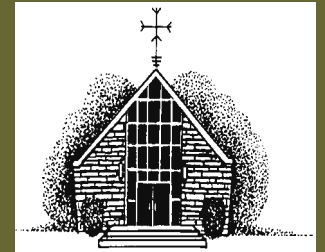


THE ORTHODOX POST

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Volume 3, Issue 8



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Pastor's Message

By Father David Fox

DEAR FRIENDS,

AS WE GET BACK TO THE FALL ROUTINE WITH PLANS OF DOING ALL WE CAN TO BUILD ST. NICHOLAS PARISH TO BE THE BEST IT CAN BE, AND SINCE THIS MONTH, WE WILL HAVE TWO WEDDINGS AT ST. NICHOLAS, IT MAY BE GOOD TO REFLECT ON THE POINT OF ALL WE DO: INCREASING OUR CAPACITY TO LOVE.

On Love

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor

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and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but

Pastor's Message continued on Page 4

President's Message

By Bill Peters

Hope you all had an enjoyable Summer!!!

September marks the beginning of another church year with critical challenges. Major events facing us include the Sunday School Opening, Parish General Meeting, Annual Golf Outing, Albanian Archdiocese Annual Assembly and Flea Market & Bake Sale.

Also, we will be focusing on our Building Expansion Program. Much work has been done by the Building Committee and the Parish Council, under the leadership of Al and Lou Foundos, to develop specific plans with the architect and contractors for this Program. Also, a Program Description and Fund-Raising Campaign has been created for parishioners which will be presented to them during September and October. To care for the building growth requirements of the Parish, significant money – approximately \$300,000 – is needed. It must be

raised from every one of us in the community. When you are approached for financial help, please make a "Commitment" and give as generously as you can. See Page 6 for more information.

In addition, in the Fall, we will be launching our Annual Pledge Program. Both fund raising efforts are critical to the well being of the Church. The Building Program Fund-Raising is necessary to expand the Church space and facilities in order to do God's work serving the community. In contrast, the money from the Annual Pledge Program is required to pay for the basic everyday expenses to operate and keep our Church open. It is critical to our personal well-being as well as to the health of the Church that we place a high priority on the value of the Church in our lives. Again, we should be as generous as possible when we make our Annual Pledge.

Please do your Best!!!

KENDI SHQIP

(The Albanian Corner)



By Adelina Llupa

Me kerkese te Fr. David, kete muaj po japim lutjen e Shen Simon Metafrastes dhe nje pjese te shkurter nga vjersha "Varferia" e Naim Frasherit.

"Ti qe me deshire me jep trupin tend si ushqim,
Ti qe si zjarr zhdok ate qe nuk eshte i vlefshem,
Me kurse mua, O krijuesi im; Kalo ne te gjitha pjeset e trupit,
Neper gjymtyre, ne mendimet dhe ne zemren time.

Digji gjembat e mekateve te mija; Ma pastro shpirtin dhe me kthjello mendimet.
Ma forco trupin; Me ndrico shqisat.

Me bej te te kem frike; Gjithmone me jep strehe, me mbro dhe

Me mbaj larg nga cdo veprim dhe cdo fjale qe ma shkaterron shpirtin,

Me bej te zgjuar, me pastro dhe me kontrollo fjalet; Me duaj, me meso, dhe me hap syte,
Me trego si te behem tempull vetem i shpirtit tend dhe asnjehere i mekatit,

Le te largohet menjehere nga shpirti im cdo veprim dhe pasion i lig

Duke te bere ty pjese te trupit tim dhe permes kungimit tend.

Si lidhje, une sjell tek ty te gjitha Shenjtoret, engjejt, dhe aposujt e mencur,

Dhe pervec ketyre, te sjell Nenen tende te paster dhe te zgjuar.

Pranoji lutjet e tyre, Krishti im, pse ti je i dhemshur,

Beje sherbetorin tend te sjelle drite:

Sepse vetem Ti, Ati i mire, je shenjterimi dhe pastertija e shpirtit tone,

Dhe ty, O Zot i gjithfuqishem, perdite te thurim lavde"

The Daughters' Corner

By Linda Foundos

We hope you all enjoyed your summer with all its activities, perhaps even travel. It's kind of sad to have it come to an end, but fall is an invigorating time, and we turn our attention to different things. Each season has its own special good points on which we focus. As our fall begins with a new church calendar, so too we begin with many events and activities. The Daughters will work along side of our Parish Council to facilitate all of these. We look forward to having as many women as possible getting involved. We welcome you to come with new ideas and energy.

