

THE FORERUNNER

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THE ROAD AHEAD

During the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, after the exchange of rings and the bestowing of crowns, the couple takes their first steps of married life led by the celebrating Priest that holds the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Symbolically, this represents a promise to walk on the road that lays ahead of them together, seeking salvation by following Christ that opens the way into His Kingdom. This ceremonial walk is just the beginning of their journey through the rest of their lives, but they will remember these first steps forever; this is their “hochzeit” as the Germans call it, the “high-time” of their life.

On July 14th 2012 we experienced a similar joy when we took our first steps into our New Church led by Metropolitan Isaiah, steps that will be remembered from generation to generation.

This is our “high-time”, a time for bliss and celebration of the achievement that with God grace we have fulfilled in our community of faith. But as the first steps of a newlywed couple are only the beginning of their life together, so our steps into the new church are not



(Continued on page 3)

COUNCIL CAPSULE

What a glorious weekend! Everyone who attended our Thyranixia should have been bursting with pride at the opening day and events of our new house of worship! Special attention was taken to details and it showed. From the valet parking, compliments of Bob and Karen Steffaro, to the water handed out after services, everything went smoothly. There are so many people who put much time and effort into making this weekend as memorable as it was. Debbie Manos and Harriet Blake, who not only worked on the beautiful invitations, but they also put together the wonderful commemorative album and DVD we all watched at the luncheon following liturgy on Saturday. Joe Sullivan and his hard working building committee, who worked tirelessly to finish all the final touches on the church, and

(Continued on page 2)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *The Road Ahead*
- *Understanding Christian Stewardship*
- *Thyranixia—Opening of the doors*
- *Music Ministry Page*
- *Church Events*
- *St. Philaret the Merciful*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	2
CONSTRUCTION NEWS	3
STEWARDSHIP	4
YOUTH MINISTRIES	6
MUSIC MINISTRIES	8
CALENDAR	11

COUNCIL'S CAPSULE



(Continued from page 1)

of course, Ashton Wynn without whose dedication the new church would never had been ready for our Thyranixia. Thank you all for working together in unity. His Eminence and Fr. Luke Uhl took note of the harmony of our community and could

not have been more pleased to be with us on the opening of our new church.

With the opening behind us, we must now begin in earnest to continue with the preparations for our food festival, which is a little over two months away. A schedule for baking and pre-cooking will soon be published. Please

sign up even if you are able to give only a few hours. There is so much to be done that if everyone can give even a little of their time, we can accomplish great things.

Barbara Vittas

Parish Council President

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT

WITHOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS THYRANIXIA, THE OPENING OF OUR DOORS, COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED

Thyranixia has been accomplished, we have glorified God, we have celebrated a momentous occasion in the history of our parish. Now it is time to look to the future, to preserve and to grow what we have established for future generations and for the future of Orthodoxy here in North-east Tarrant County... (Many thanks to two very talented members of the Parish who prepared the Thyranixia Commemorative Book and DVD - Harriet Blake and Debbie Manos.)

The Capital Campaign Committee extends with deepest humility and gratitude our sincere thanks to those of our parishioners who have committed to the Capital Campaign and have made their commitment payments to provide the funds to complete the project. Without your contributions Thyranixia weekend could not have happened and there would be no permanent House of God for our parishioners and for those who follow.

Our goal now is to complete the Capital Campaign as early as possible this year so that we may be able to pay down the debt we have had to incur to keep the project moving without delay. It is therefore as important as ever for those who have unfinished commitments to complete their payments during this third and final year of the campaign. We need 100% completion of all commitments to pay down the construction loan before it transitions into a mortgage loan. If your commitment has not yet been completed, or if you have not yet made a commitment, please do so now before the Capital Campaign is ended on December 31st. The names of all who have made and completed their commitments to the campaign to construct our new church will be permanently enshrined in the narthex or exonarthex of the new church at the end of the campaign.

For those who may not have committed or are new to the Parish, we invite you to willingly and lovingly participate in the Capital Campaign by joining with your fellow parishioners to share in offering glory to God for what we have achieved as a lasting legacy and gift to the future generations of St. John The Baptist here in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex... Please see any member of the Committee to obtain commitment forms or to make a contribution.

