

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

NON-PROFIT ORG
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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.*

OCTOBER 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

Sons of Pericles

Christo Beckas - 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

GREEK INDEPENDENCE OXI DAY

Sunday, October 26, 2014



Come celebrate with the,
**Greek School of the Assumption of the Blessed
Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church!**

The Greek School Students will be reciting poems.

Please join us, a luncheon will be served right after
church service.

Adults: \$15.00

Children \$8.00

The Assumption Choir

Choir Singers Needed

If you like to sing and are interested in participating in this rewarding ministry of your Church, Please stop at the choir table outside the Church after Sunday's Church Services and speak with one of the choir representatives Or contact Penny Benetatos, Music Director/ Organist (714) 236-0601 or email piniobenetatos@yahoo.com

If you do not read music we can help

THE YOUTH CHOIR is open to grades 2-8. Rehearsals are on Sundays Immediately following Liturgy and the dismissal of Sunday School. REHEARSALS ARE 20 – 25 MINUTES IN LENGTH

Signups begin on Sunday, Sept. 14
The Youth Choir will sing Liturgy on an average of once per month.
The youth Choir will exit with all Sunday School children in order to take Communion and attend their classes.

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH.



I will sing to my Lord as long as I live
(psalm 104:33)



Pastor's Message

Introducing Our Church's New Funeral Directors and Morticians: Terry and Mary Harmon

In working with various corporate funeral companies, we realize that it is important that we have our own Funeral Directors who are personal, care for our parishioners, and know our religious and cultural traditions. Terry and Mary Harmon are the owners of their family owned Funeral Homes. From the comfort of your home you can arrange everything. They are in constant communication with the church and they take care of all the arrangements. The burials can be at any place of your choice and if you have made previous service arrangements, it is transferable to them and they make sure you get more out of your corporate rate package or a return on your purchase. They also arrange the flowers through our Church Florist Katy Georgedes (562-421-2666). As the owners of their Funeral Home, Terry and Mary are there every step of the way and make sure everything is done properly and know the Orthodox Traditions and Greek Customs very well.

Terry and Mary have over 30 years of experience and truly care for the families that they serve. I have personally known the Harmon's for five years and the families whom they have cared for love and appreciate everything they do which is above and beyond.

In fact Terry and Mary Harmon are the preferred morticians and funeral directors of all the Orthodox Churches the Los Angeles, Long Beach Downey, San Gabriel and Orange County area. This is why the Harmon's are the official funeral directors and Morticians of our Church.

All pre-paid Funeral arrangements from other funeral homes are easily transferable. Please call Terry at (626) 893-8859 and you will always reach him directly at any time.

ΓΡΑΦΕΙΟ ΤΕΛΕΤΩΝ ΤΟΥ ΤΕΡΥ & ΜΑΙΡΗΣ ΧΑΡΜΟΝ

Κατά την συνεργασία μας με διάφορα γραφεία τελετών συνειδητοποιήσαμε ότι εξίσου σημαντικό είναι η εκκλησία μας να συνεργάζεται μ' ένα γραφείο τελετών, που να γνωρίζει τη θρησκεία μας, τους κανόνες και τα έθιμα της Ελληνικής Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας. Πάνω απ' όλα όμως να ενδιαφέρεται προσωπικά για τους ανθρώπους.

Ο Τέρυ και η Μαίρη Χάρμον, είναι ιδιοκτήτες της δικής τους οικογενειακής επιχείρησης γραφείου τελετών.

Από την άνεση του σπιτιού σας μπορείτε να κανονίσετε τα πάντα. Βρίσκονται πάντα σε συνεχή επικοινωνία με την εκκλησία και φροντίζουν προσωπικά για όλες τις λεπτομέρειες. Η ταφή μπορεί να γίνει σε όποιο νεκροταφείο εσείς επιλέξετε κι αν είχατε κανονίσει από πριν τις διαδικασίες με άλλο γραφείο, να ξέρετε ότι μπορείτε να τις μεταφέρετε στο γραφείο τους.

Αυτοί στη συνέχεια, θα κανονίσουν να σας επιστραφεί ένα μέρος του ποσού από το πακέτο που είχατε αγοράσει. Κανονίζουν επίσης και τα λουλούδια της κηδείας με την Καίτη Τζωρτζίδου (562-421-2666) που είναι η επίσημη ανθοπώλης της εκκλησίας μας.

