



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Monthly Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2013

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

Clergy Message

Spiritual Wisdom

Calendar

Greek Message

Sacraments

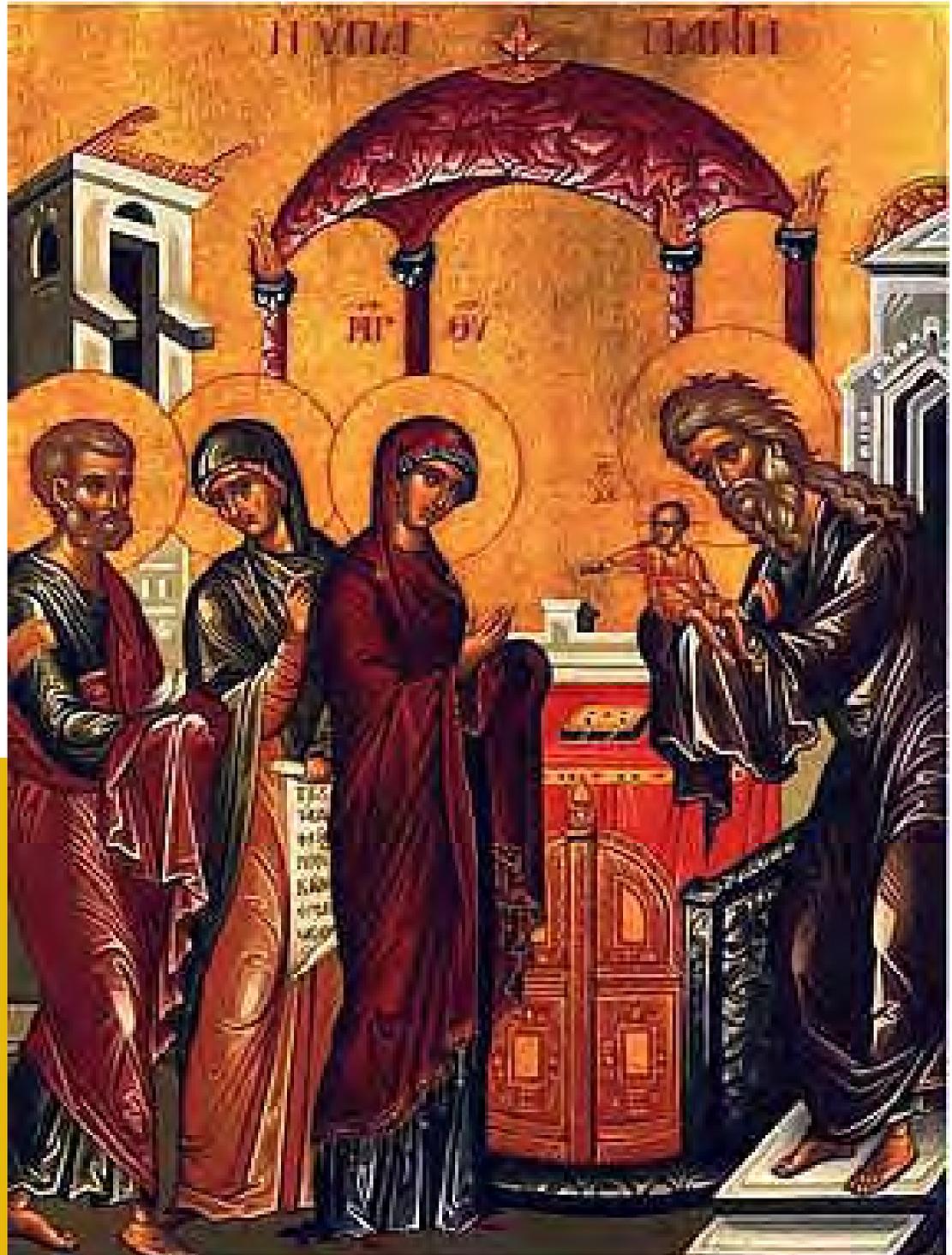
Donations

President's Message

Parish News

Youth News

Other Ministries



**Due Date for
March Bulletin
February 15, 2013**

Church Services		
Saturdays	Great Vespers	6:00pm
Sundays	Orthros	8:45am
	Divine Liturgy	10:00am
Weekdays	Orthros	9:00am
	Divine Liturgy	10:00am
Σαββατα	Μεγας Εσπερινος	6:00μμ
Κυριακες	Ορθρος	8:45πμ
	Θεια Λειτουργια	10:00πμ
Καθημερινες	Ορθρος	9:00πμ
	Θεια Λειτουργια	10:00πμ

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

George Stavropoulos, Chanter - Heidi Mason, Choir Director - Ona Calogrias, Organist

PARISH COUNCIL

Executive Board

John Karolemeas, President

Stephen Passias, 1st Vice President Administration

John Papadopoulos, Vice President of House & Grounds

Ethel Savas, Treasurer

Nicholas Alexiou, Assistant Treasurer

Joanna Stellakis, Secretary

Members of the Board

Jon Buterbaugh, Jr.	George P. Costas	Charles Efremides
Tulla Giannaros	Steve Lainas	Thomas A. Sedell
Katerina Tsiantoulas	Philip Tsionis	Avraam Vardaxis

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Executive Board

Despina Papadopoulos, President

Heido Barbas, 1st Vice President

Penny Kazis, 2nd Vice President

Ethel Savas, Recording Secretary

Tina Boutas, Corresponding Secretary

Lori Stasiewski, Treasurer

Liz Karolemeas, Assistant Treasurer

Members of the Board

Peggy Cuilla	Maria Fitopoulos	Helen Holevas
Ann Marie Horne	Soultana Kotsiopoulos	Kelly Scappaticci
Eleni Stamboulidis	Vasiliki Syrniotis	Sophia Terzakis
Tina Tsarhopoulos		

EMAILS

Father Anthony	priest@annunciationbrockton.org
Demetra Orfanos, office mgr	office@annunciationbrockton.org

