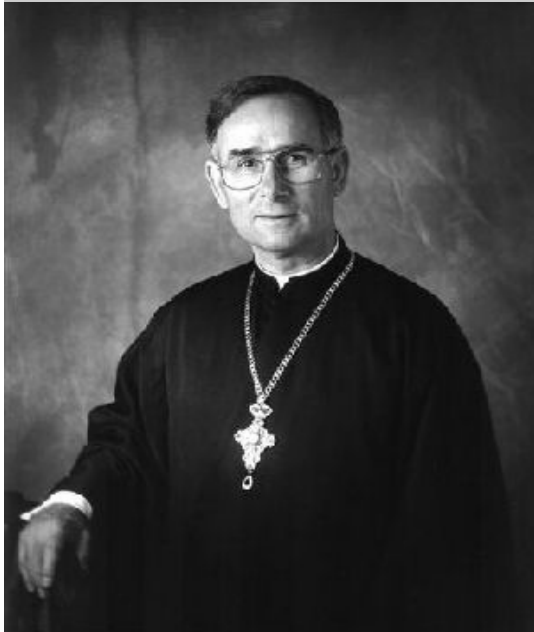




The Voice of Saint Anthony

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

November 2006
Volume 1, Number 1



**Rev. Protopresbyter
Efstathios V. Mylonas, Ph.D.
1937-2006**

IN LOVING MEMORY

Dedication to our beloved Spiritual Leader, Father Efstathios Mylonas, Protopresbyter

Saint Anthony, the Patron Saint of our Parish was a true defender and champion of the Christian faith in the early years of the Christian Church. He eloquently defended the two natures of Christ, which had come under heretical attack, at the First Ecumenical Council of 325 AD. His peers respected and revered him. Eventually, the title "Saint Anthony the Great" was bestowed upon him by the Church.

We, the parishioners of Saint Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church have a deep love and reverence for our Patron Saint, just as we do for our spiritual leader of the past 20 years, Reverend Father Efstathios Mylonas, PhD.

Fr. Stathis, as we affectionately called him, fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, September 22, 2006 after a decade long battle with multiple myeloma cancer.

Fr. Stathis, like Saint Anthony possessed tremendous courage in the face of adversity. He never complained about his incurable illness, the excruciating pain he often endured, or even the bleak prognoses he often heard over the past 10 years. Instead, with remarkable hope and faith, he repeatedly defied the odds against him with miraculous improvements, much to the dismay of the medical community. His determination to live was completely motivated by his desire to serve His Lord, His Church and His people, and by his deep love for his family. His strength and fortitude inspired and encouraged all of us, who were blessed to know him.

Our community mourns this tremendous loss; however, we honor and celebrate the life of this remarkable and wonderful man, who cared for each of us with unconditional love. Fr. Stathis' soul has departed this life, but our memories of him will never fade. May God bless his beautiful family, whom he loved, and this community, which he served so faithfully. Indeed, his memory will be eternal.

With deep devotion, love, and respect,
+Father Peter Stratos



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Sunday Services

Orthos 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Church office hours:

Monday–Thursday
9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Friday
9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Closed on Saturday & Sunday

Publication Reminder:

The Voice of Saint Anthony deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. Please submit announcements electronically to Vicki Kades at vicki@saint-anthonys.org.

St. Anthony's reserves the right to edit, alter or reject any content.

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VIP'S

Katherine Skandale

Father Peter's Message



It is with joy and gratitude that I greet you in the name of the Lord! This, my dear people, is my first written communication with you, and it comes during a most trying time for all of us. Just a few short weeks ago we lost our spiritual leader, Fr. Mylonas, who loved us unconditionally and cared for us for the past twenty years. As of October 1, it is now my responsibility, as your new spiritual leader, to continue that unconditional love and caring. He was a walking miracle, who clearly touched many, many lives. These difficult weeks have given me a chance to see your love for him, to get to know you, and to work together with so many of you. And, in this short time, I have already come to love and respect you as individuals, and as a community. With this love, we will all move forward together.

Naturally, we will all feel some differences, as each priest is his own unique person. It may be that some will wonder: Where do we go from here? How do we begin with our new priest? What is next for our community? The best place to begin, always, is to turn to our Lord and Savior for guidance. In Matthew 6:6, Christ said *"But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut the door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."* I have known for some time that I would be your new priest, so I too followed this discipline of private prayer, seeking God's guidance about the future of our beloved parish.

As I expressed on my first Sunday with you, I enjoy teaching, and my passion as a priest, is to instruct people in the Orthodox Faith. I believe, this instruction and learning must be accomplished in the context of the family, not just individually but collectively. Following the formula of the early Christian

Church, with all family members participating in the life of the Church, we will begin a monthly "Family Night" with the first night being Friday, November 10, and continuing through the year on the first Friday of every month. We will gather together at 7:00pm in the Community Center to break bread, and to learn what can be accomplished as a Christian Family on these Friday evenings. Everyone is invited to this instructional evening open to all in the community. Some of the Friday evening programs we wish to begin include: youth group meetings for all of our children, faith based instruction, Bible lessons and Christian fellowship. Please attend this first Friday to receive more details.

Coming soon, in early 2007, we will implement other programs including Adult Bible Studies, Catechism Classes, and an in depth six week Lenten Program, all designed to nourish our souls. Why are we doing so much? Because this is what God wants of us, and this is what you have expressed, as a community, you are seeking.

In the words of St. Paul, "We must fight the good fight," we must protect ourselves with spiritual armor against the constant plot of the "evil one" who works to bring us down." As a community we can defeat him, and all evil in general, through living a life centered in Christ our Lord. How can we achieve this? By actively participating in the life of the Church and by supporting the ministries of the Church with our time and our talents. Come, participate, seek, and you will find.



Father Peter's Story



Autobiography of Reverend Peter Stratos

Reverend Peter Stratos was born on May 25th 1957 to his parents Peter and Alice Stratos in Charlottesville Va. He was raised there, being the oldest of four children. He has one sister Theodora, and two brothers Gregory and Christopher. He attended local schools and was a very active member at the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church. From the early age of six, Fr. Peter was an altar boy and a permanent fixture in God's sanctuary. His faithful grandmother Eleni had a very positive influence on her grandson and patiently taught him the importance of prayer and memorizing and reciting the Lords Prayer (Pater Imon) and the Creed (Pistevo) as a young child. His loving parents also insisted that he attend church every week because they valued worship to God and its importance in their young children's lives. Fr. Peter

completed and graduated from High School in June of 1975.

In September of that same year he attended Elon College in North Carolina and graduated in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. After college he worked for numerous years in Food Service Management, and for four years as Senior Loan Officer in the Mortgage Banking Industry.

In 1991 Fr. Peter's work transferred him to Orange County, California, where he quickly became an active member of St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine. During his years at the churches of the Holy Transfiguration in Charlottesville, and St. Paul in Irvine he continually served in the altar, sang in the choir, chanted and served for many years on the Parish Council.

