“There are many members, yet one body… Now YOU are the Body of Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:20, 27

This phrase from St. Paul describes the Church as the Body of Christ, and yet within the Church there are many members who make up this Body. You and I as Christians are called to work together as the Body of Christ, as one, in harmony and love with each other, for the glory of God in whatever work we do.

I want to reflect on this idea from St. Paul as we all prepare to celebrate OUR ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 12-13. Each year this is a major event for our community from several perspectives.

First of all, I love to see the Christian fellowship that prevails on this weekend. It is so beautiful to see so many of our Church family members offer their time and talents at the Festival. Some members, like all those who have been a part of our Festival Committee, have been working for many months. Many others will work hard and put in lots of hours on the Festival weekend itself. Hopefully, every member of our Church Family will offer our time and talents for the glory of God. Let’s remember on the Festival weekend, though, that it’s not about any one person, but it’s about God and His Church. Let’s do all the work of the Festival for Him and His glory!

Of course, I also love this Festival because it also offers a great opportunity to witness to the larger Central MA and NE Connecticut community and people from the sur-
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

2015 PARISH COUNCIL

President: Lisa Healy
Vice President: Sandi Kunkel
Secretary: Mary Papageorge & Deborah Raymond
Treasurers: Nick Popiak, Cynthia Johnson
Members: Victor Apostolou, Leah DiDonato, Chris Geotis, Anesti Jordanoglou, Lorna McWilliam, Garry Ross, Nick Seferi

PHILOPTOCHOS
President: Evelyn Pappas
Vice President: Elizabeth Vriga
Secretary: Marie McNally
Treasurer: Sandi Kunkel
Church Secretary: Jaime Ross
Festival Chair: Joey Gliniecki, Cynthia Johnson, Garry Ross

Cantor: Demetrios Milios
Choir Directors: Tony and Nike Beaudry
Greek Dance Group: Nike Beaudry
Sunday School Teachers:
Sophia Foisy, Anesti Jordanoglou, Evis Jordanoglou, Kristina Mironidis, Pauline Mueller, Presbytera Faith Veronis, Brian and Mari McMullen, Theophani Damiakiakis, Jennifer Rice, Stephanie Quill
Youth: Brian and Mari McMullen, Pres Faith Veronis
Seminarians: Brian and Mari McMullen, Jen Cowles, Jennifer Rice, Theophani Damiakiakis
Ecclesiarch: Bill Anthopoulos, Bookstore: Lorna McWilliams
Sexton: Deborah Raymond
Continued from Front Cover

rounding areas. We have a wonderful chance to show all those that attend our festival that we truly are a loving Church family. As Orthodox Christians, we understand that the two greatest commandments of our Lord Jesus are to love the Lord our God above all else, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Throughout the Festival let us try to make love the overriding spirit of the weekend, even by the end of the day when we all can become especially tired.

A final perspective we all have to remember about our Festival is that it helps bring in approximately $30,000, or 14% of our annual budget. We count on this money to help supplement the overall stewardship of our Church members. Thus, please do your best to invite and encourage all your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors to come and support our festival. You can promise them great food, great fun, great fellowship, and a great time!

If you don’t know where you can offer your help and volunteer yet, please call Mary Papageorge, or look on the next pages to find those who are heading up different areas of the Festival. Please remember, we need everyone’s help!!!

Along with looking forward to our Festival, September also brings with it the beginning of the new Church Year on September 1, with all its accompanying activities.

Our CHOIR will begin singing once again on SEPTEMBER 7TH. We have a beautiful choir, but we can always use more people to be a part of it. Please consider making the commitment and joining our Choir.

Our SUNDAY SCHOOL begins on SEPTEMBER 20. We’re excited to build upon the fantastic Vacation Church Camp we ran in July (look on pages 12-13), where we focused on the Saints as Special Agents of God. We will continue with this theme. Also, our Sunday School Program will enjoy the space of our new classroom building. Please bring your children and grandchildren to be a part of our Sunday School Program.

Our ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM will begin with our Saturday Morning Bible Study on September 19, our Wednesday Bible Study on September 23, and our Orthodoxy 101 and 201 Classes on September 24. Why don’t you consider joining one of our Adult Ed classes this year!

As we look to the future, please put in your calendars our RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION, OUR TIME CAPSULE DEPOSIT, and OUR FUNDRAISING FINALE ON NOVEMBER 7TH. We want every family in our Church Community to come and be a part of this special celebration of thanksgiving! We will have a special catered meal in our newly renovated hall. See page 13 for more details.

