

MOSAIC

Coming together, we form an icon of God's Kingdom

Vol. 7 , No. 3

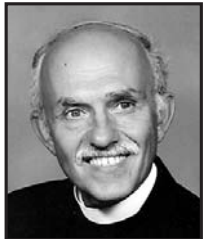
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, Il.

June/July 2002

(708) 562-2744

www.holyapostleschurch.com

From Father Bill ...



Patience, The Pearl Of A Great Price

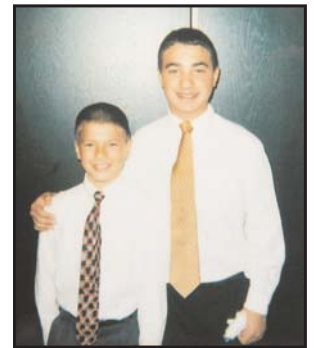
Let me be personal with you for a moment. How have you reacted to the following situations in your daily life: when you find yourself locked in a traffic jam; when you have to deal with ungrateful bosses; when prayers seem to go unanswered; when the always reliable zipper jams at a time when time is fleeing; when you are looking for something to wear and are surprised with tight clothes; when you have had a miserable day and you go to the market to buy one item and you are met with a rude store clerk; when you find yourself driving behind slow and careless drivers and finally when you are late for work and you have misplaced the car keys? If you answered yes to most of these, you're not alone. What we are sorely lacking to correct these emotions and frustrations, is patience.

Patience is considered one of the rarest virtues for a reason; it's hard to cultivate. Why else do you think God made "be patient" a command, even a priority, for those who love Him (1 Thessalonians 5:14)? While patience is so unnatural for us to have and so much a part of who God is, it's the best indication that His Spirit is growing our faith and character to be more like Him.

In the New Testament, the word translated as patience often refers to our interaction with people, while the word endurance, its sister word, relates to how we should respond to circumstances. God calls His people to both patience and endurance in everyday living. As James 5:7b -8a says, "See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You, too, be patient and stand firm."

First two Jr. Olympians inspire others to sign up

Andrew and Michael Maragos were the first to sign up for last year's Jr. Olympics with great enthusiasm and willingness to participate in track and field events, Joy and Goya Soccer, and various swimming events in which Michael won two Gold medals. Their willingness to participate in the very beginning of the Jr. Olympics' sign-up effort gave others the confidence to join as well and test their athletic ability while at the same time meeting new friends and growing from the experience. Michael is an altar boy and both are part of the Adventure Theatre. Michael is also part of the Jr. Choir, which for the first time, on Mother's Day, joined the Sr. Choir for Divine Liturgy. Andrew and Michael, your leadership qualities are an inspiration to us all. Thank you again for your participation this year.



Andrew, left, and Michael Maragos are first to sign up for Junior Olympics.

...By Eloise Kouimelis

Just as a farmer can't cause rain or growth, even if he stands on his head, you can't develop patience by simply willing it so. You can, however, cultivate habits that allow God to grow His patience in you. The next time someone or a situation frustrates you, ask yourself how your attitude could reflect Jesus' humility. This is hard. Ask God for the strength and will to make others' needs just as important as your own.

See yourself differently. Patience and humility walk side by side. St. Paul writes, "'Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for our own personal interests, but also the interests of others'" (Philippians 2:3-4).

Patience comes a lot easier when we're around certain people and much harder when we're around others. Even so, when Paul urged Christians to "be patient with everyone" (1 Thessalonians 5:14), he was specifically referring to frustrating people. To remember that challenge, memorize this verse or post it wherever you most need to remember patience. A suggestion might be to print these

words on your computer and affix them on the car dash board so when you are driving and suddenly come to a stop for one of the lengthiest trains passing before you, these words should soothe your frustration.

The key to true patience is your view of God, especially when your heart longs for an answer to your prayers. While convalescing at home following surgery or a long illness, realize there is nothing you can do to make you instantly well. Like the farmer growing the crops, one must wait, and wait, and wait some more.

When you are convinced that God is wise and loving and acting on your behalf, then you patiently rest in Him. You believe He is indeed working all things "for the good of those who love him" (Romans 8:28).

God holds the frustrations of your work, the needs of your marriage and family, and the longings of your heart close to His own. His answer may not be quick, but He has not forgotten you.

