PALM SUNDAY, A COLT IS NOT A HORSE

John 12: 1 - 18

Very Rev. Timothy G. Bakakos

In coming across an article some time back, a man was giving his recollections about his years growing up in a fundamentalist church that is quite different from our Orthodox Church, meaning it really did not observe the major events of Holy Week as we do with our night by night walk with Jesus Christ as He approaches His crucifixion. In this article, this man writes, “the church I grew up in skipped past the events of Holy Week in a rush to hear the cymbal sounds of Easter.”

We probably can understand this desire by people to want to skip through Holy Week because in many ways, it is a week of opposites. What I mean by that is, Jesus on the cross is death, whereas Jesus risen is life! A Church with its solea and sanctuary stripped bare during this Holy Week can be very depressing, while the Anastasis Service on Saturday evening adorned with the beautiful sights, and smell of lilies, is a glorious and magnificent view! So, I guess it’s easy to understand why some might want to skip ahead through Holy Week to get to the glory of the Resurrection of our Lord. Yet, if we look at the Bible and see more closely how the writers portray the life of Christ, we see that the Bible “actually slows down rather than speeds up when it gets to Holy Week.” What the Church and its people might want to get through quickly, the Bible takes slowly.

Each year, Holy Week presents a challenge for us. I say that because there is so much that happens during the week of Passion, the time from the actual Feast Day of Palm Sunday, to the glorious Feast Day of Pascha. During that long, but meaningful week called ‘Holy Week’, we will be covering everything from Jesus entering Jerusalem to the cries and singing of ‘Hosannas’, through the moment when Jesus was crucified and laid in a borrowed tomb. And if we examine even the name for this day, it reveals our challenge.

We call that day ‘Palm Sunday, but it correctly can also be referred to as ‘Passion Sunday’. It is not “Palm or Passion Sunday,” not even “Palm and Passion Sunday.” Rather, it is both Palm/Passion Sunday, two different subjects jammed up against each other as evidenced in the Gospel Reading that we hear read on that day. It is Palm Sunday because in the morning we are jubilant in celebration of Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem and being heralded as ‘King’. But in the evening on that same day, our Church takes on a more solemn mood as we quickly change gears and begin the long week of Jesus’ passion and walk to His crucifixion.

It’s not surprising that it seems we focus more on the Palms than we do the Passion. Passion represents the pain our Lord suffered for us, and it is sometimes hard for us to come to grips with that. It’s almost natural that we tend to want to avoid it! But the story of Jesus in Holy Week does not end with the Palms. It ends with the Passion, with the death of the innocent Jesus. And, that is not a story of Jesus we love to hear because it is too painful for those of us who believe and call ourselves Christians.

The irony of the Palm Sunday story that we hear in our Gospel Reading on that morning shows how this story ends with a fizzle instead of a sparkle. It begins with elaborate preparations to secure a colt, a small donkey. Jesus then parades into Jerusalem as the crowds cheer Him. He enters the Temple in triumph and then, most curiously, He just looks around and leaves. His day of victory ends, not with a bang, but with a shrug, and that’s the continued on page 2
message for us to take away with us. The true meaning of Palm Sunday can only emerge and become clear to us as we observe what happens to Jesus during the rest of the week.

In our Gospel Reading read on Palm Sunday, we were told that the day begins with Jesus telling His disciples to go into the city of Jerusalem where they will find a colt. But why a colt (a donkey)? If Jesus were to have conquered Jerusalem through might, He certainly could have ridden a fine horse, the animal of war. But instead, in deliberate symbolic fashion, Jesus rides a donkey, the animal of peace. Jesus is doing the equivalent of marching into and conquering Washington, D.C. in a Dodge Neon instead of a Sherman Tank!

But, my dear brothers and sisters, by doing this deliberate act, Jesus is fulfilling a prophecy that we find written many centuries earlier in the Old Testament. Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9: “…..your king comes to you: triumphant and victorious is He, humble and riding on a colt, the foal of a donkey." In this prophecy, we are given that the Messiah would come in peace, and that the triumph of Jesus would come, not through might, but through service. Jesus very carefully planned His entry into Jerusalem by observing every nuance of the Biblical understanding of just Who the Messiah was.

