



The Herald

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

June/July 2016

Great & Holy Council

What happens when a group decides to meet at the highest level for the first time in 1,200 years? When it concerns the Orthodox Church with a membership of about 250,000,000 worldwide, it is called a "Great and Holy Council." It is historic and will meet on Crete from June 18-27 under the leadership of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew who has exhibited extraordinary wisdom, perseverance and patience to bring everyone to the table. Unlike other Christians communities — such as the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, or Baptist Churches — we Orthodox have experienced much greater difficulties. Consider that for the last 500 years or so political circumstances beyond our control, such as the Ottoman Empire or Communism, have even made this nearly impossible when many were suffering oppression and martyrdom. Only in the last 25 years have all of our respective Orthodox Churches actually been free.

Why even do such thing since it involves so much work and expense?

First, it is the nature of reality that we meet in council since we know that God is a perfect Council of truth and love that we identify as the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our God is one and one only, yet revealed to us as three distinct persons who are not interchangeable parts or abstract symbols, but full manifestations of Ultimate Reality, each with a distinct role to play in creation and salvation. So, we cannot be Orthodox while we remain blissfully alone in our own parishes and dioceses in America, Greece, Russia, Lebanon, Egypt, or Argentina. How can we say we really love one another without being together in prayer, fellowship, and dialogue?

Second, since we share the same unbroken Tradition of worship, official teaching and way of life, in order to properly address the issues of our times, we must gather together through our Patriarchs, Metropolitans, Archbishops, and Bishops, along with supporting crew of priests, deacons, and theologians. It is the job of all of us not just to maintain the truth about Jesus Christ and the totally unique Christian movement of renewal, but to struggle together to listen to how the Holy Spirit is leading us to apply this unbroken, unchanging Gospel to the ever-changing conditions that the Church encounters throughout the world. So much has happened just in the last 50 years, much less 500 or 1,000! There will be 24 voting bishops representing each 14 self-governing Orthodox Churches, along with 6 advisors in each Church who will assist them.

Here are some of the issues we all face, as reflected in part by the working documents the bishops themselves have prepared:

1. Mission of the Orthodox Church in the contemporary world — consider the pressing matters that we all face that can be described as: the dignity of the human person, freedom and

responsibility, peace and justice, war, discrimination, economy, and service through love.

2. Orthodox Diaspora — how do we resolve the irregular situation of fractured administration (such as overlapping Greek, Russian, Romanian, and Antiochian Archdiocese) in areas like America, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Germany and Spain so that all Orthodox, no matter what their ethnic identity, are integrated into one diocese under one bishop?
3. Autonomy and its manner of proclamation — how do Churches in newer lands, like America, become more capable of their own administration as they maintain connection with the older Churches, like the Patriarchate of Constantinople, that they come from?
4. Sacrament of marriage and family — what is our vision of marriage in today's changing and challenging world? How do we deal with pressing matters of civil marriage separate from a church marriage? Mixed marriage between an Orthodox and a non-Orthodox Christian, or between an Orthodox and a non-Christian? Divorce and remarriage? Abortion and birth control? Domestic violence? Same-sex civil unions?
5. Significance of fasting and its application today — what is the purpose and nature of fasting as a spiritual discipline that is intimately connected to prayer, repentance, and alms-giving? How do we recover the importance of fasting weekly on Wednesdays & Fridays, along with periods like Great Lent when — let's admit — many do not observe these practices?
6. Relations of the Orthodox Church with the rest of the Christian world — how do we interact with other bodies and believers who claim to be Christian, such as the Oriental Orthodox (e.g., Armenians, Copts, Ethiopians), the Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Communion, Lutheran Church, mainline Protestant Churches (such as Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists), Evangelicals, Pentecostals? We have personal and professional contacts with them on a daily basis here in America, there are official dialogues here and throughout the world, and lots of interaction between pastors and some common action. How do we really view other Christians? How do we work to resolve doctrinal and other differences? How can we work together right now to advance the Gospel?

I ask you to pray especially during the Great Feast of Pentecost (June 19) and afterwards that the Holy Spirit will be allowed to work through such an historic gathering. No one can possibly predict the outcome, but just to be all together in and of itself will be a significant victory for Orthodoxy!

— Fr. Harry

PARISH COUNCIL

LITURGY SUMMER HOURS

Starting June 19: Orthros will begin at 8:15 am,
Liturgy at 9:30 am, and Coffee Hour at 10:45 am.

