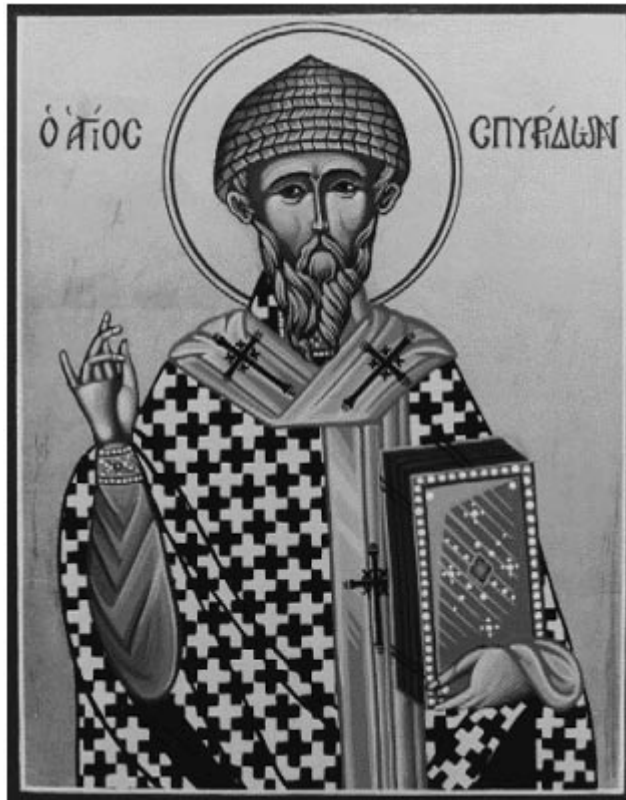


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THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE  
OCTOBER 2011

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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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**SANT 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 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

**Philotochos 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](mailto: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 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

**October Archpastoral Reflection from His Eminence**

The story is told about a number of frogs which were placed by scientists in a tub of water whose temperature was exactly the same as the pond from which they were taken. The scientists slowly increased the temperature and were soon astonished to see that, even though the water gradually became warmer, the frogs did not react. It was only when the temperatures were increased to a boiling point that the frogs reacted. It was too late. Before they knew it, they burned to death. Had they realized the slow increase in the water temperature, they would have reacted and thus spared their lives. The frogs grew accustomed to the slow rise in temperature and adapted. The change in water temperature occurred slowly but deliberately, and because of this process, the frogs failed to pay attention.

For us Orthodox Christians, the changes in the moral standards in our society have occurred so slowly that they have become imperceptible. We have adapted to the slow deterioration of moral life in society to the point where we have adapted to the moral decay in our midst and have taken it for granted. Sadly we live in a world of moral and ethical relativism, hedonism and selfishness; in a world in desperate need of spiritual renewal.

Sunday is no longer the day that we worship Almighty God and then sit at our dinner table to enjoy fellowship. Rarely do we read the Bible. Prayers are no longer offered in our schools. The Ten Commandments have been removed from our civil courts. Lifestyles previously kept in the closet are now championed as reputable and worthy of emulation. The other day while driving to a liturgical service, a fellow priest pointed to a decal placed prominently on the bumper of the car in front of us. It was the symbol of a new atheist group in America.

The admonition of Saint Paul addressed to the Ephesians should echo in our hearts, "no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds." (Eph.4:17) We need to re-evaluate our lives and ask ourselves how the way we live differs from the way others live who have no faith. Do we differ as Orthodox Christians from our secular and oftentimes atheist neighbors? How do we live our Orthodox Faith?

I am concerned that we have become so accustomed to sin and immoral behavior, that we do not notice it. We must not accept the prevailing permissive immoral and unethical standards of modern day society which are clearly at odds with the tenets of Holy Scripture and the teachings of the Fathers of the Church.

Remember the frogs in the experiment, and be wary of their mistake of growing accustomed to an environment which eventually caused their demise.

+ **Metropolitan Methodios of Boston**, October 2011

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council held its monthly meeting on 13 September 2011.

As I've been reporting, there are repairs that are necessary to the church edifice, and we're still waiting for a few quotations before these can begin.

