



# The Herald

Newsletter of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Archangels • 1527 Bedford St., Stamford, CT 06905

May 2016

## *Tipping Point*

In the year 2000, a gifted writer named Malcolm Gladwell wrote a best selling book called *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. He researched different areas of life in America to discover the moment when an idea, trend or social behavior crosses a threshold and ignites sudden, significant change. One example: the company making “Hush Puppy” shoes (remember those?) was on the verge of bankruptcy following years of declining sales. Then, one day, two famous pop singers appeared on television wearing a pair of these and the trend reversed itself quickly due to popularity in some New York bars and clubs. This marvelous book dispels the myth that broad change can only happen slowly over time. In fact, if the circumstances are right, change can actually happen quickly.

There are many marvelous things that have happened in the history of the human race that heralded significant change in the way we live. Eons ago the domestication of animals and plants allowed humans to settle down on farms and develop villages. Cities and empires emerged to advance art and literature, engineering and politics, commerce and religion. Coins permitted larger scale investment and trade. Public sponsored education here in America allowed the masses to increase their level of formal education. Computers and the internet have led to globalized information and communication that shrinks the world into the palm of our hand.

What we celebrate during the 40 days of Easter (and indeed every day of our lives) is the ultimate tipping point. To use Gladwell’s framework, a seemingly insignificant Jewish prophet 2,000 years ago (at least to educated and

influential Romans of that time) ended his life in apparent shame and disgrace, one of hundreds if not thousands of Jews and others who were publicly executed on a cross to keep peace and order. But what the best political and religious powers of that day never imagined came to pass: Jesus of Nazareth not only came back to life with a new type of physical flesh no one had ever seen before (or since, I might add), but he seemed to vanish into thin air only 40 days later, and then send a powerful Spirit upon his followers that emboldened them to carry his message everywhere.

Through these events here is how the whole human race has benefited:

- Vindication – of all of Jesus Christ’s life, teaching, mighty deeds, and actions;
- Sin – the perennial problem of moral failings, open rebellion, accidental mistakes, improper thoughts, false compromises, wrong loyalties, and false religion – was definitively and finally dealt with;
- Sickness – physical, mental, spiritual, social – was healed to signal the inauguration of the messianic era in human history;
- Evil – in all its forms from overt violence to subtle, hidden temptation, including personal, corporate, and cosmic – was defeated;
- Death – was definitely overcome, with Resurrected Life triumphing;
- Cosmos – is now being decisively re-created all over again to conform to God’s desires.

## CHURCH OF THE ARCHANGELS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

*“Come let us  
rebuild”*



Church of  
the Archangels  
Capital Campaign

“Come let us rebuild”

**Please pledge or donate today  
to help reach our goal!**

Mail checks to 1527 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT 06905

For more information, call 203-348-4216 or visit  
[www.archangelsgoc.org](http://www.archangelsgoc.org)

Almost overnight a small band of a minority religious group emerged onto the world scene, proclaiming Jesus as the Anointed Messiah of Israel and the reigning King of the entire earth. Most just refused to accept their outlandish claims. Others became upset at what some of them were saying and tried to silence them. Many simply could not take them seriously.

And it was not just famous Apostles like Peter and Paul who did this in public places like Jewish synagogues, Greek agora, and Roman forums, but also working men and women like Aquila and Priscilla who were so moved by their new found experience of God that they seized every opportunity to share this with relatives and friends, co-workers and clients.

The rest of the story includes folks like us from all walks of life and different cultures and languages. We Christians of the worldwide Orthodox Church are highly educated and barely educated; accomplished professionals and manual laborers; public officials and private citizens; educators in schools and raising kids at home. Many of us here at Archangels trace our lineage roots to Greece, while a growing number of others do so to other countries like Romania, Georgia, Egypt, Palestine, and, yes, America.



Altar Boys, Handmaidens, and Children wave palms during Great Entrance on Palm Sunday, with Fr. David Mezynski assisting Fr. Harry (April 24)



What binds us together is the Mother of all renewal movements in history and creation, the Ultimate Tipping Point: the Good News of what God has done for all humanity in Jesus Christ. Even with all the achievements throughout global civilization, no one has ever spoken, acted, or been understood like Jesus Christ. Nothing – absolutely nothing – can even begin to compare with his life, death, and risen and risen new life!

During this glorious 40-day period of celebrating Pascha we share in the astonishing newness of life that our Lord makes available, we revel in our experience of the worship during Great Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, and we can spread such unspeakable joy and grace to all others around us while attending to loved ones, going to school, doing our jobs, and conducting our business.

Christ is risen!

