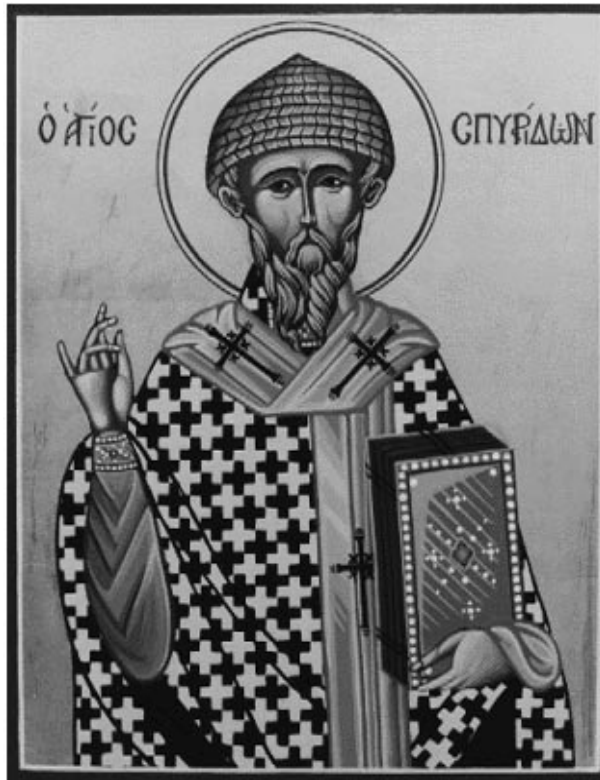


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THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE  
DECEMBER 2012

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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 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:** TBD

**Philotochos President:** Zinovia Canale

**Acolytes:** Theodore Panoutsopoulos

**GOYA President:** Missy Mellekas

**JOY Advisor:** Sandy Giannopoulos

**Soup Kitchen:** Sofi Cofield, Penny Hiotas  
 and Jane Iandolo

**Greek School:**

Eleni Anagnostopoulos

Loula Eliopoulos

Thanasi Stefanopoulos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

**VOICE:** Aliko Cooper

(alikooper@yahoo.com)

**Affiliated Organizations**
**AHEPA President:** Michael Sisak

**Daughters of Penelope President:**

Penelope Hiotas

**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 DESK

**Christmas 2012—The Greatest Gift**

Dear Parishioners, Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

December 25, Christmas Day, is the Feast day that rejoices in the greatest gift offered to humankind - God humbles Himself and takes on flesh, it is the Incarnation of the Son of God, so that you and I may be saved. In commemoration of this day, we exchange gifts with one another.

Contemplating the icon of the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we realize the great love that God offers to His people through His Son. God loves us so much that He sent His Son to show us a new way of life. The Birth of Christ is a celebration of joy, for we have been granted eternal life.

The truth that God became man and entered into history is seen in the icon of the Nativity. Wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger is the Christ Child. All the details of the icon relate to the Lord's presence among us. The icon of the Nativity calls us to praise and glorify the Birth of Christ.

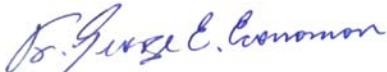
The Iconography and Hymnology of our Orthodox Church teach us wonderful lessons about Christian giving. The following hymn, taken from the Vespers of the Nativity, invites us to recognize the offerings made in celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. We sing:

“What shall we bring to You, O Christ, Who, for our sake, was born on earth as man?  
Every creature brings thanks to You: Angels their songs; the heavens a star; Wise  
Men gifts; Shepherds amazement; the earth a cave; the wilderness a manger; but we -  
the Virgin Mother.”

All creation has acknowledged the Birth of the Redeemer of humankind through the act of Stewardship. We, too, must offer to Him Who was Born for our sake our gift in the enclosed Christmas offering envelope to His Church this Holy Season so that we may truly glorify and confess with a thankful and joyous heart that: Christ is Born !

In closing, please accept our very best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Joyous and Prosperous New year 2013.