It was at St. Paul's OCF that he met, fell in love with, and on June 26th of 1993 married his devoted wife Presvytera Aida. On February 29th 1996, their first son Peter Constantine was born. In August of that same year, the family embarked on a life changing decision. With the blessings of both Reverend George Stephanides, of blessed memory and Metropolitan Anthony, of blessed memory, Fr. Peter enrolled at Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Ma. to study for God's Holy Priesthood. And with their small baby the couple moved to Massachusetts. On July 30th 1998 their second son Nicholas Theodore was born in Boston. In May of 2000 Fr. Peter graduated with honors from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology with a Master's of Divinity Degree.

In June of that year Metropolitan Anthony assigned Fr. Peter to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Northridge, Ca. as a lay assistant. His responsibilities included teaching 5th and 7th grade religion courses at the St. Nicholas Parochial School, chanting in the Church, and serving in the Holy Altar.

Father Peter's Story

On January 7th 2001 Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco ordained Fr. Peter to the Diaconate, and he continued to serve the community of Northridge. On his name day, June 29th of that same year, Metropolitan Anthony ordained Fr. Peter to the Holy Priesthood at St Nicholas in Northridge. He served faithfully at this very large, active and busy parish, continuing his duties at the Parochial School, serving at all Liturgies and services, countless sacraments, advising the GOYA groups and Sunday School Department. These four wonderful years at Saint Nicholas in Northridge were filled with joy and excellent preparation for Fr. Peter's next assignment. In August of 2004 Metropolitan Anthony, of blessed memory, assigned him as the Pastor of St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church and Shrine beginning September 1st. His first responsibility was to plan and organize the upcoming Consecration of the Church on November 7th 2004. After a beautiful and moving Consecration with Metropolitan Anthony, Fr. Peter and the community worked diligently to continue the beautification of the Church and grounds. The smaller wing of the Fellowship Hall was converted to classrooms for Sunday and Greek School classes; further iconography and stained glass windows were added to the dome and side walls of the Church; and the Wednesday Evening Paraklesis and Bible Study attendance grew substantially in attendance.

After two years at the Shrine and Parish of Saint Nectarios, Metropolitan Gerasimos, assigned Fr. Peter to Saint Anthony in Pasadena. Fr. Peter was to pastor his new community with the assistance and companionship of his dear friend and brother in Christ, Fr. Efthathios Mylonas, who hoped to enjoy a blessed retirement with his family and community. However, Fr. Mylonas was called to meet his Lord shortly before Fr. Peter's first Sunday. With heavy hearts, Metropolitan Gerasimos, Fr. Peter Stratos, Fr. Spencer Kezios, 38 more priests from our Metropolis, and hundreds in attendance, laid their brother to rest. And with this unexpected beginning, Fr. Peter and his young family embark on a new and even more meaningful chapter in their service to Christ's Holy Church .



Parish Council

Presidents Message

Our St. Anthony's community has experienced two very contrasting emotions this past month. The sadness in losing our beloved priest and spiritual leader, Father Mylonas and the happiness we have shared in the anticipation of the arrival of our new spiritual leader, Father Peter Stratos.

I had worked with Father Stathis these past twenty years and to me it was a very personal loss, not only as my priest but also as a friend. I'm sure that I share this feeling with many of our parishioners. He loved and cared about all of us very much. He tirelessly worked for this community creating new ministries and improving the ones we already had. Father Stathis was always there for all of us, whether it was to hold our hand when we or a family member was ill or a loved one had passed away. He was there for all of our joys; a new baby, a christening, or a wedding. Father was a positive and optimistic person. He always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. You never heard him complain about his own pain. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Presbytera Maria and her family.

Also, I want to thank the Parish Council, the Philoptochos and all the parishioners who helped with the Trisigion and the Funeral for our very beloved priest. A special thank you to Father Spencer Kezios who met with the council on many occasions to direct us and guide us and helped us with the many decisions that needed to be made to conduct a dignified event for a very dignified priest.

A brunch was held on Sunday, October 8th after Divine Liturgy in our church hall to welcome Father Peter Stratos, Presbytera Aida and their two sons, Peter and Nicholas. This brunch was proof that we are outgrowing our hall.

Father Mylonas was instrumental in getting Father Peter assigned to our parish. He had told me not only is Father Peter a good priest but a wonderful person too. He would be a great fit for our community. Of course, the Metropolitan makes the final decision on these assignments. Thank you. Your Eminence, for sending Father Peter to us. We thank Father Mylonas for all his hard work in making the transition of our new priest an easy one. Father Peter needs all our love and support to continue the ministry that Father Mylonas began here at St. Anthony's

Also, I would like to thank, on behalf of the parish council and the community, our two festival chairpersons, Julie Balas and Louie Kades, for their leadership and hard work in making this festival the success that it was during a very difficult time for our community. Each year our festival just gets better and better.

Sophia Angelos
Parish Council President



General Assembly Meeting

Everyone is encouraged to attend the General Assembly scheduled for Sunday, November 12, 2006 in the Church hall right after Divine Liturgy. We need to approve the budget and nominate members for the parish council. Information will be sent out 10 days before the meeting. Your attendance is important and needed. A light lunch will be served.

Parish Council

Many Thanks....

A special thank you must be conveyed to the following people who immediately responded with their love and financial support for the Makaria of Father Mylonas.

UNDERWRITERS

Mary and Soterios Bicos
Judie and Gus Christopoulos
Kathy and Chris Julias
Irene and Nick Mitsos
John Rellos
Esther and Ted Vavoulis
Anonymous

OTHER DONATIONS

Irene Albeck
Peter Bissias
Pam and John Buzas
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Jimmy Christodoulelis
Pete Gallanes
Christine Kundanis

Jimmy Kypreos
Dino Lappas
Maryann and Paul Mallis
Steve Pappas
Dena and Nikitas Tripodes

In addition, we wish to thank Philoptochos and the Parish Council and the many parishioners of our community who gave of themselves to make the services over the two day period so dignified.

A final special thank you must be extended to Father Spencer Kezios for his spiritual guidance at this most difficult time for St. Anthony Parish.



Saint Anthony Parish General Assembly

Sunday, November 12, 2006
following the Divine Liturgy.

At the Hellenic Cultural Center.

Light lunch will be provided.

We need your support!

Special Thank You From Fr. Peter!

Presbytera Aida, Peter, Nicholas and I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for such a warm Welcoming Luncheon. Every detail was thoughtfully planned; elegant flowers, delicious treats, beautiful words of welcome, and left a formidable and lasting impression of your generosity and love. You have embraced us into your remarkable community, and we are grateful and happy to be a part of our new Parish Family. Special thanks to the Parish Council and all the parishioners who worked so hard to make the afternoon so lovely. Thank you for your thoughtful gift of tickets to Disneyland, you can imagine

how thrilled the boys are, and for the fabulous St. Anthony's sweatshirts. (We have already, proudly, worn them to chilly, early morning soccer games.) Finally, my deepest gratitude to Presbytera Maria for honoring me with her kind and moving words, and the precious gift of Father Mylonas' cross.

