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KOINONIA

Pastoral Message from Fr. Michael Pastrikos

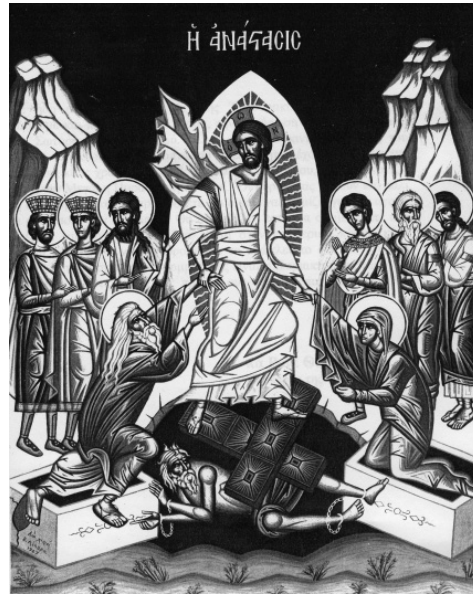
ASCENSION DAY

The Ascension of our Lord on the fortieth day of His glorious Resurrection from the dead was a fitting climax to His earthly life. He gathered His beloved followers on the mount, gave them His instruction and blessing and then ascended to the father.

Why did Jesus ascend into Heaven? We can enumerate a number of reasons. Christ ascended into heaven because His work on earth was completed. One of the words our Lord uttered from the

cross was: "It is finished." He completed the task for which He came, the salvation of mankind. Just as every man and woman returns after their day's work is done, so our Lord ascended to the Father on this day.

Christ ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us. "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, you may be also", Jesus said. Those who believe and faithfully serve the Lord will find a prepared place for them in the Kingdom of God. Christ ascended into heaven to sit "at the right hand of the Father." This is what we confess in the Nicene Creed. This means He occupies a place of intercession for us. And he retained the wounds on His body as testimony of his love and sacrifice for us as He pleads for our well-being. No wonder Christians have always turned to Him who said, "Come unto Me all you that labor and are heavy-burdened, and I will give you rest..." Christ ascended into heaven to send us the Holy Spirit. At the farewell of the Last Supper, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth... it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not



away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you..." in another part He said: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have done unto you..."

St. Luke records in his Gospel that the faithful at the mount of Ascension "worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy."

These were some of the

reasons for their rejoicing. The Lord's ascension and departure did not bring sadness but gladness to their hearts. Understood in the right way, this feast day gladdens the soul of every important event in the earthly life of our Lord. It is fitting that we solemnly observe this day of His return to the Father at the conclusion of His earthly journey.

But even as we celebrate, we look forward to the keeping of His promise to send the Comforter. "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you..." that was Christ's promise. And some rejoice that we do not go through life alone, but we go with His Spirit as our Comforter and Guide and Light. Certainly we cannot observe His ascension without remembering that He shall come again, in glory, at the end of the age. He said, "I will come again and receive you into Myself..." Let us then, celebrate this glorious Feast Day: The Ascension of our Lord.

**CHRIST IS RISEN!
TRULY HE IS RISEN!**

Message from Father Michael Pastrikos

Mother... "Six pairs of hands...?"

When the good Lord was creating Mothers, He was into His sixth day of overtime when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." And the Lord said, "Have you read the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have 180 moving parts; run on black coffee and leftovers; have a lap that disappears when she stands up; a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair and six pair of hands. The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands, no way." "It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord, "It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have." "That's on the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Lord nodded, "One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, "What are you kids doing in there?" when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't, but what she needs to know and of course the one here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and says, "I understand and I love you without uttering so much as a word." "Lord," said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, "Go to bed; tomorrow..." "I can't," said the Lord, "I'm so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick... can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger... and can get a nine year old to stand under the shower." The angel circled the model of the mother very slowly. "It's so soft," she sighed. "But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do

or endure." "Can she think?" "Not only think, but she can reason and compromise." said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her fingers across the cheek. "There's a leak," she pronounced, "I told you, you were trying to put too much into this model." Its not a leak, said the Lord, "It's a tear." "What's it for?" "It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride." "You are a genius," said the angel. The Lord looked somber, "I didn't put it there."

Fr. Michael V. Pastrikos

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HONORING MOTHERS

By Eve Lallas

May gives us the opportunity to celebrate mothers in a special way – Mother's Day. This holiday was established in America and has now become a traditional tribute in many other countries. Actually, everyday should be Mother's Day in reverence to the lady to whom, along with our fathers, so much is owed.

Our mothers, whether physically bringing us into the world or not, are those who traditionally have had the most influence in raising and caring for us, nurturing us, and preserving our culture from generation to generation. They have shared the benefits of their life experiences with us, along with what they in turn had learned from their families, church, and formal education; affirming all that our Orthodox Church teaches.

Together with our dads, our mothers have ingrained in us the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Jesus Christ our Savior. Moms have taught us our first prayers and the appreciation of the wonders of God's creation through Bible stories and bedtime readings. In reality, the home that our parents provide for us is our initial church and schoolroom. This is where we are taught the importance of attending church services and where our Orthodox Faith is reinforced.

Mothers have been a key factor in molding our character by word and example, instilling in us traits of gratitude, honesty, respect and above all the deep love for God, family and our fellow man. Fads and fashions come and go but the genteel behavior of

good manners and words such as "thank you" and "please" that our mothers etched in our very being from an early age never go out of style. Was it not our mother who taught us to greet each day and each other with a pleasant "Good Day" especially at the completion of each church service? For in doing so we are greeting God, glorifying and thanking Him who dwells in each of us. Did not our mother tell us that such a heartfelt greeting and smile should radiate from us expressing our joy in having celebrated The Holy Eucharist and shared God's love?

Recently the work "mentor" has become rather popular and perhaps overused but it certainly applies to our mothers for they are always by our side with our best interest at heart, protecting us, advising us, guiding us along the way or correcting us; always with undying love.

In paraphrasing the saying: "The hand that rocks the cradle forms the nation" we can say that we owe much of what we are to our mothers; they are our foundation and it is they who hold the key to our future as well.

Along with the gifts with which we shower our mother on Mother's Day, we can also honor her – showing our love and appreciation by upholding the many values and traditions that she taught us, living a Christian life, and by thanking God for all the mothers of the world and keeping them in our prayers.

Happy Mother's Day!

ΤΙΜΩΝΤΑΣ ΤΗΝ ΜΗΤΕΡΑ

Υπό της Ευαγγελίας Λαλά

Τον Μάιο μας δίνεται η ευκαιρία να εορτάσουμε τις μητέρες όλου του κόσμου με έναν ιδιαίτερο τρόπο, με ΤΗΝ ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΗΤΕΡΑΣ. Η εορτή αυτή ξεκίνησε από την Αμερική και σήμερα έχει πάρει τη μορφή παραδοσιακού φόρου τιμής σε πολλές άλλες χώρες. Στην πραγματικότητα θάπρεπε κάθε ημέρα νάναι Ημέρα της Μητέρας, εις ένδειξη σεβασμού στη "κυρία", που μαζί με τον πατέρα μας, οφείλουμε τόσα πολλά.

Οι μητέρες μας, είτε αν μας έφεραν σ' αυτό το κόσμο είτε όχι, είναι εκείνες που παραδοσιακά έχουν την ευθύνη να μας μεγαλώσουν, να μας φροντίσουν, να μας γαλουχίσουν, και να διαγωνίσουν την παράδοση από γενιά σε γενιά. Μοιράζονται τις εμπειρίες της ζωής τους μαζί μας, μαζί με όλα όσα έχουν μάθει από τις οικογένειές τους, την εκκλησία τους, και την εκπαίδευσή τους, επιβεβαιώνοντας όλα τα διδάγματα της Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας μας.

Μαζί με τους πατέρες και τις μητέρες μας, έχουμε εμποτιστεί με τις Δέκα Εντολές και τα διδάγματα του Ιησού Χριστού, του Σωτήρα μας. Οι μητέρες μας μας έμαθαν τις πρώτες προσευχές μας και μας έδιδαν την εκτίμηση του θαύματος του Θεού, την δημιουργία του κόσμου, μέσω των Ευαγγελικών Περικοπών και τις ιστορίες που μας διάβαζαν πριν κοιμηθούμε. Στην πραγματικότητα, το σπίτι που μας παρέχουν οι γενείς μας, είναι η πρώτη εκκλησία και η πρώτη αίθουσα διδασκαλίας. Εκεί είναι που μας πρωτοδιδάσκουν την ανάγκη να εχρόμαστε στην εκκλησία και εκεί είναι που ενδυναμώνεται η Ορθόδοξη Πίστη μας.