A lot of discussion during these recent Council Meetings has been about Stewardship, and with God's will, I hope that a renewed Stewardship program will be getting off the ground very shortly. This program is absolutely critical to our continued growth and financial stability.

There will be a Fall General Assembly held in November, however the date has NOT yet been set. Each steward will be receiving a mailing, including a budget for the upcoming year, as well as a look at how we did financially this year.

Again, I would remind everyone that the Parish Council members have a fiduciary responsibility for our church. That is we have the responsibility to manage and protect the property of our community, as well as to assist in its growth. For these reasons, any requests, concerns or problems should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council before taking any action. The Parish Council is NOT separate and apart from the Community, but we are your brothers and sisters, working with you in concert for the betterment of the community. Certainly we can and do disagree. However, again, to avoid future confusion or potential problems, I would ask once again that your concerns and requests be brought to the attention of the Parish Council. The meetings are always open and announced in advance. You have our contact information, and for the most part, we are in church on Sunday. So there is always an ample opportunity to bring forward your concerns.

We all need to be reminded that we are in this together. Our parish sinks or swims based upon how well we work TOGETHER. We need to recognize that each of us have been given unique gifts by God, and that each gift is of value, and most importantly, that we bear the likeness of Christ in each and every one of us, if only we would take the time to look.

So how should we deal with each other? With Grace and Love (Gal. 5:6)-This is how God has chosen to deal with us, so pass it on!

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Should any parishioner have any item of concern or any matter they wish to have placed on the next meeting's Agenda, please contact any Parish Council member, or the undersigned.

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Respectfully,  
Zoe Adamedes, Parish Council President  
274-1316/zadamedes@yahoo.com

And finally, on the lighter side, some more bulletin bloopers!

- The Men's group will meet at 6 pm. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and dessert will be served for a nominal feel.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- This evening at 7 pm there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

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## **PAN-ORTHODOX PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**



Sunday October 9th at 5:00 pm  
St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church  
249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI

Sponsored by: The Rhode Island Orthodox Clergy Fellowship

All are welcome

For more information contact Fr. Isaac Crow  
(401) 726-1202 or frisaac@gmail.com

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## **SOUP KITCHEN NEWS**

Dear Friends,

Please call or email Sofi Cofield to sign up to help at this month's soup kitchen—this month it is on **Monday, October 10th**— (401847 8593 / sofikip@aol.com )

Thank you for your help in our Ministry,  
St. Spyridon Soup Kitchen Team  
Jane Iandolo, Rose Apostol and Sofi Cofield

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## Η 28η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ ΣΑΝ ΜΙΑ ΠΑΓΚΟΣΜΙΑ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΚΗ ΕΠΕΤΕΙΟΣ

Η 28η Οκτωβρίου, 1940 είναι μία από τις ιστορικότερες ημέρες της ομογένειάς μας, και ίσως όλης της Ευρώπης. Είναι ημέρα που έχει συνδέσει άρρηκτα την σύγχρονη ομογένεια με την ομογένεια του Πλάτωνα και του Εϋριπίδη.

Τά πολεμικά κύματα είχαν πλημμυρίσει όλη την Ευρώπη. Όλα σχεδόν τά κράτη της, άλλα είχαν γονατίσει φοβισμένα και άλλα υποχωρούσαν σε δουλική ούδετερότητα, τό ένα μετά τό άλλο.

Καί μόνον ό Έλληνικός λαός, μετά από την Αγγλία, πού βάσταζε όλο τό βάρος και πολεμούσε για την ανθρωπότητα, σήκωσε τό μέτωπο και είπε με ένα ιστορικό ΟΧΙ, όα θά έπαιζε και την ύπαρξή του ακόμα για τό καλό όλου του κόσμου.

