

# The LAMPLIGHTER

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of Lansing

*"Yea, Thou dost light my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness..." (Psalms 18:28)*

Volume XL

October 2007

## Pastoral Reflection

Fr. Mark Sietsema

I have a confession to make. And it's a bad one ....

When I was a kid, I used to dress up for Halloween. And it was not always something innocent either, like an astronaut or a cowboy. Once I was even a ghost! Worse yet, I would go door-to-door with my brothers and say "Trick or treat!" Idolatrous! Occultic! Satanic! Over time, of course this demon-glorifying activity caught up with me. Look at me now. I dress in black *all the time* ....

Of course you see the problem here. If not, you will very soon start reading about it in the paper again. Many people of churchy persuasions object strenuously to the observance of Halloween. Every year we read letters to the editor that run as follows:

"Halloween is the worship of the devil! Halloween comes from heathen roots! Trick or Treat comes from an ancient pagan custom: the Druids would go from house to house seeking a virgin to sacrifice! If you were obliged to yield up your family's virgin, they left outside your door a jack-o-lantern with a candle inside ... made of human fat! If you did not comply, a terrible trick would be played on you! The Catholic Church perpetuated the pagan legends of spirits traversing the earth freely on that night. If you let your kids celebrate Halloween, you expose them to the possibility of demonic possession!"

Well, good Orthodox Christian, what say you of this controversy? Is Halloween something we Christians should shun like the Black Mass? Don't the facts about Halloween's origins prove that it is an abomination?

No. First of all, none of these "facts" are true. It's all fiction. We know almost nothing about the culture

and practices of the ancient Druids except from the Romans ... who also used to say that Christians hold secret orgies where they sacrifice babies and eat them! (Obviously they overheard someone speaking of Holy Communion as partaking of the body and blood of the Son of God.) The Romans invaded Britain in 43 B.C. There they found a number of Celtic tribes, which the Roman legions subjugated with relative ease. They had little interest in the ways of the conquered Britons

Generally when there is some level of interaction between conqueror and subject, the conqueror picks up and uses the local names for rivers, hills, and the like. For instance, our state is full of names from the native languages of the Indians: *Michigan, Mackinac, Saginaw, Escanaba, Kalamazoo, Washtenaw*. However, we find almost no use of the Celtic place names by the Romans. The Romans did not come to Britain for kaffee-klatsches, but for plundering and pillaging. The Celtic place-names died with them under the Roman sword, as did any sure knowledge of Celtic and Druidic customs (like what kind of fat they used in their candles).

But what if it the stories about pagan Halloween were true? Does that prevent us from making a fun day out of the Thirty-First of October? Or do pagan origins damn a thing forever?

I would hope that as Orthodox Christians we would know better than to say that. We borrowed an awful lot of useful things from ancient pagan cultures. Our musical system of eight tones? From the pagan Greeks. Next time you hear a dismissal hymn in the Third Tone, picture a phalanx of Lacedaemonian warriors marching into an attack: they liked Third Tone for their battle hymns. And our iconography is an obvious adaptation of Egyptian funerary art: the

portraits painted on Egyptian coffins look just like the faces in our icons. (In fact, the standard pose of the Theotokos and Christ-child is cribbed from Egyptian images of the goddess Isis holding her son Horus.) Christmas, we all know, is a co-opting of the Roman celebration of the winter solstice, the Feast of Sol Invictus (the Invincible Sun-god). And many, many Christian churches were built atop pagan shrines and holy places, the most famous example being the conversion of the Parthenon (a temple built in honor of Athena the Virgin Warrior) to a church dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Even Protestants with their Puritan impulses and their “just the Bible” mentality have to contend with borrowings from pagan sources in the Scriptures. For example, chapters 22-24 of the Book of Proverbs are almost certainly a translation of the older Egyptian advice guide *The Instruction of Amen-em-Opet*. And elsewhere in the Bible different titles given to God such as *El Elyon* “God Most High” and “the one who rides on the clouds like a chariot” (Psalm 104:3) are originally epithets for the pagan god Baal.

What’s my point? You can’t judge a custom by its origins: what counts is one’s intentions in the here and now. And let’s be honest: modern Halloween for you and me—and even the Wiccans down the street—has nothing to do with virgin sacrifice or black magic. It’s about having fun in a costume and eating things your dentist wouldn’t approve of.

“Well!” the anti-Halloween crowd would reply, “Halloween teaches kids that they can get something for nothing!!” I’ll tell you what: that sounds awfully close to the Christian idea of grace to me!

