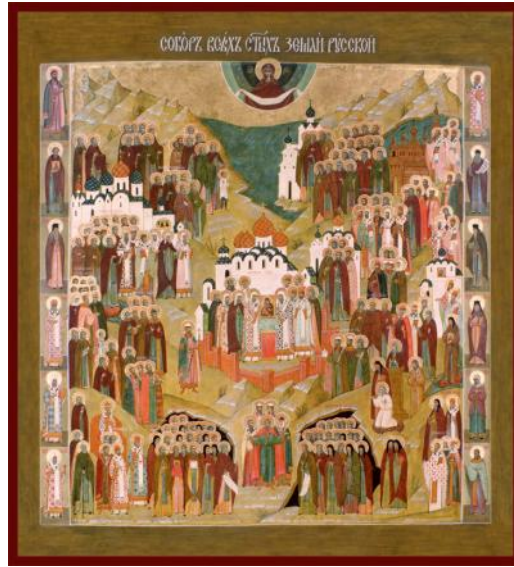


THE FORERUNNER

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 2012

EVERYDAY SAINTS

The recent book of [Archmandrite Tikhon](#), "Everyday Saints and other stories", is one of those books that fulfill the prophecies on their back covers: it was impossible to put down and I felt very sorry when it ended. What is so special about this spiritual book, that made it into a major best-seller and almost a pop phenomenon in Russia, is that it brings the elements of faith right where they belong: in real life. I've read many books about the unmatched spiritual battles of the saints from the desert of Egypt or other elders from similarly remote places of the earth, and I was very moved and strengthened in my faith by all of them. At the same time, however, they sometimes felt far away, foreign, inapplicable to our decaying secular life. Archmandrite Tikhon's stories uncover very similar battles but in the much more familiar battleground of our hometowns, showing us what we already knew, but somewhat forgot, that all great saints, before becoming so great, started their lives just as ordinary folks, like you and me.



There is a very interesting peculiarity in Orthodox iconography related to perspective. The typical vanishing lines into the horizon of classical perspective are not only neglected but

(Continued on page 3)

COUNCIL CAPSULE

On Sunday, November 18th, our fall General Assembly was held. Many thanks to all parishioners who stayed for the meeting and voted on our 2013 church budget, which was approved unanimously. Reports were heard from Joe Sullivan on the Building Committee and also from George Vittas on the Capital Campaign Committee. Both of these committees will conclude as of December 31, 2012 and we are very grateful to these two men and their committee members. Without their dedication and hard work, our beautiful new church would not have been possible.

Candidates for election to the Parish Council for 2013-2015 were also announced. They are Harry Karegeannes, Michael Eftimie, Hope File, Margaret Chokas, Tim Cline and Jeremy Ellis. There are 5 positions open and elections to the council will be held on Decem-

(Continued on page 2)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Everyday Saints*
- *Stewardship program for 2013 is now open!*
- *Capital campaign to a close in December 2012*
- *Chosen and Appointed by God to Go and Bear Fruit*
- *Construction Status*
- *Music Ministry Page*
- *Church Events*

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)

ber 9th during the coffee hour. We thank Robert Steffaro and Karen Kinman, who are stepping down from the council this year, for their dedication during their terms.

Stewardship Sunday was held

on November 11th, which kicked off our 2013 stewardship campaign. Giving of stewardship is an opportunity to participate in the work of God and a time to examine our priorities and values. I urge everyone to fill out a stewardship card and also to fulfill their 2012 pledge.

Stewardship is not a substitute to commitment – it is an expression of our commitment.

Barbara Vittas

Parish Council President

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

We express our sincere and warmest gratitude to all who have participated in the Campaign to finance the construction of our new church. Here is a statistical summary of the results of the Capital Campaign as reported to the Parish General Assembly on November 18th.