Hope to see all of you soon at our Festival!

With love and gratitude in our Lord Jesus,

+ Fr. Luke
"Blessed are you, Lord, who alone daily renew the
work of your hands."

Basil the Great

September 1st of each year has been dedicated at the
initiative of the Ecumenical Patriarchate – and rec-
etly also by the Roman Catholic Church – as a
day of prayer for the protection of the natural envi-
ronment. On this day, we especially beseech the
supreme God to gladden His creation so that human
life therein may be joyful and fruitful. This prayer
includes of course the petition that the inevitable
natural climate changes may occur and be permitted
within tolerable levels both for human survival and
for the planet’s sustainability.

Nonetheless, we humans – whether as individual
groups or collectively – behave contrary to this very
request. For we suppress nature in such a manner
that unforeseeable and undesirable changes occur to
the climate and environment, which are negatively
affected in their normal functions with consequent
implications for life itself. The cumulative result of
actions by particular individuals as well as by cor-
porate and state activities with a view to reforming
the natural environment so that it might produce
more resources for those who take advantage of it
only leads to the destruction of creation, which was
created good by God and thus functions in a bal-
aned way.

Those of us who appreciate the danger of climate
change that is only increasing by day for our planet
as a result of human actions raise our voice to high-
light this crisis and invite everyone to explore what
could be done “so that life is not lost for the sake of
greed.” (United Nations Declaration)

Therefore we have expended years of efforts to in-
form the faithful of our Church and all people of
good will about the grave risks deriving from grow-
ing (ab-)use of energy resources, which threatens
increasing global warming and threatens the sus-
tainability of the natural environment.

Orthodox Christians have learned from the Church
Fathers to restrict and reduce our needs as far as
possible. In response to the ethos of consumerism
we propose the ethos of asceticism, namely an
ethos of self-sufficiency to what is needed. This
does not mean deprivation but rational and re-
strained consumption as well as the moral condem-
nation of waste. “So if we have food and clothing,
with these we shall be content” (1 Tim. 6.8), as the
Lord’s Apostle urges us. And after the multiplica-
tion of the five loaves and the satisfaction of five
thousand people, excluding women and children,
Christ Himself ordered His disciples to collect the
remainder “so that nothing would be lost.” (John
6.12) Unfortunately, contemporary societies have
abandoned the application of this commandment,
surrendering to wastefulness and irrational abuse to
satisfy vain desires of prosperity. However, such
conduct can be transformed for the sake of creating
resources and energy by more appropriate means.

Human beings have destroyed creation through
greed by focusing exclusively on this earth and its
earthly benefits, which we endeavor to increase
constantly, like the “rich fool” in the Gospel parable. (Luke 12. 13-21) We ignore the Holy Spirit, in whom we live and move and have our being. This signifies that the response to the ecological crisis can only be successfully realized in the Holy Spirit, through whose grace our human efforts are blessed and all creation is renewed, returning to its original state, as it was created and intended by God – namely, “very good.” This is why the responsibility of humanity, as God’s co-creator endowed with free will, is immense for any proper response to the ecological crisis.

This earth resembles “an immense pile of filth.” (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si’,* 2015) And impurity implies more than simply material things; it primarily includes spiritual things. There are the impurities that essentially stem from the passionate thoughts of humanity. With firm faith in the Pantokrator and Creator of all creation, we Orthodox Christians are called to carry out the work of an evangelist and missionary with regard to the protection of creation. That is to say, we are called to rekindle the joyful gospel message to the modern troubled world and awaken the sleeping spiritual nature of a humanity diversely and multifariously distressed in order to convey a message of hope, peace and true joy – the peace and joy of Christ.

The fundamental criterion for an ecological ethic is not individualistic or commercial. It is deeply spiritual. For, the root of the environmental crisis lies in human greed and selfishness. What is asked of us is not greater technological skill, but deeper repentance for our wrongful and wasteful ways. Only through self-denial, through our willingness sometimes to forgo and to say “no” or “enough” will we rediscover our true human place in the universe.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

The way we respond to the natural environment directly reflects the way we treat human beings…We need to understand that a crime against nature is a crime against ourselves and a sin against God.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

This is what we believe and proclaim from the most holy Apostolic and Patriarchal Ecumenical Throne.