“Yes, yes, but we shouldn’t teach our kids that it’s OK to threaten someone with vandalism if they don’t fork over something you want!” Well, let’s look at this from another perspective. Maybe Halloween holds a nice little life lesson—you give a little to get a little. The Book of Proverbs speaks often of the power of gifts. If we all practiced the spirit of Halloween—being prepared always to give small kindnesses to those around us—what a wonderful world we would have.

Let’s be honest: no one was ever possessed by the devil because he or she dressed up for Halloween or passed out licorice or read a Harry Potter book. Our modern lives have way too many other avenues for temptation to enter, and these things are the real cause of our spiritual problems: pride, gluttony, hatred, and ignorance.

This may be the only Pro-Halloween article by a clergyman you read this year. Actually, this piece isn’t

so much Pro-Halloween as it is anti-superstition and anti-paranoia. American Christianity is too much titillated by thoughts of demons, based on a mythology of evil that has more to do with pagan stories than the sober statements of Scripture. This superstition gives all Christians a bad name.

That’s why I support Halloween. After all, why would anyone want to learn more about Jesus Christ and his message of forgiveness and love and acceptance and trust, if being a Christian means being a sad sack and a spoilsport? If you believe in one God, if you trust Him, then accept his protection and don’t live in fear of demonic bogeymen. The real battle with the devil is fought in the heart, not in front of the Harry Potter bookstore, not by smashing pumpkins, but in the soul of each one of us.

Sure, some people go overboard on the spooky side of Halloween. Avoid that for your family. Skip the horror movies. Don’t revel in gore. Don’t profane death. Don’t indulge in occult practices ... But don’t be paranoid or superstitious either!

And have a Happy Halloween!

## Annual Fall Fundraiser

This fall the Holy Trinity will have a fundraiser to round out the parish’s efforts to reach the target approved by the General Assembly for raising funds in 2007. The intention is to raise monies to be applied to the principal of our roof loan.

We will inaugurate within the next couple of weeks a parish-wide raffle that will continue through the coming months. The drawing for three cash prizes — \$2000, \$1000, \$100 — will be Sunday, December 16.

The Parish Council will soon ask parishioners to help sell tickets. The purchasers targeted in this fundraiser will be people outside of our parish community. When asked, please show your willingness to the parish in this effort.

## Who is Zacchaeus?

*Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis*

Much of what I do in my ministry remains private. People tell me stories of pain and hurt that I will take to my grave. Many share personal shortcomings, seek relief from guilt, and ask for direction, trusting that I will never repeat what they tell me. Sometimes the stories humble me. Other times they inspire me to pray more. There are days I go home in tears because some of the stories break my heart.

If you walked in my shoes for a month, you'd know at least four things. First, you would know that there is a God. Second, you would know that there is a lot of hurt in our world and in our parish. Third, you would know that there is no way that one priest can get to all the people. Fourth, you would know that you could help in concrete ways if you invest time in people.

For instance, what if you knew that a devout member of our community was dying and did not have life insurance? Would you help them? Would you reach in your wallet and take out \$100 and say, I'll go without something so you can have a proper funeral? Or would you shake your head and walk away, and tell yourself, "Not my problem."

What would you do if for someone in our parish who was lonely and needed someone to talk to? Would you give up some time and listen or brush it off and think, "Someone else will take care of that"? What would you do if someone came into the coffee hour and sat alone? Would you invite them to sit at your table? Would you even notice?

What would you do if I told you, "There is someone in this parish about your age, has the same kind of job you have, comes from a similar background that needs a friend. I thought of you." Would you be angry at my imposition? Would you make an effort to reach out to him?

What would you do if you asked someone, "How are you?" and they responded, "My whole life is falling apart, I need to talk to someone right now." Would you cancel your plans for the rest of the day? Or would you quickly go your own way?

The Gospel lesson this morning tells us that Jesus was passing through Jericho and a tax collector named Zacchaeus wanted to see Him. Zacchaeus was a short man and could not see Jesus on account of the large crowd. And he could not get to the front of the crowd because he was so unpopular. Ironically, the name Zacchaeus means "the pure and innocent one."

As the crowds watched Zacchaeus trying to get a glimpse of Jesus, they saw anything but a pure and innocent person. He was of the low-life, a dishonest taxman, and they certainly were not going to give him a front row seat to see Jesus. Undeterred, Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree. When Jesus passed by He looked up and saw Zacchaeus and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for I must stay at your house today."

