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Inserts
- February Calendar
- Metropolis Monthly Newsletter

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee, February 21

Receive and Share the Light of Christ!
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
is under the jurisdiction of:
His Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholemew
His Eminence, Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
His Eminence, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Administration

Clergy
Rev. Hector Firoglanis, Pastor
Rev. Theodosios Palis, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Alexander Veronis, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Alexander Goussetis, Mission Parish Pastor

Parish Council
Dr. Spencer Phillips, President
John Stauffer, Treasurer; Steve Marinos, Assistant Treasurer
Kim Keares, Secretary

Board of Elders
Tina Georges  Dan Soukas
Dr. Nikitas Zervanos

Church Staff
Office Administrator…………………………..Eleni Mamas
Office Assistant……………………………..Mary Sakellaris
Office Assistant……………………………..Elena Bartlett
Building Supervisor…………………………..David Gammache
Sexton………………………………………., Alex Mountis
Cantors…………………………………………Daniel Blain
         Aaron Blain, Nicholas Bills
         Jonathan Troop, Nicholas Belessis
Choir Director………………………………………..John Scanlon
Ecclesiarchs……………………………..Aaron Blain
         Luke Tsofflias

Church Office Email Addresses
Office Email ………………………office@agochurch.com
Fr. Hector Firoglanis………………frhector@agochurch.com
Fr. Theodosios Palis………………theodosiospalis@gmail.com
Fr. Alexander Veronis………………frveronis@comcast.net
Eleni Mamas……………………Eleni@agochurch.com
David Gammache…………………agocdavid@comcast.net
Mary Sakellaris…………………..Marys@agochurch.com
Elena Bartlett…………………..Ebartlett@agochurch.com

Sunday Worship Hours
8:15 AM - Orthros
9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy

Contacts
Sunday School………………………….Sally Stratigos
         Dan Soukas, Jonathan Troop
Organist…………………………………….Zaferula Yelagotes
         Joanne Martin
Philoptochos……………………………..Effie Hogan
         Despina Proithis
GOYA..................................................Alexandra Schramm
         Yanna Nachtigal
GOYA Dance.................................Dana Panagopoulos
         Jenna Ioannidis
JOY Dance………………………………..Jenna Ioannidis
         Lambynee Maillis
GOYA Dance.................................Jenna Ioannidis
         Lambynee Maillis
Greek School PTO………………..Panagiotis S. Billis
         Panagiotis S. Billis
AHEPA………………………………………………., George Georges
Daughters of Penelope………………Kathy Granbois
         Maria Barron
Pan-Coan Society………………..Maria Barron
         Panagiotis S. Billis
Chiotiko Society…………………..Panagiotis S. Billis
         Alexandra Schramm
Bazaar Committee…………………..Kosta Kontanis
         Susana Troop
Bookstore……………………………..Susana Troop
         Joanna Martin
Service & Outreach Committee……..Joanne Martin
         Susana Troop
Annunciation Preschool……………Tena Blain
         Mary Sakellaris
Welcoming our New Catechumens

Dear Beloved Co-Workers in Christ,

God has been doing amazing things at Annunciation Church during this pandemic. Not only have we been expanding, renovating, and beautifying the church building with the bathroom addition, window and brick repairs, and classroom renovations, we are — most importantly — building up the Church as the Living Body of Christ by welcoming many new catechumens. A catechumen is a person who is under instruction before being baptized and/or chrismated into the Orthodox Church. There are special prayers for catechumens in the Divine Liturgy, right after the Gospel reading, which may be found on the highlighted pages in the blue Liturgy book (pp. 35-41).

There are three steps towards becoming an Orthodox Christian, which parallel the steps towards marriage.

1. The first stage consists of starting out as an inquirer, comparable to the courtship or dating phase of a relationship, when a person begins to visit and learn about the Orthodox Church.
2. The second stage consists of being officially enrolled as a catechumen, which may be compared to an engagement before marriage — when the commitment level increases.
3. The third stage is the chrismation or baptism into the Orthodox Church, which is like the marriage — a lifelong, sacramental, and eternal commitment.

