

THE FORERUNNER

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 5 M A Y 2012

WHY WE COME TO CHURCH OR ENTERING THE BRIDAL CHAMBER

Christ is risen!

A new church opening is a major event in the life of a parish that gathers together the entire body of its members in the extraordinary joy of a mission well accomplished. The reason why parishes build such new traditional Church buildings, beside the obvious capacity requirements,



is to bring the community closer to the ideal Orthodox way of worshiping, through spaces, shapes and finishes that are appropriate for its intended liturgical purpose. This means that a new church will not only host more people but will also allow them to worship in a more meaningful manner.

As a community gets closer to enter a new temple, it should also take into consideration if the things that will be brought in it are fit for the heightened sense of beauty that one expects from this undertaking. Some things may not be a good fit for the new space: furniture may be of inappropriate size or may be deteriorated, decorations may be of a different style, ecclesiastical items may be worn out etc. They will have to either be renewed or replaced altogether in order to preserve the spirit of improvement that this effort brings.

From a spiritual perspective the same type of critical evaluation should be considered by everyone that plans to step into the new church: to see if one's life is fit for the deepened spirit of worship that one would envision in the new liturgical space that opens its doors. During Holy Week in the Bridegroom services we chant: *"I see Thy Bridal Chamber adorned, O my Savior, but have no wedding garment that I may enter. O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my soul, and save me."* This sets the spirit in which we should conduct our inner search.

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COUNCIL CAPSULE

Christos Anesti! I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and happy Easter. Many, many thanks to Michael Eftimie and Larry Leeders, Chris Geil and their crew for cooking a delicious Lamb dinner for our Agape Luncheon. Everyone had a wonderful time with great food, good music and fellowship.

In preparation for Easter, Raj Shah and his helpers worked to clean up the grounds outside and Harriet Blake donated the lovely flowers that adorn the outside of our hall. Many thanks to you both and everyone else that helped freshen up our property.

We are still in need of two volunteers in good standing that would be willing to serve as

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Why We Come to Church?*
- *Understanding Christian Stewardship*
- *Construction Status*
- *Music Ministry Page*
- *Church Events*

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COUNCIL'S CAPSULE



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the nominating committee. 60 days prior to the elections for the parish council, your duties would be to survey eligible candidates for the parish council and present them at the Fall General Assembly. If you are interested in helping on this committee,

please see any myself or any council member.

Once again, I would like to remind everyone to submit his or her stewardship card for 2012. With the additional costs that we will incur with the new church, it is more important than ever for us to be able to support the church on stewardship and with your

generosity and dedication, this can be accomplished. One only needs to look at our beautiful new church and all that we have accomplished to affirm your stewardship at work.

Barbara Vittas

Parish Council President

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE REPORT

OUR CHURCH IS
ONLY A COUPLE
OF MONTHS
AWAY FROM
OPENING ITS
DOORS

As we move towards the completion and opening of our new church, we hope your personal financial planning for 2012 includes the completion of your family or personal commitment to the Capital Campaign. The year 2012 is the most significant, yet, in the history of our Parish and your continued support is essential to meet the goals and objectives of our capital development program. Through the paid capital campaign commitments to date of many of our parishioners we are now able to complete the project in a few short months or less, as reported in Joe Sullivan's Building Committee article. Everyone should take pride in this great accomplishment!

Our goal is to complete the Capital Campaign as early as possible this year so that we may be able to pay down the interim debt we have had to incur to keep the project moving without delay. It is

therefore as important as ever for our parishioners to continue payments of unfinished commitments during this third and final year of the campaign.

We are striving for 100% completion of all commitments to pay down as much of the interim construction loan as is possible before it translates into a mortgage loan. If your commitment has not yet been completed, or if you have not yet committed to support this great and historic endeavor, please help us achieve our project completion debt reduction goal this year before the Capital Campaign is ended.

The names of all who have made and completed their commitments to the campaign to build our new church, a spectacular statement of Byzantine architecture in the heart of the Metroplex, will be permanently enshrined in the narthex of the new church...

