

The Voice of Saint Anthony

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

November 2009
Volume 4, Number 7



This month of November and Thanksgiving, we will be talking a great deal about Christian Stewardship. The first three Sundays of November will be devoted to this year's theme for Stewardship, which is **"Come and See."** We will also spend some time at the

November 6th Family Night on the greater subject of stewardship. My goal is that we each embrace a fuller understanding and feeling of stewardship, beyond simply the notion of giving money. I hope and pray that you will make every effort to be in attendance to learn more. Several of our own community members will give their personal and uplifting testimonials of what the St Anthony Church community means to them. I invite you, as Christ invited His disciples, to "Come and See."

Continuing with the subject of stewardship, have you ever heard a person say one of the following comments: "I paid good money for that..." "You never know how much you will need" or "Save it for a rainy day"?

Statements like these usually remind us of people from the Interbellum Generation (people born between 1900-1913) or the Greatest Generation (people born between 1914-1924) or those who lived, as children, through WWII. Many of us have these remarkable people in our own families. These genera-

tions, with their inherent understanding of stewardship, are disappearing rapidly from our culture. Younger generations have observed them and concluded, "They were so frugal that they could make a penny squeak!"

However, frugality was just one aspect of their lifestyle. Their practicality was aptly mixed with generosity and created the code of living for these generations, who all experienced the Great Depression. They lived frugally so they could care for one another, support their churches and through the Church those in need. They gave with respect for previous generations and with expectant vision toward future generations. Their generosity grew out of faithful duty, human obligation, and Christian responsibility. They internalized and lived the stewardship message of the Gospel.

First, these generations understood that we do not actually gain power or prestige by accumulating more. Most of them had a comfortable home appointed with durable goods and personal items. In later years, many of them could have easily bought a greater home or more lavish cars, but they understood St. Paul's message in II Corinthians 8:13-15. In this passage, St. Paul shares with the Corinthians that he needs their help to raise money for a poor church in Jerusalem. These generations grasped the balance between having enough for themselves and having enough to share with others. They were able to support charitable causes and share their faith because they found contentment by living well within their means.

Second, these generations understood more clearly the difference between a want and a need. Extravagant consumption - not extravagant generosity - has become the standard lifestyle for so many in this modern culture today. The line between want and need is blurred.

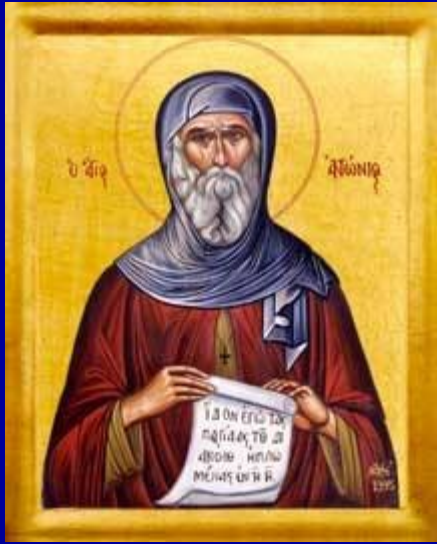
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Part 2 of 4

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Sunday Services

Orthos 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Church office hours:

Monday–Thursday
9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Friday
9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

Closed on Saturday & Sunday

Publication Reminder:

The Voice of Saint Anthony deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. Please submit announcements electronically to Vicki Kades at VKades@gmail.com.

St. Anthony's reserves the right to edit, alter or reject any content.

Thank you to Stephanie Soewers for editing the monthly bulletin.

Thank you to all that contribute photos to the monthly newsletter: Judie Christopoulos, Vicki Kades, Maria Karras, Steve Pappas and Esther Vavoulis.

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(626) 449-6943 Fax (626) 449-6974
www.saint-anthonys.org

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Maria Udria & Sophia Syrengelas

VIPs

Pantele Xanthos

To email any of our church groups, please go to our website www.saint-anthonys.org and you will be able to contact us!

