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QUICK NEWS & EVENTS

Sun., Jan. 3rd Philoptochos Vasilopita Cutting

Tues., Jan. 12 LIONs College & HS Networking Event (Snow date: Jan. 14)

Sun., Feb. 14 Godparent Sunday



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"Spreading Our Wings -Expanding Our Ministries"

The Archangel Michael Church

About the Parish

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Archangel Michael Church is a parish of the Direct Archdiocesan District and Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (www.goarch.org, 212-570-3500) under the spiritual jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.





Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

Archbishop Elpidophoros

Clergy

Fr. John K. Lardas, Protopresbyter Fr. Michael Palamara, Presbyter Fr. Dennis Strouzas, Retired Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Chanter: Petros Malliaris Office Staff: Dora Gouramanis, Catherine Papagianakis Christine Zeiner

Parish Council Members

Michael Cavounis, Fiffy Eliades, Demetrios Frangiskatos, Eleni Germanakos, James Gianakis, Joseph Isaakidis, John Koumpourlis, Harry Lascarides, Spiro Maliagros, Nicholas Papain, Gus Rogdakis, Andreas Tsalikis, Nicholas Tzoumas, Demetrios Ziozis

Please note: At the time the Trumpet went into production, the election results for the remaining seven 2021 Parish Council members were not yet available and the election of the 2021 Executive Board had not yet taken place.

About the Trumpet

The Trumpet is the newsletter of Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church.

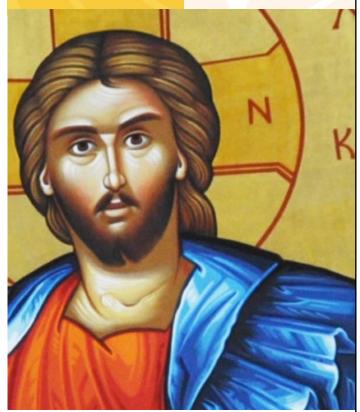
Production

2020 Parish Council President: Nicholas Papain Editor: Barbara Mavro Copy Editors: Stelios Diakoumakis Direct inquiries to: trumpet@archangelmichaelchurch.org Calendar Editor: Christine Zeiner The Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church is dedicated to the continuation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's ministry of salvation through the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel. We are a community of individuals and families who share the traditions and ageless beliefs of our Holy Orthodox Christian Faith.

MISSION Statement



Our vision is to provide a loving, caring and welcoming environment where all belong and grow in the faith through worship, service, witness and fellowship.



The Trumpet welcomes news and events from our community and organizations.

Please submit information as follows:

Articles: trumpet@archangelmichaelchurch.org Advertising information and sales: trumpet@archangelmichaelchurch.org Calendar events: christine@archangelmichaelchurch.org

Jan/Feb Sunday Worship Schedule Orthros: 7:30am; Divine Liturgies: 8:45am & 10:30am



When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:15-17)

What is the foundation of the Christian faith? Why is a Christian a Christian and not a Muslim, or a Jew, or a Buddhist or Hindu? The basic precept of the Christian faith is belief in the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This brief article will glimpse into the presence of the Holy Trinity through of the story salvation, tĥe relationship of the human person to the Holy Trinity and how relationships are meant to be a reflection of the Holy Trinity.

Theophany is a celebration of the appearing of God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. The Lord Jesus enters the waters! The heavens are torn open and the Holy Spirit descends upon the head of the Lord in the form of a dove! The voice from God the Father is heard saying, "This is My Beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased!" The world, for the first time in history, experienced the fullness of the presence of the Holy Trinity. Up until this time, the Holy Trinity was seen in type or in foreshadowing. From before creation, the reality of the Holy Trinity is witnessed subliminally. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light!" (Gen1:1-3) God spoke a Word and this Word is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John1:1) From the beginning of time, until Epiphany, the Holy Trinity is witnessed in type. For the sake of time and space, just a few brief examples are presented: Noah sends forth the dove from the Ark, three times, after the rains had receded. God appears to Abraham and Sarah in the form of three angels, when it is announced to Abraham that his wife will conceive, And with many other Isaac. examples in the Old Testament, the Holy Trinity is witnessed leading the people of Israel on towards salvation.

When it comes time for the creation of the human being, an interesting dialogue takes place from God that points to the Holy Trinity. With each day of creation God said, "Let there be ... " and creation took place. With the creation of the human being, God said. "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." Thus the human person by nature is made in the image and likeness of God. The human being can only find true fulfillment when he or she discovers this reality and strives by grace to be a reflection of the Holy Trinity. The unconditional love, the unmeasurable care for one another of the Persons of the Holy Trinity are inspiring and at times overwhelming to witness in the human experience. As is seen in the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit descends upon the Lord's head, thus the Holy Spirit, Christ, Who humbles glorifies Himself to be baptized. The voice of the Father is clear to describe the relationship of the Son to Him, "this My Beloved Son!" Jesus is reciprocates this same love, which is unfathomable, during His life on the earth to the Father and the Holy Spirit. For brevity, just a few examples are given: "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." (John 1:18) "But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment" (John 14:31) "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. (John 16:13) The Holy Trinity is God, Who is revealed in Personhood of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Their relationship with one another is described apophatically in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great. "For You, O God, are ineffable, inconceivable, invisible, incomprehensible, existing forever, forever the same, You and Your only-begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit. You brought us out of nothing into being, and when we had fallen away, You raised us up again.

You left nothing undone until you had led us up to heaven and granted us Your Kingdom, which is to come."

