# The Voice of Saint Anthony

#### Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church Newsletter

January & February 2012 Volume 7, Number 1



A mother who had a rather large number of children was being interviewed by a newspaper reporter once. He asked her, "Which one of your children do you love the most?" Her reply indicated what a wise and loving mother she was: "I love the

one most who is away from home until he returns; the one who is sick until he is well; the one who is hurt until the hurt disappears; and the one who is lost until he is found."

This story illustrates exactly how God feels toward each one of us. In fact, to show that there are no bounds to the measure of His love and forgiveness, Jesus told the parable of the prodigal Son which is read on Sunday, February 12th.

The central figure of the story is not the prodigal son, but the father who stands at the door of his home waiting for his foolish and errant son to return, and when he

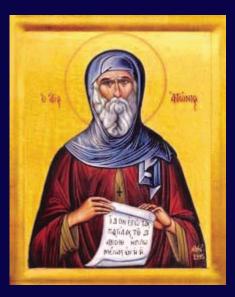
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sees him returning, runs out to embrace him.

It is interesting to note that the father gave his son immediate acceptance. There was no incrimination! No punishment! Immediate forgiveness! You may ask but why was there no punishment? Or even, does this lessen God's forgiveness? No, it does not because there had already been punishment. The punishment was in what the son had already suffered and in the scars he would always bear. Before the father's command to bring the best robe, there had been the son's cry: "Father I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son!" Now, at last he knew the goodness he had offended! Now, at last his pride was gone! When he had left his father's house, he had done so with demands: "Give me what belongs to me." But when he came back he came with humility and penitence: "Father, forgive me...I'm no longer worthy to be your son. Make me as one of your servants."

"Bring quickly the best robe," said the father. He did not say "his best robe" but "the best robe." It is not a question of seeking to find the best of his old clothes before he left home. The father now wants to give him "the best robe" that can be found, the best one available, whatever it may be. Thus, when God saves a person who was lost, He is not just content on restoring them to their former state. He not only wants to give them back the treasures which they had abandoned, but he wants to increase them. He desires even greater riches for them.



### **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 regularly contribute photos to the monthly newsletter: Judie Christopoulos, Vicki Kades, Maria Karras, and Esther Vavoulis. ST. ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 778 S. ROSEMEAD BLVD. PASADENA, CA 91107 – 5613 (626) 449-6943 Fax (626) 449-6974 www.saint-anthonys.org

> <u>CLERGY</u> Rev. Fr. Peter Stratos Rev. Fr. Christos Kanakis

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> > <u>CHOIR</u> Jim Hronas

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<u>JR. GOYA</u> Presbytera Aida Stratos

<u>GREEK SCHOOL</u> Anastasia McClain, Director

<u>GREEK DANCE</u> Esther Vavoulis, President

> MOMS N' TOTS Sophia Syrengelas

<u>VIPs</u> 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!

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### Father Peter's Message Continued From Page 1

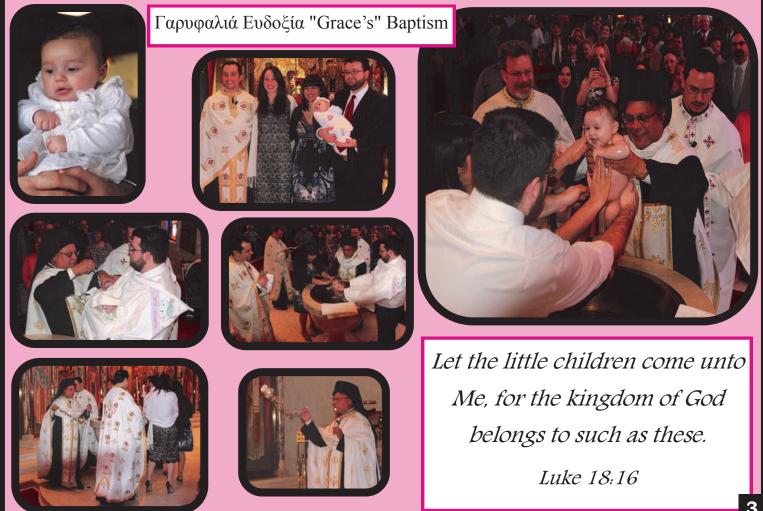
The best robe of all in fact is Christ. As St. Paul wrote "As many of you as have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ." No matter how many times we may fall, God always welcomes us back and gives us exactly what we need, Himself.