Our current catechumens are: Kieran Lisney, Christina Bewersdorff, Mike Agliota, Pastor Luke Seaman, Nicholas Reinhold and family, Xabia Mills and family, Conner Lehman, Dylan Faust, Tinothea Jarell, and Jeremy Arment. Due to the challenges of getting to know these newest members of our parish due to the current social restrictions and masking policies, we will be including photographs and highlighting the lives of our catechumens in upcoming editions of the Annunciator.

Fr. Theodosios and I have been offering catechism classes two times per month on Saturday evenings before the Vespers service. Some of the Catechism materials may be found on the “Resource” tab of our Parish Website: https://www.annunciationorthodox.org/resources/catechism.

Why the influx of so many catechumens during the pandemic? Some were invited by fellow parishioners. Others discovered us on the Livestream. Many shared that they had an opportunity to look into worshipping at our church for the first time when their own churches were shut down or went strictly virtual over the last several months. One catechumen shared that she prayed to God to show her the Church He wanted her to be at when she moved to the Lancaster area. Over several weeks she tried to visit many churches, but they were all shut down due to the pandemic. Finally, she came to our church, was warmly greeted and welcomed by our ushers, immediately felt the presence of God stronger than in any other church she had been to throughout her life, and fell in love with the worship.

Let us continue to open our doors and our hearts to our catechumens and all those whom God will bring to us... “For God desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4).

In the service of our Lord,

+Fr. Hector
This month we celebrate our Priests. From 1921 - 1937, no priest served more than a year. Father Nicholas Elias (d. 1990) was the first priest to serve for more than one year beginning in 1938. Beginning in 1990 an Assistant Priest was added to our Clergy leadership. This year Father Alexander Veronis and Presvytera Pearl celebrate 60 years of loving service to our parish. Father Alexander Goussetis and Presvytera Lisa now serve the Holy Transfiguration Mission Parish in Lititz, and Father Alex is the Director of the Center for Family Care. We have been blessed! Axios!

Tina Karpouzis Georges
Centennial Chairperson

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<tr>
<td>1923 Fr. Evangelos Galasianos</td>
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<td>1924 Fr. Nicholas Papavasiliou</td>
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<td>1925 Fr. Gabriel Tambarlis</td>
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<td>1926 Fr. Vasileos Vasiliadis</td>
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<td>1930 Fr. Panayiotis Anastasiou</td>
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<td>1931 Fr. Andreas Andriopoulos</td>
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<td>1932 Fr. Nicholas Daniels</td>
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<td>1933 Fr. Theophilos Anagnorides</td>
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<td>1934 Fr. Petros Papadakos</td>
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<td>1935 Fr. Demetrius Tsiamardas</td>
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<td>1935 Fr. Panayiotis Anastasiou</td>
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<td>1936 Fr. Michael Thomas</td>
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<td>1937 Fr. George Stefan</td>
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<th>Priests Of Our Parish 1938- Present</th>
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<tr>
<td>1938-1952 Fr. Nicholas Elias</td>
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<td>1952-1955 Fr. Harry Hatzopoulos</td>
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<td>1956-1961 Fr. Stanley Harakas</td>
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<td>1961-2004 Fr. Alexander Veronis</td>
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<td>2004-2016 Fr. Alexander Goussetis</td>
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Assistant Priests
Fr. Christopher Bender (visiting priest)
1989-1993 Fr. Nicholas Palis
1993-1999 Fr. Christopher Makiej
1999-2001 Fr. Dumitru Macaila
2001-2002 Fr. Anthony Ugoink
2002-2004 Fr. Joseph Toroney
2004-2020 Fr. Alexander Veronis
2007-2016 Fr. Hector Firoglanis
2019-Present Fr. Theodosios Palis
**Women’s Virtual Book Study**

Meets every Thursday at 10am on Zoom. Starting in February and continuing through Great Lent. We will be studying the Psalms using Patrick H. Reardon’s book *Christ in the Psalms*. This book study is available to all women in the church. To join please contact Susana Troop, tgimom3@gmail.com or text 717-201-8647 to receive the Zoom meeting information.

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**Parish Council Officers for 2021**

President - Dr. Spencer Phillips  
Vice President - George Soukas  
Treasurer - John Stauffer  
Assistant Treasurer - Steve Marinos  
Secretary - Kim Keares

Thank you for your time and dedication to the church!

