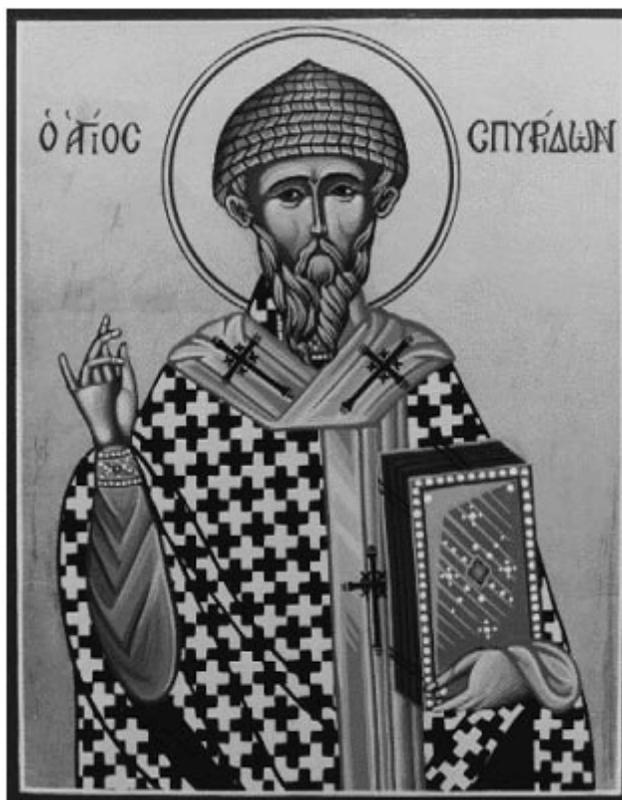

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
DECEMBER 2007



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:

Tom Nichols

Chanters: George Spiratos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

Choir Director: Paul Cotsoridis**Organist:** Jane Iandolo**Religious Education :** Marianne Menas**Stewardship:** Zoe Adamedes**Philoptochos President:** Elaine Brown**Acolytes:** James Mellekas**GOYA President:** James Mellekas**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:**

Ellen Anagnostos

Island of Skiathos Organization:

Christina Logothets

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Winter Hours Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

Wednesdays Vespers (or Small Paraklesis on last Wednesday of month) 7 pm* Weekday Festal Celebrations: Vespers—7 pm*

Orthros—9 am

Divine Liturgy—10 am

Saturdays Great Vespers 6 pm*

* 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

With the feast of the Nativity of Christ just a few weeks away, let us all begin looking inward in order to assess our spiritual readiness for the indescribable miracle of God becoming man. With the various distractions that surround us at this time of year, we can easily lose the proper focus that we should have. Obviously, however, we cannot ignore everything that is happening around us. The truly Orthodox approach to dealing with the world is not to *hide* from it, but to learn to be spiritually *disciplined* so that we can live and function in the world, without embracing its secularism and its false idols. The time of Advent (i.e. the Nativity fast) is a most appropriate time for working on spiritual discipline. It is a period of preparation and expectation, during which we should be focusing on the upcoming feast of the birth of our Lord in the flesh. The feast of the Nativity is replete with numerous spiritual virtues toward which we could aspire, if we are spiritually prepared to accept these God-given gifts.

Exactly what are these virtues that are fruits of the celebration of the Nativity of Christ? One important virtue for an Orthodox Christian which is found in this feast, is that of *obedience*. Joseph and Mary continually exemplify this virtue, starting with the acceptance by Mary of the good news of the Archangel Gabriel at the Annunciation, the obedience of Joseph as a result of the angelic dream guiding him toward God's will, the couple's obedience to the Roman authorities by participating in the census under great hardship, and also through their voluntary exile from their homeland due to the angelic warning of impending danger.

Another obvious virtue encountered in the feast is *humility*. Joseph, a humble carpenter is betrothed to a young virgin who has nothing, having been reared in the Temple of God. Unlike the wealthy, they travel to Bethlehem in total simplicity, not by riding in a caravan attended by multiple servants. Upon finding the inn full, they humbly accept to give birth in a cave and then lodge with animals in a manger. The King of Glory does not lie in a proper crib within the walls of an earthly palace, but instead, the *God-man* is wrapped in swaddling clothes and sleeps in the company of animals, which, ironically, He created eons before through His spoken word.

