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December 2015 January 2016

THE CROSS+ROADS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
December & January Sundays	2-4
Acolyte & Epistle Readers	2
Through the Bible A—Z	4
Registry / Announcements	5
Church, Club & Community News	<i>5-8</i>
Youth Corner	5
Centurion Campaign	9
Stewardship	10
Calendar	11

Hi-Lites

- Theophany— January 6
- Centurion Campaign—Page 9
- Vasilopita Bread
 Orders—Page 7
- New Years Even Dance—Page 7
- AHEPA
 Events—Page 8
- Eagle Scout Project—Page 7

† FROM FATHER GEORGE

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

It seems like only yesterday that we were ushering in the Year of 2015. With the arrival of 2016 on the near horizon we will be given a whole new set of three hundred and sixty five days in order to better ourselves and the Community in which we live

Our newscasts are full of references to the candidates who want to be the next President of our great Country. Each one believes that he or she is the most qualified and the logical choice to occupy the White House. We all have the ability to choose the best person we think will do the job and should exercise our right to do so.

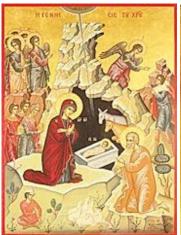
What is our focus going to be in 2016? Have we thought about what our priorities are and how these can be accomplished? We must continually focus and firmly place our faith in Jesus Christ, the

One who grants us salvation. As we will celebrate with great joy the Baptism of Christ on January 6th let us answer the call of the Church in renewing our Baptism and live up to our calling in being the children of light and walk in the light of Christ.

Distractions are all around us. Often times when seeking peace and quiet, our guard gets cut down allowing the noise of distraction to come our way. We should never allow any sound or any person to divert us from our insight into Jesus Christ. To be unspiritual means that other things have a growing fascination on us.

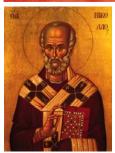
I hope that 2016 will be a year of health for all of us and may we continue to come together as the Body of Christ, grow through the services of the Church and continue to minister to those who are in dire need of the love of Christ.

ICONS OF THE SEASON

















Glory Be To God

Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church 60 Traverse Road Newport News VA 23606

www.schgochurch.va.goarch.org Phone (757) 596-6151 Fax (757) 596-2967 Email Addresses:

priest@ office@ parishcouncil@ youthdirector@ webmaster@ admin@ schgochurch.va.goarch.org

Office Hours

Monday Through Friday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Priest

Father George Chioros

Work 596-6152 Home 597-7786 Mobile 288-4487 Email frgchioros@aol.com

Parish Council

Barry Hendricks, President Frank Peri, Vice President Joanna Vallas, Treasurer Bobby Garofalis, Assistant Treasurer Alex Constantine, Secretary Elias Doulgerakis Konstantinos Fotiadis Barbara France Alexis Galoozis Tom Grepiotis Jason Holbrook

Chanters

John Siokis Harry Fotiou Alex Constantine

Office Secretary

Tasia Savrides

Archdiocese on the web www.goarch.org

DECEMBER & JANUARY SUNDAYS

Apolytikion for Saints Constantine & Helen, Equal-to-the Apostles in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

Τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου τὸν τύπον ἐν οὐρανῷ θεασάμενος, καὶ ὡς ὁ Παῦλος τὴν κλήσιν οὐκ ἐξ ἀνθρώπων δεξάμενος, ὁ ἐν βασιλεύσιν, Ἀπόστολός σου Κύριε, Βασιλεύουσαν πόλιν τὴ χειρί σου παρέθετο ἢν περίσωζε διὰ παντὸς ἐν εἰρήνῃ, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

DECEMBER 6

EPISTLE READING
Hebrews 13:17-21
GOSPEL READING
Luke 13:10-17
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Nicholas the New Martyr of Asia Minor

10th Sunday of Luke Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra Righteous Father Gerasimus, Ascetic of Euboia

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Nicholas the Wonderworker in the Fourth Mode

The truth of things hath revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause, thou hast achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Κανόνα πίστεως καί εικόνα πραότητος, εγκρατείας Διδάσκαλον, ανέδειξέ σε τή ποίμνη σου, η τών πραγμάτων αλήθεια, διά τούτο εκτήσω τή ταπεινώσει τά υψηλά, τή πτωχεία τά πλούσια, Πάτερ Ιεράρχα Νικόλαε, πρέσβευε Χριστώ τώ Θεώ, σωθήναι τάς ψυχάς ημών.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Third Mode

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the

ACOLYTES

DEC 13 JAN 3 & 24 Team A - Dominic Peri

Kostas Polyzos, Jorgie Polyzos, James St. Martin, Yianni Tsimplekis, Dean Peri

DEC 20; JAN 10 & 31 Team B -Christian Detweiler

Hayden Hendricks, Michael Christou, Anthony Capobianco, Cris Campbell, Ethan Detweiler

DEC 6 & 27; JAN 17 Team C - Joseph Dennie

Georgios Haramis, Christos Konstantinou, Christopher Myers, Soterios Tofalli, Kyprianos Tofalli

EPISTLE READERS

December 6:

Howard Mandeville

December 13:

