Christ is Risen!

Our Vision
With the Grace of God, to provide a loving and caring Community where all belong to Christ, through worship, sacramental life, everyday spiritual discipline, sanctification, education, witness and fellowship.

Our Mission
is to become faithful followers of Christ and thus active Greek Orthodox Christians by accepting and submitting to the Will of our Lord so that we may realize salvation and enter into the Kingdom of God.

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Sunday June 4, 2023

Holy Trinity will celebrate Pentecost with a Panegyri following the Divine Liturgy

Check the website (https://htgo.org) and The Weekly Word for more details.

Stewardship 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YTD Financials</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>$270,764</td>
<td>$259,368</td>
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<td>Candles, Rentals, Other</td>
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<td>$84,538</td>
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<td>Building/IRRC/Renov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minus: Operating</td>
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<td>-$341,426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minus: Building Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>NET Income (Deficit)</td>
<td>-$193,398</td>
<td>$25,152</td>
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</table>

Your stewardship is needed year-round. Especially during the upcoming months when people go on vacations and Church attendance drops. The Church facilities remain open for us all summer with the a/c and lights on. Please come to Church as a family even though there is no Sunday School or practice. We need God in our lives all year long. God and the Church does not go on vacation from us.

Please call the Church office if you've moved or will be on vacation and have your mail “held” or “forwarded”. It will return to the Church if you've moved or will be on vacation and have your mail “held” or “forwarded”. It will return to the Church with the a/c and lights on. Please come to Church as a family even though there is no Sunday School or practice.

2023 Stewardship Budget

2023 YTD Pledges (195 families) $230,390

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday, May 21</th>
<th>FEAST DAY OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 22</td>
<td>12th Grade Senior Graduation following the Divine Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 23</td>
<td>Greek School Graduation and End of Year Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 24</td>
<td>APODOSIS OF PASCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 25</td>
<td>Divine Liturgy 9:30am Vespers 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 26</td>
<td>Preschool Graduation and End of Year Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 29</td>
<td>MEMORIAL DAY Cathedral Office is Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 4</td>
<td>HOLY PENTECOST Orthros 7:45am followed by one Divine Liturgy 9:30am service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday, June 12 - 15</td>
<td>Vacation Bible Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 14</td>
<td>NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Orthros 8:15am followed by the Divine Liturgy 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 21</td>
<td>FEAST DAY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL Orthros 8:15am followed by the Divine Liturgy 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 27</td>
<td>INDEPENDENCE DAY Cathedral Office is Closed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

REMINDER:

Check the bulletin and website calendars for updates or call the Office at 704-334-4771 to add or update your email address.
REFLECTIONS FROM THE PULPIT

by Rev. Dr. Jonathan Resmini, Interim Dean of the Cathedral

The Church as Hospital

Part 1 of 2

What is the Church? In one view handed down from the Fathers and Mothers, the Church is a hospital. It is the location of spiritual healing, that is, the healing of the passions which prevent communion with God. Each member of the body of Christ strives to conform their personal existence—who they are uniquely and unrepeatable—to God’s will for them as they live and move within the world. This happens in the context of spiritual exercises or practices that promote spiritual wellness—what a blessing!

In his works Orthodox Psychotherapy, Illness and the Cure of Soul in the Orthodox Tradition, and The Mind of the Orthodox Church Metropolitan sets out the basis of the understanding of the Church as a Hospital. At times this presentation specifically speaks about the Church, that is, what the Church is. Other times it reinforces this vision with practices of the Church, which reveal its therapeutic character.

Metropolitan Vlachos insists that the understanding of the Church as a hospital, is not an innovation; it has always been the way the Church understood herself—from the first centuries, through the Fathers, continuing even today. Metropolitan Vlachos writes, “I realized these things not only by studying Patristic books. On the one hand, I also met spiritual fathers filled with grace, “changed” by the grace of God, and it is through them that one can understand the Patristic texts; on the other hand through my pastoral experience. As a spiritual father, I see daily that alongside confession cure is also needed. Many people confess, but they are not cured. A special method is necessary, so that man can be healed for his passions.