Καί ό κόσμος όλος περίεργος και κατάπληκτος, περίμενε να δει μέχρι ποιού σημείου θά άντεχε ή ομογένεια. Καί ό αγώνας της ομογένειας σ' αυτό ακριβώς τό σημείο απόκτησε τραγικό μεγαλείο. Παρ' όλην την ανισότητα και την έλλειψη των σύγχρονων πολεμικών μέσων, άπαντούσε, μικρή όπως ήταν, σε μία τεράστια πραιτωπική δύναμη με τό "Μολών λαβέ". Καί έτσι έδειχνε σε όλο τον κόσμο τον δρόμο των ελευθερων και αδούλωτων ανθρώπων, και με τό δίδαγμα της αυτό έμπαινε για μία ακόμα φορά στην άθανασία.

Αδιαφορούσε τί θά ήταν τό αποτέλεσμα και διαλέγοντας τον δρόμο της τιμής, έμπαινε στην ιστορία των άθανάτων. Ήξερε ότι ό αγώνας θά ήταν πολύ σκληρός, γεμάτος από δοκιμασίες, αλλά ήταν έναμένη με την απόφασή της να κερδίσει τον τελικό θρίαμβο.

Είχε μπροστά της ένδοξη και πρωτοφανή ιστορία πού δέν μπορούσε να προδώσει, πού δέν μπορούσε να αφήσει.

Καί στά βουνά της Έλληνικής Ηπείρου, τό μικρό κράτος με τά 9 εκατομμύρια, απόκρουσε με νίκη τις πολυάριθμες όρδες του Φασισμού. Καί όταν άργότερα μία άλλη μεγάλη δύναμη, ή Ναζιστική Γερμανία, του έκανε επίθεση, και κεί αντίσπασθηκε. Αντιστάθηκε και άναποδογύρισε τά σχέδια του Άξονα, και άλλαξε την πορεία του Δεύτερου Παγκόσμιου Πολέμου.

Δέν θά ήταν υπερβολή ή και νέμμα να πούμε ότι: Αν δέν κέρδισε μόνη της ή Ελλάδα τον Παγκόσμιο Πόλεμο, πάντως πάρα πολύ είχε να κάνει με την τελική νίκη. Συντέλεσε στο να σωθεί ή Μεσόγειος και να μείνει άπρόσιτη ή Μέση Ανατολή. Η Ρωσία πήρε καιρό να προετοιμασθεί χάρη στην αντίσταση της Ελλάδας. Η Ισπανία άρνήθηκε να βοηθήσει τον Άξονα και να παραδώσει τό Γιβραλτάρ, και ή Αμερική έτοιμάστηκε καλύτερα.

Όλοι πήραν θάρρος και μαθήματα από την μικρή Ελλάδα και οι δυό δικτάτορες, ό Χίτλερ και ό Μουσολίνι, αναγκάστηκαν να τροποποιήσουν τά σχέδιά τους. Τό Έλληνικό τόλμημα της 28ης Οκτωβρίου, 1940 άλλαξε τη πορεία του πολέμου και τις επιχειρήσεις του Άξονα για πάντα.

Αυτή είναι ή σημασία της 28ης Οκτωβρίου. Αυτή είναι ή μεγάλη επέτειος πού γιορτάζουμε σήμερα.

Είναι έξαιρετικά μεγάλη και έξαιρετικά ιστορική ή επέτειος αυτή πού μās θυμίζει τό "μολών λαβέ" του Λεωνίδα και τό "όχι" του Μεταξά. Είναι έξαιρετικά χαρακτηριστική ή 28η Οκτωβρίου, 1940 όχι μόνο για μās τους ομογενείς, αλλά και για όλους τους πολιτισμένους ανθρώπους πού μιλούν με θαυμασμό για τό κατόρθωμα του 1940.

## PHILPTOCHOS NEWS

Greetings from the Philoptochos to the entire St. Spyridon Community and especially our women. Our first Board Meeting was held on September 21 where a calendar for the year was created. The Calendar is included in this month's newsletter. We ask that you save this and refer to it throughout the year for the upcoming meetings. The new Board consists of:

President-Zinovia Canale	Vice-President- Sofi Cofield
Past President Advisor- Elaine Brown	Recording Secretary- Evi Spiratos
Corresponding Secretary- Tina Fowler	Treasurer- Ionna Bairos-Moreau
Membership Chair-Ronna Stephanopoulos	Members- Janice Tasso, Rose Apostle

Our first General Meeting is going to be a "Wine and Cheese Social" to gather our older members, our newer members, and to encourage all women of the community to attend. The Philoptochos Society is a most valuable arm of the church whose primary goal is to participate in charitable endeavors. As always we are looking for our many wonderful women to join in this important work for whatever time commitment is possible, know how busy life can be. Please feel free to speak to anyone of us for any questions or comments you may have. Hope to see you all at the first General "Wine and Cheese Social" Meeting. Looking forward to a productive year.