Ο Τέρυ και η Μαίρη, ως ιδιοκτήτες του δικού τους γραφείου τελετών είναι εκεί σε κάθε βήμα, ώστε να βεβαιωθούν ότι όλα θα γίνουν κανονικά, βάσει των κανόνων και εθίμων της Ελληνικής Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας.

Η εμπειρία τους είναι άνω των 30 χρόνων και το ενδιαφέρον τους για τις οικογένειες των εκλιπόντων είναι ειλικρινές.

Γνωρίζω τον Τέρυ και την Μαίρη προσωπικά 5 χρόνια, καθώς και οικογένειες που έχουν εξυπηρετηθεί από αυτούς.

Το γραφείο τους έχει προτιμηθεί και συνεχίζει να προτιμάται από τις περισσότερες Ελληνορθόδοξες εκκλησίες στη νότια Καλιφόρνια όπως της Αγίας Σοφίας, του Αγίου Γεωργίου, της Παναγίας και άλλες πολλές.

Για το λόγο αυτό θελήσαμε να γίνει το δικό τους γραφείο τελετών το επίσημο γραφείο τελετών της εκκλησίας μας.

Όλες οι προπληρωμένες υπηρεσίες μπορούν να μεταφερθούν σ' αυτούς. Απλά καλέστε τον Τέρυ στο 626-893-8859 και θα τον βρείτε ανά πάσα στιγμή.

Greetings Panagia Parishioners!

President's Message

Congratulations to all of our Parish Ministries! It is truly great to see all of our ministries back in full swing! Best of luck and we wish continued success to all! Please contact the Ministry Leaders that are located on the inside cover of the bulletin, Fr. Christos or contact Voula at our church office for more information about Sunday School, Greek School, Greek Dance, JOY and GOYA! Be sure to check out our newest and youngest Ministries, Moms & Tots, lead by Elizabeth Syrengelas. Be sure to sign up and don't have your children miss out on any of these great ministries!

Super Congratulations to Dino Syrengelas, Greek Festival Chairman, and to everyone who participated and supported our Greek Festival this year! A very excellent job well done! The preparation, the layout, the food, the entertainment, our wonderful Greek Dance group performances and the great unity was truly exceptional this year!! We were well prepared and ready for a large attendance, as proven when we did have our normal crowd on Sunday evening. We made some significant improvements this year, and again, as discussed at the post-festival meeting, we have additional recommendations and tweaks to make next year's Greek Festival even better! Looking forward to a great Greek Festival next year!

Special Thanks to Maria Georgakopoulos for chairing and organizing two great and successful, fun filled and spiritual learning days for our children at our annual Vacation Bible School.

Special thanks to all of you that answered and paid to date your Stewardship commitment!

Please mark your October Calendars and support the following events:

- Choir Music Ministry, Sunday, October 5th
 - Philoptochos General Assembly Meeting, Sunday, October 12th
- Greek School "OXI Day" Luncheon, Sunday, October 26th

Please mark your November Calendars and please make sure that you come and support our **Fall General Assembly Meeting, on Sunday, November 2nd** following the Divine Liturgy and **Stewardship Sunday, November 16th** following the Divine Liturgy!

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.

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

Ladas, Amelia
Ladas, Charlie & Patty
Lafkas, Peter & Ada
Lambros Mary
Lembesis, Ann
Lembesis, John Jr. & Theresa
Lembesis, Nick & Saskia
Lembesis, Pandalis & 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
Mantikas, Nick & Katherine
Marangopoulos, Jake & Tammy
Marentis, Victoria
Markouizos, George & Argyro
Markouizos, Karlos & Georgia
Markouizos, Markella
Markouizos, Nektarios & 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
Papakoulou, Angie
Papas, Taso & Georgia
Pappas, Victor & Christina
Pappas, Mark & Shari
Paralapanides, Charles & Elenie
Pass, Gus & Toulia
Paulos, Mary
Paulos, Nicholas
Paulos, Todd & Cindy
Paxos, Joanne
Phillips, Crystal
Phoutrides, Neilos & Patricia
Platis, Jim & Kay
Platis, Sam & Laura
Pliaconis, Alexander & Nicole

