Κήρυγμα του Αγίου Ιωάννου του Χρυσόστομου. Μετά την Λειτουργία

Αγίου Ιωάννου του Χρυσόστομου. Μετά την Λειτουργί θα δοθούν τα Πασχαλινά Κόκκινα Αυγά.

Εσπεφινός της Αγάπης, 11 π.μ.



Join us in the Community Center as we celebrate the Anastasi with mezethakia and red Easter eggs! Everyone is welcome after the Resurrection Service of Holy Saturday night (see page 5.)







#### PAGE 6



PHILOPTOCHOS Chapter of the Good Samaritan Member of the National Ladies Philoptochos Society

#### Dear Parish family,

As we journey through Great Lent and Holy week to the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, May the light we receive light up all our hearts and lives.

Our Pre-order Palm Sunday (April 28) Bake Sale has begun. Kindly fill out the form on page 7 and return with payment to the church office or order online. We hope that you will support us and enjoy the delectable pastries baked with love by our Philoptochos ladies. I thank you all in advance for your support and of course to all the baking crews!!!

Every year our parishioners are generous with the parish Christmas Giving Tree and we are extremely grateful for your help. This Lenten season we will begin with an Easter Egg Tree. Philoptochos gives thousands of dollars to purchase Market Basket Gift Cards to be given to families in need within our parish. We ask that you help us make their Easter bright. There will be 50 egg ornaments on the tree with denominations (\$25, \$50 and \$75) for supermarkets (Market Basket, Stop & Shop and Shaw's) in the area. The deadline for the Gift Cards will be Palm Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please be as generous as possible as we continue to make a difference in the lives of people in need.

Join us on Friday, May 10th for Family Night BBQ.(Details on page 11) Let's all get together as a church family. Please buy your tickets in advance.

Our membership drive continues; please send in your membership dues. If you are not a member kindly consider becoming one. As a group, we can accomplish so much.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us continue to pray for each other. I thank you for your support and love for our beloved Church.



With sisterly love, Fotoula Kopellas







Welcome to the newest members of our church family!



March 17—Stefano Demetrios Giallousis Parents: Nicholas & Kristin Godmother: Nia (Divris) Bruno





March 16—Alexander Stephen Yatzus Fiancée: Eleni Dellas Godfather: James Dellas



Πολλέs ευχέs για Καλή Ανάσταση & Καλό Πάσχα!

## Taxiarchae Philoptochos Palm Sunday Bake Sale SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

Homemade tsourekia, Greek desserts, decorated Easter candles, red

eggs and much more! Let us help with your Easter baking!

Order online at <u>www.goarchangels.org</u> or complete this form and <u>send payment by April 23</u> to

Taxiarchae Philoptochos 25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

Name:								
Email or Phone								
Koulourakia	1 Dozen	\$10	Quantity:	Total: \$				
Red Eggs	1 Dozen	\$15	Quantity:	Total: \$				
Kourambiethes	1/2 Dozen	\$10	Quantity:	- Total: \$				
	1 Dozen	\$20	Quantity:					
Baklava	1/2 Dozen	\$10	Quantity:	Totalı ć				
	1 Dozen	\$20	Quantity:	— Total: \$				
Tsoureki	Regular (12 oz)	\$15	Quantity:	- Total: \$				
	Mini (5 oz)	\$3	Quantity:					
PIKILIA PLATTER 1 doz. Koulouraki 4 Kourambiethes,	\$35	Quantity:	Total: \$					

All orders must be pre-paid. Items will be pre-packaged and ready for pick up April 28, 2024. Questions? Contact Frances Levas 617-519-3422

# The Easter Egg Giving



Similar to our Christmas Giving Tree, our Easter Egg Tree will be

Tree

decorated with Easter Eggs to represent supermarket gift cards that will be distributed by Fr. Athanasi to families in need. The tree will be in the Narthex until Palm Sunday, April 28. Please choose an egg and return the appropriate gift card to the church. We are asking for gift cards in \$25, \$50 or \$75 denominations to Market Basket, Stop & Shop or Shaw's.

If you are unable to purchase the gift cards, please make the appropriate donation to the Philoptochos, and we will purchase the gift card for you.