Isn't it interesting that before the prodigal son can complete his confession the father interrupts him. The son intends to complete his confession by saying, "Make me as one of your paid servants." The father never lets him get as far as that. With a glorious interruption, he flings his arms around the boy and calls for the very best he can offer him; a robe, shoes, a ring, a roast and dancing. The robe symbolizes honor and the ring authority. When a man gave his signet, the ring bearing his soul, it was the same as conferring "power of attorney." The shoes were for a son as opposed to a servant, for servants did not wear shoes. In other words, this man gave his son the very best and restored him not as a servant but as his son bestowing him with these beautiful symbols of love and honor.

Abraham Lincoln was once asked how he would treat the rebellious southerners when they were finally defeated and returned to the Union. The obvious implication of the question was that dire vengeance, or at least proper humiliation, must be demanded. But he answered, "I will treat them as if they had never gone away." Only in this way can we begin to comprehend the Father's joy, born out of his profound pain when one of his children goes away from Him.

This story, therefore, is not about the son who strays, it is about the Father who waits, seeks and finds. It is an assurance to all of us that if we should ever stray away from our Father and our home, if we return humbly and repentantly to our home and our Heavenly Father, then he will be there waiting for us, too. May we all have a blessed February.

With love in Christ, Fr Peter



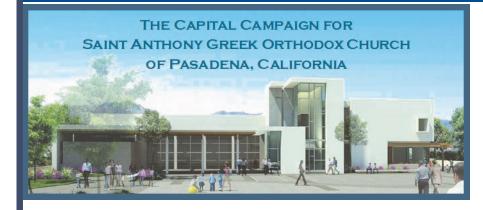
### St. Anthony Capital Campaign Update December 31, 2011

At 12/31/11, the Capital Campaign has raised over <u>\$6.6M</u> toward our goal of <u>\$8.0M</u>. Since the launch of our Capital Campaign in November 2007, nearly 120 families have pledged <u>\$5.25M</u> to the Campaign for St. Anthony *(see chart below)*.

| Level of Giving      | # of Pledges | <b>Total Pledged</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Over \$100,000       | 13           | \$ 3,748,898         |
| \$25,000 to \$99,999 | 28           | \$ 998,000           |
| \$10,000 to \$24,999 | 29           | \$ 387,765           |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999   | 12           | \$ 66,000            |
| Up to \$4,999        | <u>36</u>    | <u>\$ 46,879</u>     |
|                      | 118          | \$ 5,247,542         |

- We have received \$4.6M (88%) of the \$5.25M pledged, with the majority of these gifts coming in as 5-year pledges.
- Golf Tournaments, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Album, designated Memorials, and other gifts account for another <u>\$1.35M</u>.
- At the current pace of construction and fundraising, we anticipate we will require a mortgage of <u>\$1M to \$1.5M</u>.
- We urge all families who have not done so already to please make their <u>multi-year</u> sacrificial commitment.
- Together, and with the ongoing generosity of the families who have already pledged, we can help eliminate St. Anthony's debt in the next 3-5 years.

## **Capital Campaign Pledge Card**



Be sure to pick up your Capital Campaign pledge card at Church or call the Church office to have one mailed to you.

### St. Anthony Capital Campaign Pledge Card

| I/We make our sacrificial gift to Saint Anthony       |  | Total Pledge: \$   |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Capital Campaign and the new Parish Center.           | N  | Payment Enclosed: \$   |  |
| Name:   | A Discussion   | Balance to be paid over years:                               |  |
| Address:  |  | $\Box$ Monthly $\Box$ Quarterly $\Box$ Annually $\Box$ Other |  |
| City/State/Zip:                                       |  | • Make your Check payable to:                                |  |
| Telephone:  | Please call the church<br>office to learn more about | "St. Anthony Capital Campaign"                               |  |
| Email:  | making your gift using:                              | • Charge my Credit Card:                                     |  |
|   | <ul> <li>Stocks &amp; Bonds</li> </ul>               | 🗆 Visa 🗆 Mastercard 🗆 American Express                       |  |
| $\Box$ I/We wish my name(s) to be listed among donors | • Properties & Homes                                 | Card number: Exp:  |  |
| $\square$ I/We wish to remain ano nymous              | • Life Insurance                                     | Name on Card:  |  |
|   |  | Sin and the Distance   |  |

Thank you for prayerfully considering a multi-year pledge in proportion to your ability and the parish's needs.

