

September / ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2019

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The *Η* ARK - ΚΙΒΩΤΟΣ

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ΜΗΝΙΑΙΟ ΔΕΛΤΙΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΜΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

Assumption

Greek Orthodox Church

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of Boston

www.boston.goarch.org

Ecumenical Patriarchate of
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www.patriarchate.org



The Elevation of the Holy Cross – September 14th

Η ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ – 14 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

Reverend Father Gregory Trakas

Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 PM

or by appointment

Parish Council 2019

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Vice President..... James Folopoulos
Treasurer..... Peter Xintaras
Secretary..... Arthur Bakolas

Harold Guidicelli Penny Papastathis
Stathis Kapellakis Nick Karagianis
Helen Rainey Kathy Papakostas
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Chanter.....Vasilios Rokas
Choir DirectorDiane Dryer

YOUTH MINISTRIES

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GOYA & Jr. GOYA...Stavroula Bakolas
JOY.....Julie Karagianis
Mommy & MeRanya Karatzoulidis
Altar Boys.....Jeanne Tsekrekas

Assistant

Nicole Condodemetraky

PARISH SCHOOLS

Sunday School

Co-Directors..... Theohare Kapellakis
Ranya Karatzoulidis

Greek School

Director Alexandra Bruttaniti
Teachers Ranya Karatzoulidis
Daphne Galatas
Dance Instructor..... Angela Bourassa

Newsletter Editors

Fr. Gregory Trakas Janet Malin
Sophia Annas Nancy Mardanes
James Folopoulos Kathy Papakostas
Ellen Healy Helen Rainey
Nick Karagianis

Address Changes

Please notify the Church Office if you are moving so that we may update our database.

Thank you!

If a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home, house-bound for any reason, or in a hospice, please contact Fr. Gregory Trakas at the Church Office to arrange a visit.

Parish Priest

My beloved, a great “thank you” is due to our **Greekfest** committee and its chairman Costa Georgopoulos, our Parish Council members and president Costa Georgopoulos, our Ladies of Philoptochos and president Lucie Scouteris, our Youth Group and their leaders, our sponsors, advertisers, donors, volunteers and all of you, our parishioners, who came and supported our church and helped make Greekfest 2019 a great success!

September is the beginning of the **New Ecclesiastical Year!** The last big feast of the old Ecclesiastical Year was the **Dormition and Assumption of the Virgin Mary** on August 15th. The first big feast of the new Ecclesiastical Year is the **Birth of the Virgin Mary** on September 8th. It is very appropriate to begin and end each year with the All-Holy Mother of God (Panagia Theotokos), the one who joined heaven and earth and the one who merged the created world with the uncreated divine nature. Her own miraculous birth from two aged and barren parents, Joachim and Anna, shows that the Creator of natural laws can override them as He pleases. This because He is the God who “**can raise up descendants of Abraham from stones**” (Matthew 3:9), the God who “**unfolds the heavens like a curtain**” and “**makes the mountains smoke at His touch**” (Psalm 103). With Panagia’s birth, we see the beginning of the secret Plan of our Salvation, a plan set forth as part of our Heavenly Father’s Divine Economy.

September is also the month of the **Holy Cross!** **September 14th**, the feast of the Holy Cross, is one of four strictest fasting days of the year, during which our body and soul kneels before the biggest symbol of our faith! It is **through the Cross** that Resurrection was made possible! It is “**through the Cross, salvation came to mankind**” (Galatians 5:11). It is often with a Cross that we must follow our Lord (Matthew 16:24).

Finally, September is the beginning of the **New School Year**. Our young ones cheerfully return to their classes, reminding us of our own school years. The youth is the future of our Church! It is up to us to teach them well, not only with our advice but predominantly by our example. Parents give the good example when they are leading the prayer at home, at the beginning and the end of each day and each meal. Parents raise good Christians when they are talking and reading to their children about the Lord. Parents teach children how to worship when they are cheerfully leading the way to church and its ministries on Sunday mornings. Parents cultivate virtues into children when they are showing love and kindness to all people and living creatures, and when they are keeping the environment clean by recycling at home. Our children are watching us and emulate our behavior. Spiritual parents and grandparents raise (in most cases) spiritual kids and grandkids. The proof is in the list of Saints of our Church – they all had virtuous parents and grandparents. Finally, there is one thing children have and grownups need to emulate: **a pure heart**. This is why our Lord invites us to become like children, because “**to the children belongs the Kingdom of Heaven**” (Matthew 19:14).

