



METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

# The To Light – ΦΩΣ



July / August – 2005  
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St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church Bulletin  
Περιοδικόν Της Ενορίας Τού Αγίου Αντωνίου

Volume 8, #4

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRIEST

Dear parishioners,

It is from the late Lucan Acts of the Apostles that we learn of the Christian feast of Pentecost. Pentecoste (fiftieth day) had been a harvest festival for the Jews. Luke incorporates this feast from the Jewish calendar into the context of promise, fulfillment and salvation. It is the feast of the promised gifts of the Spirit. It is one of the greatest days of Christianity. We observe an event that took place thousands of years ago. Undoubtedly, Christian faith is a response to events. Faith grows out of events, not only ideas.

The Church remembers some events more vividly than others, just as we remember some events in our early life, some only dimly and others not at all. One of the purposes of the Church is to remind the faithful of these important events and to help them understand why they are important. On the Feast of Pentecost, the Church reminds us of a great event, its birth.

We have no pictures of what happened and the one written record that we do have may not be altogether accurate. It was written by St. Luke. He was interested in giving people of another generation a general impression of what had happened rather than narrating in accurate detail every single step in the chronicle of events.

Something occurred that changed a small group of individuals who admired Jesus Christ. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues. “When

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**Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Closed on Saturday and Sunday**

Rev. Protopresbyter Efstathios V. Mylonas, Ph.D.

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the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” (Acts 2:2-4)

It is not the last time that such an event occurred, though never exactly the same way. Even in an indifferent, selfish and dangerous world, the same Holy Spirit inspires, leads and transforms those who allow Him to touch their hearts.

It is the same Holy Spirit that leads doctors without borders to risk their lives in order to help the wounded and the suffering. It is the same Holy Spirit that leads women like Mother Teresa to take care of the poorest of the poor in our world. It is the same Holy Spirit that inspired St. Nectarios and St. Kosmas the Aitolos to become instruments of Divine Grace. It is the Holy Spirit that guides those who feed the homeless and those who act in concrete ways that demand personal commitment and sacrifice for the improvement of human relations. It is the Holy Spirit present and working within us that keeps us united.

The Holy Spirit is not only a symbol nor an icon merely depicting Him as a dove. Everything we do and plan as Christians or as humans and are concerned about God’s creation and His children, is the result of the influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, while we are thinking and planning to improve and expand our facilities in order to better serve God’s faithful people, our parishioners it is imperative that we realize the role and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. All our decisions should be motivated and inspired by the living source of grace and spiritual gifts that He bestows upon each one of us from the day of our Baptism.

Certainly it is a time when the Church may gather itself together and begin again as it did almost two thousand years ago. We should be guided by what Moses said to his people when they were discouraged and threatened to turn back. There are the words that Abraham Lincoln kept before him in the darkest hours of the civil war: “Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show to you today.” (Exodus 14:13).

With my warmest wishes for a restful summer filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit,

Father Efstathios V. Mylonas  
Protopresbyter



## **GOD'S HOLY MOUNTAIN**

**Address of His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos**

Metropolis of San Francisco Clergy-Laity Assembly

St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center

May 23, 2005

As some of you may know, I first came to St. Nicholas Ranch in 1983 with His Eminence, the late Archbishop Iakovos of blessed memory, for the dedication of the newly constructed facilities. Of course, His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony was here at the time, brimming with his usual exuberance and enthusiasm; I do not remember his exact words on the occasion, but I am certain that the word “magnificent” was used many times. St. Nicholas Ranch was to become emblematic of my predecessor’s visionary style of leadership, his ability to look at what was and to see what could be. It is therefore with a great sense of the momentousness of the occasion that I have returned to address all of you this evening at this first Clergy-Laity Assembly since my enthronement as Metropolitan of San Francisco.

I took some time today to walk around this holy place and to look at the beautiful scenery, to reflect and to remember. I was particularly struck by the majestic mountain peaks that surround us. One of the most powerful aspects of coming to St. Nicholas Ranch is the sense of ascent, of leaving behind the cares and seemingly irresolvable conflicts of this life, of rising to a higher plane, a place of peace and refuge, a sanctuary. In reflecting on this theme of ascent, I was reminded of a passage from the Psalms:

*Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?*

*Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.*

*They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.* (Psalm 24:3-5)

This image of God's holy mountain in the Psalms is more than just a vision or a beautiful dream; it is an icon of earth reaching towards heaven, of this world straining towards the world to come. To ascend the mountain of the Lord means living in accordance with the values of the Kingdom of Heaven here and now, striving in this world to reflect the world to come, which "eye has not seen, nor ear heard."