• Use ParishPay (contact church office for details)

Return to: St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, 778 S. Rosemead Blvd., Pasadena, California 91107

• Estate Planning

## **Benefit of Giving Appreciated Stocks or Other Assets**

Donating appreciated stock provides St. Anthony the full benefit of your gift, while also delivering greater tax savings to you. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Steve Pappas at (310) 600-3798.

| EXAMPLE:   | <b>Option A</b><br>Give \$25,000<br>in Cash | <b>Option B</b><br>Sell Securities<br>& Give Cash | <b>Option C</b><br>Give Securi-<br>ties Outright |
|--|---|---|--|
| Gift Value (Benefit to St. Anthony)  | \$25,000                                    | \$25,000  | \$25,000   |
| Charitable Deduction Allowed   | \$25,000                                    | \$25,000  | \$25,000   |
| Income Tax Savings (30% tax bracket)<br>Long Term Capital Gains Tax Saved/Paid | \$7,500                                     | \$7,500   | \$7,500  |
| (15%)*   | n/a   | (\$2,250)   | \$2,250  |
|  |   | Paid  | Saved  |
| <b>Total Tax Savings</b>   | \$7,500                                     | \$5,250   | \$9,750  |

\* Assume securities acquired for \$10K, and sold for \$25K, with a \$15K gain.

### **Exterior Photos of New Parish Center**



View from front of Church



View from back alley



New parking area (future plateia)



Classrooms and kitchen from alley



Children's play area



View from planned sport court

### **Interior Photos of New Parish Center**



Ballroom, looking toward Church



Ballroom, looking from Rosemead side



Kitchen, with floor tiles going in



Upstairs pair of classrooms (2 of 6 upstairs classrooms, plus 2 downstairs)



Kitchen, vent hood in foreground and walk-in refrigerator and freezer in back



Upstairs classroom lobby/lounge area with bathrooms in the background

### St. Anthony Capital Campaign Donor List (at 12/31/11)

AHEPA - Rose Bowl Chapter Aphie Akopiantz Barbara & Nicholas Akrotirianakis Sherese & Joseph Akrotirianakis Irene & Gregory Albeck Nick Angelos Sophia & Jim Angelos Judith & Dimitrios Antsos Mary Arapostathis Julia & George Argyros Tina & Chris Athanasoulis Philip "Ted" Attalla Julie & Dino Balas Christina Becronis Kalli & Dino Bicos Eleni & Chris Bicos Allie & John Bicos Marietta & Steve Bicos Mary & Soterios(+) Bicos Michelle(+) & Peter Bissias KellyAnne & Robert Bottcher Danielle & Nicholas Buzas Pam & John Buzas Terese & John Caire Eva & Charlie Christodoulelis Tanya & Jimmy Christodoulelis Christine & Chris Christodoulou Judie & Gus Christopoulos Lynette & Anthony Christopoulos Karen & Jason Cokias Georgia & George Courlas Laura & Taso Darlas James E. Demetriou Michael Demopulos Nicholas Demopulos Elizabeth & Andrew Demopulos Maria Karras & Nick Demos Katherine & George Dupas Vangie & Ted Dupas Dean & Theodora Efstathiou Susan Webb & Peter Evangelatos Nicolette & Jay Fuerst

Tania & Tom Grafos Thean & Steven Grafos Maria & James Grover Cathy & Jim Hamm Aliki Haralambos Tom & Tony Haralambos Families Joan & Peter Kaplanis Stavrula & Alex Kiotas Maria & Nick Kokoris Helen & George Koudanis Joanna & Konstantinos Koulos Christine Kundanis Kal & Ron Kvitne Maria & Jimmy Kypreos Valerie & Peter Lakon Andrea Lappas Virginia & Dino Lappas Parise Livanos & Peggy Jones Kathy Lucas Sophia & Mike Malahatis Dorothea Malina Mary Ann & Paul Mallis Christie & John Mavredakis Vivian & George Mavredakis Jennie & Chris McNulty **Bess Mechalas** Irene & Nicholas Mitsos Chrissa & Syrus Mobayen Marian Crawford Moule Presvytera Maria Mylonas Alex P. Pappas James P. Pappas Peter A. Pappas **Christine & Steven Pappas Dean Pappas** Cathy & Peter Pappas Leah & Arry Pastis Vivian & Gust Pastis Andrea & John Patzakis Susan & Michael Patzakis Peter Patzakis Maria & George Pegadiotes

