

To
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The
Light

March/April – 2004

Μάρτιος /Απρίλιος – 2004

St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin

Περιοδικόν Της Ενορίας Του Αγίου Αντωνίου

Volume 7, #2

St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church
778 So. Rosemead Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107-5613
(626) 449 – 6943
(Return Service Requested)

Dated Material
Please Expedite

Beloved parishioners,

As we enter the Great and Holy Lent, my prayer is that God the Merciful awakens in us the spirit of humility and sincerity. I wish we will imitate the publican in the Holy Gospel of Luke 18:9-14.

During the Great Lent there are so many beautiful and meaningful Holy Services which offer to us time for prayer, special time to sincerely pour out our deepest feelings. God will listen to us, if we pray as the Psalmist did in Psalm 51:

Have mercy on me, O God,
According to your steadfast love;
According to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
And my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
And done what is evil in your sight,

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Fr. Efstathios V. Mylonas, Ph.D., Protopresbyter
Bill Tragus, B.S., M.Div., Pastoral/Lay Assistant

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Christine Pappas

so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.
Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother
conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in
my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O god,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Wishing you a spiritual and blessed Great and Holy Lent, I remain,

With Christ's love,

Father Efstathios V. Mylonas
Protopresbyter

Father Mylonas' 41st Anniversary Celebration

On January 17, 2004, the community of St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church in Pasadena, California honored Reverend Father Efstathios V. Mylonas, Ph. D on the 41st anniversary of his ordination. The elegant event was held at the Annandale Golf Club and was attended by two hundred parishioners from St. Anthony and neighboring parishes, family, friends and colleagues from many religious denominations.

It was an evening full of praise and heartfelt tributes that recognized Father Mylonas' true and deep faith, integrity, compassion, determination and humility. The evening was deeply emotional and moving and uplifted the spirit of each person in attendance.

At Father's request, Pazzi Bohnenkamp sang Amazing Grace and Ave Maria. Dimitrios Antsos, Ph.D and Rodanthi Kitridou M.D. accompanied by Marija Strohm presented George Frideric Handel's "Every Valley Aria" from "The Messiah" and Mikis Theodorakis' "I Arnisi" ("Sto Perigiali to Kryfo").

Tributes were offered by Very Reverend Alexei R. Smith, Ecumenical Officer of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Peter Vagenas, Midfielder for the Los Angeles Galaxy and Olympian, Revered Albert G. Cohen, Executive Director of the Southern California Ecumenical Council, Very Reverend Father John E. Constantine, pastor St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Downey, California and representative of His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco, James R. Berenson, M.D., Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Myeloma and Bone Cancer Research and father's physician and The Honorable Dimitrios Zevalakis, Consul General of Greece.

Tributes were also offered by Irene Albeck and Maria Grover, dinner committee chairs, Sophia Angelos, parish council president, Lisa Xanthos, Philoptohos President, Andrew Demopulos, Chairman of Past Parish Council Presidents and Nikitas J. Tripodes, D.D.S, Master of Ceremonies. Tributes were also received from His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, Father

Thomas Paris, Father John Angelis, Senators Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich made special presentation to Father Mylonas during the board of Supervisors weekly meeting Tuesday, February 17, 2004 to commend him on his 41st ordination anniversary.

The evening concluded with tributes from Father Mylonas' family. After a photo essay of father's ministry, Presvytera Maria Mylonas, Anastasia Baumeister, Vasilios Mylonas and father's granddaughter, Emily Baumeister spoke about his unconditional love and his tremendous impact on their lives.

Father Mylonas was born on March 27, 1937, in Thessaloniki, Greece and is the first of three sons of the late Vasilios Efstathios and Anastasia Mylonas. In 1958, Father Mylonas entered the Patriarchal Theological School of Halki. He graduated with highest honors and received his master's degree in Orthodox Theology. On August 19, 1962, Father Mylonas married Maria Vomvolakis in the village of Kambanos, Crete.

On November 25, 1962, Father Mylonas was ordained Deacon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople by Metropolitan of Myra Chrysostomos Konstantinidis at the Patriarchal Church of St. George. On December 2, 1962, he was ordained Presbyter by the late Metropolitan of Stavroupolis Maximos Rapanellis at the Holy Trinity Chapel of the Patriarchal School of Halki.

