



The Herald

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

AUGUST 2018

A Different Phase 2?

Starting the week of July 22, anyone who comes anywhere near church easily notices something different: temporary fences with black tarps that envelop the office, side, and back entrances, along with a corner of the front lawn for construction equipment and delivery of materials. Phase 2 of our Physical Renovation has begun in earnest. Hard to miss.

In my own calendar, the first recorded meeting of the Master Planning Committee (charged with developing comprehensive plans) was on Sunday, February 24, 2013. That's about 5½ years ago. Of all the complaints we could come up with, there is certainly one we are not guilty of: haste.

This Committee's long, patient, and difficult work encompassed

- more meetings that I care to recall
- hiring an outside professional consultant who analyzed our parish stewardship, conducted scores of confidential interviews, analyzed the data with thorough documentation, and recommended an initial goal for our Capital Campaign
- several Town Hall meetings as well as General Assemblies
- regular monthly updates in this Herald
- occasional public announcements at the end of Sunday Liturgy
- many hundreds of hours for the chairperson to stay on top of a myriad of details, including work with architects and contractors while taking charge during the Phase 1 Renovation of the Church proper
- regular reporting to the Parish Council
- coordination with the Capital Campaign
- I'm sure I've still not expressed everything, but you get the picture...

It's not been easy or straightforward, but it has certainly been fruitful. To date, we have successfully completed a magnificent renovation of the Church that not only restores its internal surfaces, but significantly improves its spaces and utilities.

Now, Phase 2 is underway: a complete make-over of the 1st floor of our Complex outside the Church. However, our arrival is really only another beginning. Much more work is yet to be done – regular meetings and reports will continue as a lot more money is raised.

Which causes me to reflect as a pastor: Is there a corresponding Phase for our spiritual growth as an Orthodox Christian community of faith?

Perhaps. But it's certainly not as evident, especially if we are not so sure about how Jesus Christ is involved in the here and now of our messy, complicated lives.

There are no fences, no tell-tale signs, no major fund-raising campaigns, no grand committee, no single person investing hundreds of hours.

So what evidence, then, is there that something may be afoot?

- A 3rd full year of changeover in Parish Council leadership, with new members continuing to make important contributions
- Our most complete and thorough Leadership Retreat to date that was facilitated by not one but two outside professionals, engaged everyone who attended, and produced practical short and long-term goals from four different groups
- Adult education - continues to gain increasing traction every year: Parish Bible Study, Catechism, Retreats (such as the one last fall), Baptism Classes, Pre-Marital Preparation, Area Presentations (such as at St. Vladimir's Seminary or Fordham University), Ecumenical or Interfaith Bible Study, visits to other Christian & Jewish congregations
- Missions – regular monthly stipend for 8 years running for long term missionary Nathan Hoppe and his family in Albania (along with 3 visits from him), the eye-opening visit of Fr. Anastasios Kihali of Kenya this spring that stirred interest, growing support for the Panagia Philanthropia Medical Clinic in Ormylia, Greece that provides free cancer screening for women, the desire of some of our youth and adults to partici-

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pate in Project Mexico, and the intent of Steve and Theophani Sarigianis to enter into long term missionary work next year

- Pilgrimages – to nearby Monasteries, such as New Skete, or faraway places like Russia last Spring, with another trip to the Holy Land planned for next May; in these small but significant groups form closer bonds
- Sacred Music – a major event of outreach to the public involves our hosting the Archdiocesan Byzantine Choir for a Christmas Concert in mid-December, with interest already from two area schools of higher learning: the Yale Institute for Sacred Music and St. Vladimir's Seminary.
- Young Families – the trickle of new, young families to our area that began 9 years ago when I first arrived has become a steady stream: those who grew up here or came for work are increasingly a significant segment of the parish, even if they are not always visible on Sunday mornings. The challenge is not only connecting them to Christ and the Church, but to one another in their busy, stressed lives while raising children.
- Stewardship – the level of involvement, interest, and coordination continues in all areas of ministry, even when any one

group struggles with smaller attendance. The sheer number of hours invested in Sacred Music (chanters & choir), Seniors, Philoptochos, all areas of Youth Ministry from Little Angels to Young Adults, Preschool to Church School to Greek School, Summer Camps, Regional and National Programs. All of this is besides the substantial increase in regularly financial giving despite two significantly competing factors: The Great Recession of 2008 and the massive Capital Campaign that continues. Plans are underway for small group gatherings to talk about our common life and ministry in Christ.

And these are just some highlights from an even wider perspective that includes regular significant ministry such as our Coffee Hours, the annual GreekFest, and AHEPA.

So, while I cannot say for certain, there is a lot happening here that is deeper than brick, mortar, and office management. I'll be on the lookout for the "signs of the Spirit" at work in our midst. Who knows, perhaps not just physically but spiritually we are entering into another Phase of growth?

– Fr. Harry

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council

We are assessing our campus security level. Given the changing social fabric around us, we are looking to further protect our buildings, their contents, and most of all our parishioners. George Khouri presented a report to the Council in June, having performed due diligence with Captain Diedrich Hohn of the Stamford Police Department. We will review and implement a number of their recommendations. We are also looking to create a parishioner volunteer role of Campus Security Director. Our most current Audit Committee report strongly urged us to bring on a professional bookkeeper. We recently voted to approve the hire of bookkeeper Laura Lopez in that role. Laura will work part time to streamline our financial processes. These will include general accounting, accounts payable/receivable, book

entry transactions, payroll processing, and audit prep. Fr. Harry, Steve Sarigianis, Natalie Kulukundis, and George Papis offered the Council their personal reflections from the recent National Clergy Laity Congress. Please reach out to them directly if you would like to hear more.

