Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The 44th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress and the national meeting of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society convenes July 1-5 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Our theme for our Congress and meetings is “All Things are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ.” This theme and our understanding of its implications are critical to the work of our Parishes, our Metropolises and our Holy Archdiocese. From the truth of the Gospel and the words of our Lord who said, all things are possible to him who believes (Mark 9:23), we affirm that our faith in Christ makes the impossible possible, the unreachable reachable, and the unachievable achievable.

Our belief in Him defeats the power of sin and death, transforms our lives, and leads us to salvation. We know that our unwavering faith in Christ will help us overcome any challenges, will extend our witness in new and dynamic ways, and will lead others to Christ and the blessed life in Him.

Throughout the Holy Scriptures we see the power and potential of faith. Faith is shown in the marvelous works of God among His people and the amazing miracle of Christ. Through His life and ministry and His glorious Resurrection, we see that through faith we can have life and have it abundantly. (John 10:10) We also see the power of faith in the lives of the Apostles and the Saints and Martyrs who were committed to the way of the Lord and to sharing the Gospel. This was true not only in the inspirational and miraculous that came through their ministry, but also through all they endured.
The mission of Sts. Constantine and Helen Church is to proclaim the Good News of Salvation through the Orthodox Christian Faith for the glory of our Triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We are a community of believers who journey towards our Lord Jesus Christ and one another through our WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WITNESS, and SERVICE. We invite all people to join us on this journey in the Kingdom of Heaven.

We are under the jurisdiction of His Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios of America His Eminence, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

Father Luke A. Veronis
Telephone: (508) 949-7623 (h)  (774) 230-6985 (cell)
email: frlukeveronis@gmail.com

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2018 PARISH COUNCIL
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ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

The Apostle Paul acknowledged this when he wrote of the many trials he faced during his journeys: Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers...in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. (2 Cor 11:25-27). Through faith and the assurance of the promises of God he endured all of this and much more, knowing that all things are possible to the one who believes. In his letter to the Philippians he affirmed this: In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want. I can do all things in Him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:12-13)

This acclamation by the Apostle Paul that all things are possible through faith in Christ affirms the fulfillment of the promise of our Lord to His followers and to us. He said, He who believes in me will also do the works that I do, and greater works than these will he do. (John 14:12) Christ is telling us that through faith, the impossible is now possible. He is saying that the power that works miracles, that heals, that brings hope in the midst of hopelessness, that offers life abundant and eternal, is the power given to those who believe to do even greater works than the Son of God. All things are possible! Amazing and marvelous things that transform lives and save souls!

All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ, and with the assurance of this promise we hear Him say, If you ask anything in my name, I will do it. (John 14:14). Through faith, through the power of His grace and presence, we have His word, I will do it. Consider the limitless potential of what we can do. Reflect on the boundless possibilities of our lives and ministry. Contemplate the tremendous and immeasurable opportunities before us in the work of our parishes and throughout our Holy Archdiocese. Through our faith in Christ all things are possible!

I ask that you prayerfully reflect on our theme and its meaning for your life and for the ministry and witness of our Church in America. Let us explore the implications of the promises of our Lord in these areas, so that we can come together in Boston to consider the great and marvelous works that will come through our faith and through the power and presence of Christ.

May His abundant blessings be with you, and may you be assured and inspired by knowing all things are possible with God. (Mark 10:27)

With paternal love in Christ,
†DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America
THE SILENCE OF GOD

From the Life of Saint Augustine by Fr. Roman Savchuk

I did not seek You, You sought me, and found me, and I thank You, my Enlightener!” thus stated St. Augustine of Hippo when he recalled his conversion. Brimming with wondrous sincerity and depth, these words were born of a heart fully acquainted with the depths of the fall and the pain of separation from its Creator.

The life of St. Augustine cannot but amaze. His path to God was so difficult and convoluted, with so many dark and sometimes even filthy sides that an inexperienced Christian might find the sanctity of this great servant of the Church questionable.

Indeed, despite the fact that his mother, St. Monica, was a zealous Christian, striving to raise her son in the spirit of Christian teaching, the young Augustine did not really try to imitate her virtues. During his studies in Carthage, he led a licentious life in a circle of unbridled peers. His rule for life was “To love and be loved.” He lived with a woman, from whom was born his only son. His first religious search led Augustine to the heretical teaching of Manicheism, which he confessed for ten years. Then in Rome, he lived with another woman searched for happiness through philosophy and in his famous writing, Confessions, he said “I left You and arrived at the abyss of infidelity, at the deceptive gratification of demons, to whom I offered my evil deeds in sacrifice.”