And we invite everyone to soberness of life, purification of passionate thoughts and selfish motivations, so that we may dwell in harmony with our neighbors and with God’s creation. Finally, we pray with Basil the Great, “who extolled the nature of things”: “Blessed are you, Lord, who alone daily renew the work of your hands. Blessed are you, Lord, who created light and darkness, distinguishing between them from each other. Blessed are you, Lord, who created all things and constructed the shadow of death by blackening the day into night. Blessed are you, Lord, who created humankind in your image and likeness, who made the day for the work of light and the night for human nature to rest . . .” (*Psalter and Prayer Book*, Pantokrator Monastery, Mt. Athos, 2004)
This is our message, conviction and exhortation to you all: Let us stand well; let us stand in awe before God’s creation.

May the grace and boundless mercy of our Lord, the Creator of all creation, both visible and invisible, be with you all and with the whole world, now and to the endless ages. Amen.

+ + +

**Other Quotes**

“On the Environment” from Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

*We believe in and accept a Creator, who fashioned the world out of love, making and calling it “very good.” Tending to and caring for this creation is not a political whim or a social fashion. It is a divine commandment; it is a religious obligation. It is no less than the will of God that we leave as light a footprint on our environment.*

+ + +

*If we treat our planet in an inhuman, godless manner, we fail to see it as a gift inherited from above. Our original sin with regard to the natural environment lies in our refusal to accept the world as a sacrament of communion, as a way of sharing with God and neighbor on a global scale. It is our humble conviction that divine and human meet in the slightest detail contained in the seamless garment of God’s creation, in the last speck of dust.*

+ + +

*It should not be fear of impending disaster with regard to global change that obliges us to change our ways with regard to the natural environment. Rather, it should be a recognition of the cosmic harmony and original beauty that exists in the world. We must learn to make our communities more sensitive and to render our behavior toward nature more respectful. We must acquire a compassionate heart – what St. Isaac of Syria, a seventh century mystic once called a heart that burns with love for the whole of creation: for humans, for birds and beasts, for all God’s creatures.*

+ + +

*To commit a crime against the natural world is a sin. For human beings to cause species to become extinct and to destroy the biological diversity of God’s creation; for human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests, or by destroying its wetlands; for human beings to injure other human beings with disease by contaminating the earth’s waters, its land, its air, and its life, with poisonous substances – all of these are sins.”*
THE POWER OF THE CROSS

SEPT 14 - EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

One day 60 years ago, after suffering many years in the work camps of Siberia, Aleksander Solzhenitsyn, the famous Russian intellectual and dissident, had fallen into despair. Like other prisoners, he had worked in the fields day after day, in rain and sun, during summer and winter. His days were filled with backbreaking labor and slow starvation. On this particular day, the hopelessness of his situation became too much. Sozhenitsyn saw no reason to continue living and trying to fight the system. He thought his life was meaningless since he would die in this Siberian prison. His life made no difference to the world. So he gave up. Laying his shovel on the ground, he slowly walked to the side of the work field and sat down. He knew that at any moment a guard would order him to stand up, and if he did not respond, the guard would beat him to death. He had seen it happen to many other prisoners.

As he was waiting, head down, he felt a presence. Slowly, he lifted his eyes and saw a skinny, old prisoner squat down next to him. The man said nothing. Instead, he took a stick and traced the sign of the Cross at Solzhenitsyn’s feet. The man then got back up and returned to his work.

As Solzhenitsyn stared at the sign of the Cross, his entire perspective changed. He knew that he was only one man against the all-powerful Soviet empire. Yet in that moment, he understood that there was something greater than all the evil he saw in prison. There was something even greater than the Soviet Union. He knew that the hope of all humankind was represented in that simple Cross. And through the power of the Cross, anything was possible. The Cross shone forth light in the midst of the greatest darkness. Solzhenitsyn slowly got back up, picked up his shovel, and went back to work. Nothing outward had changed, but inside, he saw a sign from God - he received hope.

Years later, Solzhenitsyn’s writings would enlighten the entire world, telling them not only about the horrors of the Soviet gulag, but also witnessing to the depth of the human soul, the sovereignty of God and the hope of the Cross.
VISITING THE SAINTS IN GREECE

One of the great blessings of visiting Greece this summer and attending the Ionian Village Camp was the encounter we all had with the saints. Every day our Church calendar remembers different saints who died as martyrs, who evangelized lands, who lived lives dedicated to Christ, and whose holiness inspired and blessed others. Of course, the saints walked with Jesus Christ in their lives, and continue to walk with Him after their deaths. Death is not the end for one who follows Christ, but it is simply a new reality. Even after death the saints continue interceding for us and trying to help us come closer to Jesus Christ.

