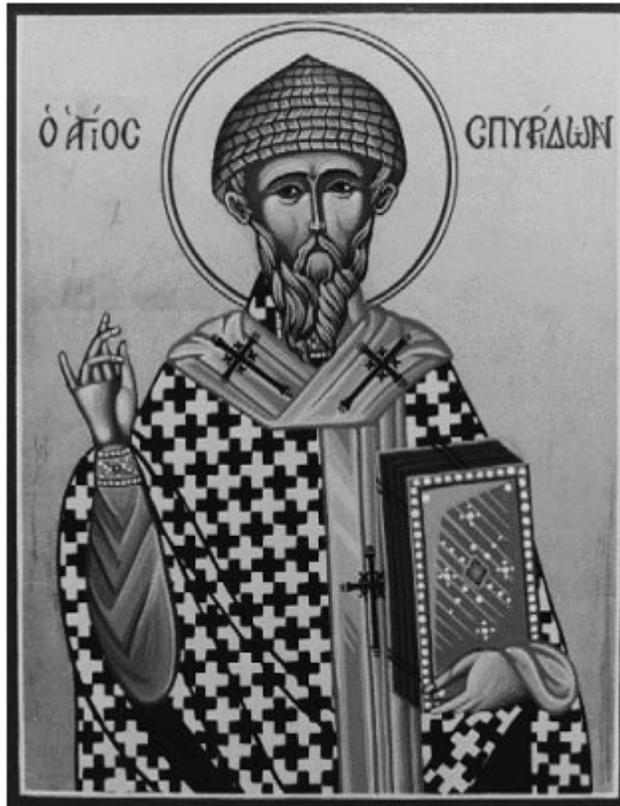

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
MARCH 2011



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



SANT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.stspyridonchurch.org

Reverend Dr. George E. Economou

frgeorge@stspyridonchurch.org

Office Hours

Priest: Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; For emergencies, call (401) 474-7700 (cell)
Church secretary, Ellen Anagnostos: Tuesday & Thursday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

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: Theodore Panoutsopoulos

GOYA President: Missy Mellekas

JOY Advisor: Sandy Giannopoulos

Soup Kitchen: Sofi Cofield, Rose Apostal
and Jane Iandolo

Greek School:

Eleni Anagnostopoulos

Loula Eliopoulos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

Thanasi Stefanopoulos

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 9 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10 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

**By Fr. Thomas Hopko – from his book “The Lenten Sprint”, Great & Holy Lent
Let us Begin with Joy**

Joy is at the heart of everything in the Christian life, and Great Lent is no exception. The hymns and verses of the church services call Christians to begin with rejoicing.

Let us enter the Fast with joy, O faithful. Let us not be sad. Let us cleanse our faces with the waters of dispassion, blessing and exalting Christ forever. Let us begin the Fast with joy. Let us give ourselves to spiritual efforts. Let us cleanse our souls. Let us cleanse our flesh. Let us fast from passions as we fast from foods, taking pleasure in the good works of the spirit and accomplishing them in love that we all may be made worthy to see the passion of Christ our Goad and His Holy Pascha, rejoicing with spiritual joy. (First Friday Matins).

Jesus commands all those who fast to be joyful. He condemns sadness and grief, especially the outward appearance of fasting before men. He orders His people to hide their sorrow and to cover their sadness over sin. He directs them to hide their acts of penitence, to keep their fortifications secret, to appear shining and bright to the world.

And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you fast, anoint you head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Mt. 6:16-18)

Sadness for Christians is a sin to be repented of – not a virtue to be cultivated. Blessed mourning over the tragedies of this fallen world is possible. Those who mourn for this cause are promised comfort by the Lord. And godly grief over sins for the sake of leading us to conversion and repentance is possible. The apostle Paul refers to this in his second letter to the Corinthians.