A third virtue we encounter in the feast of the Nativity is *chastity*. It is important to remember that the Orthodox Church clearly teaches the ever-virginity of the Theotokos. In the Church's veneration of Mary, we remember that she was a virgin before her betrothal to Joseph, and at the time she was impregnated by the Holy Spirit, and that she remained a virgin *during* and *after* childbirth. In addition, this teaching of the Church obviously demonstrates the voluntary chastity of Joseph, which he offered as an act of spiritual sacrifice, thus honoring the unique role of the Theotokos in salvation history.

It is important to note here, that the upholding of the virginity of the Mother of God and the chastity of Joseph during their marriage, is not because God frowns upon human sexuality. On the contrary, God blesses the union of man and woman, clearly demonstrated through Christ's presence at the wedding in Cana, where He chose to perform His first public miracle. In the case of the Theotokos, she is clearly seen as a consecrated vessel, espoused by the Holy Spirit Itself, chosen by God to serve a particular role in history. It is only logical that she remain untouched, since she is a holy temple which contained the uncontainable God while in her womb.

The final and greatest virtue found in the Nativity of Christ that I would like to illustrate, is *love*. It is because of their profound love for God that Mary and Joseph willingly accept the miracle of the conception of Christ, and all the hardships that follow. Their love and respect for each other, keep them united as obedient servants of God on a divine mission. However, the true source of love is God Himself, who gave His Son to the world because of His great love for us. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16)."*

Now, regarding our self-assessment during Advent, let us ask ourselves the following: *Am I obedient to Christ and His holy Church, which exists for my salvation? Do I consistently embrace humility in my life, turning to God to help my ego die away?* For those of us who are single, we should also ask ourselves: *Do I attempt to maintain a chaste lifestyle, while awaiting a blessed union with a spouse, if this is God's will, or even if it's not?* And the final question for all of us: *Do I love God with all my heart, soul, and mind, and my neighbor as myself?*

Beloved in Christ, remember that God accepts and loves us with all our shortcomings and faults. The period of Advent is a time to be introspective in order to come to terms with our true selves and our relationship with God. This month, as we become involved with decorating trees, hanging lights, and other such Christmas-related activities, may we remember our need for spiritual preparation, with the goal of receiving the newborn Christ with a clean heart and soul. There is no greater gift given by God than that of His Son becoming one of us, in order to save us from death and corruption. Let us be worthy of this greatest of all gifts!

In the love of the Incarnate Lord,

+Fr. Anthony

VISIT OF MET. METHODIOS & PARISH FEASTDAY

This year, the celebration of the feast of St. Spyridon will be as follows:

- **Sunday, 12/9** – annual pastoral visit of Metropolitan Methodios, which will include a luncheon to honor His Eminence and to celebrate our patronal feast
- **Tuesday, 12/11**, 7 pm – Great Vespers & artoklasia for St. Spyridon with visiting clergy, to be followed by Philoptochos-sponsored Lenten reception
- **Wednesday, 12/12**, Feast of St. Spyridon – Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am, to be followed by Retirees Luncheon & Presentation

Please make it a point to be in church on Sunday 12/9, on time, in order to receive the blessings of our father and hierarch, Metropolitan Methodios. Also, plan on attending the vespers of St. Spyridon in order to welcome our guests and to celebrate the memory of our beloved patron saint!

NATIVITY FAST GUIDELINES

We continue our observance of the Nativity Fast with the following traditional guidelines, as explained in last month's bulletin:

Up to 12/12: no animal products permitted, including eggs & dairy; fish, wine & olive oil permitted daily, except for Wed. & Fri. (there is a tradition to consume fish, wine & olive oil on a parish's feastday, regardless of the day of the week, which for us is Wed. 12/12)

12/13-12/24: strict Lenten fast on weekdays (no animal products, fish, or alcohol permitted); wine & olive oil permitted on Sat. & Sun. (some only follow this stricter fast for one week prior to the Nativity)

Note: shellfish is permitted daily throughout the entire fast

Remember, these are guidelines for following an *ideal* fast as prescribed by the Church. Any attempt, small or large, to follow these guidelines will be spiritually beneficial to us, but *only* if our fasting is accompanied by *increased prayer, frequent church attendance, and charitable works*. We remind everyone again, that fasting is always reduced accordingly for expectant mothers, growing children, and in the case of illness or compromised health.