The story is told of a well-to-do man who died, having left detailed instructions as to the

...See Fr. Bill on P. 3

Getting burned isn't always bad

From Father Peter..



Recently I made a house call at a parishioner's home. I noticed that in the room was a big screen television. The TV was on, and the volume was low. As the family was corraling itself to speak with me, I waited in a chair

near the TV and was staring blankly, collecting my thoughts. As the TV changed from scene to scene, I thought I was seeing things. I noticed a design on the screen when the image was white. I looked more carefully and, yes...there definitely was an image on the screen.

When the entire family finally came in, I mentioned the TV. I also mentioned how it looked like there was an odd shape that appears on the screen at certain times. Just then the dad grunted as he glared at his son. The son explained this phenomena at the demand of his father. The boy was playing a video game and received a phone call. Instead of turning off the TV, he left it on the main screen of the game, thinking he would be right back. A minute phone call turned into twenty minutes, which turned into a food run, which turned into going out with his friends. All the while, this image was on the screen. The boy concluded by telling me how the same picture on the screen for so long, burned the image into the TV tubes, and would be there forever.

After I left the home, I pondered this unique way of ruining an expensive television set. I also thought about how wonderful it is



as well...wonderful in a very different way.

We have just finished our Paschal Season. We have been surrounded with the many services of the church and witnessed the divine promises of God. We have been saturated with the life of the church during the Lenten period. Now during these next few months, we have more of a relaxed schedule. The church programs shift gears for the summer. Likewise, there are fewer church holy days during these months.

Thinking back to all that we have seen and done during this year, are we burned with the image of God? Have we been left on enough in front of God, so that when our programming slows down, one can still see the burned image of God within us? It is important that God resides within us even in the slowest or most hectic moments of our lives. Just like the television, in between what I was watching was

another image. Our lives should be the same way. Whatever we are doing, we should be showing glimpses of God to all. God and our understanding of God should be burned within us so that we can unequivocally know His will. Focus on God in your prayers and in everything you do and you will have Him engrained within you every moment, even in your sleep.

The picture above, is something I came across, which can also be found on our website. Concentrate on the four dots in the middle of the picture for about thirty seconds. Then close your eyes and tilt your head back. You will see a circle of light. Continue looking at the circle and what do you see? Let God burn brightly within you.

Have a Blessed Summer.

Mosaic article clarified

The May edition of the Mosaic included an article which described recent developments concerning the proposed new charter of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

The article included an Editors' Note indicating that the Holy Apostles Parish Council was forwarding a letter to the Archdiocesan Council. The Mosaic has been advised that the Parish Council letter will request that the proposed new charter be included on the agenda at the upcoming Clergy-Laity Conference which will be held during the first week of July in Los Angeles.

The earlier article also included a cartoon, which had appeared in the Orthodox Christian Laity publication, *The Forum*. The cartoon was included only as an example of the positions taken by certain organizations and does not represent Holy Apostles' position with respect to the proposed charter.

Initial donations are impressive

For the first time, as a result of just one appeal letter, our stewards have responded with donations of \$102,000. We are touched by the generosity of our community.

Our overall goal is \$350,000 to cover all the improvements to Holy Apostles in the past two years. While we have close to 1,000 stewards, only about 250 have responded thus far to the appeal.

We can easily reach our goal (and avoid having to take out a loan), if everyone could send something. The financial appeal will continue until the end of the year.

... by Jimmy Banakis
Parish Council President

The HARC CORNER

Shop for your favorite graduate at HARC!!!

Let's Take a Walk Through Our Orthodox Church

By Anthony M. Coniaris

This book takes the young reader on a tour through an Orthodox Church. It clearly and simply explains the meaning of many objects such as the icons, baptismal font, candles, architecture, etc. Each explanation is enhanced with an original painting. Excellent for use by teachers or parents at home.

Softbound \$17.00

Teenage Ten Commandments

By Rev. Father George Nicozisin

The Ten Commandments were revealed over 3,000 years ago to the people of Israel through Moses. Each of the ten speaks to

us even now about the needs and problems of everyday modern life. Each commandment is defined in an easy-to-read lesson and is a guide for Christian living.

Softbound \$6.00

Animals Sanctified: A Spiritual Journey

By Joanne Stefanatos, D.V.M.