Οι μητέρες είναι ο βασικός παράγοντας της διάπλασης του χαρακτήρα μας με λόγια και παραδείγματα, εμποτίζοντας σιγά-σιγά μέσα μας τα χαρακτηριστικά γνωρίσματα της ευγνωμοσύνης, της εντιμότητας, του σεβασμού και πάνω

από όλα της αγάπης προς το Θεό, την οικογένεια και τον συνάνθρωπό μας. Οι παροδικές μανίες και οι νεοτερισμοί έρχονται και παρέρχονται αλλά η εκλεπτισμένη συμπεριφορά των καλών τρόπων και λόγων όπως «σας ευχαριστώ» και «παρακαλώ» που οι μητέρες μας εχάραξαν στη ψυχή μας από την πολύ νεαρά ηλικία μας, ποτέ δεν παρέρχονται. Δεν ήταν η μητέρα μας που μας έμαθε να χαιρετούμε κάθε ημέρα ο ένας τον άλλο με ένα ευχάριστο «καλημέρα» ειδικά μετά το τέλος κάθε Θείας Λειτουργίας; Είναι σαν να χαιρετούμε το Θεό, δοξάζοντας και ευχαριστώντας Τον. Δεν μας έδιδε η μητέρα μας, ότι ένας τέτοιος εγκάρδιος χαιρετισμός με χαμόγελο, θα πρέπει να αντανακλάται από μας, εκφράζοντας την χαρά μας που εορτάσαμε την Θεία Λειτουργία και μοιραστήκαμε την αγάπη του Θεού;

Τελευταία η λέξη «σύμβουλος» έχει μάλλον γίνει δημοφιλής και ίσως παρά χρησιμοποιείται αλλά αναφέρεται βεβαίως και στην μητέρα μας που πάντα είναι στο πλευρό μας με πολύ φροντίδα και αγάπη, προσπατεύοντας μας, συμβουλευόντάς μας, οδηγώντας τα βήματά μας, ή διορθώνοντάς μας. Πάντα με άσβεστη αγάπη.

Παραφράζοντας τη παροιμία « όσο πιο δυνατά κοινά το λίκνο φτιάχνει το έθνος» μπορούμε να πούμε ότι οφείλουμε το τι είμαστε στις μητέρες μας. Είναι το θεμέλιο, και είναι επίσης εκείνες που κρατούν το κλειδί του μέλλοντός μας. Μαζί με τα δώρα που προσφέρουμε στη μητέρα μας, την Ημέρα της Μητέρας, μπορούμε επίσης να της δείξουμε την αγάπη μας και την εκτίμησή μας, ακολουθώντας τις πολλαπλές αξίες και παραδόσεις που μας έδιδε, με το να ζούμε μια Χριστιανική ζωή, ευχαριστώντας το Θεό για όλες τις μητέρες ανά τον κόσμο, και να προσευχόμαστε γι' αυτές.

Χρόνια Πολλά σε Όλες τις Μητέρες!

REFLECTIONS ON OUR LORD'S RESURRECTION

By *Bill Poulos, Th.M.*

Great and Holy Pascha has passed but the spirit of this Feast of Feasts, the event around which our entire liturgical year, indeed, our entire Christian lives revolve, should live on continuously in our hearts. Our Lord's Resurrection completes and seals God's loving redemptive plan for mankind. It awakens and confirms our deepest faith and trust in Christ's victory over sin and death and His provision for our salvation.

Without the Resurrection, there is no Orthodox Christian faith. It is one of the most, if not, the most important of our doctrines. For this reason the early Church Fathers enshrined the historical reality of the Lord's rising from the dead, in the Nicene Creed.

The enemies of the Gospel from the first century to the present have sought to discount, deny or explain away the Resurrection. They have claimed that Christ's disciples stole His Body, were deluded by grief into fabricating a fantasy or purposely taught a false doctrine for their personal gain. Still others suggest that only a vivid memory of Christ lived on among His disciples or that they taught a spiritual not an actual physical Resurrection. Unfortunately, many contemporary non-Orthodox theologians espouse these and other similarly unapostolic false doctrines.

Against these attacks on the very foundation of our faith, regardless of when or from whom they came, the Church has affirmed that the bodily Resurrection of Christ is one of the unnegotiable, unshakeable foundations of Orthodoxy.

We are assured of the reality of Christ's Resurrection in several indisputable ways. The first of these is the witness of Holy Scripture. Although the four Gospel accounts of the Resurrection event vary slightly because of the differing perspectives of those to whom it was revealed and the manner in which God chose to reveal it to them, they all agree on the factual reality of the event and proclaim unequivocally that Jesus indeed rose from the dead. The Gospels alone attest to twelve post-resurrectional appearances of the Lord to His disciples and others. These appearances are commemorated in the eleven-part cycle of the Sunday Orthros Gospels.

St. Paul, writing approximately twenty-seven years after the Resurrection, recorded in 1 Cor. 15:5-8 that Christ appeared to St. Peter, St. James, over 500 of the faithful at once and finally to him. The risen Christ was central to his Gospel message and that of the other apostles and first evangelists. Being baptized into Christ's death, they taught, assured our sharing in His Resurrection and victory over the power of death. Truly joined through baptism to the resurrected Son of God seated at the Father's right hand, Christians eternally shared in Christ's deified and glorified humanity.

A second profound confirmation of the veracity of the Resurrection is the radically transformed lives of the apostles and other disciples who fearlessly preached the risen Christ in a hostile world and willingly accepted terrible suffering and martyrdom rather than deny the great truth which they had personally experienced. The early Church Fathers inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit attested to and continued this apostolic teaching and through their writings and council decisions firmly established it in the Church's living tradition.

Finally, and perhaps, the most powerful assurance that our Lord is truly risen is His living presence in our hearts where, as St. Paul wrote to the Romans (8:16), the Holy Spirit testifies with our spirits that we are the children of God, heirs with Christ, sharing in His suffering in order that we may share in His glory.

Our Orthodox faith is not based on a delusion or self-serving fabrication but on "a living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3). As St. Paul wrote to the Colossians (2:8) "see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit", but remember rather that, "When Christ who is our life appears you also will appear with Him in glory." (Col 3:4).

Remember as well what St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "If Christ has not been raised than our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain". (1 Cor.15: 14). But our faith is not in vain because Christ has been raised and we can victoriously proclaim, as did St. Paul, "Christ is risen. Truly He is risen!"

FOOD FOR THE SOUL:

THE GOODNESS AND MERCY OF OUR LORD

By *Fr. Michael Pastrikos*

The Lord God loves us all! It is truly a profound and wonderful truth that His love for us is filled with His goodness and mercy. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, who is ever-present with us, our soul finds peace, knowing how much goodness and mercy is offered to us because of the love of our God. The essential lesson we learn, because of this goodness and mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ, is that we too should be good and merciful.

But the goodness and the mercy our Lord God offers us are but two of the great spiritual virtues He desires that we should know and experience. For example, we must begin to learn about gentleness and meekness, because our Lord is also meek and gentle.

Christ, our Lord, has told us in His Gospel that He would not leave us comfortless. This is a sacred promise He desires us to discover as truth for ourselves and that He did not forsake us, but gave us the grace of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:26) to abide with us. Therefore, as faithful Orthodox Christians, we should learn to know about our Creator and His great love for us all! Know the love of Christ, and live with peace in your soul, because in the end we behold not only His goodness and mercy, but also His meekness and gentleness.

Let us turn to God in prayer, and within our Mystical Church behold Him, and learn more about Him through the beautiful services that our Church offers us. Let us learn more about our Lord

through the Holy Gospel, the teachings of the Fathers and also through the teachings and great examples we have been given in the lives of the saints and martyrs of our beloved Church. Never let us forget that our loving prayer really does reach paradise, especially when prayer is said with all our mind, heart and soul. Let us then lift up our prayers to God within our Holy and Mystical Church, for then our Lord will rejoice in us, and we discover that the Church is the point of unity between heaven and earth. Now we are on the path toward our salvation. Salvation is from Paradise, so we must seek the things of paradise and try not to cling to everything earthly.

Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us in St. Matthew's Gospel that our treasure should be in Heaven. The reason is because of our open-hearted generosity and love of one another, knowing that God loves us like His beloved children. And because God loves in this way, we must be filled with goodness, mercy, meekness, and gentleness towards all, just like He is.

We finally begin to know God through the Holy Spirit just as our Lord God gave the Holy Spirit to His Apostles. His Holy Spirit is always with us, leading into the presence of God that we may know Him, and grow daily in His abiding love. Then, we behold His mercy and His goodness as well as His gentleness and His meekness.

What a blessing that is for us all!
CHRISTOS ANESTI! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Η ΑΝΑΛΗΨΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ

Του Πατήρ Μιχαήλ Παστροζού

Η Ανάληψις του Κυρίου την τεσσαρακοστή ημέρα μετά την Ανάσταση ήταν το αποκορύφωμα της επί γης ζωής Του. Εμάζεψε τους αγαπημένους μαθητές Του εις το Όρος, τους έδωσε τις τελευταίες Του οδηγίες και ευλογία και ύστερα ανελήφθη εις τον Πατέρα Του.