We even had an opportunity to meet two saints who are known as “walking saints.” This means that even after their deaths, they are often seen walking the earth, interacting with others and performing miracles. They have received a special grace from God, and reach out to others to help draw them closer to our Lord. Two such saints are St Dionysius of Zakynthos and St. Gerasimos of Kefallonia. Both of these saints lived in the 16th and 17th century, and yet their bodies are still incorrupt. Their bodies have not decayed like the typical person, but have remained intact. We had a chance to see both of these incorrupt bodies.

We heard stories of how at times it is impossible to open the tombs of these saints. During such times, people believe that St Dionysius and St Gerasimos are out performing miracles. Afterwards, when people open up their tombs, they find seaweed at their feet, and even see how the slippers on their feet are worn down. From time to time, the slippers of these saints are replaced because they have been walking around too much.

We can hear such stories of saints, and for many of us, we will be skeptical. Yet when one goes and visits these holy sights, and actually sees the incorrupt bodies, it can inspire one and challenge us to grow in our own faith.

Of course, it’s not only the miracles that we hear about such saints that inspire us, but even more so is the story of their lives. For example, one of the most beautiful stories came from the life of St. Dionysios when he was the abbot at his monastery on the island of Zakynthos. One day, a desperate man ran to his monastery, banging at its doors. When St. Dionysios opened the door, the man pushed himself inside the monastery and told the abbot he had to have confession. He then went on to confess that he had just killed a man. As the murderer continued his confession, St. Dionysios realized that the man had just killed the saint’s own brother! By the end of the confession, there was more banging on the monastery doors. St. Dionysios went out
THE SAINTS ALIVE

to see a crowd of villagers ready for revenge. They asked the abbot if he had seen the man, and explained that this man killed Dionysios’ own brother. St Dionysios listened attentively, but said he had not seen the man. After the villagers went away, St. Dionysios helped the murderer escape off the island, telling him to go and sin no more. The man fled the island, only to return years later in order to become a monk at that very monastery! This was but one story of the saints we saw!

Another visit we made was to the island of Kefallonia to visit St. Gerasimos, another of the walking saints. After venerating his incorrupt body, we then had the opportunity to go down into a hole in the ground that St. Gerasimos himself had dug out. You see, St. Gerasimos was at another monastery, but his reputation of holiness had become too great. People were flocking to see him and receive his blessing. He wanted to flee from the world and find a place where he could concentrate more on his prayers and turn his constant attention to God.

So St. Gerasimos dug a ten foot deep hole in the ground, and dug out a 10x10 cavern. He then dug a little 2x3 foot hole that led to another 10x10 cavern. This is the place where St. Gerasimos lived for 19 years, praying unceaslessly to God, battling the demons in his ascetic struggle, and being filled with God’s grace.

For us to go down into this cavern was quite an experience of faith. It was hard to climb down, and then to stay in the cavern for more than a few minutes because of the lack of oxygen. Yet, we all reflected on what it meant for someone to have such a passion for Christ, that they would go to any extreme to seek out God. Going down into that underground cavern made me understand in a new way the sober struggle we all must make to seek after God!

And we had so many other visits to holy sights and listened to the lives of many other saints. We venerated the relic of the skull of St. Andrew, the first apostle who followed Jesus Christ. We kissed the skull of St. Alexios, the Man of God, and St. Philaret. And we learned how God’s grace not only filled these holy saints during their lifetime, but stayed with their relics, and continues to this day to offer healing and grace to many who seek their help.
Opa!!!

Greek Festival

The Light - September 2015

BUY A
FESTIVAL BANNER

Buy a $100 Banner that will be hung up inside the Festival Tent.
You can buy a banner to greet the community from your family, or put it in memory of a loved one.

SEND IN YOUR GIFT RAFFLE TICKETS
($5 each or Book of 5 for $20)

PRIZES:
1st - 50' Flat Screen TV
2nd - Bose Radio and CD
3rd - Motorola MOTO X
4th—$300 Gift Certificate

PAstry DROP-OFF
Friday, Sept 11 BEFORE 2pm

center table
Please bring in items for the Center Table. A basket will be placed in the Church Hall.
Contact Dhimitra Adamopoulos or Celia Milios with questions.

Gift shop & Book store
Traditional Greek Items, Jewelry, Religious Books, and more!!!

we need volunteers!
Please volunteer for as many hours as you can on the weekend of the Festival!
We also need people to help in the preparations and the clean up afterwards. Don’t wait to be asked, but con-

Thematic Baskets
Contact Evelyn Pappas (508-259-5453) or Sandi Kunkel (508-943-7227) about making a thematic basket, or donating anything towards a basket.

