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Sep-Oct 2022 • Issue 61 • Archangel Michael Church • Port Washington, NY



Camp St. Paul



Ionian Village

## 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.





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Archbishop Elpidophoros

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#### About the Trumpet

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

#### Production

2022 Parish Council President: John Koumpourlis Editor: Barbara Mavro Assistant Editor: Sophia Niarchos 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

#### Sep-Oct Sunday Worship Schedule

Sunday Services: 8:00 a.m. Orthros, 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

#### **PASTORAL MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN LARDAS**

#### Do You Believe? | Believe!

And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."(Matthew 9:28)

The religious education and spiritual theme for the Archangel Michael Church for this year is "I BELIEVE!" Each and every time during the Divine Liturgy, the faithful recite, "I believe in one God..." What does it really mean to believe? Does one really believe? Why is belief so important?

Many times, when Jesus was performing miracles, He asked one thing from the person benefiting from the Lord's benevolence, BELIEF! He asked the blind men, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said

to Him, "Yes, Lord." To the man whose son was so severely possessed that the demons cast the young boy often into fire or water, Jesus approaches the desperate man and asks, "Do you believe?" The man replies, "I believe, help my unbelief!" What is one believing in, when they answer this question, posed by Jesus? One is asked to

believe that Jesus is the Only Begotten Son of God. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."(John 3:16) One is asked to believe that the person of Jesus can walk on the water; still the winds; restore sight; cleanse lepers; bring back the dead; die and rise again! One is asked to believe that the person and human being that is Jesus is also the Christ, the Son of God! One is asked to **BELIEVE in the UNBELIEVABLE**!

The foundation of the Greek Orthodox Faith is belief. This is highlighted by Jesus during the great confession of the Apostle Peter. Jesus asks the disciples, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God...And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:16-18) The rock and foundation of the Church is BELIEF!

The Bible, and especially the lives of the disciples, brings to life how unbelief is turned into belief.

I BELIEVE...

BELLEVE in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

ΠΙCTEYO εἰς ἕνα Θεόν, Πατέρα Παντοκράτορα, ποιπτήν οὐρανοῦ καί Γῆς, ὑρατῶν τε πάντων καί ἀοράτων.

Thomas would not believe his friends and fellow disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead. Judas, unable to open his heart to the unconditional love and self-emptying of God, betrays the Lord. Peter broke down many times into unbelief when the pressure rose. Although he was walking on the water, when he saw the waves around him, he fell into disbelief. When Jesus was being arrested and tortured, he denied Him. In all these circumstances except one, the little belief of the disciples is transformed to a great belief.

One of the issues that the risen Lord confronted with the disciples was not their disbelief but their little belief. When Jesus entered the boat, after He had walked on water and before He blessed the five loaves and fed over 5,000 people, He used the word

> in Greek "Όλιγόπιστε" of little faith. The Lord Jesus builds up the "little faith" of the disciples through His resurrection and by preparing them to receive the Holy Spirit. Thus, in their lives as apostles, they accomplished great works of faith.

If a person says that they be-

lieve, what does this mean in the daily practice of one's life? One aspect of belief is what is conveyed to children. Jesus teaches the following, "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matthew 18:6) This verse speaks volumes of where parents should place their priorities in the raising and religious education of their children, especially on Sunday mornings. Believing is receiving Holy Communion. "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." (John 6:35) To believe means to walk in the light of God. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." (John 12:36) Belief means to love one another. "And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. (1 John 3:23)

#### DO YOU BELIEVE? I BELIEVE!

By the Rev. John K. Lardas

#### WELCOME, JOHN AND ELENI CAPONES, TO ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH

John Capones is a lifelong New Yorker who grew up at the St. Nicholas Parish in Flushing, NY. He was active in the altar, chanting, and youth ministries under the direction of his spiritual father, Protopresbyter Paul C. Palesty. John and his family have very fond memories of our very own Fr. Lardas and his tenure at the Flushing Parish during the early 2000's.

John formally began his priestly formation in 2015 at Hellenic College. He received his BA from the Seminary there two years later and went on to receive an MA in Higher Education Administration from Stony Brook University in 2019. While studying, John served as Registrar Director for St. John's Prep in Astoria, NY. He also worked with several community organizations to deliver equitable post-secondary outcomes for inner city youth and disadvan-taged job seekers. Since returning to New York in 2017, John has continued to serve the Church by chanting for several parishes in the Greater New York City Area. John went back to Seminary in 2020 to receive his Master of Divinity from St. Vladimir's in Yonkers, NY.

In 2021 John proposed to the love of his life, Ms. Eleni Constantinou of Easton, MA. Eleni grew up attending the Annunciation and St. Catherine parishes in Brockton and Braintree, respectively. She graduated from Boston University in 2019 with a BA in Biological Anthropology and Modern Greek Studies. Eleni attended Suffolk University Law School and graduated in May 2022 with her Juris Doctor degree.

John and Eleni were married on August 21, 2022 and are most excited to be joining the Archangel Michael Church.



		Worsi	HIP SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS
Worship Services			
Orthros 8:30 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated			
<u>September</u>		<u>October</u>	
Thur. 1	The New Ecclesiastical Year	Sat. 15	Sat. 15Orthros 9:30 a.m., Challenge Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.mTue. 25The Great Vespers of St. Demetrios (Merrick Long Island, Jamaica or Astoria) 7 p.m.
Tue. 6	The Remembrance of the Miracle of the Archangel Michael		
Thur. 8	The Birth of the Theotokos		
Tue. 13	Great Vespers of the Precious Cross (Holy Cross Whitestone or Bay Ridge) 7 p.m.		
Wed. 14	Feast of the Holy Cross	Wed. 26	Feast of St. Demetrios
Sat. 17	Feast of St. Sophia and Her Three Daughters Orthros 9:30 a.m., Challenge Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.	Sun. 30	Great Vespers of Sts. Cosmas and Damianos (Washington Heights or Chapel of St. Nicholas Flushing) 7 p.m.
Fri. 23	Conception of St. John the Baptist		
Mon. 26	The Translation of St. John the Theologian		
<u>Sacraments</u>			
Sat., Sept. 10	1:00 p.m., <b>Baptism</b> : Child of Stella & Konstantinos Spanakis	Sat., Oct. 8	11:00 a.m., <b>Baptism:</b> Child of Konstantinos & Eleni Kapatos
Sat., Sept. 17	2:30 p.m., <b>Wedding</b> of Emanuel Kokinakis & Kiki Milios	Sun., Oct. 9	1:00 p.m., <b>Baptism:</b> Child of Katerina & Tommy Constantinou
Sat., Oct. 1	1:30 p.m., <b>Wedding</b> of Alexander Chadli & Gabrielle Tagios	Sat., Oct. 15	2:00 p.m., <b>Wedding</b> of Andreas Theodorou & Evelyn Vergiris
DIGITAL CHANT STAND			
You may be wondering why some parishioners have been looking at their phones or I-Pads during the Divine Liturgy. They are using these devices in lieu of a book to follow along with the Liturgy.			
To access Orthros and Divine Liturgy services, simply go to <b>dcs.goarch.org</b> and select the appropriate date. For <b>Orthros</b> , select <b>"Matins"</b> and <b>GR-EN View.</b> Then, once Matins/Orthros is completed, return to the date and select <b>GR-EN View</b> in the <b>"Divine Liturgy"</b> section. In both the Matins and Divine Liturgy sections, you			

