



THE ANNUNCIATION OBSERVER



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GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

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9:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

THE ANNUNCIATION OBSERVER

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DESIGNED & EDITED BY:
EFSTRATIOS "YIANNI" MAGOULIAS

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COMMUNITY UPDATE

We welcome to the church:

Christopher, Baptized and Chrismated
Irinia Maria, Baptized and Chrismated
Fotini Antonia, Baptized and Chrismated
Sophia, Baptized and Chrismated

We pray for the servants of God, united together in the
sacrament of marriage:

Alexander and Brianna
Nikolaos and Pagona

We pray for the servants of God, who departed this life:

Daeli K. Kern
Eleni Hagios
Maria Pantis
Dorothea Diamond

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

As we begin the New Year, it is important to look back on the previous year to see how far we have come. And we have had quite the year!

We began the year very strong with over 100 dancers in our Annunciation Dance Ministry and over 100 students in our Greek Education program. We sent four groups to the annual Metropolis Folk Dance and Choral Festival; T' Adelfia received First Place, Hara received costume award and Division II Sweepstakes, Nea Genia received Third Place, and Ta Zouzounakia received the Division III Participation Award. Our Greek School became a certified Ellinomatheia testing center and 5 of our students received awards from the Department of Education in Greece! Our festival this year was a record high, with part of the proceeds going to benefit local charities! We as a parish; donated food and warm clothing to our Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, coordinated by our Philoptochos Society. They also coordinated many successful Kid's n Cancer fundraisers, an amazing pie raffle, and a Wine Tasting night! Our Athletics Ministry sent three teams to the annual San Jose Volleyball Tournament sponsored by St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church; and our parish team "Team Nick Voresis" raised the second most money of all the teams for the annual Run to Feed the Hungry on Thanksgiving morning. During the past year, we have seen a surge of youth and young adult activities and ministries. Moms 'n Tots meets monthly for prayer and activities. Our GOYA holds monthly discussion groups and we've seen the re-creation of a Jr. GOYA (6-8th Grade) and JOY (3rd – 5th Grade), who hold monthly meetings to plan activities and fundraisers, as well as host events for our parish, like Trunk-or-Treat and our Family Game Night and Potluck. In the past year, we have also seen an active group of Young Professionals get involved in the church, from volunteering at the festival, to monthly happy hour fellowship outings, and hosted theological discussion nights (at least once a month!)



Fr. James was invited by His Grace, Bishop Neofitos of Nyeri and Mt. Kenya to share the love of Christ at a youth conference in Kenya. He led a 6-person mission team who worked and participated in the wonderful seminar. Our parish donated towards their mission and work as a diocese.

In March, we were blessed to witness the graduation from Hellenic College, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology followed by the ordination to the Holy Priesthood of one of Annunciation's own, Fr. Panagiotis Dogias, who is now serving as the Assistant Priest at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Redondo Beach, California.

In addition to all the wonderful work our ministries have produced in the past year, our church is growing! In 2019, Fr. James and Fr. Timothy welcomed 22 people into the Church through the sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation. We also had the joy of uniting 12 couples through the sacrament of marriage.

Your stewardship provides key support for all our Annunciation Ministries who have accomplished so much in 2019, and your continued prayers and support will help us to grow and give back to our community in 2020.

This year is a big year, we are nearing our 100th year as a community in Sacramento. As we honor our past, on N Street as well as our old hall, we celebrate and give thanks to God for all the gifts He has given us; a larger church to worship in, as well as a beautiful new Annunciation Hellenic Center, where our ministries and faithful gather for fellowship, growth, and support, from Sunday School and Greek language lessons, to preserving Greek folk dance and culture, to fundraising and preparing food for those less fortunate and of course, welcoming the greater Sacramento area into our Home for our annual Festival.

As we begin the New Year, I pray that you have a blessed, healthy, and happy New Year with all of God's blessings.

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Efstratios Magoulas".

Efstratios "Yianni" Magoulas
Pastoral Assistant

LETTER FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

As we come to the end of 2019, I would like to say thank you to everyone who contributes to our Annunciation Parish. To the Clergy, Office Staff, and hundreds of volunteers, Thank You!

Christmas is a time of birth and new beginnings. It is my hope and prayer that we have new blessed beginnings for 2020. The Parish council welcomes everyone's voices to be heard at our monthly meetings or during coffee hour after Church. It is our hope that our stewards have faith in our decisions, faith in us as financial fiduciaries of Annunciation and faith in our love of Annunciation in doing what is best for our community.



Thank you to the choir for putting on a beautiful concert and reception, the ASL for a wonderful festive luncheon, and Philoptochos for all they do to help the less fortunate.

I am very happy to report that we were able to make a \$730,000 payment to our building loan and another \$50,000 payment by December 27th, 2019. We still have a lot of work to do to be debt free. Please, please if you haven't done so, make your pledge so we can achieve this goal to be debt free.

A very warm welcome to past president Jerry Wright for agreeing to the one year vacancy on the Parish Council. Thank you to outgoing Parish Council members Kristen Kane, Bessie Papalias, and Anastasios Hionis and welcome to Maria Sampanis.

In closing, I pray everyone had a blessed holiday season with Faith, Love, and Happiness. Happy New Year!

With Gratitude,

Michael Dariotis Jr.

Annunciation Parish Council President

HOUSE BLESSING FOR THE FEAST OF THEOPHANY

The traditional time of year for blessing homes is after Theophany, January 6. Fr. James and Fr. Timothy are dedicating two weeks beginning January 7th to come to your home, if requested, for this special blessing.

What is involved?

Just 15 minutes of your time!

If you would like to have a meal, please coordinate with the Fathers ahead of time.

What do you need to do?

Please contact the parish office or email Fr. James (frjames@annunciationsac.org) or Fr. Timothy (frtimothy@annunciationsac.org)

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

My Wish for 2020

Having just celebrated Christmas recently, we can reflect on the joy of giving and how it does our hearts good to spread joy.

When considering Christian stewardship we should view it as a loving response to a loving God. It is something we do wholeheartedly and not after an appeal to make a budget.