- \$1,641,720 - total Capital Campaign commitments
- \$1,574,245 - total Commitment payments (*final reminder letters mailed*)
- 95.9% of Commitments paid to date, final 100% expected
- \$108,028 - additional Donations
- Total Capital Campaign result (120 contributors) = \$1,682,273

In addition, the Parish received an annuity from the estate of Connie Laverty, transferred to us by Connie's Son, Johnnie Samaras, in honor of his Mother's wishes. The annuity will be paid to our Parish in monthly installments of \$611,

which the Council is applying to the current Construction Loan and will continue to apply to the loan when it transitions to a Mortgage in March 2013. There will always be a special place for Connie's memory in our parish and we hope to display it in some way in the development of the final Phase IV project of the current Capital Development Program.

In addition to the annuity applied to loan payments, it is estimated there will be a total of approximately \$100,000 from the Campaign and Festival profit to apply towards reduction of the construction loan at the end of this year before the loan transitions into a 15 year mortgage. Thus, we will begin the new year with a loan of about \$300,000 on the books of the Parish, for which the Parish Council has included principal and interest amortization payments in the year 2013 operating budget approved at the November 18th General Assembly.

The estimated \$100,000 loan reduction amount is in keeping with the "bridge loan" concept

of financing construction continuation to completion of the new church project (Phase III) while financial and construction conditions were optimal. As Father Vasile has said, we have reached the end of the beginning. We now have the permanent edifice and property with which to maintain stability and support future growth. God bless us all for what we have achieved, and special thanks to our major benefactor.

In completion of the Capital Campaign Committee's mission, we have made the following recommendations to the Parish Council.

- That the Parish strive for an annual loan reduction payment of \$50,000 (in addition to the monthly payments of principal and interest) as the sole goal of the FoodFest;
- That the Capital Campaign Fund account (which replaced the former Building Fund) be transformed into a "Capital Improvement

(Continued on page 7)

WE EXPRESS OUR
SINCERE AND
WARMEST
GRATITUDE TO
ALL WHO HAVE
PARTICIPATED IN
THE CAMPAIGN
TO FINANCE THE
CONSTRUCTION
OF OUR NEW
CHURCH.

BEYOND SEMANTICS (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

daringly reversed in iconography. Through this optical resolve, the viewer is transformed from a seeker, looking into God's world, into the very object of God's vision.

We can go as far as to say that, in a way, through icons, God is looking at us and what He sees is also icons, icons of Himself in each and every one of us. For the God of Love each of His children is a possible saint; this is how He has created us, with this great potential ready to be fulfilled.

Elder Teofil, of blessed memory, from the Sămbăta Monastery in Romania, used to say that if a novice, when entering into a monastery, does not want from all his heart to become a saint, he has nothing

to do in a monastery. Of course this is not to say that monks should be as vainglorious as to spend their lives seeking out the spiritual gifts of miracles or foretelling or healing or any of the sort, but it is to say that they should be drawn towards perfection, towards fulfilling the words of the Scriptures, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:48)

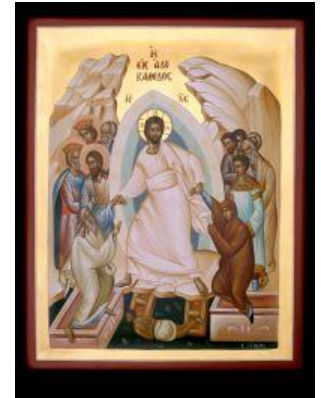
This call, however, hardly applies only to monks. During Christ's time on earth, there were no monastic communities, only common folks pressing around Him in throngs, eager to receive the teachings of life. The call for perfection is a universal call for all those trying to follow

Him on the path towards salvation, monastics and lay people together.

Looking closer at this commandment though, we soon realize that it appears to be, at least superficially, an impossible task. How can I, a sinner, become as perfect as God, the only sinless One? It is a commandment of the Lord nonetheless, so there should be a way to do it.

A first possible way is given to the apostles: "What is impossible with men is possible with God." (Luke 18:27) Perfection, deification is not an attribute of man's efforts but of God's grace. He is the one who fulfills our imperfect deeds and makes us fit for His Kingdom; but not against our

(Continued on page 9)



The Resurrection

32 DEGREE
AUDIO SOUND
SPECIALISTS HAS
BEEN HIRED TO
ENGINEER AND
INSTALL A NEW
SOUND SYSTEM
FOR THE
CHURCH.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee has identified approximately 60 punch list items after substantial completion in July. 31 items are completed and Ashton Wynne is now working to finish nearly all items by the end of the year.