and select **GR-EN View** in the **"Divine Liturgy"** section. In both the Matins and Divine Liturgy sections, you will see the text for the services with the Greek and English side by side. This resource also allows us to follow along with the provers that are quietly spoken by the priests during the

This resource also allows us to follow along with the prayers that are quietly spoken by the priests during the Divine Liturgy and other services.

Texts for other sacraments of the Church can be found by clicking on the menu bar in the upper left corner of the date page. There, you can access Wedding, Baptism, Funeral, and Memorial services in addition to others.

This is a very convenient way to follow along with the many beautiful services of the Greek Orthodox Church.

An Interview With Fr. Michael: One Man's Journey Into Priesthood and the AMC Community

#### By Seva Karonis

Fr. Michael Palamara has been a staple figure at Archangel Michael Church (AMC) for quite some time. A humble, down-to-earth, and approachable priest, a confidant and mentor, his constant enthusiasm and energy not only strengthened the community, but made new members such as myself feel welcomed. This is a large part of why the news of him moving away to another church was heartbreaking. Before he was to begin his new opportunity, I asked him if we could discuss how he chose the path to priesthood and his impact on AMC.

Like some church members, Fr. Michael grew up in Flushing, attending St. Nicholas Church. He attended Sunday and weekday services and served as an altar boy.



"My whole family was faithful, and the church was always a very big part of my life," he said. "I just enjoyed being at church and talking about the church and learning about God. When I was thinking of a career, though, being a priest never really crossed my mind."

A few priests approached him about the possibility of his going to seminary and becoming a priest; but it wasn't until one summer at Camp St. Paul, where Fr. Michael was a counselor, that he began to consider it.

"Actually our Fr. John Lardas said to me: 'Michael... you should go to seminary; you maybe should be a priest," he recounted. "And he sat me down, and we talked for about an hour on just that.... He encouraged me tremendously."

This was the start of many long conversations Fr. Michael would have with other priests, which ultimately convinced him to pursue the priesthood.

"So many people were saying it in such a strong way," he explained, "though, it wasn't fully solidified 'til I met my wife towards the end of college.... Once we became very serious, she told me that her spiritual father had thought she would be a πρεσβυτέρα."

These miraculous signs led him to his calling and ultimately steered him to a career change - a striking departure from a career in finance. Though it took effort to embark on this journey, it proved to be a rewarding path. His first step was learning from Fr. John at AMC.

"I started at Archangel Michael as a deacon, and I really watched and observed Fr. John," Fr. Michael noted, "learning how I can pastor people, how I can guide them. I was following in Fr. John's footsteps... like in his shadow...."

After this period of observation, he was ordained a priest and assigned to AMC, where he served with Fr. John for about three years. He credits Fr. John for being the person he "was learning everything from," including how one's own relationship with God impacts priesthood: "[I learned] how to be a pastor, how to love people and be involved with the people, how to guide them," Fr. Michael explained. "But also first and foremost, how to be a faithful servant of God."

It's this mindset that brought him success in the AMC community. Just listening to what some of his responsibilities were — lending an ear to those who needed consoling, leading worship services, and ensuring programs like GOYA were running smoothly — gave me an inkling of how tough serving a big community can be. This is why Fr. Michael detailed how maintaining his well-being was key to tackling everything else, including helping others.

"We say 'unless your well is filled, you cannot give water to others," he said. "Maintaining my inner peace was perhaps my top priority.... The priest is part of everybody's life... as a spiritual representative and sometimes just as a sounding board."

It can be emotionally taxing listening to people's concerns, so putting aside time for personal introspection and prayer better prepares him to deal with others' struggles.

"You know, you may not be interested in hearing about certain [things] and sometimes they're dark things," he elaborated. "They're tough things, you know, you are hearing confessions too. And they can be wearying if you are not coming from a place of love and peace.... You have to make sure your priesthood is alive and well. And suddenly you have a divine grace that all of these things can be like a joy, you know, walking with people through the darkest of times."

He felt it was important to keep the community together during the toughest of times, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"During COVID, I was particular about us making sure in whatever safe way we could, we would keep on going so that all of the kids... would stay together and involved so that they felt that sense of community," he said. "I [also] did a lot with the elderly. We tried to make sure that even shut-ins, people who couldn't get out, were tended to.... You feel the love of God often through other people, so we emphasized that."

Focusing on these efforts truly proved his dedication to the church and those involved in it. This regard for the community was reflected in his answer when we discussed what he valued during his time at AMC: "... when I would see kids really at the church; when I saw a full junior choir for a service; an unmarketed, very typical GOYA night when so many kids wanted to be there would blow me away; when there was a big group of kids on Palm Sunday. I loved having... the sanctuary filled with altar boys during Holy Week."

His continued appreciation for even the most ordinary things made the larger events — like the Greek Festival on the Harbor, filled with young volunteers — all the more special. The parental involvement and support he witnessed also "really astound[ed] me, how much they're willing to give to the church."

#### NEWS AND EVENTS

"Sometimes that's the most difficult thing: that the priest wants to do all these things but really can't because there are no parent volunteers.... At Archangel Michael, we had astounding volunteers."

Fr. Michael expressed his hope of bringing this same passion to his new church. He wishes for it to be a "spiritual refuge," a place people want to go to worship and connect with the Lord, a place with a strong sense of community. However, this new journey will be much more ambitious, since now he's "building something" from the ground up.

"You know, at Archangel Michael, I've been successful in a couple initiatives, but Sts. Constantine and Helen is a church where it needs a lot."

His eagerness to start this new adventure, while prominent, didn't outshine his genuine fondness and appreciation for AMC. Even down to the end of the interview, he thanked Fr. John, the parish counsel, and all those in the community for being so accepting, which was how he was able to flourish in it.