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**Thank You**

David & Jeanne Gammache would like to thank our Annunciation family for the cards, donations, and expression of love and kindness during this difficult time of the loss of his mother, Joanne Gammache.

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE ANNUAL FASOLADA SALE**  
SUNDAY, March 14  
All sales must be preordered and prepaid.  
Pickup Only after church.  
Details to follow in the March Annunciator.

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**2021 Stewardship Pledges**

Please remember to turn in your Stewardship Pledge!!

Pledges received: 189  
Total dollars pledged: $377,920  
Our Pledge Goal is: $600,000

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**Altar Candles & Flowers**

### Altar Candles

**Jan 6** In loving memory of yiayia and pappou, Barbara and Michael Valavanes, by Michael & Alexandra Kambouroglou.

**Jan 10** In loving memory of Angelo Manolas (25yrs) by his wife Mary Lou and family.

**Jan 17** For the Glory of God, thanksgiving, good health, and the prayers of St. Antonios by Antonios and Marianthi Mountis.

**Jan 24** In loving memory of John Tsoflias, by his wife Artemis, children and grandchildren.

**Jan 31** In loving memory of Petar Rakita, Jela, Anica, Jovanko, Slaven, Irena, Sava, and Drazen by Spiro Rakita.

### Altar Flowers

**Jan 6** In loving memory of yiayia and pappou, Barbara and Michael Valavanes, by Michael & Alexandra Kambouroglou.

**Jan 10** In honor of Our Holy Church by Zach & Sarah Maillis and family.

**Jan 17** For the Glory of God, thanksgiving, good health, and the prayers of St. Antonios by Antonios and Marianthi Mountis.

**Jan 24** In loving memory of John Tsoflias, by his wife Artemis, children and grandchildren.

**Jan 31** For the Glory of God by Zach and Sarah Maillis and family.

### Candelabra Candles

**Jan 3** In loving memory of parents, Athena & Simos Mandros, uncle George Copetas, and cousin Vasa Simpson by the Mandros Family.

**Jan 6** In loving memory of yiayia and pappou, Barbara and Michael Valavanes, by Michael & Alexandra Kambouroglou.

**Jan 10** In loving memory of Angelo Manolas (25yrs) by his wife Mary Lou and family.

**Jan 17** For the Glory of God, thanksgiving, good health, and the prayers of St. Antonios by Antonios and Marianthi Mountis.

**Jan 24** In loving memory of John Tsoflias, by his wife Artemis, children and grandchildren.

**Jan 31** In loving memory of our father and grandfather, Nicholas Kalargyros, by Despina, Jeremy and Anastazia Colon.
We are very thankful to all the parishioners who have supported the Food Box Ministry by generously volunteering your time and offering financial contributions. The distribution of 125 Food Boxes costs $875, and because of the generous support of our Annunciation parishioners, the bi-weekly distributions are covered through the end of April.

If you wish to sponsor an entire distribution in memory of a loved one, you may send a check to the church office for $875 made payable to “Annunciation Church” with “Food Box Ministry” on the memo line. All donations (any amount) are welcome!

You may also make an online donation earmarked to ‘Food Box Ministry.’ Don’t forget to specify the loved ones’ names you wish to give in memory of.

We thank our group leaders who keep this ministry running smoothly:

Team A: David and Jeanne Gammache
Team B: Joanne and Keith Martin
Team C: Steve Sullivan and Timm Wenger
Team D: Jonathan Troop and Jay Lampart
Team E: Ben Pratt and Mike Jones

At least eight volunteers are needed every other Thursday morning to help out team leaders successfully distribute and deliver 125 Food Boxes to families in need. Everyone is welcome to sign up and offer a helping hand!

You may sign up ahead of time by calling the church office or signing up directly on the church website: https://www.annunciationorthodox.org/signups/relief-box

Please read the Thank You Letter from one of our Food Box recipients on the next page to see what a blessing this ministry is for our neighbors — and for our church.

**FOOD BOX DONATIONS FOR FEBRUARY**

**February 4, 2021**
Donated by Nick and Tina Flouras, in memory of the parents, Kostas & Ploumou Flouras and George & Helen Bahas, brother Evangelos Flouras, and Thea Eleni Mountis.

