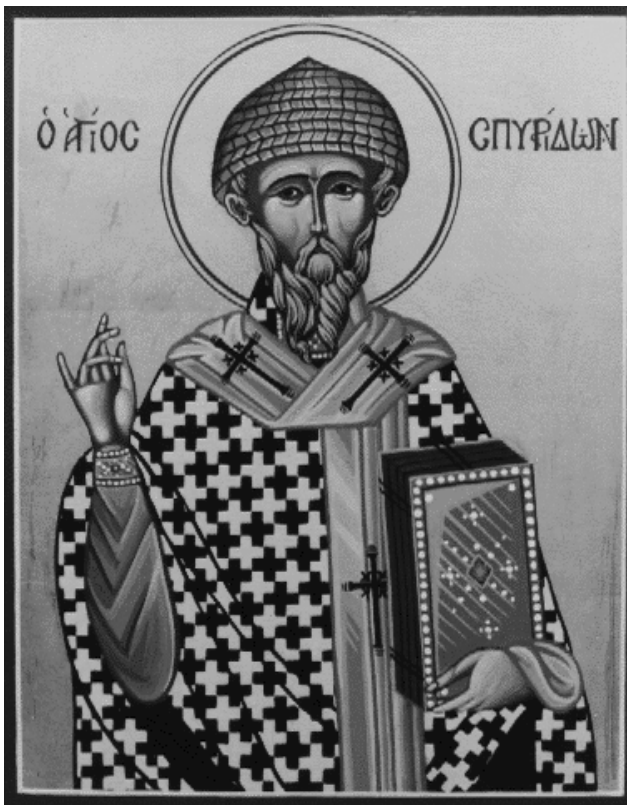

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
JUNE 2006



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
franthony@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: Nick Mellekas, James Mellekas

GOYA President: Nick Mellekas

DY Advisor: Sandy Giannopoulos

Greek School:

Loula Eliopoulos

Basile Panoutsopoulos (adult classes)

Bulletin: Alike Cooper

(alikecooper@yahoo.com)

Affiliated Organizations

AHEPA President: Basile

Panoutsopoulos

Daughters of Penelope President:

Ellen Anagnostos

Island of Skiatos Organization:

Christina Rua

Sunday Summer Hours

Orthros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9am

Wednesdays Vespers (or Small Paraklesis on Festal celebrations in the week:
 last Wednesday of month) 7 Vespers—7 pm*
 pm* Orthros—9 am

Saturdays Great Vespers 6 pm* 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

Beloved in Christ, the feast of Holy Pentecost is almost upon us, which will be celebrated this year on Sunday, June 11th. As we celebrate this great feast, it is a good time to remember the important role of the Holy Spirit in the Church, and in our own lives as well.

The Holy Spirit is the breath of life for the Church. There could be no Church without the Holy Spirit, which is precisely why God sent the Spirit on the original day of Pentecost. This indwelling of the Holy Spirit is what energizes the holy mysteries of the Church, and what brings grace to everything we do. This grace resides as well, with the various liturgical appointments, most especially with the holy icons.

When we gather as the united Body of Christ in worship, the Holy Spirit is with us, sanctifying us through the divine services of the Church. We are touched by the Spirit in a very profound manner, when we participate in the holy mysteries. Some of these mysteries transform us in a very real way, such as the mystery of marriage, which unites two people as one flesh, in the name of Christ. In holy baptism, the baptized individual dies and rises again in Christ through the baptismal waters, thus being completely reborn, spiritually.

Since we are members of the Body of Christ, we must remind ourselves that we also have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. After a baptism, the newly baptized is chrismated, being anointed with consecrated oil containing the power and energy of the Holy Spirit. From this point, he/she become a living temple of the Spirit. Knowing this, an Orthodox Christian should always seek to respect and nurture the body, and never abuse it.