HOLY CONFESSION SCHEDULE

It is a pious tradition to participate in the Holy Mystery of Confession during the four major fast periods of the year, as well as anytime there is a particular need to do so. As always, Fr. Anthony is available to hear confessions after Saturday evening vespers, or by appointment during office hours. Confessions cannot presently be heard after Wednesday evening vespers, due to adult religious education. Please come and cleanse the “spiritual manger” within you for the coming of Christ, through this very necessary holy mystery. We must also remember that we are not truly prepared to receive Holy Communion on the feast of the Nativity or at any other time, if we never come to confess our sins through the Church

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Friday 12/21 – the Mystery of Holy Unction, 5:00 pm (an opportunity for spiritual and physical healing in preparation for the birth of our Lord)

Monday 12/24 – the Eve of the Nativity

Great Hours, 10:00 am (a vigil for the feast of the Nativity)

Vesperal Vigil Liturgy, 5:00 pm (the continuation of the vigil of the feast)

Tuesday 12/25 – the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh

Orthros, 8:45 am, Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am, followed by traditional carols by our choir

Please note that, as stated above, **the liturgy of Christmas Eve is only a vigil of preparation, and *not* the actual celebration of the birth of Christ.** To truly celebrate the Nativity of Christ, **one must be present for the services of 12/25.** Let us all put our spiritual priorities first, and *then* go home for the secondary celebrations of gift exchanging and our other family traditions. May you all have a most blessed celebration of the Nativity of our Lord!

+Fr. Anthony

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

OUR CHURCH COST TOO MUCH

A certain Christian once said to a friend, "Our church costs too much. They are always asking for money."

"Some time ago a little boy was born in our home," replied her friend. "He cost me a lot of money from the very beginning: he had a big appetite, he needed clothes, medicine, toys, and even a puppy. Then he went to school, and that cost a lot more; later he went to college, then he began dating, and that cost a small fortune! But in his senior year at college he died, and since the funeral he hasn't cost me a penny. Now which situation do you think I would rather have?"

After a significant pause she continued, "As long as this Church lives it will cost. When it dies for want of support, it won't cost anything. A living Church has the most vital message for all the world today, therefore I am going to give and pray with everything I have to keep the Church alive."

Especially during this Nativity season, remember that Christianity began with giving. God gave. He gave His only Son. The Son gave His life on the cross for our sins. His disciples gave—they left their homes and businesses to give their full time to spreading the Good News. Most of the twelve died a martyr's death. Down through the centuries the work of Christ has flourished only as Christians have learned to give.

Friends, we are nearing the end of the 2007 fiscal year and are approximately 60% of the way to our stewardship goal for 2007. We still need to hear from those stewards who faithfully give to the church in December. Don't forget to remember the needs of your church!!

Receipts have been sent in recognition of all stewardship gifts received to date. If you have NOT received a receipt, or find your receipt in error, please contact me as soon as possible.

Zoe Adamedes
274-1316
zadamedes@yahoo.com

FROM THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

(The following is the continuation from last month, of a homily offered on the day of the glorification of the Holy Hierarch John Maximovitch of Shanghai and San Francisco, on 7/2/94. St. John was an archbishop of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, who fell asleep in the Lord in 1966. He was an extremely pious and prayerful hierarch who was considered a wonderworker in this life and in the next. Many Orthodox Christians here in America, of all jurisdictions, have had many miraculous interventions through their pious prayers to St. John. The following homily was taken from the book, *Lantern of Grace*, by Protopresbyter Valery Lukianov, Diocese of Western America of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, 2004. The name of the homilist is not cited. Please take note of the various issues which apply to all of us within the Church today.)