And, as Jesus neared the great city of Jerusalem, the crowd called out, HOSANNA!" They people are caught up in the moment, and Jesus is experiencing a groundswell of support as the crowd both leads and follows. At this point Jesus could have done most anything, but refuses to use His power for wrong. Jesus knew Who he was. And that is what is important for us to see as well: Jesus knew Who he was!

The Palm Sunday parade was a prelude to Good Friday, not an end in itself. It was the opening act, per se, of what was to come later in the week. The Blessed Cross of Jesus Christ, from the beginning of Great Lent, actually from the moment we are born for that matter, is the central reason and integral object of this march into Jerusalem and through the Passion Week. This single week represents the primary purpose for which Jesus had pointed His life towards! When we look at the Cross of Jesus later that week as He is hung like a common criminal on Holy Thursday evening, we find ourselves moved as the forces which put Jesus to death over 2,000 years ago still, in many respects, are the similar evils that continue to attack our society today.

The Cross of Jesus reveals the reality of sin that is all around us. The reality of evil was evident in Jesus’ day that the only ones who remained and were with Jesus when He died were the disciple John, and a few women, including His own mother, the Panagia. The Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God, experienced a parent's worst pain...to outlive your own child.

If we examine the events that took place on Good Friday, there would be very little in it that would want us to call it good in any way because there is ‘much pain’ in the events on that solemn and sad day. But yet, we do still call it GOOD Friday. What's so good about it? Well, we can look to our own tradition and be proud of how we interpret the view of Good Friday and why we do look at it as good as well. We have a most beautiful tradition in our Greek Orthodox Faith. On the few days leading up to the Resurrection of our Lord, how do we say goodbye to someone? We depart with the exclamation of KALI ANASTASIS" (Good or Happy Resurrection), not on PASCHA Sunday, but on the days leading up to and including Good Friday. As Orthodox Christians who know and understand our faith, we anticipate, with conviction and hope, the glorious resurrection of our Lord.

And, herein lies the miracle. God took the worst the world could do to Jesus, and made it a good. If Good Friday reveals the reality of Sin, then Easter Sunday cancels the power of Sin. Saint Paul wrote that even though Jesus was In the form of God, He emptied himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." That is the meaning of ‘"KALI ANASTASIS.....Good (Happy) Resurrection”. At Easter, hope is resurrected because through the greatest act of humility, Jesus’ death and resurrection assured us that life beyond the grave IS true. We say KALI ANASTASIS because the disciple Peter betrays the Lord, but finds forgiveness from God even though he sold out and denied he ever knew Him! We say KALI ANASTASIS because the doubter Thomas has his doubts answered. And, we say KALI ANASTASIS because Mary Magdalene weeps outside the grave when she sees Her Master hung and killed on a Cross, but is comforted when she sees that He truly IS resurrected.
Palm Sunday

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My dear brothers and sisters, Pascha (Easter) is the season of hope. Palm/Passion Sunday is two emotions felt and experienced in one day…ecstasy and agony jammed up against each other, which is the enigma of life. We go from high to low, and are called upon to have faith, even when that faith seems illogical.

Finally, Palm Sunday is most definitely linked to Pascha Sunday. Saint Paul said it so well when he writes, “God exalted Jesus and gave Him the name above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bend…and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.” Those acts turned defeat into victory, and insured that death does not have the last word which allows us, as Greek Orthodox Christians, to confidently proclaim the wish and hope of a KALI ANASTASIS.

Each year, our priests encourage us not to avoid the journey of Great and Holy Week and only attend on Holy Friday, and again for the Anastasis Service on Saturday evening, and think that we have properly took part in and completed our Lenten and Pascha experience. Let us not rush to hear the cymbals of Pascha without all the stories and events in between Palm Sunday and Pascha.