I will always wear it with deep respect and love for my brother in Christ. May his memory be eternal. And, may the love expressed at our luncheon, continue to grow as we serve Christ our Lord together.

+ Fr. Peter Stratos

Youth Ministries

Greek School

Our Greek school for 2006-2007 has 43 students attending Friday classes and 16 students attending Monday classes for a total of 59 students. This year we opened two new classes on Monday: a Kindergarteners/Beginners 1 and a Conversational class. Our curriculum can be found at the Church web site at:

www.saintanthonys.org/ministries/greek_school/

In addition, our adult classes have 18 students attending Beginners 1, Beginners 2, Intermediate and Advanced classes. We are looking forward for an exciting year teaching the Greek language to our kids and members of our community.



Altar Boys

Boys interested in serving in the altar during church services please contact Nikitas or Dena Tripodes 626-799-4735. We will be working out a schedule with Father Peter. More information to follow.

Dance News

FDF MEETING

Friday, Nov. 3, 7pm-9pm

His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerassimos of San Francisco, would like to have a meeting with all the clergy, dance directors, and parent representatives of each parish. His Eminence will attend the meeting and considers your presence there essential.

St. Sophia Cathedral
1324 So. Normandie Ave.,
Los Angeles, CA 90006

Family Night

November 10th, 7:00 pm
with Fr. Peter at the Church Hall

Lenten Meal will be served!
Bring the entire Family



Youth Ministries

Sunday School

Sunday school registration began September 10th. At this time we have one hundred thirty-five children registered. Parents may register children for Sunday school anytime during the year.

Mrs. Margaret Vagenas teaches pre-school assisted by Elizabeth Vagenas, Ms. Sophia Krpreos, kindergarten/first grade, Mrs. Angie Stavros second/third grade, Mrs. Jenny Tsouvalas, fourth/fifth grade with the assistance of Caroline Burkard, Mrs. Dena Tripodes, sixth/seventh/eighth grade, Mrs. Maria Grover, high school.

We welcome interested individuals to assist or substitute in the classrooms.

Mrs. Judith Christopoulos is Co-Coordinator and spearheads the Bible and History Tournament which will be held, December 2nd at Saint Paul's in Irvine. Mrs. Athena Dallas and Mrs. Christopoulos will work with students who participate in the Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival in the spring.

To learn more about these events for sixth through high school students contact Mrs. Dallas or Mrs. Christopoulos. The Annual Turkey Raffle and Luncheon will take place November 19 following Divine Liturgy. All proceeds benefit Sunday school and enrichment programs.

Moms N Tots

Get ready for another fun year with St. Anthony's Moms N' Tots. Our program includes prayer, story time, music, art and playtime. Every child ages infant to 4 ½ years old is welcome to participate. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 10 – 10:45 a.m. in St. Anthony's Church Nursery Room. For more information, please contact Theodora Coulis at (626) 836-4849 or theodora.coulis@gmail.com.

Annual Turkey Raffle and Luncheon









**Sunday,
November 19**
Luncheon Following Divine Liturgy



All Proceeds will benefit Sunday School Program!

"And the child grew and became strong: he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him" Luke 2:40

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			<p>1 +Kosmas & Damaskinos 9:00 am Orthos/Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Terpsichore 5:30 pm Ta Asterakia 6:00 pm Dance Bazaar</p>
<p>5 +5th Sunday of Luke 9:00 am Orthos 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church</p>	<p>6 Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Beginners I 4:30 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>7 Election Polling in Hall 7:00 am - 9:00 pm</p> <p>Sewing Group 10:00 am Session</p> <p>AHEPA 7:30 pm Meeting</p>	<p>8 Greek Dance 5:30 pm Terpsichore 5:30 pm Ta Asterakia</p> <p>+Nectarios the Confessor 7:00 pm Vespers/Divine Liturgy at St. Nectarios Church</p>
<p>12 +8th Sunday of Luke 9:00 am Orthos 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church</p> <p>General Assembly 11:30 am Meeting</p>	<p>13 Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Beginners I 4:30 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>14 +St. John Chrysostom 9:00 am Orthos/Divine Liturgy</p> <p>VIP's 10:00 am Meeting</p> <p>Parish Council 7:30 pm Meeting</p>	<p>15 Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Terpsichore 5:30 pm Ta Asterakia</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>
<p>19  +9th Sunday of Luke 9:00 am Orthos 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Sunday School in Church</p> <p>Sunday School Turkey Raffle 11:30 am Luncheon</p> <p>Philoptochos Getty Center Trip</p>	<p>20  Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Beginners I 4:30 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>21  Sewing Group 10:00 am Meeting</p>	<p>22  Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Terpsichore 5:30 pm Ta Asterakia</p>
<p>26  +13th Sunday of Luke 9:00 am Orthos 10:00 am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>27  Greek School 4:00 pm Preschool 4:00 pm Kindergarten 4:00 pm Beginners I 4:30 pm Conversational 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>28 </p>	<p>29  Moms N' Tots 10:00 am Session</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Terpsichore 5:30 pm Ta Asterakia</p>



Strict
Fast



Fish Allowed



Wine and Oil Allowed



Dairy, Eggs, and Fish
Allowed

Fast Free

ESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>Nectarios Divine Liturgy</p> <p>beans kia ard Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Dance for fun (Beginner Adults) 6:00 pm Bouboukakia 7:00 pm Neolea</p> <p>Greek School 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Greek School 4:00 pm Beginners I-II-III</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>beans kia</p> <p>Wonderworker Divine Liturgy urch, Covina</p>	<p>9</p> <p>+Nectarios the Wonderworker 9:00 am Orthos/Divine Liturgy at St. Nectarios Church, Covina</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Dance for fun (Beginner Adults) 6:00 pm Bouboukakia 7:00 pm Neolea</p> <p>Greek School 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Greek School 4:00 pm Beginners I-II-III</p> <p>Family Night 7:00 pm Activity & Dinner</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>beans kia</p> <p>Fast Begins</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Dance for fun (Beginner Adults) 6:00 pm Bouboukakia 7:00 pm Neolea</p> <p>Greek School 6:30 pm Adults</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Greek School 4:00 pm Beginners I-II-III</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>beans kia</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>beans kia</p>	<p>30</p> <p>+Apostle Andrew the 1st Called 9:00 am Orthos/Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Greek Dance 5:30 pm Dance for fun (Beginner Adults) 6:00 pm Bouboukakia 7:00 pm Neolea</p> <p>Greek School 6:30 pm Adults</p>		<p>Coming Soon!</p> <p>Dec 1 - AHEPA Christmas Party Dec 3 - Stewardship Sunday Dec 9 - Philoptochos Fashion Show</p> <p>Jan 2007 Bible Study will begin</p>

Featured Saint



Saint Nectarius - November 9th

Saint Nectarius was born in Selyvria of Thrace on October 1, 1846. After putting himself through school in Constantinople with much hard labour, he became a monk on Chios in 1876, receiving the monastic name of Lazarus; because of his virtue, a year later he was ordained deacon, receiving the new name of Nectarius. Under the patronage of Patriarch Sophronius of Alexandria, Nectarius went to Athens to study in 1882; completing his theological studies in 1885, he went to Alexandria, where Patriarch Sophronius ordained him priest on March 23, 1886 in the Cathedral of Saint Sabbas, and in August of the same year, in the Church of Saint Nicholas in Cairo, made him Archimandrite. Archimandrite Nectarius showed much zeal both for preaching the word of God, and for the beauty of God's house. He greatly beautified the Church of Saint Nicholas in Cairo, and years later, when Nectarius was in Athens, Saint Nicholas appeared to him in a dream, embracing him and telling him he was going to exalt him very high.