As Presbyter, Father Mylonas served the Parish of the Holy Archangels of Michael and Gabriel in Constantinople and worked as a codicator at the Ecumenical Patriarchate. However, it was always Father Mylonas' desire to serve his church abroad and to further pursue his studies. Accordingly, in the spring of 1963, the late Patriarch Athenagoras I requested that Father Mylonas be assigned to a parish in Canada. On May 10, 1963, Father Mylonas became the pastor of St. George in Toronto, Canada, one of the largest parishes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. On February 16, 1965, Father and Presbyter's daughter, Anastasia was born.

On September 1, 1965, Father Mylonas was reassigned by His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos to the newly established parish of the Assumption in Port Jefferson Station, New York. On March 31, 1967, Father and Presbyter's son, Vasilios George was born. Father Mylonas was reassigned to Holy Trinity in Concord, New Hampshire on September 1, 1969, and then to Annunciation in Brockton, Massachusetts in November, 1971. On December 10, 1980, Father Mylonas relocated to the West Coast and became the pastor of the Annunciation in Modesto, California. On July 1, 1986, Father Mylonas became the pastor of St. Anthony in Pasadena, California.

In Canada and in the United States, Father Mylonas sought to broaden his theological knowledge so that he could better serve a dynamic and promising Church, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, its faithful and above all, its youth. Father Mylonas attended courses at various universities in New York, but his desire to pursue graduate studies brought him to New England. In September, 1969, while still serving as the pastor of Holy Trinity in New Hampshire, Father Mylonas entered Boston University School of Theology and received a Master of Sacred Theology degree. In September 1974, while pastor of Annunciation in Brockton, Father Mylonas received a Master of Arts Degree from Boston College. In 1984, he successfully defended his dissertation and received a Ph.D. in Theological and Philosophical Studies from Boston University. Father Mylonas' Dissertation provided an Orthodox perspective and evaluation of Hans Kung's contribution to the debate on papal infallibility.

An ardent ecumenist, Father Mylonas has participated in numerous dialogues, organized ecumenical services and presented lectures and sermons to both Orthodox and non-Orthodox church leaders. He has also presented papers and has served as the Eastern Orthodox Responder in symposiums sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church, the National Council of Churches of Christ, Loyola Marymount University, Fuller Theological Seminary, Jesuit University of San Francisco and the Eastern Catholic Pastoral Association of Northern California. For more than a decade, Father Mylonas served as the Boston Diocese's representative in the Massachusetts Commission on Christian Unity. Beginning in the year 1988 and for some years following his appointment by Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco, he served as a member of the Board of the California Council of Churches. He is also a member of the Board of Southern California Council of Churches.

He was an active participant in the dialogue between the Los Angeles Roman Catholic Archdiocese and the Orthodox Church. Father Mylonas taught Eastern Orthodoxy at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California and Eastern Orthodox Theological Thought at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. In 1983, Father Mylonas participated with Orthodox and Roman Catholic clergy in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Egypt and Rome. After the Los Angeles riots, Father Mylonas became a member of the Interfaith and Interreligious Groups to heal Los Angeles and joined hands with other religious leaders in a march for peace.

Father Mylonas is a member of the Orthodox Theological Society of America and a member of AHEPA. From 1986-1991, he served as a board member for the Guadalupe Homes for Children. Father Mylonas served as the president and vicar of the Spiritual Tribunal of the Metropolis of San Francisco for more than 12 years. From 1988-1990, Father Mylonas was appointed by Archbishop Iakovos and served as a member of the Archdiocesan Council. In 1992, Father Mylonas served as the co-head of the Diocese of San Francisco's Russia Missions Team. He traveled to the Ukraine to help Orthodox Christians, who were deprived for almost three generations, of their right to practice their Orthodox faith. His Grace Bishop Anthony of San Francisco bestowed on Father Mylonas the offikion of Protopresbyter of the Diocese of San Francisco in 1984, and in 1994, the Ecumenical Patriarchate bestowed on Father Mylonas the offikion of Protopresbyter of the Orthodox Church.

In January 1996, Father Mylonas was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a cancer for which there is presently no cure. He has confronted his illness with a deep and profound faith and has used his experience to provide inspiration and hope to those who suffer.

On June 20, 1996, Father Mylonas became a pappou when his beloved granddaughter, Emily Ann Baumeister, was born.

