CELEBRATE GREAT LENT THE ORTHODOX WAY

Very Reverend. Timothy G. Bakakos

My Dear Parishioner, Supporter, and Friend of Panagia,

It seems like we just celebrated the joyous Birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and we find our Holy Orthodox Church has already turned its attention to the preparation weeks in February known as the ‘Triodion Period’, and soon will usher in the start of Great and Holy Lent on Monday, February 27th.

Great Lent, as we well know, is the season of the Church year leading up to the Feast of Pascha (Easter). And accordingly, Great Lent has traditionally been a time of penitence and self-denial, of prayer and meditation, of cleansing, and also of renewal. It is a time, as our Sunday Gospel Readings so beautifully instruct us through the weeks of the Triodion Period, to seriously take stock of our lives.

So often, the following question is asked many of our people: What is the proper way to celebrate Lent? Is it to give up chocolate? Is it to spend endless hours on our knees? Is it to wear glum expressions on our face? How shall we celebrate this holy season in accordance with our Faith, and how does our God want us to prepare ourselves?

On Cheese-fare Sunday (the day before Great Lent begins), we read the Gospel Reading from Saint Matthew (Chpt 6: 14-21), and it records the words of our Lord about this very subject. Jesus says, “Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father Who is in heaven.” In this passage, Jesus is cautioning His followers against public displays of religiosity, but He is also telling us how to celebrate Great Lent…with genuine "acts of righteousness."

Jesus is expecting us to not live the same lifestyle yesterday (before Lent) than we will as we enter Great Lent. Rather, He is expecting a change within us….these ‘acts of righteousness’ as He refers to them. But what are these acts of righteousness? Well, Jesus explains it to us further in Saint Matthew’s Gospel that is read on Cheese-fare Sunday. Jesus says, “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, in order that they be honored by men.” Here we are told the first act of righteousness that we are to adopt: give to the needy…not publicly…but still give…without all the doxamania and megalomania.

We are so blessed here at Panagia to see and witness the very generous in your giving and support to those in need and to needy organizations through your commitment of time, talent, and treasure. As we grasp a better and clearer understanding of Christ’s message about Christian Stewardship, we will see and experience the joy in doing God’s work and will know that our Lord is pleased with our desire in glorifying His Name through our ‘good works’.

We need to help our fellow brothers, sisters, and parishioners who may be experiencing a ‘hardening of the heart’ when it comes to giving to the needy. To some, it seems the more we have, the harder it is for us to share. Jesus’ instruction to us during this Great Lenten Season tells us to do it in secret, and not as a show of piety, but still, we are expected to give.

Almsgiving (Stewardship) in Jesus’ day was a public affair, with Temple officials going around to houses to collect offerings, and people giving public offerings in the synagogues. It has changed in the mainstream Christian Churches, as Jesus has
CELEBRATE GREAT LENT THE ORTHODOX WAY, Continued

continued from page 1

directed, to **not** to make a show of our charity. But still, we are directed by God to give to those less fortunate than us. The season of Great Lent that is at our doorstep offers us that excellent opportunity for us to find someone in need, and without fanfare, to share with them…and it doesn’t always have to be monetary. Wouldn't Jesus be elated if each of us resolved this Lent to do something between today and Pascha to make someone else's way a little easier? What a way to celebrate Great Lent! Giving to the needy is, to use Jesus' words, an “act of righteousness”. That is a good way to commit ourselves on mind, heart, and soul to this period of Great Lent.

**A SECOND IMPORTANT AND VERY MEANINGFULLY WAY TO PREPARE DURING GREAT LENT IS THROUGH PRAYER.** “And when you pray,” says Jesus, *do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, Who is unseen. Then Your Father, Who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.*

I don't think many of us have to worry about putting on a show with our aggressiveness in over-praying. In fact, just the opposite is most likely true. We probably do not pray enough. And that is sad. Prayer does make a difference, but we don’t place enough faith in the real power of our prayers, do we? Prayer is a fascinating phenomenon. Prayer is an act of righteousness, so therefore, prayer must be an important ingredient of any preparation of Great Lent. And it is my hope and suggestion that before we enter the Great Lent of our Holy Orthodox Church (which commences on Monday, February 27th), we resolve with God's help to spend a certain amount of time between now and Easter in prayer.