# Holy Week and Fascha Donations Needed

If you would like to donate towards the beautification of our church during Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Pascha, the following is a list of items and floral arrangements that are needed. Please call the church office (617.924.8182) to reserve the items you would like to sponsor in your name or the name of a loved one.

#### PALM SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY

Icon for Palm Sunday flowers—\$175 Palms—\$500

#### PALM SUNDAY EVENING

Altar Table flowers—\$100Two Icons of the ResultIcon Nymphios (Bridegroom) flowers—\$175Lavro flowers—\$200

#### HOLY THURSDAY

2 Smaller Wreaths for the Cross—\$100 each Wreath for the Cross (Estavromenos)—\$175 HOLY FRIDAY All Epitaphio flowers—\$1,600

#### HOLY SATURDAY/PASCHA

Two Holy Gate — \$100 each Two Icons of the Resurrection—\$175 each Lavro flowers—\$200 10 Easter Lilies—\$25 each Altar Table flowers—\$75





Our Oratorical Festival will be coming up on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please encourage your children to participate. Anyone interested in participating should contact Costas Karageorgis at <u>ckarageorgis@goarchangels.com</u> or Fr. Athanasi.

Our Holy Friday retreat will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10AM to 2:30PM. All children from our parish are invited to participate in various lessons and activities prepared by our staff. Topics include Holy Week, Pascha and our Orthodox faith. Lunch will be served.

Please encourage your children to attend as many services and Sunday School classes as possible during the Lenten period leading up to Pascha.

Thank you for all your help to our Sunday School program this year.

Upcoming Important Dates through May 2024 April 27th: Lazarus Saturday, Breakfast, Palm Crosses April 28th: Palm Sunday – Palm Procession May 3rd: Holy Friday Retreat *Costas Karageorgis*, May 5th: Pascha *Sunday School Director* 





2024 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

Junior Division (Grades 7-9)

Senior Division (Grades 10-12)

Elementary Division (Grades 4-6) Local Parish Level only

#### 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: \_\_\_\_April 21, 2024 at the end of Liturgy

Parish Chairperson: <u>Costas Karageorgis</u>

Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_ckarageorgis@goarchangels.com



Sunday School and Greek School Students, JOY, GOYA, Young Adults, and the entire Taxiarchae Family are invited to join us on these days.



SATURDAY OF LAZARUS April 27 for the entire family 8:30 AM Orthros and Divine Liturgy followed by:

- Light Refreshments
- Weaving Palm Crosses
- Preparing the Church
- Confession

## HOLY FRIDAY YOUTH RETREAT May 3 For Grades 1—High School

9:00 AM Service of the Royal Hours 10:00 AM Registration 10:30 AM Retreat Program (includes lunch) 3-4:30 PM Apokathelosis Service (The Pre-School/Kindergarten program will begin at 1 PM)

All students should be excused from school on Holy Friday to take part in the retreat for the day! For more information or if you need a letter for your school, please contact the church office at 617-924-8182.





In March the Greek School celebrated the double feast of Greek Independence Day and Annunciation, with poems, songs,

and sketches. They worked very hard to deliver a great program and everyone enjoyed them. We are so proud of their achievements. We thank the parents and teachers for all their help and dedication.

April is the month that will lead us to Holy Easter in early May. The teachers have already gone over Clean Monday, Sarakosti, and other traditions leading up to the Saturday of St. Lazarus, Palm Sunday, and Easter. Our students will be immersed in the meaning of Easter and be reminded of its significance in our spiritual lives as well as the customs, foods, and folklore that take place during Holy Pascha. The children will once again help to make the Palm crosses on April 27, the Saturday of St. Lazarus, and the day before Palm Sunday.

The children learned about the tradition of Mrs. Sarakosti, one of the oldest traditions related to Pascha that has been largely forgotten. It was originally used as a calendar to count the weeks leading up to Pascha starting on Clean Monday and lasting until Holy Week. In most regions of Greece Mrs. Sarakosti was depicted on paper as the drawing of a woman with 7 feet, her hands crossed in prayer, and no mouth because she is fasting. A cross is added because she was going to church. Mrs. Sarakosti was often made of dough with lots of salt added so it would last the 7 weeks. At the end of each week, one foot was removed. The last foot was cut off on Holy Saturday and was added to the bread of the Resurrection. Whoever found it was considered lucky.