We invite all parishioners to willingly and lovingly participate in this historic endeavor and share in offering glory to God for what we will have accomplished as a lasting legacy and 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 Yiantsou, Nancy Medvic, Louie Papaliadis, Robert Steffaro, Margaret Chokas, Larry Leeders, George Vittas



WHY WE COME TO CHURCH OR ENTERING THE BRIDAL CHAMBER

(Continued from page 1)

I would propose to start this self evaluation with a question: why do we come to Church? The answer to this basic query will bring tremendous clarity on the state of our spiritual commitment.

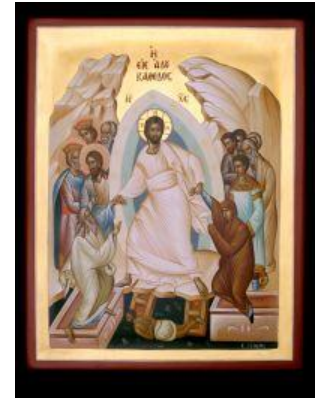
Generally when faced with this question one gives a reply that sounds like this: I come to find peace, I come for fellowship, I come to recharge my batteries, I come to listen to beautiful singing, I come to hear a good message, I come to feel spiritually uplifted, I come to see nice works of art in the icons and so on. All of the above are part of what we experience during a regular church visit. But are any of these things unique enough for the Church that would make one prefer to be in Church over any other place in

the world on any given Sunday morning?

A short answer is: not really, because we can easily reach these things in many ways. A sense of peace can be found on a nice hike in the forest or a fishing trip. Fellowship can be achieved by going out with some friends. A classical concert or a good recording can give us a great musical experience. A good comedy can uplift our spirit and ease our tension. An extra couple of hours of sleep can recharge our batteries. A museum would be a better place to admire art. A motivational speaker can give us excellent practical hints on living a full life. I am also sure we can find comprehensive experiences that will combine all of these, just as a visit to church would be.

Coming exclusively for any of the above would render our experience incomplete and our visit fruitless. If we are searching for the secular in the church we will always be disappointed because this is not what Church is for. Church is meant to be a revelation of the nether world, an entrance in the kingdom of heavens, not an extension of the fallen world. The exapostiliarion of the Bridegroom service compares the Church with a bridal chamber not because we come here to feel good, be entertained or socialize, but because this is the place where we are united in a mystical way with the bridegroom of the Church: Jesus Christ. All other purposes are just secondary side benefits and they should not be considered goals in themselves.

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The Resurrection

NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME TO GET INVOLVED IN THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The month of April saw the completion of the sidewalks around the Hall, just in time for Pascha services, as well as a substantial completion of the sheetrock work in the Church.

Brick and stone installation continues to make progress, albeit at a slow pace, with completion scheduled in May.

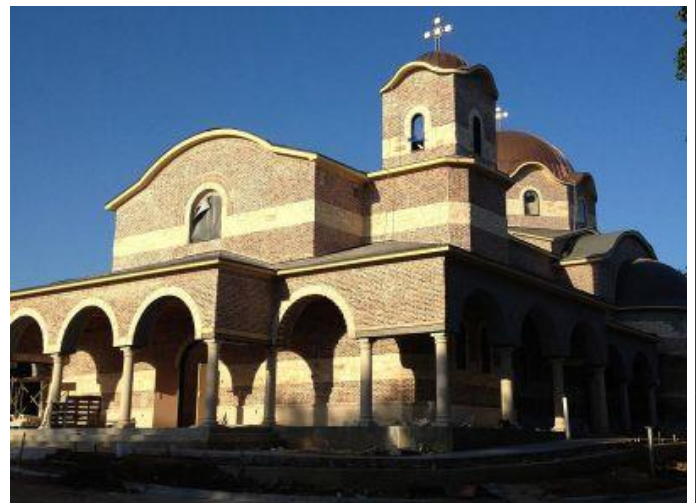
Interior work including plaster application to the walls, restroom installation, mechanical and electrical trim and landscaping will be executed in May as well.

The iconostasis wall will be delivered on-site and set in

place in the coming weeks.

We hope everyone has had an opportunity to review the interior finishes presented last month and feels comfortable about the extraordinary Church that will be completed in the coming months.

Joe Sullivan - Building Committee Chairman



LET STEWARDSHIP BE A WAY OF LIFE



How wonderful it is to see our church coming to life - from the beautiful service blessing the crosses atop the church to the evening service before Pascha in front of the new church.

