As you will gather from my sermons in Church throughout the pre-lenten season, what we call in our Holy Orthodox Church, the Triodion Period leading up to Great Lent, we have been given examples through the Gospel Readings about various virtues and themes to reflect upon. This Lenten Season allows us to incorporate these virtues into our lives while we prepare for the glorious Feast of Pascha. Among these examples were themes were humility, forgiveness, repentance, judgment, fasting, and prayer.

My talk this for this newsletter, which falls during this Great Lent Season, is taken from the Epistle Reading that is read on the Fourth Sunday of Lent (March 29th). We are told in this Epistle Reading of the virtue and need for “patience” which God instructed Abraham to acquire. Many times we have been told that patience IS a virtue.....perhaps one of the greatest virtues, in fact! And, by possessing this virtue which he asked Abraham to have and acquire, God promised, in return, to multiply the seed of Abraham and bless him with many offspring and descendents. But, there was a catch.....Abraham had to exhibit and exercise patience before he would receive his blessing promised from God. And his patience lasted for 25 years before God blessed him with his son called Isaac. Abraham was an old man by this time....his wife was barren, and certainly well past the childbearing years...but Abraham waited patiently, trusting in the promise made to him by God.

That seemed like an a lot to ask of Abraham, don’t you think? How would we have fared if we were asked by God to do the very same thing? Where does our patience level fall into when we are asked to be so? In our lifestyles in this Community, is there an “Abraham” amongst us today that would wait patiently 25 years for anything? Would we even bother to wait 25 days, or 25 minutes for that matter? Many of us possess a “I can’t wait” attitude, so indicative of our society, that encourages us to seek immediate gratification and pleasure and selfish results upon demand. We are an “instant society”....from instant foods and stereos and T.V.’s, to instant destruction through our bombs, to instant “turn-ons” through drugs, to instant sex, or abortion, divorce, and even suicide.

So, naturally our society and culture question when God would dare expect us or anyone to be “patient”, and wait for 25 years as Abraham did in waiting for his prayer to be answered. Are you patient? Do you understand and know what true patience is? Probably not!

Are we patient in the education of our children? Do we see that they are exposed to events and ideas that encourage them to grow in mind and soul?

Are we patient enough to respond humbly to a fellow man or woman, not losing our cool, or bullying them in order gain the upper-hand or advantage?
Are we patient like the handicapped man or woman confined to a bed or wheelchair or walker, yet still give thanks to God for their blessings and bearing quietly their hardships with a smile?

Have we forgot our patience as a small child learning to walk, falling again and again, yet trying, improving until one day he walks without falling?

We need to re-acquire patience because the vast majority do not possess it...we demand immediate attention when and how we feel like it! We need to be patient with ourselves and others. First, we need to be patient with our failings and disappointments, never giving in to despair or self-pity; patient enough to rise again and ask God to give us the humility and spirit to lean more firmly on Christ than on men.

And secondly, we need to be patient with others....with our children, our parents, our relatives, our friends, our co-workers, our fellow parishioners, our priests and our bishops. We need to be more patient in the way some people treat us when we are insulted, gossiped about, lied to, and accused. And also, we must remember that anger does not give us the license or right to swear and threaten other people. As someone once said, “an insult is like mud......it will brush off much better when it is dry”! In dealing with insults and gossip and lies, waiting for things to cool off and the true facts to surface is not only showing patience, but very wise as well. God doesn’t want us to be doormats...but He does want us to stand up for truth and to smash sinners who hurt good people and His Church. But how we respond determines how we understand the true understanding of what it is to be a Christian and disciple of Jesus.

Finally, there is NO better role model for patience than Jesus...for He IS our model to follow. In the Gospel of Saint Mark 12: 1-11, we are given the parable of the marvelous and extreme patience of God.

“In this parable, the Lord (landowner) of the vineyard sent his servant to collect the rent from the tenants; but when he arrived, the tenants beat him. So, the Lord sent a second servant....and they stoned him! The Lord sent a third servant, and they killed him! Finally, the Lord said, ‘I will send my beloved son....surely they will respect him! But, the tenants killed him too”!

Obviously this parable is about God, who sent His Son Jesus to earth only to be killed by us. God is a patient, loving God: sending prophet after prophet, hoping that someday His people will listen and repent! This is what faces us as we come closer to Holy Week and to the Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Having given His only Son for us, having done all that He can, God waits patiently for us to turn to Him.

My dear brothers and sisters, patience is an acquired virtue which each of us must work for to attain. We are not innately given it at birth, because we are born with sin. You don’t buy it.....it is not a gift that you can receive without working for it! We must work for it by being understanding.....by being more forgiving......and by being more trusting.

Patience is an acquired virtue, but it is not a human achievement. It is a virtue that we receive when we live in and for Jesus Christ! And, it is only through suffering, through pain, through our belief and love in Christ, that we can look upon His children with that virtue of patience and love that He expects from each of us. Is God patient with us? You better believe He is....otherwise we all are doomed! Patience…try it…it’s the right thing to do!