Mrs. Sarakosti by Stavros, Penelope and Fotini, Grades 5&6 Η Κυρία Σαρακοστή από τον Σταύρο, Πηνελόπη και Φωτεινή 5" & 6"

**Τα παιδιά έμαθαν για το έθιμο της Κυρίας Σαρακοστής,** ένα από τα παλιότερα έθιμα που σχετίζονται με τη γιορτή του Πάσχα, σήμερα όμως λίγο πολύ ξεχασμένο. Χρησίμευε πάντα ως ημερολόγιο για να μετράμε τις εβδομάδες από την Καθαρά Δευτέρα μέχρι τη Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα, καθώς η κυρά-Σαρακοστή έχει 7 πόδια, ένα για κάθε εβδομάδα της περιόδου της Σαρακοστής. Η κυρά-Σαρακοστή, στις περισσότερες περιοχές, ήταν μια χάρτινη ζωγραφιά, που απεικόνιζε μια γυναίκα, που έμοιαζε με καλόγρια, με 7 πόδια, σταυρωμένα χέρια γιατί προσεύχεται, ένα σταυρό γιατί πήγαινε στην εκκλησία και χωρίς στόμα γιατί νηστεύει. Στο τέλος κάθε εβδομάδας, αρχής γενομένης από το Σάββατο μετά την Καθαρά Δευτέρα, της έκοβαν ένα πόδι. Το τελευταίο το έκοβαν

> το Μεγάλο Σάββατο. Το πόδι το τοποθετούσαν μες στο ψωμί της Ανάστασης και όποιος το έβρισκε του έφερνε γούρι. Σε άλλες περιοχές της Ελλάδας, η κυρά-Σαρακοστή φτιάχνεται από ζυμάρι με απλά υλικά και, κυρίως, πολύ αλάτι για να μη χαλάσει.

> > ΚΑΛΟ ΠΑΣΧΑ σε όλες τις οικογένειες HAPPY EASTER to all the families



MAPT

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



Join us at the Greek Independence Day Parade. Buses will leave the church right after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, April 7.

#### Sunday, April 7 1:00 PM Boylston Street to Charles Street

CELEBRATION WITH CREEK MUSIC, DANCING AND FOOD AT THE BOSTON COMMON IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARADE Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> Dinner Gala: Reception 6:30 pm | Dinner 7:30 pm Ithaki Restaurant/Holiday Inn, 1A Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960

## SCHOLARSHIPS CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & UNDERGRADS 2024 - 2025 TAXIARCHAE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications for the 2023-24 Academic Year are now available online at the Taxiarchae website: www.goarchangels.com

## Our children...Our JOY!

## Designing T-Shirts and Watertown Yard Art



For the months of April and May, JOY and Family Ministries will be combined events on Lazarus Saturday and the Good Friday Retreat. We're looking forward to seeing you there.



**Outreach Ministries** Thank you all for your continued support of our Outreach programs. If you have questions about donating please contact me at

ckourkoulis@goarchangels.org

The needs of the Watertown Food Pantry continue. We are grateful for your generosity with the nonperishable food donations! Shown below is a Wish List for the food pantry and for FINEX House. This Wish List is just a guide. The Pantry will take all food, but <u>please be sure to check the expiration date</u>. The Health Dept. will not allow the food pantry to accept any expired items.

Remember to stop by and check out Family Ministries contribution to Watertown Yard Art for the month of April.



Get inspired and create something unique in your yard, porch, window or anywhere visable from the street or sidewalk!

(FREE & FUN FOR ALL AGES) Sign up and learn more at mosesianarts.org/yardart



Flour• Sugar• Brown Sugar Condiments • Cooking Oil Vanilla Extract Pasta• Rice• Instant Mashed Potato Box Mac & Cheese Cereal/Cold cereal• Oatmeal Kids' School Snacks Canned Goods: Vegetables• Fruits Tuna•Chickpeas•Beans•Soups•Spam Tomato Sauce•Paste•Whole tomatos

# This month, the Food Pantry is especially in need of <u>paper goods and cleaning products</u>. Please try to help!

Peanut Butter • Jam/Jelly Coffee • Tea • Hot Chocolate Mix Desserts: Pie crusts (not the refrigerated kind) • Pie fillings Pudding mixes • Marshmallows Ensure Nutrition Drinks Cleaning Products Personal Hygiene Products Shampoo and conditioner

FINEX HOUSE DONATIONS THANK YOU

ems requested are Sanitary napkins

ShampooVaseline

• B

- Deodorant
- Tooth brushe
- I ooth paste

#### PAGE 11



Celebrating 50 Years of Food and Fun!