"I would like to thank everybody because I have been so embraced," he said. "I have been invited, I have been welcomed... I tasted how sweet that fruit is, and I wanted to give it to everybody."

Fr. Michael credits the inclusiveness he felt for his ability to "extend it to the rest of the community, and... kind of pay it forward."

Fr. Michael, I genuinely hope AMC keeps the enthusiastic and warm spirit you spread here alive and well. For as much as you credit the community for the church's success, your personal impact will not be forgotten. I think I can speak for all of AMC when I say we wish you well in your next church.

(Seva Karonis is a senior and journalism major at Francis Lewis High School. She is an AMC parishioner and member of GOYA.)

#### MY ADULT BAPTISM: BECOMING AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

By Gabriel M. Turri

When I began to tell people that I would soon be baptized in the Orthodox Church, the most common question I received was "Are you going to get Chrismated?" That was, and is, a fair question. After all, the Church considers it a perfectly valid path to membership and full participation in its life if you have already been baptized in the Holy Trinity. Chrismation would certainly have been more convenient, more expedient, and less..."messy." But after all the things I learned as a catechumen, after my eyes had been opened to spiritual truths, I knew that I wanted to be fully baptized, fully immersed.

I was raised Roman Catholic and had been given a full religious education. I was trained by nuns of the Order of Saint Dominic and by Jesuit priests. I was taught about God and Jesus and the Virgin Mary. I knew Jesus died for my sins. I was told about the importance of Sundays and attendance in church. I was taught about Original Sin, purgatory, and the supremacy of the Pope. I was also taught logic, grammar, rhetoric, reason, math, philosophy, and science. But the secular teaching and the religious teaching at some point diverged. The path to take, it seemed to be implied, was to follow a secular path but put God in there "somewhere." I never questioned any of this. Religion was just something I had to do so I could go on with the rest of my life. It's almost like cleaning your room so your parents will let you go out.

Needless to say, when you treat God this way, you stray very far away, almost to the point of not believing He exists. I could write books about my religious life from my college years and into my late 40's. Suffice it to say that God was not very important to me. I even rejected Him and wanted nothing to do with Him. If I did turn to Him, it was only when I needed something. My parents saw this and prayed and prayed for me. They never pressed until one day my father sat me down and said (in Spanish and with great feeling), "Son, please seek God." That started to move me just a bit. Slowly, but surely, I began to seek God.

I began by listening to all the popular preachers on the radio, on YouTube videos, on television. After a while, I noticed that none of it was fulfilling. It seemed to be more about success in this life. They said that God wants us all to be rich. What?! This went against my entire religious education. I thought, "This can't be good." Besides, where was the spirit? Where was the holiness? Where was the reverence for God? I kept seeking. I read the Bible. I attended Protestant churches. I spoke with Jewish rabbis. I read commentaries on the Bible and continued to seek God but felt like I was not finding Him. I went on YouTube to see what was there. Then, one day I found the channel of a young man named Jay Dyer. Jay had been raised Southern Baptist and had converted to Roman Catholicism. He found the same issues in Rome that I did, which is why he became Orthodox. He recommended books which I promptly set out to read. He spoke about all the things I had been seeking. Reverence for God. Holiness. The Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ. The Truth. I knew the Orthodox Church was where I needed to be.

After my parents died, I knew I had to finally "go back to Church." I had read so many books, listened to so many lectures, watched so many videos. This was for me. Happening upon Archangel Michael during my travels for work, I decided to come in one day. Fr. John could not have been more welcoming. He received me in the most loving and friendly manner. I immediately felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. We had a wonderful conversation, and he saw my enthusiasm. Fr. John wisely, and gently, let me know that I would have to go through a catechism. He introduced me to the man who would become my spiritual father, Fr. Michael.

Fr. Michael is a wonderful priest and teacher and friend. My catechism was a bit unconventional as I already had quite a bit of "knowledge" about the Church. Fr. Michael was able to help me navigate it by recognizing that, in my case, the most important thing was for me to experience the liturgy as much as possible. Of course, he answered all of my questions and explained many things that had been confusing. His instruction about prayer, and his care in guiding me through it were instrumental in helping me solve a personal family issue. Fr. Michael's patience and love were always on full display.

But never were his patience and love more fully apparent than when I fell away for many months and came back to him. He welcomed me with a smile and a hug. I "confessed" a few things and told him of my shame and the dark times I had gone through. Fr. Michael listened and let me know that I was always welcome in the Church. Wow! From then on, it was as if I had never left. I attended Bible Study, Book Club and, of course, liturgy. His most important instruction to me was to attend every service possible during Holy Week and every service on Holy Friday. He said he wanted me to feel hungry for the Eucharist. I followed his instruction. As Holy Week was coming to an end, I was hungry! But not for a cheeseburger like I thought I would be. I was hungry for the Resurrection, for the Eucharist and full participation in the Church! My faith was stronger than ever, and I knew I was "home."

After all of this, I knew that Chrismation would not be the correct path for me. I wanted and needed to be immersed in the water and anointed with the oil. I knew I had to accept my position as an infant – because that's what I was – an infant again. I set my ego and pride aside. I knew that I knew nothing. The Church, in its infinite wisdom, knows the path. The Church has priests and holy men like Fr. John and Fr. Michael who trust the

#### NEWS AND EVENTS

process and are ordained for our spiritual benefit. Most importantly, the Church has the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Fr. Michael proposed Father's Day as the date of my baptism - the perfect day! I did not hesitate. I wanted both Fr. Michael and Fr. John to be present. I knew my own father would have supported me in my decision as I gained two more "Fathers" by coming to the Church. I stood with Fr. Michael and my wonderful godmother Sophia Niarchos, and renounced Satan. I was anointed with the oil, I was immersed by Fr. Michael in holy water, and my blessed cross (which had been my father's) was put around my neck by Fr. John. I became an Orthodox Christian!



I am now your Brother in Christ. You are my Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Glory to God!

#### THE DIVINE LITURGY ISN'T OUR ONLY SERVICE: AN INTRODUCTION TO ORTHROS

By Sophia A. Niarchos\*

"Therefore, let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe." Hebrews 12:28

The purpose of worship is to be with the Lord in a corporate context, to pray together with others, to set aside our everyday stresses, and to enter into heaven, experiencing His grace in this unique way. Worship also helps us to learn. Each service of the Orthodox Church helps us worship and experience the Lord in a different way. Orthodoxy sees people as liturgical creatures who are fully complete when glorifying God.\*\*

#### NEWS AND EVENTS

Yet, one of the biggest gaps in our practice of the Orthodox faith has to do with worship. For most people, our experience of worship is limited to the Divine Liturgy.... There are, however, many other services besides the Divine Liturgy; and if we only attend the Divine Liturgy, we miss out on the opportunity for other, more diverse experiences of worship. And we get the sense that all worship services are the same, which is not true at all.