Several new items are being brought forth for approval for Ashton Wynne to complete:

1 – Space heaters in the Exo-Narthex interstitial area required by the Fire Marshall for sprinkler piping freeze protection.

2 – Scaffolding to support the next phase of Altar iconography.

3 – Masonry work to assist the sound system installation – wiring in the tile floor grout lines at the Altar and Chanter Stand.

32 Degree Audio Sound Specialists has been hired to engineer and install a new sound system for the Church. They have ordered all components and are configuring the control module this week. They are scheduled to be on-site the week of December 3rd for wiring and installation of the system to assist with vocal intelligibility in the Church. Three competitive bids were received for the system and

32 Degree Audio was the lowest cost provider.

Selection has been made for Dallas Quality Gutters to install expanded 6 inch seamless aluminum gutters and expanded 3 x 4 inch downspouts around the perimeter of the Church. Four competitive bids were received and Dallas Quality Gutters was the lowest cost provider. The gutters have already been installed last week of November.

Joe Sullivan

Building Committee Chairman

LET STEWARDSHIP BE A WAY OF LIFE



**ALL GIVING
TOWARD 2012
STEWARDSHIP
NEEDS TO
ARRIVE IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE
BY FRI. DEC. 28
IN ORDER TO BE
POSTED TO A
2012 PLEDGE**

As the calendar year comes to an end, Nina and I want to especially thank all of those who have faithfully contributed to stewardship with their time, talent and treasure. Our parish is a testament to the great will and spiritual fortitude of our wonderful parish. Let's end the year in continuing with that spirit. Recently we mailed out stewardship statements for 2012. All 2012 payments towards 2012 pledges must be in to the Church Office by Friday Dec. 28, please, in order to be posted toward your 2012 pledge.

Going forward, our 2013 plans continue to unfold. We have high aspirations and with prayer, faith and a little "hope" we will meet our goal of \$265,000. We know it sounds extraordinary, but God is great and will show us the way in the new year. Stewardship Sunday was a glorious beginning. We encourage those who haven't had an opportunity to complete their stewardship cards for 2013 to do so. Please remember that if you want to pay your Stewardship by means of credit card, your full credit card information on your

2013 Commitment Card must be in to the Church Office by Friday, Dec. 28, please, in order to enter your subscription timely for the new year. We look forward to another wonderful year working towards our future growth.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve as your stewardship committee. What a blessed year it has been!

Nina and Hope

Chosen and Appointed by God to Go and Bear Fruit (John

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.

**FOR 2013,
CREDIT CARD
GIVERS NEED TO
RENEW THEIR
CREDIT CARD
DRAW
SUBSCRIPTION BY
COMPLETING A
2013
COMMITMENT
CARD.**

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.



CHOSEN AND APPOINTED BY GOD TO GO AND BEAR FRUIT

Our theme for 2013 is **Chosen and Appointed by God to Go and Bear Fruit** from chapter 15 of the Gospel of John. At the Last Supper, as we read in Chapter 15 of the Gospel of John, Jesus instructed His disciples, "I Am the Vine; you are the branches."

He was telling us that the purpose of our abiding in Him is to bear fruit for God in the world. "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit..." Just as the vine bears fruit through its branches, so Jesus has chosen to work in the world through us.

We are the members of His Body. We are the branches through which the True Vine must bear fruit. We bear fruit when we serve and support God and His Church.

Stewardship

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability,

reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith.

Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

The Steward

An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church. The Parish encourages all who accept the Orthodox Faith to become practicing Stewards.

Each year the Steward is expected to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment of

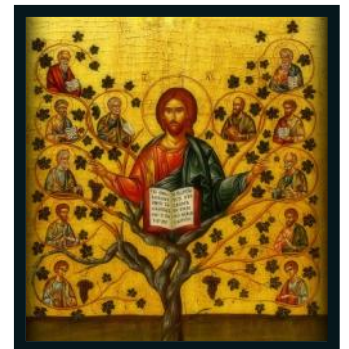
time, talent, and treasure to support the Parish and her Ministries, which in turn also support the National Ministries of our Archdiocese, Metropolises, and institutions.