But still, there was something special during this difficult time of the saint’s life, something his heart had only rarely touched, and his mind so persistently rejected. St. Augustine himself testified, “God, You were in me, deeper than my depths and higher than my heights.”

St Augustine understood that deep within the innermost recesses of his heart, God was there. It is the imprint of that Divine mystery which imperceptibly enters our lives, barely realized by man, working a true rebirth in him. This is the mystery of Divine silence.

If we listen to the words of the confession of St. Augustine, we will notice many interesting things. It turns out that he demanded that his mother baptize him while he was still a youth, but the Lord left this childish zeal go unanswered. The Lord also did not answer immediately the sincere tears of Augustine’s holy mother, St. Monica, for whom it was extremely painful to see the ruinous life of her beloved son. St Augustine recalls of his mother: “I cannot express enough how she loved me; she bore me in her soul with much more worry than when she bore me in her body.”

The Lord did not immediately respond to St. Monica’s prayers, even when Augustine, guided by vain aspirations, secretly left for Rome, leaving his mother weeping and praying for him. “What did she ask of You, O Lord, with such tears?” the saint later asked. “That You would not allow me to sail away? You, in the depth of Your councils, did hear her main desire, but You did not give her what she asked for then: May You ever make of me what she asked.”

Even those who should have participated in helping Augustine’s heated nature to know the Truth, refused to interfere in his life. As if diverted by the unseen right hand of God, they were mysterious accomplices in the Creator’s silence. Thus, the bishop to whom St. Monica appealed with a tearful petition to speak with her son, replied to her, “Leave him there and only pray for him to God… Go! As surely as you live, the son of such tears will not die.”

St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, to whom the Lord led St. Augustine, did not break God’s silence. As St Augustine himself testifies: “He didn’t know of my storms, or of the trap set for me. I couldn’t ask him what I wanted and how I wanted, because we were always separated by a crowd of busy people whom he was helping in their difficulties.” Although it seemed
I did not seek You. You sought me, and found me, and I thank you, my Enlightener.

that the hour had finally come, when St Augustine should offer his restless soul to Christ, in this case, the Lord remained silent through His holy hierarch, and the Lord kept waiting.

There was even a moment when Augustine himself was but one step away from the knowledge of the Truth; when he himself, convinced of the futility of any philosophy, confessed that Truth should be sought from Someone else. There remained so little—that the Creator would somehow reveal Himself, appearing to the one seeking Him. But even here the Lord remained silent, not revealing Himself, so that the saint later recalled about his approach to God: “Lord, God of truth, is the One who knows this already pleasing to You? Unhappy is the man who knows everything but does not know You; blessed is he who knows You, even though he knows nothing else.”

God’s silence was so clear that sometime later the saint himself was sincerely perplexed: “My Hope from my youth, where have You been and where have You gone?... I sought You outside myself and found not ‘the God of my heart,’ and went ‘even unto the depths of the sea,’ having lost faith and despaired of ever finding the truth.”

This bewilderment is understandable to anyone. After all, such moments often happen in our lives when we sincerely inquire of God and seek Him, hoping to understand His will, but... God does not answer us. We do not understand, we weep, we get angry, we grumble, we beg, but God is still silent.

This silence of the Creator very often seems terrible for man; he doesn’t understand it and is afraid. But there is something foreign for a Christian in such an attitude towards the silence of God. St. Augustine felt it, and therefore was able to answer the Creator’s silence: “To You be praise, to You be glory, Fountain of mercy. I became all the unhappier, and You all the closer.”

Yes, God can be silent, and it’s often a mystery for us. But our God gave Himself for our sake, and that means, His silence is filled with love; it means He has reasons to leave us without an answer to even our most sincere pleas to Him. And who knows, perhaps the Creator’s silence is in actually His last mercy to us, condemning ourselves by our own aspirations. We should not fear it, because our God is All-Good; He does not frighten us; He meekly loves His creation.

“Be not foolish, O my soul, nor become deaf in the ear of your heart with the tumult of your folly,” St. Augustine said to his own soul. And it was sincere. He truly performed a great podvig—hearing the silence of God, accepting it, and recognizing the greatest mercy of the Creator in it—and he thanked God that He did not allow him to drown in the waves of his own nature: “I thought about it—and You were with me; I sighed and You did hear me; I was tossed about by waves and You did guide me; I walked the broad worldly path, but You did not leave me.”