On January 15, 1889, in the same Church of Saint Nicholas, Nectarius was consecrated Metropolitan of the Pentapolis in eastern Libya, which was under the jurisdiction of Alexandria. Although Nectarius' swift ascent through the degrees of ecclesiastical office did not affect his modesty and childlike innocence, it aroused the envy of

lesser men, who convinced the elderly Sophronius that Nectarius had it in his heart to become Patriarch. Since the people loved Nectarius, the Patriarch was troubled by the slanders. On May 3, 1890, Sophronius relieved Metropolitan Nectarius of his duties; in July of the same year, he commanded Nectarius to leave Egypt.

Without seeking to avenge or even to defend himself, the innocent Metropolitan left for Athens, where he found that accusations of immorality had arrived before him. Because his good name had been soiled, he was unable to find a position worthy of a bishop, and in February of 1891 accepted the position of provincial preacher in Euboea; then, in 1894, he was appointed dean of the Rizarios Ecclesiastical School in Athens. Through his eloquent sermons his unwearying labours to educate fitting men for the priesthood, his generous alms deeds despite his own poverty, and the holiness, meekness, and fatherly love that were manifest in him, he became a shining light and a spiritual guide to many. At the request of certain pious women, in 1904 he began the building of his convent of the Holy Trinity on the island of Aegina while yet dean of the Rizarios School; finding later that his presence there was needed, he took up his residence on Aegina in 1908, where he spent the last years of his life, devoting himself to the direction of his convent and to very intense prayer; he was sometimes seen lifted above the ground while rapt in prayer. He became the protector of all Aegina, through his prayers delivering the island from drought, healing the sick, and casting out demons. Here also he endured wicked slanders with singular patience, forgiving his false accusers and not seeking to avenge himself. Although he had already worked wonders in life, an innumerable multitude of miracles have been wrought after his repose in 1920 through his holy relics, which for many years remained incorrupt. There is hardly a malady that has not been cured through his prayers; but Saint Nectarius is especially renowned for his healings of cancer for sufferers in all parts of the world.



"Guess Who's Coming to Town!"



St. Anthony's Philoptochos Society Holiday Benefit Luncheon Saturday, December 9, 2006

We invite you to join our honor roll of "**Star Donors**" at our Annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon.

The Success of this program enables the St. Anthony's Philoptochos Society to continue giving to its charities which this year are:

City of Hope National Medical Center
(in it's fight against breast cancer)

**National Philoptochos Adopt-a-Family Program to assist victims of the
2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.**

Trinity Youth Foundation

And other Philoptochos Charities

The **STAR DONOR** categories are:

ARCHANGEL	\$1,000	GOLD STAR	\$100
CHRISTMAS STAR	\$500	SILVER STAR	\$50
SHINING STAR	\$250	RED STAR	\$25

Names of all donors will be printed in the our benefit program.
Our printing deadline is **November 20, 2006.**

Please make checks to: St. Anthony Philoptochos Society.

Mail Check to: Charlene Vayos, 3277 Barhite Street, Pasadena, CA 91107.

(Be sure to include your name, address, & telephone and if you would like the donation to be in memory or honor of someone.)

Philoptochos

Philoptochos was honored to help with preparations for Father Mylonas' funeral. We will always remember Father for his kindness and interest in our ministry. I want to thank the Philoptochos board members who came together to help where it was needed as well as those women who called and asked to help.

Kathy Lucas and I attended the National Philoptochos Conference – **Celebrating 75 Years of Philanthropy** - in Nashville this July. Holy Trinity in Nashville was our host for the week and they exhibited the best that southern hospitality has to offer. What was truly remarkable is that this is the only parish in Nashville who, with only the help of a small mission church, put on this wonderful event.

It was truly an inspirational week as we listened to Philoptochos women from around the country share projects that they have developed and support. His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios, spoke glowingly of the Philoptochos women and their contributions. We were able to watch the new Philoptochos DVD that covers the past 75 years of accomplishments. The following is an excerpt from the opening address given by His Eminence: "Our theme, however, speaks also about the love of Christ. "Sharing the love of Christ!" Of course we do that. Every time that we offer assistance to the needy, support to the failing, food and drink to the hungry and thirsty, and compassion to the injured and mistreated, we are automatically sharing the love of Christ, because we do what the Lord Himself would have done under the same circumstances. But "sharing the love of Christ" means more. It means increasing both in terms of quantity and quality our personal sharing the love of Christ with others; any others, whether inside or outside of our Church. It also means doing this not only as individuals but even more as Greek Orthodox communities, as Orthodox presence in America.

We have been blessed to have in our parishes the dedicated groups of the Ladies' Philoptochos Society. They have offered for 75 years significant assistance in matters of philanthropic activity. We wholeheartedly thank them. Sharing, however, the love of Christ with other human beings is not to be limited only to our gracious and dedicated ladies. This is a fundamental commandment of our Lord, a strong sign that we are His disciples and that we belong to His kingdom.

Sharing the love of Christ is the trade mark of Orthodoxy. A huge field of action is open in front of us and we cannot close our eyes and ignore it:

-Imagine the number of homes for aged people which we as Church could build all over America!

-Imagine the centers for the daily care for pre-school children that we could open attached to our parishes,

thus relieving thousands of working mothers, and connecting thousands of parents to the Church!

-Imagine the visiting services that we could offer to many people who live alone and are sick, and desperately need someone to be with them for one or two hours, to read for them from a good book and to talk to them!

-Imagine the opportunities which we could create in our neighborhoods and in our towns by becoming the strong volunteers in initiatives for the relief from catastrophic events of all sorts!

Imagine! Why imagine? This is not a matter of imagination. This is a blue print showing the potential for action in the next years. Of course, in sharing the love of Christ we have a long way to go. But we should not be afraid of the distance. We are challenged to move on, having Christ with us day and night.

I want to thank Jennifer Lanergan who helped serve dinner at **Union Station**. Please take time to sign up to serve on any first Wednesday of the month. The food is prepared for you. The actual time spent preparing, serving and cleaning up is about 1-1/2 hours. Consider doing this with friends or family.

