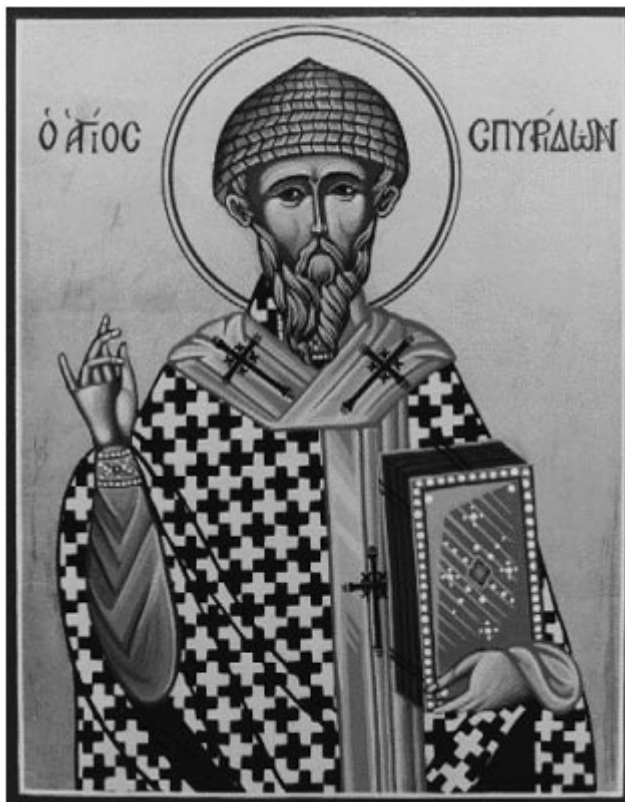

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
JANUARY 2009



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 Dr. George E. Economou

frgeorge@stspyridonchurch.org

Office Hours

Priest: Tuesday & Thursday, 10 am—1 pm; For emergencies, call (401) 474-7770 (cell)

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

Parish Council President: Zoe Adamedes

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)

Soup Kitchen: To be announced

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

Weekday Festal Celebrations:

Vespers—7 pm*

Orthros—9 am

Divine Liturgy—10 am

* Note: Holy Confession is available by appointment.

FROM FATHER GEORGE ECONOMOU

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE NEW YEAR

The last words that were found in Sir Walter Scott's diary were, "Tomorrow, I shall." But there was no tomorrow for him. He died with good intentions to accomplish a particular goal, but he never had the opportunity to either state or accomplish it.

It seems to me that this curious footnote of history is symbolic of all of us. Most of us live with the very best intentions, and with many positive goals; the problem, however, is that we very seldom accomplish any of them. Like that page in Sir Walter's diary, our life is a series of endless pages with plans that are never realized.

Christ knew fully well that it is all too human for us to have lofty ideals but also procrastinate endlessly so that they never become a reality in our lives. That is why the Bible in all its wisdom warns us to be "doers of the word, and not hearers only." (James 1:22)

Plans, goals, and intentions simply don't count; they are not realities, and never will be until we decide to act on them, and to become doers and not only thinkers or hearers. As a new year begins, we are offered a new opportunity to act. Let this be the year that we renew a friendship, visit the lonely, comfort the grieving and be a participant and involved Christian in the worship, the spiritual, the social and the cultural life of our parish. Let this be a new year that does not add to the story of our life another page of unrealized goals, but rather let it be the year in which many of them are accomplished and we are transformed into the doers of God's word.

A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2009

ΣΚΕΨΕΙΣ ΕΠΙ ΤΟΥ ΝΕΟΥ ΕΤΟΥΣ

Τα τελευταία λόγια που έγραψε ένας μεγάλος Άγγλος άνδρας της ιστορίας στο ημερολόγιό του ήσαν, « Αύριο θα. . . Δυστυχώς όμως το αύριο για τον άνθρωπον αυτόν ποτέ δεν ήλθε. Απέθανε με αγαθές προθέσεις, αλλά δεν του δόθηκε η ευκαιρία να τις πραγματοποιήσει.