With the person being made in the image and likeness of God, there is a prototype of how the person is to relate with one another. Relationships with one and other are meant to be a reflection of the unconditional love that the Persons of the Holy Trinity have for one and other. A husband and father, while at work, and/or wherever he is, is called to uplift his wife and children. A wife, while at work and/or wherever she is, is called to uplift her husband and children. Children, whether at school, with friends, out in a social setting are a reflection of their parents. What God is by nature, the person is able to reflect by grace. There is a great sculptor that is chiseling the form of the image and likeness of God within the being of each person, the Holy Spirit. The sculptor with fine tools, chips away at the material of the marble to bring it that much closer to its complete form. Each time that one has the opportunity to practice patience with another person, when one practices humility with another person, forgiveness, kindness, charity, gentleness, the sculptor, the Holy Spirit forms within the soul a person what their true nature is, being made in the image and likeness of God.

Truly, the Holy Trinity is the foundation of all creation! It is the Holy Trinity that leads all to salvation! The human being's nature is formed in the image and likeness of the Holy Trinity! The spiritual journey of each is to move from image to likeness! This concept is uplifted in the conclusion of St. Gregory Palamas' sermon delivered on the feast of Theophany. "Consequently, man was also brought into being in the beginning because of Him, being formed according to God's image so that one day he might contain his archetype."

In Christ, Fr. John K. Lardas Protopresbyter

More Precious than Snow

Wash me and I will be whiter than snow. Snow does not fall often in Judea (southern Israel), so the idea of the whiteness of snow was very special to King David who wrote the psalm. For fewer than half of the winters is there any snowfall and usually the snow is a frost and not a heavy downfall. Snow meant that the whole of the land, at least momentarily, had all the flaws and cracks disappear under an equalizing and peaceful layer of white. There is a brilliance that can take us back to our childhood when we behold the snowy frost on trees, rooftops, and yards. And yet, the blanket of snow that Remember what Jesus Himself tells us in the Gospel: "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin; yet I say unto you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God doth so clothe the grass in the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more shall he clothe you, O ye of little faith?" (Matthew 6) Elsewhere we hear "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore;

caused King David to marvel at its purity and beauty was really a composite of billions of crystals known as snowflakes.

No two snowflakes are alike. This is why children (and parents alike) have so much fun creating snowflakes out of construction paper and cutting out designs. Each and every crystal formed from frozen water is unique and unrepeatable. They follow a distinct set of common patterns such as a hexagonal shape and symmetrical growth outward but never are exactly the same. As we are in the midst of these



you are of more value than many sparrows." (Matthew 10)

We are made in the image and likeness of God our creator, and as His children we are more precious than the whole of His creation. So, seeing the intricacies and complexities of the created world should call to mind the intricacies and complexities of each of us. This is the reason the Lord was incarnate and born for our salvation. This is the reason the Lord called the disciples His friends at the Mystical Supper. This is the reason

winter months, it is a refreshing reminder of the care and precision that the Lord Almighty puts into his creation. He is a diligent and deliberate craftsman with an eye towards perfection. As He has carefully crafted each snowflake, how much more care has He put into each one of us. It is important for us to remember that our Lord in His infinite wisdom has not only crafted us with such care, but continues to care for us if we allow him. our Lord went to the cross to cleanse our sins. This is the reason our Lord comes to us in the form of Holy Communion every Divine Liturgy. We are special and unrepeatable, and therefore are worthy of His presence and attention. We are precious in the eyes of the Lord. We must recognize this and respond appropriately. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

	Worship Services: Orthros 8:30am & Divine L	iturgy 9:30am,	unless otherwise indicated.	
	January		<u>February</u>	
Fri. 1	The Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Feast of St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea of Cappadocia; Orthros 9:15am Divine Liturgy 10:30am	Tue. 2	The Presentation of our Lord	
		Feb. 6	The Feast of St. Photios	
		Wed. 10	Feast of St. Haralambos	
		Sat. 20	Challenge Liturgy (Orthros 9:30am,	
Tue. 5	The Fore-feast of Epiphany The Royal Hours 8:00 AM		vivine Liturgy 10:30am) Sacraments	
	The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9:30AM & The Blessing of the Waters	Sat., Jan. 2nd		
Wed.6	The Feast of Epiphany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ & The Great Blessings of the Water (Divine Liturgy of St. Basil)	Sat., Jan. 16t	h 1:00 pm, Baptism: Child of Dimitra & Steven Levy	
			4:00 pm, Baptism: Child of Elias & Millie Demopoulos	
Thur. 7	The Gathering of the Honorable and Glorious Forerunner	Sun., Jan. 17t	h 4:30 pm, Wedding of Eric Foster & Marisa Eve Tzoumas	
	St. John the Baptist	Sun., Jan. 24t		
Sat. 16	Challenge Liturgy (Orthros 9:30am, Divine Liturgy 10:30am)		Kostantinos Mairagas & Evdoxia Koutsothanasis	
Mon. 18	The Feast of SS. Athanasios and Cyril	Sun., Jan. 31s	t 1:00 pm, Baptism: Child of Anthony & Katherine Varikos	
Fri. 29	Great Vespers for the Three Hierarchs (Brooklyn) 7pm	Sat. Feb. 6th	3:00 pm, Baptism: Child of Antonia & Ioannis Laskaris	
Sat. 30	The Feast of the Three Hierarchs		3:00 pm, Baptism(chapel):Child of Anna & John Galanopoulou	

GODPARENT SUNDAY

February 14th has been designated as Godparent Sunday. Godparents are encouraged to attend the Divine Liturgy with their Godchildren to worship and receive Holy Communion together.

