

THE FORERUNNER

VOLUME XXVI NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 2010

LEARN FROM ME - A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION ON THE HUMILITY OF CHRIST

"It's best for a man to become a clay vessel, which is useful to all people and for all kinds of daily work, for food, water, and so on. But golden vessels are put in safes and locked up in cupboards. For fear of thieves they are seldom used, maybe only once a year. A clay vessel has its daily use and service to man. So also is a humble man who does not seek honors and rank. He remains insignificant even amid men of lower rank, but he benefits, counsels, and helps everyone, and all seek him out and rejoice with him. Humility is a great gift to all Christians!" (Elder Paisios of Sihla)

As we approach the great Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, the greatest act of humility that the entire cosmos has ever seen, it is only proper to speak about this great virtue in the hope that some will take heart from the words and advance in the practice of it in their Christian lives.

Humility is not something Christians own in exclusivity. Even the pagan religions and the philosophers recognize the great benefit of meekness and have the concept embedded in their worldview; there is no place however that cherishes and fosters humility more than Christianity. The Old and the New Testament, the writings of the Holy Fathers, the Church dogmas and practice are profoundly soaked in this noble virtue.

The reason for this central place is that God Himself is the first One, not only to teach, but also

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2011 Stewardship info
- Learn from me - A Christmas reflection on the Humility of Christ
- Gladsome Light Dialogues are back!
- New Church Construction updates
- A pilgrimage to the Monastery Church
- School News
- Church Events Calendar

COUNCIL CAPSULE

I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. We all need to be thankful for God's many blessings in our life's.

This year has been a very busy and productive one. By the time you read this, the Paulos Center should be demolished and the site cleared and ready for construction to begin. The fence around the site is there for a reason and will be kept locked. Please be careful around the property. Safety is our first concern especially where the children are concerned.

At our General Assembly on November 14, eight candidates who are running for Parish Council, were introduced. Those candidates are: Robert Steffaro, Harry Karegeannes, Hope File, Stacia Leeders, Michael Eftimie, Chris Geil, Kristina Cramb and Karen Kinman. Elections have been set for Sunday, Dec. 5th after Liturgy. There are 5 positions open on the council so take a moment during coffee hour and cast your vote.

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COUNCIL CAPSULE



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During the General Assembly those present heard wonderful presentations by George Vittas, Capital Campaign Chairman and Joe Sullivan, Building Committee Chair. Both these men have worked tirelessly and need to be commended for their dedication. Without the help of them and many others we would not be ready to em-

bark on this exciting endeavor of having our own grand Orthodox Church built on our beautiful property.

The kickoff for 2011 Stewardship Campaign was celebrated on November 14th with Stewardship Sunday. Giving to the church is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values....an opportunity to participate in the work of God. I urge everyone to fill out your

stewardship cards for 2011. Giving to your church is not a substitute to commitment – it is an expression of our commitment.

Barbara Vittas
Parish President

FINANCIAL REPORT YTD THRU 10/31/10

| | 2009 | 2010 | Budget |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Stewardship | 88,700 | 91,870 | 118,104 |
| Total Income | 112,255 | 117,539 | 140,240 |
| Expense | 116,151 | 117,436 | 118,720 |
| Variance | (3,896) | 103 | 21,520 |

AS A PARISH, WE ARE ON THE WAY TO BRINGING THE VISION OF "BUILDING OUR FUTURE" TO REALITY.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT

Those of our parishioners who attended the recent General Assembly heard about the progress we as a parish have made to enable financing of the new church construction. In fact, working with our Building Committee we have concluded the time to begin building is now. Under a Project Manager/General Contractor contractual agreement with Ashton Wynne we now know what the project will cost, and we have enough funds on hand in cash contributions from capital campaign commitments to know we can complete the first and by far largest package of construction in about 6 months. This will result in a fully completed church building structure and exterior, fully enclosed and secure with exterior doors and features just as

depicted in the church renderings we have all seen. During this time of construction, the Capital Campaign Committee will continue the program to raise the additional funds needed to complete the interior of the new church building as well as the related site improvements.