The greeting and invitation of Jesus was personal. Jesus didn't tell Zacchaeus to come to the synagogue some Saturday to hear Him explain the scriptures. He didn't tell Zacchaeus to make an appointment with one of the disciples. He didn't refer Zacchaeus to a committee or think for even a split second "Someone else can take care of this." Instead, Jesus stopped and changed course.

This Gospel passage compels us to action. The mission of Christ is to seek and to save the lost. This is also the mission of Christ's church.

Have you ever thought of the church as it relates to this story? Imagine that our church is like Jesus, and Tampa is like Jericho. Who, then, is Zacchaeus?

- ✿ Zacchaeus is the person who comes to visit our church who has never been to an Orthodox Church; someone who is seeking something deeper in their spiritual life.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the person who tries a new church every Sunday, who doesn't even know what Orthodoxy is, who can't seem to have their thirst for spirituality quenched anywhere they go.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the new arrival to Tampa who is Orthodox and who comes to our church for the first time looking for a new spiritual home.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the man or woman who is going to marry or who is married to an Orthodox Christian in the Church and is struggling to decide whether to make Orthodoxy their own faith.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the parishioner who has attended church for many years but who is still not sure what to make of Orthodox Christianity.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the person struggling to see Jesus but having a difficult time because they are surrounded by tragedies or other circumstances that make Christ seem far away.
- ✿ Zacchaeus the person who has scars from childhood or an abusive relationship, difficulty a job or business venture that went sour, or the sadness and grief that came when they lost someone they loved.

- ✿ Zacchaeus is the teenager struggling with their identity as an Orthodox Christian and what it means to live a Christian life at all times and in all places.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the senior citizen who fights to stay positive even though their health is declining.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the person tenuously clinging to life, whose every day is a challenge, just to survive.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the one who is caring for that person.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the person who goes to work everyday.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is the mother that stays home raising children.
- ✿ Zacchaeus is everyone in this parish, in this town, in this country and in this world who seeks to know who Jesus is.

The mission of this parish, indeed the mission of the Orthodox Church, is to seek and to save the lost. That mission is not fulfilled when we balance the books or fill the calendar with programs. Rather, it is fulfilled when we find Zacchaeus and minister to him, when we make his concern our concern, when we show that we are willing to alter the course of our life to help him, when we take on the role of Christ in telling Zacchaeus, "make haste and come down, I must stay at your house today."

*Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis is the Priest of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Tampa, FL.*

## Parish Council

by Stella Economy

The Parish Council strives to keep you informed on what is happening in and around the community as outlined below.

- ✿ At our September meeting, it was reported that we have 199 stewards who have pledged \$249,515.00. To date, \$149,922.00 has been contributed.
- ✿ Our Fall Dinner Dance held at the Lansing Center on September 15<sup>th</sup> was a fun evening filled with good food, lively music, dancing and fellowship. Thank you to Vackis Nicolaou, Diane Dellis and Sue Vlahakis who did a super job organizing the event.
- ✿ On Sundays, September 9 and 16 a second tray was passed for the victims of the fires in Greece.

Nearly \$1000 was collected and will be forwarded to the Archdiocese who in turn will forward it to Greece on our behalf.

- ✿ The Parish Council held two budget hearings for all the groups in our community as well as interested parishioners. Suggestions from these informal talks will help us put together a budget for next year that best serves our community needs and interests.
- ✿ The Metropolis Clergy Laity Assembly will take place this month in Memphis, TN. Father Mark, Curt Kosal, and Mike and Lynne Karagoulis will represent Holy Trinity at the Assembly.
- ✿ Our Iconography project continues. The plenum undersides will be painted in accordance with the paint colors suggested by our Iconographer George Filippakis and the Dormition and Lamb of God icons will be installed soon. Also, the Parish Council met with the Lighting Committee and is considering their recommendations.
- ✿ A General Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, October 7 after services. The agenda includes nominations for Parish Council, Board of Auditors and Board of Elections in addition to the final report of the Baryames Social Hall renovations.
- ✿ Fall Clean Up days have been scheduled for Saturday, October 27 and Saturday, November 17 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Both indoor and outdoor clean up will occur, so come dressed for the weather, bring work gloves and a hearty appetite, as lunch will be served to those who serve! Contact either Mike Karagoulis or Curt Kosal for details.