St. Nicholas Ranch lies in the foothills of the mountains, at the beginning of an ascent. And as I begin my ministry in this Metropolis, I too feel myself to be at the beginning of an ascent, seeking to articulate and implement a vision of ministry that represents a movement from earth to heaven on earth, from this world to the Kingdom of God. While I know that many challenges and obstacles lie ahead, I begin this ascent with joy and confidence, knowing that, unlike Moses, who ascended the mountain of the Lord solitary and alone, I undertake this journey with a multitude of companions, with all of you, my faithful co-workers of this Metropolis. Together, we will make this ascent towards God's holy mountain.

But how do we begin this journey? What are the steps in this ascent? Often we find ourselves frustrated in our spiritual journey by the seeming lack of a path. We know where we are: like Adam and Eve, we dwell as exiles outside of Eden in the place of alienation and estrangement. And we know our destination: the mountain of the Lord, the Kingdom of God, the New Jerusalem, the shining city. But what is the path we are to follow? How are we to get from where we are now to the place of our heart's desire?

I am convinced that one of the first and most important steps in this journey, this movement of ascent, is recapturing and reclaiming our ecclesiastical consciousness and identity. In his Epistle to the Hebrews, St. Paul speaks to his spiritual children regarding their old ways, and the new identity to which they are called. He wrote, "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our ancestors by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, by whom he created the world" (Heb. 1:1-2). He then goes on to speak of the danger threatening this identity: "Therefore, we must pay close attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it" (Heb. 2:1). He thus anticipated the risk of "drift," a very real threat we confront today, if we are to judge by the signs of our times: limited knowledge of God and the Church, alienation and estrangement from our fellow human beings, and our constant prattling on about the present and future of Orthodoxy in America, without ever situating Orthodoxy where it belongs: in ourselves.

It is this "self," this identity, that we are called to recreate and reconstitute at the present moment. The Apostle Paul was in effect calling on the first Christians to leave their world, a world full of stern prophetic oracles that chastened and chastised them, a religion

of legalistic prohibitions, in order to discover a world of truth and grace—a new spiritual realm, bathed in the redeeming truth and grace and love of God. We too are being called to move out of a world of superficial perceptions of religion and our place in it, and into this space of renewal and redemption. We are being called to an ascent, a journey to the mountain of the Lord.

The word of Christ, which is “a lamp for our feet and a light to our path” (Ps. 119:105), is our guide in this post-modern era. We must draw forth light from our own personal experience of God’s presence in our lives, a light that will spread to the generations that will inhabit this third millennium of the Church and the Christian faith. Only by living in the light of faith will each of us be liberated from our questionable and even alien notions on the subject of ecclesiastical survival and growth. One such alien notion is the way our ecclesiastical communities have fallen prey to the values of this world. Today, the Church has drifted indeed, borrowing too often in its ecclesial life from the structures of this world, the legalistic religion of prohibitions, the categories of power and dominance. Our lives should rather be infused with the notion of eucharistic community where Christians come to receive Christ, His body and blood, in Holy Communion, to be joined to Him spiritually and truly. We have been grafted to the Body of Christ, becoming branches of the True Vine, where we can grow and be nourished in body and spirit.

In a world whose values are opposed in so many ways to those of God’s Kingdom, a renewal of our ecclesiastical identity will not come easily. It will certainly not be the result of any one person’s labor or vision. It will require the participation of the clergy, of our lay leadership, of our religious educators, of our choirs and church musicians, of all those who “bear fruit and do good works in God’s holy house,” working together towards a common goal. For this reason, I want to take considerable time over the next year to meet with you, to visit your parishes, to listen and to learn, so that together we can begin to craft a strategy for renewal in our Metropolis. I am convinced that a key to this recovery of our ecclesiastical identity is a renewal in our liturgical and sacramental life, a restoration of the connection between liturgy and life. Once upon a time, the connection between the Church and the people was organic: the church was situated at the center of the village, and the priest lived within a ten-minute walk of nearly every family in his parish. Today, we are more likely to stay in contact with our parishioners by means of cell phones, email, and even text messages. Yet all of this virtual communication has left many people feeling numb and isolated, thirsting for an authentic experience of community. We can transmit information across the globe at the speed of light, yet this has seemingly not led to increased understanding or empathy, but rather to reinforcement of old hatreds and enmities, as well as the creation of new hostilities. In an age in which we can communicate more quickly than was ever dreamed in ages past, people are feeling more alone, depressed, and hopeless than ever before. They are searching for an

experience of togetherness that overcomes the distance inherent in our electronic age. In this “Age of Communication,” we must recapture the notion that the Divine Liturgy is the highest form of communication, and that it is in the context of the Eucharist that healing from fragmentation and isolation lies.