Also, please consider preparing **coffee hour**. The sign-up chart is usually located in the community center. Your refreshment do not need to be lavish but just something simple to go with a cup of coffee. Please bring your questions about serving to a Philoptochos board member.

Café Bizou in Pasadena was the setting for the end of the year Philoptochos dinner in June. It was well-attended by not only our own members, but by St. Sophia members as well. Thank you to Maria Kokoris who planned this delicious evening.

The **Father's Day brunch** was another outstanding meal prepared by Philoptochos. Once again, the Philoptochos women gave up precious week-end hours to help prepare for the french toast brunch. Also, a thank you to Pantele Xanthos who helped in the kitchen, even though it was Father's Day.

Our first meeting of the **Quarterly Women's Book Club** at St. Paul's was an outstanding success. More than 35 women came from as far as Northridge and San Diego to discuss *Living the Beatitudes* by Kyriaki Fitzgerald. Those who had not had the opportunity to listen to Father Steven Tschlis before that evening, left looking forward to the next discussion group on December 7th and promising to bring friends. Please let us know if you would like to attend.

(Continued page 15)

Philoptochos Continued....

On **Sunday, November 19th, 2006**, we have arranged a bus trip to The Getty Center to view the exhibit, **Holy Image, Hallowed Ground: Icons from the Holy Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai**. We invite the entire community to join us. There may be a few seats left by the time you read this. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 1 p.m. The cost will be \$20.00 per person. Due to the solemn nature of this exhibit, young children will not be allowed. Call Lisa Xanthos (626.445.6645) if you are interested.

As part of the **Kids 'n' Cancer** program of our Metropolis Philoptochos, we have arranged to deliver our **Agape bears and blankets** to the children at Ronald McDonald House in Pasadena. We have received some beautiful quilts as well as crocheted and knitted blankets made by the generous women of St. Anthony's. We will need these blanket and quilts on an ongoing basis so please consider contributing your talents to this worthy cause.

With our **Christmas Benefit Luncheon** just around the corner, we are asking our parish members to donate items for the **Silent Auction**. Anything you can offer will be appreciated. Also, consider asking busi-

nesses you frequent for a donation. Remember, this is our major fundraising event of the year. Without these proceeds, we would not have the ability to generously participate in various philanthropic activities.

Philoptochos will be "adopting" the El Monte Trinity Homes facility. We will provide various means of support for the children that reside there. We will be asking the community at large to help us in this project so look for information in future newsletters. Trinity Homes will be one of the designated charities for this year's Christmas Benefit Luncheon along with breast cancer research at City of Hope and the National Philoptochos program, "Adopt-A-Family," to aid Orthodox victims of last year's gulf coast hurricanes. We hope to see on December 9th.

In Christ,
Lisa Xanthos



**November 1 is the Feast Day of Saints Cosmas and Damian, the patron saints of Philoptochos.*

Community News

NEW CHURCH DOORS NEEDED

We would like to thank all the parishioners who have contributed money to the new front doors of our church. As of now we have \$35,000, however, the cost of the doors including hardware and installation comes to \$54,000. Now that the design of the doors has been approved by Saint Anthony's Parish Council and the cost has been determined we are in the process of collecting the \$19,000 needed to order and install the doors. If you have not contributed please do so and for those who have already contributed you may want to increase your contribution. A model of the new church doors is on display in the church hall. Stop by to see this model for yourself and please help reach our goal.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD

**Saturday, November 4th
from 9:00 a.m. to Noon**

Please join us as we present a seminar that will assist us in better meeting the religious education needs of our children with various disabilities. Our presenters have many years of experience as credentialed teachers and will be available to answer any specific questions you may have. All of our presenters have experience in teaching in Orthodox Church Schools.

A continental breakfast will be available.
There is no charge for this workshop.

Saint Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
4949 Alton Parkway,
Irvine, CA 92604—949 733-2366

For more information, please contact Dorothea Love
at (949) 481-6288.

Community News

St. Anthony Choir:

Anyone interested being part of the St. Anthony's Choir please call the church office at 626-449-6943.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4TH 2006

CRETAN



Featuring Music and Dance from Crete and the Mainland
Delicious Hors d'oeuvres, Complete Lamb Dinner
Donation \$60.00 - Children 12 & under \$30.00
Call now to purchase your tickets (tables of 10 may be reserved)

6:00 PM Cocktails - 7:00 Pm Dinner
St, Sophia Cathedral Center

PICO & NORMANDIE - LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA



ADULT GREEK DANCE FOR FUN CLASS!

Adult Beginners Greek Folk Dance Class begins November 2, 2006 and runs for 6 weeks on Thursday Nights 5:30-7:00pm. Everyone is invited to join! It is a great way to meet some new people, get some exercise, or even get ready for the your next Greek celebration!

\$100 Donation Requested, Proceeds go to the St. Anthony's Dance program. For more information call Eleni Vagenas 909-519-7788.

St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church's Online Silent Auction

Starting November 10th and closing December 1st

<http://festivalofhearts.maestroweb.com>

Shop for auction items at leisure from your home and help support St. Paul's and Kids 'n' Cancer !

The Festival of Hearts Galaon

December 2, 2006 at the Balboa Bay Club

For more information and to receive an invitation, go to: www.stpaulsirvine.org/hearts



Anne Sophia Nonts
Scholarship Foundation
Presents

*A Night in
Monte Carlo*

10th Annual Scholarship
Fundraiser

Friday,
November 17
6:00 P.M.

ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY G.O.
CHURCH CULTURAL CENTRE

featuring

International Buffet Dinner & Casino-Style Gaming
Tables,

Dancing to the Sounds of "Gus Sverkos"
Exciting Raffle Prizes, Silent Auction

\$75.00 Per Person (Includes start-up Chips)

For information and reservations please call:
(714) 693-7605 or (714) 872-3118 Or visit us on
our web site at: www.asnsf.org



AHEPA News - Tuesday, November 14 AHEPA Family meeting. We will meet DOWNSTAIRS in the Church Hall, at 7:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Peter Kaplanis, whose topic will be "The Periclean Age".

Save The date for the Annual AHEPA Christmas Dinner Party on Friday, December 1, at Beckham Grill and Crown Bar, 77 W. Walnut, Pasadena. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m. and Dinner is at 7:30 p.m.

16 A special presentation will follow dinner.

Stewardship

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Rev. Fr. Peter Stratos

The Parish Council at its October 10, 2006 meeting, unanimously adopted the Christian Stewardship Program, for supporting the work of Christ at Saint Anthony. The purpose of this article is to introduce you to the concept.