### Mark Your Calendars

October 7 - General Assembly

October 27 - Fall Clean up days 10 AM-2 PM

November 4 - Parish Council elections

November 17 - Fall Clean up days 10 AM-2 PM

## Congratulations

### Weddings

Gregory and Leah (Pantalone) Pansey

Steve and Bonnie (Marion) Binioris

### Baptisms

Isabella Elena Stajos, daughter of James and Cecilia Stajos and sister of Sophia

## Philoptochos

by *Mary Volakakis*

The proceeds (\$260) from our coffee hour on September 9<sup>th</sup> were donated to the Greek fire fund.

The September 19<sup>th</sup> OPA! meeting featured Philoptochos member Bess Stamatakos who spoke about her newly published novel, *Tea Leaves and Dreams*, and autographed copies of her book. Congratulations, Bess; we are very proud of your accomplishment.

Our September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was very well attended and co-Presidents Eleanor Spalding and Koula Tzoumakas thank the members who came to the meeting and participated so enthusiastically. Members may submit agenda or program suggestions by calling Eleanor at 669-9147 or Koula at 351-3629.

Please return your completed Philoptochos Volunteer Form to Olga Pascalenos, or to the church office.

Our next general meeting takes place Monday, October 1, at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 7, we will be hosting our annual Student Welcome Dinner, at 6 p.m. If you wish to provide a dish to pass, or help host this fun event, or know of a young adult new to the area who you would like to invite, please contact the chairperson, Martha Stathopoulos, for details.

Philoptochos will host the coffee hour on October 14.

The Knitters meet every Monday evening at Eastwood Schuler's at 6:30 p.m. Koula Tzoumakas reports that the group's project this year is to knit lacy, light-weight shawls for the shelters. The knitters welcome everyone no matter your skill level: learners, beginners and advanced.

To many people Fall means football, or cider and donuts and hayrides, but to Philoptochos it means BAKE SALE, BAKE SALE, BAKE SALE. This huge endeavor cannot be accomplished by our membership working alone. For decades, our chapter has been blessed by, and grateful for, the support from the pulpit and from the men, women, and young people of our parish who have worked diligently along side us to make each bake sale a stellar event. This year we need your help more than ever, and pray that you will volunteer as you have done in the past. Even working for just an hour or two lightens the load for all of us. The bake sale chairpersons have mailed a

detailed schedule to each home for your reference. Philoptochos thanks all of you for your past – and, hopefully, for your continued — support.

Over the summer, the Board has calendared events for 2007-2008, as well as doing the initial committee work for the bake sale. Due to limited space and to avoid duplication, a form for donated or consignment items for the bake sale's gift shop have been initiated. These forms will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please see Nancy Malvetis, Frances Katsiris or Glykeria Christofilis if you plan to submit a form. Forms are available in the church office, and need to be returned by Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the Labor Day weekend, the general meeting for this month has been pushed back to Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. Philoptochos is hosting the coffee hour on Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup> and the OPA! group's social afternoon on Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup>.

A great big thank you to Soussana Tesseris whose four years' tenure as president has come to an end. She has been a terrific leader, dedicated, enthusiastic, inventive and hard working. As current past president Soussana will be advisor to the Board for the next two years.

## AHEPA

by *Phillip Frangos*

Once again Holy Trinity parishioners turned out for AHEPA's Labor Day picnic at East Lansing's Patriarche Park. Although attendance this year was down slightly from that of previous years, those who came enjoyed fine company, great food, and wonderful weather. As in previous years, the entire pavillion was reserved for the use of AHEPA. Although the picnic was free to all attendees, nonetheless everyone dug deep into their pockets when a box for contributions was placed out front. It was announced that all contributions would go for helping victims of the Greek fire tragedy. AHEPA collected \$1,000.00 for the emergency fund.

At the picnic it was announced that John and Glykeria Christofilis would be hosting a dinner at their Delhi Restaurant in Holt on Sunday, September 9, also for the benefit of AHEPA's Greek Fire Relief Fund. Approximately 250 attendees enjoyed a wonderful buffet. Most important they contributed \$6,500.00 for the fund. Our most sincere thanks go out to John and Glykeria for their outstanding generosity and to all the attendees who helped raise funds for the victims of this tragedy.

Mark January 27, 2008, on your calendars. This is the date of this year's Village Feast, an event held in September in past years. The dinner has been moved to January in order to avoid conflict with Holy Trinity's dinner being held on September 15. The Village Feast has sold out since it was started. More details will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

## Religious Education

by Stephanie Haynie

Welcome back for the 2007/08 school year. We are all set this year to provide classes for pre-school thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade, the teaching staff is listed below.

