



THE VOICE

CELEBRATING CHARLOTTE'S GREEK COMMUNITY NEWS AND HISTORY

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ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΟΣ

VOL. 84 NO. 01	HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityGreekOrthodoxCathedralCharlotte/	600 EAST BLVD CHARLOTTE, NC 28203	704-334-4771 www.htgo.org	JAN/APR 2023
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STEWARDSHIP 2023

as of 4/30/23

YTD Financials	2023	2022
Stewardship	\$270,764	\$259,368
Candles, Rentals, Other	\$84,303	\$84,538
Building/IRRC/Renov.	\$27,289	\$80,554
Donations		
Minus : Operating	-\$430,137	-\$341,426
Minus : Building Fund	-\$145,617	-\$57,882
NET Income (Deficit)	-\$193,398	\$25,152

★ **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 practices.

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". ***The Church's mail does not get "held" or "forwarded". It will return to the Church.*** The Church then must pay the return postage.

2023 Stewardship Budget	\$710,000
2023 YTD Pledges (195 families)	\$230,390

☺ Many stewardship forms are being returned without pledge amounts. Please try and estimate how much you will donate so that we can financially plan better. Only 195 families wrote an amount out of the 250 pledge forms received.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

REMINDER:

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

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

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**HOLY TRINITY GREEK
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**

600 East Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203

704-334-4771

www.htgo.org

*The Voice is the bimonthly
publication about Holy Trinity, its
parishioners, their faith, and the
community*

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**Next Issue: MAY/JUN 2023
DEADLINES:**

for articles or photographs is:

Friday, June 16, 2023

Photos should be in large format
.JPEG attachment (300 dpi min.)

for advertisements is:

Monday, June 5, 2023

Email to voice@htgo.org

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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 the Church as a community of people striving personally and in fellowship—communion—with one another. Over the next few issues of *The Voice*, I will offer some remarks on this topic, as a means of

communicating one very important perspective on the Church and its meaning and purpose as Orthodox Christians living and moving in these times.

Two voices of recent memory Fr. John Romanidis and Metropolitan Hierotheos Vlachos, are well-known proponents of the view of the Church as a spiritual hospital. In this short format, it would take too much time to delve too deeply into the works of each on the topic, so I will focus on the latter in this first article—perhaps in future editions, I will return to Fr. John's writings as well.

Metropolitan Hierotheos is a prolific author with many works from which we can draw. He is quite widely known in theological circles today, having been translated into many languages—we have even done a book study on one of his well-known books *Orthodox Psychotherapy*. I hope to offer some book clubs on other works by him as well—and will utilize some of his books in future Orthodox Life/Catechism classes in our enquirer and adult education series.

Some of us might be familiar with the terms ascetical, *ascesis*. These refer to the spiritual exercises or practices that make up our life of faith—we might be reminded of the fasting periods or prayer rules that we practice throughout the year. Many of the writings of the Fathers and Mothers of the Church communicate these spiritual exercises that faithful Christians have practiced for nearly two thousand years. These are important because, just like our physical health is

often linked with our physical exercise, so is our spiritual health connected to our spiritual exercises. If we want to cultivate spiritual health, we are blessed with a rich tradition of spiritual exercises that have proven effective in nurturing spiritual health. The Church is a hospital that offers medicine for spiritual health and 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

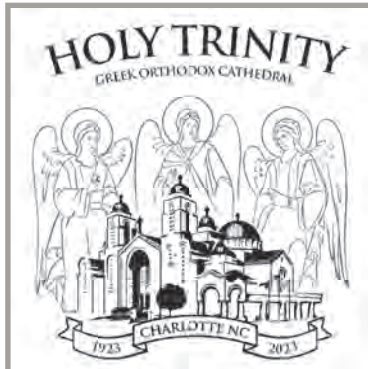
his passions.

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

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Tickets are \$150 per person through July 31st.

August 1st – August 15th, the price will be \$200 per person.

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More information is available at the Centennial website:

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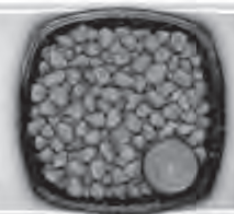
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WHOOO'S IN THE NEWS AT PRESCHOOL? *by Maria Kleto*

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.

