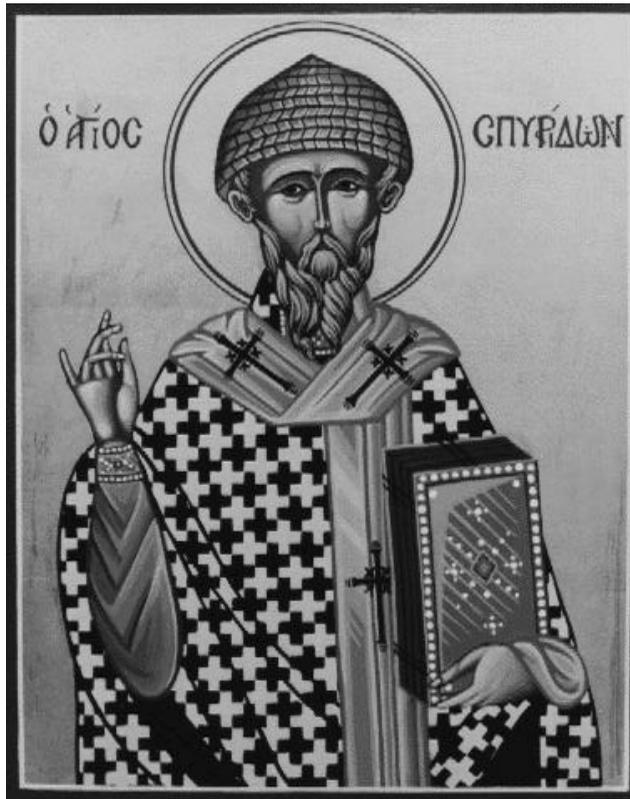

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
AUGUST 2005



Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
PO Box 427
Newport, RI 02840
tel: (401) 846-0555, fax: (401) 841-0960
www.stspyridonchurch.org



SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
www.stspyridonchurch.org

Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos
franthy@stspyridonchurch.org

Office Hours

Priest: Tuesday– Friday, 9 am– 3 pm

Church secretary, Ellen Anagnostos: Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am– 1 pm

Parish Council President: Steven Mellekas

Chanters: George Spiratos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

Choir Director: Paul Cotsoridis

Organist: Jane Iandolo

Religious Education : Marianne Menas

Stewardship: Zoe Adamedes

Philoptochos President: Zinovia Canale

Acolytes: Team A– Nick Mellekas

Team B– James Canale

GOYA President: James Canale

JOY Advisor: Sandy Giannopoulos

Greek School:

Loula Eliopoulos

Basile Panoutsopoulos (adult classes)

Bulletin: Aliko Cooper (alikooper@yahoo.com)

Affiliated Organizations

AHEPA President: Basile Panoutsopoulos

Daughters of Penelope President:

Stella Volpicelli

Island of Skiathos Organization:

Christina Rua

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Summer Hours Orthros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9 am

Wednesdays Vespers (or Small Paraklesis on
 last Wednesday of month) 7 pm*

Saturdays Great Vespers 6 pm*

Festal celebrations in the week:

Vespers– 7 pm*

Orthros– 9 am

Divine Liturgy– 10 am

* Note: Holy Confession is available each Saturday after vespers, after Wednesday or other evening services (when there are no adult classes), and during office hours by appointment.

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER ANTHONY

(The following article is reprinted from the August 2001 issue of the St. Spyridon Voice, with slight revisions.)

Each year we remember the Holy Theotokos in a very special way. For fourteen days each August, we keep a strict fast and attend the daily *Paraklesis*, or *Supplication* service in her honor. This special time of fasting and intensified prayer has a special purpose, which is our preparation for the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15th.

