

ASSUMPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
5761 E. Colorado St.
Long Beach, CA 90814

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
LONG BEACH, CA
PERMIT NO. 344

THE PANAYIA

Assumption Of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Greek Orthodox Church
Long Beach, CA



Worship Services

Regular Schedule
Orthros 8:45 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

NOTE: Sunday Divine
Liturgy starts at
10:00AM year-round.

*See enclosed calendar for
dates and times of other ser-
vices this month.*

DECEMBER 2014

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church

5761 East Colorado Street, Long Beach, CA 90814-1954

Phone (562) 494-8929 - Fax (562) 985-1379

Email – office@assumptionlb.org

Rev. Fr. Christos Kanakis, Proistamenos

Voula Michail - Kitsios, Office Administrator

Jorge Rivera, Sexton

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chris Dolas - President

David Matty - Vice President

Jimmy Mentas - Recording Secretary

Jimmy Eleopoulos - Corresponding Secretary

George Demos - Treasurer

Board Members

Kathy Bastas, Dino Syrengelas, Olympia Stapakis,

George Stavros, Nick Monios, Sam Platis,

Tasos Papas, Nick Zamvakellis

AHEPA

Tasos Papas - President

Bulletin Coordinator

Voula Michail - Kitsios

Bookstore

Zoe Falley - Administrator

Choir

Pinió Benetatos - Director & Organist

Cecilia Kourtis - President

Church School

Jim & Patricia Mentas - Principals

Daughters of Penelope

Catherine Vackrinos

Sofie Batshoun

Family Night

Sam Platis

Greek School

Kathryn Condaras - Principal

Donna Stavros - P.T.A

Hope/Joy/VBS

Maria Georgakopoulos - Advisor

Junior Choir

Pinió Benetatos - Director

Karen Fic - Assistant Director

Welcome Ministry

Kathy Bastas (Chair), Camille Dolas, Max & Mary Lofton,

Kay Platis, Cathy Shweiri

Public Relations

Jimmy Eleopoulos

PHILOPTOCHOS

Bobbie Soupos - President

Karen Fic - 1st Vice President

Amelia Ladas - 2nd Vice President

Marilyne Coats - Correspond. Secretary

Lia Kakaris - Recording Secretary

Nikki Andrews - Treasurer

Mary Lofton - Assistant Treasurer

Kathy Bastas - Advisor

Board Members

Eftihia Missios, Olympia Stapakis, Andria Salsman,

Matoula Batshoun, Zoe Falley, Vickie Hennig,

Paris Kastanas, Kay Platis

GOYA

President - George Sehremelis & Thanasi Dalkos

Vice President - Penny Bacol

Treasurer - Jack Koulos

Corres. Secretary - Tasia Matty

Rec. Secretary - Ashely Eleopoulos

Historian - Olga Alvertos & Vasiliki Liouliias

Sports Coordinators - Alex Alvertos & Eleni Medenas

Activities Coordinator: Niko Karidakis & Nicolette Simitian

Chaplains - Philip Alanouf & Voula Dalkos

Diakonia - Nia Matty & Bobbie Dalkos

Greek Cultural Arts and Dance

Dina Lioulias - President

Maria Georgakopoulos - Vice President

Georgia Alvertos - Corresponding Secretary

Dusty Hanson - Recording Secretary

Elene Dalkos - Treasurer

Senior Christians

Nick Monios - President

Stewardship Ministry

Kathy Bastas (Chair)

Camille Dolas, Max & Mary Lofton,

Kay Platis, Cathy Shweiri

Trisagio Ministry

Max & Mary Lofton, Vickie Hennig, Yiota Beckas

Web Site

George Shweiri

**GLITZ AND GLAMOUR
SET OUR SCENE
AS WE SAY GOODBYE TO
2014**

Assumption Greek Dance &
Cultural Arts School

Cordially invites you to attend our
NEW YEAR'S EVE 2015

**Dinner, Dancing, &
Entertainment Celebration**

Wednesday, December 31, 2014

7pm Appetizers

8pm Greek Dance Performances

9pm Dinner

Assumption Long Beach Church
5761 E. Colorado St. Long Beach, CA 90814

Adults and Teens \$65

Children 12 & Under \$35

RSVP by December 29, 2014 to

Yota Batsaras at:

assumptiongreekdance@gmail.com

Or 714-306-8082

Mail payments to: Attn: NYC – Yota
5761 E. Colorado St. Long Beach, CA 90814

Make checks payable to:

