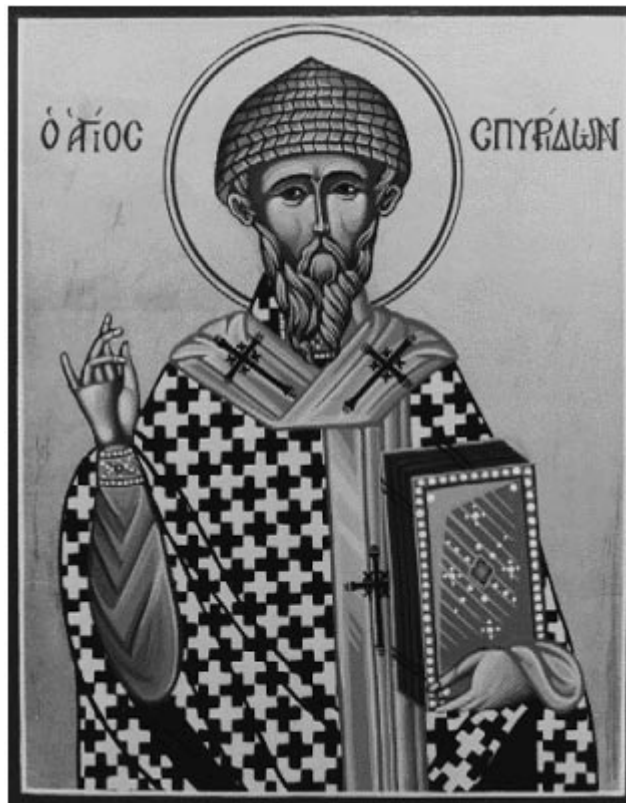


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THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE  
SEPTEMBER 2010

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

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**SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

[www.stspyridonchurch.org](http://www.stspyridonchurch.org)

Reverend Dr. George E. Economou

[frgeorge@stspyridonchurch.org](mailto:frgeorge@stspyridonchurch.org)

**Office Hours**

Priest: Tuesday & Thursday, 10 am—1 pm; For emergencies, call (401) 474-7700 (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:** Lily Wong-Panoutsopoulos

**Philoptochos President:** Elaine Brown

**Acolytes:** James Mellekas

**GOYA President:** Missy Mellekas

**JOY Advisor:** Sandy Giannopoulos

**Soup Kitchen:** Sofi Cofield, Rose Apostal  
and Jane Iandolo

**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

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SERVICE TIMES

**Sunday Summer Hours**

Orthros 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Festal Celebrations:

Vespers—7 p.m.\*

Orthros—9 a.m.

Divine Liturgy—10 a.m.

\* Note: Holy Confession is available by appointment.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S COLLECTION

**The beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year: September 1st**

The Civil New Year begins on the 1st of January, but this was not always so. During the early Roman Republic, the New Year began on the 1st of September, which for the Romans was the day of the beginning of the so-called Indication, a method of calculating time over a cycle of 15 years. The Indication, (from the Latin origin "indictio"), is a proclamation.

The first Ecumenical Council of 325 AD decreed that the Church Year should begin on the 1st of September. "On that day, the Church gives thanks to God for the fruits of the earth, received in that summer and in summers past, and prays that the earth will bear further fruit." It is noteworthy that the festal year begins with the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, 8 September, and ends with the celebration of the Feast of her Holy Dormition, 28 August.

The beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year also has its roots in the Old Testament Feast of the Trumpets, held in the month of September, which for the Jews was the beginning of the civil year.

The Gospel reading for the Beginning of the Indication takes place in Jesus' home town of Nazareth (Lk.4, 16-22). It was at the time that Jesus went into his hometown synagogue and opened the Book of the Prophet Isaiah and read the words: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.'

What makes this reading all the more powerful is that when He closed the book, and with everyone watching Him, He began to speak by saying: 'Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.' The people of Nazareth probably could not believe their own ears; for Jesus to say that this Scripture was fulfilled meant that He claimed to be the Messiah - The Anointed One. He had come into the world to issue an indiction, to proclaim the Good News to the poor and the broken-hearted and to set us free from sin and death.

**Kontakion:** You who created all things in Your infinite wisdom, and set the times by Your own authority, grant Your Christian people victories. Blessing our comings and goings throughout this year, guide our works according to Your divine will.

In conjunction with the annual September 1st Protection of the Environment Observation of the Greek Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, The Rhode Island Fellowship of Orthodox Churches will hold its annual:

**PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT OBSERVATION**

Sunday September 19th at 3:00 pm  
St Spyridon Church in Newport, RI

Blessing of the Waters to take place on the deck of the Pier  
Restaurant at 3:00 p.m. followed by a Reception, film and discussion at the Church Hall.