**THE FINAL ACT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT JESUS LISTS HERE IS THAT OF FASTING.** Jesus says, *‘When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, Who is unseen; and your Father, Who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.’*

Finally, in Holy Scripture we see several purposes for fasting. Our Bible says that it is part of the discipline of self-control; it's a way of declaring that we depend on God alone and draw all our strength and resources from him; it's a way of focusing totally on God when seeking his guidance and help, and of showing that you really are in earnest in your quest; it's also, at times, an expression of sorrow and deep repentance, something that a person or community will do in order to acknowledge failure before God and seek His mercy.

Too many of us tend to think of fasting as going without food. But it also involves all of our senses. We are to fast from *anything* and *everything* that causes us to distraction from time with God in our Lenten preparation. If we love music and decide to miss a concert in order to spend time with God, that is fasting. There's nothing magical about fasting. It is just one way of telling God that your priority at that moment is to be alone with Him, sorting out whatever is necessary, and you have canceled the meal, the party, the concert, or whatever else you had planned to do in order to fulfill that priority in preparing your body and soul properly.

Remember, when you fast, be humble. The whole point of it is that it is not to be done for show or ego. As we proceed during the Triodion Period and on through our journey of Great Lent, I ask that you take stock of yourselves. Look to fine tune and change what you know needs changing in order to make you a better Christian and disciple of Jesus Christ. Be diligent in your preparation for the glorious resurrection of our Lord. Respond to calls for help by giving and doing acts of righteousness: give to the needy, pray, and find some way, whether it is fasting or giving up something that is precious to us, to show that God comes first in our lives. If you haven’t started as yet, it’s not too late. Start living during Great Lent the way Christ wants us to live year-round.

+ A M E N
Parish Council President...

Welcome Message and News for 2017
By James Lakerdas

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for allowing me to serve as Parish Council President. I am honored by the faith you have placed in me and promise, that along with my fellow council members, we will take into account each of your interests on the many challenges and issues we will face during the upcoming year.

This year we have fresh faces on the Parish Council who bring with them new and exciting ideas on how we can accomplish our communities goals. You will also see a new emphasis on our Stewardship programs. The full Council recently participated in a 2 day stewardship workshop sponsored by our Archdiocese. We will be encouraging everyone to become practicing Stewards, not just in time, talent and treasury, but to also become active participants in the life of our church.

We also hosted a Special General Assembly to discuss once again the future of our Festival. While this issue was discussed and decided on at the Fall General Assembly, since then we had heard from many stewards that they did not feel that they had an ample opportunity to voice their concerns. The choice of whether to hold a festival rests with the Community, not the Parish Council. For that reason we met to decide the issue again. Also at the last Assembly there was concern regarding how the Parish Council makes financial decisions regarding non essential projects. In response the Council has passed a motion capping certain projects, and requiring projects that are in excess of $20,000, to have General Assembly approval. We all need to remember that this is OUR community. Just as we are all looked upon to support OUR community we all have a voice on how best to meet OUR goals.

Please note that the Parish Council would like to know what ideas or issues you have. I want to hear from you regardless of how large or small your concerns, questions or suggestions. This year lets pledge to ourselves to help Assumption prosper and grow in 2017.

Please feel free to email me anytime at jlakerdas@gmail.com.

I wish everyone a wonderful and blessed winter season.