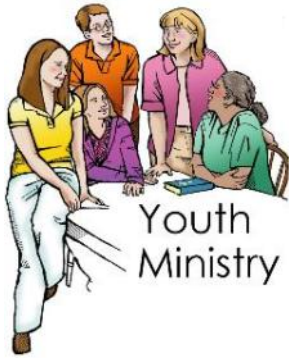
Stewardship is not about paying the bills.

The goal of stewardship is not to pay the bills of the church; the goal of stewardship is to fulfill the purpose of our lives by participating in and enabling the good works of the Church in our Community.

Stewardship is how we should live everyday of our lives, fully engaged and responsible about our life in Him. Stewardship is a practice that can re-shape our world and ourselves in such a way that we can experience God's grace, love and communion in the present. Stewardship is not about survival of the parish, is about personal and communitarian growth in Christ.

STEWARDSHIP IS
HOW WE
SHOULD LIVE
EVERYDAY OF
OUR LIVES, FULLY
ENGAGED AND
RESPONSIBLE
ABOUT OUR LIFE
IN HIM





YOUTH MINISTRIES ON THE MOVE

The YM Halloween party drew a good crowd despite our last-minute invite. The kids carved pumpkins, ate pizza and had fun going through an obstacle course, designed by Maria Tudora. Luca entertained kids with his "non-scary" storytelling. Next year we will give everyone more advance notice and possibly include a hayride and corn maze.

This month, kids ages 12 and older are invited to participate in our Habitat for Humanity landscaping project on Saturday, Dec. 1. The home is located off I-30 and Camp Bowie in Fort Worth. We have another community service project planned for Feb-

ruary when we will help out at the North Texas Food Bank warehouse. Details to come.

YM is very proud of our GOYA which has done some major fundraising this year to help them come back from a deficit. Please invite the GOYANs to your home on Dec. 9 when they hold their annual Christmas caroling event. Also, don't forget to come and support GOYA during Martin Luther King weekend, when they will be playing in the annual GOYA Tournament in Frisco.

The 2013 Oratorical Festival topics were recently announced and we will be sharing them with our students. The festival takes place April

12-14 and will be hosted by St. George's in Albuquerque.

The YM committee wishes all our parishioners a very Merry Christmas!

God bless

Harriet Blake, YM Director

SUNDAY
SCHOOL

DEC. 15 ADVENT
RETREAT

10AM- 1PM

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Students and Parents,

Thank you all for the donations to the Thanksgiving food drive. We have learned to be giving to others and to be thankful for what we have. We donated the items to a local food pantry.

December is a busy month with all the holiday festivities. Sometimes we get so busy that we overlook the reason for these celebrations. Church School will have the Advent Retreat on

December 15 from 10AM – 1PM. We'll learn why we celebrate Christmas, have a session with Father Vasile as well as rehearse for our Christmas program. We'll provide lunch and do a craft for the holidays. We will have final preparations for the Christmas Program after Holy Communion on December 16th.

May God Bless you and Keep you safe,
Khanh Moutafis

Dec. 15 Advent Retreat,
10AM- 1PM

Dec. 16 Christmas Music
Program

Dec. 23 No Church School
– Christmas holiday

Dec. 30 No Church School
– Christmas holiday

Jan. 6, 2013 Church
School resumes



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

In October some of our Church School children participated in a “Make A Difference” project by hearing the story of Loukoumi the lamb and his gift. There are several published books endorsed by several Greek-American celebrities helping young children to understand what giving of yourself is all about. If you are interested in ordering any of these books, please go to www.philoptochos.org and find the link on the main page, near the bottom.

We would like to thank everyone who donated items for our rummage sale –it was a big success. Our sale is deeply indebted to the Ageless Wonders who do much of the

work. Big thanks to Lenny & George for providing us with man power! With the sales profits, we made our 3rd payment to the Capital Campaign and will hold the sale again next year to fulfill our total pledge.

All leftover items were donated to:

- select children’s clothing went to South Eules Elementary
- select women’s clothing went to Safe Haven
- Books were sold at Half-Price Book Store
- Remaining items were

donated to a thrift store.