A second step in this journey of ascent towards the mountain of the Lord lies at the level of our parishes and parish ministries, especially our ministry to families in our Metropolis. Many of you know that I have a particular interest in the field of psychology and the family. But it does not take a psychologist to discern the fact that the family is in a state of crisis today. Our culture’s experience of alienation and isolation has spilled over into the family in a profound way. Parents and children are being pulled in so many different directions—careers, academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, required community service—and are spending more time apart than ever before. Recent studies suggest that we are working harder and longer than previous generations, yet we have a diminishing sense of security and an eroding feeling of well being. The stresses on the family today are complex—spiritual, emotional, and economic—and express themselves through an inability to be empathetic with one another, a weak understanding of our role as parents and siblings, and difficulty in sharing responsibilities. These experiences have driven family bonding to the brink of extinction. What does the Church have to offer to families in the twenty-first century?

As many of you heard in my enthronement speech, one of my goals for ministry in this Metropolis is the creation of an “Initiative on the Family” that will seek to address these concerns in a tangible way. The first step in this process will be the development of a more comprehensive program of ongoing formation and continuing education for the clergy, building upon the foundation of the annual “Clergy Institute” created by my predecessor, Metropolitan Anthony. This initiative will offer training and guidance in areas such as premarital and marriage and family counseling, bringing the wisdom of the patristic tradition, with its deep insights into human nature, together with knowledge gleaned from the modern sciences. I want to ensure that all the clergy have the tools that they need to minister effectively in a twenty-first century context. And I would also like to find ways to bring together the enthusiasm and vitality of the younger priests and deacons with the experience of the senior and retired clergy, ensuring that we are not squandering insights gleaned over a lifetime of ministry, but rather passing on their cumulative wisdom to the next generation. My vision for the clergy is primarily one of “brothers caring for brothers.” I see this leading one day to a more developed structure of clergy mentoring, in which the younger clergy can seek confession and counsel from their elder brothers. I would also like to develop regional gatherings of clergy on a regular basis for encouragement and edification of the brothers. And of course, as we are endeavoring to minister to families in our parishes, we the clergy must not neglect our

own families in the process. If, as our Lord says, it does us no good to gain the whole world and lose our own soul, then what good does it do us to save other families while losing our own spouses and children to inattention and neglect?

From additional training offered to our clergy, the “Initiative on the Family” will progress to eventually offer direct services to families at a Metropolis level. I envision the creation of an agency, equipped with both spiritual fathers and trained professionals with expertise in the field of family care. This agency will be responsible for offering assistance and referrals to individuals and families in need. The Initiative on the Family is still in the formative stages; the next step will be to assemble a committee of qualified clergy and laypeople to investigate the possibilities and make a report and recommendations. It is my goal to return to the assembly next year with a series of concrete proposals for this initiative, after the necessary study has been completed. But in the meantime, I intend to take the next year as a year of listening: before moving forward with any project or program, I am committed to listening carefully and attentively to all of you, ensuring that I have a thorough grasp of the issues involved. I recognize that I am the newcomer here, and that I still have much to learn. I would like to hear from all of you, clergy and laity alike, how you see the needs of the families and youth of our Metropolis, and what you think the most important needs are in this regard. The challenges confronting the family are great, and they will not be solved by any one person. But I am convinced that, in a spirit of Christian cooperation, we can discuss and develop approaches together, and make progress on this vital issue of our times.

Finally, I am convinced that this journey of ascent, this movement towards the mountain of the Lord, is calling us to a renewed sense of mission and outreach in our local neighborhoods and communities. Our Orthodox faith cannot remain at the level of incessant discussion; it is a matter of personal, living experience, a matter of action. We spend so much of our time on other pursuits alien to our Christian calling; we are so concerned about the projection of our cultural and political identity to those “not of our flock.” Yet Orthodoxy, both as theology and ethos, is little known in our country, and, dare I say, sometimes even in our churches. Orthodoxy is not merely theory and dogma; it is life, nourished by the wisdom of the Church Fathers and the blood of the Martyrs. It is not the faith of a few religious zealots. It is the faith of all. It is not merely Byzantine architecture with its frescoes and arches. It is the faith and devotion of our forebears, who saw the Virgin as invincible champion in all their struggles, and made their faith into a victory hymn of praise and thanksgiving.

This Metropolis has been at the forefront of outreach and parish development in our Archdiocese since its inception. During the tenure of Metropolitan Anthony, some twenty parishes were founded, a period of unprecedented expansion in this region. I am

committed to fostering a continued process of focused and sustainable growth, developing vibrant and thriving eucharistic communities throughout our Metropolis. But I also believe that we need to expand our vision of outreach to include a much broader engagement within our neighborhoods and local communities. We can take inspiration from St. Basil's model of the *Vasiliada*, an integrated approach to outreach which backed up the preaching of the Gospel with ministries to the hungry and homeless, orphans and widows, and all those on the margins of society. The Psalms describe the mountain of the Lord as a refuge for those who have no place in this world, a haven and sanctuary for the persecuted and oppressed. As we progress towards God's holy mountain, we must reach out to meet the needs of our local communities with concrete acts of love and service.