Yes, there is a reality to the fact that the Church exists in a world where it needs money to conduct its business. Money does matter, and while it should be a consideration, it should not be the sole basis for Christian stewardship.

Giving to the Church is a spiritual discipline and we should give out of a need to grow spiritually.

My wish is that 2020 is filled with an abundance of God's blessings for each and every one of you and that we all experience the great joy that comes from giving back to God.

Happy New Year! Χρόνια Πολλά!

In Christ,

Stella Dariotis
Stewardship Chair

OPERATING FUND		
Income	1/1/19 - 11/30/19	2019 Budget YTD
Pledges	\$439,391	\$481,250
All Other Revenue	\$557,274	\$533,944
Total Revenue	\$996,665	\$1,015,194
Expenses		
Total Staff Exp.	\$537,688	\$533,358
Program Services	\$20,806	\$28,097
Other Oper. Exp.	\$333,869	\$314,627
Archdiocese National Ministries	\$110,000	\$119,642
Total Expense	\$1,002,363	\$995,724
Balance as of 11/30/19	-\$5,698	
2019 Pledges as of December 10, 2019		
Stewardship Budget	\$525,000	
Pledged to Date	\$461,305	
Total Amount Received	\$447,441	
Total Members Pledged	429	

AN UPDATE ON THE BUILD

Construction of "The Build" has been completed and the facilities have been utilized by our parish for almost 3 years.

Building Loan Balance as of 12/1/19: \$2,602,247.85 at 4.19% interest

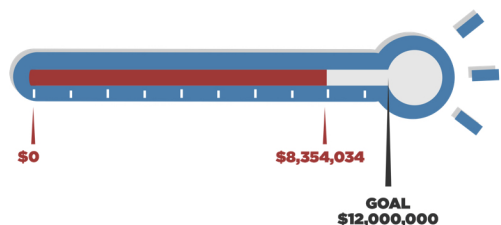
Interest paid in 2017 \$219,010

Interest paid 2018 \$179,303

Interest for 2019 projected to be \$144,000

Total Interest 2017, 2018 and 2019 = \$542,313

This \$542,313 in interest could have been used for our programs, groups, ministries and the parish in general.



If you have not given—now is the time!

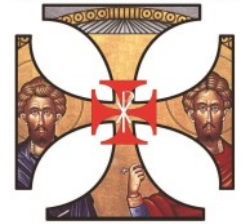
We are all benefitting from a long-term vision and wish of our parish for many years.
All we ask is 100% participation and your best gift.
Please help us get debt free.

PHILOPTOCHOS

Πολλές ευχές για το νέο έτος!

It has been a busy fall season for Philoptochos, and I would like to give a round of applause to our members; they contributed so much in various ways to all of the events that took place.

We began November with Philoptochos Sunday on November 3, and I would like to particularly thank Despina Demas for providing the artoklasia and Faye Vallas the koliva. Thank you also to Pearl Thomas, Alexis Genung, Elaine Wright, Althea Tatarakis, and Nicolette Madrid for your help.



In November, Nicolette Madrid and Althea Tatarakis coordinated another successful Pie Raffle fundraiser, and they deserve a sincere thank you for all their hard work. Ivi Crawford assisted greatly by beautifully wrapping each of the 38 pies. Thank you to all who contributed pies for the raffle.

In a new endeavor to help feed the poor, Suanna Gurovich arranged with St. John's Lutheran Church to provide dinner to four families on November 25. Donna Wagner, Althea Tatarakis, and Despina Demas helped with the food. Suanna also arranged for food and clothes barrels from the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services to be available for parishioners' contributions. Thank you!

December brought in the rekindling of baking previously done by Philoptochos. Toula Delis joined Philoptochos and immediately energized the group to bake and sell kourambiedes, koulourakia, melomakarona, and Gianniotiko baklava for Christmas. Thank you to Toula for coordinating the baking, to Bessie Papailias and Despina Demas for subsidizing the wrapping and boxes, and to all those who helped during two long days.

Seventeen Philoptochos members attended the Light the Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Endowment Fund Christmas Luncheon for Northern California on Saturday, December 7. This was a wonderful event, and I would like to acknowledge Althea Tatarakis and Nicolette Madrid for decorating our lovely Christmas tree for the tree raffle.

Also, in December, Faye Vallas and fellow-workers prepared Christmas baskets for our home-bound parishioners. We value your thoughtfulness and that of your helpers so much Faye for such a meaningful gesture of love and concern for others.

Membership co-chairs Despina Demas and Despina Kiriakes have put forward various ideas to encourage new memberships. They will be sending information soon, so be on the lookout for this and please respond positively. We need and want you! In addition, Despina Demas is organizing a New Year's Eve celebration. Thank you to Despina and the committee working with her.

We will begin the new year with our annual Vasilopita luncheon on Sunday, January 5, at our Hellenic Center. Special advance appreciation goes to Helen Grammatikakis for cooking a delicious lunch, to Bessie Papailias for underwriting the food cost, to Despina Demas for baking vasilopites for each table, to Sam Manolakas for announcing and auctioning, and to those making vasilopites for the auction. Thank you also to all volunteers who plan to help with cooking, setting up, and serving.

February will be Kids-n-Cancer month. Elaine Wright will again be coordinating the activities which will include a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 9, and a Cake Raffle on Sunday, February 23. This year, we will not only have the incredible cakes to raffle, but we will also have a Stuffed Bear Raffle with a very special stuffed bear provided by Bessie Papailias. Thank you, Elaine, Bessie, and volunteers who donate cakes and numerous hours, throughout February.

With warm regards,

Helen Nickolson

Annunciation Philoptochos President

ANNUNCIATION MISSION TEAM TO KENYA

Fr. James and the six-person mission team, in working with His Grace, Bishop Neofitos of Nyeri and Mount Kenya and the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) attended and participated by sharing the love of Christ at a youth conference in Central Kenya!



The annual youth conference brought together youth and young adults of the Diocese from different parishes for a time of spiritual renewal and growth.

Thank you for your prayers and support! You can find pictures and more on our parish Facebook and website.