+ A M E N
Parish Council President…

President’s Report
By James Lakerdas

As we enter 2009, the challenges in the stock market, and so many sectors of our economy fill most of us with a sense of uncertainty and worry about our future. These challenges affect all of our lives in large and small ways, and we all need to adjust plans and decisions in light of new economic realities. The Parish Council has been grappling with these financial realities. Because each year we set budgets in the fall of the preceding year, we need to make prudent assumptions and provisions for the Church’s finances, even though the reality is very fluid.

Assuming careful stewardship of our resources, our overriding concern is what is best for the Assumption Community in light of our mission, both in the present and in the future. With this in mind here are a few of the challenges we have to contend with.

- Because of the age and nature of our building, it is more costly to keep up than many comparable churches. Last year, with the approval of the AQS lease, we were able to defer much of the operating cost associated with the school building to our new tenant. However, there still is work to be done in the church itself.

- This year we plan to work hard to scrutinize budgets and reduce costs where possible. Salaries and benefits and other fixed costs are hard to change. We will look at each line item carefully. We will defer purchases and maintenance projects whenever possible.

- The decline in the stock market has also caused our endowment fund to decline about 30%. Our experience has been no different than any other well-managed endowment. While we normally do not draw off of our endowment for operating cost, our safety net and a crucial component of our financial future has been affected. We will continue to monitor the markets and shift investment as we deem necessary.

- We are aware that certain Assumption families are affected unevenly. Please rest assured that we are here to assist you. We are starting a year round food pantry. If you or a relative or friend is in need, please contact Father Timothy or Father Athanasios. If you are a family whose circumstances have changed in other ways, please let us know. We will do everything possible to help you.

- We are also exploring other possible revenue streams. We were recently contacted regarding leasing one of our empty lots. The leasing of the lot would not only provide us with additional funding, but we will also secure the use of another facility for programming. While this project is at a very preliminary stage; it could provide additional security for years to come. I will continue to keep you apprised of any new developments.

I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and for the real sacrifice you make for our Panagia Community. Thank you for the support of your “time, talent, and treasures,” (each according to your means and circumstances), without which this wonderful, truly special community would never be possible.
Philoptochos...

Current Events
By Nancy Pilafas

Loukoumades Sundays
On Sunday, March 8th and 22nd, our Philoptochos will be selling the delicious, sweet, honey puffs that are always so popular in the wintertime. Make sure to stop by and purchase some to go with your coffee during Fellowship hour. Then, take a box or two home to snack on later in the day. It will be a long time until they're back again during church festivals.

Lenten Retreat
Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Merrillville, IN. will be hosting the Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos Annual Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 14, 2009. Registration and Continental Breakfast begin at 9:00 am. There will be an Orthros service and a presentation on the subject of "Hope and Change-The Church and Society in the 21st Century". This will be presented in both English and Greek by Father David Bissias and Father John Artemas. Lunch will be served after a short Sixth Hour Service. Please see Violet Skuteris or Nancy Pilafas if you are interested in attending.

General Meeting
There will be a meeting in St. Catherine's meeting room on Thursday, March 19th at 10:30 am. All our Lenten activities will be discussed. We need your assistance in baking koulourakia for our Easter Bake Sale. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

Easter Bake Sale
Our yearly Easter Bake Sale will be held on Palm Sunday, April 12th. Look for order forms in the Narthex and in Plato Hall so you can order your breads and sweets for your Easter table. You will be able to pick up your order in St. Catherine's meeting room after liturgy on Palm Sunday.

Good Friday
The Philoptochos women will be assisting in the preparation of the Epitaphio for this most solemn day in our church. Feel free to join us as we prepare the flowers that adorn the Epitaphio. We welcome your help and invite you to stay for the afternoon church service.

May Meeting and Elections
Mark Thursday, May 21st on your calendars. There will be a general meeting at 11:00 am. after Divine Liturgy for Sts. Constantine and Helen. Elections will take place at this meeting. Please attend and vote for the future of your Philoptochos. Refreshments will be served.

The Philoptochos Officers and Board wish you and your families a Blessed Pascha. May you be showered with good health and all the Lord's blessings. We truly appreciate your constant help and support. KALO PASCHA!!
Sunday School...

Sunday School Update
By Christina Arvanites, Sunday School Director

Isn’t it hard to believe our Sunday School Year is more than half way over? It seems like just yesterday we all gathered in Plato Hall for our Welcome Back kickoff celebration with cotton candy, popcorn and fun for all. As the old song says “We’ve only just begun”.

We still have a few more fun filled events but more importantly we still have several weeks of Sunday School. Some students are set to achieve Perfect Attendance and some on track for Faithful Attendance (2-4 absences).

A few of our events are just around the corner, March 14th is our Lenten Retreat, lots of fun and fellowship, March 21st is the Family Synaxis Retreat, and let’s not forget our involvement in Junior Olympics and attending Liturgy in the Park – both of which are always fun for the whole family.