BLESSING OF THE HOMES

According to an age-old tradition, during the days and weeks following the Epiphany of our Lord, the homes of the faithful are blessed. The blessing involves the visitation by Fr. John who will bring Holy Water sanctified on the Feast of Epiphany, and will bless the home and all present. Those wishing to schedule a house blessing should contact the church office at 516-944-3180.

STEWARDSHIP

Καλή χρονιά!

On behalf of the Archangel Michael Church, we thank each devoted parishioner for how they responded in 2020 with such tremendous generosity and support to our Stewardship needs.

As of November 30, 2020, we had \$575,000 pledged and 630 stewards and as of November 30, 2019 we had \$575,000 pledged with 686 stewards. As you can see, we made tremendous progress through this past year with the generosity of our parishioners especially with Stewardship being our primary form of financial support for our Church. We are extremely appreciative of the parishioners for their additional support this year as we have seen an increase in our average stewardship contribution. While we had a decline in the number of families who contributed to stewardship in the past year we do expect to rebound and exceed our 2019 stewards in 2021. We will provide a full stewardship report in our next edition of the Trumpet

As we look ahead to 2021, now is the time to make a true commitment to building God's Kingdom in new ways. Together, we can give in ways that will continue to transform our community.

In the stewardship mailing in the next several weeks, you will receive a pledge card on which you are asked to make an indication of your financial giving for 2021. Your Stewardship Commitment is a testimony of your dedication to your own spiritual growth and the spreading of our beloved Orthodox Faith.

2021 Stewardship Campaign

"My hope is that we will seize the opportunity that is literally being forced upon us, to become more altruistic, more compassionate toward others, more patient, and indeed more faithful." -Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

We understand these continue to be difficult times and while we make our stewardship appeals we ask that one only do what circumstances allow, given your family's current situation. The community is always here to help one another and we in turn are humbly asking for your help.

"A steward is one who manages another's property or resources; the Christian, therefore, is a steward of everything he is and has, including his own body and soul, for according to the mystery of salvation, we possess nothing from ourselves, not even our own life and being; all belongs to God and is given to us by the Father through His Son because of the richness of His love and mercy."

(The Theology of Stewardship in Light of Orthodox Tradition by Fr Paul Wesche (Light and Life Publishing))

CHARITABLE GIVING - 2021

With an incredibly challenging and tumultuous 2020 behind us, we are all looking forward to better and more prosperous times in the coming year. This time of year is a time of reflection for many of us, both reminiscing about the year that has passed and wondering about the year to come. Asking ourselves "what can we do differently?' and "what more can we give?"

But give that which is within as charity, and then all things are clean for you. Luke 11:41

When charity is used in scripture, usually it means love, but it also means giving; an act of kindness and generosity to others. Our tax laws provide financial incentives to individuals to make donations to charitable organizations by allowing tax deductions. What is a charitable contribution? The charitable contribution is a voluntary gift or donation to a qualified charitable organization. Normally churches and other religious institutions qualify as charitable organizations, and any and all gifts and donations are deductible. But what are the many different ways in which someone can make a donation?

<u>Cash contributions</u>. For starters, cash contributions are the most common way of making a contribution to a charitable organization. It can be made by check, cash, debit or credit card transaction and can come in the form of stewardship payments, weekly contributions, special fund-raising events and other similar activities. The value of the tax deduction is equal to the nominal amount of the cash contribution.

<u>Gifts of property-in-kind</u>. You can also contribute property-in-kind. Contributions of items other than cash or check include contributions of clothing, automobiles, boats and electronics among other types of items. The amount of the deduction is equal to the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation.

Expenses incurred on behalf of a charity. Incurring expenses on behalf of a charitable organization can be deductible to the extent the donor is not reimbursed. To the extent that the taxpayer incurs unreimbursed expenses in furtherance of the charitable organization and its tax exempt purpose, those expenses are deductible. Examples include expenses for gas and car mileage exclusively for the charity and its exempt purpose, travel expenses to attend conventions or out of town meetings strictly on behalf of the charitable organization or expenses that can be deemed in any way personal. The value of time and services contributed or otherwise volunteered on behalf of the charitable organization is not deductible. It must be a verifiable, out of pocket expense in exclusive furtherance of the charitable organization and its charitable purpose.

<u>Split-interest gifts.</u> Larger gifts or donations of property often come in the form of a split interest gift. This occurs when property is either donated into a trust or is otherwise structured so that the enjoyment of the property is divided between the present and the future. For example, charitable remainder trusts allow the donor to enjoy the income from the property during their lifetimes or a specified number of years, and upon the termination of the donor's income interest, the property reverts to the charitable donee.

There are a whole host of other ways in which to make donations to your church or qualifying charity in a tax efficient manner. Also, limitations apply to the maximum amount you can deduct in any one taxable year, based on your adjusted gross income as reported on your tax return. Anyone contemplating a charitable gift should seek out the advice of their tax, financial or legal advisor.