I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting; for you felt a godly grief, to that you suffered no loss through us. For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret, but worldly grief produces death. (2Cr. 7:9-10)

In the Lenten season the Christians struggle to put aside all “worldly grief” and to embrace the “godly grief” which St. John Climacus calls the blessed joy-grief of holy compunction, which inspires spiritual laughter in the soul; since “God does not ask or desire that a person should mourn from sorrow of heart, but rather that out of love for Him he should rejoice with the spiritual joy.” (St. John Climacus, The Ladder of Divine

Ascent, step 7. St. John died in the seventh century. His memory is kept liturgically on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.)

As I ponder the true nature of compunction, I find myself amazed by the way in which inward joy and gladness mingle with what we call mourning and grief, like honey in a comb. There must be a lesson here and it surely is that compunction is properly a gift from God, so that there is real pleasure in the soul, since God secretly brings consolation to those who in their hearts are repenting. (St. John Climacus)

These words of one of the severest saints recall the teachings of St. John Cassian, who lived about three hundred years earlier.

The only form of dejection we should cultivate is the sorrow which goes with repentance for sin and is accompanied by hope in God. It was of this form of dejection that the apostle said: “Godly sorrow produces a repentance that leads to salvation and brings no regret” (Cor. 7:10). This “godly sorry” nourishes the soul through the hope engendered by repentance, and it is mingled with joy. That is why it makes us obedient and eager for every good word: accessible, humble, gentle, forbearing and patient in enduring all the suffering of tribulation God may send us. Possession of these qualities shows that a person enjoys the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, goodness, faith, self-control. But from the other kind of dejection we come to know the fruits of the evil spirit: listlessness, impatience, anger, hatred, contentiousness, despair, sluggishness in prayer. So we should shun this second form of dejection as we would unchastely, avarice, anger and the rest of passions. It can be healed by prayer, hope in God, meditation on holy scripture and by living with godly people. (St. John Cassian, on the Eight vices.)

These lessons from the saints are the teaching of the Church herself in her services for the Lenten spring. Repentance and joy, compunction and consolation, godly grief and spiritual rejoicing are joined together in perfect union in the person who fights for the Lord.

Receive Lent with gladness, O people! The beginning of spiritual warfare arrives. Forsake the indulgences of your flesh that the gifts of the Spirit may abound in you. Embrace your share of suffering, O soldiers of Christ! Prove yourselves to be children of God! The Holy Spirit will take up His abode in you and your souls will be filled with His light. (Cheesefare Tuesday matins.)

“Only one day,” He said “is the life of those on earth.” For those who make the effort in love there are forty days of the Fast for us to accomplish with joy. (First Monday matins).

SUNDAYS OF GREAT LENT 2011

Joint services will be held at 5 pm, followed by Lenten refreshments:

Sunday March 13 (**Sunday of Orthodoxy**), St Mary's Parish, 249 High Street, Pawtucket
Guest Preacher: Rev Dr Harry Pappas, Pastor at Archangels Parish—Stamford, CT and
Adjunct Professor at St Vladimir's Seminary, Crestwood, NY

Sunday March 20—Assumption Parish, 97 Walcott Street, Pawtucket

Sunday March 27—Dormition Parish, 71 Manville Hill Road, Cumberland

Sunday April 3—St. John's Parish, 501 East School Street, Woonsocket

Sunday April 10—Sts. Mary & Mena Parish, 8 Pendleton Street, Cranston

LIST OF ITEMS FOR GREAT LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Following are items needed during the holiest of seasons. Please consider donating one or more items, in order to help defray some of the expenses. All items have been pre-ordered, so please make your check payable to St. Spyridon, noting item on memo line.

Thank you. May our Lord God from Whom all blessings flow, bless you abundantly.

1. Flowers for the decoration of the Icon for the Salutations (5 Fridays) - \$25
 2. Flowers for the decoration of the Icon of Annunciation—\$50
 3. Flowers for the Feast of the Veneration of the Holy Cross (Mid-Lent) - \$50
 4. Palm Sunday: 6 Palm trees—\$150, Vayia, (bay leaves—\$100), Palms for Palm Sunday Crosses—\$100
 5. Holy Wednesday: Holy Unctions items—Donated
 6. Holy Thursday: 12 Candles for 12 Gospels and Crown of Thorns—\$50
 7. Holy Friday: 4 Candles for the Epitaphio—\$20
 8. Holy Saturday: Lilies for Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday—18 plants—\$15 each
 9. Holy Saturday: Paschal Candle; Flowers for the Resurrection Banner—\$50 each
 10. Epitaphios Flowers—**This is our largest, single expense; your generous donations would be greatly appreciated.**
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THE MEANING OF THE ANNUNCIATION