The Lord lingers and is long-suffering, but this deliberation is always full of great love and compassion for man. Our God is a God of love. We must not forget this even in our most desperate moments, and the Lord will not leave our hope unanswered. Even when it seems there is no hope for salvation and circumstances are stronger than us, it is worth heeding. Perhaps Someone in our life is very close, wisely silent, waiting for a humble answer to His meek love.
I want to share something incredible that happened at our Grecian Festival in Worcester. As I was in the church around 9 PM doing some last-minute tours, an old grandfather came in with this 30-year-old grandson. I asked them if they wanted a tour. The grandson said “No, I was baptized here 30 years ago.” I asked him when the last time he was here, he said probably when I was baptized."

I scolded the grandfather in Greek in a semi-humorous way asking him why he hadn’t brought his grandson to church all those years. And with humility he said he was at fault and that he should’ve done a better job. The next thing he said to me blew me away. He said, “To be honest Father, I’ve been in the United States for 50 years and for 50 years I have not received Holy Communion.”

I was amazed. I asked him, “Why have you not received holy communion.” He answered me in Greek "$\text{Γιατί βλασφημάω,}$" which translates in English “because I curse.”

I don’t know what got into me, but I said to him “How about I hear your confession right now and then I will give you Holy Communion immediately afterwards?”

He turned to his grandson and told him to wait outside. My daughter was with me so I told her to guard the front of the narthex, and for the next 20 or so minutes I heard the old man’s confession and read the prayer of absolution, and gave him Holy Communion.

When we were done he smiled at me and said, “I’ll see you this Sunday Father!”

Whenever we quantify the success of a festival we look at how many people came through, how much food was sold, and most certainly what was the net profit. Yesterday the festival was jampacked, so I’m sure financially it went well, and I’m pretty certain that it will do well for the rest of the Festival.

Nevertheless, the greatest success of this year’s festival will be that one soul was touched by that incredible coincidence and opportunity, and for this I glorify God and the Greek festival.

No matter how tired I am, no matter how swollen my feet and knees get, my smile will never leave my face.

Glory to God!
SUMMER TIME

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven,” the Book of Ecclisiastes tells us.

There is a season for work and a time for rest; a season for activity, and a time to slow things down!

Summer is typically the time for many of us to slow down the busy pace of our lives. Despite all the technological advances that promise to make life easier, our lives continue to become more and more hectic and fast-paced. For many, though, summer is the time when we try to adjust our schedules to fit in a vacation and some other relaxing events.

As we try to relax and physically rest our bodies, let us also strive to rest our souls. Remember, however, the words of St. Augustine, when he wrote, “Our souls will never rest until they rest in the Lord.” During summer time, let us try to find time to rest and dwell in God’s presence.

Too often throughout the year, we make the excuse that we are so busy to go to Church, to pray, too busy to read the Bible, too busy to read a spiritual or inspiring book, too busy to visit someone or too busy to do some other good deed. As we lighten up our schedules during the summer, can we make time not only to rest our weary bodies, but to rest and nourish and strengthen our weary souls?

“Be still and know that I am God” the Psalmist advises. “Come to me all you who are burdened and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Jesus promised.

Abiding in the presence of God, and filling our hearts with His love and grace is the best way our souls will be refreshed. But in order to do this, we must carve out time for God.

It is not easy to “be still” and meditate on God. Getting away from our normal schedules, though, is a start. Decide now to add a spiritual dimension to your entire summer and to any vacation you take! You will notice that the more you renew your soul, the more renewed you will feel in your body as well!

I pray and hope you have a blessed, restful, and renewing summer!
PARISH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It’s a Small but Tasty World

As I write this, our Mission Sunday celebration has ended. While I personally could not attend this year (as we had other plans), I’m sure the event was a success as it has been every other year. For me personally, I find it to be one of our most enjoyable events, because I like to cook, I like to eat foods from other cultures, and I’m excited to try new and different recipes.

I find it strangely coincidental that only two days before our Mission Sunday meal, where we celebrate Mission work and try to expose ourselves to cultures other than our own through the sharing of international dishes, the famous chef, author, and TV host Anthony Bourdain died.

Clearly the circumstances of Mr. Bourdain’s death are tragic and heartbreaking, but I am not schooled in any way to discuss his death or what may have plagued his thoughts before his passing. I would simply say that I hope and pray for his young daughter and loved ones.

After a career as a chef in New York City, Mr. Bourdain wrote a “tell all” book about the culinary community and industry of New York. Soon after that he moved into the television industry as host of a number of reality cooking, eating and traveling shows. I first ran across him on his highly acclaimed “No Reservations” show on The Travel Channel. The title of the show was an intentional double entendre because he would presumably visit the restaurants on the show without a reservation but he also had no reservations as to the places he went, or the food he ate, or (most importantly) the cultures he encountered. His intent was to explore the world and experience different cultures through food.

