



# The Herald

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

October 2016

## *The Light of KOINONIA*

One of the most precious words in the Church is the Greek (koinonia; pronounced “key-no-kneé-uh). It refers to two significant and closely connected realities:

- Communion - receiving the most sacred gifts of Christ’s Body and Blood through consecrated bread & wine in the Liturgy; and
- Community – a specific group of believers in Jesus as Lord, God, and Savior.

This one word captures so much in our way of life!

Communion literally means “common union.” It expresses how God brings all humanity and creation into deep harmony and identity with himself, above all through the person and work of Christ. Every word and action of our Lord serves to heal, forgive, discipline, teach, reconcile, save and, most importantly *reunite us to the only Source of all life, love and truth.*

Community or “common unity” is virtually identical with “common union” yet pointing to the living context in which the act of Communion is possible: faithful men, women, and children in a community of believers that stretches through time and space in a very tangible way to the Church of the Apostles. All of us have been called out of the mass of humanity in order to recognize and accept God’s claim on us. We are a distinctive people with exclusive purposes that express God’s Kingdom finally arriving on earth. We are brothers and sisters in a brand new family of faith that constitutes a new human species!

The Church of the Apostles remains the gold standard for how Christians live, as we read in the *Gospels*, the *Acts of the Apostles*, and various *Letters* of Paul, Peter and John in the New Testament. Here is a typical pattern that they followed each week:

- Common prayer in someone’s home
- Common meals shared multiple times
- Teaching by the Apostles for adults to learn the new life in Christ
- Mutual support and encouragement through relaxed fellowship
- Service to those less fortunate, especially the sick, poor, and powerless

This fall, we are launching three new small groups, called *Koinonia*. These groups will provide an intimate and holy way for us to gather on a regular basis for prayer, study, conversation, and fellowship. They are very different than Bible Study and Adult Education classes since they emphasize intimacy, group study, and dialogue.

This initiative will be one way we seek to reactivate our foundational heritage. Each leader of a Koinonia Group has a graduate theological degree from our Seminary, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, in Brookline, Massachusetts – Presvytera Kerry, Steve Sarigianis, and Natalie Kulukundis (see below for details of what they will offer).

Never been part of a small group before? Now’s the time to try it! Tried once and didn’t like it? Why not a second chance. Too busy to devote the time and attention? Perhaps we are too busy **not** to let this opportunity pass. Growing up in faith can only happen as we allow ourselves to cooperate with God’s grace through practices such as *Koinonia*. Presvytera, Steve, and Natalie met with me early this summer for training. They are ready to go and excited to work with you to help realize, in this particular way, how we can *Turn Up the Light* of Christ in our lives!

— Fr. Harry

### 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)

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## PASTORAL QUESTION & ANSWER

**Q:** Why do some parish clergy offer their time and energy outside their parish responsibilities – such as Fr. George who built Ionian Village in Greece and developed Youth Programs overseas, or Fr. Harry who teaches a class at our Seminary and speaks at Retreats or participates in Ecumenical activity, or Steve who went on a Mission Trip to Africa this summer? Who pays for their travel expenses? Is their time away considered personal or vacation?

**A:** A variety of parish priests (along with Pastoral Assistants) acquire responsibilities beyond their parish assignment for different reasons: their own personal choice, an invitation from

others, or the direction of their bishop. Every parish is part of the global Orthodox Church, starting with a regional group of parishes (called a diocese or metropolis), a national group (called an archdiocese), and finally a patriarchate. Thus, our church is responsible not just for its internal affairs – ministry and administration – but for each layer of the universal Church that we belong to. By extension, then, parish clergy may acquire responsibilities beyond their own congregation, and this is considered part of their work. All travel is paid for by the clergy themselves or the ministry they serve. None of their expenses come from our church's operating funds.

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## PARISH COUNCIL

### *Parish Council*

George Nanos was selected as Parish Council Secretary, replacing Maria DeVito who moved on recently to work with our Greek School. We are grateful to him for offering his time between now and the end of 2016. We have scheduled a General Assembly for Sunday October 23rd during coffee hour to provide the parish with a mid-year financial update. Offering mid-year guidance is something new to the parish. Our hope is to increase everyone's financial awareness and to answer any questions during a current financial year, rather than after it. We would like to get a jump on Parish Council elections, scheduled for December 2016. To that end, we will use the General Assembly to also select a Board of Elections. Please consider seeking a nomination to that board. Serving on the Board of Elections is a short-term task that entails recruiting new Parish Council candidates and ensuring a smooth election process. There will be up to 4 Parish Council seats up for election this year. We encourage you to consider running! Contact: Jason Konidaris [jason.konidaris@yale.edu](mailto:jason.konidaris@yale.edu)

### *Treasurer's Report*

We have received 77% of 2016's Operating Plan projected Stewardship of \$365,000. The balance will be needed to cover our bills for the rest of the year. Please be sure to follow through on your Stewardship pledge. We are currently going through

transactions related to the Festival and will have results in the coming weeks. Please join us for a General Assembly on Sunday, October 23, 2016 for a mid-year financial update. Contact: Elias Lolis 203-569-3784

### *Online Donations*

As previously reported, online donations can be made through our church website [www.archangelsgoc.org](http://www.archangelsgoc.org), where you are able to make one-time or recurring contributions. Please make 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 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, GreekFest). Contact: George Nanos [nanos203@gmail.com](mailto:nanos203@gmail.com)



John Skoparantzios and Bill Giantomidis at the Ministry Fair, on Sunday, September 11, representing Athletics and GOYA.