Mary Katherine Galoozis (GOYA)

December 20:

Helen George

December 27:

TBA

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Philoptochos

Trish Demson, President

Religious Education

Viola Nicholls Allen, Director

Greek School

Matina Mimikos, Paula Tofalli, Aphrodite Christopoulos

Youth Ministry

Stephanie Peri and Kent Paumier, Advisors

Acolytes

Barry Hendricks, Director

JOY/HOPE

Helen Micha, Director

Greek Orthodox Youth Association (GOYA)

Mary Katherine Galoozis, President

Kent Paumier, Advisor

Young Adult League (YAL)

Anastasia Theodorogiannis, President

Golden Hearts

Chris Fotiou, President

Order of AHEPA

Newport News—Tom Georges, President

Daughters of Penelope

Helen George, President

Hellenic Womens Penelope Society

Marika Anthony, President

Hellenic Youth Dancers

Bobby Garofalis, Director

gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

So great an evil is envy. For not against strangers only, but even against our own, is it ever warring. St. John Chrysostom, Homily 40 on Matthew 12, 4th Century

DECEMBER 13 EPISTLE READING

Colossians 3:4-11
GOSPEL READING
Luke 14:16-24
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED
11th Sunday of Luke
Herman the Wonderworker
of Alaska & First Saint of
America

Gabriel the Hieromartyr,
Archbishop of Serbia
Lucia the Virgin-martyr
The Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene,
Mardarius, and Orestes of
Greater Armenia

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for 11th Sun. of Luke in the Second Mode

By faith didst Thou justify the Forefathers, when through them Thou didst betroth Thyself aforetime to the Church from among the nations. The Saints boast in glory that from their seed there is a glorious fruit, even she that bare Thee seedlessly. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

This parable ... proclaims beforehand both the casting out of the Jews, and the calling of the Gentiles; and it indicates together with this also the strictness of the life required, and how great the punishment appointed for the careless St. John Chrysostom, Homily 69 on Matthew 22, 4th Century

DECEMBER 20

EPISTLE READING
Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40
GOSPEL READING
Matthew 1:1-25
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Holy Father John of Kronstadt

John the New Martyr of Thassos

Sunday before Nativity Ignatius the God-Bearer, Bishop of Antioch

Forefeast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Nativity in the First Mode

O Bethlehem, rejoice; Ephratha, make thou ready; * for in her womb the Ewe-lamb doth bear the Great Shepherd, * and lo, she now urgently maketh haste to give birth to Him. * On beholding Him, the righteous Godbearing Fathers * all rejoice, and with the shepherds sing hymns in praise of * the Virgin that nursed a child.

Apolytikion for Sun. before Nativity in the Second Mode

Great are the achievements of faith! In the fountain of flame, as by the water of rest, the Three Holy Children rejoiced. And the Prophet Daniel proved a shepherd of lions as of sheep. By their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

The tribes of Judah and Levi were united by a fusion of their lines of descent, and that is why Matthew assigns Christ's family to the tribe of Judah. And the Apostle says, 'for our Lord has sprung out of Judah' (Heb. 7:14). St. Ambrose of Milan, Seven Exegetical Works, 4th Century

DECEMBER 27 EPISTLE READING

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60 GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:13-23 SAINTS AND FEASTS COMMEMORATED Sunday after Nativity Afterfeast of the Nativity

Afterfeast of the Nativity
Stephen, Archdeacon &
First Martyr

Theodore the Confessor Brothers Theophanes and Poletus

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is cobeginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Apolytikion for Sun. after Nativity in the Second Mode

O Joseph, proclaim the wonders to David, the ancestor of God. Thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; thou hast given glory with the shepherds; thou hast worshipped with the Magi; and thou hast been instructed through an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Apolytikion for Protomartyr Steven in the Fourth Mode

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Saviour stand-

ing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Nathanael too enters ... saying, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" ... Nevertheless, He is not ashamed to be named even from thence, signifying that He needs not ought of the things of men; and His disciples also He chooses out of Galilee. St. John

JANUARY 3 EPISTLE READING

Timothy 4:5-8
GOSPEL READING
Mark 1:1-8
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Sunday before Epiphany Gordios the Martyr of Caes-

Righteous Genevieve of Paris

Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Righteous Peter of Atroas HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

Angelic powers were above Thy tomb, and they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood by the grave seeking Thine immaculate Body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant us life. O Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Theophany in the Fourth Mode

Be thou ready, Zabulon; prepare thyself, O Nephthalim. River Jordan, stay thy course and skip for gladness to receive the Sovereign Master, Who cometh now to be baptized. O Adam, be thou glad with our first mother, Eve; hide not as ye did of old in Paradise. Seeing you naked, He hath appeared now to clothe you in the first robe again. Christ hath appeared, for He truly willeth to renew all creation.