...May God grant us today, through the living preaching of the holy hierarch John on this day of his canonization, to hear distinctly the genuine voice of the Holy Church, which he so zealously served: HOW LONG, O ORTHODOX PEOPLE, WILL WE ALLOW AND TOLERATE PARTICIPATION IN THE SAVING LIFE OF THE CHURCH TO BE ONLY "A PART OF OUR SCHEDULE," AND NOT THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR BEING? Let us enkindle the fire of zeal and church consciousness in our hearts; let us once and for all establish a correct relationship both toward our parishes and toward the Holy Church as a whole.

Let us endeavor all the more frequently to do what is most important, what Vladyka accomplished every day of his righteous life – to receive communion of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Every time our soul thirsts to be freed of the burden of sin, let us go to confession and Holy Communion. Yet even in this sacred feat let us have our own definite order of piety. Let not one of the four fasting periods of the year, or the great day of Holy Pascha, or our patron saint's day, pass without our approaching the awesome Table of Christ. And the Lord will help to augment this saving action according to our labors and our faith.

We must realize that the moral atmosphere of the entire world around us has grown infinitely worse. Not only have the limits of all decency been discarded, but the state of morals within society has degenerated to pure demonic possession. And these temptations surround us on every side and, in the first place, hold the younger generation in a satanic grip. Today we must promise our children: WE LOVE YOU, AND WILL NOT OFFER YOU AS A SACRIFICE TO THE MODERN BAAL. WE WILL FULFILL

OUR SACRED DUTY TO RAISE YOU IN THE FEAR OF GOD AND IN LOVE FOR OUR MOTHER, THE CHURCH. We shall not succeed in doing this without knowing our Faith, outside a life lived within the Church. It is high time to take the Holy Gospel from the bookshelves of our home libraries, to open the prayer book so as to converse with God, to dispose our heart and mind to accept the preaching of the Church. Thus, **LET US NOT ONLY ASK OF VLADYKA, BUT LET US BEGIN TO IMITATE HIM DILIGENTLY IN OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE,** as the holy Apostle Paul calls us to do: “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ (I Cor. 11:1). Only then will our glorification of Vladyka not be merely a rare solemnity, attracting our attention by its mere novelty, but will be a new ascent in our struggle towards God. If we do not believe in the efficacy of this struggle, we would not be here today for this great festival. Truly, brethren and sisters, let us believe and thank God for this our faith. Let us put this faith into action; let us strive to enrich it by good works, by a good Christian life.

Thus does our soul strain to cry out: “Christ is risen!,” for in our hearts we feel ineffable joy, joy over the acquisition of a new favorite of God in the Church’s listing of saints. And we hope that for the many souls here present, as also for the countless souls scattered throughout all the corners of the world, this day will truly be a day of resurrection, a day of spiritual rebirth.

Many will leave here, having wept over their sinful life, the proof of which we have seen in the penitent struggle of many hundreds of the faithful who have come to Holy Communion. What a beautiful, unforgettable and heartening sight!

Let us speak candidly – we have come here to see a miracle, to find miraculous help. And is not this unprecedented, popular enthusiasm, of which we are the fortunate eyewitnesses, indeed miraculous? This vast church, and not only the church, but the halls, the balconies, the staircases, and the entire block, are filled to overflowing with pilgrims, to the point that it is no longer possible for them to budge. O how consoling this is, how praiseworthy such a saving constraint is! Brethren and sisters, let us remember this feeling, let us lay it up in our soul, let us anoint our sick heart with it. Then the Lord will make us worthy receivers of the grace being manifestly poured forth from a new wellspring.

Today we can “with one mouth and one heart” in the hearing of all attest to our desire for spiritual renewal, to our trust in the mighty prayers of the newly-revealed holy hierarch John. And we believe that he will help us to make this, his present feast, into a turning point in our spiritual striving toward what is holy and good, toward a full-fledged life in the Church of Christ. Amen.