Father Peter's Message Continued from Page 1

We can all think of examples of this blurry delineation between want and need. Whether, it is the high definition television, or the resort style vacation, or the designer label clothing, or the upscale appliances, or the larger cable/satellite line-up, or the latest technology gadget. We often have mixed emotions when faced with clarifying between a need and a want. Our society, especially the geniuses of marketing today, lead us to believe that we need everything that we 'can' and 'cannot' afford. And, if we don't need it, we certainly deserve it. Remarkably and refreshingly, though, this lifestyle is now being challenged more and more with the economic recession. People are reviewing their lifestyle choices and reflecting on the advice freely offered by the Depression Era Generation:

- 1) Monitor your expenditures;
- 2) Spend significantly less than you earn;
- 3) Save with a patient and purposeful will;
- 4) Determine if your spending leads to deep, abiding contentment in Jesus Christ or temporary joy from the accumulation of possessions, and
- 5) Discover the freedom inherent in generosity.

True contentment comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church! In Luke 12:13-21, Jesus illustrates this concept with the Parable of the Rich Fool.

Third, a prevalent truth for these generations, and, in fact, for all generations is that **God loves us**. God's love for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most significant stewardship message of the Gospel. God loves us. St. Paul reminds us in Ephesians 2:4-10 that the sacrifice of Jesus dying on the cross is God's living example of stewardship and extravagant generosity.

I invite you to reflect on some of the remarkable people whom you recall from the Depression Generations. What example of giving and generosity did they model for you? One example for me was my grandmother. She understood that her generosity provided short-term outcomes with long-term consequences. Her giving offered an immediate boost to our church community, but with a lasting impact. We can do the same. On a most practical level, an increased stewardship pledge each year (in addition to our neces-

sary gifts of talents and service) offers more disposable income to the church to help fund our many, many ministries within our Orthodox community, the community at large, and around the world. Just remember that each dollar you give to the church goes to something that is good. Many of today's generation have been inspired, as was my grandmother, to demonstrate their faith by being generous to their church, their families, and those in need. They have given beyond tithing because of the tremendous joy they have received sharing God's blessings. As I have told you numerous times before, give not until it hurts, but rather until it feels good!

I encourage you all to reflect on some of the lessons you have seen expressed by these generations in your own families. Adapt these lessons to your own act of giving today. Reflect with a sense of respect for their witness, and with an expectant vision toward future generations. In so doing, I pray that you will find the freedom offered to those who choose to be extravagantly generous. Give to your Church, which serves to serve humanity, not out of a sense of obligation, but rather through a sense of love and devotion. Finally, I invite you to be a part of the upcoming Sundays of Stewardship, and to "Come and See" what the disciples saw. Come and be a part of a community that is active and vibrant. Come and be a part of the true Church of Jesus Christ. "Come and See" Jesus Christ for yourself.

In Christ,
Fr Peter

Family Night Friday, November 6

Come and participate in this special evening. Potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to share with our community. Last names beginning with: A, B, C, D - Salad to serve 25; E, F, G, H - Side Dish to serve 25; I, J, K, L - Dessert to serve 25; M - Z - Main Dish to serve 20. Remember it is a Friday a fasting day in our Church. All non meat dishes welcome.

President Message



A lot is happening this month at St. Anthony. As we head into the thick of Fall, it is great to see the magnificent programs we have at Saint Anthony (Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, JOY, HOPE, Moms N Tots, Altar Boys, Family night, Choir, Bible Studies, VIPs, Dance, etc.) in full swing. With

such a thriving youth and interested participants in Bible Studies and VIPs, these programs are as strong as ever.



Also big news is the refurbished church dome, which is to be completed by the end of October. This is the centerpiece project of the Church Restoration and Capital Improvements Committee (CRCI), headed by Sam Dallas. In addition to the new tile, the dome is receiving a new layer of waterproofing material

which should seal the dome for at least 10 years. The tile dome was selected after several meetings and a detailed process involving the collaborative input of the CRCI Committee, the entire Parish Council, Father Peter and other key leaders. After much deliberation, a metallic copper tile was selected, which will look very beautiful as it shimmers from afar. The color selection is also considered to be consistent with domes on Byzantine churches that are located inland, as opposed to blue dome-colored

churches that are very close to the sea.