Stewardship News
By Voula Spyropoulos and Mary Zouras

Our community has had the wonderful opportunity to begin receiving training from our Archdiocesan Stewardship Training Program headed by Mr. George Vourvoulas and Mr. George Matthews. Our parish council and all our Ministry leaders met for our first training weekend on January 20-22. It was a fruitful weekend that commenced with celebrating the Divine Liturgy together on Stewardship Sunday, January 22nd, after which Mr. George Matthews inspired our congregation with a presentation of the meaning of true Christian Stewardship.

We learned that Stewardship is a way of life modeled after the greatest steward of all - Christ. True Christian stewardship is living every aspect of our lives in gratitude for all the gifts we have been given. We are blessed that our faith gives us so many worship services that help us pray and thank God for all our gifts. We are also blessed to have ministries within our parish and archdiocese that helps us serve our brothers and sisters.

We also had a successful second stewardship training the weekend of February 24th and 25th at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center.

If you would like to get involved in our ministries of our parish and if you have any ideas for new ministries that will further serve our community, please speak with Fr. Timothy and Fr. Dimitrios.

We thank you for your support!
We hope everyone is off to a happy, healthy new year. We are more than halfway through winter! Thanks to everyone who donated coats, our One Warm Coat drive provided 135 coats to people in need. The Georgopoulos family delivered the coats to Ark Ministries. A lovely baby shower was enjoyed by our parish after church Sunday, Jan. 29 with many well wishes delivered to Fr. Dimitri and Presvytera Danielle. We can’t wait to meet Baby Burikas! The membership drive has been underway during coffee hour for several Sundays—please be sure to show your commitment by completing your dues payment. Men are also welcome as associate members!

We hope everyone enjoyed the Apokreatiko Glendi sporting your favorite college apparel in preparation for the NCAA March Madness. This was a fun, family oriented evening. The kids danced the night away. Great Lent is quickly approaching and starts Monday, February 27th.

There are some dates to remember in the coming weeks and months:

- **March 11**: Saturday, Metropolis Philoptochos Lenten Retreat at St. Demetrios, Chicago.
- **March 12**: Loukoumades Sunday—warm, delicious loukoumades will be available during coffee hour
- **March 16**: General meeting, St. Catherine’s Meeting Room, 10:30 a.m. with a Lenten lecture by Fr. Dimitrios
- **April 8**: Saturday: Baking in Plato Hall for the bake sale, after Saturday of Lazarus Divine Liturgy.
- **April 9**: Sunday: Palm Sunday and bake sale.

“Go Red for Women” celebrated at Assumption on Sunday, February 5th in recognition of Women’s Heart Health. Heart disease is a serious health concern for many women, often with silent signs.

We also were excited to see so many people at this year’s Apokreatiko Glendi. Many of you were sporting your favorite college apparel in preparation for the NCAA March Madness. It was a fun, family-oriented evening, and now we’ve moved into Great Lent.

We wish you a Blessed Lent, Kali Sarakosti!
During the second weekend of January, I attended the Metropolis of Chicago Family Synaxis Women’s Retreat. Also in attendance from our parish were Betty Tsiolis, Evelyn Maggos, Tina Kozil and Jeanne Jurasek. In addition, there were approximately 30 women present from parishes in the Chicago Metropolitan area as well as from Indiana and Wisconsin. The retreat was held at the Saint Iakovos Retreat Center in Wisconsin and was led by Cynthia Damaskos.

Ms. Damaskos is a Christian Holistic Health Coach who strives to honor God, mind, body and soul. She is a former Evangelical Christian who is an Orthodox convert. She brought a fresh and heart-felt perspective to our Orthodox faith. The retreat’s discussions emphasized the importance of a well-balanced life. Topics included stress reduction, choosing the right foods to fuel our bodies, and the importance of sleep and exercise. Ms. Damaskos offered many ideas and resources to implement a healthier lifestyle. For example, our first exercise emphasized that daily prayer and meditation can really sharpen our focus and organize our thoughts. Also, she gave us many nutritional suggestions on various health topics. For instance, starting each day with water and lemon can help lower blood pressure, aid digestion, cleanse the liver, benefit joints and muscles, alkalize the body and is a powerful antioxidant. Yet another health topic contrasted the difference between good fats (such as olive oil, coconut oil, grass fed meats and butter) and bad fats (vegetable oils). Ms. Damaskos also stressed the importance of sleep which may improve memory, balance hormones, and reduce inflammation. She mentioned that inflammation in the body is the root of disease, and that a plant-based diet is best for our bodies. It’s interesting that our church also advocates a plant-based diet when we fast.