We are pleased to welcome Maria Otis to the Parish Council. She joins us as our 15th voting member, filling Bill Grosso's seat vacancy. Her term will carry through the end of 2017 when Bill's term was set to expire. We are grateful for Maria's background and her desire to serve. The parish voted recently to accept the report of the 2014 Audit Committee. The Council will review the report's recommendations. We will update you on their implementation through the end of this year. Thank you to Sophia Hartch, Christian Lessard, and Lou Sioles for their work. We put some of our insurance coverage out to rebid recently. This and other cost checks will continue. We are intent on keeping to budget and improving it where possible. Questions? Contact Jason Konidaris at jason.konidaris@yale.edu

Treasurer's Report

The 2015 Audit process will be launched this summer. The recently elected Audit Committee includes John Pasvankias, Peter George, Steven Georgeou, and Christian Lessard. We are grateful for their willingness to serve. We all must be aware that the summer months are here and parish cash flow gets very thin during this time. Please remember to make a portion of your Stewardship pledge during the summer. Contact: Elias Lolis at elolis@aol.com 203- 569-3784

Online Donations

Please remember that online donations may be made directly via our church website at www.archangelsgoc.org. There you will be able to make one-time donations and recurring donations. Be sure to include a note in the "special instructions" field if you would like to direct your donation for a specific purpose or ministry. Donations can be made by credit card or bank account 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 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).

Stewardship Report

The 2016 Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America's guide to Stewardship states: "Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life which acknowledges our responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote our spiritual growth and strengthen our faith." At the Church of the Archangels, we are seeing tangible signs of our members embracing their faith and giving back their time, talents, and treasures to God and the Church. Through these actions parishioners are affirming that every aspect of our lives comes from Christ. It costs approximately \$1,800 per day to fund all the Church's many programs and activities. The Stewardship Committee encourages you to give generously to the Church, particularly as we enter the summer months, which historically have been leaner months for cash contributions. If you have any questions about Stewardship or the financial services meeting group, please contact Tim Hartch at timhartch1@outlook.com.

Additional 2016 Stewards

Mrs Jameela Androulidakis	Demetre Levidiotis
Mr & Mrs Michael Anthony	Mrs Effie Marioles
Demetra Bartis	Mr & Mrs Paul Nanos
Mrs Aleyamma Cherian	Mr & Mrs Peter Paspalis
Mr & Mrs Louis Chochos	Dr & Mrs Peter M. Perimenis
Mrs Popi Demakos	Mr & Mrs Aris Poulos
Mr & Mrs Peter George	Mr & Mrs Periclis Sentementes
Mr & Mrs Steven Georgeou	Mrs Catherine Sofronas
Mr & Mrs Gabriel Karamanis	Mr & Mrs Robert Spanos
Mr & Mrs George Karayiannis	Mrs Jennie Zaharis
Mr & Mrs George Lines	

Buildings & Grounds

Last month we were able to resolve a safety issue – eroded concrete windowsills that had crumbled on to the walkway along the east face of Stamford Athletic Club. Two windowsills were replaced and repairs were made to parts of the concrete walkway below. For some time, we have inconvenienced our female members at the Club with an erratic steam room. It has been extremely difficult to gain access to the steam generator to perform maintenance and repairs given its suboptimal positioning and given its location in the ladies' locker room. It was recommended that the steam generator be relocated. We secured pricing and signed on a vendor to carry out this work. The unit will sit directly below its current location. That work is currently under way. We regret any inconvenience to our members during this time. We look forward to the start of work under Part I of the Master Plan this summer. Work will begin with renovation in the church. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. Everyone's pledge is dearly needed if we are to reach our goal. Contact: Peter Licopantis pglydl3@optonline.net 203-322-7092, Steve Fornaciari, Nick Aivalis, or Gregg Demetros

Capital Campaign

Our pledge total is \$1,804,750, and total cash received is \$1,344,440. Since my report last month, there have been 9 new pledges totaling \$12,000. In addition, there have been non-pledge and memorial gifts totaling \$36,900. A total of 87 pledges have been received to date from 86 families – one family, having completed their initial pledge, made a second pledge. Of these pledges, 63 are multi-year pledges and 24 have been one-time pledges. In addition, four families have made non-pledge donations, making a total of 90 families in the Community who have supported the Campaign financially in some way. We are very grateful to you all.

I would like to acknowledge one further memorial gift this past month: a contribution by Mihai and Cristina Smina in memory of Petruta Sarbu. May Petruta's memory be eternal.

Recently, I informed you that we had received sufficient pledges to qualify for the Matching Grant and had submitted all the requested documentation to the donor. I am very pleased to report to you that those funds have come in for the full amount of the grant. The \$250,000 amount is included in the figures above. We are deeply appreciative of this extraordinary gesture of support from the anonymous donor for which we express our sincere and manifold thanks.