Dr. Stefanatos is totally immersed in the field of veterinary medicine and has authored several professional articles and videos. She feels her purpose in writing this book is to instruct its readers to the truth of God's will in creation for man and animals. In addition to examining the account of creation in Genesis, scripture and the lives of saints with their peaceful relationships to animals, the book deals with numerous classifications of creatures

and man's relation to them. She is also the author of *Animals and Man: A State of Blessedness* and *Simba the Blessed Lioness*.

Softbound \$20.00

The Spirit of Ascension

Philoptohos Society of
The Ascension of Our Lord
Greek Orthodox Church, Lincolnshire, IL

This recently released book contains short stories...testimonies, if you will, of people from the Greek Orthodox community who relate their various experiences of feeling the presence of God.

Softbound \$20.00

.....Reviewed by Pauline Franks
And Elaine Regopoulos

Fr. Bill from P. 1

God's Pledge: More To Follow

disposition of his wealth. Among other things, his wife was to turn over a certain sum of money to an old friend who had frequently remembered the family with deeds of kindness.

The widow thought it would be best to turn over to the minister a little at a time in regular installments; so she mailed him \$25 and inside the envelope she placed a slip of paper upon which was written: "More to follow." Every two weeks, without fail, the elderly man would find the identical amount of money in his mailbox with the identical message...more to follow.

That is the risen Lord's unbreakable pledge to all who believe in Him. The blessings which we receive today are but a pledge of those which we shall receive tomorrow; and those we receive tomorrow will bear the pledge of heaven: "More to follow."

As you patiently wait for God's response to your need, make this prayer your consistent frame of mind: "Lord, I turn this over to You. I accept your perfect timing in allowing this to happen or not to happen right now. I firmly believe that Your purposes are good. I leave this person or this situation in Your hands."

I trust these thoughts will act as an antidote to life's frequent and daily irritations. Oh, one more thing, the struggle for the acquisition of patience comes through spiritual maturity, something all of us are struggling to attain. Patience is the pearl of a great price!

Annual Holy Apostles' Golf Open

Monday, July 15th
Oak Meadows Golf Course
900 N. Wood Dale Rd.
Addison, IL

Registration and Lunch 11am
Shotgun start 1pm
Scramble format
Hors d'oeuvres at 6:20pm
Dinner at 7:15pm

\$125.00 Registration includes: 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, gifts and prizes

\$50.00 registration includes hors d'oeuvres and dinner only.

**Reservations are limited to the first 144 persons.
No reservation is guaranteed until payment is received.**

To register, or for additional information, contact:
Don Alexander (630) 954-2911
George Manos, Jr. (708) 354-4021

Make checks payable to Holy Apostles Church.

Proceeds benefit Holy Apostles Charities.

Arrogance plays large roll in church sex scandals

BY GEORGE J. DEMETRALIS
(alias Mr. D.)

The sex scandal among members of the Roman Catholic clergy has been making headlines over the past few weeks. There have been many opinions voiced over the reasons for these abominable crimes committed against children and adolescents. In April, when American cardinals gathered in Rome with the Pope to deal with the problem, the result was a light breeze when there should have been a hurricane.

It is high time for the members of the Roman Catholic Church as well as those in all other Christian churches to be reminded of the following: Mandatory celibacy of the clergy—deacons, presbyters, and bishops—is scripturally and theologically baseless. Celibacy should never have been permitted to be a prerequisite for ordination into the clergy, and that includes bishops. By the way, cardinals, archbishops, metropolitans, popes, and patriarchs are, in actuality, bishops who have been given greater jurisdictional authority.

To believe that this scandal is unique to the Roman Catholic Church in America is to believe that the earth is flat. Homosexual and

heterosexual improprieties among members of the clergy is a worldwide problem and not exclusive to the Roman Catholic Church. The biggest reason why it has made the headlines here is primarily because our news media is not government controlled.

Church leaders and teachers in the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant churches must do a better job of understanding human sexuality. How many times have clergy and lay teachers placed impractical and scripturally unfounded restrictions on the sexual relations between a married man and woman, when they themselves have been unable to control their own passions?

Many lives of married people as well as single individuals have been damaged sexually due to the guilt-causing advice given by celibates and married people who try to live like celibates, when they themselves cannot follow their own advice. It is time we all understand that true celibacy is difficult to attain and there are proportionally few who can attain it.

