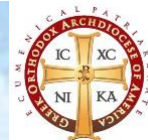


January/ ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2021

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 1



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

111 Island Pond Road

Manchester NH 03109

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Fax: (603) 232-6347

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

January 6th, Holy Epiphany

Reverend Father Gregory Trakas

Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 PM

or by appointment

Parish Council 2021

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

Philoptochos Board 2021

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Vice President..... Andrea Moutsoulis
Treasurer.....Helen Rainey
Recording Secretary.....Michelle Kapos
Corresponding Secretary.....Georgia Gancarz
Natl. & Local Boards Liaison.....Mariana Gasis
Advisor.....Nancy Mardanes

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Evangelia Gregorious	Artemis Lazos

Staff

Secretary.....Janet Malin
Chanter.....Vasilios Rokas

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Directors

GOYA & Jr. GOYA.....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,

Blessed Holy 12-Days of Christmas (**Agion Dodekaameron**) and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! In the midst of this challenging period, we draw our strength and our peace from our newborn Christ! There is no difficulty our Lord cannot protect us from, there is no disease more powerful than His healing hand! In a time of hardship, we also draw strength from one another! It is a great blessing to see some of you at church and have many of you watching us from their homes. Thank you for “sticking” together and for helping our church and one another! Thank you also for helping decorate our church for the Holidays! Our church wears its festive best and warms our hearts, both from the cold of winter and the hardships of this pandemic!

Christmas may have passed, but the feasts and celebrations have not! Christmas is **not** only one day! Our Holy Church celebrates Christmas for **7 days!** Also, Christmas is only the beginning of a **12-day** festive season (**Agion Dodekaameron**), which ends with Holy Epiphany. This naturally means the month of January is full of feasts! January 1st is dedicated to the **Circumcision of our Lord** (eight days from His birth) and **St. Basil the Great**. Then follows **Holy Epiphany** on the 6th and the feast of **St. John the Baptist** on the 7th. Then we celebrate the feasts of **Saints Anthony** and **Athanasios** on January 17th and 18th. Following are the feasts of **St. Efthymios the Great** on the 20th, St. Maximos the Confessor on the 21st, and Saints Ephraim and Isaac the Syrians on the 28th. Finally, we will celebrate **St. Gregory the Theologian** on the 25th and the **Three Hierarchs** on the 30th.

Happy Name Day to all named after the feast of Holy Epiphany and Saints Basil, John the Forerunner, Anthony, Athanasios, Theodosios, Efstراتيجος, Efthymios, Maximos, Timothy, Ephraim and Gregory, who celebrate this month!

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

NEW YEAR PRAYER

Most merciful Lord, You, who have granted us so many years of life so far, and You who have deemed us worthy to see yet another New Year, we entreat You, do not count the shortcomings of our past. Your immense goodness granted us yet another chance to do today whatever we have failed to do so far. Bless our efforts. Strengthen our weak nature. Deliver us from this pandemic. Help us with all the ways You know how, as to use the time of this year, and all our remaining years, to fulfill Your Divine Will and Commandments. And on the awesome Day of Judgement, grant that we may appear in front of Your Glory with hands full of the spiritual riches, we have gathered with Your own Grace, and allow us to also inherit the everlasting bliss of your Heavenly Kingdom. AMEN!

ΠΡΟΣΕΥΧΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΝΕΟ ΕΤΟΣ

Πανάγαθε Κύριε, συ που μας χάρισες τόσα έτη ζωής μέχρι σήμερα και μας αξιώνεις να εισέλθουμε και πάλι σε Νέο Έτος, Σε παρακαλούμε, μην υπολογίσεις τις παραλείψεις μας ως τώρα. Η αγαθότητά σου μας δίνει νέες ευκαιρίες, ώστε εκείνο που δεν κάναμε μέχρι σήμερα να το κάνουμε από εδώ και στο εξής. Σε παρακαλούμε, ευλόγησε τις προσπάθειές μας. Ενίσχυσε την αδύνατη θέλησή μας. Απάλλαξέ μας από αυτή τη πανδημία. Βοήθησέ μας με όσους τρόπους Συ γνωρίζεις, ώστε και κατά το έτος αυτό και καθ' όλη τη διάρκεια της ζωής μας να χρησιμοποιούμε την επίγεια ζωή μας όπως Συ θέλεις και παραγγέλλεις. Και την ημέρα της Κρίσεως, αξίωσέ μας να παρουσιασθούμε μπροστά σου με χέρια γεμάτα με πνευματικά αγαθά, τα οποία πετύχαμε με τη δική σου χάρη, ώστε να κληρονομήσουμε και τα άφθαρτα αγαθά της αιωνίου σου βασιλείας. ΑΜΗΝ!