What is Stewardship? Stewardship comes from the Greek word "oikonomia", or economy, which means management of the house or household. In the New Testament, it means man's management of his whole life in response to God's love. Man is a steward, a manager of the "time", "talents" and "treasures" that God has given to him. God as Creator gives us time by granting us life, our very existence. God as Giver of all gifts, grants us our abilities and talents. God as Maintainer, provides for our needs by affording us opportunities to earn a living. If I believe that God is the Giver, the Owner and I the manager, then it follows that a Steward trusts the Bible's directions on how to manage God's gifts. God expects us to give Him thanks by managing our gifts of "time", "talent" and "treasure" according to His will. In 2 Corinthians 8:3-5 St. Paul writes: "they gave according to their means as I can testify and beyond their means, of their own free will...but first they gave of themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God."

The essence of Stewardship is that we first give ourselves to God and then seek to do His will as His servants. Unless our hearts are in Christ, then we will find it difficult to do His will. We can only become His servants, by accepting His lordship over our lives. We can give our "time" to the Lord by our daily devotion, reading his Word, by attending Church services and by assisting others in need. We can use our "talents" in response to God's love by serving God as a Sunday School teacher, a Choir member, a Parish Council member, a Philoptochos member, by cooking, cleaning and responding to the call of service to others. We use our "treasures", our income, God's gift to us to glorify His name. A percentage of our income, according to the Bible, is to be used for the work of God on earth. By sharing our "treasures" with the Lord, we become co-workers with Him in His work of salvation.

Stewardship, as the management of God's gifts to us, is the method by which Christians should support their Church. We are to return a portion of what God has given to us back again to God. The parish obligation or dues system limits our giving, because it has a fixed fee. Stewardship is used by 80% of the parishes of our Archdiocese, with overwhelming responses. Proportional giving is much more equitable, for each person gives according to his or her means. Those who receive more may give more and those who receive less may give less and still be active parishioners of the Church. The decision of "how much" to give rests with the individual's conscience and love for God. Stewardship has been the Christian or Biblical method of Church support through the centuries.

On November 12, 2006, you will be asked to endorse the Parish Council's recommendation to adopt the Christian Stewardship program for our parish. Further information will be provided before the meeting in order to inform you of more details concerning the program. Stewardship is putting our faith into action. Stewardship is bringing Christ into our entire life, including our finances. Through our Stewardship pledge, we will support the programs of our parish and our Archdiocesan National Ministries. Stewardship provides us with the opportunity to contribute on a weekly basis, thus making it easier to increase our capability of giving. If Stewardship has succeeded throughout our Archdiocese, we are confident that it will succeed at our parish, because "Christ is among us" at Saint Anthony. Our love for Christ and His Church will find expression in our free will, proportionate giving to our parish.

Stewardship is a matter of our personal faith in God and He keeps his promises. Listen to what St. Paul writes: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Stewardship Report

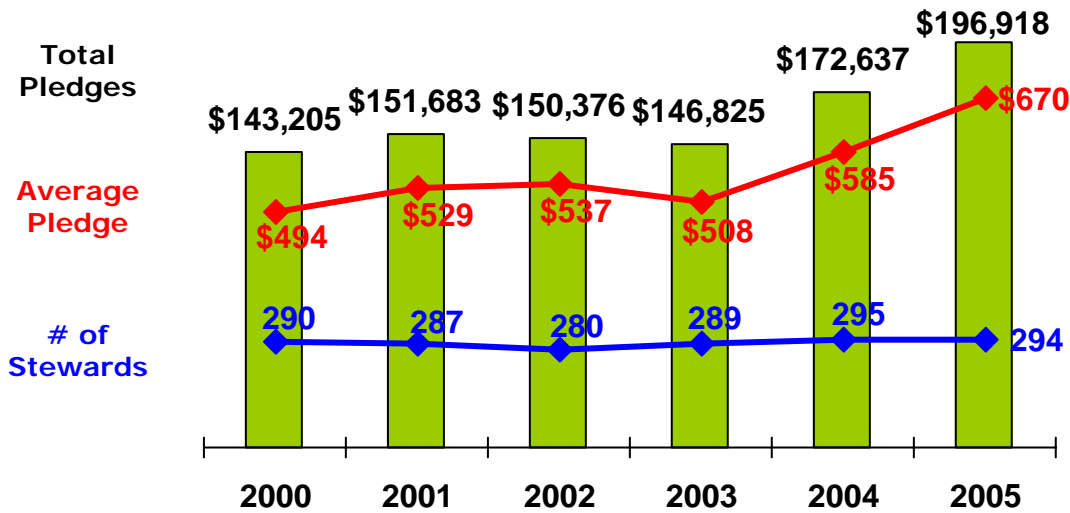
2006 Stewardship Objectives

- Stewardship should be sufficient to cover St. Anthony's rising operating costs of \$393K, less \$68K from candle/tray and donations.
- Preserve Pente, Festival, and Rental income for capital improvement projects.
- Increase the number of Stewardship pledges to 300+ total members.

Projected 2006 Deficit

Operating Deficit	(\$48,942)
100% Pente Proceeds	\$30,000
50% Fest Proceeds	\$30,000
Operating Margin	\$11,058

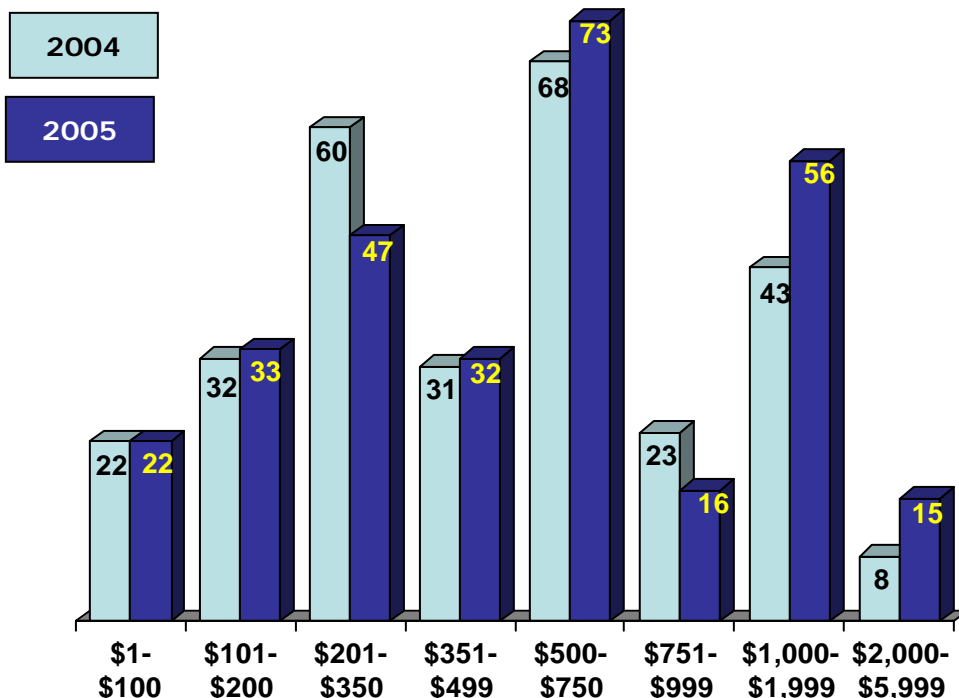
Stewardship Contributions by Year



Number of Stewards has remained relatively flat over the years.