OTHER MINISTRIES

Sunday School

Tina Boutas Dina Coon

Rhoda Economos

Greek School

Tina Boutas Sofia Trikalas

Konstantinia Goudanas

GOYA

Jon Buterbaugh

Jr. GOYA

Suzanne Barrus

JOY & HOPE

Irena Mroz

Paula Tsitsopoulos

Adult Greek Classes

Arthur Krikis

Koliva

Ladies Philoptochos

Coffee Hour

Bertha Weinberg

Shut-In Visitations

Soultana Kotsiopoulos

Basketball

Stephen Passias

Dance Group

Jon & Penny Buterbaugh

Junior Choir

Corinne & Heidi Mason

Oratorical Festival

Rhoda Economos

Bookstore

Joanna Stellakis, Stephen Savas,
Linda Sakelaris Poole

Making the Life of the Church Our Priority

A Metropolis Clergy Brotherhood Message from Father Anthony



We have just completed the month of January, during which many of us make so-called "New Year resolutions" (which, by February

1st are usually promptly forgotten!). The typical one we hear from many of our friends and family members, has to do with losing weight. Other resolutions take on a more serious tone, such as improving interpersonal relationships, changing bad habits, and improving other various forms of negative behavior. As an Orthodox priest I wonder, however, how many people make serious resolutions each year regarding their *spiritual lives*?

It seems increasingly evident that many Orthodox Christians today don't make the life of the Church, and their own spiritual lives the priority that they should be. Today's increasingly humanistic, secularized society does not provide an environment conducive to a spiritual, God-centered life-style. Unfortunately, the world at large has become an "un-godly" place. The only places where we can be assured of God's omnipresence in our lives is through our local church and in our homes.

God's presence in our homes is a strongpoint of Orthodox Christianity. Even though God is increasingly absent in society, we must remember that the Church Fathers have always emphasized the need for home-life to be a mirror of the life of the Church. Communal worship in our churches, along with our personal prayer-life, and the upholding of Orthodox traditions in the home, keep us close to God. A committed Orthodox Christian family lives and experiences the faith on a daily ba-

sis. The Orthodox faith has never been a "Sunday-only" experience (though many of our faithful have allowed this to happen). Therefore, one spiritual resolution for the new year is perhaps to consider how much attention we give our spiritual lives apart from Sunday.

Some of us fall into the category of those who think that our faith can be experienced in an abstract fashion. By applying the concept that God is everywhere, some people attempt to live an Orthodox Christian life-style apart from the Body of Christ. This group is correct in stating that one can pray to God at any time and in any place (as we all should be doing daily). In fact, prayer is an extremely important and central activity in the life of an Orthodox Christian. However, the liturgical and sacrament life of the Church cannot be substituted, nor replaced, by this phenomenon of privatization of our spiritual lives. When persons of this mindset are raising children, then this view is being passed on to their offspring. Their children will also think that church attendance is optional. Perhaps some of us, therefore, should make a spiritual resolution to become part of the Body of Christ through action, and not just theory.

Unfortunately, there is also the category of Orthodox Christians who are completely absent from the life of the Church, both formally and in the home setting. This is the saddest situation of all, especially when there are children involved. Whenever a family approaches me to baptize a child, I emphasize the importance of raising that child in the faith, lest the baptism be viewed only as a "rite of passage" into something that they will never fully experience. It is amazing to see with what diligence some families follow the tradition of three consecutive Sundays of church attend-

ance with the godparent after a baptism, and then disappear for months. When these families reappear on the next major holiday in order to bring the child to communion, the child is typically traumatized by the unfamiliar setting of church! A major spiritual resolution is in order in these cases, which is only possible through the commitment of the parents to make a change; otherwise, these children will be raised not knowing or living their Orthodox faith in any meaningful way.

The bottom line is that all of us, both clergy and laity, are constantly in need of spiritual renewal and growth. Not too far into each new calendar year our Church offers us Great Lent, which is the ideal time for spiritual introspection and growth. So let us all begin working on our own spiritual resolutions, and be prepared to carefully examine them during Great Lent. Remember that as each one of us grows spiritually, we become a shining example to our fellow Orthodox Christians, and to the world at large. This is especially true regarding our children, whose spiritual upbringing is the greatest responsibility God has given us. I pray that in this new year, we will all seek to do our part toward our mutual salvation!

In Christ's love,

+Fr. Anthony Evangelatos
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Brockton, MA

SPIRITUAL WISDOM

Reflections on the Feast of the Presentation of Christ

The following is taken from The Incarnate God, Vol. 1, by Catherine Aslanoff, SVS Press 1995

The Holy Encounter (Lk 2:22-39)

St. Luke is the only evangelist to show Joseph and Mary as faithful to the commandments of the Law and to the fulfillment of its precepts. Just as they had Jesus circumcised on the eighth day, so they bring him to the Temple forty days after his birth.



The icon of the feast picks up all the elements of the gospel narrative. The action takes place in Jerusalem, at the Temple. Two groups of two persons each share the stage: Joseph and Mary on one side, and the elder Simeon with the prophetess Anna on the other. These four figures face each other, their attitudes

indicating encounter and dialogue. The child is the link which unites them. He passes from the arms of Mary to those of Simeon – the movement can be felt in the image. Mary extends her arms in the gesture of offering. We are assisting at the encounter between the Old and the New Testament, the encounter between Jesus and his people. This meeting occurs in the Temple, the place of divine presence.

*Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace!
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness,
Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness!*

*Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder;
you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of
our souls,
who grants us the resurrection.
(Troparion, tone 1)*



From the Lives of the Saints February 6 – Memory of Saint Dorothea of Kashin

Saint Dorothea was by birth a princess. She lived in the city of Kashin, north of Moscow, at the beginning of the seventeenth century. When her husband was killed in the defence of the city against the besieging Poles and Lithuanians, she decided to renounce the world and its fleeting consolations. She created a

makeshift cell in the still-smoking ruins of the Convent of the Holy Meeting and, although no longer young, gave herself up to fasting, vigil and continuous prayer bathed in tears, as well as to other holy contests known to God alone. She devoted her income to the restoration of the monastery and to the relief of the war-weary population, leaving herself scarcely enough to live on. Attracted by her evident compassion and holiness, a number of sisters soon gathered around her and the forsaken monastery came to life again. The miraculous icon of the Mother of God, which Saint Dorothea had discovered in the ruins, was enthroned in the center of the restored church, and became for many centuries the goal of a famous pilgrimage. Despite all entreaties, Saint Dorothea refused to become Abbess, preferring to remain in the background. On receiving the angelic Great Habit, she redoubled her labours, providing the younger nuns with an example of ever-increasing zeal. She fell asleep in the peace of the Lord at the age of eighty, on 24 September, 1629. Her holy relics have worked many miracles to the present day.