We are slowly but surely working our way toward our goal of \$2.2 million. But we still have some way to go to get there, and, as we get closer to starting construction, less time to reach it. We are a community of over 300 families. There are more than 200 of you from whom we have yet to hear. This is a project that will benefit all of us. This is a project that will belong to all of us. It is a project that will bring us closer as a community. We hope that you all will join in to support us, senior citizens and young marrieds; parents, grandparents, and children; regulars and part-timers. While pledges over three years have the greatest positive impact, every contribution, no matter what the amount, is welcome. When our forebears built the Church nearly sixty years ago, 95% of the then members of the Church participated. I look forward to all of you joining with the ninety families who have already contributed so that we can match and even surpass that accomplishment.

We have come a long way up the mountain. The peak is now well in our sights. But there are difficult ridges still to be surmounted before we can plant our flag at the top. Let us all join together to surmount those obstacles that lie before us as we climb higher toward the peak. Come, let us join together to get there. Come, let us rebuild! Contact: Elias N. Kulukundis

Preschool Summer Camp Slots Available

**June 6 – June 24
Monday – Friday, 9am-2pm
ages 3 - 5**

Child must be toilet trained

Contact Kiriaki: 203-329-2353 or knyrus@aol.com

Master Planning Committee

There is a very real possibility that we divide our work into two parts and begin in the coming weeks.

Part I – the “smaller” work, likely beginning this summer

Renovation of the narthex, bride's room, altar, vestry, and sacristy. The inclusion of a powder room and cry room. A refresh of the remainder of the church with new carpet and paint. We reviewed architectural drawings in May and are planning final tweaks. We will engage contract work hopefully by July. This work is likely to be handled by a contractor independent of the broader work to be performed in Part II. It will be a more efficient and cost effective given the relatively small nature of the job.

Part II - the “big” work, likely beginning this fall

Renovation of entrances, foyer, halls, auditorium, kitchen, meeting rooms, offices, downstairs classrooms, restrooms, and exterior grading. We will have reviewed JGRA's stage 2 architectural drawings by early June. Those need to be completed and put to bid this summer. Proper timeline could put us in construction by late fall.

We periodically meet onsite with architect JGRA and land use specialist Redness & Mead to clarify elements of the scope of work. As we continue to do our work, the Capital Campaign Committee members continue to do theirs; they have crossed the fundraising threshold allowing us to commence construction! Ideally our donor base will continue to expand. Over 90 families have contributed thus far, but our parish is north of 300 families strong. Questions? Contact Jason Konidaris at jason.konidaris@yale.edu

Church School Promotion & Recognition of Graduates Sunday, June 12

Please submit names of graduates from high school, college & graduate school with name, degree, award(s), and future plans to Steve (steve@archangelsgoc.org) or Jane (203-348-4216)

MINISTRIES

Prayer of the Month

The dismissal hymn (apolytikion) from the Great Feast of Pentecost, easy to sing and memorize. It is one of the most popular and well known hymns after “Christ is risen.”

Plagal 4th Tone

Εὐλογητὸς εἰ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλείεις ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ δι’ αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Blessed are you, O Christ our God, who made the fishermen all wise, by sending down on them the Holy Spirit. And through them, you drew the world into your net. O Loving Lord, glory to you!

Did You Know?

What is the greatest Feast Day of the Church after Easter/Pascha? Many people think it is Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation of the eternal Son of God as Jesus of Nazareth. However, the correct answer actually is Pentecost, the feast of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles 50 days after Easter, transforming them from a fearful group into a fearless band of missionaries who dared to publicly proclaim Jesus Christ as crucified for the sins of the world, risen bodily from the dead, and ruling king of the world here and now! This year we celebrate this Great Feast on June 19.

Family Corner (new offering)

The Archdiocese Center for Family Care is offering a summer program for individuals, couples, and families to assist them in deepening their relationship to Christ and the Church. Through weekly prayers, challenges, and inspirations, we will encourage one another to live out our faith daily in everything we do – connecting the Church to our homes. To participate, check out our website <https://shar.es/1dNBTK> and Facebook page each week for the weekly focus. From there, you can simplify or extend the program as much as you want. Contact: Steve (steve@archangelsgoc.org) or Presvytera Kerry (pappaskk@msn.com)

Adult Education

- Baptism Class for parents, godparents and interested others on Sunday, June 12, from 2-4:30 pm. Fr. Harry will teach the meaning of baptism, chrismation, and eucharist (communion), our life in Christ, and family life in faith for today
- Adult Catechism – Orthodoxy 101 will resume regular classes in the fall following the summer recess
- Biennial Archdiocesan Clergy-Laity Congress in Nashville, TN, July 4-8 – Fr. Harry, Presvytera Kerry, and Steve will have the opportunity to learn from the Archbishop’s Keynote Address, workshops and presentations, in addition to the regular business of the national Church and fellowship from around the country.