I am sure we can all agree that not only the sexual crimes against the young have produced outrage and disillusionment, but also the cover-up of these crimes by church leaders.

This stems largely from raw, naked arrogance

on the part of people who think themselves beyond censure because of their high position. They consider themselves exclusively “princes of the church,” and who dares oppose a member of royalty? Do they not know that, according to Scripture, all Christians, not just a privileged few, are kings and priests (1 Pt. 2:9; Rev. 1:6, 5:8-10). Therefore, whenever the tendency towards arrogance, haughtiness, vanity, and the urge to demean tempts those in leadership positions, let them bring to mind the image of our Savior washing the feet of His disciples (Jn. 13:1-17).

There are many leaders among the clergy and laity who are sincerely trying to live an exemplary Christian life, but their voices are unfortunately not being heard. In these extremely troubled times when suicide bombers and the moral and spiritual decline of our society threaten to throw our way of life into chaos, we don't need ‘yes men and women,’ but leaders, male and female and young and old alike, who have had it with the status quo, and are prepared to kick some behinds for Christ. Let's roll.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**These numbers may be dialed direct
No operator assistance is necessary.
All are available 24 hours a day!**

When in sorrow
call John 14

When men fail you
call Psalm 27

If you want to be fruitful
call John 15

When you have sinned
call Psalm 51

When you worry
call Matthew 6:19-34

When you are in danger
call Psalm 91

When God seems far away
call Psalm 139

When your faith needs stirring
call Hebrew 11

When you are lonely and fearful
call Psalm 23

When you grow bitter and critical
call 1 Corinthians 13

For Paul's secret to happiness
call Colossians 3:12-17

When you feel down and out
call Romans 8:31

When you want peace and rest
call Matthew 11:25-30

When you want Christian assurance
call Romans 8:1-30

When you leave home for labour or travel
call Psalm 121

When your prayers grow narrow or selfish
call Psalm 67



For a great invention/opportunity
call Isaiah 55

When you want courage for a task
call Joshua 1

For how to get along with fellow men
call Romans 12

When you think of investments and returns
call Mark 10

If you are depressed
call Psalm 27

If your pocketbook is empty
call Psalm 37

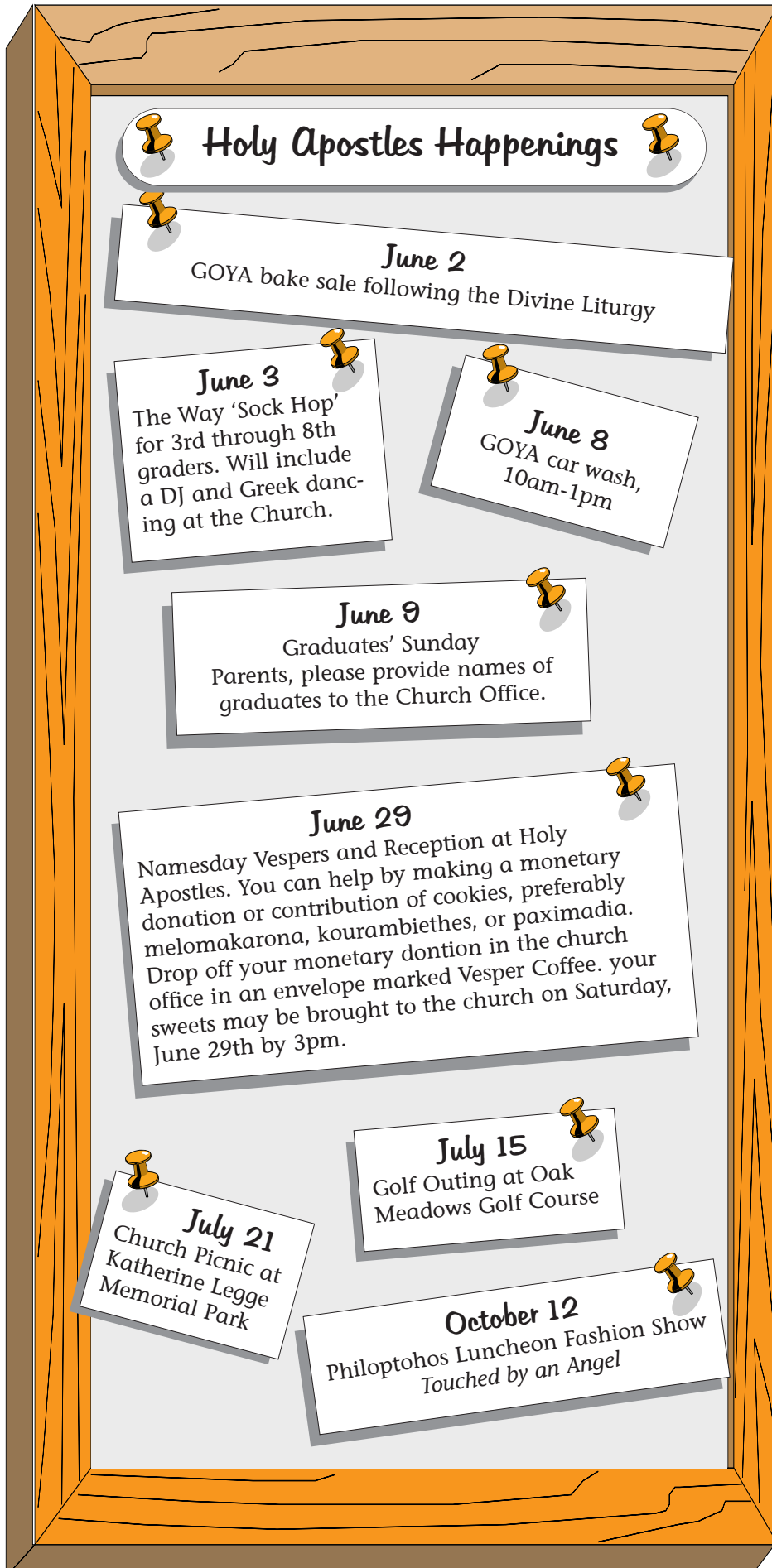
If you are losing confidence in people
call 1 Corinthians 13