February 9 – Father Romanus the Wonderworker

Saint Romanus, who came from Rhossos in Cilicia, engaged in the contests of virtue on a mountain near Antioch, where he took over a small cell from another ascetic. He lived alone there into old age, wearing a single rough garment and loaded with chains. He left his hair unkempt and lived on barely enough bread and salt to sustain life, without ever making use of fire or lamplight. These privations, joined to great simplicity and a winning gentleness, attracted divine grace in abundance, which spread from him to those who attended eagerly to his teaching on peace and brotherly love, transforming them, there and then, into lovers of the things of God. Many healings were wrought by his prayer, and barren women were granted the joy of children. But, despite all these graces, he called himself a pauper and a beggar. He departed to the heavenly Fatherland to join the angelic choir yet remained mysteriously present, alive and active for all who called upon him with faith.

Floral Needs for 2013

*This year we will solicit icon decoration for major feasts through the Bulletin instead of announcements in church, in order to avoid confusion and duplications. Please note that the decoration of an icon will cost \$60, unless otherwise indicated. Floral needs for Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha are included in this announcement. **If you would like to make any of these donations, please call the church office at 508-559-0910 and coordinate with our Office Manager Demetra Orfanos.***

Feasts of Christ & the Theotokos (\$60)

- 2/2 – Presentation of Our Lord (taken)
- 3/25 – Annunciation (taken)
- 6/13 – Ascension
- 6/23 – Pentecost
- 8/6 – Transfiguration
- 8/15 – Dormition of the Theotokos (festal icon – \$60, plus an arrangement for large iconostasis icon, price to be determined)
- 9/8 – Nativity of Theotokos
- 9/14 – Elevation of the Holy Cross
- 11/21 – Entrance of the Theotokos
- 12/25 – Nativity of Our Lord
- 1/6/2014 – Holy Theophany

Great Lent, Holy Week, & Pascha

- Salutations to the Theotokos: 1st (taken), 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Fridays, and Akathist Hymn – \$50 each
- Veneration of the Holy Cross – approximately 500 stems (price to be determined)
- Palm strips for palm crosses (price to be determined)
- Bay laurel leaves for Palm Sunday & Holy Saturday (price to be determined)
- Icon of Nymphios (price to be determined)
- Icon of Mystical Supper (small arrangement, price to be determined)
- Wreath for Holy Cross (price to be determined)
- Icon of Resurrection (price to be determined)
- Banner (lavaron) of the Resurrection (price to be determined)

We thank all our donors in advance, and ask God's blessings upon them. Please note that as usual, donors will be acknowledged in the bulletin at the appropriate time.

*“All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon
our transgressions. Holy one, visit and
heal our infirmities for your name's
sake. Lord, have mercy, Lord have
mercy, Lord have mercy.”*

In Appreciation

We would like to express our appreciation to the Christmas decorating committee, the members of which are Sia Antoniou, Ona Calogrias, Ann Langway, Maria Samson, and Merri Weinberg. Their assistants this past Christmas were Pegi Ciulla, Penny Droukas, Phyllis Georgeu, and Bertha Weinberg. In addition, three gentlemen who were of indispensable help were Bob Langway, Chris Mihos, and George Nikandros. As usual, our holy temple looked quite lovely for the celebrations of our Lord's Nativity and Holy Theophany. May God bless all of you!

Lenten Suppers

This year Great Lent begins on 3/18, which means two Wednesday evening Presanctified Liturgies will take place in March. As we did last year – which was well-received – we will continue with the Lenten Suppers following each Wednesday evening liturgy, sponsored by various parish organizations/ministries. We will begin with the Youth Ministry Team on the first Wednesday of Great Lent, 3/20, followed by – not necessarily in the following order – the Parish Council, Philoptochos, Choir, Sunday & Greek Schools, and perhaps the Bookstore this year. **We need one of these ministries to take Wednesday, 3/27**, so please have a representative of your group contact the church office ASAP, so we can plan the March calendar.

All that would be required for the sponsoring group, is to coordinate an adequate amount of Lenten food and beverages. As a quick reminder, this would mean no animal products, including fish, eggs, and dairy, nor olive oil or alcoholic beverages; however, shellfish is always permitted. During the suppers, Fr. Anthony will give a short reflection/presentation on a seasonal topic. We thank everyone in advance for their generous participation.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Please see your illustrated Archdiocesan Calendar for daily Scripture readings and fasting guidelines.</i></p>					<p>1 Great Vespers of the Presentation of Christ 7 pm</p>	<p>2 The Presentation of Christ Orthros & Lit. Της Υπαπαντης <u>No Vespers</u></p>
<p>3 15th Sunday of Matthew Κυρ. 15η Ματθαιου</p>	4	5	<p>6 Abbreviated Paraklesis 7 pm followed by Adult Relig. Educ.</p>	<p>7 Philoptochos Pot Luck meeting, 6:30 pm Finance meeting</p>	8	<p>9 Great Vespers 6 pm</p>
<p>10 16th Sunday of Matthew St. Haralambos Του Αγιου Χαραλαμπους Have a Heart Luncheon</p>	11	<p>12 Parish Council meeting, 6 pm</p>	<p>13 Small Vespers 7 pm followed by Adult Relig. Educ.</p>	14	15	<p>16 Great Vespers 6 pm</p>
<p>17 17th Sunday of Matthew Κυρ. 17η Ματθαιου</p>	<p>18 Presidents Day (office closed)</p>	19	<p>20 Fr. Anthony away - no Vespers or Class</p>	<p>21 Fr. Anthony away House & Grounds meeting</p>	22	<p>23 Great Vespers 6 pm</p>
<p>24 Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee TRIODION BEGINS Του Τελωνου και Φαρισαιου (no fasting this week—all foods permitted daily)</p>	25	26	<p>27 Small Vespers 7 pm followed by Adult Relig. Educ.</p>	28		

GREEK MESSAGE

Εορτή Αγίου Βασιλείου και Νέου Έτους

*Ανανεώσθε δέ τῷ πνεύματι τοῦ νοός
ἡμῶν καί ἐνδύσασθε τόν καινόν ἄνθρωπον
τόν κατά Θεόν κτισθέντα ἐν δικαιοσύνη
καί ὁσιότητι (Εφ. 4:23-24)*

Πρός τούς Σεβασμιωτάτους καί Θεοφιλεστάτους Αρχιερεῖς, τούς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καί Διακόνους, τούς Μοναχούς καί Μοναχές, τούς Προέδρους καί Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τά Ἡμερήσια καί Ἀπογευματινά Σχολεῖα, τίς Φιλοπτώχους Ἀδελφότητες, τήν Νεολαία, τίς Ἑλληνορθόδοξες Ὄργανώσεις καί ὁλόκληρο τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς.