Polychrones, Jerry & Mary
Polychrones, Speros & Dora
Poulis, John
Richmond, Dan & Doris
Roubanis, Savvas & Jody
Russos, Asimina
Russos, Emmanuel
Salsman, Mel & Andria
Santamarina, Jose & Ronnea
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 & Angelique
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
Sverkos, Pete & Natalie
Syrengelas, Andreas & Niky
Syrengelas, Andreas & Evdokia
Syrengelas, Dino & Dora
Syrengelas, George & Athanasia
Syrengelas, Michael & Elizabeth
Syrengelas, Soteria
Syrengelas, Toulia
Syrengelas, Vasili & Maria
Talaganis, Ernest
Talaganis, John & Kathleen
Talaganis, Nick & Amy

Talieres, 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
Varzak, Darlene
Vasilomanolakis, Francine
Vasilomanolakis, Dr. Mike & Niki
Vassiliades, John
Vlachos, Dino & Helen
Vlahakis, Mary
Vorris, Athansios & Niki
Watkins, Evagelia
Woo-Sam, Maria
Yakos, John & Flora
Zambos, Angie
Zambos, John
Zamvakellis, Nick & Alison
Zarifis, Angie
Zimmerman, Roseann
Zoolakis, Anthony & Kari
Zoumberakis, Stelio & Stacy



*An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church.
Are **you** an active participant in the life of the Church? If not, now is the time to begin.*

Panagia's Stewardship Family as of September 15, 2014

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

Greek School

Greek School is back in full swing after the long summer vacation. We would like to welcome our returning and new students. This month we will be celebrating "OXI Day" Greek Independence Day, on Sunday, October 26, 2014 in the cultural center after church services. Come and celebrate with the Greek school, a luncheon will be served and the Greek school students will be reciting poems in memory of this special day.

Thank you,
Kathryn Condaras, Principal

Greek Dance & Cultural Arts School

Assumption Greek Dance and Cultural Arts School is excited to begin it's 14-15 Season. We have new members on our Board that we would like to welcome they are Patty Ladas (VP) and Yiota Batsaras (Corresponding Secretary). I would also like to welcome back our returning board members Elene Dalkos (\$), Dusty Hanson (Recording Secretary), Paraskevi June and Lainie Kyriakos (Costume Librarians), Anna Simitian and George Karidakis (Historians) and Vickie Demos (Advisor).

Our primary practice schedule is as follows:

Monday - Angeloudakia 6-8

Tuesday Paramithia 6-6:45 and Patriotakia 6-7

Wednesday Olympians 8-10

Sunday Mikra Asteria 3-4:30, Jr Olympians 2-4 and Nea Ellas 6-9.

Double practice times to be determined at a later date.

It is highly encouraged that all dance families are stewards of our church and we expect regular attendance of church services, and participation in other ministries by all of our youth. Kali Arhi to all.

Dina D. Lioulias, President

Little Lambs

We are happy to announce that we have started a new Infants/tots program. It is held every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 am, in the Sunday school rooms on the first floor. We encourage MOMS, DADS, YIAYIADES, PAPOUDES, and any caretakers/guardians to bring children ages 6 months-3 years old to participate. The program will teach songs, stories, dances and crafts related to our Orthodox faith, while building friendships! It will be a fun way to become connected and involved in our wonderful community. Please pass the word along. We look forward to seeing you and making this program a huge success!

Sunday Religious Education

Sunday School is off to a great start. We have approximately 80 students registered and attending all of our classes from preschool through high school. Let's keep the momentum going and come every Sunday to see what your teachers have in store for you.

We are still accepting registrations from students so please sign up and join our Assumption Sunday School family.

Please note that there will be no Sunday School on October 26th in lieu of Greek School celebrating OXI Day.

Sunday School has a new email and it is assumptionlss@yahoo.com. Please send any comments and/or questions to this email.

We had our first Philoptochos Meeting since summer break on September 14th. It was great getting back on schedule and reuniting with all the ladies. Our General Meeting will be held October 12, 2014. Please try to attend.

Philoptochos

Although the 2014 Festival is behind us, I'd like to Thank Olga Stavros and her crew for chairing the sweets again this year. She did a beautiful job. It's hard work, not to mention the heat! Also; Vickie Hennig and Yiota Beckas and their crew for chairing the makings of the sweets throughout the hot summer months. Where would we be without those two ladies? Kathy Condaras; thank you once again for making the Pastichio. Our guests so look forward to it each year. It's impossible to thank everyone without missing a few individuals. So to all those who gave so generously of their Time; Talents and Treasures; a BIG Thank You!

Our backpack project was once again very successful thanks to your generosity. You put BIG SMILES on many faces. WE thank you very much for making it happen.