Preschool teacher/director Kyriaki Yoranides and Anna Pantel with daughter Isabella, smile for the camera.





Natalie Kulukundis, Eugenia Zavras, and Vicki Kyriakos, stand by their stations at the Ministry Fair.

## Master Planning Committee

We conducted internal and external reviews of our architectural plans during the month of September. We also met as a group to contemplate issues of modification, timing, accommodation of ministries currently in session, potential contractors, and the bidding process. As we put our plans out to bid, we informed our architects that we would like to see the project pursued in two parts, without overlapping. The church as Part A, and the administrative/social spaces as Part B. This would make it possible to have at least one of our large gathering spaces available to us at all times. Thank you to all who have supported our work to date. Contact: Jason Konidaris [jason.konidaris@yale.edu](mailto:jason.konidaris@yale.edu)

## Additional 2016 Stewards

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Burke	Dr. & Mrs. James Koutsoukos
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Greco	Mr. & Mrs. Stew Leonard
Mr. & Mrs. Savvas Kelesidis	Mr. & Mrs. Ruben Martinez

## Capital Campaign

Last month, I compared the Campaign to a traveler at a fork in the road, choosing to take the more difficult path, the only path that would lead him to his destination. This past month, we have set out on that road and taken the first steps up the steep slope. We have received seven new pledges in the amount of \$ 18,250. We have received \$ 7,800 in payments against new and existing pledges. The total number of families having pledged or made non-pledge contributions is now 116. In addition, we have received a most generous pledge from the Archangels Seniors; the goodwill of all the Seniors is very much appreciated. Total pledge amounts and other contributions as of September 19



Helen and Gregg Demetros, Kim, and Peter Licopantis stand together for their birthday song at the Seniors meeting.

amount to \$ 1,900,350, of which \$ 1,419,139 has been collected. We have reached a milestone on our way up the mountain, but we still have a steep incline to negotiate, and a long way to go. We welcome and deeply appreciate the help of all of you who may be thinking about supporting the Campaign but have not yet done so. Now is the time to take action if you want to help us negotiate any remaining obstacles to our goal between now and the end of the year. We on the Campaign thank you in anticipation.

I would like herewith to acknowledge a number of pledges received over the summer in memory of loved ones; from Kiki Verses in memory of Charles Varunes; from Jim and Marge Cocolis in memory of William D. Cocolis; from Katina and Margaret Tsirantonakis in memory of Thomas Tsirantonakis; from Mihai and Christina Smina in memory of Gheorghe Sarbu; from Peter Vorvis in memory of Stephanie Vorvis; and from Bill and Diana Mihaltse in memory of Alice Hasapis. May their memory be eternal.

We urge you all to join us on Saturday evening November 12 for the Capital Campaign Comedy Night. The Event Committee is working hard to put together an exciting evening featuring a special dinner, music, décor you have never seen, a live auction for unusual prizes, and as a special treat, a performance by the well-known Greek-American comedian Basile. Tickets are \$100 per person. Invitations have just gone out by mail. They include a reservation card. Do come and bring all your friends. We look forward to seeing you all there. And please do not forget: help us get to the top of the mountain soon. Contact: Elias N. Kulukundis, 203-569-3784

## Buildings & Grounds

Recent work centered around the gym and preparing for Greek-Fest. The Stamford Fire Marshall inspected the building and noted some inoperative exit lighting which was quickly resolved by our in-house maintenance staff. The asphalt in the alley where we grill was unstable – Steve Fornaciari and Brian Irizarry patched it. We replaced one of the hot water heaters. The heating coil on the fan system was previously reported needing replacement – further examination by our vendor indicated that replacement was not required; a chemical power wash was needed to remove years of algae build-up. The cleaning has been performed and the unit is operating more efficiently now.



Kali Parea, our Seniors group, was back in full swing in September. There was a great turnout for the first meeting of the year!

## MINISTRIES

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday,  
November 12, 2016**

***Church of the Archangels  
Capital Campaign Comedy Night***

**with  
Basile the Comedian**

**COCKTAILS ~ DINNER  
MUSIC ~ AUCTION**

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

Here is a popular prayer composed by Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow (died 1867), that is highly recommended in the morning before we begin our day:

Lord, grant me to greet the coming day in peace.  
Help me in all things to rely upon Your holy will.  
In every hour of the day reveal Your will to me.  
Bless my dealings with all who surround me.  
Teach me to treat all that come to me throughout the day  
with peace of soul and with firm conviction that Your will  
governs all.  
In all my deeds and words guide my thoughts and feelings.  
In unforeseen events let me not forget that all things are  
under Your care.  
Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and  
embarrassing others.  
Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with  
all that it shall bring.  
Direct my will, teach me to pray, pray Yourself in me. Amen.

From *My Orthodox Prayer Book*, by Fr. Theodore Stylianopoulos



Chris Nanos & Cindy Mixcus were having fun while serving at the Greek Fest. OPA!

### ***Festival Committee***

Dear Church Family:

What a wonderful weekend of fellowship and fun we had at our annual GreekFest held from Sept. 22 to 25. The weather was beautiful, the food was fabulous and our guests were very pleased with their experience of our culture and heritage. It is always terrific to see so many of our parishioners with their families and friends support this important parish ministry over the four days. We had a very special treat on Saturday; Holy Trinity of New Rochelle dancers gave us a beautiful and lively performance of dances from around Greece, led by well-known TV weatherman Nicholas Gregory. Our very own Vicki Kyriakos was part of the dance group! Everyone was on their feet and many joined the dance line that curled its way many times around the gym in joyful fun.