Throughout his ministry, Father Mylonas has sought to help the youth, the poor and the elderly in his parishes as well as in his communities. Father Mylonas has inspired and encouraged countless young people to pursue higher education, trained seminarians from Holy Cross School of Theology, raised money to help the poor, ministered to the sick and elderly and provided guidance, compassion and support to

his young parishioners. The community of St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church is truly blessed to have been led by such an educated, loving and dedicated man.

Father Mylonas' Address on the Occasion of His 41st Anniversary

Dear colleagues, friends, family and parishioners

This evening, I accept your love and affection, your sincere feelings of friendship and warmth toward me and my family with great humility, deep appreciation and profound gratitude.

I have learned in my life to do my work, to fulfill my mission and to avoid the spotlight, never to seek honors or recognitions.

However, this evening, knowing your genuine love and eagerness to do something for me, I yielded to your request with the hope that this celebration that overwhelms me will be good for our parish, our friends, my family, and above all our children, the most precious members of our church

Therefore, let us thank God, for allowing us to share with you and those I served before you, our joys and sorrows, our successes and our failures. This ministry never was and never will be an exclusive domain. Together we have laughed and together we have cried. We have shared every aspect of community life and we were able, with God's blessings, to extend our diakonia to the community at large.

Together we walked growing "...in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" in the words of Saint Peter the Apostle, II Peter 3:18. Our efforts were directed to the spreading and strengthening of the kingdom of God in the hearts of our faithful.

Very early in my ministry, through my studies, I learned in the words of a famous Roman Catholic theologian that "religions are not historical monuments which can be studied and understood only by scholars with the aid of texts. They are living faiths which are constantly freshly experienced by real men in the course of the history of religion. They are therefore to be interpreted in a forward-looking spirit. They are

open to new questions and they are constantly raising questions themselves.” (Hans Kung, on Being Christian, Tran. Edward Quinn, Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1974, p. 115).

For over 41 years as a priest of the Eastern Orthodox Church, in sermons and in writings, in dialogues and reflections, in prayer and in action, I reminded myself and my congregations that faith is able to transform and uplift the weary and hopeless and bring peace to the hearts of men.

From my childhood friends, David and Rachel who perished in the Nazi concentration camps, my beloved parents, Anastasia and Vasilios, the late ever memorable Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, my teachers and our beloved Archbishop Iakovos, I learned that being an Orthodox does not mean that I have to build a wall around myself and exclude the value and importance of other religions.

A very large part of my ministry included my ecumenical relations and dialogues. I always reminded myself, what Saint Paul wrote to the Romans: “for as one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.” (12:4-5)

Patriarch Athenagoras said, “let us come together and see each other in the eyes.” In my ministry, I tried to understand the demands of our times. What is demanded of the Church, and of us as servants of God coming to search the hearts and minds of our people who are asking for our help. We see them in the eyes as the good physician sees his patient with concern and a healing touch. This is a tremendous responsibility.

One of the greatest contemporary poets of Greece, George Seferis, always captivated my mind with his powerful existential interpretation of man’s destiny and his universal spirit. In one of his poems, Seferis writes:

A little farther
We will see the almond trees blossoming
The marble gleaming into waves
A little farther,

Let us rise a little farther.

According to the vision of the poet, who masterfully captures the infinite strength of man to always rise like the mythical phoenix from the ashes, all our efforts, all our prayers, all our agonies, all our personal and family anxieties focused on one single goal, to try just a little more to see the human heart blossom, to become whiter than the marble of the poet and to gleam in the sun of mercy, to be filled with feeling, human feeling, becoming subtle, a waving sea, embracing our fellowmen and by rising a little farther and higher to fulfill the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Presbytera Maria, a young and most beautiful woman chose to become the wife of a priest and followed me from Crete all the way to Constantinople to be present at my ordination and to start our ministry. I will never forget when the train brought us from St. Stephanos town around the old city of Constantinople to the railroad station of Sirkeci and from there by taxi to the Ecumenical Patriarchate for the ordination. It was a great beginning on that morning of Sunday, November 25, 1962.

From my uprooted parents, who were forced to abandon their homes in eastern Thrace, Turkey, I inherited a belief that no life was more satisfactory than one of selfless service to your country and to humanity. My father taught me to be impartial, honest, to avoid pettiness and to retain my integrity. My mother taught me to love learning and to be compassionate in my relations with my fellows, since all men are equal as children of God.