Many times people have wondered where Holy Scripture speaks about the feast of the Dormition, or even about some of the other feasts of the Theotokos, for that matter. The truth is that they *do not* – at least not the canonical books of the New Testament that we all know. As Orthodox Christians, we must remember that everything we do in our Church is validated through what we call *Holy Tradition*. Within Holy Tradition, we find various scriptures known as the *apocrypha* – writings which were not included in the official Bible of the Church, but none the less, had a bearing on the development of feasts of the *Panayia*, such as the Nativity of the Theotokos (September 8th), and the Entrance into the Temple (November 21st). The scriptural sources of the feasts of the *Panayia*, along with the defense of her title *Theotokos*, or *Mother of God*, at the Third Ecumenical Council of Ephesus, led to the development of liturgical services and hymns in her honor.

Besides the wealth of hymnography from the various feasts of the Theotokos, we also find special hymns in her honor at *every* Orthodox divine service, known as *theotokia*. The services of the Akathist Hymn and of the Small and Great Paraklesis are sheer poetry extolling and praising the virtues of the Mother of God, as well as the various *kontakia* written in her honor.

In addition to hymnography, there is a wealth of iconography which has focused on the subject of the Theotokos from almost the very beginning of the Church. Holy Tradition has taught us that St. Luke the Evangelist was the first to depict the Theotokos in an icon, while she was still alive. The famous Panayia of Tinos is said to be one of the icons written by his hand. Most icons of the Theotokos point us in the direction of Christ, which accentuates her role as His holy mother. Rarely is the Theotokos depicted alone in an icon. She is normally shown with her infant son Jesus, or with the adult Christ, such as in the icons of the Marriage in Cana, the Crucifixion, and the Burial. Orthodox Christians cannot fathom entering an Orthodox church without venerating one or more icons of the Theotokos. Her image is everywhere, especially in the apse of the church (the recessed semi-dome area behind most Orthodox altars), where she is depicted as the *Platytera*, which means “more spacious than the heavens.” This description is used by the Church to emphasize the fact that she held the eternal *Logos*, or *Word of God*, within her womb. She contained within her body, the *uncontainable* God.

Seeing how honored the Theotokos is in hymns and in icons, we can thus understand how important her role is within the Church. No human being is closer to Christ than His own mother. We Orthodox believe and accept that Christ is completely *human* and completely *divine*, in an unconfused state. Therefore, the Theotokos is both His earthly mother and the Mother of God. Because of the latter role, she is sanctified for all eternity. We must always be clear, however, that we do not *worship* the Theotokos, but simply *venerate* her, since worship is reserved for the Holy Trinity alone. Knowing that she continuously intercedes with Christ on our behalf, we see her as the gateway to Paradise. Salvation came into the world through her, so therefore, we pray to the Theotokos for her intercessions to Christ our God for our salvation.

Beloved in Christ, let us make it a point to come to as many *Paraklesis* services as possible, in order to supplicate our Holy Mother who hears the prayers of all her children. We all have various needs, both spiritual and physical, so why not bring them to the one who speeds to intercede with our God and Creator? Our holy Church offers so many opportunities for the sanctification of body and soul; let us take advantage of what the Church offers freely.

In the love of Christ and His Holy Mother,

+Fr. Anthony

FAST OF THE THEOTOKOS

The “Pascha of summer” is upon us. This holy season in honor of the holy Mother of God, is a time for spiritual renewal through prayer, strict fasting, charitable acts, frequent church attendance, and receipt of the holy mysteries of confession and holy communion.

The general guidelines of the Church for this fast season are identical to those of Great Lent. On weekdays we fast from all animal products, including fish, as well as wine (all alcoholic beverages) and olive oil (many substitute vegetable oil). On Saturdays and Sundays, we are permitted wine and olive oil. On the feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord on August 6th, we are permitted fish. Please remember that on all fast days, shellfish is always permitted.

Let us all take up our spiritual armor and prepare for this great feast of the Mother of God.

ST. SPYRIDON PARISH FAMILY PICNIC

In line with the 2005 Archdiocesan theme of the “Year of the Family,” the Mazzulli family has graciously offered to open their home to the entire parish family on **Sunday, August 21st**. Please refer to the enclosed flier for details of the event. We truly appreciate their hospitality and enthusiasm to make this a wonderful day of family fellowship for the entire parish. Please make it a point to attend! RSVP information is posted on the flier.