This year, as we again approach this Palm Sunday and the most important days following called ‘Holy Week’, we undoubtedly will have our own struggles with good and evil. God loved this world enough to send His Son of Peace for our sake and for the saving of our soul. My dear brothers and sisters, use this Holy Week as spiritual food for your soul. Use each of those nights to stay with Christ, to walk with Him, suffer with Him, so you may come to realize more fully, the gift that Jesus Christ gives to us and that is LIFE EVERLASTING!

+ Amen

Parish Council President…

President’s Report
By Dean Sarantos

The Parish Council for the 2013 to 2014 term has met three times as of March, and we welcome our new members, Chris Caprio and Nick Mansour. Your current Parish Council includes the following individuals:

| Father Timothy Bakakos | Father Athanasios Papagiannis |
| Dean Bastounes | Tom Poulos |
| Diane Berbas - Secretary | Dean Sarantos – President |
| Chris Caprio | Peter Spyropoulos |
| Andrew Kanel – Executive Vice President, VP Order, Community Service & Outreach | Dr. Stavroula Spyropoulos |
| James Lakerdas – Parliamentarian | Joann Stavropoulos |
| Chris Limperis – Treasurer | RoseMarie Stewart - Community Service & Outreach |
| Nicholas Mansour | John Vassiliades |
| Dr. Peter Panton – VP Endowment & Finance | Bill Vranas |
| Theodore Pappas - VP Maintenance | Jack Woods - VP Stewardship |

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Parish Council President…

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We are fortunate to have a group of such diverse and talented individuals to serve on this body. If you would like to learn more about serving on the Parish Council, please let me know. Incidentally, it is possible to be appointed to the Parish Council in the middle of a term if there are open slots (and we do have some).

Sunday, January 20th saw another successful Stewardship Brunch with Ted Pappas at the helm in the kitchen. I enjoy this time we take each year to acknowledge and celebrate our commitment of time, talent and treasury to Assumption’s ministries. Our Godparents’ Sunday event on February 10th was another well-attended event, as was our March 10th Apokreatiko Glendi – a big thank you to everyone who made these events a success. Congratulations to the recently-formed Greek Dance Troupe on their debut performance at the Glendi – well done! Many thanks also to Soula Boudros and her crew for preparing the delicious Annual Lenten Meal on Clean Monday and also to the anonymous donor who made it possible for the proceeds from the meal’s ticket sales to be directed to International Orthodox Christian Charities (I.O.C.C.) and the Assumption Community Service and Outreach ministry.

As I write this report, the elevator project is nearing completion. I would like to thank Tom Collis and the Elevator Committee for their leadership and perseverance in this endeavor. The desire to have an elevator as another means of access from the street level to the main church and St. Catherine’s has been discussed and debated for many years. To get to this point was no small effort, and it is gratifying to see it becoming a reality.

It was suggested to me that as I am not a life-long member of this community, I should offer a few introductory words. In brief, I grew up in northern Indiana, and attended church at St. Andrew’s in nearby South Bend. My wife, Tina, and I moved to the near western suburbs in the mid-1990s and now together with our son, George, have been members at this vibrant and historic Assumption parish ever since. It is my privilege and honor to serve as your president, and I thank the many individuals who have already provided much support and encouragement in the first few months of my term.

Lastly, I wish you a Lenten season full of spiritual growth and renewal, and look forward to celebrating Pascha with you all.

Philoptochos…

Philoptochos News
By Nancy Pilafas

It is difficult to believe that we are in the Lenten period of the year. Soon winter will be behind us and we can look forward to springtime and all the beauty it brings.

In January, we celebrated the cutting of the Vasilopita and with the support of all stewards attending services in the main church and our chapel, Philoptochos was able to send $750 to our Metropolis for the benefit of the children residing at St. Basil’s Home in Garrison, New York. We are truly grateful for your never-ending generosity.

Two Sundays in February we sold Loukoumades during our fellowship hour. We thank everyone who supported our mini-fundraiser.