*- Fr. Harry*

### ***Pastoral Reflection on Lent & Holy Week***

Publicly I want to express my sincere gratitude to God for all who responded to my appeal this Lent to prepare for and come to the Sacrament of Confession. Many more received this than ever before, and this represents significant spiritual progress for our parish. Not only did this permit me to come to know you better, and for you to experience the grace of Christ in new ways, but it also afforded me the opportunity to provide spiritual guidance as we opened our hearts to one another. As a result, I will continue to address this topic on occasion as we deepen our life of faith and develop more authentic Christian community. I ask those who came to share this with others in order to encourage them to seize the opportunity and take advantage of such an extraordinary gift. Along with the amazing worship services throughout period and the great help offered by Steve Sarigianis and Haralampos Kourgiantakis, this was so meaningful and energizing to me as your pastor! – Fr. Harry



40 Day Churching of Chrisonia Kapasouris during Agape Vespers on Easter Sunday (May 1)

## ***Parish Council***

“Give of your time and talents.” We hear this phrase at Archangels often. Parish Council members deploy a lot of time talents pursuing thoughtful improvements to our parish. But let’s step back and appreciate the simpler time and talents spent leading into Pascha. Parish Council members could be seen serving as ushers throughout Great Lent, assisting ministries with their work, plaiting palms, cleaning the church, preparing for Holy Week, assisting the children’s Good Friday workshop, and offering the meal after Easter vigil. We are all volunteers and it is a pleasure to serve you. Contact: Jason Konidaris at [jason.konidaris@yale.edu](mailto:jason.konidaris@yale.edu)

## ***Treasurer’s Report***

Statements on 2016 first quarter results are available. Please stop by the office to review results. Review of the 2014 audit will be presented at a General Assembly on Sunday, May 15th. We will also take nominations for 2015’s Audit Committee at that time. If your talents are suited, please consider helping the parish by agreeing to sit on the Audit Committee. It is an important role that speaks to the evolution of our finances, books, and records. Contact: Elias Lolis at [elolis@aol.com](mailto:elolis@aol.com) 203- 569-3784

## ***Online Donation Process Now Available!***

We are pleased to report that online donations may now be made via our church website at [www.archangelsgoc.org](http://www.archangelsgoc.org), where you are able to make one-time donations and recurring donations. Please be sure to include a note in the “special instructions” field if you wish to direct your donation for a specific purpose or ministry. Donations can be made by bank account or credit card and are processed securely via PayPal, one of the largest and most trusted online payment processors. However, you do not need to have a PayPal account to make online donations. You can expect to see improvements and refinements to this capability over time, including the ability to more easily direct your donation to a particular ministry and provide online payment options for ministry programming (e.g. Greek School) and social gatherings (e.g. Mardi Gras, Greek Festival). Contact: George Nanos - [nanos203@gmail.com](mailto:nanos203@gmail.com)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**May 14th, 12 Noon at Norwalk Inn**  
**Ladies Philotochos Mother’s Day Luncheon**  
All Welcome. Tickets are \$45

## ***Stewardship Report***

Cash receipts as of March 31 total \$211,895, putting Stewardship 15% ahead of last year’s pace thus far. If you have any questions about Stewardship or the financial services meeting group, please contact Tim Hartch at [timhartch1@outlook.com](mailto:timhartch1@outlook.com).

## ***Buildings & Grounds***

Fortunately repair activity levels have slowed down somewhat. We are still evaluating proposals to resolve the steam generator issue in the SAC ladies’ locker room. Thank you for your patience during this time. We have come to agreement with F.G.S. Masonry to replace two concrete windowsills and a small concrete exit way on the Atria side of the SAC/Church driveway. Jeff Kaminski, SAC’s GM, discovered an exhaust fan issue for the men’s locker room area, which also serves the floor above. New parts were ordered and repairs expected to be completed by end of April. We have made arrangements for our annual HVAC servicing, in order to assure optimum cooling levels in the church, the hall and the first floor classrooms when needed as late spring approaches. Contact: Peter Licopantis [pglydl3@optonline.net](mailto:pglydl3@optonline.net) 203.322.7092

## ***Capital Campaign***

As I mentioned on Palm Sunday, I am very pleased to make two major announcements. First, we have surpassed an important milestone – the \$1,500,000 hurdle set by the General Assembly for the commencement of construction. Second, sufficient pledges have been received to trigger the \$250,000 Matching Grant. Documentation has been forwarded to the Anonymous donor and it is hoped that the Grant will be received by early summer. Thanks to this and to the generous pledge of a second anonymous donor, total pledges received now surpass \$1,750,000. Cash received totals \$1,038,500.

The way is open now for the Master Planning Committee to define a practical timeline for construction. Much thought is being given to commencing the minor church renovations by early summer while we wait for finalization of architectural plans for the rest of the building.

We are most excited about reaching these goals and deeply appreciative of all of you who have given or pledged to the Campaign to date. We do still have a long way to go to reach our official \$2,200,000 target. We have come this far with gifts and pledges from 80 donors, but there are around 300 active families in the parish commu-



nity. There are lots of you yet to be heard from. We encourage you to seize the opportunity and respond over the next few weeks with as generous a pledge, hopefully spread over three years, as you can. While receiving an initial installment on the pledge when it is received is always welcome, it is more important to simply make the pledge. No amount is too small. Members of the Campaign Committee may be contacting you soon and we ask you to be sympathetic to their efforts.

There is no question that the Campaign is about money and renovating our physical plant. But far more than that, it is about bringing our Community together to work toward a common end, to rebuild our relationship with God and each other. For this reason, we sincerely hope that all of you will join in the effort and that our list of donors will grow to include a sizeable majority of the members of the Community. Please join in the project with enthusiasm. Please help us get to our goal. Please help us surpass it.