(Continued on page 4)

DECEMBER & JANUARY SUNDAYS

(Continued from page 3)

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

In the running waters of the Jordan River, on this day the Lord of all crieth to John: Be not afraid and hesitate not to baptize Me, for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

JANUARY 10

EPISTLE READING
Ephesians 4:7-13
GOSPEL READING
Matthew 4:12-17
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Gregory of Nyssa
Theosebia the Deaconess,
sister of Basil the Great &
Gregory of Nyssa

Sunday after Epiphany

Dometian, Bishop of Melitene

Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion for Theophany Afterfeast in the First Mode

When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

For as persons not even knowing where to put a step forward, so they sat, overtaken by the darkness. St. John Chrysostom, Homily 14 on Matthew 4, 4th Century

JANUARY 17

EPISTLE READING
Hebrews 13:17-21
GOSPEL READING
Luke 17:12-19
SAINTS AND FEASTS

COMMEMORATED
Theodosius the Emperor
George the New Martyr of

loannina

12th Sunday of Luke Anthony the Great Anthony the New of the Berropas Skete

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

JANUARY 24

EPISTLE READING
Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2
GOSPEL READING
Luke 18:35-43
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Xenia, Deaconess of Rome Vavylas the Holy Martyr Xenia of St. Petersburg, Fool-for-Christ

14th Sunday of Luke

The Synaxis of the New Martyrs of Russia HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

WISDOM OF THE FATHERS

Virtues are formed by prayer. Prayer preserves temperance, suppresses anger, restrains pride and envy, draws down the Holy Spirit into the soul and raises man to heaven. St. Ephraim the Syrian, Unknown, 4th century

JANUARY 31 EPISTLE READING

Corinthians 12:27-31;

13:1-8

GOSPEL READING
Luke 19:1-10
SAINTS AND FEASTS
COMMEMORATED

Cyrus & John the Unmercenaries

Holy Women Martyrs Theodote, Theoktiste and Eudoxia

Our Righteous Father Arsenius of Parus

15th Sunday of Luke Anastasios the New Martyr of Navplion

HYMNS OF THE DAY Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

THROUGH THE BIBLE A-Z

Walk humbly with your God – Micah 6:8

Walk in His truth – Psalm 26:3

Walk in love just as Christ loved you and gave Himself for you – Ephesians 5:2

Walk in newness of life in Christ if you were baptized into His death – Romans 6:4

Walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light & have fellowship with one another – 1 John 1:7

Walk in the light of His countenance – Psalm 89:15

Walk uprightly and He withholds no good thing from you - Psalm 84:11

Walk with integrity – Psalm 15:2

Walk with the wise and you will be wise – Proverbs 13:20

Walk worthy of the calling, which you have been called in all humility, gentleness, patience & tolerance for one another-Ephes. 4:1

War a good warfare – 1 Timothy 1:18

War with wise counsel and prepare your plans with consultation – Proverbs 20:18



CHURCH REGISTRY / ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISMS:

The infant son of **Mitchell & Alexandra Moore** was baptized in our Church, November 21 and given the name **Gavin James** by his godmother, **Frances Pileggi.** Maternal grandparents, **Ted and Jo Ellen Fotiou.**

The infant son of Haralambos Panos & Brittany Scout was baptized in our Church November 28 and given the name Konstantinos Haralambos by his godmother, Niki Panos. Paternal grandparents Gus & Kay Panos.

May the blessings of our Church be with the newly-baptized infants and our sincere congratulations to the parents, godparents, grandparents and their entire families.

Na sas zisoun!!!!!

RECENTLY ILL AND NEEDING OUR PRAYERS:

We pray for the complete and quick recovery of our friends and fellow parishioners who have been ill and/or hospitalized recently: **Nicholas Drivas**, **Dr. George Katsantonis**, **Angelo Mageras**, **Rena Mantis**, **Tasia Savrides**, **Roula Valentin and George Zambas**.

Perastika sas!!!!!!!

THANK YOU:

Dianne Sun would like to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, meals and gifts over the last few months. She appreciates your continuing prayers for a quick and full recovery.

DEATHS:

Our sincere condolences to the family of **Dimitri**os **Drivas** who died November 5 in

Greece. May his memory be eternal!!!!!!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please, remember that if you wish to be included in our Community's Christmas Card, you need to send us your completed request form accompanied by a check of \$30.00. Please, do help us keep our records straight and, at the same time, help our Church financially. We ask that you do not include the \$30.00 for the Christmas Card payment in your Stewardship remittance for this causes confusion as these monies go to different accounds. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION, AND MAY YOU AND YOURS HAVE A HEALTHY, JOY-FUL AND BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON.

REFRESHMENTS

ATTENDANCE

151

156

148

136

147

163

146

156

November 1

November 8

November 15

November 22

Nov 2015 Ave

Nov 2014 Ave

YTD 15 Ave

YTD 14 Ave

We thank all those parishioners who served as hosts for the month of November. The hosts for the following two (2) months are:

Dec. 6: M/M Nik Pergjoka and Maria Vaughn, M/M Timothy Vaughn, M/M Bobby Vidakis

Dec, 13: M/M Apostolis Velissarios, M/M Dino Velissarios, M/M Nicholas Vlattas

Dec. 20: M/M Nick Vretakis, Ms. Evelyn Vretos, Mr. Nick Vrettos

Dec. 27: M/M John Warhol, Jr. M/M John Warhol III, Mr. James Woodbury

Jan. 3: Mrs. Katherine Yeapanis, Dr./M Chris Zambas, M/M Vasilios Zisopoulos, Mr. Greg Bicouvaris