Please save the Calendar and plan to attend our meeting and events.

### **Philoptochos Calendar 2011-12**

October 19 - Board Meeting at Elaine Brown's House, 6:30pm  
October 26 - General Meeting at Church Hall, "A Wine and Cheese Social" , 6:30pm  
November 16 - Board Meeting at Janice Tasso's House, 6:30pm  
December 7 - General Christmas Dinner Meeting, 6:30pm  
December 11 - St. Spyridon Vespers - Reception sponsored by Philoptochos  
January 15 (tentative) - Vasilopita  
January 18 - General Meeting at the Church Hall, 6:30pm  
March (date TBD) - Philoptochos sponsors Lenten Dinner  
May 16 - Board Meeting (place to be determined), 6:30pm  
May 23 - General Meeting at the Church Hall, 6:30pm

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# OCTOBER 2011

Sunday Winte

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
30. <u>Sunday 5th Luke.</u> Zenobios/Zenobia Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div.Lit. 10:00 a.m Sun.Sch/Fellowship	31. Stachys of the 70. Nicholas the New martyr.		<b><u>Celebration of OXI</u></b> <b>day by the children of</b> <b>St. Spyridon Greek</b> <b>School. Sunday 23rd</b> <b>of October</b>	<b><u>Fathers Emerg</u></b> <b>Tel . 401-474-77</b>
2. <u>Sunday 2nd Luke.</u> Cyprian & Justina Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun Sch./Fellowship	3. St.Dionysios Areopagite. John the Chozebite	4. Ierotheos Bishop of Athens. Domnina and her daughters <u>Office Hours</u> <u>Parish Council Mtg</u>	5.Charitina martyr. Methodia of Kimolos	6.Thomas Apos Eroteis of Cappæ  <u>Office Hours.</u>
9. <u>Sunday 3rd.Luke</u> James Apostle. Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun.Sch/Fellowship	10.Eulampios, Eulampia  <b>SOUP KITCHEN</b>	11.Philip Apost of70 . Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. <u>Office Hours.</u>	12. Symeon the New Theologian. Provos, Andronicus, Terachos	13. Carpos, Papy Agathodoros and Agathoniki, <u>Office Hours</u>
16. <u>Fathers of the 7th</u> <u>Ecumenical Council</u> Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun.Sch/Fellowship	17. Hosea Prophet	18. Luke Evangelist Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. <u>Office Hours</u>	19. Joel Prophet Varys the Martyr.	20.Gerasimos o Cephalonia. Ars Gr <u>Office Hour</u>
23. <u>Sunday 6th Luke</u> James the Apostle Orthros: 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m. Sun.Sch./Fellowship	24.Arethas Gr. Mart Sebastiane Martyr	25. Marcianos and Martirios. Tabitha <u>Office Hours</u> 7:00 Gr.Vespers of St. Demetrios. Fall River	26. St. Demetrios the Myrrhstreaming. Orthros. 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.	27. Nestor of Thessaloniki. Ky Pat. Of Constant <u>Office Hours</u>



**inter Hours:** Orthros: 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 10 a.m.

THU	FRI	SAT.
<p><b>Emergency</b> 74-7700</p>		<p>1. Holy Protection of Theotokos. Romanos the Melodist. Ananias of the 70.</p>
<p>Apostle of Cappadocia.</p>	<p>7. Sergius &amp; Bacchus of Syria. Polychronios the Hieromartyr.</p>	<p>8. Pelagia Righteous Pelagia of Antioch.</p>
<p>Pappulos, and others.</p>	<p>14. Nazarios, Gervasios, Protasios and Celsius.</p>	<p>15. Loukianos of Antioch, Savynos Bishop of Catania.</p>
<p>Relics of Arsenios.</p>	<p>21. Hilarion the Great. Relics of Christodoulos of Patmos.</p>	<p>22. Averkios of Hierapolis. Rufus the Righteous.</p>
<p>of St. Kyriakos of Constantinople.</p>	<p>28. Terrence and Eunice. <b><u>OXIDAY</u></b></p>	<p>29. Anastasia of Rome. Avramios &amp; Maria of Mesopotam</p>