Assumption Greek Dance

**1920'S ATTIRE ENCOURAGED BUT
NOT REQUIRED**

Christmas Encyclical

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."
Isaiah 9:2

Dearly Beloved,
Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

The Christmas season is a season of light. We see the decorative lights that brighten the night skies and herald the coming of the light of Christ into the world. The light has returned; the light of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior has shattered the darkness of the world. While natural cycles cause the darkness of winter, the real darkness is human pride, cynicism, and isolation which tear apart our relations with God, our neighbor and the world around us. The Nativity of Christ penetrates this darkness in the most unlikely of ways, the birth of a child. We expect God to act dramatically and with might to correct our world, to put things right. In the Church we often sing, "Who is so great a God as our God? He alone does wonders." But not at Christmas, because in His Nativity, Jesus Christ enters the world in humility and poverty, almost unnoticed, except for a great light that draws attention. As a hymn of Vespers for Christmas says, "When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Virgin, all the world was enlightened. The shepherds watched in the fields, the Magi adored and the angels praised in song."

Most likely you will mark the coming of the light by decorating your Christmas tree with lights, placing lights in your home, or placing candles in your windows. Each one of these actions remind all who see them that yours is a Christian home and you have important news to proclaim: Christ is Born! and the world glorifies the Sun of Righteousness! The light has come into the world and his name is Jesus born of the virgin. Like the angles in the Gospels we will go to our churches and sing the doxology, "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace among men" Luke 2:14.

Beloved brothers and sisters, do not let the darkness of our age overpower you. It is easy to be cynical and bitter at this time. The news is filled with ongoing war, financial disasters, endless political gridlock and widespread crime. But because we are Christians we know that God is with us. The Almighty God kept His promise to send a Savior of His people. Christ Jesus is Born. He is Emmanuel; He has entered our world and never left us. We are not alone. We know this in our hearts and we experience this in our churches, we are hopeful people. We can reflect the light of Christ in our workplaces, among our friends and neighbors, in our communities. We no longer live in darkness, because we have seen the light of Christ. We can overpower the darkness of our time through kindness and respect for all people. We can do this by our willingness to be generous stewards and philanthropists in our churches and in our society supporting the many needs of both.

Parents will, in these days, read storybooks to their children at bedtime. They may attend a Christmas show at a theater. These are wonderful family experiences that will create a lifetime of memories. But do not limit a child's understanding of Christmas to television specials or sugary spectacles that avoid the real story of Christmas. This year, one night, open the Bible and read the story of Christ's Birth. Tell your children you have a beautiful story to share with them, one that changed the world and changes lives. Tell them it is a love story, a story of God's love for all of us.

May the light of the Star of Bethlehem, the light of Christ, illumine your path and shine in your hearts in these Holy Days of Light.

With Love in Christ the Newborn King,
+ G E R A S I M O S
Metropolitan of San Francisco

Christ Is Born
Glorify Him!

Come all for the
Annual

Sunday School

CHRISTMAS

PAGEANT

Enjoy a PEACEFUL
afternoon

With our youth
JOYFULLY proclaiming

The birth of
Our Lord!

December 21, 2014

Following

Sunday Liturgy

Lunch Will Be Provided

Following the Pageant

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΓΕΝΝΑΤΑΙ!
ΔΟΞΑΣΑΤΕ!

Την Κυριακή
21 Δεκεμβρίου 2014,
και μετά το τέλος
της Θείας Λειτουργίας,
είστε όλοι ευπρόσδεκτοι
να μείνετε και να απολαύσετε
ένα ήρεμο μεσημέρι,
τους μαθητές του
Κατηχητικού Σχολείου
της κοινότητας μας,
που θα παρουσιάσουν
το ετήσιο
Χριστουγεννιάτικο πρόγραμμα
τους



Greetings Panagia Parishioners!

President's Message

Happy Thanksgiving to you and all of your families!

Thanks to all that came and supported the Fall General Parish Assembly! It was great to see new members as well current members attending and taking part in our Parish Assembly Meeting!