Seniors

The Senior Luncheon was held on May 11 and proceeded in our typical fashion. Father Harry presented the prayer, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag, raffle, May birthdays, lunch, desserts and our guest speaker. Father Harry paid tribute with prayer to our recent departed seniors, Tom Monos, Marge Rubirosa, and Joan Bolanis. May their memories be eternal. Our guest speaker was Val Herrmann (Joan Bolanis’ daughter), who is a real estate agent with Halstead Realty. She explained in detail the steps that should be taken to maintain our homes at top value. There was a question and answer period in which many of our seniors took part. Our June luncheon will be a social with wine, cheese, and an array of appetizers and a special lunch. This will be our last luncheon before summer break. Please come and join us on June 8. Contact: Pam Koutroubis pamelak2145@gmail.com or 203-348-7402.



Seniors President Pam Koutroubis introduces guest speaker Valerie Herrmann at the May meeting.

Ladies Philoptochos Society

In May, 50 ladies gathered at the Norwalk Inn for a luncheon to celebrate Mother’s Day. Marietta Morelli organized the event, and a good time was had by all. We enjoyed wonderful fellowship, a delicious meal, and a fun Greek Trivia game. Vicki Kyriakos organized an excursion to the Bellarmine Museum at Fairfield University to view an exhibit of beautiful photographs of Byzantine art. This exhibit was guided by a professor of Byzantine art, and was most informative. We are collecting gently used towels and single sheets for the men’s shelter, Pacific House. We have been notified that St. Michael’s is in need of socks, body wash, baby shampoo and single fleece blankets for their residents. If you wish to donate any of these items, please leave them under the piano in the Church Hall. Our next meeting is Tuesday June 7th. We hope to have many attendees because we will be voting on the distribution of funds from our bake sale. We wish everyone a healthy, happy summer. Contact Marion Vanson at marionvanson@yahoo.com.

Vacation Church School

**Monday – Friday, August 1 – 5
9 am – 12 noon**

For all preschool through grade school children

Teachers: Kiriaki Yoranidis,
Steve Sarigianis and Fr. Harry

Prayer, Hands-on Activities, Fellowship

Sign up by phone 203-348-4216 or by email basilnv@att.net

Sponsored by Church School, Preschool & Little Angels



Children have a blast walking through a waterfall of steam at the GS Party; entertainment was provided by the Mad Science Group of Fairfield.

Church School

The Church School faculty would like to thank all families for contributing to a rich and vibrant year in the life of program and the Church! In addition to our Sunday lessons, our children have engaged in monthly Music Ministry with Emily Skoutelas during the fall/winter semester and then in monthly Philanthropy Sundays in the late winter/spring semester of the academic year! We have also successfully completed our first offering of our new toddler (ages 2 and under) class with wonderful participation. We have continued to showcase our children's and their learnings through our events and exhibits (i.e., Christmas Program, Feast of the Annunciation Exhibit, and the annual Good Friday Retreat). We are grateful to each and every family that has granted us the privilege of growing in faith alongside their children. We will hold our Commencement Program on Sunday, June 12th immediately following Holy Liturgy. All children and teachers will be recognized and provided with a small gift of appreciation. The Church School Staff will remain for an end of year meeting with lunch in the Library. Lastly, our Vacation Bible Camp will take place from August 1-5, 2016 and registration is currently open. Wishing all families a restorative, healthy, and exciting summer! Contact: Evelyn Biliadis (ebiliadis@aol.com).



Greek School Teachers Georgia Athanasiadis, Eleni Giakos, Paulina Anastos, Kiki Bellos and Anna Lempesi gather with their students for a final year-end picture.