From this quote, we can see two things. First, we have inherited a tradition of spiritual healing—the Church has always been a hospital. Second, he is speaking not just from theory, but also from practice. As a hospital “the work of the Church is therapeutic.” “It seeks to heal [our spiritual] sicknesses, mainly those of the soul, which torment [us]. This is the basic teaching of the New Testament and the Fathers of the Church.” If the Church is a hospital for the treatment of her members, then Metropolitan Vlachos is correct when he writes, “So in the Church, we are divided into the sick, those undergoing therapeutic treatment, and those—saints—who have already been healed. “The Fathers do not categorize people as moral and immoral or good and bad on the basis of moral laws. This division is superficial. At depth humanity is differentiated in the sick soul, those being healed and those healed.

The Church is in the business of healing souls. If we ask, “What makes the Church the Church?” Our response is that the Church’s therapeutic method makes it the Church. In the next issue of The Voice, I will continue this discussion with more examples and practical wisdom for spiritual health. For now, I pray that you all come to church, and participate in the healing ministry of our great Physician, Jesus Christ.

The Centennial Banquet and Gala
September 23, 2023 at The Revelry North End, 701 Keswick Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28206.
Tickets are $150 per person through July 31st.
August 1st – August 15th, the price will be $200 per person.

Purchase a copy or place an ad in the Centennial Commemorative Album.

More information is available at the Centennial website: https://htgocentennial.com/.

Catering with Chick-fil-A is easy! We offer a wide range of options from our signature Chick-fil-A Chicken Nugget Trays to our wonderful selection of Boxed Meals. Keep in mind that we also cater our breakfast, so if you are having an early meeting, don’t forget Chick-fil-A!

Andre Harakas & John Tumsas

Bank of America
101 South Tryon St
(704) 344-0222

Cotswold
4431 Randolph Road
(704) 366-4073

South End
3015 South Boulevard
(704) 665-6371
The preschool was back in session on Tuesday, January 4th. It was good to have all our children back at school after the holidays.

Everyone quickly settled back into the daily routine ready to learn and be with their friends again. January is always time to learn about the cold weather, snow and ice, polar bears, penguins, and bears hibernating. It is always hard to teach the children about snow when we rarely get any. We find creative ways to teach them using ice to demonstrate cold and having white paper or tissue snowball fights. Another theme was our bodies, how to take good care of ourselves, staying healthy, and going to the doctor. We also learned about veterinarians and taking care of our pets. Our faith learning included the baptism of Jesus, Theophany and John the Baptist, and St. Anthony.

January starts student evaluation preparations for upcoming parent teacher conferences. This process aids our parents in assessing where their children are excelling and in what areas they can continue to improve. Working together and keeping an open line of communication enables our children to be successful, reaching their fullest potential and achieving our goal to prepare each child academically, emotionally and socially to be ready to move on to the next grade level.

On January 15th registration opened for the 2023 - 2024 school year for our current students and siblings. On February 1st it opened up to the Orthodox community and on February 15th to the Charlotte community. Simultaneously, we kicked off our annual World’s Finest Chocolate Candy bar fundraiser.

Big celebrations in March included the Annunciation of the Theotokos and Greek Independence Day were highlighted by coloring icons, decorating wreaths, making Greek Flags, and by singing the Greek National Anthem. On St. Patrick’s Day we learned how the three leaves on the shamrock represent the three aspects of the Holy Trinity...the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Preparing for Pascha and the Anastasi lessons included the Entrance into Jerusalem, Jesus washing the Disciples’ feet, the Last Supper, and Jesus’ Crucifixion and Resurrection. The children practiced saying Kalo Pascha, Kali Anastasi, Christos Anesti, Ailithos Anesti and learned to sing the Chrysost Anasti hymn in Greek.

The preschool was closed for Spring Break during Holy Week (Apr 10 – 14). Each class celebrated Pascha a little early (Apr 5-7) with an Easter Party and an Easter Egg Hunt.

On February 10 and 11, six of our staff members participated in the Peace of Mind workshop from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, offered through the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, for Ministry leaders who may be the first line of support for someone facing mental health challenges. This course taught us to recognize the signs and symptoms, when and how to reach out to someone in need and to help them find the appropriate professional support and services.

On January 15th registration opened for the 2023 - 2024 school year for our current students and siblings. On February 1st it opened up to the Orthodox community and on February 15th to the Charlotte community. Simultaneously, we kicked off our annual World’s Finest Chocolate Candy bar fundraiser.