You can help support St. Irene Philoptochos in December by:

- Purchasing baked goods (forms in the Philoptochos mail box)
- Donating a gift card or gift to our Adopt-A-Families

Thank you for your time, treasure and talent for the benefit of those in need.

Joanie Ruppel

President, St. Irene Philoptochos



POINSETTIA PLANTS

ORDER DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, DEC. 9

\$15/PLANT

ORDER FORMS ARE
IN THE NARTHEX

QUESTIONS? CALL
ANGELA CLINE
(817) 247-4934

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT (CONT.)

(Continued from page 2)

Fund” (CIF) for accumulation of all unfinished Phase III commitment payments after Dec. 31st, as well as for contributions from new and current members who wish to support the continuing Capital Development Program (CDP) and for major, unplanned capital improvements (such as roof replacement, large HVAC equipment replacements, etc.) as designated by Council decision and GA approval;

- That the ad hoc CCC be formally dissolved as of December 31, 2012;
- That the standing Planning

Committee, under the By Laws, be re-established and re-constituted in 2013 to prepare the following;

- Master Site Development Plan; and
- Phase IV Plan (scope and budget) to complete the current CDP.

The Dedications Program, including Stage I iconography for the church opening, will continue under Father Vasile’s direction, and there are still some ecclesiastical and iconographic items remaining to be dedicated as part of the church opening. Beyond these items, a plan of iconography exists for the entire new church interior to be imple-

mented over time. It is hoped new parishioners and others will be moved by the beauty of the work of our Iconographer, Vladimir Grygorenko, to dedicate a part of the church iconography.

Our warmest and best wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

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





St. Isaac the Syrian

MUSIC
MINISTRY,
CHOIR AND
CHANTERS
PAGE

CHOIR NOTES — IT'S BEEN A GOOD YEAR !

Under the leadership of our Director, Bill Poletes, and with the guidance and blessings of Father Vasile, your Liturgical Choir is growing and changing. The opportunity to sing the hymns and prayers of Orthodoxy in our new church has been a blessing, inspiring in us the desire to continually elevate and reinforce the liturgical setting to enable more spiritually meaningful worship and prayer by the congregation.

With much to be thankful for, we have carried the message of our new beginnings and future as a parish, choir and music ministry far and wide throughout the Denver Metropolis and even to the Arch-

diocese. During the past year, members of your choir have attended and participated in the Denver Choir Federation Conference in Austin, the Clergy-Laity Congress in Phoenix and the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Denver Metropolis Center, in addition to other music ministry activities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Denver. At every opportunity, in many cases with the presence of Father Vasile, we have made the Metropolis and the Archdiocese more intimately aware of what has and is taking place in our community.

Some of the changes the choir is working towards are: the

ability to sing more of the Liturgy in English, with the goal of being truly multilingual for most of the ecclesiastical year; re-establishing, teaching and growing the Youth Choir to become the future musicians of our parish in whatever aspect they chose from their beginnings in the choir; and, purchasing and wearing new robes fitting for a new church.

We look forward to the challenges and also the blessings of the New Year and wish all parishioners a Merry Christmas... Sincerely, "*The Liturgical Choir of our St. John The Baptist Greek Orthodox Church*"

FAMOUS PROTOPSALTI—IAKOVOS NAFPLIOTIS

The ever-memorable Iakovos Nafpliotis was a candle which was burnt on the lampstand of the Church, the Patriarchal analogion. A candle made of beeswax, which shined forth the light of the Resurrection. A light with the transparency and the colour of amethyst, the light that fills the mountain slopes, the Phanar halls, the worn out seat of the Archon Protopsaltes. O sweet light, enlighten our steps!

Iakovos was a worthy successor of his predecessors (Nikolaos Byzantios Lambadarios, Aristeidis Nikolaidis, Georgios Violakis, George Raidestinos II), who had the chance to listen to Daniel, Iakovos the Peloponnesian, Petros Byzan-

tios and Gregory, the great composers and Archcantors. From all these people, directly or indirectly, Iakovos had something to learn.