Natalie Kulukundis and Steven Georgeou are finishing up due diligence on an improved point-of-sale process for our upcoming GreekFest. If successful we will look to incorporate it across other parish transaction processes. Our August meeting will take place on Tuesday the 28th in order to accommodate members returning from summer travels - 7:30p start, preceded by 7:15p compline. We wish you a joyous rest of summer. Contact: jason.konidaris@yale.edu



Construction superintendent Mike Pitassi clears the courtyard area outside the old double glass doors. (8/1/18)



Metal fences with screens are erected around the church building as Phase II begins in earnest. (7/23/18)

Treasurer's Report

For 2018 year to date (through June), revenues were \$367,000 with expenses of \$377,000 resulting in an operating deficit of \$10,000 year to date. Approximately 78% of revenues have come from Stewardship donations and approximately 12% have come from Other Donations. Other Donations can include such items as memorial and estate bequests. Thus far 134 families have made their contributions. We have received 70% of 2017's Operating Plan projected Stewardship of \$425,000. 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. Again, thank you! Contact: Elias Lolis, elolis@aol.com

Ways of Giving On-Line

Through CCB, by following the steps below:

- Log in to your profile on CCB – archangels.ccbchurch.com – with your personal identity (typically your email) and password
- On the left column of the home page (dark background) click “\$”
- Select file tab marked ‘give’ or ‘donate’
- Select ‘one-time gift’ or ‘repeating gift’
- Select ‘designation’ from the drop-down arrow
- Select ‘giving amount’ using decimals
- Click ‘CONTINUE’ tab
- Visually verify ‘designation’ and ‘gift amount’
- Select payment type from drop down arrow (checking account OR debit / credit card)
- Visually verify donor/personal information
- Select ‘Update profile with this contact information’ if necessary
- Enter checking account or debit / credit card information as needed
- Select ‘Save payment information for future use’ if desired
- Click ‘CONTINUE’ tab
- Click ‘CONFIRM’ if all information is correct
- Transaction is Complete! Retrieve receipt from personal email.

Contact: Laura, bookkeeper@archangelsgoc.org

Through our website www.archangelsgoc.org:

You can make one-time or recurring contributions through the lower right red-colored button “Donate Today”. 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. Contact: George Nanos, houseofnanos@gmail.com

Stewardship Report

This Fall, the Stewardship Committee will conduct small group meetings in different homes for members to gather and dialogue about our common life in Christ and our Church's ministries. The first such gathering, as a pilot offering, will include mem-

bers of our Committee and some Parish Council members before September. Mid-year financial statements and letters have been mailed to well over 300 households. We welcome your timely response to help us especially during the thin period of the summer when cash flow runs short. If you have any questions about Stewardship or the financial services meeting group, please contact Tim Hartch at timhartch1@outlook.com.

2018 Stewards (May 16, 2018 – July 17, 2018)

Begetis, Constance / Dimitri
Caloyeras, Lynn / John – Michael
Chochos, Louis
Hasapis Family
Lines, Angie / George
Markellos, Ioannis

Mashas, Athina / Downer, Daphne
Mentavlos, Dena / Demetre
Nikas, Nicholas
Sentementes, Pam
Tsiralidis, Luz / Tom
Vanson, Marion / Dennis

Master Planning

Part 2 construction work is underway! Weekly meetings with the Architect, key staff of Wernert Construction Company, our Owner's Representative have been very detailed, with regular written notes, open lines of communication, and appropriate checks and balances. Environmental abatement was completed in July. Interior demolition has begun. Wernert Construction has erected fencing to separate construction zones from safe zones. The administrative area has been sealed off from the Church, allowing us to use our worship spaces at all times. We have undergone quite a bit of logistical effort to bring a modular classroom on campus to accommodate our youngest children as well as adults for evening meetings. We are working closely with the City of Stamford to meet all code requirements. We are very grateful for your continued financial support. Together we will build a space we can be proud of for many generations to come. Contact: jason.konidaris@yale.edu

Capital Campaign

As of May 20, cash received by the Capital Campaign has passed \$2,175,000 against pledges and gifts totaling a bit over \$2.2 million, almost all of which has already been received. Further pledges for the extended Campaign now total \$760,000 of which nearly \$440,000 has already been received from 27 families.

Expenses paid to date total more than \$1,170,000 of which \$250,000 represent total architect's fees for Part 1 and 2 design work, and \$717,000 payments to contractors, of which about \$25,000 is attributable to Part 2. The balance remaining in the Campaign accounts approximates \$1,400,000.

We are well on the way to attaining our goal for the extended Capital Campaign. But there is still a long way to go – nearly \$500,000 – before we get there. Furthermore, only 27 individuals, families or entities have made pledges or contributions compared with more than 150 in the original effort. New pledges have only been trickling in slowly. The construction contract for Part 2 has been awarded. Physical work will start happening by the end of June and completion is contemplated by Easter 2019. By that time, we will need to have reached and surpassed our goal in order to pay the contractors and purchase new furniture and equipment for the premises. The time available is getting short.