Your 2010 Personal Commitment to St. Anthony

In November we will be having a three week Stewardship campaign beginning on Sunday, November 1st, and continuing with the Sunday of the Fall General Assembly, which will be November 8, and culminating on November 15, 2009. We have accomplished a lot as a parish in 2009, but it also became very clear to me that we need additional help from everyone in the community. Father Peter and a group of about 15 key leaders have unselfishly sacrificed their time and energy, often at the expense of personal time for them and their families. Yet this parish can accomplish so much more if additional parishioners become further involved. As we enter 2010, I would like to personally ask each of you to take some time over the holidays to reflect on what St. Anthony means to you and your family. While recognizing the role the parish plays in your life, please also take the time to consider how you can apply your gifts of time, talent, and treasure for the betterment of St. Anthony. I recognize firsthand that we all lead extremely busy lives with a variety of challenges and constraints, but please take time to reflect on making St. Anthony an appropriate priority in your life. We need your help and support.

John Patzakis
Parish Council President



SUBSCRIBE TO THE ST. ANTHONY EMAIL LIST!

It is easy, just go to the homepage of our website—www.saint-anthony.org and click on the Sign-up for St. Anthony's Church e-mail list!

In addition to receiving the email telling you the latest monthly newsletter is online, you will receive up-to-date announcements and information regarding services, parish news and events.

Weekday Services for the month of November 2009



Sunday, November 8

Great Vespers for St. Nectarios at Covina Church
7:00 pm

Friday, November 13

St. John Chrysostom
9:00 a.m. Orthros/Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 21

The Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple
9:00 a.m. Orthros/Divine Liturgy.

Wednesday, November 25

Vesperal Liturgy of St. Katherine/Thanksgiving
6:00 pm

Monday, November 30

St. Andrew
9:00 a.m. Orthros/Divine Liturgy



Bible Studies

**Monday Evenings
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday Morning
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.**

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign Committee wishes to thank all of our generous supporters who continue to fulfill their pledges, and we encourage all of our faithful to make their pledge to the Saint Anthony Building Program.

AHEPA – Rose Bowl Chapter	Vangie & Ted Dupas	Christine & Steven Pappas
Irene Albeck	Nicolette & Jay Fuerst	Leah & Arry Pastis
Nick Angelos	Tania & Tom Grafos	Vivian & Gust Pastis
Sophia & Jim Angelos	Aliki Haralambos	Andrea & John Patzakis
Mary Arapostathis	Tom & Tony Haralambos	Maria & George Pegadiotes
Julia & George Argyros	Families	Philoptochos - Panagia Chapter
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Philip "Ted" Attalla	Stavrula & Alex Kiotas	Evangelia & Thomas Riley
Julie & Dino Balas	Maria & Nick Kokoris	Peter Scamagas
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Kalli & Dino Bicos	Christine Kundanis	Katherine Skandale
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Maria Karras & Nick Demos	Presvytera Maria Mylonas	Cindy & Grant Wood
Katherine & George Dupas	Dean Pappas	Tina & Peter Zarifes



UPDATE:
10/19/09

**ST. ANTHONY
CHURCH HALL PROJECT**
BY KIDS
FOR EVERYBODY

On June 14, 2009,

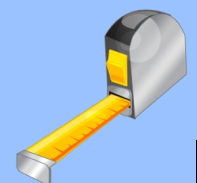
the last day of Sunday School before summer break, something happened at St. Anthony's upper boardroom that the Pasadena Community has never seen before. More than 40 students of every age level participated in a brainstorming session that brought our Hall design to a whole new level...

The message: the best ideas have yet to be considered. Now the new school year has begun, and there's more to come!

Next step: Goya Presentation and Brainstorming Meeting, 2009.

To be a part of this exciting new venture please contact the church office.

Go to www.saint-anthonys.org on the Donations link to make your Capital Campaign donation today. For more information contact the church office.





