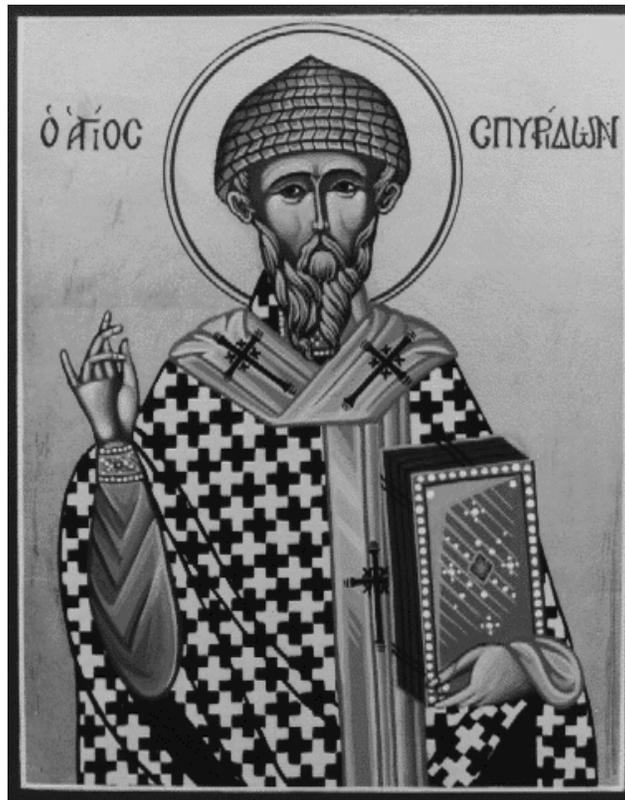

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
JULY 2007



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

franthonny@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 Summer Hours Orthros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9 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

It is very easy for those of us who are “cradle” Orthodox to take our faith tradition for granted. Having been raised in the Orthodox Church, many of us don’t always appreciate nor fully understand our Holy Tradition, which has been handed down to us through the ages. Some have even become disgruntled with various aspects of Church tradition, practice, and the holy canons, to the point of offering “suggestions” of how the Church should change and modernize. At this point, I would like to share something from the other side of the fence. Following is the story of a non-denominational Protestant congregation which converted to the Orthodox Faith *en masse*, specifically because of having discovered Orthodoxy and its strict adherence to the Holy Tradition handed down to us from the Holy Apostles themselves.

The parish I’m referring to is St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church in Arlington, Washington, just north of Seattle where I first served as a priest. During my ministry at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Seattle, I got to know Fr. David Hovik of St. Andrew Church, and was able to be a part of this historic conversion. When I first heard Fr. David’s story of his and his parish’s journey to Orthodoxy, I was very moved as well as amazed.

Years ago when Fr. David was known as *Pastor David* of Grace Community Church, he had started a religious education class on Church history for his congregation. As he delved into the early Apostolic Church more and more, he began to realize that his non-denominational church had practically nothing in common with the early Church. He realized through his studies that the original Church was both *sacramental* and *liturgical*. Pastor David therefore began to feel compelled to incorporate a more liturgical spirit into his worship services. One of the first things he did was to place candles on his modest altar table. Amazingly, he actually had parishioners leave his church over this minor change. These people felt that the use of candles in church was too “Catholic” for them. When he also decided to start burning incense during services, he lost more people.

As time went on, Pastor David continued his studies of the early Church, and eventually discovered Orthodoxy. In his search for a more authentically traditional church, he had examined both the Anglican and Lutheran traditions. He eventually realized quite clearly, that Orthodoxy alone had truly maintained the faith and practice of the Holy Apostles. Thus began his difficult task of convincing his congregation of the path they needed to follow in order to be Christians of the True Faith. Unfortunately, Pastor David lost two thirds of his original congregation during this process.

The remaining one third of blessed souls followed him throughout the entire journey. In February 1997, they were received into the Orthodox Church by Bishop

Joseph of the western region of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese. I was fortunate to be able to attend Great Vespers on the Saturday evening following the mass chrismation of Pastor David and his flock earlier that day. It was so impressive to see their small, simple house of worship transformed through the addition of an iconostasis, and icons along the walls and on icon stands, as well as the removal of about two thirds of the pews for a more traditional look to their church. With the help of a nearby Antiochian parish, they had worked diligently at mastering Byzantine chant in the traditional *a cappella* style. But more important than the external changes made within their temple, was the *internal* transformation that these people underwent.