The Senior Sunday School Class at St. Photios Shrine St. Augustine, FL.
HOLY TRINITY MINISTRIES REACH FAR AND WIDE

Holy Trinity has over 40 ministries. The ministries service our parish and reach out to help the Charlotte and Mecklenburg communities. Many of our ministries are part of national and international organizations. These Orthodox organizations are vital and help in disasters and dire situations. As stewards we should support these ministries by volunteering our time and talents as much as possible. All the ministries are operated efficiently and have no or low administrative costs. It is not possible to explain the total contribution of each ministry since they do extensive work. The highlights of some of the ministries which are helping our community and reach out beyond our locality are:

The Soup Kitchen feeds and supplies the needy. There is always a need for volunteers and financial support. This ministry is vital to assisting the homeless and less fortunate in the Charlotte area.

Philoctochos helps in many ways. Last year our local ministry spent $8,000 on charitable contributions. Over the years they have provided scholarships, support for St. Basil Academy and other charitable causes.

Last year the National Philoptochos disbursed over $1,742,484, and included specific donations to: Children’s Medical Fund $272,190, Saint Basil Academy $375,612, Social Services $100,436, Cancer Fund $46,064, 75th Anniversary Fund $22,720, General Medical Fund $15,000.

The Holy Trinity OCF ministry is assisting Orthodox youth in local colleges to stay in communication with the Church. Nationally, the organization provides opportunities for young adults from other locations to connect and discuss the Orthodox faith.

The program welcomes non-Orthodox to participate in meetings. The national organization helps college students grow in their faith, have college conferences, support the Summer Leadership Institute, provides opportunities to Go on a Real Break Trip, which gives college students (age 18-25) with an opportunity to engage in the Orthodox faith through trips of pilgrimage and service. Students travel during Spring Break to participate in the work of the Church alongside the ministries, parishes, and people of each host city.

The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Foundation (HTGOF) recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Foundation has given over $1.3 million dollars to help Holy Trinity, Mecklenburg Charities, Health Organizations, aid to individual families, Orthodox Organizations, and Educational Institutions. Support of the Foundation allows greater support for families in need of assistance.

IOCC has helped nationally and internationally, providing $771 million in worldwide relief and development programs. The distribution of aid is impressive with 92 cents of every dollar received being distributed. IOCC is one of the first responders in disaster relief. The organization provides humanitarian relief and development worldwide. Ukraine, Turkey, and other crisis areas have been supported quickly and provide basic needs and medical assistance to help other supporting agencies.

AHEPA, established in 1922, has over 100 years of existence. In addition to supporting Holy Trinity financially and providing scholarships to young adults, the organization is aiding nationwide. Scholarships provided have totaled over $2,200,000. The organization also provides housing needs, which totals $400,000,000 throughout the United States. AHEPA has several funds helping education, Greece, St. Nicholas Shrine in NYC, and other emergency funds.

Project Ghana is an innovative approach to international education by bringing together professionals and students to explore issues in the developing nations of the world. It is difficult to capture all the humanitarian assistance these organizations provide. The dedication and work provided by the many volunteers is an example of stewardship and a reflection of the Orthodox faith by helping not only the Orthodox but all people regardless of faith and ethnic background.

When considering making charitable donations, include supporting the above ministries, which help people locally, nationally, and worldwide.

The time has come for us to implement major improvements and additions for our East Boulevard campus and our Hellenic park property. In the next several months, plans and ideas will be developed which will be presented at our fall General Assembly for the community’s review. These plans will include improvement and renovation options for our education/Office facility along with the Father C Hall. Our facilities are outdated and, over the last several years, have required many temporary repairs to keep the building up and running. It is definitely time for us to move forward with updating our entire campus.

It is Yiasso Greek Festival time once again. I encourage everyone to participate in this year’s Festival. There are many opportunities to volunteer before, during and after. The success of the Festival depends on the community’s involvement. It is also a great event which brings us together as a community. Please make every effort to volunteer and help when you have an opportunity.

In Christ.

John Mahairas
PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S COMMENTARY

St. Catherine of Alexandria Church
Sunday, February 5, 2023

On Sunday, February 5, 2023, the Foundation held their annual Memorial Service. The priests read the more than 600 names who are remembered through donations made by family and friends to the Foundation.