The service that begins the calendar day is the Orthros ( $\delta \varrho \vartheta \varrho \varrho \sigma \varsigma$ , meaning "early dawn" or "daybreak"). Orthros can be celebrated alone, but usually it is done in connection with the Divine Liturgy. The hymns of Orthros vary, as they commemorate the life of the saint being celebrated or, on Sundays, hymns of the Resurrection.

There is a different Orthros for every day of the year, and the Digital Chant Stand AGES Initiative newly available as an app or through the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese website (please see the "Blue Box" on p. 5) now makes linguistic understanding possible with its translation into English. Of course, we can also understand the service by repeatedly listening to the music.

In future issues of The Trumpet, we will take an in-depth look at the elements of Orthros, which will make the service more alive to each of us and through which we will have the opportunity to enter further into the presence of God's Kingdom. Consider this your invitation to discover why Orthros is structured the way it is and how you can participate.

As Fr. John notes, "When we truly enter into the worship, time passes very quickly as worship occurs outside of time."

"Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of His name; worship the Lord in holy array.... The voice of the Lord is powerful. The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.... May the Lord give strength to His people! May the Lord bless His people with peace!" Psalm 29

\*[Adapted from an article by Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis published at https://myocn.net/the-divine-liturgy-isntour-only-service/ on May 10, 2019, and accessed on August 9, 2022.

\*\*orthodoxwiki.org/worship. Accessed on August 23, 2022.

#### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER CALENDARS

The September and October calendars do not appear in this issue of the Trumpet. They can be accessed by going to archangelmichaelchurch.org and clicking on Calendars

#### **FESTIVAL RIDES**

We are again pre-selling <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> price ticket sheets for the rides at the Festival.

Each sheet has 44 tickets and will be sold for \$25.

Contact: preschool@archangelmichaelchurch.org for pick up weekdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Details to come regarding pre-sale at upcoming community events.

#### ST. NICHOLAS SHRINE STEWARDSHIP

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

July 4 has always been a very special day on our calendar. Even with some of our blemishes, citizens from coast to coast celebrate this great nation and the freedoms and opportunities it provides to all. As Greek Orthodox Americans, we recognize that this great country took in our parents, grandparents, and greater ancestors as immigrants and allowed the Greek people to flourish.

This past July 4 was especially celebratory in the Greek Orthodox American community as we also witnessed the consecration of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox National Shrine at Ground Zero.

Many thought they would never see this day come, as for years we all awaited the restoration of the only religious institution destroyed on September 11, 2001. The restoration was beset by legal disputes, various accusations, budget overruns, and a labyrinth of 21st-century bureaucratic red tape that prolonged the reconstruction for well over two decades. And while all of these disputes were well-documented and publicized, it was



the generosity and the stewardship of those who were truly faithful and selfless behind the scenes that ultimately opened the doors to our National Shrine.

Imagine if you will, a man from humble beginnings who grew up in a Greek community in the New York City area, a short drive through the Battery Tunnel and up the West Side Highway from where the towers fell. A man who was educated in Greek Orthodox parochial schools and went on to marry, raise a family and operate a successful business in the construction industry. And yet, with the demands of his family and his business, he made it a point to give selflessly of himself back to his community, working with our Greek Orthodox youth in various ministries, and positively touching the lives of hundreds, if not thousands of people with whom he interacted. As the Apostle Paul stated in 1 Corinthians 4:2 that "it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful," this gentleman's devotion to his Faith never wavered.

His name was Paul Melis. Paul was called Home unto the Lord on July 17, suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 57. But before he was called Home, he undertook one more altruistic act of Faith; Paul's company, Corona Ready-Mix, donated all the cement used by the Archdiocese to construct the National Shrine at Ground Zero. He never publicized it. He gave with love, he gave with his faith and he gave without ego.

So the next time you walk upon the grounds of the National Shrine at Ground Zero, remember this: that decades of lawsuits, disputes and other seemingly insurmountable obstacles are no match for those who love Him, for those who give with His love, and for those through whom He acts.

#### PLEASE JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY and BOOK CLUB

Wednesday morning sessions begin at 11:00 a.m. preceded by Paraklesis to the Theotokos at 10:00 a.m. Thursday evening sessions begin at 7:30 p.m. preceded by Small Vespers at 7:00 p.m.

**Bible Study** will be meeting the third and fourth weeks of each month beginning on September 21(morning) & 22 (evening). We will be studying the *Book of Genesis*.

Book Club will be meeting the first and second weeks of each month beginning on October 5 (morning) & 6 (evening).

#### PHILOPTOCHOS



#### PHILOPTOCHOS HOSTS MOTHER'S DAY TEA

The Archangel Michael Ladies Philoptochos celebrated mothers and all of the great women in our lives with an elegant "Afternoon High Tea" at the Garden City Hotel in the David Burke Red Salt Room. The menu offered assorted finger sandwiches, scones, and delicate pastries along with your favorite tea infusion. The tables were decorated with antique teapots, which were available for purchase at the end of the event. Ladies wore their garden hats and fascinators; a prize was awarded to Theodora Pafitis for the most beautiful hat. Thank you to Fran Sotiriou for chairing this sophisticated event. Moms don't take the time to treat themselves enough so this lovely event was a perfect way to celebrate them and all the special women we know. Start a beloved tradition and join us for our next Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 6, 2023.



#### PHILOPTOCHOS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Archangel Michael Ladies Philoptochos established a scholarship in 2021, granting a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is of Greek Orthodox faith and has demonstrated a strong commitment to philanthropic endeavors throughout his or her high school career. It is our belief that a scholarship has the ability to boost the morale and confidence in a student's ability to work toward his or her future. By supporting our youth in this manner we help them build a strong foundation to achieve their potential. This is our second year awarding the scholarship to a deserving and talented high school senior. It was with great pleasure that the Archangel Michael Ladies Philoptochos presented this year's award to Paul Cavounis. We congratulate him and his family and wish him continued success in his college career and future studies.

#### AN EVENING IN CRETE

On a beautiful night in June, under the stars in the front courtyard of our church, our **Cooking Club** hosted the **Philoptochos End of Year Dinner: An Evening in Crete.** 

In keeping with its mission to pass down regional cooking and time-honored traditions to the next generation, the club highlighted the cuisine, music and dance of the legendary island of Crete.