As a Parish, we are on the way to bringing the vision of "Building Our Future" to reality. If you have not yet made your personal or family commitment to the Capital Campaign, now is the time. Please see any member of the CCC for a commitment card... If you have already made your personal or family commitment, please strive to make your payments as timely as possible under the terms you have set for your commitment;

we will need to demonstrate dependable cash flow from our committed contributors in order to be able to continue construction.

All of our parishioners should want to participate in this historic endeavor and, when we are done, share in offering glory to God for what we, together, each and every one of us as a Greek Orthodox Community, have accomplished as our legacy and our gift to the future generations of St. John the Baptist here in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Your Capital Campaign Committee
- Paun Peters, Dr. Chris Yiantou, Nancy Medvic, Louie Papaliodis, Margaret Chokas, George Vittas...



LEARN FROM ME - A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION ON THE HUMILITY OF CHRIST

(Continued from page 1)

to act in humility. Here is what St. Isaac the Syrian writes: "Humility is God's robe. The Word who became human clothed himself with humility, and spoke with us in our human body." What greater proof we can ask other than the fact that the Creator of the world, the Unoriginate, the Almighty, the One Who deserves all the glory and praise, would put aside all of it, leave the heavens and become earth to save us sinners, undeserving as we are? There is nothing to match this act and is the very reason why humility and not pride, for our achievements, material or spiritual, should guide our lives.

Pride is the very opposite of humility; is to take pleasure in being praised, to have your accomplishments recognized: your talents, your beauty, your intelligence, your heritage. Pride is to say aloud: I did it, I deserve it all! Recognize me! About this Jesus Christ says : "So when you give to the needy, do

not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full"(Mathew 6:2).

The proud way is a faulted way of thinking because we cannot take credit for any of it. God has, after all, fashioned us and gave us all we possess; we are who we are because of the gifts we have freely received. Any good thing that we do has its roots into our godly origin. Forgetting this is to forget about God Himself.

A proud person will ceaselessly push out of his life anything that competes with him and his great achievements. Without realizing it he chases away everyone, including God, and he finds himself isolated in an ivory tower of self-righteousness. He sits there by himself unwilling and, after a certain point, incapable of any progress. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7) The

proud, even if he expresses exterior piety, is as far from God as the earth it is from heaven. Any day a repenting publican enters the kingdom ahead of a proud Pharisee.

Humility on the other hand is a permanent remembrance of God, is to recognize God's presence in the very aspect of our lives. The humble cries out with the King and Prophet David "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast." (Psalms 138: 7-11)

Recognizing Gods presence in our lives is to be in communion with Him, is to receive His grace, is to let oneself guided by the Spirit of Truth and not by the spirit of the world. Humility brings spiritual dimension in our lives and restores everything in its proper place.

(Continued on page 8)



"MOMENTUM IS PICKING UP FOR STARTING THE NEW CHURCH CONSTRUCTION."

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Momentum is picking up for starting the new Church construction.

By now you have noticed that the site of the new Church construction has been surrounded by a fence which will be used exclusively for Ashton Wynne and their subcontractors to keep the property safe and secure during construction.

The Paulos Center demolition

is almost complete and this gives way to the overall process by which Ashton Wynne will start grading the area, drilling piers and prepping for the Church's foundation.

Please remember to be especially diligent while you and your family members are on property during this construction period – we are stressing the jobsite to be orderly and safe throughout the process.

We thank you for your understanding!

Joe Sullivan – Building Committee Chairman





STEWARDSHIP NEWS

As of 11/3/10 we have **110 pledges** for a **total of \$149,274** with a **goal of \$185,000**. We are currently **\$36,000 short** of our budget and have **only received \$114,348** of the amount

pledged.

This Christmas let's all give the church a gift by fulfilling our stewardship commitments before the end of December.