Immediately following the service, a community luncheon was served in Father C Hall hosted by the current Trustees of the Foundation. Chairman Nick Kantios welcomed all the guests, spoke about the history of the Foundation, and displayed a replica of a plaque that was made to mark the occasion (see picture above). Two plaques were commissioned. One is mounted in the Northens of the Cathedral just to the right as you exit the elevator, near the prayer corner. The second plaque is mounted in the foyer area of the offices, directly ahead of the sliding glass doors, in the corner between the entrances to the Father C Hall and the Social Room.
HOLY WEEK AND GREAT PASCHA

Holy Week photos courtesy of Helen McGinnis and Georgia Andrews
Queen City Classic drew 15 out of town teams from cities as far north as Richmond, VA and south to Boca Raton, FL. Over 250 participants descended on Charlotte over the Presidents Day weekend to meet new friends, and compete on the court. Holy Trinity Senior Boys took the championship in their division. The Senior girls and Junior Boys each reached the championship games, claiming second place in their respective divisions.
THE LANGUAGES OF LOVE by Fr. Christian

Gary Chapman’s, author of the “5 Love Languages” revolutionized marriage therapy by showing that individuals receive and communicate love to each other in five different ways.

These 5 love languages are:
- Words of Affirmation
- Quality Time
- Acts of Service
- Receiving/Giving Gifts
- Physical Touch

You see, a big part of relationship is communication. And nailing communication on love is critical. A person can be showing all the signs of love but if a spouse, family member, or friend doesn’t perceive signs of love as “love” then they won’t feel loved.

Now what if we applied this idea to the most important relationship we have in our lives? Our relationship with God.

that God shows His love. And, equally as important, there is a specific way in which He receives love.

God shows his love through sacrifice. No, not that sacrifice. God’s love is sacrificial. It’s an outpouring and a self-emptying type of love. When God loves, He does so freely, without condition, and without expectation. God cannot do otherwise. It is in His very being. It’s Who He is. As we hear in the Scriptures, “God is Love.” And you can see this outpouring of Himself into creation.

Sometimes people ask, “Why did God create the world?” Simply because He is love and love yearns to share it with others. Creation comes from the outpouring of His love. He yearns to share this love with His creation. He further shows that love by offering Himself up for the life of the world.

As the most iconic line in the Scriptures goes, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son.” And what does the Son do? He offers Himself up on the Cross. Because how God shows His love is through sacrifice, through self-offering.

Remember when Christ said to His disciples, “Greater love has no one than this, that person lay down his life for his friends.” And if God is love, to love as He loves is a Divine attribute. He said, “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, that you love one another.”

Emulating God’s love is a true sign of our discipleship. And this Divine love extends even to our enemies.

Now of equal importance is how God receives love. Understanding how God receives love helps direct our actions. It gives them meaning and importance. And here it is, the love language of God is asceticism. Asceticism is how we communicate our love for God. It IS our love for God.

As St. Gregory of Nyssa writes, “Deeds are the proof disposition.” So likewise, the ascetical practices that we undertake reveal our love for Him. Who, Scripture says “...first loved us.”

Asceticism is just the other side of sacrifice. In His love for creation, God offers Himself, for all and in our love for God, we offer all ourselves for Him and all.

Since the time of Christ until today, Christians have participated in varied ascetical practices. Many of these ascetical practices have become the norm of a Christian life. Some of these practices are internal such as fasting, keeping vigil, praying, and guarding the mind and heart. Other practices are external like giving up of our wealth to those in need, visiting the sick, clothing the naked, visiting those in prison.

Ascetical practices also vary according to community, according to person, and according to context. For example, many monastic communities include in their ascetical arsenal: sleeping on the ground, eating only two meals a day, many ascetical practices have become the norm of a Christian life. Some of these practices are what attracts the grace of the Holy Spirit. They draw the Spirit of God closer, like a bee sensing honey. We become like vessels continuously inviting the Spirit to come and dwell in us -- for this is the aim of the Christian Life.