The retreat was an educational and inspirational day for me. I enjoyed meeting the other attendees and listening to their perspectives on matters that affect us in our daily lives. All in all, it was a worthwhile experience and a great way to start the new year.

Trivia Night!

Two teams from Assumption participated in a Trivia Night sponsored by the Metropolis of Chicago Department of Religious Education on Thursday, February 3rd. They enjoyed dinner and fellowship along with serious trivia competition. Fr. Dimitri was on the “Men In Black” Metropolis clergy team which won first place. Do you know the only state that does not have a rectangular flag? We do, now!
LENT AND THE HOMeward JOURNEY OF THE PROdigal SON
By Fr. Dimitri Burikas

“But when he came to his senses he said, ‘I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you…”’ And he arose and came to his father.”

These words found in Luke 15 tell not only the story of the Prodigal Son but our own stories as well. Lost in a strange land without any friends or family, hungry to the point of starvation, poor to the point of poverty, the Prodigal had before him two options: continue living in the same way and die or return to the house of his father and live.

Even though we may not feel like we are in such dire straights as the Prodigal, the reality is often that we have more in common with the unfortunate young man than we think. Just like the Prodigal Son ended up in a country far from home, we too find ourselves far from our spiritual home: Paradise. Paradise is humanity’s home country, where we were created to live and be in union with God. But what happened? Humanity -- Adam and Eve -- chose to dishonor their Father to live according to their own desires (sound familiar?). And just like the Prodigal, Adam and Eve were cast out of their homeland to live in a far away country.

Just like the Prodigal turned his back on his father when he asked for his inheritance and left, we continue the “tradition” of turning our backs on our Father whenever we sin. Every sin on our souls, great or small, is a step away from God and our homeland. The more and more we sin, the farther and farther away we travel from our Father in Heaven. Even scarier is the thought that we may not even know how far away from God we are and that one day we will wake up, like the Prodigal, and find ourselves on the brink. That’s because our sins strip our souls of spiritual wealth and leave us hungry and poor like the Prodigal.

And so, whether we realize it or not, we often find ourselves in a situation very similar to that of the Prodigal, jealous of the pigs for the slop they are eating. When we come to our senses and realize what is going on, we also have two choices lying before us. Just like the Prodigal, we can either continue on living in the same way or we can turn ourselves around and go home. We can resign ourselves to death (the eternal kind of death) or we can choose to live (the eternal kind of life).

We call “turning ourselves around and going home” repentance. The Greek word for repentance is μετάνοια, which literally means “turning the mind”. In repentance, we turn away from the sinful life we fall into and turn back to God, our Father. On our return home, we find our merciful Father waiting with open arms to embrace us, place a fine robe around us, place a ring on our finger, and kill the fatted calf to eat and make merry.

Great and Holy Lent, then, is an invitation to experience both the repentance and the joyful homecoming of the Prodigal Son. Through increased prayer, fasting, almsgiving, confession and avoiding sins to the best of our abilities that we undergo during Holy Lent, we take steps back towards God and His Heavenly Kingdom. We “come to our senses” and live our lives in a God-pleasing way. We find that where once we were starving and on the brink of death, through Lent we are renewed and filled with life.

Let us, then, embark on this journey back to our homes along with the Prodigal Son.