Our Pajama Party Glendi was held on March 10th. The next newsletter will have photos and a recap of what is ALWAYS a fun-filled event for the young and young-at-heart!!

St. Demetrios in Elmhurst hosted the Metropolis Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 30th. This event is always an uplifting experience and many women took advantage of the information the speakers shared as we all prepare for Pascha.

A general meeting and Lenten lecture was presented by Father Athanasios on Thursday, March 21st in St. Catherine’s meeting room at 10:30 AM. We are grateful for the opportunity to attend and enjoy the morning with our Philoptochos sisters.
Philoptochos...

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Please mark these dates on your calendar and attend as many of the following as your schedule allows:

**April 18**th- general meeting

**April 20**th - baking in Plato Hall for our Easter Bake sale- 9:30AM

**April 27**th - meet in St. Catherine’s meeting room to package orders for the bake sale

**April 28**th - Easter Bake Sale- pick up orders in St. Catherine’s meeting room after Divine Liturgy

**May 3**rd - decorate the Koucouklion for Good Friday services in the main church at 10:00 AM

Our Philoptochos board wishes all our stewards a most blessed Lent in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord.

*Moments Captured During the Philoptochos Apokreatiko Glendi 2013*
Is St. Patrick an Orthodox Saint?

By Father Athanasios

Each time around the middle of March, I often get asked the following question: “Is St. Patrick an Orthodox Saint or is he just a saint for the Catholics and Protestants?” To this I respond by saying, “Yes, St. Patrick is an Orthodox saint. We’ve celebrated his life for more than seventeen centuries now.”

The Orthodox Church celebrates this popular, but little known saint on March 17, the same day the Western Christians do. While we do not hold parades or engage in what has sadly become some of the rituals of the day, we still honor him as a sanctified or holy individual.

St. Patrick is known as the apostle of the extreme West and was born in the year 383, in what is today Great Britain. We know that he came from some good roots as his grandfather was a priest and his father was a deacon of the Church. Our tradition says that when St. Patrick was sixteen he was captured by pirates and sold in Ireland to a landowner who set him to look after his flocks on the mountain. St. Patrick spent those days of his youth living a life of penitence, kneeling daily on ground that was either frozen or sodden from the rain and feeling little discomfort, so filled was he with divine consolations.

After six years of captivity he heard a voice that said: “You have done well to fast and pray; God has heard your prayer. Go now back to your own land, your boat is ready!” After walking some two hundred miles, St. Patrick arrived at a port and set sail on ship of pagan merchants. Three days later they landed on a deserted island and set off to find habitation. After wandering for nearly a month and close to starvation, the crew asked St. Patrick to intercede with God to save them. As soon as the young Christian raised his hands in prayer, a herd of pigs appeared and the men were able to feast.

St. Patrick eventually made it back home and was briefly reunited with his family. However, shortly afterwards, it was revealed to him that his mission was to become ordained and evangelize to the barbaric people who lived Ireland, the place where he was originally held hostage! Following God’s will, St. Patrick returned to Ireland, traveled the land was even able to convert the Kings of Dublin and Munster, and the seven sons of the King of Connaught. Our tradition credits St. Patrick with teaching the Irish about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, by showing people the shamrock a three-leafed plant, using it to illustrate the Christian teaching of three persons in one God. For this reason, shamrocks are a central symbol for St. Patrick’s Day. Due to its green color and overall shape, many viewed it as representing rebirth and eternal life.

One of the great aspects of St. Patrick’s life was his ascetical manner of life. It’s been said that throughout his busy travels, St. Patrick never omitted the observance of his daily rule of prayer which consisted of the recitation of the entire Psalter. Before entering into rest, it had been revealed to him beforehand by God, St. Patrick undertook a last tour of inspection. Noticing a bush beside the road that was burning without being consumed, he went up to it and heard and angel telling him, among other promises, that it would be for him to judge the people of Ireland on the Last Day. St. Patrick fell asleep on March 17, 461.