On a different note, I am sure you will all have noticed the bright new sign promoting the Campaign in front of the Church. Our sincere thanks to Jane Perkins and Peter Licopantis, who spearheaded the project and brought it to fruition.

It has come to my attention lately that there are some misunderstandings about the way we classify and report gifts. I would like to try and clarify these. Contributions are divided into three categories: those received in conjunction with a formal pledge; those received as a one-time donation outside of a pledge, some from members of the community, some from outside friends; and a few modest non-pledge contributions received from various members of the community in honor of a newly departed friend or relative. These last I describe as 'Memorial Gifts'. Such 'Memorial Gifts' should not be confused with those few formal pledges that have been offered in memory of departed family member. These are counted as pledges and not as 'Memorial Gifts'. The Memorial character of these pledges will be officially acknowledged and recorded in the publication to be created and released following completion both of the Campaign and of the renovations. Nonetheless, I would like to acknowledge specifically at this time those Memorial pledges received to date by the Campaign: from Maria Poulos in memory of her husband Jimmy; from Pam Koutroubis in memory of several members of her family; and from Drs. Stelios Theofanidis and Elizabeth Siderides in memory of Dr.

Lambros Siderides. May their memory be eternal. These pledges are sincerely appreciated, as indeed are all pledges.

Plans are afoot for a special Capital Campaign Comedy Night event in the Fall. You will be hearing more about it over the next few weeks. This event will take place on the evening of November 12, 2016. Please save the date. We hope to see you all there for what we are sure will be a memorable evening. Contact: Elias Kulukundis

### ***Master Planning Committee***

We are grateful to the Capital Campaign and its donors. Your work has brought us to the point where we may soundly initiate construction. We are now governed by the timing of our formal architectural drawings – currently under way. Considerable thought is being given to staging the work in the following manner: Cosmetic church renovations first (as early as this Summer), followed by the broader renovation work to the community/administrative building (beginning in the Fall). As we stated last month, we are discussing space solutions for our ministries to minimize disruption when construction work begins. Our aim is to give all ministries the ability to meet and function even as work is undertaken. Contact: Jason Konidaris at [jason.konidaris@yale.edu](mailto:jason.konidaris@yale.edu)



**Father Harry addresses the audience at the District Oratorical Festival on April 16th**

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## MINISTRIES

*The following two new sections will begin this month due to suggestions from our members. Thanks – and keep these positive ideas coming!*

### ***Prayer of the Month***

We will begin to offer a prayer from the rich spiritual Tradition of our Church every month. The first comes from the glorious worship of Pascha/Easter, called the “Resurrection Ode.”

Ἀνάστασιν Χριστοῦ θεασάμενοι προσκυνήσωμεν ἅγιον Κύριον, Ἰησοῦν τὸν μόνον ἀναμάρτητον. Τὸν Σταυρὸν σου Χριστέ προσκυνούμεν, καὶ τὴν ἁγίαν σου Ἀνάστασιν ὑμνοῦμεν καὶ δοξάζομεν· σὺ γὰρ εἰ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἐκτός σου ἄλλον οὐκ οἶδαμεν, τὸ ὄνομά σου ὀνομάζομεν. Δεῦτε πάντες οἱ πιστοί, προσκυνήσωμεν τὴν τοῦ Χριστοῦ ἁγίαν Ἀνάστασιν. Ἴδου γὰρ ἦλθε διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ, χαρὰ ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ. Διὰ παντὸς εὐλογοῦντες τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνοῦμεν τὴν Ἀνάστασιν αὐτοῦ. Σταυρὸν γὰρ ὑπομείνας δι’ ἡμᾶς, θανάτῳ θάνατον ὤλεσεν.

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. We venerate your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify your Resurrection. For you are our God, we know no other than you, and we call upon your name. Come all you faithful, let us worship the holy Resurrection of Christ. For behold, through the Cross, joy has come into all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, let us praise his Resurrection. For by enduring the Cross for us, he has destroyed death by death!

### ***Did You Know?***

“Pascha”, the traditional Greek word for Easter is not really a Greek word but rather an attempt to spell the Hebrew word Pésach (meaning Passover) with Greek letters! Very significant words in our Bible, like Amen & Alleluia, were so treasured that Greek letters were used for the original Hebrew or Aramaic, the religious heritage of Jesus and the Apostles, rather than trying to translate them. So, in English, we could just as easily call our Easter observance the Christian Passover (of Jesus Christ from death to life) to distinguish it from the original Passover (of the ancient Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land) that Jews still celebrate to this day.

### ***Adult Education***

Orthodoxy 101 resumes on Monday, May 9, before the summer break. Compline 7 pm, Class at 7:30 pm. Subject: “The Old Testament Roots of Christian Faith & Life.” Reading: *Genesis 1-12, Proverbs 1 & 8, Isaiah 40-55, and God and You pp. 7-21.*

Special Lecture: Dr. George Demacopoulos will speak on “What Orthodox Christianity can bring to American Christian Politics” on Friday evening, May 20, the eve of the feast of Saints Constantine & Helen. Constantine the Great changed the dynamic between faith and politics when he officially recognized the Christian faith as a legitimate religion. Dr. Demacopoulos is Professor of Theology at Fordham University. Co-sponsored by our Church and AHEPA.