The Capital Campaign Committee met earlier this month to plan out future procedural steps. It will be meeting again next month in anticipation of renewing direct solicitation of the Community. It is hoped that we will be able to secure the support not only of all those who participated already, but also of the many of you who did not. The renovation of the rest of our building is a project that benefits all of us in the Community. We hope you will receive a solicitor who may call on you with enthusiasm and that you will all join in to support the project by sending in your three-year pledge and/or a contribution in the coming weeks. Contact: Elias N. Kulukundis, enek@erols.com

Buildings & Grounds

We covered quite a bit of ground at our Stamford Athletic Club. Of major concern was the pool air ventilation system. The unit had been operating erratically. We had the Trane Company replace three control components. The system is now operating properly. We are in consultation with a solar company to explore the possible addition of solar panels to two of our roof areas. As previously reported, our roofs need attention due to age. The solar company would potentially cover the cost of roof repair/replacement if we were to pursue the solar project. Peter Hantes is spearheading the due diligence on this. Such a combined undertaking would reduce our energy costs while lowering or eliminating any capital outlay for roof repair/replacement. The project could be financed over twenty years, thereby not disrupting our annual operating budgets materially. Contact: Peter Licopantis at pglydl3@optonline.net or 203-322-7092, Peter Hantes, or Michael Jackson

ADMINISTRATION

Office Hours

Church offices moved at the beginning of July to the SAC/Greek Cultural Center in response to Phase 2 construction in our administrative building. As you walk into the gym lobby, Fr. Harry's office is immediately to the left near the elevator; the main office (Steve, Ritta, Laura) is merged with SAC General Manager Jeff Kaminski, located past the front desk, down the right-side hallway, through the door, near the second-floor stairwell.

Hours for August are: Monday - Friday, 9am-4pm.

For all non-emergency needs, feel free to leave a voice message through the main office phone number if no one is available to answer (203-348-4216) or send an email to:

- Fr. Harry (hpappas@svots.edu)
- Steve (steve@archangelsgoc.org)
- Ritta (office@archangelsgoc.org) - all non-financial matters
- Laura (bookkeeper@archangelsgoc.org) - financial matters

For all emergencies after hours, contact Fr. Harry at home (203-504-2689).

MINISTRIES

Fast of August (ΔΕΚΑΠΕΝΤΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟ)

As a community of faith, we prepare for the Great Feast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep; Κοιμησις) of the Theotokos, on Wednesday, August 15, by observing a 2-week fasting period that begins this year on Wednesday, August 1. The spiritual dimension of this Fast, which anyone can follow, prescribes that we intensify our personal prayer, attend weekday Supplicatory services (see below for explanation) along with Sunday worship, do works of mercy to help the poor, sick and suffering, reduce our entertainment, strive more consciously to fight temptation and avoid sin, and receive the Sacrament of Confession. As for the physical dimension, the Church encourages us to lighten our diet by avoiding animal products and eating vegetables, beans, pasta, grains, fruits, nuts, and shellfish. On weekends, we may also consume alcoholic beverages, and, on the Great Feast of the Transfiguration (Monday, August 6) we may eat boned fish. As with all fasting in the Church, the physical standards do not apply to young children, pregnant or nursing mothers, those who are ill, and the elderly who are too weak. Feel free to consult Fr. Harry or Fr. George about the specifics of your own practice.

Worship

- Paraklesis (Παρακλησις) or Service of Supplication - Characteristic of this 2-week holy season are the Paraklesis Services offered 7 pm on most Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. This beautiful service consists of prayers, psalms, petitions, and a Gospel reading that are enveloped in magnificent poetry that glorifies Christ by honoring the Theotokos as his Mother. Please write a list of first names of the living that will be prayed for, especially the poor, sick, shut-ins and suffering, and bring this with you (copies are available at church).
- Great Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ (August 6) falls on a Monday this year. Aside from the beautiful hymns and icon, a special feature is the blessing of grapes. To honor this ancient custom, please bring a bunch of grapes or, if you have a garden, a few ripe vegetables. You can share these with others at church or take them home to enjoy afterwards. Note earlier hours (Liturgy begins at 8:30 am) to accommodate children & staff of Greek School Summer Camp that starts at 9 am.

SAVE THE DATES! ANNUAL ARCHANGELS GREEK FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 TO
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 *OPA!*

Electronic Giving in Church

The Church is making giving easier on Sundays by accepting credit cards for candles and donations. Some Parishioners have asked that we offer this convenience, and a white credit card terminal is now located in the Narthex on top of the Pangari (candle stand on the right-hand side). Major credit cards are accepted so you won't have to make change. The terminal is located next to the cash slot and ushers are available to help you. Your feedback is always welcomed. Contact: Steven Georgeou, sgeorgeou@geocom-inc.com

Prayer of the Month

Of all the beautiful hymns in the Small Supplication Service (Paraklesis in Greek), this one is a personal favorite of Fr. Harry, both for its melody and its meaning. It is addressed to the Virgin Mary, Theotokos (Birth-giver of God) and expresses great yearning for her extraordinary help along with an honest outpouring from the heart of the many ways that we suffer in this life. Great prayer for anyone in distress.

Plagal 2nd Tone

Μὴ καταπιστεύσης με, ἀνθρωπίνῃ προστασίᾳ, Παναγία
δέσποινα, ἀλλὰ δέξαι δέησιν, τοῦ ἱκέτου σου• θλίψις γὰρ ἔχει
με, φέρειν οὐ δύναμαι, τῶν δαιμόνων τὰ τοξεύματα, σκέπην οὐ
κέκτημαι, οὐδὲ ποῦ προσφύγω ὁ ἄθλιος, πάντοθεν
πολεμούμενος, καὶ παραμυθίαν οὐκ ἔχω πλὴν σου• Δέσποινα
τοῦ κόσμου, ἐλπίς καὶ προστασία τῶν πιστῶν, μή μου παρίδῃς
τὴν δέησιν, τὸ συμφέρον ποιήσον.

Do not entrust me, to any human protection, O Most Holy lady,
but receive this supplication, from one who comes to you. For
affliction has taken hold of me, and I am unable, to withstand
the demons' darts; I do not have a shelter, nor a place to flee
since I am miserable. Embattled on all sides, and I have no con-
solation except you. Lady of whole world, help and protection
of the faithful, do not overlook my prayer, but do that which
will benefit me!