 Invite your Neighbors and Friends

Bring Your Families and Help at the Festival

Greek Festival

Opa!!!

Buy a $100 Banner that will be hung up inside the Festival Tent.
You can buy a banner to greet the community from your family, or put it in memory of a loved one.

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Thematic Baskets
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DONATIONS APPRECIATED

Any donations towards the FOOD LINE call Lisa Healy (508-981-8109), Marie McNally, or Cynthia Johnson. Thank you !!!!

- 25 CASES OF WATER
- 40 CASES OF SODA
- 11 COKE
- 7 DIET COKE
- 8 GINGER ALE
- 8 ROOT BEER
- 6 ORANGE
- 100 SLICES OF AMERICAN CHEESE (INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED)
- 140 HOT DOGS AND HOT BUNS
- 140 HAMBURGERS AND BUNS
- 130 HAMBURGER BUNS FOR LAMB BURGERS

Donations for the KID’S BOOTH call Donna Cooney (508-943-8113)

- $200 to Rent a Snow Cone Machine
- 40 1 quart bottles of Soda

Donations for PASTRIES to offset cost of ingredients call Evelyn Pappas (508-259-5453)

GREEK “KAFENEIO” COFFEE SHOP

Try our “Baklava Sundays”, Greek Coffee, Frappes, and other specialties!

Try Our Delicious Souvlaki, Gyros and Greek Food!

WATCH OUR GREEK DANCERS

Our youth Greek Dance Troupe will perform traditional dances on Saturday, 1:30 and 5:00 and Sunday at 1:00

LIVE GREEK MUSIC with “ARION”
Saturday 3:00 - 10:00pm
Sunday 12:00-5:00pm

TENT SET-UP
Come Tue, Wed, Thur, or Fri Before the Festival to Help!!!

CHILDREN’S BOOTH & BOUNCING HOUSE
All Day Saturday and Sunday

CLEAN UP
Help on Monday AFTER the Festival! Talk with Chris Geotis.

CAN’T WAIT FOR MOUTH-WATERING LOUKOUMADES AND PASTRIES!!!
Thank You to Evelyn & Sam Pappas for Hosting our Water Day!
International Spy Academy
“Secret Agents for Christ”
Summer is coming to an end and Fall begins soon. It has been a very beautiful summer and I'm sorry to see the season pass. Time has become precious in very many ways. We see loved ones passing and we realize how important those moments were when they were alive. We see our children growing older, becoming more independent, going off to college and seeking new adventures. It feels like it was only yesterday when they needed a hug, now it is us that needs a hug from them.

We watch the seasons change just as our own lives change. Each year we try to improve our gardens, our houses, and hopefully our spiritual lives. Its easy to add more fertilizer to a garden, and to freshen up a room with a new coat of paint. How do we improve our spiritual life? What do we do to "freshen it up"? How do we change the routine that is just that, routine? How can we make our hearts filled with more love and less criticism? How do we stop working overtime in our work life and start working overtime in our spiritual life? These are questions that cross my mind and I search for answers. Hopefully, someday, I will find those answers.

As the festival approaches, please pray for all the hard workers who have been preparing to make this festival even more successful than the past. We need everyone's help in any way possible. Thank you to all those that have donated their time!

My condolences to the families of Charlie Pappas, Betty Vriga, Jeff Angelo and Joan Quinn. You will be missed.

To those of you celebrating a special time in your life, congratulations and best wishes for many years of happiness and good health! Happy 5th Anniversary to my husband! Thank you for being there for me, through the struggles and through the happy times! I have been blessed to have you as a husband.

May God Bless Us All

Lisa Healy

Last month we lost one of our beloved Philoptochos sisters, Betty Vriga. A past president and current vice-president, Betty was a hard working, generous person who was dedicated to her church. She will be greatly missed. May her memory be eternal!

We are now preparing for our Festival in our newly renovated kitchen. At 8:30am, Tuesday September 8 we will be mixing the filling for the petas. On the same day in the afternoon we will make koulourakia. On Wednesday at 8:30 we will be making the petas and in the afternoon the baklava. At 8am Thursday we will make breads. Friday we will pack. Anyone who is baking at home please bring your items on Friday with your name on them so we know who brought them.

We are taking pre-orders for petas and breads. We will appreciate any donations to help the cost of the ingredients. We need many volunteers for baking that week, and for working during the festival. Please contact me at 508-259-5453 or Marie McNally or Sandi Kunkel for any donations, baking, pre-orders, and scheduling on working the pastry booth.

