

November/ NOEMBΡΙΟΣ 2020

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11



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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info@AssumptionNH.org

www.AssumptionNH.org

AssumptiongocNh.

Facebook:

ASSUMPTIONgocNH



Links and Resources

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese
of America

www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese
of Boston

www.boston.goarch.org

Ecumenical Patriarchate of
Constantinople

www.patriarchate.org

November 8 - Holy Archangels / Των Παμμεγίστων Ταξιαρχών

Reverend Father Gregory Trakas

Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 PM

or by appointment

Parish Council 2020

President..... Costa Georgopoulos
Vice President..... James Folopoulos
Treasurer..... Peter Xintaras
Secretary..... TBA

Arthur Bakolas	Kathy Papakostas
Harold Guidicelli	Penny Papastathis
Stathis Kapellakis	Helen Rainey
Nick Karagianis	Anthony Tsekrekas

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Vice President..... Andrea Moutsoulis
Treasurer.....Helen Rainey
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Corresponding Secretary.....Georgia Gancarz
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Advisor.....Nancy Mardanes

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Chanter.....Vasilios Rokas

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Directors

GOYA & Jr. GOYA.....Stavroula Bakolas
Julie Karagianis
JOY.....Tiffany Farmakis-Day
Altar Boys.....Jeanne Tsekrekas

Assistant

Nicole Condodemetraky

PARISH SCHOOLS

Sunday School

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

Greek School

Director Alexandra Bruttaniti
Teachers Alexandra Bruttaniti
Ranya Karatzoulidis
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!

Pastoral Visitation

If a loved one is in a hospital, nursing home, hospice, home-bound, or in any other difficulty, please contact Fr. Gregory at the Church Office to arrange a visit!

Parish Priest

My beloved parishioners, a **big thank you** to all of you who supported our recent Food Fest! On behalf of our parish and all its ministries, please know I appreciate all of you very much!

Winter is around the corner and Church feasts are becoming more frequent. We have more feasts in wintertime because the days are shorter, the weather is colder, and the skies are greyer. But here come some great feast days to sprinkle color, brighten our lives and cheer us up amidst this pandemic.

Starting **November 7th**, we will celebrate Great Vespers for the Archangels Michael & Gabriel in the Church of Taxiarchae in Watertown, MA, together with our beloved Fr. Athanasios Nenes. The Archangels are very popular, because they make people feel protected by their divine presence. Since they are patrolling the skies, they are also patron saints of Greek Air Force.

November 13th we will celebrate the feast of St. John Chrysostom. Then, and in the evening, we will visit St. Philip in Nashua to attend Great Vespers and the reception there. Following that, on **November 25th** we honor St. Catherine the Great, and on **November 30th** St. Andrew. Please join our home parish Divine Liturgies through our Facebook Live page, and in person for all Paraklesis (Supplications) and Vespers services. These are blessed occasions to collectively pray for the intercessions of these saints and our Panagia, especially during this difficult time of pandemic. Finally, the Presentation of our Lady and Mother of God to the Temple will be celebrated with Great Vespers on **November 20th** and Divine Liturgy on **November 21st**. This is **one of the four (4) major annual feasts for our Virgin Mary**.

Please also remember **November 15th** marks the beginning of **Advent** Lent. The first month of this fasting period and up to **December 12th**, we can consume fish. But from the 12th until Christmas, most days except Saturdays and Sundays call for strict fasting. Feasts and fasts are followed by our Roman Catholic brethren, but they are almost completely unknown to our Protestant brothers. Yet, as Orthodox Christians we should uphold our sacred Holy Tradition and honor feasts and fasting days!