This year, the feast of the Holy Cross is on Saturday, **September 14th**. If your schedule permits, please honor this great feast of our Orthodox faith by participating to the Divine Liturgy and if your health permits, by fasting on that day. Blessed New Ecclesiastical and School Year!

With Love in Christ, Your Parish Priest,
Fr. Gregory

Parish News

Winter hours will be in effect **Sunday, September 15th (Orthros 8:45 AM - Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM)**

The next parish council meeting will be on **Monday, September 9th at 7:00 PM.**

We are looking for **Stewardship Committee Volunteers** to help with a variety of tasks and help coordinate the Stewardship Program. Stewardship is the main source of income for our church and one of its most crucial ministries. We would love your insight, input and assistance.

GREEKFEST 2019 - Thank You to All!

On behalf of the 2019 Greekfest Committee, I would like to extend congratulations and gratitude to all of the volunteers and donors who contributed to make this year's Greekfest successful! It could not have been possible without each and every one of you!

Many of you put in countless hours of planning and months of meetings, while others baked, cooked, sold ads and organized booths and raffles to prepare for the event. All of you worked tirelessly, before, during and after Greekfest! Although many believe that the hard work ends Sunday evening at the close of festivities, it does not. All the tables, chairs and supplies that are set up need to be taken down, and all the equipment, pots and pans need to be washed and put away as well. So, thank you to EVERYONE, including our Philoptochos members, our young adults, our Parish Council members and all the other volunteers who continued working and cleaning up all week after GreekFest was over.

Our sincere gratitude also goes to those who supported Greekfest in various ways, including our Corporate Sponsors, Ad/Program Book subscribers and sponsors and the donors of food and supplies. It is this combined effort of so many coming together as one for the good our parish that makes me especially proud to be a member of the Assumption Church!

With sincere appreciation,
Costa Georgopoulos, 2019 Greekfest Chairman

New Horizons Soup Kitchen

The next New Horizons Soup Kitchen visit will be **Sunday, September 22nd**, from **4:00 - 6:00 PM**.

We are looking for new volunteers to join our group. This is such a rewarding experience! Please join us for less than two hours of fellowship with the group from the Assumption Church. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office.

Choir

We are looking for an **organist and choir director**. If anyone is interested in learning the organ, we will pay for their lessons. Please contact the Church Office.

We are also looking for volunteers to join our talented choir. All ages are welcome! Don't be shy if you don't have experience. All that is required is your passion and love for our church! During the summer the choir is not singing but it will be practicing.

Philoptochos News

My sincere thanks to all who donated money for the flowers for the August services held in honor of Panagia. We collected **\$466** and spent **\$505** on the flowers. I also appreciate the efforts of those who helped make Greekfest a success by helping with the preparations and working at the festival!

I look forward to another successful year for our Philoptochos Society chapter and pray that we will all work together for the good of our parish and those we serve. As part of our mission to serve those in need, we assist local charities, fulfill our many financial obligations at the Metropolis and National levels, and assist our church in a variety of ways. In addition to hosting coffee hours and receptions, we also pay the insurance premium for

the parish every year which is a substantial amount. Finally, we have also contributed to the purchase of several of the new altar covers and an icon stand.

Please consider joining our organization and attending our monthly meetings. We welcome your ideas and assistance.

Reminder: If you are growing fresh basil, please bring it to church for **September 14th**, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Coffee hours begin again on **Sunday, September 15th**. Please contact the Church Office to reserve a date if you wish to sponsor a regular coffee hour or a Memorial coffee hour. Philoptochos Board members will help you with the setup and cleanup. We also need your help with coffee hours that Philoptochos sponsors – especially the cleanup. If we all lend a hand, the burden will not fall on just a few.