**Upcoming Events**

October 4—Parish Council Meeting, 7pm

October 10—Soup Kitchen

October 12—Daughters of Penelope Meeting, 7pm, Ahepa Housing

October 19—Philoptochos Board Meeting at Elaine Brown’s house, 6:30pm

October 22—Σαββατιάτικη Παρέα (Saturday Gathering) for Protulis Greek School Children, 10am-12pm

October 23—OXI day program by Greek School.

October 26—Philoptochos General Meeting, “A Wine and Cheese Social”, Church Hall, 6:30pm

**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.

## THE TRUE PRAGMATISM BY FR. COSTIN POPESCU

We live in an age of pragmatism. We value action, results, efficiency. There is not much time left for contemplation, and yet very few things are accepted without questioning.

It is important therefore to address head-on a set of important issues that have to do with the very reason of existence of the Church: why do we need a church? What is the special role of the priest? Why isn't the local parish sufficient? Do we need a bishop? All these questions have clear, logical answers, and all these answers are closely connected, as we will presently see.

We all value life. Unfortunately, our biological life is limited, and there is little we can do about it. Seventy, eighty years is all that these bodies can sustain (Ps. 89:10). If there is an alternative to the finality of death, it is definitely worth pursuing, even for the most pragmatic amongst ourselves.

This alternative exists indeed, and has been called salvation from eternal death, redemption from the tyranny of sin. There can be no salvation without a Savior, no redemption without a Redeemer, and that Savior and Redeemer is our Lord Jesus Christ. Only the Son of God can defeat the power of death, and therefore only in Him can we, limited, mortal beings, attain to Immortality.

To put this in the simplest way, we can only overcome death by being joined to Christ in one mystical Body. This Body is called the Church, and it extends both geographically and historically. It even extends beyond the earthly level of existence to include the saints that live with the Lord. We become members of this Body when we are baptized, and we are further joined to it whenever we eat the Body and drink the Blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

Life in Christ is therefore a journey, and we cannot undertake it by ourselves. We need specialized guides that bring us into God's presence in the Mysteries of Church. This is the role assigned by God to the priests. The priests have no special powers of their own: it is always the Power of God that is at work. Nevertheless, in His benevolence that surpasses all understanding, God has allowed humble human beings to have access to His unlimited power, for the benefit of the whole Body.

It is essential to pause here and realize that it is God who elects His priests, and that they work for the benefit of the *whole* Body. The individual Christian, the Christian family and even the local parish, while being essential members of the Body, are not the whole Body.

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A priest therefore does not merely serve individuals, families or even his parish, but always the Church as a whole.

To make this reality concrete, the Holy Spirit has instructed the Apostolic Church to assign a bishop, or overseer (*episkopos*) for every area, as embodiment of the oneness of the church. The priests, or elders (*presbyteroi*), represent the variety of gifts, and function as a council to the bishop. There can be no Church without a bishop, just as there can be no Church without priests, and there can be no Church without the people of God.

If we want to partake of the Eternal Life in Christ, we need to become familiar with this inner logic of the mystical Body, as designed by God and “take advantage” (pragmatically speaking) of its inner workings. We need to rediscover the tremendous healing and transformational power of the Divine Mysteries of Repentance/Confession, Holy Unction and Holy Eucharist. We need to develop a close relationship with the spiritual guide (most often our parish priest, or any other priest who has received the special blessing to hear confession), because the journey is long and arduous. We also need to experience the Church as a whole, beyond the limits of the parish.