Once again, our annual Rummage & Bake Sale is just around the corner, Saturday & Sunday, October 27th & 28th. Please search your home for those unwanted, unused items that you would like to donate for sale. Please make certain that they are in good, clean & working condition. We will be asking for volunteers for pricing, setting up, working the sale weekend, baking, etc. Get involved. It's actually a fun and worthwhile experience. One of the best ways to get better acquainted is to work together. You'll be rewarded with stronger relationships. This is YOUR church, be an active part of it. With such a growing community, there are so many wonderful programs we can have.

If you or someone you know would like to be included in our rotation of hosting our Coffee Hour, please contact Christina Liolin.

KENDI SHQIP Continuation:

Varferia

...Sa jemi shqiptare,

Kemi gjithë nje bese,

Jemi gjithë nje fare,

Dhe rrojme me nje shprese,

S'jemi kurre te ndare.

...Bes'eshte Perendija

Per gjithë Shqipetaret,

Edhe vellazerija,

Urtesija, te mbaret,

Fe eshte njerezia.

ON THE INTERNET

~ *Albanian Forum on the Internet (Forumi Shqiptar)*

- has a section on: Komuniteti Orthodhoks. It has extensive offerings on Orthodoxy in the Albanian language. They are divided into many themes, i.e. "The Birth of Christ," "The Church is One," a catechism and includes Fr. Thomas Hopko's entire Rainbow series.
- Ne gjuhen shqipe: per te dhena informative mbi Kishen Orthodhokse, klikoni "Komuniteti Orthodhoks" ne uebsajten Forumi Shqiptar me poshte:
- The url is:
<http://www.forumishqiptar.com/forumdisplay.php?f=186>

~ *Ancient Faith Radio*

- *This is a 24 hour a day Orthodox radio station providing high quality internet-based Orthodox programming. Here you will find music, teaching, interviews, features, convert testimonies, conference recordings, and much more! The URL is: <http://ancientfaithradio.com>*

Sunday School News

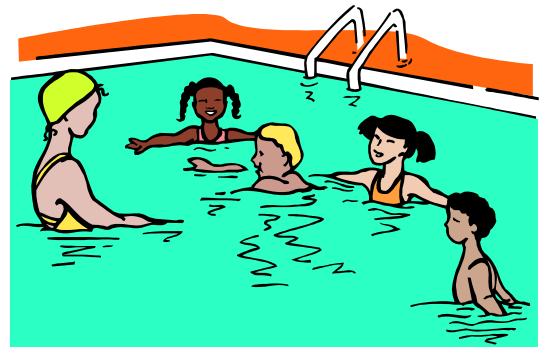


Registration and Orientation for Sunday School will take place after Liturgy on Sunday, September 9th. Teachers will also be able to prepare their classrooms.

Teachers will meet with Father David on Monday, September 10th at 7:30 pm.

First day of class will be Sunday, September 16th.

Sunday School Fall Pool Party

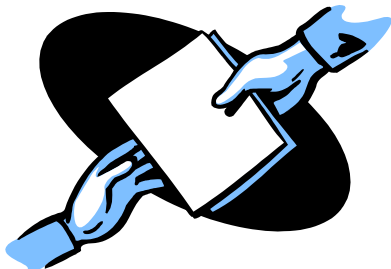


Students, Parents and Teachers enjoyed the Fall Pool Party which served as the Kick-off to the start of the new Sunday School Year.

All had a very good time!!!

A special "Thank You" goes to Linda and Lou Foundos for extending the hospitality of their home to make possible this Pool Party for the Sunday School.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



A special collection for the poor will be held on the first Sunday of every month. Please plan to give generously every month to those whose lives are less fortunate than ours. Donations can also be placed in the Poor Box at any time.