#### Dear Parishioners and Friends.

The Watertown Grecian Festival committee invites you to support our upcoming 2024 Festival as we celebrate 50 years of food and fun!

This year's event will be held Friday, June 21st through Sunday, June 23rd in the Hellenic Center and under the tent on the church grounds at 25 Bigelow Avenue. This very popular cultural immersion experience is for everyone. Our festival has been an integral part of the Watertown community and celebrates our Greek culture, traditions, heritage, and fun-loving spirit. Our event is attended by neighbors, local businesses and parishioners and the public who often come from miles away to enjoy themselves through our food, music, dancing, and socializing.

GRECIAN FESTIVAL

WATERTOWN

Kindly review the sponsorship options on the enclosed form. Please consider a Diamond or Platinum sponsorship which will help offset our ever-increasing festival expenses and offer you high visibility through social media, logo signage, and logo projection. The Festival earnings are vital to our church's financial security. The proceeds from the Festival help support the cultural, educational, and charitable activities of our church in addition to supporting our local community.

Your donation ensures the continued success of this major fundraiser. Please be as generous as possible. Our program book contains all the key information pertaining to the Festival and will be distributed to every single attendee. Placing an ad or listing in the book is the perfect way to support our community while promoting your business.

Every contribution truly makes a difference. We look forward to adding your name to the list of sponsors this year. If you need further information, please contact Frances Levas at taxiarchae.festival.program@gmail.com or (617) 519-3422. Thank you in advance for your support.

With our sincere appreciation, 2024 Festival Sponsorship Committee



#### **2024 SPONSORSHIP FORM**

YES! Please include our name/business as a 2024 Grecian Festival Sponsor.

#### Diamond Sponsor - \$2,500

Customized two-page ad with premium placement in our program book; continuous, high-visibility logo projection; company logo on all Festival signage; exposure on Festival FB page, Instagram & Twitter.

#### Platinum Sponsor - \$1,500

Two-page ad in our program book; continuous high-visibility logo projection, company logo on Festival signage; Festival FB page, Instagram & Twitter.

#### Gold Sponsor - \$1,000

Includes two-page ad in our program book; company logo on Festival signage

Silver Sponsor - \$500 Features a full-page ad in our program book

Bronze Sponsor - \$250 Half-page ad in our program book

Friend - \$125 Quarter-page ad in our program book

Listing - \$100

Forward a PDF or high-res. JPEG (300dpi+) of your advertisement or electronic copy of your company's business card to: taxiarchae.festival.program@gmail.com Call Frances Levas at 617-519-3422 with any questions. Thank you for your support!

Company Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: Address: City, State, Zip Code:\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: Email Address

Please print how you would like your company's name to appear on the acknowledgment:

Please return this form by May 15, 2024 with your donation to **Taxiarchae Church ATTN:** Frances Levas 25 Bigelow Ave. Watertown, MA 02472

#### Peter J. Vergados, a member of the Taxiarchae Parish since 1962, has accepted the position of overseeing the Veteran's Ministry.



He is a retired Air Force Fighter Pilot with more than 3500 flying hours having flown 9 different aircraft during his 23 year service. Volunteering for Combat in Vietnam, He flew more than 375 combat missions, logging more than 800 flight hours as a Forward Air Controller (FAC). His military awards and decorations include the

Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 11 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He is currently the Commander of the American Legion George K. Menichios Post #324.

Formed in 1941, the Post is named after George K. Menichios, born in Megalopolis, Arcadia, Greece, April 14, 1890. He was inducted into the Army at twenty-seven years of age and was killed on Oct 4, 1918, in the Meuse-Argonne

sector thirty-seven days before the war ended on November 11, 1918. George is buried at the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, France, along with 14,246 other American servicemen. He was cited *for gallantry in action and special meritorious service.* The George K. Menichios





Square at the corner of Arlington and Boylston Streets, Boston, Massachusetts was dedicated in his name by the Boston, MA, City Council on September 16, 1921

Since its 1919 founding, The American Legion has been a staunch advocate for veterans, military members, their families and the communities in which they reside. It ushered in the modern VA, drafted and drove passage of the GI Bill and brought into existence dozens of health-care benefits for veterans, careers, education and more.