Thanks to the generosity of our Archangel Michael Church community and the support of our Cretan friends from the Minos Cretan Society and Cretan's Association Omonia, thousands of dollars were raised for **Archbishop Elpidoforos' Beacons of Hope** charity for our seminarians. Special thanks to co-chairs Chris Ioannou, Vicky Giouroukakis, and Helen Maropakis; Music Coordinator Chris Marangoudakis; Head Chefs Konstantina Chrysopoulou and Lambros Skaliotis; and the loving hands of our own Philoptochos kitchen chefs, Kiki Cotronis, Argiro Dallas, Maria Stratoudakis and Anna Giouroukakis. Thank You to Emcee Chris Triantafillou and dance troupes "The Greek American Folklore Society" and "The Academy of Hellenic Paideia."

We owe a debt of gratitude to our tireless volunteers: Chris Neocleous, Susan Cavounis, Diana Gardianos, Mary Sole, Eleni Raptis, Eleni Germanakos, Bessie Ziozis, Michele Lascarides, Christina Diamantakis, Barbara Mavro, Sandy Regas, Liz Tagios, Debbie Dakis, Candy Dres, and Fiffy Eliades.

We look forward to honoring another "Magical Greek Island" same time next year!

#### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONOR WALL

In 2003, Archangel Michael Church Protopresbyter, Fr. Dennis Strouzas convened an important meeting of the Property Search Committee. The purpose was to discuss a Capital Campaign (CC) to raise the money needed to build our new church on the property that was purchased from the Town of North Hempstead. With the help of outside consultants, the Capital Campaign was initiated with the goal of raising \$7 million.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, by 2011, the campaign had easily exceeded this goal and had raised over \$9.4 million.

Project 2000 had been launched prior to the Capital Campaign to initiate the purchase of the land. A subsequent campaign, The Book of Needs, was also initiated. Over the last several years, with the encouragement of both Fr. Dennis and Fr. John, additional contributions were made. In total, over \$13 million in donations was raised to build and decorate our beautiful Archangel Michael Church!

The beautiful Donor Wall, designed by our architects, Norman Glavas and Harry Nicolaides, along with the manufacturer W.E.Baum, has been erected in the hallway outside the Angeliades Fellowship Hall. The names of all who have made contributions to the various campaigns have been inscribed. Please note that the three icons pictured will be replaced with mosaic icons.



Next to the Donor Wall is a plaque commemorating Fr. Dennis' leadership in achieving our goal to erect our church and create a Greek Orthodox complex on the North Shore of Long Island.



#### HARRY LASCARIDES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 6, Fr. John called all the Archangel Michael Church college students up to the altar and offered a blessing.



#### NEWS AND EVENTS

He then introduced Michele Lascarides who presented the first annual Harry Lascarides Memorial Scholarship Award, in the amount of \$2000, to Costa Koutsoftas, a 2022 Wheatley High School graduate, who will be attending the University of South Carolina. Michele also congratulated Tina Giallias, Gabrielle Pappas, Niko Reynolds, and Constantine Triantafillou, each of whom received a \$250 Honorable Mention award.



#### CHOIR

While the world faced many challenges during the pandemic, our choirs faced particular difficulties and risks due to the high exhalation of aerosol levels in activities such as group singing. After quarantine restrictions (when no choirs or singing groups performed or rehearsed) were lifted, the Archangel Michael Church Choir resumed its participation during the Divine Liturgy with many precautions in place. We masked, we observed social distancing protocols, and we limited the number of choir members participating.





Thankfully, by the grace of God and our love and respect for one another, none of our members were infected with the COVID virus as a result of singing in the choir.

Eventually, with patience, perseverance, and prayer, we were able to resume our participation in many of our church activities and were especially happy to contribute to the Blessings in a Backpack program in June. We look forward to gathering together again in September and invite anyone interested in singing in the choir to come up and join us!

#### EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

After nearly a year and a half of planning and coordinating multiple phases, Costa Koutsoftas completed his Eagle Scout service project at the Archangel Michael Church on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

His project, which was to beautify and dedicate a space to honor the veterans of the Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church, included erecting a flagpole, designing and installing a cross-shaped walking path, planting five new arborvitae trees, and spreading mulch throughout the area.

The site, which is located in the back corner of the church's main parking lot, was officially dedicated to our veterans after the Divine Liturgy, on Sunday, June 12. Costa then passed his final Board of Review and earned the rank of Eagle Scout on Wednesday, August 3.

Costa would like to thank Fr. John, Fr. Michael, Mom and Dad, Pappou Teddy Koutsoftas, Demetrios Frangiskatos, Chris Neocleous, the Parish Council, George and Greg Nitis, Scoutmasters Chris Joneleit and Kevin Ryan, and all the scouts from Troop 201 for all their help and guidance throughout this project.



**Plaque Inscription for Flagpole Site** 

This site is dedicated to the men and women of the Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church who bravely contributed their service to our country

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety" ~ 2 Samuel 22:2-3



Costa Koutsoftas, Troop 201 Eagle Scout Project May 14, 2022





#### By Linda Chondrogiannis

If you walk down the produce section of your grocery store you can purchase any type of fruit and vegetable that you desire, any time of the year -- watermelon in the middle of winter and pumpkins in the heat of the summer. But this wasn't always the case. Traditionally, we only ate foods that were in-season or that could be shipped to us from a short distance. These foods are fresher, tastier, and more nutritious than the foods eaten out of season, and they are also easier on your wallet. By eating in-season we are also supporting our local farmers and economy which is extremely important.



As we head into the Fall season, keep this in mind on your next trip to the grocery store. Some examples of Fall produce that are available in New York are apples, brussel sprouts, pears, beets, arugula, squash, and cauliflower.

To purchase the freshest in-season produce, head to the local farmer's markets located at Christopher Morley Park on Wednesday Mornings and the Port Washington Organic Farmer's Market at the Port Washington dock on Saturday mornings. Both are open until the end of October.

#### Immunity-Boosting

Fall Butternut Squash Soup (Serves 4)

#### Ingredients

- medium butternut squash, roasted as per directions below
   large onion, diced
   large organic carrots, diced
   5 inch piece ginger, skin off, chopped
   -inch piece of fresh turmeric, skin off, chopped
   cloves garlic, minced
   can organic coconut milk
   cups vegetable broth or chicken bone broth
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Pinch Himalayan salt and black pepper

#### Directions to Roast Butternut Squash:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375°F.
- 2. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 3. Wash the butternut squash, cut lengthwise and remove seeds
- 4. Brush your butternut squash with 1 tbsp olive oil, and season with salt and pepper.
- 5. Place butternut squash face down on baking sheet, roast until soft (approx 40-50 minutes or until you can pierce through the skin with a fork and it is soft).
- 6. Once cooled, scoop the flesh of the butternut squash out of its skin and set aside.