How do we keep track of feasts and fasting days? Simply check daily the wall calendar of our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. If you do not have this free calendar, please call our Church Office (603-623-2045) and get one. In it, you can quickly see which saints are celebrated each day. There, you can also find out which days you should be fasting and what is recommended to eat. Feasts and fasting days are very important to our faith, as they are directly or indirectly celebrating Christ. In each year, our Holy Church has established **6 great feast days** for our Lord, **4 great feast days** for Theotokos (the Mother of God), **one great feast** day for the Holy Spirit and **one great feast day** for the Holy Cross (**12 major feast days in total**). In addition, each day of the calendar year is dedicated to one or more saints who imitated Christ and often gave their lives for Him. Without doubt then, honoring the Lord **on His feast days AND on Sundays**, honoring the Mother of God and honoring the saints by offering them a Divine Liturgy on their feast days is deeply engraved in our Orthodox faith. Furthermore, the feast day of a saint, is both his or her **memorial service** and **birthday party** all wrapped in one! It is a memorial because their feast day is almost always the anniversary of their passing. It is also their birthday party, because the day of their passing is their birth to eternal life! Therefore, the Divine Liturgy on the feast day of a saint is a both a memorial service and a birthday party!

Finally, while fasting, we eliminate certain food groups from our diet. Doing so, it allows us to gather abundant blessings. These blessings include that: we imitate Christ and His saints who also fasted; we chase away the devil who hates and advises against fasting; we control our passions; we spend less on food and free up money for charity; we temporarily empathize with our poor and hungry brothers and sisters; we detox our body; we prepare for eternal life where food is not needed; but most and foremost, we rise above our earthly self! By becoming less depended on food, together with prayer, we try to approach God who is a spirit. **Happy Name Day** for all celebrating their patron saint in November and a **Happy & Blessed Thanksgiving!**

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

Parish News

Drive-Thru Food Fest - Thank You to All!

On behalf of the Drive-Thru Food Fest Committee, I would like to express our appreciation to all patrons who came to support our fundraiser. I would also like to extend congratulations and gratitude to all of the volunteers who participated to the organization, preparation and execution of this food fest.

Finally, I wish to thank all the donors who contributed to this event. Our success would not have been possible without each and every one of you!

With sincere appreciation,
Helen Rainey, Chair

We are looking for **Stewardship Committee Volunteers** to help with a variety of tasks and 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!

New Horizons Soup Kitchen

The next New Horizons Soup Kitchen visit will be **Sunday, November 22nd**, from **4:00 - 5:00 PM**.

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.

Philoptochos News

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

Lucie Skouteris, President

Youth Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL - GOYA - JOY

We pray that all our Youth ministry families are well and that our students have settled safely into their daily school routines. Our Sunday School, GOYA and Joy ministry teams continue to discuss possible options regarding future Sunday School classes and other youth ministry events. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they are available. In the meantime, we hope all our parish families are healthy and that we will be together again soon. Stay safe everyone!

GREEK SCHOOL

It has been a month of Greek School classes already and we are excited with the high energy levels we have had in our classrooms! All our students come to class each week smiling and ready to learn! We will continue to do our very best to maintain this fun, safe, and positive atmosphere throughout the year! Please note:

Wednesday, November 11th – **No** Greek School classes (Veteran's Day)

Wednesday, November 25th & Thursday November 26th – **No** Greek School classes (Thanksgiving Holiday)

We wish you all a happy, blessed, and safe Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Alexandra & Mrs. Ranya

2020

GEORGE TZIMOPOULOS MEMORIAL
RAFFLE

to benefit the

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

\$10,000 CASH PRIZES!

1st Prize - \$5,000

2nd Prize - \$1,500

3rd Prize - \$750

(3) Prizes of - \$500

(5) Prizes of - \$250

A Virtual Drawing will be held on

Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 1:00 pm

Follow online on our Facebook link or connect via Zoom

(From Your Laptop or Tablet)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 843 9919 7572 / Pass code: 737707

(From Your Smartphone)

[+1 646 558 8656 \(New York, US\)](tel:+16465588656)

Meeting ID: 843 9919 7572 / Pass code: 737707

Find your local Zoom number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join>

Raffle winners will be notified by phone

If you are a previous ticket holder and would like to retain your number(s)

or if you would like further information,

please contact Georgia Tzimopoulos at 603-391-5815

or Janet at the Church Office at 603-623-2045

**11 CHANCES TO WIN...\$100 EACH
ONLY 200 TICKETS IN ALL**

Assumption Christmas Card Fundraiser 2020

As the Christmas season quickly approaches, we are asking once again our parish community and friends of the Assumption Church to participate in our annual community Christmas Card. This year's donation remains at **\$15.00 per household**. However, any amount you wish to contribute above this will be most welcome.