In the course of my ministry, eight years ago this month, I was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a cancer of the bone marrow. It was a severe test of my will, my strength and of everything I built for so many years. I was very aware of all the potential risks that come with having multiple myeloma, particularly the risk to my life. However, I prayed and I thanked God for the challenge. I was immediately faced with ultimate questions. Nevertheless, as I overcame fear and strengthened myself, I found hope with help from my Presvytera Maria, Stacey and Bill and their families and with the arrival of Emily in our lives, rays of a bright sunshine enlighten my life, and from an inner strength that was my faith, my entire ministry took a new turn. I would like to quote Victor E. Frankl from his famous book, “Man’s Search for

Meaning,” “the way in which a man accepts his fate and all the suffering it entails, the way in which he takes up his cross, gives him ample opportunity-even under the most difficult circumstances-to add a deeper meaning to his life.” (Washington Square Press; New York, 1985, p. 88).

At this point I want to pay tribute and recognize the man who extended my life and my ministry, my beloved medical doctor James R. Berenson, a great researcher, a recognized authority all over the world on multiple myeloma, a physician with a human touch and a determined healer.

My family, my greatest source of strength, solace and inspiration was always the catalyst in successfully fulfilling what God demanded of me. From the first day of my ordination, Presbyteria was serving not in the limelight, but in the shadows. The priest’s family learned to get very little of the reflected glory of the profession. But it is true that without Presbyteria’s constant help and encouragement, her honest and straightforward criticism, which I learned to appreciate, I wouldn’t be able to accomplish an effective ministry. Our children’s and now our granddaughter’s friendships, their schools, their involvement brought us closer to the community and to the creation of lasting healthy friendships. They brought to us indescribable joy from the first day that they were born.

In Pasadena particularly, Presbyteria, who is compassionate and the most giving person that I have known in my life ,with the support and sincere friendship of saint Anthony’s Ladies Philoptochos Society, pursued an unprecedented ministry of charity. Many people in need have been helped and their hope restored. Therefore, my gratitude to and admiration for Presbyteria is immeasurable and everlasting.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the church leaders who influenced my life the most, the late Patriarch Athenagoras who sent us to America, beloved former Archbishop Iakovos of North and South America, who always wished that I serve him in the capacity of the chief secretary of the Archdiocese, and I am deeply grateful to our beloved Archbishop Demetrios who encouraged me to stay on and serve the church as long as my strength allows me, to Metropolitan Anthony, my

beloved Bishop and friend who brought me to California and never ceased to support me.

I am deeply grateful to the ladies, Irene Albeck, Maria Grover, Fontaine Malisos, Maria Kokoris, Maria Hronas, Alexis Fine, Teddi Efstathiou, Sophia Angelos, Esther Vavoulis, Maria Kypreos and our daughter, Stacey, who were determined to celebrate my 41 years of diakonia to our faithful people and who spent long days and hours to organize this elegant event.

Special thanks to our daughter, Stacey, our historian and precious counselor, Bill, our son for preparing the DVD and spending hours and days to present the pictorial history of our lives, Presvytera Maria for going through thousands of pictures and slides to illustrate our long years in the service of our beloved people as a family and as servants of God, Bryan and Emily and Linda for all their support and love. Dr. Nikitas Tripodes, the master of ceremonies with his incredible talent to master the program, Pantele Xanthos the former president of the parish council, Sophia Angelos the present president of the parish council and Lisa Xanthos the president of the Ladies Philoptochos Society, one of the best of our Archdiocese, for their support and help. Deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Scolinos to whom we are deeply grateful for being our sponsors .

Thanks and deep appreciation to Dr. Demetrios Antsos, Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou, and Pazzi Bohnenkamp for gracing our event with their beautiful voices and to Maria Strohm for playing the piano. Dan Settelmayer for the DVD projection equipment. Esther Vavoulis, Debbie Settelmayer and Maria Kypreos for the flower arrangements and for their generosity in donating them.

To my colleagues, Father John Constantine, Father Alexei Smith and Rev. Albert and Mrs. Cohen I am deeply indebted. Thank you.

To honorable Demetrios Zevelakis, Consul General of Greece, Dr. and Mrs. James Berenson and Peter Vagenas, Midfielder of the Los Angeles Galaxy and an Olympian, I thank them with all my heart for honoring us.

Since the main characteristic of a ministry is a continuous thanksgiving to God, allow me to thank Andrew Demopoulos, president of the past presidents of our parish for his support. Those who have come from distances, Bryan, Stacey, and Emily from Seattle, Bill and Linda from Irvine, Gary and Sally Baumeister from Las Vegas, I thank them.