A formal welcome to all of our new families, you are a delightful addition to our Sunday School program and our Beloved Panagia. If anyone has any comments or suggestions for enhancing our Sunday School program, you are encouraged to let me know. Thank you for your continued support.

Maintenance Committee...

Assumption Church Maintenance Update
By George Arvanites, VP Maintenance

Greetings from the desk of the maintenance committee. As everyone is well aware, this winter has been particularly challenging for our community with extremely cold temperatures and significant snow falls. During the inclement weather our church has been able to provide the heat requirements necessary for our Monday through Friday use as well as all of our Sunday services. Our Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) needs have been closely monitored under a new service agreement which provides cyclic preventative maintenance and on-call services as requested. Our service provider, Delta Controls, has been overseeing the maintenance needs for our boilers, radiators and thermostats for almost a year now. Our church has aged over the years; therefore the requirements have increased for behind the scenes maintenance to keep up with the demands of our facilities. Volumes of “thanks” to Gail and the office staff for coordinating literally a hundred service calls to the many contractors to make this all happen.

For those of you who have noticed the excavation recently made in the parking lot adjacent to Plato Hall, this was required as part of a repair to our main sanitary sewer which exits from Plato Hall to Harrison Street. On two separate occasions the clay tile pipe installed many years ago collapsed and ultimately was replaced with “modern” storm sewer piping. Corrective actions were made and within two days approximately 50 feet of new sewer line was installed and brought up to current standards.

Many of you have noticed how the limestone front stairs leading into our church have started to erode and that only the top stair has been replaced thus far this due to weather conditions and some scheduling conflicts. Likely in March we will have the remaining limestone stairs installed after our awning is taken down for the season. In addition to replacing portions of our roof shingles, we have also replaced several of the gutter downspouts at various locations around the church. Please be patient with our maintenance issues we are all working together to maintain and update our Beloved Panagia. If there are any suggestions anyone in our community would like to make, please stop by on any Sunday and see me, I welcome your input.
Once again our Holy Church has entered into the Blessed period of the Great Lent. I say blessed period because during this time we take a moment to know ourselves better. The Church uses the spiritual tools to help us know ourselves especially through the holy sacrament of Holy Confession. If we take a moment to think then we realize that all the feasts that we celebrate in our ecclesiastical calendar are opportunities for us to change our life as we play with the words in Greek from AGRIOS (wield) to become AGIOS (saint). As you see the difference is only one R and it is up to us to find the way to remove it. For that reason I said that the sacrament of the Holy Confession gives us the opportunity to take responsibility but also to ask for forgiveness.

Repentance is the changing of the mind. When Adam and Eve were inside the heaven and before the fall their mind was only to God. They communicate with God and they felt the love from the Father. As we know from the book of Genesis Adam and Eve they were tempted by the evil. Basically the evil through the seeds as it always does. They accepted the temptation by the evil and they agreed to eat from the forbidden tree. From that moment that they agreed basically they accepted another thought against God and they became double minded. It is exactly what happens to us that we become double minded. We experience this in every aspect of our life. We go towards God but also we find all the excuses (temptations, weakness) and then very good reasons to step back. Let us take for examples Sunday morning how many reasons we find to not go to church? All of us we tempted.

The Church through the Holy Sacraments tries to help us to find our way, to change our mind towards God. The church takes the sinners and transforms them to Saints. The Church must use the medication according to the illness and in the case that we have disobedience now we must have obedience. I know in the world that we live obedience sounds very negative. We are not asking the people to follow the clergy but we are asking the people to follow our Holy Church and the Holy Tradition. So, if disobedience was the reason of our lost from the heavenly kingdom obedience will become the key to enter back to the heavenly kingdom.

The Holy Fathers describe the obedience as the mother of every virtue and humility the eldest daughter of obedience. When we speak about obedience and humility we have to understand that we are speaking about virtues. The virtues are gifts from the Holy Spirit. When we are speaking about the gifts of the Holy Spirit we are not able see them with our natural eyes, to measure or to go buy this gifts. The virtues are spiritual food that we have to earn with the spiritual askesis. Like the athlete who needs a coach in our spiritual life we need a spiritual guide. All of us we have our strength but also we have our weakness. We have to keep in mind that the spiritual life is a lifestyle that progresses and it is up to us to progress positively or negatively. Everything depends from us according to the spiritual effort that we are going to give. Saint Paul gives the example that the Christian is like the athlete. The athletes exercise developing their muscles and as they exercise more oxygen goes through their muscles, the muscles transform oxygen to energy. Something similar happens with Christians. The more spiritual effort that we give, we may then accept the Grace of the Holy Spirit. With our baptism we accept the Grace of the Holy Spirit and with our spiritual exercise we have the ability for this Graces to be multiplied. As athletes for our Lord Jesus Christ, through the spiritual life we will experience that our life is a progressive life. For that reason we need a good spiritual father to direct our life just like a good doctor who is going to give the right dose of medicine to their patients. As the doctor will make the diagnosis and then proceed to the medication, (beginning with the minimum of the medication), the same way the spiritual father will see what the stage the spiritual child is at before to proceed. For that reason is very important for the spiritual father and the spiritual child to be able to communicate and the spiritual child to trust their spiritual father. This spiritual relationship is very important and sacred. We can see the wisdom of our Church that all priests are not spiritual fathers but only those who have grown spiritually. Having this healthy relationship we can see how the spiritual child can be obedient to the spiritual father and according the obedience that he/she shows will be their spiritual growths. Obedience, like every other virtue, is progressive. As the child progresses spiritually, their obedience grows.