Γιατί ανελήφθη στους Ουρανούς; Μπορούμε να απαριθμήσουμε αρκετές αιτίες. Ένας λόγος είναι επειδή η εργασία Του επί της γης είχε τελειώσει. Το είπε ο ίδιος πάνω στο Σταυρό, “Τετέλεστε”. Ετελείωσε την αποστολή για την οποία εστάλη, την λύτρωση του ανθρωπίνου γένους.

Ο Χριστός ανελήφθη προς τους Ουρανούς για να ετοιμάσει την οδό και για μας. “Πηγαίνω για να ετοιμάσω τον δρόμο για σας, διότι όπου είμαι εγώ και σεις δύναστε να έλθετε”, είπε ο Ιησούς. Όσοι πιστεύουν και με πίστη υπηρετούν τον Κύριο, θα εύρουν έτοιμο τόπο εις την βασιλεία του Θεού. Ο Χριστός ανελήφθη για να καθήσει “εκ δεξιών του Πατρός”. Αυτό μας βεβαιώνει το Σύμβολο της Πίστεως. Διατήρησε δε τις πληγές εις το σώμα Του σαν μαρτυρία για την αγάπη Του και την θυσία Του για μας. Καθόλου δεν είναι παράξενο το ότι οι Χριστιανοί επικαλούνται Αυτόν που είπε, “ελάτε προς Εμέ όλοι όσοι κοπιάσατε και θα σας ανταμείψω”. Ο Χριστός ανελήφθη για να μας στείλει το Άγιο Του Πνεύμα. Κατά τον Μυστικό Δείπνο, ο Ιησούς είπε, “Αλήθεια σας λέγω είναι σκόπιμο το ότι θα φύγω. Διότι αν δεν φύγω δεν θα υπάρχει σωτηρία για σας”.

Εις ένα άλλο σημείο λέγει, “Ο Διαφωτιστής είναι το Άγιο Πνεύμα το οποίο ο Πατέρας θα στείλει εν ονόματί Μου και θα σας διαφωτίσει εις όλα”.

Ο Ευαγγελιστής Λουκάς εις το Ευαγγέλιο του γράφει ότι οι πιστοί εις το όρος της Αναλήψεως “Τον προσκύνησαν και επέστρεψαν εις την Ιερουσαλήμ με μεγάλη χαρά”.

Η ανάληψη και αποχώρηση δεν έφεραν λύπη, αλλά ευχαρίστηση στις καρδιές. Σύμφωνα με τους κανονισμούς της Εκκλησίας μας, πρέπει να εορτάζουμε κάθε γεγονός της γήινης ζωής του Κυρίου μας. Πρέπει πραγματικά να εορτάσουμε την επιστροφή Του εις τον Πατέρα, μετά το τέλος του ταξιδιού Του επί της γης.

Επίσης, καθώς εορτάζουμε, περιμένουμε την τήρηση της υποσχέσεως Του ότι θα στείλει το Άγιο Πνεύμα. “Δεν θα σας αφήσω μόνους, θα έλθω μαζί σας”. Αυτή ήταν η υπόσχεση Του και χαιρόμαστε διότι δεν είμαστε μόνοι στη ζωή, αλλά μας συνοδεύει και μας καθοδηγεί το Άγιο Πνεύμα. Με τον εορτασμό της Αναλήψεως πρέπει να θυμόμαστε ότι ο Χριστός θα επιστρέψει με δόξα, στο τέλος του κόσμου. Μας είπε, θα επιστρέψω και θα σας πάρω μαζί μου”.

Ας εορτάσουμε, λοιπόν, αυτή τη λαμπρή Εορτή: Την Ανάληψη του Κυρίου μας.

ΠΑΣΧΑΛΙΝΟΣ ΧΑΙΡΕΤΙΣΜΟΣ:

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αθηθός Ανέστη!

ΜΗΤΕΡΑ, ΣΥΓΓΝΩΜΗ!

Ο Λάμπης ήτανε ένα ζωηρό και πρόθυμο δεκάχρονο αγοράκι. Είχε, όμως μια αδυναμία: Το κάθε τι το ζύγιζε με το χρήμα. Με το πόσα δηλαδή θα κερδίσει για να γεμίσει τον κουμπαρά του. Δεν έκανε εξαίρεση σε κανένα, ούτε στ’ αδέρφια του, ούτε στους γονείς του ακόμα.

Έτσι, μια μέρα, ο Λάμπης όταν γύρισε από κάποιο θέλημα, πήγε να συναντήσει τη μητέρα του. Αφού την αγκάλιασε και τη φίλησε, της έβαλε στο χέρι ένα σημείωμα. Η μητέρα το άνοιξε και τι νομίζετε πως διάβασε;

Ακούστε το:

Η μητέρα μου οφείλει :

Για τα θελήματα που κάνω, τόσα

Για δουλειές στον κήπο τόσα

Για το χορτάρι της αυλής, που κούρεψα, τόσα

Για το άριστα που πήρα στ’ Αγγλικά, τόσα

Σύνολο : 200 δραχμές.

Ο Λάμπης από την πόρτα παρακολουθούσε. Ήθελε να δει τι θάλεγε η μητέρα του. Αυτή, όμως, δεν είπε τίποτε. Έκανε την αδιάφορη.

Ήρθε η ώρα του βραδινού φαγητού. Δίπλα στο πιάτο του Λάμπη, η μητέρα του έβαλε το λογαριασμό με τις 200 δραχμές. Ο Λάμπης άστραψε από χαρά κι έβαλε τα λεφτά στον κουμπαρά του.

Ένοιωσε πολύ ικανοποιημένος και σκέφθηκε, αργότερα, να το επαναλάβει στον πατέρα του. «Καλά θα τα οικονομήσω», μουρμούρισε. Το μάτι του, όμως, είδε ένα άλλο σημείωμα που ήτανε στην άλλη μεριά του πιάτου. Αρχισε να διαβάζει:

Ο Λάμπης οφείλει στη μητέρα του, για την αγάπη που τρέφει γι’ αυτόν ...τίποτα. Για την φροντίδα της στην αρρώστειά του...τίποτε.

Για το φαγητό και τη στέγη που του προσφέρει τίποτα.

Για πολλά άλλα ... τίποτε.

Στο σύνολο ο Λάμπης οφείλει στη μητέρα του:

ΤΙΠΟΤΑ!

Πέρασαν μερικά δευτερόλεπτα. Ο Λάμπης αισθάνθηκε κάτι, σαν σεισμό μέσα του κι αμέσως ένα κατρακύλισμα. Κατρακύλησε το είδωλο της αγάπης του για το χρήμα. Το’ χε βάλει τόσο ψηλά μέσα του! Μα τώρα είχε γίνει χίλια κομμάτια!!

Αισθάνθηκε μια μεγάλη ντροπή για τον εαυτό του «για σκέψου», μουρμούρισε, «η αγάπη μου για τα λεφτά μ’ έσπρωξε τόσο χαμηλά. Ξέχασα τα τόσα πολλά που μου’ χει προσφέρει η μητέρα και ο πατέρας μου. Χωρίς ντροπή ζητάω πληρωμή για τα θελήματα που κάνω, για το χορτάρι που’ κοψα, για, για....

Άφησε το πιάτο ανέγγιχτο και τράβηξε κατά την κουζίνα. Πήγαινε να συναντήσει τη μητέρα του, αλλά δεν την βρήκε εκεί. Πότιζε στη βεράντα τις γλάστρες.

Έκλεισε τη μπαλκονόπορτα πίσω του και πέφτοντας στην αγκαλιά της μητέρας του ο Λάμπης είπε μονορούφι, «μητέρα συγγνώμη! Πάρε πίσω τις διακόσες δραχμές, κι άφησέ με να σ’ αγαπώ πολύ όσο θα ζω!».

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Don't Miss Basile!

The comedian Basile, will be at the Festival on Thursday night June 5th.

For details and tickets call the church office at 410-633-5020.

COMMUNITY NEWS - ΚΟΙΝΟΤΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ

MEMORIAL DAY GROUP TRISAGION SERVICE MONDAY, MAY 26, 2008 OAK LAWN CEMETERY 10:00 A.M.

Dear Parishioners:

I realized that at St. Nicholas the tradition of going to the graves has not been a continued practice on Memorial Day, but from now on it will be.

Fr. Michael will be available at the Oak Lawn Cemetery at 10:00 am and will offer a Group Memorial (Trisagion prayers) at the gravesite in memory of our beloved ones who have departed this life.

Again this will be a Group Trisagion Service. If you wish to have a private Trisagion at the gravesite for your loved ones, please notify Fr. Michael so he can put you on his schedule.

If there are parishioners who have loved ones buried in other cemeteries, please contact the church office to make special arrangements with Fr. Michael.