American Legion Posts provide expert assistance, free of charge, to veterans and their families in the areas of applying for VA disability benefits, information, referrals and resources on education, employment and business, death benefits and other important topics.

If you know a Veteran who needs help of any nature, please contact me at <a href="mailto:Jet33pilot@aol.com">Jet33pilot@aol.com</a>

The Legion Post 324 is sponsoring a bus trip to Battleship Cove, Fall River, MA on Monday April 22.from the Taxiarchae Church. Departure time will be 9:30, boarding at 9:00 am. A bus trip to Saint Nicholas Shrine is also planned for Saturday, June 1. Any profit will be donated to the Taxiarchae Building Fund. If interested, please contact Peter J. Vergados at Jet33pilot@aol.com.



Parish Trip to St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Manhatten, NY and the September 11 Memorial and Museum

Saturday, June 1, 2024 7:30 AM - boarding bus in Church Parking Lot 8:00 AM departure

Return departure time will be determined based on Museum visitors.

#### COST: \$75.00—Includes

Round Trip in Luxury Motor Coach Tour of St Nicholas Church Self guided visit of Sept 11 Memorial Lunch @ **Pi Bakery 35 Cedar Street** 



#### Museum Visit is Optional—Admission \$21-\$33

Tickets must be purchased in advance. To purchase tickets for the Museum go to <u>www.911memorial.org</u>

Upon arrival we will be visiting St Nicholas Church. Afterwards there will be time to have lunch at the "Pi Bakery" (within 3 blocks), tour the Memorial grounds and/or visit the museum.

IMPORTANT: Remember to bring comfortable shoes

Event sponsored by American Legion George K. Menichios Post #324 Questions? Call Peter Vergados at 617-964-0077



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

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

> ...on February 23 Christopher G. Christopher

...on March 15 Peter James Psychoghios

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη.



#### 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.

#### PAGE 13

#### THE ARCHANGEL'S CALL - APRIL 2024



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

Mr. & Mrs. John Abate Mr. William Alex Mr. Ernest Anastos Ms Christine Anastos Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Antonakas Mr. Joseph Anzalone Mr. & Mrs. Van Arend Mr. & Mrs. Russell Armstrong Mr. & Mrs. John Asimakopoulos Mr. & Mrs. William Avtgis Mr. Paul Babalas & Ms. Georgia Karellas Mr. & Mrs. George Baltazidis Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Baras Ms. Diane Beldekas Mr. & Mrs. Harry Berlis Mr. & Mrs. James Berlis Mrs. Alice Bililies Mr. & Mrs. Themistoklis Boretos Mr. George Brakoumatsos Ms. Hope Moschi Carras Mrs. Mary Christakis Mr. & Mrs. George Christodoulo Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Colivas Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Conover Mr. & Mrs. Christos Dafnoulelis Mr. George Danis Mr. & Mrs. Steven Davlantes Mrs. Mina Davos Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Davos Mrs. Pauline Deamantopoulos Mr. Nicholas Delegas Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dellaportas Ms. Karen Demas

Mr. George Demos Ms. Karen DiGiovanni Ms. Joyce Dovinos Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Ducas Mr. Const. Efstratoudakis & Ms. Alexandra Koch Mr. & Mrs. Brian Egan Ms. Angeliki Eliadis Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Evangelis Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Evriviades Mr. Michael Fabrikarakis Ms. Kalliope Fabrikarakis Mr. George Faggas Mr. & Mrs. George Fotis Mr. & Mrs. Steven Fotopoulos Mr. & Mrs. Marinos Gartaganis Mr. & Mrs. George Gartaganis Mr. Stephen Glikas Ms. Angela Good Ms. Virginia Gregory Mr. Stephen Haralampu Ms. Evelyn Haralampu Mr. & Mrs. Evan Harris Mr. & Mrs. Periklis Hilas Ms. Stephanie Hill Ms. Carol Hogan Mr. & Mrs. William Hunter Mr. & Mrs. John Johnson Ms. Maria Kalampaliki Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Kalemos Mr. & Mrs. Charles Kalivas Ms. Mary Kanellias Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Kapadoukakis Mr. & Mrs. John Karafotis