Μου φαίνεται όμως ότι η μικρή αυτή υποσημείωσι της ιστορίας συμβολίζει όλους μας. Ολοι ζούμε με καλές προθέσεις και θετικά σχέδια, το πρόβλημα όμως είναι ότι ελάχιστοι από μας τα φέρνουμε εις πέρας. Σαν την σελίδα του ημερολογίου του μεγάλου αυτού άνδρα, η ζωή μας είναι μόνον ατελείωτες σελίδες γεμάτες με καλές αποφάσεις και προθέσεις που δυστηχώς ποτέ δεν εφαρμόστησαν.

Ο Χριστός ήξερε ότι ανθρώπινον είναι να έχη κανείς υψηλά φρονήματα και καλές διαθέσεις, αλλά να τα αναβάλλη συνεχώς ώστε ποτέ να μην δούν το φώς της πραγματικότητας στην ζωήν μας. Γιαυτό ακριβώς το Ευαγγέλιο μας λέγει «Γίνεσθε δε εργάτες του λόγου και μη μόνον ακροατές.» (Ιακ. 1.22)

Σχέδια, προθέσεις, προφορικές αποφάσεις καμμιιά αξία δεν έχουν. Δέν είναι πραγματικότητες και ποτέ δεν θα έλθουν σε αποπεράτωσι εάν πρώτα δεν αποφασίσουμε να τις θέσουμε σε εφαρμογή, και να γίνουμε «εργάτες του λόγου του Θεού και όχι μόνον ακροατές του» Τώρα που αρχίζει ένας καινούργιος χρόνος, δίνεται μιά νέα ευκαιρία γιά να τις αξιοποιήσουμε. Ας είναι ο νέος αυτός χρόνος, ένας χρόνος μέσα στον οποίον δεν θα προσθέσουμε άλλες άδειες σελίδες στην ιστορία της ζωής μας, αλλά σελίδες γεμάτες με έργα που πηγάζουν μέσα από την πίστιν μας και μας μεταμορφώνουν σε εργάτες του θείου νόμου που μας προοθούν σε μιά ποιό δυναμική κοινωνία με τούς συνανθρώπους μας, με την Εκκλησία του Χριστού και την κοινότητά μας.

HOUSE BLESSING FOR THE THEOPHANY SEASON

Fr. George is available for the venerable tradition of the blessing of homes after Holy Theophany. He will commence house blessings on 1/8. Many of our parishioners have never taken advantage of this tradition, which is offered for the sanctification of your homes and families. Please call Fr. George at church to arrange a mutually convenient time for your house blessing.

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

COFFEE NEEDED

We all love our coffee hours and fellowship, however, the church needs help in paying for all the coffee we are using. If you are sponsoring a coffee hour, please bring a pound of coffee to share or send a donation in for the coffee hours. We appreciate your generosity. A special thank you to the people who continue to bring in goodies for the coffee hours. We want you to know that it is very much appreciated.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the volunteers who help with our mailings every month: Mary Champion, Joanne Hologgitas, Esther Lascaris-Viveiros, George Baker and George Anagnostos. Mr. Baker, our custodian, also carries the mailings to the post office for us which is big help to the secretary. Thanks, George!

JANUARY 2009

Sunday Winter Ho

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
	<p><u>Father George is in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. on and at other times as needed</u></p>	<p><u>For emergencies only</u> Please call Father at <u>401-474-7700</u> For all other please call the office number</p>		<p>1 New Year Circumcision Lord. St. Basil Orthros: 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>4 Before Theophany Synaxis of 70 Apostles Orthros 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>	<p>5 Eve of Theophany Gr. Hours. 8.45a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m. Followed by Blessing of the Waters.</p>	<p>6 <u>HOLY THEOPHANY</u> Orthros 8.45a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m. Blessing of Waters</p>	<p>7 Synaxis of St. John the Baptist. Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>	<p>8 Fr. George available to homes. Please call office for arrangements.</p>
<p>11 After Theophany St. Theodosios Orthros. 8.45a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m. Vasilopita celebrat.</p>	12	13	14	15
<p>18 12th Luke. Saints Athanasios and Cyril of Alexandria Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>	<p>19 Martin Luther King Day.</p>	20	21	<p>22 Martyr St. Basil the Penitent Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>25 15th Luke St. Gregory Theolog. Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>	26	27	28	29