***SR. GOYANS
MAKE BLANKETS
FOR CHILDREN AT
CITY OF HOPE***



**CHRIS KANAKIS, OUR NEW
PASTORAL ASSISTANT,
ADDRESSES THE SENIOR GOYANS**

Jr GOYA News

We had our first meeting on Family Night - October.

We have elected our officers:

- Katherine Vavoulis - President
- Katerina Dupas - Vice President
- Peter Stratos - Secretary, Niko Balas - Historian.
- Nikolitsa Vagenas, Yiannis Levandis, and Dennis Grover - Project/Activity Overseers

We are very pleased that Mr. Christos Kanakis will be leading a Bible Bowl prep activity and bowling Outing Sunday, November 18, from 1pm - 4pm, in preparation for the Bible Bowl on Dec. 5.

We are also very grateful to many committed and dedicated parents who have volunteered to coordinate and supervise several other outings. Mr. John Vagenas and several other fathers are working to organize a Biking/Hiking/Fishing outing in our local foothills during the Christmas school vacation. Mr. and Mrs. Dupas will help us with some other outdoor outings in the spring. Mrs. Christine Pappas is organizing a visit and tour at MEND (Meeting Each Need with Dignity) in preparation for our Jr. GOYA Charity Project. We thank all our wonderful parents for their support and enthusiastic involvement.

In Christ,

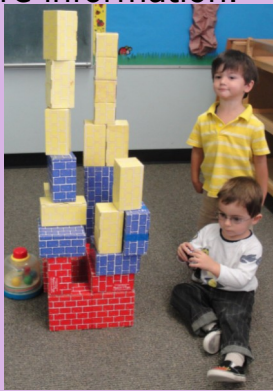
Pres. Aida

Moms N' Tots



**Every Wednesday
10:30 am—11:30 am**

St. Anthony's Moms-n-Tots program will be meeting every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 am. Children ages 6 months to 4 years. \$40.00 donation. All are welcome!! Please contact Sophia Syrengelas at sophiajammie@gmail.com or Mary Udria at mary.udria@gmail.com for more information.



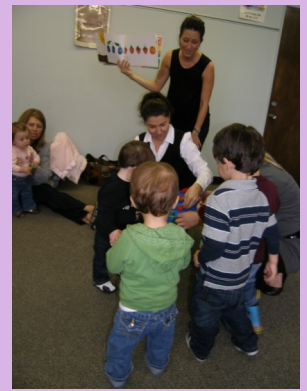
Come Join the Fun!

November: Thanks & Praise
4th Class

11th Field Trip (TBA)

18th Thanksgiving Feast

25th No Class- Happy Thanksgiving!



Dance Program—Upcoming Events



Save the
Date!

FDF preview night on
January 9, 2010



FDF 2010
San Jose, CA
Jan 14-18, 2010



Workshop with Yianni Konstandinou of Greece with Live Musicians!
January 23, 2010





"More Than Friends"- Part 2 of 4

***by Rev. Deacon
Niko Bekris***

I'm thankful for many things in my life- my wife, my family, my friends, health, food, shelter, clothing, the freedom to worship freely in our country. Is it silly to say I'm thankful for love? A little abstract, sure, but it's true. I'm thankful for the fact that I have ended up with THE right girl. I am thankful when I see friends of mine find someone right for them, date, and get married.

Relationships are certainly one of the most interesting aspects of our life on earth, and healthy relationships can truly be one of the greatest gifts God gives us. November is a month where we reflect on what we are thankful for, and this is certainly something I feel I should thank God for daily.

Last month, I shared some thoughts on what love is, from a Christian perspective- about meeting someone, being attracted to them (and that butterflies-in-the-stomach thing). This month, I want to discuss what is commonly the "next step" following the initial attraction- going out with someone.

It usually goes something like this: you find someone attractive, you want to spend time with them, and if they say yes, the two of you go to dinner, or a movie, or to do something fun with a group of friends. Hopefully along the way, you enjoy your date, and either ask if you want to have another date, or go your separate ways because your personalities just weren't clicking. So is this what makes two people "boyfriend/girlfriend?" I think it takes a little more than just going out somewhere, right? Obviously, it's not a simple answer, because it's not a simple subject. But there are a few simple thoughts I have about dating that might be beneficial to keep in mind.