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## NEW CHURCH YEAR CELEBRATIONS

**Wednesday, September 1st**, we enter the New Ecclesiastical year. Following the Divine Liturgy the service of the Blessing of the Waters (Agiasmo) will take place. **Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday, September 12th**: First day of Religious Education, **SUNDAY WINTER HOURS START**—Orthros 9:00 a.m, Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m,

### FEAST OF HOLY CROSS SEPTEMBER 14TH

On the eve of the Feast of the Holy Cross - Vespers will be at 5:00 p.m. at the Holy Cross Chapel in Brookline.

**Tuesday, September 14th**: Feast of Holy Cross will be celebrated in our church. Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m., followed by the Procession.

**Sunday, September 19th**: Following Divine Liturgy, Father George will conduct a special procession and service of the Holy Cross for our children.

**Flowers (Vasiliko) for Feast of Holy Cross**: A reminder to our parishioners not to forget to bring Vasiliko and other flowers to decorate the Cross of our Lord for the Feast of Holy Cross. We will also need Vasiliko for Sunday, September 19th for the service especially celebrated for the children. Please bring the Vasiliko Monday, September 13th or Tuesday September 14th, and Sunday, September 19th, during the Orthros, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m..

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## RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION FOR OUR CHILDREN

**Sunday, September 12th**, is the official opening of the New Religious Instruction Year followed by Registration in the Community Center.

Children ought to attend Church with their parents and siblings may sit with or be up front (left side) with other children and teachers. Following Holy Communion, Father George will conduct a prayer for the beginning of the New School year.

On **Sunday September 19th** a special procession for the Feast of the Holy Cross will be celebrated for the benefit of the children of our Sunday School after which they will take their Vasiliko and go to their classes while the adults will remain in the Church for the conclusion of the service and the sermon.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION is of great importance, parents **do take** interest in this matter. Help your children to learn all about their Orthodox Christian Faith. Come together each Sunday to worship as a family, show them through your example the importance of our Christian Faith. Sacrifice your leisure time on Sunday morning and bring your children to Church.

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Let them be well-grounded in their faith and love for the Lord. .Teach them how to pray at home. Set your priorities in the right order. The dangers are many that lurk ahead for our children and unless we lay strong foundations while they are young, we are falling short of our parental Christian responsibilities and duties.

Remember the saying in the book of Proverbs; **“Train up the child in the way he should go and when he/she is old he/she will not depart from it”** (Prov.22:6). Which way do we want our children to go? Do we train them in the ways of the Lord, or only the worldly and secular ways, which leave feelings of emptiness and loneliness. Only when we seek the Lord and His ways, ours and our children's lives will be complete.

We give so much to our children—let’s **not neglect to give them that which really counts**, in their present life and future-their faith and Christian Values.

Attend church every Sunday with your children; participate in the Holy Eucharist as often as possible, if not every Sunday. Read the Bible with them at home every night, say your prayers before each meal, before going to bed at night and when you rise in the morning. Teach your children to cross themselves correctly and not be afraid to do their cross no matter where they are. Have family discussions about every moral and ethical issue, about sex, abortion, drugs, etc. and instruct them with our church’s moral teachings on these. Don't let the public schools or teachers do your job. **Find out what they are being taught at school, be alert, question them.** Do all these with love and respect for them. Protect your child not by locking them up, but by opening up the lines of communication with them. Love them but be strict when you need to. Set rules and guidelines. Let them know the consequences if they fail to keep them. Be just in disciplining them. Make the punishment proportionate to the infringement. Remember the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 6: 1-4. “Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for this is the right thing to do.” “Respect your father and mother” is the first commandment that has a promise added: “so that all may go well with you, and you may live a long time in the land.”

“Parents, do not treat your children in such a way as to make them angry. Instead, raise them with Christian discipline and instruction.”

As your priest I am looking forward to seeing you and your children in Church on Sundays.

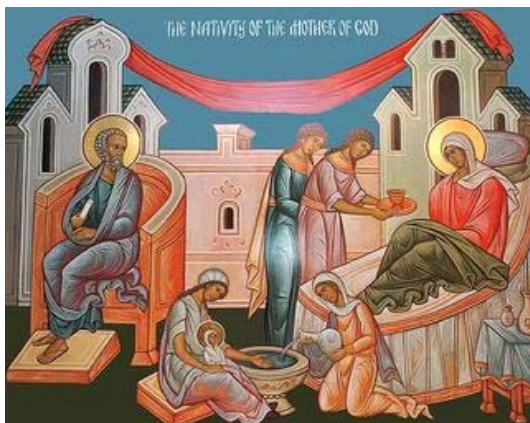
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## THANK YOU TO ALL AMERICAN PAINTING

We wish offer a **big thank you to All American Painting** for the beautiful job they did in painting our church hall and for generously donating all the labor and materials as well.