Concluding, I thank you for the gifts of your love and particularly those who were not able to attend, but who sent donations to the scholarship fund to help future priests at Holy Cross School of Theology.

Dearest friends, thank you from the bottom of my heart for coming this evening to this most beautiful place to celebrate and rededicate ourselves to the service of our fellows. May God bless you now and always.

Father Efstathios V. Mylonas January 17, 2004

Scholarship: A scholarship will be established in the name of Father Efstathios V. Mylonas to help those who wish to study towards the Holy Priesthood.

Pan Orthodox Vesper Service at St. Anthony's – February 29

On Sunday evening, February 29th, St. Anthony's Church hosted a Pan-Orthodox Vespers beginning at 6:00 p.m. We had 17 non-Greek Orthodox Priests present and three Greek Orthodox Priests attend. Our guest speaker was Father Paul Schroeder, Executive Director of St. Nicholas Ranch. Following the Vesper Service, there was a reception in the hall where many of the icons from St. Anthony's Church were displayed. Refreshments were served. The event was sponsored by the Southern California of Orthodox Churches. This service took place in our Church at the request of Father Stathis on the occasion of our 50th Anniversary.

Acknowledgments

We are deeply appreciative and grateful to following faithful people who recently made generous donations to our Church: An anonymous family donated the beautiful lamps of the royal Door replacing the old one which was donated by the same family as well as the rest of the lamps of the Iconostasis. All the lamps created by the well known Christos Gianniotis of Athens, Greece. The Icon of St. Gregory Palamas and

the Icon of the Touching of St. Thomas by an anonymous family. The Altar Fund of our Philoptochos paid in the name of Saint Anthony's Faithful People for the icon of the Resurrection of Lazarus. Joseph Kudrant donated the following Icons: SS. Bartholomew and Barnabas, Saint Photios Patriarch of Constantinople and SS. Methodios and Kyrillos. The Zanglis family donated the Icon of Saint Gregory the Theologian. AHEPA donated the Icon of The Elevation of the Holy Cross. The Icon of the Three Hierarchs was donated by Zacharias and Alma Vorgias. Dr. Ronald S. and Kaliroi Kvitne and family donated the Icon of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple.

We also received a generous donation of \$10,000 from Nick and Irene Mitsos towards the creation of the beautiful mosaic by the well known artist Sirio Tonelli which will cover the entire wall of the apse in the Sanctuary. Nick and Irene previously donated \$10,000 to be used for the installation of the mosaic. The total cost of the mosaic will be \$89,500.

We thank all these generous people all of whom are dedicated to our Church.

We also received generous donations from two anonymous people, from Christine Kundanis in memory of her beloved husband, Frank, and from Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Kechris, Dr. Christakis and Christine Christoloulou.

Statistics for 2003 Holy Sacraments & Services

Baptisms – 15

Chrismations - 2

Wedding - 6

Funerals - 6

Baptism

Juliana Maria, daughter of James C and Nicolette Christopoulos on November 1, 2003. Godparents are Peter and Theodora Stavropoulos.

Mahali Antonio, son of Marvin Antonio and Kiriaki Dieguez on Dec. 21, 2003. Godparent: Kelly Kefalas.

Ari Alejandro, son of Marvin Antonio and Kiriaki Dieguez on Dec. 21, 2003.
Godparent: Mike and Nicole Kefalas

Alexandra Constandina daughter of Christakis and Christine Christodoulou on
January 10, 2004. Godparents: Andrew and Irene Curran

Alec Byron son of Peter J. and Kristy J. Med on January 31, 2004. Godparent: John
Lambros.

Alexander James, son of Nicholas J. and Julie Dogris on January 31, 2004.
Godparent: John Lambros

Sophia Zoe, daughter of Peter K and Eleni K. Vagenas on February 21, 2004.
Godparents: Ted and Vangie Dupas.

Wedding

Hamlet Riganian and Kalliopi Kefallinos on November 9, 2003. Koumbara: Fotenee

Nicholas D. Metropoulos and Helen M. Zlatnik on December 5, 2003. Kumbara:
Klio Harris.

Funerals

Angelo Petrakos of Rosemead, California on February 27, 2004.

We express our condolences to the family of Angelo Petrakos, a dedicated member of
our Church. May his memory be eternal.