Greek School

The Greek School children ended the year with an amazing party at Bank Street Events on May 24th. We had a wonderful turnout! The children received their certificates from Father Harry and each of their Greek School teachers followed by a family dinner enjoyed by all. Greek School registration for next year is open. The school consists of preschool ages to 8th grade. We welcome ALL new students and parents. Please stop by at the front office for more information. Kalo Kalokairi! See you in the Fall! Contact: Rebecca Kelesidis at Rebecca@Kelesidis.com

Greek Language Classes for Adults

If interested, please contact: Dr. Eugenia Zavras at 203-322-9561 or etz124@yahoo.com

Archangels Young Adults ("AYA")

Young adults from all over Connecticut came out for the Young Adult Gathering on Thursday May 26 at the Hops Company beer garden in Derby, CT. The event was organized and hosted by the St. Barbara YAL. Over 25 came out for an enjoyable evening of socialization, discussion and recreation. A discussion about experiences during Holy Week and the application of Scripture in our daily lives was led by Fr. Peter Orfanakos of the host community; several subsequent and lively breakout group discussions ensued. During June & July, the AYA will look to set up a similar Orthodoxy On Tap style event. Stay tuned! On Friday, June 3, another Midnight Run was organized out of the Church of Our Savior in Rye. For more info contact Steve Sarigianis 203-623-5896; sjsarge@gmail.com



Children of our Preschool Program make some noise on their last day of the year! Congratulations to Deena Amanatides, Theodore Diamond, Antonio Luongo, Nicholas Pantel, and Alexander Tsaparas for graduating!



Preschool children surprise Mr. Steve with a heartfelt poster after the last pastoral visit of the year.

GOYA

May's rainy beginning may have spoiled plans for the Zip-Lining event scheduled for Friday the 6th, but it certainly couldn't prevent our teens from having the time of their lives at the *regional GOYA Dance* hosted by Bridgeport on Friday the 13th. What a blast it was for our youth to come together, dance, socialize and meet up with old friends from different churches.

President Steve Stanton said this was the best dance he had attended in all of his years with GOYA. Over 65 teens from six parishes attended, as well as 25 or so parents and advisors. On Saturday, May 28 at Suffolk County College Brentwood Campus in Brentwood Long Island, Amalia Skoparantzou and the combined Bridgeport-Stamford volleyball team competed in the *2016 GOYA Olympics* for volleyball. Despite practicing very little beforehand, the girls played well together and finished 3rd overall amidst some tough competition! As we look ahead now to the final month of the 2015-16 calendar year, and specifically the Graduation/Promotion Day on Sunday June 12, we would like to acknowledge and congratulate our senior GOYAns who are graduating. They are Aphrodite Haralabidis, Annie Morelli, Nick Vassiliou, and Steven Stanton. May God bless them in all their future endeavors! Keep the following dates in mind for June 2016:

- Sunday, June 12 ~ Graduation Day for graduating seniors after liturgy
- Friday, June 17 ~ Zip-Lining at Adventure Park with Bridgeport GOYA, 7pm
- Saturday, June 18 ~ Final GOYA meeting of the year over breakfast 9:00am
- Sunday, June 29 ~ Outdoor Liturgy at Cove Park

Hope/Joy

We are looking forward to the outdoor liturgy and picnic at Cove Island on June 26th. We are planning activities for all the children, such as wiffle-ball, soccer, kite flying, three-legged races, potato sack races, a beanbag toss game, a water balloon toss and more! We hope to see you at this very special event and wish you all a wonderful summer. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Chris and Luisa Nanos at cnanos@optonline.net or 203-249-7403

Little Angels

We enjoyed a very joyful and fruitful planning meeting on May 6th. Thanks to all who attended! If you would like to be part of this group's organizing committee for next year, please let us know! We are looking to build a team to lead Little Angels into the future! On Sunday, June 26th, we will participate in our church's outdoor liturgy at Cove Park and enjoy the picnic to follow. We will run some simple sporting events aimed at our little ones. We would also like to take an "official" group photo of the Little Angels at this time to include in 40-day blessing gifts. Let's all try to attend this special liturgy! On Friday, July 1st from 6-8 pm, Little Angels Moms will get together at Pinot's Palette in Harbor Point, Stamford for a paint class where we will create a beautiful piece of artwork to dedicate to our children. Price is about \$50 per person, not including beverages, which can be purchased at the bar. We ask for help in bringing some light finger food, pot-luck style, to the event. Look out for emails about a beach meet-up day and Dads camping event. Contact: Anastasia Valassis, avalassis@gmail.com.



Over 65 teens from across the state came out for the year's first GOYA Dance, hosted by Holy Trinity in Bridgeport.



No GOYA dance is complete without some classic Greek folk songs. OPA!