I'm sure that we all can comprehend the idea of church buildings being temples of the Holy Spirit. How many of us, however, comprehend the fact that we too, are living temples? It truly is an awesome thought to envision God dwelling within us. From childhood, we have been programmed, so to speak, to look upward toward heaven when we contemplate God. There is logic to this approach, since we know that the Lord ascended upward into the heavens, when he physically left the earth after His resurrection. As the Creator of the heavens and everything that we see in space, the Lord is naturally sought by looking upwards.

Now, if we meditate a bit on the Church's understanding of the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit, we would realize that seeking God within ourselves, is equally as awesome and majestic as staring into space. Although we don't go through life each day thinking of ourselves as temples of the Holy Spirit, it *is* our reality. What a sublime view of the human being! How comforting to know, that at our lowest moments when we think that we are alone and hurting, God is right there with us.

Since we know that the Holy Spirit dwells in the Church, and in each one of us as members of the Church, it would behoove us to remember the importance of *prayer* in our lives, so that we may discern the will of God for us. In order to be open to the Spirit, and to benefit from Its multiple gifts, we must be *praying* people, for this is our only way of communicating with God straight from the soul.

When all the members of the Body of Christ pray together, and for one another, then we truly see the power of the Holy Spirit at work. An important concept to remember in the Orthodox tradition, is that we cannot be Christians on our own. As members of the Body of Christ, we need each other. St. Paul spoke about this in his letter to the Roman (12:4): *"For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."*

Beloved in Christ, let us therefore open ourselves to the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, both for ourselves individually, as well as for the entire Body of Christ – both here locally, and everywhere on earth. As we all kneel on the holy day of Pentecost, awaiting to be renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us humbly ask for Divine guidance and strength, to become prayerful and exemplary Orthodox Christians, seeking our own salvation and the salvation of everyone around us.

In Christ's love,

+ Fr. Anthony

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON LAITY AWARD

Our Parish Council has elected **Toula Mellekas** as the recipient of this year's Metropolis of Boston Laity Award. We congratulate Toula for her many years of dedicated service to our beloved parish, and look forward to celebrating with her at the annual Laity Awards Banquet. The banquet will be held on **Sunday, 6/11**, at Lombardo's in Randolph, MA. Tickets are \$75 per person, with the proceeds going toward the philanthropic ministries of our Metropolis. For more information, and to make your reservation, please contact Ellen Anagnostos at the church office as soon as possible.

LETTER FROM VISITOR

It's good for us to hear what visitors to our church have to say, so therefore, we would like to share the following short note from a recent visitor.

“Dear Father: I visited your church last week, but didn't want to interrupt your time with your congregation after the service to introduce myself, so I'm sending this note to speak for me. I was very impressed with the service. As a long time Evangelical, it was good to be in the House of the Lord. Though, for the most part, the words escaped me, the Spirit of the worship did not. Your members did explain some of what I was seeing, and for that, as well as the warmth with which I was greeted, I pass to them my heartfelt thanks.” (signature illegible)

SOUP KITCHEN

Thanks again to everyone who contributed to the May Soup Kitchen. Our guests were treated to a chicken dinner which they all enjoyed. Thanks to Esther Laskaris, Sofi Cofield, Rose Apostol, The Spiratos, & Connally families for their contributions! Next month we will host the soup kitchen on Monday June 12. Preparations on Sunday June 11. As always we welcome and appreciate your help and donations. Contact Presv. Themmi if you'd like to volunteer!

FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

The following is a short Christian moral teaching by St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

“Christians, remember what God is, and that He looks not only on your works, but also on your very thoughts and intentions, and that you are not able to hide anywhere or anything from Him.

Remember, that he preserves your life, health, and strength, and that whatever good you have in life, He has bestowed it all on you. And so thank Him with all your heart, revere Him, obey Him in all things, and call on Him for help in your every endeavor.

Remember, that the Heavenly Father sent our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the world. Believe in Him, and submit to His Divine teaching which is revealed to you in the Gospel, and portrayed here in brief, so that you may fulfill the vows that you made to God at Baptism, and inherit eternal life, and not be called a Christian in vain.