SPREADING OUR WINGS, EXPANDING OUR MINISTRIES: INTRODUCING THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH LAND ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

"Enlarge the place of your tent; Stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not; Lengthen your cords and strengthen your pegs. For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left. And your descendants will possess nations." ---- Isaiah 54:2-3

Forty years ago, our first parishioners embarked on a journey to build a new spiritual home for a thriving Orthodox community. Endowed with unwavering faith and gifted with the Grace of our Lord, they worked together with tremendous diligence and at great sacrifice to create a true *ecclesia* for future generations: the Archangel Michael Church. Always reminded of our humble origins, we continue to honor the spirit of our forerunners by supporting our Hellenic and Orthodox traditions.

The Grace that helped build our beloved Archangel Michael Church continues to manifest itself in the present day, as we are now presented with a unique opportunity to secure our community's legacy for the generations to come. Divine providence has afforded us the ability to spread our wings beyond the walls of our church and fulfill the obligation owed to those who came before us by continuing to expand our church ministry.

The Archangel Michael Church has the opportunity to purchase 3.9 acres of undeveloped property from the Town of North Hempstead that lies directly to the south and west of our current church site, adjacent to our main parking lot. Though the Town's restrictive covenant affecting the property requires that it be used for recreational activity and parking, this adjacent land could be purchased and developed to serve a multitude of functions for our ever-growing community, such as:

- a multi-purpose athletic field for our youth;
- a parking facility to accommodate the parish during holidays;
- an outdoor space to host social gatherings and promote fellowship; and
- a preventative measure against the development of a use by other parties that becomes a nuisance to our community.

Before we develop this property, we must address the task at hand. That is, **we must acquire the property**. The acquisition requires **\$1.5 million** in hand by **2021**. With your donations, our community can close on the property and begin the next phase of development. Generous donors will be afforded naming opportunities for the project.

Your financial commitments will assist in fulfilling one of the missions of the Archangel Michael Church, to serve its parishioners in the present and the future. We invite you to join us in this wonderful endeavor by donating to the Land Acquisition and Development Initiative.

To make a donation, please contact Father John Lardas at (516) 587-0350 or by emailing: giving@archangelmichaelchurch.org.

- The Members of The Land Acquisition & Development Initiative Committee



Chairmen: Michael Psyllos Nicholas Kokinakis

Finance Committee Subcommittee:

Co-Chairman: Spiro Maliagros Co-Chairman: Michael Cavounis Constantine Kokinakis Lenny Zangas Persa Lampropoulos

Due Diligence Committee Subcommittee:

Chairman: Emanuel Kokinakis James Gabriel Angelo Maragos Dean Chiros Tony Arlis

Fundraising Committee Subcommittee:

Co-Chairman: Chris Neamonitis Co-Chairman: Tony Zachariadis John Petras Spiro Maliagros John Halkias Eleni Koutsoftas William Papain Harry Bakalis George Patilis Marketing Jim Lolis Marketing

> Spiritual Advisor Fr. John K. Lardas

The Archangel Michael Church 100 Fairway Drive Port Washington, NY 11050 (516) 944-3180

NEWS AND EVENTS

PHILOPTOCHOS



As the autumn season changed to winter the Archangel Michael Ladies Philoptochos celebrated and fundraised in many ways.

On Sunday October 25th, the Archangel Michael Philoptochos celebrated National Breast Cancer Awareness month. The Ladies wore pink, distributed Breast Cancer Awareness pins and passed a special collection tray. Through our community's generosity we were able to donate \$700 to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. It is our hope that the monies we have donated will aid in the fight against Breast Cancer.

Our newly formed committee, the "Friends of Hellenos House" has coordinated with the directors and staff of Hellenos House to provide additional events and activities to the residents. The goal is to further enrich the lives of the residents, with our primary focus on Orthodoxy and Hellenism. Although COVID19 prevented the committee from visiting the house, we were able to participate by providing fun activities and treats for their Halloween and Thanksgiving celebrations. For the Christmas season, we celebrated the Name Days of the residents, special plaques were made with each resident's patron saint and AMC Philoptochos offered gift cards and holiday treats.

Every year The Archangel Michael Philoptochos selects a Sunday in November to honor our Veterans. This year on Sunday November 15th, we invited our veterans to be honored with a special Artoklasia in church. We honor our veterans on this day for the sacrifices they have made to our country in the name of freedom and democracy. We never forget how important it is to recognize and celebrate our veterans, our heroes. Thank you for your service.

Anthony T. Arlis, Evans Cyprus, Spiros Colaitis, George Condzal, Thomas E. Constance, Peter Dedousis, Commander Evan Diakoumakis (active), Peter Gaitanis, Norman Glavas, Alex Harisiades, Michael Hatzidakis, Michael LaSorsa, Chris Madaio, Arthur Manos, Peter Mesologites, Chris Milonas, John Mitsinikos, Andreas Modenos, Andrew J. Pappas, Dean Pappas MD, Harold Pappas, George J. Razis, George Scandalios, Peter Stavrinos, Nicos Stylianou, Nick Tsismenakis, Leonard Zangas, Harry Zuvekas. Prayers were also offered for our deceased Veterans:

+Peter Cardasis, +Dino Carr, +George Christie, +Andrew Cyprus, +Alkiviadis Diakoumakis, +George Kanakaris, +Gus Keen, +Stanley Neamonitis, +Nicos Stylianou, +Anthony Vasilas



The Archangel Michael Philoptochos and our AMC Youth Group, prepared and packaged Thanksgiving Dinners for several families of Veterans. This was a coordinated effort spearheaded by Fr. John with outreach to the local Veterans Administration. A traditional Thanksgiving meal was prepared and packaged for a drive-by, pick-up presentation. This was our first time coordinating with the VA to provide Thanksgiving meals and our hope is that this initiative will continue to grow as we reach out to veterans who are in need.