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## NATIVITY OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD: SEPTEMBER 8



The church regards the birthday of Mary, the Mother of Jesus Christ, with special veneration because she was made the instrument whereby our Blessed Lord became Man. Tradition is the source for details surrounding the birth of the Mother of God. The birth of the Mother of God has come to us only from non-Scriptural sources, especially in two books known as “The Gospel of the Birth of Mary” and “The Pre-Evangelion of Saint James.” The Church service for the feast day of the Nativity of the Theotokos is based upon the hymns and writings taken from these two ancient works.

The holy Virgin Mary was born of her aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the tribe of David and her mother of the tribe of Aaron, and so she was of royal blood from her father and priestly blood from her mother. By this, she foreshadowed Him who would be born of her as King and High Priest.

Her Parents were already old and had no children. In their humility, they prayed with tears that God would bring joy to their old age with the gift of a child, as he had once given joy to the aged Abraham and Sarah, giving them their son Isaac. God, almighty and all-seeing, gave them a joy far exceeding all their expectations and their wildest dreams, for He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God; He illumined them not only with temporal joy but with eternal joy.

God gave them just one daughter, who later gave them just one grandson - but-what a daughter and what a grandson! Mary full of grace, blessed among women, the temple of the Holy Spirit, altar of the living God, table of living bread, ark of God’s holy things, tree of the most delicious fruits, glory of the human race, praise of womanhood, fount of virginity and purity - this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anna. Born in Nazareth, after three years she was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem, whence she returned again to Nazareth and shortly afterwards heard the tidings of the holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most pure and virginal body.

The icon of the feast of the nativity of the Mother of God shows St Anne reclining on a bed with an attendant at her side. The Virgin is generally represented in swaddling clothes, and in the arms of a midwife who is seated on a stool. St Joachim is represented speaking with his wife. The midwife is reduced in size to focus attention on the holy parents and infant. In icons, the importance of a person is indicated by size. Size is not a physical feature of a person, but a quantitative element relating to importance. St Anne gazes downward upon her new-born daughter. The servant in the middle stands ready to assist the mother. Joachim and Saint Anna are honored by the Church on September 8th.



**HELLENIC FEST 2010**

Thank you to all who worked so hard for another wonderful year!

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Happy Liturgical New Year from the Ladies of the Philoptochos! We have lots of news.

First of all our major fundraiser for this year will be a raffle. We are excited about the elegant prizes and encourage the entire St. Spyridon community to support this extremely worthwhile endeavor. The funds raised with this raffle will go directly towards our National and Local commitments.

1st prize--14kt Italian gold bracelet--with cabachon onyx and cubic zirconia clasp (valued at \$1500)

2nd prize-- sterling silver hammered bowl--from Dimas Jewelers/Athens (valued at \$400)

3rd prize--Ladies Diamond Watch--donated by A&A Jewelers, North Dartmouth, MA

**Ticket prices are \$5.00 each or a book of 3 for \$10.00**

Tickets will be mailed out and can also be purchased from Philoptochos members. The Drawing will be held on November 7th after church at a coffee hour sponsored by Philoptochos.

We are happy and proud to report that our Philoptochos has received a beautiful proclamation from Boston and New York awarding us a proclamation of excellence for 100% participation and financial support of ALL the National Ministry commitments for 2008 and 2009. It has been signed by Archbishop Demetrios and the National President, Aphirodite Skeadas. Pretty fantastic for our small group of members!

We are always ready, willing and able to accept new members. Ladies, please consider joining.

We would like to ask the community to please let us know of anyone who may be suffering from an illness so that we may send our best wishes forward. Tina Fowler is our Sunshine person and can be reached at 8470-0771 or franktina@verizon.net.

Our Calendar for the year follows. Please hold on to it to refer to for upcoming meetings. We certainly appreciate your attendance. Looking forward to a great year!

September 15th	Board meeting at Sofi's house @ 6:30 p.m.
October 20th	General meeting @ church 6:30 p.m.
November 7th	Sponsor coffee hour at church - Major Fundraiser Raffle and pass tray
November 17th	General meeting @ church 6:30 p.m.
December 8th	Christmas party to be announced
December 11th	Vespers - Coffee Reception
January	Vasilopeta - date to be announced
January 10th	Soup kitchen sponsor at 3 p.m.
February 16th	General Meeting @ church 6:30 p.m.
March	Lenten dinner after Vespers - date to be scheduled
April 7th	Board meeting at Janice Tasso's @ 6:30 p.m.
May 18th	General meeting for elections @ 6:30 p.m.

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## STEWARDSHIP 2010

September is upon us. It's been a very busy summer with the Festival and all. Here's another list of the names of the all the stewards who have paid up until August 15, 2010. As of this message, I am putting together and mailing out the Mid-Year letter to remind those who have pledged and paid and for those who haven't.

Again, if there are any omissions please feel free to talk to me at Church or at my email; [wong.lily@verizon.net](mailto:wong.lily@verizon.net).