We all feel the joy and great blessing our new church brings and thank God for all that he bestows on us daily. We have high hopes for our new church - and all of us need to be a big part in its

continued growth and development. Our church is sustained by our faithful stewards. How far we have come.

We are happy to report that we have 109 stewards to date. *A total of \$193,468 has been pledged toward our stewardship goal of \$223,000.* Give, and you will receive. We promise, your gift will return to you in full.

Consider this an opportunity for great joy and give freely

and generously. Please - if you have not already done so, complete your stewardship cards. Our goal is attainable.

In gratitude and thanks,

Nina Sullivan and Hope File

STEWARDSHIP IS
OUR ACTIVE
COMMITMENT TO
USE ALL OUR TIME,
TALENT AND
TREASURE FOR THE
BENEFIT OF
HUMANKIND IN
GRATEFUL
ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF CHRIST'S
REDEEMING LOVE

UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Can we now build a definition for stewardship? How might we describe "stewardship in action?"

The following list is adapted from one prepared by Ron Nicola:

1. Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
2. Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.
3. Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
4. Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . .", as proof of that belief.
5. Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is

learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

6. Stewardship is devotion and service to God and his Church as persons, as families, as metropolises, as national Churches, and as the Church universal. (Ron Nicola, "Stewardship - A Set of Basic Principles," The Word, November 1982,4.)

Perhaps we could summarize the points just mentioned this way: Christian stewardship is a life in service to God and His Church motivated by our thankfulness for His love to us . . . ".... in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." It is the wise and proper use of all the gifts God has entrusted to our care.

(See Romans 5:8) What **then**

are the essential elements of stewardship?

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

1. Acceptance of the belief that all life and life itself is a gift from God.
2. Freedom to choose not to sin and freedom from the constraints, pressures and temptations of the world that smother the expression of this belief.
3. Life in the Spirit which is characterized by behavior that uses and nurtures the time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us by God.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I become a member of the parish?

Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at Baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments and through our faithful offering of our lives to Christ. We have to distinguish however between voting members and non-voting members. A voting member is over 18 years old and has turned in a signed stewardship commitment

card (for time, talent and treasure). The Archdiocese also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Overall true membership in the Body of Christ, involves living daily according to His word and within His Church.

Why must I commit to give a specific amount?

Knowing the amount of your monetary participation helps our parish plan the activities throughout the year. Your

monetary stewardship is kept in the strictest of confidence.

What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

During the course of a year, people's circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.



ICONS OF MERCY—ST. JOHN THE MERCIFUL

Saint John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria, was born on Cyprus in the seventh century into the family of the illustrious dignitary Epiphanius. At the wish of his parents he entered into marriage and had children. When the wife and the children of the saint died, he became a monk. He was zealous in fasting and prayer, and had great love for those around him.

His spiritual exploits won him honor among men, and even the emperor revered him.

When the Patriarchal throne of Alexandria fell vacant, the emperor Heraclius and all the clergy begged St John to occupy the Patriarchal throne.

The saint worthily assumed his archpastoral service, concerning himself with the moral and dogmatic welfare of his flock. As patriarch he denounced every soul-destroying heresy, and drove

out from Alexandria the Monophysite Phyllonos of Antioch.

He considered his chief task to be charitable and to give help to all those in need. At the beginning of his patriarchal service he ordered his stewards to compile a list of all the poor and downtrodden in Alexandria, which turned out to be over seven thousand men. The saint ordered that all of these unfortunates be provided for each day out of the church's treasury.

The saint never refused suppliants. One day, when the saint was visiting the sick, he met a beggar and commanded that he be given six silver coins. The beggar changed his clothes, ran on ahead of the Patriarch, and again asked for alms. St John gave him six more silver coins. When, however, the beggar sought charity a third time, and the

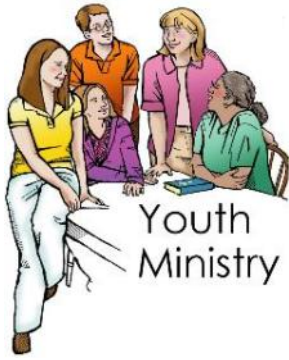
servants began to chase the fellow away, the Patriarch ordered that he be given twelve pieces of silver, saying, "Perhaps he is Christ putting me to the test."

Twice the saint gave money to a merchant that had suffered shipwreck, and a third time gave him a ship belonging to the Patriarchate and filled with grain, with which the merchant had a successful journey and repaid his obligations.