According to their website, St. Andrew has grown to 75 families, having attracted newcomers to Orthodoxy since their conversion. For more information and photos of this dynamic parish, you may want to visit their website at www.standrew-parish.org.

We cradle Orthodox should be quite impressed by this story. The fact that a group of non-denominational Protestant Christians – people who were used to much shorter and simpler services, a non-hierarchical church, no guidelines on the spiritual life to speak of, regarding such things as prayer, fasting, and repentance – should turn to Orthodoxy, willingly and humbly accepting everything our Holy Church offers and teaches for our salvation, is remarkable. If one were to speak with serious Orthodox converts, one would be impressed by their love and zealousness for Holy Tradition. The things that many cradle Orthodox consider burdensome, would be considered liberating by most converts. While many of us are constantly looking for issues within the Church, focused converts lament the fact that they hadn't discovered Orthodoxy years before while they were floundering in other traditions.

Now that we have entered a new century, it should be our goal as cradle Orthodox to rediscover our faith with an open and pure heart, as if we ourselves were converts in the making. If the past century was our time of growth from infancy onward, let us now strive for a more mature existence as a domestic Orthodox Church. In order to see this type of dynamic growth within the Church, this process must commence *within each one of us*.

Hopefully, we have all been uplifted by this wonderful conversion story. I pray that in your travels, some of you may eventually come across a “convert” parish to visit. You would be impressed by the piety and true focus of these beautiful souls who have found spiritual fulfillment within the embrace of the Orthodox Church.

In Christ's love,

+Fr. Anthony

FESTIVAL HELP

I would like to make my annual appeal to our stewards for their assistance in all aspects of the coming Hellenic Fest. As I point out each year, we tend to see the same group planning, setting-up, working, and breaking-down the festival. This also applies to cooking workshop volunteers, the majority of which are advanced in age. It would be such a blessing to see new faces helping out. Any time we can give during the festival, allows others to work shorter shifts. We all love our church, and as good stewards we can all find a time and place to volunteer our services. May God bless all our donors and volunteers who give of themselves so lovingly each year!

+Fr. Anthony

SUMMER CHURCH ATTENDANCE

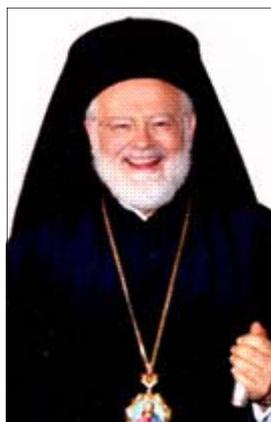
I would like again this year, to remind our families that church attendance should be **year-round**; it should not revolve around the academic calendar. Parents, please set the example for your children of what is most important in life. Understandably, families usually vacation during the summer, and will not always be in town. Remember to seek a local Orthodox church of the various jurisdictions during your travels, and make it a point to attend. This is a beautiful way to expose your families to other Orthodox traditions, and to meet Orthodox brethren around the country or world.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF METROPOLITAN METHODIOS' EPISCOPACY

On Wednesday, July 18, our beloved Metropolitan Methodios will mark the 25th anniversary of his elevation to the Episcopacy (July 18, 1982). The occasion will be celebrated with a Divine Liturgy at the Annunciation Cathedral of Boston, beginning with Orthros at 8:30 am. Following the liturgy, there will be a reception in the Cathedral Hall where we will have the opportunity to express our best wishes to His Eminence. *Eis polla eti Despota!* (see following page for flyer).

ΑΧΙΟΣ

25



**Our beloved Metropolitan Methodios will
mark the 25th Anniversary of his elevation
to the Episcopacy
Wednesday, July 18
Annunciation Cathedral of Boston
Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:30am
Reception will follow**

FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

(The following is taken from the *Philokalia*, a collection of writings by spiritual masters of the Orthodox tradition.)