We would like to say thank you to all of our volunteers who worked so hard to make this year's GreekFest a success – over 150 volunteers in total! Thank you to all who cooked and baked, made Costco and Restaurant Depot runs, and spent long hours before the festival setting up and several hours breaking down after the festival. Thank you to all who supported the raffle and the vendors. The GreekFest is a huge undertaking and could not be accomplished without each and every one of you. We look forward to more participation and your ideas when we plan our next GreekFest celebration!

With much appreciation, The Festival Committee



Gigi Perimenis, Cindy Mixcus and Dena Burke prepare for the first shift of the day serving hot delicious Grecian dinners.





Maria Otis, Diane Skoparantzios, Stephanie Odle, and Annie Konidaris take a break from selling pastries for a quick picture.

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

Our GreekFest has changed in some specific ways in recent years, centering on the use of our parking lot, front lawn, and driveways. The Souvlaki/Gyro Tent, Outdoor Seating, Raffle Table, and Carnival Rides have contributed to expand in a visible way what we offer to the public. Not only are folks coming in greater number, but we now attract many families with young children who may not know what is available in the Cultural Center! It is common for new patrons to express joy, delight, and thanks to us for hosting such a wholesome and safe event.

### ***Ordination to Priesthood***

On Sun, Oct 9, Deacon Joshua Pappas will be ordained as Presbyter (Priest) @ Archangel Michael Church in Port Washington, NY (about 1¼ hour drive from Stamford). Archbishop Demetrios will preside, and a lunch will follow. Naturally, Fr. Harry and Presvytera Kerry will attend that day, so a substitute priest to lead worship has been arranged for our parish. Since many are interested, we have investigated renting a luxury coach bus (with a fee/person) and a car-pooling arrangement. To indicate your desire to join in, contact either Jane (203-348-4216) or Patricia (office@archangelsgoc.org). For further information, contact Fr. Harry.

### ***Weekday Worship***

We continue our common worship with Annunciation Church on the following weekdays this month:

- Tue, Oct 18 for the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist @ Annunciation (Liturgy 9:30 am)
- Wed, Oct 26 for the feast of St. Demetrios the Myrrh-streaming @ Annunciation (Liturgy 9:30 am)



Nitsa Chagaris and Vasiliki Thomas sell fine Grecian jewelry to patrons in the hall.

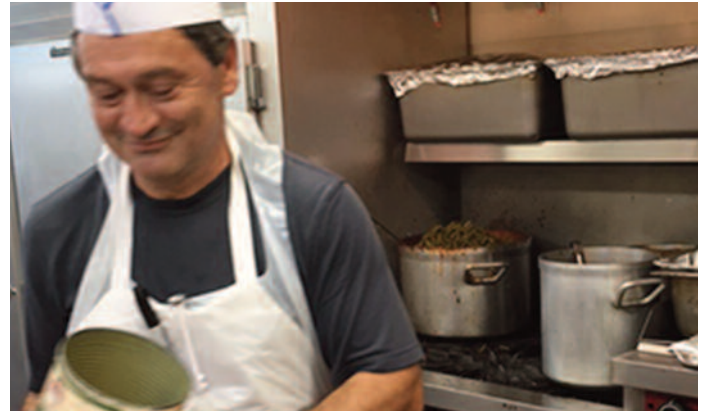
### ***KOINONIA***

In view of the needs of our parish, and in response to God's leading, we introduce three Small Groups this fall, led by a member of our parish who holds a graduate degree in Theology from our Seminary, Holy Cross School of Theology in Boston – Presvytera Kerry, Natalie Kulukundis and Steve Sarigianis. The groups will meet for prayer, study, discussion, fellowship and mutual support. Here is a brief description of each group:

- **Marriage Enrichment group** (Pres. Kerry): In this group, for young and old, we will discover the abundant blessings God desires for our marriages and ways in which, in the daily challenges of life, we can grow toward oneness with our spouse and have a vibrant, life-giving and growing marriage. *We will meet once a month at a day/time/place that is suitable for participants.* Contact: Pres. Kerry pappaskk@msn.com
- **Young Adult group** (Steve S.): In this group, for young adults ages 18-35, we will explore what it is to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, understand the positive impact He will have in our lives, and what it takes to keep the relationship going and growing. We will discuss specifically the issues facing young adults in a fast paced, career driven, and secular world, and how this relationship (He) can and will help us. *We will meet once a month at a day/time/place suitable for participants.* Contact: Steve Sarigianis, steve@archangelsgoc.org, 203-623-5896
- **Women's Group** (Natalie K.): Weekly small group sessions (up to 12 people) for 10 weeks (beginning in October). Soul Feast is a very readable and "non-technical" introduction to the basic disciplines of the Christian spiritual life. Using it as our guide and resource, the group will explore the riches of these spiritual disciplines. We will be guided how to develop and nurture these practices and make them a regular part of our lives. The topics will generate lively discussion as we share, learn and grow. Join us as we deepen and enhance our understanding of our faith and learn ways to renew and nurture and maintain on-going spiritual growth and well-being. Contact: Natalie Kulukundis, natakulu@hotmail.com or 203-857-1670



Pam Koutroubis, Gigi Perimenis, Kerasoula Drosos, Evangelia Hlebogiannis, and Anne Nanos were our baristas at the Coffee Bar.