St John, a strict ascetic and man of prayer, was always mindful of his soul, and of death. He ordered a coffin for himself, but told the craftsmen not to finish it. Instead, he would have them come each feastday and ask if it was time to finish the work. The saint peacefully fell asleep in the Lord (616-620)."

CHRISTIAN
STEWARDSHIP IS
A LIFE IN SERVICE
TO GOD AND
HIS CHURCH
MOTIVATED BY
OUR
THANKFULNESS
FOR HIS LOVE
TO US .





YOUTH MINISTRIES ON THE MOVE

Our Graduation Luncheon went on as planned Sunday, April 29. High School graduates honored included Joey Basiliadis, Sam Leimbacher and James Seals; also recognized were College graduate Danny Peters, and Masters graduates David Walker and Carol Bitner. The luncheon is one of two fundraisers that Youth Ministries sponsors each year. We thank everybody for their support .

Funds raised by the luncheon, as well as the Back-to-School luncheon in the fall, help us pay for gifts for our graduates as well as our altar boys, plus support the many youth activities that St. John's is involved in, including the Oratorical Festival, Camp Emmanuel, GOYA retreats and Dance Troupe costumes.

As most of you know, Maria Tudora, represented St. John's at the Oratorical Festival in Austin in March. She received Honorable Mention. Bravo, Maria!

The deadline for Camp Emmanuel is May 20. See their website <http://youth.denver.goarch.org/events/2012-events/2012-camp-emmanuel-home>; or come see Rena Poletes or me, for details. The cost is \$335 plus transportation. There are two sessions: for ages 11-14, the camp runs from June 10-16; for ages 15-18, the camp runs from June 17-23. Last year, Alex Genovezos and Maria Tudora attended, as did Father Vasile. I know all of them would be happy to talk about the experience if you have questions.

At our spring Youth Ministries meeting, we announced that the new heads for our JOY youth group are Carmen Berca and Presbyteria Mirela. JOY is for kids in the 3rd through 5th grades. Stay tuned for details.

Also at our YM meeting, the new leaders of our Dance Troupe were announced: Gina Poulakos and Elena Bouras. Thank you, Gina and Elena, for stepping up. They will be assisted by troupe leader "emeritus" and new mom, Laurie Cortinas.

Youth Ministries will hold its fall meeting in late August, date to be announced.

God Bless.

Harriet Blake

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD AT ST. JOHN'S DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 4-7 FROM 6:00PM - 8:00PM.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

May 20th is the last day of Church School before summer begins. We will celebrate the children's accomplishments and will have a recognition ceremony on May 20th with our End-of-Year picnic. Please make every effort to attend this day so that we may recognize your children in front of the parish for their attendance records and other special awards.

Vacation Bible School will be held at St. John's during the week of June 4-7 from 6:00PM - 8:00PM. This is planned for Kindergarten thru 5th grade. Additional information and registration forms will be sent home via your children and/or can be downloaded from our church website. Mark your calendars for these dates. We have dedicated volunteers providing these educational and fun

activities for our children. Let's have a great showing of support for their efforts.

Got Jesus? Lock-in is TBD. This is vacation bible school for GOYA aged children from 6th grade thru 12th grade. Additional information and registration forms will be sent home via your children and/or can be downloaded from our church website.

The teen class is meeting on the following dates in May:

May 6 - Our Patron Saints

May 13

We've had a great year with many memorable moments with our children and their teachers. I would like to express deep gratitude to our

Church School Teachers, without whom we would not have the great success in providing the religious instructions.

Pre-K & K: Mrs. Maria Kerbow, Ms. Allison Medvic, and Mrs. Tina Mollhoek

1st & 2nd: Mrs. Theresa Alexander

3rd & 4th: Mrs. Esther Petercsak

Middle School: Mrs. Harriet Blake

Teens: Mrs. Anca Morcovescu and Mrs. Hilary Walker

Church School will begin again on September 9th. May He keep you and Bless you.

Khanh Moutafis



Christ blessing children

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Festival of Tables

Saturday May 5

Our big event this month is the Festival of Tables. Since it is just a few days away, please contact Bertha Gianulis (817) 690-9699 for a seat. Cost is \$35 per person. Event takes place at Holy Trinity in Dallas.