Our Lovely Ladies of Philoptochos 'Race for the Cure' was again successful. Thank you to all who joined our team this year. Our group keeps growing! We are all striving for the same goal and each of you DO make a difference. For those of you who may still like to give a donation please feel free to approach any of the Philoptochos Ladies for information. It's never too late!

As we move on and anticipate the coming months, we want to encourage ALL of you to take time to participate in all of our upcoming events. I promise you will enjoy every one of them. October 10th & 11th from 9 a.m. to 3p.m. each day brings our Quilters Club once again to our Cultural Center. This guarantees to put you in the Christmas spirit and promises to be every bit as colorful as last year. Our own Cathy Kostallas is a member of the Quilters Club and encourages all of you to come check it out. Plan on Christmas Shopping while you are at it! These ladies who are in the guild are a few of the same ladies who so graciously came and baked throughout the heat of summer for our festival sweets. Let's give back to them for all their hours of help. I know they would appreciate your support.

November 22nd we will once again be hosting "Light the Path". Proceeds benefit Hellenic College Graduates/Seminarians to help eliminate their student loans. "Light the Path" promises to be another Elegant Event. You will not be disappointed! Mark your calendars from now for November 22nd. Venue: Our own Cultural Center. More information will follow.

Also in November; our annual Parish food drive - Turkey/Trimmings/Canned Goods. Not too early to start shopping around for good prices. Bring your items to church and give to Jorge.

December Parties - WE would like to invite each of you to attend any and all events that we sponsor for our outreach projects. Come see for yourself what Philoptochos is all about! Veterans Christmas Party/December 10th; Trinity Childrens Christmas Party/December 17th. We would love to have you join us. Our annual Philoptochos Christmas party is December 14th, 2014. Be sure to save the date! Always a fun day!

Bobbie Soupos, President

Αγιος Γεράσιμος

Greek Column by Voula Michail

Ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος σύμφωνα με τη παράδοση γεννήθηκε στα Τρίκαλα της Κορινθίας το 1506. Ο πατέρας του ονομάζονταν Δημήτριος και η μητέρα του Καλή. Ο πατέρας του ανήκε στην βυζαντινή αριστοκρατία, στη μεγάλη οικογένεια των Νοταράδων. Το βαφτιστικό όνομα του Άγιου Γεράσιμου ήταν Γεώργιος. Ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος μεγάλωσε και μορφώθηκε όπως όλα τα αρχοντόπουλα της εποχής. Στα 20 χρόνια του αποφάσισε να πάει στη Ζάκυνθο που ήταν ένα σημαντικό κέντρο των γραμμάτων της εποχής καθώς παρόλη την Ενετική κατάκτηση υπήρχε εκεί ένας αναγεννησιακός αέρας σε αντίθεση με την υπόλοιπη τουρκοκρατούμενη Ελλάδα.

Η βαθιά σχέση του με την ορθόδοξη πίστη, τον κάνει να εγκαταλήψει τη Ζάκυνθο και να ξεκινήσει προσκυνήματα στα σημαντικότερα πνευματικά θρησκευτικά κέντρα της εποχής του. Πρώτος του σταθμός η Κωνσταντινούπολη και το Οικουμενικό Πατριαρχείο από όπου πήρε και την πατριαρχική ευλογία και αμέσως μετά το Περιβόλι της Παναγίας το Άγιον Όρος. Εκεί, ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος έγινε μοναχός.

Ο πατριάρχης στα Ιεροσόλυμα εκτιμά την προσωπικότητα του Γεράσιμου και έτσι τον κρατάει κοντά του και αναλαμβάνει καντηλανάφτης στον Πανάγιο Τάφο. Στα Ιεροσόλυμα ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος χειροτονείται διάκονος και πρεσβύτερος από τον Πατριάρχη Ιεροσολύμων Γερμανό με το όνομα Γεράσιμος προς τιμήν του Άγιου Γεράσιμου του Ιορδανίτου. Το 1548 ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος αφήνει τα Ιεροσόλυμα για να ένα ταξίδι στην Κρήτη όπου και έμεινε γύρω στα δύο χρόνια. Από εκεί επιστρέφει στη Ζάκυνθο μετά από ένα ταξίδι προσκύνημα που τον έφερε πιο κοντά στο θεό, μετά από 20 χρόνια.