REMEMBER: *If your intention is to be a pledged member of St. John, a new card must be submitted each year. Please submit your 2011 card today!*

**THIS CHRISTMAS
LET'S ALL GIVE
THE CHURCH A
GIFT BY
FULFILLING OUR
STEWARDSHIP
COMMITMENTS
BEFORE THE END
OF DECEMBER.**



2010 STEWARDS

Alexander, Leo & Teresa

Anderson, Dr. Anthony

Arlington, Linda

Ballas, Andy & Pat

Ballas, Chris

Began, John

Berca, Sorin & Carmen

Blake, John & Harriett

Blase, Clarisse

Bogdos, George & Sotera

Bogordos, George & Kasandra

Bokoyas, Jim & Kiki

Bond, Tina & George

Brandon, Roberta

Callesen, John

Chokas, Margaret

Clay, Wayne & Aria

Cline, Tim & Angela

Cortinas, Ruben & Laurie

Cramb, Kristina & Kathy

Dempsey, Dr. Margaret

Dempsey, Walt & Dorothy

Dieb, Eleni

DiGiovanni, Greg & Joy

Doughty, Elaine

Eftimie, Michael

Englezakis, Mike

Feichtinger, Pavlina

File, Russ & Hope

Fondulis, Paul

Forcum, Ana

Fox, Mike & Kathy

Geil, Chris & Sandra

Genovezos, George & Olympia

George, Ken & Maggie

Gianulis, Bill & Bertha

Gianulis, Demi

Gigliotta, Leonard

Grumbos, Dr. Peter

Hadjikiriakos, Michael

Hooe, Jane

Howton, Lucille

Ibrahim, Basil & Mary

Johnson, Marshall & Velva

Jones, Daniel & Elise

Kallis, Stephanie

Karegeannes, Harry & Ginny

Katsikas, Constantinos

Kerbow, Joe & Maria

Kinman, Buck & Karen

Klein, Micheline

Koumbarides, Nicos

Laverty, Connie

Leeders, Larry

Leeders, Stacia

Legel, Dr. Kennedy

Leimbacher, Jenny

Maayeh, George & Lily

MacPherson, Doug & Andi

Maistrellis, Katina

Manos, George & Vicki

Manos, Michael & Debbie

Matheson, Trevor & Sherri

Mavias, John

Mavias, Lisa

Mavias, Michael & Mary

Medvic, Allison

Medvic, Nancy

Mihalakeas, Andreas & Laura

MMolhoek, Mike & Tina

Morcovescu, Serban & Anca

Moutafis, George & Khanh

Nahatis, Arthur

Naval, Marc

Nazzal, Alfred

2010 STEWARDS (CONTINUED)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nicholas, Toni | Poriotis, Terry & Gail | Villanueva, Junior & Maria |
| Noulas, Athanasios | Pursley, Peter, & Cynthia | Vittas, George & Barbara |
| Nugent, Phyllia | Rafailedes, Connie | Vloitos, Nick & Rayanna |
| Pachares, Tony & Athena | Ruppel, John & Joanie | Walker, Jim & Harriet |
| Papadimitriou, Alex & Linda | Russo, Joseph & Athena | Wozniak, Jamey |
| Papadopoulou, Olga & Theoni | Samaras, Johnny | Wright, Bill & Christine |
| Papaliadis, Georgia | Shah, Raj & Kirsten | Yiantsou, Dr. Chris & Margo |
| Papaliadis, Louie | Skelley, Stephanie | Zingas, Ari & Olga |
| Paulos, Sophie | Steffaro, Bob & Karen | |
| Petercsak, Steve & Esther | Sullivan, Charles & Ann | |
| Peters, Paun & Lynn | Sullivan, Joe & Nina | |
| Plock, Eleni | Talleos, Peter | |
| Poletes, Bill & Rena | Tudora, Fr. Vasile & Pres. Mirela | |
| Poletes, Lea | | |



BECOMING A STEWARD IN 2011

On Sunday November 14, 2010 we held our annual stewardship Sunday. It was for all a moment of reflection about our contribution to the Church for the year to come. Many thanks to all that participated and became stewards of our church.

Of course not everyone had an opportunity to come, but it is not too late! So here is some information on what it means and why is important to become a steward.

You become an Orthodox Christian Steward by giving yourself to Christ, by participating in the Sacramental Life of the church and by giving of your Time, Talent and Treasure; all of which require commitment. A commitment to worship, to attend liturgy and to pray regularly, a commitment to be an active part of your church community giving

of your time and talent, and, yes, a commitment to give back a portion of the treasure God has given you – a financial commitment.