On Sundays and feast days come to church, and falling down with reverence before God, be mindful of all the mercies you may every have received from Him. Thank Him for them with all your heart, and as a sign of your thankfulness, promise to live as He has commanded you. This is a sacrifice most pleasing to God.

Honor your spiritual pastors, your father and mother, and all the elders and virtuous people, and obey their useful counsels. Try to be virtuous not only in your person, but counsel your wife and children in every good and God-pleasing deed. Avoid not only doing what is bad before them, but even saying it, lest you accustom them to evil. Thus God’s blessings shall rest on your house.

Always remember that you were born into this world so that you may do good to all insofar as possible on every occasion.

Love not only those close to you and your benefactors, but even your enemies, so that you might thereby pacify them, correct them, and make them good people. And so do not fight with anyone, and do not curse; and though someone may have offended you, try to endure it as far as possible, and at the appropriate time do him good.

Do not steal anything from anyone, and take nothing, and be content with what you earn by your own labors. Be diligent and avoid idleness. For as diligence is pleasing to God, so idleness on the contrary, as a source of every evil, is a sin very offensive to God.

Never lie, but always tell the truth. For all falsehood and deceit is the most harmful of all vices, and the customary work only of the devil.

Do not become drunk, for God turns all the more away from a drunkard, since a drunkard is more quickly able to do every bad deed than a sober man.

When you observe all these things, then God Who is compassionate will be merciful to you not only in this life, but He shall glorify you in the next with the glory with which the Saints are glorified.”

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP: HE GAVE THE MAXIMUM

In an eastern city a few years ago there was a campaign for the erection of a hospital. A high-powered financial wizard was called to conduct it. He concluded his pep talk to the solicitors who were going out to raise the money with these wise words: "Never suggest to anyone a minimum contribution, for the minimum has a funny way of turning into the maximum."

There are many people who live by the minimum. They measure out their minds and hearts to others with a medicine dropper. Their manner seems to say, "I guess it will be enough to give you just one drop." To another person they say, "You are a bit more important; I will give you two drops." Life is lived by the minimum.

In Jesus we find the exact opposite. He lived by the maximum. His love for us led Him to give His life for us. He did not measure out with a medicine dropper the drops of blood He shed for us on the Cross. He gave Himself willingly and totally that we may have life, the life of God.

Jesus sat in the temple one day and watched the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. Along came a widow who placed two copper pennies in the box. Jesus could have returned the pennies to her and said, "Here, you need these pennies more than the temple does. Go back and feed your children." Instead He paid her a great compliment, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty, put in all the living that she had" (Luke 21:1-4). She gave the maximum.

No one should tell another how much to give to God—no one, that is, but the Lord Jesus Christ and our commitment to Him.

"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's," said Jesus. Uncle Sam sees to it that we give Caesar what is Caesar's, but there is no one to enforce our giving to God—and there should not be. For it is a free gift of love expressing our commitment. And it's not just money we're talking about; it's our time, our talents, our service to people and to God. A check mailed to the church every so often is meaningless if it is not accompanied by our presence, by our willingness to serve in the name of Christ, by our prayers, by our commitment. Giving is not a substitute for our commitment but an expression of it.

"Do you love me?" said Jesus to Peter. "Feed my sheep." How are the sheep of Christ fed? Through His Church. Our stewardship pledges help feed His sheep.