Did You Know?

August is the last month of the Ecclesiastical Year that starts in
September. You might say this is our Church's "December."
Interesting that this annual cycle of time, which derives from
many centuries ago with roots in the Hebrew heritage of our
Old Testament, actually corresponds better to the rhythm of our

life today than the common calendar of western civilization.
Schools typically start in September. Families finish vacations
by August. Farmers begin to harvest many crops in the Fall. And
our yearly cycle of Feasting and Fasting concludes with the
popular Great Feast that honors the remarkable conclusion to
the earthly life of the Virgin Mary who, alone among all believ-
ers, was translated immediately upon her death to inherit eternal
life from her Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ministry Fair

On Sunday, September 9, we will offer the 4th annual "Ministry
Fair" during Coffee Hour at the Greek Cultural Center/SAC
gym. Each ministry or organization will show its purpose and
work in creative tabletop displays to educate, inspire, and
encourage wider participation. Contact: Steve Sarigianis,
steve@archangelsgoc.org

Adult Education

- Recommended summer reading: Beginning to Pray and
Courage to Pray, by (Metropolitan) Anthony Bloom. A few
copies are in the bookstore, but these are also easily available
online through major outlets like Amazon.
- Bible Study – the entire class, along with spouses, is invited to
the home of Fr. Harry & Presvytera Kerry on Monday, August
27, for a barbecue meal and fellowship as we formulate plans
for the new ecclesiastical year.
- Spiritual Growth Committee – one of four committees from
our Leadership Retreat this past winter, has formulated a
short-term goal of Increasing Contact with the Bible through a
fall sermon series, online resources (such as YouTube videos
and recorded talks), adult education groups (such as Bible
Study and Koinonia), along with personal and family practices
for all ages (with appropriate recommendations). Stay tuned...
there is more to come as we resume many Ministries next
month.
- Men's Koinonia – is currently investigating a suitable New
York Yankees baseball game for everyone to attend. Contact
George Paparis if interested:
george.paparis@bankofamerica.com or 203-656-1741. Note:
this special event is open to all men.

Great Feast of Dormition (Κοιμησις)

Wednesday, August 15
Orthros 8:30am & Liturgy 9:30am

This is the greatest Feast of August,
and one of the 3 greatest of summer
(along with Pentecost and Saints Peter & Paul)



The "Kali Parea" Seniors enjoy a tremendous spread of desserts and coffee during their June Luncheon. (6/14/18)



Pam Koutroubis cuts the birthday cake to the amusement of the May celebrants. (6/14/18)

Kali Parea Seniors

The Kali Parea Seniors ministry is starting up again in September! Come join us Thursday, September 13 in the Greek Cultural Center gym for our regular delightful luncheon: catered food, fellowship, spiritual teaching, guest speakers and or entertainment. Remember that Seniors meet every 2nd Thursday of the month, and friends are always welcome! Contact: Pam Koutroubis, 203-348-7402.

Ladies Philoptochos Society

Hope everyone is enjoying the summer. Our first meeting of the new ecclesiastical year will be Wed., Sept. 5 at 7 pm. Location to be announced by email closer to that date. We will return to our regular meeting day of the first Tuesday of the month in October. Our chapter invites all ladies of the parish to join us in our charity mission and fellowship. We are looking to grow our active participation as our activities and goals are lofty and require more hands-on deck. Time commitment can be small or large depending on your schedule, but meeting attendance and new ideas would be helpful.

At our June meeting, Philoptochos members approved a donation from the Memorial Fund to help a local woman who is a military veteran and is fighting leukemia. They also approved grants to St. Paul's Godjope Hills Academy & Orphanage in South Nyanza, Kenya, the school in which Fr. Anastasios, who visited our parish in May, is affiliated; to the church's Phase II Capital Campaign; to Pacific House men's shelter in Stamford

and to Person to Person, which provides food, clothing, camp scholarships and other services to the poor in the region. Chairperson Lara Paschalidis gave a report on the biannual Tag Sale, which was held on Friday, June 1st and Saturday, June 2nd. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out in preparing and working at the Tag Sale, especially Lara! Many hours go into the event. Several Philoptochos members participated in the Rise Against Hunger event at St. Barbara's Church in Orange on June 9th. This was a district-wide Philoptochos project to assemble food packages that will be sent around the world to the needy. Our chapter donated \$300 toward the purchase of the food items. Philoptochos is responsible for serving during coffee hour in September and January. Please let Marietta Morelli or Lara Paschalidis know if you are able to volunteer to serve coffee on any of those Sundays. See you Sept. 5! Contact: Eugenia Zavras: etz124@yahoo.com



Children of Greek School Camp session 1 hold up freshly baked home-made Kouroulakia (Greek sweet cookies). (7/25/18)



Eleni Giako instructs children how to paint a donkey during a Greek Camp art session. (7/25/18)

Church School

The Church School Program hosts its fourth annual Vacation Church School the last week of July with exceptional success and an enrollment all-time high of 27 students! Our deepest thanks to Father Harry, Kiriaki Yoranidis, Steve and Theophani Sarigianis, Natalie Kulukundis and Hannah Pappas for their dedication and service and to all families for their engagement and support! The Church School Program will commence Sunday, September 9th. The annual Youth Ministry Fair will follow Holy Liturgy at the Greek Cultural Center/SAC. We would like to wish families a beautiful August! We look forward to seeing you in September! Contact: Dr. Evelyn Biliadis, ebiliadis@aol.com