St. Patrick’s day is a national holiday in Ireland because of the great impact St. Patrick had on the Irish people. Because of this all people, secular and Christian, celebrate it in their own manner, some of which, of course, aren’t very Christian.

As we enter into great and holy lent, let us follow this holy man’s example and strive live soberly and prayerfully as we continually open our hearts to God’s will.
Scholarship Announcement...

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REGULATIONS

NAME

The official name of this committee shall be Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Scholarship Committee.

OFFICERS

The Scholarship Committee shall consist of a Chairman, selected by the Parish Council President and Stewards in good standing appointed by the Chairman for a period of two years.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The guidelines by which the Scholarship Committee shall abide are the following:

A. Numbers and amount of Scholarship:
   The number of scholarships to be granted to graduate and undergraduate applicants and seminarians, from high schools, colleges universities, graduate schools and the amount paid for each scholarship shall be determined by the Parish Council.

B. Applications:
   Interested applicants shall obtain from the church office an application prepared by the Scholarship Committee. Each applicant must complete and mail the application to the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee no later than April 30 in order to be eligible for funds for the following fall term.

C. Report to the General Assembly
   The Chairman of the Scholarship Committee or his/her authorized representative shall be required to give a complete report to the general assembly consisting of: Number of Applicants, Name of recipients, College or University attended, Amount of each gift

SCHOLARSHIP RULES

A. Undergraduate Students:
   • The applicant or one of his/her parents or legal guardian must be a member of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church for at minimum the last four (4) years immediately prior to the application year.
   • Scholarships are awarded on the basis of scholastic ability.
   • The applicant must be enrolled in or accepted by an academically accredited college/university or Orthodox Seminary.
   • The scholarship application form must be accompanied by:
     - For high school graduates an official high school transcript, letter of acceptance from an accredited college/university, and recommendation letters from two (2) high school faculty members. For college graduates, a letter of acceptance from an accredited graduate school and an official college transcript. For students already in college or graduate school, an official college transcript of the previous year (two semesters or three quarter). All extra curricular activities must be recorded on official transcript or otherwise documented. The scholarship is given for one (1) school year. A student may receive the scholarship twice provided that he/she maintains a GPA of at least 3.0 and is fully matriculated. However, the student must reapply and comply and comply with all scholarship rules. The scholarship recipient who drops or withdraws from any courses, resulting in less than full-time curriculum will not be eligible to receive the scholarship the following year.

B. Graduate Students/ Seminarians:
   1. Rules and through above apply to graduate students and seminaries students as well.
   2. A graduate student may receive the scholarship only once.
   3. The graduate student must be a “full-time” student as defined by the particular institution involved.
Stewardship List Jan. and Feb. 2013...