With Agape in the anticipated Incarnate Lord,



Fr. George E. Economou

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### ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ 2012—ΤΟ ΜΕΓΑΛΥΤΕΡΟ ΔΩΡΟ

Αγαπητοί μας ενοριίτες, αδελφοί εν Χριστώ,

Δεκέμβρη 25, Χριστούγεννα, ημέρα χαρμόσυνος: που η ανθρωπότητα εορτάζει το **μεγαλύτερο δώρο** που τις προσφέρθηκε – ο Θεός ταπεινώνετε και σαρκώνετε. Ο Υιός του Θεού σαρκώνετε διά να σώση τον άνθρωπο. Την ημέρα αυτή την εορτάζουμε με το να προσφέρουμε δώρα ο ένας στον άλλο.

Σάν ατενίζουμε την εικόνα της Γέννησις του Κυρίου ημών και Σωτήρος Χριστού με προσοχή πολύ γρήγορα γνωρίζουμε την μεγάλη αγάπη του Θεού για τα πλάσματά Του που την εκδηλώνει με τον Υιόν Του. Ο Θεός μας αγαπά τόσο πολύ που δε δυστάζει να στήσει τον αγαπητόν Του Υιόν για να μας δώσει νέο τρόπο ζωής. Τη Γέννηση του Χριστού την εορτάζουμε με μεγάλη χαρά, διότι μας χάρισε την αιώνιο ζωή.

Το γεγονός ότι ο Θεός έγινε άνθρωπος και μπήκε μέσα στην ιστορία το παρουσιάζει τόσο ζωντανά και χτυπητά η εικόνα της Γέννησις. Τυλιγμένος στα βρεφόπανα μέσα στη φάτνη βλέπουμε το νεογέννητο Χριστό. Όλες οι λεπτομέρειες της εικόνας προδίδουν μιá πραγματικότητα, ότι ο Κύριος είναι μεθ' ημών. Η εικόνα της ενσάρκωσης του Κυρίου μας καλεί να δοξολογήσουμε και υμνολογήσουμε τη Γέννηση του Χριστού.

Η Εικονογραφία και Υμνηλογία της Ορθοδόξου Εκκλησίας μας, μας διδάσκει ένα πολύ σπουδαίο μάθημα, αυτό που έχει να κάνει με τη Χριστιανική προσφορά, ο παρακάτω ύμνος από τον εσπερινό της Παραμονής των Χριστουγέννων μας που μας προσκαλεί να δώσουμε προσοχή στα δώρα που προσφέρουμε στον εορτασμό της Γέννησις του Σωτήρος Χριστού.

‘ Τι να σου προσφέρουμε, Χριστέ τώρα που ήρθες στη γη ως άνθρωπος για μάς;  
Το κάθε ένα από τα κτίσματα που εσύ έπλασες, σου προσφέρει ευχαριστία, οι  
Αγγελοι τον ύμνο, οι ουρανοί το αστέρι, οι μάγοι τα δώρα, οι ποιμένες το θαύμα,  
η γή τη σπηλιά, η έρημος τη φάτνη, εμείς δε – τη μητέρα Παρθένο.’

Όλη η κτίση έχει αναγνωρίσει τη Γέννηση του Σωτήρος όλης της ανθρωπότητας με τις προσφορές της. Καί μεις αγαπητοί μου αδελφοί, θα πρέπει να προσφέρουμε Σαυτόν που Γεννήθηκε για χάρη μας το δώρο μας στην Εκκλησία Του τούτες τις Αγίες Μέρες για να τον δοξολογήσουμε και να ομολογήσουμε με ευχάριστη και ευγνώμονα καρδιά το ‘Χριστός γεννάται, δόξάσατε, ....’

Κλείωντας παρακαλούμε δεχτήτε ολόθερμες ευχές για τις Αγίες Ημέρες της Γέννησις του Χριστού και τα Θεοφάνεια. Αυτός που γεννήθηκε απο την Παρθένο, ο Κύριος και Λυτρωτής μας Χριστός να σας χαρίζει υγεία και κάθε ευλογία. Το δε Νέο Έτος, 2013 αίσιο, ευτυχές και ευλογημένο με κάθε αγαθό.