**February 18, 2021**
Donated by Tasia Argires in memory of Dr. James Argires.
Dear Father Hector and Annunciation Church,

I want to thank you for everything you and your congregation did for me during this trying time. It has truly been a season of discontent, indeed despair. But you and your church were there. During this pandemic, I often wondered, "Where's God?" However, of his people, I never had to ask: They were front and center. It was all hands on deck.

In the Spring 2020 semester, I lost one of my ESL classes after HACC went remote. I was already down another class due to low enrollments, so after Spring Break, I was teaching one class instead of three. My part time paycheck thus took two hits to it and amounted to a meager sum. Then came summer, when I am always without a paycheck, but have typically built up a reserve from the Spring semester. And finally came the Fall 2020 semester, when all three of my usual classes were canceled. I applied for unemployment on August 23, but as you may have heard, it’s a nightmare. I will spare you the details, but it looks as of last Friday, December 18, my issue could finally be resolved.

Against this backdrop, I need to tell you the importance of what you have done with your Crisis Food Box Distribution. COVID shutdowns took a huge toll on middle and working class Americans, suddenly and for the first time in our lives thrust into joblessness and penury. Some were lucky to get initial unemployment and that $600 extra payments, but many of us weren't. For us, the government offered nothing. We were left to fend for ourselves being exempt from traditional aid programs. When you are living off your savings, every penny counts.

The food boxes you supplied every other week were a Godsend, literally. It helped me stretch my funds. I also got food from New Covenant Church in Ephrata and bread from Bright Side Baptist Church. The thing that was so striking to me was how the government help was late, impersonal, and inefficient. The government wanted to know everything about me before deciding if it would help me, and hinted even then, "We still might not help you."

But the churches were the polar opposite. Always, they said "No questions asked." Like Jesus, they said, "Come one, come all. Everybody welcome." So the churches did EXACTLY what Jesus has instilled in us. Jesus- and His churches during this crises - take everybody. And your volunteers always made me feel welcome and not like I was a lesser human being by virtue of being in need. I have been watching your sermons now, and you said this in one of them: "It's not up to us to decide who is in need." The middle class and the working class are the forgotten victims in this crises, who have had nowhere else to go but to you.

You also had another memorable sermon where you told a parable of parishioners holding back tithes, which led to a woman then giving the church less. Well, I want to tell you that the opposite of that shall come to your church. I have made your church a beneficiary in my will when I updated it due to COVID. Because you did not hold back, you will be getting something extra. I know you did not help people in order to seek a reward, but I think it's what I can do to show my gratitude.

There are two things I will always remember. The first one is when I came one time, the volunteer asked if I wanted to come to the Bazaar. I was about to say I couldn't afford it, but before I did, she said she had tickets donated by the members of the church! The top of my head felt like it came off: You paid for the food, you cooked the food, you were going to serve the food, and you even bought tickets for others to be able to come to your own banquet!! I think there was a sermon about that parable too, where all were invited to a famous man's banquet.

The second one is when I came another time, volunteers were holding loaves of braided bread for us. Again, I thought, "Wow, they don't treat us like poor, unworthy people who can just be given scraps and will be grateful for them since we are in need." But there was exquisite, homemade, braided bread! Professor Ugolnik kind of specialized in the Turn of the Century Arts and Crafts movement, and I remember a painting by Burne-Jones or Rossetti, where mysterious-looking Victorian ladies hold an unfurled, Gothic-lettered scroll. In my mind, I called that painting, "Scary ladies holding words." But here's how I have christened my overwhelming memory of this plague time in world history and this parched time in my own history: "Greek ladies holding bread." And we all know who the Bread of Life is. When this is over, I hope to come visit your services as a guest every now and then. And I have no doubt I will be as finely welcomed then inside your church as I've been these past few months outside your church.

Sincerely,
Claudia Ritter
JOY/ GOYA Snowtubing
New Pangari for Narthex

A new custom-made pangari was installed below the window on the left side of the Narthex with a generous anonymous donation in memory of spouse and good health of family. In addition to a slot for cash donations, an iPad kiosk will be added to the new pangari for online candle donations as well. Glory to God!