With the arrival of February and

Valentine's Day, our main topic was love...to love our family and friends, and to love each other as God loves us. We discussed being kind, caring and compassionate to everyone and following the example that Christ taught us. We learned about maintaining good dental health which includes visiting the dentist. Our 4 years old class had a special visit from Mrs. Angelina's dentist, Dr. Annie Carberry. Our faith learning for the month focused on the Presentation of our Lord (Feb 2) and St. Haralambos (Feb 10) and the beginning of the Lenten Season.

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.

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, Alithos Anesti and learned to sing the Christos Anesti 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.

Our April discussions about caring for the planet and the role small animals play was enhanced by a live example. A bird's nest appeared in the flower pot outside the preschool office gave us an up close view of birds gathering materials to build the nest and bringing food to the baby birds. It is an amazing

thing to see the beautiful world God has created.

The preschool sold luminary bags purchased in "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" a loved one. All the names from the luminaries are given to our priests to be blessed during the services.

Registration for 2023-2024 continues. If you are interested in registering your child, need information regarding our program or class availability, or if you want to schedule a tour, please contact the preschool office or the director.

Our Contact Information:

HTGOP Contact Information

Email: preschool@htgo.org,

Director: Maria K. Kleto, 704-564-5842

Office Number: 704-333-4961



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STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE by Nick and Carmen Kallelis

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.

Philoptochos 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 disbursements totaled \$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 young adults 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 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.

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

by John Mahairas



Xristos
Anesti!!!

Brothers and sisters in Christ, Christ has risen! I hope everyone embraces the joy of Christ's

resurrection as we enter this post Pascha season. As we move forward in celebrating Holy Trinity's centennial and 100 years of ministry. It is time for the entire community to think about our next hundred years and the future of our community and faith.

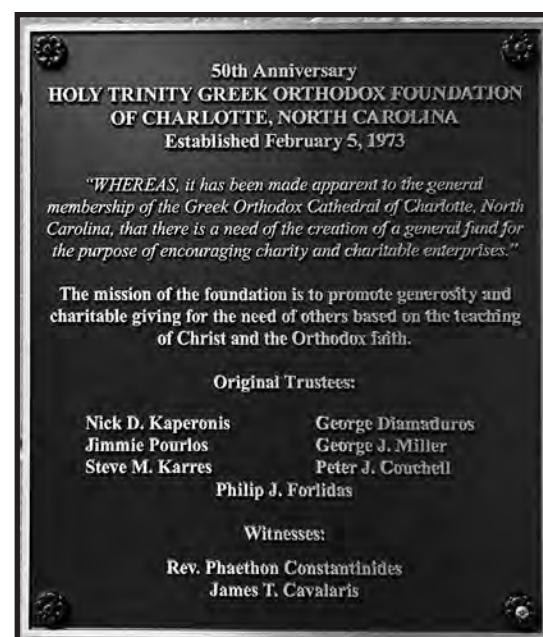
It is time to take a major initiative and establish a strategic plan for next hundred years. Over the next several weeks, a strategic planning committee will be established to set forth our goals for the next 100 years. I encourage anyone who is interested in contributing to this important committee to feel free to reach out to me. It would be great to have a good representation of the community setting forth our future plans.

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 Yiasou 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.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX FOUNDATION OF CHARLOTTE, NC THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY 1973 - 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 Kantsios 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 Narthex 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.



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HOLY WEEK AND GREAT PASCHA



Holy Week photos courtesy of Helen McGinnis and Georgia Andrews



GREEK SCHOOL'S CELEBRATION OF MARCH 25, 1821, GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY



6TH ANNUAL QUEEN CITY CLASSIC

FEBRUARY 17-19, 2023

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



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

by
Rev. Christian Siskos
Associate Priest

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, and performing all the services---like all the services.

A person can also have their own ascetical practices. These may vary depending on their age, gender, health, and desires. These more personal practices are often best set-in unison

with your spiritual father.

The opposite of course to asceticism is self-indulgence. A sure way to repulse God by our actions is to take only ourselves into account and have no thought for anyone else. This is self-love.

The takeaway here is that God manifests His love through Sacrifice, and we manifest our love for God through ascetical practices. And 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."



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PHILOPTOCHOS by Pamela Bostian

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 Presbyteria Victoria's baby daughter, Emilia Rose, on Saturday, February 11th in the church Social Room. A lovely time was enjoyed by all!



Above: Presbyteria Victoria holding Emilia Rose surrounded by the members. Below: Presbyteria cuts the cake, with the help of son Sebastian and Fr. Christian.