As we enter into this blessed period of the Great Lent let us take the opportunity to change ourselves and get closer to our Heavenly Father. At the Holy Mountain the fathers during this period wish to each other KALO PARADEISO or KALI METANOIA. Both expressions basically have the same meaning in order to get in heaven we have to repent. Let us have a blessed Sarakosti and let us become worthy to enter in the Heavenly Kingdom.
Stewardship...

_Taking Care of God's Heaven_  
_Borrowed from Greek Orthodox Archdiocese_

If you were asked to explain the meaning of "Stewardship" to a group of people who had never heard the word, how would you define it?

Here's God's definition, told in word pictures from the first chapter of Genesis, verses 28 through 30: "God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and re-plenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creeps upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.'

This beautiful definition continues in Genesis 2:15, where you'll read "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden, to dress it, and to keep it." Just as with Adam and Eve, God put you here to care for his garden, to be the keeper of all he has put before you. This is a picture of Stewardship.

Indeed, God created the heavens and the earth and placed you in His garden and told you to prune the bushes and pluck the fruit. What an opportunity! But remember, it's God's garden. And it's at this point this idea of ownership that many Christians go awry. They see themselves as owners. God didn't intend for you to be owner of the garden, just its caretaker. That's what He envisioned for your first parents, Adam and Eve. However, when tempted by Satan, they violated the trust God had bestowed upon them. They were supposed to take care of the garden according to the instructions and under the authority of the owner, who was God. But they failed.

This matter of failed Stewardship is believed by many theologians to be the beginning of sin. If you carry this thought all the way through God's Word, you will see that this idea of Stewardship is prominent in the New Testament as well. You will see that your place is to take care of God's world. That's why you must envision yourself as God's Steward, as a manager of His affairs, and always, always subject to reporting to him.

"Everyone of us shall give an account of himself to God," Paul writes in Romans 14:12. That includes being a reliable and trustworthy Steward. Taking care of God's garden is a mighty responsibility, but it's what Stewardship is all about. It's something caring hearts always do. Consider this as you review your commitment to the Lord's work for the coming year.

Parish Happenings...

_Philochochos Apokreatiko Glendi_  
_February 22, 2009_

The Philochochos Apokreatiko Glendi held at the Diplomat West on Sunday, February 22, 2009 was a great success. The theme for this years event was “Tropical Island Luau”. The Philochochos host this event as a fund raiser to support many charitable organizations. Children had their picture taken with Scottie, the Parrott. A Polynesian dancer explained the meaning of the Hula and gave the boys and girls a dance lesson. A d.j. played music to get everyone dancing at the end of the night. See the Assumption Church web site for all the Glendi photos at http://picasaweb.google.com/AssumptionChgo. Please see photos in this newsletter on page 14 and 15.
Κυριακή Ασώτου
ανοίγει τις πύλες της αληθινής µετάνοιας και του θείου ελέους. Κυριακή Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου 
ωδές αναστάσεως ζωής αιωνίου». Ακολουθεί την Κυριακή η υπόµνηση της µελλούσης κρίσεως και η προτροπή για 
µετάνοια. Μια µετανοιακή προσευχή για τη συµµετοχή µας στη θεία Κοινωνία 
και τη δική µας προσπάθεια, στην ταπεινοφροσύνη, στη µετάνοια, στην προσοχή, την άσκηση, την νηστεία και 
ΣΤ' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Βαΐων:
και την Παρασκευή ο Ακάθιστος Ύµνος.

Α' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Η συντριβή της καρδιάς, αντί στην συµµετοχή ο Σταυρός 
εισόδων στο χώρο του µυστηρίου. Η Μεγ. Τεσσαρακοστή 
ήταν η' ή την διατροφή της τροφής: Μετά την προπαρασκευή των ψυχών προς 
προσευχή και νηστείας. Περιλαµβάνεται τέσσερα πρότυπα.