Special thanks to Fr. Christos, Kathy Bastas, Stewardship Chair and the Stewardship Committee for a great Stewardship Sunday, truly a great and important event for our parish! Thanks to all of our Parish Ministries and to all that participated!

We are also requesting each and all of you to really pray and put sincere thoughts in increasing your pledge amount for 2015. We are also requesting that as we come to next year, if you are able to adjust your actual Stewardship payment earlier in 2015 rather than later. Remember, this is our Panagia Parish. We all need to take care of our Panagia Parish. We all love, respect and appreciate our church. Please make your best sincere effort in assisting and supporting our Panagia Parish. THANK YOU!

Please mark your calendars for the up coming December events:

- Parish Council Elections - Sunday, December 7th
- Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale - December 7th
- Philoptochos Christmas Party - Sunday, December 14th
- Philoptochos: Trinity Foster Home Christmas Party - Wednesday, December 17th (at the hall)
- Greek School Christmas Party - Wednesday, December 17th (classrooms)
- Sunday School Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 21st
- New Year's Eve Dinner/Glendi hosted by our Assumption Greek Dance Ministry- Wednesday, December 31st

Epiphany 2015 - Sunday, January 11th

Please look both in our Panagia Bulletin and our weekly Sunday Bulletins for other events!

Our Parish Council is here to serve you and our Panagia Parish. Please do not hesitate to call or ask any of your parish council members or me with any questions! We will provide you with the answers we know and get back to you with the answers we don't know.

On behalf of the entire Parish Council, we wish you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thanks for all of your continued support!
Chris Dolas, Parish President

Kostallas, Tony & Cathy
Koulos, Peter & Emily
Kourassis, Nick
Kourtis, Costa & Cesilia
Krebenios Anastasia
Kyriakos, Spiros & Laine
Ladas, Amelia
Ladas, Charlie & Patty
Lafkas, Peter & Ada
Lambros Mary
Lansdale, Marianthi
Lembesis, Ann
Lembesis, John Jr. & Theresa
Lembesis, Nick & Saskia
Lembesis, Pendalis & Evangelia
Liarakos, George & Dezi
Liarakos, John & Tesi
Lofton, Max & Mary
Loizdes, George & Rodoula
Lolis, Vasilios
Lopez, Jeff & Georgia
Lovejoy, Jeremy & Nectaria
Manos, Dr. Andrew & Pam
Mantas, Athena
Mantikas, Nick & Katherine
Marangopoulos, Jake & Tammy
Marentis, Victoria
Markouizos, George & Argyro
Markouizos, Karlos & Georgia
Markouizos, Markella
Markouizos, Nektarios G. & Lisa
Matty, David & Barbara
Mavrovitis, Michail & Monica
Medenas, Ted & Foula
Mentas, Ann
Mentas, James & Patricia
Michel, David & Vasiliki
Milonas, Dina
Missios, Basil & Eftihia
Monios, Nick & Linda
Montalbano, Paul & Maria
Morgan, Richard & Valerie
Nakai, Keiichi & Saki
Nanopoulos, Chris & Yiota
Nezis, Alexander & Alice
Papacalos, George & Lucia
Papadakis, Christine
Papadakis, Lilian & Andriana
Papadopoulou, Evangelos & Lorraine
Papakoulos, Angie
Papas, Maria
Papas, Taso & Georgia
Pappas, Victor & Christina
Pappas, Mark & Shari
Paralapanides, Charles & Elenie

Pass, Gus & Toula
Paulos, Mary
Paulos, Nicholas
Paulos, Todd & Cindy
Paxos, Joanne
Philips, Crystal
Phoutrides, Neilos & Patricia
Platis, Jim & Kay
Platis, Sam & Laura
Pliaconis, Alexander & Nicole
Polychrones, Jerry & Mary
Polychrones, Speros & Dora
Poulis, John
Richards, Dean & Dorothy
Richmond, Dan & Doris
Roubanis, Savvas & Jody
Russos, Asimina
Russos, Emmanuel
Salsman, Mel & Andria
Santamarina, Jose & Ronnea
Schwartz, Nicole Deanne
Seger, Clay & Susan
Sehremelis, Athena
Sharkoff, Dr. Donald & Anna
Sharkoff, Dr. James & Katherine
Shill, Peter & Ami
Shweiri, Cathy & George
Shweiri, Gabriel & Nicole
Simitian, Richard & Anna
Siouris, Chris & Panayota
Sirigos George & Eliodora
Skandalakis, Melia
Skourtas, Tony & Angeli
Smyrniotis, Alexandra
Smyrniotis, Chris & Mary
Sotiriou, Dimitrios
Sotiriou, Elias
Sotiriou, Panagiotis & Vasiliki
Soultanakis, Trudith
Soupos, Tom & Bobbie
Spiropoulos, James & Marina
Spiropoulos, Troy & Gina
Sprague, Ron & Mary
Stapakis, Olympia
Stapakis, Steve & Joanne
Stathis, Robert & Josefa
Stavros, Andy & Amber
Stavros, Bill & Maria
Stavros, George & Donna
Stavros, John & Gwen
Stavros, Louis & Mary
Stavros, Ted & Olga
Stavros, Tom
Stergiou, Eleni
Stevenson, Gus & Leona