Στη Ζάκυνθο ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος ασκήτεψε σε μια σπηλιά στον Άγιο Νικόλα Γερακαρίου όπου μέχρι σήμερα οι Ζακυνθιοί την ονομάζουν του Αγίου Γερασίμου. Υπάρχουν αναφορές ότι μπορεί να εφημέρευσε στην εκκλησία του Αγίου Λαζάρου. Την ίδια εποχή αυτή έχει γεννηθεί στη Ζάκυνθο και ο Άγιος Διονύσιος και κάποια παράδοση θέλει να τον έχει βαπτίσει ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος. Πάντως το σίγουρο είναι ότι ο Άγιος Διονύσιος επηρεάστηκε από την προσωπικότητα του Άγιου Γεράσιμου που ήταν ήδη πολύ γνωστός στο νησί. Η εποχή της Ενετικής κυριαρχίας είναι δύσκολη και από θρησκευτική άποψη καθώς η καθολική εκκλησία προσπαθεί να αποκτήσει πιστούς από τον ντόπιο πληθυσμό. Ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος αποφασίζει να πάει στη Κεφαλονιά. Ασκητεύει πάλι σε σπήλαιο κοντά στο Αργοστόλι.

Στο σπήλαιο έμεινε για 5 χρόνια και 11 μήνες οπότε αποφασίζει να εγκατασταθεί στη περιοχή των ομαλών στους πρόποδες του Αίνου και να ιδρύσει ένα μοναστήρι. Εκεί αρχίζουν να συρρέουν οι πιστοί για να ακούσουν τη διδασκαλία του. Στη περιοχή των Ομαλών υπήρχε ένα ερημοκλήσι αφιερωμένο στην κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου το οποίο παραχώρησε στον Άγιο Γερασίμο μαζί με τα γύρω κτήματα, ο ιερέας της περιοχής Γεώργιος Βάλαμος το 1561. Ο Άγιος ιδρύει μοναστήρι με το όνομα Νέα Ιερουσαλήμ με την άδεια και την ευλογία του επίσκοπου του νησιού Παχώμιου Μακρή. Από τότε η φήμη του εξαπλώνεται σε όλο το χριστιανικό κόσμο. Μετά από αίτηση του το πατριαρχείο θέτει η μονή υπό την υψηλή του προστασία.

Ο Άγιος Γεράσιμος κοιμήθηκε στις 15 Αυγούστου την ίδια μέρα με την αγαπημένη του Παναγία. Στις τελευταίες του στιγμές στην επίγεια ζωή του ήταν κοντά του όπως αναφέρει η παράδοση, ο πατέρας Ιωαννίκιος, ο πατέρας Γερμανός και η ηγουμένη Λαυρεντία. Οι ιερείς ντύνουν τον άγιο με τα άμφια τα οποία φέρει μέχρι σήμερα και μετά από κατανυκτική εξόδιο ακολουθία στην οποία χοροστάτησε ο Επίσκοπος Κεφαλληνίας Φιλόθεος ο Λοβέρδος, ενταφιάζουν το σώμα του Άγιου Γεράσιμου δίπλα και μέσα στον νότιο τοίχο του Ναού. Η πρώτη ανακομιδή του σώματος του Αγίου Γεράσιμου έγινε 2 χρόνια και 2 μήνες μετά την κοίμηση του, στις 20 Οκτωβρίου του 1581. Οι Ενετοί όμως θορυβημένοι από την αφθαρσία του σώματος του ζήτησαν να ταφεί ξανά ώστε να συμπληρωθούν τα 3 χρόνια. Η δεύτερη ανακομιδή του σώματος γίνεται μετά από 6 μήνες και το αποτέλεσμα είναι το ίδιο.

Γιαυτό το λόγο θεσπίστηκε η κυριώνυμος εορτή του Άγιου Γεράσιμου στις 20 Οκτωβρίου και όχι στις 15 Αυγούστου. Αργότερα όμως οι χριστιανοί γιόρταζαν τη μνήμη του και στην κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου όχι όμως στις 15 για να μην επισκιαστεί η κοίμηση της Παναγίας, αλλά στις 16 Αυγούστου. Η ανακήρυξη της αγιότητας του οσίου Γερασίμου έγινε το 1622.

Announcements

BEST WISHES

CHRISMATION

9/20/14

Dusty Lynn (Dionisia) Hanson

Sponsors: Stella Exacustos,
Georgia Alvertos and Maria Georga-
kopoulos
Congratulations

BAPTISM

9/28/14

Eleni Chrysanthi Syrengelas

Proud Parents: Michael & Elizabeth
Syrengelas
Nonoi: Dino & Dora Syrengelas
Na sas zisei!