MR JOHN ALEXANDER
MRS GEORGIA ANALITIS
MS CONSTANCE ANDREWS
MS DEMETRA ANDREWS
MRS GEORGIA APOSTOL
MRS FRIEDA ARAVOSIS
MS CAROL ARGYRAKIS
MR & MRS GEORGE ARVANITES
FATHER TIMOTHY G. BAKAKOS
DR & MRS GEORGE ARVANITES
MR & MRS GEORGE ARVANITES
MRS OLGA BANCROFT
MR & MRS DEAN BASTOUNES
MR & MRS JOHN BELTRAMO
MR & MRS GEORGE BERBAS
MR & MRS DONALD BIANUCCI
MR & MRS WILLIAM BLATHRAS
MRS SUSAN BOARDEN
MR & MRS STEVEN BOKIESS
MR & MRS LUCAS BOLCHERT
MR & MRS MICHAEL BORKOWSKI
MR MICHAEL BORNHORST & MRS ELLY LLOYD
MR ANGELO BOULOUGOURIS
MR GEORGE BOULOUGOURIS
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER CAPRIO
MR & MRS DAN CARAS
MR JAMES CARONIS
MRS CATHERINE CATCHFORES
MR. & MRS. MITCHELL CELIK
MR & MRS GEORGE CEPEK
DR & MRS NICHOLAS CHIPAIN
MR CHRIS CHULOS & MRS TANJA CHULOS-SAARINEN
MR & MRS ANDREW COLLIS
MR THOMAS COLLIS
MS MARISSA CUMMINGS
MRS JULIA CUTSUVITIS
MR PAUL CUTSUVITIS
MR JOHN DADES
DR & MRS WILLIAM DAGIANTIS
MRS BESSIE DAKURAS
MS ANASTASIA DAMOLARIS
MS MARTHA DAMOLARIS
MR & MRS STEVE DAMOLARIS
MR & MRS JAMES DARRAS
MR & MRS DEAN DARRUS
MR THOMAS DARRUS
MR BILL DELIGIANNIS
MR & MRS BILL DEMAKIS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS DEMOS
MR & MRS THOMAS DEMOS
MRS ANN DERVIS
MR GEORGE DERVIS
MR & MRS WILLIAM DIAMANT
MR & MRS EMMANUEL DIMTRAKOPOULOS
MS KATHERINE DOUKAS
MS BASILLE EFANTIS
MR & MRS JOHN ELLIS
MS THEODORA ELLIS
MR & MRS PANTAZIS FILIS
MR LEE FORRES
MRS MARY FOTOPoulos
MR GEORGE GALANOPoulos
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER GANAS
MR & MRS ANTHONY GARBIS
MR & MRS JERRY GARBIS
MRS SHIRLEY GATZIOLIS
MRS JUNE GECAN
MR JAMES GEORGALAS, SR
MR & MRS NIKOLAOS GEOFFRENITIS
MRS PERI GEOFFRI
MRS IRENE GERAKRIS
MR NICK GERAKRIS
MR & MRS MARIA GLOTSOS
DR & MRS CONSTANTINE GODELLAS
MR & MRS JOHN GOLDSBERRY
MR JOHN GOUVAS
MR & MRS DOUGLAS GREEN
MR JOHN GRITSONIS
MRS HELEN GROM
MR & MRS JAMES HARTZ
MR JAMES HATZIS
MR RAYMOND ISAAC
MRS MARIA KAMBEROS
MR ANDREW J. KANEL
MRS CHRISTINE KANEL
MS HELEN GEORGE KANEL
MR JAMES A. KANEL
MRS MEROPH KANTZAVELOS
MR & MRS CHRIS KAPETANIAS
MRS PATRICIA KARABAS
MRS THALIA KARABIS
MR & MRS ANTHONY KARAS
MR & MRS GLORIA KAROS
MR & MRS ERNEST KARRAS
MRS MIA KASIMOS
MR & MRS CHRIST KATES
MR & MRS DANIEL KICKERT
MR & MRS SPYROS KOKOLIS
MR & MRS THOMAS KOSTAS
MR & MRS JAY KOTT
MR & MRS WALTER KOTT
MRS GEORGIA KOUMELIS
MS SOPHIE KOUTSELAS
MR & DR PETER KOUVELIS
MR & MRS MATTHEW KOZIL
MS EUGENIA KRIKES
MRS HELEN KRIKES
MRS BESSIE KUCHURIS
MRS KYRIAKI LAGON
MRS DEMETRA LAKERDAS
MR JAMES LAKERDAS
MR & MRS JAMES LEAKAKOS
MRS DENA LEVADITIS
MR CHRIS LIMPERIS
DR JANICE LIMPERIS
MS THERMA LOUCES
MR & MRS ILIAS LOULOUSIS
MR & DR DEAN MAGGOS
MR LOUIS MALEVITIS
MR & MRS DEAN MAMALAKIS
MR GEORGE MANIATIS
MRS HELEN MANIATIS
MR & MRS GEORGE MANIATIS
MR & MRS THEODORE MANIATIS
MRS CATHERINE MANOS
MR & MRS NICHOLAS MANSOUR
MS KATHERINE MAROS
MRS JOAN MAROUTOS
MR & MRS THOMAS MASSOURAS
MS JANE MAXOURIS
MRS HELEN MIHAIL
MR & MRS GEORGE MILLER
MR & MRS JAMES MILLER
MR & MRS THOMAS MITROPOULOS
MR & MRS TIMOTHY NASH
MS PHYLLIS NICHOLAS
DR & MRS SABIN OANA
MR & MRS FRANK PAGANIS
MR & MRS LARRY PALMISANO
MRS FRED PANAGOS
MR & MRS THOMAS PANOFF
MR & MRS VASILIOS PANTAZIS
DR & MRS PETER PANTON
DR & MRS ROBERT PANTON
MR & MRS DIONYSIOS PAPAFOTOPoulos
DR & MRS STEVEN PAPAGIANNOPoulos