ANNUNCIATION SENIOR LEAGUE

NICK DOCOUS HONORED BY THE CITY & ASL

A resolution from the Mayor and City Counselors of Sacramento praised parishioner Nick Docous for his inspiration and visionary in the design, construction and completion of the monument at 620 N Street, commemorating the original site of the first Greek Orthodox Church in Sacramento. Many parishes have monuments and plaques, but the idea of placing a bronze replica of the original church atop the monument pedestal is unique. The monument represents a significant piece of art gifted to the City of Sacramento. Nick was very surprised but pleased to be recognized for the work of his architectural firm.



ASL LUNCHEON DETAILS

Mark your calendar for **January 9th**, our next luncheon at our Annunciation Hellenic Center and on **February 6th**, we will meet at Saint Katherine's in Elk Grove. Every month we meet in fellowship, have an exceptional meal, and enjoy an informative program/speaker, and it's still just \$10. ASL depends on sponsorships to help cover costs, so don't be shy about honoring a birthday, anniversary, or family member or koumbaro or any special occasion, for just \$500. Dessert sponsorships are available for only \$100. Our meals are cost-covering, so we depend on your participation. Just give me a call. (916) 455-5682.

Terry Kastanis

Annunciation Senior League President

ASL LUNCHEON DETAILS

Every month we meet with in our lovely Annunciation Hellenic Center (unless otherwise noted, i.e. February 6th we will meet at St. Katherine's in Elk Grove) serving great food & interesting programs. Watch for informational flyers and internet communications and please do not hesitate to call with questions.

Reservations help us plan ahead! Please RSVP to Mary Kondos

5328 Spilman Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95819

Or call (916) 457-2196

**Annunciation
Senior League**

**Happy New Year
2019**



ASL Luncheon

Still, Just \$10.

Thursday, January 10th

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Annunciation Hellenic Center

Reservations would be appreciated

Return portion below to Mary Kondos
5328 Spilman Ave. Sacramento, CA 95819, 457-2196,
mkondos@att.net, by Jan 7th

Name & Address _____

Phone & Email Contact _____

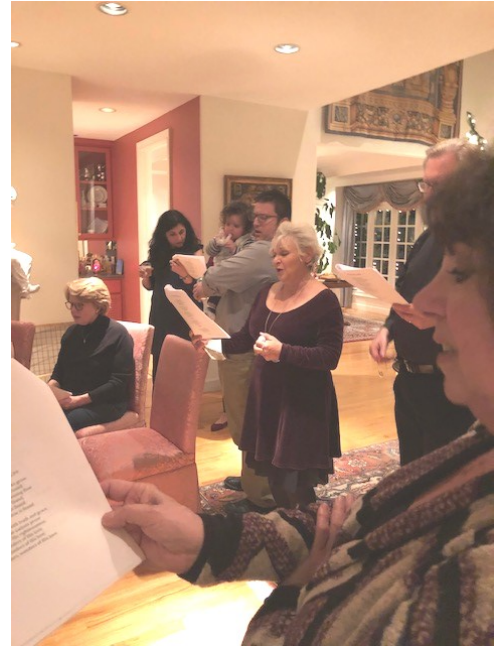
Number of Reservations _____

SACRAMENTO GREEK FESTIVAL

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Greek Festival Board, the Chairpersons, and families all gathered at the annual Christmas party to celebrate the successful 2019 Greek Festival and kick off the activities for planning for 2020. The children particularly loved the Christmas train and Santa Claus – can you guess who Santa is? There are over 30 members of the board and chairpersons who put on the annual festival.

We all wish you a joyous, healthy, and blessed New Year!



LOOKING TOWARDS OUR CENTENNIAL

Do you have fond memories growing-up in Sacramento? As we approach our 100th year as a Greek Orthodox parish here in California's Capitol, maybe you'd like to share some of your memories and reflect on the past, maybe even at 620 N Street, or what it was like going to Sunday School in the old Victorian house next to the current church at Alhambra and F Street.

Your stories are welcome. Just give me a call (916-455-5682) or leave word with Effie at the office, (916-443-2033).

The following article was written by Mr. Bill Triphon who graciously shared his reflections and thoughts as we look toward the future.

Terry Kastanis

Chair, History Committee

THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH: A Retrospective view from a long time parishioner

I was born in 1951 (the year the new Annunciation was dedicated) and baptized in our current church. I have fond recollections of growing up in our church in the fifties and sixties and I suppose people would call me and those like me a cradle orthodox. The importance of the church at that time was two-fold; first, the church was our religious home, and second, it served as a cultural gathering place to speak Greek and preserve the customs, culture, and values of the native homeland. The parishioners sixty years ago were comprised mainly of Greek immigrants and their first-generation children. The church helped us adapt to living in two worlds - America and Greece. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated in Greek, and when I traveled to Greece in 2005 the church service was almost identical to what I experienced as a child; it was heartwarming and brought back memories of Father Parthenios Kirimitsis celebrating the Liturgy.

During my formative years, a great number of us children regularly attended Sunday School. We lacked a formal education building, but classes were taught in the old Hellenic Center using rolling blackboards as dividers separating the classes. Our Sunday School teachers were most often professional teachers since at the time women were encouraged to go into teaching or nursing as traditional professions, and I felt the instruction was excellent. One of my happiest times was receiving Holy Communion. Many of us had immigrant parents, and we were taught to fast prior to receiving holy communion with rigid rules. However, even though I felt a sense of satisfaction when fasting, I was really excited to have donuts, pastries, or pancakes, and milk waiting for me and everyone else in Sunday School following communion. Sometimes the simplest things give the greatest pleasure. It is a happy memory that many of us treasure from that time, and we still enjoy thinking and reminiscing about it today.

During the fifties and sixties fraternal clubs were quite popular; the Messinian and Roumeli clubs and other similar organizations were made up of members from various parts of Greece, but the two largest fraternal organizations were AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) which was formed in the South to combat racism and promote Hellenism and GAPA (Greek American Progressive Association) which was formed to preserve Greek language and culture. My family was in the AHEPA and my father, Ted Triphon, was secretary for over 30 years. Many other parishioners were also involved; Eugene Fotos was president of GAPA and Aris Kufasimes was president of the AHEPA; both men were patriots to both Greece and America and charismatic leaders. I was a member of the Sons of Pericles and fondly recall the conventions and basketball tournaments and other social events.