Mr. Costas Karageorgis Ms. Lyse Karagiorgos Mr. & Mrs. George Karalis Mr. Nick Karellas Ms. Aphrodite Karpouzis Dr. Theo Kattamis Mr. Nicholas Kattamis Mr. & Mrs. George Kerbici Mr. Theodore Kokoros Ms. Nicky Kokoros Mr. & Mrs. Andy Kolokythas Mr. & Mrs. James Kontos Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kontos Ms. Sandra Kontos Mr. & Mrs. John Kopellas Ms. Mary Kopsiaftis Mr. Arthur Kotsifas Ms. Angeline Kounelis Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Koutovas Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Lagos Mr. & Mrs. Peter Lalooses Mr. Yani Latzanakis Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Latzanakis Mr. & Mrs. Filippo Lazzaro Mr. Scott Lemay Mr. & Mrs. Kosta Levas Ms. Frances Levas Mrs. Panagiota Loridas Mr. & Mrs. John Maraganore Dr. & Mrs. Brian Marriott Ms. Irene Martinos Mr. & Mrs. George Masteralexis Mr. & Mrs. Brian Matsas

Mr. George Mavrogiannidis & Ms. Maria Papadopoulos Mr. & Mrs. Nikolaos Meletidis Ms. Diana Meyers Ms. Athanasia Michos Mr. & Mrs. John Michos Ms. Gabriela Mitevska Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Mitropoulos Ms. Irene Morris Ms. Andrea Natsios Mr. & Mrs. Georgios Orfanidis Mr. & Mrs. John Orfanos Mr. & Mrs. Charles O'Rourke Ms. Joanna Orphanos Mr. & Mrs. Peter Parasirakis Mr. & Mrs. Panag. Papadodiannis Mr. Nicholas Papakyrikos & Ms. Judith Normandin Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas J. Pappas Ms. Fotini Patsiocostas Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Patsios Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Patsios Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Patsios Ms. Soultana Papavassiliou Mr. & Mrs. Charles Pentikis Ms. Ellea Polimou Mr. & Mrs. Michael Popas Ms. Effie Primpas Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Racheotes Mr. & Mrs. Diego & Chrisoula Salamanis Rivera Mrs. Eleni Romneos Mr. & Mrs. John Sabatino Mr. & Mrs. Taso Sahinidis

Mr. William Sarhanis Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sarris Mr. & Mrs. Eleftherios Savvidis Mr. & Mrs. Michael Seegers Mr. & Mrs. Paul Skambas Mrs. Anastasis Stamos Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Stavrianidis Ms. Evangeline Harris Stefanakis Mr. Aristos Stefanis Ms. Ecaterini Sturgis Mr. George Talambekos Mr. & Mrs. Stratos Taoultsides Mr. & Mrs. Chris Taylor Mr. & Mrs. Ike Tingos Mr. & Mrs. Costas Tingos Mr. William Tragakis Ms. Efthalia Triarhou Mr. & Mrs. Dem. Tsatsarones Mrs. Maria Tsekrekas Mr. Demetrios Tsekrekas Mr. & Mrs. Dem. Tsoumbanos Mr. & Mrs. James Tzouvelis Mr. & Mrs. James Vafiades Mr. Charles Vasiliades Ms. Iphigenia Vasiliades Mr. Dimitri Vasiliadis Ms. Vasilia Vasiliou Mr. George Vouloukos Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wilson Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Xenakis Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Zarkadas



Information	<b>TREASURE</b> In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We com	mit to		
Name	Christ and His Church \$ each week/month/annually			
Name of Spouse (if married)	PLANNED GIVING			
Street Address	I wish to speak with someone about h the church in my will, trust, or estate p			
City/State/Zip				
Home Phone	Dependent Children's Names and Birthdays	May we add you to our Parish Email list?		
Mobile Phone		How would you prefer to receive the		
Email Address		Archangels Call Monthly Newsletter:		
		□ Email   □ hard copy/postal mail		

Thank you!



## THE ARCHANCEL'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 <u>cindialex1@gmail.com</u> to let us know your preference. Thank you!