Sullos, James & Vickie
Suxho, Donald & Olena
Sverkos, Gus
Sverkos, Pete & Natalie
Syrengelas, Andreas & Niky
Syrengelas, Andreas & Evdoxia
Syrengelas, Dino & Dora
Syrengelas, George & Athanasia
Syrengelas, Michael & Elizabeth
Syrengelas, Soteria
Syrengelas, Toula
Syrengelas, Vasili & Maria
Talaganis, Ernest
Talaganis, John & Kathleen
Talaganis, Nick & Amy
Taliere, Maria
Tavlarides, Angelo & Mary
Tener, Theresa
Teodosiadis, Romilos & Melpomeni
Terzi, Popi
Terzis, Konstantinos & Suzanna
Thermos, Jerry & Elli
Thibault, Irene
Toulios, Spyros & Eleni
Toumasis, Jerry & Koula
Trigonis, Tula
Trikounakis, Tony & Irma
Tsakoumakis, Stan & Debora
Tsalikis, Maria
Tsamous, Peter & Helen
Tsimerekis, Nikos & Anna
Vackrinou, Catherine
Valaskantjis, Nikiforos & Georgia
Vardakis, Alex
Vargo, Douglas & Elefteria
Varzak, Darlene
Vasilomanolakis, Francine
Vasilomanolakis, Dr. Mike & Niki
Vassiliades, John
Vlachos, Dino & Helen
Vlahakis, Mary
Vorgias, Maria
Vorris, Athansios & Niki
Watkins, Evagelia
Woo-Sam, Maria
Yakos, John & Flora
Zambos, Angie
Zambos, John
Zamvakellis, Nick & Alison
Zarifes, Angie
Zimmerman, Roseann
Zoolakis, Anthony & Kari
Zoumberakis, Stelio & Stacy