Με αγάπη του αναμενομένου Σαρκωθέντος Χριστού,

*π. Γεώργιος Η. Οικονόμου*

π. Γεώργιος Η. Οικονόμου, Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The Philoptochos thanks all the wonderful ladies who attended this year's first general meeting, the Wine and Cheese Social. We are very grateful for the participation, the ideas generated, and the help received and look forward to continuing to work hard. A sincere thanks as well to all who purchased tickets for the Turkey Basket. Our prize winner, Fran, in the spirit of "paying it forward" donated the basket back to the Sunday School for Child and Family Services to help a family in need. We thank her for her generosity! The Philoptochos will be sponsoring the coffee hour following the Spyrimo on December 12th and Ourania Stephanopoulos will be looking for some assistance, so check your e-mails. We are currently accepting dues for 2013, \$25.00 which can be mailed to Ionna Bairos-Moreau at 96 Sherwood Terrace, Portsmouth, RI 02871. Loula Elioupoulos is our Sunshine Coordinator and can be reached at 847-7746. Please feel free to call her to let her know if any of our parishioners are ill or home bound. We want to send them our best wishes and a positive greeting.

For your information if you need to contact Philoptochos:

Board Members:

President- Zinovia Canale

Vice-President- Sofi Cofield

Secretary- Rose Apostle

Treasurer- Ionna Bairos-Moreau

Membership- Ouranis Stephanopoulis

Sunshine- Loula Eliopoulos

Past President- Elaine Brown

Corresponding Secretary-Tina Fowler

The Philoptochos wishes all a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

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## CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONATIONS

We kindly request that if you are able to make a donation towards the poinsettias and other Christmas decorations for the church this year, please contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity. May we all enjoy a blessed Christmas season!

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**FEAST DAY OF ST SPYRIDON**

This year we are honored that His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios will be with us on Sunday, December 16th, to celebrate the Liturgy for the Feast Day of our beloved patron saint, St Spyridon. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this beautiful celebration of our parish feast.

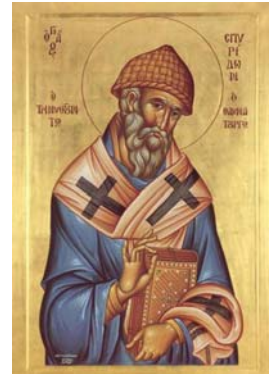
**Celebration of the Feast Day of St Spyridon**

Tuesday December 11th

Great Vespers of St Spyridon at 7pm with reception by the ladies of the Philotochos to follow.

Sunday, December 16th

Celebration of Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios



**St Spyridon—December 12th**

Spyridon, the God-bearing Father of the Church, the great defender of Corfu and the boast of all the Orthodox, had Cyprus as his homeland. He was simple in manner and humble of heart, and was a shepherd of sheep. When he was joined to a wife, he begat of her a daughter whom they named Irene. After his wife's departure from this life, he was appointed Bishop of Trimythus, and thus he became also a shepherd of rational sheep. When the First Ecumenical Council was assembled in Nicaea, he also was present, and by means of his most simple words stopped the mouths of the Arians who were wise in their own conceit. By the divine grace which dwelt in him, he wrought such great wonders that he received the surname "Wonderworker." So it is that, having tended his flock piously and in a manner pleasing to God, he reposed in the Lord about the year 350, leaving to his country his sacred relics as a consolation and source of healing for the faithful.

**Apolytikion in the First Tone**

O Father, God-bearer, Spyridon, you were proven a champion and Wonder Worker of the First Ecumenical Council. You spoke to the girl in the grave and turned the serpent to gold. And, when chanting your prayers, most sacred One, angels ministered with you. Glory to Him who glorified you; glory to Him who crowned you; glory to Him who, through you, works healing for all.

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## WE ARE ALL INVITED

Christmas is a time of sharing; it is a time, therefore, when many invitations are offered and accepted to visit with friends, and enjoy the hospitality of the season. But in the hustle and frenzy of this time of year, I fear that one invitation, offered on the first Christmas Day so long ago, and repeated each year thereafter, goes largely ignored. It is the invitation offered by the angels to the shepherds -- the invitation to go and see the Babe. The shepherds accepted, saying, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." (Luke 2:15).