*On the Character of Men and on the Virtuous Life: A Work
Attributed to St. Anthony the Great*

The truly intelligent man pursues one sole objective: to obey and to conform to the God of all. With this single aim in view, he disciplines his soul, and whatever he may encounter in the course of his life, he gives thanks to God for the compass and depth of His providential ordering of all things. For it is absurd to be grateful to doctors who give us bitter and unpleasant medicines to cure our bodies, and yet to be ungrateful to God for what appears to us to be harsh, not grasping that all we encounter is for our benefit and in accordance with His providence. For knowledge of God and faith in Him is the salvation and perfection of the soul.

Those who aim to practice the life of virtue and holiness should not incur condemnation by pretending to a piety which they do not possess. But like painters and sculptors they should manifest their virtue and holiness through their works, and should shun all evil pleasures as snares.

A wealthy man of good family, who lacks inward discipline and all virtue in his way of life, is regarded by those with spiritual understanding as under an evil influence; likewise a man who happens to be poor or a slave, but is graced with discipline of soul and with virtue in his life, is regarded as blessed. And just as strangers traveling in a foreign country lose their way, so those who do not cultivate the life of virtue are led astray by their desires and get completely lost.

Those who seek to lead a life of holiness, enjoying the love of God, should free themselves from presumption and all empty and false self-esteem, and should try to correct their life and way of thinking. For an intellect that steadfastly enjoys the love of God is a way of ascent to Him.

JULY 2007

Sunday Summer Ho

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1 5 th Sun. of Matthew (visiting priest)	2	3	4 (no services) (fast day)	5
<i>Fr. Anthony on vacation</i>				
8 6 th Sun. of Matthew (visiting priest)	9	10	11 (no services) (fast day)	12
<i>Fr. Anthony on vacation</i>				
15 Sun. of the Holy Fathers of the 4 th Ecumenical Council	16	17 St. Marina the Great Martyr, Orthros & Lit.	18 Lit. for Met. Methodios- Boston Cathedral, Orthros 8:30 am (no evening service) (fast day)	19 Vespers of th Elias, 7 pm
22 8 th Sun. of Matthew	23	24	25 Vespers of St. Paraskevi, 7 pm (relaxed fast)	26 St. Paraskevi Orthros & Lit
<i>Hellenic Fest</i>				
29 9 th Sun. of Matthew	30	31		

Orthros 7:45 am Divine Liturgy 9 am

Fri

Sat

6

7

(no services)

(fast day)

13

14

Great Vespers 6 pm

(fast day)

20

21

of the Prophet

St. Elias the Prophet,
Orthros & Lit.
(relaxed fast)

Great Vespers **5 pm**

Hellenic Fest

27

28

of the Martyr,
St. Panteleimon the Great

Martyr, Orthros & Lit.

Great Vespers 6 pm

(relaxed fast)

Upcoming Events

July Parish Council meeting—(date pending)

July 9—Soup Kitchen; setup 4 pm, meal 5 pm

July 14—St. Spyridon Orthodox Christian Film Festival

July 20-22—**HELLENIC FEST**

Regular Events

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

Children’s Greek School— Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4-6 pm and Thursdays, 4-5 pm **(currently on break for summer)**

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

NOTE FROM ELAINE CUNNINGHAM

Following is a special message to our entire parish from Elaine Cunningham, who recently transferred to Colorado with her husband Harold.

Dear Fr. Anthony, Presv. Themmi, Parish Council and the Members of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church,

I'd like to thank each one of you for opening your heart and showing God's love to me during my short time here in Newport. It has been such a blessing to be a part of this community, and I cherish the friendships and memories I've made. By extending your heart, as well as your hand, you plant many seeds of God's love. Continue reaching out to those who are new in your parish and community. We need one another in so many ways, especially to help us draw close to our Lord. I also thank you for the Lord's Prayer book and traveling icon. I was touched to receive this kind gift and will think of you when using them. My prayers will always be with you and I ask that you help me in yours.

*In Christ's love,
Elaine Cunningham*

IN APPRECIATION

We would like to sincerely thank Catherine Koulouvardis for personally hiring a cleaning professional at her expense, to steam-clean the convection oven, which apparently hadn't been cleaned for years. Catherine saw a need and responded – an example of stewardship at work!

Note: May we kindly ask that all those who use the convection oven clean up all major spills when they are done baking. Thank you!

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council met on June 5, and discussed various issues, including the state of repairs to the church. The date of the next Council is pending and will be announced.