Demetri Begetis, our head chef and butcher prepares some delicious string beans in the SAC kitchen.

## Adult Education

- **Orthodoxy 101** – Basic catechism (instruction) in the Christian faith continues on certain Mondays (see calendar) with Compline at 7:15 pm, followed by presentation & discussion at 7:30 pm. Required of all adults preparing to join the Orthodox Church; open to all other interested adults. Coffee, tea, and light snacks are available. Contact: Fr. Harry
- **Marriage Seminar** – Holy Trinity Church in New Rochelle, NY. For all couples preparing for a wedding. Offered by the District, with professionally trained leaders who engage couples to learn about a faithful Christian marriage. Contact: Fr. Harry
- **Ecumenical Bible Study** – 4 consecutive Thursday evenings, beginning Oct 20. The first series last year was so popular (with about 100 attending), Fr. Harry and 3 of his colleagues have decided on another series in which they will explore Genesis. At each church, there is an optional church tour at 6:30 pm; the Bible Study always begins at 7 pm. All are invited; no previous experience needed. Here is the schedule:
  - § Oct 20 – Stories of the Fall & Sin in Genesis 3, led by Fr. Mark Lingle @ St. Francis Episcopal, 2810 Long Ridge Rd.;
  - § Oct 27 – Creation story in Genesis 1-2, led by Fr. Harry here at Archangels;
  - § Nov 3 – Flood story & Tower of Babel in Genesis 6-9 & 11, led by Rev. David Van Dyke @ 1st Presbyterian Church (the “Fish” Church), 1101 Bedford Street;
  - § Nov 10 – Patriarch Abraham & other stories in Genesis 12 & following, led by Rev. Duane Pederson @ St. John’s Lutheran Church, 884 Newfield Avenue.

## Christian Rigorists and the Perversion of Tradition

Lecture by Dr. George Demacopoulos on Tue, Oct 25, 6:30 pm at Lincoln Center Campus of Fordham University (113 West 60th Street, New York), with reception at 8 pm. Free and open to the public, but advanced registration required - <http://www.fordham.edu/Walton>

## Missions

Did you know that our parish is involved in mission work through our support of OCMC missionary Nathan Hoppe and family in Albania? In fact, we have had a strong relationship with them for nearly 5 years now, offering both spiritual and material support through our prayers and a monthly stipend of \$150 (made possible through the Foundation Fund). Nathan was born and raised in Colombia, South America, where his parents continue to serve as missionaries. He is a graduate of Wheaton College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. Nathan has now served in Albania for more than 16 years, along with his Albanian born wife Gabriela and their 3 children. He teaches in their seminary, represents the church in ecumenical dialogue, and together with Gabriella, operates the summer camp programs, among other things. We are investing in them and enabling their success in proclaiming the Gospel!

At the beginning of the summer, Nathan and his family started a one year leave of absence (i.e. “furlough”) to pursue continuing education, spend quality time with family, and find refreshment; they will be based out of the Chicago area during this time, though Nathan will occasionally come to the east coast and St. Vladimir’s Seminary as he works toward a 1-year Master’s degree in Theology (ThM). On Saturday, October 29th, at 10:30am in the church hall, there will be an opportunity to enjoy fellowship with Nathan, hear his story and see his presentation on Albania. On October 30th we will celebrate Missions Sunday; we will host Nathan during worship and he will offer the sermon that morning, which will excite and delight.

If you are interested in learning more about Nathan & family, the church in Albania, the work of OCMC, or missions in general, please reach out to Fr. Harry or Steve.

## Seniors (Kali Pareia)

We had our first luncheon meeting on September 14th. We had a great turn out given it was Tou Stavrou (Feast of Holy Cross). It was nice to have Fr. Matthews with us along with Fr. Harry.

The next Kali Pareia luncheon is Wednesday, October 12th. Please attend and bring a friend. We speak both Greek and English so please join us! Contact: Pam Koutroubis, [pamelak2145@gmail.com](mailto:pamelak2145@gmail.com)





Nick Gregory and his dance troupe from Holy Trinity New Rochelle put on a fantastic dance performance on Saturday evening.



Crowds of locals came to out to the Fest to enjoy food, dancing, church, and community.

### ***Ladies Philoptochos Society***

Thanks to the support of many of our parishioners and the omnipresent work of our Philoptochos ladies. We are pleased to announce that we have been very active this past summer, both domestically and internationally.

We have been able to deliver many blankets and toiletries to St. Michael's Home for the Elderly as well as purchase raffle tickets and congratulatory announcements for their gala on Nov. 13 in NYC.

We were pleased to be able to present to Deacon Joshua Pappas a vestment called an epitrahilio to honor him upon his elevation to the office of Deacon. Congratulations and God Bless.

We also contributed to Greek Fest by purchasing a raffle ticket and a banner. Many of our members contributed countless hours to the organization and execution of this wonderful community effort.

Because of the terrible flooding in Louisiana we were able to contribute to the Archdiocese appeal and give \$1,500 to the relief efforts chaired by a Philoptochos member of their district.

On the international scene, we contributed \$1,600 to Fr. Nikos Militias who administers many social services in Kato, Korinthos. Pauline Galuris personally delivered the funds to him.