For those attending, please remember to bring a gently used purse to donate to Safe Haven for those women who are starting over in their lives for one reason or another. Let's be generous.

Membership

While April 30 was our dead-

line to send in our Stewardship to our National organization, we are still accepting members and their stewardship pledge. We suggest a minimum of \$22 as a pledge which goes straight to our Metropolis and National organizations. Please see Barbara Vittas, Membership Chairman, to join our organization.

Once again we have met all of our annual commitments and obligations to both the Metropolis and National Philoptochos. This will earn us the National Commitment Award in July at the Philoptochos Biennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ. (More on that next month!)

One More Tidbit....

The month of May signifies the closing of many activities for Philoptochos until we begin anew in September. While our meetings cease, the need for our services does not. Please continue to bring in Shoes for Orphan Soles and toiletry supplies for the families at Safe Haven. And as always, if you need Philoptochos, please contact Fr. Vasile, Joanie Ruppel or any Philoptochos member.

Joanie Ruppel, President
St. Irene Philoptochos



JOIN US FOR
THE FESTIVAL OF
TABLES ON MAY
5 AT HOLY
TRINITY IN
DALLAS

GOYA NEWS

Thanks to all the people that supported us at the Texas Star Grill GOYA night, including the families who donated that could not attend. We especially thank Mrs. Khan who scheduled the event.

We have also just elected our new officers for the next year.

They are:

- **President-** John Molhoek
- **Vice President-** Jackson Wright
- **Treasurer-** Alex Shaw
- **Secretary-** Maria Tudora

Three GOYA members, Zoe Crawford, Katie Moutafis, and Maria Tudora recently had the

chance to participate in the Southern GOYA Lenten Retreat in Hunt, Texas alongside other goyans from Holy Trinity.

GOYA hosted a babysitting fundraiser on Friday, April 27th for all families in the church and had a lock-in afterwards.

Many goyans participated in Saturday's church Spring Cleanup, clearing trash and sticks from the land around the buildings. We were happy to help beautify our property in preparation for Holy Week.

Also in anticipation of Pascha we participated in the Sacrament of Holy Confession.

We thank the church for all the support they have given us this past year, including helping us get to the GOYA basketball tournament. We hope to be able to give back to both our community and the church in the coming year.

John Molhoek,
GOYA President





St. Isaac the Syrian

“STARTING
MARCH ISSUE WE
ARE DEDICATING
THIS PAGE TO
OUR MUSIC
MINISTRY, CHOIR
AND CHANTERS
TOGETHER .”



St. John Damascene

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHOIR

It Is All Father Bogdan's Fault!

It was Father Bogdan who told Carol about the Civil Air Patrol, the Auxiliary of the U. S. Air Force. This was done at the end of Father Bogdan's last sermon at St. John's. After the service, Carol asked Father Bogdan for more info. Father Bogdan gladly filled her in on the Civil Air Patrol, or CAP. (Father Bogdan is a U. S. Air Force approved Chaplain in the CAP.) Carol soon joined the CAP unit in Grand Prairie, the Crusader Composite Squadron.

When Carol joined the Crusader Squadron, I was the Administration Officer for the Crusader Squadron. I also

was the squadron "go-to" officer for most questions and concerns. I had been recruited to the squadron when I finished serving on the Southwest Region CAP staff. (The Southwest Region covers Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, New Mexico and Arizona.)

Carol, because of her extensive experience as a pilot, was almost immediately promoted to the rank of Captain. (She has many, many flight hours and a bunch of initials signifying qualifications, after her name.)

I answered her questions and conducted part of her initial CAP training. Anytime she had a question, she would call

me. We became friends. The calls back and forth became more frequent and covered more subjects than just CAP. We began to do things together outside of CAP. While others around us were aware that the relationship between us was growing, I was oblivious.

Finally, Carol brought things to a head by telling me of her feelings. She describes the look that was on my face as a "deer in the headlights" look. After some soul searching, we decided to become engaged. When we announced this to the rest of the members of the Crusader CAP Squadron, a member in the rear of the

(Continued on page 9)

RESOURCES ABOUT BYZANTINE CHANTING

Christ is Risen!