Though the road is long and difficult, when we reach the end we will experience the Lord’s Resurrection as the Prodigal experienced his own homecoming, and chant aloud with a full heart, an open mind, and a pure spirit: “It is the day of resurrection, O you peoples rejoice!”
Youth Ministry...

College Care Packages
By Fr. Dimitri Burikas

This December, our Sunday Church School continued its Happiness Challenge by sending care packages to college students at our parish that live away from home. In each package was a card signed by both parish priests and a variety of snacks for the students to enjoy before their final exams.

The goal of the project was for each college student to know they are loved and cared for by our Panagia community. May God bless them throughout their college years to grow not only in knowledge but in faith and love for our Lord Jesus Christ.
Sunday School News...

Starting the Year off Right
By Christina Arvanites

This year started out full speed ahead for our SCS!

January was busy with each class having a Vasilopita cutting, open houses and of course several service projects that were sure to make others Happy! In February, our SCS hosted our annual Godparents Sunday. Immediately following Divine Liturgy Godparents accompanied their godchildren to class and this special day ended with a breakfast in our hall. Many thanks to all the parents that helped make this event a true success!

February also included a few class open houses and Valentines that the children made for the children at La Rabida Hospital. There was also an overnight GOYA retreat at the St. Iakovos Retreat center which included fun, fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

Below are some photos from our most recent events!

Looking ahead the next few months promise to be even busier as we embark on our Lenten Journey.

Join us on Saturday, March 11th at 9:30 a.m. for an instructional class on how to make Prosfora.

RSVP: 773-626-3114

Lunch and fellowship immediately following the class.
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<tr>
<th><strong>Parish Happenings...</strong></th>
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### CHURCH CALENDAR  
THROUGH PASCHA AND BRIGHT WEEK 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Saturday, April 8</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday of the Resurrection of Lazarus</strong></td>
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- 8:30 a.m. Matins (Όρθρος)  
- 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία) Main Church

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<tr>
<th><strong>Palm Sunday, April 9</strong></th>
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| 8:30 a.m. Matins (Όρθρος)  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία) and  
Sunday Church School in St. Catherine Chapel  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία) Main Church  
Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon following services |
| 7:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom |

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<th><strong>Monday, April 10</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great and Holy Monday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom</td>
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<th><strong>Tuesday, April 11</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great and Holy Tuesday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom</td>
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<th><strong>Wednesday, April 12</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great and Holy Wednesday</strong></td>
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| 2:30 p.m. Sacrament of Holy Unction  
7:00 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom |
| Holy Unction will be distributed after the service. |

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<th><strong>Thursday, April 13</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great and Holy Thursday</strong></td>
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| 9:00 a.m. Vespers and Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil  
7:00 p.m. The Holy Passion of Our Lord |

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<th><strong>Friday, April 14</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Great and Holy Friday</strong></td>
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| 9:00 a.m. Reading of the Royal Hours  
3:00 p.m. Removal of Christ from the Cross  
7:00 p.m. Service of the Lamentations |

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<th><strong>Saturday, April 15</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great and Holy Saturday</strong></td>
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| 9:00 a.m. Vespers and Divine Liturgy  
11:00 a.m. Canon of the Holy Resurrection |

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<th><strong>Sunday, April 16</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOLY PASCHA</strong></td>
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| 12:00 Midnight Resurrection Service and Divine Liturgy  
11:00 a.m. Vespers of the Feast of Agape |

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<tr>
<th><strong>CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BESTOWING LIFE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>This is the Day, which the Lord hath made,</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Let us rejoice and be glad in it.</strong></td>
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<th><strong>Tuesday of Bright Week, April 21</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Feast of Panagia Portaitissa</strong></td>
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| 8:30 a.m. Matins (Όρθρος)  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία) |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Friday of Bright Week, April 21</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zoodohos Peghe - The Life-giving Fountain</strong></td>
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</table>
| 8:30 a.m. Matins (Όρθρος)  
9:30 a.m. Divine |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Monday, April 23</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saint George the Great Martyr</strong></td>
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| 8:30 a.m. Matins (Όρθρος)  
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy (Θεία Λειτουργία) |
Parish Happenings...