The eldest children gather for a warm hearted picture during the craft session at VCS. (8/1/18)



Natalie Kulukundis, Steve Sarigianis teach the lesson of the day at Vacation Church School. (7/31/18)



Fr. Harry, teachers Steve & Theophani, Hannah Pappas, Natalie Kulukundis and Kyriaki Yoranides stand for a full group picture after a day at VCS 2018! (7/31/18)

Vacation Church School

We are quite excited for the fourth annual Vacation Church School summer program, July 30 through Aug 2! The camp is for preschool and grade school children ages 4-8 and operates from 9 am-12 noon. The theme this year is "Behold the Light!" to express following Jesus Christ (the light) amidst a world of sin and darkness. The day will be structured with the following components: morning prayer, classroom lessons, crafts, Bible verse memorization, music, games and activities. The children get a chance to deepen their faith in church and develop strong bonds and friendships with church peers and have an absolute blast. Teachers Kyriaki Yoranidis, Steven Sarigianis, Natalie

Kulukundis, Theophani Sarigianis and Hannah Pappas delight in being with the children during this very special week and are thankful for such a tremendous response from the community. Contact: Kyriaki Yoranidis, knyrus@aol.com

Greek School Camp

Greek School Summer Camp has two sessions of this summer. Session one took place July 23-27 with an attendance of 12 students. Session two will run the week of August 6, from 9am to 12 noon in the Greek Cultural Center gym, with an attendance of 12. This year's theme across both weeks is: "Touring the Greek Islands." To register and pay for your child(ren), you can use the following link through CCB:

<https://archangels.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving> Teachers are Polina Anastos, Eleni Giagkos and Maria Giagkos. Activities include: opening and ending prayer, learning a church hymn, language & culture lessons, art, dance, baking, games and activities. Contact: Vasso Spanos, bkarachris@gmail.com



"Mr. Steve" and children watch "The Incredibles" with rapt attention while eating popcorn. (6/30/18)



Little Angels children write special Happy Birthday cards to Fr. Harry after enjoying their "Ice Cream Social" at coffee hour. (7/22/18)

Little Angels

Little Angels is the church ministry group representing young families including infants, toddlers and preschoolers (ages 0-5 years). Our purpose is to bring together parents and little ones for fun and fellowship, support, and to strengthen our faith and church family friendships.

Summer Activities

On June 19th, Little Angels' parents met at Bodega Taco in Darien to reflect on the school year and begin planning for the next year. Thank you to all the moms and dads who came and to Steve Sarigianis. The group had so many great ideas!



Church of the
Archangels
1527 Bedford St.
Stamford
203.348.4216

Sept 27, 28, 29, 30
Thursday 5-10 pm
Friday 5-11 pm
Saturday 12-11 pm
Sunday 12-7 pm

Free Admission
Rain or Shine

Greek Food, Pastries,
Bar, Raffle, Music and
Dancing, Rides/Games,
Face Painting and
Vendors

Free Parking
Take-Out

**SCENERY
NOT INCLUDED**

ANNUAL ARCHANGELS GREEKFEST!

SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2018

We are preparing for the Annual Greek Festival, which permits everyone to exercise their Christian Stewardship by offering time, talents and treasure, as we share our heritage, faith, and 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.

See next page for the ways you can help make this four-day event even more successful!

GREEKFEST RAFFLE!

With our annual Greek Festival just around the corner, the Grand Prize this year is \$10,000. Second prize is \$3,000 and Third prize is \$2,000.

You can help us by:

- buying one (or more) \$20 raffle ticket(s)
- selling these to friends
- encouraging others (at work, your neighbors) to buy one

Doing so is easier than ever:

- Tickets are available in the office, located in the Greek Cultural Center

WISH LIST

Help us defray some of our expenses. 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 to "Church of the Archangels" and designate in the memo: "Festival". You can drop off or mail donations to the Festival Committee at the church address. Here are the items:

Chicken	\$1,000
Beer Greek and American	985
Beef for Stifadho (stew)	425
Butter	85
Feta	400
Flour for Pastries	250
Flour for Loukoumadhes	250
Grape Leaves (Dolmadhes)	95
Greek Olives	350
Greek wine	1,600
Groceries	6,750
Gyros	2,000
Honey for Loukoumadhes	125
Lamb Boneless Leg	2,000
Metaxa	125
Olive Oil	175
Ouzo	75
Paper Products	3,000
Potatoes	475
Printing	3,000
Produce	3,855
Propane (for grills)	1,350
Soft drinks	1,000
Souvlaki Pork	3,650
Souvlaki Chicken	3,500
Tables/Chairs	1,000
Tzatziki	400
Items for new Square payment system	
6 Square POS Stands with chip reader	169
10 Square chip readers	50
8 iPads new or used (Any would be great, but especially Air, Air 2, Pro, or iPad 5th or 6th generation)	
Working iPhones new or used (iPhone 5 and newer)	

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENTS

Please offer your help:

- During the Preparation, starting Saturday, Sept 15, and continuing every day/evening until the Festival begins
- During the Festival itself: Thu 5-10pm, Fri 5-11pm, Sat 12pm-11pm; Sun 12pm-7pm
- Clean up Sunday evening & Monday
- By displaying our Festival flyer at your home or business

You can sign up through the office at any time!

Thank you in advance for your generous support!

Contact: Margaret Fornaciari (co-chair, GreekFest Committee), zamsfam@optonline.net



We closed out the end of the school year with a pool party on June 30th hosted by Hope/Joy. We enjoyed swimming, movies, and ice cream and had so much fun!