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Stewardship List Jan. and Feb. 2013...

MRS ANITA PAPANEK
MRS GEORGIA PAPPADIMITRIOU
MS ANASTASIA PAPPAS
MS CHRISTINA PAPPAS
MR GEORGE PAPPAS
MR & MRS THEODORE PAPPAS
MS VIVIAN PAPPAS
MR & MRS GEORGE PARRY-PATERAKIS
MS KATHERINE PATRINOS
MRS MARION PENESIS
MRS GEORGIA PETREE
MRS RITA PIETRZYK
MS ANN PILAFAS
MS NANCY PILAFAS
DR & MRS CONSTANTINE POLITIS
MS ESTHER POLYDOROS
DR PETER PONTIKIS
MRS BEATRICE POTAMIANOS
MRS DIANE PSARRAS
MS GEORGIA PSICHOGIOS
MS KEKE RAFTELIAS
MS MARY RAFTELIAS
MS TERRY RAFTOPOULOS
MRS HELEN RAPTIS
MR & MRS JAMES REGAS
MR PETER REGAS
MR & MRS RAYMOND RIHA, JR
MR AND MRS RAYMOND RIHA, SR
MR SPRYROS RODITIS
MRS IRENE ROMBAKIS
DR & MRS WILLIAM ROUMAN
MR & MRS KEN RUBENSTEIN
MR & MRS DEAN SARANTOS
MS MARIA SCHMIDT
MR & MRS NICK SCOURLETOS
MR GEORGE SEFER
MR ROBERT SEFER
MR & MRS GEORGE SIOMOS
MS SOULA SKOKOS
MR & MRS KOSTA SKOULIKARIS
MRS POPE SKOULIKARIS
MRS VIOLET SKUTERIS
MR & MRS GEORGE SOULELES
MR & MRS HARRY SOUMAKIS
MR & MRS NICK SPYRIDAKOS
DR & MRS BASIL SPYROPOULOS
MR & MRS PETER SPYROPOULOS
DR STAVROULA SPYROPOULOS
MRS LILLIAN STAMAS
MISS JOANN STAVROPOULOS
MR & MRS PAUL STAVROPOULOS
MS KONSTANTINA STAVROU
MRS ROSE MARIE STEWART
MRS JANICE STRATIS
MS JOANNE STRATTON
MR & MRS MATHIEU SUSSMAN
MR & MRS PETER SUTTERLIN
MR & MRS JOHN SZUBERT
DR CHRISTOS TAKOUDIS & DR MARIA FOUSTALIERAKI
MS ANASTASIA TEROVOLAS
MISS CRYSTELLA TEROVOLAS
MR & MRS SCOTT THOMAS

DRS. NICK & ELAINE THOMOPOULOS
MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL TIERNEY
MR & MRS YANNI TOLE
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
MRS HELEN TOULIOS
MR JOHN TRAHANAS
MR & MRS JAMES TSIOLIS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS TSIRIBAS
MRS KATHERINE TZOUNIS
MRS ARITA VALESSARES
MR & MRS PETER VALESSARES
MR & MRS JOHN VASSILIADES
PAULINE VAVASIS
MR & MRS ALEX VICKAS
MR & MRS PETER VLAGOS
MR & MRS JOHN VLHOS
MR & MRS PETER VLHOS
MR & MS THOMAS VOLLMAN
MS MARIA VOUGLARIS
MR & MRS BILL VRANAS
MRS ALKISTIS WONAI
MR & MRS JACK WOODS
MS MARY ELLEN WOODS
MRS MARIKA XINOS
MR & MRS CONSTANTINE YANNIAS
MRS ELAINE YANNIAS
MS TRACY YANNIAS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS ZOGRAFOS

Stewardship...