Thank you, Fr. Michael Pastrikos

ΟΜΑΔΙΚΗ ΤΡΙΣΑΓΙΟΣ ΔΕΗΣΗΣ ΤΗΝ ΗΜΕΡΑ ΤΩΝ ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΩΝ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ, 26 ΜΑΙΟΥ, 2008 ΣΤΟ ΚΟΙΜΗΤΗΡΙΟ ΩΚΛΩΝ, ΣΤΙΣ 10:00 π.μ.

Αγαπητά μέλη:

Ηλθε στην αντίληψή μου ότι στην Κοινότητά μας του Αγίου Νικολάου το έθιμο να επισκεπτόμαστε το Κοιμητήριο την Ημέρα των Μνημοσύνων δεν ετηρήθη όπως έπρεπε, από τώρα όμως θα τηρείται.

Ο Πατήρ Μιχαήλ θα βρίσκεται στο Κοιμητήριο Ωκλών στις 10:00 π.μ. και θα κάνει ομαδικό Τρισάγιο υπέρ αναπαύσεως των ψυχών των απελθόντων αδελφών μας.

Σας υπενθυμίζω και πάλι, θά είναι ομαδικό Τρισάγιο. Αν θέλετε να κάνετε Τρισάγιο ιδιαίτερα στον τάφο αγαπημένου σας προσώπου, παρακαλείστε να συννενοηθείτε με τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ για ημέρα και ώρα.

Αν υπάρχουν μέλη μας που αγαπημένα τους πρόσωπα είναι θαμμένα σε άλλα Κοιμητήρια, παρακαλείστε να επικοινωνήσετε και πάλι με τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ.

Σας ευχαριστώ, Πατήρ Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρονικός

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

The Calendar for the remainder of the year was presented at the last meeting on May 1st. The Web site committee is presently updating the calendar. The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 28th at 6:30 p.m. to get an early start for the upcoming yearly events.

DIAMOND'S NEWS

On Tuesday, April 8th, Pauline Paparounis and two friends, from her apartment house, started at 11:30 am. to wrap plastic ware for the Festival. By the afternoon, 8 more members came and were busy working. They completed 3,000 sets.

On May 13th, we will wrap, again. Please come to help so we can complete our job. The April 8th evening meeting had the smallest attendance since September. At our May meeting, we will discuss and vote on whether to continue evening meetings. Come prepared to share your hobby or special interest with each other.

Remember Sunday, May 18th, we celebrate the Artoklasia Service and sponsor the coffee hour. Please plan to attend and don't forget to bring a dessert.

FESTIVAL AD BOOK

It's time to put a notice or advertisement in the St. Nicholas 2008 Festival Ad Book! How about an ad publicizing your business or organization? Or announcing your engagement, wedding, or baptism (with a nice photo!)... or a memorial ad, honoring those dear to you....or publicize your best wishes to St. Nicholas...

The deadline is approaching (May 19th). Forms are available in the church office, or you can call or email Carol Demetrios (443-722-4047 or cdemet@comcast.net).

If you have not sent your form and payment, there will be a table at Church on Sunday, May 11th — and you can turn them in at that time, and have all your questions answered!

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK FOLK FESTIVAL 2008 AD BOOK

Please Check Appropriate box to verify AD size:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Page | \$200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 Page | \$150.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 Page | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/8 Page | \$50.00 |

Inside front or inside back covers \$400.00 (if available)
Check appropriate box: Personal Ad Company Ad

Your Company:

Tel:

Email:

Zip:

Your Name:

Title:

Advertising authorized by:

Date:

- I am attaching a copy of the advertisement
- Please prepare my advertisement from the attached information

AD must be returned with payment **no later than May 19, 2008.**

Please forward this contract with your check made payable to:

St. Nicholas Greek Festival 2008 Ad Book
520 South Ponca Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21224
410.633-5020

PHILOTOCHOS NEWS

Christos Anesti!

We hope everyone had a beautiful Easter. Thank you to all the ladies that attended the Philoptochos Fashion Show. We all had a great time. We want to especially thank all the young lads and lasses who were so adorable. A special thanks goes out to the ladies from St. Nicholas and our sister parishes, Annunciation Cathedral, St. Demetrios Church and Sts. Magdalene and Markela, who modeled at the fashion show. Great job done by everyone! A great big thank you to the chairpersons for the show – Stella Koukides, Joann Zoulis and Patty Orfanos. They did a magnificent job. Once again the profits from this event will go to the Philoptochos Scholarship Fund.

Also, a great big thank you to all the ladies who got together and made the tsourekia that we all enjoyed for Easter. As always, they were delicious.

COMMUNITY NEWS - KOINOTIKA NEA

Mark your calendars...here are some upcoming events:

Saturday, May 10th - Mother's Day Tea – 1 – 4 p.m. Admission \$5.00. Bring a Friend.

Sunday, May 11th – Happy Mother's Day – Scholarships will be awarded.

See everyone at the St. Nicholas Festival – June 5,6,7, & 8th. Don't forget it starts on Thursday.

GCDC News

The Greektown community continues to be one of the City's safest neighborhoods. A recent analysis by the Baltimore Police Department has noted a 28% reduction in Part 1 crimes in 2007 for Greektown when compared to 2006. This is a result of the strategies and partnerships that have been developed by the Greektown CDC with the stakeholders of our neighborhood.

We have many other successes to be happy about. The housing initiative created by the Greektown CDC has had an economic ripple effect throughout our community. The Greektown CDC has been strong advocates for the underpass project, which is complete, and the streetscape project that is underway. This multi-million dollar economic investment by the City and the private investment of our CDC partner at Athena Square have also played

a role in the community's revitalization.

The Greektown CDC works hand in hand with the Greektown Business Alliance that represents over 60 businesses. We have recently created a business dialogue, which has successfully created a buzz throughout the business community, resulting in tripling memberships to the GBA this year.

We must also praise the good work of our Mora Crossman recreation center. Through the leadership of its director, Ed Roesinger, over three hundred children are enrolled in various programs. We were pleased to have joined them recently on March 7th for a gang awareness presentation. These programs and others like them have a huge impact on the future of our children. Kudos to all the staff and volunteers at the recreation center. In the near future, the Greektown CDC will once again sponsor one hundred Greektown kids to an Orioles game. The overwhelming support of the business community in Greektown has made this an annual event.

We still have much work ahead of us. As we continue to work together, we can make a difference. I wish to thank all those who have made Greektown a better place to live, work and play.

Believe in your community!!

John E. Gavrilis

Chief Executive Officer, Greektown CDC



DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM



IN MEMORY OF REV. FR. GEORGE E. KALPAXIS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mrs. Athine Neofitou
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsamos
Mrs. Ann S. Matthews
Mr. & Mrs. George Mavronis
Mr. & Mrs. James Pikounis
Mrs. Kathrene Strakes
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Christ
Shawn & Trisia Kelley
Kattavenon Society "Agia Paraskevi"
Mrs. Anastasia Tsakiris
Mr. & Mrs. George Arnas
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Rologas
Milton & Emily Cossis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cardiges
Saint Nicholas "DIAMONDS"
Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Papadimitriou
John & Carole Micklos
Mr. & Mrs. John & Zena Hayes
Mr. & Mrs. George Cornias
Mrs. Despina Cornias
Mr. & Mrs. Stefanos Siskos
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Roros
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Gialamas
Saint Andrews Orthodox Church
Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Galatsatos
Mrs. Lambrini Bournias
Mr. & Mrs. George & Rosa Cornias
John, Eve Lallas
Mr. & Mrs. Clemis Kalkis

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE & KONSTANTOULA BAKOULAS

Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Maria D'Agostino

IN MEMORY OF PANAGIOTA SURANIDIS

Mr. & Mrs. George Soulikas
Michael & Katina Klosterides

IN MEMORY OF BESSIE KARRAS

Mr. & Mrs. John P. Roros

IN MEMORY OF SPIROS NAHOS

John Eve Lallas

IN MEMORY OF EFROSINI MARUSIIDIS

Mr. & Mrs. George Soulikas
Mrs. Kresy Kostis
Mr. & Mrs. George Sfakianoudis
Mr. & Mrs. John Sfakianoudis

IN MEMORY OF ANITA TSAKALOS

Mr. & Mrs. George Soulikas

IN MEMORY OF TONY C. CORNIAS

Mr. & Mrs. James Pikounis
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Roros
Mrs. Kalliope T. Cornias

IN MEMORY OF PARTHENA ZOIS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. & Mrs. Michel Souranis
Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Galatsatos

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES ANTONAS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis

IN MEMORY OF VASILIS FRANGAKIS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. & Mrs. James Pikounis
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Atsalis
Mrs. Fotitsa Anastasis
Mr. & Mrs. Stelios Koutsouris
Ms. Mary Iliadis
Milton & Emily Cossis
Mrs. Sofoula Frangakis & family
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Souranis
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Apesos
Mrs. Lia Karagiannopoulos
John, Eve Lallas