WITH GRATITUDE

Beloved parishioners, your many efforts surrounding the success of Hellenic Fest '05 are greatly appreciated! First of all, we would like to thank Arthur Stefanopoulos whose leadership role each year is *instrumental* in every aspect of the festival. In addition, we thank everyone involved with advertising, raffle ticket sales, the set-up and break-down, and of course, the kitchen staff, and the booth chairmen and their volunteers, who all together kept everything going during the festival. Let us not forget, of course, those wonderful chairpersons and volunteers who did much cooking, baking and preparation of foods and pastries prior to the event. In addition, many people do not realize the time and effort that Costas Gianetis and his staff from Coastal Electric, put into providing the electrical needs of the festival, for which we are very grateful. Also, a special *thank you* goes to Vangeli and Xanthoula Giannopoulos for their continued efforts with the *Newport Hellenic Dancers*, who are doing a wonderful job. May the Lord continue to bless our parish with every good thing. God bless all of you!

+Fr. Anthony

FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

“Even the Saints of God were at times seized with despair and despondency. What, therefore, can we sinners expect? O, the enemy often wounds us by the wrath, humiliation, and cruel despondency of the heart! We must continually turn to God and be every moment with Him, in order that we may not be besieged with the wrath and despondency of the enemy. There are other means, besides, of escaping from them – the broad way of the world; only, if you give yourself up to worldly pleasures, despondency will leave you for a time, at least while the pleasures last. But afterwards you will be captivated by these pleasures; they will become a necessity to you, and you will find comfort and joy in them, and in them alone; but may God preserve every Christian from finding his only way of escape from despondency of the devil through such means! It is better to walk in the narrow path, to patiently bear despondency, and to seek frequent help and deliverance from the Lord Jesus Christ, Who always rejoices over those laboring for their salvation for His sake, than to enter on the broad and smooth way of the world and purchase there, by means of the pleasure of the flesh, freedom from the spirit of despondency. By means of this spirit of despondency, the enemy has driven many from the narrow path of salvation onto the broad, smooth path which leads to destruction.” (St. John of Kronstadt)

“Christian life means to become like Christ; to have, as Saint Paul tells us, the same movements of the heart, the same thoughts, as the Son of the Father. If we remain conscious of this goal, if inwardly we go with all our being in this direction, our mind will not be lost in petty things. Envy, jealousy, frictions, and the minute problems of daily life will pass completely unnoticed.” (Archimandrite Sophrony, spiritual son of St. Silouan)

AUGUST 2005

Sunday Summer

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
	1 Fast of the Theotokos begins; Paraklesis 7 pm	2 No services	3 Paraklesis 7 pm	4 Parakle
<i>Fast of the Theotokos: strict fast—no animal products; wine &</i>				
7 7th Sun. of Matthew Altar Team A Paraklesis 7 pm	8 Paraklesis 7 pm	9 Paraklesis 7 pm	10 Paraklesis 7 pm	11 Parakle
<i>Fast of the Theotokos: strict fast—no animal products; wine & olive oil permi</i>				
14 8th Sun. of Matthew; Eve of the Dormition; Vespers at Church of the Assumption – PAWTUCKET, 7pm	15 Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, Orthros & Lit.	16	17 Small Vespers 7 pm	18
<i>Fast: Cont'd</i>			<i>(fast day)</i>	
21 9th Sun. of Matthew Altar Team A	22	23	24 Small Vespers 7 pm	25
			<i>(fast day)</i>	
28 10th Sun. of Matthew; Altar Team B Vespers for the Beheading of St. John the Forerunner, 7pm	29 Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Forerunner, Orthros & Lit. <i>(strict fast)</i>	30	31 Vespers for the Indiction (New Ecclesiastical Year), 7 pm <i>(fast day)</i>	

s Orthros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9 am

Fri

5
Vespers for the feast of
the Transfiguration of our
Lord, 7 pm

Sat

6 Feast of the
Transfiguration, Orthros
& Lit.; Great Vespers 6
pm
(fish permitted today)

permitted on Saturdays and Sundays

12
Paraklesis 7 pm

13
Great Vespers 6 pm

turdays and Sundays

19

20
Great Vespers 6 pm

(fast day)