Please bring in items for the Center Table and for the food baskets or theme baskets by Friday. Boxes are placed in Narthex and hall for drop offs. We need everyone's help to make this festival a success. It is a lot of work but also great fun getting together for the good of the church. Hope to see you there!

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Monday September 28th at 6:00. At this meeting we will fill the position of vice-president. Anyone interested please let me, Marie or Sandi know. We'll also plan out the year. Our first fundraiser will be our annual spaghetti supper on October 24th so save the date. More to come but let's get through the festival first! For a small society we should be very proud of ourselves in how active we are! If anyone has any ideas for activities or other fundraisers please let us know.

Love, Evelyn Pappas
Mark your Calendars for our

**RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION**
**TIME CAPSULE DEPOSIT**
**& FUNDRAISING FINALE**

with a
Catered Dinner in our Newly Renovated Hall

6:30pm Saturday, November 7th

Celebrating our New Classroom Building, Newly Renovated Hall and Entrance, & Newly Renovated Church!

We hope that all 175 families in our Church Family will come and celebrate this historic event!!!

Call our Church Office or See a Parish Council Member to buy a ticket and join us in thanking God for the beautiful new renovations and additions to our Church!
# A Vision for the Future

**Offering a Vibrant House of Faith and Worship for Future Generations**

45 out of 175 Members of our Church Family have given thus far towards our Capital Campaign. Will you please prayerfully consider participating in this project to beautify our Church!

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<tr>
<th>Archangels ($100,000)</th>
<th>Patrons: ($3000 - $5000)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charlie and Helen Pappas</td>
<td>Dhimitra &amp; Angelo Adamopoulos</td>
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<th>Angels ($50,000)</th>
<th>Supporters: ($1000-$2900)</th>
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<td>- In Honor of their parents Despina and Bill from the Condos Children (George, Lisa, Maria, Ann)</td>
<td>- Pauline Angelo</td>
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<td>- Emmanuel James Pappas</td>
<td>- Ted Avlas</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Olga Pappas</td>
<td>- Bill and Despina Condos</td>
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<td>- Sam and Evelyn Pappas</td>
<td>- Nicholas/Bertha Constantine</td>
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<td>- Georgia Metaxa</td>
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<td>- Stavros and Evangelia Pappas</td>
<td>- Georgette Nicholopoulos</td>
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<td>- Mary Fatsi, Eleanor Teguis, Dina Teguis</td>
<td>- Helen &amp; Lou Nicozisis</td>
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<td>- Michael and Titi Chito</td>
<td>- Olga Petluck</td>
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<td>- Van Thomas</td>
<td>- Jared and Stephanie Quill</td>
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<td>- The Foisy Family</td>
<td>- Paulette Steffa</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Kiku Andersen</td>
<td>- John &amp; Samantha Gatsogiannis</td>
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<td>- Evangeline Wilson</td>
<td>- Kaiden and Hanna Kunkel</td>
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<td>- Anton and Nicoleta Cojocaru</td>
<td>- Zinos and Angeliki Mavodanes</td>
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<td>- Steve, Chuck, Jimmy Pappas</td>
<td>- Chris &amp; John Mayo</td>
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<th>Benefactors: ($6000 – $9,000)</th>
<th>- Bob &amp; Lea Mirandola</th>
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<td>- Leah Didonato</td>
<td>- George Nonis</td>
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<td>- In Honor of Demetrios and Hariklia Milios from Celia Milios</td>
<td>- Elaine Patrinos</td>
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<td>- Ted and Betty Tonna</td>
<td>- Garry &amp; Jaime Ross</td>
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<td>- Harry/Tina Jordanoglu and Ron/Sandy Sanderson</td>
<td>- Garry Ross</td>
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- In Memory of Elizabeth Vriga from Tasi and Ted Vriga, Liz Pavlech and Lorraine Bahl

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**Fundraising Goal:** $750,000  
**Cash and Pledged:** $604,000

Thanks also to Eric Beland, Tony Beaudry and Garry Ross for putting in more than 60 hours of labor in setting up the new sound system for the Church Sanctuary and the Hall.
REMAINING NAMING OPPORTUNITIES
(A Donation over THREE years):

- Naming opportunity for Classroom Building at $45,000
- Stain Glass Windows in Interior of Church:
  - Large Interior South Wall $35,000
  - Back Wall Window $20,000

GOAL:
- 100% Parishioner Participation
  - Presently: 26% of Parishioners Have Given
  - (80% of our Goal!!)