Going on dates with one person on a regular basis, or being a "boyfriend" or a "girlfriend," means that you spend time together in order to learn a little more about yourself, and what kind of person you gel with. There are unique qualities about ourselves that we only begin to understand in a relationship with the opposite sex- and I'm not referring to physical relations, but spending time and even just conversing with the other person. Dating gives us a unique opportunity to find out just how generous or selfish, patient or impatient, kind or mean-spirited we really are, not what we think we are. Dating gives us a right to learn more about ourselves, about guys and girls, about people. It gives us a right to enjoy life from a new perspective. However, like any relationship, there are ways that we can take advantage of and even abuse these rights.

Like any relationship, we should go into dating remembering of course, the golden rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Luke 6:31, Matthew 7:12) If we go into any relationship asking ourselves "What can I do for this person?" rather than "What can I get from this person?" your relationship will go well, and you will grow as a person. More important than anything else, though, we have to remember that we fully understand a person's heart, and true love, when we look at the other person as a child of the Most High, a child of God (Psalm 82:6). God has created each of us in His image, which means each of us is special. God loves that person, and we have to try our best to love them the same way He does. When we stop trying to love is when the other person becomes a mere object, and we cease respecting them, and possibly even hurting them deeply. When we acknowledge this, and keep Christ at the center of a dating relationship, or any relationship, we too will be thanking God for this beautiful gift of love He has given us.

Still with me? More next month...

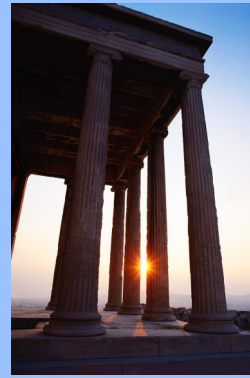
The Greek Heritage Society of So. California proudly presents the Premiere of

"The Promise of Tomorrow: The First Generation 1940-1960"

Thursday, November 12, 2009, at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills.

For more info, contact Shelly Papadopoulos at (310) 528-8214 or greekheritage@hotmail.com."

NEW Greek School Class



New Adult Class, "Biblical Greek: Language & Culture"

The scope of this course includes original Greek and translated texts from the Bible and the Divine Liturgy, as well as the art and history of the Hellenistic and Early Byzantine periods.

If you are interested, please contact us as soon as possible.

Ahepa Family Meeting

**Thursday
November 5, at 7:30 p.m.**

in the Church Hall. We will be discussing our Christmas Dinner at Beckhams on Friday December 4, where all are welcome.

Peter and Joan Kaplanis should be back from their trip to Italy, so we anticipate another one of his great talks!



Introducing Parish Pay

Stewardship and Donations made EASY!

Introducing Parish Pay a simple way to remember your stewardship, You will have the options to give one time, monthly, and annually.

You may also use Parish Pay for special events like the festival, Easter, and Christmas. Of course, you may also make capital campaign and stewardship gifts as well. Donations may also be made anonymously.

Go to www.saint-anthonys.org on the Donations link. For more information contact the church office.

*Thank you for contributing to
St. Anthony
Greek Orthodox Church.*





Pasadena Rose Bowl AHEPA #373
2009 Christmas Party

Everyone in the community is invited!



Friday, December 4, 2009
Beckham Grill and Crown Bar

77 West Walnut, Pasadena

6:30 p.m. cocktails, 7:30 p.m. dinner with valet parking

- Choice of Prime Rib, New York Steak, or Salmon

- Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Creamed Spinach, Creamed Corn, and Yorkshire Pudding

- Complimentary Wine, Chopped Stilton Salad, and Creme Brulee for dessert!

\$50 each, limited to 75 persons

Paid Reservations Required

Special Presentation by Holy Cross Seminarian Graduate Dr. John Coroneus
Plus 50/50 Raffle!

Make checks payable to: AHEPA Chapter #373

Send to: Steven Tripodes

1351 San Marino Avenue, San Marino, CA 91108 — (626) 449-0966

Philoptochos

The September 23rd General Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner was held at the beautiful home of Esther Vavoulis. The evening of fellowship was well attended.