I hope to see everyone at our annual Autumn Bazaar, which will be held **Saturday and Sunday, October 26th & 27th**. Please let us know if you can help by volunteering your time, making pastry or donating a gift for the penny sale.

The next Philoptochos Board meeting will be held **Wednesday, September 4th**, at **6:30 PM**.

Lucie Skouteris, President

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
LADIES OF AUXILARY / PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

ANNUAL AUTUMN BAZAAR

OCTOBER 26 & 27, 2019

SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

SUNDAY 11:30 AM TO 3:00 PM



GREEK FOOD & PASTRIES

RAFFLES & PENNY SALE

111 Island Pond Road, Manchester, NH



Youth Ministry News

Youth Ministry at Greekfest

A big thank you to all who helped at the **Kids' Corner** during Greekfest! Our kid's corner snack bar, craft table and other fun activities were a huge success and our youth were a great help in a number of different aspects of the festival! Kai tou hronou (Again next year)!

2019-2020 Assumption Greek School Open House

Join us as our Greek School Program kicks off the 2019-2020 School Year!

Please join us on **Thursday, September 5th from 5:30 - 6:30 PM for Greek School Open House Registration**, which will take place downstairs in the recreation area of our School Building.

Teachers, parents and students will have the opportunity to meet and greet each other and to discuss the upcoming Greek School Year.

We kindly request that at least one parent from each family attends along with each student. We will begin with **Agiasmo Blessing for all at 5:45 PM.**

We look forward to seeing you on **September 5th** and to having a great Greek School Year!

First day of Greek School: Thursday, September 19th (there will be no Greek Dance classes until October).

The Assumption Greek School Team

Sunday School and other Youth Ministry News

2019-2020 Youth Ministries

Sunday, September 15th is **Registration Day** for all Youth Ministries except for Greek School which is September 5th, see below. Students are encouraged to attend church with their families and are welcome to sit together in the pews normally delegated for Sunday School classes. At the end of Divine Liturgy, we will have Agiasmo (Holy Water Blessing), followed by **Open Registration** downstairs in our Church Hall.

Please remember to complete the **Release Form** on the next page and bring it with you.

First day of Sunday School: Sunday, September 22nd.

Youth Coffee Hour Sunday and Frappe' & Fun Food Sale Fundraiser: Sunday, Sept. 22nd.

Our Youth Ministries families will be hosting the coffee hour and a Frappe' & Fun Food Sale Fundraiser.

Families are welcomed to bring in a breakfast snack food to share.

Items can be dropped off in the Church Hall after 9:30 AM.

Please join us and support our youth as we kick off the New School Year!

FIRST GOYA MEETING/GATHERING of the 2019-2020 School Year

All young adults ages 12-18 are welcome to attend the first GOYA gathering of the 2019-2020 School Year on Sunday, September 15th at 12:00 noon upstairs in the big classroom of the Youth Center/School Building. We hope you encourage your youth to join us...family members are welcome to our first gathering, to learn about the GOYA Ministry and ask any questions. Please contact Mrs. Stavroula at sbakolas@gmail.com if your child will plan to attend.

Thank you everyone for your continued participation and support of our Youth Ministries!

Wishing all our children a Blessed School Year!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, September 5th - Greek School Open House - Registration & Agiasmo Blessing (See Greek School News)

Sunday, September 15th - Agiasmo Blessing & Youth Registration Day for all ministries (See Youth Ministry News)

Sunday, September 15th - 12:30 PM - GOYA meeting and social gathering (See GOYA Gathering News)

Sunday, September 22nd - First day of Sunday School Classes (See Sunday School News)

Sunday, September 22nd - Youth Coffee Hour Sunday and Youth Frappe' & Fun Food Sale Fundraiser (See Youth News section)

Sacraments & Services

When planning a baptism or wedding, please check church availability **BEFORE** booking your reception hall. Thank you!

40-Day Blessing

August 4: Lewis John, son of Kerrie & Lewis Poplin

Memorial Services

September 15: 3-year for Kaliope Locke

September 22: 3-year for Iris Belinsky



Planning Memorials

When planning for a memorial, please contact the Church Office at 603-623-2045
There is a particular altar wine and incense we use. Please call for details!