“No Reservations” was on The Travel Channel for about seven years and it was similar to his more recent show on CNN called “Parts Unknown”. If you’ve never watched any of Mr. Bourdain’s shows, I would strongly recommend that you do so. They are, in essence, a bit of what Mission Sunday is all about and a baby step to Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 28:19-20 (“Go forth and make disciples of all nations”). Bourdain knew that one of the first steps to understanding and appreciating a culture other than your own is to experience and understand their food.

The food that is consumed in other cultures tells you about the people, about the place they live in, about what they are able to grow, and about their very existence. As many of us know, olives are central to the Greek culture, central to the Greek diet, and indeed, central to the Greek economy. Olives grew so well in Greece for thousands of years that the Greeks used the olives in every possible way, as a food, as an oil for cooking, eating, and lubrication, and the wood from the olive tree for fuel.

In the same way that olives are central to the Greek culture, corn is central to the Mexican culture, where our little church makes it’s meager but meaningful outreach into the world with our interaction with, and support of, Project Mexico. Corn was easy to grow for the Native Mexicans for thousands of years, just like the olives in Greece. Wheat and potatoes didn’t grow well in the Mexican climate or soil so the Mexican culture focused on corn as it’s main starch, and the availability of this corn (as well as the availability of peppers and chilies) formed the basis of the Mexican diet.

I hope someone brought in some Mexican food to Mission Sunday this year and I hope you tried it. While we can all not be as dedicated to the Mission Spirit as the Apostles, nor will most of us ever venture forth to be a missionary in a foreign country, we can all take the first step and expose ourselves to other cultures to understand. It is only through understanding first that we can then embrace and accept, and the best first step is to experience another culture’s food, just like Anthony Bourdain illustrates in his TV shows.

So eat that Huevos Rancheros, or Unagi, or Tom Kar Gai, or Koshari, or Dal, and eat it with the spice that it comes with! Eat and experience the culture of the land and the spirit of the people, and that is a good first step to Matthew 28:19-20.

Bon Appetite!

Neal Neslusar
PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

On June 4th we all had an enjoyable dinner meeting at Our Fathers Table in North Grosvenordale, Ct. I want to thank everyone who donated or sold tickets for the calendar raffle. It was a huge success. I want to thank Marie McNally for being chairperson of this event! She will provide a list of donors and winners in next month’s bulletin. We made $3700.00! Wow! Congratulations to us all!

We talked about the gyro fest. Wednesday the 20th we baked petas and baklava. Thank all who donated ingredients and helped bake and also those who worked the day of gyro fest. Also thank those who worked and donated for the center table.

We have the month of July off. Relax and enjoy the summer. In August we will have a short meeting to discuss our annual festival. Check the sales for ingredients, check bargains for center table gifts, baskets, and children's booth toys. Listen for the date of our next meeting! Until then stay healthy and happy and enjoy your families!

Congratulations to all our graduates! Best of luck in all their future endeavors! We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to one of our dear members Edna Vogel in the loss of her son A.J. May his memory be eternal!

With much love and affection,

Evelyn Pappas

LIVING BREAD LUNCHEON UPDATE

The July Living Bread Luncheon is donated in loving memory of CYNTHIA JOHNSON from Alex, Chris and Tristan Massie.

JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

Financial Report: Our stewardship is a little down compared to last year. Tray income is less and candle income is less. Thus, we are $21,202 in the red as of the end of June.

This is a normal pattern for this time of the year. We have three major money makers coming up: Our Gyro Fest, the annual Festival, and a major part of stewardship that comes in during the last quarter of year.

Old Business: Still working on fixing a leak on the flat part of the roof over the church sanctuary.
- We have two estimates and waiting on a third for repaving our parking lot, and adding new parking spaces to the side of the Church

- the Parish House foundation is sinking and needs major repair to save the house. The cost will be $60,000. A Special General Assembly will be called for July 28 to get approval to address this issue.
- The Front doors of the Church need to be sanded and restained. Waiting for estimates on this cost.
- Committee is working on landscaping the front of the Church

New Business: The Archdiocesan Clergy Laity Congress will be held in Boston July 1-5. Our Church will send two delegates, our president Neal Neslusen and vice-president Michael Chito, together with Fr. Luke to represent our Church.
Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

7th Annual Golf Tournament
Dudley Hill Golf Club

12:30 Registration
1:30pm Shotgun Start
6:30 Dinner

Saturday July 28, 2018
$90 per person
includes golf, cart, prizes, and dinner

Raffles, Mulligan and Strings
Contests (Closest to Pin, Closest to Line, Best 4-some overall)

Hole Sponsors - $50

Monetary or Raffle Donations are welcome!