He was born in Naxos in 1864. Young, he moved to Istanbul, where he was selected due to his excellent voice and, in 1878, hired as First Canonarch in the Patriarchal Church. This was a rather desirable position, because he greatly assisted the patriarchal choir by canonstarting, keeping the tone, and the typical order which he knew well and directed others to follow.

Iakovos progressed through all the stages of the music hierarchy (1881-1888 Second Domestikos, 1888-1905 First

Domestikos, and 1905-1911 Lambadarios), and was officiated Archon Protopsaltes by Patriarch Joachim III in 1911.

From this distinguished position, Iakovos «arose as incense» the prayers of Christians to God with his sweet melody until 1938. Thus, with his continuous service he offered 60 years to the musical shrine of the Church, to the Revered Patriarchal Temple, to the Great Church of Christ.

During that period, he taught Byzantine Chant to the Patriarchal Music School of Phanar. In 1894, he published the two-volume «Forminga» containing chants and odes for

(Continued on page 9)



Archon Protopsalte
Iakovos Nafpliotis

EVERYDAY SAINTS (CONT.)

(Continued from page 3)

will and not without our active participation.

Another way of looking at it is to admit that God's perfection can never be achieved; after all, He is of a different essence than us, He is the Maker and we are His creation. But this does not mean that the commandment should be neglected, that we should not try with all our heart to be more God like; it

only means that our efforts should never stop, that our spiritual life should be a never-ending quest to better ourselves and achieve more of God's impossible-to-reach likeness. It is not only the end that should interest us, but it is just as important to pay close attention to the journey. The end gives us purpose, while the journey is our life. How well we fare on this journey is the decisive factor for our place in the Kingdom.

During the extraordinary journey of life, very few of us will reach the heights of sainthood; this is God's choice, but it is well within our reach to become "**everyday saints**", people of God striving with every inch of our being to find more ways of becoming God-like, making the faith real in our lives, bringing in this way the Kingdom of God on earth.



Archangel Gabriel
By Photios Kontoglou

FAMOUS PROTOPSALTI—IAKOVOS NAFPLIOTIS

(Continued from page 8)

the use of primary schools and every friend of music. Together with his Domestikos Constantine Klavvas, he published 1899 in two volumes the Doxastarion of Petros the Peloponnesian.

What we hear today on his historical recordings are the bridge - *the arc-en-ciel* - which connects us to Iakovos and his predecessors. That is how they chanted; that is what Iakovos chanted; that is how Priggos later on chanted, with the same style, as there are heard today from their recordings.

Iakovos fell asleep in the Lord on December 5th, 1942 in Psychiko (Athens, Greece). His legend shall remember immortal.

Prof. A. Boudouris in an article in «Orthodoxia» remarks about Iakovos: «Iakovos Nafpliotis, who as Second Domestikos of the Patriarchal Tem-

ple, stood by the teacher Nikolaos Lambadarios, who always sang using manuscripts in the old notation of Petros the Peloponnesian, because he completely ignored the new notation, was introduced and educated in the Patriarchal style of chanting the ecclesiastical songs. He kept the music reality of the ancient Archcantors, and is today the continuer of the patriarchal tradition.»

Priggos, his student and follower said: «The first time I went and heard Iakovos was at the Canon of Supplication and he was saying "*Let the impious lips be bereft of speech...*" and the Patriarch Joachim III descended from the throne, worshipped [the icon of] the Pam-makaristos and returned back, crossed himself and ascended back onto the throne. I was enthused with this thing I heard; I said: Nobody is a cantor but for him.»

May your memory be everlasting, O blessing and ever-memorable Archon Iakove Nafplioti!

By [Serafeim Farasoglu](#)

You can listen to some of his recording on the [Ecumenical Patriarchate](#) Byzantine Music page

IT IS WELL
WITHIN OUR
REACH TO
BECOME
"**EVERYDAY
SAINTS**", PEOPLE
OF GOD
STRIVING WITH
EVERY INCH OF
OUR BEING TO
FIND MORE WAYS
OF BECOMING
GOD-LIKE



St. Roman the Melodist



SACRAMENTS IN THE PAST MONTH

Memorial Service: Damianos Peters, Teodor Albisor

Baptism: George Bond and Panayiota Jones

CATECHISM CLASS

A new Catechism class for seekers in the Orthodox faith will start again in January. If you are interested please contact Fr. Vasile Tudora so we can add you to the e-mail list and get you started!