We also gave \$1,500 to AFYO, an organization for the relief of the Greek people on Lesbos, who have been devastated by the

influx of so many seeking refuge. We also contributed \$1,600 to Kivotos tou kosmou, an organization in Greece that cares for children and mothers in need.

We look forward to another engaging year. We hope to see everyone at our church's Name Day vespers, and at Turkey Bingo. Don't forget to order your Vasilopita breads. May God bless you all for your support. Contact: Marion Vanson, 914-234-9420.

### ***Church School***

The Church School Program is off to a promising start with the growing participation of very young children and families! We are so pleased to welcome many new students and families into our ministry! Our Church School faculty along with the faculty of neighboring parishes joined for an informative and energizing retreat led by Dr. Anton Vrame, Director of Religious Education for our Archdiocese last month. We are eager to put these new insights into use and are also open to your ideas and feedback for program development, events, and innovative engagement practices. We will hold our first school-wide Philanthropy Sunday for the year on Sunday, October 23, 2016 in order to commemorate our district Philoptochos' "Make a Difference Day." Children of all grade and age levels will work together on a group service project to benefit the community. Our Music Ministry will also resume this month. Schedule to follow. Contact: Evelyn Biliaris (ebiliaris@aol.com)



Lou Kakaletis mixing a drink at the bar.



Alex and Zack Fornaciari selling car raffle tickets like hot cakes at the Greek Festival.



The Preschool children wait patiently for Fr. Harry to begin the beginning of the year Blessing of the Waters service (Agiasmo).

### ***Greek School***

Greek School is back in session and this year is expected to be a fabulous one! We started our lessons on Sept, 13th with the students full of excitement and willingness in learning our Greek language. The first day of school opened with welcome ceremony and the traditional blessing from Father Harry. Each class has an average of 6 students.

Teachers and the Greek School committee have worked intensively in order to renew school curriculum, enhance their work as a team, and set high standards for learning the Greek Language. Many initiatives are in the pipeline this year concerning both curriculum and school management.

The Greek School interim Director is Anna Lempesi, who also teaches the Level B class. Anna is recently here from Greece, with 20 years of working experience in the banking sector, and a masters degree in marketing, qualifications that will enable her to run the school in an efficient and professional manner. Also, a new team of experienced and highly motivated teachers are expected to bring Greek School success and language proficiency. We welcome to our staff:

- **Afroditi Karayiannis** – Afroditi heads the Kindergarten program (K- PreK). She will work closely with Eleni Giagkou, who will teach art to enhance learning for our youngest children. Afrodite is a respected member of our parish with extended teaching experience at the elementary level.
- **Maria DeVito** – Maria has been appointed to teach our Level A students. Most of you know Maria as a former member of our Parish Council. She is a self-motivated professional English/Language Arts teacher in the Stamford Public Schools, where she has been working for over 15 years.
- **Ria Athanasiou** – Ria will supervise our Regent Course. Ria grew up in Greece and holds a bachelor's degree in marketing and advertising. She is experienced in elementary school tutoring.
- **Polina Anastos** teaches our Level C students.

All teachers are very excited to cultivate students' Greek identity through language and culture. Since the role of the Church is vital to our success, and because of our mission to uphold the



Along with a blessing from the Lord, Fr. Harry affectionately offers the children a kiss at the conclusion of the service.

principles of Christianity, we are planning many events that will emphasize our shared Orthodox faith and Greek history. All of these new initiatives make your presence strongly encouraged at our Open House on Sunday, October 16th during coffee hour. We also look forward to collaborating with you to create the most wonderful experience possible for our children! October's PTO meeting is scheduled for the 4th, at 5:30pm. Contact: Anna Lempesi [ann.lempesi@gmail.com](mailto:ann.lempesi@gmail.com)

### ***Little Angels***

Although our September events shifted, we are on track for the remainder of our fall program! Our mothers' coffee and planning meeting will take place on Friday, October 7th, at 7 pm at Le Pain Quotidien in New Canaan. This is an opportunity for informal fellowship among mothers and a chance to give us ideas and help related to strengthening our ministry. Our Family Fitness Day will take place on Saturday, October 22nd, at the SAC gym, from 2:00-4:00 pm. Please note that we did have to shift the event later in the day. Children and parents will cycle through fitness stations such as balloon volleyball, soccer kick, relay races, and more. What is your passion? Help us run a station! Healthy snacks & refreshments will be served immediately following. Please RSVP if you can attend! Keep in mind dates for future events: Saturday, November 19th @ church: Pumpkin Painting & Gratitude Event, Saturday, December 10th, 12-4 pm @ The Norwalk Inn: Youth Ministry Christmas Party.

Thinking about how to parent children in the faith? Be inspired by the writing of Dr. Philip Mamalakis who writes about "Long-Term Parenting" for an issue of Praxis.

Search: <http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/family/articles/thinkinglongtermgoals>. Contact: Anastasia Valassis, [avalassis@gmail.com](mailto:avalassis@gmail.com).