New Bathrooms Near Completion!
One of the classes I was required to take my freshmen year of college was entitled “What are Human Beings?” This class was mostly philosophical, designed to get us to learn about ourselves, ostensibly. One thing I remember vividly from this class was that we were forced to question every aspect of our lives. It started off with gender, and was I sure I was actually a man. The professor didn’t seem satisfied with a simple yes, or the answer that my gender was confirmed through my biology and appearance of my body. Eventually I became annoyed with having to defend something I had and have known to be true my whole life. I am a man.

The class “progressed” toward other things I needed to defend, and one of them was my Christian faith. When it came to discussing religion, I was asked if I had a faith that I identified with. When I answered that I was a Christian, I was then asked, “had I ever considered another faith, or tried another faith?” And when I answered, “no, I hadn’t, and I didn’t feel the need to,” I was told, “You are a close-minded person. Only close-minded people are unwilling to try new things.”

I quickly realized that as much as colleges said they wanted us to have an “open mind,” what they really wanted us to have was an “empty mind,” a mind that had no conviction but was open to being completely changed on questions as basic as our gender and our faith. I believe many colleges still operate like this.

There is a difference between an open mind and an empty mind. An open mind can have conviction but lack direction. An empty mind lacks both. What does that mean? I went to college positive that I was a man and a Christian. I knew I had some skills in writing and in public speaking. I liked the idea of being a teacher and a counselor. I had an open mind about career choices. While the priesthood was always tugging at my heart, I took classes in psychology, secondary education, history and political science, and considered careers in education, city management and counseling before deciding to pursue the priesthood. To me, I went to college with an open mind as far as careers were concerned. I entered college certain that I was not going to be a scientist, but open minded to various careers in the humanities. I did not, however, go to college with an empty mind. I was very sure when I entered college of my Christian faith. I was very sure of my values and boundaries. And while some of these got tested and pushed and occasionally even crossed, I exited college with the same values and faith with which I had entered, but with a more defined career path than when I had entered.

It’s not just during college that our values are challenged, or when we are called upon to be open minded, or in reality empty minded. Christians are being challenged as never before to defend our Christianity. Western society is quickly becoming anti-Christian. Perhaps because as Christians we cling to values and beliefs that are quickly becoming unpopular. Just clinging to a belief is becoming unpopular.
We live in a disposable society. If a person is still clinging to a rotary phone they used 30 years ago, the world has passed them by. People would probably laugh at them. You can’t be in a profession now without using the Internet or email. If a doctor is still trying to practice medicine the way he did 20 years ago, he’s probably out of a job. It seems that we have to adapt to many things in our world or we get left behind.

So there is a great pressure to adapt our faith to fit some societal contemporary norm of what faith is. Or even worse, for faith to be regarded like the rotary phone, something we no longer need or have a use for.

Faith is something that grounds us. Faith is not something that changes. As we read in Hebrews 13:8, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” As Christians, we are called to believe specific things and act in specific ways. To cling to those things and to act in those ways shows conviction and faith. It doesn’t show close-mindedness which is seen as weakness.

In holding fast to boundaries, we need to cling to what we know is true as far as our faith goes, and to practice what we know is right according to our faith. The challenge is to know the faith and practice it with consistency and conviction. Otherwise, when we are challenged as to what we believe, when we don’t know what we believe, it will be very easy for our faith to be changed, even lost. We need to continually grow in our faith, so that when a storm of criticism and questionings are leveled against us, our faith is strong enough to withstand them. And when we have a strong faith, we need to have the courage of conviction to stand with a mind that is confident, not open for influence away from our faith.

There have been a few occasions in my life (and most of them happened in college) when influences around me caused me to question my faith. Thankfully, my faith is strong enough that it has survived each barrage against it. We have to know as people of faith that there will be times when our faith will come under attack, and we have to have the strength of faith and the courage to hold onto it in the face of opposition.

There is a difference between morality and righteousness. Righteousness is what is right and correct in the eyes of God. Morality is what is right is acceptable in the eyes of society. Morality changes. There are plenty of things that were immoral one hundred years ago or even twenty years ago that are perfectly acceptable today. And those who do not accept them are often criticized. Righteousness, what is right in the eyes of God, does not change. Faith should be tied to what is righteous, not what is moral. Because righteousness doesn’t change, faith shouldn’t either.