Προς τον ο Αγ. Ιωάννης της Κλίµακος, Ε' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Οσίας Μαρίας της 
Ιεράς, Στ' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Βαΐων και η Μεγάλη Εβδοµάδα). Το Τριώδιο διαµορφώθηκε 
σε τελική µορφή γύρω στον 15ο αιώνα. Ονοµάστηκε Τριώδιο γιατί 

Αθήνα, Άγια Μαρία, η πρώην αµαρτωλή, ασκήτρια της ερήµου για 47 ολόκληρα χρόνια. Την Τετάρτη ο Μέγας Κανόνας 

Αγ. Ιωάννου της Κλίµακος, Ε' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Οσίας Μαρίας της 

Τώρα υµνείται ο Σταυρός, ο «της εγέρσεως Χριστού τας 

Ανθρώπους τοποθετείται από τον ιερείο 

Α' Κυριακή των Νηστειών- Η συντριβή της καρδιάς, αντί στην συµµετοχή ο Σταυρός 

Το Τριώδιο διαµορφώθηκε σε τελική µορφή γύρω στον 15ο αιώνα. Ονοµάστηκε Τριώδιο γιατί 

Να µη βγάζουμε εύκολα συµπεράσµατα


Ωλα είναι πάντοτε έτσι όπως τα σκέφτεσαι εσύ;

Όχι, Γέροντα.

Ωρης, Γέροντα.

Ε, τότε να λές: «Δεν σκέφτομαι πάντοτε σοστά: πολλές φορές κάνω λάθος. Να, στην τάδε περίπτωση σκέφθηκα έτσι και 

βγήκε ότι είχα άδικο. Στην τάδε περίπτωση έκρινα και έπεσα έξω, οπότε τον άδικησα τον άλλον. Εποµένως δεν πρέπει 

να ακούω τον λογισµό μου». Ο καθένας µας λέγει- πολλές φορές που έπεσε έξω στην κρίση του. Αν φέρει στον 

νου του τις περιπτώσεις που έκρινε και έπεσε έξω, τότε θα αποφεύγει την κατάκριση. Αλλά και µια φορά να µην έπεσε
έξω και να είχε δίκαιο, πού έπεραν την ελατήρια του άλλου; Ξέρει πώς έγινε κάτι; Να μη βγάλουμε εύκολα συμπεράσματα.
Κι εγώ, όταν ήμουν νέος, έβλεπα την κατάκριση ψωµοτύρι. Επειδή έκανα λίγο προσεκτικά και είχα µια µετακεισλάβεια, ό,τι µου φαινόταν στραβό, το άκρινα. Γιατί, όταν στον κόσµο ήταν κανείς λίγο πνευµατικά, µπορεί να βλέπει πολλά κουσούρια στους άλλους και να µη βλέπει αρετές.

Ξέρετε τι είχα πάθει µια φορά; Είχαµε πάει µε ένα γνωστό µου να λειτουργηθούµε σε ένα µοναστήρι στο Μονοδένδρι, εννιά ώρες περίπου µακριά από την Κόνιτσα. Όταν µπήκαµε στο ναό, ο γνωστός µου στάθηκε στο ανάλογο, για να ψάλνει, και εγώ πήγα στο στασίδι πίσω από τον ψάλτη· παρακολουθούσα κι έψελνα σιγανά.

Κάποια στιγµή ήρθε µια γυναίκα µε µαύρα, σχετικά νέα, στάθηκε δίπλα µου και συνέχεια µε κοιτούσε. Με κοιτούσε, έκανε τον σταυρό της· µε κοιτούσε, έκανε τον σταυρό της … Είχα αγανακτήσει. Βρέ, παιδάκι µου, έλεγα µέσα µου, τι σόι άνθρωπος είναι αυτή; Μέσα στον κόσµο, µέσα στην εκκλησία, τί µε κοιτάζει έτσι;».

Εγώ τις αδελφές µου, όταν περνούσαν στον δρόµο δίπλα µου, δεν τις έβλεπα. Πήγαιναν µετά και έκαναν παράπονα στην µάνα µας: «Με είδε ο Αρσένιος, έλεγαν, και δε µου µίλησε!» . «Καλά, µου έλεγε µετά η µητέρα µου, βλέπες τις αδελφές σου στον δρόµο και δεν τις µιλάς;». «Εγώ θα κοιτάξω αν αυτή που περνάει δίπλα µου είναι η αδελφή µου; της έλεγα. Ένα σωρό σόι έχουµε. Αυτό θα κάνω;». Θέλω να πω, είχα κάτι τέτοιες ακρότητες. Να περνά τώρα δίπλα σου η ίδια σου η αδελφή και να µην της µιλάς! Τέλος πάντων… Μόλις λοιπόν τελείωσε η Θεία λειτουργία, πήγε αυτή η µαυροφόρα και παρακάλεσε τον ιερέα να µου πη να πάω στο σπίτι της, γιατί έµοιαζα πολύ µε το παιδί της που είχε σκοτωθή στον πόλεµο! Όταν πήγα στο σπίτι της, είδα την φωτογραφία του παιδιού της· πραγµατικά ,µοιάζαµε σαν αδέλφια! Αυτή η καηµένη µε κοιτούσε µέσα στην εκκλησία και έκανε τον σταυρό της σαν να έβλεπε το παιδί της. Κι εγώ έλεγα: «Την αθεόφοβη, µέσα στην εκκλησία πώς κοιτάζει!».