#### Directions to Cook Soup on the Stovetop:

- 1. Drizzle in 2 tablespoons of olive oil in a large pot and sauté the diced onion, carrots, ginger, and turmeric over medium heat until softened, about 5-8 minutes.
- 2. Add the broth and bring to a steady simmer.
- 3. Add the cooked butternut squash.
- 4. Reduce heat and stir in coconut milk cooking for 5 minutes until heated through.
- 5. Season with salt and pepper.
- 6. Use an immersion blender until smooth.
- 7. Ladle into individual bowls to serve.

#### HERITAGE LIBRARY AND BOOKSTORE

The Heritage Library and Bookstore Committee ended the 2021-22 year with the introduction of "Books That Inspire." This is an outreach program that will acquaint parishioners, via e-mail and church bulletin, with new and old books that are in the library and bookstore. We hope that this will encourage you to use the library and visit our newly relocated bookstore.

Our mobile bookstore will continue to operate at various times during the year, and we plan on having regular library hours when library users can browse through the library and talk to committee members. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at: heritagelibrarybookstore@archangelmichaelchurch.org or call Connie Parsons at (516) 551-9223. We would love to hear from you!

We are pleased to announce our upcoming Fall lecture, "In the Glow of Archangel Light."

In preparation for the upcoming festive Vespers of Archangel Michael, the Heritage Library is bringing back VK McCarty to present "In the Glow of Archangel Light." This exciting illustrated lecture promises to be "All You Ever Wanted to Know about Angels and Archangels."





Highlighted by beautiful icons, both ancient and modern, the talk will explore our special celestial heritage among the Holy Angels, as taught by the Church Fathers and experienced by Jesus Christ Himself—and many others among the faithful ever since.

Please mark your calendars for this exciting presentation on Sunday, November 6, during coffee hour in the Angeliades Fellowship Hall, following the Divine Liturgy. Some of the fascinating history and traditional lore about the Angels all around us, including our own Archangel Michael, will be revealed.

VK McCarty is the author of From Their Lips: Voices of Early Christian Women, which is on sale in the Heritage Library Bookstore. She lectures in Ascetical Theology at General Theological Seminary and preaches at St. Gregory the Theologian Orthodox Mission in New York City.

Donations to offset the expenses associated with the Heritage Library Speakers Series are welcomed. Checks can be made payable to the Archangel Michael Church, and please put Heritage Library in the memo. Thank you.

#### 29TH ANNUAL ARCHANGEL MICHAEL GOLF OUTING "THE WATSONIAN"

On June 9, The Archangel Michael Church held its 29th Annual Golf Outing, "The Watsonian," at Plandome Country Club.

This year 147 golfers participated and enjoyed beautiful weather and a great day of golf and fellowship. It was great to see so many friends, colleagues, and parishioners enjoying the day and evening together.

Each year we also honor our very generous and loyal sponsors. This year's honorees were Co-Event sponsors Katerina and Kosta Cheliotis from KOSTERINA.COM. Please see p. 21 for a list of 2022 sponsors.

The golf outing was a resounding financial success with net proceeds estimated to exceed \$100,000, a record profit for this annual fundraiser. These proceeds will be used for the continued operations of the church and its ministries.

We would like to thank all of our loyal sponsors, supporters, and participants and the friends and members of the Archangel Michael Church family who were so generous in supporting our raffle as well.

A very special thank you to Eleni Germanakos and Chris Ioannou for helping to run the raffle at the dinner, and to Dora Gouramanis and Catherine Papagianakis for working tirelessly during the planning stage and at the event! Finally, we are grateful to our Golf Committee, Gus Lucas, Drew Keen, Chris Neocleous, Peter Takvorian, Michael Bapis, and Mario Harris for their incredible work.

Next year, on June 8, 2023, we will mark 30 years of success in bringing together our parishioners, families and friends at the AMC Golf Outing "The Watsonian" at Plandome Country Club.

We look forward to a bigger and even more successful 2023 event!

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The next General Assembly will take place on Sunday, October 16. All stewards are encouraged to attend!

#### THIS WEEK AT AMC

Be sure to check your inbox at the beginning of each week for the email update,

THIS WEEK AT AMC, for a schedule of

services, meetings, & events.



#### THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH

29th Annual Carl Watson Memorial Golf Outing – The Watsonian June 9, 2022

#### OUR PROUD SPONSORS

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+In Memory of Carl Watson, Gus Keen, Perry Alexiou, James Nacos, Steve Drametenos, Andy Cyprus, Stanley Neamonitis, Stelios Gerazounis, Harry Lascarides, Harry Zuvekas, George Scandalios+

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

The Archangel Michael Sunday School ended the 2021-22 year with a wonderful program presented to parishioners at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 22.





We are now gearing up for another memorable year of learning and fun! Registration for Sunday School for the 2022-23 year will be on September 8 and 9 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m., and on September 11 and 18, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Our first day of Sunday School is on Sunday, September 11, and we will celebrate with ice cream for all our students!

The Sunday School theme for this year is "Let the little children come to me" (Matthew 19:14). While we are all looking forward to a new academic school year and extracurricular activities, we encourage parents to prioritize Sunday mornings for church, and we welcome all students to this new Sunday School year. The greatest gift we can give our children is a strong faith in Christ that will take them wherever they go! And this year, we have revamped the curriculum to reflect our enthusiasm for religious education. Each month will have a unique theme centered around the Church's liturgical calendar, craft Sundays, special raffles and giveaways, delicious snacks, and more! And we look forward to sharing our annual Christmas pageant, Godparent Sunday, St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and End-of-Year program and BBQ once again.

We are very blessed to have a group of incredible Sunday School teachers. We are in awe of our teachers' ability to guide and inspire our young ones as they learn about their faith and how to be living examples of the Word of God. This year, we will be offering a 3's Program for our preschool students to learn about the Orthodox faith through songs and crafts.

Our Young Adult program is also expanding. We will now offer a 9th/10th grade class, and an 11th/12th grade class to better meet the spiritual needs of our youth. New to our program is Ms. Georganna Panos, who will be teaching our 9th/10th grade class—welcome Georganna! We will also be launching a new volunteer program for our young adult students, affording them a variety of opportunities to complete volunteer hours for school and extracurriculars. Through their volunteering, our young adults can continue to learn and grow their faith as they mentor the younger students and give back to the church.