A written statement of your intentions is just one of the things that will help you feel committed to Christ and His Church. If we submit nothing in writing it is easy to just walk away and become a spectator. If, however, we have committed to help support the church, we feel an obligation to do so. That commitment comes by way of our Stewardship Commitment Card.

Filling out a Stewardship Card enables the church to keep a record of the number of parishioners in our congregation, to update addresses and phone numbers that are needed for various purposes and to assess the talents of our parishioners to be utilized when needed.

The card is absolutely necessary to determine expected income for budgetary reasons and to create a list of church members who are eligible to vote, serve on the parish council, hold an office, share their talents etc.

So, please, don't stand on the outside looking in. Become an active part of St. John the Baptist community for 2011.

New cards are available in the pews and in the narthex.

Don't be afraid; the card is not a contract, but a promise of intentions. And remember: If your intention is to be a pledged member of St. John, a new card must be submitted each year.

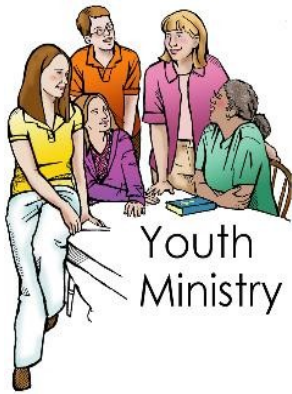
We appreciate everyone's understanding and cooperation in helping to make the stewardship process more meaningful and efficient.

BECOME AN ACTIVE PART OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY FOR 2011 BY FILLING A STEWARDSHIP CARD



Make your talent grow today

YOUTH MINISTRIES IS ON THE MOVE



There they were, masses of our youth dancing tirelessly, creating art in the children's center, selling fisherman's hats for GOYA, serving as runners for the food line, working in the gyro booth, helping to take down the stage, helping with the clean-up. The GreekFest certainly brought out the best in our young people...they exemplified what stewardship means by being an active members of our church

community.

It was so obvious that strong bonds have developed among these young people, bonds which last a lifetime. The applause and accolades they receive during these activities will surely lead to our goal of spiritual maturity also. Now they prepare for the busy holiday season with the GOYANs trip to the Monastery outside Austin in

November. We are happy to say that Youth Ministries will provide the funds for the van rental for that overnight trip because you support our projects! Thanks for being such great examples for our youth. Remember, it is not what you say but what you do that makes an impression!

Athena Pachares, Y.M. coordinator

THINK ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL THIS YEAR.

CHURCH SCHOOL STEWARDSHIP

This year the Sunday School teachers decided to begin a stewardship program for our youth. This program was designed to teach our children the value of Christian Stewardship. Much like the adults, the children filled out a pledge card. The intent was to instill a sense

of giving to the church from an early age. Through the end of May, twenty of our children donated a total of \$209. Although only approximately one-third of our students committed this year – it's a start. We look forward to better participation next year. The children

have received their new cards on Stewardship Sunday, November 14. Most of the commitments received this year were from the younger students. We would like to encourage our pre-teen youth and GOYA to also become active members in 2011.

GOYA NEWS



Anyone wishing to be a part of this energetic group...please contact me

Athena Pachares, Y.M. Coordinator (pachares@sbcglobe.net)

[L.net](mailto:pachares@sbcglobe.net))

Your Officers for 2010:

Philip Sullivan, *President*

Maggie Molhoek, *Vice Presi-*

dent

Ovi Berca, *Secretary*

Peter Pursley, *Treasurer*

Philip Sullivan,

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Students and Parents,

Thank you all for the donations to the Thanksgiving Food Basket Program. We have learned to be giving to others and to be thankful for what we have.

Every year, the church school children have provided a Christmas program. This year's program is a musical presentation. We need more participation from our children.

December is a busy month with all the holiday festivities. Sometimes we get so busy that we overlook the reason for these celebrations. Church

School will have the Advent Retreat on December 11 from 10AM – 1PM. We'll learn why we celebrate Christmas, have a session with Father Vasile as well as rehearse for our Christmas program. We'll provide lunch and do a craft for the holidays. We will have final preparations for the Christmas Program after Holy Communion on December 12th.