Jan 10: VASILOPITA LUNCH-EON

Jan. 17: M/M Mike Anastasiou, Mr. Tony/Dr. Marika Anthony, M/M Tony Bills

Jan 24: M/M Nick Andre, Ms. Aliki Asime, M/M Barney Barnes

<u>Jan. 31</u>: M/M Andrew Baker, Ms. Marina Becouvarakis, M/M Leroy Bossetti

Youth Corner

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School class will be collecting blankets, towels and sheets until December 15, 2015 to donate to the SPCA. This is class project chosen by the students to be an example of "Sharing God's World". If you would like to donate, there will be a donation box available in the classroom. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Christmas Program will take place on Sunday, December 13th at the conclusion of Liturgy. Music Rehearsal will be on Sunday, December 6th upstairs in the Sunday School hall after classes. The Dress Rehearsal for the program will be Saturday, December 12th at 10am in the Church. Please plan to attend the rehearsals.

STUFF A STOCKING DONATIONS

The Sunday School children are now collecting donations for the Salvation Army's Stocking Stuffer campaign. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex of the Church and also near the Church Bookstore. Your donations go directly to children, ages 2 - 12, in our Hampton Roads community. Please make sure items are Brand New and Not Wrapped. Suggested items are: coloring books, crayons, books, toy cars, bouncy balls, watches, hair clips, dolls, markers, card games, and any other small toys for girls and boys. Please feel free to contact Vi Nicholls-Allen, 757-810-7434, if you have any questions. Donations will be collected through the morning of December 12th. The children will be "Stuffing" the Stockings after their Christmas Program Rehearsal that afternoon.

BLESSING BAG DONATIONS

The youth of our Church is collecting items to fill 100's of Blessing Bags for the Homeless right here in our own Hampton Roads Community. The Blessing Bags will be distributed to the homeless visitors who come to our Church during our Host week for PORT mid-December. Donation boxes are in located in the Narthex of the Church and also near the Church Bookstore. Items Needed: Travel Size Shampoo, Toothpaste, Lotion, Tissues, ChapStick, Bars of Soap, Washcloths, Gloves, Beanie Hats, Deodorant and Socks. Please feel free to contact Helen Micha, 757-750-6044, if you have any questions or if you are able to make a large donation. Donations will be collected through the morning of Saturday, December 12th. The children will be assembling the Blessing Bags after their Christmas Program Rehearsal that afternoon.



Christina Myers received the All Star Award for the Newport News Girls B Team at the Norfolk GOYA Basketball Tournament held November 7th & 8th.

Cross+Roads

CHURCH EMAIL LIST

Subscribe to the church email list for monthly links to the Cross+Roads and important church announcements at:

www.schgochurch.va.goarch.org

DEADLINE

Please email information no later than the 20th day of the month to Nick Vlattas nvlattas@hewv.com

CHURCH, CLUB AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PHILOPTOCHOS

On November 10, Philoptochos hosted a luncheon for our Golden Hearts and their guests from the Annunciation Cathedral in Norfolk, the Golden Years. A delicious meal was prepared by our own great chefs and graciously served by a group of Philoptochos members headed by our Philoptochos president. Trish Demson.

We believe that our Golden Hearts and their guests not only thoroughly enjoyed their lunch but also the comradery and fellowship that this gathering provided them.

PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERS: Do not forget that December 9, 10 & 11 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday) we are baking Vasilopites. It is our number one fund raiser, so please, please, make every effort to be available to help. TO OUR PATRONS: Please, place your order no later than Sunday, December 6. You can pick up an order form in the Narthex of the Church or you may call Dottie Andre, 868-7898. Helen George, 969-5533(c 660-2455) or Voula Vretakis, 596-**3223** to place an order. The price of each bread is \$8.00. Please, pick up your order no later than Sunday, December 13. Again, we thank you very much for your patronage.

On January 10, following Church services, Philoptochos will host its annual Vasilopita Luncheon. We invite all our friends to attend, as a delicious meal is already being planned by our wonderful chefs. There will also be special entertainment.

As we do in every issue of the Cross+Roads, we again remind you of our Act of Kindness, which involves visiting those patients receiving chemotherapy at Virginia Oncology and serving them a lunch of sandwiches, chips, cookies, etc. along with much love and cheer. If you wish to participate in this truly wonderful Act of Kindness, call Ellie Costulis, 833-8181 and ask her how you can help.

Our financial obligations to the National for the months of December and January are:

For December we are contributing to the General Medical Fund which provides financial resources for individuals in need of assistance not specifically covered by other restricted National Funds or Programs. For January, we are contributing the proceeds from the Vasilopita Luncheon to benefit Saint Basil's Academy. We are also making a contribution to the Social Services, Cancer and other Major Illnesses Fund which provides outreach, support and financial assistance to those in need.

The December meeting of Philoptochos will be held, Monday, December 7, at 6:00 pm at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J. Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this meeting to help celebrate the coming Holiday Season with your fellow Philoptochos members.