IOCC

Greece's financial crisis continues with one in two people under the age of 25 unemployed and 24% of the overall population still unemployed. As a result, many Greeks are continuing to struggle to pay for food and utilities and many Greek hospitals lack basic medical supplies. Meanwhile, the massive influx of immigrants and asylum seekers since 2015 has exacerbated the situation. Recognizing the severity of the situation, the International Orthodox Christian Charities has worked with Apostoli (the humanitarian arm of the Church of Greece) and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to provide over \$23 million in aid to the people of Greece since 2012. These funds have been used to provide food, heating fuel, and life-saving medical supplies. To donate to this ongoing effort, see "Ways to Give" at www.iocc.org. Please contact Tim Hartch at timhartch1@outlook.com.

Annunciation Greek Festival: June 9-12

Fr. Evan Evangelides, Fr. Constantine Matthews, and the Parish Council warmly invite us to the Annunciation Church Greek Festival on Thursday – Sunday, June 9-12. Please spread the word and attend to patronize their food, drink, pastries, and market. Secondly, our Parish Council encourages everyone to work a shift to assist them either by contacting the office (203-322-2093) or even better yet signing up through the Genius Web



Teen girls volleyball players waiting in the stands for their next match at the 2016 GOYA Olympics held in Long Island.



The combined Bridgeport-Stamford volleyball team in action at the GOYA Olympics held Memorial Day weekend; they placed 3rd overall!

Site online:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d44abab29a7fe3-festival>

GreekFest: September 22-25

Our own Festival Committee is meeting regularly to prepare for another wonderful event this fall. Please save the date! Raffle tickets will be available for sale soon. In addition to a beautiful 2016 BMW X1 28i, prizes include a \$2,000 travel voucher to Cloud Tours (the travel agency that has organized the two pilgrimages), a weekend getaway at the Norwalk Inn, and a 43-inch television. Please help us by purchasing at least one ticket per family and selling another! As you know, there are many costs that go into preparing for the church's largest annual fundraiser - including food, ingredients, supplies and security. Please review the wish list below. Consider making a cash contribution to help defray these costs to help make the festival as successful as possible. Contact: Margaret Fornaciari zamsfam@optonline.net

Wish List for GreekFest

It is once again that time of year when our parish prepares for the Annual Greek Festival (September 22-25, 2016). The festival allows us to share our heritage, faith, culture, especially our love for food and dance. The Festival Committee is working diligently to keep expenses to a minimum and to maximize our profits. Below is a list with the costs of many of the items we use. Help support us by making a financial donation to defray some of our many costs and expenses.

Chickens	\$1,000
Beer Greek and American	985
Beef for Stifadho (stew)	425
Feta	400
Flour for Loukoumadhes	250
Grape Leaves (Dolmades)	85
Greek Olives	350
Greek wine	1,600
Groceries	6,500
Gyros	2,000
Honey for Loukoumadhes	125
Lamb Boneless Leg	2,000
Miscellaneous Soft Drinks	1,000
Olive Oil	125
Ouzo	200
Paper Products	3,000
Potatoes	475
Printing	3,000
Produce (e.g., salad fixings)	3,500
Propane (for grills)	1,250
Souvlaki Pork	3,650
Souvlaki Chicken	500
Tables/Chairs	5,000
Tzatziki	400
Water Bottles	300

Please note: It is not necessary to cover the entire amount of any one item. You may make a partial donation towards one or several items. ANY DONATION, LARGE OR SMALL IS WELCOME! Checks can be made payable to Church of the Archangels and designate in the memo: "Festival Expense Donation". You can drop off or mail donations to:

Festival Committee, Church of the Archangels, 1527 Bedford Street, Stamford, Connecticut 06905

Help us to make this four-day event even more successful! Your contributions are greatly appreciated and we thank you in advance for your support! Greek Festival Committee

SAVE THE DATES!

ANNUAL ARCHANGELS GREEK FESTIVAL

**Thursday – Sunday,
September 22 – 25, 2016**

OPA! Mark your calendars!

Stamford Athletic Club @ The Greek Cultural Center

We are over 100 new memberships since Bilancio management officially took over on January 1 of this year! We are seeing steady increases across the board for our vendor programs, including Take Me To The Water swim program and High Rise Basketball. Additionally, DJ Sackmann (www.djsackmann.com) will bring his unique style of basketball clinics to SAC from August 15 thru August 18 for boys and girls in 3rd to 8th grade. Sign-ups are being accepted now. Though SAC will be his first clinic in CT, DJ has extensively trained many kids in Los Angeles, New York, New Jersey and Israel. Several of his participants have gone on to play professionally. SAC is also proud to welcome several charitable causes over the next few months. Our basketball court will host part of the JCC Maccabi games in August, allowing us the opportunity to support the Jewish heritage and customs in a competitive athletic setting. The SAC kitchen also hosts a charitable cause. The YMCA has started a program to teach kids not only to cook, but also to shop for healthy, low cost foods. We are in negotiation with several area businesses to add corporate accounts, which will add a lot of great activity to SAC. Please stop by SAC anytime to meet our wonderful staff and to see first-hand all the improvements that have been made. New weights and other items were delivered in early June and repairs continue in the women's steam room. A complete overhaul of the WIFI system is finished. We continue to strive to take SAC to its full potential. More updates are planned and will continue to be implemented. You can support SAC by taking advantage of a FREE month for any referral that leads to a membership, as well as taking a moment and giving us positive reviews on a variety of websites. Contacts: Jeff Kaminski, General Manager, at Jeff@sacteam.com or 203-357-7555 or Jason Konidaris at jason.konidaris@yale.edu.