Προσφιλεῖς Ἀδελφοί καί Ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,
Καθώς πλησιάζουμε τήν ἀρχή ἑνός νέου ἡμερολογιακοῦ ἔτους, εἴμεθα ἐξοικειωμένοι μέ τό κλίμα προσδοκῶν καί ἐλπίδος γιά νέα ξεκινήματα. Μέ τήν ἀλλαγὴ ἑνός ἀριθμοῦ καί τό γύρισμα μιᾶς σελίδος τοῦ ἡμερολογίου, πολλοί ἄνθρωποι ἐπιζητοῦν νά ἀφήσουν πίσω τούς ἐμπειρίες καί προκλήσεις τοῦ περασμένου ἔτους καί ἀδημονοῦν νά ὑποδεχθοῦν ἕνα νέο ἔτος, νέες εὐκαιρίες καί καλύτερες συνθήκες ζωῆς.

Ἐνῶ εἴμεθα ἐπηρεασμένοι ἀπό αὐτό τό στοιχεῖο τοῦ πολιτισμοῦ μας, γνωρίζουμε ὡς Ὀρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί ὅτι ὑπάρχει ἕνα πολύ σπουδαιότερο κέντρο στό ὁποῖο ἀρμόζει νά ἐστιάζουμε τήν προσοχή μας καθὼς ἀναλογιζόμεθα τό παρελθόν καί ἀναμένουμε τό μέλλον. Τό κέντρο αὐτό εἶναι ἡ χάρις τοῦ Θεοῦ. Εἶναι ἡ χάρις Του ἡ ὁποία μᾶς προσφέρει ἄφεση ἁμαρτιῶν καί ἐλπίδα. Μέσω τοῦ ἐλέους Του ἀνανεῖται ἡ καρδιά, ὁ νοῦς καί τό σῶμα μας. Διά τῆς ἀπέραντης ἀγάπης Του, γεμίζουμε εὐγνωμοσύνη γιά ὅλα ὅσα Ἐκεῖνος ἔχει προσφέρει, καί προσδοκοῦμε ἕνα νέο ἔτος τεραστίων εὐλογιῶν.

Ἡ προσοχή μας στήν ἀνανέωση τῆς ζωῆς εἶναι σημαντική γιά τήν καθημερινή μας ζωή. Ταιριάζει, ἐπίσης, καί στήν ἡμέρα κατά τήν ὁποία τιμοῦμε τόν Μέγα Βασίλειον. Πρόκειται περί ἐπιβεβαιώσεως τῆς δυνάμεως τῆς χάριτος. Ὄταν τιμοῦμε τήν ζωή καί τήν μαρτυρία τοῦ Ἁγίου Βασιλείου, ἀναγνωρίζουμε ὅτι ἡ χάρις τοῦ Θεοῦ «ἐξεχύθη ἐπ'αὐτόν», ἔτσι ὥστε νά κατέχη ὄχι ἀπλῶς τήν δύναμη νά «ἀποκαλύπτῃ τά θεῖα ἔργα» ἀλλά νά εἶναι καί «διάκονος τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου». Στά ἔργα, τά κηρύγματα καί τίς ἐπιστολές του, ὁ Μέγας Βασίλειος τόνιζε τόν ζωτικό ρόλο τῆς χάριτος τοῦ Θεοῦ. Τόνιζε, ἐπίσης, τήν δύναμη τῆς χάριτος μέσω μιᾶς ζωῆς ἀφιερωμένης στήν φροντίδα τῶν ἀρρώστων, τῶν ὀρφανῶν καί τῶν ὑπερηλίκων.

Τήν ἡμέρα αὐτή καί καθ' ὅλη τήν διάρκεια τοῦ μηνός Ἰανουαρίου, ἀναγνωρίζουμε τό ἱερό ἔργο τῆς Ἀκαδημίας τοῦ Ἁγίου Βασιλείου. Κάθε χρόνο ἡ Ἑθνική Φιλότητος Ἀδελφότης καί τά τοπικά τμήματά της ἡγουνται προσπάθειες συγκεντρώσεως χρημάτων γ'αὐτή τήν διακονία χάριτος. Σᾶς προσκαλῶ νά προσφέρετε γενναϊόδωρα καθὼς συμμετέχετε σ'

αὐτή τήν προσπάθεια καί στήν κοπή τῆς Βασιλόπιτας. Ἡ φροντίδα, ἡ θεραπεία καί ἡ ἀγάπη ποῦ προσφέρονται ἀπό τό συμβούλιο, τούς διευθυντές καί τό προσωπικό τῆς Ἀκαδημίας ἀποτελεῖ πιστή μαρτυρία τῆς δυνάμεως τῆς χάριτος. Κάθε μέρα, τά παιδιά καί οἱ νέοι τῆς Ἀκαδημίας βλέπουν καί βιώνουν τήν ἀγάπη τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐνῶ τούς προσφέρονται παραδείγματα τῆς ἀναγκαιότητος τῆς κοινωνίας μαζί Του.