We all have much to learn from the shepherds' response to the invitation of the angels; "Let US now go," they said. Each one of us begins the journey to the Manger of Bethlehem after a personal decision; each must decide for himself. "Let us NOW go," they said. The shepherds wasted no time, for as the next verse says, "they came with haste." Time passes so quickly that they understood that this was the moment to decide. Now is the time, this is the year, to make certain that Christmas will be for us eternally significant. "Let us now GO," they said. It was an invitation to act, to do that which was needed. They understood that to do nothing was to risk losing forever the opportunity of accepting the Divine invitation.

It does not matter who we are or how we accept that invitation. The poor shepherds came at a moment's notice, the rich wise men after a long and deliberate journey. All accepted, and all were welcome. All then left "glorifying God for all the things that they had heard and seen." Will you share their experience? Will you also finally come to adore Christ the Lord this Christmas Day?

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## IN OUR PARISH

### **Anniversary**

Congratulations to Nicholas and Diane Bonafas who celebrated 50 years of marriage recently. May they have many more happy and healthy years!

### **Death**

Presbytera Athena Theodore fell asleep in the Lord recently in Boynton Beach, Florida. Presbytera Athena was the beloved wife of the late Rev. Constantine Theodore who served our parish from 1942 to 1959. May her memory be eternal.

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# DECEMBER 2012

Sunday Winte

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
31. St. Melania of Rome. Restitution of the Feast of Nativity	30. St. Anysia of Thessaloniki. Gideon of Mt. Athos .		<b><u>His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios will be at our Church for its Feast Day Sun</u></b>	Fr.George wil shut-ins. Plea: the office with Fathers Emer 1-401-474-7
<b>2. <u>14th. Luke.</u></b> Habakkuk Prophet <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Sun.Sch/Fellowship</b>	3. Zephaniah the Prophet John, Bishop and Hesy-chast	<b>4. <u>Barbara Gr. Martyr</u></b> <b><u>John of Damascus</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b> <b><u>Office Hours.</u></b>	5 St..Savas Sanctified Diogenes the Martyr	<b>6. <u>St. Nicholas Wonderw</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10:00</b> <b><u>Office Hour</u></b>
<b>9. <u>10th. Luke</u></b> <b>Conception of Theotokos.Hanna Proph</b> <b>Orthros.9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b>	10. Menas, Hermogenes,Eugraphios.Thomas of bithynia  <b><u>Soup Kitchen</u></b>	<b>11. Daniel the Stylite</b> <b>7:00 p.m. Gr.Vespers of Saint Spyridon</b> <b>Reception the ladies of our Philoptohos</b>	<b>12. <u>ST. SPYRIDON WONDERWORKER</u></b> <b><u>Our Patron Saint</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10.00 a.m.</b>	13. Auxentios Martyrs of Set <b><u>Visit Shut-i</u></b> <b><u>Office Ho</u></b>
<b>16. <u>11th Luke</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div.Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Metrop.Methodios</b> <b>Pastoral visit to us.</b>	17. Daniel & ThreeHoly Youths Dionysios of Zakinthos	18.Sebastian &Comp. Michael the Confessor <b><u>Visit Shut-ins</u></b> <b><u>Office Hours.</u></b>	19.Boniface of Tours Gregentius, Bishop of Ethiopia	20.Forefeast o StIgnatiosGod <b><u>Visit Shut-i</u></b> <b><u>Office Hou</u></b>
<b>23. <u>Before Nativity</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div.Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Christmas Program</b> <b>Sun.Sch/Grk. Sch.</b>	<b>24. <u>Christmas Eve.</u></b> <b><u>9:00 a.m.Gr.Hours</u></b> <b><u>of Christams</u></b> <b><u>5:30 p.m. Vesperal</u></b> <b><u>Div.Lit. of Christmas</u></b>	<b>25. <u>HOLY NATIVITY OF OUR LORD</u></b> <b><u>CHRISTMAS DAY</u></b> <b>Orthros. 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>Div. Lit. 10:00 a.m.</b>	26.Synaxis Theotokos <b><u>No fasting</u></b> <b><u>fromDec.25th –Jan. 4th</u></b>	27.S t.S tepher Martyr.Theodc