May God Bless you and Keep you safe,

Khanh Moutafis

Here are some calendar dates for the month of December:

Dec. 11 Advent Retreat, 10AM- 1PM

Dec. 12 Christmas Music Program & Pageant

Dec. 19 No Church School – Christmas holiday

Dec. 26 No Church School – Christmas holiday

Jan. 2, 2011 Church School resumes



A PILGRIMAGE TO THE MONASTERY—BY MARIA TUDORA

On November 19-20 we had the blessing to visit the holy Archangels Monastery in Kendaia, Texas with our GOYA group. We were 2 girls, 6 boys and 3 adult advisors.

We started our journey at our church in a van fit for 15 driven by Fr. Vasile. Scary, I know... On the way everyone had so much fun talking, reading books, and deciding what questions we will ask the monks once there.

We arrived at the monastery after a 5 hour road trip just in time for Vespers. The service was in a small chapel they had near their kitchen (they call it Trapeza in Greek). After Vespers we ate at the monastery and spent some time with Fr.

Ephrem, one of the monks that took care of us during the entire visit. We found out that there were only 8 monks living at the monastery - plus three fathers visiting from Mount Athos. We also saw Fr. Dositheos, the abbot of the monastery and he gave us a blessing.

After dinner we left and drove in complete darkness to some nearby cabins where we spent the night.

The second day we woke up at 4:30 (AM) to go to morning services - Hours and Divine Liturgy. We all participated in the services and we received Communion at the end.

We ate breakfast afterward then we all went to explore

around the area. The monks were still constructing new quarters for monks and guests. I have to say: it was VERY impressive.

After we finished our initial exploring we went back to the kitchen to meet up with Father Ephrem so he could give us a more official tour of the monastery.

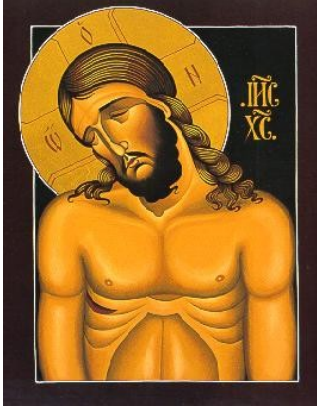
Fr. Ephrem showed us first the new buildings they work on and this time we were actually able to go INSIDE and we saw the rooms were the monks will live. They call them cells and once finished the visitors will not be able to go there since it is reserved for monks only. We were happy to see it now. The

THE MONASTERY WAS PROBABLY THE CLOSEST THING YOU WOULD GET TO COMPLETE BLISS.



The Chapel at the Monastery

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LEARN FROM ME - A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION ON THE HUMILITY OF CHRIST

(Continued from page 3)

Humility is the fulfillment of mankind's potential that was lost through the pride of our Forefathers in paradise.

Humility brings all together in communion while pride separates us from one another. The Holy Apostle Paul observes this when writing to the Philippians: *"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."* (Philippians 2:3-4)

This is the ultimate role of humility: to unite people, to make them one with each other and together with God *"I have*

given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity." (John 17:22-23)

God comes at Nativity and receives our flesh so He can change us into something better. As St. Athanasius puts it: *"God becomes Man so man can become god."* He wants to lift the course of pride and sin and replace it with humility and virtue. He invites all to follow His lead into heavens: *"Learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls."* (Matthew 11:29.)

At this festive time I wish everyone of you to rejoice in brotherly love, together receiving the great gift of the Incarna-

tion of our Lord. Let the humble infant that is born in the manger of Bethlehem grow inside of us until it reaches the *"whole measure of the fullness of Christ"*.

May He be glorified to the ages with His Unoriginate Father and the All Holy Spirit.

Amin.

*"LEARN OF ME,
FOR I AM MEEK
AND LOWLY IN
HEART AND YOU
WILL FIND REST
FOR YOUR
SOULS."*

(MAT 11:29.)

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE MONASTERY—BY MARIA TUDORA

(Continued from page 7)

monks were very good at finding ways not to waste their money on things such as air conditioning by using good insulation on walls. They had a very "eco-friendly" way of building it too.