Diaper Drive

Please join us once again for our annual diaper drive supporting Hopeline Pregnancy Resource Center. We will be collecting diapers, wipes, and formula throughout the months of August and September. Hopeline provides confidential pregnancy testing, medical support, and counselling free of cost to women in our community. Please include your children in collecting items for the drive and bringing them to church. Supporting young mothers and their infants is such a special cause for our ministry!

Save the Date

Father Harry will perform a blessing over the children's backpacks on Sunday, September 9th to kick-off the new school year. Pre-schoolers through college-age are invited! Please bring your backpack with you to church. On Saturday, September 15th, Little Angels is planning a visit to the New Canaan fire station! Join us for a fire safety lesson and to say prayers for the firefighters and their trucks for the very important work they do.

Please check your emails and church bulletins for more details prior to these events.

Contact: Vasso Spanos, bkarachris@gmail.com -or- Rachel Jones, racheljones.cpa@gmail.com



Hope/Joy and Little Angels hold a joint year-end Movie Night celebration, including swimming, games and even an ice cream truck! (6/30/18)

HOPE/JOY

On Sunday, June 30th, the Hope & Joy and Little Angels ministries ushered in summer with a joint, end-of-the year Movie Night celebration. Rob and Vasso Spanos generously offered to host at their condominium's clubhouse with its many amenities. Over 40 participants enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and fun: lots of splashing and cooling off in the pool; friendly competition playing board games in the game room; and watching *The Incredibles* in the movie theater room, complete with popcorn and by a spiritual lesson led by Steve Sarigianis. The day was topped off by a visit from the ice cream truck. Overall, a great time was had by all. Enjoy the rest of summer and see you in the fall! Contact: Ruth Diamond, cornellrh@yahoo.com



Teens from Archangels & Annunciation enjoyed full use of Greek Cultural Center facilities at the GOYA "Gym & Swim" year-end event. (6/9/18)



Teens, advisors and Steve pose after the year-end GOYA meeting in the gym. (6/9/18)

GOYA

GOYA, which stands for the Greek Orthodox Youth of America, is the ministry for teenagers within the Archangels community. Its primary aim is to build their faith and commitment in Jesus Christ & the Church through worship, service, fellowship and outreach. On Tuesday, July 24, GOYA youth leaders met with advisors Maria Otis & Dorie Poulos, Steve and Fr. Harry to create the yearly ministry calendar for 2018-19. The newly elected leaders elected in June are: Nick Otis and Matthew Poulos, co-presidents, Elena Muniz, Vice President, and Alexandra Vassiliou, Secretary. The 2018-19 calendar has more initial input from the teens themselves than ever before, which is great step forward. This year the group will take part in several new initiatives, such as the Midnight Run food & clothing distribution service in upper Manhattan. There will also be continued overlap with Annunciation's GOYA throughout the year.

The first event will be a kick-off dinner at Pellicci Restaurant in Stamford on Saturday, September 22. Hope to see you there!

Contact: Dorie Poulos, dorielp@yahoo.com

Young Adults

The next event for young adults will be Paraklesis and Sushi on Monday, Aug 13. The group will meet for prayer at church and carpool to Kumo Japanese Restaurant on East Main St.

Please contact Steve if you are interested in joining us for our next gathering or outing: 203-623-5896, or sjsarge@gmail.com.



Church School teachers from 2017-18 year (Left to Right): Steve Sarigianis, Penny Nanos, Janie Konidaris, Annie Konidaris, Rachel Jones, Dr. Evelyn Lolis, Fr. Harry, Vasso Spanos, SoulaFreda Hantes, Anna Diamantis and Ruth Diamond. (5/20/18)



Siblings Alex and Maddie Valassis (of Dr. Steven & Stacy Valassis) stand for picture during their week at Camp Saint Paul, located on Bantam Lake in Bantam, CT. (7/27/18)

Athletics

The Connecticut Eastern Orthodox Basketball and Volleyball Leagues (CEOB & CEOVL) operate November to March every year. Practices for the joint Archangels-Annunciation teams will begin in October! Sign up your children for our teams at the fall Ministry Fair, Sunday Sept. 9 in the gym! We have 3 basketball divisions and 1 volleyball division:

- Farm team (boy & girls ages 4-8)
- Youth (boys and girls 8-11).
- Junior Varsity (boys ages 12-14; girls ages 11- 15)
- Girls Volleyball (ages 8-18)

Here are the benefits of playing in the church leagues:

- Fellowship and fun with other Greek Orthodox youth
- Develop basketball/volleyball and team-building skills
- Competitive but less stressful than town or school leagues
- Faith based program that embraces youth in the Church

For more info contact: Steve Sarigianis,
steve@archangelsgoc.org -or- John Skoparantzios,
atoz@aol.com

Send-Off Sunday!

*For all High School Graduates,
 Colleges Graduates & those
 moving into Careers!*

Sunday, August 19 following Liturgy

Special prayer, Sermon, Recognition & Gifts

Reflection on CrossRoad by Dina Haralabidis

Recently I had the privilege to attend CrossRoad, an Orthodox Christian summer program offered by Holy Cross Hellenic College in Brookline, Massachusetts. For ten days, 20 high school seniors and freshmen from all over the U.S.A. gather to explore the topic of "vocation" through multiple theological classes taught by professors and community service experiences. It has been a wonderful opportunity for me to uncover my strengths and weaknesses in order to understand the importance of acting on both in a world where only strengths are supported. The classes assisted by giving insight into scripture and the necessity of each Orthodox Christian to respond to Christ's call in their individual way. We were encouraged to become "active thinkers" about a variety of topics that are not usually discussed. To contribute to building a community that realizes that everyone is an icon of Christ. The friendships I made will surely stay with me forever. As someone who is unsure of what college will have in store for me, I learned that "Christ does not care what you do, as long as you approach everything through His name."