SUNDAY Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

THU	FRI	SAT.
<p>January 2 Epiphany Day Translation of the Body of St. Basil Great. Orthros. 8:45 a.m. Divine Lit. 10:00 a.m.</p>	2	3
<p>January 9 Epiphany will be celebrated to Bless the Waters. Please call the church to appoint-</p>	9	10
<p>January 16 St. Basil the Great Epiphany Orthros. 8:45 a.m. Divine Lit. 10:00 a.m.</p>	16	17 Saint Anthony the Great Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.
<p>January 23 St. Anastasios the Confessor Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Divine Lit. 10.00 a.m.</p>	23	24 Vespers of St. Gregory the Theologian at St. Gregory's Mans- field 7.00 p.m.
<p>January 30 Feast of the Three Hierarchs. Orthros. 8.45 a.m. Div. Lit. 8.45 a.m.</p>	30	31

Upcoming Events

January 11—Community cutting of the Vasilopita

January 12—Soup Kitchen, setup 4 pm, meal 5 pm

Regular Events

Religious Education—Sundays, immediately after Holy Communion

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

Adult Greek School—
Mondays, 4-6 pm

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, JANUARY 6

Epiphany means “appearance.” Theophany means “the appearance of God.” After Easter and Pentecost, Theophany is considered the third greatest feat of the Orthodox Church, more so than Christmas.

It commemorates the baptism of Christ in the Jordan River by Saint John the Baptist. Saint Cyril states that the beginning of the world was water, the beginning of the Gospel was the Jordan, when the Holy Spirit was revealed to the senses.

The father spoke, saying, “This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.” The Holy Spirit was seen in the form of a dove hovering over the waters, and Saint John the Baptist bore witness, saying, “Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.” Jesus took on the sin of the world, symbolically died by being immersed in the Jordan, and rose again out of the Jordan.



ANASTASIOS THE HIEROMARTYR, JANUARY 22

Magundat, his Persian name at the time, was a magician. When the Persians plundered Jerusalem in the seventh century and stole the Holy Cross, Magundat, then a soldier, saw the Holy Cross and heard the Christian lessons. He went to a church and asked about the lives of the saints in the icons. He went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and met Patriarch Modestos II and was baptized by him with the name Anastasios. He became a monk at the monastery of Saint Anastasios, studied Greek, and learned the Psalter by heart. He lived there seven years and then had a vision that he was called to be a martyr. He secretly left the monastery and went to several churches, praying to the Theotokos to show him the way. He saw a Persian magician and chastised him, saying he himself had once been the same. He was jailed and taken before the judge and asked to deny Jesus Christ. He refused clearly and was beaten, chained, and made to carry heavy rocks. A vision was seen by the jailers one night showing Anastasios in the company of two other celebrants, all three dressed in white. He was given permission to attend the church service of the Elevation of the Holy Cross, and the Christians reverently kissed his wounds. He was marched to a river and there strangled with seventy other Christians.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The Philoptochos wishes the community a Happy and Healthy New Year. Please plan to join us on January 11th for the community Vasilopita. We are looking for volunteers to bake bread -- please call Elaine Brown at 849-3480.

There will be a Board meeting at Janice Tasso's house on Wednesday, Jan 14th at 6:30. The next general meeting is Wednesday, February 11th, at 6:30 at the church hall

Philoptochos is sponsoring the February soup kitchen on Monday, February 9th.

We are pleased to announce that all of our financial obligations due to National Philoptochos for 2008 have been met, along with our many local charities such as the Martin Luther King center, Lucy's Hearth, Newport Hospital Foundation, and a money donation towards the children our church has sponsored for Christmas.

Also the Stewardship membership donation for 2009 is now due. Please send your Name, Address, Phone Number and check to Iona Bairos -Morreau 96 Sherwood Terrace Portsmouth, RI 02871.

IN OUR PARISH

Graduation: Congratulations to *Gabriella Dobrot* who received her PhD in Environmental Economics in June. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS

We would like to thank all of the parents who helped with baking for the Newport Hellenic Dancers' pastry sale this Christmas. This year the bake sale was a big success because of the generosity of the Stefanopoulos and Panteleos families who jointly donated all of the ingredients. A big thank you also to those who bought the pastries for your support of our children and their great efforts with the dance group.