Panagia's Stewardship Family as of November 15, 2014

Ala, Eli	Chelekis, Louis & Vicki	Fenn, Brad & Anna
Ala, Falanai & Lisa	Choullis, Manolis & Sotiria	Fiamengo, Alexandria
Ala, George	Chioles, James & Effie	Fic, Karen
Alex, Helen	Christidis, George & Melina	Flynn, Matthew
Alexiou, Archimides	Chrysanthis, Alexandra	Foutris, Constantine & Christine
Alexiou, Demi	Coats, Marilyne	Frousakis, Gus & Vicky
Alexopoulos, Andrew	Colazas, Xenophon & Mila	Frudakis, Katina
Alexopoulos, Christine	Condaras, Nicholas & Katerina	Futris, George & Conseulo
Alexopoulos, Dimitrios & Maria	Contos, Angeliki	Futris, William & Mary
Alexopoulos, Elias	Contos, Vasili & Voula	Gabriel, Sam & Kathy
Alvertos, Yianni & Georgia	Cook, Jeff & Susan	Galanis, Jerry & Marian
Amarantos, Harriet	Cornwell, Caryle & Demetra	Georgakopoulos, Mike & Maria
Andrews, George	Coroneus, Dr. John & Dr. Xanthipe	Georges, Ekaterini
Andrews, Dr. James & Niki	Cozakos, Nick	Georges, Louie & Penny
Andrikos, Ioannis & Argyro	Critides, Anastasios & Shawnee	Georgiadou, Vicki
Antoniou, Konstantinos & Maria	Cyprus, Brett & Jane	Georgoulis, George & Anna
Apostle, Helen	Cyprus, Brandon	Ghilarducci, Walt & Laura
Argeris, John & Vasiliki	Cyprus, Kayla	Giannoulis, Anastasia
Argyros, Dionisios & Irene	DaCosta, Marvin & Katerina	Gurrola, Raymond & Mary
Argyros, Philip & Amy	Dalkos, Bob & Vaso	Gutierrez, Ivan & Esther
Arkoumanis, Stergios & Trisha	Dalkos, Chris & Roula	Hadjimarkos, Nicholas & Stemma
Armogida, Rod & Krista	Dalkos, John & Stavroula	Hanches Roll, Fotini
Armstrong, Randy & Janet	Demopoulos, Michel & Patricia	Hansen, Helen
Bacol, Pete & Ria	Demos, Christa	Hanson, Chris & Dusty
Bahos, Kanella	Demos, Eleni	Hason, Richard & Haritoula
Balas, Jim & Jennifer	Demos, George & Vickie	Hardaway, Herman & Pamela
Balas, Louis & Toula	Demos, Joanna	Haririan, Alka
Bastas, Nikolaos & Kathy	Deneff, Peter & Diane	Harrison, Danielle
Batsaras, Ilias	Deneff, Alkisti	Hennig, Vickie
Batshoun, Christina	Deralas, Dean	Herron, Craig & Diana
Batshoun, Emil & Matoula	Desalernos, Stephen & Julia	Jordanides, Dennis & Giselle
Batshoun, Sofie	Diacoumicos, Marya	Jordanides, Tim & Ria
Beckas, Spiro & Eleni	Diamond, Helen	Kades, Clio
Benetatos, Pinio	Dimas, Michael & Maria	Kades, Kelly
Berdanis, John & Helen	Dimitropoulos, Thanasi & Eleni	Kakaris, Tellis & Lia
Berovinos, Antonios & Bonnie	Dimou, Leonidas	Kallins, George & Bettina
Berovinos, Michael & Kimberly	Dimou, Nick	Kallins, James & Virginia
Bettios, Christos & Lorraine	Dogris, Alex & Peggy	Kanakis, Fr. Christos & Pres. Jessica
Bisbikis, Dimitra	Dolas, Chris	Kanavos, Pete & Tia
Boosalis, Aphrodite	Dolas, Jim & Camille	Karapoulios, Evangelos & Eleni
Bouras, Kathy	Dolas, Jonh & Theodora	Karatzis, Spiros & Julie
Bouras, Peter	Dolas, Peter	Karidakis, George & Diane
Boyce, Maria	Donlou, Gordon & Maria	Karidakis, Jim
Bozigian, Linda	Dukelis, Evangelia	Karidakis, Nick
Bratkic, Jure & Demetra	Edwards, Nicholas & Pamela	Karmiris, Christopher & Christina
Breres, Zena	Eleopoulos, Gus & Robin	Karthas Nicholas
Briliakis, Gus & Nicki	Eleopoulos, Jimmy & Leigh	Kastanas Bill & Paris
Brogolias, Nick	Etchepare, Anna	Katsikakis Maria
Brogolias, Steve & Janne	Exacoustos, Stella	Kitsios, Kostas & Voula
Brooks, Harriet	Falley, Zoe	Konstantinidis, Byron & Katie
Bussa, Tom & Maria	Fattaleh, Raja	Kontokanis Dimitris & Maria
Castritis, Demetrios	Fattaleh, Saba & Diana	Koutsikas, Coula

Little Lambs

Panagia's Little Lambs has gotten off to a great start. Our Moms n Tots class is full of music, crafts and play. The children are enjoying interacting with each other and learning about our Orthodox religion. Please join us every Wednesday, 10:30-11:30 am in the Preschool Sunday school classroom. Moms, Dads, Yiayias, Papous and any caretakers are encouraged to bring children 3 years old and under to participate in this exciting program.

Elizabeth Syrengelas
Pres. Jessica Kanakis

Greek School

Greek School is in full swing. Our students attendance has been excellent this year, and teachers are very proud of their students and their effort to learn. Keep up the good work. This month students will be off for Christmas vacation starting on the week of the 22nd and classes will resume on Wednesday, January 7, 2015. We will be having our annual Christmas party on Wednesday, December 17th, students will be exchanging gifts. All parents and grandparents are invited to join us. Greek school would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you,
Kathryn Condaras, Principal

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD

Dear Fellow Parishioners

As the Christmas Season approaches, our hearts and thoughts renew what the Nativity of Christmas means to all of us...a time to express our love and appreciation through the act of giving. One way to do this is through the annual Christmas Card sponsored by your choir.