Lord, help me to be Your faithful servant. Help me to understand what is righteous in Your eyes. Help me to cling to righteousness, even when I am tempted or encouraged not to. Help me hold fast to my faith. Surround me with people who will encourage me to be faithful to You. Amen.

Hold fast to your faith and what is righteous in the eyes of God! (2 Timothy 1:13).

http://prayerteam365.com/
Join thousands of teens across the nation &

#ShareOrthodoxy!

2021 ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

EXPLORE a deeper knowledge of your Orthodox faith
THINK critically about current issues
SPEAK to a gentle and loving audience

Share Your

Junior Division for Grades 7-9
Senior Division for Grades 10-12

AWARDS - The Chrysostom Scholarship for Hellenic College
The 2021 finalists are eligible to receive a Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College. This scholarship provides awards ranging from $2,500 up to $30,000 per year.

Parish Festival Date March 6th, 2021
Parish Chairperson Fr. Theodosios Palis
Contact Information theodosiospalis@gmail.com

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a Ministry of the Department of Religious Education from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

Find the topics, rules, guidelines, and prize information at www.goarch.org/oratorical
Wisdom and Wonders of the Saints

**St. Porphyrios and the man from America**

One day a man from America visited St. Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia and told him that he had arrived at the conclusion that there is no God.

St. Porphyrios did not react, but only told him:

“-You recently bought a field in California. Now that you are going back home go to the left side of the field, where there is a faucet, dig to a depth of 1-1.5 meters and you will find Spanish gold coins and an amphora! Go, do what I told you and then come back and let’s talk on whether there is a God.”

The man from America did not believe the elder’s sayings, however, when he returned back home and went to his field, he thought of digging just out of curiosity. Indeed, he dug at that place and found the exact number of the coins, their chronology and the amphora just as the Saint had told him!

The man from America was shocked. Next summer he visited again Saint Porphyrios and told him what had happened. The elder listened to him carefully and at the end, he told him:

“My child, you do not know what exists in your own field. How can you know what exists in Heaven?”

**St. John Maximovitch on Christian Struggle**

God’s grace always assists those who struggle, but this does not mean that a struggler is always in the position of a victor. Sometimes in the arena the wild animals did not touch the righteous ones, but by no means were they all preserved untouched.

What is important is not victory or the position of a victor, but rather the labor of striving towards God and devotion to Him.

Though a man may be found in a weak state, that does not at all mean that he has been abandoned by God. On the cross, the Lord Jesus Christ was in trouble, as the world sees things. But when the sinful world considered Him to be completely destroyed, in fact He was victorious over death and hades. The Lord did not promise us positions as victors as a reward for righteousness, but told us, “In the world you will have tribulation — but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world” (Jn. 16:33).

The power of God is effective when a person asks for the help from God, acknowledging his own weakness and sinfulness. This is why humility and the striving towards God are the fundamental virtues of a Christian.

+ St. John Maximovitch
PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Pray for the recovery of those you know that have contracted the COVID virus. Protect yourself and others by masking and distancing with every activity.

2021 Philoptochos Stewardship is due:
Make checks payable to "Philoptochos" and mail to the Church.

“Friends of the Poor”
Our dedicated group of women, along with our members, will continue to work to fulfill the mission of Philoptochos, which is:

To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach, to preserve the sanctity of life and family, and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and tradition.

SERVICE & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Off The Streets process during the pandemic:
The previewers do not go into the homes they discuss by phone what items & furniture they need. On the day of the move, the family must wear masks and are informed that they need to find helpers to take furniture into their home. There are times those who have no one to call on, in that case IF the movers feel comfortable, the Recipients asked to vacate home or apartment so movers can go in and drop furniture in apartment. IF Movers don’t feel comfortable, we can’t leave furniture on the sidewalk, The family will have to wait for another time.

Currently Annunciation Moves are every 5 weeks, 2/27, 4/3, 5/8....
See church website to sign up for heavy lifting. OTS shields & masks will be provided.

We are thankful for all our volunteers, our leaders, to those who wave the flag at driveway entrance to welcome our neighbors and those who converse while giving boxes & future date notices. During our distribution on Christmas Eve many Coats were also handed out to those in dire need.