IN MEMORY OF STAVROS HALKIAS

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE GYFTOPOULOS

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE DEMETRIDES

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA KARAMIHALIS

Mrs. Sofoula Frangakis
Mr. & Mrs. Stefanos Siskos
Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Gialamas

IN MEMORY OF MARINOS GIALLAMAS

Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Gialamas

IN MEMORY OF STAVROS PLAGIANNAKOS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. & Mrs. George Arnas
George & Stavroula Forakis
Mr. Chris Angelopoulos

IN MEMORY OF SAVVAS AMARANTIDIS

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Souranis

IN MEMORY OF THEMOSTHENES STROUMBIS

Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Gialamas

IN MEMORY OF JOHN BOIAS

Mr. Tony Boias
Ms. Maria Salpeas

IN MEMORY OF HELEN CAVALIEROS

Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Proakis
Mrs. Despina Kaitis
Mrs. Helen Bisbikis
Ms. Joann Field
Mr. Chris Angelopoulos
Milton & Emily Cossis
Faust V. Miraglia
John, Eve Lallas

IN MEMORY OF IOANNIS MINADAKIS

Ms. Fannie Tzanakakis

IN MEMORY OF CHRISAFINA KOUKOULAS

Mr. & Mrs. George Kavouriou
Milton & Emily Cossis
Ms. Eugenia Kalis
Mr. Michail Stroumboulis
St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos Society

IN MEMORY OF DESPINA SAPOUNAKIS

Milton & Emily Cossis

IN MEMORY OF EMMANUEL FRANGOS

Mr. Steve Kouroupis
George & Rosa Cornias
John & Irene Voxakis
Mr. Leonard Patras
Mr. & Mrs. Ector Alexandratos
Ms. Maria Salpeas
AHEPA, Chapter # 364
Judge & Mrs. John C. Themelis

IN MEMORY OF NICHOLAS TALIADOUROUS

Athanasios & Evanthia Georgalas
Mrs. Grammatiki Georgalas
Ms. Maria Salpeas
Judge & Mrs. John C. Themelis

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

We hope that this recent Pascha filled your homes and your hearts with abundant joy and peace. May we like His disciple John and the myrrhbearers, always have the courage to stand by Him. May we be like Thomas his disciple, who wanted to believe and sought to touch Him; and may we, like Thomas, always proclaim Him as Lord and God with fervor and love. May the weeds of "apathy and ego" be supplanted by the "vines of love and service" in all our dealings with each other and with all of our fellow human beings.... With love, from the Sunday School teachers and staff.

Once again our Sunday School program will be coming to the end of its year. Sunday, May 18th will be our last day with the graduation ceremonies taking place. We would like to remind our students and their parents to please plan to be in church.

As we mentioned last month, we had three of our students compete at the District level of the St. John Oratorical Festival at St. Demetrios Church in Cub Hill. Last month, we shared with you the speech presented by one of our Junior speakers. This month, we will share with you the speech presented by our 10th Grader, Kostas Skordalos in the Senior Division. He chose Topic 3: "Why is the ancient Platonic definition of virtue and vice, included in the following passage, also valid and desirable for contemporary people? "Virtue (arête), then, as it seems, would be a kind of health and beauty and good condition of the soul, and vice (kakia) would be disease, ugliness and shame."

Kostas Skordalos writes "The way in which Plato defines virtue and vice in the Republic, Book IV should prove to be desirable to the majority of the populace because of the unfortunate fact that our society is one in which personal appearance is highly valued. The major concern of all young people in today's society is how their peers perceive them in a physical sense. This definition of Plato is able to put into perspective the inward appearance of one's soul, and how a higher level of moral excellence can be seen as beautiful and healthy. How the conduct of the majority of today's celebrities and children's role models could be classified in the most fitting and unappealing way to the general public as diseased and ugly. For example, certain celebrities such as Adam "Pacman" Jones and Brittany Spears, have, as of late, found themselves occupying the job of the role model for young adults and children. However, it is people that have attempted to change this world and the lives of other individuals for the better, such as former Vice President Al Gore for his environmental efforts or Nancy Pelosi for rising in the ranks of our political circuit and giving inspiration to young girls everywhere, who should be revered by the young in our society.

Vice- How is this word and its meaning, applicable to the lives of people today?" Vice is, as defined by Webster's Dictionary, a "moral depravity or corruption." This definition of vice is very close to that of Plato's in which it stresses the corruptness of a life filled with the ugliness of the soul. In our society today, many young people look up to certain celebrities as role models. Unfortunately, not all of these celebrities are worthy of this task because they have chosen to live lives of vice and self-gratification. "How", one might ask, "is looking out for only my self-interests and comfort be a bad thing?" And to this I say, that though looking out solely for one's self-interests will give you, often a comfortable life style; one must also recognize his fellow human whom he might have left damaged along the way.

We in America have found ourselves overly concerned with

our own personal comfort, despite the effects it may have on others; be it the work houses in which foreign women and children sew the shoe's that most here wear on their feet, or the miners who work in abject conditions to find the diamonds for the jewelry we wear. However, if one is currently living a life of vice, you are not without hope. Throughout the history of our church, many have lived lives of vice, but after seeing the evil of their ways have chosen to take the path of righteousness and virtue. For example, St. Moses, the Ethiopian, who was originally a slave, was cast out by his master for his evil ways. Having been cast out and forced to fend for himself, St. Moses turned to a life of thievery. After repenting however, he converted to the faith, and took up a monastic lifestyle. He indulged himself in prayer and later became a priest who was revered by all for his exemplary virtue.

"What is virtue?" As defined by Webster's dictionary it is "a particular moral excellence". This definition is similar to that of Plato's in which it calls for a higher, inner excellence of all individuals. Unfortunately, in our society this is hard to come by. For all in this country to achieve a higher state of moral excellence and beauty of the soul, we must advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves, and follow the words of Isaiah in Chapter 1, Verse 17 of his book, "Learn to do good; Seek justice; Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless; Plead for the widow." By simply following these five axioms of Isaiah's, each and every one of us here today would be able to purify his soul to a point of higher virtue.

St. Nicholas, the man for whom my church is named, was one who is said to have had much love for virtue even from a young age. As he grew older, he used his inheritance money that his parents had left to him to start the virtuous deeds for which he is most known. Being a virtuous man that he was, St. Nicholas used his money not in a way that lead to self-gratification, but, oppositely, he chose to give all which he had to those who needed it more than he. Probably the most well known act of his virtuous nature was his use of gold to help three young girls, who, unless they could come up with money for their marriage portions, would be forced to be prostituted by their father for money; thus saving them from lives of vice.

As shown, if one chooses to live a life of virtue, he also chooses the beautiful path of righteousness towards God. And if one finds that he has been living a life of vice, do not panic, but follow the precedence that has been set by many church leaders before you, and repent so that you may start a life with, a beautiful soul rather than an ugly one.

Thank you,

Kostas Skordalos,

10th grade Sunday School Student

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL...

...classes will be held at Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church from June 16 to June 20. Registration deadline: June 10th.

Be sure to sign up your youngster as early as possible. For details call the church office at 410-633-5020.

The 10 Virgins of the Nymphios Services



*Yanna Hatzidakis, Markella Cornias, Nomiki Mastrogianis, Maria Mastrogianis, Eleni Kevas
Eleni Pappas, Angelica Yiannouris, Eleni Kataxenos, Penelope Topouzoglou, Alexia K Smith*

SAINT NICHOLAS CHURCH PROFIT & LOSS April 2008

	<u>April, 08</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Candles	23,136.00
Dances	
Special Events	665.00
Total Dances	665.00
Donations	
Other Donations	282.78
Flowers Income	200.00
Donations - General	4,529.50
Donations - Hall	500.00
Donations - Memorial	2,180.00
Donations - Other	195.00
Total Donations	7,887.28
Greek School Registration	1,050.00
Stewardship	25,781.10
Trays	4,623.00
Total Income	63,142.38
Cost of Goods Sold	
Dance Expense	426.68
Total COGS	426.68
Gross Profit	62,715.70

SAINT NICHOLAS CHURCH PROFIT & LOSS April 2008

	<u>April, 2008</u>
Expense	
EMPLOYEE COSTS	
Health Insurance	4,216.00
Organist	400.00
6560 • Payroll Expenses	12,554.36
Payroll taxes	940.41
Pension	500.00
6050 • Automobile Expense	500.00
EMPLOYEE COSTS—Other	6,726.00
Total EMPLOYEE COSTS	25,856.77
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	
Advertising	41.00
Church Supplies	836.84
Cleergy Laity Congress	750.00
Fair Share	3,000.00
6530 • Miscellaneous	1,839.85
Office Expense	765.77
Professional Fees	1,500.00
Telephone	354.06
Total GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION	9,087.62
OCCUPANCY COSTS	
Mainten • Building Maintenance	8,308.63
Janitor's Supplies	698.17
6940 • Utilities	3,840.82
Total OCCUPANCY COSTS	12,847.62
Total Expense	47,791.91
Net Ordinary Income	14,923.79
Net Income	14,923.79