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago
Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries Announces:

GREAT ESCAPE WINTER CAMP

HUMILITY

“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled,
and whoever humbles himself
will be exalted.”
Matthew 23:12

March 10th-12th
@ The St. Iakovos Retreat Center

Grades 6th-11th
Bus transportation will be provided
COST: $155/camper

Limited to 50 spaces
Register online at www.chicago.goarch.org
Deadline: March 1st

If you have any questions, please, contact Deacon Chris Avramidopoulos
at 312-337-4130 or gochicagoyouth@aol.com
Parish Happenings...

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church • Chicago, IL

2017 Lenten Retreat

My Lenten Treasure Map

Saturday, March 18th

9am-2pm

For Grades Pre-K through 8th

Lunch provided

RSVP by 3/15 to Fr. Dimitri at
frdimitrios@assumptionchicago.org
Stewardship... Jan. 1, 2017—Feb. 06, 2017

MR STEVE AGOS                                      FATHER & PRESVYTERA DIMITRIOS BURI-KAS                  MRS BESSIE GANGAS

MRS GEORGIA ANALITIS                                MR & MRS GARY CALLAHAN                                    MR & MRS ANTHONY GARBIS

MS HARA G ANAST                                      MR & MRS DAN CARAS                                           MS CHRISTINE C GEANON

MS CONSTANCE ANDREWS                                DR & MRS NICHOLAS CHIPAIN                                  MRS JUNE STAMOS GECAN

MS DEMETRA ANDREWS                                   MR & MRS CHRIS J CHULOS                                    MR & MRS ANDREAS GEORGAS

MRS GEORGIA APOSTOL                                  MR & MRS ANDREW COLLIS                                      MR & MRS NICOLOAS GEORGIAFENTIS

MS CAROL ARGYRAKIS                                   MR THOMAS COLLIS                                                MRS IRENE GERAKARIS

MR & MRS GEORGE ARVANITENES                         MR & MRS JAMES CONNER                                            MR NICK GERAKARIS

FATHER TIMOTHY G. BAKAKOS                           MR JOHN DADES                                                  MRS CHRISTINE GIANNOLUS

DR & MRS MICHAEL BAKALIS                             MS ANASTASIA DAMOLARIS                                        MS ALEXANDRA GILROY

MR & MRS DEMITRIOS BEJANIS                           MS MARTHA DAMOLARIS                                             MS ANDRIANA GILROY

MR & MRS JOHN W BELTRAMO                             MR & MRS JAMES DARRAS                                          MR P GERASIMOS GILROY

MR & MRS GEORGE BERBAS                                MR BILL J DELIGIANNIS                                      DR & MRS PHILIP GILROY, JR

MRS KATHERINE BIANUCCI                                MR & MRS DIMITRIOS G DEMOS                                    MRS MARIA GLOTSOS

MR & MRS BRIAN BIRKLAND                               MRS ANN DERVIS                                                   DR & MRS CONSTANTINE GODELLAS

MRS SUSAN BOARDEN                                     MR GEORGE DERVIS                                                   MR & MRS DOUGLAS GREEN

MR & MRS LUCAS IATRIDES                              MR & MRS EMMANUEL DIMITRAKOPoulos                            MR JOHN Grittsonis

MRS GARIFALIA BOLOS                                  MR & MRS JAMES FACKLIS                                          MRS HELEN GROM

MR & MRS MICHAEL BORKOWSKI                           MRS MARY FOTOPOULOS                                               MS FRANCINE D HARVALIS

MR & MRS. MICHAEL H BORNHORST                       MR & MRS RICHARD FRITZ                                         MR JAMES HATZIS