Dec- Jan- coat, blanket & winter clothing drive: The response was overwhelming as items poured in. Coats & blankets were distributed directly to the homeless in Lancaster city. Also items were taken to the woman’s shelter and Lancaster food/clothing hub. Thank you to all who donated!

Community Aid donations:
Thank you for your donations which help create jobs and support non profit organizations.....that being said, for the next three months, a percentage of our entire church community bin will be allocated to support “A Woman’s Concern.”

Our parish family, during their time of healing, express their gratitude for their meals & prayers. Thanks for signing up on our online “take them a meal”
The Preschool at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

“Talk more to God about your children, than to your children about God.”

In the Classroom

We will enjoy investigating themes of transportation, hospitality and dental health. We will create a special gift for our grandparents for St. Valentine’s Day!

Religious Focus: The children will attend the Divine Liturgy for:
The Presentation of Our Lord, Tuesday, February 2nd.
St. Haralambos on Wednesday, February 10th.

Gold Altar Coverings

The Gold/Red Altar Coverings were donated anonymously in memory of spouse and for the good health of the family.

Pieces of the Lenten purple and some Pentecost green coverings are still available for donation. You may call the church office if you are interested in donating any of these coverings in memory of a loved one.
ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ

Τρίτη, 2 Φεβρουαρίου Υπαπαντή του Κυρίου
8:30πμ... Ορθρός
9:30πμ....Θεία Λειτουργεία

Τετάρτη, 10 Φεβρουαρίου Αγίου Χαράλαμπου
8:30πμ... Ορθρός
9:30πμ....Θεία Λειτουργεία

ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ
7:00 μμ .....Σάββατο, 6, 13, 20 & 27 Φεβρουαρίου

ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΕΙΣ
7:00 μμ.....Τετάρτη, 3, 10, 17 & 24 Φεβρουαρίου

Βραδινός Κύκλος Μελέτης
6:00 μμ.....Τετάρτη, 3, 10, 17 & 24 Φεβρουαρίου

ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
Παρασκευή στης 9:00 πμ
5, 12, 19 & 26 Φεβρουαρίου

ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ
7:00 μμ ......Σάββατο, 6, 13, 20 & 27 Φεβρουαρίου

ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΕΙΣ
7:00 μμ.....Τετάρτη, 3, 10, 17 & 24 Φεβρουαρίου

Βραδινός Κύκλος Μελέτης
6:00 μμ.....Τετάρτη, 3, 10, 17 & 24 Φεβρουαρίου

ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΕΙΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
Παρασκευή στης 9:00 πμ
5, 12, 19 & 26 Φεβρουαρίου

ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΙΣΤΙΚΟ ΤΑ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΑ ΣΑΣ
ΑΡΧΙΖΕΙ ΤΟ ΤΡΙΟΔΙΟ: Κυριάκη, 21 Φεβρουαρίου
ΚΑΘΑΡΗ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ: 15 Μαρτίου

ΚΟΥΤΙΑ ΤΡΟΦΙΜΑ ΔΩΡΕΕΣ
ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟ
4 Φεβρουαρίου 2021
Δωρεά από τον Νίκο και την Φωτινή Φλουρά, στη mnήμη των γονέων, του Κώστα & Πλούμους Φλουρά και του Γιώργου & Ελένης Μπαχά, του αδελφού Ευάγγελου Φλουρά και της Θείας Ελένης Μούντη.

18 Φεβρουαρίου 2021
Δωρεά από την Τασία Αργήρη στη mnήμη του Γιαννάκη Μπαχά.

Νέο Πανκάρη για τον Νάρθηκα
Ένα νέο επί παραγγελία Πανκάρη εγκαταστάθηκε κάτω από το παράθυρο στην αριστερή πλευρά του Νάρθηκα με μια γενναιόδωρη ανώνυμη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παιδιά έδωσαν τη γενναιόδωρη δωρεά στη mnήμη του συζύγου και της καλής υγείας της οικογένειας. Μαζί με την τοποθέτηση και την καλή υγεία της, οι οικογενειακοί και τα παι...
Γιατί ο Άγιος Φώτιος ονομάστηκε Μέγας

Η Εκκλησία τιμά στις 06 Φεβρουαρίου τη μνήμη του Άγιου Φωτίου του Μεγάλου, Πατριάρχου Κωνσταντινουπόλεως. Ο Μέγας Φώτιος θεωρείται προστάτης της Ιεράς Συνόδου της Εκκλησίας της Ελλάδος και εορτάζεται με μεγαλοπρέπεια κάθε χρόνο.