This year, December 1st was designated as Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving that falls on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and has become a part of many families' holiday traditions in the past few years. Archangel Michael Ladies Philoptochos continued our mission and tradition of giving by making donations to the following organizations: St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church, Ronald McDonald House and UNICEF. We thank our community for their continued support, which allows us to continue our mission of assisting groups and people in need.

Inaugural National Philoptochos Sunday

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros has declared Sunday of the Good Samaritan to be the Inaugural National Philoptochos Sunday, to celebrate the rich legacy of this important organization of our Archdiocese. National Philoptochos Sunday will be celebrated every year to honor the thousands of women throughout our Archdiocese who are a part of this vibrant ministry.

NEWS AND EVENTS

On this Sunday of the Good Samaritan, we are inaugurating National Philoptochos Sunday, in recognition of their decades of good works on behalf of the Church and the entire human family. The Greek Orthodox Church in America is truly unthinkable without the Philoptochos. Every Parish is supported, nourished, and enriched by its Ladies Philoptochos Society. They are, for all of us, a sisterhood of Martha and Mary, dedicated servants of the Church and the wider community, and living icons of reflection on the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ.

They are called "Friends of the Poor" for a reason. The charitable and eleemosynary deeds of the Philoptochos sustain all manner of life in our communities, both near and far. They provide us all an opportunity to do well in our lives by doing good. We should generously support their philanthropy in every way possible.

In setting aside this particular Sunday, that of the "Good Samaritan," we are recognizing the compassion and generosity that Philoptochos provides every day in the life of the Church. We thank them for their labors of love for all people, and for the example they set in our Parishes from coast to coast. May they all hear the words of the Lord as were voiced by the Samaritan we call "Good": "When I come again, I will repay you." (Luke 10:35).

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Archangel Michael Sunday School has been running smoothly since September. In order to ensure the safety of both our students and teachers during the COVID crisis, strict protocols have been put in place. The Sunday School implemented a program called Cleared-4Class requiring students to take a questionnaire monitoring symptoms and be cleared for entrance to Sunday School. Students have been enjoying Sunday School classes utilizing their own individualized packets of books and supplies. The Sunday School program takes place during the First Divine Liturgy which begins at 8:45am. Upon arrival to church, students participate in the liturgy and go to classes at approximately 9:30am to learn more about our beautiful Orthodox faith.



Our Christmas Nativity play was adapted to an online version to enable students to participate in a safe manner. Preparations began early this year and was organized by Georgia Katsoulis and Libby Doumanis. Students memorized their lines, dressed up in Nativity costumes and produced a video commemorating our Lord's birth. Thank you to Maria Dimopoulos, Peter Dimopoulos and Presbytera Hannah for videotaping and editing the Nativity Play for all to enjoy! Congratulations to everyone who participated in this unique event!



Father John and Father Michael have been visiting the students in their classrooms to enrich their learning and inspire love for our faith. The children welcome their visits and have the opportunity to engage and ask questions.

The Sunday School staff has been augmented by the addition of several young adults who have been assisting in teaching Second Grade. Those students include Bobby Coulianidis, Andrea Niki Maropakis, Gabrielle Pappas, Kathryn Papagianopoulos and Alexandra Tiliakos. Our Sunday School teachers continue to be dedicated to providing a nurturing environment for your children and we pray that you all stay safe and healthy!



PRESCHOOL

Happy New Year to all! The Preschool continues to implement health and safety measures for all students and staff.

Both January and February will be busy months for the children. After being welcomed back for the New Year, they will make snowmen, snowflakes, and mittens to decorate the classrooms. As they celebrate the Epiphany and the Feast of the Three Hierarchs, they will learn about these important holy days. In February, the children eagerly look forward to Groundhog Day. Will he see his shadow this year? They are also excited about making and sending Valentine's Day cards to "someone special". All the classes look forward to their weekly visit with Fr. John and Fr. Michael and enjoy listening to the special stories read to them.

The Pre-K and Nursery classes are also enjoying after school "Soccer Shots", an engaging program which focuses on character and development. The Greek Language Enrichment Program continues after school for Pre-K students. They are learning their letters, numbers and colors in Greek as well as word recognition and phrases, all of which enables them to get a better understanding of the Greek Language. They very much enjoy writing their names in Greek!

The children in the Toddler Class are enjoying free play and learning to share with each other. They are continuing to learn to count, recognize colors, shapes and body parts.

The Nursery children will begin their alphabet and number books. They will continue to learn the days of the week and months of the year through songs. Fine motor skills will be reinforced through coloring, cutting and projects.

The Pre-K children are learning recognition of numbers and their values using various manipulatives as counters and are continuing their alphabet letter recognition. They are also learning skills such as putting on their coats, jackets, hats, and scarves as well as using their fine motor skills to practice buttoning and zippering. We will be focusing on different activities involving self-esteem and confidence building. In addition all the Preschool children enjoy singing and dancing together during their weekly Music and Body Movement classes with Miss Roula. They also look forward to their Greek lessons with Miss Linda who uses songs and finger play to make learning the language a fun activity.