LOOKING TOWARDS OUR CENTENNIAL

In those days it felt like the church was one big Greek family and it seemed that you knew most people; Sacramento's population was much smaller, most people lived close to the church, and only one Greek Orthodox church existed. Additionally, there was a sense of community whereby, we felt that other Greeks parents were looking out for us. During that time, we children were cautious and I'd even go as far as to say we were afraid someone would see us doing something mischievous or something frowned upon, and tell our parents which would lead to our inevitable punishment.

I have a few other memories from the sixties that made a great impression on me. First, when I was serving in the altar, I met Archbishop Iakovos when he came to Sacramento and he spoke to all the altar boys which made us feel quite special. Another event of significance was when the stained glass windows were installed in the church. As a child the transformation of the church with the stained-glass windows was wondrous; the windows made God, Christ, and the Virgin Mary more real to me. The beauty of the windows was breathtaking. I'm told they came from Holland, a very famous artist by the name of Louis Boermeester, well-vested in the aesthetic tradition of Byzantine art. They cost \$1,000 each which seemed like such an exorbitant amount to me, but I could never place a monetary value on the windows since they seem to transport me closer to Christ and make our religion more tangible.

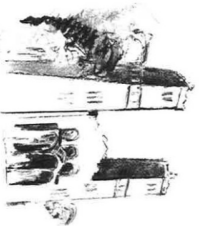
Sacramento has increased in size since then and people live farther from the church seemingly necessitating three churches in the area (Elk Grove, Roseville, and the Annunciation). Our parish is different now in that family members have passed, others have moved away, and new families have moved to Sacramento. While many people of my generation may feel as if we no longer know many of the other people in church, the purpose of the church is the same - to protect Orthodoxy and promote our faith. We are still a strong viable parish with a bright future if we work together, and I still recall a sermon of Father Kirmitsis in which he said, "A single stick is easily broken but a bundle of sticks together are strong and cannot be easily broken". I believe unity will be the key to our growth.

We have a great deal to be proud of as Greek Orthodox Christians; while it may be nostalgic to recollect the past, our responsibility is to preserve the parish and leave it in a better position than we found it for our children and their children.

Sincerely,

Bill Triphon

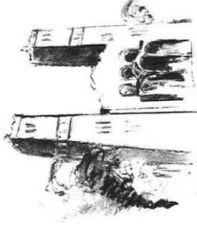




916-443-2033 | 616 ALHAMBRA BLVD. | SACRAMENTO, CA
ANNUNCIATION
 GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Forefast of Theophany Great Blessing of the Waters Parish Vasilopita	6 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: Holy Theophany 6:30 pm GOYA/Jr. GOYA/Joy Meetings	7 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: Synaxis of St. John the Forerunner and Baptist 5:30 pm Dance Practice	8 ✠ 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	9 ✠ 11:00 am ASL Luncheon 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice	10 ✠ 7:00 pm Greek Night with the Sacramento Kings	11 10:00 am Mom's 'n Tot's
12 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Dance Preview	13 ✠ 5:30 pm Dance Practice 6:30 pm Philoprochos Meeting	14 ✠ 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	15 ✠ 10:00 am ASL Board Meeting 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice	16 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Anthony the Great	17 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Anthony the Great	18 10:00 am Mom's 'n Tot's
19 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Dance Practice	20 Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting	21 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Timothy the Apostle 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	22 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Timothy the Apostle 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	23 ✠ 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice	24 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Timothy the Apostle 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	25 ✠ Fast Day
26 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Dance Practice	27 ✠ 5:30 pm Dance Practice	28 ✠ 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	29 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: St. Timothy the Apostle 11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	30 ✠ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: Three Hierarchs 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice	31 ✠ Fast Day	



916-443-2033 | 616 ALHAMBRA BLVD. | SACRAMENTO, CA.

ANNUNCIATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: Presentation of the Lord into the Temple Sunday School Dance Practice	Fast Day 6:30 pm GOYA/Jr. GOYA/Joy Meetings	5:30 pm Dance Practice	11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	11:00 am ASL Luncheon at St. Katherine, Elk Grove 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice		FDF Glendi
9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday School Dance Practice Philoptochos Kid's n Cancer Pancake Breakfast	6:30 pm GOYA/Jr. GOYA/Joy Meetings	5:30 pm Dance Practice 6:30 pm Philoptochos Meeting	11:00 am Studies in the Faith 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	7:00 pm Choir Practice	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">FDF 2020 in Anaheim, California – Good luck and Safe Travels!</div>	
9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	Office Closed Presidents' Day 6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting	6:00 pm Sunday School Teachers Meeting	11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	10:00 am ASL Board Meeting 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice		9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: Saturday of the Souls
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">FDF 2020 in Ontario, California</div>	Office Closed Presidents' Day 6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting	6:00 pm Sunday School Teachers Meeting	11:00 am Studies in the Faith 5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Orthodox Basic Training	5:30 pm Greek School 7:00 pm Choir Practice	Youth Lock-In	9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy: 2nd Saturday of the Souls

Our calendar is subject to change. For the most recently updated calendar please visit www.annunciationSac.org/master-calendar/

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to all who participated and attended our annual Christmas Pageant! We would like to thank Kristen Kane for again planning and directing the program!

January 2020

Sunday, 5: Regular Sunday, Godparents Sunday
Sunday, 12: Regular Sunday
Sunday, 19: Regular Sunday
Tuesday, 21: Sunday School Staff Meeting
Sunday, 26: Regular Sunday

February 2020

Sunday, 2: Regular Sunday
Sunday, 9: Regular Sunday
Sunday, 16: No Class (FDF)
Sunday, 23: Regular Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)



Thank you for supporting your local food bank!
This year we collected
canned goods and warm coats for the
Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services!