In our Orthodox faith, steadfast love meets faithfulness, justice embraces peace (Ps. 85:10). This is why the Orthodox Church has never pretended to be anything other than what it is: a way of compassion and love and reconciliation. Orthodoxy is the faith for all. It is offered to all with sensitivity to their particularities and their needs. It is a faith community with self-esteem and esteem for others, a message and a mandate that is rooted in Scripture and tradition, with prayer as its mode of life, its breath. And the greatest prayer of all is that we all may attain to the oneness of faith and to the knowledge of the unapproachable God in Trinity.

The vision of God's holy mountain is a vision of that place of redemption, wholeness, and peace, where people dwell together in love and unity, where relationships are founded not upon dominance and manipulation, but upon kindness and mutual respect. As the Prophet Isaiah says, "they shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain" (Isaiah 65:10). At some level, even in our darkest moments, the most broken expressions of our humanity, we are reaching out for this hope. And what the Church offers us, what Christ reveals to us, is the way, the path we are to follow. In the earliest days of the Church, before the disciples came to be called Christians, they referred to themselves simply as "followers of the Way" (Acts 9:2). And so I come to you today, my brothers and sisters, not so much as a leader, but as a follower of this way and a fellow traveler with all of you. We will journey together on this way, advancing towards the mountain of the Lord, the Kingdom of God, and following Christ, who is our example, our leader, and our companion along the journey. To Him be glory, together with His eternal Father, and the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

## MESSAGE FROM PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

We have had a very busy two months here at St. Anthony's. The highlight of our activities was having Metropolitan Gerasimos visit us on Holy Thursday evening. The Parish Council and their spouses and a few guests shared a lenten meal with His Eminence right before the service. It gave us a chance to meet him on a more personal basis. He was very gracious and warm and wanted to meet each of us individually.

I want to thank all of my parish council members for helping and ushering during Holy Week and a special thank you to Jimmy Christodoulelis for laying all the protective plastic on the church carpeting (a huge job). Also thank you to Nina and Modestos Kefalas for chairing the mageritsa dinner after the Anastasis service. The dinner was delicious and was very well attended. Our Easter picnic at Lacy Park was attended by about 200 parishioners and friends. Thank you to Nicholas Politis for chairing this enjoyable event, which included an Easter egg hunt, balloon lady, sack races, etc for the kids. It was a wonderful way to celebrate Easter with your family.

Mother's Day Brunch was again chaired by Elizabeth Spourdalakis and Ted Attalla. Flowers were given to Presbyteria and myself and a beautiful rose for each mother. I want to thank Lisa Xanthos and the Philoptochos for chairing the Father's Day Brunch. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and the lovely decorations at both events.

Thank you to Jimmy Christodoulelis and Ted Vavoulis for again chairing St. Anthony's Golf Tournament. This was the fifth and most successful year and has become our biggest fundraiser. All the proceeds go to the building fund. There is no other golf tournament that compares to ours. It was just fabulous, just ask anyone who attended. Congratulations to the whole committee.

Sunday School teachers; Moms & Tots leaders; Junior Choir director, Gisele Samaan and Organist, Adora Samaan were acknowledged after divine liturgy on Sunday, June 12th. Congratulations to all of them for a wonderful year.

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Album has been completed and is being distributed at this time. I want to thank Judie Christopoulos who, from her home computer, was instrumental in compiling and organizing the entire contents of this book. The hours she spent to get this completed is immeasurable. Also, I want to thank Athena Dallas and Leah Pastis, co-chairmen for the ads, group information, and the proofreading, etc. The ads and the entire contents of the album were checked and rechecked countless times to omit any errors. I thank John Buzas who chaired the patron drive that brought in the ads. The net

funds raised by the ads are directed to the building fund. The album has brought in the biggest net profit from any fundraiser in the history of St. Anthony's. I believe everyone agrees that this album is one of the most beautiful, well-organized, and comprehensive. It's a wonderful keepsake, with the history of our church, the baptismal pages, and collage of pictures of parishioners at different events over the years. If you have not put in an ad, you are able to purchase one for \$75.00.

Everyone should have received a survey sent by the building committee. Please fill it out and return to the church office as soon as possible. Quite a few have already been received. We need your input on the future of St. Anthony's.

Sincerely,

Sophia Angelos  
Parish Council President

### **Holy Sacraments**

#### **Baptisms**

Christian, son of Christakis and Christine Christodoulous on May 28, 2005.  
Godparents: Kaliroi Kvitne and Aliko Kvitne.