December 2007

Sunday Winter Hour

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

*Nativity Fast Continues through 12/24
See guidelines in bulletin*

2
14th Sun. of Luke
Altar Team B

3

4
Feast of St. Barbara,
Orthros & Lit.

5
Vespers for St. Nicholas
the Wonderworker, 7 pm,
followed by adult rel. ed.

6
St. Nicholas the
worker, Orthros & Lit.

9 10th Sun. of Luke, St.
Anna (Conception of the
Theotokos); Pastoral Visit
of Met. Methodios
Altar Team A

10

11
Vespers of St. Spyridon w/
visiting clergy, 7pm, fol-
lowed by Philoptochos
reception

12 St. Spyridon, Orthros
& Lit. (Parish Feastday);
Sm. Vesp. 7 pm, adult rel.
ed. to follow (fish, wine &
olive oil permitted)

13

Fr.

16
11th Sun. of Luke;
Christmas pageant
Altar Team B

17
General Assembly 7 pm

18

19
Small Vespers 7 pm, fol-
lowed by adult rel. ed.

20

23
Sun. before the Nativity
Altar Team A

24
Eve of the Nativity, Great
Hours 10 am, Vespers
Vigil Liturgy 5 pm

25 The Nativity of Our
Lord in the Flesh, Orthros
8:45 am, D. Lit. 10:00 am,
followed by traditional
carols

26
(No services or adult relig.
ed.)

27

No fasting through 1/4

30 Sun. after the Nativity
(visiting priest)

31

Fr. Anthony on vacation

No fasting through 1/4; all foods permitted daily

ours Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

Fri

Sat

1
(No Vespers)

7	8
the Wonder-ros & Lit.	Great Vespers 6 pm

14	15
	Great Vespers 6 pm

Fr. Anthony on pilgrimage

21	22
Mystery of Holy Unction, 5 pm	Great Vespers 6 pm

28	29 (No services)
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Fr. Anthony on vacation

g through 1/4; all foods permitted daily

Upcoming Events

December 4—Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm

December 10—Soup Kitchen; setup 4 pm, meal 5 pm

December 12—Retirees Luncheon & Presentation, after liturgy of St. Spyridon; Daughters of Penelope Christmas Party 7 pm

December 13—Philoptochos Christmas Dinner, La Forge Casino, 6pm

December 16—Church and Greek School joint Christmas Pageant after Liturgy

December 17—General Assembly, 7pm

Regular Events

Religious Education—Sundays, immediately after Holy Communion

Adult Religious Education—each Wednesday after Vespers

Children’s Greek School— Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm

Adult Greek School—Mondays, 5-6 pm

Holy Confession is available after each evening service (except Wednesdays), and by appointment during office hours.

MICHAEL FAMILY HOUSE FIRE

All of us, most likely, are aware of the terrible tragedy which recently befell Ronnie Michael and her family. The interior of her house needs to be completely rebuilt due to the extensive fire and smoke damage, which also destroyed all their personal belongings. The fire has affected not only Ronnie, but the lives of her daughter Zoe and granddaughter Skyler who live with her. In addition, Ronnie's eldest daughter Keri, who lives in Greece, lost all her personal belongings as well.

As a united family in Christ, we are pained along with the Michael family during this difficult time. A special fund has been created to assist the Michael's financially, as they seek to replace their home and belongings. In addition, our Philoptochos Society has given the family gift certificates from Walmart and Stop & Shop to get them started, with more assistance on its way. Please find it in your hearts to assist the Michael family with your generous donation. You may make your checks out to St. Spyridon Church, **clearly noting "Michael house fire" on the memo line.** Thanks to all in advance for your brotherly love and generosity.

+Fr. Anthony

SOUP KITCHEN

We will be serving a holiday meal to our guests at our next soup kitchen on December 10. Please join us at 4:45 pm to help serve the meal. If you'd like to make a monetary contribution to the soup kitchen, please send checks to the church office with "Soup Kitchen" recorded on the memo line, or contact Presvytera Themmi at church. Thanks for your ongoing support!

CHRISTMAS FAMILY

We are again sponsoring a needy family through Child and Family Services. Tags adorning the Christmas tree in the hall may be taken, and the NEW and UNWRAPPED gift returned to the tree **by Sunday, December 9.** The requests made for these children are largely for "basic" needs; please consider purchasing an item or two. If you are unable to shop and would like to make a monetary contribution, please contact Presvytera Themmi at church.