26

27
Great Vespers 6 pm

(fast day)

Upcoming Events

August 8— Soup Kitchen at St.
Spyridon

Regular Events

Children’s Greek School— Mondays,
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4-6 pm
(on break for the summer)

Adult Greek School— Mondays, 5-6 pm
(on break for the summer)

Religious Education— Sundays,
immediately after Holy Communion
(on break for the summer)

Holy Confession— available after
Saturday Vespers or other evening
services and during office hours by
appointment

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The next Parish Council meeting will take place Thursday September 8, at 7:00 pm. The main focus at the July meeting was the Hellenic Fest. Upcoming items to be discussed are:

1. Building maintenance for basement rooms
2. Parish Council openings please get involved with the Council
3. Stewardship for 2005 and 2006

Please contact anyone on Parish Council for concerns.

Thank you,
Steven J. Mellekas, Parish Council President

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The Philoptochos was proud to present two scholarships this year to deserving seniors. The first scholarship in memory of Mary Janaros was received by Carissa Boredemos, presented to her by Joanne Cadenazzi. James Canale received the annual Philoptochos scholarship presented to him by the current president and his mother-Zinovia Canale. We wish both of these students all the best and know they will continue their efforts in both their academics and in their commitment to the church. Congratulations!

The Board will be meeting in August to create the annual Calendar. Of course we are always seeking new members and encourage all women to join. Questions can be directed to any Board member. Hope the summer has been relaxing. See you in the fall!

METROPOLIS CAMP NEWS

Check your calendars for Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2. We are going to the Metropolis Camp in the beautiful pine forests of New Hampshire! From hiking, canoeing, and campfire camaraderie to lakeside Bible studies and the Divine Liturgy in the beautiful, new, wooden camp chapel, there are many things to do at the camp in Contoocook, NH (about a 2.5 hour drive). Learn all about it by going to

<http://www.boston.goarch.org/youthoffice/bdc/>

We will plan on arriving there at midday on Saturday and leaving around midday on Sunday. There is no cost for either the accommodations or the meals however a free will offering is suggested. Non-Orthodox users of the camp pay \$35 a night and \$10 a day for meals.

Speak to Father Anthony, Marianne Menas or Michael Sisak if you have questions or would like to sign up to go.



ST. SPYRIDON PARISH FAMILY PICNIC
August 21, 2005

Food ? Games ? Wiffle Ball ? Face Painting ? Fun

Each Family is asked to bring a dessert or side dish to share with the group and beverages for your family.

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers with all the fixings , and paper goods will be provided

(if you have a favorite grill item other than the above, please bring it along)

Bring your lawn chairs and picnic blankets

Those wishing to stay for a barn fire and s'mores are welcome to.

Should the weather not cooperate, the picnic will be cancelled

5:00-9:00 pm Sunday August 21st

At the Mazzulli Family Home
1057 Wapping Road
Middletown, RI

**Please R.S.V.P. by 8/15/05 via email at
illuzzam@hotmail.com
Or 841.9340**

IN OUR PARISH

Baptism: *Lucy Marie Sjosten*, daughter of Brad Sjosten & April Sardinha, was baptized on 7/24 and given the name, *Eleni*. Her sponsor is her uncle, Eric Sardinha. May she live many years!

Death: *George Carpetis* fell asleep in the Lord on 7/14, and was buried on 7/16. He is survived by his sister-in-law, Thelma Carpetis of Cranston, plus many nieces and nephews. May his memory be eternal!

Wedding: *Arthur Mandros*, son of parishioners Anton & Paraskevi Mandros, was married to *Maria Sheila Capuno* on 7/3. Their sponsor is Angela Farias. We wish them many years together!