The world is filled with countless books on struggle and competition, each attempting to show that the road to happiness is cut-throat competition and even hatred, and in none of them will you find the word “joy.” People don’t even know what the word means any more. But the very same joy announced by the angel at the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary remains a pulsating force that still has power to surprise and shake human hearts. Go into a church on the eve of Annunciation. Stay, wait through the long service as it slowly unfolds. Then the moment comes when after the long wait, softly, with such divinely exquisite beauty the choir begins to sing the familiar festal hymn, “With the voice of the Archangel, we cry to You, O Pure One: Rejoice, O full of Grace, the Lord is with You!” Hundreds and hundreds of years have gone by, and still, as we hear this invitation to rejoice, joy fills our heart in a wave of warmth, But what is this joy about? Above all we rejoice in the very presence of this woman herself, whose face, whose image, is known throughout the world, who gazes upon us from icons, and who became one of the most sublime and purest figures of art and human imagination. We rejoice in her response to the angel, to her faithfulness, purity, wholeness, to her total self-giving and boundless humility, all of which forever ring out in her words: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” Tell me, is anything in this world, in any of its rich and complex history, more sublime and more beautiful than this one human being? Mary, the Most Pure one, the One who is Full of Grace, is truly the One in whom, as the Church sings, “all Creation rejoices.” The church answers the lie about man, the lie that reduces him to earth and appetite, to a baseness and brutality, the lie that says he is permanently enslaved to the immutable and impersonal laws of nature, by pointing to the image of Mary, the most-pure Mother of God, the One to whom, in the words of a Russian poet, “the outpouring of sweetest human tears from overflowing hearts” is offered in unending streams. The lie continues to pervade the world, but we rejoice because here, in the image of Mary, the lie is shown for what it is. We rejoice with delight and wonder, for this image is always with us as comfort and encouragement, as inspiration and help. We rejoice because in gazing at this image, it is so easy to believe in the heavenly beauty of the world and in man’s heavenly calling. The joy of Annunciation is about the angel’s Glad Tidings, that the people had found grace with God and that soon, very soon, through her, through this totally unknown Galilean woman, God would begin to fulfill the mystery of the world’s redemption. There would be no thunder and no fear in her presence, but He would come to her in the joy and fullness of childhood. Through her a Child will now be King: a Child, weak, defenseless, yet through Him all the powers of evil are to be forever stripped of power.

This is what we celebrate on the Annunciation and why the feast has always been, and remains, so joyful and radiant. But I repeat, none of this can be understood or expressed in the

limited categories and language familiar to “scientific” atheism, which leads us to conclude that this approach willfully and arbitrarily has declared an entire dimension of human experience to be non-existent, unnecessary and dangerous, along with all the words and concepts used to express that experience. But this is a place where joy is impossible, and so everyone is hostile and sad. But if you leave the pit and climb out, you suddenly find yourself in the midst of a resoundingly joyful church where once again you hear, “With the voice of the Archangel, we cry to You, O Pure One: Rejoice!”

Taken from *Celebration of Faith*, vol. , 3 by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

MAKING LENT MEANINGFUL AT HOME

Great Lent is the most significant time of the year in the spiritual life of Orthodox Christians. As parents, we have an opportunity to teach and reinforce its importance and significance to our children, so that they may always love and appreciate this holy period. Here are some things to consider...