Please complete and mail the form below, together with your check for **\$25.00**, made payable to the Assumption Choir organ fund. The deadline for form and payment is **December 7, 2014**.

Thank you and have a Blessed Christmas

Please print how you would like your names(s) to appear on the Community Christmas Card.

Assumption Church Choir Organ Fund
5761 East Colorado St.
Long Beach, CA 90814

You may also turn it in to a choir member seated at the table outside the hall.



Annual Christmas “Tree” Wish List
Trinity Youth Services
Sponsored by Philoptochos
Maids of Athena and GOYA

One of our outreach organizations that we support is Trinity Youth Services in Long Beach. Every day Trinity is helping children and healing families through the foster care program. Join us as we endeavor to break the cycle and embrace the future!

We need your help in making children’s wishes come true!

Look for our Christmas tree, which is now up in the Narthex, decorated with paper ornaments. On these ornaments, you will see the child’s name, age, gender, and the item she/he has requested.

Trinity has requested the gifts to be **unwrapped**. Please place the item/s you purchased in a Christmas bag, **unwrapped**, and; tape/staple the ornament on the item with the child’s name eligible to read. Put presents along the wall behind the tree. Drop gift cards in the Christmas stocking hanging on the tree.

Absolute deadline is Sunday, December 15

Your generosity does make a difference in the children’s lives. The smiles you put on their faces remain forever etched in their hearts. If you would like to be a part of this event please call one of the below listed names. ALL are welcome!



Bobbie Soupos - 714-307-1488
Sofie Batshoun - 714-705-9314
Matoula Batshoun -714-705-9316
Lucia Papacalos - 562-431-4896
Vickie Demos - 562-688-8315



Ο Άγιος Σπυριδών

Ο Άγιος Σπυριδών γεννήθηκε το 270 μ.Χ. στο τώρα κατεχόμενο χωριό Άσσια (Άσκια) της Κύπρου από οικογένεια βοσκών, που ήταν κάπως εύπορη. Αν και μορφώθηκε αρκετά δεν άλλαξε επάγγελμα. Συνέχισε και αυτός να είναι βοσκός.

Σαν χαρακτήρας, ο Άγιος, ήταν απλός, αγαθός, γεμάτος αγάπη για τον πλησίον του. Τις Κυριακές και τις γιορτές, συχνά έπαιρνε τους βοσκούς και τους οδηγούσε στους ιερούς ναούς, και κατόπιν τους εξηγούσε την ευαγγελική ή την αποστολική περικοπή. Ο Θεός τον ευλόγησε να γίνεται συχνά προστάτης χήρων και ορφανών.

Νυμφεύθηκε ευσεβή σύζυγο και απέκτησε μια κόρη, την Ειρήνη. Γρήγορα, όμως, η σύζυγός του πέθανε. Για να επουλώσει το τραύμα του ο Σπυριδών αφοσιώθηκε ακόμα περισσότερο στη διδαχή του θείου λόγου.

Μετά από πολλές πιέσεις, χειροτονήθηκε ιερέας. Και πράγματι, υπήρξε αληθινός ιερέας του Ευαγγελίου, έτσι όπως τον θέλει ο θείος Παύλος: ακατηγόρητο, προσεκτικό, εγκρατή, σεμνό, φιλόξενο, διδακτικό, και να έχει παιδιά που να υποτάσσονται με κάθε σεμνότητα. Έτσι και ο Σπυριδών, τόσο σωστός υπήρξε σαν ιερέας, ώστε όταν χήρεψε η επισκοπή Τριμυθούσσης στην Κύπρο, δια βοής λαός και κλήρος τον εξέλεξαν επίσκοπο.

Από τη θέση αυτή ο Σπυριδών προχώρησε τόσο πού στην αρετή, ώστε τον αξίωσε ο Θεός να κάνει πολλά θαύματα.

Ο Άγιος Σπυριδών κοιμήθηκε στις 12 Δεκεμβρίου του 350 μ.Χ.