GOAL:
- $750,000
  - $604,000 Pledged or Donated Thus Far!

DEPOSITING A TIME CAPSULE - Nov 7th.
Open it AD 2050!!!

We Hope Every Family in the Church To Participate!

We will be putting a Time Capsule in the walls of our new classroom building on Saturday, November 7th at our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

We would like EVERY FAMILY to put something in the Time Capsule for our future generations to read! We will mark the Time Capsule to be opened in AD 2050. We want to include in this project artifacts, letters, and whatever else we can offer to remind our children and future generations of who we were and the living Faith Community we have. We will be sending to every family in our community a letter explaining this project, along with an 8x11 envelope, and what we hope to get from everyone to put in the Time Capsule.

Plan on coming to our November 7th celebration so we can include your offering to the Time Capsule.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or questions of what to include in our Time Capsule, please talk with Nick Seferi.
USHERS & GREETERS SCHEDULE

September 6
Neal Neslusan, Mary Papageorge, Jimmy Karapanos, Cindy Johnson,

September 13
Nicoleta Cojocaru, Zach Gianaris, Garry Ross, Jared Quill

September 20
Arthur Bilis, Del Monroe, Chris Geotis, Thomai Gatsogianis, Trish Lareau

September 27
Marie McNally, Eric Beland, Matt Benoit, Lisa Healy, Nick Seferi

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

Sept 6 - Thomai Gatsogiannis, Trish Lareau, Stephanie Quill, Betty Tonna
Sept 13 - FESTIVAL
Sept 20 - Marie McNally, Christa Benoit, Sandi Kunkel, Mary Seferi
Sept 27 – Donna Cooney, Athena Cooney, Bill Anthopoulos, Jaime Ross
Oct 4 - Kathy Bilis, Marie Monroe, Carolyn Niemeck, Deb Raymond

EARLY RISERS BIBLE STUDY

7:00am Saturday Sept. 19 & 26

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00am September 23 & 30

Come and Learn Your Faith
Orthodoxy 101 Class
6:30pm Thursday, Sept 24

Orthodox 201 Class
7:30pm Thursday, Sept 24

YOUTH EPISTLE READERS

August 30 – Olivia Neslusan
(Acts 11:19-30 - page 32)

Sept 6 – Smaranda Cojocaru
(Acts 16:16-34 - page 56)

Sept 13 – Maia Beaudry
(Acts 20:16-26 - page 60)

Sept 20 Maria Mironidis
(Acts 2:1-11)

Sept 27 – Lily Mueller
(Hebrews 11:33-12:2)

Oct 4 – Hanna Kunkel
Romans 2:10-16

Oct 11 – Theodora Veronis
Romans 5:1-10

Oct 18 – Panayiota Veronis
(Acts 9:32-42 - page 50)
Remembering Our Church Family

*Important Dates in SEPTEMBER:*

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

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Sept 6  Gus Zahariadis  
Sept 7  Maria Zhuk  
Sept 8  Scott McWilliam  
Sept 9  Irene Mountzouris  
Sept 10 Helen Pappas  
Sept 10 Nick Popiak  
Sept 10 Kristina Mironidis  
Sept 11 Zachery Beaudry  
Sept 12 Evelyn Pappas  
Sept 12 Barbara Pappas  
Sept 15 John Neslusan  
Sept 16 Madison McWilliam  
Sept 16 Chuck Pappas  
Sept 18 Bob Mirandola  
Sept 22 Kathy Kunkel  
Sept 24 Niko Totolos  
Sept 24 Jared Quill  
Sept 25 Marie McNally  
Sept 26 Olga Pappas  
Sept 26 Christos Atsales  
Sept 27 Diane Atsales  
Sept 28 Titi Chito  
Sept 28 James George  
Sept 29 Paul Veronis

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

Sept. 3 Lorna and Scott McWilliam  
Sept 6 Jared and Stephanie Quill  
Sept 9 Del and Marie Monroe  
Sept 12 Norman & Barbara Desrosiers  
Sept 15 Nick and Mary Seferi  
Sept 25 Lisa and Dan Healy  
Sept 29 Neal & Charlotte Neslusan

**NAMEDAYS:**

Sept. 1 St. Antigone  
Sept 5 Prophet Zacharias  
Sept 7 St Kassiane  
Sept 14 Feast of the Cross  
Sept 17 St Sophia  

**ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE**

Sept. 17 Fr. Luke Veronis
STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Our Stewardship Offerings Through July 31 are $77,262. Our goal for the end of the year is $108,000. Please keep up to date in your Stewardship Offerings!