Philoptochos wishes everyone within and without our Society a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE:

The members of the Daughters are again reminded to bring to the next meeting grooming items so that Kathy Matthews can take them to one of the various shelters who need such items for those to whom they offer assistance.

The Daughters observed their Founders Day Anniversary, as well as the organizing of the local chapter on Sunday January 15 with a reception following Church services in the AHEPA Family Home. The Daughters National organization was founded in 1929 while the local chapter was organized in 1975.

Sincere congratulations to both the National Organization and the local chapter.

On Sunday, December 13, following Church services, the AHEPA family (AHEPA & DOP) will host a luncheon all the proceeds of which will go to the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas Church in Ground Zero in New York City.

Please join us, enjoy a delicious meal and help us contribute to the rebuilding of this National Shrine.

The December meeting of the Daughters will be Tuesday. December 8. In celebration of the coming Holiday Season, following the main meal with our brother AHEPANS, a variety of desserts will be enjoyed provided by the Daughters.

Our AHEPA family wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

HELLENIC WOMAN'S PENELOPE SOCIETY

The Hellenic Woman's Penelope Society (HWPS) will hold its Christmas Celebration on Thursday, December 3rd at 6:00 pm at the Hellenic Center. Mesdames Christine Mignogna, Frances Polizos, Athena Savvas, and Vicky Mignogna Smith will serve as hostesses.

After an enjoyable social hour, we will welcome the Christmas season with a Christmas rendition by the Hampton Roads Academy Vocal Ensemble under the direction of Musical Director Mrs. Robin Steinberger.

We will also share the Christmas spirit with a representative from the Menchville House, who will acquaint us with the mission and work of this shelter for abusive women and their families. Each member is kindly asked to bring a toiletry item to place in the large Christmas decorated box, which we will present to the Menchville House for distribution to its residents. More specific information and a wish list will be sent to all our members via email or telephone.

Our annual Fall Bake Sale, which was held in the Hellenic Center, was a great success. The and a HAPPY, HEALTHY, and proceeds from this bake sale will go toward the anonymous loan, which was so kindly made to us, to pay the balance for the spring order of 50 additional banquet chairs, which we gifted to the Hellenic Center to be rented for additional income. Our sincerest appreciation to our core members and friends who came forward and made the delicious

Greek pastries for which we are famous for.

The 2013 Revised Edition of our cookbook, Culinary Gifts from the Greeks, makes a beautiful gift for Christmas. The Christmas -wrapped books will be on sale in the Hellenic Center during the social hour every Sunday until Christmas. Please call Marika Anthony or Tessie Dakis for additional information.

Our January, 2016 meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14th (Second Thursday), 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Hellenic Center. Sharon Otero will serve as host-

Preparations for our 17th Annual Dinner Theater, which will take place on Saturday, February 27th or Saturday, February 20th, are now underway. The Poquoson Group will once again present a delightful comedy. Specific information will be sent to our patrons in the middle of January. All proceeds from the Dinner Theater will go toward repaying the balance on the loan for the chairs and the remainder will go toward the purchase of the last order of 50 chairs, which we hope to purchase in 2017.

Our Book group is reminded to read The Sunrise by Victoria Hislop. Members will be contacted as to the exact date of our next meeting.

In the last issue of Cross+Roads, we noticed that so many of our parishioners were ill and /or hospitalized. We extend our warmest wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to Mike Anastasiou, Irene Christou, Terry Drivas, Rosa Hontos, Rena Mantis, Jason McCarter, Harita Stavrou and Dianne Sun. May the blessings of the Lord be with all you always.

We wish a MERRY CHRISTMAS PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL!



EAGLE SCOUT SERVICE PROJECT



After two rain postponements on September 26th and October 3rd, and with the help of several of my fellow GOYA members and Boy Scouts from Troop 218, we finally completed my Eagle Scout Service Project on Saturday, October 31st. The day started with remarks and a prayer offered by Father George (who is also an Eagle Scout), then sweeping and clearing the gravel from the parking lot, and continued with the repainting of the curbs and parking space lines in the parking lot. The project could have never been completed without the help and support from so many people and I'd like to take a minute to thank them:

John & Joanne Thomas, George & Jackie Anas, Barney Barnes and Georgia Mamangakis, and Dr. Bobby and Aleksandra Garofalis for their generous donations that helped pay for all supplies and materials.

Father George for his advice

and direction for the project.

The Parish Council for their vote of confidence supporting of the project (and Parish Council members that helped out during the painting, Alex Constantine, Barbara & John France (who also brought cookies for the lunch), and Jason Holbrook).

The GOYAn's (and GOYA parents) that helped: Mary Katherine Galoozis, Dominic Peri, Fofi Gouletas, Christina Myers, and GOYA parents Stephanie Peri and Karen Pingley.

Randy Pingley for the paint stripers.

And of course my mom and dad for providing the lunch, their encouragement, advice, and help.

It was a team effort and I appreciate everyone's help and support. I will be completing the rest of my Eagle requirements soon and will be sure to invite my church family to my Eagle Court of Honor in early-2016.

By Hayden Hendricks



Vasilopita Bread Order Now!