JUNE 2006

Sunday Summer Hours

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu

1
Ascen.
(no ser

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------------|---|
| 4 Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1st Council; SUMMER HOURS BEGIN; (visiting priest) | 5 | 6 | 7 <i>(fast day)</i> | 8 |
|---|---|---|------------------------|---|

Fr. Anthony on mission trip

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----|----|----|
| 11 Holy Pentecost | 12 Feast of the Holy Spirit, Orthros & Lit. | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|-------------------|---|----|----|----|

(no fasting during week of Pentecost—all foods permitted)

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|----|----|----|
| 18 Sunday of All Saints (visiting priest) | 19 Apostles Fast begins | 20 | 21 | 22 |
|---|-------------------------|----|----|----|

(fish, wine & olive oil permitted daily)

Fr. Anthony on vacation

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| 25 2nd Sun. of Matthew (visiting priest) | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
|--|----|----|----|----|

(fish, wine & olive oil permitted daily, except Wed. & Fri.)

Fr. Anthony on vacation

ros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9am

Fri

Sat

2

3

Our Lord

(fast day)

Fr. Anthony on mission trip

9

10

Sat. of Souls, Orthros
& Lit;
Great Vespers 6 pm

(fast day)

16

17

Fr. Anthony on vacation

23

24

(Wed. & Fri.)

30

Upcoming Events

June 6—Hellenic Fest meeting, 6pm

June 11—Laity Awards Banquet—
Randolph, MA (see bulletin entry)

June 12—Soup Kitchen, 5 pm

June 13—Parish Council, 7pm

June 13—Daughters of Penelope
Meeting, 7 pm

Regular Events

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

Children's Greek School—Mondays,
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4-6 pm
and Thursdays, 4-5 pm

Adult Greek School—Mondays, 5-6
pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Hello Families,

We have ended our Religious Education year for 2005-2006. We had one graduating senior, Nick Melikas, whom we wish all the best!

Also, we had 21 perfect attendance awards go out to children who did not miss coming to church more than 3 times. They are:

Jack Connally
Eleni Cooper
Myrsine McKeon
Andrew Wingert
Christos Soares
Anthony Cottrell
Panagiotis Panoutsopoulos,
William McKeon
Costa McKeon
Sophia Evangelatos
Michael Antonopoulos
Michaela Connally
Eleni Giannopoulos
Parthenia Giannopoulos
Nikolletta Evangelatos
Andreas Evangelatos
Dimi tri Evangelatos
Theodore Panoutsopoulos
Asi Melikas
Christopher Canale
Alexander Antonopoulos

We are always looking for more help, as in **teachers**, for next year! Please contact me for more information.

Marianne

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The next parish council meeting will take place Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 6 p.m.. The Hellenic Fest meeting will be held on June 6, 2006 at 6 in the evening. We welcome all to come to the Hellenic Fest meeting to help in the preparation of the Hellenic Festival of 2006.

Topics discussed at last meeting:

1. Maintenance and Stewardship
2. The Council's main focus for the next month will be contributing efforts to the Hellenic Festival of 2006. In order to have a successful Hellenic Festival of 2006 a strong community effort of all members of St. Spyridon's Parish is needed

To forward concerns to members of the Parish Council for discussion at the next meeting, please follow the protocol below:

- a. Please contact the President of the Parish Council or the Secretary (Penny Hiotis)
 - b. Item or items to be discussed need to be put on an agenda
- Following this procedure will help ensure that all items will be presented in an organized and timely schedule.

Thank you,
Steven J. Mellekas
Parish Council President

RETIREES PRESENTATIONS & LUNCHEONS

Our last presentation and luncheon for the season was held on 5/18. We would like to sincerely thank Ted Karousos of the *Sea Fare Americana*, for a wonderful lunch. We will be taking a break for the summer months, and will begin again in the fall. Please spread the word to your friends and families, to join us for these pleasant and informative gatherings.

HELLENIC FEST MEETING

A Hellenic Festival meeting will be held Tuesday, June 6th at 6 pm. Chairmen and volunteers are needed. The festival is very important to the benefit of St. Spyridon Church and needs all of our help and support. If you are unable to attend this meeting but wish to participate, please contact Steve Melikas.

HELLENIC FEST ITEM SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED

Please consider sponsoring these items for the Hellenic Fest. Simply mail your check to the church office, designating the item(s) you'd like to sponsor. We will take it from the re. Any questions contact the church office 846-0555 or Presv. Themmi at 683-0908. Thanks!