Stan S. Pegadiotes Philoptochos - Panagia Chapter Thena & Fernando Pla Yiota Poulos **Michelle Prappas** John Rellos Evangelia & Thomas Riley St. Anthony GOYA St. Anthony Greek Dance Groups St. Anthony Greek School Peter Scamagas Stephanie & Michael Scolinos Annie & James Sellas Christiann & Christos Siatras Katherine & George(+) Skandale Stephanie & Randy Soewers Litsa & Ted(+) Stavropoulos Theodora & Peter Stavropoulos Gregoria Karides & Raymond Suchy Presv. Aida & Fr. Peter Stratos Ellie & John Tarazi Elizabeth Tirado Helen & George Treantafelles Fotini & Constantine Trigonis Dean & Steve Tripodes Dena & Nikitas Tripodes Jenny & John Tsouvalas Mary & Juan Udria Tashia & Alex Vagenas Litsa & Vasilios Vagenas Fotini Varvitsiotis Varvas Esther & Ted Vavoulis Diane & John Vidalakis Zoe & Perry Vidalakis Alma & Zacharias Vorgias Jennifer & John Webster Cleo & Peter Williams Cindy & Grant Wood **Tina & Peter Zarifes** Christina & Michael Zoumas

### St. Anthony Seniors



On December 29, the St. Anthony Seniors ended 2011 with a festive outing to the Mission Inn. The group, of over 15, carpooled to Riverside and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at the Inn which was literal-

ly adorned with over a million Christmas lights! Later the group walked around the quaint town and ate a leisurely lunch at an Italian restaurant located in the Inn. The Seniors have kept up their momentum and in early January held its annual holiday party at the home of Christina Becronis. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time.

Currently, meetings for the senior group are held at 9:30 am the second Tuesday of the month at Conrad's Restaurant in Pasadena. All those interested are welcome. For further information, please contact the church office.

### Jr. GOYA



The Jr GOYANs thank the Kamar and Caire families for their warm and generous hospitality, hosting our November Movie Night and Christmas Party, respectively.

The Jr GOYAN's joined in the YAL Christmas Pro-

ject and donated toys for the children of US Marine Servicemen. We enjoyed a great evening of fellowship, fun, games and a lovely potluck dinner. A special thank you to all the parents for their contributions, participation and support of our JR GOYA.

We will resume our schedule again in March with several spring activities: the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, a workday opportunity at MEND (Meeting Each Need with Dignity), a bowling outing, and serving at Union Station. For now, we are grateful to see one another on Sundays, where we gather to worship Christ and receive Holy Communion. All our blessings come from God. Let us continue to thank Him with our presence each week until our next meeting.

### Stewardship, Capital Campaign and Donations

**Weekly envelopes** are now available in the church office. If you would like a box of envelopes for 2012, please contact Alma in the office.



**Parish Pay** is an easy method to make donations to Saint Anthony Church. To sign up, please either visit the Parish Pay website at <u>www.ParishPay.com</u> and enter our zip code 91107 on the left- hand side of the home page and select St. Anthony. Alternatively, the direct link to the St. Anthony sign-up page is: <u>www.parishpay.com/customer/donation.asp?id=34290</u>

Or you can call Parish Pay directly at (866) 727 4741 (1 866 PARISH 1), and have a customer service representative enroll you over the phone.

### Philoptochos

Happy New Year! We thank everyone who supported our Christmas Benefit Luncheon in December at the Langham Hotel. The severe wind storms did not dampen the spirits the day of the event despite the parking inconvenience. We appreciate your patience and continued support. It is with your help the Benefit was a tremendous success!

Throughout the month of December Philoptochos members were busy helping those in need. Families within our Saint Anthony community were remembered. In addition, several organizations received our help. Our chapter donated hams and turkeys to Friends in Deed, gave monetary donations to Hathaway-**Sycamore's** Children and Family Services for food, and purchased a pool table for the teenage boys at Trinity Homes.

At this time Philoptochos is requesting your help in assisting a needy family in the community. If there is anyone who has used furniture in good condition they would like to donate, please contact Presbytera Maria Mylonas at (626)405-0467.