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 Presbyteria Kathryn Constantinidies 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 Presbyteria 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.

AROUND CHARLOTTETOWN by Kathy Xyrafakis



Amelia Danikas, formerly from Charlotte, celebrated her 95th birthday in Conway, SC.

Her surprise party included over 100 guests, and all her family.

Cecilia Kotsipias 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.

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In Memoriam



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



Dena Karres Andrews

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 Vasileios 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 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) Pitsonis, Aphrodite (Nick) Katopodis; and grandchildren, Yianni Pitsonis and Ava Katopodis; three sisters, Spiridoula (Haralambos) Kakavitsas of Charlotte, NC, Yiannoula Kakavitsas of Lamia, Greece and Koula Galatas of Neochori Evrytanias, Greece; brothers, Mihalis Zaharopoulos, Giorgos (Stavroula) Zaharopoulos and Kostas (Dimitra) Zaharopoulos, all of Kalamata, Greece. She is also survived by her brother-in-laws, Serafim (Sotiria) Galatas of Parlin, NJ and Spiros (Stavroula) Galatas of Kremaston, Evrytanias, Greece, her sister-in-laws, Christina Toufekias and Anastasia Zaravelis of Athens, Greece, Marika Galatas of Chicago, IL goddaughter Christina Kakavitsa of Volos, Greece, and many nieces and nephews.

Eleni was predeceased by her parents Dimitrios and Aphrodite Zaharopoulos

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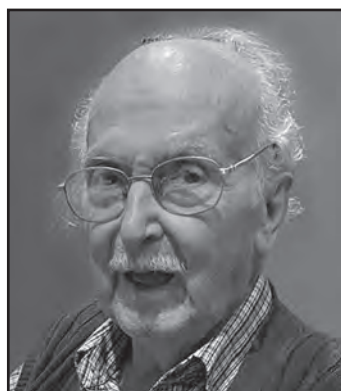
**Steven Kuzma
Owner/Director**

In Memoriam

continued from prior page

and her sister, Eftihia Pappa, her in-laws, Themistoklis and Maria Galatas, her sister-in-law, Evagelia Zaharopoulou and her brother-in-laws Nikolaos Kakavitsas, Serafim 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 the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen 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. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.



Taxiarchis "Tom" Koufaliotis

Taxiarchis "Tom" Koufaliotis, 84, of Charlotte, NC, passed away on Monday, February 13, 2023. Tom was born in Papparousion, Evrytania on February 1, 1939.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife

of 60 years, Anna; his children, Spero Koufaliotis and his wife, Rodanthe, 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 Kalevas and her husband, Spero, Eleni Hrisikos 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. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.



Lucille Malatras

Lucille Malatras passed away on Saturday, January 21, 2023. She is now rejoined with her dearly missed daughter, Toni Elizabeth and husband, John Demosthenes Malatras who predeceased her.

Lu is survived by her son, Mark Malatras and his wife, Christine; grandchildren, John and Katherine. Also surviving is her sister-in-law, Lula Strachan and many nephews and nieces. Lu was predeceased by her parents, Clara and Clifford Clemons; two sisters and four brothers.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Sharon Memorial Park.



Serafim "Sam" Basilios Nikopoulos

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Serafim "Sam" Basilios Nikopoulos, beloved

husband, father, and community leader. Serafim 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. Serafim was 79 years old at the time of his passing.

The family invited friends and loved ones to join in remembering Serafim 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. Interment followed at Forest Lawn East 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 Xioniades, 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; grandchildren, Dimitri, Lenna and Sotiri Kelly all of Charlotte; her sisters, Antonia Tatsis of Charlotte and Angeliki Ziogas of Ioannina, Greece. Also surviving are her former husband, Sotirios Pappas, her sister-in-law, Vasiliki 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. Interment followed at Evergreen 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, uncles, and many cousins. He was predeceased by his father, Nikolaos Sikiotis and brother, Haralambos 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. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.



Protopresbyter Angelo Artemas

Rev. Protopresbyter 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 Eleni and son-in-law Brandon Putre (Denver).

Fr. Angelo was born in Great Falls, Montana, to Fr. John and Presbyteria 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 Protopresbyter by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros.

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

Fr. Angelo was predeceased by his mother Presbyteria Nikie Artemas, brother Peter and his in-laws Stan and Sophia Guethlein. In addition to his Presbyteria 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, Tenafly, 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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