Your Capital Campaign Committee - Paun Peters, Dr. Chris Yiantsou, Nancy Medvic, Louie Papalioidis, Robert Steffaro, Margaret Chokas, Larry Leeders, George Vittas - Chairman...



THE BYZANTINE STYE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

our final destination, but the beginning of a journey on the road ahead of us reaching into heavens.

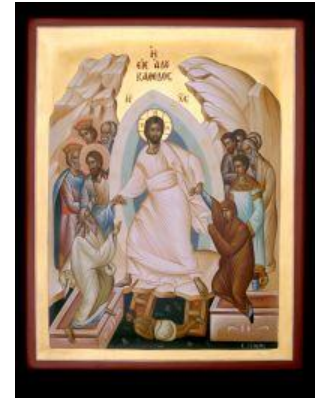
The now opened doors of our New Church unlock for us new possibilities of expressing our faith. The adequate liturgical space will allow for the services of the Orthodox to unravel in their full glory: the architectural elements, the processional spaces, the natural light, the iconography will all contribute to a wholesome experience of transfiguration of our senses toward a better perception of the promised Kingdom.

But this is a mere other step on our way because we are not to worship as a closed community that only takes

care of its own members and shuts the doors in the face of others. Our doors are to remain open to anyone that wants to enter and inquire. "Come and see" is an open invitation we send to everyone. What they will see in the new liturgical space will possibly lead them to discover the depth of our teachings and, at the appropriate time, join the faith of the Apostles. This is what happened to the Slav people when coming back from a liturgy at Saint Sophia cathedral in Constantinople they exclaimed: "We did not know if we were on heaven or on earth". It was not just the purity of the dogmas that attracted the Slav, but it was their expression into worship that persuaded them to convert.

Bringing more people to the faith however is not the final destination either, but yet again another step. With growth comes now the possibility to do more things in the community at large, to reach out towards those in need outside our familiar environment. By our works with them we will be judged : "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." (Mathew 25:45). I am not talking just of material help but also about offering the needed spiritual food that many hunger for and we have in abundance. The ways in which we can show these works of love toward the people around us are endless. God never ceases to bestow His mercy upon us so our

(Continued on page 9)



The Resurrection

THE OPENING
OF THE DOORS
OF OUR NEW
CHURCH
HAPPENED ON
JULY 14 2012!

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The month of August will continue to be busy on the construction side of things as Ashton Wynne will be completing final punchlist items and projects purposely deferred until after the opening of our new Church. Over this period of time, items like completion of the door hardware and security alarms, baptistery plumbing, choir loft floor staining, touch-up painting, balancing of the HVAC system, security cameras, flood lighting on the Church's south side, caging around the exterior HVAC condenser units, center tile medallion installation, etc.

will be worked in our schedule around services. Ashton Wynne will be removing construction materials and debris from the south lot as well. Additionally, Vladimir Grygorenko will be continuing with the Altar area iconography to complete our Phase 1 program. Expect to see a scaffolding system erected around the altar to allow Vladimir access to the ceiling to enable his exquisite work to be accomplished.

Joe Sullivan Building Committee Chairman



“NOW MORE THAN EVER . . . “



I attended a resiliency leadership training in New York a few weeks ago prior to St. John the Baptist's glorious opening of the doors. The lecturer spoke about having courage, integrity and resiliency during these tumultuous economic times that have impacted all our lives – personally, professionally, physically and emotionally. Through all the unrest, though, God provided...that is where my mind went during the training session. We give thanks and all glory to

God and our gracious and wonderful benefactors. We were able to celebrate a momentous occasion. We are a “resilient” church, witnessed last weekend by all those who attended and worshiped. Nina and I have the unfortunate task of asking, politely and with perseverance for all to become stewards. Sadly, we report that we have no new stewards this month. We are still shy \$27, 332 of our \$223, 000 goal with 114 stewards. We all witnessed what it will take to sustain

our beautiful new place of worship. Please, if you have not committed to being a steward, with heartfelt sincerity we ask for you to complete a stewardship card and help us grow as we unite under the beautiful dome of our new church. We need you now, more than ever.

Nina Sullivan and Hope File
Stewardship Committee

WITH HEARTFELT
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CARD AND HELP
US GROW

UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Can we now build a definition for stewardship? How might we describe "stewardship in action?"