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

<b>HU</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT.</b>
<p><b>e will visit</b>  <b>Please call</b>  <b>with names</b>  <b>Emergency</b>  <b>74-7700</b></p>		<p>1.Philaret the Merciful of Armenia.                      Nahum the Prophet</p>
<p><b>holas the</b>  <b>erworker</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  <b>10:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Hours</b></p>	<p>7. St. Ambrose of Milan.Athenodoros of Mesopotamia</p>	<p>8.Forefeast Conception of Theotokos                      St.Patapios of Thebes</p>
<p>ntios and                      f Sebaste  <b>ut-ins</b>  <b>Hours.</b></p>	<p>14.Thyrsos,Leucius and Callinicus.</p>	<p>15. St. Eleutherios Bishop of Illiria.</p>
<p>ast of Nativi                      GodBearer  <b>ut-ins</b>  <b>Hours</b></p>	<p>21. Forefeast of Nativity. Julian and 630 Companions</p>	<p>22. Anastasia GreatMartyr.                      Chrysogonos Martyr.</p>
<p>phen First                      eodore Conf</p>	<p>.28.20,000 Martyrs of Nikomedia.</p>	<p>29. 14,000 Holy Innocents.Marcellus Right</p>

**Upcoming Events**

December 10—Soup Kitchen

December 16—Celebration of Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios for our church’s Feast Day

December 15—Christmas Dinner with Daughters of Penelope, AHEPA, and Philoptochos

December 23—Christmas Program by Sunday School and 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.

VISIT YOUR  
 ST SPYRIDON’S  
 BOOKSTORE  
 TO FIND THE



## THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

The uniqueness of the Christian faith is not found in the belief in God – other religions also have that, rather, the uniqueness of Christianity is to be found in the conviction that God is love, and that clearest revelation of this love is to be found in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus was born into midst of an oppressed and demoralized people who were searching for hope and validation. They needed to know that they had not been abandoned by the God of their fathers, and they found assurance of that continuing love at work in the person of Christ.

Christmas 2012 still finds us looking for the same assurances. We live in a difficult and oftentimes very dark world. We too need hope and validation as we make our way through these difficulties, and we need the knowledge that, in spite of our shortcomings, we remain worth loving. By coming into the world, Christ hoped to provide us with that upholding reassurance.

But it is not only important that Christ came into the world. How He came also has a great deal to teach us. He came into this world by being born in a stable. This humble beginnings was meant to teach each of us that no home was too simple or too poor to offer hospitality to the King of Glory. Even the simplest hut is grander than the stable that marked the start of Christ's earthly journey.

That is why Christmas is a joyous celebration. It tells us that God loves us enough to reach out over the unbridgeable chasm that separates us, through the life of Jesus Christ. No one of us, no, not one, is beyond the reach of that love. Christmas also teaches us that no human heart is so humble that it cannot offer hospitality to Christ. He was born in a stable so that each of us could accept in confidence his desire to be part of our lives.

The humility and love of Jesus Christ, however, allows for no coercion. Each of us is free to choose if we shall offer an invitation. As He came into the world He was refused many times until room was found in the stable, and He continues to be refused in many homes today. May God grant that in ours He finds a warm welcome.

**A BLESSED AND JOYOUS CHRISTMAS**

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## Η ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ

Το μοναδικό στοιχείο του Χριστιανισμού δεν είναι η πίστις στο Θεό, διότι όλες οι θρησκείες του κόσμου ασπάζουν αυτήν την αλήθεια. Μάλλον η μοναδικότης του Χριστιανισμού ευρίσκεται στην πεποίθησι ότι ο Θεός είναι αγάπη, και ότι η πιο άμεση έκφρασι και αποκάλυψι της αγάπης αυτής υπάρχει στο πρόσωπο του Ιησού Χριστού. Ο Χριστός εγεννήθη σε λαό τυραννισμένο και απηλπισμένον, ο οποίος ζητούσε ελπίδα και πεποίθησι. Ηθελε την βεβαίωσι ότι ο Θεός των πατέρων τους δεν τους είψε εγκαταλείψει, και την βεβαίωσι αθτή της αγάπης του Θεού την ευρήκε στο πρόσωπο του Χριστού.