Katia Alexa, daughter of Peter and Theodora Stavropoulos on May 28, 2005.  
Godparents: Christakis and Christine Christodoulou.

Stella Marie, daughter of Eric and Anna Feliberti on May 29, 2005.

Christos, son of Vasilios Zachos and Maria Angelaki on June 11, 2005. Godparents:  
Georgios Themistocleous and Sofia Kontou.

Warmest wishes to the newly baptized, to their godparents and parents. May God the Almighty abundantly bless their lives.

#### **Weddings**

David Hickey and Vasiliki (Vicky) Sellis on May 14, 2005. Koumbara: Maria Sellis.

Rhad Brown and Anastasia Hronas on May 2005. Koumbaroi: Will and Michele Prappas.

Elias Halias and Sara Kyle on June 12, 2005. Koumbaros: Chris Syrengelas.

Congratulations and best wishes to the newlyweds. May the Lord our God grant them happiness and His abundant blessings.

**Funeral Service**

Betty Sterris of Whittier, CA on May 12, 2005.  
May God grant rest to her soul. Betty was a dedicated member of St. Anthony's Church. May her memory be eternal.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Album**

Dear Parishioners,

The magnificent 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Album which beautifully chronicles Saint Anthony's history with text and pictures is now available for you, your families and your friends. It is a must for every home.

Copies are for sale in the Church office for \$75.00 each. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Athena Dallas

**Important Publications**

Visions and Expectations for a Living Church, Volume I, by the ever memorable beloved Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America 1959-1996, edited by Rev. Dr. Demetrios J. Constantelos. You can order this book by calling Hellenic College/Holy Cross Book Store at (800) 245-0599 or writing to Holy Cross Book Store, 50 Goddard Ave., Brookline, MA 02146

Spiritual Reflections for all Seasons by Rev. Protopresbyter John P. Angelis, Pastor Emeritus of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Seattle, WA. You can order this

book by calling: (206) 325-4347 or [www.saintdemetrios.com](http://www.saintdemetrios.com) or writing to St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 2100 Boyer Ave., Seattle, WA 98112.

### **The Iconography and the Mosaic Art of our Church**

The interior of our Church as well as the front exterior of our Church are beautifully iconographed and covered with images in mosaics and frescos. However, there still remain a few areas in our church that were originally earmarked for icons and mosaics depicting scenes from the life of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. The first area is located at the rear of the Nave and is directly in front of the choir balcony. The second area is the small dome in the Vestibule (Narthex).

With respect to the first area, we have already received a donation from the late Louis and Jenny Tripodes which will pay for the creation of the icon of Jesus Christ blessing the children with three female saints on one side and three male saints on the other side of the central panel. We are hoping to receive donations which will pay for the other two panels and will complete the iconography in this area of our church. These panels will be icons depicting the Birth and the Dormition of the Virgin Mary. The cost of the remaining two panels is \$9,000.00 each.

With respect to the small dome in the ceiling of the Vestibule, the mosaic icon will cost approximately \$20,000. We have already collected approximately half of this amount through donations. We still need an additional \$10,000. This mosaic icon will be a beautiful cross with angels around it.

If you wish to donate one of the two remaining choir panels or to contribute toward the mosaic in the Narthex, please contact Fr. Stathis at (626) 449-6943.

### **Congratulations and best wishes to our new Saint Anthony's Philoptochos Board members:**

Irene Albeck, Judie Christopoulos, Alik Haralambos, Maria Kokoris, Carolyn Kolokotronis, Maria kypreos, Kathy Lucas, Dorothea Malina, Fontaine Malisos, Presby. Maria Mylonas, Ann Rouman, Popi Roubos, Katherine Skandale, Stephanie Soewers, Jenny Tsouvalas, Charlene Vayos and Lisa Xanthos. The oath of office of the new members of the Board will follow following the ratification of the elections by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. Our Philoptochos donated \$3,500 to the worthy program Kids and Cancer.

**Congratulations and best wishes to our graduates:**

High School Graduates:

Demetri Angelopoulos – Arcadia High School

Stephanie Demetriades – La Salle High School

Mary Kefallinos – San Marino High School

Adora Samaan – Arcadia High School

Graduates from Universities:

Austin Coccia – Bachelor of Arts on Linguistics – California State University Fullerton

Second Lt. Air Force – ROTC Program – Marymount

Paula Dallas – Masters in Education Administration – San Francisco State

Litsa Floutsis – Bachelor of Arts in Communications, with a minor in Sociology – California State University Fullerton

Evangelia Kirimis – Medical Degree – University of Southern California

Eleni Koulos – Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology – California School of Professional Psychology

Vasiliki Kypreos – Bachelor of Arts in Apparel Design and Merchandising - California State University Long Beach

Richard Rosenberg – Doctorate in Physical Therapy – Pacific University

Angeliki Roseberg – Doctorate in Physical Therapy – Pacific University

Gisele Samaan – Masters in Education – Azusa Pacific University

**A very important survey**

Saint Anthony's Building Committee sent you a thorough survey for you to complete and return to our Church as soon as possible. Please take a few minutes from your busy schedules and complete it. Your input will immensely help the Building Committee to evaluate the current needs of our parish. If you have any questions about the survey or the use of this information please call John Buzas (626)437-9679, Julie Kiotas-Balas (626)585-7498, or Randy Soewers (626)614-6101.