I’ll leave you today with a quote from St. Seraphim of Sarov that I hope you sink deep into your hearts;

“Prayer, fasting, vigil and all other Christian activities, however good they may be in themselves, do not constitute the aim of our Christian life, although they serve as the indispensable means of reaching this end. The true aim of our Christian life consists in the acquisition of the Holy Spirit of God. As for fasts, and vigils, and prayer, and almsgiving, and every good deed done for Christ's sake, they are only means of acquiring the Holy Spirit of God. But mark, my son, only the good deed done for Christ's sake brings us the fruits of the Holy Spirit. All that is not done for Christ's sake, even though it be good, brings neither reward in the future life nor the grace of God in this.”

HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL 2023
ATLANTA, GA
JANUARY 13-16, 2023
Our annual Vasilopita fundraiser was held on January 8th. Thank you for your generous donations! Offerings collected were donated to St. Basil Academy. These funds provide much needed support for their teachers, staff, and students.

The annual Membership Drive “Wine & Cheese Social” was held on Tuesday, February 7th in the church Social Room. A gentle reminder that membership dues for 2023 can be paid:

* By check: payable to Agia Elpis Philoptochos. Mail c/o Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 600 East Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28203
* Online: visit the Philoptochos website and select the [Donate to Philoptochos] button (https://htgo.org/ministries/Philoptochos)

To join Philoptochos or for more information, please contact Dimitra (Tula) Kourakos at dkourakos1@gmail.com

Our Agia Elpis chapter hosted a reception in celebration of the Baptism of Father Christian and Presbytera Victoria’s baby daughter, Emilia Rose, on Saturday, February 11th in the church Social Room. A lovely time was enjoyed by all!

Our Philoptochos Centennial Luncheon was held on Saturday, February 18th at Carmel Country Club. The event was a great success! Past and present chapter presidents were honored at the luncheon. The event featured comedian Ellen Karis and included a raffle giveaway of a Mink Jacket donated by Diane Ramsay.

A Memorial service in loving memory of +Fr. Phaethon and Presbytera Kathryn Constantinides was held at Evergreen Cemetery on Saturday, February 25th following the Saturday of the Souls Divine Liturgy. Flowers in the Cathedral on Saturday, February 25th and Sunday, February 26th were sponsored by Philoptochos in memory of +Fr. Phaethon and Presbytera Kathryn.

The Philoptochos Board met on February 2nd and March 2nd. Our General Meeting was held on March 14th and included a Lenten covered dish dinner.

Amelia Danikas, formerly from Charlotte, celebrated her 95th birthday in Conway, SC. Her surprise party included over 100 guests, and all her family. Cecilia Kotsiopi and Ronnie Pourlos, from Charlotte, attended the event, as they have been Amelia’s close friends for many years.

Happy Birthday Amelia! …From all of us at Holy Trinity in Charlotte.

We are missing you, but wishing you the best!

Attention Newlyweds and Graduates

To place your wedding or graduation announcement in The Voice’s Around Charlottetown section, please email a photo (JPEG format) and a brief writeup to Kathy Xyrafakis (kathy@htgo.org).

We will include it in an upcoming issue.
Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.” John 11:25

Denina Karres

Dena Karres Andrews, beloved wife, mother, aunt, godmother and friend, passed away on March 27, 2023. Dena was married to the love of her life, Harold John Andrews, for almost 65 years.

Born April 29, 1929, to Maria and Matthew Karres, Dena was a proud graduate of Central High School in Charlotte and Salem College in Winston-Salem.

Dena is survived by her daughter, Mary Catherine Andrews (John Fuqua), her beloved nieces and nephews, their children, and her godchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Harold, parents, brothers James, Steve, Andrew and Gus, their wives, Georgia, Mary and Toni, her brother-in-law Arthur and his wife Angie, and too many friends.

Dena was remembered at a service at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC on Saturday, April 1, 2023, at 10:00 am, with Rev. Dr. Jonathan Resmini officiating. The family received friends from 9:30am to 10:00am prior to the service. Interment followed at Gaston Memorial Park at noon.

Athena “Tina” Balosos

Athena “Tina” Balosos passed away on Monday, February 13, 2023 surrounded by her family. She was born in Athens, Greece and immigrated as a young child with her family, first to New York through her early teenage years, and eventually to Charlotte, NC.