July is Hellenic Fest month! Please do whatever you can to support this important event for our community, whether it is donating items or your time to this year's festival.

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 there. 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 @ \$40 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 @ \$40 ea
- Pastries 75 trays @ \$40 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: _____

FILM FESTIVAL NEWS

If you are looking for a little fellowship and some fun on Saturday, July 14, come to the church hall and enjoy the 7th annual St. Spyridon Orthodox Christian Film Festival! All event activities are free. Coffee and donuts will be available at arrival time, 9:30 to 10:00. Films will be viewed from 10:00 until about 12:30. Fellowship and a luncheon will follow. Awards will be presented at about 1:30 and then we will stroll over to the Black Pearl where the crew of the schooner Madeleine will be awaiting our arrival for a 90 minute sail on the bay [beginning at 2:30 sharp]. It is a good sized vessel and historically there has always been more than enough room for our party.

All are welcome. Hope to see you there!

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Our last General Dinner Meeting was held this past June at Tickets Restaurant where we all enjoyed a good, hearty meal. Following the meeting, the Board elected its officers. They are:

President-Elaine Brown
Vice-President- Evy Spiratos
Corresponding Secretary- Tina Fowler
Recording Secretary-Rose Apostle
Treasurer-Ionna Bairos-Moreau
Newsletter-Zinovia Canale

Returning Members: Toula Mellekas
Loula Eliopoulos
Janice Tasso

And a warm congratulations to our new Board Member- Sophie Cofield.

We are looking forward to an enthusiastic and productive new year. Remember, in the fall our annual Penny Social will be held. Information will be forthcoming as we get closer. For now, enjoy the summer. See you at the Hellenic Fest!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Families,

Thank you again for a wonderful academic year! It is exciting to note that we raised \$150 for the Orthodox Christian Mission Center. what a wonderful first year! Next year we hope to raise money again for this worthy cause. Thank you to all the families who helped out.

Sincerely,

Marianne Menas

IN OUR PARISH

Baptism: The daughter of Athanasios & Ourania Stefanopoulos was baptized on 6/3, and was given the name *Athanasia Nektaria*. Her sponsor is Dr. Apostolos Pappas of Hillsborough, New Jersey. May she live many years!

Graduations: *Spiros Eliopoulos* graduated from Brown University with a Bachelor of Science, having double-majored in Mathematics and Computer Science. He will be working in his field after graduation, and will pursue post-graduate studies in the future. We congratulate Spiros and wish him success in his future endeavors.

Wedding: *Christopher Georgiou & Beth Tuttle* were married on 4/22 at St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church in Boca Raton, Florida. Their sponsors are Christopher's uncle, Jim Georgiou, and sister, Julie Young. May they live many years!

Orthodox Scouting Award:

Theodore & Panayiotis Panoutsopoulos were presented the St. George Medal and Certificate after liturgy on 6/24, awarded to them by the Eastern Orthodox Committee on scouting. This award is based on an age-appropriate study and knowledge of their Orthodox faith. We congratulate them on this accomplishment.

AHEPA NEWS

The Tri-district Convention took place on June the 2nd in Mansfield, MA.

The June meeting took place at Aquidneck Restaurant on June 11th.

The AHEPA and Daughters along with friends attended a PawSox game, in Pawtucket, on Thursday June 14th.

The next meeting of our local chapter (AHEPA Maud Howe Elliot 245) will take place in September.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite all Hellenes and Philhellenes to join the local chapters of AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope and work together to preserve and spread the eternal Hellenic values. The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

For more information contact the members of the local AHEPA and Daughters chapters or email at: AHEPA245@Verizon.net.

AHEPA AND DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE - SAINT SPYRIDON COMMUNITY MEMORABILIA

Please provide anything of related with our history, books, photographs, memoirs, etc. AHEPA and Daughters will soon have an exhibition of collected material. For further information contact a brother or sister, or email: AHEPA245@verizon.net

<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>
<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>This space available. Call church office.</p>	<p><i>Compliments of</i> A Friend</p>	<p>This space available. Call church office.</p>



Saint Spyridon
Greek Orthodox Church
Post Office Box 427
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
Address Service Requested

**Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Newport, RI
Permit Number 5**