MR JAMES S BOUNARDJ                                   MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER GANAS                                       MR & MRS PETER IATRIDES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRS BARBARA JAVARAS</th>
<th>MR JOHN KRILLIES</th>
<th>MR &amp; MRS TIMOTHY NASH</th>
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<tr>
<td>MR &amp; MRS JAMES M KAEMERER</td>
<td>MR JAMES LAKERDAS</td>
<td>MS PHYLLIS NICHOLAS</td>
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<td>MR ANDREW J. KANEL</td>
<td>MS MARIA LAKERDAS</td>
<td>MR VINCENT NICHOLAS</td>
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<td>MRS CHRISTINE T KANEL</td>
<td>MR CHARLES G LAMPROS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS LARRY PALMISANO</td>
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<td>MR JAMES A. KANEL</td>
<td>MRS JOAN L LEAKAKOS</td>
<td>MR PETER J PANOS</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS CHRIS KAPETANEAS</td>
<td>MR CHRIST N LEKOUSIS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS KOSTAS PANTAZIS</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS PETER KAPSALIS</td>
<td>MR GEORGE LEMPEOTIS</td>
<td>DR &amp; MRS PETER PANTON</td>
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<td>MRS PATRICIA KARABAS</td>
<td>MRS DENA LEVADITIS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS DIONYSIOS PAPAFOTOPOULOS</td>
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<td>MR PETER G KARAHALIOS</td>
<td>DR JANICE LIMPERIS</td>
<td>DR &amp; MRS STEVEN PAPAGIANNOPOULOS</td>
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<td>MR JOHN KARASI</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS JOHN LINARDAKIS</td>
<td>MS ANASTASIA PAPPAS</td>
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<td>MRS GLORIA KAROS</td>
<td>MR ILIAS LOULOUSIS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS THEODORE PAPPAS</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS ERNEST KARRAS</td>
<td>MR &amp; DR DEAN MAGGOS</td>
<td>MS VIVIAN PAPPAS</td>
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<td>MRS MIA KASIMOS</td>
<td>MR LOUIS G MALEVITIS</td>
<td>MS KATHERINE PATRINOS</td>
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<td>MRS SALLY ANN KATES</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS DEAN E MAMALAKIS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS MARK PATTERSON</td>
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<td>MRS ALICE O KOPAN</td>
<td>MR GEORGE C MANIATES</td>
<td>MRS MARION PENESIS</td>
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<td>MRS GEORGIA PETREE</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS THOMAS KOSTAS</td>
<td>MRS CATHERINE N MANOS</td>
<td>MS NANCY K PILAFAS</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS DINO KOTSOVETIS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS NICHOLAS MANSOUR</td>
<td>MS AMELIA POCINA</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS WALTER J KOTT</td>
<td>MRS POLYXENI MANTZAKIDES</td>
<td>MRS ELAINE PONTIKIS</td>
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<td>MS SOPHIE KOUTSELAS</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS THOMAS MASSOURAS</td>
<td>MRS HARITINI POULOS</td>
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<td>MR &amp; MRS MATTHEW KOZIL</td>
<td>MR &amp; MRS GEORGE MILLER</td>
<td>MRS NIKI POULOS</td>
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Stewardship... Jan. 1, 2017—Feb. 06, 2017