Important Upcoming Dates

School will be closed on:

Wednesday, Jan. 6: Epiphany Monday, Jan. 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Mon.-Fri. Feb. 15-19: Winter Recess Classes Resume on Monday, Feb. 22

GREEK LANGUAGE

The Fall season quickly flew by at the Archangel Michael Greek Language Institute. We continue to operate in full swing and are thriving, despite the strict adherence to the CDC regulations. For our Oxi Day Celebration, our teachers recorded students saying their poems and singing their songs. These videos were posted within the Google Classrooms for students and their parents to view. This unique twist of a digital production instead of an in-person assembly, taught our students and teachers that the celebration of our culture and history is truly unstoppable!





Since our in-person students must maintain appropriate distance and wear masks for the duration of the class, our teachers have been more creative in fostering a sense of community and engagement in the classroom. They've conducted innovative projects, provided students with interesting stories, and engaged in collaborative tasks. Our remote students are also embraced within the class community, often partaking in discussions with other remote students, or even in-person students throughout the lesson. Our teachers have successfully managed to bridge the remote and in-person experience, thereby creating one welcoming classroom. Understanding the challenges of this entire transition from traditional, in-person instruction to hybrid instruction, our Greek School Board along with Father John Lardas, hosted a celebratory (and socially distanced) dinner to honor our teachers for their efforts. At this dinner, our teachers commented on how rewarding and professionally inspiring this adjustment to their instruction has been. Our Greek School Board expressed their sincere gratitude for the teachers' continuous effort and dedication to our students. It was a wonderful evening filled with gratitude and appreciation.



Gratitude was also expressed in our classrooms as we celebrated Thanksgiving. While Thanksgiving is an American holiday, our students learned how gratitude and thankfulness is a concept that transcends all cultures. Being appreciative of our roots, religion, and heritage was a theme expressed in our classrooms. With the Christmas season following shortly thereafter, our students began practicing traditional Christmas songs and learned more about how Hellenes celebrate this special holiday.

As we progress deeper into the winter months, our teachers have grown quite accustomed to using the digital tools afforded to them through the gracious donations of the PTA including laptops and Google suite. Teachers are posting materials in their Google Classrooms so even if a student is absent, they can remain current with what is happening in the classroom. Our goal is to continue improving the seamless transitions from online to in-person instruction as our teachers continue to gain practice and familiarity in using these tools.

The Archangel Michael Greek Language Institute Principal, Ms. Gregoria Giannou, teachers, and Greek School Board, Dr. Vicky Giouroukakis, Mrs. Dina Petrakis, Mrs. Elena Eracleous, Mrs. Markella Maliagros, and Dr. Matina Stergiopoulos, send their warmest wishes for a blessed and peaceful 2021! Xronia Polla!

Greek Dance Troupe

Happy New Year! The Greek Dance Troupe continues to implement health and safety protocols for all staff and students.

The dance groups held mini-Christmas performances for families. While not quite the same as previous years, it was nice for the children to have the opportunity to perform and for the parents to see what their children have learned.



Although there are no competitions being held this year due to Covid, the groups are preparing for next year's performances.

A big thank you to our instructors and GOYA volunteers!

The Archangel Michael Greek Dance Troupe has classes for ages 5 and up! Classes meet on Saturday mornings.

Elpida (Grades K-3): 9:15-10:15am Xara 1 (Grades 4-6): 10:30-11:30am Xara 2 (Grades 7-9): 10:30-11:30am Neolea (Grades 10 & Up): 11:45-12:45pm

For more information please contact: greekdance@archangelmichaelchurch.org

Byzantine Youth Choir

We are filled with happiness to share a joyous blessing~ Our Youth Choir Co-Director and Organist Miss Eleni and her husband Konstantinos had an adorable baby girl born on November 20th, 2020. May God Bless baby Georgia Athena Kapatos



While meeting the challenges created by the pandemic, the Youth Choir has found new ways to connect with one another.

Thankfully, we live in a world that has provided opportunities for us to continue to attend church services, hold meetings and activities. We wish to express our sincere gratitude to Fr. John and Fr. Michael for their guidance, to our outstanding Parish Council who worked tirelessly to set into action ways to provide for our health and safety, and of course, to the tremendous resilience of our faithful community during these unprecedented times. We pray the New Year brings us strength, hope, inspiration and peace.

> With Love, AMC Byzantine Youth Choir Miss Georgia & Miss Eleni

PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation is pleased to offer 20 awards of \$10,000 each based on academic merit and financial need and an additional 20 awards of \$2,500 each based solely on academic achievement. Undergraduate full time students of Hellenic descent enrolled in an accredited university in Fall 2020 in any of the 50 United States are eligible to apply. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2021. For more information and to obtain an application, please go to www.panhellenicsf.org.

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

SAVE THE DATE for the 16th Annual Archangel Michael Church Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 16th, 2021 from 2:30pm - 8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Give the gift of life and donate blood! For more information, call Marina Vlahos at (516) 627-7303.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

At the time when this issue of the Trumpet was being posted to the AMC website, the results of the Parish Council elections and the 2021 Executive Board were not yet available. The results will appear in the next issue of the Trumpet.

GOYA

GOYA was very busy this holiday season. We kicked it off with our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Many parishioners and families donated food and supplies for this worthy cause. We packed up dinner baskets and with the help of parishioner volunteers, we delivered them on Saturday, November 21st to families who live below the poverty line. It was an amazing experience to see the sparkling eyes above the smiles hidden behind the masks on the faces of the families, as they received their Thanksgiving baskets.



For Christmas we reached out to St. Basil's Academy and received a wish list of items for the kids and their dorms. We were happy to be able to gather the items and then delivered them to St. Basil's to make their Christmas bright.