We also express our condolences to: Marietta Bicos and her family on the death of
her father, Christos Anastasopoulos. Soterios Dallas and his family on the death of
his brother, Chris Dallas. Irene Albeck and her family on the death of her sister,
Constatina Spandakis. Katherine Trigonis and her family on the death of her
husband, Art Trigonis, his name as a monk Adronikos, who was a devoted member of
Saint Anthony's Church. Aliwa Gordon (daughter of Maryam Attalla) on the death
of her husband Paul Gordon. May their memory be eternal.

SAINT ANTHONY'S 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Please save the date of the Grand Banquet on Sunday, May 16, 2004 at the Pasadena Ritz Carlton Hotel. For more information call the Church Office at (626) 449-6943.

50th Anniversary News

I would like to give a brief update on the activities regarding the 50th Anniversary.

The *Album Committee* is busily working on gathering donations for the album. We encourage each member of St. Anthony's to contribute to the album, regardless of the level of giving. We want to see everyone included so that their legacy will live on for future generations of our church.

The *Pente/Nostalgia night* was a huge success. I want to personally thank those individuals who came through to help chair this event. They include Anthia Lucas, Jenny Tsouvalas, Helen Skandale, Elizabeth Skandale, Andrea Lappas, Christiann Arapostathis, Bill Tragus, Lisa Xanthos, Ellie Tarazi and Judie Christopoulos. Others who provided invaluable assistance were Litsa Stavropoulos, Aliko Haralambos, Page Haralambos, Tina Fine, Mike Gallanis, Jim Hronas, Angene Christy, Joanna Koulos, Elizabeth Demopoulos,

John Lucas, Dino Lappas, Dan Bozikis, John Tsouvalas, Peter Bozikis and Arry Pastis. My apologies for excluding anyone.

In just a couple of months the committee managed to create a beautiful evening where the food was plentiful and the "nostalgia" part of the evening entertained us all. Anthia Lucas took on the DVD/video presentation which brought back so many fond memories of past years. You may have an opportunity to purchase a copy of the DVD - look for further information. Litsa Stavropoulos and her assistants produced wonderful collages from the photos that parishioners have loaned for the 50th. You will have an opportunity to view these on various Sundays during coffee hour as well as at the anniversary banquet. We had a special visitor from Fresno, George Gianopoulos, who spoke about the efforts of the St. Anthony building committee.

Our "*Baptismal Wall*" could not have been accomplished without the painstaking work of Aliko Haralambos who spent hours deciphering names and dates of those baptized at St. Anthony's. Tina Fine is the young artist who created the backdrop for the names. We are lucky to have such a talented member of our youth.

The *banquet committee* is working on

the May 15th event. It will be a wonderful culmination of the golden anniversary celebration. We invite each of you to join us so please save the date.

In the hall we have listed the 50th committees and their chairpersons. There is still time for you to get involved and volunteer to take a place on one of the committees. Feel free to approach me, Judie Christopoulos or Jim Hagelis if you would like to take part.

Thank you, Pantele Xanthos

Greek Independence Day

Sunday, March 21, the St. Anthony's Greek School will host a celebration for Greek Independence Day following the Divine Liturgy in the Community Center.

Bible Study

The St. Anthony's morning Bible study will begin at 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, March 2nd, Tuesday March 16th and Tuesday March 30th. March 30th will be a presentation on the Holy Week. For more information., please call Bill Tragus at Church.

St. Anthony's Golf Tournament

Please save the date for the St. Anthony's Golf Tournament on Friday, May 14th. Golfers and non golfers are invited to a day filled with fun, fellowship and a great banquet. This year we will be having the Greek comedian "Basile" performing at our banquet. For more info, please call the Church office or contact Jim Christos.

Ecumenical Service

On Sunday, April 25, 4:00 p.m. at St. Anthony's Church, we will host an Ecumenical Service for all to attend.

Altar Boys

Our Altar Boys are encouraged to serve in the Altar on the following Wednesdays for Presanctified Liturgy at 5:45 p.m. – March 3rd, March 10th and March 31st.

Altar Boys should also attend the following Fridays during lent at 6:45 p.m. March 3rd, March 12th, March 19th, March 26th.,

All the Altar Boy Groups are also encouraged to attend all the evening Holy Week Services, beginning on April 3rd to Sunday April 11th.

If you are interested in being an Altar boy and serving in the Altar, please contact Bill Tragus at Church. Phone (626) 449 - 6943. Active Altar Boys should arrive at Sunday Liturgy at 9:45 a.m. Please help them arrive on time.