AANO Convention

(Albanian-American National Organization)

Several of our parishioners traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada in early August for the Albanian-American National Organization 61st Annual Convention and 21st Queen Pageant. These include Zana & Thomas Fundo; George Llupa; Damian Peters; Christina, Jim, Alexandra & Elizabeth Liolin; Phillip & Jana Foundos; Christine, Thoma, Jamie & Daniella Beno; and Linda, Lou, Steve & Lauren Foundos.

What a great time touring the fabulous hotels on the strip, the Vegas shows, a little casino action, great restaurants, some time in the sun and of course the Queen Pageant and the AANO Saturday night banquet with Aurela Gace entertaining us as we danced. Next year's convention will be held in Philadelphia. It's always great to reunite with fellow Shqiptare from other cities and make new friends too.

Pastor's Message – continued from Page 1

rejoices with the truth. Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, love always perseveres. Love never fails.

But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13

Community News

By Linda Foundos

- Double congratulations to Diane & Stephen Jones on the birth of twin girls on Friday, August 3rd in Tampa, Florida. Larry Jance is the proud grandfather and John Jance the proud uncle of Sofia Nicole, 4 lbs 5 oz., & Elizabeth Stefanie, 4 lbs. 15 oz. Renee, the big sister of the twins, will have a lot to teach them. May God bless the entire family. Oh what fun will go on at that house!!!
- Happy Anniversary to Adelina and Roland Llupa who recently celebrated their 25th year together. They enjoyed a weekend away at Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, New York, a beautiful retreat not to be missed. We wish you at least another 25 years!!
- Get well wishes to Mario Liberta, father of Christina Liolin, who recently underwent surgery.
- Welcome back to all our summer travelers! It's great fun to have a change of scene, enjoy new places, and visit with family out of town. We had many parishioners visit Albania, and many to vacation spots in the United States.

- *Looking ahead.....*
September 2nd - Memorial (1 yr.)
for Mrs. Aneta Bima
September 9th - Wedding -
Beti Beno & Izidoros Tsamblakos
September 14th - Wedding -
Telo (Harry) Kondili & Mirela Miraj

If you have any news about friends, family or the community and you would like to share with our Parish Community,

**Please contact Linda Foundos
at (516) 671-8071**

COME AND PLAY



10th ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS GOLF OUTING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

Remember last year's outing? It was great! For those of you who participated last year and had a great time, and also those of you who did not and missed a great outing, we would be pleased to have you join us on Monday, September 24, 2007 when we will be holding our *10th Annual St. Nicholas Golf Outing* at the *Town of Oyster Bay Golf Course*. This is an exceptional golf course with challenging holes and beautiful views.

We start with registration in the morning and Tee-off at noon striking that little magic white ball hoping it goes where we wish, but frequently in another direction. As we move along in good company we have hamburgers at the pit stop and continue on wishing to hit the Hole-in-One and win a BMW. After a beautiful round of golf, then we proceed at the 19th Hole at the Woodlands Restaurant in the Clubhouse; followed by a great dinner, prizes/awards and the grand raffle. The results of all this is a great day and evening and a great fundraiser for our Church

We are reaching out for your participation and/or signing up your friends and relatives to join us at this year's event and ask for a wonderful and fun-filled day. The cost to golf, lunch and dinner is **\$650.00 for a foursome** or **\$175.00** per person. We also want to encourage you to solicit sponsors for *hole sponsorships for \$250.00*, and/or *prize/merchandise sponsorships for \$100-\$300* for the raffle, which helps raise funds for our church programs.

We do hope that you will participate and invite your friends to join us. Registration/sponsorship forms are available in the office or from any committee member. Please make an effort to help and respond early so we can plan to accommodate everyone.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact any one of the members listed, or call 516-520-5227 and ask for Donna or Cathy

The Golf Committee: Phil Foundos & Tomi Beno: Co-Chairmen
Mark Papalexis, Al Foundos, Mitch Thomas, Lou Foundos, Jim Liolin, Jim Oswald and George Kelapire.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

BUILDING EXPANSION PROGRAM

IS MOVING AHEAD



The Building Committee and the Parish Council have made significant progress in developing specific plans for our Building Expansion Program. Soon they will be presenting detailed information to our Community through letters in the mail, presentations in church and individual visits with parishioners. It is an exciting time for all of us to respond to God's calling to improve our facilities to better serve our parishioners, the Albanian-American Community and the local community. Our Church is growing, thus it has critical building needs. It is the responsibility of all of us to make this Program possible by providing the necessary financial support when we are asked for our help. The Building Expansion Program cares for the following major parish needs:

1. Sunday Classroom Space for our Children

New space for Sunday School Children will be provided by expanding forward toward Midland Parkway from the current Office area to provide better space (larger and dedicated) than our present Office area.