This is why we, the clergy, have regular meetings of the Brotherhood, where we become attuned to one another and receive the guidance of our bishop, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios. It is our hope that we can speak to you as a Brotherhood through these monthly messages.

The best way, however, to experience the Church as a whole is through direct participation in inter-church and Metropolis-wide activities: Choir Federation, Metropolis Philoptochos, DOXA Conferences, Young Professional gatherings would be a few examples. Those of you who want to take the next step and be fully immersed in the reality of the Church as a whole should take advantage of family camps and other retreats at St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center, one of the best facilities of its kind in the country. Hundreds of families have already gone through such retreats, and they can share with you how incredible the experience of life in Christ can be when practiced thoroughly, even for a few days.

Rejoice, therefore, for being joined to Christ for all eternity! Believe in Him, and you shall have everlasting life (John 3:16)! Become an active member of Christ’s Mystical Body by exploring all that the church has to offer. Then and only then you will be entitled to call yourself a true pragmatist. Amen!

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## SAINTS TO KNOW

As faithful Orthodox Christians, it is important that we know who the people we commemorate are, as well as what they have contributed to the body of Christ. This month I would like us all to remember Sts Demetrios and Nestor, who we remember on October 26th & 27th, respectively.

The names of Demetrios and Nestor are so linked in the annals of Christianity that it would be almost sacrilegious to mention one without the other in any account of the story of these two beloved men of God, who are now as inseparable in church archives as they were in life. It was their combined defiance of the early fourth-century tyranny which brought them to a martyrdom, which individually they may not have attained, but which places them on equal footing in the final judgment. While Demetrios was the better known of the two, it was the quiet courage of his friend, Nestor, added to the complete piety of Demetrios, that assured their immortality.

Demetrios was a native of the city of Thessaloniki, the city founded by Alexander the Great, who named it for a sister very dear to him. In the tradition of the great thinkers of ancient Greece, Demetrios honed his keen oratorical power in the public forum, where the debates of the great minds of the day drew the spirited Christians as much as the gladiatorial games attracted the pagans. As the second leading city of the empire, Thessaloniki had a reputation for providing the brightest intellectuals on the public platform and the most fearsome gladiators in the arena, strange bedfellows, indeed, and oddly enough, in both of which the power of Demetrios was to find expression.

Demetrios was in the military service as well as a devout Christian, as study in contrast that was countenanced in Thessaloniki, but when it came to the attention of the Emperor Maximinus, who had come for an annual exhibition of gladiatorial prowess in the arena, the dual nature met with royal displeasure. For his part in the Christian cause, Demetrios was stripped of his military rank and cast into prison to await a certain fate. It was at this point that the friendship of Nestor came to light. At great personal risk Nestor visited his friend in prison regularly and sought to intercede on his behalf, a move which availed him little but aroused suspicions of those who surrounded the emperor. This provided the setting for one of the finest displays of the power of God through the friendship of two gallant Christians.

It seems that one of the favorites of the arena, admired particularly by the emperor, was a giant man name Lyaivos, a seventeen foot brute who destroyed every hapless gladiator he ever faced, and for whom the pagans sought an opponent who at least had the courage to walk up to Lyaivos and give a good account of himself before succumbing to the inevitable. It was during one of the visits that Nestor heard from Demetrios that the power of the Lord could be transmitted through him to any man and make him invincible against any foe in the arena. The youthful Nestor, with the spirit of a true believer welling within him, agreed to hurl a challenge at the best of the gladiators with a declaration that the power of God would, thanks to his friend, Demetrios, prevail against all



comers. Buoyed by the assurance of Demetrios, he stepped into the arena and shouted his defiance in the name of the Lord.

The pagan crowd, thinking this some practical joke, roared with laughter, but when Nestor strode to the royal box where Maximinus had looked on with amusement and heard the young man invoke the name of Demetrios and the awesome power of God, his smile turned into a snarl and the audience joined him in derision, whereupon the scowling Lyaiois was brought into the pit. The crowd settled back to witness the anticipated cat and mouse match, which the giant would conclude when it pleased him. But they were brought to their feet in disbelief when the supposed victim withstood the withering attack of the gladiator who had never tasted defeat, and, in due course, turned the tables while soundly defeating the greatest of gladiators. Nestor scorned the thumbs down signal of the mob who now screamed for death, and the young Christian walked away from his prostrated foe. The frustrated emperor then ordered the deaths of both Christian companions, without delay, by the Roman soldiers. Not all who left the arena that day remained pagans.