GREEK SCHOOL

On November 17th, immediately after Divine Liturgy, Fathers James Retelas and Timothy Robinson awarded the Ellinomatheia certificates to Greek School students who, last May, passed the Greek language mastery exam administered by the Greek Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. All (eleven) students who took the exam at three different levels were successful! At the A1 level (basic knowledge) six students received certification: Christofilis Chatzis, Iliana Demas, Ariadne Dimitriades, Kyriakos Sioukas, George Tsakopoulos, Christopher Walker. Three students received certification at the B1 level (intermediate knowledge): Ioannis Karidis, Vasiliki Kokkini, Evridiki Vougiouka. Last, two students received certification at the B2 level (advanced knowledge): Andrej Stojakovic and Mila Stojakovic. Students who are awarded Ellinomatheia certificates at B1 or B2 levels are awarded the prestigious Seal of Biliteracy upon their graduation from High School. 2019 was the first year that Annunciation Greek School operated as an exam center for the Ellinomatheia Exam. The report that was compiled by the Ellinomatheia board in the Greek Ministry of Education praised Annunciation Greek School for following best practices and meeting the guidelines and standards for Certified Ellinomatheia Exam Centers in its first year of operation.



DANCE SUPPORT GROUP

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming events:

1/5/20 -- Preview Rehearsal & Group Photos

1/12/20 -- Preview Performance during Coffee Hour

2/8/20 -- FDF Glendi

2/13/20 - 2/16/20 -- FDF in Anaheim

5/8/20 -- Coffee Hour/Mother's Day Event



ANNUNCIATION CHOIR

*Thank You for sharing the Joy of Christmas in Song
with your Annunciation Choir at our annual
Christmas Concert and Reception
held Sunday, December 8, 2019.*

*We extend our thanks and appreciation for the
Holiday Reception following the concert
hosted by **George and Molly Johnson**
to honor their children,
our youngest beloved choir members,
EJ and Athena,
who will be attending college next year.*



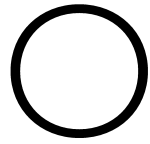
YOUNGER MARRIEDS & WORKING SINGLES

Moms 'n Tots is back! Join us on the third Saturday of every month for faith, fun activities, guest speakers, and wonderful Christian Fellowship. Every month is a little different, from spending time in church, to arts & crafts, and guest speakers. We'd love for you to join us! We'll see you on January 18th!

Do you have an idea or ministry in mind for the Younger Marrieds and Working singles age group? Interested in getting involved? Contact Yianni Magoulas today!



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



On the first Monday of every month, our Youth Ministries gather for a short prayer service, followed by meetings supervised by a parent adviser, and with the spiritual guidance of Fr. James, Fr. Timothy, and Yianni. We invite all of our young people to attend and participate with their respective grade. Thank you to our coordinators and advisors, Audrey Bazos, Eleni

Bourdaniotis, and Georganna Sinadinis!

We'll see you at church, our next meeting, and at upcoming events!

Meet our Youth Ministries!

GOYA | 9-12th grade

Jr. GOYA | 6-8th Grade

JOY | 3-5th Grade

Upcoming Meetings & Events

January 6th, 6:30 pm: GOYA, Jr. GOYA, & JOY Monthly Meeting

February 3rd, 6:30 pm: GOYA, Jr. GOYA, & JOY Monthly Meeting

February 28th: Tentative Youth Lock-In

SAVE THE DATE

LENTEN CENTRAL VALLEY YOUTH RETREAT

MARCH 28TH | ST. BASIL STOCKTON

Join GOYAs and Jr. GOYAs from the Central Valley parishes (Elk Grove, Fresno, Modesto, Reno, Roseville, and Stockton) for a Lenten Youth Retreat! Contact Yianni for more information!

Our Jr. GOYA & JOY would like to thank you for joining us for Trunk-or-Treat on October 27th and for our Family Game Night and Potluck on November 25th! We had a great time and are looking forward to seeing you at our next event!

GOYA would like to say thank you for supporting their Annunciation Christmas Ornament fundraiser! The ornaments were planned, designed, and sold by our GOYA.

Young professionals (21-30ish years old) are invited to join our theological discussions, "Wisdom & Wine" which happen every month! Contact Yianni Magoulias for more information.

YAL-Young Adult League (18-22 years old) Welcome! We are excited to announce our new YAL ministry!

Please contact Yianni Magoulias for more information.

On November 7th through 10th, four young men from our GOYA and our Pastoral Assistant, Yianni, pilgrimaged to Hellenic College Holy Cross, Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts. While at our Archdiocesan university, they prayed with students and faculty in the Holy Cross Chapel, attended classes, met with professors, and saw the historical sites that Boston has to offer. See more from their travels on our Facebook!



Topics for the 2020 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival are out now! Start preparing your speech today! Prizes and scholarships for all participants. For more information, please contact

Andonia Cakouros: cakouros@icloud.com



HELLENIC GOLF CLASSIC



SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE
11TH ANNUAL HELLENIC GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, June 1, 2020

Lincoln Hills Golf Club, Lincoln, CA

Contact Vivian Vail join the committee, volunteer or
become a sponsor!

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Save the date for these parish events!

New Year's Eve Party | December 31, 2019—January 1, 2020

Greek Night with the Sacramento Kings | January 10, 2020

Philoptochos Kid's n Cancer Month | February

Central Valley Youth Retreat | March 28, 2020

**Annunciation Philoptochos Greek Ladies' Society
Invites You to Celebrate the New Year**

**Tuesday, December 31st—7:30 PM
Annunciation Hellenic Center**

**Tickets: \$75 for adults until December 26
\$100 thereafter**

**\$25 for children 12 and under
Children's Entertainment
Sleeping Bags Welcome**

**Music, Hors d'oeuvres, Dinner
Cocktail Attire**

**For Tickets/Reservations Contact:
Despina Demas despindemas@outlook.com
Helen Nickolson hnickols@vccd.edu**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2020**

**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
WITH THE SACRAMENTO KINGS**

• Enjoy an exciting night of NBA basketball with family and friends and take advantage of special group pricing!