2011-2012 Stewardship Trend

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Parish Happenings...

Volunteers at the Greater Chicago Food Depository

A group of twelve volunteers of all ages spent the afternoon of Saturday, March 2nd, at the Greater Chicago Food Depository to help address the problem of hunger in our community. The Assumption team, including Father Athanasios and Presbytera Katerina, joined forces with volunteers from other churches and community organizations to pack 2,500 pounds of rotini pasta into two pound bags and place them into cartons for distribution to the hungry throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. Thank you to everyone who participated in this fun and worthwhile event!

Save the Date, May 20, 2013 Assumption Church 1st Annual Golf Outing!
Monday, May 20th, Noon till Dark

Includes: Lunch, Dinner, 18 holes of Golf, and Door Prizes, Prizes for Longest Drive, Longest Putt, and more!
$125.00 per Player / Hole Sponsorships Available
Maple Meadows Golf Course, Addison, IL

If golf is not your game, join everyone for dinner, $40 per person.
For more information or to register please contact:
Chris Caprio (773) 383-7160 / cjcaprio@msn.com or
Christine Simms (630) 795-9956 / cjcaprio@comcast.net

Parish Registry 2013

December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012

BAPTISMS
Son of Nick and Harriet Senese was Baptized, taking the name Panagioti,
Godparent: Mark Brillakis

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD
+ Peter (Panagiotis) Karkazis  + Bertha Zapantis  + Peter (Panagiotis) Tragos

MEMORIALS
1 Year:
Mary (Maria) Petenes
George Paganis
Thomas Maggos

2 Years:
Efterpi (Irene) Kaldis

5 Years:
Nick Mestousis

12 Years:
Magdalene Dervis

58 Years:
Mary Dervis Sothras

27 Years:
Alexandra Dervisis

46 Years:
Vasilios Dervisis
**BAPTISMS**

Son of Daniel and Effie Kickert, was Baptized, taking the name *Saranti*,
  Godparent: Helen G. Kanel
Son of Harry and Eva Soumkinis, was Baptized, taking the name *Socratis*,
  Godparent: Dean Darrus
Daughter of Nick and Maria Tsagaris, was Baptised, taking the name *Gabrielle*
  Godparent: Jamie Scudiero

**WEDDINGS**

Andrea Sefer and Michael Tierney were joined in Holy Matrimony.
  Sponsor: Robert Sefer

**FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD**

+ Kosta Kouimelis
+ Anastasia (Stacy) Peters
+ Catherine Stavropoulos
+ Martha Sellas
+ Demetra Coston
+ George Georgiou
+ Diane Psarras

**MEMORIALS**

40 Days:
- Frances (Efthemia) Kuchuris
- John C. Molls
- Bertha (Panagiota) Zapantis
- Peter (Panagiotis) Tragos
- Kosta (Constantinos) Kouimelis

5 Years:
- John Ferguson

6 Years:
- Nicholas Levaditis

15 Years:
- Aspasia Vasiliades

20 Years:
- Efestatious Nicholas

43 Years:
- Alexandra Kokos
Important Upcoming Dates:

Monday, April 8th
Great Compline Service
6:00 pm

Wednesday, April 10th
Presanctified Liturgy
9:00 am

Thursday, April 11th
Book Club Meeting at the
Pan Arcadian House
7:00 pm

Friday, April 12th
4th Salutations to the Theotokos
7:00 pm

Saturday, April 13th
Annual Youth Lenten Retreat
9:15 am

Sunday, April 27
Palm Sunday

Sunday, May 5
Pascha