Ω, µετά ξέρετε πώς µε είχε λειώσει αυτό το περιστατικό; «Για δες, είπα, εσύ να κάνης τέτοιους λογισµούς, ότι ποιος ξέρει τι γυναίκα είναι και µεσ' στην εκκλησία να µην ντρέπεται καθόλου… και αυτή η φουκαριάρα να έχη χάσει το παιδί της και να έχη τον καηµό της!».

Μια άλλη φορά κατέκρινα τον αδελφό µου που ήταν φαντάρος. Μου έστειλε µήνυµα ο σιτιστής: «Έδωσα στον αδελφό σου δύο µπετόνια µε λάδι· τι έγιναν τα µπετόνια;». «Μα, αυτός εκεί πέρα, είπα, έφερνε στο σπίτι τους στρατιώτες και τους φιλοξενούσαµε, τώρα πώς τόκανε αυτό, να πάρη λάδι από τον στρατό;». Οπότε πιάνω και γράφω στον αδελφό µου αγανακτισµένος ένα γράµµα… Κι εκείνος µου απαντάει: «Τα µπετόνια να τα ζητήσης από την νεωκόρο της κάτω εκκλησίας!» Αυτός το λάδι το είχε στείλει στην εκκλησία της κάτω Κόνιτσας, γιατί ήταν φτωχή. «Χρόνια πολλά ,είπα τότε στον εαυτό µου. Την άλλη φορά άλλη φορά τις κριτικές λογισµών. Αµήν.

Από το βιβλίο: «ΠΑΘΗ ΚΑΙ ΑΡΕΤΕΣ»
ΓΕΡΟΝΤΟΣ ΠΑΪΣΙΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΡΕΙΤΟΥ
Parish Registry...

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2008

WEDDINGS

- Soula Reveiotis and Leo Soufaklis; Sponsor – Demetri Dallas
- Nikoletta Giannikopoulos and Bill Hondropoulos; Sponsor – Peter Les
- John Vlahos and Lindsay Kehr; Sponsor – Nicholas Haralampopoulos

BAPTISMS

- Son of Vasiliki and Peter Panos, taking the name George Alexander; Godparent – Francis Kotlan
- Daughter of Angela Verros, taking the name Eleni; Godparents – Panagiota Kontopoulos and George Grekousis
- Son of Konstantine and Demetra Kouimeles, taking the name Nicholas; Godparent – Alexandra Levaditis

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD

+Joseph Siambanes +Aphrodite Pappas
+Peter Giannos +Durwood Morris
+Dr. William C. Godellas +Evelyn Pilafas
+P. T. Toulios +Sandra (Sarandia) Goutos
+Jean Hemrock +Marie Koulias
+Catherine Poulos +Panagiota (Betty) Riedel
+George Bacos

MEMORIALS

40 Days
- Eugenia Stathakis - Panagiotis Giannos
- Helen Patrinos - Dr. William Godellas
- Jenny (Ioanna) Berbas - Panagiotis Giannos
- Catherine Boulahani - Jean Hemrock
- George Bacos - Catherine Poulos
- Panayeotes Toulios - Beatrice (Panayota) Weedman (Cherimpes)

6 Months
- Mondo Gouvas - Diane (Dionysia) Andrews

1 Year
- Marion Pulos - Nicholas Dallas
- Nicholas Mestousis - George Agos
- Vasilios (William) Skoufis - Katherine Cronin

3 Years
- Christ Kantzavelos

5 Years
- Angeline Chiakulas - Constance Karras

9 Years
- George Collis - Elpenekh Toulios

11 Years
- Christ Karras

15 Years
- Anna Vavasis

16 Years
- Sylvia Dades

22 Years
- Theodoros Toulios
JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2009

WEDDINGS
- Helen Psychogios and Robert Biggers; Sponsor – Pamela Psychogios
- Catherine Nesbitt and Matthew Becker; Sponsor – George Nisbett

BAPTISMS
- Son of Marie and Louie Lambrou, taking the name Athanasios; Godparent – Evelyn Lambrou
- Son of Tamisha and Nicholas Angelacos, taking the name Apostolos; Godparents – Angela Intounas and Nick Kapotas

FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD
- Joseph Greco
- Peter Karras (Karagiannis)
- Andrew Andrews
- Jennie Flesor
- Nicholas Chelemengos
- Gus Mehos

MEMORIALS
40 Days
- Aphrodite Pappas
- Evelyn Pilafas
- Ariadni Wallach
- Constantine (Gus) Geanon
- Marie Koulias
- Sandra (Sarandia) Goutos

6 Mos.
- Barbara Leakakos
- Persiphone Cossyphas

1 Year
- Paraskevi Kalogeresis
- Helen Gaveras
- John Ferguson
- Stanley (Stylianos) Pietrzyk
- Olga Sarantos

2 Years
- Nick Levaditis

3 Years
- Georgia Geanon

7 Years
- Tina (Stamatina) Phillips

13 Years
- Vasilios (Bill) Geanon

21 Years
- Gregory (Gregorios) Phillips

30 Years
- Constantine (Gus) Geanon

65 Years
- George Logios (Longson)

67 Years
- Fannie (Theofania) Longios (Longson)

Save the Dates
March 14th, Lenten Retreat for Sunday School attendees
April 12, Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale
May 31, Liturgy in the Park and the community picnic
Stewardship Jan./Feb. 2009...