Lastly, all of the parents of the Newport Hellenic Dancers would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to Sandy and Vaggelis Giannopoulos for their tireless efforts and dedication towards teaching our children such a beautiful part of our Greek heritage!

AHEPA NEWS

Happy and healthy New Year 2009 from the local AHEPA family

The January meeting of the local AHEPA Chapter will take place the Second Monday of January. We plan to have a dinner at a local restaurant. Place and time will be announced. The initiation of new AHEPA members will take place before our regular meeting. Food will be provided.

AHEPA and Daughters Memorabilia Project

Points of Contact: Michael Sisak and Basile Panoutsopoulos. Bring your old pictures to preserve them. They will be returned back to you.

AHEPA KAFENEIO

On the Saturday, the 6th of December the movie “A Girl in Black” was shown. This is one of the classical, quality movies of the Greek cinema. The “Kafeneio” will return in March, when the weather is more cooperative.

AHEPA and Daughters Scholarships

AHEPAcademy is now taking applications for the 2009 Session. Attention High School Juniors: you have the opportunity to be one of a small, select group of Greek-American high school students selected from all over the country to participate in AHEPAcademy, an interactive leadership and networking seminar to be held on the campus of George Mason University outside Washington, DC from June 21-27, 2009. ... download your application today! <http://www.ahepacademy.com/>

2009 AHEPA Journey to Greece Application now Online!

The AHEPA Journey to Greece Program is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to earn college credit while learning about ancient and modern Greece. Plans for the 2009 Program are well underway. Download the prospectus and fill out your application today! <http://www.ahepa.org/journey/>

Ionian Village Staff Applications

Ionian Village, the travel abroad camping program of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, is now accepting volunteer staff applications for the summer of 2009. Ionian Village staff members play an important role in the spiritual, cultural and social development of Orthodox teenagers from across the United States of America, as they travel to the most significant and cultural sites in Greece. For more information visit www.ionianvillage.org

SAINT SPYRIDON BOOKSTORE

Bookstore SALE!!!! 20-40% Off

All books prices are 20-40% off the suggested retail price.

This will make a GREAT New Year's gifts for the ones who love to read; for young children; for history buffs; etc.. Come check them out!!! Remember, all money goes back to the Bookstore to purchase new items; support your Bookstore!

Liturgical Material: Presanctified Liturgy, Holy Week Services, Incense

Christian Orthodox Books: The Orthodox Study Bible, Children's books, Other Books

Religious CDs: Christmas Music, Easter Music, Other Music

Cultural CDs: Various CDs with popular Greek Music

Cultural Books: A guide to the Greek customs and traditions in America by Rouvelas

Icons: A rich collection of icons in various styles.

Children's Book in Greek: A rich collection of children's books in Greek from religion, mythology and history.

The Saint Spyridon Bookstore goes online

In partnership with the Orthodox Marketplace, the Department of Internet Ministries has created a customized online bookstore for each parish in the Archdiocese. The Orthodox Marketplace serves as a single source for books, icons, educational material, music, DVDs published by Archdiocesan departments and other Orthodox Christian distributors.

It is our sincere hope and prayer that this exciting new program will enhance the parish's online ministry even further. Visit our website for a link.

<http://www.stspyridonchurch.org/bookstore.html>

For additional information and special orders see Lily Wong-Panoutsopoulos.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

In December, the Daughters of Penelope visited the shut-ins with gifts for the holidays. The first meeting of the New Year will be held on TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th at the Ahepa Housing complex at 7 pm. Please call Ellen Anagnostos for directions to the housing. Happy New Year to all.

<p><i>In loving memory of</i> Grego 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: 849-3356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri & Sat 7am-2am</p>	<p>Enthimia.com The Wedding and Baptism Store Offering elegant accessories Visit us at www.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</p>	<p>A-1 Pizza 306 Broadway Newport <i>Free Delivery</i> 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>Middletown</i> <i>Voted Best in Rhode Island!</i></p>	<p>The Mainstay Inn 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road <i>Newport</i> 849-9880</p>
<p>All American Foods, Inc.</p>	<p>Steve H. Jennings Certified Senior Advisor, CSA Advanced Planning Associates Retirement Planning Phone: 401.247.9882 E-mail: sjplanner@aol.com</p>	<p><i>In loving memory of</i> Anthony & Dorothea Rozes</p>