## GRECIAN FESTIVAL VATERTOWN Save the dates! June 21, 22, 23



## Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center Planning a party or reception?

Our beautiful function rooms are now updated and ready for any and all of your event needs, up to 500 people. For information and assistance in planning your future events, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: <u>functionmanager@goarchangels.com</u>



#### goldcrosses.com The best place for Baptismal gold & diamond crosses ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR MONTHLY **NEWSLETTER and ONLINE** For information, please email: office@goarchangels.com konstantinato George Gartaganis 617 227 4550 333 Washington st suite 618 Boston MA 02108 Kalivas Wills. Trusts and Estates Landlord/Tenant • Coverage Insurance LAW OFFICES OF • Service Agency, Inc. Automobile • Reliability HARRY J. VLACHOS • Life Charles Kalivas Homeowners 48 Weston Street Michael Kalivas Business Waltham, MA 02453 635 Massachusetts Avenue Commercial (781) 899-9805 Arlington, MA 781-648-0060 **Buy/Sell Business** Real Estate Authorized **Document Technologies Inc.** 23 Crosby Drive Sales Agent Bedford MA 01730 781-899-8408 Products to meet every need....and every budget John A. Abate, REALTOR® 227 White Street. • Belmont, MA 02478 •Color or Black & White •Network or Stand-alone Phone: 617-797-9499 • Fax: 617-484-0895 •Copiers & Printers •Multifunction machines Email: john.abate2@verizon.net •Total Satisfaction Guarantee •Fax Machines

Sunday Schedule: Orthros: 8:30, Doxology, Divine Liturgy: 9:30 AMWeekday Liturgies: 8:30 AMParaklesis to the Theotokos Gorgoepikoos: Thursdays at 6 PMHeretismoi/Salutations: FridaAdult Bible Study: Mondays, 8 PM via ZoomGreek School: Thu 4:30-6:30 P

Weekday Liturgies: 8:30 AMPresanctified Liturgies: Wednesdays, 6 PMHeretismoi/Salutations: Fridays 7 PMGreek School: Thu 4:30-6:30 PM; Sat 10 AM-12 PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 2024	I	2	3 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy p.4 pot-luck Lenten dinner	<b>4</b> Greek School <b>Paraklesis 6</b> M	5 Heretismoi Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM p.4	<b>6</b> Greek School
7 The Holy Cross Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6 Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 Procession of the Holy Cross Greek Independence Day Parade p.9	<b>8</b> Bible Study 8 PM via zoom p.4	9	10 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy p.4 pot-luck Lenten dinner	II Greek School Paraklesis 6 PM	12 Heretismoi Salutations to the Theotokos 7 PM p.4	<b>13</b> Greek School
<b>14 St. John Climacus</b> Hebrews 6:13-20 Mark 9:17-31	I 4 Bible Study p.4 8 PM via zoom	16	17 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy p.4 pot-luck Lenten dinner 6 PM	18 Greek School Philotimo Chat p.6 <b>Paraklesis 6</b> PM Movie Night: The Passion of Christ p.4	19 Akathyst Hymn to the Theotokos 7 PM p.4	<b>20</b> Greek School
<b>21</b> St. Mary of Egypt Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 10:32-45 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival	22 Bible Study p.4 8 PM via zoom Veterans Ministry Battleship Cove Bus Trip p.13	23	24	<b>25</b> Greek School	26	27 Lazarus Saturday Orthros, Div. Litugy 8.30AM Family Day-Palm Crosses p.8
<b>28 Palm Sunday</b> Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18 Philoptochos Bake Sale p.7 Palm Sunday Dinner p.11	<b>29</b> Holy Monday No Bible Study	30 Holy Tuesday	May I Holy Wednesday	<b>2</b> Holy Thursday No Greek School	3 Holy Friday Youth Retreat	4 Holy Saturday NO Greek School
	For the schedule of Holy Week Services, please see page				p.8	Resurrection Vigil Divine Liturgy Pascal Celebration p.11
5 HOLY PASCHA Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17 Vespers of Love 11 AM	6 No Bible	7	8	<b>9</b> NO Greek School	10 Family Night BQ and Glendi P.11	II No Greek School
	Study	Study BRIGHT WEEK—NO FASTING ALL WEEK!				