Average and total pledges jumped again in 2005, to a new high of \$670.

Distribution of 2004 & 2005 Stewardship Pledges



of Stewards pledging <\$500 decreased from 145 to 134

of Stewards pledging >\$500 increased from 142 to 160

Pledged Members

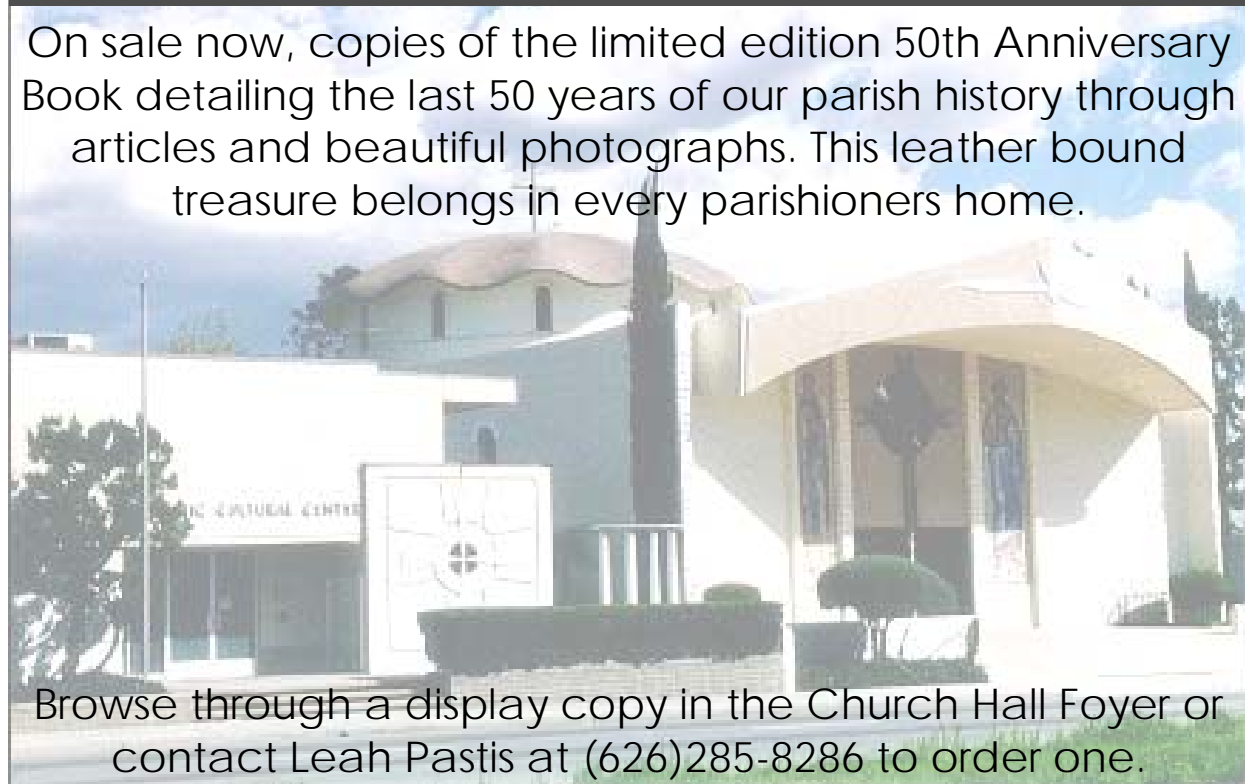
Stratos, Rev. Peter & Presv. Aida
Adamopoulos, Virginia & Peter A.
Albeck, Gregory
Albeck, Irene
Alex, Helen & Larry
Andrianopoulos, Alex
Angelopoulos, Angela
Angelopoulos, Vassilis &
Mary Christianidis
Angelos, Sophia & James
Angelos, Nicholas
Anton, Helen & Gus
Arapostathis, Mary
Athanasoulis, Tina & Chris
Athans, Tina & Dean P.
Attalla, Maryam
Attalla, Philip "Ted"
Bacoyianis, Sotiria K.
Balas, Julie & Dino
Becker, Connie & Brian L.
Becronis, Christina
Betinis, Harriet J.
Bicos, Kalli & Dino
Bicos Marietta & Steve
Bicos, Mary & Soterios
Bicos, Sophia & Corvelo, Steve
Bissias, Michele & Peter N.
Bogosyan, Margarita
Bonorris, Bill
Bonorris, Donna & Pete
Bonorris, Helen & Chris
Bowers, Connie & Terree
Bozikis, Demetra
Broussinos, Angeliki & Chris
Burkard, Penelope & Frank J.
Buzas, Pamela & John
Caire, Terese & John
Christianakis, Athena
Christianakis, Stratos
Christodoulelis, Helen
Christodoulelis, Tanya & Jim
Christodoulou, Christine & Christakis
Christopoulos, Judie & Gus
Christopoulos, Lynnette & Tony
Christopoulos, Karen & Tom
Christy, Angene
Church, Lisa
Clentzos, Peter
Coccia, Tina & Giuseppe
Cocores, Christine & Ted
Cocores, Lisa & Christopher
Courlas, George & Georgia
Cristofi, Marion & Pete
Dallas, Athena & Soterios
Damilatis, Eleni & Dimitrios
Damilatis, Maria
Darlal, Argyro & Tom
Darlal, Paula
Darlal, Taso & Laura
Darras, Mary Ann
Daughters, Janine & Chris
Deligiannis, Susan & Fotios
Demetriades, Elizabeth & Demetrios
Demetriou, James
Demopoulos, Elizabeth & Andrew
Demopoulos, Nicholas
Demos, Anna
Dewar, Mary & Andrew
Diamond, Anastasia
Dieguez, Kiriaki & Marvin
Dimitrakopoulos, Efterpi & Panagiotis
Dimitrakopoulos, Panayiotis
Dogris, Julie & Nicholas J.
Drulias, Esther & James
Dupas, Evangeline & Theodore
Dupas, Katherine & George
Economu, Aphrodite & Adam
Efstathiou, Theodora & Dean
Feliberti, Eric C. & Anna Zakos
Fiffles, Jamie D.
Fine, Alexis & Edward
Fryer Norman L. & Kay H.
Fuerst, Nicolette & Jay
Galanis, Myrtice & John
Gallagher, Eleni & Matthew
Gatsoulis, Dorothea & Philip
Gavalas, Cleola & George
Gelt, Pana-Louise & Brian
Giakas, Vasiliki
Gianopulos, Dorothea & George
Giannoulis, Eftehia & Andreas
Gianoulis, Anna & Tony
Glyptis, Helen & Mark
Hagelis, †Pauline & James
Halias, Joanne & John
Halkias, Mary & James T.
Haralambos, Kathleen & Anthony
Haralambos, Alik
Haralambos, Page & Tom
Harper, Christina C.
Harper, Georgia & Tom
Harris, Klio & Nick
Hasabales, Helen
Hickey, David & Vasiliki Sellis
Horaites, Anthony
Housos, Dena & Gus
Hronas, Maria & James W.
Ioannou, Eleni & Chris
Johnsen, Eleni & Robert
Kades, Vicki & Louis
Kalambakas, Nick P.
Kalivas, Eleni & George
Kalivas, Pota & George N.
Kallas, Debra & Mark
Kallis, Larry
Kamar, April & Bassily
Kamp, Tina
Kaparos, Lily & Stefanos
Kaparos, Sylvia & Michael
Kaplanis, Joan & Peter
Karagias, Helen & Tasos
Karaioannoglou, Jeanne & Phaedon
Karamaras, Andriana & John
Karatzas, Chris
Karatzas, Mersina & John
Kargas, Steve A.
Karpouzas, Karen & George
Karvelas, Esther & Mike
Kasdagli, Dimitra & Mark Nastri
Katem, Basil
Katopodis, Georgia & Aristotle
Katsas, Asimina & Andreas
Katsenis, Peter
Kefalas, Evelyn & John
Kefalas, Nicole & Mike
Kefalas, Nina & Modestos
Kefallinos, Theoni & Demetri
Kefallinos, Vicky & Nick
Kiotas, Stavroula & Alex
Kirimis, George
Kirimis, Nitsa & John
Kitridou, Rodanthi C.
Kokoris, Maria & Nicholas
Kolokotronis, Carolyn & James A.
Koudanis, Helen & George
Koulos, Joanna & Konstantinos
Kousakis, Peter John
Koutras, Alexander E.
Kouvelis, Katherine & Peter
Kundanis, Christine
Kundrat, Joseph