Series on Aging: concludes on Monday, May 23, when Fr. Harry will address “Spirituality of Growing Older” at 7:30 pm, with Compline at 7:15 pm. Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public.

Anyone interested in Greek Language instruction contact Dr. Eugenia Zavras at 203.322.9561 or [etz124@yahoo.com](mailto:etz124@yahoo.com)

### ***Memorial Prayers at Cemeteries***

Fr. Harry will visit the following area Cemeteries on Memorial Day, May 30, according to the following tentative schedule:

9:00 am – St. John’s (Darien)

9:45 am – Woodland

11:00 am – Fairfield Memorial

12:30 pm – Queen of Peace

1:00 pm – Putnam (Greenwich)

Please bring a sheet of paper or notecard with the first names of deceased family and friends.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016**

**Outdoor Liturgy at Cove Park Pavilion  
to Celebrate 59th Anniversary of the  
“Opening of the Doors” / Quranoixia  
of the Current Church Building**

Barbecue – Games for the Family – Details to Follow





Zack Muraskin, Dina Haralambidis, and sisters Isabella & Christina Hlebogiannis stop their furious cleaning efforts for a quick picture during the Saturday of Lazarus church cleaning.



The GOYA takes a break after finishing their hunt for answers at the MET for the annual NY District Scavenger Hunt. Congrats for their 1st place finish!

## Seniors

Our April Senior Luncheon was very well attended. In observance of Lent, our lunch included a variety of pizzas and the traditional “fasolada” (bean soup). It was delicious. We celebrated the April birthdays of Effie Gianos and Danny Speridakos. Our guest speaker was Father Harry. He presented a very powerful Power Point presentation on the Sacrament of Confession. Father pointed out the importance of this sacrament and that the best time for recovering this ancient practice would be during Great Lent. Father gave out our Holy Week Schedule, both in English and Greek. The guest speaker for our May luncheon will be a realtor, who will inform us about the importance of maintaining your property and steps to take to maintain its resale value. Contact: Pamela Koutroubis [pamelak2145@gmail.com](mailto:pamelak2145@gmail.com) 203.348.7402



Amalia Skoparantzou takes the lead in uncovering an answer about ancient Egyptian jewelry during the GOYA Scavenger Hunt at the MET.

## Ladies Philoptochos Society

Our Palm Sunday bake and bread sale was a great success. We are most appreciative of everyone who supported our effort. Much work goes into this sale from baking groups



Youth in HOPE/JOY transfer foodstuffs from bins to shelves at Lower Fairfield County Food Bank on Holy Wednesday.

who not only give time to do the baking, but donate the ingredients as well, and people who bake at home and donate. This is truly a team effort. Working hand in hand with so many people creates a wonderful feeling of fellowship. The Nuns at Holy Protection Monastery, who produce the delicious Tsourekia, are very grateful for our orders. We are their second largest customer!

We hope our parish ladies will gather at the Norwalk Inn on May 14th for a relaxing and fun Mother’s Day luncheon. Our tag sale will be June 3rd and 4th, so save your unwanted household goods. A flyer is on the bulletin board with information about what type of items can be accepted for sale. Philoptochos always welcomes new members. We hope you will join our wonderful group of parish ladies! Contact Marion Vanson at [marionvanson@yahoo.com](mailto:marionvanson@yahoo.com) 914-234-9420





Fr. Harry begins the Good Friday Retreat in the church by washing the feet of 12 children and teaching them that leaders are called to serve, not to be served.



Above & below: Good Friday Children's Retreat – Fr. Harry washes feet of 12 children during Service of Foot Washing that commemorates when Jesus humbled himself at the Last Supper, took the role of a common household slave, and washed the feet of the 12 Apostles. (April 29)

## Church School

Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen! The faculty of the Church School Program would like to congratulate and thank the 40+ children who attended the Good Friday Retreat and helped observe this sacred day in fellowship, faith, and learning. A very special thanks to Fr. Harry, Presbytera Kerry, Steve Sarigianis, Tim and Sophia Hartch, Diane Sierpina, Anna Diamantis, Stacy Valassis, Athina Muniz and Frederica Nikolis for helping to plan and/or lead stations for this event and to the women for the thoughtfully prepared lunch. We also collected about 30+ books for our children's book drive and our children helped to assemble numerous hygiene kits for donation to the IOCC. Let's continue to keep up this momentum of growing in faith and community for the month of May as personal schedules become more vexed. It is inspiring to witness our children joyfully learn, discover, and grow in faith through our Church School Program and our youth ministry events. Contact: Evelyn Biliadis, Church School Director [ebiliadis@aol.com](mailto:ebiliadis@aol.com) 203.569.3784