Special Group Pricing
\$72.00 – Lower Level Corner
\$75.00 – Lower Level Corner Value
(Limited tickets available at this price. Once the above ticket allotment sells out, ticket prices are subject to increase.)

Payment Deadline: December 6, 2019

Welcome to Greek Night with the Sacramento Kings! We are looking forward to a wonderful night of fun and fellowship!

Our Annunciation Choir will be singing the National Anthem. A portion of your ticket will go directly to our Annunciation Youth and Young Adult ministries!

Friday, January 10, 2020
Game starts at 7pm.

Purchase tickets online at:
www.kingsgroups.com/AnnunciationSac

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Yianni Magoulas | 916.399.4304 | magoulas@annunciationsac.org

Pledged Stewards 2019

(As of December 10, 2019)

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN CHRIST

Kalisthenis Agagiotis
Nick & Shari Alexander
Christ & Helen Anastasopoulos
Constantine & Kelly Anastasopoulos
George & Alexis Anastasopoulos
David & Evelyn Anderson
Jason & Martha Anderson
Geoffrey & Antonia Antipa
Milton & Panorea Apostolidis
Paul & Elizabeth Arellanes
Andrianos & Kathy Argyropoulos
Theodoros & Georgia Avdalis
Nicholas & Nikki Avdis
Spyridon & Georgia Avdis
Manny & Sunday Balalis
Dan & Katherine Ballas
Elias & Jane Bardis
Andreas & Audrey Bazos
Selamawit Berhane
Bill & Evelyn Bobolis
Jamie Bobolis
Stephanie Bobolis
David & Anastasia Bonaccorso
Denny Boom
Greg & Vicki Booros
Alexander & Eleni Bourdaniotis
Athena Bourdaniotis
Paul & Kostandina Bourdaniotis
Polihronis & Vicky Bourdaniotis
Marie Bravou
Anna Brusco
Katherine Buttacavoli
Andonia Cakouros
Peter & Sophia Callas
John & Jordan Cameron
John & Aglaia Capetanos
Anthony & Michele Caposio
Larry & Anna Carr
Peter & Fotine Casheros
George & Koula Cazanis
Michael Cazanis
Pauline Cazanis
Voula Cazanis
Dean & Jennie Chalios
Sonia Champas
Gus Changaris
Tim & Antonia Chapralis
Timmy & Penny Chatzis
Jack Chesson
Tony & Kathi Chrisopoulos
Louis & Mary Christi
Peter & Maria Christi
John & Annette Christopoulos
Bettina & Grigorios Chrysofakis
George & Christina Chuchas
James & Despina Chuchas
John & Linda Compoginis
Peter & Samantha Cononelos
Chris & Angelique Constantin
Dennis & Jeanlaurie Corelis
Stamatiki Coss
Carol Crisp
Vasiliki Cronin
Timothy & Effie Crush
Mary J. Curtis
William & Jessica Dalikas
George & Christine Dariotis
John & Nitsa Dariotis
Michael Dariotis
Irene Darras
Magdalene & Matthew David
Irene DeKellis
Edie Delegan
Efthymios & Grammatoula Delis
John & Marianna Demas

Louis Demas
Lou & Maria Deville
Stasis & Jody Diavatis
Angelo & Adel Dimitropoulos
Nicholas & Laura Docous
Elizabeth Dokimos
Katherine Dole
Elaine Donovan
Demosthenis & Evangelia Douveas
Marina Downing
William & Jessaca Downing
Demos & Bessie Dulger Sheikin
James & Patricia Duvaras
Georgia Econome
Kiki Econome
Marilyn Econome
Peter & Anastasia Efstathiou
Nicholas & Jeanne Efstratis
Dan & Maria Eriksson
Sophia Evrigenis
Samir & Nuha Fadayel
Michael & Elena Fazio
Christos Fotopoulos
George & Kathy Fotopoulos
John & Theofani Fotopoulos
Panagiotis Fotopoulos
Panayiotis Fotopoulos
Peter & Koula Fotopoulos
Phillip & Soula Fotopoulos
Agnes Fotos
Antonia Fotos
Demetre & Christine Fotos
Kyriako & Brenda Fotos
Ruseta Fotos
Kyriakos & Elaine Frangogiannis
Christina & Robert Freeworth
Gus & Stelene Galaxidas
Yiannis & Eleni Galitsopoulos
Andrew & Beth Ganetsos
Kelly Garrett-Pantis
Maria Gassoumis
Andrew & Teresa Gates
Constantin & Micki Genigeorgis
Joann Georgallis
Perry Georgallis
Dianna George
John & Debbie George
Chris & Angie Georgoulis
Helen Gianakakis
Angela Gianulias
Sandra Giobres
Steve Giranis
Alexandra Gousetis
Lener & Carmie Lee Gousetis
Helen Grammatikakis
Dale & Linda Gredvig
Paul Grellas
Peter Grellas
Louis & Georgette Grivetti
Suanna Gurovich
George Hagios
Peter & Natalie Haigh
Lynn Hall
RJ & Nicki Hansen
Demetre & Dimitra Haralambakis
Larry Haralambakis
Thomas & Phyllis Harper
Dannan & Lisa Harr
Elias & Catherine Hatzakos
Richard & Kim Hauch
Steve & Bia Hayes
Tim & Elene Hayes
Domna & James Hebenstreit
Nikiko Hess
Nikko Higdon