The following list is adapted from one prepared by Ron Nicola:

1. Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
2. Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.
3. Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
4. Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . . ", as proof of that belief.
5. Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible

and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

6. Stewardship is devotion and service to God and his Church as persons, as families, as metropolises, as national Churches, and as the Church universal. (Ron Nicola, "Stewardship - A Set of Basic Principles," The Word, November 1982,4.)

Perhaps we could summarize the points just mentioned this way: Christian stewardship is a life in service to God and His Church motivated by our thankfulness for His love to us . . . ".... in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died

for us." It is the wise and proper use of all the gifts God has entrusted to our care. (See Romans 5:8) What **then are the essential** elements of stewardship?

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

1. Acceptance of the belief that all life and life itself is a gift from God.
2. Freedom to choose not to sin and freedom from the constraints, pressures and temptations of the world that smother the expression of this belief.
3. Life in the Spirit which is characterized by behavior that uses and nurtures the time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us by God.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I become a member of the parish?

Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at Baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments and through our faithful offering of our lives to Christ. We have to distinguish however between voting members and non-voting members. A voting member is over 18 years old and has turned in a signed stewardship commitment

card (for time, talent and treasure). The Archdiocese also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Overall true membership in the Body of Christ, involves living daily according to His word and within His Church.

Why must I commit to give a specific amount?

Knowing the amount of your monetary participation helps our parish plan the activities throughout the year. Your

monetary stewardship is kept in the strictest of confidence.

What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

During the course of a year, people's circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.



ICONS OF MERCY—RIGHTEOUS PHILARET THE MERCIFUL OF AMNIA

Saint Philaret lived in the eighth century in the village of Amneia in the Asia Minor province of Paphlagonia. His wife, Theosevo, was from a rich and distinguished family. He was rich, but his wealth did not gladden him. Knowing that many people suffer from poverty, he sympathized with them and in compunction said to himself: "Have I really received so many good things from the hand of the Lord only in order to feed myself alone and to live in pleasures, pleasing my belly? Ought I not share the great wealth given to me by God with the destitute, the widows, the orphans, the wanderers and the beggars, whom the Lord, at the Dread Judgment before angels and men, will not be ashamed to call His brethren? (Matthew 25:40). Will my possessions be immortal food and drink for me in the life to come? Will my soft garments serve as incorruptible raiment for me there? No, this will not be! For thus says the

Apostle: For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out (1 Timothy 6:7). And so, if we cannot take hence any of our earthly belongings with us, then it is far better to give them to God, as if on loan, by the hands of the destitute; for God will never abandon either me, or my wife, or my children."

Once, the Arabs fell upon their province, they laid waste the country and plundered his property. All he had left were two oxen, a cow, a few beehives and a house. But even this, the last, he gradually distributed to the poor. He steadfastly and meekly bore the reproaches of his wife and the ridicule of his children. "I have in caches unknown to you such wealth and such treasures," he replied to his kin, "which will suffice you, even if you should live a hundred years without laboring or worrying about anything".

And the Lord rewarded Philaret for his mercy: When the last measure of wheat was given away, his old friend sent forty measures to him; and after that, when his warm clothing was given away to a destitute man, his wealth returned to him.

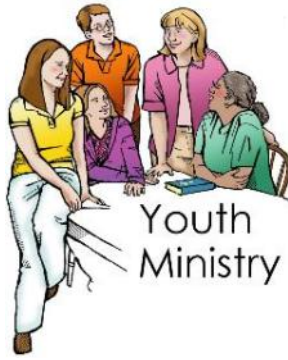
At that time, the Byzantine Empress Irene was seeking a bride for her son, her co-ruler Constantine Porphyrogenitus, and for this she sent emissaries throughout the whole Empire. When Philaret and Theosevo learned that very eminent guests were to visit their home as well, Philaret rejoiced greatly, but Theosevo was saddened: there was no food at all in the house. But Philaret ordered his wife to clean the house well. The neighbors brought everything for a rich banquet in abundance. The emissaries picked Philaret's granddaugh-

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HANDS OF THE
DESTITUTE



(Continued on page 8)

St. Philaret the Almsgiver



YOUTH MINISTRIES ON THE MOVE

July was a blessed month in the life of our parish. We are proud and honored to have the Very Reverend Vasile Tudora to guide us in our spiritual life and Presbytera Mirela to keep us in the know regarding all things Byzantine.