## Oratorical Festival

We ended our Oratorical Festival season this year with the lovely culminating event of our District Oratorical program on April 16th. We welcomed the communities of St. Barbara, Orange, St. George Cathedral, Hartford, and Holy Trinity, Bridgeport, to Archangels. 12 speakers, 6 Seniors & 6 Juniors delivered beautiful, inspiring speeches, and truly awed the audience. Our own Dina Haralabidis stood among those young people and spoke eloquently about her faith. We offer her sincere congratulations for being the face of Archangels at this event and for representing us so well. We are very proud!!! I thank



judges Presvytera Kerry Pappas, Mr. Jim Golding of the *Orthodox Observer*, and Mr. Michael Psellas of the Youth Ministries Department at the Archdiocese. Our time-keeper was Steven Valassis. I also wish to thank Steve Sarigianis for helping to coordinate the event at many levels. His help was indispensable. The receptions were made possible by the generosity of Molly Sotire, Phil Costas, John Cocolis and our Philoptochos ladies! The four finalists will go on to give their speeches at the Metropolis level, which will take place at St. Barbara in Orange on May 14th. We wish them luck! Contact: Anastasia Valassis at [avalassis@gmail.com](mailto:avalassis@gmail.com) or 516.582.0830

## Greek School

Christos Anesti! Another year is coming to a close. Mark your calendars - the last week of Greek school begins **May 16th**. The **End of the Year Party** will be on May 24th from 4 pm – 7 pm at Bank Street Events located





Un-nailing of Christ from the Cross on Good Friday Vespers (April 29)



Children assist with covering Christ's body with linen cloth at Good Friday Vespers (April 29)



Children cover Body of Jesus during Good Friday Vespers (April 29)

at 65 Bank Street in Stamford. The admission cost is \$10.00 per person. A small Moving up Ceremony begins at 6pm. Register early for the 2016-17 year and receive an early bird special discount. Kai tou chronou! PTO Board. Contact - Rebecca Kelesidis at [Rebecca@Kelesidis.com](mailto:Rebecca@Kelesidis.com)

### ***Archangels Young Adults (AYA)***

The newly formed young adult group AYA held a *Potluck Dinner & Forum* event on Friday, April 8 following the 4th Salutations. As advertised, it was a casual evening of bread-breaking and candid conversation about faith & life. Seven young adults enjoyed the spread, which included: Mexican, Italian, Middle Eastern, and American, but it was the fellowship and discussion of faith & Lent (led by Fr. Harry) that highlighted the evening. Our next event will be an "Orthodoxy on Tap" gathering open to all young adults from area churches; location & date TBD. Contact: Steve Sarigianis - [steve@archangelsgoc.org](mailto:steve@archangelsgoc.org)

### ***GOYA***

The month of April was a busy one for the GOYA. On Saturday April 9, we travelled to the MET in Manhattan for the annual *District Scavenger Hunt* competition. Our team of 8 worked together to find answers to tough questions about all things art, history and culture, and had a blast in the process. To top it off, they ended up winning the competition besting their 2nd place finish from last year.

On Friday April 8 at the conclusion the 4th *Salutations* service to the Theotokos, Amalia Skoparantzou and Niko Giantomidis read the "Ασπιλε" prayer to the Theotokos and "Καὶ δοξ" prayer to Christ from the solea, as is done at every Salutations. This is noteworthy as it is the first time in recent history that any of our GOYAns have been so centrally involved in Lenten service; we hope to establish a tradition of teenage readers for these services next year and into the future.

On Saturday, April 23, the teens came out in number for the *Saturday of Lazarus liturgy and church cleaning*. Among a laundry list of things accomplished, the altar equipment & vessels were polished, the narthex was scraped of wax, and each and every pew cushion was vacuumed. The GOYA did a tremendous job. It is clear from an event like this that they are a very service minded bunch and enjoy performing works of mercy both within the community and without.





Children making Crosses on Good Friday (April 29)



Above & below: Children's Easter Egg hunt in the gym due to rainy, cold weather (May 1)

Keep in mind the upcoming dates & events for May 2016:

- Friday, May 6th ~ Zip-Lining Event with Bridgeport GOYA at 7pm
- Friday, May 13th ~ GOYA Dance held at Holy Trinity Waterbury, 7pm
- Fri-Sun, May 27-29 ~ GOYA Olympics held at Suffolk Community College on Long Island.

\*\*There will be no May GOYA meeting due to Easter and Mother's Day celebrations on the first two Sundays of the month. Contact: Steve Sarigianis at [steve@archangels-goc.org](mailto:steve@archangels-goc.org) or 203.348.4216



## Hope/Joy

On Wednesday, April 27th, children, parents, and grandparents of Hope & Joy visited the Lower Fairfield County Food Bank located at 461 Glenbrook Road in Stamford. Executive Director Kate Lombardo addressed the group about the importance of our giving and had the children participate in a hands-on activity. According to Kate, our Church is the largest contributor to the facility and she is extremely grateful for our Church's generous weekly contributions. During this Lenten season, this was a wonderful way for our children to see firsthand where their donated food goes each week and how it is distributed to those in need. After the activity, some returned to Church at 4:00 for the afternoon Holy Unction service. Christos Anesti!