GOYA activities in December included a night of Christmas fun. We all gathered together to decorate the Christmas tree in the church rotunda and sing carols. Afterwards we enjoyed many laughs while judging the ugly sweater contest. We concluded this wonderful evening with a grab bag gift exchange which included many surprises. On December 20th our GOYA went Christmas caroling in the towns around our church. Members of our church signed up to have GOYA come to their homes and sing. It was a lovely night filled with Christmas spirit and a sense of community.



Finally, we are proud to announce that on December 13th we experienced the unveiling of our new Youth Room! Many have worked hard these past couple of years to make this a reality for our GOYA. We would like to thank the Venetis family, the Neocleous family, the Ziozis family and the Parish Council. This room will be a place for our youth to gather and bond for many years to come.



It's never too late to join GOYA!!! Come and join us for fun and fellowship all year long. Please contact us at goya@archangelmichaelchurch.org

Thanksgiving Basket Thank You

Dear Father John:

I am writing this letter to thank you for the generous gift to my family on Thanksgiving. If it wasn't for your church, I honestly don't know how me, and my family would have had such a great meal in good spirits. Due to situations beyond our control times have been hard but with the support of your church in conjunction with Parent Coordinator Ms. Grace Baez, families like mine are keeping their heads up and looking forward and are thankful for the help and generous offerings. So please accept my utmost appreciation and heartwarming "Thank You" from the entire family.

Sincerely, Joseph C. & Family

HOPE/JOY

The HOPE/JOY year started off with a bang, and we have been so blessed to get to see all of our wonderful members having fun together. While in-person events and opportunities for our youth have been a bit of a challenge, we have been busy, thinking outside of the box to make it happen. One thing is for certain, our members definitely needed the time to get together, socialize, and just share fun times!

Our outdoor events in the fall were a hit! We hosted a Drive-In Movie Kick Off event, reminiscent of the drive-ins of the past. Our members were reunited once again and everyone had a great time. Complete with concessions, comfy blankets, and lawn chairs, it was certainly a night to remember.



Our Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event gave our members (and their parents) a chance to show off their creativity. We loved seeing everyone's costume choices, and the spooky car designs even left some of our members

NEWS AND EVENTS

in awe. Our AMC parking lot was transformed into a Pumpkin Patch and the children hand selected a pumpkin that was just right for them. There was dancing, games, laughs, and, of course, candy. What more could we ask for?



The children were then able to "skate" right on into our next event, our Christmas Ice Skating Holiday Bash.The Skating Center was transformed into the North Pole, and our members were given the opportunity to show off their skills on the ice. We laughed, some cried, but we did it together, in the spirit of the Christmas season. We are reminded now, more than ever, to embrace Hope and Joy! We look forward to more fun-filled events in the coming year; events filled with cheerful celebration and meaningful connection.