There are a few reminders for this school year. For pre-school thru 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes begin immediately following the Gospel reading or Fr. Mark's children's sermon. For 2<sup>nd</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade classes begin immediately following Holy Communion. Altar boys and Narthex attendants are to be excused from their responsibilities following Communion to attend class. This year we would like to ask all parents to help their children to attend classes on a regular basis. The teachers have put hours of their time in creating lesson plans that build upon each other. There is so much to learn about Orthodoxy and the teachers are excited to share their knowledge with your children. The best way to show that you value the teacher's time commitment is by bringing your child to Sunday school.

Parents, please remember to check in with your child's teacher, they would appreciate meeting you and may be in need of snacks.

### Teaching Staff

Pre-school -Anastasia Kimbouris

Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade—Alexis Popoff

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade—Ellen Karagoulis

4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade—Ellen Rzepka and Elizabeth Brown

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Jan Munk

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade—Mary Brown

### Important Dates

October 21 Sunday School Coffee Hour

October 25 Halloween Potluck party-tentative date scheduled

## Odyssey

by George Lafkas

Greek Language classes are underway for young children, high school students and adults. It is not too late to join this year's classes. Call the Holy Trinity office to receive information on the Odyssey Program.

Upcoming Odyssey events:

- ✿ OXI day program, Sunday October 28, 2007, during coffee hour after church service;
- ✿ Odyssey Fund Raiser: **PIZZA AND A MOVIE II (The Sequel)**

Save the date: **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 2007, 6:00-9:30 PM, Holy Trinity Social Room**

On Sunday, October 21, 2007, the Odyssey Program will be hosting a fund raiser to give you a chance to enjoy a wonderful pizza and the excellent movie, "**Touch of Spice.**"

Last February, Holy Trinity members were invited to come together to enjoy a very special pizza and movie. Those that attended enjoyed themselves and asked that we do it again. (See the **Pizza and Movie II** flyer included in this Lamplighter for more information.) Call George Lafkas at 517/351-3121 to reserve your place, we are limited to 60 people for the pizza dinner portion of the evening.

If you want to pass up on the dinner, everyone is invited to join the group for the movie, which will begin at 7:15 P.M.

## Prosfora Donation List

October 7 Katherine Koncar

October 14 Irene Kontis

October 21 Leslie Kosal

October 26 Mary Kotsifis, St. Demetrios Liturgy

October 28 Jeanette Koukios

## Prayers for the Sick

Karen Colovos

## Condolences

To the family and friends of Mary Mironiuk

## PIZZA AND A MOVIE II

(The Sequel)

Save the date:

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**Holy Trinity Social Room**

On Sunday, October 21, 2007, the Odyssey Program will be hosting a fund raiser to give you a chance to enjoy a wonderful pizza and the excellent movie, **"Touch of Spice."**

Last February, Holy Trinity members were invited to come together to enjoy a very special pizza and movie. Those that attended enjoyed themselves and asked that we do it again. Well, here we go again, same pizza, new movie.

The pizzas will be made by Odyssey board president, George Lafkas and his team of helpers. If you want to know if the pizza is worth it, ask some one who attended the affair last year. Most agreed it is a great tasting pizza that you will enjoy. Only 60 reservations are available for the dinner part of the evening. For \$25 dollars you will be able to enjoy a salad, home made pizza, desert, a beverage, and the movie. Reservations can be made at the church coffee hour on September 30<sup>th</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, or by calling George Lafkas at 517-351-3121.

The Greek movie ***Touch of Spice (Politiki Kouzina)*** was a big hit not only in Greece but Western Europe as well, because it is touching, beautiful, emotional and deep, while at the same time funny. (With **ENGLISH SUBTITLES.**)

The story of two cities, Athens and Istanbul, is revolving around the habits and behavior of the Greeks living in Istanbul and moving to Greece to live there after some political turmoil in the 50s.

If you want to pass up on the dinner, everyone is invited to join the group for the movie, which will begin at 7:15 P.M.

For reservations call George Lafkas at: 517-351-3121.

Remember, only 60 dinner reservations are available, so call soon.