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. - Chris and Luisa Nanos at [cnanos@optonline.net](mailto:cnanos@optonline.net) or 203.249.7403

## Family Movie Night

On Saturday, May 21st at 5:15pm in the hall, we will be hosting our next *Family Movie Night*, open to all ages! The movie "The Incredibles" (2004 Disney Pixar; PG) will be screened. Join us for an enjoyable evening of family fun that will include a pizza dinner (for freewill offering), the feature presentation, and a meaningful discussion in conclusion. *Please RSVP with Jane in the office.* Hope to see you there! Contact: Steve Sarigianis [steve@archangelsgoc.org](mailto:steve@archangelsgoc.org)

## Little Angels

On April 9th, we held our Family Fitness Day at the SAC and had a fun, active morning with our kids! We look forward to repeating the event again next year. Highlights were our balloon volleyball game and obstacle course! A very big thank you to Peter Cholakakis for helping to set up the gym and to execute the sporting events. Thanks to all who contributed food/drinks, tokens for the children, sporting, or clean up help: Vasso & Rob Spanos, Ruth Diamond, Ismini Naos & Georgia Athanasiades, Theresa Cholakakis, and John Cocolis!

On Friday, May 6th at 7:30 pm, we will meet at Starbucks at 1079 High Ridge Road for a mothers' coffee/ planning meeting. Our ministry is blossoming as so many new families join our parish and so many babies are born! We need to plan appropriate events and think about the needs of our youngest children within the community. Do you have ideas and suggestions? Simply want to meet for coffee and talk to other mothers of young children? Please join us!!! We are planning the following events for June & July, so be on the watch for emails: Mom's Night Out @ Pinot's Palette in Harbor Point; and a Dads only camping afternoon or overnight with the children & a beach meet up day once school is out. Please let me know if you can make our May 6th meeting or have interest in participating in any of the other events. Contact: Anastasia Valassis: avalassis@gmail.com or 516.582.0830.

## ***IOCC***

At the Good Friday retreat our Church of the Archangels children assembled 140 hygiene kits that will be sent to the IOCC's depot in Baltimore. The IOCC distributes these kits (as well as school kits and clean-up buckets) to individuals and families in need around the world. One of the countries that the IOCC sends kits to is the West African country of Cameroon, which is one of the poorest countries in the world. The IOCC is also working with a local university in Cameroon to train nurses how to treat and prevent a disease called podoconiosis that leads to debilitating swelling of legs and feet. The IOCC has a similar program in the country of Ethiopia that has been very successful in reducing the prevalence of podoconiosis and the goal is to do the same in Cameroon. A local organization called SIRS (Stamford Interfaith Refugee Settlement) last week settled a Syrian refugee family of six people in an apartment in Stamford. Volunteers from SIRS are assisting the newly arrived family and helping them learn about their new home.

For additional information about the IOCC, please go to [www.iocc.org](http://www.iocc.org) or contact Tim Hartch at [timhartch1@outlook.com](mailto:timhartch1@outlook.com)

## ***Stamford Athletic Club @ The Greek Cultural Center***

The club is pleased to report that it was operationally profitable during its first quarter of 2016. It is a welcome change after a history of operating deficits. This comes on the heels of material changes to the business model instituted in December 2015. The new model is self-sustaining thus far, requiring no operational assistance from

the Church or the Foundation. It has produced more members, a reorganized staff, a broader offering of sports programs, updated IT infrastructure, and good feedback from members. We are grateful to the parish for its patience as we continue to innovate and improve this asset.

**PLAY BALL!** Yes, springtime typically means baseball as the "in-season" sport, but in this case we are talking basketball. At SAC, we have fully launched our new youth basketball program, High Rise Basketball. Geared for boys in kindergarten through 3rd grade, the program continues to teach kids of all skill levels the game of basketball. Inquire now about this program and other basketball clinics set to start in the near future from High Rise Basketball, which will include all age groups.

It's a great time of year for swim lessons as we approach the summer swim season. Interested parties should inquire with our swim program, "Take Me to The Water," for both child and adult lessons. Need help losing those few extra pounds you might have added over the winter months? Our personal trainers are the best to put you on the right track. All these programs and more are available for members and non-members of SAC alike. To all the husbands: Don't forget Mother's Day is in May...A massage would be a perfect gift! Yet another reason to stop by SAC to get more information. Contact: Jeffrey Kaminski [Jeffrey.kaminski@sacnews.com](mailto:Jeffrey.kaminski@sacnews.com) 203-357-7555; or Parish contact: Jason Konidaris [jason.konidaris@yale.edu](mailto:jason.konidaris@yale.edu)

## ***AREA EVENTS***

### ***Greek Festivals***

- St. George Church in New Britain (301 W. Main St.) – May 20-22
- St. George Cathedral in Hartford (433 Fairfield Ave.) – June 2-5
- Annunciation Church in Stamford – June 10-12
- Prophet Elias Church in Yonkers, NY (15 LeRoy Ave) – June 10-12
- Assumption Church in Danbury (30 Clapboard Ridge Rod) – June 10-12

### ***Stamford Chorale***

The Stamford Chorale will be performing music of Faure and Bizet on Sunday, May 22, 4:00 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, 884 Newfield Ave. Free and open to the public; reception to follow. Contact: Connie Begetis - [conniebets@live.com](mailto:conniebets@live.com)



## PARISH REGISTRY

### Graduations

Please submit names of all graduates from High School, Technical School, College, and Graduate School, along with degree earned, honors received, and future plans for further education or work. Contact Jane Vorvis 203-348-4216 or Steve Sarigianis (steve@archangelsgoc.org).