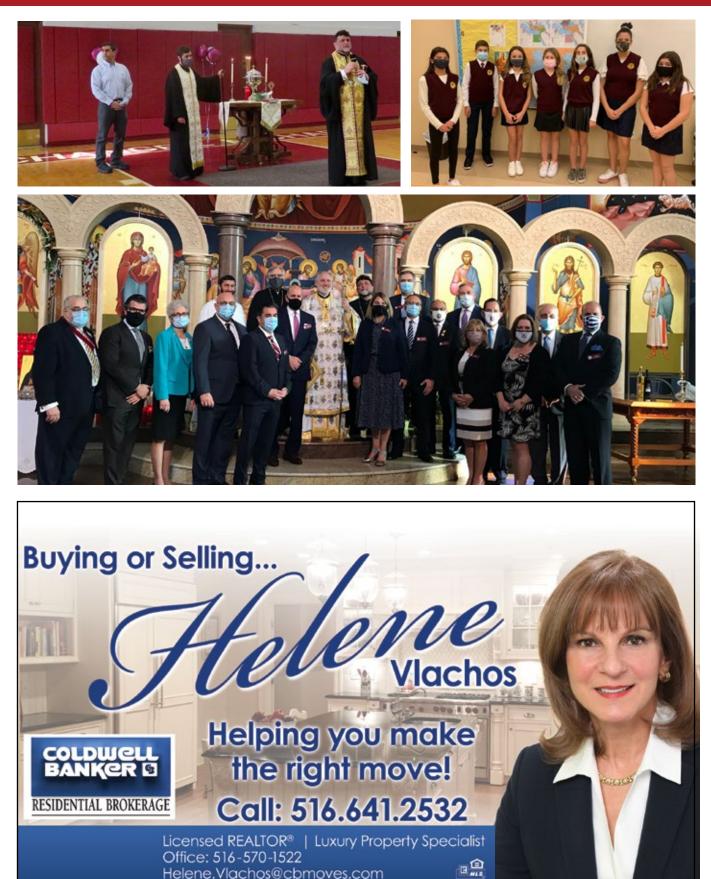
COMMUNITY PHOTOS







COMMUNITY PHOTOS





ARCHANGEL MICHAEL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH January Calendar 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Circumcision of Jesus Christ, and St. Basil the Great	
					Orthros 9:15a Divine Liturgy 10:30a	
					NEW YEARS DAY - Office Closed	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sunday Before Epiphany Orthros 7:30a Ist Divine Liturgy 8:45a	Preschool Resumes	The Fore-feast of Epiphany & Blessing of the Waters Royal Hours 8:00a	Epiphany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ & Great Blessings of the Waters	Gathering of the Honorable & Glorious Forerunner John the Baptist		
2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a Philoptochos Vasilopita		Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9:30a	Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9:30a	Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a		
Cutting		Greek School Resumes	Preschool Closed			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Orthros 7:30a 1st Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a		LIONs College & HS Networking Event 7p	Paraklesis 10a Book Club 11a	Snow Date for LIONs Event 6:30p Vespers 7p Book Club 7:30p		Challenge Liturgy Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 10:30a
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Feast of St. Anthony Orthros 9:15a Divine Liturgy 10:30a No Sunday School	SS. Athanasios and Cyril Orthros &:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a Martin Luther King Jr. Day Office & Preschool Closed		Paraklesis 10a Bible Study11a	Vespers 7p Bible Study 7:30p		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Orthros 7:30a 1st Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a Orthros 7:30a 1st Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a			Paraklesis 10a Bible Study 11a	Vespers 7p Bible Study 7:30p	Great Vespers for the Three Hierarchs (Brooklyn) 7PM	Feast of the Three Hierarchs Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a



ARCHANGEL MICHAEL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH February Calendar 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Orthros 7:30a Ist Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a		Presentation of Christ to the Temple Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a	Paraklesis 10a Book Club 11a	Vespers 7p Book Club 7:30p		St. Photios Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Orthros 7:30a Ist Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a			St Haralambos Orthros 8:30a Divine Liturgy 9:30a Book Club 11a	Vespers 7p Book Club 7:30p		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Orthros 7:30a Ist Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a Godparent Sunday	Presidents Day Office Closed	Winter Reces	s- Preschool & Greel Paraklesis 10a Bible Study 11a	k School Closed Vespers 7p Bible Study 7:30p		Challenge Liturgy Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 10:30a
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Drthros 9:00a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a No Sunday School	Preschool Resumes	Greek School Resumes	Paraklesis 10a Bible Study 11a	Vespers 7p Bible Study 7:30p		
28						
Orthros 7:30a Ist Divine Liturgy 8:45a 2nd Divine Liturgy 10:30a						

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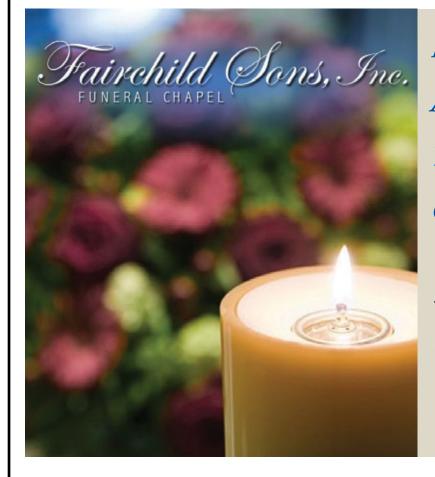
The Trumpet reaches over 700 families of the Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church the majority of whom live in the North Shore communities surrounding the church.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please send an email to: trumpet@archangelmichaelchurch.org



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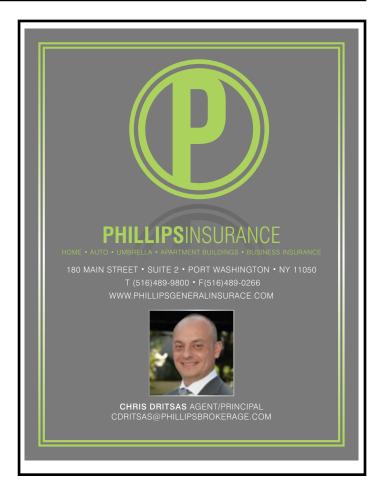
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The Archangel Michael Community Is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Event **AMC LIONs**

(Long Island Orthodox Networking)

Speakers will include:

Dr. Maria Sfakianos

Director of Surgical Intensive Care Unit- North Shore University Hospital

- Bachelor of Arts Psychology—New York University Masters of Medical Science—Drexel University COM
- Doctor of Medicine-Drexel University COM

Caesar Munoz

Director of performance management strategy at Google

- Graduate of the United States Military Academy of West Point
- 2nd BN, 1st Special Forces having deployed to combat in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to Afghanistan as the Joint Task Force's Signal Director and leading Signal strategy for the Battalion across a number multinational exercises across Asia.
- Master's in Business Administration from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business

Chrystalla Neocleous

- Bachelor of Fine Arts at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY
- Interior Designer at VYDA Fine Interiors, Located in Manhasset NY

Gus Tsahas

President of Tarasis Electric Corp

- Bachelor of Science in Engineering—Pratt Institute
- Masters of Electrical Engineering and Engineering Management-Polytechnic
- Masters of Financial Engineering—Baruch



Caesar Munoz



Gus Tsahas



Dr. Maria Sfakianos



When:

January 12, 2021 from 7PM-9PM Snow Date (In case of inclement weather) January 14, 2021 from 7PM-9PM

Where:

Gymnasium of The Archangel Michael Church 100 Fairway Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050

The event will begin with the panel speakers and then will be followed by Breakout Sessions where the AMC Young Adults, College Students and youth can meet and interact with seasoned professionals

Objective & Goal of LIONs: Coaching, Advice, Support, **Motivation & Direction, Intern**ships, Shadowing and Entrance **Level Work**

All youth 15+ are welcome Food & Refreshments will be served

To RSVP please register on SignUpGenius:

https://www.signupgenius.com/ qo/4090545A5A922AAF49-lions

Or Email lions@archangelmichaelchurch.org

Chrystalla Neocleous