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES FOR 2008

MR/MRS GIALAMAS NICK & STACIA
 MR/MRS SOULIKAS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS STAVLAS NIKOLAOS &
 MRS STRAKES KATHERINE
 MRS ASHBY ATHELENE
 MR TARATSIDES GEORGE
 MR/MRS SKANDALIS DEAN
 MR/MRS CHARALAMBOPO CHARALAMBO
 MRS TAHINOS STEPHANIE
 MR GLYKIADIS KONSTANTINO
 MRS NEOFITOU ATHINA
 MS JOHNS HELEN
 MR ANDERSON EMANUEL P. JR.
 MR/MRS FOTIOU JOHN
 MR/MRS KOUKIDES HARRY
 MR/MRS PIKOUNIS JOHN & DEBBIE
 MR/MRS ZISSIMOS GUS PETE -
 MR/MRS FILIPIDIS JAMES
 MR/MRS KAPUTSOS MARSHALL
 MR/MRS KIMOS JAMES
 MR/MRS GIAKOUMAKIS NICK
 MRS NOMIKOS FANNY
 MR/MRS PRASSINAS JAMES
 MRS MARKAKIS MARY
 MR/MRS ANASTASIADES DEMOS &
 MR/MRS TRIKOULIS DEMETRIOS
 MR SARIOGLOU NIKOLAOS
 MR/MRS DIACOLUKAS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNOPOU GUS & SUE
 MR KOSMAS NICHOLAS
 MR/MRS GIANNAKOULIAS KONSTANTINO
 MR/MRS STAKIAS MICHAEL
 MR LEWIS HOWARD E.
 MR/MRS KONTOUDIS KONSTANTINO
 MR/MRS FAKAS JAMES
 MR/MRS MONIODIS PANAGIOTA
 MR BATES SAM
 MRS HATZIKOSMAS AMALIA
 MRS MARINAKIS MARINA
 Rev.Mrs. PASTRIKOS MICHAEL &
 MR THEMELIS JOHN
 MISS GERAPETRITES SOFIA
 MISS GERAPETRITES PANAGIOTA
 MR/MRS ROUSSOS JOHN
 MR/MRS MACH LEON J. &
 MR FORAKIS MICHAEL
 MRS MATSANGOS ARGYRO
 MS GEORGAS ANTHE
 MRS KOUTELIS EVRIDIKI
 MRS ARAVIDES ANNA
 MR/MRS KOLIADIS EMMANUEL &
 MR/MRS AMARANTIDIS SAVAS
 MR KARAMANLIDES ANTONIOS
 MR TALIADOUROUS NICHOLAS
 MRS KAZARAS MARIA
 MR/MRS ARGYRAKIS MICHAEL &
 MR/MRS SOURANIS NICHOLAS &
 MRS CORNIAS CALLIOPI
 MRS MILLER MARY
 MR/MRS LENTIS - MINAS - ELENI
 MR/MRS EFTIMIYOU SPIROS &
 MR/MRS ELIOU ERNEST
 MRS MIMAROS PARASKEVI
 MR/MRS THEODOROPOUL ALEX - DANA
 MRS KASTRUNES DOLORES
 MR TRIPOLITIS JOSEPH &
 MR/MRS HONDROULIS ANDREANOS
 MR KOUTSANTONIS JOHN
 MR/MRS NISTAZOS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS KOSMOS GEORGE
 MR/MRS HATZIDAKIS DIONISIOS &
 MR/MRS POULOS WILLIAM
 MR/MRS MULLINS TROY &
 MRS BALTATZIS FOTINI
 MR/MRS TRIANTAFILLOS COSTAS
 MRS KAMINARIS BARBARA
 MR/MRS KOUTSOVASILIS ANASTASIOS
 MR/MRS KARDIASMENOS SAVAS
 MR/MRS TSAMPOS GEORGE
 MR/MRS HAZARIDES KOSTAS
 MR/MRS HINELINE BRUCE
 MR/MRS AHLADIOTIS JOHN & EFFIE
 MR/MRS STRATAKOS LEONIDAS &
 MR/MRS TAKOS STEVE
 MR/MRS PAPAGEORGIOU SOCRATES
 MR/MRS STAVLAS MICHAEL
 MRS CEDERAKIS OREANTHI
 MR TSAMPICOS GEORGE
 MR/MRS PAPADOPOULOS EFSTATHIOS
 MR/MRS STAKIAS JOHN &
 MR/MRS KAITIS DESPINA
 MRS KAPETANAKOS SOULA
 MR KAPETANAKOS ELIAS
 MRS KOUTSONOURIS MARIA
 MR/MRS LERICOS PERRY AND
 MR/MRS GIANNAS STYLIANOS
 MR/MRS KOUTSANTONIS DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS NICOLAIDIS VASILIOS
 MS STROUMBIS ANGELIKI
 MR/MRS KOUKIDES KONSTANTINO
 MR/MRS HARRIS SPYROS
 MR/MRS TREANTAFELLO HELEN
 MR TOUMANIDIS CHRISTOS
 MRS VASILAKOPOULO ANASTASIA
 MR/MRS REGLAS ATHANASIOS &
 MR/MRS ROUSSOS ANTHONY
 MR/MRS CHRIST PHILIP
 DR/MRS KOTZIAS CHRIS
 MISS TRIKOULIS JOANNE
 MR/MRS DIAKOKOMNINOS MINAS &
 MS VATAKIS TESSIE
 MR/MRS MONIODIS MICHAEL &
 MR/MRS ALEXANDRATOS ECTOR
 MR/MRS CORNIAS MICHAEL C.
 MR/MRS TSAMPOS JOHN &
 MRS REDA ELENI
 MR/MRS KAITIS NICHOLAS
 MR/MRS ANGELOS JOHN & IRENE
 MR/MRS MONIODIS MICHAEL
 MR/MRS AGAPIOS NICHOLAS
 MS KALIS EUGENIA
 MR/MRS SALARIS STEPHEN
 MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS GEORGE K.
 Miss THEMELIS STELLA
 MR GERAPETRITES TOMMY
 MR/MRS MICKLOS JOHN ANDREW
 MR/MRS SALIARIS ANASTASIOS
 MR SOLLON JAMES
 MRS PATRIKAKOS PANAGIOTA
 MR/MRS PAPAMINAS ANDREW
 MR/MRS STEFANIDIS DEMETRIOS &
 MR/MRS KOUTELIS ADAMANTIOS
 MR/MRS COSSIS MILTON &
 MRS AGELOPAS SOPHIE
 MR/MRS KOVIOS STEVE
 MRS BOUDOURIS ASIMINA
 MR/MRS FOTIS KONSTANT &
 MRS DARDAMANIS EVA
 MRS LOUKAS KIKI
 MR/MRS SOLLON NICK &
 MR CORNIAS NICHOLAS
 MRS BOURGOUTZIS EKATERINI
 MR GEORGALAS LOUIS
 MR/MRS VERGOS GEORGE &
 MRS BISBIKIS HELEN
 MR/MRS ROXANIS DEAN & SOULA
 MR/MRS HIOTES SOTIRIOS -
 Dr. KAITIS ANGELA MARY
 MR/MRS PALAS JOHN
 MRS CORNIAS DESPINA
 MR/MRS KHOURY ZIAD
 MR/MRS NISTAZOS EFSTRATIOS
 MR/MRS MASTORAS CHARALAMBO
 MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS JOHN
 MR/MRS POULOS WILLIAM
 DR/MRS LEDAKIS PANAGIOTIS
 MRS XINTAS MARY
 MR/MRS ANGELOS MARK
 MR/MRS CHRISOVERGIS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS KATSAROS EMANUEL
 MR/MRS SFAKIANAKIS ELIAS & IRENE