FILM FESTIVAL NEWS

Six films were screened at this year's Saint Spyridon Orthodox Christian Film Festival on Saturday, 9 July, in the church hall. In the Junior Division, the Saint John of Damascus Award went to **Michaela Connally** for her film entitled "Icons and My Home". Being a military family, and therefore a family that must move often, the Connallys have icons from the many churches that they have called home over the years, and Michaela related personal, family stories about each of the icons. **Nikoletta, Andreas, Dimitri, and Sophia Evangelatos** took the Saint Kassiane Award for their film entitled "Our Lady of Chicago" in which they researched the miraculous weeping icon of the Theotokos and Christ Child in the St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church in Chicago. The Saint Marcian Award went to **James Canale** who added to his technical repertoire by making his Ionian Village power point presentation into a motion picture with added music and narration.

Alexander, Michael, Ellen, and Peter Antonopoulos won the Saint Luke the Evangelist Award in the Senior Division, as well as the Saint Constantine the Great Award for Best New Entrant, for their film "Prosporon: The Communion Bread" wherein they showed highlights of the baking process as well as the complete church service involved in cutting the Prosporon. **Marianne Menas** took home the Saint Theodora the Empress Award as well as the Saint Symeon the Translator Award for Best Theological Research for her film, "Saint Menas", wherein she researched her family Saint. And the Saint Andrei Rublev Award went to **Kerri Michael** for her film entitled "Our Father" in which she told the story of how her great grandfather founded a church on the island of Skiathos, Greece. Much beautiful footage of Skiathos was included in Kerri's film.

The remnants of tropical storm Cindy cleared out of Newport early on the day of the festival and the sail was blessed with blue skies, puffy white clouds, and abundant winds.

Special thanks go out to this year's judges, **Andrew Kalford**, from the Holy Resurrection Bulgarian Orthodox Church in Boston and **John Psikakos** from the **Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Cranston**. **Thanks also go out to Zina Bashlayeva, Ellen Antonopoulos, Annie Connally, Marianne Menas, and Presbytera Themmi Evangelatos for assistance with the festival.**

<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <i>Gredo Vincent Volpicelli</i></p>	<p>Order of AHEPA Maud Howe Elliott Chapter No. 245 Daughters of Penelope Ares Chapter Number 49</p>	<p>Mel's Cafenio 25 Broadway Newport 849-6420</p>
<p><i>With compliments of...</i> Dr. Joanne and Mr. C. Gus Hologgitas</p>	<p>Aquidneck Pizza Breakfast ? Lunch ? Dinner 27 Aquidneck Avenue Middletown Take out orders: 849-3356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri & Sat 7am-2am</p>	<p><i>✍</i> Tommy's <i>✍</i> Deluxe Diner 159 East Main Road Middletown 847-9834 Established in 1936</p>
<p>Nikolas Pizza 38 Memorial Blvd West Newport 849-6611</p>	<p>Astro Construction Inc. PO Box 522 Portsmouth, RI (401) 683-9120 Established 1954</p>	<p>CODDINGTON BREWING COMPANY 210 Coddington Highway Middletown 847-6690</p>
<p>Compliments of the ATLANTIC BEACH CLUB 53 Purgatory Road Middletown 847-2750</p>	<p>A-1 Pizza 306 Broadway Newport Free Delivery 849-2213</p>	<p>Rhea's Bed & Breakfast <i>Accommodations with jacuzzi's available!</i> 120 West Main Road Middletown 841-5560</p>
<p><i>Compliments of</i> Island of Skiathos Organization Established 1967</p>	<p>Flo's Drive-In <i>Portsmouth</i> Flo's Clam Shack <i>Over Flo's</i> <i>Middletown</i> <i>Voted Best in Rhode Island!</i></p>	<p>The Mainstay Inn 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road Newport 849-9880</p>
<p>ELLAS Greek and American music We play all types of functions. Call Andy. (978) 532-0771</p>	<p><i>Compliments of</i> A Friend</p>	<p>Sandwich Board Deli 397 Thames St. Newport, RI 849-5358</p>



Saint Spyridon
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