GLADSOME LIGHT DIALOGUES

After a long break due mostly to the construction of the New Building the Gladsome Light Dialogues, our adult faith weekly interactions will be back in 2013!!

Stay tuned for more information. In the meantime please visit us for the latest articles on the web at [Gladsome Light Dialogues Blog](#)

AGELESS WONDERS

The Ageless Wonders will meet on Saturday, December 29, 2012 for a pre-new years eve party at the Antahades clubhouse in Grand Prairie. Details will be forthcoming. We are doing our \$10 per person Christmas gift cards from Wal-Mart in lieu of a gift exchange. We need your cards by December 9th so they may be distributed to our needy families before Christmas. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL and Happy New Year too !!!!.....Margaret

GLADSOME LIGHT DIALOGUES, OUR ADULT FAITH WEEKLY INTERACTIONS WILL BE BACK IN 2013!!

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, Jackson Wright, Alex Genovezos, Caleb Ellis, Luca Tudora
- 2nd Sunday: Michael Beebe, John Molhoek, Alex Shah, Chris Eftimie, Joseph Berca
- 3rd Sunday: James Seals, Alex Genovezos, Caleb Ellis, Luca Tudora, Matei Tudora
- 4th Sunday: Michael Beebe, John Molhoek, Alex Shah, Chris Eftimie, George Manos
- 5th Sunday: Michael Beebe, James Seals, Alex Genovezos, Alex Shah, Luca Tudora

COFFEE HOUR HOST

- 1st Sun.: (Dec 2) Mr. & Mrs. Alex Papadimitriou
- 2nd Sun: Parish Council
- 3rd Sun: GOYA
- 4th Sun: Philoptochos
- 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

DECEMBER 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
 14th Sunday of St. Luke <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Catechism Class</i> 12:00 PM			 <i>Vigil</i> 6:00 PM	 <i>St. Nicholas the Wonderworker</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 6:00 AM		 <i>Great Vespers</i> 5:00 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
 10th Sunday of St. Luke <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM PC Elections Poinsettias deadline Philoptochos Dinner GOYA caroling IOCC Taste/Tour		 <i>Vespers</i> 6:00 PM	 <i>St. Spyridon the Wonderworker</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 6:00 AM			 Philoptochos Meeting & Christmas Baking 9am <i>Church School Advent Retreat</i> 10am-1pm <i>Great Vespers</i> 5:00 PM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
 11th Sunday of St. Luke <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Christmas Pageant</i> Adopt-a-Family gift deadline Bake Sale pickup			 <i>Paraklesis</i> 6:00 PM			 <i>Great Vespers</i> 5:00 PM
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
 Sunday before Nativity <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM <i>Memorial Service</i> No Church School Parish Council	 <i>Nativity Eve</i> <i>Royal Hours</i> 9:00 AM <i>Vespers Liturgy</i> 6:00 PM	 HOLY NATIVITY <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM	 <i>Synaxis of the Theotokos</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM	 <i>St. Stephen</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM		 Ageless Wonders <i>Great Vespers</i> 5:00 PM
30	31	1				
 Sunday after Nativity <i>Orthros</i> 8:30 AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30 AM No Church School	 <i>Vespers</i> 6:00PM	<i>The Circumcision of our Lord</i> <i>St. Basil the Great</i> <i>Orthros</i> 8:30AM <i>Divine Liturgy</i> 9:30AM			Fasting Symbols:  <i>Fast Free</i>  <i>Fish allowed</i>	 <i>Wine/oil allowed</i>  <i>Strict Fast</i>



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

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

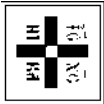
Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT

Sponsorship for This Month's Forerunner



**WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
[HTTP://STJOHNDFW.INFO](http://stjohndfw.info)**



The Nativity of Christ
December 25

THE FORERUNNER

Vol. XXVIII No. 12 DECEMBER 2012