Look for our convenient Online Giving in the bottom left corner of our Church webpage www.schwebster.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 20!

Please bring your Children on Time to Church for Sunday School!

Thank God we will be using our new classrooms!!!

Mark Your Calendar

Philoptochos Spaghetti Dinner Oct 24

"Neither do walls nor rich furniture make a home….millionaires in magnificent mansions may never know a home. But where there are good relationships, where love binds the family together and to God, there happiness is always to be found. For good relationships are heaven anywhere. Monotony and misery cannot exist where there is love. But the fire of love must be kept burning warmly and brightly with the sweet wood of sacrifice. In teaching us to cross the "I" out of life, our Lord tells us the secret of happiness; what the Saints call the ecstasy of self-forgetfulness. For divine love is always self-effacing, seeks to give rather than to receive, to serve rather than be served, to love rather than to be loved, and will sacrifice anything for the beloved. Only then does love become a clean and holy fire in the heart, and not an ugly flare of lust."

St. Seraphim of Sarov
VERSES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:10

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6-7

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:1-2

Put off the old man and put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him… Put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Colossians 3:9-14

DAILY BIBLE READINGS
SEPTEMBER

Sept 2 Corinthians 13:3-13 Mark 4:35-41
Sept 4 Galatians 2:6-10, Mark 5:22-24, 35-43; 6:1
Sept 5 Corinthians 4:1-5, Matt 23:29-39

Sept 7 Galatians 2:11-16 Mark 5:24-34
Sept 11 Galatians 4:8-21, John 12:19-36
Sept 12 Corinthians 2:6-9 Matt 10:37-42, 11:1

Sept 15 Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1 Matt 10:16-22
Sept 16 Corinthians 6:1-10 Luke 7:36-50
Sept 17 Ephesians 1:1-9, Mark 7:24-30
Sept 18 Ephesians 1:7-17 Mark 8:1-10
Sept 19 Corinthians 1:26-31; 2:1-5 John 8:21-30

Sept 20 Galatians 2:16-20 Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

Thank You to those who sponsor our monthly bulletin!

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Webster, MA 01570
tel: 508-943-6278
Because We Care
Richard D. Majersik, Director
www.shaw-majersik.com

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Roland P. Malboeuf, Funeral Director

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Park 'n Shop Supermarkets

Allasso Chiropractic
Pediatric Development & Family Health
Robert Mirandola D.C.
Newtonville, MA 02460, Dr.Mirandola@gmail.com

Sam S. Pappas Certified Public Accountant
175 Thompson Road • P.O. Box 839
Webster, Massachusetts 01570-0839
Telephone: (508) 943-7252 FAX (508) 943-7845
www.sspcpa.com
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<td>8:30 Matins 9:30 Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>7 Labor Day Greek Dancing Sunday School Teachers Meeting</td>
<td>8 Nativity of Theotokos Tent Set-Up 8:30 Mixing of Pitas 1:00 Kouloouakia</td>
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<td>Tent Set-Up 8:30 Making Breads</td>
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<td>11am-10pm GREEK FESTIVAL Come, Support and Help!!!</td>
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<td>8:30 Matins 9:30 Liturgy 11am-5pm GREEK FESTIVAL</td>
<td>14 Holy Cross 8:45 Matins 9:30 Liturgy</td>
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+ I refuse to be shackled by yesterday’s failures or tomorrow’s worries, but will live each day in the present, knowing that my Lord is with me.

+ What I do not know will no longer intimidate me. Instead I will view each challenge that life brings as a new opportunity for God to work through me.

+ I will not allow others to define my mood, my method, my image, or my mission, but I will allow Christ to live in me, and direct my every thought, word and action.

+ I will pursue a mission greater than myself by making at least one person feel blessed and happy that he or she met me today.

+ I will not tolerate gossip, self-pity or negativity from myself or from others, but will try to share the grace and peace of God that He has placed in my heart.

+ I will become a person of unceasing internal prayer. There within my heart, the inner person, I will find continual joy, peace and contentment, for the Kingdom of Heaven is within us.

+ I will be filled with the love of God. I will acquire true love for my neighbor. For how can I be one with my Lord and not be one with my neighbor who is created in His image.

+ No problem of this present world will be able to affect me, because all problems are temporary and only exist in this fleeting world. I, however, am united with my Lord Jesus, and I belong to the world to come.