Hope

Faith, Food, Fellowship, Fun. Our meetings will be on Sundays, Our Hope is for children K-3. For more info call Stephanie at (562) 695 – 0310.

GOYA & Jr. GOYA

GOYA Basketball

February 22 – vs. St. George
February 28 (Sat.) – at St. John in Anaheim
March 6 (Sat.) – vs. Assumption at Home
March 14 – at St. Nicholas (Northridge)
March 21 – at St. Sophia (Los Angeles)
March 28 – vs. St. Katherine at Home
April 24 (Sat.) – ¼ Finals at Pasadena
April 25 – Semi Finals at Pasadena
May 2 – Finals and Banquet

March 12 – The Passion of The Christ. We will attend the 3rd Salutations at St. Anthony's Church and then go to the movie following the service. We will go to the 9:03 showing.

March 27 – Lenten Beach Retreat This is the 4th annual Lenten Beach Retreat. We will meet here at *St. Anthony's at 9:00* a.m. and go to St. Katherine's in Redondo Beach together. We will begin the retreat at S. Katherine's and then walk to the beach with our lunch; Lunch is free! We had over 100 Goyans attend last spring.

April 1st (Thursday) The Glory of Easter at The Crystal Cathedral

This year we will be going to The Crystal Cathedral to see “**The Glory of Easter**” The cost is \$20 per person.

We will meet at Church at 6:30 p.m. and go to Orange County together. We only have room for 22 people, so get your reservations and money in as soon as possible. This is the only night we can go at this discounted rate. For reservations, talk with Billy Tragus.

April 3 - Saturday of Lazarus – Making Palm Crosses

Come Receive Holy Communion, have breakfast and make Palm Crosses

Goya is 7th grade to 12th grade & Jr. Goya is 4th grade to 6th grade. For more info, call Bill Tragus at Church.

Philoptochos News

It has been a very busy three months for our Philoptochos chapter at St. Anthony's.

On December 13th our Christmas Benefit event took place at the Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel in Pasadena and once again, it was an outstanding success. We have to thank two very special ladies, Bella Carpou and Carolyn Kolokotronis who did an outstanding job as first-time chairwomen of this major event for our chapter. A portion of the funds we raise from the December event is used to support the various charities that we support throughout the year. We also designated a portion of our proceeds to go to breast cancer research at City of Hope, to Journey House in Pasadena

and to the Eastern Orthodox Senior Care Centers Fund. Many thanks to all the women who dedicated their time and talents for this event.

At our general meeting in November, we were fortunate to have Dan Christopoulos speak to us about the efforts of IOCC, International Orthodox Christian Charities. We were so impressed with the work that IOCC has undertaken throughout the world that when we heard that Dan Christopoulos would be speaking to our parish on Sunday, December 7th, we offered to host the fellowship hour. IOCC is one of the charities that Philoptochos supports on the national level.

During November and December we invited our parishioners to help support several special projects. You helped us collect canned goods and non-perishable items for Foothill Unity Center. Your generosity allowed us to make not one but two trips to Foothill to help stock their food pantry. We also "adopted" a family as well as the boys at Journey House. We had a "wish" tree decorated with tags reflecting items wished for at Christmas. Once again, we thank you for helping to make their Christmas a very special one indeed. We also collected shoes and socks for Friends in Need.

Maria Kokoris chaired the Philoptochos Christmas party at The Monrovia. It

was a lovely evening that was enjoyed by all. Thank you Maria.

Following the Christmas season we stepped right into January hosting the Vasilopita reception. We cannot thank the following women enough for their commitment to this event. Stavroula Kiotas, Julie Balas, Evelyn Kefalas and her baking crew faithfully step up to take charge of this event every year. It was a beautiful as well as delicious afternoon enjoyed by all who attended.

The Philoptochos board assisted by many of its general members hosted the St. Anthony's Vesper Dinner on January 16th. Special thanks to Dottie Malina who gathered together a crew for both Thursday and Friday evenings to help prepare and serve the supper. I would also like to thank Pantele Xanthos and Dan Bozikis who acted as our chefs and prepared the delicious meal of shrimp and rice. Assuredly, no one left hungry!