 MR/MRS KOVIOS PETE
 MR/MRS SKORDALOS VASILIOS
 MR/MRS HARRIS ELPIDA
 MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS PETE
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS DEMETRIOS &
 MR/MRS VOXAKIS JOHN & IRENE
 MRS LAMBROW LAMBRENE
 MS KARAS EVELYN
 MR/MRS TETTERIS STEVE
 MRS FANTIS PENELOPE
 MR/MRS ARGIROPOULOS WILLIAM
 MR/MRS STROUMBIS NICHOLAS
 MRS CHRIST STASA
 MR/MRS CHRISOPOULOS PETE
 MRS PAPAOUNIS PAULINE
 MRS GIANNAKOULIAS DIONISIA
 MR/MRS PATRAS NICK & DORA
 MR CAVOURAS STANLEY
 MR/MRS KATAKENOS EVGENIOS
 MR/MRS KOUKIDES JOHN
 MR/MRS HONDRELIS PANTELIS
 MR/MRS FOTIS GEORGE
 MR/MRS STAVRAKIS JIMMY
 MS LAMBROW STEPHANIE
 MRS BILIS AMALIA
 MRS JOHNS ASPASIA
 MR/MRS HATZIGIANNIS PANOS
 MR/MRS BETINIS EMMANUEL
 MR SVINGOS JAMES JOHN
 MRS FRAPAS HELEN
 MR LALLAS JOHN
 MR/MRS GEORGIOU JOHN
 MR/MRS PREARIS MINAS
 MRS TSAKIRIS ANASTASIA
 MR/MRS CORNIAS MARK
 MR/MRS TAGLIAMBURIS NICOLAS
 MRS STAMATHIS KIKI
 MR/MRS BOULOUBASSIS NICHOLAS
 MR/MRS PADOUSIS JOHN E.
 MR/MRS EKOUMIDES CHRIS &
 MRS SARIGIANNIS CHRISTINE
 MR/MRS KAMANOPOULOU STELIOS
 MR/MRS KELLEY SHAWN &
 MR/MRS JONES DAVID
 MR KOUTSANTONIS THEODORE
 DR/MRS POPOMARONIS WILLIAM &
 MRS GERAPETRITES FOTINI
 MR/MRS HADJIPANTELLIS NIKOLAOS
 MR/MRS PROAKIS HELEN
 MR/MRS KOROLOGOS IOANNIS &
 DR/MRS DIMITRI GEORGE N. &
 MR PAPPAPOTIS SPERO
 MR/MRS KOURTESIS CONSTANTINE
 MR/MRS TSIMILAS CHRISTOS
 MR/MRS GRABAU KEVIN
 MR/MRS AVGERINOS DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS PAPPAS JOHN
 MR/MRS GAZONAS-ZIKOU GEORGE
 MRS HARRIS KATIE
 MRS NEWMON ANN S.
 MR/MRS MINAS GEORGE J.
 MR SAZAKLIS ANTONIOS
 MR/MRS STAVRAKIS GUS
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS GEORGALAS EMMANUEL
 MR VERGOS JOHN
 MR/MRS BISBIKIS PETE
 MR/MRS PIKOUNIS JAMES
 MRS GOVASTES CLEOPATRA
 MRS PERELAS STAVROULA
 MR/MRS VASILIOS FRANK
 MRS LEWIS IRENE
 MR/MRS MAVROULIS STILIANOS
 MR NICOLARAKIS MICHAEL
 MRS ROROS EUGENIA
 MRS VOURVOULAS SOPHIA
 MRS LOIZOU CHRIS
 MR/MRS VOXAKIS ANGELO
 MRS PROCOPIOU DAPHNE
 MR/MRS PAPAFOOTIS ALEX
 MRS GILLAND- SOPHIA
 MR/MRS KAMINARIS DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS AVGERINOS GEORGE &
 MR/MRS ORFANOS ANTONIOS
 MRS ANDREWS MARIA
 MS MRS BOURNIAS LAMBRINI
 MS CHAGETAS ANGELA
 MR/MRS KOSTALAS PANTELIS &
 MRS TSAKALAS JULIE
 MR/MRS SERAFIS STEVE & MARY
 MRS KARRAS BESSIE
 MS SALPEAS MARIA
 MRS TARATSIDES ATHENA
 MR/MRS HESTNES DAG
 MR/MRS SAKELLIS MICHAEL
 MRS TRIPOLITIS NINA
 MR/MRS GLYKIADIS JOHN &
 MRS ELIOPOULOS ANNA
 MRS CAVALIEROS HELEN
 MR/MRS VASILIADES GEORGE
 MS CHUVALAS DIMITRA
 MS HATZIEFTHIMIO ANASTASIA
 MR/MRS ATSAKIS GUS
 MRS FRANGAKIS SOFOULA
 MR/MRS HESTNES DAG
 MR/MRS GARNIS PHILIP
 MR/MRS SOURANIS STANLEY
 MS ALEVROGIANNIS ARGIE
 MR MAKE DIMITRIUS
 MR/MRS KATSAROS MICHAEL
 MR/MRS BONOLIS DONALD
 MRS TOUTSIS HARRIET
 MR/MRS VASILAKOPOULO SPIROS
 MS LALLAS EVE
 MR/MRS MASTROMANOLI MANUEL
 MR/MRS ATSIDIS IOANNIS
 MR/MRS KOSMAS DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS SOULIKAS JAMES & JOAN
 MR/MRS ARGETAKIS GEORGE &
 MS TSAKALOS JEANETTE
 MRS STAMIDES SOFIA
 MRS HEBEKAS THEMIS MARIA
 MR/MRS KARAHALIS GEORGE &
 MS CHRISTAKOU STAVROULA
 MR GEORGIOS MIKE
 MR ARGETAKIS NICHOLAS
 MRS PAPADOPOULOS MARY
 Jdg/MRS THEMELIS JOHN & RENEE
 MR/MRS SZULIMOWSKI HENRY
 MISS GERAPETRITES STAVROULA
 DR/MRS SOPHOCLEUS GREGORY
 MR/MRS SARANTINOS SANDY
 MR/MRS FORAKIS GEORGE
 DR/MRS PAPADIMITRIOU NICHOLAS
 MRS POLITES DESPINA
 MR/MRS DOUKELIS GEORGE
 MR ARAVIDES ANTONIOS
 MR ANGELOU MICHAEL
 MR MERITIS ALEXANDROS
 MR KARAMANLIDES KYRIAKOS
 MR CHALCOUSSIS ANTONIOS
 MRS MAVIAS KOULA
 MS KAPUTSOS SYLVIA
 MR/MRS ANTONAS NICK
 MRS SAZAKLIS EFTHIA
 MR/MRS DEMETRIADES DEMETRIOS
 MR/MRS KOROLOGOS JOHN &
 MISS GEORGALAS ELLEN
 MR/MRS SISKOS STEFANOS
 MR/MRS SPENCER ERIC AND
 MR/MRS ROROS GEORGE I.
 MR/MRS SKANDALIS GEORGE
 MR/MRS DIACOLOUKAS GUS & MARY
 MRS TSAKALOS ROSE
 MR/MRS KOSMAS SAM
 MR ANAGNOS CONSTANTINE
 MR/MRS PAPPAS VASILIS &
 MR/MRS PATRAS LEONARD N.
 MR/MRS KAIKIS ANDREW
 MR KONTOS GEORGE C.
 MR MELISSARATOS ARIS
 MR/MRS MENAGIAS JERRY &
 MR/MRS TUNANIDAS STELLA
 MR CURTIS JOHN
 MR/MRS TSAKIRIS JOHN &
 MR/MRS SIGAMBRIS JOHN &
 MR/MRS DIMITRIADES NIKOLAOS &
 MR/MRS TSAKIRIS MOSKOS
 MISS DARGAKIS EUGENIA
 MR/MRS KOUROUPIS JOHN
 MR/MRS BAKOULAS ANDREAS