Items to be Sponsored

Pork Souvlaki 28 cases @ \$70 ea.

Chicken 28 cases @ \$70 ea.

Tyropita 25 cases @ \$10 ea.

Pastitsio 46 pan @ \$20 ea.

Mousaka 10 pan @ \$20 ea.

Spanakopita 10 cases \$40 ea.

Gyros 70 cases @ \$25 ea

Meatballs 20 Boxes @ \$25 ea

Feta Cheese 4 cases @ \$60 ea

Tzatziki 15 Cases @ \$20 ea

Pita Bread 25 Cases @ \$20 ea

Produce (misc) 25 Units @ \$50 ea

Salad Dressing 5 Cases @ \$25 ea

Rice \$100

Chicken Broth \$100

Paper Supplies 60 Units @ \$10 ea

Pastries 75 trays @ \$10 ea

Dolmades 9 cases @ \$30 ea

Baking & Loukoumades ingredients 60 units @ \$50 ea

You may use the following form when mailing in your festival donation for this purpose.

Name: _____

Item (s) Sponsored: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

IN OUR PARISH

Baptisms: On 5/7, we celebrated the baptisms of the triplets of Jim & Rachel (Holder) George. Charleigh Rae was given the name *Panayiota*, and was sponsored by John & Susan Sarris. Kennedy Rae was given the name *Eleni*, and was sponsored by Maria Holder, and Tom & Estelle Antonio. Fischer Gregory was given the name *Gregorios*, and was sponsored by Charles Holder, Jr. and Barbara Parkos. May they all live many years!

Graduations:

Nicholas Mellekas graduates this year from Rogers High School and will be attending the University of New Hampshire next year. We wish him the best in his future studies!

Ashley Dorothea Cottrell graduated from Salve Regina University on 5/21 with a Master of Science Degree in Administration of Justice. We wish her all the best!

WEB LINKS OF INTEREST

The following web sites may be of interest to parishioners:

Information on occasions such as the 12 Great Feasts of the Church and also various other topics pertaining to our Orthodox faith.

<http://www.goarch.org/en/special/>

<http://www.goarch.org/en/ourfaith/>

Orthodox response to the da Vinci code and Gospel of Judas:

<http://www.goarch.org/en/special/DaVinci/>

http://www.goarch.org/en/special/gospel_of_judas/

National Orthodox Radio Program (archived programs may be heard online):

<http://www.receive.org>

Registration deadlines for the Ionian Village travel abroad program for this summer have been extended to be due May 25, 2006 for Summer Travel Camp (Grades 7-9) and June 13, 2006 for Byzantine Venture (Grades 10-12). For more information, or for registration materials, please visit the web site below or call the Ionian Village office at 646 5196190.

<http://www.ionianvillage.org>

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Congratulations to Angela Volpicelli, Maria Botelho and Janne Hologgitas for being elected to the District 7 Lodge at the District Convention in Danbury CT. We are very proud to have three members of our chapter on the District Lodge.

The next meeting of the chapter will be held on June 13th at 7 p.m. at the Ahepa Housing. The chapter has voted to forego a June banquet in favor of a dinner dance in the fall in honor of our 70th anniversary. All members are asked to come to the meeting and help to formulate plans for this exciting event.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p><i>In loving memory of</i> Gredo Vincent Volpicelli</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: 8493356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri & Sat 7am-2am</p> | <p>Entinia <i>The Wedding and Baptism Store</i> Elegant Accessories 705 Washington Street Norwood, MA (781) 702-6034 entinia.com</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</i> <i>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>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>PEQUOT PROPERTIES Dino Dart—Realtor 711 Broad Street Ext. Waterford, CT 06385 Office: (860) 447-0345 Fax: (860) 444-6306 DinoD6969@aol.com</p> |



Saint Spyridon
Greek Orthodox Church
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