Secondly, we walked around the area West of the construction and looked around the small cemetery they had. There were not very many graves but I was very impressed by a grave of a one year old baby; it made me sad for his parents. That wasn't the only grave that made me sad though - they all did - for

they all must have belonged to families that loved them VERY much. But that is a good place to be buried because the monks will take care of the graves and do memorial services for them.

After the cemetery, we went inside the big church (they call it Katholikon) they use for special occasions such as Christmas, and other great feasts. Inside They had a big chandelier that could spin around (the Polyeleos) and a big ring around it (the Choros) that would turn back-and-forth around the chandelier - it was probably the most amazing thing I have ever

seen.

Fr. Ephrem was very kind and he took out from the altar 4 silver boxes with the holy relics they have at the monastery. He told us their stories and we were able to venerate them. Then we were able to ask questions we had ready for Father Ephrem about the church and the monks living at the monastery. All our questions were answered, Fr. Ephrem was very gentle and knowledgeable about many things.

After this we went back to the kitchen and we had a nice

(Continued on page 9)



The Inside of the Church
At the Monastery

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE MONASTERY—BY MARIA TUDORA

(Continued from page 8)

meal with pasta and sea food rice. It was again delicious. Before we left Fr. Ephrem gave each of us an icon and a prayer rope and he showed us how to pray using the prayer rope.

The monastery was probably the closest thing you would

get to complete bliss. It was quiet, and just so beautiful - it was almost too good to be true! But not only that - the monks were also very kind - they spoiled us with their delicious food and refreshments. We didn't even feel we were fasting. I don't know why but the food at the monastery always tastes better. At least that's what my mom

says.

Overall it was a beautiful trip, we learned a lot and we made good friends. Hope next time more of our friends will join.

A big thanks all the people in our church that helped us go in this great visit!

Maria Tudora



Fr. Ephrem
Our great host

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Season's Greetings!!

Thanks to all who supported our Thanksgiving Basket Program, it is a privilege to be given the opportunity to help these needy families during the feast of Thanksgiving. Leo and Theresa Alexander have been so faithful about collecting all the items needed for the baskets and delivering them. This year Theresa's health has been problematic, so I wish to thank Tony and Athena Pacheras for delivering these items.

Once again this year we are providing Poinsettias for the holidays, please see Angela Cline or Connie Rafeiledes for more information and the order form is on our webpage as well. It is so very majestic to walk into our church and see the solea "in a sea of red". Thank you in advance for your support.

Our annual Philoptochos Christmas Party is scheduled

for Sunday, December 12, 2010 at Café Italia. We will all be gathering at 6:00 pm. Please see Barbara Vittas or Margaret Chokas for details as well as our webpage. This is a wonderful way for all of us to get together during the holidays.

Pre-order Bake Sale forms are in the Parish Hall and on our webpage. Please complete and drop in the appropriate box for some of our famous goodies for the holidays. Orders will need to be picked-up no later than December 19, 2010. Please join us in the Church Hall, December 18, 2010 as we prepare to fill all our Christmas Bake Orders while concurrently having our monthly meeting. Start time is 9:00 AM.

Joanie Ruppel will once again coordinate the "Adopt A Family" gift program. An email will be forth coming however, you may contact Joanie directly for more information. This is such a worth-

while cause, I believe we truly make a difference in the lives of several families.

Lastly, again this year, we are hosting our 4th annual Christmas Ornament Exchange event for all of St. John's. We ask that each individual that wishes to participate bring a wrapped ornament to church on Sunday December 19th and place it in one of our Christmas baskets. Those that bring an ornament will then have an opportunity to pick an ornament as they leave church to place on their trees at home. These ornaments can be personalized, handmade, store bought, etc. Just think in a few years time, we will all have enough ornaments to decorate our trees at home, all from our church family. There is no cost to participate, it is simply a way to all share in the holidays.

With Christ's Love,

Bertha

POINSETTIAS FOR
SALE AGAIN
THIS CHRISTMAS
SEASON.