Tina is survived by her husband of 31 years, Christos George Balosos; children, Demetrios Koutsopoulos, George Koutsopoulos and his wife, Tahis and Cassandra Balosos; grandson and the love of her life, Nikos Koutsopoulos; siblings, Cathy Poulimenos and her husband, Chris, Bill Tasios and his wife, Kalliroe. Also surviving are her uncle, Demetrios Makrigiannis and his wife, Eleni; aunt, Maria Tasios Plakas along with many other aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and abundance of friends. She was predeceased by her loving parents, Georgios Vasilieos Tasios and Vasiliki Makrigiannis Tasios; father-in-law, who adored her, Georgios Balosos and aunt/second mother, Fotini Makrigiannis.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 20, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Helen Basil

Helen Basil, 92, died at home the evening of Tuesday, April 4, 2023, with her son and caregiver, John by her side. Helen met her husband, John Basil, Sr. at the University of Miami, FL, and they were married in 1952. They lived in France in 1953 while John was on active duty in the United States Air Force.

Helen is survived by her sons, John Basil, Jr. and William Basil and his family and her sister, Genevieve Catenis.

Funeral Services for Helen were held at 10:30 AM on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends thirty minutes prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at 1:00 PM at Salisbury National Cemetery, Salisbury, NC.

Eleni Zaharopoulos Galatas

Eleni Zaharopoulos Galatas, 81, passed away at home on April 24, 2023. Eleni was born November 20, 1941 in Neochori Evrytanias, Greece, daughter of Dimitrios Zaharopoulos and Aphrodite Geronikou Zaharopoulos.

Eleni is survived by her husband of 59 years, Haralambos “Bobby” Galatas, her daughters, Maria (Kostas) Pitonis, Aphrodite (Nick) Katopodis; and grandchildren, Yianni Pitonis and Ava Katopodis. She was predeceased by her loving parents, Georgios and Vasiliki Galatas.

Funeral Services for Helen were held at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 20, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

FAMILY OWNED ....Traditional Burials.... Pre-Planning Available

Kenneth W. Poe
Funeral Service
1321 Berkeley Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28204

“Dedicated to Serving the Greek Orthodox Community”
Ken having served the community for more than 30 years is joined by
Director Andrew Bahanovich, who is Orthodox.

Carolina
Funeral Service & Cremation Center
CFC
5505 Monroe Rd
Charlotte, NC 28212
704-568-0023
www.carolinafuneral.com
Dignity Affordability Simplicity
Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director
The Voice of the Greek Community

In Memoriam

continued from prior page

and her sister, Eftihia Pappa, her in-laws, Themistoklis and Maria Galatas, her sister-in-law, Evagelia Zaharopoulos and her brother-in-laws Nikolaos Kakavititas, Serafilm Galatas, Nikolaos Pappas, Yiannis Galatas, Dimitrios Toufekias and Spiros Zaravelis.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, April 28, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. The family received friends starting at 10:00 AM prior to Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the chapel. Intermment followed at Forest Lawn East Cemetery.

Dimitrios Kapantais
It is with tremendous sadness that we are announcing the passing of Dimitrios Kapantais, 93, who died on Monday, January 23, 2023. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, whose first great-grandchild arrived the same day.

Dimitrios is survived by his amazing wife, Ekaterini; his four wonderful children, Emily and her husband, Les, George, Niki and Evangelia; eight grandchildren, Wesley, Dimitri, Paul, Andrew, Christian, Madison, Stefan, Katerina and one great-grandchild, Owen Michael.

Funeral services were held at 11:30 AM on Friday, January 27, 2023, at St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends thirty minutes prior to the service at the church. Intermment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Lu was predeceased by her parents, Strachan and many nephews and nieces. She was preceded by her mother, Presbytera Patricia and children, Thomas, Steven, Harry, Kostas Koufaliotis, and brother, Haralambos Koufaliotis, and his wife, Anna of 60 years, Anna; his children, Spero Koufaliotis and his wife, Rodanthi, Kiki Koufaliotis, and George Koufaliotis and his wife, Rena; his five adoring grandchildren, Thomas, Steven, Harry, Tommy, and Maria; his brother, George Koufaliotis and his wife, Anna of Greece; sisters, Melpo Kalivas and her husband, Spero, Eleni Hiriskos and her husband, Sokratis. He is also survived by his many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly. Tom was predeceased by his parents, Spero and Vasiliki Koufaliotis, and brother, Athanasios Koufaliotis.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Intermment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Helen Tzefos Pappas
Helen Tzefos Pappas, 82, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, January 23, 2023, surrounded by her family.