- Purchase an Orthodox prayer book if you don't have one, and use it.
 - Plan which services you can realistically attend each week as a family (try for at least one).
 - Parents, read a book on Great Lent to understand it better (see Fr. Anthony for suggestions).
 - Try as much as possible to keep the fast in an appropriate way for your family (perhaps try keeping a strict fast on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays if you can't do more).
 - Curb or eliminate television, movies, etc.; replace with biblical movies, or read Scripture or other spiritually edifying materials.
 - Periodically light incense and keep a lit candle or vigil lamp in front of the holy icons (help create a more spiritual atmosphere at home as much as possible).
 - Plan on going to confession as a family during Lent (parents are the example in everything to their children – don't rob them of this spiritually beneficial opportunity).
 - If properly prepared, receive Holy Communion more frequently as a family during Lent.
 - Choose one or more charities that the family would like to support financially or otherwise (involve children as much as possible with this process).
-

A JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

When we think of the Lenten period, and of preparation for Easter, we think of abstinence from food. Surely, fasting is an important part of the Lenten discipline, but preparing for Easter is not only accomplished by avoiding certain foods and elements of our life styles.

If we are to prepare fully and completely for Easter, then Lent should also be a period of positive action. It should remind us to avoid sin, as well as, inspire us towards positive action. It should remind us that we avoid sin only when we do that which is required of us by God. It is not difficult to make Lent a time of action as well as of abstinence. What follows are my suggestions.

First Week – Begin to develop the practice of setting aside a quiet time each day. As a beginning, fifteen minutes spent in Bible reading and simple prayer is adequate.

Second Week – Write a letter to a good friend who lives far away and from whom you have not heard recently. Express your appreciation for the friendship.

Third Week – Make a local telephone call each day to at least one friend that you do not usually see or call. Tell him that you were thinking of them and of your joy in speaking to them.

Fourth Week – Buy, or better yet, make a small gift, and visit someone who has been ill or is lonely. Do not end your visit without setting the date for your next visit.

Fifth Week – Easter is approaching; remember to express words of forgiveness to someone who has wronged you. Still more important, ask for forgiveness where you know this is necessary.

Sixth Week – Prepare to celebrate Easter by sharing its joy with another. Invite someone to share the hospitality of your home and your Easter meal.

Let us open our hearts to the opportunities for spiritual growth that Lent provides.

REV. ANDREW DEMOTSES

SIN

Sin is a mutiny, the rebellion of creation against its Creator, disobedience to the Creator, treason against Him, delight in the divine honor or self-deification. "You shall be gods" (Genesis 3:5) whispered the serpent in the ears of Eve, just as now he whispers to the sinner – the distortion of one's nature, willful insanity, disgraceful wantonness, the purely arbitrary falling from grace into rage; from truth into untruth; from simplicity to evil; from the light into darkness; from power into weakness; from breadth into narrowness; from peace into disturbance; from life to death. Sin is an impulsive impunity, vile captivity, soul-corrupting poison. Sin has given birth to all the misfortunes in the world, and all the sickness, pestilence, distraction, epidemic disease, wars, earthquakes and death, both temporary and eternal. The sin of this highest angel Lucifer made him the Devil, Satan, and all the spirits who rebelled against God, who were angels of light and of indescribable beauty became dark and repulsive demons. Sin produced and still produces horrible evil, horrible calamities, horrible revolutions in the world, in the human race. Because of sin, all creation is in confusion. It is impossible to describe, it is impossible to adequately weep – the tears of the whole human race would not be sufficient – for the awful consequences of sin in the world. Brother! Let us respect, let us repeat with all our hearts, so that the Sun of Righteousness, Christ, might shine in our hearts, that the Kingdom of Heaven might be at hand in our hearts. Let us repent constantly, every day and hour before the eyes of God Who sees all. We sin constantly, let us also constantly repent. For sin is darkness! Amen.

FORGIVENESS

But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which spitefully use you, and persecute you; that you may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven. For He makes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust and the just. (Matthew 5:44-45) And when you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against another: that your Father, Who is in Heaven, also may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father Who is in Heaven forgive your trespasses. (Mark 11:25-26) For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (Matthew 6:14) Therefore, if your enemy hungers, feed him: if he thirsts, give him a drink. (Romans 12:20) But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again: and your rewards shall be great, and you shall be the children of the Highest: for He is kind to the unthankful and to the evil. Be merciful therefore, as your father is merciful. Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you shall be forgiven. (Luke 6:35-37)