Ἐπίσης ἀπό τά δῶρα σας στήν Ἀκαδημία τοῦ Ἁγίου Βασιλείου, σᾶς παρακαλῶ νά προσεύχεσθε γι' αὐτή τήν διακονία. Καθὼς ἀρχίζει ὁ νέος χρόνος, ἄς εἴσθε ἔτοιμοι γιά τίς μεγάλες εὐλογίες τίς ὁποῖες ὁ Θεός θά χάριση σέ σᾶς καί μέσω τῶν ἐνεργειῶν σας καί σέ ἄλλους. Καθὼς ἐορτάζετε αὐτή τήν ἡμέρα, ἔχετε τήν δυνατότητα νά ἐπιβεβαιώσετε ὅτι ἡ ἀγάπη καί τό ἔλεος τοῦ Θεοῦ εἶναι μαζί σας πάντοτε, καί αὐτή τήν ἡμέρα τῆς ἀνακαινίσεως, εὐχομαι σέ σᾶς καί τίς οἰκογένειές σας εὐτυχισμένο καί εὐλογημένο τό Νέο Ἔτος.

Μετά πατριῶν εὐχῶν καί ἀγάπης ἐν Κυρίῳ,

† ὁ Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος Ἀμερικῆς Δημήτριος

Με λαμπρότητα γιορτάστηκαν τα Θεοφάνεια στο Τάροπον Σπρίνγκς

Τάροπον Σπρίνγκς, Φλόριδα – Ἡ πόλη των Θεοφανείων, ὅπως ἔχει γίνει γνωστή σε ὅλη τήν Ἀμερική, γιόρτασε γιά 107η χρονιά με λαμπρότητα καί κατά τήν παράδοση τήν μεγάλη γιορτή τῆς Ὀρθοδοξίας. Ὁ Σεβασμιώτατος Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος Ἀμερικῆς κ. Δημήτριος, ὡς εἰθισται, προεξήρχε των εορταστικῶν εκδηλώσεων.

Το πρωί τῆς Κυριακῆς 6 Ἰανουαρίου 2013, ὁ Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος προέστη τῆς Θείας Λειτουργίας καί τῆς τελετῆς τοῦ Μεγάλου Ἀγιασμοῦ, συλλειτουργοῦντων, των Μητροπολιτῶν Ἀτλαντας κ. Ἀλεξίου, Δαρδανελίων κ. Νικήτα καί του ἐπισκόπου Ἐάνθου κ. Δημητρίου.



Οἱ 47 ἑφηβοί 16-18 χρονῶν, ποῦ εἶχαν λάβει θέσεις σε μικρές βάρκες ἡμικυκλικά του μικροῦ κολπίσκου βούτηξαν στα νερά μόλις ὁ Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος ἐρίξε τό σταυρό. Σε λιγότερο ἀπό ἕνα λεπτό, ὁ 16χρονος Βασίλειος Harding, ποῦ ἔλκει τήν καταγωγή ἀπό τό μικρό νησί Χάλικη τῆς Δωδεκανήσου, πετάχτηκε ἀπό τό νερό κρατώντας ψηλά τον λευκό σταυρό.

SACRAMENTS, DONATIONS

BAPTISMS

11/4 – Sophia, daughter of Daniel & Stephanie Spillane; godparent, Christopher Hatsiopoulos. *This was erroneously omitted from the previous bulletin, our apologies!*

12/30 – Nikoletta, daughter of Paul & Ruth Bertone; godparent, Tom Liponis

1/7 – Catherine, daughter of Macharia Guthui & Ann Kiraki; godparent, Presvytera Niki Filippou

1/20 – Antonios, son of Evangelos & Debby Siamantouras; godparent, Victoria Liouras

FUNERALS

12/5 – Alexandros Liatsos

12/20 – Marie Mihos

12/22 – Athanasios Papagiopoulos

1/4 – Efthalia Mylonas

FOOD FESTIVAL DONATIONS

Sotirios Arvanitidis, 500 pounds of ground beef

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Sophie Konary, \$20

Georgia & Stephen Verenis, \$25

Lillian & James Mavrelion \$50

Irene Economos, \$100

Irene & Nicholas Antoniou, \$100

BESSIE TSAGANIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Brockton Police Department Honor Guard, \$1,200

Thalia Lingos & Henry Huser, \$1,000

Donation from Christo's Friends and Family in Honor of Christo's Birthday, \$400

HURRICANE SANDY DONATIONS

George & Jean Alexis, \$25

Anastasia & Ronald Maranian, \$25

Maria Theofilou, \$50

George Spyropoulos, \$50

Parish Collection, \$279

GOYA Collection, \$337

The Savas Family, \$1,347

George Spyropoulos, \$50

DONATIONS

Two Brass Candle Stands for Royal Gate – Dr. & Mrs. Chris Constantinou

Carved Wooden Icon Stand – IMO Catherine Yaitanes by her children and grandchildren

Carved Wooden Icon Stand – IMO Anastasios Xiarchos by his children and grandchildren

Multi-drawer Fireproof Filing Cabinet – Chris Mihos

Decoration of Icon of the Nativity – Stavros, Katerina, & Penelope Angelis IMO Aristidis & Efthalia Mylonas

Decoration of Icon of Theophany – Dr. & Mrs. Dino Constantinou

Decoration of Icon of the Presentation of Christ – Mr. & Mrs. William Theos

Storage Cabinet for Vestry Bathroom - Harry Mitoulis of Mediterranean Cabinets.

Demoulas Foundation, \$5,000 to the Church

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Loving Memory of Marie Mihos, \$1,455

In Loving Memory of Efthalia Mylonas, \$1,965

In Loving Memory of Athanasios Papagiopoulos, \$155

Gee, Linda, Marissa Christina, and Peter Gregory Mihos, \$500, in memory of Marie Mihos

Fred & Estelle Hebshie, \$500, in memory of Marie Mihos

The Korbas Family, \$500, in memory of Effie Korbas

Eftyhia & Haralambos Kalivas, \$100, in memory of Areti Potsis

George Panagoulopoulos, \$100, in memory of Stavroula Panagoulopoulos

Nikoletta Kallis & Maria Kallis, \$50, in memory of Nicholas Kallis

ROOF REPAIR DONATIONS

Bessie Bartorelli, \$100

Sam & Drosoula Psychos, \$500

Marcin & Irena Mroz, \$500

Peter Pappas, \$500 for the Roof Fund, in memory of Ernestine Pappas

George & Elaine Yiotopoulos, \$1,000

Niki Buterbaugh, \$1,000

FROM THE PRESIDENT



On behalf of Fr. Anthony and the Parish Council, we want to wish all of you a Happy New Year! We are very thankful for those who served these past two years on the council. A special thank you to Christy "Bo" Mihos, Christine Karavites, Georgia

Petropoulos Besarick, Ernest Anthony and Arthur Adamopoulos for their dedication and support during their tenure. Over the past few years we've accomplished so much. If it wasn't for their hard work and dedication, none of our achievements would happen. Please join me in congratulating our new 2013 new council members as well, including; Phillip Tsionis, Joanna Stellakis, George Costas, Nicholas Alexiou and Katerina Tsantoulis.