Και τώρα τα Χριστούγεννα του 2012 η ανθρωπότητα ακόμα ζητάει την ελπίδα και την πεποίθησι αυτή. Ζούμε σε δύσκολους καιρούς και σκοτεινό κόσμο, και χρειάζομεθα την γνώσι ότι παρά τας ελλείψεις μας, παραμένουμε άξιοι αυτής της αγάπης. Όταν ήλθε στον κόσμο μας ο Χριστός, ήθελε να μας προσφέρει την βεβαίωσι αυτή.

Αλλά δεν είναι σπουδαίο μόνον το γεγονός ότι ο Χριστός ήλθε στον κόσμο. Καί ο τρόπος με τον οποίο ήλθε έχει πολλά να μας διδάξη. Εγεννήθη σε στάβλο μεταξύ αλόγων ζώων. Με την ταπεινή αυτή αρχή ήθελε να μας τονίση ότι δεν υπάρχει σπίτι τόσο απλό η φτωχό που δεν μπορεί να προσφέρει φιλοξενία στον Βασιλέα της Δόξης. Ακόμα και η τελευταία καλύβα είναι ανώτερη από το στάβλο που σηματοδεδυσε την αρχή της επιγείου πορείας του Χριστού.

Γιαυτό ο εορτασμός των Χριστουγέννων είναι τόσο χαρμόσυνο γεγονός. Μας λέει ότι ο Θεός έρχεται να γεφυρώση το χάσμα που μας χώριζε, με την ζωή και δράσι του Ιησού Χριστού. Κανένας απολύτως δεν βρίσκεται πέρα από αυτή την αγάπη, και τα Χριστούγεννα μας διδάσκουν ότι καμμιά ανθρώπινη καρδιά δεν είναι τόσο ταπεινή που δεν μπορεί να φιλοξενήση τον Χριστό. Γεννήθηκε σε στάβλο ώστε να μπορέση και ο τελευταίος μεταξύ μας να έχη βεβαία την πεποίθησι ότι ο Κύριος θέλει να είναι μέρος της ζωής μας.

Η ταπεινότητα και η αγάπη του Κυρίου όμως δεν επιτρέπει την βία. Ολοι είμαστε ελεύθεροι να αποφασίσουμε εάν θα προσφέρουμε την πρόσκλησι μας και την φιλοξενία μας στον Κύριο. Όταν ήλθε στον κόσμο ο Χριστός, πολλοί ήσαν εκείνοι που τον αρνήθηκαν και τον ωδήγησαν στον στάβλο, και η άρνησις αυτή συνεχίζεται σε πολλά σπίτια σήμερα. Ευχή μας είναι ότι όταν έλθη στα δικά μας σπίτια θα εύρη ζεστή και λαμπρά υποδοχή. Αμήν

**ΚΑΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ**

## 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, December 10th**— (401) 847 8593 / sofikip@aol.com )

Thank you for your help in our Ministry,

St. Spyridon Soup Kitchen Team: Jane Iandolo, Penny Hiotas and Sofi Cofield

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Families,

How wonderful for St. Spyridon's community to have us put together 2 baskets for Child and Family services and then to have another basket donated by the Philoptochos. In addition to the 3 baskets, there were two grocery bags full of food that was given to them as well. This food was donated by parishioners but could not fit into the baskets given. How much food we collected is wonderful! Thank you to all who participated.

On Sunday, December 2nd, the Philoptochos will make ornaments in the church hall with our preschool to grade two children. These ornaments will have items needed for our Christmas family this year. Please take an ornament and donate an item by December 16th.

On Sunday, December 23rd, our children will be performing the pageant in the church hall. Sunday School will be hosting the coffee hour that day as well, with the Greek School.