Not golfing? Join us for dinner $30/person.

For More Info to sign up a four some, or to sponsor a hole contact

Arthur Bilis 508-943-8341
Vacation Summer Camp

9th-13th July

discount for siblings!

STs. Constantine and Helen's Greek Orthodox Church presents

Spiritual Lessons

Learn about missionaries from around the world.

Activities

Recreation
Arts & Crafts
Music

Go Forth to All Nations

Food & Refreshments

Dinner, snacks and refreshments provided each night

Extra Add On Activities:

Family Kickoff Cookout and Water Slide - Sunday
Tubing on Webster Lake - Wednesday
Giguere's Trampoline - Thursday
Pool Party - Saturday

deadline to register is July 2nd

www.schwebster.org

35 Lake Parkway, Webster, MA

email: saragardens@yahoo.com
ph.: 508 207 3177

PosterMyWall.com
Stock Graphic
GREEK FESTIVAL PREPARATION

In the efforts to keep our annual Greek Festival costs down as much as possible this year, we would greatly be appreciative of anyone who would like to donate any of the following ingredients or offer a monetary donation to help us purchase any of the items for the Food Line. Please see or call either of the Festival chairpeople, Lisa Healy (508-981-8109) or Marie McNally 508-612-2946. Thank you !!!!

THESE ITEMS ARE NEEDED BY 7/10/2018

36 BOXES BARILLA BRAND RIGATONI
10 LARGE (16 OUNCES) GRATED PARMESAN CHEESE
16 POUNDS FETA CHEESE
14 MED ONIONS (FOR PASTITSIO)
7 PACKAGES CELERY STALKS
8 DOZEN EGGS (LARGE)
10 POUNDS OF BUTTER
24 - 29OZ CANS OF TOMATO SAUCE
6 BOXES CORNSTARCH
7 GALLONS OF WHOLE MILK
3 LARGE BOTTLES CABERNET WINE

IF YOU ARE DONATING THE FOLLOWING,
WE WILL NEED TO KNOW BY 8/30/2017

30 CASES OF WATER 140 HOT DOGS AND HOT BUNS
12- PACKS OF SODA 140 HAMBURGERS AND BUNS
24 COKE 500 DINNER ROLLS
14 DIET COKE 3 CASES SERNO (6 HOUR)
10 GINGER ALE ICE
10 ROOT BEER
12 ORANGE
11 SPRITE
2 LARGE BOTTLES OF KETCHUP
1 LARGE BOTTLE RELISH
2 LARGE BOTTLES MUSTARD
20 LARGE ONIONS (FOR GYROS)
3000 NAPKINS
600 SMALL PAPER PLATES 6 OR 7 INCH
100 SLICES OF AMERICAN CHEESE (INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED)
CHURCH HUMOR

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly.

"How do you know that?"

"Easy," the little boy said.

"All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said,

4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."
HOLY LANDS PILGRIMAGE
February 15-24, 2019

A SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF OUR PILGRIMAGE

Day 1: Depart for TEL AVIV
This afternoon, we will depart for an unforgettable and fulfilling spiritual odyssey!

Day 2: TEL AVIV / TIBERIAS
Welcome to the Holy Land! We will travel to Tiberias, a drive of approximately two hours. En route to Tiberias, visit the Church and Tomb of St. George in Lydda, the birthplace of St. George. Venerate the tomb and chain of St George. Some believe that the church was built on the very spot where St. George was chained and tortured in an attempt to convince him to renounce his faith. Others believe that the church was built in the place where he was buried after he was martyred in Nicomedia.