**A very successful Golf Classic**

We are appreciative to the many participants and supporters of our annual Golf Tournament on Friday, June 10, 2005. We thank the sponsors and the many volunteers. Special thanks and deep appreciation to Ted and Esther Vavoulis, to Jim and Tanya Christodoulelis and to Charlie and Eva Christodoulelis who organized this big event and generously donated for its success.

### **Pontifical Divine Liturgy**

On Sunday, June 5, 2005, Father Stathis attended the Pontifical Divine Liturgy which was celebrated by His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenia at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. On June 8, 2005, Fr. Stathis attended a reception with Catholicos and Ecumenical leaders at the Headquarters of the Western Diocese of The Armenian Church of North America in Burbank, CA. Fr. Stathis was invited to these historic events by His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian Primate of the Western Diocese of The Armenian Church of North America.

### **Prayer of the Fifth World Conference on Faith and Order 1993**

O God, holy and eternal Trinity,  
we pray for your church in the world.  
sanctify its life; renew its worship;  
empower its witness; heal its divisions;  
make visible its unity.

lead us, with all our brothers and sisters,  
towards communion  
in faith, life and witness  
so that, united in one body  
by the one Spirit,  
we may together witness  
to the perfect unity of your love.

Amen.

### **Visit to our Parish by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**

On Holy Thursday, April 28, 2005, our parish welcomed our new Metropolitan, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. His Eminence presided during the evening service of the Holy Passion. Prior to the Holy Service there was a Lenten dinner at Cameron's restaurant. Parish Council members and other community leaders were present to welcome our new Metropolitan. A check in the amount of \$2,500 was presented to our Metropolitan in support of the Metropolis' ministries and an additional \$2,500 was pledged and donated to Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Metropolitan Gerasimos name to support the endowed chair of New Testament Studies established in the name of our beloved Archbishop Iakovos formerly of North and South America.

### **Saint Anthony's Greek Festival**

Our Festival is a community effort. This unique event brings us together. Its success depends on our interest, efforts and commitment. It is imperative that we not only help financially but also by offering our time and talents. This is a service offered to God. Festival dates: September 16,17,18. Chairman of the Festival is Dr. Sam Dallas.

### **Vacation Bible School**

On the first week of August 2005, our Church will welcome many young children at our Vacation Bible School. It will be great fun but we will also learn and appreciate the gifts we receive from God through His Church. We need volunteers and your children to attend. Please come forward and offer your services. Contact Esther Vavoulis at (818)790-3395 or Irene Albeck at (626)792-8122.

### **Orthodox Conference on Missions and Evangelism**

The 2005 Orthodox Conference on Missions and Evangelism from September 2 – 5 will take place in Ligonier, PA. For information call toll-free (888)968-4014.

### **Condolences to Cardinal Roger Mahony**

Condolences were offered by Fr. Stathis to Cardinal Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles on the falling asleep of His Holiness, Pope John Paul.

### **Come Receive the Light**

In order to restore this most valuable National Orthodox Christian Radio Program in Southern California, two very important events are scheduled to take place. On Thursday evening, October 6, 2005, a dinner will take place in Pasadena and on Friday evening, October 7, 2005, a second dinner will be held in Irvine. Chairmen for the event in Pasadena are Judie Christopoulos and Lisa Xanthos. More information will follow soon.

### **Senior Living Community**

The Eastern Orthodox Senior Living Community at The Kensington is a reality. The Kensington is welcoming Orthodox seniors who will be establishing residence on their beautiful landscaped, twelve acre campus. For information call (626)576-1032 or Bess Pappas at (626)796-7277.

### **Junior Choir**

Our Junior Choir will resume its practices in the Fall. Children nine years old and older may participate. The director is Gisele Samaan and the organist is Adora Samaan. On Sunday, April 17, 2005, the choir started participating in the Divine Liturgy. Their angelic voices added beauty and meaning to our Holy Services.

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School registration and classes will begin on Sunday, September 11, 2005. We would like to take this opportunity to express deep appreciation to our Sunday School teachers and to their assistants for their dedication and love for our children.