Marianne

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## NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS

The Newport Hellenic Dancers kicked off their annual holiday pastry sale fundraiser for 2012 in November. This is the ninth Annual Fundraiser for the Troupe. As in previous years, homemade pastries will be made available in decorated boxes for sale. The funds we raise are mainly spent to buy new costumes for our expanding group, as well as pay for other things that we need to support the dancers. The costumes are used by all the children of our community for major celebrations such as Greek Independence Day on the 25th of March, as well as by the Hellenic Dancers for their performances throughout the year, especially at our Annual Festival. We also make these costumes available to students for cultural projects and presentations, when representing the Hellenic heritage in their schools. All costumes are the property of the St. Spyridon Church.

These make wonderful holiday gifts. We do take the time to package these pastries, so they are suitable for gift giving. Feel free to call Sandy or Vaggeli (401) 667-2984, email (e.giannopoulos@verizon.net), or sign up at the church. **Please see flyer on the next page!**

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**St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church Newport Hellenic Dancers**  
**Holiday Greek Pastry Sale 2012**

***Enjoy traditional homemade Greek pastries in attractive holiday packaging, perfect for your home and for gift giving.***

**Mixed Box for \$10. Each box will contain a combination of Baklava , Kourabiedes, Melomakarona and Koulourakia.**

Place your order by Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup>

- 1) Sign up at our display at the Church Hall or
- 2) Call Sandy at 401-667-2984 or
- 3) Email your order at e.giannopoulos@verizon.net or
- 4) Fill out attached order form and give it to us (Sandy or Vaggeli)



Make your check payable to St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church (With note for Hellenic Dancers Fundraiser)

**Pickup pastries at St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church Hall (Please Check One)**

Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 1-2PM,  Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> After Liturgy

Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1-2PM,  Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> After Liturgy

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Boxes Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All proceeds will be used to support the Newport Hellenic Dancers

## GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The students of the Greek School commemorated the 28th of October 1940 “OXI Day” with a presentation of songs and poems on Sunday, October 28th in the community hall. Congratulations to all the students who participated in this fine presentation. You can view pictures of the presentation on the church website at [stspyridonchurch.org/2012oxiday.html](http://stspyridonchurch.org/2012oxiday.html).



The Greek School students will perform the traditional singing of the Kalanda for the St. Spyridon community in church following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 23rd.

We would like to remind the parents that December's *Σαββατιάτικη Παρέα* (Saturday Gathering) will be held on Saturday, December 22nd from 10:00am to 11am to rehearse the Christmas Kalanda. All Greek School students should be present this day to prepare and rehearse for the December 23rd presentation.

We wish everyone a blessed and enjoyable Christmas!

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Καλές Γιορτές!

Thanasis, Ka. Loula and Ka. Eleni

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## HELLENIC HISTORY TOURNAMENT

On Saturday the 27th of October 2012 the Newport HHT Team consisting of Nikos Spentzos and Theodore Panoutsopoulos (the other member of the original team, Michael Antonopoulos, has started college studies in CA) represented our community in the Hellenic History Trophy competition.

The team of two reached the semifinals and scored eleven ties before losing on the twelfth round, effectively gaining the third place. The officials of the event could not believe what was happening and rushed to the completion room after the fourth round! Congratulations to Nikos and Theodore and our best wishes to Michael!

The preparations for next year's completion are already underway. The team will be joined by Panagiotis Panoutsopoulos. The local AHEPA 245 and Daughters of Penelope Chapters will support any high school student, (by September 2013), who will be interested to join us. If you are interested, please contact me, Basile.Panoutsopoulos@verizon.net . We are meeting in public libraries or houses at various times but not on the Community grounds.

Sincerely,  
Basile Panoutsopoulos (HHT Coach)

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## DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

On November 13th a joint dinner meeting was held with brother Ahepans. District Governors Penny Pecka and Jack Isaac attended and it was a enjoyable evening for all. Plans are now being formed for our Christmas Dinner - please make note of the date December 15th - with our brother Ahepans and the Philoptochos. Information will be sent out shortly.

Also we will be visiting the shut-ins for the holidays. Anyone wishing to join us to visit the shut-ins should contact Penny Hiotas as soon as possible.

Wishing you all Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Penny Hiotas  
President

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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 245 <b>Daughters of Penelope</b> Ares Chapter 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>
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<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>