Anastasios & Stefanie Hionis
Ameen & Georgia Hofioni
Julian B. & Diane Holt
Sotiri & Julie Horner
Dino & Margarita Jakovas
George & Molly Lee Johnson
Kiki Jouganatos
Chris Jovalis
James & Robin Kafouros
Phyllis Marie Kafouros
Panagiotis & Katerina Kakkavas
Periklis & Marilena Kalfountzos
Pantelis & Patricia Kallergis
Dennis & Robin Kamilos
Nick & Andreanna Kamilos
Christopher & Kristen Kane
Michael & Stacie Kane
Loretta Kanelos
Andrew Kantargis
Gus & Ana Kapandritis
George Karagianes
John & Euphrosyne Karas
Sam Karnezis
George & Mary Ellen Kassotakis
George Kastanis
Terry Kastanis
Demetri Katsifolis
Emorfia & Niko Katsimbras
Stelios & Angela Katzakis
Dan & Maria Kaufman
Andreas & Evelyn Kazanis
Giorgos & Jenna Kazanis
Ioannis & Cindy Kazanis
Andromachi Kennedy
Anthony & Gail Kentroti
Effie Kentroti
Bess A. Kerhoulas
Connie Keriotis
Denise Kincaid
Jim & Lara Kiniris
Despina Kiriakes
Steven & Lindsey Kivetos
Peter & Jennie Kleary
Nektarios & Maria Klostrakis
Pete & Maria Kokkinis
Alex & Kiriaki Kokologiannakis
Orestis & Jaime Koletsos
Polidefkis & Calliope Kolitsos
Mary Kondos
Anthony Kontes
Lucas & Stella Kontes
Mary Kontes
Nick & Bernadette Kontos
Chris & Alexandra Kordazakis
George Koufasimis
Fran Koulos
George Koumis
George & Rula Kouretas
John & Colleen Kreatsoulas
Constantino & Dena Kuchulis
Angela Kuchulis Gianopoulos
Loula Kufasimes
Nicholas & Michele Kufasimes
John & Mary Kyriakides
J.J. LaBritt
Stephen & Anna LaBritt
Irene Ladd
Frances Lambrose
Katherine Lampros
Ellie Lane
Dean & Diane Langley
Ronald & Georgia Langley
Maria Lappas
Georgia Larson
Andrea Lendaris

Pledged Stewards 2019

(As of December 10, 2019 | Continued)

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN CHRIST

Esther Lilakos	Tom & Terry Panages	Demetrios Spyridakis
Gary & Irina Leonard	Tommy & Alayna Panages	Stylianios & Klea Spyridakis
Theodore Leonis	Nick & Contilo Pandeleon	Vasilios Spyridakis
Jesus & Helen Loazia	Peter & Gina Pandelopoulos	Rod & Daniela Stagg
Lance & Kathy Loper	Effie Pantelias	Dessie & Sam Stamas
Alice Loris-Lyons	Tom Pantelopoulos	Charles & Florence Stamos
John & Rudina Loudaros	Yianni Pantis	Vlad Stasuc
Diane Lydon	John & Margaret Papadakis	Merle Stathis
MariBeth Lydon	John & Julianne Papagiannopoulos	Makis & Freda Stathopoulos
Mary Lydon	Bessie Papailias	Mary D. Stathos
Elaina & Gary Magana	Eleni & Raymond Papailias-Gomez	Maria Stefanou
Diana & Robert Magee	Tasia Papajohn	Pagona Stratoudakis
Geraldine Magers	Stephanie Papas	Mari Suarez
Efstratios "Yianni" Magoulias	Kalliroy Pappas	John & Barbara Takanikos
Chris & Maro Maguire	Louie & Voula Pappas	Althea & Fred Tatarakis
Joan Malloy	Mary A. Pappas	Art & Terre Terzakis
Damon Mamalis	Helen Paras	Maria & Christopher Theodor-Higdon
Julie Mamalis	Paris & Helen Paraskevas	Sophie Theodore
Athanasia Manikas	Perry & Kiki Parker	Chris & Sofia Theodorou
Exaveria (Rula) Manikas	Jerry & Catherine Pavlatos	Gregory & Mary Theophilopoulos
Anne Manolakas	Constantine & Brigid Perakis	Pearl Thomas
Katherine Manolakas	Denise Perinati	Steven Tingus
Kathleen Manolakas	Gregory & Jill Perinati	Paula Titus
Sam & Kerry Manolakas	Chris & Heidi Perris	Marian Trapp
Timothy & Annette Manolis	Paul & Shirley Peters	William & Joann Triphon
Nick Manologlou	Diane Petersen	Angelo & Sofia Tsakopoulos
Tom & Anna Manologlou	Michael & Stella Petrucci	Angelo G. & Katerina Tsakopoulos
Athanasios Manolopoulos	Fotis & Tammy Petsalis	Drosoula Tsakopoulos
Demetra Mantis	Nikolas & Nicole Pikiotis	Sofia Tsakopoulos
George & Marina Mantis	Sofianos & Sara Piliotis	Vasilis & Sofia Tsigaris
Sam & Ann Marandos	Helen Piperis	Manuel & Dianna Tsihlias
Antigoni Marcou	Marina & Alin Podoreanu	Angelos & Farida Tsiros
Katherine Marefos	Bessie Pothos	Jasmine & Jude Turczynski
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Theo & Paige Marentis	Lucky & Dina Poulos	Emmanuel & Karen Tzikas
Peter Margaritis	Charles & Elaine Price	George & Margo Tzikas
Steve & Katherine Margaritis	Marshall & Carole Pryor	Ekaterine Vail
Nellie Margarite	Dusan Radosavljevic	Scott & Vivian Vail
Sylvia Maritsas	Julie & Greg Rausser	James & Faye Vallas
Nia Marketos	Father James & Barbara Retelas	Christina Vathis
Dennis & Nancy Marks	Father Timothy & Pres. Marsha Robinson	Helen Vathis
Ellen & Jonathon Martin	Thomas & Carol Ann Robinson	Nick & Christina Vathis
Jon Martino	Demetri & Malamo Romas	Taki & Kristen Vathis
Suli & Maria Eleni Mastorakos	John & Penny Romas	Aleko & Maria Verrios
Elisabeth & Varghese Mathew	Dino & Evelyn Rotas	Vasilis & Judy Verrios
Glenn & Angela Matsen	Nicholas & Carol Rotas	Vasseliki Vervilos
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Olympia Mercuris	Ronica Sarkisian Carlisle	Efstratios Vourakis
Theodore Metropoulos	Panayiota Sarlis	Dimitri Vouros
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<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Annual</u>
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Annunciation Community Corner

Want to wish someone happy birthday, graduation, anniversary, etc? Choose your ad size (see rates below) tell us exactly what you want it to say (picture optional) and e-mail it to etheodor@annunciationsac.org

Rates for the Community Corner are:

- \$25.00 Quarter Page
- \$40.00 Half Page
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For questions, please contact the Church Office at (916) 443-2033 ext. 222

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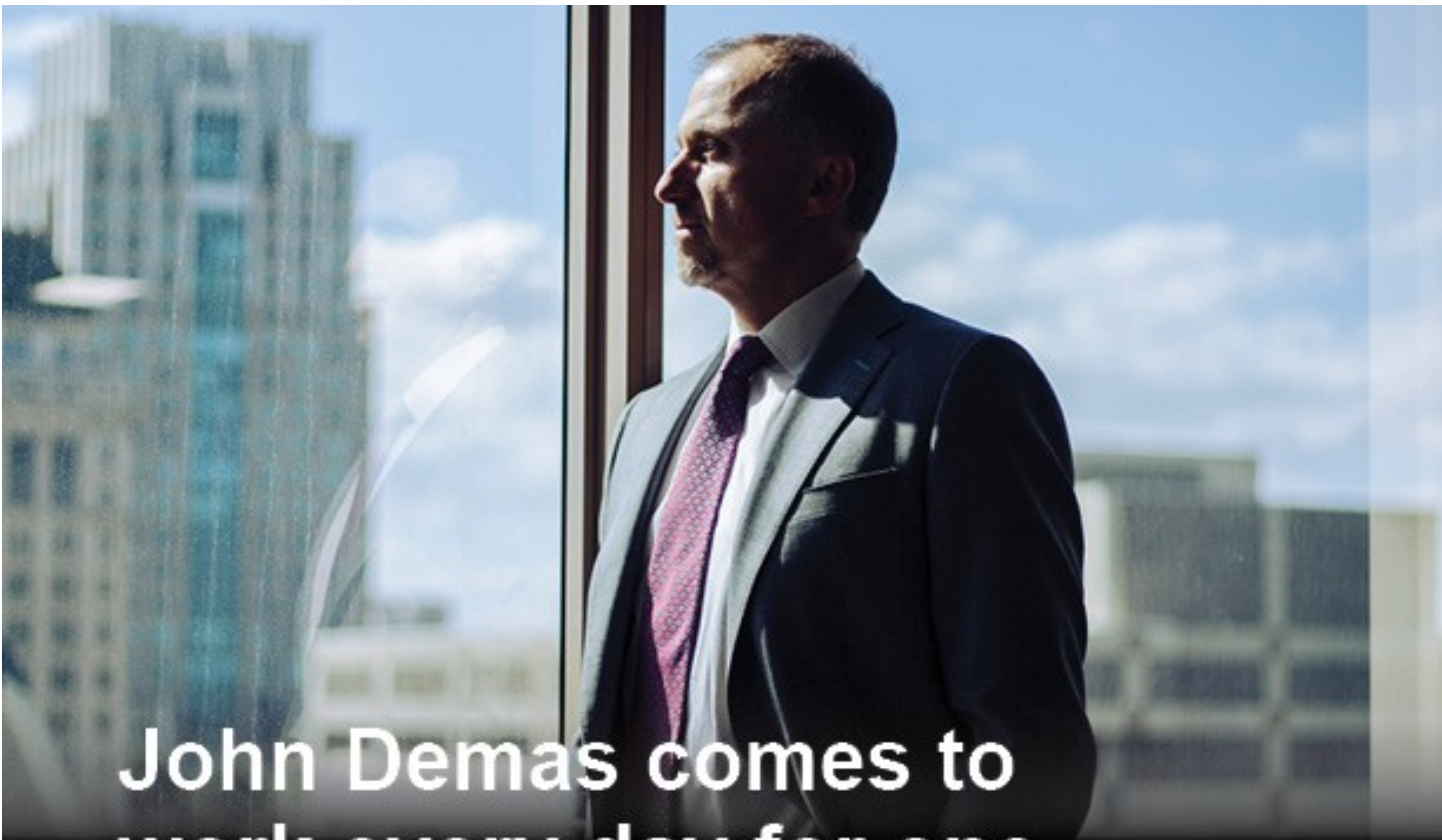
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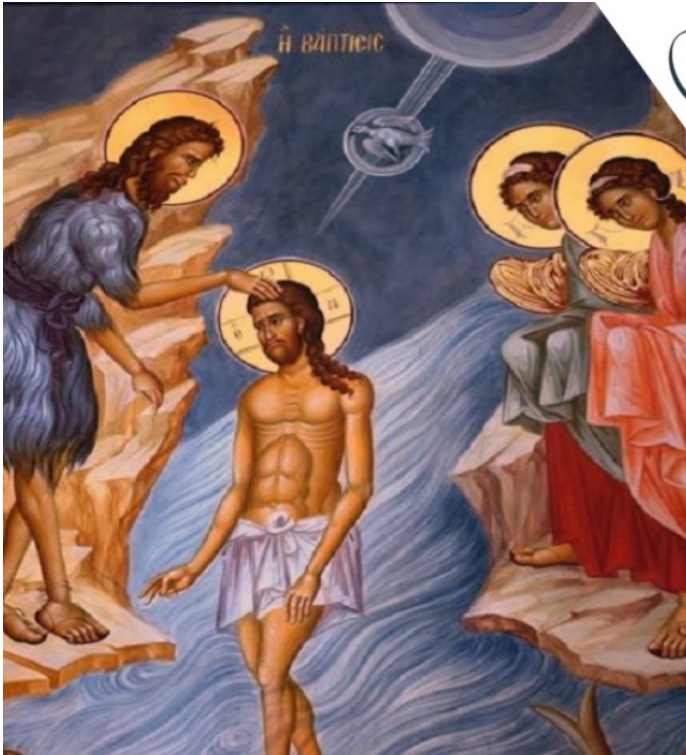
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Current Resident or

Place Label Here



Christ is Born!

— GLORIFY HIM! —

As we close 2019 celebrating the Birth of Christ
and open 2020 celebrating His baptism in the Jordan,
we wish you a healthy and happy New Year
full of God's blessings!

House Blessings for the Feast of Theophany | Page 4



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

HAPPY NEW YEAR