Be sure to place your order by **Sunday, December 6th**

Please call:

Voula Vretakis 596-3223 Helen George 969-5533 Dottie Andre 868-7898

Cost: \$8.00 (payable to Philoptochos)

Pick up orders by: Sunday, December 13th

Thank you for supporting the Philoptochos Society in their fundraising efforts.

New Years Eve Dance with Melodia and DJ Elias

Adults—\$40 / Age 7 - 18—\$20 / Age 6 and under—Free Heavy Hors d 'Oeuvres Full Breakfast Cash Bar

Thursday, December 31, 9:30 PM
Sacalis Hall
Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church
60 Traverse Road, Newport News, Virginia





HWPS members celebrate their 86th Anniversary. Pictured from left to right: Marika Anthony, Helen Vaughn, Zoe Marcopoulos, Sharon Otero, Joanie Michalos, Helen George, Tessie Dakis, Zena Mageras, Stephanie Kailos, Anna Mageras, Maggie Thompson

Please join the Brother and Sisters of the AHEPA Family

for a luncheon to benefit

The Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero



Sunday, December 13, 2015 after the Divine Liturgy

Adults \$10.00 Children 12 and under \$5.00



The Community is invited to WATCH the GAME with US!

Sunday, February 7, 2016 5:00 p.m. in the AHEPA Family Center

> BIG SCREEN TV FOOD – BEVERAGE – TABLE GAMES & FELLOWSHIP

> > **Only \$5.00**

AHEPA ANNUAL

"MEATBALLS FOR MEATFARE"
LUNCHEON

FEBRUARY 28TH, 2016

Meatfare Sunday after the Divine Liturgy

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS

SALAD, HOMEMADE GARLIC BREAD

& A DRINK

\$10.00

SAVE THE DATE

AHEPA CASINO NIGHT

MARCH 12, 2016



.....more details to come

CENTURION CAMPAIGN UPDATE

During this past March's General Assembly, I announced the start of the Centurion Campaign, an 18 month fund raising campaign to raise \$126,500 in order to 1) Pay off our remaining financial obligations on the Sacalis Hall renovation; 2) Establish an emergency capital expense reserve; and 3) Make a community donation to the Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Shrine. To reach this goal we are seeking 100 pledges in three different donation categories - \$1,800, \$1,350, and \$1,000, where 90% of the donations will go towards the renovation and reserve funds and the remaining 10% of the donation will go towards the community's gift to the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and Shrine.

To date, we have received commitments from 19 parishioners for a total pledged amount of \$26,150. We can look quickly at those numbers and recognize that we have a long way to go to reach our stated goals. We have discussed the campaign during two general assemblies and

practically every Parish Council meeting this year, published an article in the September issue of "The Cross+Roads" (to include commitment forms in the past two issues and the current issue), and even personally engaged parishioners in face to face discussions on the campaign, so I can assume pretty much everyone is aware of the campaign. And yet, our numbers right now are pretty low and need to start trending upward if we are to be successful.

We have had a few questions from parishioners as we have discussed and advertised the Centurion Campaign, and I'd like to share some of those questions with you and our responses. Hopefully this will clear up some of the confusion.

Q - Does a contribution towards the Centurion Campaign count towards my regular Stewardship offerings?

A - No. The Centurion Campaign is a separate fund raising campaign spanning 18 months with very specific and targeted goals.

Name

offer donors an option to make gifts of appreciated securities from their personal investments. Can I make a gift to the Centurion Campaign this way?

A – Simple answer, yes. In fact, we encourage this method of giving. These accounts are where many people have accumulated assets and find it a little easier to reach into those funds rather than their regular monthly living expense accounts. We have set up, through our investment managers with Morgan Stanley, a separate account to receive these offerings. If you are interested in making a gift of securities, please contact Barry Hendricks for the gifting instructions. All you would need to do is provide those instructions to your financial planner and they take care of the transfer.

O - I thought the renovation was already complete and I already gave to that effort. Why do I have to give more?

A - You are correct, the renovation is complete, and we now have beautiful event space that

Q - I've seen other non-profits has already hosted several wedding receptions, rentals, a monthly retired shipyard workers breakfast, and weekly men's bible study / breakfast rental. Many of our faithful supported the renovation project with generous donations of time and treasure. However, the total cost of the project was over \$110,000 and those donations helped kick start the project, but we still owe roughly \$71,000 towards the loan we took out to help fund the project. This is a financial obligation we signed up for as a community and is an obligation we are responsible for paying.

> Q - I see in the campaign goals an "emergency capital expense reserve", what is that?

A - With our aging facilities, the potential exists for an emergency capital expense at any time. For example, when the large air conditioner units for the Sacalis Hall go down, we will be faced with an expense in excess of \$40,000. It is therefore imperative that we start now in

\$126,500 will support:

\$113,900

\$12,600

Renovation / Reserve (90%)

Saint Nicholas (10%)

(Continued on page 10)



Centurion Campaign Commitment

rame:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip	:
Email:			
I / We wish to make a commitment to the	Centu	non Campaign Goals	
Centurion Campaign in the amount of:	Donation	Number of	Donation
0.44.000	Category	Donations	Goal Totals
O \$1,800	\$1,800	20	\$36,000
○ \$1,350 ○ \$1,000	\$1,350	30	\$40,500
	\$1,000	50	\$50,000
Other \$	TOTAL	100	\$126,500

CAMPAIGN GOAL \$126,500 by 9/1/2016: 1) Pay off our remaining financial obligations on the Sacalis Hall renovation; 2) Establish an emergency capital expense reserve; and 3) 10% of funds raised for parish donation to the Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Shrine.