Ο Μέγας Φώτιος υπήρξε μία από τις μεγαλύτερες και λαμπρότερες μορφές της εκκλησιαστικής και της παγκόσμιας ιστορίας. Γεννήθηκε το 820 από πλούσια οικογένεια, η οποία αγωνίσθηκε για την ευθεία και αντικειμενική κρίση και την ευφυΐα του, την πολυμερεία και πολυμάθεια του, την ευθεία και αντικειμενική κρίση και το ηθός του χαρακτήρα. Στην αρχή υπηρέτησε και διέπρεψε σε ανώτατα πολιτικά αξιώματα, όταν όμως ο Πατριάρχης Ιγνάτιος απομακρύνθηκε από το θρόνο του με βίαιο τρόπο, ο Φώτιος αποτέλεσε τη μόνη ελπίδα εξόδου της εκκλησίας από την κρίση.

Μέσα σε έξι ημέρες χειροτονήθηκε «αθρόων» διάκονος πρεσβύτερος και επίσκοπος και έθεσε το αξίωμά του και τη ζωή του, στην υπηρεσία της εκκλησίας. Αγωνίστηκε με πάθος κατά των ποικιλώνυμων εχθρών της Εκκλησίας και ιδίως κατά των καινοτομούντων παπικών, φθάνοντας ως και την καθαίρεσιν του πάπα Νικολάου. Ωστόσο, ο αυτοκράτορας Λέων του στέρησε τον πατριαρχικό θρόνο και ο άγιος θα τελείωσε την πολυτάραχη ζωή του, εξόριστος σε κάποιο μοναστήρι που το ονόμαζαν Αρμενίων.

Υπήρξε ένας εκ των μεγαλύτερων εκκλησιαστικών συγγραφέων, συγγράψας έργα δογματικά, αντιρρητικά, ερμηνευτικά, ηθικά, ασκητικά, καθώς και επιστολές, ύμνους. Για την όλη του παρουσία στην Εκκλησία εκλήθη «Μέγας».

Αποτμήματα του Ιερού Λειψάνου του Αγίου βρίσκονται στις Μονές Διονυσίου, Ξενοφώντος Αγίου Όρους και Κύκκου Κύπρου.

Ἀπολυτίκιον

"Ηχος πλ. α’. Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον. Τῆς σοφίας ἐκφάντωρ λαμπρὸς γενόμενος, Ὄρθωσε δὲ ἔδειξης θεοπαγῆς προμαχὸς, τῶν Πατέρων καλλινήν Φώτιε μέγιστο, οὐ γὰρ αἱρέσεων δεινῶν, στηλιτεύεις τὴν ὀρφύν, Ἐώσα τὸ θεῖον σέλας, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας λαμπρότης, ἦν διατηρεῖ Πάτερ ἀσειστόν.

"Ετέρον Ἀπολυτίκιον

Ὡς τῶν ἀποστόλων ὀμότροπος καὶ τῆς οἰκουμένης διδάσκαλος, τῷ Δεσπότῃ τῶν ὅλων ἰκέτευε, Φώτιε, εἰρήνην τῇ οἰκουμένῃ δωρίσασθαι, καὶ ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kidney Transplant Update and Thank You!

Several months ago, an appeal was made to our parishioners to help one of our beloved families in need of a life-saving kidney transplant. In order for the father to get on the kidney transplant list, the family had to come up with $30,000 — $15,000 for the surgery to be scheduled and $15,000 to assist the family with their living expenses during the post-operation recovery period.

Because of your generous response, the needed funds were raised to get the family onto the transplant list. After months of waiting and prayers, a kidney match was found and the transplant took place on January 26, 2021. We continue to pray for a full and speedy recovery.

The family expresses their deep gratitude to our Annunciation Church for your generous response and for spreading the Light of Christ during their darkest hour.

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ"  
(Galatians 6:2)
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COST: $2/Skates  Rink Rental covered by Church Youth Account!

Sign up by Feb. 8th to attend! Stay tuned for email! Contact Fr. Theodosios with any questions.

Private Rental