What a wonderful Lent and Pascha we had! Every single Pascha is special, but this Holy Week was very unique. Last year was a blur because I joined the church right before Lent, but this year was much more settled. My hope is that not only did the music "sound good," but that it spiritually moved you closer to God.

One special point I would like to mention is that although our spiritual journey as Christians through Holy Week may be a somewhat personal one, we really cannot move through that personal journey without others in the church. Our per-

sonal journey is a very communal one. With that being said, while some may be confused by why and for what reason certain elements were in (or not in) Holy Week, hopefully there is the understanding that the services are not for chanters but for the congregation.

It takes much effort to produce a Holy Week that is aesthetically and spiritually edifying. With that being said, I would like to thank all the chanters and readers, new and old, that helped in any way throughout Holy Week. We all know that Holy Week is always spiritually difficult, but navigating its hymnology is an extra challenge. Without those who

help, it would have been exponentially more difficult and absolutely less pleasant to listen to.

A blessed Ascension and Pentecost to you all,

David Walker

WHY WE COME TO CHURCH OR ENTERING THE BRIDAL CHAMBER

(Continued from page 3)

The entire body of opportunities that the Church offers is centered around this goal, to make the presence of God real in the middle of the worshipping community, the *ekklesia*. The Church architecture, music, iconography and all that the church encompasses serve this very purpose. But they cannot work by themselves, we have to also be aware of their purpose and use them appropriately, without transforming them into idols by caring more about them than we do for acknowledging the presence of God.

From time to time we hear people saying: "I did not feel anything in church today because either the church was too crowded, the music was not good, the sermon was too long..." Looking for feelings and experiences is however starting on the wrong foot. The fathers advise us not to be moved by the senses because senses can be deceiving and the feelings they bring, many times carnal and sensual in nature, can be mistaken for spiritual

ones and lead us into error. On the contrary we should be passionless and guided by the words of the prayers alone and a motionless spirit of awareness. One can say however: what about the visions and miracles of the saints? The extraordinary experiences and visions of the saints were indeed real, but they were never sought after by them. The saints were looking for salvation alone and in the process they received those extraordinary visions or abilities as gifts of grace. They are rather the exception, not the rule and for sure not the purpose.

Because our senses are aware only of the material, the Eastern Orthodox Church tries to transfigure them through shapes, colors, music, fragrances that transmit an out of this world experience that are not trying to fill the senses with carnal sensuality but to transfigure them to perceive the things beyond the obvious. Photios Kontoglou, a Greek iconographer and theologian of the twentieth century, says, "Orthodox art is for me the art of arts. I believe in it as I believe in

(Orthodox) religion. Only this art nourishes my soul, through its deep and mysterious powers; it alone quenches the thirst that I feel in the midst of the arid desert that surrounds us. In comparison with Byzantine art, all the others appear to me trivial, 'troubling themselves about many things, when but one thing is needed'." (See also Luke 10:38-42). Church does not do art for art, but brings forth beauty for the glory of God using very specific tools and forms that make it serve its unique liturgical purpose.

Any New Church is not a purpose in itself either, nor is an object of pride but it is a sacrifice to God intended to bring us closer to Him. What we should remember when we will make our first step into the New Church is only one thing: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Mathew 6:33).



Archangel Gabriel
By Photios Kontoglou

"ORTHODOX
ART IS FOR ME
THE ART OF
ARTS."

PHOTIOS
KONTOGLOU

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHOIR (CONT'D.)

(Continued from page 8)

room called out, "Who won the pool?" There was a betting pool on when Carol and I would announce. It was won by one of the cadet members. Everybody was in on the pool.

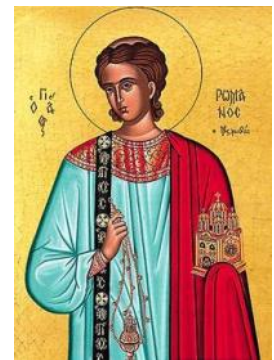
We were married in this church. Father Vasile and Father Bogdan officiated. I was in my CAP uniform, as were a large number of the guests. I will always be grateful to Mike and Kathy Fox for being our sponsors.

Since Carol was a member of the choir and the alternate

organist, it was only natural that I tag along with her to the choir. Bill Poletes and the other members allow me to sing in the bass section.

So, when you hear me make a mistake when I am singing in the choir, just remember it is all Father Bogdan's fault.