In observation of the 50th Anniversary of our parish, Sunday of Orthodoxy services were held at St. Anthony's. Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the service where we were blessed to have Father Paul Schroeder give the sermon. Philoptochos hosted the reception following the vespers. I want to thank Fontaine Malisos and Maria Kokoris who took charge of this event. They

were assisted by several members of the board and by other ladies of our community who treated our guests to wonderful Lenten treats.

On **March 13th**, St. Anthony's and St. Paul's Philoptochos will be hosting a one day ***Lenten Retreat for Women*** at St. Paul's. Dr. Valerie Karras will be the speaker and her topic is Women and Their Ministry in the Church. We invite ALL women of the parish and their friends to attend. Lunch will be included in the \$10.00 charge. We will be car-pooling to St. Paul's so you need not worry about driving. Please call 626.445.6645 for further information or to let us know if you would like to join us. This is a wonderful forum where Orthodox women can gather and learn about their role in the Church.

Father James Gavrilos will be the speaker at the Philoptochos Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch **March, 26-28**. Father Gavrilos is a dynamic speaker whose topic is ***"From Womb to the Tomb."*** Father was at Ascension Cathedral in Oakland but is now in Boca Raton, Florida. Again, we will try to carpool up to the ranch, so please call if you would like to join us (626.445.6645).

Save the date of **June 5th** when the Philoptochos Women's Health Council will host a one day seminar at Loyola Marymount. This is a committee made

up of various Philoptochos women in our metropolis. The seminar will discuss various health issues affecting women. More information will be forthcoming.

As you can see, our Panagia chapter has been very busy. We encourage all women of our parish to join our Philoptochos membership. Help us to help others. You can help us to continue Christ's ministry on earth by becoming a member of Philoptochos.

Philoptochos Board Meetings are schedule on the second Wednesday of each month, and ***General Meetings*** are schedule on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except during lent when meetings are reschedule on Tuesdays. Please join us and learn how our chapter helps our Church and community. All Orthodox women are welcome to become members.

Lisa Xanthos

Folk Dance Festival 2004

WE are happy to announce that our dance tams won several awards at this years Folk Dance Festival. We thank the coaches and all those who have helped our dance program. Asterakia won 1st place in the Primary Category, Neolea won 3rd in the intermediate Category & the FDF Board of Trustees Special Achievement award-Choral Division. Pyrkagia won 1st in the

Senior Category. We thank our coaches: Louie and Vicki Kades for Bouboukakia (ages 5 – 7), Elleni Koulos & Teresa Vorgias for Asterakia (ages 7 – 12), Paula Darlas for Neola (ages 12 – 15), Vicki & Louie Kades (ages 16 and up).

Ionian Village An Orthodox Summer Camp in Greece

Ionian Village is a camping & travel experience for kids 7th – 12th grade. In the program, campers travel through Greece, venerate the relics of saints, walk in the footsteps of the Apostles, and visit significant sites of the Greek history and culture. It is a unique summer camping program located in Greece and operated by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. July 1 – 16 (grades 7th – 9th) & July 24 - 8 (grades 10th – 12th). Ph: (646) 519 – 6190 ionianvillage@goarch.org

St. Sophia Cathedral Easter Picnic

The Easter Picnic will be at the Cathedral grounds on Sunday, April 11, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.
Adults \$8.00 & Children \$4.00. For more info, call (323) 737 – 2424.

Lenten Retreat

The annual Lenten Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch will be from March 26 – 28. The retreat is sponsored by the Philoptochos Society, and is open to everyone, women and men alike. Fr. James Gavrilos of ST, Mark Church in Boca Raton, and energetic and dynamic speaker. Fr. James' topic is "From Womb to Tomb and Beyond; An Examination of the Sacramental Life of the Orthodox Church. For more information, please call (559) 338 – 2103.

Palm Sunday Youth Retreat

There will be a Palm Sunday Goya Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch from April 2 – 4. The retreat will focus on service in the image of Chris's service. The retreat will feature fun activities such as campfires, hayrides, and palm-folding lessons. It will also include opportunities to learn about the importance of service to others. For more info, please call (559) 338 – 2103.

Orthodox Radio Program

Come Receive The Light is the flagship radio program and is dedicated to spreading joy, hope and salvation in Jesus Christ while exploring Orthodox Christianity in contemporary society. Come Receive The Light airs *Saturdays at 6:00 PM. on KBRT 740 AM.* Our Church supports this excellent program financially. You can also support the program with contributions to: Come Receive The Light, 815 N.E. 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304.