Helen was born in Xioniaides, Greece and immigrated to the United States with her then husband Sotirios Pappas in 1973.

Helen is survived by her daughter, Effie Pappas Kelly and her husband, John; her grandchildren, Dimitri, Lenna and Sotiris Kelly all of Charlotte; her sisters, Antonia Tatsis of Charlotte and Angeliki Zlogas of Ioannina, Greece. Also surviving are her former husband, Sotirios Pappas, her sister-in-law, Vasiiki Tzefos of Charlotte and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Nikolaos Tzefos and Alexandra Giannoulis Tzefos; stepmother, Aphrodite Tzefos and her brother, Kostas Tzefos.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 26, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Intermment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Taxiarhis “Tom” Koufaliotis
Taxiarhis “Tom” Koufaliotis, 84, of Charlotte, NC, passed away on Monday, February 13, 2023. Tom was born in Papparoussis, Evrytania on February 1, 1939.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Anna; his children, Spero Koufaliotis and his wife, Rodanthi, Kiki Koufaliotis, and George Koufaliotis and his wife, Rena; his five adoring grandchildren, Thomas, Steven, Harry, Tommy, and Maria; his brother, George Koufaliotis and his wife, Anna of Greece; sisters, Melpo Kalivas and her husband, Spero, Eleni Hiriskos and her husband, Sokratis. He is also survived by his many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly. Tom was predeceased by his parents, Spero and Vasiliki Koufaliotis, and brother, Athanasios Koufaliotis.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Intermment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Serafilm “Sam” Basilius Nikopoulos
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Serafilm “Sam” Basilius Nikopoulos, beloved husband, father, and community leader.

Serafilm was born in the village of Viniani, Greece and immigrated to the United States in 1973, settling in Charlotte, North Carolina with his wife, Sylvia Nikopoulos, and their two children, Chrys Nikopoulos and Maria Nikopoulos. Serafilm was 79 years old at the time of his passing.

The family invited friends and loved ones to join in remembering Serafilm and celebrating his life. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at Panagia Prousiotissa Chapel at Elatos Park, Monroe, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the chapel. Intermment followed at Forest Lawn East Cemetery.

Panagiotis “Pete” Nikolaos Sikiotis
Panagiotis “Pete” Nikolaos Sikiotis, 61, passed away on Sunday, February 19, 2023 surrounded by his family. He was born in Lefkada, Greece on June 8, 1961.

Pete is survived by his wife of thirty-six years, Joanna; son, Nicholas Peter Sikiotis; mother, Mario Sikiotis and his aunts, and many cousins. He was predeceased by his father, Nikolaos Sikiotis and brother, Haralambo Sikiotis.

Funeral Services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, February 24, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Intermment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Protos presbyter Angelo Artemas
Rev. Protos presbyter Angelo Artemas fell asleep in the Lord on April 20, 2023, after a short but powerful fight with cancer (glioblastoma). He is survived by his wife Patricia and their daughters Katie (New York), Maria (New York) and Elena and son-in-law Brandon Putre (Denver).

Fr. Angelo was born in Great Falls, Montana, to Fr. John and Presbytera Nikie Artemas.

He was ordained a deacon on April 12, 1987 and a priest on August 17, 1988. On November 1, 2020, he was elevated to the rank of Protos presbyter by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros.

In addition to his short tenure here at Holy Trinity, Fr. Angelo served parishes in Tenafl y, NJ, Clifton, NJ, Milwaukee, WI, Glenview, IL, and Downey, CA.

Fr. Angelo was predeceased by his mother Presbytera Nikie Artemas, brother Peter and his in-laws Stan and Sophia Guethlein. In addition to his Presbytera Patricia and children, Father leaves behind his siblings Elaine (Chris Tikka), Lucy (Mike Banks), sister-in-law Stephanie McElroy, and his nieces and nephews Nikie and John Tikka, Alexandra Artemas, and Kira and Sophia McElroy.

Trisagion Services were held on April 23, 2023, at The Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian, Tenafl y, NJ and on April 26, 2023, at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview, IL, where the funeral followed on Thursday, April 27, 2023.
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