## ***Hope/Joy***

The Hope & Joy ministry is for pre-school children through 6th grade. This year we teamed up with the Hope & Joy Ministry group at our sister Parish, Church of the Annunciation. We are invited to their monthly meetings and they are invited to all of our events throughout the year. On Friday, September 16th, members from our church joined them for a beautiful lesson, craft, discussion, and meal. The theme was the elevation of the Holy cross and "perseverance". Then on Saturday, October 1st, we held our first event at the Stamford Museum and Nature Center where children and adults participated in a Bible scavenger hunt along one of its many trails. Children enjoyed a snack, made a fall blessings craft, and enjoyed the playground and farm areas. On October 22nd, we will have a joint-ministry Family Fun Fitness Day with the Little Angels at the Stamford Athletic Club at 2:00 p.m. We hope to see you there! Please remember to always bring non-perishable food items to Church each week to support the Lower Fairfield County Food Bank. Feel free to contact us with any ideas, questions, or concerns you may have at 203-249-7403 or e-mail us at [cnanos@optonline.net](mailto:cnanos@optonline.net). Chris & Luisa Nanos

## ***GOYA***

The fall GOYA season is off to a bouncing start! In lieu of September 19th's cancelled Holiday Hill regional event, our group decided to reschedule at Sky Zone trampoline park in Norwalk. It proved to be a super fun evening of incredible air leaps and jumps, trampoline dodgeball and slam dunks. Unfortunately, the teens weren't able to pull off an in-air "selfie" as they had hoped for. (Next time!) October is a busy month for us, so keep your eyes on the dates below. As always we welcome up-and-coming teens and their friends to join any of our meetings or events – the more the merrier!

### **October happenings:**

- **Fri-Sat, Oct. 7-8th:** 6:30pm-8:30am is our annual *Lock-In* at the church with Annunciation. Will include: prayer, pizza, discussion, dessert, games, activities, movie, sleep?
- **Saturday, Oct. 15th:** 8:30am-2:30pm is the *Open House at Hellenic College Holy Cross* (our theological seminary) in Brookline, MA.
- **Sunday, Oct. 23rd:** 11:45am we will have our *2nd Meeting* during Coffee Hour in the library. Itinerary: elections, recap past events, and cover upcoming ones. Join us!
- **Saturday, Oct. 29th:** 4:30pm is the Soup Kitchen service day at New Covenant House of Hospitality. We will be joining Annunciation GOYA. Contact: Diane Skoparantzios ([skoparantziosd@optonline.net](mailto:skoparantziosd@optonline.net)), Bill Giantomidis ([billgiant1@yahoo.com](mailto:billgiant1@yahoo.com)) or Steve Sarigianis ([steve@archangelsgoc.org](mailto:steve@archangelsgoc.org))

## ***AYA***

Although the AYA didn't get together formally during GreekFest as originally intended, there were 9 young adults who served during the course of the 4 days. It was great to feel the presence of this population, the least represented in the church today. A planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday Oct. 6 to devise the fall/winter schedule. Stay tuned! To get connected, reach out to Steve: [steve@archangelsgoc.org](mailto:steve@archangelsgoc.org), or 203-623-5896.

## ***Athletics***

The Connecticut Eastern Orthodox Basketball League (CEOBL) is being organized for the 2016-17 season. We are hoping to form teams for each division of play (either separately or with Annunciation): *Youth* (ages 11 and under), *Junior Varsity* (boys ages 11-14 and girls ages 11-15) and *Varsity* (boys and girls 18 and under). Practices will begin in October and games in November. *CEOVL* (girls' volleyball) is also being organized for the new season. We hope to form another championship winning team like we had in 2014-15. Practices will start in November and games in December.

If you or your children are interested in playing on the church teams, please sign up with **John Skoparantzios (203- 550-6894)** or **Steve Sarigianis ([steve@archangelsgoc.org](mailto:steve@archangelsgoc.org))**. Come join the fun!

## ***Greek Language Classes for Adults***

The world is shrinking with globalization and the internet! Now is a great time for adults to learn modern Greek. We are blessed to have an excellent instructor in Dr. Eugenia Zavras, a biology Professor at Fairfield University. For information and registration, contact her directly at 203-322-9561 or call Jane in the church office 203-348-4216.

## ***Archbishop's Nameday Reception***

We are warmly invited to celebrate the name day of Archbishop Demetrios on Wed, Oct 26, from 6-8 pm in an elegant reception of food and drink at the Cathedral Center (337 East 74th Street, New York). For those who live or work in New York, consider stopping by to greet him, receive his blessing, and enjoy some fellowship before returning home. He especially enjoys greeting us in this event.

## ***Blessing of the Animals***

The annual blessing of pets and animals will take place on Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 PM on the front lawn. This is a revised date from the original schedule. Open to the public.

## ***Wish List***

Smart Board for one classroom: \$3,000 to benefit Church School, Greek School and Youth Ministry

## ***Pilgrimage to Russia***

Fr. Harry and Fr. Steve Tsichlis, presiding priest of St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine, CA, will co-lead a Pilgrimage to Russia from Mon, May 22, 2017, to Sat, June 3. Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky, a native Russian Orthodox priest serving a parish in Binghamton, NY, will be our tour guide. Walking will be much easier on this particular trip, with no difficult climbs, steep stairs, or lengthy travel on foot. The itinerary includes all major holy sites, significant cultural centers, and periods of relaxation:

- St. Petersburg: Cathedrals – Our Lady of Kazan, St. Isaac, St. Nicholas; Monasteries – St. Alexander Nevsky, St. John of Rila (relics of St. John of Kronstadt, modern Orthodox Saint), Nvodevichiy Convent; Museums – Russian Museum and The Hermitage (Icons, Rembrandt paintings – especially the Prodigal Son); Smolensk Cemetery (relics of St. Xenia); Boat Tour through some canals of the city; Apartment of Fyodor Dostoyevsky & his grave (one of our greatest modern writers)
- Moscow (5 full days): The Kremlin – Cathedrals (Dormition, Annunciation, Archangel Michael), Tomb of Lenin; Cathedrals – St. Basil's (Red Square), Kazan, Christ the Savior; Monasteries – Donskoy (grave of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and relics of St. Tikhon of America), Mary & Martha Convent (founded by St. Elizabeth, modern Saint), Holy Trinity Lavra (relics of St. Sergius of Radonezh & St. Innocent of America); Museum – Tretyakov Gallery (with world famous icon of Trinity by St. Andrei Rublev, along with Russian art through the centuries); Memorial prayers at Butovo, where thousands were executed under Communism, including many now considered as Martyrs.