Soak Up The Son

IT'S SUMMER! A wonderful time for family, friends, relaxing, and playing. A time for vacations – vacations from work and vacations from school. But there is one type of vacation we shouldn't be taking this summer – and that is from Church. Church should be the center of our lives throughout the year and summer is no exception. Join us this summer as we #soakupthe-SON.

#soakuptheSON is a summer program for individuals, couples, and families to assist them in deepening their relationship to Christ and His Church. Through weekly prayers, challenges, and inspirations, we will encourage one another to live out our faith daily in everything we do – connecting the Church to our homes. To participate, check out our website

<http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/family/files/suts/suts> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/centerforfamilycare/> each week for the weekly focus. From there, you can simplify or extend the program as much as you want.

The most important part of this program is that we share it with one another – with your family at home, your family at Church, and your family of friends. Especially share it with us, your family at the Center for Family Care. We look forward to connecting with you.

Don't miss out! This summer relax, play, and use lots of sunscreen – but most importantly #soakupthe SON!

- WEEK 1 – JUNE 5, 2016
- WEEK 2 – JUNE 12, 2016
- WEEK 3 – JUNE 19, 2016

Annunciation Greek Festival

**Thursday, June 9
through
Sunday, June 12**



Helen & Peter Demetros are congratulated in a special way for the 65th Anniversary of their wedding. Many years!

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Church of the Archangels Capital Campaign Comedy Night *with Basile the Comedian*

COCKTAILS – DINNER – SHOW

MUSIC – LIVE AUCTION



Penny Nanos, Molly Sotire, Lara Paschalidis, MaryAnn Kardaris, Pauline Galuris, and Eugenia Zavras at the Philoptochos Tag Sale.

PARISH NEWS

Baptism

May 14 – Remco and Loukas Nijmeijer, sons of Jerry Nijmeijer and Ismini Naos

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Church of the Archangels Foundation

The Board of the Foundation held its Annual Meeting at the Church on Thursday evening, May 26. The President reviewed activities involving the Foundation during 2015 and raised a number of operational questions for review by the Board. The Board reappointed Dennis Vanson as Accountant, George Khouri as a member of the Investment Committee, and Jane Vorvis as Assistant Secretary. The Treasurer reviewed the performance of the Investment Portfolio. During 2015, the value of the portfolio decreased by \$ 450,000 to \$ 3,095,233. The decline was the result of grants to the Church of \$ 217,000 mainly for the windows and the roof of the Church, and the year-end collapse of the stock market which significantly impacted the value of the Fund's holdings. Over the first two months of the year, the value dipped even more, but has since recovered somewhat and on May 11, it stood at \$ 3,165,000. For the moment, it looks as though 2016 will be a quiet year for the Foundation. The Board also approved formal accounts for 2015, and also the annual grant of \$ 10,000 to the Church for charitable purposes including missions.

The Board noted with reluctance that Jim Kambas and George Paparis wished to retire from the Board and thanked them for their many contributions since the inception of the organization. In appreciation, the Board elected them as honorary Emeritus Directors. The Board then dealt with matters of annual house-keeping: Elias N. Kulukundis, Tom Passios, and Tim Hartch were re-elected Directors for a three-year term. Mr Kulukundis was re-elected as President, Mr Passios as Treasurer, and Mr Hartch as Secretary. Jason Konidaris expressed the desire to retire as Vice President due to his other responsibilities in the Community, and George Khouri was elected to replace him. The Board also focused on the need to replace Jim Kambas and George Paparis on the Board, and additionally considered the possibility of adding two further members to bring the Board up to the full complement allowed in the Certificate of Incorporation. The Nominating Committee proposed a number of possible candidates, and four of them were elected subject to their willingness to serve as Board Members. Contact: Elias N. Kulukundis

AHEPA

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 on 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 at Ground Zero. Tickets \$75 per person. 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. Reservations & Information: Nicholas Nikas 203-554-5570 niketes@yahoo.com.