On October 3, 2009, the Spirit of Stewardship dinner, honoring the faithful stewards of our metropolis on the occasion of the Feast Day of Saint Gerasimos, was held at Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim. Irene Albeck of our parish was one of the 34 stewardship Award Recipients. Irene is an example of stewardship and philanthropy. She has served for 25 years as a Sunday School teacher and director. Irene taught at Villa Esperanza, a school for special needs students. Her son attended this school. With the same passion she has served our parish since 1964 on countless committees. Irene has supported programs for the homeless, battered women and children for the City of Pasadena. Irene's selfless dedication is an example of faith and philanthropy for us all.

Our general meeting was held Wednesday Octo-

ber 28, 7:30pm at the home of Christine Be-
cronis. Dr Elizabeth Demetriades discussed dia-
betes.

November 1s is the Nameday of Philoptochos Patron Saint Cosmas and Damianos. Philoptochos will host the coffee hour.

Philoptochos will be collecting for the Friends in Deed Food Bank. A table will be set up in the hall, please bring your donation any Sunday. Also, please contact Irene Albeck needs help with Union Station to serve meals.

Save the date for our annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon on Saturday, December 12 at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena. If you would like to join a committee, please contact Dotti Malina or Alma Vorgias.

If you wish to join Philoptochos, please contact Dotti Malina for membership.

Submitted by Carolyn Kolokotronis

The Ladies Philoptochos Society 40th annual Holiday Benefit Luncheon will take place at the Langham Hotel on Saturday, December 12, 2009

Santa's Kitchen and Holiday Boutique begin at 11:00 am with luncheon and fashion show to follow.

For more information, please contact:

Star Program: Dorothea Malina (818) 241-9533

Reservations: Fontaine Malisos (626) 446-3622

Philoptochos

Past Presidents' Dinner

Philoptochos held its year-end Past Presidents' Dinner at the Annandale Golf Club in July. This year's dinner honored past presidents Katherine Skandale and Ann Rouman for their many years of service and devotion to our Philoptochos.

Katherine and Ann joined Saint Anthony Philoptochos in the 1970s and have been active members since. Each of these ladies has served multiple terms as president, sat on numerous committees and chaired many wonderful events. Their passion and dedication for helping the less fortunate inspired new generations to become active Philoptochos members.

We thank Katherine and Ann for their constant support and innumerable contributions to the Saint Anthony Philoptochos Society.





After our initial session of how an Orthodox Christian should read and interpret the Scriptures, we were well prepared to embark upon our series of studies concentrating on salvation history and God's Covenants.

The first thing we needed to emphasize in our study is that the history we are studying is

from the perspective of God. For the ancient Israelites along with other cultures—history, culture, economics, diplomacy was bound together by their religion. The Bible gives us history, but it is a religious history. It is history from the perspective of God. The second item we needed to emphasize in our initial sessions was the importance of knowing what a covenant actually is. We first approached the meaning of covenant by taking an apophatic view. We learned that a covenant is **NOT** a contract. Contracts are deals where two parties make a promise that involves some exchange of goods, of services or property. Usually they seal their contract by giving their “word”—their name—in the form of their signature. However, when parties make a covenant, they swear oaths. Oaths are more than promises. Instead of swearing by their own name, they swear by the highest name, by the name of God. In a covenant you do not exchange property, you exchange persons. You do not give somebody your services or goods when you swear a covenant oath—you swear to give them yourself. The Sacrament of marriage is a good example. It is a covenant because in the exchange of vows, the woman gives herself to the man and the man gives himself to the woman. We observed this exchange with God and the Israelites when God said to them, “You will be my people and I will be your God.” In this covenant Israel is swearing an oath to God—to live according to God's laws as His people, to be His children and in turn, God is swearing to be Israel's God, its divine parent.