We look forward to celebrating another Sunday School year together! For more information, questions about registration, or if you are interested in being a part of the Sunday School staff, please reach out to Sunday School director, Sara Savva, at sundayschool@archangelmichaelchurch.org.

#### PRESCHOOL

The 2021-22 Archangel Michael Preschool celebrated a great year with additional classes and programs offered! We had a wonderful end-of-year program and Pre-K graduation! Good luck to all our graduates in Kindergarten!



Our second year of the Archangel Michael Summer Camp ran for 5 weeks. The well-attended program included soccer, art, music, religion, arts and crafts activities, and gym, as well as indoor and outdoor play. The children attended church every Friday where Fr. John and Fr. Michael used the theme of the week to teach important religious lessons.

We are looking forward to another safe and fun school year! Our Preschool is a New York State-licensed school and has been following strict health and safety guidelines set forth by the state.

Registration is ongoing for each of the following programs: Toddler Class (2-year-olds) Nursery Class (3-year-olds) Pre-K Class (4-year-olds)

Our curriculum will continue to include academic, social, and physical components. Music and Body Movement, Color Theory Art Program, JumpBunch Fitness Program, science program, and Greek will be incorporated into their schedule weekly. Fr. John will also visit with the classes weekly to read books, share Bible stories, and sing hymns with the students. And, of course, the children always enjoy their indoor and outdoor playtime.



Our after-school programs will again be offered. Soccer Shots is offered to the Nursery and Pre-K classes twice a week, with a focus on character and development in soccer. Also continuing this year is the Greek Enrichment program, offered to the Pre-K class, which introduces students to the Greek language.

For further details, school registration forms, and answers to other questions about the preschool, please contact us at: preschool@archangelmichaelchurch.org

#### **GREEK LANGUAGE INSTITUTE**

The school year of 2021-2022 proved to be successful as in-person learning resumed here at the Archangel Michael Church Greek-Language Institute (GLI). Our students, teachers, and families persevered, and the school year ended on such a high note! Moving-up ceremonies were completed on all grade levels and featured delightful performances from our students. We concluded the school year with the 8th grade graduation on June 15, highlighting our Greek culture and heritage with many different performances of singing and dancing by our talented students.

Our principal, Mrs. Ria Giannou, together with our excellent teachers, are enthusiastically looking forward to welcoming back our Greek Language Institute students as we begin a brand new year of learning Greek. Once again, the sound of laughter and excitement will echo through our hallways as we embark, with much energy, on the journey of learning new things during the 2022-23 school year.

Coming soon in October, we will be celebrating OXI day at GLI, marking the day when Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas rejected an ultimatum given by the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini during World



War II. Although this action eventually led to Greece entering the war, our students will learn to admire our homeland's bravery and always be proud of being Greek. We continue to infuse our culture, history, and religion in our curriculum to enhance the education of our students.

A special thank you to Fr. John Lardas, our amazing Principal Mrs. Giannou, and the teachers here at GLI for providing such an excellent program for our students. Thank you to the families for putting your faith and trust in our work to educate your children. We could not do this without you and will keep you informed of the exciting upcoming events happening soon!

Our new Greek School Board consists of very dedicated and committed individuals and includes Dr. Vicky Giouroukakis and Matina Stergiopoulos (Co-Presidents), Mrs. Demetra Karakostas (Vice-President), Mrs. Dina Petrakis (Registrar), Mrs. Christina Tsiatsou (Accountant/ Treasurer), and Mrs. Elizabeth Morphis (Secretary). We welcome your comments and concerns as parents; you can reach us at gli@archangelmichaelchurch.org. Wishing everyone a prosperous and outstanding year!

#### ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

Please save the date, **November 18, 2022,** for the Archangel Michael Church Annual Dinner Dance at the beautiful Swan Club.

#### GLIPTA

Congratulations to the 2022 graduates of the Archangel Michael Church Greek Language Institute! We ended the 2021- 2022 school year with moving up ceremonies and graduation. Family and friends enjoyed performances, Greek dancing, refreshments, and a visit from the ice cream truck!

We would like to welcome our new and returning students! We hope you had a great summer.

As you enter the school, please take a look at the Smart-Boards which were purchased and installed over the summer. GLIPTA was able to contribute to this purchase with the proceeds from the PTA online raffle, and we graciously thank you all for your support. The SmartBoards will improve the learning experience of our children by increasing the students' interaction and team collaboration.

To ensure we have a great and productive year, we highly encourage your membership and participation in the PTA. Members of the PTA work together to fundraise, host



events, and provide our children with necessary items to enhance their Greek School experience. We welcome all volunteers! We plan on holding a meeting in October (date to be determined) to kick off the year and provide you with a calendar of events and volunteer opportunities. Please make every effort to participate.

For more information, please contact gspta@archangelmichaelchurch.org or any of our Board Members: Vickie Geleris and Callie Moliviatis (Co- Presidents), Tina Mannino (Treasurer), Anna Mihalos (Secretary), and Board Members Fouli Missirlakis and Margarita Loukas.

We look forward to working with you towards a wonderful 2022- 2023 school year!

## **Byzantine Youth Choir**

#### BECOME A PART OF ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH BYZANTINE YOUTH CHOIR !

Enjoy learning the magnificent hymns of our faith, going on theatre trips and to parties, developing friendships, and having fun!

The Youth Choir enhances the Divine Liturgy with their angelic voices on the second and fourth Sunday of every month.

Come join us at church on Saturday, September 10, between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. for our "Welcome to Choir Ice Cream Social, Registration & Choir Robe Fitting."

#### Our first Youth Choir Divine Liturgy will be on Sunday, September 11, at 9:30 a.m.

For further information contact Choir Directors Ms. Georgia and Ms. Eleni at (516) 659-7450.

May GOD bless our 2022 Youth Choir Graduates: Tina Giallias, Andrea Pantelias, Gabrielle Pappas, Sophia Sfiroudis, Sophia Stefanakis, Anastasia Stratakis, and Calliopi Triantafillou.



Tina Giallias



Andrea Pantelias



Gabrielle Pappas



Sophia Sfiroudis



Sophia Stefanakis



Calliopi Triantafillou

## GOYA

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer!

GOYA had a very active spring season with our regular GOYA nights of fun and play and some very special activities. In mid-May, GOYA went on a weekend trip to Washington, DC. We began with a visit to the Holocaust Museum, which was a very moving and educational experience. That evening we had a great time at dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe. The next day was jam-packed with activities. The day started at Arlington National Cemetery and included a visit to The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Then we went to many memorials honoring Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, and Martin Luther King Jr. The day concluded with a dance hosted by St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. The GOYANs met new friends and danced the night away. On Sunday we attended Divine Liturgy at the beautiful St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral.