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES FOR 2008

MR BAKOULAS GEORGE	MR/MRS ALEXANDROU JOHN	MR/MRS ADAMS MICHAEL	MR/MRS SOURANIS MICHAEL &
MRS PETRIDES ANNA	MRS ANGELOPOULOS FREDA	MR/MRS DRAKOS SUSIE	MRS KONTOYANIS MARGARET
MS CORNIAS SEVASTI	MR/MRS PATINIOTIS PANAGIOTIS &	MR BAKAS MIKE	MR GYFTOPOULOS SOTIRIS
MRS GLAVA KIKI	MR/MRS GALIATSATOS GERASIMOS	MR/MRS MITSOS FRANK	MR/MRS CARDIGES MICHAEL
MR/MRS MATTHEWS ANN	MR/MRS KROPP WILLIAM &	MR/MRS AGAPALOGLOU THEODOROS	MR/MRS KALAMBIHIS ALEXANDROS
MR/MRS TSAKALAS STEVEN	MR/MRS DIACOULOKAS GEORGE &	MR/MRS SALIARIS PANAGIOTIS	MR KARAMIHALIS GEORGE
MRS KARAMIHALIS ELEFTHERIA	MRS FAKAS ZENOVA	MR/MRS MOELLER PATRICIA ZOE	MR/MRS KATSAROS GEORGE
MR/MRS KOULATSOS DIONISIOS	MS MOREKAS NITSA	MR/MRS FRANGOS JOHN	MR/MRS CHAGETAS JAMES &
Rev&Mrs. BURDUSI MANUEL	MRS VAVAKAS KIRIAKI	MRS CHRISOMALLIS METAXIA	MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE
MR AVGERINOS GEORGE	MR/MRS KASTELLORIZIOS KONSTANTINO	MRS PASSAS CHRISAVGI	MR/MRS VERINAKIS MICHAEL &
MR/MRS PAPADIMITRIOU EMMANUEL &	REV/MRS BURDUSI MANUEL	MR/MRS KARANIKOLIS GUS & KRISTY	MR/MRS PATRIKIOS-JISSRI AIKATERINE &
MR/MRS GYFTOPOULOS ULISSES-	MR/MRS GEORGIU ANDREAS	MR/MRS KALIAKOUDAS EVANGELOS	MR/MRS TASSIS PETER &
MR/MRS TASKER-GIOKA DAMIANOS	MR/MRS LIVADITIS JOHN &	MR ANGELOPOULOS CHRIS	MRS PAPADEMETRIOU POLYXENI
MR/MRS STAKIAS PETE &	MR/MRS ZDZIERA STEVE	MR/MRS FILIPPOU EMMANUEL	MR/MRS KATSAROS STELIOS
MR/MRS GIANNAKOULIAS GEORGE	MRS KARAGIANNIS SEVASTI	MR/MRS TOPOUZOGLOU ANASTASIOS &	MR/MRS NYCHIS VASILIOS
MR/MRS ROLOGAS ANASTASIOS	MR ROLOGAS STAVROS	MRS DENDRINOS EVANGELIA	MRS MOSKONAS VASILIKI
MR/MRS STAKIAS DIMITRIOS	MR/MRS HARRIS THEO	MR/MRS TOMAZOS MIHAIL &	MR/MRS CHRISOMALLIS JOHN & TERI
MR/MRS BOUYOUKAS JOHN & FOTINI	MR/MRS PROAKIS NICK	MR/MRS RICHARDSON JAMES	MRS CORNIAS POPI
MR/MRS KELEPEPIS VASILIOS &	MR/MRS PARASCHIS STEVE	MR/MRS PEARCE ANTHONY &	MR STAMOULIS KYRIAKOS
MR MAKRIS JOHN	MR/MRS G.C.D.C. GREEKTOWN	MR/MRS KOLENDRIANOS JOHN	HALKIAN "SAINT"
MS ILIADIS MARY	MR/MRS FOTINOS JAMES	MR/MRS SOURANIS PARASKEVI	MR/MRS DIACOYANIS GEORGE &
MR/MRS REPPAS IRODOTOS	MRS ROGERS RUBY	MS MAKRIS MARIKA	MR/MRS AVGERINOS VASILIOS
MR/MRS ROROS JOHN P.	MR/MRS FILIPIDIS NICHOLAS	MR/MRS MAVRONIS NICHOLAS	MR KAPETANAKOS FANOURIOS
MRS AGAPALOGLOU- ELENI	MRS KARAGIANNPOU LIA	MRS KLOSTERIDES VASILIKI	MRS TSAMBIKOS IRENE
MRS KAPOUDAS MARIA	MR/MRS KAPOUDAS DIMITRIOS	MRS LIVADITIS SOPHIA	MR/MRS FORAKIS STAMATI
MR/MRS PARAGIOS IOANNIS &	MR/MRS STAMATIADIS NIKITAS	MRS GEORGE PENELOPE	MR STAMIDIS CHRISTODOUL
MR/MRS MAVRODONTIS ZAHARIAS	MRS KOLOTOS DORA	MR/MRS SARIOGLOU ATHANASIOS	MR/MRS PATERAKIS CHARLES &
MR KOUROUPIS STEVE	MR/MRS STAVRAKIS FILIPPOS &	MR/MRS FAKAS VASILIOS	MR/MRS KEVAS JOHN & MARIA
MR/MRS MAVRONIS GEORGE	MR/MRS ARAVIDES NICHOLAS	MR/MRS ROROS DIMITRIOS &	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS EMMANUEL
MR/MRS BOUYOUKAS EFSTRATIOS	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS GEORGE E.	MR/MRS REPPAS SOTERIOS	MR/MRS VERUHIS APOSTOLOS &
MRS ANASTASIS FOTINI	MRS RIZAS MARIA	MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS PAVLOS	MR/MRS FAFALEOS EVANGELOS
MR/MRS TSIOPANOS RITA	MR/MRS KATSAROS EMMANUEL	MR/MRS PANTELIDES GABRIEL	MR/MRS DIACOULOKAS NICHOLAS
MR/MRS GEORGALAS GRAMMATIKI	MR/MRS KARAGEORGOS DEMETRIOS	MR/MRS VASILAKOPOULOU HARALAMBOS	MR/MRS VASILAKOPOULOU STAVROS &
MR/MRS JONES KENNY &	MR JONES SPIROS	MR/MRS FILIPPOU JASON &	MR/MRS TSIRONIS NICK &
MR/MRS HATZIGEORGALI IRENE	MR CORNIAS CONSTANTINE	MR HATZIDAKIS KONSTANTINO	MR/MRS KONDYLAS COSTAS
MR/MRS KARABELAS PANAGIOTIS	MRS KARIZOS FILLIA	MR/MRS TSAKALOS HARRY	MR/MRS CORNIAS LARRY &
MR/MRS LIKAKIS GEORGE &	MRS PANTAZONIS MARY	MR/MRS MINAS JOHN G.	MR/MRS GIALAMAS ANDREAS &
MR/MRS APESOS STEPHEN &	MR PAYIAVLAS JOHN	MR/MRS FRANGOS CONSTANTINE	MR/MRS TSAPALAS PAUL
MR/MRS KOHELIS GUS & REGINA	MR/MRS MARUSIODIS JAMES	MR/MRS HOFFERBERT JOHN	MR/MRS HARTOFILIS NICK & SYLVIA
MR/MRS PATRAS PETE	MR/MRS LURZ JOE	MISS TSAMOUDAKIS DESPINA	MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE C.
MR/MRS STAKIAS GEORGE	MR AMARANTIDIS HARRY	MR/MRS TSAPALAS THEODORE &	MR KOLIOFOTIS DEMETRIOS
MR/MRS VENETIS DIMITRIOS &	MR/MRS NARLIS EPAMINONTAS	MR/MRS KARAIIS KONSTANTINO	MR/MRS SFIRIOU ANTONIOS
MR/MRS TZIMOS PETE	MRS PAROS MARY	MR/MRS KLOSTERIDES MICHAEL &	Co/MRS GAVRILIS JOHN &
MR/MRS STRATAKIS GUS	MR/MRS SARRIS KOSTAS AND	MS HARRIS ATHENA	LADIES PANCHIAN CHIOS
MR/MRS KOULOUMBRIS IOANNIS	MRS GAVRILIS MARY	MRS PELTSEMES VOULIE &	MR/MRS MYARIS JOHN & SOFIA
MRS KOSMAS MARITSA	MR/MRS SKANDALIS MICHAEL	MR/MRS ZOULIS JOHN &	

PLEGGED TOTALS: \$191,731.00; PAYMENTS: \$143,115.00; BALANCE: 48,616.00

✠ DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM ✠

Continued from page 7

IN MEMORY OF PROCOPIS PROCOPIU

Mr. Andreas Georgiou

IN MEMORY OF STEVE CHRIST

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Christ

IN MEMORY OF STELLA PANAGEOTOU

Ms. Eugenia Kalis

IN MEMORY OF CLEMES & MARITSA CLEMENTOU

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kaikis
Philip & Marina Christ

IN MEMORY OF CONSTANTINE "GUS" MICKLOS

John & Carole Micklos
Mrs. Katina Micklos
Mr. Tom Nadoly

IN MEMORY OF LAMBROS NEOFTTU

Mr. & Mrs. John P. Roros

*In honor of
Mrs. Rose Tsakalos'
Birthday*

- Mrs. Maria Salpeas
- Mrs. Julie Tsakalos
- Mrs. Despina Kaitis
- Mr. & Mrs. George Diakolucas
- Mrs. Stephanie Tahinos
- Mr. & Mrs. Gabriel Pantelides
- Mrs. Barbara Fourtinakis
- Laki & Willie Christ
- Mrs. Anastasia Christ
- Mrs. Anastasia Tsakiris
- Mrs. Fotitsa Anastasis
- John & Mary Georgiou

**MEMORIAL DAY
GROUP TRISAGION SERVICE
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2008
OAKLAWN CEMETERY 10:00 A.M.**

Liturgical Program May 2008

Sunday May 11th – Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers, Orthros 8:45;
Divine Liturgy – 10:00 am

Happy Mothers Day

Sunday May 18th – Sunday of the Paralytic, Orthros 8:45;
Divine Liturgy – 10:0

Sunday School Graduation

Wednesday May 21 – St. Constantine & Helen, Orthros 8:45am.
Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

Sunday May 25 – Sunday of the Samaritan Women, Orthros 8:45 am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day –
Group Trisagion Service at
Oak Lawn Cemetery – 10:00 am



St. Nicholas' Greek Folk Festival *Passport to the Islands of Greece*

Traditional Greek Food and Pastries, Costumed Folk Dancing and Greek Dancing, Greek Gifts, Orthodox Icons, and Books
Church Tours, Live Music and Indoor Dining

**Celebrate with us the traditions of Greece
June 5, 6, 7, & 8, 2008**

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