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## IN OUR PARISH

### **Birth**

Congratulations to Marianne and Brett Fox who welcomed a baby girl "*Olivia Poppy*" to their family. Olivia was born on August 9, 2011 and the family lives in Portsmouth.

### **Baptisms**

The son of Antonios & Erin Kanakis was baptized on September 10 and given the name *Panayiotis Antonios* (Peter Anthony) by Godmother Angela Farias. The Kanakis family are new members of our church.

The son of George and Eliza Pylitotis was baptized on September 25 and given the name *Anthony*. Godparents are Marianne and Brett Fox.

Congratulations to all and may they live long and happy lives!

### **Weddings**

*Demetrios Yantzides* and *Prue Munro* were married in our church on Tuesday, August 30. Demetrios and Prue were scheduled to be married on Sunday, August 28, however, Hurricane Irene had other plans for them! They are also new members of our church. We wish them much happiness in their new life together!

### **Death**

*Catherine H. Koulouvardis* fell asleep in the Lord on September 1, 2011 and was laid to rest on September 7, 2011. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her beloved brother, George and the rest of the Koulouvardis family. May her memory be eternal.

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

We are off to a great year in Religious Education! So far, sixty children have registered to be a part of learning about the Orthodox faith. How blessed we are to have so many children coming every Sunday. If you would like to register your child, please email me at [mmgreek@verizon.net](mailto:mmgreek@verizon.net). For those parents who did register, please make sure you have a copy of our calendar for this year. In October, we will have class every Sunday, no days off!

Marianne



LEFT: Father George celebrated the service of the Blessings of the Waters (Agiasmo) in honor of the start of Sunday School on Sunday September 11th. All the children joined in the service and received a blessing before going to their first Sunday School class.

RIGHT: Father George conducted a special procession and service for the Holy Cross so that the children who had been in the school during the week could be a part of it. Children joined the procession around the church.



## PROTULIS GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The 2011-2012 school year commenced on September 12th. This year we have over 30 students registered for Greek School classes. On September 19th Fr. George conducted an Agiasmo service in the church for a successful new school year for the students and teachers.

The various class levels meet Monday through Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Pre-K class is held on Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our teaching team this year includes ka. Loula Eliopoulos (Level 1, 2 and 3) and ka. Eleni Anagnostopoulos (Pre-K and Level 4).

The first presentation of the year by the Greek School will take place on Sunday, October 23rd after Divine Liturgy in commemoration of OXI Day. The Greek School families will join the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope in sponsoring the Coffee Hour on this day.

The first *Σαββατιάτικη Παρέα* (Saturday Gathering) of the year will take place on Saturday, October 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All Protulis Greek School students and teachers are to be present this day in order to properly rehearse for the OXI Day presentation.

Thanasis Stefanopoulos and Basile Panoutsopoulos, Co-Directors, Protulis Greek School

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## NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS

Please join us as we continue the lessons for the new season. This is the time of year we resume our practices after having taken some time to recover from the festival. During these practices we will have a chance to continue working on basic skills as well as expand on the choreography of dances we already learned. 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. We welcome adults to join us and practice with our teen dancers. Practices will be held after Liturgy downstairs.

**October: 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th**

**November: 6th**

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)

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## DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

The next meeting of the Daughters of Penelope will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. at the Ahepa Housing, 87 Girard Ave., Newport.

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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 Christopher</b></p>
<p><b>NIKOLAS PIZZA</b> 38 Memorial Blvd West Newport 849-6611</p>	<p><b>ASTRO CONSTRUCTION INC.</b> PO Box 522 Portsmouth, RI (401) 683-9120 Established 1954</p>	<p><b>CODDINGTON BREWING COMPANY</b> 210 Coddington Highway Middletown 847-6690</p>
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