Camp St. Paul

We had the unique and very fortunate opportunity of being together as a family at Camp St. Paul this past week, the closing week of the camp's season. Steven has signed on as the camp doctor, and was able to be on premises to offer medical aid. Alex was old enough to be a camper and joined the 8-10 year olds of St. Artemios cabin. Maddie and I joined in some activities, observed, and spent the bulk of our time on the beautiful campgrounds. The week began with torrential rain, mud, strangers, and an attitude of suspicion about what this new experience would be like. The week concluded with a moving teaching liturgy, abundant sunshine, friends, and a deep sense of gratitude for having been a part of the experience. It is hard to identify highlights of the week, as the whole contributes to the joyous faith, peace and love that fill campers and so many affiliated with the camp. The daily church services, "alone with God" time every morning in nature, uplifting songs sprinkled throughout the day, and evening devotionals contribute to meditation and prayer. Orthodox Life sessions and Q & A's with the priests and seminarians offer detailed information about Church



Opening: Over 1000 clergy and laity stand for opening prayers at the 2018 Clergy Laity in Boston, MA on Monday, July 2.



Workshop: Various workshops are held at Clergy Laity, which are more intimate and offer a chance for delegates and observers to tackle ministerial and administrative challenges with focus and attention. (7/4/18)

ideas and practices, as well as lessons from the Bible. Greek Cultural Appreciation contained exciting dance lessons and culminated in a previously dance-averse child practicing Kotsari and Hasaposerviko in our kitchen Sunday afternoon. Evening activities included fun “Color Wars,” fireside sing alongs and s’mores, a hilarious and inventive skit night, a dance party, and prosforon making. The food all week was delicious- authentic Greek foods like souvlakia, macaronia and kima, and horiatiki salata offered by a chef lovingly called “Theo Mike.” Children have a blast during free time swimming and canoeing in Lake Bantam, making crafts, or playing old fashioned card and board games or ping-pong and foosball. The atmosphere of togetherness, the being in nature, the intensity of the time away from the world and technology, all make this spiritual camp different from what the children experience all year round in church. Steven and I, as well as other parents, all learned from Father Elias’s illuminating teaching liturgy, in which he dramatically emphasized that we are all living chalices and must respect one another: children their parents and parents their children, and husband and wife one another. All week in our household we have been singing the catchy tunes of the camp and reliving the beautiful memories we have been filled with. Our household favorite: “Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have Mercy on Me and Save Me!” One must hear it sung! We would all love to talk to you about our experience if you have further questions. Contact: Anastasia Valassis, avalassis@gmail.com

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 and past teacher and director of the Greek School. For information and registration, contact her directly at 203-322-9561, or call Ritta in the church office 203-348-4216.

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

This veteran world relief organization representing all Orthodox in America has been on the ground immediately following the devastating fires in Greece. In addition to financial collections at church, you can easily find out how to support the massive relief effort through prayer, donations of money and other ways, through this link:

<https://www.iocc.org/blog/4-ways-support-greece>

Remember that all donations of money will be doubled through matching grants from government agencies that work closely with IOCC.

Contact: Tim Hartch, timhartch1@outlook.com

4th Annual Ministry Fair!

**Sunday, September 9
at the Greek Cultural Center**

All church ministries will have table-top displays
Refreshments will be provided for fellowship



St. Phanourios (Feast Day - August 27)

The feast of St. Phanurios, patron Saint of lost things, is August 27, when an icon of him was discovered in the ruins of a Greek Orthodox Church on the island of Rhodes. On Sunday, August 26, you are invited to bake and bring a "Phanuriopita" (Bread of Phanurios) to Liturgy for blessing. The following recipe is from Roula Stergianis and Sophia Hartch:

Contents:

3 cups flour
 2 level teaspoons cinnamon
 3/4 cups extra virgin olive oil
 1 cup sugar
 1/4 cup cognac or brandy
 1 3/4 cup orange juice
 2 level teaspoons baking soda
 2 level teaspoons baking powder
 Zest from 1 orange
 1 cup golden raisins
 1 cup shredded coconut
 Powdered sugar for the top (optional)

Directions:

Mix flour and cinnamon in a bowl. In separate bowl, combine oil, sugar, cognac, orange juice, baking soda, baking powder, and orange zest. Beat for a few minutes, then add flour mixture, raisins and walnuts. Grease and flour 9-inch round pan; pour in batter and bake at 350 degrees for 45-60 minutes. Test with a toothpick. When cool sift powdered sugar on top, if desired. An icon of St. Phanurios is nice addition.

Stamford Athletic Club

Jon's Saturday morning 9am Boot Camp is so popular that he holds the class outside, when weather permits, for extra space. Meet in SAC lobby before 9am and bring friends to enjoy exercise in the fresh air!! New Group Classes coming in the Fall include Core Yoga and a specific class to help those who suffer from arthritis and may also need help in balance.

SAC is looking to "go even more green" by considering a solar panel project for the rooftop to supplement SAC power. Due diligence is being conducted to see whether the roof can sustain the panels and if SAC qualifies for state incentives to get project done.

SAC continues a social marketing push to increase internet traffic to its website. Testimonials have been added not only to the website but also to Google, YouTube, and other sites. These are proven ways to attract target audiences in places like Stamford.

A FREE lunch is available to all SAC members. Stop by the front desk to use our new concierge app to sign up for that lunch from our SAC kitchen vendor, Steel Sharpens Steel.