As you all know, on December 16, our parish held a special general assembly pertaining to the roof replacement. With overwhelming majority support the assembly moved forward with the motion to replace the roof. Although the motion included a bank loan, it is with every intention that our parish make a strong effort to raise these funds through monetary donations. Several families have generously started to donate to the project and we are optimistic that more donations will come in to help mitigate the cost of a loan. The assembly also is forming a fundraising committee to help with this cause. We ask that parishioners get involved, support the finance committee and share ideas to help rapidly raise these funds. Several ideas have already come forward and we thank you! If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please join us every 1st Thursday of the month, effective February 7.

As these fundraising ideas cultivate and come to fruition, your monetary support is needed. A list of current roof donors is on page 8. If every family household would contribute like the families thus far, the cost, time and energy of fundraising would not be necessary. We simply ask everyone to contribute to the roof replacement with a donation. Thank you for your leadership and inspiration!

Warmest Regards,

John Karolemeas

John Karolemeas

Parish Council President

2013 Calendar of Events

JOY, Have A Heart Luncheon	Sun, Feb 10
Annunciation Vespers and Philoptochos Reception	Sun, March 24
Lenten Luncheon	Sun, March 31
Greek Independence Day Parade	April 7
Spring General Assembly	Sun, April 14
169 Hungry Friends Dinner	Thurs, May 9
Philoptochos Food Festival	Sat-Sun, May 18-19
Sunday School Graduation	Sun, May 19
Greek School Graduation	Sun, June 2
Golf Tournament	Mon, July 8
Summer Picnic	Sun, Aug 18
Annual Food Festival	Thurs-Sun, Sep 19-22
Fall General Assembly	Sun, Nov 17
Parish Council Elections	Sun, Dec 8
Parish Council Oath of Office, Election of Officers	Sun, Dec 22

Parish Council Meeting Schedule for 2013

January 8	July (No Meeting)
February 12	August 13
March 12	September 10
April 9	October 8
May 14	November 12
June 11	December 10

Archbishop Demetrios Participates in Inauguration Prayer Service in D.C.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios participated in the Inaugural Prayer Service at the National Cathedral, with President Barack Obama. The Archbishop was one of other select national religious leaders that participated in this service. His Eminence also offered a benediction at the Inaugural Luncheon.



From His Eminence's Benediction:

Let us pray as we prepare to go forth in peace, confident in America's bright future.

Heavenly, Father, may we ever abide in this land of opportunity and freedom in "perfect tranquility," faithful to our foundations, and ever building a more prosperous, just, equitable, and decent society for all our citizens. And may we always share our faith and hope for the future with the whole world, through Your Divine and gracious love. Amen.



Making God Real in the Orthodox Home
 By Fr. Anthony M. Coniaris
 Light and Life Publishing

Suggestions for Family Bible Reading

Set aside a regular time for daily reading, preferably in the evening at the supper table when the whole family is together. When the children are young, mom or dad can do the reading. When the children grow older, they may share in the reading. Reading to children is one of life's greatest joys. Children treasure it.

- Don't read too much or too fast. One chapter a day is sufficient. Let what you read sink in slowly. If children are young, read from a Bible storybook that has pictures you can show the children.
- Start with the biographies of Jesus (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). Read with the faith and the expectation that God will really and truly speak to you through what you read.
- Don't worry about the passages you do not understand. Concentrate on what you do understand. The more you read, the more you will understand. One passage explains another.
- Each day memorize at least one verse that grips you. Say it out loud as a family three or four times. Encourage your children to fall asleep with this verse on their lips.
- Get a translation your children understand.
- As you read, try to have an icon of Jesus before you if you are reading the Gospels; one of St. Paul if you are reading his epistles, etc. This will help you realize who it is that is speaking to you.

Why Do We Receive Baptismal Names?

A baptismal name is the name of a saint recognized by the Church, given at our Baptism, to signify our entrance into the Church of Christ. In this way we proclaim our belief that the Church is both an earthly organization with members struggling toward salvation, and also a heavenly Church, which will be triumphant for all eternity. Patron saints, then, are guides and intercessors who understand our earthly sorrow as they pray for our pilgrimage to the Lord. Patron saints are those upon whom we call for particular needs so they might intercede before the throne of Almighty God. We ask them to join us in our prayers and assist us in our need, remembering that prayer is always directed to God alone. In some traditions the baptismal name of the first-born is commonly that of the grandparents.

From "The Complete Book of Orthodoxy" by George W. Grube, Regina Orthodox Press, 2001

PARISH NEWS

Sunday School

Sunday school classes are held following Holy Communion and will be at the regular time every Sunday in February.

There will be no Sunday school on February 24, for vacation

Many thanks to our dedicated staff and the children that participated in the Christmas pageant. It was a job well done!

Greek School

Everything is going well at Greek school for grades K-6. The teachers are so pleased with the progress of the students, who enjoy Greek school! There will be no classes on February 23.



Independence Day poems will be after Church on Sunday, March 24.

Remember Your Pledge for 2013!

Please do not forget to submit your 2013 Stewardship obligation.

Stewardships are the greatest source of income for our Church. Contact the Office with any questions you may have.

Υπενθύμιση !
Αγαπητοί Ενορίτες,

Σας παρακαλούμε μη ξεχάσετε να αποτείλετε την ετήσια προσφορά σας για το παρόν (τούτο) το έτος 2013.

Η ετήσια προσφορά σας αποτελεί τη βασικότερη πηγή εισοδήματος για τη συντήρηση και τις καθημερινές ανάγκες της Εκκλησίας μας.