It is that time of year again to think about sending our Christmas and New Year's wishes to everyone. Our Christmas Card will be sent to more than 300 Assumption Church parish families and friends.

Please complete the form below and return it, together with your check payable to: "**Assumption Greek Orthodox Church**", either to our Church Office, or by handing it to any Parish Council member by **Sunday, November 29, 2020**.

Thank you in advance for your participation and Merry Christmas!

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΙΑΤΙΚΗ ΚΑΡΤΑ 2020

Καθώς τα Χριστούγεννα πλησιάζουν, ζητάμε για μιά ακόμα φορά από τα μέλη της κοινότητάς μας και τους φίλους της Εκκλησίας μας να συμμετάσχουν στην ετήσια Χριστουγεννιάτικη κάρτα της κοινότητάς μας. Η ελάχιστη δωρεά είναι **\$15.00 ανά οικογένεια**, αλλά οποιοδήποτε μεγαλύτερη δωρεά είναι ευπρόσδεκτη.

Η Χριστουγεννιάτικη κάρτα θα σταλεί σε περισσότερες από 300 οικογένειες της ενορίας μας, όπως επίσης και σε φίλους της κοινότητάς μας. Είναι ένας πολύ καλός τρόπος να στείλετε κι εσείς τις δικές σας ευχές, εξοικονομώντας πολύτιμο χρόνο και την δαπάνη της αγοράς και αποστολής των δικών σας καρτών.

Αν θα θέλατε να συμμετέχετε και εσείς στην Χριστουγεννιάτικη κάρτα μας, παρακαλούμε να συμπληρώσετε την παρακάτω φόρμα και να την επιστρέψετε, μαζί με την δωρεά σας των \$15.00 ή παραπάνω, στο γραφείο της εκκλησίας μας ή στους επίτροπους της ενορίας, μέχρι την **Κυριακή, 29 Νοεμβρίου, 2020**.

Ευχαριστούμε για την συμμετοχή σας και Καλά Χριστούγεννα!



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 2020 Christmas Card Form

Please print your name below, as you would like it to appear on the card

Please return this form with your \$15.00 (or more) donation

Name _____

Sacraments & Services

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

Baptism

Nov. 15 – Oliver, son of Kelly & Matthew
Kitsis



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.

Church Donations Wanted

Wish List

Holy Table & Altar Covers Set (white): **\$1,600**
Wooden Closet for Altar Linen: **\$500**
Office Chair: **\$90**

Needs List

Web Camera to broadcast our church services: **\$2,300**
Commercial Vacuum: **\$400**
Cleaning Supplies: Clorox Wipes, paper towels, gel sanitizers

September Stewardship

Amerisa Baryiames
Tiffany Day
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dryer
Charles Farmakis
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Farmakis
Venice Farmakis
Demetrios Kamberis
Esther Kereakoglow
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Koromilas
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Matteo
Georgia Palaskas
Panagiota Papastathis
Maria Pliakos
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Pomerleau
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Poplin
Mr. & Mrs. John Stergiou
Fr, Gregory Trakas
Christos Tsatsopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. John Xintaras

August Offering

Mr. & Mrs. John Karagianis

September Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Krueger
Ted Karametros

Memorial Donations

Vasiliki Bakolas
Sultana Georges
Lazaros Kalampalikis
Arthur Kamberis
Kaliopé Kamberis
George Skouteris
Theodora Tsecaris
John Jr. Xintaras
Xanthippi Hatzibiros

Greekfest Donations

Mr. & Mrs. George Kitsis
Mr. & Mrs. John Stergiou

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!

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

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Dover Amusement Group
Manchester Bingo
Evolve Salon Systems
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ASSUMPTION

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Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Food Fest - Thank you!

On behalf of our Parish Council, Philoptochos Ladies Society, and Youth Ministry, we wish to express our gratitude and thanks for the interest and support we received for our October Food Fest. It was an overwhelming success! Our thanks go out to our many volunteers who spent hours prepping, baking, cooking, frying, organizing, packaging, coordinating logistics, traffic flow, and cleaning. We are also grateful to all in the community who participated and donated to support this event!

We are busy planning our next event. More information to come!

Christ and Panagia bless all of you!