As we enjoy the rest of summer, we look forward to a new church school year and all the

activities that involve the youth of our parish. These include festival dancing, the GOYA basketball tournament, religious retreats, the Oratorical Festival, the re-launching of JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth - grades 3rd-5th) as well as community service projects. Youth Ministries is the umbrella organization over all these activities. Please join us

for our fall planning meeting on Sunday, Aug. 19, following church. Among the items to discuss is our September Back to School fundraiser - the Burgers, Brats & Beans Luncheon. New members welcome!

God bless.

Harriet Blake

YM Coordinator

GOYA NEWS

On Saturday, August 18th GOYA has been asked to clear the tables and chairs out of the hall for the reception after the wedding. We need to clear the hall before noon on Saturday and put everything back before church/coffee hour on the following Sunday.

GOYA has a bake sale planned for Sunday, August 19. Sign up at the next meeting

Donate school supplies for Eules elementary schools during our School Supplies Drive. Pencils, glue, erasers, scissors, folders, and other inexpensive

supplies can be donated until the 18th. The donation box will be in the hall.

GOYA has been given the opportunity to help out at Taverna Night: sending invitations, set up, etc. Both kids and parents are needed.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Church School teachers are making plans for another fun and exciting year. Thank you parents for your much needed support. We will send out registration forms this month or you can download a form from our website. Please complete these forms for all church school children since we use the information in making lesson plans.

We will need your financial assistance to continue providing books and snacks. We've used much of our annual budget to provide a wonderfully, successful vacation bible school program this summer.

We're always searching for guest lecturers for our Teen class. It is a rewarding experience to guide and stimulate those developing minds. This class cements the spiritual roots for our young adults prior to various exposures in college. Please speak with me if you have any interest. Unlike last year, the teen class will meet every Sunday, and we've increased the teen class to incorporate 8th grade thru 12th grades. This change will balance the attendance numbers between the Middle School and Teen classes.

Our teachers this year are as follows: Pre-K & K: Mrs.

Maria Kerbow, Ms. Allison Medvic, and Mrs. Tina Molhoek 1st & 2nd: Mrs. Theresa Alexander 3rd & 4th: Mrs. Esther Petercsak Middle School: Mrs. Harriet Blake Teens: Mrs. Anca Morcovescu and Mrs. Hilary Walker

Church School will begin again on September 9, 2012.

Have a safe and wonderful summer.

Khanh Moutafis



Christ blessing children

PHILOPTOCHOS HONORS CARNATION LAVERTY

This month's Philoptochos article is dedicated to our beloved Sister In Christ, +Connie Laverty+ who recently departed this earthly life among us. These are stories of a woman who helped form our parish, Philoptochos, and community into what it is today. The stories are from members of St. Irene Philoptochos who knew and worked by Connie's side.

Connie was a kind soul who never said no to any requests. When we first purchased the property and needed to purchase an organ for our fledgling choir, Connie opened her heart and her checkbook. When we wanted to renovate the garage into a hall, she once again wrote out a check. She worked tirelessly in the kitchen and taught me everything I know about cooking and baking for hundreds of people. She was a dear, lovable woman who always had a smile on her face and a kind word for everyone. She will be dearly missed and has more than earned a place in heaven.

When Stacey Huber and I chaired our food festival (1997), we weren't sure about which recipes to use in the kitchen or how to organize our baking, our parish was new at this... Well guess what, Connie came to us with a notebook full of recipes that she had, her apron on, and a gleaming smile. She knew how to feed the masses... and she loved it!! Stacey and I used those recipes then and if I'm not mistaken still use them today. We have tweaked some, of course, but the original recipes we have come to love, she brought to us with love. No words can describe the beatitudes of this dear sweet woman."

Our outreach ministry made visits to Connie in the last year and a half and on one occasion we asked Connie if she needed anything that we could bring her and she thought a moment and said, "I need stamps". A simple request from a Godly woman.

Back in the late 80's when our parish worked the Ranger's ballgame food

booths for compensation, my husband and I would volunteer to help support this fundraiser. There were several head volunteers for the rugged schedule we committed to. Connie was one of these head volunteers. She would greet you with great enthusiasm and energy ready to do anything for the good of the parish of St. John the Baptist.