MARCH 2011

Sunday Wi

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Fathers Emergency Tel 401-474-7700 Please use only in emergencies. Other wise leave message.	<u>During Great Lent</u> Fr. George will have office hours Wed- nesdays & Fridays 12 till services begin.	1 Eudokia of Heliopolis and Antonina New Martyr. <u>Office Hours</u> 7:00 p.m. P.C.Mtg	2. Hesychios martyr Nicholaos Planas	3. Eutropios, Kl kos Vasiliskos <u>Office Hou</u> 7:00 p.m. Festi <u>meeting at AB</u>
6. Cheesefare Sun. Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun. Sch./Fellowship	<u>7. GREAT LENT</u> <u>BEGINS</u> <u>Strict fast all day</u> Also Wednesdays & Fridays during Lent	8. Theophylaktos Bishop of Nicomedeia Hermas of the 70 <u>Office Hours</u>	9. 40 Martyrs at the Lake of Sebaste. 4:30 9th Hour 5:00 Presanctified 6:00 Lenten meal/talk	10. Kodratos o Corinth Anasta Alex <u>Office Hou</u>
13. Of Orthodoxy Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun. Sch./Fellowship 5:00 Lenten Vespers	14. Benedict of Nursia Euschimon Bishop <u>Soup kitchen</u>	15. Agapius and Companions Manuel of Crete. <u>Office Hours</u>	16. Savinos of Egypt Christodoulos Patmos 4:30 9th Hour 5:00 Presanctified 6:00 Lenten meal/talk	17. Alexios of Patrick of Irela <u>Office Hours</u>
20. St. Gregory Pal. Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun. Sch. Fellowsip 5:00 Lenten Vespers	21. James Confessor Thomas Patriarch of Constantinople	22. Basil of Ancyra Kalliniki/Vassilisa <u>Boston Clergy Retreat</u> <u>Metropolis Camp in</u> <u>New Hampshire</u>	23. Nikon & Company <u>Boston Clergy Retreat</u> <u>No Presanctified</u> <u>Liturgy tonight.</u>	24. Tikhon of M <u>Office Hour:</u> 7:00 Gr. Vesp Annunciation nunciation Cra
27. Holy Cross Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Greek Ind. Celebrat. 5:00 Lenten Vespers	28. Hilarion the New	29 Mark Bishop 25th March Celebrat. 4:30 State Capital Pawtucket Center for the Reception.	30. John of Climakos 4:30 p.m. 9th Hour 5:00 Presanctified 6:00 Lenten meal/talk	31. Hypatios th Wonderworker Innocent, Enlig of Siberia and . <u>Office Hou</u>

Winter Hours Orthros 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

HU	FRI	SAT.
s, Kleonikos etc <u>Hours</u> Festival <u>ABC</u>	4. Gerasimos the Righteous. Paul and his sister Juliana	5. <u>Sat. of Souls</u> Theodore the Recruit Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Trisagion Prayers
os of nastasia of <u>Hours.</u>	11. Sophronios Patr. of Jerusalem 7:00 pm. Salutations to the Theotokos	12. <u>Sat. of Souls</u> St. Theodore of Tyro Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Trisagion Prayers
s of God. Ireland <u>urs</u>	18. Cyril Patriarch of Jerusalem. Great 7:00 p.m. Salutations to the Theotokos	19. Chrysanthus and Daria. Demetrios Mrt
of Moscow <u>Hours</u> vespers of tion at An n Cranston.	<u>25 ANNUNCIATION</u> <u>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</u> <u>Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.</u> 7:00 p.m. Salutations to the Theotokos	26. Synaxis of Arch-Angel Gabriel. 25 Martyrs of Crimea
os the orker Enlightener and Alaska <u>Hours</u>	<u>PLEASE NOTE</u> Godparents and Godchildren Sunday will be held April 3rd Please plan to attend	

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 8—Daughters of Penelope Meeting, 7 p.m, Royal Plaza Hotel

March 14—Soup Kitchen

March 27—Protulis Greek School and Newport Hellenic Dancers Greek Independence Day Program

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.