The first Wednesday of the month our community serves dinner to the homeless at Union Station in Pasadena. We thank the generous anonymous donor who has supported this outreach program for many years. Please contact Irene Albeck (626) 792-8122 if you are interested in participating in this worthwhile cause.

Philoptochos members invite ladies of all ages to become involved in the largest philanthropic ladies organization in the country. Join us at our next monthly meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30, at the home of Mary Ann and Paul Mallis. Each general meeting includes an informative and interesting program for its members.

We are now accepting membership dues for 2012. Look for your membership renewal in the mail. Stewardship begins at \$50 and supports local, metropolis and national commitments. National commitments are now \$15 and Metropolis, \$10.



























# Annual Christmas Benefit Luncheon













### **Greek School**

Καλή Χρονιά σε όλη την κοινότητα από το Ελληνικό Σχολείο! Όπως το καλεί η παράδοση, υποδεχθήκαμε το Νέο Χρόνο στις τάξεις των παιδιών και ενηλίκων με το κόψιμο της βασιλόπιτας, φτιαγμένης από τις δασκάλες μας.

Κάθε χρόνο το Ελληνικό Σχολέιο τιμά την εορτή των Τριών Ιεραρχών, 30 Ιανουαρίου, καθιερωμένη ημέρα της ελληνοχριστιανικής παιδείας. Φέτος οι συνεχιζόμενες εργασίες ανοικοδόμησης δεν μας επιτρέπουν να αποδώσουμε στην ημέρα τη λαμπρότητα και δημοσιότητα που της αρμόζει. Αντί άλλου εορτασμού δημοσιεύουμε εδώ ένα τιμητικό αφιέρωμα στους τρείς αυτούς λόγιους Πατέρες της Εκκλησίας, γραμμένο από τη μαθήτριά μας Καλλιόπη Κεφάλα, απόφοιτο του Πανεπιστημίου Berkeley και τώρα υποψήφια της ανώτατης βαθμίδας του Πιστοποιητικού Ελληνομάθειας. Την ευχαριστούμε θερμά για την εξαιρετική συμβολή της και της ευχόμαστε κάθε πρόοδο, στα βήματα των Τριών Ιεραρχών.

#### Οι Άγιοι Τρείς Ιεράρχες της Καλλιόπης Κεφάλα

Οι τρεις Ιεράρχες της Ορθόδοξης εκκλησίας, ηγετές και ιεροί πατέρες, γιορτάζουν στις 30 Ιανουαρίου. Ο Άγιος Βασίλειος ο Μέγας, ο Άγιος Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος, και ο Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος δίδαξαν με το παράδειγμά τους, ζώντας διδάσκοντας και προστατεύοντας την θρησκεία μας.

Ο Βασίλειος ο Μέγας γεννήθηκε το 330 μ.Χ. στην Καισάρεια σε οικογένεια από την οποία έχουν προέλθει πολλοί άγιοι. Σπούδασε εν μέρει στην Αθήνα, όπου γνώρισε τον Γρηγόριο τον Θεολόγο και έγιναν αγαπητοί φίλοι. Το 370 διορίστηκε Επίσκοπος της Καισαρείας. Ο 'Αγιος Βασίλειος είναι γνωστόςγια την αγάπη του στα παιδιά και στους φτωχούς. Σύμφωνα με την παράδοση, έψηνε ψωμί για να ταΐσει τους φτωχούς ενώ έβαζε μέσα και χρυσά φλουριά. Για αυτό, κάθε 1<sup>η</sup> Ιανουαρίου τον γιορτάζουμε κόβοντας την Βασιλόπιτα, ένα είδος γλυκού ψωμιού μέσα σε οποίο βάζουμε ένα φλουρί. Πέρα από τα καλά έργα του, φημίζεται για τις προσπάθειές του να σώσει την εκκλησία απο τον αρειανισμό (την αίρεση ότι ο Υιός προήλθε από τον Πατέρα, αλλά ο Υιός δεν είναι ομοούσιος με τον Πατέρα) και για την λειτουργία του Μεγάλου Βασιλείου δεν είναι αποκλειστικά δικό του έργο, μας δείχνει τη δραστηριότητά του αγίου στη θεολογία.