During the late '70's my son Cossy was in Connie's Sunday School Class at St. Demetrios. He still remembers her fondly as the first strong church school teacher he had. My husband Tony and I would visit her from time to time in the Senior Center where she lived the last few years and loved talking with her, for she had great recall and wonderful stories to tell. But we were most impressed by the fact that she was always looking out for the "elderly" people she lived with, making sure they made it to meals, had books to read, and would exercise to keep their minds active!

I will miss her beautiful smile and enormous hugs. Connie was always the first to show up to help in the kitchen, not to mention the spiritual, emotional, and financial help she gave St. John's from the very beginning. Her help always came directly from her heart and her love of God and people.

In the early festival years, Connie approached me and asked if I needed any help in buying products for our festival. I thought, "I could use all the help she can give me". She was always there for advice and help. She loved our church and all the people she had come in contact with. She was full of love and smiles.

Connie was such a wonderful and gracious person. I enjoyed listening to all the great stories that she would share with me about our church in the early years, and about all the baking she would do. At the home where she was, they gave her a key to the kitchen so that she could get lunch or breakfast started if she wanted, which she usually did because she enjoyed it.

Connie and I would talk when I picked her up to go to church. She was full of life. She would tell many stories about her childhood and rough upbringing, but it never got her down. She was made stronger because of it. Connie figured if you worked hard and gave to the church, everything would be okay. She would tell me she liked donating the money, as she would say, "What am I going to do with it?" because she knew all was appreciated. Connie was a firm believer in giving back.

She was ahead of her time in many ways and was able to see what would be beneficial and make things happen instead of being stuck. To say she was a go-getter is an understatement. When she was younger she took care of her kids, ran a business, and was on the church board at St. Demetrios. She could balance it all and liked to keep busy. She would say, "If I keep busy then I don't think about my aches and pains."

One time she said she had to go to a parish council meeting and her car was not working. She said, "This handsome man picked me up in his fancy sports car and I felt like a young girl. If I would have been younger I would have snatched him up." I just laughed when she told me. The young man was Nick Kypreos.

So many people have been involved in our humble beginnings, and Connie Laverty is one of them. Some of us that have been members in those first years will always remember Connie standing up at the meeting when George Naftis announced that the "time to act is now" (on buying our current property) and who do you think was the first person to stand and donate thousands of dollars? Connie Laverty. Memory Eternal, our dear Sister in Christ.





St. Isaac the Syrian

MUSIC
MINISTRY,
CHOIR AND
CHANTERS
PAGE



St. John Koukouzelis

WHY WE SING (PART III)

Recently, over a long July 4th weekend, members of our choir attended a conference of the National Forum in Phoenix, Arizona, held in conjunction with the 41st Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Overall our parish had 5 members in attendance at the Clergy-Laity Congress.

The Clergy-Laity Congress began on Sunday, July 1st, with the celebration of the Hierarchical Liturgy by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, assisted by the Hierarchs of each Metropolis. The National Forum musicians in attendance combined with the

San Francisco Metropolis Choir Federation to offer a liturgical choir of 130 voices for the Hierarchical Liturgy. It all began on Saturday with rehearsal of a mixed Desby and Zes choral liturgy at the Holy Trinity Cathedral of Phoenix. Along with Bill and Rena Poletes, I found myself singing with some of the best and most talented Greek Orthodox Archdiocese church musicians in the country, including Dr. Tikey Zes, one of our most respected and productive composers and arrangers of Orthodox Church music in both Greek and English. It was truly an exciting (and humbling) day of rehearsal and it showed the

next day during the Liturgy, after which the combined choir received the thanks and blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios.

Later that evening the National Forum members hosted a reception for His Eminence and the accompanying Hierarchs of the Metropolises. During the reception, our National Forum choir group presented a short musical program featuring music composed and arranged by Dr. Zes, including a haunting melody and words entitled: "Their Sound Went Out To All the World...", representing the importance and

(Continued on page 9)

ICONS OF MERCY—RIGHTEOUS PHILARET THE MERCIFUL

(Continued from page 5)

ter, Maria, for the royal inspection. Maria surpassed her rivals in goodness and modesty and became Empress. Thus, glory and wealth returned to Philaret. But, as before, the holy lover of the poor generously distributed alms and organized meals for the destitute, and he himself served them during these meals. Everyone marveled at Philaret's humility and said: "Truly, this man is wholly of God, a true disciple of Christ".