Day 3: TIBERIAS / RIVER JORDAN / CAPERNAUM / TABGHA / TIBERIAS
Enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus met Simon, Peter, James and John, his first disciples, and performed many miracles here. He stilled the raging storm on the Sea of Galilee that was about to flood their boat and walked on the stormy sea to His Apostles. In Capernaum, walk in the same village Jesus did. It is here that our Lord and Savior chose and called forth His Apostles, and where He preached and performed miracles such as the healing of the paralytic, the mother-in-law of Apostle Peter, the servant of the centurion and many others. See the remains of the House of Saint Peter, one of the very few exact sites we know Jesus visited. See the ruins of the Synagogue where Our Lord preached. Continue to the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Apostles, the very place Jesus called His first disciples. Enjoy the peaceful setting of this beautiful church with its red domes. We will go to the Mountain of Beatitudes, where Jesus Christ preached the Sermon on the Mount and where the Lord’s Prayer was said for the first time. Then, on to Tabgha (Seven Springs) and the Church of the Multiplication of Fishes and Loaves. It is here that the miracle of the loaves and fish took place. Over 5,000 men, women and children were fed from the miraculous multiplication of the five loaves of bread and two fish. Our last stop will be Yardenit on the River Jordan, the site for Spiritual Baptism and Water Blessing. Experience an affirmation of your baptism in the same river that our Lord was baptized by Saint John the Baptist 2,000 years ago.

Day 4: TIBERIAS / MT. TABOR / CANA / NAZARETH / JERUSALEM
We will visit the Church of the Transfiguration on Mt. Tabor. At the top of Mt. Tabor, there, see an utterly commanding view of all of lower Galilee and the valley of the Armageddon. It was here that Jesus revealed the wonderful power of presence in communion with the Lawgiver and prophets of the past (Moses and Elijah). This also became immediate evidence of Communion with His Father. At the foot of Mt. Tabor is the little village of Naim, where Jesus raised the only son of the poor widow from the dead. In Cana our Lord performed his first public miracle turning water into wine at the request of His Blessed Mother the Virgin Mary to spare the bridegroom the embarrassment of running out of wine at his wedding party. A special service for married couples will follow.

In Nazareth, the home of Mary, Joseph and Jesus until the beginning of His ministry. Nazareth is also where Jesus spent some years of His youth after returning to Israel from Egypt and until His public ministry began. Visit the Virgin Mary’s Well where the Angel Gabriel announced the “good news” to Mary that she would give birth to Our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation is built over this site.
Day 5: JERUSALEM / BETHLEHEM / JERUSALEM
In Bethlehem is the birthplace of our Lord and Savior and the cradle of biblical history. Bethlehem is located five and half miles from Jerusalem. Visit the Shepherd’s field and the Church of the Nativity. A Greek Orthodox Church has been built over the birthplace of Our Lord by the Emperor Justinian and is over 1,500 years old. It is the second oldest Orthodox Church in existence. On the way back to Jerusalem, visit the Monastery and Church of the Prophet Elias and the Church and Tomb of St. Symeon, the Just.

Day 6: JERUSALEM
We will walk through old Jerusalem to the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate and enjoy a private audience with His Beatitude Theophilos III, then continue with a visit to the Church of Saint Anna (birthplace of the Theotokos). Within its grounds are the Pools of Bethesda. These are the pools located near the sheep gate where the Lord cured the paralytic. Archeologists have uncovered all of the pools and the five porticoes, as was reported by St. John in the Gospel. Then, we will walk along the Way of the Cross. Venerate at the same cell the Lord was held prisoner before His crucifixion. It is located deep in a dungeon. There is a slab of stone with two holes through which His legs were passed and ankles shackled together. The cells of Barabas and the two thieves, who were crucified with Him, are here. We will continue with a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the site of our Savior’s death and resurrection. This is the most important church for Christians. We climb the stairs to reach Golgotha, the place of the crucifixion. Over the site, a main altar has been built. Take a moment to reflect in this Holy Place and to feel the spirit engulf you and appreciate all that Our Lord has given you and your loved ones. At the bottom of the stairs, as you leave the Chapel of the Golgotha, is the site where the body of Christ was placed after he was taken down from the cross. Then, we are led to the site of the Tomb, the place of the Lord’s resurrection. A small chapel has been built over the sacred place under the watch of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. In the first small room is the great stone that sealed the tomb. It was here that the Angel of the Lord sat proclaiming the resurrection of Christ from the dead. The next small room contained the slab of stone on which the dead body of the Lord was placed, entombed and resurrected. It is a truly incredible experience to be in this church! It is from this tiny room that the Holy Light of the Resurrection emanates.

Day 7: JERUSALEM
Visit the Monastery of St Mary Magdalene to venerate the relics of St Elizabeth, the 20th century Russian Martyr and St Stephen’s Church. Then we visit the the Chapel of Ascension, the site our Lord ascended from the earth to Heaven. Continue to Gethsemane. Visit the Church of All Nations and the Garden of Agony. It is here our Lord prayed with great passion before He was to endure the selfless sacrifice to come. Continue with a visit to the Tomb of the Virgin Mary. It is from this site that the holy body of the Virgin Mother was taken into Heaven by her Son and God. We will visit the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) on Mount Moriah, where it is said the Patriarch Abraham was ready to sacrifice his son. Here also stands the Dome of the Rock, with its marble and multi-colored mosaics, quotations from the Koran and the Golden Cupola. Continue on to Mt. Zion to visit the Room of the Last Supper, King David’s Tomb and the Church of the Dormition. Return to the hotel for dinner. Those who wish may attend midnight Liturgy at the Holy Sepulcher for a truly unforgettable and spiritually-fulfilling evening.