Parish News

Our beloved parishioners, thank you for your support to our Christmas Card fundraiser, and our George Tzimopoulos Memorial raffle. We sincerely appreciate that even during this challenging time, so many of you participated in both fundraisers. And the winners of the raffle are:

\$5,000 - #57 - Stan and Pat Spirou

\$1,500 - #93 - Church Ladies

\$750 - #16 - Christos & Litsa Pavlopoulos

\$500 - #124 - Puritan Restaurant

\$500 - #86 - Salona Restaurant

\$500 - #26 - George Dimakis

\$250 - #185 - Peter Camberis

\$250 - #14 - Mr & Mrs Nick Bairaktaris

\$250 - #40 - Connor Healy Funeral Home

\$250 - #166 - Mark Johnson

\$250 - #15 - Sophia Kossifidis

This month, please join us for our **Vasilopeta celebration** on **January 10th** and look out for our next Food Fest. Our next Parish Council meeting will be January 11th, at 7:00 PM. Happy and Healthy New Year!

New Horizons Soup Kitchen

The next New Horizons Soup Kitchen visit will be **Sunday, January 24th**, 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

Happy New Year! Our thanks to all who donated money for the poinsettias and wreaths and helped decorate the church for the Christmas season. The church looked beautiful, thanks to the efforts of many.

Please remember to pay your dues, which are \$25.00, for both 2020 and 2021.

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

Lucie Skouteris, President

Youth Ministry News

SUNDAY SCHOOL - GOYA - JOY

We pray that all our Youth ministry families had a joyful and safe Christmas. Given the pandemic situation, our Sunday School, GOYA and Joy ministry teams will continue not having their regular gatherings. We monitor the situation, and we will resume as soon as it is safe to do so. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they are available. In the meantime, we hope all of you stay healthy and that we will be together again soon.

Happy New Year!

GREEK SCHOOL

We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and look forward to seeing all our students again soon!

Upcoming Greek School class schedule:

Wednesday, January 6th - Classes resume for Grades 5 & 6

Thursday, January 7th - Classes resume for Grades 1 through 4

Wishing everyone a New Year filled with good health, joy, and many blessings! – Καλή Χρονιά σε όλους με υγεία, χαρά, και πολλές ευλογίες!

Mrs. Alexandra & Mrs. Ranya

Sacraments & Services

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

Baptism

December 26 – Maria, daughter of Agoritsa & Athanasios Pashos



Funeral

December 2nd - Angelos Kapos

Memorial

December 31st - Angelos Kapos



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
Closet Organizer for Altar: \$500

Needs List

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

November Stewardship

Voula Annas
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Bakolas
Dimitrios Bakolas
George Blatsis
Raymond Buckley
Angelo Camberis
James Camberis
Peter Camberis
Mr. & Mrs. Stephan Condodemetraky
Tiffany Day
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Dryer
Charles Farmakis
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Farmakis
Venice Farmakis
Sotiria Gallos
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Garoufalis
Evangelia Gregorious
Joanne Grimanis
Mr. & Mrs. John Grimanis
Mr. & Mrs. Aristidis Kalampalikis
Demetrios Kamberis
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Kitsis
Sophia Koustas
Mr. & Mrs. Leonides Koutsavlis
Mr. & Mrs. Pierre LaBrie
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Lampes
Jane Lawson
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lazos
Eugenia Lefebvre
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Lekkas
Mr. & Mrs. Scott MacDonald
Brenda McMillan
Georgia Palaskas
Stavroula Palaskas
Panagiota Papastathis
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Pashos
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Piet
Maria Pliakos
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Pomerleau
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Poplin
Mr. & Mrs. Ilias Psiras
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sakelarios
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schultz
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Skouteris
Mr. & Mrs. Alki Stamoulis
James Tentas
Catherine Tournidis
Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Tsatsopoulos
Dr. James Vailas
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Vailas
Betty Xintaras

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!

November Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Pliakos

Memorial Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Epokratis Hartofelis
Xanthippi Hatzibiros
Despina, Ioanis, Dimitrios & Arthur
Kafanelis

Commercial Vacumn

Panagiota Papastathis
Dorothea Gakis

Fuel Fund

The Camberis Family
Lucie Skouteris
Betty Xintaras
Mr. & Mrs. John Xintaras

Calendar Donation

Phaneuf Funeral Home

Office Chair

Venice Farmakis

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

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