Τα 648 μ.Χ. η Κύπρος αντιμετώπιζε μεγάλες επιδρομές από τους Σαρακηνούς και το λείψανο μεταφέρθηκε στην Κωνσταντινούπολη από τον αυτοκράτορα Ιουστινιανό. Τοποθετήθηκε στον Ναό των Αγίων Αποστόλων μαζί με το λείψανο της Αυγούστας Θεοδώρας. Παρέμεινε στην βασιλίδα των πόλεων μέχρι που ο ιερέας Γρηγόριος Πολύευκτος λίγες μέρες πριν την πτώση πήρε τα δύο λείψανα και τα μετέφερε μέσω Σερβίας, Θράκης και Μακεδονίας στη Παραμυθιά της Ηπείρου. Τρία χρόνια περιπλανήθηκε από τόπο σε τόπο μέχρι που φτάσει στην Κέρκυρα. Όλο αυτό το διάστημα είχε τοποθετήσει τα λείψανα σε σακιά με άχυρα και όποιος τον ρωτούσε τους έλεγε πως είναι τροφή για το υποζύγιό του. Το 1456 μ.Χ. έφτασε στην Κέρκυρα γιατί πίστευε πως τα λείψανα θα ήταν ασφαλισμένα. Τα Επτάνησα εκείνη την εποχή βρίσκονταν κάτω από την εξουσία των Ενετών. Ο ιερέας Γρηγόριος Πολύευκτος βρήκε ένα συμπολίτη του πρόσφυγα τον ιερέα Γεώργιο Καλοχαιρέτη και του κληροδότησε το λείψανο του Αγίου.

Ο ναός ο οποίος στεγάζει σήμερα το σκήνωμα του αγίου, κτίστηκε στα 1589 μ.Χ. και ανήκει στο ρυθμό της μονόκλιτης βασιλικής. Το ψηλό και πυργωτό καμπαναριό, ως συμπλήρωμα του ναού, κτίστηκε το 1620 μ.Χ. Το σημερινό τέμπλο του ναού, κατασκευασμένο από μάρμαρο της Πάρου, κατασκευάστηκε το 1864 μ.Χ. και είναι έργο του αυστριακού αρχιτέκτονα Μάουερς. Η ουρανία είναι ζωγραφισμένη από τον Κερκυραίο ζωγράφο Νικόλαο Ασπιώτη το 1852 μ.Χ., ενώ οι εικόνες του τέμπλου είναι φτιαγμένες από τον επίσης Κερκυραίο ζωγράφο, Σπύρο Προσαλάνδη. Η σημερινή λάρνακα φτιάχτηκε στη Βιέννη το 1867 μ.Χ. Είναι από σκληρό, πολυτελές ξύλο με εξωτερική ασημένια επένδυση. Βρίσκεται τοποθετημένη μέσα στην κρύπτη, η οποία δημιουργήθηκε ειδικά για να δεχθεί το λείψανο του Αγίου Σπυριδών, το οποίο επισκέπτονται χιλιάδες ξένοι και ντόπιοι επισκέπτες. Είναι ένα από τα τρία άφθορα λείψανα στο Ιόνιο, του Αγίου Σπυριδών, του Αγίου Γεράσιμου και του Αγίου Διονυσίου.

Στην Κέρκυρα το σκήνωμα του Αγίου Σπυριδώνος λτανεύεται τέσσερις φορές το χρόνο. Την Κυριακή των Βαΐων για την απαλλαγή του νησιού από επιδημία πανώλης το 1629 μ.Χ. Το Μεγάλο Σάββατο γιατί το έτος 1533 μ.Χ. το νησί επλήγη από μεγάλη καταστροφή της σοδιάς των σιτηρών. Την 11η Αυγούστου για την διάσωση του νησιού από σφοδρή επιδρομή των Τούρκων το 1716 μ.Χ. και την πρώτη Κυριακή του μηνός Νοεμβρίου για δεύτερη επιδημία πανώλης το 1673 μ.Χ.

Please place all Trinity Homes Gift Cards, with their star securely attached, in the stocking.

Thank You & Merry Christmas!

Philoptochos, GOYA & Maids of Athena



BEST WISHES

BAPTISM

11/16/14

Brooke Michelle Cyprus

Sponsors: George & Donna Stavros
Congratulations!