## Bess Stamatakos Publishes Her First Novel Book Signing will be held October 14

*"Winter was slowly losing its grip on the small mountain village of Silimna. The nights were still cool and breezy, but the sun with its increasingly prolonged visits began to push out the cold and dampness of the wintry days. Except for the sound of an occasional animal scuttling along the ground, the stillness of the night was pervasive. Not a soul could be seen out and about in the village, but the sound of human voices could be heard intermittently emanating from the small Church of the Annunciation on the west side of the village square. The villagers were singing in unison—some flat, some sharp mutterings of no description. Sounds of happiness and joy along with a soulful sound of sadness wafted through the night air.*

*"The Easter season had arrived to this small, mountain village as it had for as long as any villager could remember, and the villagers had all congregated in its small church on this third Friday night of Lent to join in celebration of the Theotokos.*

*"Happiness and joy came in the form of hope for these peasants, hope for a personal resurrection and hope for a free country. The Turkish occupation of Greece, on and off for well over four centuries had brought many hardships to the village, as it had to all other villages like it scattered throughout the Greek peninsula. The hope remained that someday Greece would be an independent nation. . . ."*

With these poetic, powerful images of cold, darkness, and the hope that motivates the human spirit, Bess Stamatakos begins her novel *Tea Leaves and Dreams*. This rich, historically based narrative of the Greek revolution against the Ottoman Empire in 1821 serves as the backdrop on which the author weaves the love tale of a young Greek peasant girl and a Turkish boy. The inevitable vicissitudes of revolution, civil strife, customs, religions, personal will, belief and desire are dramatized within this historic framework.

**On October 14, a book signing will be held at Holy Trinity during the Coffee Hour. Parishioners will have an opportunity at that time to obtain a copy of this new book and to hear and speak with Bess Stamatakos about her *Tea Leaves and Dreams*. Bess has already begun work on a sequel.**

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
 1701 East Saginaw Street  
 Lansing MI 48912  
 Office: 482-7341 Fax: 482-8524

8:45 am ORTHROS  
 10:00 am DIVINE LITURGY  
 Fellowship Coffee following  
 Liturgy

# October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Philoptochos Board, 7pm Philoptochos General, 7:30pm	2	3	4	5 Baklava Baking, 3pm Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	6 Baklava Baking, 9am
7 Choir Coffee Hour <b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING</b> Student Welcome Dinner, 6pm	8 Parish Council Meeting, 7pm Columbus Day	9	10	11 Vsetula/Osborn Wedding Rehearsal & Dinner, 7pm Bible Study, 8:30pm	12 Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	13 Vsetula & Osborn Wedding, 2pm Social Hall use, 3-6pm
14 40 Day Memorial, Gust Cloumas Philoptochos Coffee Hour	15 Interfaith Day Meeting, 1pm	16 Clergy - Laity Conference - Memphis, TN - October 16 - 19	17	18	19 Koulouria Baking Odyssey Classes, 4:30-6pm Abdallah/Lewis Rehearsal, 7pm	20 Koulouria Baking, 9am Abdallah & Lewis Wedding, 4pm
21 Sunday School Coffee Hour Kourambiedes Bake Day Odyssey Pizza & Movie II' Fundraiser, 6-9:30pm	22 Lamplighter Deadline	23 St. Iakovos (James)	24 Youth Forum, 7pm	25 Melomakarona, 10am Halloween Potluck Party, 6pm (?) Bible Study, 8:30pm	26 St. Demetrios, Liturgy 10am Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	27 FALL CLEANUP DAY, 10am OXI Rehearsal, tba
28 <b>OXI Day Program</b> Odyssey Coffee Hour	29	30	31 Halloween			

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 Fellowship Coffee following  
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# November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 <b>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</b> 5-Year Memorial, James Alexander AHEPA Coffee Hour <b>Parish Council Elections</b> Spanakopita Baking Day <small>Daylight Savings Time ends</small>	5 Cupping Baked Goods, 9am	6 Package Pre-Orders, 9am Salad Preparation Election Day	7 <b>Athenian Bake Sale</b> 10am-4pm	8 Saragli Baking Day Bible Study, 8:30pm	9 Almond Cake Bake Day Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	10 Spanakopita Bake Day, 10am (today & Sunday)
11 Parish Council Coffee Hour Veterans Day	12 Parish Council, 7pm	13 <b>St. John Chrysostom,</b> Liturgy 10am	14 <b>Entrance of Theotokos</b> into the Temple, Liturgy 10am	15 <b>Nativity Lenten Period</b> begins Bible Study, 8:30pm	16 Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	17 Fall Clean-Up Day II 10am
18 O.C.F. Coffee Hour	19 Lamplighter Deadline	20	21	22	23 Odyssey Classes, 4:30- 6pm	24
25 NO Sunday School NO Coffee Hour <b>Saint Catherine</b>	26	27	28	29 Thanksgiving Day NO Bible Study	30 NO Odyssey Classes	