Adamedes, M/M Thomas & Artemis  
 Agias, Mr. John  
 Alexakos, Dr. Frances  
 Anagnostopoulos, Dr./M Cons. & Eleni  
 Anagnostos, Capt./M George & Ellen  
 Anagnostos, M/M David & Carole  
 Antonio, M/M Steven & Lisa  
 Antonio, M/M Tom & Estelle Parkos  
 Antonopoulos, Drs. Peter & Ellen

Bartis, M/M Canelo & Anastasia  
 Bonafas, M/M Nicholas & Diane  
 Borodemos, Mrs. Angie

Camini, Mr. Steve  
 Canale, M/M Greg & Zinovia  
 Caragianis, Mr. William  
 Caragianis, Mrs. Nina  
 Champion, Mrs. Mary  
 Cooper, M/M Jonathan & Alik  
 Cotsoridis, M/M Charles & Christine  
 Cotsoridis, Mr. Paul

Daglis, Ms. Mary  
 Dedreux, Mr. Bill  
 Demetriou, M/M James & Rosemary  
 Demopoulos, Mr. Harold W.  
 Diomandes, M/M Steve & Susan  
 Diomandes, Mr. Kerry  
 Dobrot, M/Dr. Lucian & Gabriela

Economou, Fr. George & Presvytera Elaine

Farias, M/M David & Angela  
 Fotiadis, Ms. Kiriaki

George, Mr. Jim (Narra.)

Georgiou, M/M Ernie & Pam  
 Gianetis, M/M Costa & Garnet  
 Gianetis, M/M Thomas & Gina  
 Gvosdev, M/M Nikolas

Haralambidis, Dr./M Cosmas & Despina  
 Hiotas, Ms. Penelope  
 Holder, M/M Charles & Elaine  
 Houlihan, Hon./Joseph, Jr. & Pamela

Janaros, Mr. Emmanuel  
 Jasinski, M/M David & Adeline  
 Jennings, M/M Steven & Elizabeth

Karanikolas, M/M Nick & Margaret  
 Karanikolas, Ms. Katherine  
 Karapatakis, M/M Steven & Rochelle  
 Koulouvardis, M/M Harry & Antigone  
 Koulouvardis, Ms. Catherine  
 Koutsogiannis, M/M Konstantinos & Paraskevi  
 Krones, Ms. Christine  
 Kutsaftis, M/M Anthony & Donna  
 Kyriakakis, M/M Stephen & Mary

Levesque, M/M Gerard  
 Lewis, Ms. Marea

Mazzulli, M/M Armand & Nancy  
 Meares, M/M Spyridon  
 Medeiros, Mrs. Catherine  
 Meiczinger, Ms. Paula  
 Mellekas, Mr. John & Martha  
 Mellekas, Mr. Peter  
 Menas, M/M George & Irene  
 Michael, Mrs. Mary  
 Moisiades, M/M Anthony & Julia

Nichols, Dr. Tom

Panoutsopoulos, Dr./M Basile & Lily  
 Panteleos, M/M Leon & Popi  
 Parkos, Mr. John T., Sr.  
 Perry, Mrs. Gail Karanikolas  
 Petropoulos, M/M George & Agnes  
 Petropoulos, Mr. Christos  
 Petropoulos, Mrs. Athena  
 Psilos, Haralambos Mr. & Mrs.  
 Psilos, M/M Chris & Connie

Redmond, M/M Michael & Sarah  
 Rozes, Joan

Spentzos, M/M Dino & Janet  
 Spentzos, M/M Nick & Noula  
 Spiratos, M/M George & Evelyn  
 Stefanopoulos, M/M Athanasios & Ourania  
 Stefanopoulos, M/M Christos & Sofia  
 Sullivan, M/M Patrick & Gail

Tasso, M/M James & Janet  
 Tsaparas, Mrs. Koula

Violet, Mrs. Marguerite  
 Violet, Mrs. Catherine  
 Volpicelli, Ms. Angela  
 Volpicelli, Ms. Stella

Walsh, Mrs. Mersina Christopher  
 Williams, M/M John & Kathryn  
 Wingert, M/M Richard & Joanne

# SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday Summer Hours  
Sunday Winter Hours

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Fathers Emergency Tel. # 401-474-7700			1. Ecclesiastical New Year Orthros: 8:30 a.m. Div. Lit. 9:30 a.m. <u>Blessing of Waters</u>	2. Mamas M John Pat. Of Co  <u>Office Hour</u>
5. 15th of Matthew. Zacharias/Elizabeth Orthros: 8:30 a.m. Div. Lit. 9:30 a.m.	6. <u>Labor Day.</u> Miracle at Colassai Martyr Calodote	7. Forefeast of the Nativity of Theotokos <u>Office Hours</u>  7:00 p.m. P.C. mtg.	8. <u>Nativity of the Theotokos</u> Orthros: 8:30 a.m. Div. Lit. 9:30 a.m.	9. Joachim an Severianos I <u>Office Hour</u>
12. <u>Winter Hours Before Holy Cross.</u> Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. <u>Sunday Sch. Starts</u>	13. Forefeast H.Cross <u>Greek School Registration and Beginning of Classes</u> <u>Agiasmo 4:30 p.m.</u>	14. <u>EXALTATION OF HOLY CROSS</u> Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. <u>Office Hours</u>	15. Nikitas Great Martyr. Philotheos the Righteous	16. Euphemia, Martyr. Melitir Martyr. <u>Office Hour</u>
19. After Holy Cross Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun.Sch/Fellowship <u>Gr.Sch.Registration</u>	20. Efstathios and Family.	21. Apodosis of the Holy Cross. Quadratus Apostle <u>Office Hours</u>	22. Phocas, Bishop of Sinope. Phocas the Gardener.	23. Conception John the B Orthros. 9:0 Div. Lit. 10:0 <u>Office Hour</u>
26. Falling Asleep of St. John Theologian Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. S. Sch. /Fellowship	27. Kallistratos and his 49 companions. Mark, Aristarchos & Zenon	28. Chariton the Confessor Alkison.  <u>Office Hours.</u>	29. Kyriakos of Palestine Petronia Mart.	30. Gregory, of Armei  <u>Office Ho</u>

**Hours** Orthros 8:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  
**Hours** (Sept. 12) Orthros 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

<b>HU</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT.</b>
as Martyr Of Constan <u>Hours.</u>	3. Anthimos of Nicomedeia, Theoctistus and Euthymius.	4. Babylas Hieromart. Moses the Prophet and Godseer
n and Anna nos Martyr <u>Hours.</u>	10. Menodora, Metrodora, Nymphodora, Poulcheria the Empress.	11. Theodora of Alexandria. Euphrosynos the Cook.
mia, Great elitina the r. <u>Hours</u>	17. Sophia, Faith, Hope, Love Martyrs.	18. Eumenios, Bishop of Gortyna. Ariadne the Martyr.
ception of St. he Baptist. . 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. <u>Hours.</u>	24. Thekla Equal to Apostles. St. Silouan	25. Euphrosyne of Alexandria Paphnoutios and his 546 Companions.
ory, Bishop rmenia. <u>Hours</u>		

**Upcoming Events**

September 8—Daughters of Penelope meeting, 7 p.m., Ahepa Housing

September 12—First day of Religious Education

September 13—First day of Greek School

**Regular Events**

Religious Education—Sundays, immediately after Holy Communion

Children’s Greek School—Monday-Thursday, 4-6 p.m.

Adult Greek School—Mondays, 4-6 p.m.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Hello Families,

Another year is upon us! I have sent out registration forms online, however if any families need a hard copy let me know. Also, if there is another family not registered yet, let me now. The first day will be Sunday, September 12th. Our classes will stay the same with the same teachers. Ms. Janet will teach the Pre-K group, Ms. Gabi will teach the K group, Ms. Marianne will teach the 1-2 grades, Ms. Sandy will teach grades 3-6, and Mr. Mike will teach the higher grades. If anyone is interested in teaching or helping in the classrooms, please let me know.

In August, the Sunday School had another summer retreat. The theme this year was the "Elevation of the Cross". Father spoke to the children first about this wonderful feast in our church. The children worked on projects all day that focused on the cross of Jesus Christ (see photo). The older children in our church were a *huge* help with the younger children and getting our Sunday School rooms ready for September. Thank you to all the parents who donated food items and most importantly their time to stay and help out.

Marianne

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## PROTULIS GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION

We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer season with their families and loved ones. As the new Ecclesiastical year commences, we wish to inform you that the first week of Greek School classes will be the week starting Monday, September 13th. After the first of September, we will be sending an email to all the families that participated in the Greek School last year in regard to registering their children for the new year. The fees will remain the same as last year.

If your family would like to participate in the Greek School this year for the first time, we will be available during coffee hour on Sunday, September 5th for registration information. If you are unable to attend church that day, please feel free to contact us at any time.

We will maintain the same class schedule as last year with a few minor modifications. Depending on the number of students registered, we will determine if any additional classes will be needed. We will also be adding a special once per month Saturday morning class for all Greek School students.

We look forward to a successful and enjoyable new Greek School year!

Best regards,  
Basile Panoutsopoulos & Thanasis Stefanopoulos  
Co-Directors, Protulis Greek School

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## FESTIVAL AD BOOK

We would like to offer a special thank you to those who supported the Ad Book 2010, and ask any parishioners who did not get an Ad Book, but would like one to just e-mail [hellenicfest2010@yahoo.com](mailto:hellenicfest2010@yahoo.com) or call Ashley Cottrell at 401-286-9634 and she will arrange to get them a copy.