E. S. Tex Collins



St. Roman the Melodist



SACRAMENTS IN THE PAST MONTH

Chrismations:

- Melissa Barnes
- Cecilia Junell
- Diego Leal
- Thomas Paschall

Baptisms:

- Lucas Dewayne Duff
- Sophia Puddy

AGELESS WONDERS

The Ageless Wonders will meet on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, for brunch and a movie. We are going to see "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" I've been waiting {with baited breath} for this to come to our area and it opens here in May. A fun story with a great cast. . Save the date, details will be forthcoming.

Happy Mothers Day to all.....Margaret

GLADSOME LIGHT DIALOGUES

Gladsome Light Dialogues will continue to be off in May.

In the meantime check our blog that you can visit at <http://dialogues.stjohndfw.info>

USHER SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday: Barbara Vittas, Bob Steffaro
- 2nd Sunday: Hope File, Michael Eftimie
- 3rd Sunday: Larry Leeders, Karen Kinman
- 4th Sunday: Nina Sullivan, Raj Shah
- 5th Sunday: Chris Geil, Nancy Medvic
- Fill-in: Harry Karegeannes

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- 1st Sunday : Bennett Kerbow, Caleb Ellis, Alex Genovezos, Jackson Wright
- 2nd Sunday : Chris Eftimie, Michael Beebe, Chris File, Luca Tudora
- 3rd Sunday : John Molhoek, Alex Shah, Alex Genovezos, Michael Beebe
- 4th Sunday : Luca Tudora, James Seals, Alex Genovezos, Alex Shah
- 5th Sunday: Michael Beebe, James Seals, John Molhoek, Alex Shah

COFFEE HOUR HOST

- 1st Sun.: Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Chokas (May 1)
- 2nd Sun: Philoptochos
- 3rd Sun: GOYA
- 4th Sun: Parish Council
- 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
M A Y 2012

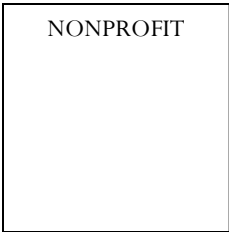
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
			 <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>			<i>Festival of Tables</i> <i>(Holy Trinity)</i> <i>11:00 AM</i> <i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Sunday of</i> <i>the Paralytic</i> <i>Orthros 8:30</i> <i>AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>Teen Class</i>		<i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>	<i>Mid-Pentecost</i>  <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>6:00 AM</i> <i>No Paraklesis</i>			<i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Sunday of the</i> <i>Samaritan</i> <i>Woman</i> <i>Orthros 8:30</i> <i>AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>Teen Class</i>		Ageless Wonders	 <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>			<i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Sunday of the</i> <i>Blind Man</i> <i>Orthros 8:30</i> <i>AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>Church School</i> <i>Year-End Picnic</i> <i>11:00 AM</i> <i>Camp Emmanuel</i> <i>deadline</i>			<i>Apodosis of</i> <i>Pascha</i>  <i>Vigil</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>	<i>HOLY</i> <i>ASCENSION</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>6:00 AM</i>		<i>Great Vespers</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		
<i>Fathers of the 1st</i> <i>Ecumenical</i> <i>Council</i> <i>Orthros 8:30</i> <i>AM</i> <i>Divine Liturgy</i> <i>9:30 AM</i>			 <i>Paraklesis</i> <i>6:00 PM</i>		<i>Strict Fast</i>  <i>Wine/oil allowed</i> 	<i>Fish/Wine/Oil</i> <i>Allowed</i> 



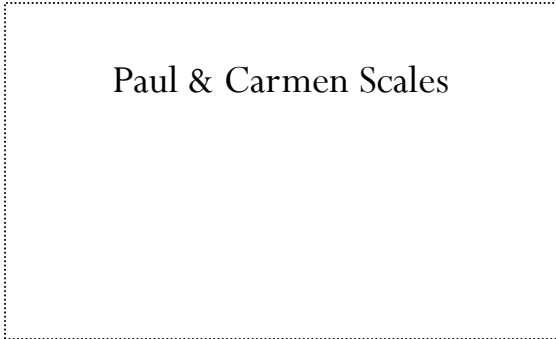
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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Return Service Requested



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THE FORERUNNER

Vol. XXVIII No. 5 MAY 2012



The Holy Ascension of
Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ
May 24