NEWPORT LIBRARY PUBLIC SERVICE

The Newport Public Library Extension Program offers books, audio books, large-print books, videos, magazines and DVD's to Newport residents who can no longer come to the library. This free service for local residents covers persons who, because of illness or physical disabilities, are homebound or have now taken up residence in one of the city's nursing/retirement centers. Patrons are visited twice monthly with an in-home visit from the program's coordinator, Mary O'Neill-Barrett, who works hard to find just the right books or items for each patron.

Ms. O'Neil-Barrett invites anyone interested to contact her at Newport Public Library, 847-8720, ext. 115, or by e-mail: marybooks@yahoo.com.

RETIREEES LUNCHEON & PRESENTATION

Our November retirees program was held on 11/13. There was a very interesting presentation on Aquidneck Island wildlife. We extend our gratitude to *Nikolas Pizza* for providing the lunch. Our next gathering will be **on the feast of St. Spyridon, 12/12, immediately after liturgy**. Please join us in celebrating our parish feastday in church, and then enjoying each other's company during our gathering.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Thank you to everyone to helped and came to the Fall Social. It was a wonderful success and we hope everyone had a good time. The Christmas dinner will be held on December 13th at the LaForge Casino at 6 pm.- order off the menu. Please call Tina Fowler at 847-0771 for reservations. The deadline for dinner reservations is December 8th.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Families,

Please note that our Christmas pageant will be on Sunday, December 16th. Please ask your child's teacher what each class will be doing for this day. Also, please come downstairs to write your name on the poster in order to donate a lenten food item for the luncheon on that day.

God Bless!
Marianne

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council met on November 6 and held a subsequent budget meeting the following week.

There will be a General Assembly on Monday, December 17, at 7 pm. Because of schedule conflicts during the remaining Sundays of December (including the visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios on the 9th and the children's pageant on the 16th) we had to set a weekday evening date. We also wanted to wait until we received revised bylaws regarding the Endowment Fund from the Metropolis's legal advisor, which we now have. We are preparing a mailing to the community in advance of the meeting that will include these and other materials, including the proposed community budget.

Please remember that in order to participate in the General Assembly you must be both in good canonical standing and a current Steward of the parish.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on December 4, 2007 at 7pm. Please feel free to contact any member of the Council with proposed agenda items.

Tom Nichols
President

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The Greek School will be presenting their Christmas program jointly with the Religious Education classes on Sunday, December 16th. Please join us for this festive occasion after liturgy. Lunch will be provided by the Sunday and Greek school parents.

Greek school classes continue to be held Monday-Friday from 4-6PM. If you would like more information please contact Loula Eliopoulos, Basile Pannoutsopoulos or Evangelos Giannopoulos.

NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS

The Newport Hellenic dancers have been enjoying classes after liturgy throughout the fall season. During this time we focused on teaching the young members of our community, which have been very enthusiastic in learning the basic steps and having fun dancing and listening to the music.

We are now taking a break for the Christmas holidays and will begin again in January, at which time we will start with all groups. Please feel free to call Sandy or Vaggeli at 667-2984 with any questions, or if you would like to join our group.

PASTRY SALE—NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS

We are in the process of conducting our annual Pasty Sale. The proceeds will be used to purchase costumes for our group to support the dancers for the annual Hellenic Fest. All the pastries are homemade. Forms are available at the church hall.

Feel free to contact Sandy or Vaggeli at 667-2984 or at church to place your order before December 9th. The pastries will be available on December 15th and 16th at the church hall.

PHOTO AND VIDEO WORKSHOPS

Photo editing and video editing tutoring will be offered free of charge to anyone interested on select Saturdays in the fellowship hall. Michael Sisak will share his knowledge of Adobe Photoshop Elements, Adobe Premiere Elements, and Pinnacle video editing software from 4:30 PM until 6:00 PM on most Saturdays during the autumn, winter, and spring. Check the monthly bulletin for the exact Saturdays.