We concluded the year with our traditional dinner where we celebrated our 2021 GOYA High School graduates. It was a beautiful evening with music and dancing. Special thanks to our guest speaker George Touloumes for his inspirational words. GOYA will miss all the graduates and we wish them great success on their journey.



The 2022-2023 GOYA year will begin in early September with our Welcome Back Registration and Ice Cream Social in the Angeliades Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining GOYA this year please make every effort to attend. That evening a calendar of events will be distributed and we will be taking our annual GOYA photo!

Participation in GOYA ministry provides our young people with opportunities to grow with their peers and church family in worship, community service projects, and in learning about living their Holy Orthodox faith in their life's journey to salvation!

If you have any questions, please contact us at goya@archangelmichaelchurch.org

## **Panhellenic Track and Field**

On July 2-3, 2022, Georgios Stergiopoulos, one of our GOYAns, participated in the **Panhellenic Track and Field Under 16 Competition**, in Patras, Greece. This competition, comprised of athletes from throughout Greece, is one of the most prestigious national competitions for young athletes. Georgios, a member of the Spartiatikos Gymnastikos Syllogos, earned the gold medal (1st place) in Discus and the bronze medal (3rd place) in Shotput. He was the only Greek-American who earned the right to participate in this competition. A few weeks later, he also participated in the USA Track & Field Junior Olympics in Sacramento, California where he earned silver medals (2nd place) in both Discus and Shotput. The Archangel Michael Church congregation is very proud of Georgios and looks forward to hearing about his future athletic achievements.



### **Greek Dance Troupe**

Welcome back to another year of Greek Dance at the Archangel Michael Church! The Dance Troupe delighted AMC parishioners, families and friends with their performances of 2021-2022: Greek Festival on the Harbor, Challenge Liturgy Christmas Luncheon, FDF Greek Orthodox Folk Dance & Choral Festival in Phoenix, Arizona, and our first Greek Dance Troupe Dance Recital. Great memories!

The Greek Dance Troupe was established in 1999 under the direction of Roula Zogopoulos. From community performances to local and travel competitions, the dance troupe offers children the opportunity to explore their heritage with their peers and meet other Greeks from around the state and the country. Our Troupe's intention is to offer children an opportunity to come together and continue our Hellenic traditions. Mrs. Zogopoulos creates a safe atmosphere in which our young people are inspired and are exploring and learning about their Hellenic heritage through our rich dancing and musical traditions. Children who join our Dance Troupe possess a high level of commitment and drive.

The Troupe meets on Saturdays throughout the school year and welcomes children from Kindergarten through 12th Grade. Children are encouraged to try out for competition groups.\*

Class times and group ages are as follows and are subject to change based on enrollment:

Agape & Elpida (Grades K-3) 9:30-10:30 Eftihia & Hara (Grades 4-9) 10:30-11:30 Neolea (Grades 10 & Up) 11:30-12:30

\*Please note, competition groups require audition and additional practices per week. Additional fees also apply.

We proudly perform at various church functions as well as at other performance venues throughout the year. For more information, contact: **greekdance@archangelmichaelchurch.org** 

## **Young Adults**

Whether rain or shine, the Young Adults of Archangel Michael Church were ready to spread their wings and host a Paniyiri for everyone to enjoy. This is the second year of hosting the Paniyiri, and all were excited to mix and mingle with old and new friends. With food, dance, and fun, it was a great way to kick off summer vacation. We also acknowledged the newly-elected board who helped plan and organize the paniyiri.

Co-Presidents: Marika Reynolds and Demitri Kaparos

Co-Vice Presidents: Billy Apostolou and Sideri Doulis

Co-Secretaries: Niki Maropakis and Kemon Lardas

Co-Treasurers: Maria Doulis and Constantine Lascarides

The Young Adults are looking forward to the 2022-2023 year with many more events to follow. Check out our Instagram for more information about our events **@amc.youngadults** 

#### **High School Graduates**

**Stelios Bizekis Paul Adam Cavounis Spyro Drenis Peter Dimopoulos Emanuel** Dritsas **Charles** Eoanidis Nikolaos Gargas **Tina Giallias Despina** Giannakopoulos **Katerina Gounaris Emmanuel Kouroupakis Constantine Koutsoftas George Lazaridis Athanasios Mamais Theodora** Matos Victoria Mihalatos Andrea Pantelias **Stavros Pantelias** Kathryn Papagianopoulos **John Pourakis** Niko Reynolds **Paul Roditis Sophia Sfiroudis** 

Konstantinos (Codi) Triantafillou Manny Tsahas Angie (Aglaia) Tsapos Lazarus Tsiforas Joanne Salloum

Marinos Mihalatos Paul Petrakis

**Irene Tsahas** 

Great Neck High School; New York University **Chaminade High School; Purdue University** Roslyn High School; Babson College; Paul D. Schreiber High School; Drexel University Paul D. Schreiber High School; Indiana University Paul D. Schreiber High School; Hofstra University St. Demetrios Prep; St. John University Manhasset High School; University of Connecticut Manhasset High School; Harvard University Herricks High School; University of Miami **Roslyn High School; Baruch College** Wheatley High School; University of South Carolina Paul D Schreiber High School; Purdue University Herricks High School; Hofstra University Manhasset High School; Cornell University **Roslyn High School; Boston College** Paul D. Schreiber High School; Boston University Paul D. Schreiber High School; University of Tampa Manhasset High School; Cornell University North Shore High School; Syracuse University Chaminade High School; University of Alabama Manhasset High School; Northeastern University **TASIS England; Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University** Wheatley High School; Villanova University Herricks High School; Stony Brook University Syosset High School; University of Rhode Island Herricks High School; Hofstra University Paul D. Schreiber High School; University of Maryland

#### College Graduates

Fordham University; Degree – Finance NYU, Leonard Stern School of Business; Degree – Bachelor of Science Macaulay Honors College at Baruch College; Degree – Accounting; Working at PricewaterhouseCoopers





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## The NEW Fab Finds at the Archangel Michael Church ONLY!

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th -SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 2022

#### Thursday September 15th / 12-6pm

Morning hours exclusive for dealers and community prior to opening to the public

#### Friday September 16th / 12-8pm

Special features - ice cream truck from 4-8pm Live Quartet Music - 6-8pm

#### Saturday, September 17th / 12-8pm Special features - Sip & Shop 5-8pm

#### Sunday September 18th / 2-7pm

Special features: Loukoumathes & Frappes (for Sale), Coffee(free) Give Away Bag Special Promotion

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The Trumpet is emailed to 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







## Nicholas Papain, Esq.

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