PLANNED GIVING is a gesture that comes from the heart!

Leave a legacy! As you plan your financial future, please remember your parish. There are several types of planned donations to consider. Here are a few of them to consider. In all cases, please consult your financial advisor for more information.

Charitable Bequests: Once you secure the well-being of your family, you may choose to include in your will a significant donation to your church.

Gifts of Life Insurance: Using a life insurance policy makes it possible to make a major gift while protecting the inheritance of one's heir(s).

Gifts of Listed Securities: The gift of publicly listed securities, bonds, mutual fund units or other similar securities is one of the most fiscally advantageous ways to make a substantial donation to a charitable organization because the donor will avoid paying tax on capital gains. The gift of shares or other securities will give rise to a tax credit. It is more advantageous to transfer the securities directly rather than to donate the proceeds collected from selling the securities. This type of donation is advisable to those who wish to make a substantial donation without encroaching on their liquid assets, or to those who own shares or other securities which have significantly increased in value since their acquisition.

Charitable Annuities: A charitable gift annuity consists of a donation of money or other assets to a charitable organization in exchange for guaranteed earnings for life or for a determined period of time

June Stewardship

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Spyradoula Dongas
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dryer
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Garoufalis
Xanthippe Hatzibiros
Ellen Healy
Mr. & Mrs. Aristidis Kalampalikis
Mr. & Mrs. Anesti Karathansis
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Kitsis
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Meimetis
Aspa Michalopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Archie Pappas
Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Pashos
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Pomerleau
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Poplin
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sakelarios
Mr. & Mrs. William Semos
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Tsekreas
Mr. & Mrs. Vaios Tzimas
Todd Vanderheyden

July Stewardship

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Dr. Vasilios Galanis
Ellen Healy
Demetrios Kamberis
Mr. & Mrs. Stathi Kapellakis
Mr. & Mrs. John Kitsis
Mrs. Demetrios Krideras
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BE GREEN! – SAVE PAPER, PRINTING & MAILING COSTS

This bulletin can be sent “paperless.”

Email us at:

info@Assumptionnh.org

to sign up for bulletin by e-mail!

What is Christian Stewardship? Christian Stewardship is:

- * learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ’s Church
- * learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God
- * our active commitment to use all our **time, talent and treasure** for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ’s redeeming love
- * caring for the needs of others
- * offering one’s self to God as He offered Himself to us
- * what a person does after saying “I believe...” as proof of that belief
- * devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese & metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the “**first fruits**” of our labor.

We support our parish and its ministries in a deliberate way and not with only what is left over after everything else has been taken care of!

July Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Krueger

Thank you for your love to the House of the Lord and Panagia!

Church Wish List – Church Donations Wanted

Holy Table & Altar Covers Set (white): **\$1,600**

One Silver Canister for Holy Communion: **\$1,400**

One Wooden Closet for Altar Linen: **\$1,800 (est.)**

Eight (8) Wooden Chairs for Holy Altar: **\$800 each (est.)**

Div. Liturgy Pew Books: **\$400**

In appreciation for donations made towards

Holy Table Covers - Philoptochos Society \$3,185, Sophia & Voula Annas \$500

Wooden Icon Stand - Philoptochos Society \$800

Taverna Night

St. George Cathedral
650 Hanover Street
Manchester NH



October 26, 2019
7 p.m. – 11 p.m.

\$20.00 admission
Children under 16 Free
includes Greek appetizers

Greek and American Music
The Salonica Boys
Beer and Wine Bar

Tickets available at Church Office, and after Liturgy on
Sundays during Coffee Hour.

If you would like to advertise your business card in our monthly bulletin, please contact the Church Office.

A business card format, about 2 ½" x 1 ½" will run for a period of **12 months** for one set fee of **\$150**. This will help us defray the ever-increasing costs of printing and mailing these bulletins to our homes and at the same time you will be advertising your business to our parishioners, and through word of mouth to their friends. This is a great opportunity for all!

Greekfest 2019



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Greekfest 2019