HOW AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN BEHAVES IN CHURCH

1. I come to church physically clean, mentally prepared, and properly dressed
2. I stop talking until I am out of church again.
3. In the Narthex, I cross myself, and, after lighting a candle, I reverently kiss the Icon of my Church's Patron Saint or Feast (The Nativity of Chris) and the Icon of the Holy Theotokos.
4. I quietly go to my pew from the side aisle, and, before sitting, I bow my head and cross myself before the Holy Altar.
5. I pray while waiting for my priest to begin the service.
6. I sing and say prayers with the other worshippers.
7. I always look in front of me, but never around or behind me.
8. I never chew gum or cross my legs.
9. I kiss the Priest's hand when he give me Antidoron (Holy Bread); I also kiss the Priest's hand whenever I greet him, as a sign of respect.
10. I leave the church quietly at the end of the service.
11. I go to my Sunday School classroom without any confusion or noise.
12. I am always on time for the Divine Liturgy and other Church Services, and I am absent only when I am ill.

WHEN NOT TO ENTER THE CHURCH

So that we do not disturb our fellow worshippers during parts of the Divine Liturgy which require our special attention, we do not enter the church proper:

1. When the Priest is facing the congregation.
 2. When the Priest censens the congregation
 3. During the reading of the Epistle & the Gospel
 4. During the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.
 5. During the Small Entrance (Priest carrying the Holy Gospel)
 6. During the Great Entrance (Priest carrying the Holy Gifts)
 7. During the Sermon We may enter at all other times as long as we do it quietly and reverently.
-

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

At the December 2010 Parish Council Meeting, the Parish Council unanimously appointed the below seven parishioners in good standing to the St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church Endowment Committee. These appointments were made in accordance with the recent General Assembly-approved modifications to the Endowment Fund By-Laws which approved new terms of office. The new terms of office commenced on January 1, 2011.

Full Terms of Six (6) Years (to expire 12/31/16)

1. Dr. Ernest Violet
2. Dr. James Rozes
3. Mr. Peter Kyriakides

Abridged Terms of Four (4) Years (to expire 12/31/14)

(in order to establish staggered terms--future appointments will be for six (6) years)

4. Ms. Mersina Christopher Walsh
5. Mr. Leon Panteleos

Abridged Terms of Two (2) Years (to expire 12/31/12)

(in order to establish staggered terms--future appointments will be for six (6) years)

6. Dr. Joanne Hologgitas
7. Mr. Athanasios Stefanopoulos

Additionally, the Parish Council voted and unanimously approved that **Mr. Constantine "Gus" Hologgitas**, be named an Honorary Board Member 'Emeritus' due to his active participation in the founding of the Endowment Fund and his many years of membership and continuing involvement in said Endowment Fund Committee.

The Parish Council and the entire St. Spyridon Church Family convey to the Endowment Committee our best wishes for success in the future as well as a sincere thank you for your gift of time to our beloved St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church. We offer our deepest thanks and best wishes for your continued success in your stewardship of these funds.



ΑΠΟΚΡΕΑΤΙΚΟ GLENDI



PROTULIS GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The Greek School children have been hard at work learning their poems, hymns and songs for the upcoming Greek Independence Day Celebrations. We will have a full celebration at our church on Sunday, March 27th, including student participation during the Divine Liturgy, followed by a program in our community hall. The Hellenic Dancers will also be part of the program in the community hall. The children hope to see many community members present this day and appreciate the positive feedback they have received following their prior programs. We are proud of their efforts and enthusiasm and look forward to this celebration!

Also, as in the past, the Protulis Greek School will attend and participate in the State of Rhode Island Greek Independence Day Celebration on Tuesday, March 29th. We welcome all community members to attend this program with the Governor, State Representatives and other dignitaries.

The children enjoyed the February Σαββατιάτικη Παρέα (Saturday Gathering) where they watched a Greek children's movie and shared dinner and fellowship with one another. The March Σαββατιάτικη Παρέα will be a rehearsal for the Greek Independence Day celebrations and will take place on Saturday, March 26th in the community hall at 10a.m.