He ordered his servant to make three boxes and to fill them with coins - one with gold, one with silver and one with copper. From the first, the totally indigent received alms, from the second - those deprived of

means, and from the third - those who hypocritically wheedled money.

Thus, not accepting honors, in humility and love for the poor, the blessed elder attained ninety years of age. Seeing his end beforehand, he departed for the Constantinopolitan Convent of Rodolphia and distributed everything there that he had with him on the needs of the convent and the destitute. Having called his kin, Philaret instructed them, saying in particular: "*Do not hold fleeting wealth dear, but send it thither, whither I am departing now. Do not leave your possessions here, lest strangers or enemies who hate you make use of them. Do not forget hospitality. Defend the widows, help the orphans, visit the sick and those held in prisons. Do not shun communion with the*

Church, do not steal another's goods, do not offend anyone, do not speak evil, do not rejoice at the afflictions and calamities even of enemies".

The holy, righteous Philaret passed unto the Lord in the year 792.

It is difficult to live as Saint Philaret the Merciful lived. We are too tied to what is earthly and with great difficulty do we part with it. But if each of us would realize his Christian responsibility before God and neighbor - especially toward the needy - and would take part in our parish's philanthropic activities, we could realize truly great acts of good.

THE ROAD AHEAD (CONT.)

(Continued from page 3)

mission in the world should also never conclude, but find new forms of expression. Caring, teaching, feeding, caressing, encouraging, praying are ways of showing human solidarity in the light of the Scriptures and they should all be part of our present and expand into our future. We should have the vision to seek these opportunities as they present themselves and spread the abundant love that God has bestowed upon us.

We are to reach out, not to be self sufficient, this is the great commission: *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”* (Mathew 28:19). A single, isolated Christian is no Christian, said Tertulian in the 4th century. We are not to be separated, we are not to remain in isolation but we are to enter into the joy of the kingdom together, with all those that bear the image of God in them.

The first steps on this holy road lying ahead have already been taken: we’ve built a church and opened its doors to the world. Let us keep them open for the future, let the people come in, welcome them, show them love, reach out whenever possible and our church will always be full, not just of bodies, but of persons seeking perfection in Christ by imitating His great love for mankind.

Fr. Vasile



Archangel Gabriel
By Photios Kontoglou

WHY WE SING (PART III)

(Continued from page 8)

impact of Orthodox Christian hymns and choirs in fulfilling the theme of the Clergy-Laity Congress - - *“Chosen and Appointed by God to go and Bear Fruit”* so that *“as Saint Paul said, the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in us, and us in Him (II Thessalonians 1:11-12)”*. Also during the reception, a National Forum member from the Denver Metropolis, George Stefanidakis of the

Houston Annunciation Cathedral, was awarded the St. Romanos Medallion for his contributions to Orthodox Church choir music and chanting. (At another, past National Forum conference, our own Bill Poletes, Choir Director of St. John The Baptist was also awarded the St. Romanos Medallion for his years of exemplary service to choirs in Ohio and now in Texas.)

This Part III article concludes with the words of His Emi-

nence Archbishop Demetrios addressed to the Clergy-Laity Congress participants -- *“as God has chosen and appointed us, He gives us all that we need to do this great work. He equips us with the grace, the power, the ability, the wisdom, and the resources to develop effective means for reaching others with the Gospel of healing truth and peace.”*

Musically yours from the Choir, ... George Vittas

“WE ARE TO REACH OUT, NOT TO BE SELF SUFFICIENT, THIS IS THE GREAT COMMISSION”.

FESTIVAL DANCE PRACTICES

It's that time again! The Festival is around the corner and its time to start practices! We invite all parishioners ages 5 and up. Dance practice will begin Sunday, August 19th immediately following liturgy. If your child is interested in joining the dance groups please make sure they are present that

day. Practices will continue to follow the same schedule, every Sunday, up until the week of the Festival. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. Thanks & we hope to see a lot of dancers :)

Gina Poulakos

Email: Gpoulakos@live.com

P: 817-395-3656



St. Roman the Melodist



CATECHISM CLASS FOR INQUIRERS

The Catechism Class for inquirers into the Orthodox Faith will start again on September 2nd.