Members of both parishes are invited to participate, but space is limited to a total of 30. Already a number have indicated interest. Preliminary price of \$3,000-\$3,300/person includes everything, except airfare (which, from JFK airport right now is \$775 on Delta). Contact Fr. Harry for further information and to reserve a space now.

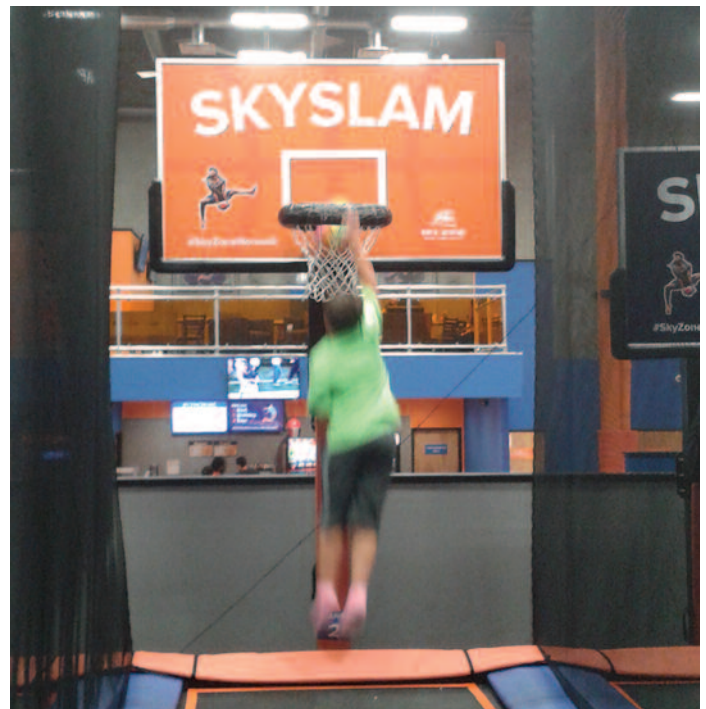


The GOYAns (and Steve) take a break from all their jumping and running for a picture at Sky Zone trampoline park in Norwalk.

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

When is the last time you entered SAC? Did you take a tour when you came for the Festival? Take a FREE week trial and then sign up for our super discounted Archangels Church member rates: \$35/month or \$350/year. Family membership rates are: \$75/month or \$750/year and includes 2 parents and 2 children. Swim classes are forming now so please inquire about that when you visit. Need to work off some of that delicious Greek food from the Festival? Get a jumpstart on an exercise program with one of our fabulous personal trainers. Already a member? Look for new announcements like the monthly SAC Attack group exercise program where Jeff, the GM of SAC, runs a group class on various topics. Times and day of the week changes each month in order to interact with as many varying members each month as possible. We welcome new corporate memberships from Stamford-based Synchrony Financial. High Rise basketball continues to be a prominent program on SAC's basketball court. If you have children interested in basketball, please inquire with front desk about that marvelous program. Cooking classes are now being taught in the kitchen at SAC. Coming in November, a new soccer program will begin to use the SAC facility for various programs and classes. Also, look for some extra special Halloween themed activities at end of month for kids and parents.

Call SAC at 203-357-7555 today for more information about any of these programs and visit our website at [www.sacnews.com](http://www.sacnews.com)



Chris Otis goes in for a slam dunk on the 7 foot high hoop at Sky Zone!





Co-chair Margaret Fornaciari along with every other man, woman and child wait with great anticipation as husband and co-chair Steve, and Fr. Harry draw the winning ticket!



George Nanos and children Georgie & Addison, with nephew Jackson Nanos (Chris & Amy's son) enjoy the Kalamatiano dance.



Dn. Dr. Tony Vrame, Director of the Religious Education Department, led a Christian Education Workshop in our hall on Saturday Sept. 10th.

## Greek School Open House

**Sunday, October 16th**

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy  
Meet the Teachers • Tour Your School

## PARISH NEWS

### ***Baptism***

**Denton Marcus Jones** on September 17th; sponsors were Tim & Sophia Hartch

**Rachel Sophia Jones**; sponsors were Tim & Sophia Hartch

**Henry Sabastian Jones** (first child of Denton & Rachel Jones) on September 17th; sponsor was Hannah Pappas

**Steven Vasili Varvatsis** on September 17th; sponsor was Andrew Matsis;

**Isabela Georgia Martinez** on September 18th; sponsors were Peter and Soulafreda Hantes

## AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

### ***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 29, 2016. 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](http://www.ellenkaris.com)),

before we dance to the music of George Karatzas and his band. 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](mailto:niketes@yahoo.com)

# 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 September 20, 2016):

Total Commitments .....\$1,900,350  
Total Commitments Paid .....\$1,419,139  
Total Number of Households .....116

## 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:

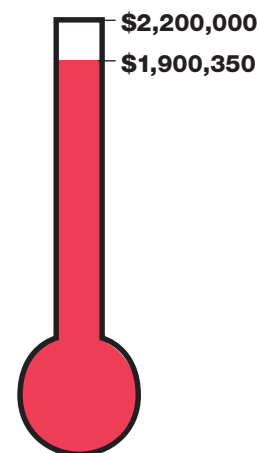
The Campaign's expenses to date include: Assistance from the Archdiocese Development Office, architectural fees, production of solicitation materials, and event planning. These are in addition to salary & benefits for parish office support hired on in September 2014. The Campaign's responsibility for 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 remodel are on display in the Hall.