Please return to the Church Office or place in

the collection tray during Liturgy.

(Continued from page 9) saving and preparing for the inevitable.

We've received several questions pertaining to our goal of donating 10% of the money raised through the Centurion Campaign to the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Shrine. Below is a summary of an exchange I had with one of our beloved members of Philoptochos:

Q - My question pertains to the St. Nicholas Shrine reconstruction. Back in April during our Philoptochos meeting, there was a plea to donate money to the reconstruction, and I made a donation at that time. I believe there were a couple of others that did the same. Shouldn't my contribution, as well as the contributions of the few others from our Philoptochos Chapter, be subtracted from the amount or added in the amount that you say our community should consider sending to this effort? I would prefer to contribute my money to the Centurion fund and have ALL of my contribution be allocated to bringing down the Sacalis Hall debt and saving for potential improvement needs of our church and NO amount of my contribution go towards the St. Nicholas Reconstruction.

A - I would love to answer your question with a short, one word, yes or no, but it's just not that easy. Your question raises several concerns (or misunderstandings) that I would like to address.

Let me first begin by saying that the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine at the World Trade Center is a responsibly that belongs to all of us. Some might say it is the Archdiocese's responsibly or disagree with the architectural design or any number of complaints I've heard. But when it's complete, it will first and foremost be a church, a house of worship for Orthodox Christians, but will also be our faith's national shrine at perhaps one of the most heavily visited areas in all of New York

When the fund raising effort for the rebuilding started, re-

quests went out to all ministries and organizations in the Archdiocese. This included church communities, Philoptochos, and AHEPA. For our community specifically, Metropolitan Evangelos, requested a minimum donation of \$10,000 be made from all parishes in the Metropolis of New Jersey. In addition, Philoptochos and AHEPA chapters across the Archdiocese were also asked to make separate donations as well.

So specifically addressing your question about the generous donation you made last year to Philoptochos in support the rebuilding effort, that is a separate offering made to support Philoptochos' fund raising efforts.

With regards to your request that any donation you make to the Centurion Campaign be only directed towards the first two objectives of the Campaign, and that nothing go towards the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas. We can and will definitely honor that request if that is what a donor requests. But, I would ask you to reconsider and to look at it with more of a spiritual view. Our offerings back to God don't stop with one gift or one specific project. Consider our offerings toward the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas something much bigger than all of us. When complete, it will be a structure that not only reflects the beauty and spiritual foundations of our faith, but a shining reflection of Christ's love for all mankind.

When the Saint Nicholas Church is complete, we, as a community, will be able to proudly say we played a part in the rebuilding effort. You and the other members of Philoptochos will be able to say you played a part in the rebuilding effort through your own offerings. Our local chapter of AHEPA will be able to say when we were called, we responded with assistance in the rebuilding effort. All of us will be able to visit the World Trade Center memorial and then walk across the street to visit our faith's national shrine and proudly say that through the Grace of God, our offerings made a difference.

Q – I can't afford to pay what you guys are asking for?

A - Please rest assured, any gift, of any amount made to the Centurion Campaign will be accepted. However, to reach our fund raising goals, we established the three different donation categories, \$1,800, \$1,350, and \$1,000. These gifts can be made as a one-time offering, or can be split in any number of ways: monthly, semi-annually, or whatever method fits your own financial situation. For me personally, I've been making regular gifts on the 1st and the 15th of every month since the campaign was announced on March 1st. At the end of the 18 months, I will reach my pledged goal.

I hope those questions and answers help clear up some of the confusion and make it a little easier for you to make your commitment. Below is a list of parishioners who have either made a pledge or contribution supporting the Centurion Campaign:

- George & Jackie Anas
- 2. Anonymous
- 3. Barney Barnes & Georgia Mamangakis
- 4. Chris & Tina Canavos
- 5. Fr. George & Presv. Flora Chioros
- 6. Ellie Costulis
- 7. Bob & Trish Demson
- 8. Theo & Alexis Galoozis
- 9. Barry & Ruth Hendricks
- 10. Chris & Elaine Jansen
- 11. Dr. Michael Kokorelis
- 12. Elias & Elpitha Paparis
- 13. Pauline Schlim
- 14. Pete & Diane Sun
- 15. John & Joanne Thomas
- 16. Joanna Vallas
- 17. Nicholas & Barbara Vlattas
- 18. James Woodbury
- 19. Chris & Hope Zambas

My brothers and sisters, I along with 18 other members of our community, have made a commitment to the Centurion Campaign, and I would like to invite you to join us in supporting this important and vital initiative.