Day 8: JERUSALEM / JERICHO / JERUSALEM
Visit the Mount of Temptation, where the Lord was tempted by the devil and fasted for forty days and forty nights. There is an altar built over the same slab of stone where Jesus prayed and fasted. The Monastery was built over this site, and there is only one elderly monk who takes care of it. He is truly inspirational. En route to the Dead Sea, stop in Qumran, the area where a Jewish sect thought to be the Essenes wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls. Continue to the Church of St. Elisseos and Zacchaeus’ Tree. This is the tree upon which Zacchaeus climbed in order to see the Lord walk by. From here, drive to the Judean Desert to the Monastery of St. Gerasimos. It is one of the oldest monasteries in the world, built by Abbot Gerasimos in 455 A.D. Continue to Martha and Lazarus Tomb in Bethany where Lazarus was raised from the dead by Jesus after 4 days in the tomb. The Lord wanted to establish His power over death and waited until Lazarus was confirmed dead before raising him from the dead.

Day 9: JERUSALEM / USA—Return Home
SAVE THE DATES FOR NEXT YEAR AND HAVE A ONCE IN A LIFETIME SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE!!!
Contact Fr. Luke today to reserve your spot!
NEW GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10TH

Interested in learning Greek?

We are trying to create three or four classes
+ Younger Children Under 7
  + Children’s 7-12
  + Teens 13-17
  + Adults

This will be a serious Greek School Program.
Two Hours once a week

Cost per year: $400/year (scholarships available for need)

Teachers: Maria and Nikitas Zagoras

See Fr. Luke if you are interested

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
NO BIBLE STUDY IN JULY

WEEKDAY SERVICES
July 11 - 9:30am Divine Liturgy for St. Olga
July 27 9:30am Divine Liturgy for St. Panteleimon
Vespers 6:00pm Saturday July 7, 14, 28
Coffee Fellowship Supply
Pastries/Donuts Groups

These groups will bake or bring in pastries/donuts and/or fruit and veggies for our coffee fellowship. We are looking for more volunteers to help!!!

July 1 – Leah Didonato, Mary Seferi, Olga Poulakhine, Vasiliki Zahariadi
July 8 – Sara Darligiannis, Sissy Darligiannis, Helen Constantine, Alexandra Koulax
July 15 – Lisa Healy, Marie McNally, Despina Condos, Trish Lareau
July 22 – Charlotte Neslusan, Evis Jordanoglou, Dolly Sosnowski, Annalisa Dunning
July 29 – Lynn Purcell, Rayne Purcell, Sophia Foisy, Kelly Vosnakis

Aug 5 – Titi Chito, Rina Sgouritsas, Lorna McWilliam, Pres. Faith Veronis
Aug 12 – Sandi Kunkel, Evelyn Pappas, Gulapka Kostovski, Betty Tonna,
Aug 19 – Kathy Bilis, Marie Monroe, Eleni Sgouritsas, Tina Collelo

USHERS & GREETERS SCHEDULE

July 1 _Neal Neslusan, Jimmy Karapanos, Bill Thompson, Tasi Vriga, Tatyana Zhuk, Mike Chito
July 8 _Nicoleta Cojocaru, Arthur Darligiannis, Zach Gianaris, Jared Quill, Nikitas Zagoras
July 15 _Arthur Bilis, Chris Geoti, Thomai Gatsogiannis, Trish Lareau, Ron Sanderson
July 22 _Marie McNally, Matt Benoit, Lisa Healy, Nick Seferi
July 29 _Neal Neslusan, Jimmy Karapanos, Bill Thompson, Tasi Vriga, Tatyana Zhuk, Mike Chito

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SERVING GROUPS

July 1 – Thomai Gatsogiannis, Trish Lareau, Deb Raymond, Vange Wilson, Alexandra Koulax
July 8 – Donna Cooney, Leah Didonato, Rena Klebart, Betty Tonna,
July 15 – Marie McNally, Christa Benoit, Sandi Kunkel, Mary Seferi,
July 22 – Kathy Bilis, Sara Darligiannis, Marie Monroe, Charlotte Neslusan, Stephanie Quill
July 29 – Thomai Gatsogiannis, Trish Lareau, Deb Raymond, Vange Wilson, Alexandra Koulax

YOUTH EPISTLE READERS

July 1 – Lily Mueller
July 8 – Helen Dunning
July 15 – Panayiota Veronis
July 22 – Maia Beaudry
July 29 – Zach Beaudry
Aug 5 – Kiera MacKenzie
Remembering Our Church Family

Important Dates in JULY:

Make a visit, give a call, or express congratulations to members of our Church family who celebrate special days during this month.