### **Greek School**

Greek School registration and classes will begin with an Aghiasmo on Friday, September 30, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. To our Greek School teachers, we express our appreciation for their dedication.

### **Acknowledgements**

We express our deep appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Chris Julias for their most generous donation to "The Very Rev. Protopresbyter Efstathios V. Mylonas, Ph.D. Endowed Scholarship Fund." The fund was established at the request of Fr. Stathis at Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology on the occasion of the celebration of the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his ordination. The Fund was originally established on July 14, 2004, in the amount of \$6,300.00. This scholarship was funded by contributions from St. Anthony's parishioners, organizations and friends of Fr. Stathis. The income from the fund will only be used to support seminarians at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology who intend to be ordained as clergy. Mr. and Mrs. Chris Julias with their most generous donation, have now made the scholarship workable. The fund now totals more than \$10,000. Should you wish to contribute to the scholarship fund in Fr. Stathis' name, please contact the church office at 626 449-6943.

We express our appreciation to John and Jenny Tsouvalas for donating the icon of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. We also express our appreciation to Dino and Kalli Bicos donating the icon of the Crucifixion.

During Holy Week, our church microphones failed. We express our deep appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. John Buzas for immediately purchasing and donating new microphones and to Dino Lappas for installing the microphones and balancing our PA system.

Special Thanks to Paul and Mary Ann Mallis for their generosity and kindness. They sent their master painter/artist who was able to perfectly restore the earthquake damaged

icon of the Platytera. He also created and painted the upper border of the beautiful mosaic in the apse of the Sanctuary.

### **GOYA BASKETBALL**

We thank Chris Harper for all the work he has done representing St. Anthony's Church at the Greek Orthodox Basketball League. We also congratulate all St. Anthony's teams and their coaches:

Junior Girls 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall – Coach: Dena Katsafados

Junior Boys 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall – Coaches: Tony Mowrey and Theo Giannoulis

Senior Girls 5<sup>th</sup> place overall – Coach: Dena Katsafados

Senior Boys 1<sup>st</sup> place overall (champions) – Coaches: Tony Christopoulos and Ted Attalla

### **RECIPES NEEDED**

St. Anthony's Greek Folk Dance Groups are collecting recipes to publish a special community COOKBOOK. For information, contact Tanya (626)792-7294.

### **ORATORICAL FESTIVAL**

We congratulate Charlie Tsouvalas for his participation in the district Oratorical Festival which took place at St. Katherine's Church, Redondo Beach, CA on April 16, 2005. He participated in the Senior Division with nine other students.

**The following have contributed to the Saint Anthony's Memorial Fund  
From January to June, 2005**

**In memory of Betty Sterris.**

Mrs. Bess Mechalas  
Mr. Jeff Caridad  
Jon, Janice, Daniel & Sarah Caridad  
Jackie Caridad, Jonathan Cass,  
Janet Ahadef & Romy Alhadef  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Cocores  
Dr. & Mrs. James Angelos  
Mr. & Mrs. George Skandale

**In memory of Matina Bourneas.**

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Cocores

**In memory of Chris Anastasopoulos**

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Bicos

**In memory of Helen Poulos.**

Mr. Dan P. Bozikis

**In memory of Theodore Rouman**

St. Anthony's Philoptochos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Kirimis  
Mr. & Mrs. James Bornino  
Mr. & Mrs. Arry Pastis

**In memory of Chrissey Vayos.**

Mrs. Maryam Attalla  
Mrs. Alik Haralambos  
Mr. & Mrs. George Skandale  
Mrs. Demetra Stavropoulos

**Contributors to Saint Anthony's Philoptochos in Memory of Theodore Rouman**

Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Spell	Fontaine Malisos	Mrs. Irene G. Zanetos
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Santrizos	Mr. and Mrs. Gus Anton	Thomas O'Brien
Robert K. Hom	John O. Todd, Jr.	Gregory O'Neil
Mr. and Mrs. John G. Prokos	Scott Levokove	Mr. and Mrs. James Halkias
Chanlei Kant	Matt and Wendy Larson	Dr. and Mrs. James Angelos
William M. Chan	Dorothea Malina	Marilynn J. Steinberg
Dena Spanos-Hawkey	Mr. and Mrs. John Buzas	James C. Rouman, M.D.
Helen Chiacos	Alik Haralambos	Barbara and Tel Pappajohn
Mr. and Mrs. George Rouman	The Skandale Family	Pauline Spiros
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Curtiss	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Heeschen	Thomas G. Manton
Mr. and Mrs. Perry Spiropoulos	Mary and Christiann	Vicky Master
Caroline Pappajohn	Arapostathis	Kay Giotsalitis
Mr. and Mrs. John Poulos	Pantele and Lisa Xanthos	James D. and Tula Prokos
Angeline M. Boosalis	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Buba	Katherine Horgan
Elsie Martin	Katherine Lucas	Nicholas and Maria Kokoris
Mr. and Mrs. George Stavros	Dr. John C. Rouman	Constance E. Boukidis
John J. Rouman	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Carpou	James and Carolyn
Debby P. Pan	Mr. and Mrs. Nick Vayos	Kolokotrones
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Soewers	Mr. and Mrs. Dean Efstathiou	Sam and Athena Dallas