Also, for parishioners interested in next year's ad book, please kindly e-mail [hellenicfest2010@yahoo.com](mailto:hellenicfest2010@yahoo.com) to be added to both our e-mail and separate home mailing list. **The first 2011 festival meeting will be 1.11.2011.**

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## CRANSTON CHURCH FESTIVAL

The Annunciation Church in Cranston is holding their festival on September 10, 11 and 12 on the church grounds. Please see the poster in the church hall for more information.

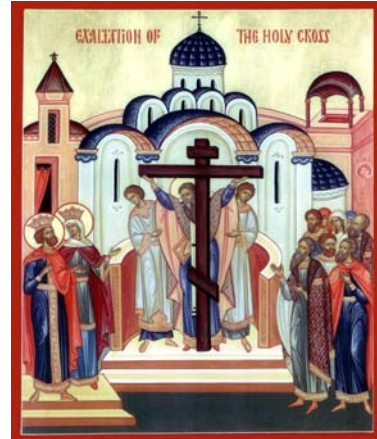
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## EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS: SEPTEMBER 14TH

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is one of the most important celebrations of the Orthodox Church. It is on this day that we pay special tribute to the precious Life-Giving Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ

The first emperor of the Roman Empire who became a Christian was Constantine the Great. Before the final battle which brought him victory over his enemies and absolute rule over the entire Roman Empire, he saw a beautiful vision in the sky above the battlefield. His vision was a vision of the Christian Cross. Below the Cross were the words 'Em Touto Nika,' which means "in this sign conquer." Constantine was encouraged by this sign and ordered his soldiers to prepare crosses on their armor before going into battle. Constantine's victory was complete and decisive.



Constantine was intrigued by the vision and asked his saintly mother, Helen who was a Christian, to journey to the Holy Land and search for the true cross of Jesus Christ. Although 325 years had passed since the crucifixion of Christ, Helen did not lose hope of finding His Cross. She searched diligently with her little band of soldiers for many months; finally one bright morning on September 14th in the year 325, the Cross was found. It was buried deep in the earth where Golgotha was once located. A strange but fragrant flower was growing at the spot where they found the cross. This flower is now called Vasiliko (Basil), which means the flower of royalty.

The Persians captured the city of Jerusalem in the year 614 AD and they made off with the precious Cross of Christ. The Byzantine Christian Emperor Heraclitus led an army of faithful Christian soldiers from Constantinople to recapture the holy city and retrieve the Holy Cross of Christ. The war waged for over fifteen years and victory was finally achieved. The Cross was once again returned to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. This great event was joined with the Feast Day of the "Finding of the Cross" by St Helen; and together on Sept 14th we celebrate "Elevation of the Holy Cross"

A special feature of the Church services on this day, is the procession in which the Cross is borne aloft on a tray of flowers and placed in the midst of the church. The priest then elevates it to the four corners of the compass, blessing thrice with it as he does so, and praying that God will protect and preserve the President and civil authorities of our country and armed forces, and guard and guide the hierarch and clergy of the Church, as well as protect and preserve all His faithful people from every evil.

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**Kontakion, Fourth Tone:** Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

### ΟΠΛΟ ΜΑΣ Ο ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ

Μέ κανένα άλλο όπλο δέν πολεμάει καλύτερα ό χριστιανός, από τό άκαταμάχητον όπλο του Σταυρου. Είναι γραμμένο στο λάβαρο της Έκκλησίας: «Έν τούτω νικά!» Παίρνει ό χριστιανός τό Χριστό στην καρδιά του, κάνει τό σταυρό του και νικά και κατατροπώνει, σαν τον άγιο Άντώνιο στην έρημο, χιλιάδες δαίμονες –άσώματους ή έν σώματι– όποιοι κι αν είναι, όπως κι αν έπιτεθούν. Γι αυτό όμως πρέπει τά μάτια μας νά τά ‘χουμε καρφωμένα στο Σταυρό, κι ό,τι και νά μας συμβεί, νά ζητούμε άμέσως τη βοήθειά του. Ό Σταυρός είναι για τό χριστιανό, ό,τι ήταν για τό λαό της Παλαιάς Διαθήκης ό όφης, που ύψωσε ό Μωϋσής, για νά τους φυλάξει από τά δηλητηριώδη φίδια. Κι άκριβώς εκείνο τό γεγονός είναι μιá προφητεία, γι’ αυτό που θά συμβαίνει πάντα, ως τά τέλη της ζωής μας. Γιατί ένώ βαδίζουμε προς τη γη της έπαγγελίας, μας δαγκώνουν φίδια πολλά και μας θανατώνουν την ψυχή. «Συκοφαντίαι, άδικίαι, ψεύδη, άπάται, έγκλήματα, πλημμυρίζουν τον κόσμο. Έχθροί όρατοί και άόρατοί μας περισφίγγουν. Οι φθόνοι των ανθρώπων μας περισφίγγουν και μας καταπνίγουν. Φίδια μέ θανατηφόρον δηλητήριο, τά πάθη της ψυχής και τά πάθη του σώματος, μας δαγκώνουν καθημερινώς, μας τραυματίζουν, μας δηλητηριάζουν την ψυχήν, μας φαρμακώνουν την ζωή» (Άρχιμ. –νυν μητροπολίτου Γόρτυνος και Άρκαδίας– Τιμ. Παπουτσάκη, Ό Χριστός και ή Κοινωνία, σελ. 292). Και όπως οι άνθρωποι του Μωϋσή, μόλις τους δάγκωναν τά φίδια, κοιτούσαν τό χάλκινο φίδι που ύψωσε ό Μωϋσής και γίνονταν άμέσως καλά, έτσι κ’ έμείς: όποιο όνομα κι αν έχει τό φίδι που θά μας δαγκώσει –στο σώμα ή στην ψυχή– πρέπει νά άπενίσουμε άμέσως τό Σταυρό του Κυρίου, για νά θεραπευτούμε.