In addition, we are considering an option that a second floor be added for additional space for classes, a library, and meeting rooms for senior citizens and other local community outreach.

2. Elevator for the Aged and Handicapped

A small elevator will be installed to provide easy access to our Fellowship Hall for our aging and handicapped parishioners who struggle with the stairs.

3. Additional Seating for Parishioners

At the entrance of the Church (candle area), a loft will be constructed which will increase our ability to have more people sit and/or stand inside the Church for special holidays and growth. This space will also be used as a school and meeting room.

4. Additional Storage and Classroom Space

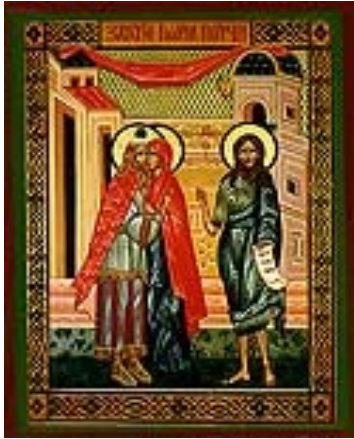
An additional room will be added downstairs next to the Fellowship Hall, primarily for storage and as an additional Sunday School room. This will release the space now closed by separators for Sunday School use, thus increasing the area of the Fellowship Hall at all times.

5. Boiler, Air Conditioning and Sound System Replacements

Our Church is now almost 40 years old and we need to replace and update some equipment, renovate some areas and generally spruce up all around. The Boiler has failed and this must be replaced immediately, before cold weather arrives. Plans are under way to do this. The Air Conditioning System needs to be replaced and relocated to serve our facility. The Sound (microphone and speaker) Systems need to be replaced, so that it is more effective and absolutely reliable. We hope some of this Sound System work will be done by our parishioners, but it will still take a lot of money to make it happen.

September's Major Feast days

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, John the Baptist Commemorated on September 23



The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah's birth His Forerunner would appear, and would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner. In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest St Zachariah and his wife St Elizabeth, zealously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple, however, had a misfortune: they remained childless in their old age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant them a child. Once, when St Zachariah took his turn as priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the right side of the altar of incense. St Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zachariah, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John". But Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him, "I am

Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words..."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not do so because he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.



The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary

Commemorated on September 8

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the Salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.



**September 14th
The Universal Exaltation
of the Precious and Life-
Giving Cross**



**September 24th
Synaxis of All Saints
of Alaska**



**September 9th
Holy, Righteous Ancestor of God,
Joachim and Anna**



Major Church Activities and Events

Meetings & Events:

- Sun Sept 9: Sunday School - Registration
Mon Sept 10: Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm
Sunday School Teacher Meeting, 7:30 pm
Sun Sept 16: Sunday School – First Day
Sun Sept 23: General Meeting after Liturgy
Mon Sept 24: Annual Golf Outing
Sept 27 – 29: Archdiocese Assembly in Worcester
Sat Oct 6: St. Vladimir Seminary Orthodox
Education Day

Liturgies:

- Sat Sept 8: Divine Liturgy, 10 am, Nativity of the
Most Holy Theotokos
Thurs Sept 13: Vesperal Liturgy, 7 pm, Exaltation
(Elevation) of the Precious Cross

**NOTE: TIME CHANGE from SUMMER SUNDAY LITURGY
– BEGINNING SEPT 9, LITURGY STARTS at 10:00 AM**

Ushers' Schedule for Sunday Services

- Sept 2: Andrea Kutali / John Jance
Sept 9: Lou Foundos / Robert Korra
Sept 16: Roland Llupa / Edi Sera
Sept 23: Bill Peters / Ilija Luka
Sept 30: Petrika Troja / Nasi Pavllo
Oct 7: Damian Peters / Steven Foundos
Oct 14: Ilir Fundo / Stefan Baltadori

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stnicholasalbanian.org

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