Ο Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος γεννήθηκε το 329 μ.Χ., επίσης από οικογένεια που ιστορικά περιέλαβε πόλλους αγίους. Το 381 έγινε Πατριάρχης της Κωνσταντινούπολης. Σαν τον Βασίλειο τον Μέγα, ο Άγιος Γρηγόριος διακρίνεται και εκείνος για την αγώνα του κατά του αρειανισμού μέσω της πλούσιας συγγραφής του. Είναι φημισμένος στην εκκλησία μας για την ευγλωττία και σοφία του. Αυτά τα χαρακτηριστικά αποδεικνύονται στις Θεολογικές Δημηγορίες του, πέντε κηρύγματα που εξηγούν την ουσία του Χριστού και της Αγίας Τριάδας.

Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος γεννήθηκε το 347 μ.Χ. στην Αντιόχεια από ευγενείς γονείς. Το 370 χρίστηκε αναγνώστης και μετά απο 28 χρόνια έγινε Αρχιεπίσκοπος της Κωνσταντινούπολης, αν και δεν επιδίωξε να αναλάβει αυτή τη θέση που του έδινε ανώτερα δικαιώματα απο άλλους κρατικούς αξιωματούχουςς. Η απλότητα της ζωής του μεταφέρθηκε και

στον τρόπο με τον οποίον μιλούσε. Φημισμένος για της δημόσιες δεξιότητές του, ο Άγιος Ιωάννης προτιμούσε να κυρήσσει με πιο σαφή γλώσσα παρά με αλληγορική τεχνοτροπία. Η καθαρότητα του στην ομιλία καθρεφτίζεται στη λειτουργία η οποία έχει το ονομά του. Ο άγιος αναθεώρησε τις προσευχές της Θείας Λειτουργίας και την απλοποίησε στην σημερινή μορφή της.



The coin of good fortune fell to Kelly Flessas (with Greek School director, Anastasia Sarantopoulos)

We wish to the whole St. Anthony community a happy and peaceful New Year. We welcomed 2012 in our children and adult classes with the traditional vasilopita, prepared by our teachers.

Every year the Greek School honors the feast day of the Three Hierarchs, January 30, which is is dedicated to Helleno-Christian education. Due to the ongoing construction, we cannot this year celebrate the Three Hierarchs with a proper public ceremony. In place of celebration, we publish here a written tribute to the memory of the three church fathers and scholars, by out student Kalliopi Kefalas, graduate of UC Berkeley and currently a candidate for the upper-level Certificate of Attainment in Greek. We thank Kalliopi for her inspiring contribution and we wish her progress and excellence, in the footsteps of the Three Hierarchs.

#### The Holy Three Hierarchs by Kalliopi Kefalas

We celebrate the Three Holy Hierarchs of the Orthodox Church, the leaders and Holy Fathers of our church, on January 30<sup>th</sup>. St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom taught by example, spending their lives teaching and protecting our faith.

St. Basil the Great was born 330 A.D. in Caesarea to a family from which many saints came. Part of his education took place in Athens, where he met Gregory the Theologian and they became dear friends. In 370 he was appointed Bishop of Caesarea. St. Basil is known for his love for children and the poor. According to tradition, he baked bread for the poor, while also putting in the bread golden coins. This is why every January 1<sup>st</sup> we celebrate his feast day by cutting the Vasilopita, a type of sweet bread in which we place a coin. Aside from good works, he is also known for his attempts to save the Church from Arianism (a belief that the Son was begotten from the Father, but not *homoousios* with – not of the same essence as - the Father) and for his liturgy, which is used 10 times a year. Although the liturgy is not entirely his work, it shows us his theological activity.

St. Gregory the Theologian was born in 329 A.D., also to a family that historically included many saints. In 381 he became Patriarch of Constantinople. Like Basil the Great, St. Gregory is known for his fight, through his rich writings, against Arianism. He is well known in our Church for his eloquence and wisdom. These qualities are shown in his Theological Orations that explain the nature of Christ and of the Holy Trinity in five sermons.

St. John Chrysostom was born in 347 A.D. in Antioch to noble parents. In 370 he was tonsured reader and 28 years later he became Archbishop of Constantinople. He wasn't eager to take up that post which gave him higher privileges than other state officials. The simplicity of his life carried over to the manner with which he spoke. Famous for his public speaking skills, St. John preferred a more plain rather than allegorical way of speaking. The purity of his speech was reflected in the liturgy named after him. He revised the prayers of the Divine Liturgy and simplified it to the form it is in today.