Perhaps you are interested in a FREE swim lesson for yourself or your child? A FREE swim lesson is also available via the concierge app at the SAC Front Desk. Stop by today to fill out a simple form to earn that FREE swim lesson today!

How about a FREE month of Membership? If you are a SAC member and refer someone to us who becomes a NEW member, you will earn a FREE month of membership. No strings attached!

Contact: Jeff Kaminski, jeff@sacteam.com

Area Festivals

- Greek Festival: Aug. 23-26 @ St. George in Norwalk (238 West Rocks Rd)
- Odyssey Greek Festival: Aug. 31 – Sept. 3 @ St. Barbara in Orange (480 Racebrook Rd.)
- Greek Festival: Sep 8-11 @ Holy Trinity Church in New Rochelle (10 Mill Rd.)
- Ukrainian Festival: Sun, Sep 9 @ St. Basil's Seminary (195 Glenbrook Rd.) Please consider supporting this Festival since Bishop Paul was very gracious to allow our Greek School Program to meet at St. Basil's this coming school year. It would be a wonderful opportunity to visit the grounds which are beautiful.

GREEKFEST RAFFLE!

Tickets are now \$20 and First Prize is \$10,000
Single largest annual fundraiser for the parish

Contact the office to get yours today!



Catherine Vanech at her graduation from Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. (5/20/18)



Evan Skoparantz at his graduation from the University of Maryland. (5/20/18)



James Pease and Niko Giantomidis stand with Steve Sarigianis after their graduation from Stamford High. (6/22/18)

PARISH NEWS

Births

- June 21 - Nikiforos (Victor) William Horiatis, son of Dimitri Horiatis and Hellen Vouthounis
- July 24 - Michael Anthony, son of Michael and Dena Burke

Baptism

- July 28 - Hunter Teddy Landry, son of Tom and Nicole Landry; sponsor was Shannon Sierpina

Weddings

- June 9 - Blake Ann Leonard & Edouard Arbellot De Vacqueur
- July 15 - Eleni Begetis & Nathaneal Mohr

201 Graduation (additional name)

Georgios Karakadas - from Greenwich High School; he will attend Indiana University in Bloomington and pursue Business.

Deaths

- June 14 - Georgia Vouthounis, 84 years old
- June 20 - Dimitrios Efkarpidis, 74 years old
- July 9 - Stella Durdunas, 88 years old
- July 10 - Harry Zavos, 90 years old
- July 15 - Alice Kallas, 89 years old

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

AHEPA

The Stamford AHEPA is planning an October 13 dinner-dance fundraiser at Norwalk Inn for the benefit of our Greek schools. We hope to raise and donate \$4,000 to each school (Annunciation and Archangels). Please be aware of it, save the date, plan to attend with family and friends, and promote it. The planning committee welcomes any suggestions you may have for the event's program.

Contact Nicholas Nikas, niketes@yahoo.com, 203-554-5570.



(Right to left:) Stacy Valassis, Vasso Spanos, Rachel Jones, Michael and Elizabeth Jackson, and Steve Sarigianis stand for a picture after the Little Angels planning meeting. (6/19/18)



Eugenia Zavras (President) assesses the multitude of items at Philoptochos Tag Sale (6/1/18)

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, 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 initial goal was to raise \$2,200,000 over a three year period 2014-2017. The Campaign now remains open to cover heavy additional work and associated cost. 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.

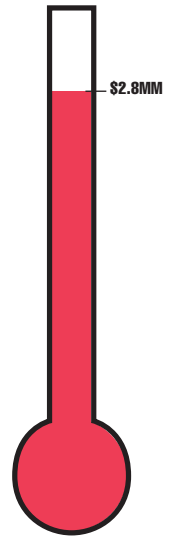
Capital Campaign Totals to July 17, 2018

Total Pledges/gifts/other contributions, Original Campaign	\$ 2, 207,280.00
Total Cash received, Original Campaign	2,177,882.39
Total Pledges/gifts/other contributions, Extended Campaign	769,485.07
Total Cash received, Extended Campaign	440,665.42
Funds Received from contributions, since 2/28/18	144,506.22
Total Pledgors/Contributors, Extended Campaign	27

Expenses

Solicitation	\$ 38,057.12
Salaries	117,534.32
Furniture	12,396.67
Architects	250,673.10
Gala	34,069.99
Contractors	717,976.91
Total Expenses	1,170,708.11

OUR GOAL



Capital Campaign Contributors (as of July 17, 2018):

ORIGINAL CAMPAIGN:

PLEDGES

Anonymous (8)
Evangeline Adams
Nicholas and Deedee Aivalis
Michael and Jena Anthony
George and Katina Antipas
James and Aria Antonopoulos
Angelo and Dena Aravides
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Nitsa Chagaris
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Church of the Archangels
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Dean Bouloukos
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Bill and Penny Vlandis
Georgia Vouthounis

Gregory Wojick and Pandora Carlini-Wojick
Dr. Steven and Paige Wolfe
Charles and Christine Zacharias
Peter and Eugenia Zavras
Maria Zezima

EXTENDED CAMPAIGN: PLEDGES AND NON-PLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

Estate of Fay Couyoumjan
Estate of Marge Rubirosa
Archangels Greek School
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Pericles and Diana Caminis
Peter Cholakis and Teresa Cassidy
Panagiotis and Maria Chleboγιannis
Harry Condos
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Margarita Haralambidis
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William and Bertha Jones
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Annie Konidaris
Jason and Janie Konidaris
Elias N. Kulukundis
Natalie Kulukundis
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Rita Mehos
James and Kyriaki Marcarello
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Paul and Debbie Nanos
Penny Nanos
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Father Harry and Kerry Pappas
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Ted and Diane Sierpina
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