Can we count on your support and enlist you as a Centurion? By Barry Hendricks

STEWARDSHIP

2016

Every year, we ask our faithful to take time and prayerfully review their personal circumstances and reflect on the blessings they've received in their lives, and complete a stewardship commitment form for the coming year. Please take a few minutes to reflect on the gifts you've been blessed with in your life, and fill out the form to make your commitments as a cheerful and spiritual expression of faith and thanksgiving.

Last month, everyone received their 2016 Stewardship Commitment Form with "The Cross+Roads" and Stewardship Commitment Sunday was recognized a few short weeks ago on November 22nd. Regrettably, a large number of you haven't completed your 2016 commitment form. If you forgot to submit your form or misplaced it with all the holiday adds and catalogs (as happens in our house), fear not, you can get blank forms in the Narthex or on the home page of the church website (in either a downloadable form or a webbased form that you can easily fill out and conveniently submit online).

We look forward to receiving your 2016 commitment form and putting those offerings to work.

Open Call to Discipleship Stewardship Ministry Leader Needed

As mentioned during the Fall General Assembly and last month's issue of "The Cross+Roads", we are seeking new leadership of our Stewardship Ministry. Starting in 2016, I will step aside and let someone with new ideas and energy move our Stewardship Ministry to the next level. There is much work to be done and I would like to start as soon as possible in transitioning the responsibilities. Please look at this as a call to discipleship to lead a vital ministry for our church. If interested, please contact either Father George or myself.

Barry Hendricks (cell) 757.218.2053

$December\ 2015$						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	<i>15</i>	16	<i>17</i>	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	<i>25</i>	26
<i>27</i>	28	29	30	31		

1 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

2 Wednesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 5:45pm Paraclesis 6:30pm Adult Education 7:15pm Choir Practice

4 Friday

Saint Barbara

9:00am Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy

5 Saturday

4:30pm Wedding

6 Sunday

10th Sunday of Luke St. Nicholas the Wonderworker 8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

7 Monday

Philoptochos 6:00pm at Angelo's

8 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 6:30pm Ahepa Christmas Party

9 Wednesday

Vasilopita Baking 5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 5:45pm Paraclesis 6:30pm Adult Education 7:15pm Choir Practice

10 Thursday

Vasilopita Baking

11 Friday

Vasilopita Baking

12 Saturday

St. Spyridon the Wonderworker 9:00am Orthros 10:00 Divine Liturgy Christmas Program Practice

13 Sunday

11th Sunday of Luke

8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy 40 Day Memorial for Dimitrios Drivas Christmas Program

14 Monday

Ahena Luncheon

10:30am Golden Hearts 7:00pm Parish Council

15 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

16 Wednesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School Choir 7:15pm

20 Sunday

Sunday before Nativity 8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy No Sunday School

23 Wednesday

Choir 7:15pm

24 Thursday

Nativity Eve

10:00am Royal hours 7:00pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy

25 Fridav

HOLY NATIVITY

9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy Office closed

27 Sunday

Sunday after Nativity St. Stephen, First Martyr

8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy No Sunday School

31 Thursday

New Year's Eve **NYE Dance**

January 2016

Garraar y 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	<i>12</i>	13	14	<i>15</i>	16
<i>17</i>	18	19	<i>20</i>	21	22	23
24	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	28	29	<i>30</i>
31						

1 Friday

St. Basil the Great New Year's Day 9:00 am Orthros

10:00am Liturgy Church Office Closed

3 Sunday

8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

4 Monday

GOYA Basketball/Boys & Girls 6:30pm Philoprochos

5 Tuesday

Lesser Blessing of Water

8:45 am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy 5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

6 Wednesday

Theophany

Great Blessing of Water

9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy 7:15pm Choir

7 Thursday

Saint John the Baptist

9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy 5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 6:30pm HWPS

10 Sunday

Sunday after Theophany

8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy Vasilopita Luncheon

11 Monday

GOYA Basketball/Boys & Girls

12 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

13 Wednesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 7:15pm Choir

17 Sunday

Saint Anthony the Great 8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

18 Monday

Saint Athanasios

9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

19 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

20 Wednesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School 7:15pm Choir

21 Thursday

6:45pm Ahepa/DOP

24 Sunday 8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

25 Monday

Saint Gregory the Theologian

9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy GOYA Basketball/Boys & Girls

26 Tuesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School

27 Wednesday

5:00pm/8:00pm Greek School Choir Practice 7:15pm

30 Saturday

The Three Hierarchs 9:00am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy

31 Sunday

8:45am Orthros 10:00am Liturgy Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church 60 Traverse Road Newport News VA 23606

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Phone (757) 596-6151

Fax

(757) 596-2967

COME WORSHIP THE GLORY OF GOD



Sunday Services

8:15 a.m. Matins 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:15 a.m. Religious Education (Sep-May) 11:30 a.m. Christian Fellowship (Hellenic Center)

Mission Statement

The mission of Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Newport News, Virginia is to keep, practice, and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith. The work and ministry of our Parish will include proclaiming the Gospel, sanctifying the faithful through God's grace in worship, the Divine Liturgy and the Sacraments, and enhancing their spiritual life. We will fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by inviting others into the Church through Baptism and/or Chrismation, educating them in the Orthodox Faith through the establishment of programs, schools and philanthropic activities, and implementing Christian ministries.