Looking ahead...The Protulis Greek School is making plans to participate in the Greek Independence Day Parade in Boston's Back Bay on Sunday, April 10th and hopes to march under the banner of the Protulis Greek School. As such, to help defray the related costs, the Greek School will have a Spring Fundraiser featuring the sale of Easter Tsoureki (bread). Further details will be distributed in the coming weeks and included in the April newsletter.

Your St Spyridon Bookstore
has many great selections for Lent
Stop in and find your inspiration





The students of the Protulis Greek School celebrated the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs on Sunday, January 30th by singing the hymn in church and also Nico Spentzos and Panagiotis Panoutsopoulos presented a brief history of the Three Hierarchs in both Greek and English.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Families,

As lent begins, each child in Sunday School will be given an Orthodox Christian Missionary Box. Each child is asked to put money in the box for lent to raise money for missionaries spreading the word of Orthodoxy. The boxes will be collected in May and our total is to be \$200 this year.

Also, on March 6th will be the junior/senior level oratorical festival. Come and support our youth as they present their speeches.

God bless!,
Marianne

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Protulis Greek School and Newport Hellenic Dancers Program in Church Hall

The Greek School and the Newport Hellenic Dancers will be offering a program in honor of Greek Independence Day at the Church Hall on Sunday, March 27th following Divine Liturgy. Please plan to join us for this wonderful celebration!

Newport City Hall

A proclamation will be read at Newport City Hall on Friday, March 25th at 12p.m. (Noon) sharp. We hope to see many of you there - bring your children dressed in traditional Greek costumes to celebrate the day and see the flag of Greece flying over City Hall!



Rhode Island State House

Greek Independence Day will be celebrated at the State House in Providence on Tuesday, March 29th. A reception will immediately follow at the Assumption Church in Pawtucket. Everyone in our community is invited to participate in this event. As we have done in the past, children from our community will be dressed in traditional costumes, recite poems and dance to celebrate this occasion.

IN OUR PARISH

Honors

Congratulations to *Constantine "Totts" Amarant* who was chosen 2010 "Volunteer of the Year" by the Rhode Island Hospitality and Tourism Association recently. The honoree was presented with a certificate signed by Governor Donald J. Carcieri.

Deaths

The sister of parishioner Katherine Karanikolas fell asleep in the Lord on January 8, 2011 in New Bedford. Our sympathies go out to Katherine and her family. May her memory be eternal!

Helen (Koulouvardis) Nelson fell asleep in the Lord on February 17, 2011. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her daughter Melissa Pinheiro, her brother, Harry Koulouvardis and her aunt and uncle, Catherine and George Koulouvardis. May her memory be eternal!

AHEPA NEWS

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

The local Chapters of AHEPA will sponsor the Lenten Dinner on the 13th of April.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE AND AHEPA NEWS

The chapter will be very busy these next few weeks leading up to our Palm Sunday Fish Dinner which will be held on Sunday, April 17. Tickets will be out very soon and will be available at coffee hours every Sunday. Our next meeting will be a dinner meeting on TUESDAY, MARCH 8 at the Royal Plaza Hotel in Portsmouth. This meeting is being held on a Tuesday instead of Wednesday because of the Presanctified Liturgies being held on Wednesdays. On March 27, we will host the coffee hour.

A Blessed Lenten Season to all.

<p><i>In loving memory of</i></p> <p>Gredo Vincent Volpicelli</p>	<p>Order of AHEPA Maud Howe Elliott Chapter No. 245</p> <p>Daughters of Penelope Ares Chapter Number 49</p>	<p>Mel's Cafenio 25 Broadway Newport 849-6420</p>
<p><i>With compliments of...</i></p> <p>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><i>In loving memory of</i></p> <p>Stelios and Frangoula Christopher</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>
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<p><i>Compliments of</i></p> <p>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>All American Foods, Inc.</p>	<p>Steve H. Jennings Advanced Planning Associates Advanced Tax & College Planning Retirement & Asset Protection 401.247.9882 SJennings@AdvancedRI.com www.advancedri.com</p>	<p><i>In loving memory of</i></p> <p>Anthony & Dorothea Rozes</p>