Kvitne, Kaliroi & Ronald
Kypreos, Maria & James
Lakon, Cynthia & John Hipp
Lakon, Christa & Paul P.
Lakon, Valerie & Peter P.
Lanergan, Xenia & Philip
Lappas, Virginia & Dino
Ledis, Stella & Rene
Levandis, Melissa George
Livanos, Parri
Loutsos, Anna & Loutsos, Georgia
Lucas, Anthia & John
Lucas, Katherine
Lykos, Helen & Lykos, Tina
Macris, Catherine & George
Malahatis, Sophia & Mike
Malamis, William J.
Malina, Dorothea
Malisos, Fontaine Achilles
Mastrodemos, Susan & Nikolaos
Mathioulakis, Claudia & Stan
Mavredakis, Vivian & George
Mavredakis, Jack
Mavridis, Angela & Peter
McBride, Wendi & James
McGregor, Kristen & Rick
McNulty, Jennie & Christopher
Mechalal, Bessie
Menemenlis, Dimitris & Kate Zhang
Messerotes, Vera
Mitsos, Julie & Chris N.
Mitsos, Michelle & Michael N.
Mobayen, Chrissa & Syrus
Mowrey, Robert D.
Mowrey, Vicky
Nichols, Joyce & James
Nichols, Marianne & John
Nicolaidis, Nicolas
Palamiotis, Thetis & Nicholas
Panagiot, Anastasia & Harry
Pappas, Alex P.
Pappas, Carolyn, & Anastasios
Pappas, Christine & Steven N.
Pappas, Hope & Constantine J.
Pappas, James P.
Pappas, Jennifer & Dean
Pappas, Peter A.
Pastis, Leah & Arry
Pastis, Patricia
Pastis, Vivian & Gust S.
Patzakis, Andrea & John
Pavlis, Mary & Eleftherios
Paziouros, Konstantina & Nick
Pegadiotes, Gena & Sam S.
Pegadiotes, Maria & George S.
Pegadiotes, Stan S.
Pegadiotes, Stelios G.
Perris, Gregory D.
Peterson, Donald C. & Caterina
Petropoulos, Anastasios & Eleni Tsag-
gouri
Pla, Thena Lee & Fernando Jr.
Polychronis, Eleftheria & Theodore
Poulos, Yiota
Raven, Raymond & Spanidis, Despina
Riganian, Kalliopi & Hamlet
Riley, Evangelia & Thomas
Rellos, John
Romios, Dena & Ted Rouman, Ann A.
Roumbos, Popi
Saigh, Mara Suchy & Mark
Samaan, Evett & Nader
Sahpazis, Georgia
Scolinos, Mary
Scolinos, Stephanie & Michael
Shankwiler, James & Alexandria Dar-
ras
Sideris, Kitsa C.
Skandale, Elizabeth
Skandale, Helen
Skandale, Katherine & George
Soewers, Stephanie & Randy
Souris, Sepideh & Mark J.
Stavros, Angeline & George
Stavropoulos, Demetra
Stavropoulos Peter & Coulis,
Theodora
Tangalos, Helen & Tony
Tarazi, Ellie & John
Tempesta, Christine & John
Theofilopoulos, Alik
Tisopoulos, Tara & Laki
Tourkomanoli, Eirine & Musallam, Sam
Treantafelles, Helen & George
Treantafelles, Georgia & Andrew
Treantafelles, Vivian & Stan
Treantafelles, Zoi
Tripodes, Dean S.
Tripodes, Dena & Nikitas
Tripodes, Koula
Tripodes, Mary
Tripodes, Nikki & Peter L.
Tripodes, Steven G.
Tsagalakis, Joanie & Sam
Tsianos, Pandora & Peter
Tserres, Demetrios & Alesa Kerr
Tsigkounakis, Catherine &
Charalambos
Tsouvalas, Jenny & John
Udria, Mary & Juan
Vagenas, Eleni & Peter
Vagenas, Georgia & John
Vagenas, Janet & Peter
Vagenas, Margaret & Spiro
Vagenas, Mindy & Pete A
Vagenas, Nikolaos K. & Weller, Joella
Vagenas, Nicolicha, Vasilios
Vagenas, Sophia
Vagenas, Tashia & Alex
Valassidis, Christopher
Vallas, Valerie
Varvas, Fotini
Vavoulis, Esther & Ted
Vayos, Charlene, Nicholas
Vidalakis, Zoe & Perry
Vlahos, Tasia & Weldon Stamatia
Vorgias, Alma & Zacharias
Webster, Jennifer & John
Williams, Cleo & Peter
Wojcik, Pamela & Radoslav
Xanthos, Lisa
Xanthos, Pantele J.
Yagjian, Anita & Michael
Youlis, Frieda
Zacharias, Niki & Steve Millward
Zarifes, Tina & Peter J.
Zanetos, Alison & Dean
Zanetos, Christina
Zoumas, Christina & Michael

Saint Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church
778 South Rosemead Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107



50TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

On sale now, copies of the limited edition 50th Anniversary Book detailing the last 50 years of our parish history through articles and beautiful photographs. This leather bound treasure belongs in every parishioners home.



Browse through a display copy in the Church Hall Foyer or contact Leah Pastis at (626)285-8286 to order one.