MR & MRS THOMAS J POULOS  MR GEORGE SEFER  MISS CRYSTELLA TEROVOLAS
MS GEORGIA A PSICHOGIOS  MRS ATHENA J SOULIDES  MRS KATHERINE TEROVOLAS
MS KEKE RAFTELIAS  MR & MRS HARRY SOUMAKIS  MR & MRS PETER TESTA
MS MARY RAFTELIAS  MS ERICA SPEAR  MRS FOTIS THEODORE
MR CHRIS RAFTOPOULOS  MR GEORGE SPIRRISON  DRS. NICK & ELAINE THOMOPOULOS
MR & MRS LOUIS RAFTOPOULOS  MR & MRS NICK SPYRIDAKOS  MR AND MRS MICHAEL TIERNEY
MS TERRY RAFTOPOULOS  DR & MRS BASIL SPYROPOULOS  MR & MRS YANNI TOLE
MR ALEXANDER RASSOGIANIS  MR & MRS PETER SPYROPOULOS  MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER D TORCHIA
MR JOHN RASSOGIANIS  DR STAVROULA SPYROPOULOS  MR JOHN E TRAHANAS
MR & MRS JAMES A REGAS  MS JOANN STAVROPOULOS  MR & MRS JAMES TSIOLIS
MR PETER L REGAS  MR & MRS JOHN STEC  MS ANNA G TSIRONIS
MR & MRS RAYMOND R RIHA, JR  MR. & MRS. BRIAN STEINHAGEN  MRS VASILIKA G TSIRONIS
MR AND MRS RAYMOND RIHA, SR  MRS ROSE MARIE STEWART  MR & MRS PETER VALESSARES
MR & MRS JEFFREY ROBERTS  MR & MRS MATHIEU SUSSMAN  MR GERASIMOS VASILATOS
MR AND MRS PETER ROMAS  MR & MRS PETER SUTTERLIN  MR & MRS JOHN VASSILIADES
MR & MRS SOSTI ROPAITIS  MRS MINA SYREGELAS  MR & MRS PETER VLAGOS
DR & MRS WILLIAM ROUMAN  MR & MRS JOHN SZUBERT  MR & MRS CONSTANTINE P VLAHOS
MR & MRS KEN RUBENSTEIN  MRS SEVASTI TAGARIS  MR & MRS PETER J VLAHOS
MR & MRS DEAN G SARANTOS  DR TAKOUDIS & DR FOUSTALIERAKI  MR & MS THOMAS VOLLMAN
MS MARIA SCHMIDT  MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR  MR & MRS PETER VOUGLARAKIS
MRS DENISE SCOURLETOS  MS ANASTASIA TEROVOLAS  MR WILLIAM WOODS

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Parish Registry… Dec. 4, 2016—Feb. 6, 2017

**BAPTISMS:**
The son of Andrea and Michael Tierney was Baptized, taking the name, *Benjamin*
**Godparent:** Lukos Vodantis

The son of Harry and Eva Soumakis was Baptized, taking the name, *Leo (Leonidas)*
**Godparent:** Angela Sourounis

**ARTOCLASIA**
The Artoclasia was offered for the health and well being of the Nicholas Family and the Stewards and faithful of the Panagia Parish.

**MEMORIALS**

**40 Days:**
Penelope C, Lageotakes
Maria Papagannopoulos
John Lamperis
George Syregelas
Tom (Athmantios) Poulakidas (Poulos)
James (Demetrios) Sepsis

**1 Year:**
Dr. John H. Panton
Arita Valessares
Soula (Athenasia) Boudros

**2 Years:**
Aimilios (Emile) Mantzakides

**5 Years:**
Chris Lageotakes
Constantinos (Gus) Tsironis
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Dates to Remember:

March 11th
“How to Make Prosfora” Instructional Class,
9:30 a.m. - Plato Hall

March 18th
Annual Youth Retreat, 9:30am – 2:00 pm

March 12th
Adult Education Presentation (Fr. Demetrios),
St. Catherine Chapel

March 20th
Adult Bible Study, St. Catherine Meeting Room

March 25th
Feast of the Annunciation of The Panagia
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

March 26th
Family Worship Sunday (One Liturgy in Main Church)

March 31st
Akathistos Service

April 3rd
Adult Bible Study, St. Catherine Meeting Room

April 8th
Saturday of Lazarus
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.

April 9th
Palm Sunday
Palm Sunday Luncheon following Worship Services

(For Complete Holy Week Schedule, please refer to page 9 of the Newsletter)