### Births

Blake Smith, 2nd child of Stacy (Psichopaidas) & Shane Smith on April 5

Eva Kazianis, 2nd child of Evgenia (Littrivis) and John Kazianis, on April 13

Liam Greco, 1st child of Kara (Psichopaidas) & Christopher Greco, on April 14

Morgan Graczyk, 2nd child of Matthew & Mihaela Graczyk, on April 15

### 40-Day Churching

Henry Sebastian Jones, 1st child of Rachel & Denton Jones, on April 17

Marina Kallistra Aivalis, 1st child of Dean & Stefanie Aivalis, on April 24

Chrisonia Kapasouris, 2nd child of Alexandros & Reisha Kapasouris, on May 1

### ARCHANGELS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS TAG SALE

The Archangels Ladies Philoptochos will be hosting a Tag Sale on

**Friday, June 3rd and Saturday, June 4th**  
**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

We will need the following items:

Toys – indoor/outdoor	Car seats, strollers	Sports equipment	Household Bric-a-brac	Dinnerware
Bicycles	Small furniture	Lamps	Housewares	DVD's and CDs
Baby and Toddler clothes	Pictures, frames, and prints	Linens, blankets, curtains	Small rugs	Antiques
Children's Books		Jewelry	China, silver, and crystal	

WE WILL **NOT** BE ACCEPTING adult clothes, books, TVs, computers, flammable items, appliances, large items, exercise equipment. Shoes, VHS or Cassette tapes, A/C. or outdoor furniture

We will be **accepting** ONLY working, clean, and salable donations **on Sunday May 29th - Wednesday, June 1st – please none before this date.** They can be left on the stage.

We will need MANY volunteers for sorting, pricing and on the day of the sale – men, woman, and teenagers. To volunteer, please call Lara Paschalidis 203-849-3349 or email her at LaraSmith1@netzero.net , or sign up on the Philoptochos bulletin board.

All items donated, can be tax-deductible. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support.



## AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

### AHEPA

As we have done in the past, Stamford AHEPA will jointly sponsor a presentation on a historical subject with the Church of the Archangels. On Friday evening, May 20 (eve of the feast of Saints Constantine & Helen), Dr. George Demacopoulos of Fordham University will speak on "What Orthodox Christianity can bring to American Christian Politics." Dr. Demacopoulos' specialty is Early & Medieval Christianity and Byzantium. Please reserve the date and look for more details as we get closer. Stamford Chapter 90th Anniversary Celebration: Please join us as we celebrate our 90th anniversary with a fun-filled dinner-dance at Norwalk Inn on Saturday evening, October 29th. After a sumptuous appetizer buffet, we will

be treated to a sit down dinner of prime rib in the magnificent ballroom. We will then enjoy a live performance by Ellen Karis, a rising star specializing in Greek American comedy (www.ellenkaris.com), before we dance to the music of Peter Halepas and Grecian Nights. The net proceeds of the dinner-dance will benefit the rebuilding of St. Nicholas Church at Ground Zero. Tickets are \$75 per person. Reservations: Nicholas Nikas 203-554-5570 niketes@yahoo.com. A simultaneous fundraiser soliciting ads for a commemorative album will extend the list of beneficiaries to include the Greek Schools of the two Greek Orthodox churches in Stamford. Contact: Nicholas Nikas niketes@yahoo.com 203.554.5570

# CHURCH OF THE ARCHANGELS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## The Capital Campaign Committee:

Elias N. Kulukundis, Chairman. Jason Konidaris, Vice Chairman. Father Harry Pappas. Mary Badoyannis, Peter Cholakis, William Grosso, Timothy Hartch, James W. Kambas, George Khouri, Peter Licopantis, Penny Nanos, Chris A. Nanos, Chris P. Nanos, George Paparis, Thomas Passios, Gigi Perimenis, Katie Perimenis, Jane Dragonas Perkins, R. J. Vassiliou, Basil N. Vanech

## The Capital Campaign:

The goal is to raise \$2,200,000 over a three-year period from 2014 to 2017, now extended to 2018. The purpose of the Campaign is to fund upgrading and renewal of the church campus and ministry with specific emphasis on the Church Hall and offices, and minor cosmetic improvements in the Church itself, bringing our campus into the 21st Century. In addition, the amount includes the sum of \$150,000 to fund the salary and benefits of an Administrative Assistant for the Church for three years, after which the Church will take over funding that cost from stewardship. There are no plans to utilize any of these funds for repairs or improvements to the Greek Cultural Center.