(Από τό βιβλίο των έκδόσεων μας  
ΕΡΩΣ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΙΑΣ, του Π.Β. Πάσχου)

## NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS—HELLENIC FEST 2010

Hellenic Fest 2010 was a standout year for the Newport Hellenic Dancers. Our little group keeps growing and more children danced this year than any other. This year's island theme was very appropriate and enjoyable and the kids did a great job. From the smallest 3 year old to our now college freshman, they all came together to perform with great "kefi".

Even though the Newport Hellenic Dancers are a small part of the Festival, putting on the 3 performances really takes a lot of work, from the children, the parents, grandparents and all involved. First, we would like to thank all the kids, and young people; the dancers who entertain us, amaze us, and in many cases bring us to tears with their talent, commitment and energy. Each year we challenge them more and more and they always rise to the challenge. Second, the parents, grandparents etc. (in short all of you) who make time in your busy lives to bring the children to the practices, to stay late after liturgy, to run around getting the various things that are required for the costumes.

Last but not least, several families have helped us through the preparation and during the festival. It would be a very long list if all are mentioned. However, our special thanks goes to Aliko Cooper for taking such great photos of all the dancers as a group and as individuals and putting them up on our church website. Please visit <http://www.stspyridonchurch.org/photos.html> to see them. Aliko has been taking pictures of all the church events involving our youth and it is obvious that our small community has many activities which involve our children and their families.

Also, our special thanks goes to Mary Kyriakakis, who along with her Mom, Mrs. Paraskevi Koutsogiannis bought fabric and trim and made four very beautiful and well fitting traditional Greek Island dresses.

Finally we would like to thank the community for being very supportive, for approaching and saying the nicest things and encouraging us to continue in this effort. We feel the children represent our community to others and we are very proud of them.

Xanthoula (Sandy) and Vaggelis Giannopoulos  
Newport Hellenic Dancers Directors

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### NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS—FALL SCHEDULE 2010

Please join us again as we start the new season. Our schedule for the upcoming practices is given below. As always, the group is open to everyone and we encourage everyone's participation. It is a great activity for kids of all ages and we would love to see you there. Practices will be held after Liturgy downstairs.

September: 19th, 26th

October: 3rd, 17th, 24th

November: 14th, 21st

If you have any questions please call, email or talk to us at church.

Xanthoula (Sandy) and Vaggelis Giannopoulos

Phone: 401 667 2984

Email: [e.giannopoulos@verizon.net](mailto:e.giannopoulos@verizon.net)

[xanthoula@verizon.net](mailto:xanthoula@verizon.net)

## IN OUR PARISH

### **Birth**

Kathryn and John Williams welcomed *Stephanie Athanasia* on August 9, 2010. Stephanie joins her big sister Mary in the Williams family. Proud grandmother is Mary Michael. May she live a long and blessed life!

### **Baptism**

The daughter of Sarah and Michael Redman was baptized on July 17th and given the name *Stella Elizabeth* by her Godparents Tom and Gina Gianetis. Proud big sister is Lilliana, grandparents are Steve and Betty Jennings and great-grandmother Nina Bozas. May she live many years!

### **Death**

*Stanley J. Hiotas* passed away June 19, 2010 in South Bend, Indiana where he lived with his wife Julia. He was the son of the late Mersina and James Hiotas. He is survived by 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Stan was the brother of Penelope Hiotas of Newport and Charles Hiotas of Grand Rapids, Michigan.. May his memory be eternal.

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## BEACON HOSPICE SEEKS LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

Beacon Hospice provides quality end-of-life care to local terminally-ill patients. Volunteers are needed to provide much needed support and friendly visits to patients who have no visitors. Free training is required and the center is located at 1 Catamore Blvd in East Providence. For more information, please contact Paul Gauthier at 401-294-6204 or [pgauthier@beaconhosice.com](mailto:pgauthier@beaconhosice.com).