Mr. John Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Orestis Alexopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Analitis
Mrs. Christine Andrews
Ms. Constance Andrews
Ms. Demetra Andrews
Nick & Tamisha Angelacos
Mrs. Nicoletta Anos
Mrs. Georgia Apostol
Mrs. Frieda Aravosis
Ms. Carol Argyrakis
Mr. & Mrs. George Arvanites
Father Timothy G. Bakakos
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Bakalis
Mrs. Tess Baziotes
Mr. Matthew Becker
Mr. & Mrs. John Beltramio
Mr. & Mrs. George Berbas
Mrs. Mary Betinis
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bianucci
Bob & Helen Biggers
Ms. Katherina Blangin
Mr. & Mrs. James Boarden
Mr. & Mrs. James Bounardj
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Boznos
Mr. & Mrs. James Buonincontro
Mr. Dan Caras
Mrs. Georgjean Caras
Mrs. Catherine Catchfores
Mr. & Mrs. George Cepek
Mr. & Mrs. George Cherimpes
Dr. John Chiaikulas
Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Chipain
Mr. Chris Chulos & Mrs. Tanja Chulos-Saarinen
Mr. & Mrs. George Collias
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Collis
Mrs. Emily Cotsirilos
Mrs. Julia Cutsuvitis
Mr. Paul Cutsuvitis
Mr. John Daides
Mr. & Mrs. John Dakuras
Ms. Anastasia Damolaris
Ms. Martha Damolaris
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Damolaris

James & Georgia Darras
Mr. Tom Darrus
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Demakis
Mrs. Aphrodite Demeur
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Demos
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Demos
Mrs. Ann Dervis
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Dimitrakopoulos
Ms. Katerina Doukas
Mr. & Mrs. John Ellis
Mr. John Gritsonis
Mrs. Helen Grom
Mr. James Hatzis
Mr. & Mrs. Janusz Kaczmarczyk
Mr. Andrew Kanel
Mrs. Christine Kanel
Mr. James A. Kanel
Miss Sophie Karagiannis
Mrs. Demetra Karahalios
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Karas
Mr. Lambros Karkazis
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Karonis
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Karos
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Karras
Mrs. Mia Kasimos
Mrs. Antoinette Kaskas
Mr. & Mrs. Christ Kates
Mrs. Bess Katsikas (Geroulis)
Mrs. Connie Keenan
Dr. Nicholas Kinnas
Mrs. Angelina Kiousis
Mr. & Mrs. Spyros Kokolis
Mr. & Mrs. George Kolettis
Ms. Fay Kollias
Mrs. Alice Kopan
Mr. George Kosionis & Ms. Jan Augustine
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kostas
Ms. Katherine Kott
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kott
Mr. & Mrs. Gust Koumelis
Mr. & Ms. Demetrios Kouliouris
Miss Sophie Koutselas
Mrs. Georgia Kouvelis
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kouvelis
Ms. Eugenia Kribales
Mrs. Helen Krillies
Ms. Calliope Kutrubis
Mrs. Georgia Kyriazes
Stewardship Jan./Feb. 2009...