Σας ευχαριστούμε θερμά

Dear Parishioners of the Annunciation,

This Spring Break, I have the opportunity to join with other Orthodox Christian college students from around the country to serve those in need around the globe. This year, through Orthodox Christian Fellowship's Real Break Program, I have the privilege to participate in Real Break Guatemala. OCF is the official college ministry of the Assembly of Bishops and works to provide students with the means to stay connected to Christ and the Church while in college. Real Break provides an alternative to a typical college spring break experience, designed to provide life-transforming experiences that strengthen the faith and broaden the Christian world-view of those who participate.

I would like to ask you for your support on this trip. Real Break Guatemala will be involved with the Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage, formerly of Guatemala City, now of San Miguel, Guatemala. With this change in location, a great deal of help is needed. We will be assisting at the Orphanage, both with beautifying the new facility, as well as with the children. I will be traveling with several other Hellenic College students and students from around the country from March 1-9, 2013.

In order for me to participate in this program, I need to raise \$2,000, covering the cost of transportation, food, and lodging. This is why I am seeking your assistance. Please consider supporting me and participating in helping these children in need by making a donation toward my trip. If you are unable to donate, I ask for your prayers for both the Real Break Team as well as the children of the orphanage.

Checks should be made out to Orthodox Christian Fellowship with RB2013-Nikoletta Evangelatos in the memo line **and mailed no later than February 22, 2013**. Thank you for your gracious support.

Nikoletta Evangelatos
50 Goddard Ave
Brookline, MA 02445

Consecration Albums Still Available

Albums commemorating the Consecration of our Church in 2010 are still available at the Office, particularly for those who made a generous donation. You may pick up your album Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Orthodox Observer

Be sure and contact the Office if you are not receiving the Orthodox Observer due to an address change so the correct information can be submitted to the Archdiocese.



Forming a Directory of Greek Professionals

The Metropolis of Boston is forming a directory of the Greek Orthodox Professional Community, including physicians, healthcare professionals, attorneys, college and university professors, teachers, journalists, etc.

Information should be submitted by following the link below.

<http://tiny.cc/851LLW>

BOOKSTORE

What to do with old icons?

Free Item Basket

This basket contains donated icons and other religious items that may not be a sale item but could be enjoyed by anyone. Come check it out.

Lending Library

Wondered about the lives of the Saints or just wanted to double check some Orthodox detail? Or maybe you want to read briefly for inspiration. We now lend from our collection—just sign out and off you go.

Almost time for Lent!

It's not too early to look over our Lenten books, at low prices. If you have an extras at your house, maybe you could donate them to the Lending Library for someone to use this season.

We have plenty of small booklets and icons at reasonable prices

Pocket prayer books, \$7 and \$9

What Orthodox Christians Believe, booklets on a variety of subjects, such as fasting, confession and building a habit of prayer, \$2.50 each

God and You: A Personal Relationship with Christ, \$20

Icons, wood and plastic, variety of sizes.

We are always raffling off things from our Store so stop and sign up

What about a gift certificate to the Bookstore? That's unique

For Children DVDs, hands-on books

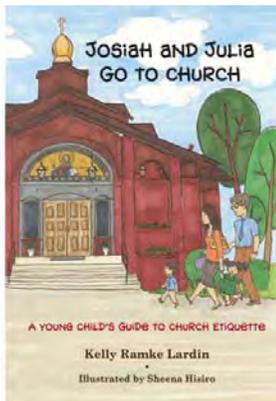
Lift and Look, The Creation: Colorful, foam Bible stories, age 0-3, \$8.

My First Prayer Book for Toddlers, with simple words for young children.

Guardian angel icons

For Young Adults

What is Life? Why are You Here?
What is Your Reason for Living? \$20.



Come and visit our store every Sunday after Church
Annunciationbrockton.bookstore@gmail.com

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Pot Luck Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 7, 2012

At the Church

Koliva

For Koliva, please call the church office at 508-559-0910. We would appreciate one week's notice in advance of the memorial service to prepare your koliva. The cost is \$85 and checks should be made payable to the Ladies Philoptochos Society.

Coffee Hour

If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please call Bertha Weinberg at 508-586-1030 or contact the Church office.

Shut In Visitations

Anyone who would like a visit from the ladies of Philoptochos, or knows of someone who would like some company, please contact our chair-lady Sultana Kotsiopoulos at 508-584-8338.

Job Announcement

Custodian / Sexton

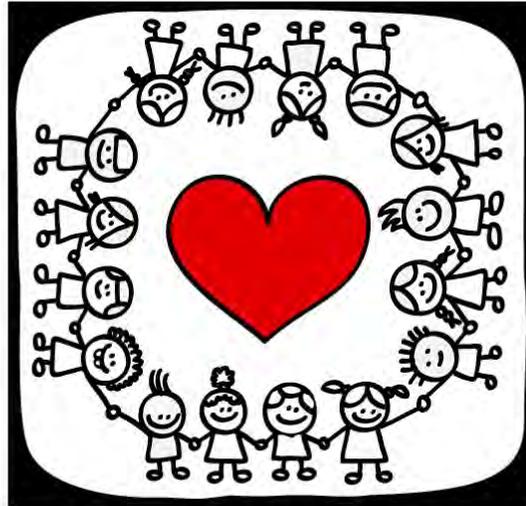
We are seeking a part-time custodian/sexton to manage the facilities. Some responsibilities include:

- Support Fr. Anthony with all holy sacraments
- Coordinate, set up and take down tables and chairs and manage trash for all functions
- Minor repairs in church's interior and exterior

The role is budgeted for 12 hours a week, preferably every Saturday, Sunday and 1 evening a week. Gratuity is given for all sacraments.

If you are able to lift heavy objects and are interested in this position, please contact the church office or email office@annunciationbrockton.org for more details.

Have a Heart



Luncheon

To Benefit the
Hellenic Cardiac Fund for Children

Sunday, February 10, 2013

12 p.m.

In the Church Lounge & Gymnasium

Please join us for the 16th Annual "Have a Heart" Luncheon to support this worthy cause. The Hellenic Cardiac Fund is an all-volunteer organization that helps 20 to 30 Greek children a year receive critical care at Children's Hospital. All proceeds from the luncheon will be donated to the fund. This year we will be holding a charity raffle and live auction for some very desirable items.



Presented by:

Donation: \$20 for Adults/\$8 for Children

A plated lunch will be served. Greek music and dancing.