Fr. Harry & John Louizos attended the breakfast at the Marriott Hotel celebrating the success of "Neighbor's Link" the interfaith non-profit organization that our parish supports. They provide varied services to help immigrants transition in the Stamford area (June 1)

THE **CHURCH**
OF THE **ARCHANGELS**

OUTDOOR LITURGY

**FAMILY
AND
PICNIC**

CELEBRATING THE
INAUGURATION OF
THE NEW CHURCH
✠ IN 1958 ✠

SCHEDULE

➡ *Sunday, June 26*
**COVE PARK
PAVILION**

ORTHROS 8:15 AM
LITURGY 9:30 AM
COFFEE HOUR 10:45 AM
LUNCH 11:15 AM
GAMES & ACTIVITIES
FOR ALL AGES 12:00 PM

Menu *Pork & Chicken Shish-kebob, Corn on the Cob, Greek Salad, Hamburgers
& Chips, Drinks (Soda, Juice & Water), Watermelon & Greek Pastries*

Cost *Adults & Children over 12 years: \$10.00 ~ Children 6-12 years: \$5.00
Children 5 years & under are Free*

RSVP *by Monday, June 20... call Jane at the Church office 203-348-4216
or email Basil at basil@archangelsgoc.org*

PARKING

1 DAY COMPLIMENTARY
PASSES WILL BE PROVIDED • GOLF CART/TRAM
AVAILABLE TO TRANSPORT MEMBERS FROM
PARKING LOT TO PAVILION

COME TO LITURGY
DRESSED FOR THE PICNIC (NO NEED
TO BRING CHANGE OF CLOTHING)
LET US CELEBRATE THIS ANNIVERSARY
TOGETHER!

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 25, 2016):

Total Commitments\$1,804,750
Total Commitments Paid\$1,344,440
Total Number of Contributing Families90

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:

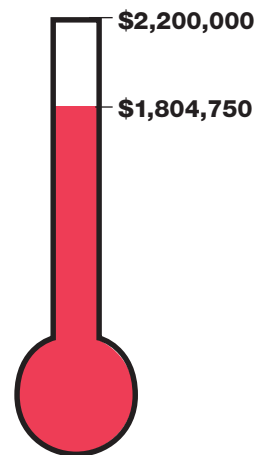
The Campaign's expenses to date include: Assistance from the Archdiocese Development Office, architectural fees, production of solicitation materials, and event planning. These are in addition to \$50,415 in salary & benefits for parish office support hired on in September 2014. The Campaign's responsibility 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 May 25, 2016):

PLEDGES

Anonymous (5)
Evangeline Adams
Michael and Jena Anthony
George and Katina Antipas
Angelo and Dena Aravides
George Badoyannis
Demetri and Constance Begetis
Michael and Mimika Blanc
Sophie Caloutas
Nitsa Chagaris
Peter Cholakis and Teresa Cassidy
Glenn and Angie Colarossi
Savet Constantine
Nicholas Daifotis
Matthew and Maria DeVito
Elias and Anna Diamantis
Stephen and Margaret Fornaciari
Peter Gabriel and Mary Badoyannis
Stephen and Tina Georgeou
Effie Gianos
William Grosso
Rita Haralabidis
Timothy and Sophia Hartch
Brian Irizarry and Gigi Perimenis
Maria Janedis
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 McEntire Family
Charitable Fund

Bob and Cassie MacFarlane
Marc and Maria Magliacano
Rita Mehos
Nicholas Moisiades
Dr. Alan and Marietta Morelli
Chris A. and Luisa Nanos
George and Amy Nanos
Paul and Debbie Nanos
Penny Nanos
Peter C. Nanos
Theophilos and Frederika Nikolis
Nicholas Nikas
George and Cindy Paparis
Father Harry and Presbyteria Pappas
Peter and Joan Paspalis
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
Louis and Anna Sioles
Catherine Sofronas
Agesilaos and Molly Sotire
Sotiris and Nicoletta Soulios
Konstantinos and Bonnie Spet-saris
Evan and Roula Stergianis
Dr. Stelios Theofanidis and Dr. Elizabeth Siderides
Demetrios and Leda Tsapralis
Alkiviadis and Matoula Valassis
Soulafreda Valassis
Dr. Steve and Anastasia Valassis
Steven and Antonia Valassis
Basil and Terry Vanech

Nadine Vasil
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
Ken & Maria Shepard
Dennis and Marion Vanson

Joanne Verses
Helene and Manoucher Yekta
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
Mihai and Cristina Smina