MR & MRS CHRIS LAGEOTAKES
MRS KYRIAKI LAGON
MRS DEMETRA LAKERDAS
MRS ANASTASIA LAMBESIS
MISS EVELYN LAMBROU
MR & MS LOVIE LAMBROU
MR & MRS JAMES LEAKAKOS
MR & MRS NICK LEKOUSIS
MISS BETTY LEONTIOS
MISS EUGENIA LEONTIOS
MRS DENA LEVADITIS
DR JANICE LIMPERIS
MR & MRS NICHOLAS LINARDOS
MRS MARY CLARA LIVADITIS
MR & MRS ILIAS LOULOUSIS
MR DEAN MAGGOS
DR EVELYN MAGGOS
MR LOUIS MALEVITIS
DEAN & LOUISE MAMALAKIS
MR GEORGE MANIATES
MRS HELEN MANIATES
MR & MRS GEORGE MANIATIS
DR & MRS CHAD MANSOUR
MR & MRS NICHOLAS MANSOUR
MR & MRS JOHN MAROUTSOS
MR & MRS THOMAS MASSOURAS
MRS HELEN MIHAL
MR & MRS GEORGE MILLER
MR & MRS TIM NASH
MRS ALIKI NICHOLAS
MS PHYLLIS NICHOLAS
MRS AMELIA NICHOLS
MRS MARIE NICHOLS
MRS HELEN NICOLOPOULOS
MR GEORGE NISBETT
MR & MRS ROBERT NISBETT
MRS ANTONIA PAGAKIS
MR & MRS LARRY PALMISANO
MRS FREDAA PANAGOS
MR & MRS PETER PANOS
DR & MRS JOHN PANTON
DR & MRS PETER PANTON
DR & MRS ROBERT PANTON
MR & MRS DIONYSIOS PAPAFOTOPOULOS
MR & MRS NICK PAPAFOTOPOULOS
MRS MARIA PAPAGIANNOPOULOS
DR & MRS STEVEN PAPAGIANNOPOULOS
MRS GEORGIA PAPPADIMITRIOU
MISS ANASTASIA PAPPAS
MR GEORGE PAPPAS
MRS MARTHA PAPPAS
MR & MRS THEODORE PAPPAS
MISS VIVIAN PAPPAS
MISS KATHERINE PATRINOS
MR & MRS ANDREW PENESIS
MRS MARY PETENES
MRS GEORGIA PETREE
STEPHANOS PETROPOUL
MRS ELIZABETH PHILLIPS
FATHER & PRESBYTERA ATHANASIOS PIERI
MRS RITA PIETRZIK
MS ANN PILAFAS
MISS NANCY PILAFAS
MRS HELEN PONTIKES
MRS BEATRICE POTAMIANOS
MRS JANE POULAKOS
MRS NIKI POULOS
PETER & JOY POULOS
MR GEORGE PREVOLOS
MR & MRS ALEXANDER PSARRAS
MS GEORGIA PSICHOGIOS
MR & MRS GUS PSICHOGIOS
MS PAMELA PSYHOGIOS
MS KEKE RAFTELIAS
MS MARY RAFTELIAS
MRS HELEN RAPTIS
MR & MRS JAMES REGAS
MR & MRS RAYMOND RIHA, JR
MR AND MRS RAYMOND RIHA, SR
MR & MRS EDWARD RIZER
MR & MRS JEFFREY ROBERTS
MR AND MRS PETER ROMAS
MRS IRENE ROMBKAS
DR & MRS WILLIAM ROUMAN
MR & MRS KEN RUBENSTEIN
MR & MRS DEAN SARANTOS
MR & MRS HARRY SAUNDERS
MS MARIA SCHMIDT
MR & MRS NICK SCOURLETOS
MS TESSIE SELIMOS
MR & MRS KOSTA SKOULIKARIS
MRS POPE SKOULIKARIS
MRS IRENE SKUTERIS
MR & MRS SPIRO SKUTERIS
Stewardship Jan./Feb. 2009...

MRS ATHENA SOULIDES
MS TASOULA SOULIDES
MR & MRS HARRY SOUMAKIS
MR & MRS NICK SPYROPOULOS
DR BASIL SPYROPOULOS
MR & MRS PETER SPYROPOULOS
DR STAVROULA SPYROPOULOS
MRS GEORGINA STAVROPOULOS
MISS JOANN STAVROPOULOS
MR & MRS PAUL STAVROPOULOS
MR & MRS JOHN STEC
MRS ROSE MARIE STEWART
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS STRAVOLEMAKOS
MR & MRS MATHIEU SUSSMAN
MR PETER ROBERT SUTTERLIN
MRS MARY T SZCZESNIAK
MRS SEVASTI TAGARIS
MR TAKOUDIS & MRS FOUSTALIERAKI
MISS ANASTASIA TEROVOLAS
MISS CRISTELLA TEROVOLAS
MRS BESSIE THERMOS
DR & DR NICK THOMOPoulos
MR & MRS CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
MRS HELEN TOULIOS
MR & MRS PETER TRAGOS
MR & MRS GUS TRAKAS
MR & MRS VASILIOS TSAGANOS
MR & MS JOHN G. TSIOLIS
MRS BETTY TSIOLIS
MR JAMES TSIOLIS
MR & MRS DIMITRIOS TSIRIBAS
MRS KATHERINE TZOUMIS
MRS DENA VAGIAS
MRS ARITA VALESSARES
MRS MARY VARVEN
PAULINE VAVASIS
MR & MRS ROBERT VELASQUEZ
MR & MRS THOMAS VELIS
MR & MRS ALEX VICKAS
MR AND MRS JOHN VLAHOS
MRS MARIAN THE VLHOS
MR & MRS PETER VLHOS
MR & MRS ROMAN VOULGARAKIS
MR BILL VRANAS
MR JASON VRANAS
MRS PEGGY VRANAS

MS ALKISTIS WONAIS
MR & MRS JACK WOODS
MS MARY ELLEN WOODS
MRS MARIKA XINOS
MR & MRS CONSTANTINE YANNIAS
MR & MRS STEVE YANNIAS
MS TRACY YANNIAS
MRS FRANCES ZACK
Parish Happenings...

*Philoptochos Apokreatiko Glendi*

*February 22, 2009*
First Edition
2009

Newsletter Contents

Induction.....................1-2
Parish Council President.....3
Philoptochos.................4
Sunday School..............5
Maintenance..................5
Youth Ministry.............6
Stewardship................7
Greek.........................8-9
Parish Registry...........11-14
Parish Happenings.........15

Pascha
April 19, 2009