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## THE PROMISE OF TOMORROW 1940—1960 FILM

We have received several copies of the film *THE PROMISE OF TOMORROW 1940-1960* and are offering them for sale at \$25 each. This film was shown at the Rhode Island International Film Festival on August 11 and is narrated by Olympia Dukakis. The film was written and directed by Anna Giannotis Luna, formerly of the Newport area and St. Spyridon Church. The film is described as "the universal story of all Greek Americans". Please call the church office to reserve a copy.

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## FILM FESTIVAL NEWS

Five films were screened at this year's Saint Spyridon Orthodox Christian Film Festival on Saturday, 10 July, in the church hall. In the Junior Division, the Saint John of Damascus Award went to **Alexander Antonopoulos** for his film entitled "Cantors: A History". **Sofia** and **Athanasia Stefanopoulos** took the Saint Kassiane Award for their film entitled "Teaching Children the Ten Commandments". The Stefanopoulos sisters also earned the Saint Constantine the Great Award for Best New Entrant. And **Michael Antonopoulos** won the Saint Marcian Award and also the Saint Symeon the Translator Award for Best Theological Research for his film entitled "Chi Rho".

**Gabriela** and **Lucian Dobrot** won the Saint Luke the Evangelist Award in the Senior Division for their film entitled "Symbols of Faith".

After the competition, the Festival Committee presented a short film entitled, "Hellenic Festival 1988".

Following the videos and the luncheon, participants and audience members alike enjoyed the annual festival boat ride, this year again on the Rumrunner II. Storm clouds were visible to the west of the bay and storm clouds could be seen to the east of the bay, however, once again, where we were was perfect, and we enjoyed a lovely and beautiful voyage.

Special thanks go out to this year's judges, **Andrew Kalford** from Holy Resurrection Bulgarian Orthodox Church in Allston, Massachusetts, **Constantine Farah** a member of the recent Officer Candidate School class on the Navy base, and **John Psikakos** from the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Cranston, RI.

A Special Thanks to **Ellen** and **Peter Antonopoulos**, **Zina Bashlayeva**, **Gabriela** and **Lucian Dobrot**, **Marianne Menas**, and **Arthur** and **Ourania Stefanopoulos** for their luncheon donations.

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## AHEPA NEWS

### Next AHEPA 245 Meeting

The next meeting of the local AHEPA Chapter will take place the Second Tuesday of September at the Club Room of the Newport AHEPA Housing.

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## DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

The next meeting of the Daughters of Penelope will be held on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 at 7 p.m. at the Ahepa Housing Complex. District raffle tickets are now on sale. Please contact Joanne Hologgitas or Ellen Anagnostos for tickets.

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<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <b>Gredo Vincent Volpicelli</b></p>	<p><b>Order of AHEPA</b> Maud Howe Elliott Chapter No. 245 <b>Daughters of Penelope</b> Ares Chapter Number 49</p>	<p><b>Mel's Cafenio</b> 25 Broadway Newport 849-6420</p>
<p><i>With compliments of...</i> Dr. Joanne and Mr. C. Gus Hologgitas</p>	<p><b>Aquidneck Pizza</b> Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner 27 Aquidneck Avenue Middletown Take out orders: 849-3356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri &amp; Sat 7am-2am</p>	<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <b>Stelios and Frangoula</b> <b>Christopher</b></p>
<p><b>NIKOLAS PIZZA</b> 38 Memorial Blvd West Newport 849-6611</p>	<p><b>ASTRO</b> <b>CONSTRUCTION INC.</b> PO Box 522 Portsmouth, RI (401) 683-9120 Established 1954</p>	<p><b>CODDINGTON</b> <b>BREWING COMPANY</b> 210 Coddington Highway Middletown 847-6690</p>
<p><i>Compliments of the</i> <b>ATLANTIC</b> <b>BEACH CLUB</b> 53 Purgatory Road Middletown 847-2750</p>	<p><b>A-1 Pizza</b> 306 Broadway Newport <b>Free Delivery</b> <b>849-2213</b></p>	<p><b>Rhea's Bed &amp; Breakfast</b> <i>Accommodations with jacuzzi's available!</i> 120 West Main Road Middletown <b>841-5560</b></p>
<p><i>Compliments of</i> <b>Island of Skiathos</b> <b>Organization</b> Established 1967</p>	<p><b>Flo's Drive-In</b> Portsmouth <b>Flo's Clam Shack</b> Middletown <i>Voted Best in Rhode Island!</i></p>	<p><b>The Mainstay Inn</b> 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road Newport <b>849-9880</b></p>
<p><b>All American</b> <b>Foods, Inc.</b></p>	<p><b>Steve H. Jennings</b> <b>Advanced Planning Associates</b> Advanced Tax &amp; College Planning Retirement &amp; Asset Protection 401.247.9882 SJennings@AdvancedRI.com www.advancedri.com</p>	<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <b>Anthony &amp; Dorothea</b> <b>Rozes</b></p>