11/23/14

Daphne Paulette Mayes

Proud Parents: Donovan & Maria Mayes
Godmother: Evie Vassiliou
Congratulations!

December Prosforo

Prosforo for the month of December is donated by Mina Russos. Thank you. If you would like to donate our Sunday prosforo please call the church office.

Save the Date

*The Philoptochos Society
Of Saint Anthony
Greek Orthodox Church*

*Christmas Benefit Luncheon &
Fashion Show*

"Here We Come a' Caroling"

Saturday December 6, 2014

10:30 in the morning

The Langham Huntington Hotel

1401 South Oak Knoll Ave.

Pasadena, California

For Reservations & Information

Leah Pastis (626)285-8286

Church Office (626)449-6943

Epiphany
Celebration

“Our 63rd Year”

Assumption Greek Orthodox
Church of Long Beach
5761 E. Colorado Street
Long Beach, CA 90814
Liturgy & Glendi
Sunday, January 11, 2015

*Hosted by the Assumption of
the Blessed Virgin Mary
Greek Orthodox Church*

8:45 AM - Orthros

10:00 AM - Hierarchical

Diving Liturgy

Carpool 11:30AM

12:00 Noon

Service of the Cross
& Diving for the Holy Cross*

*Following the Blessings
of the Waters
'GLENDI'*

Here we are into the Holidays already! Can't believe it's that time of year again. By now you have recognized our Annual Trinity Christmas Tree in the Narthex and hopefully have chosen a child's name to purchase a gift for. December 17th is the date of our Christmas Party for the children. Santa will make a surprise visit and will hand out those special gifts. You're welcome to join us! The smiles your gift/s put on the faces of those children remain etched in their hearts forever. Your gift/s may be the only gift/s the children receive.

December 10th we will be hosting our Female Veterans in our Cultural Center. This year we will have a 10 a.m. Brunch. Again; you are more than welcome to join us. These women have had a long struggle and have come a long way in their everyday lives. Let's support them. This is our Third year of recognizing them. Philoptochos Christmas Party will be held December 14th. We are in hopes that you have marked your calendars and are planning to attend. We will be taking reservations soon.

Our Thanksgiving food drive was wonderful. Thank you to Sunday School for their participation and to all of you who brought in the turkeys and canned goods. They are very much appreciated by all who receive them. Those who donated money we reassure you we did purchase turkeys and or needed items. Thank you!

WE Philoptochos Ladies (and Gentlemen) appreciate your generosity so much. Words cannot say enough on how the families react when receiving all the food items for a Blessed Thanksgiving. This is truly a Christian Outreach. Maybe we should continue doing it on a yearly basis as a Church Family. Food for thought!

Our Light the Path was beautiful. Those who attended and/or Sponsored the Event; WE Thank you very much! We hope those who did attend, enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed bringing it to you!

Mark your calendars: Philoptochos TEA will be March 8, 2015/ Save the Date.

Bobbie Soupos, President

In the year of the Lord - December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Confession 5 pm - 7 pm Paraklisis/Παράκλησις 7pm Greek School 5:30 pm - 7 pm	4	5 + Vespers 7:00 pm St. Nicholas in Northridge	6 + Νικολάου Μύρων Nicholas the Wonderworker Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am at Rose Hills
7 + Γ' Λουκά. 10th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Parish Elections Philoptochos Bake Sale	8	9	10 Philoptochos Luncheon with the Military Ladies 11:30 pm Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	11	12	13
14 + ΙΑ' Λουκά 11th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Philoptochos Christmas Party	15	16 Senior Christians Christmas Potluck 11:30 am P. C. Meeting 7:00 pm	17 Trinity Foster Home Christmas party 4pm - 8pm Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School Christmas Party 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	18	19	20
21 + Προ της Χριστού Γεννήσεως. Sunday before Nativity Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School Christmas Pageant	22	23	24 Christmas Eve + Orthros 4:30 pm + Nativity Liturgy 5:30 pm (Holy Communion)	25 Christmas Office closed	26 Office closed	27
28 + Μετά την Χριστού Γέννησιν. Sunday after Nativity Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00am	29	30	31 New Year's Eve + Orthros 5:00 pm + Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm Circumcision of Christ & St. Basil		Dance School Glitz and Glamour New Year's Eve Glendi 7 pm	