**BIRTHDAYS:**

- July 2  Zack Gianaris
- July 4  Lorna McWilliam
- July 6  Paris McWilliam
- July 6  Katerina McWilliam
- July 6  Mark Totolos
- July 9  Gideon Ross
- July 14  Carl Mueller
- July 18  Laurie Manthos
- July 22  William Anthopulos
- July 22  Tatjana Zhuk
- July 24  Mary Seferi
- July 26  Jaime Ross
- July 28  Anton Cojocarui
- July 31  Chris Massie

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

- July 6  Ted & Betty Tonna
- July 11  Mark & Therese Totolos
- July 15  David/Steliane Thompson
- July 17  Dimitrios & Claire Milios
- July 24  Debby & Glen Raymond
- July 27  Sam & Evelyn Pappas
- July 27  Nike and Tony Beaudry
- July 30  Zack & Barbara Gianaris

**NAMEDAYS:**

- July 4  St. Loucia
  Loucis Adamopoulos

- July 11  St Olga
  Olga Baraklilis
  Olga Pappas

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**THANK YOU**

We want to thank the Parish Council for selecting us to represent our Sts Constantine and Helen Church Family as the recipients of the 2018 Boston of Metropolis Ministries Award. This was totally unexpected but very much appreciated. It was truly an honor to represent our church.

We also want to thank all the parishioners for showing us so much love and friendship over the past 10 years.

The ceremony was very impressive, which made for a memorable evening. It was especially great to celebrate this with Fr. Luke, our daughter and son-in-law Kathy and Arthur Bilis, and our son and daughter-in-law Steve and Ellen Monroe.

Thank you very much,
Del and Marie Monroe
“GO FORTH”
Published in Greek

Fr Luke’s book, *Go Forth*, was recently translated into Greek, and he had the opportunity to offer a presentation of the book in Thessaloniki at the Annunciation Church in Evosmos before Metropolitan Varnavas, a dozen clergy and 100 parishioners. He shared stories of his and Pres. Faith’s time in Albania, and the miracle of the Church’s Resurrection there.

COMMIT TO 20 MINUTES WITH GOD EACH DAY

Use Fr. Luke’s Daily Email to help you spend 20 minutes every day connecting with God throughout the new year.

You can sign up to the daily email at the Church’s website www.schwebster.org. On the left column of the main page you will find a place to sign up.

Learn your Orthodox Faith from Orthodox podcasts, music, teachings at www.myocn.net

www.AncientFaith.com
Thank You to those who sponsor our monthly bulletin!

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### JULY 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>8:30 Matins</td>
<td>9:30 Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>National Clergy Laity Congress begins in Boston</td>
<td>2 Clergy Laity Congress</td>
<td>3 Clergy Laity Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 Matins</td>
<td>9:30 Divine Liturgy w 3 Year Memorial Charlie Pappas &amp; Betty Vriga</td>
<td>9 5:00 Vacation Church Camp</td>
<td>10 2:00 VCC Tubing 5:00 Vacation Church Camp</td>
<td>11 St Olga 8:45 Matins 9:30 Liturgy</td>
<td>12 5:00 Vacation Church Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 Matins</td>
<td>9:30 Divine Liturgy w One Year Memorial Cynthia Johnson</td>
<td>15 6:30 Parish Council Meeting</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Team Leaves for Project Mexico. Keep them in your prayers!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 Matins</td>
<td>9:30 Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>22 7:00 AA</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 Return from Project Mexico</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 AA</td>
<td>8:30 Matins</td>
<td>9:30 Divine Liturgy 11:00 Special General Assembly</td>
<td>29 Youth off to MBC Camp in New Hampshire</td>
<td>30 6:30 Supplication Service to Virgin Mary</td>
<td>31 Aug 1 Fast Begins for Virgin Mary</td>
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STAY WITH ME LORD

Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I don’t forget You.
Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often.
Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervor.
Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness.
Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear Your voice and follow You.
Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be faithful to You.
Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more.