J
HOPE
Y

Limited seating. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be purchased after Church on the Sundays prior to the event, until Sunday, Feb. 3. If you are not able to attend, please consider making a monetary donation in any amount to support this worthy cause. For more information, call the Church Office at 508-559-0910.

YOUTH NEWS

Come Dance...

\$8.00

At the door, or bring a non-perishable food donation and only pay

\$6.00

GOYA Style

Ticket covers:

Admission, music, food and drink!

Music By: DJ Stathi

Saturday, February 2

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton

457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA

Theme: Sports -(wear your favorite team jersey)

7:00 - 11:00 p.m.



Celebrate Super Bowl Weekend!

This event is only open to active GOYA members and to the youth of our community in grades 6-12

Parents are welcome to wait in the meeting room or visit the Westgate Mall, only 5 minutes away For more information on the dance, please see Jon Buterbaugh or Suzanne Barrus.



GOYA is holding the SouperBowl Can Drive during the month of February to support the local food pantries!

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Dancing Group

All children of our parish, ages 4-18, are welcome to join us!

Our dancers will be performing at the Have a Heart Luncheon on February 10, 2013. Come by!



NEW DANCERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME TO PRACTICE AT ANY TIME.

Practices are scheduled on the following Sundays, following the Divine Liturgy:

February 3 - MANDATORY PRACTICE for Have a Heart show
 February 10 - Have a Heart Luncheon/Performance
 February 24
 March 10
 March 17

THE DANCERS SEND A VERY SPECIAL THANKS:

...to the AHEPA for their generous donation of \$1,000 in support of the dance group! The donation has enabled us to purchase some additional costumes and accessories we needed to replace.

... and also to HARRY MITOULIS of MEDITERRANEAN CABINETS! Harry has crafted beautiful new custom cabinets that will now house all of the group's costumes and accessories and all labor was donated! We could not be more grateful. The cabinets are located outside the Nursery classroom in the basement.

METROPOLIS BASKETBALL



Annunciation will host the
 Metropolis basketball games

1 - 5 p.m.

Saturday, February 23

All parishioners are encouraged to
 come and show support!

Downsized? Changed jobs?

Help protect your income for retirement.

Call us at 508-230-9988



**Stephen Passias, LUTCF
Financial Professional**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America
134 Main Street
North Easton, MA 02356



Prudential

Prudential, the Prudential logo and the Rock symbol are service marks of Prudential Financial, Inc. and its related entities.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Newark, NJ.
751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777
0189987-00001-00

We are now reserving space in our monthly bulletin for advertising purposes in order to defer from the high costs of publishing. You can now advertise your business for a small cost.

The following are the advertising costs

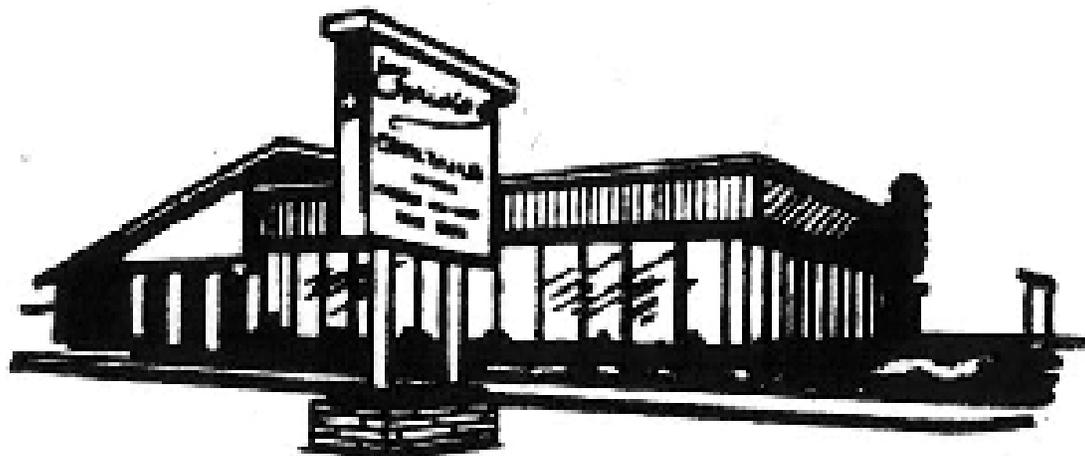
	<u>¼ Year</u>	<u>½ Year</u>	<u>1 Full Year</u>
<i>Full Page Inside Front Cover</i>	\$525.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
<i>Full Page Inside Back Cover</i>	\$525.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
<i>½ Page Outside Back Cover</i>	\$525.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
<i>Full Page</i>	\$420.00	\$ 800.00	\$1,200.00
<i>½ Page</i>	\$210.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00
<i>Business Card Size</i>	\$105.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00

Space is limited and will be available "On a First Come, First Serve Basis."

The deadline for including your advertisement will be on the 10th of each month.

If you have any questions and are interested in an opportunity that will support our Church, please contact the Church Office.

Christo's



**782 CRESCENT STREET
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02302
508/588-4200
508/583-6946 FAX**

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
457 Oak Street
Brockton, MA 02301



Phone

508-559-0910

Fax

508-584-8679

Email

office@annunciationbrockton.org

We're on the Web!

www.annunciationbrockton.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Brockton, MA
Permit No. 258

DATED MATERIAL PLEASE EXPEDITE

BABANIKAS, ZIEDMAN & KING, P.C.

1247 BELMONT STREET

BROCKTON, MA 02301-4432

(508) 588-7000

TELECOPIER (508) 559-2775

BZKLAW.COM

Nicholas H. Babanikas

Stephen S. Ziedman

John J. King

Konstantinos J. Babanikas

Thomas J. Dinopoulos*

Praven Shency

Louis deBenedictis

Aleksandra Magdziak Lopes

**Also admitted to Rhode Island and Florida*

Richard T. Mallen

Of Counsel

Boston Office

27 School Street, Suite 400

Boston, MA 02108

(617) 248-0448

New Bedford Office

355 Union Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

(508) 996-1116

CONCENTRATING IN

PERSONAL INJURY LAW SOCIAL SECURITY
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION WILLS AND TRUSTS
PRODUCT LIABILITY REAL ESTATE LAW