Learn how to scan and edit photos, turn photos into videos with music, and download camcorder footage and edit it. These workshops are being offered for general educational reasons as well as with an eye on 2015, the 100th anniversary of the St. Spyridon Church in Newport. Bring old photos and they will be scanned for archival purposes and also bring names (spelled correctly) and anecdotes associated with the photos and this information will be typed into associated documents. Photos can also be fixed with Photoshop Elements.

The Saturday workshops currently planned are December 1, December 8, December 15, January 5, January 12, and January 26.

ST. SPYRIDON BOOKSTORE

Stop and have a look at the rich selection of our Bookstore. The bookstore has many items available such as books, icons, compact discs, incense, etc. The available items are related mostly to the Christian Orthodox faith and there are a few on Hellenic culture. Most of the items are difficult to find in the local bookstores. The prices are printed on the items. If you need an item that is not available, ask Basile or email (Basile.Panoutsopoulos@Verizon.net) for further information.

New items are ordered regularly. The bookstore operates on the honor system; please leave the money or your check (payable to St. Spyridon, with the indication Bookstore) in the basket located in the middle of the two tables of the Bookstore.

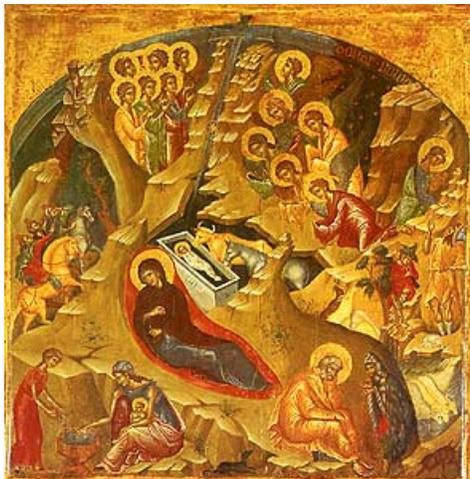
IN OUR PARISH

Births: A baby boy, *Jake David*, was born on 10/5 to Eric Sardinha & Ashley Winslow. The proud grandparents and great grandmother are David & Pam Sardinha, and Barbara Parkos. May he live many years!

A baby girl, *Elizabeth Margaret*, was born to parishioners Vasili & Ellen Tasikas on 11/21 – the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos. May she live many years!

SERVICE CANCELLATIONS

As we do each winter, service cancellations on bad weather days will be announced on the church's voicemail system. Simply call the church at 846-0555, and select #4 on the main menu: "*additional services for the current week.*" Make sure to check before departing for church, since the decision to cancel is usually made in the morning, or late afternoon for evening services.



A
Blessed
Christmas
To All

AHEPA NEWS

The local chapters of AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope will receive a letter from their respective secretaries with details on the December meeting.

St. Spyridon Memorabilia

The AHEPA is still collecting St. Spyridon Memorabilia such as books, photographs, memoirs, etc. to do with the history of our church. Contact an AHEPAN or email AHEPA245@verizon.net for more information.

A copy of a photograph is on display, on the AHEPA board, in the Community Hall, thanks to our sister Penny Hiotas. We are asking your help to identify the persons on the photograph. Please see Basile or Michel Sisak.

Journey to Greece Program

The AHEPA Journey to Greece Program was a great success in 2007. We Invite You To Join Us for the 2008 Journey to Greece Program. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to earn college credit while learning about ancient and modern Greece.

Visit the AHEPA web site: <http://www.ahepa.org/> and select "Journey to Greece".

Join AHEPA

An invitation is extended to all Hellenes and Philhellenes of the greater Newport area to join the local AHEPA 245 and Daughters of Penelope 49 chapters. Let us all work together to preserve the Hellenic values. For more information contact an AHEPA or Daughter member or email to AHEPA245@Verizon.net.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

All members will be receiving the announcement of the Daughters Christmas party which will be held on Wednesday, December 12th. Our Brother Ahepans are invited as well. The next meeting will be held on the Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 7 pm.

Warmest Holiday wishes to everyone.

<p><i>In loving memory of</i> Gredo Vincent <i>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>Enthimia <i>The Wedding and Baptism Store</i> Elegant Accessories 705 Washington Street Norwood, MA (781) 702-6034 enthimia.com</p>
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