So this brought us further into our study, and we were able to observe that in the ancient world, covenants made families. Even ancient

“father-son” imagery. Those who were outside of the group were adopted into the tribe through covenant oaths. This reveals to us that covenant making is actually an ancient manner of family-making. In our study we are able to see that the whole Bible can be outlined as a series of family-making covenants. And it is through these family-making covenants that God reveals more of Himself to His people. God invites them, and us, to enter into a family relationship with Him. St. Paul sums it up rather beautifully in this statement, “As God said, ‘I will live with them and move among them, and I will be their God and they shall be My people. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me,’ says the Lord Almighty” (2 Corinthians 6:16-18).

In our studies we see that throughout salvation history as told in the Bible, God acts through His covenants to extend the family of God. God starts off small with just two people, Adam and Eve, and proceeds—through Noah, Abraham, Moses, David—until finally all nations are brought into the covenant through Jesus Christ. The covenants began with a husband and wife, to head of household, then advanced to a chieftain of a tribe. It grew into a nation and then into a kingdom. The final covenant is the kingdom of God. The covenants began with a small family and flourished into a universal family. God's plan from the beginning was to make all men and women His sons and daughters through His covenants.

The important points for us to remember in our initial study sessions, is that the Bible tells us salvation history. Salvation history is the story of God's marvelous work since the creation of the world, to make all men and women His children, to form from the family of mankind a family of God. It is through the process of covenant making that God completes His plan.

These key covenants are the outline for reading the whole Bible. If we know them and understand them, we will have a good working understanding of the plot of the Bible. And, hopefully, by the end of our covenant series, we will have that understanding.

In Christ,
Christos Theoharatos

METROPOLITAN ANTHONY
PHILOTOCHOS STUDENT AID ENDOWMENT FUND HOLIDAY BRUNCH
(FIRST ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HOLIDAY BRUNCH)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2009

ASSUMPTION of THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
5761 EAST COLORADO STREET, LONG BEACH, CA 90814, (562) 494.8929

TO RAISE FUNDS TO HELP COVER TUITION COSTS FOR OUR SAN FRANCISCO
METROPOLIS SEMINARIANS

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING; PLEASE SAVE THE DATE AND HELP
MAKE THIS WORTHWHILE EVENT A SUCCESS!



**2009 St Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine
Fourth Annual Essay Contest**

Eligibility: All High School Students
Type: 1,000 word Essay

First Prize \$500.00 savings bond & a laptop computer
Second Prize \$250.00 savings bond
Third Prize \$100.00 savings bond

Please note that all essays become property of St Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine. Writers are asked to submit a cover page with name, address, phone number and email address with their essay.

Write your thoughts in essay form, answering the question following the text below:

The St Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine is one of the five institutions of our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in America. The Shrine is located in the Avero House, in our nation's oldest city, St. Augustine, Florida. The original structure was built in 1740. In 1777 it became a respite for the survivors of the New Smyrna Colony.

The Shrine opened in 1982 as a memorial to the 500 Greeks who were part of that endeavor. They came from Smyrna, Santorini, Crete and Mani in 1768. The Shrine was also built in honor of all our ancestors who came to America in search of a better life.

The chapel, with its Byzantine icons, expresses the theology of the Greek Orthodox Church. Today we proclaim our Orthodox Faith and witness our Hellenic culture to all who enter this colonial Spanish home. The interior belies the exterior, sharing the message of the Good News and True Faith with our visitors.

Essay Question: *What is the purpose of this witnessing, this outreach and how do you witness the Orthodox Faith in your life?*

All entries are due by November 16, 2009. Send to Polly Hillier, Director St Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine 41 St George Street St Augustine, Florida 32084



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Akrotirianakis, Joseph N.	Church, Lisa	Halias, Sara & Louie
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Albeck, Mark Gregory	Coroneus, John	Haralambos, Alik
Alex, Helen & Angelo Paravantis	Courlas, Georgia & George	Haralambos, Kathleen & Anthony
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Balas, Argiro Julie & Dino	Demopulos, Elizabeth & Andrew	Kalivas, Elene & George
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**Saint Anthony's
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778 South Rosemead Blvd.
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**General Assembly Meeting
Sunday, November 8th**