St. Irene The Great Martyr



CHOIR NOTES

**Wishing you
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY
NEW YEAR
from Your Choir**

AGELESS WONDERS

The Ageless Wonders are going to meet on Tuesday, December 7th, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. at the Fort Worth Petroleum Club for our annual Christmas Luncheon. The cost is \$22.00 per person and reservations are required. We will car pool from the church if necessary. It was suggested that instead of a gift exchange we do gift cards to give to our needy families, so every one can bring a \$10.00 gift card from Wal-Mart to the luncheon and we will distribute as necessary. Call for details 817-354-7731 Margaret

GLADSOME LIGHT
DIALOGUES

Gladsome Light Dialogues is continuing in December with the series dedicated to Mount Athos. Join us for a fruitful journey to the Holy Mountain every Wednesday after Paraklesis.

Don't forget to visit our weekly updated blog at [http://
dialogues.stjohndfw.info](http://dialogues.stjohndfw.info)

USHER SCHEDULE

1st Sunday: Peter Talleos, Terry Poriotis

2nd Sunday: Barbara Vittas,
Larry Leeders

3rd Sunday: Stacia Leeders, Tim Cline

4th Sunday: George Moutafis,
Raj Shah

5th Sunday: Nancy Medvic,
Allison Medvic

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

1st Sunday : Phillip Sullivan,
Alex Genevesos, John Molhoek,
Bennet Kerbow

2nd Sunday : Chris Eftemie,
Ovidiu Berca, Phillip Sullivan,
Chris File

3rd Sunday : Jackson Wright,
Alex Shah, Alex Genevezos,
Bennett Kerbow

4th Sunday : Luca Tudora, Ovi
Berca, Alex Genevesos, Alex
Shah

5th Sunday: John Molhoek, Jack-
son Wright, Philip Sullivan, Ovi
Berca

COFFEE HOUR
HOST SCHEDULE

1st Sun.: Mr. & Mrs. Alex
Papadimitriou

2nd Sun: Philoptochos

3rd Sun: Parish Council

4th Sun: Ageless Wonders

5th Sun: Parish Council (If
Applicable)

COFFEE HOUR DUTIES

SETUP

Arrange pastries/food in a desirable manner on the appropriate tables in the parish hall.

You are responsible for making the coffee. Make two pots: one regular, one decaf. Plug in be-

fore going into church. The instructions are in the kitchen.

Prepare a tray with sugar, creamer, sugar substitute, mixing straws, a few spoons. Set with trash bucket.

Put donation basket out with appropriate sign.

CLEAN UP

Wash all dishes soiled, including coffee pots.

Return sugar tray to kitchen and replenish it.

Wash off hall tables and kitchen counters.

Thank-You



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
December 2010

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <i>Dates to Remember</i> | <i>December 12</i> <i>Church School</i> <i>Christmas Music Program & Pageant</i> | | ✙ <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00PM</i> <i>Gladsome Light Dialogues</i> | | ✙ | <i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00PM</i> |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>Vespers 6:00 PM</i> | <i>St. Nicholas the Wonderworker</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>6:00 AM</i> | <i>Ageless Wonders Christmas Luncheon</i> | ✙ <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00PM</i> <i>Gladsome Light Dialogues</i> | | ✙ | <i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00PM</i> <i>Advent Retreat</i> <i>10AM-1PM</i> |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>Philoptochos Christmas Dinner</i> | ✙ | ✙ | <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00PM</i> <i>Gladsome Light Dialogues</i> | ✙ | | <i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00PM</i> |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> | | ✙ | ✙ <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00PM</i> <i>Evening Film Dialogues</i> | ✙ | ✙ <i>Eve of the Nativity of Christ</i> <i>Royal Hours</i> <i>10:00 AM</i> <i>Vesp. Liturgy</i> <i>6:00PM</i> | <i>The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ</i> <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> | | | | | <i>New Year's Eve</i> <i>Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i> | <i>Circumcision of our Lord</i> <i>St Basil the Great</i> <i>Orthros</i> <i>8:30 AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> |
| | <i>Wine & Oil</i> | ✙ <i>Strict Fast</i> | <i>Fish</i> | <i>Dairy, Eggs, Fish</i> | <i>Fast Free</i> | |



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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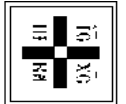
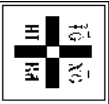
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