## The Matching Grant:

We achieved the \$250,000 Matching Grant hurdle and the donor has delivered the matching funds. We are ever grateful for this creative and impactful gesture on the part of the donor.

## OUR GOAL



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

### PLEDGES

Anonymous (6)  
Evangeline Adams  
Michael and Jena Anthony  
George and Katina Antipas  
Angelo and Dena Aravides  
Archangels Seniors  
George Badoyannis  
Demetri and Constance Begetis  
Michael and Mimika Blanc  
Theodore Burt Jr. and Sophia Gevas  
Sophie Caloutas  
Nitsa Chagaris  
Peter Cholakis and Teresa Cassidy  
Helen Chochos  
James W. and Margaret Cocolis  
Glenn and Angie Colarossi  
Harry Condos  
Savet Constantine  
Nicholas Daiotfis  
Matthew and Maria De Vito  
Elias and Anna Diamantis  
Peter and Ruth Diamond  
Stephen and Margaret Fornaciari  
Peter Gabriel and Mary Badoyannis

Stephen and Tina Georgeou  
Effie Gianos  
William Grosso  
Rita Haralambidis  
Timothy and Sophia Hartch  
Brian Irizarry and Gigi Perimenis  
William and Bertha Jones  
James and Sylvia Kambas  
Chris and Elaine Kanos  
John Kantzas  
George Khouri  
Arthur and Elaine Kiratsous  
Annie Konidaris  
Jason and Janie Konidaris  
Nick and Pauline Kounelvelis  
Pam Koutroubis  
Elias N. Kulukundis  
Stewart and Kim Leonard  
Peter and Yolanda Licopantis  
Elias and Evelyn Lolis  
J. Andrew MacEntire Family  
Charitable Fund  
Bob and Cassie MacFarlane  
Marc and Maria Magliacano  
James and Kyriaki Marcarello

Eric and Lea Medow  
Rita Mehos  
Nicholas Moisiades  
Dr. Alan and Marietta Morelli  
Tom and Melissa Moulketis  
Chris A. and Luisa Nanos  
Chris P. and Pam Nanos  
Christopher P. and Christine Nanos  
George and Amy Nanos  
Paul and Debbie Nanos  
Penny Nanos  
Peter C. Nanos  
Theodore and Ann Nanos  
Theophilos and Friderika Nicolis  
Nicholas Nikas  
Mark and Maria Otis  
George and Cindy Paparis  
Father Harry and Presbytera Pappas  
Peter and Joan Paspalis  
Kimon and Julie Passios  
Tom and Nike Passios  
John Pasvankias  
George and Jane Perkins  
Katie Perimenis  
Dr. Peter and Carmen Perimenis

Maria Poulos  
Peter and Geri Poulos  
Stephen and Susan Root  
Lee and Maria Sampanis  
Joseph and Rebecca Samra  
Pericles and Erika Sentementes  
Robert and Branislava Shekhdar  
Ken and Maria Shepard  
Theodore and Diane Sierpina  
Louis and Anna Sioles  
Catherine Sofronas  
Agisilaos and Molly Sotire  
Sotiris and Nicoletta Soulios  
Demosthenes and Anthea  
Speridakos  
Konstantinos and Bonnie Spetsaris  
Evan and Roula Stergiannis  
Dr. Stelios Theofanides and  
Dr. Elizabeth Siderides  
Demetrios and Leda Tsapralis  
Katina and Margaret Tsirantonakis  
Alkiviadis and Matoula Valassis  
Soulafrada Valassis  
Dr. Steve and Anastasia Valassis  
Steven and Antonia Valassis  
Basil and Terri Vanech

Nadine Vasilacopoulos  
John and Medina Vasily  
Argyris and Ann Vassiliou  
Angelica Verses  
Jane Vorvis  
Peter M. Vorvis  
Paul and Goldie Winn  
Nicholas and Kyriaki Yoranidis  
Nicole Yoranidis

### NON-PLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

Ladies Philoptochos Society, Church of the Archangels  
Evangelos Aposporis and Victoria De Melo Paz  
Mary Louise Bennett  
George, Pauline and Peter Galuris  
Dr. Stephen and Dr. Maria Pavlis Glasser  
Steve Katsetos  
Miles and Joan Kulukundis  
Natalie Kulukundis  
Michelle Marmarinos  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Minetos  
Penny Nanos

Phil and Frederika Nikolis  
Aristotle Sentementes  
Nestor Sgourous  
Dennis and Marion Vanson  
Joanne Verses  
Helene and Manoucher Yekta

### 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  
William and Diana Mihalte  
Nicholas Nikas  
Timothy and Maria Scanlon  
Diane Sierpina  
Mihai and Cristina Smina