## SAINT ANTHONY'S 2005 PLEDGED MEMBERS

(June 30, 2005)

Mr. & Mrs. Peter A. Adamopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Christopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George N. Gianopoulos
Mr. Joseph N. Akrotirianakis	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Christopoulos	Mrs. Theresa Giokaris
Mrs. Irene Albeck	Mrs. Angene Christy	Mr. & Mrs. James Grover
Mr. Gregory Albeck	Mr. Peter D. Clentzos	Mr. & Mrs. James Hagelis
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Alex	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Cocores	Mr. Louie Halias
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Ananiades	Mr. & Mrs. Jason Cokias	Mrs. Aliko Haralambos
Mr. Spyro Ananiades	Mr. & Mrs. George Courlas	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Haralambos
Mrs. Angela Angelopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Pete Cristofi	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Haralambos
Dr. & Mrs. James Angelos	Mr. & Mrs. Soterios Dallas	Mrs. Christina C. Harper
Mr. Nicholas Angelos	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Damilatis	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Harris
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Ms. Christiann Arapostathis	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Darlas	Mr. & Mrs. David Hickey
Mrs. Mary Arapostathis	Ms. Mary Ann Darras	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Housos
Mr. & Mrs. Dean P. Athans	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Daughters	Miss Anastasia Hronas
Mrs. Maryam Attalla	Mr. & Mrs. Fotios Deligiannis	Mr. & Mrs. James W. Hronas
Mr. Philip Ted Attalla	Drs. Demetrios&Elizabeth	Mr. Christos Ioannou
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Mr. & Mrs. Dino Balas	Mr. James E. Demetriou	Mr. & Mrs. Louis Kades
Mr. & Mrs. Brian L. Becker	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Demopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George Kalivas
Mrs. Christina Becronis	Mr. Nicholas Demopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George N. Kalivas
Ms. Harriet Betinis	Ms. Ana Demos	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kallas
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Bicos	Nick Demos & Maria Karras	Mr. Larry Kallis
Sophia Bicos & Steve Corvelo	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Dewar	Mr. & Mrs. Bassily Kamar
Mr. & Mrs. Soterios Bicos	Mrs. Anastasia Diamond	Ms. Tina Kamp
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Bicos	Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Dieguez	Mr. & Mrs. Michael E. Kaparos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Bissias	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Diehl	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kaparos
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Blaszcak	Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis	Mr. & Mrs. Peter J. Kaplanis
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Mr. & Mrs. Terree Bowers	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Drulias	Mr. & Mrs. Phaedon
Mr. Dan Peter Bozikis	Mr. & Mrs. James Drulias	Karaioannoglou
Ms. Demetra Bozikis	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Dogris	Mrs. Demetra Karalexis
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Mr. & Mrs. Chris Broussinos	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Dupas	Mr. Chris Karatzas
Mr. & Mrs. Rhad Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Adam Economu	Dr. Steve Kargas
Mr. & Mrs. Frank J. Burkard Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Dean Efstathiou	Mr. & Mrs. Kosta Karvelas
Mr. & Mrs. John Buzas	Mr. & Mrs. Eric C. Feliberti	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Karvelas
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Mr. & Mrs. Alex Kiotas	Mr. & Mrs. Constantine J. Pappas	Mr. & Mrs. Peter T. Stavropoulos
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Mr. & Mrs. John Kirimis	Mr. & Mrs. John D. Pappas	Mr. & Mrs. Tony Tangalos
Dr. Rodanthi C. Kitridou	Mr. & Mrs. John P. Pappas	Mr. & Mrs. John Tarazi
Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kokoris	Dr. Peter A. Pappas	Mrs. Irene Tourkomanoli & Dr.
Mrs. Nora Kontolefas	Mr. & Mrs. Steven N. Pappas	Sam Musallam
Mr. & Mrs. George Koudanis	Mr. & Mrs. Arry Pastis	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Treantafelles
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Koulos	Mr. & Mrs. Gust S. Pastis	Mr. & Mrs. George T. Treantafelles
Mr. Peter John Koutsakis	Ms. Patricia Pastis	Mr. & Mrs. Stan Treantafelles
Mr. Alexander E. Koutras	Mr. & Mrs. John Patzakis	Mrs. Zoi Treantafelles
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