## The Data (as of May 1, 2016):

Total Commitments .....\$1,750,000  
Total Commitments Paid .....\$1,038,500  
Total Number of Multi-Year Commitments .....80  
Total Number of Single Year Commitments .....18

## The Requirements:

The General Assembly of May 4, 2015 set the following hurdles to be reached before the commencement of construction:

Total Commitments Hurdle .....\$1,500,000  
Cash in Hand Hurdle .....\$ 726,000  
Both hurdle requirements have been met.

Donors should ideally spread pledges over a three-year period. For new pledges, that would be between 2016 and 2018. Pledges may be accompanied by an initial donation toward the first year's pledge, though remitting the entire first year's pledge amount can be done later in the course of 2016 if preferred.

## The Expenses:

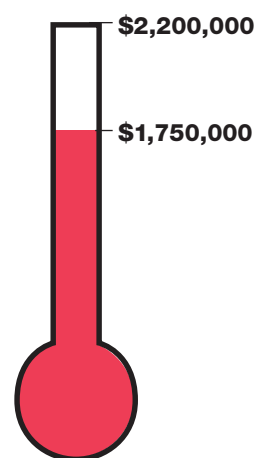
The Campaign's expenses to date include: Assistance from the Archdiocese Development Office, architectural fees, production of solicitation materials, and event planning. These are in addition to \$50,415 in salary & benefits for parish office support hired on in September 2014. The Campaign's responsibility for seeding this office support expense terminates on October 1, 2017.

Inasmuch as funds are likely to be required on a regular basis once construction commences, the General Assembly gave the Campaign Committee the right to go to a bank and discount any unpaid pledge amounts in order to have funds available to meet expenses. Preliminary plans for the remodeling of the Church Hall and offices are on display in the Hall.

## The Matching Grant:

We have achieved the \$250,000 Matching Grant level required to activate the grant! The anonymous donor must evaluate our documentation before ratifying the match result. We then hope to receive a delivery-of-funds date from the donor soon after.

## OUR GOAL



## The Contributors (as of March 20, 2016):

### PLEDGES

Anonymous (3)  
Evangeline Adams  
Michael and Jena Anthony  
George and Katina Antipas  
Angelo and Dena Aravides  
George Badoyannis  
Demetri and Constance Begetis  
Sophie Caloutas  
Nitsa Chagaris  
Peter Cholakis and Teresa Cassidy  
Glenn and Angie Colarossi  
Savet Constantine  
Nicholas Daifotis  
Matthew and Maria De Vito  
Elias and Anna Diamantis  
Stephen and Margaret Fornaciari  
Peter Gabriel and Mary

Badoyannis  
Stephen and Tina Georgeou  
Effe Gianos  
William Grosso  
Rita Haralabidis  
Timothy and Sophia Hartch  
Brian Irizarry and Gigi Perimenis  
William and Bertha Jones  
James and Sylvia Kambas  
Chris and Elaine Kanos  
George Khouri  
Arthur and Elaine Kiratsous  
Annie Konidaris  
Jason and Janie Konidaris  
Nick and Pauline Kounavelis  
Pam Koutroubis  
Elias N. Kulukundis  
Stewart and Kim Leonard  
Peter and Yolanda Licopantis  
J. Andrew MacEntire Family

Charitable Fund  
Marc and Maria Magliacano  
Rita Mehos  
Dr. Alan and Marietta Morelli  
Chris A. and Luisa Nanos  
George and Amy Nanos  
Paul and Debbie Nanos  
Penny Nanos  
Peter C. Nanos  
Nicholas Nikas  
George and Cindy Paparis  
Father Harry and Presbyter Pappas  
Kimon and Julie Passios  
Tom and Nike Passios  
John Pasvankias  
George and Jane Perkins  
Katie Perimenis  
Maria Poulos  
Lee and Maria Sampanis  
Joseph and Rebecca Samra

Pericles and Erika Sentementes  
Diane and Ted Sierpina  
Catherine Sofronas  
Agesilaos and Molly Sotire  
Sotiris and Nicoletta Soulios  
Evan and Roula Stergianis  
Dr. Stelios Theofanidis and Dr. Elizabeth Siderides  
Demetrios and Leda Tsapralis  
Dr. Steve and Anastasia Valassis  
Basil and Terri Vanech  
John and Medina Vasily  
Argyris and Ann Vassiliou  
Jane Vorvis  
Paul and Goldie Winn  
Nicholas and Kyriaki Yoranidis  
Nicole Yoranidis

### NON-PLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

Mary Louise Bennett  
Steve Katsetos  
Miles and Joan Kulukundis  
Natalie Kulukundis  
Michelle Marmarinos  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Minetos  
Penny Nanos  
Phil and Frederika Nikolis  
Aristotle Sentementes  
Nestor Sgouros  
Dennis and Marion Vanson  
Joanne Verses  
Helene and Manoucher Yektai  
Ladies Philoptochos Society, Church of the Archangels

### MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

James W. and Margaret Cocolis  
Sharon Fornaciari  
George and Larissa Gentekos  
Christos and Demetra Halkias  
William and Mary Janocha  
Margot Kalaizes  
Annie Konidaris  
Elias N. Kulukundis  
John and Stacy Louizos  
Nicholas Nikas  
Timothy and Maria Scanlon  
Diane Sierpina