The classes will take place on Sunday after the Divine Liturgy and will last about an hour.

Please let Fr. Vasile now if you are interested in participating.

AGELESS WONDERS

The Ageless Wonders will meet on Saturday, August 18, 2012, at 2:30pm at the "Artisan Theater" in Hurst on Pipeline Rd. for the matinee performance the musical "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 pp. This is a great opportunity for those of you who have not been able to join us previously. We will do dinner afterwards at a local restaurant. The deadline is August 3rd. I'll be calling for reservations soon. Call me for more details.....Margaret 817-354-7731

FESTIVAL NEWS

Festival dates:
Oct. 12-14, 2012

We will be making Dolmathes when the baking starts in August, and we will need YOUR help !

GALAKTABOURIKO BAKING

will take place on Sat. August 11, at 9am. Lunch will be provided.

Angela Cline
(817) 247-4934

Please Contact Leo or Joanie for volunteer signup slots.

**2012 FESTIVAL DATES:
OCT. 12-14**

USHER SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday: Barbara Vittas, Bob Steffaro
- 2nd Sunday: Hope File, Michael Eftimie
- 3rd Sunday: Larry Leeders, Karen Kinman
- 4th Sunday: Nina Sullivan, Raj Shah
- 5th Sunday: Chris Geil, Nancy Medvic
- Fill-in: Harry Karegeannes

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday : Bennett Kerbow, Caleb Ellis, Alex Genovezos, Jackson Wright
- 2nd Sunday : Chris Eftimie, Michael Beebe, Chris File, Luca Tudora
- 3rd Sunday : John Molhoek, Alex Shah, Alex Genovezos, Michael Beebe
- 4th Sunday : Luca Tudora, James Seals, Alex Genovezos, Alex Shah
- 5th Sunday: Michael Beebe, James Seals, John Molhoek, Alex Shah

COFFEE HOUR HOST

- 1st Sun.: The Michael Eftimie Family (Aug. 5)
- 2nd Sun: Philoptochos
- 3rd Sun: GOYA
- 4th Sun: Parish Council
- 5th Sun: Parish Council (If Applicable)

COFFEE HOUR DUTIES

SETUP

Arrange pastries/food in a desirable manner on the appropriate tables in the parish hall.

You are responsible for making the coffee. Make two pots: one regular, one decaf. Plug in be-



fore going into church. The instructions are in the kitchen.

Prepare a tray with sugar, creamer, sugar substitute, mixing straws, a few spoons. Set with trash bucket.

Put donation basket out with appropriate sign.

CLEAN UP

Wash all dishes soiled, including coffee pots.

























Return sugar tray to kitchen and replenish it.

Wash off hall tables and kitchen counters.

Thank-You

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

AUGUST 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
<p><u>Fasting Symbols:</u></p>  <p>Fast Free</p>  <p>Fish allowed</p>	 <p>Wine/oil allowed</p>  <p>Strict Fast</p>		 <p>Dormition Fast Begins</p> <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Great Vespers 6:00 PM</p>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
 <p>9th Sunday of St. Matthew</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM Vigil 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Holy Transfiguration</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 6:00 AM</p>		 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>		 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Galaktabourika Baking</p> <p>Great Vespers 6:00 PM</p>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 <p>10th Sunday of St. Matthew</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM</p>	 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Vigil 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Dormition of the Theotokos</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 6:00 AM</p>			<p>Great Vespers 6:00 PM</p>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>11th Sunday of St. Matthew</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM Festival Dance Practice Youth Ministries Planning Mtg.</p>			 <p>Paraklesis 6:00 PM</p>		 <p>Dolmathes prep</p>	<p>Dolmathes prep</p> <p>Great Vespers 6:00 PM</p>
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<p>12th Sunday of St. Matthew</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM Parish Council Festival Dance Practice</p>		<p>Vigil 6:00 PM</p>	 <p>Beheading of St. John the Baptist</p> <p>Divine Liturgy 6:00 AM</p>			



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

303 Cullum Dr.
Euless, TX 76040
Tel 817 283-2291

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Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos
August 15



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THE FORERUNNER