Gathered around the Vasilopita (delicious creation of Georgia Tripodis)



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### **Sunday School**



Thank you to all that helped and participated in our Christmas program. The Christmas Program took **place in the church this year and the location was very fitting.** This year's program was under the direction of Irene Albeck. She did a great job as always! We thank Fr. Peter and Fr. Christos for their support and providing this opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Special thanks to Judie Christopoulos, Christos Siatras, Stavroula Kiotas, Maria Grover, Christina Vavoulis, Alexandra Vavoulis, Jim Hronas, Choir, Mary Udria, Tania Grafos, Zoe Vidalakis, and Radek Wojcik. Thank you to our narrators: Aliki Kvitne, Lauren Pla, Jimmy Fuerst and Billy Fuerst. We of course, offer many thanks to the parents of our Sunday School children and our wonderful Saint Anthony children. Christ is Born! Glorify Him!











### Stewardship (as of January 9, 2012)

Rev. Peter & Pres. Aida Stratos Rev. Christos & Pres. Jessica Kanakis Fuerst, Jay M. & Nicolette Adamopoulos, Peter & Virginia Akrotirianakis, Joseph & Sherese Akrotirianakis, Nicholas & Barbara Albeck, Irene Albeck, Mark Gregory Angelos, James & Sophia Anton, Gus & Helen Apostolos, Dr. Margo K. Aspiotes, Georgia Attalla, Plilip & Ted Balas, Dino & Julie. Bannoura, Michale & Renee Betinis, Harriet Bicos, John & Allison Blaszcak, Frank & Georgia Bottcher, Bob & Kelly Ann Bougdanos, Eugene & Elizabeth Boulgarides, Athena Bowers, Teree & Connie Burkard, Frank J. & Penelope Buzas, John & Pamela Buzas, Nicholas & Danielle Christodoulelis, Jimmy & Tanya Christodoulides, Loucas & Andri Christopoulos, Gus & Judie Christy, Angene Courlas, Angelos & Marianna Demopulos, Michael Demos, Nick and Maria Karras Dupas, George & Katherine Dupas, Theodore & Evangeline Efstathiou, Dean & Teddi

Floutsis, Ted & Penny Gelt, Brian & Pana Gkantzounis, Georgios Grover, James & Maria Halias, John & Joanne Haralambos, Aliki, Haralambos, Anthony & Kathleen Haralambos, Tom & Page Herrera, Michael & Katherine Kalivas, George T. & Elene Kallas, Mark & Debra Kamar, April Karagias, Tasos & Helen Karaioannoglou, Phaedon & Jeanne Karatzas, Chris Katsafados, Panayioti & Theoni Kefalas, John & Evelyn Kleinsasser, Ian Kolokotrones, James & Carolyn Lakon, Peter & Valerie Lappas, Dino & Virginia Ledis, Rene & Stella Levandis, George & Melissa Livanos, Parri Malina, Dorothea Marshall, Robert Martin, Sam & Debbie Mechalas, Bessie Millward, Steve & Niki M. Mobayen, Syrus & Chrissa Mowrey, Robert D. Nichols, Jim & Joyce Nunez, Angel & Alissa

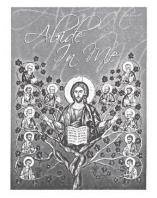
Panagiotacopulos, Nick & Aliki Pappas, Constantine & Hope Pappas, Dean C. Pappas, Peter & Cathy Pastis, Arry & Leah Patzakis, John & Andrea Pegadiotes, George S. & Maria Pegadiotes, Stan S. Petrossian, Rafic R. & Stacy Plumtree, Wayne & Martha Polvchronis, Theodore & Eleftheria Polykandriotis, John & Ira Lu Riley, Thomas & Evangelia Sahpazis, Georgia Saigh, Mark & Mara Scolinos, Michael & Stephanie Siatras, Christiann & Christos Tirado, Elizabeth Tisopoulos, Laki & Tara Treantafelles, Andrew & Georgia Treantafelles, George T. & Helen Tripodes, Nikitas & Dena Tripodes, Steven G. Tsevdos, Alice Tsouvalas, John & Jenny Udria, Juan & Mary Vagenas, Alex & Tashia Vavoulis, Ted & Esther Vidalakis, Perry & Zoe Vorgias, Zacharias & Alma Walker, Damian & Elizabeth Wood, Grant & Cynthia Yagjian, Michael & Anita Zarifes, Peter & Tina



Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this stewardship list.