St. Gerasimos of Kefallonia Artoklasia & Dinner Dance Fund-raiser

The 30th annual Saint Gerasimos Of Kefallonia Benefit will be held on Saturday, October 18th, 2014 at Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Redondo Beach, CA. The proceeds will support Saint Gerasimos Church in Kefallonia, Greece. The evening will begin with a Paraklisis in the church at 6:30 pm, followed by dinner and dancing in the church hall at 7:30 pm. For more information please contact Tony Kostas at 310-316-0884.

Special "Thank You" to Cathy and George Shweiri for donating one of the Altar Boy's Candle Lanterns to honor their son Austin Michael and to Taso and Georgia Papas for donating the remaining 5 Altar Boy's Candle Lanterns. Your gesture is greatly appreciated.

The Quilt Show Is Coming!

The Los Angeles County Quilters Guild will be holding their Quilt Show here on October 10th and 11th. There will be over 150 beautiful quilts on display. There will be a Silent Auction both days, Raffle Baskets, several vendors, a Flea Market and a gorgeous Opportunity Quilt that will be given away. Refreshments will be sold by Philoptochos ladies.

The Quilt Show hours are 9 to 5 on the 10th and 9 to 3 on the 11th. Come join us to see the wonderful workmanship that our members have put into their quilt making.

Linda Duncan, Quilt Show Chairman

Mosaic Installation: We are happy to announce that the mosaic installation of the two icons in front of the church (both columns), sponsored by George, Vickie, Joanna, Eleni and Chrysta Demos is done and the results are beautiful.

October Prosforo

Prosforo for the month of October is donated by Dora Polychrones. Thank you. If you would like to donate our Sunday prosforo please call the church office.



PANAGIA'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

This is our 16th consecutive year of reaching out to the Long Beach Community by providing "Thanksgiving Meals". This year is no different!

We NEED YOUR HELP if we are going to support this year's needs to feed the less fortunate within our community. Our goal is to provide 150 Thanksgiving Meals which includes a frozen turkey with all the trimmings. WE NEED 150 TURKEYS!

As in the past years, we will again be partnering with our outreach organizations to identify those families with the greatest need/s; as well as within our own community. Needless to say, the need this year is even greater than the past years!

WE really need your help!

We will be accepting frozen turkeys as well as all the trimmings from now through November 23rd, 2014. There will be a Box in the Narthex for the canned/dry goods. Bring the turkeys to the church and give them to Jorge to put them inside the freezer.

For those who prefer not to shop that's ok too. You can write a \$30 check or give us \$30 cash and Philoptochos will do the shopping for you. Make check payable to "PHILOPTOCHOS" marked for Turkey/Thanksgiving.

Shopping suggestions:

*Turkey * Roasting Pan * Stuffing Mix * Gravy * Yams * Potatoes/Corn Bread * Canned Veggies/Fruit * Cranberries * Pumpkin Pie Mix/Crust * Seasonings * Chicken Broth*

Philoptochos would like to "Thank All of You" in advance for making our goal of 150 turkeys/ 150 meals a possibility. End results; WE make 150 Families that much happier!

Any questions contact;
Bobbie Soupos @ 714-307-1488 or
Kathy Bastas @ 714 847-0442

In the year of the Lord - October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Confession 5 pm - 7 pm Paraklisis/Παράκλησις 7pm Greek School 5:30 pm - 7 pm	2	3	4
5 + Β' ΛΟΥΚΑ 2nd Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am National Church Music Sunday	6	7	8 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	9	10 Quilt Guilt Show 9am - 5 pm	11 Quilt Guilt Show 9 am - 3 pm
12 + Των Αγίων Πατέρων. (Ζ' Οικ. Σύνοδος) 7th Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Long Beach Marathon Philoptochos General meeting	13 Office closed (Columbus Day)	14	15 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	16	17	18
19 + Γ' Λουκά. 3rd Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	20 + Γερασίμου Κεφαλληνίας Gerasimos of Cephalonia Orthros 9:15 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	21 Senior Christians Potluck 11:30 am Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm	22 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	23	24	25
26 + ΣΤ' ΛΟΥΚΑ (Δημητρίου Μυροβλήτου) 6th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Greek School OXI DAY Luncheon	27	28	29 Moms n Tots 10:30 am - 11:30 am Greek School 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	30	31	