Please forgive us if there are any errors or omissions. The printed list is from the date above. Any steward-ship additions or changes that were made after the above date will not be added or corrected in this issue.

Ways to donate are on page 9 of this newsletter. Please use the stewardship card on the adjacent page. If you do not have one.



"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit." John 15:8

#### Stewardship **Commitment** Card 2012

#### information

| NAME                              |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
|                                   |              |
| NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)       |              |
| STREET ADDRESS                    |              |
| CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE           |              |
| HOME PHONE                        |              |
| MOBILE PHONE                      |              |
| EMAIL ADDRESS                     |              |
| EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRI | ED)          |
|                                   | ¥.           |
| Dependent Children's names an     | id birthdate |
|                                   |              |
|                                   |              |

May we include your contact information in the parish directory?

 $\Box$  yes  $\Box$  no If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:

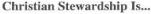
#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

How do I become a member of the parish? Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments, or mysteries, of the Church and through our faithful offering of our entire selves to Jesus Christ. Our Archdiocese requires each parish to distinguish between voting members and non-voting members. A voting member is over 18 years of age and turns in a signed stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent and treasure to the Church. The Archdiocese also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

Why must I commit to give a specific amount? Please keep in mind that your stewardship of money is kept in the strictest of confidence. However, we do compile the amounts anticipated to better plan our budget.

#### What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?

During the course of a year, people's circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out fo your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment - we are glad you are a part of this parish.



...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

... caring for the needs of others.

offering one's self to God as He offered. Himself to us.

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

.devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

Ron Nicola at odented by William A McKibben in Oriented Leadersh



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 778 SO. ROSEMEAD BLVD. - PASADENA, CA 91107 TELEPHONE (626) 449-6943 FAX (626) 449-6974 WWW.SAINT-ANTHONYS.ORG

#### time & talent

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check  $(\checkmark)$ . Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

#### LITURGICAL

- \_\_\_\_ Sanctuary & Altar Care
- Altar boys / Acolytes
- Baking Prosfora
- \_ Choir
- Reader

#### Greeter/Usher

#### MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

- Campus Ministry
- Welcome Team
- New Member Events
- Outreach
- Stewardship Sunday Fellowshin / Coffee
- Visitation Hospital
- Visitation Shut-ins
- Feed the Hungry
- Prison Ministry
- Grief Bereavement Group
- Disaster Relief Projects
- Blood Drives
- Project Mexico
- Int'l Orth Christian Charities OCMC Mission Center
- Seniors Ministry
- Couples Ministry
- Singles Ministry
- \_\_\_\_\_ Military Ministry

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Web site & E-mail

- Bullctin & Newsletter
- \_\_\_\_ Public Relations

Any other talents or information on items listed above:



#### We are Called to Bear Fruit

At the Last Supper, as we read in Chapter 15 of the Gospel of John, Jesus instructed His disciples, "I Am the Vine; you are the branches." He was telling us that the purpose of our abiding in Him is that we may bear fruit for God in the world. "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit ... " (John 15:8). Just as the vine bears fruit only through its branches, so Jesus has chosen to work in the world through us. We are the members of His body - the branches through which the Vine must bear fruit. We bear fruit when we serve and support God and His Church.

from No Man Ever Spoke as this Man: The Great I Am's of Jesus by A. Coniaris www.light-n-life.com

#### treasure

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church the following amount:

each week

### planned giving

Please send me information on making a planned gift to the Church

Publications Speakers Bookstore

\_\_\_\_ Adult Religious Education

Intro to Orthodoxy

\_ Library

EDUCATION

Bible Study

#### YOUTH

- \_ Church School Teacher
- Church School Administration
- \_\_\_ Youth Leader
- Vacation Church School \_ Camp Counselor

#### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

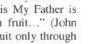
- Garden & Landscape
- Plumbing

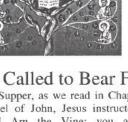
#### \_\_\_ Electrical

- \_\_ Clean-up
- Interior Repairs
- \_\_ Exterior Repairs
- Roofing \_\_\_\_\_ Hall Rentals

#### ADMINISTRATION Fiscal Mgt / Review

- \_ By-Laws
- Development / Fundraising
- Office help
- \_ Computer/Technical Data Entry





Saint Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church 778 South Rosemead Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91107

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DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR 2012 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE PAGE 14 & 15