If people seem unkind
call John 15

Meeting of the Generations, A unique experience

At 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2002, at Holy Apostles Church, the Meeting of the Generations will begin. Members of my Senior Citizens Bible Study group will gather together with young people from my Adventure Theater, Lamplighters, sixth grade Sunday school class, and Way eighth graders for prayer, snacks, fellowship, and a lively discussion of topics of interest to both generations. The Meeting of the Generations began as an annual event in 1995 and has been an interesting and fun-filled time for all ever since.

...by Mr. D



June - July Registry

Baptisms

Sophia, daughter of Evelyn & Costa Athan
Sponsors: Pat & Clark Richards

Nikolas, son of Patricia & David Ebeling
Sponsor: Patrice Dalianis

Dinah, daughter of Dawn & Thomas Lampros
Sponsor: Georgiana Grant

Gianna, daughter of Georgia & Gregory Contos
Sponsor: Chris Poulos

Nikki, daughter of Eleni & Vasilios Spyropoulos

Michael, son of Alana & Dean Paloumpis
Sponsors: Chris & Kim Syregelas

Weddings

Lisa Swanson & Peter Krillies
Sponsor: Daphne Theodore

Christina Rice & James Johnson
Sponsor: Michael Rice

The Way celebrates its youth

By **ELOUISE KOUMELIS**

What a wonderful time of year. Lent has ended and The Way students have found that their Lenten journey was rewarding. I want to take this opportunity to extend special thanks to Tony Antoniou, Anthos Baenen, Alyssa Chiganos, Toni Fawell, Michael Goldstein, Celia Horemiotis, George Katerinis, Kevin Miologos, Alexis Moe, Christina Panton, Maria Stubbings, and Peter Sutterlin. These fine young people were part of my seventh grade class this year, and because of their enthusiasm and class participation, the year became very special. These students have the courage to ask questions about their faith until they are all clear as they can be in knowing the truth. They are not afraid to be themselves.

A majority of these students attended



Members of the seventh grade Way group with their sponsors Fr. Peter and Eloise Kouimelis take a break from the fun at an outing to Dave & Buster's.

Greek school and currently are involved with intramural sports, music lessons, Adventure Theatre, and some even aspire to join the choir. Many will be attending Camp Fanari this summer and have formed lasting friendships throughout the year.

A special round of well-wishes to Alexis Moe who will enjoy her summer as a young ambassador through the People to People Organization. She will be visiting England, France, Greece, and Italy.



The Way will be hopping in socks next month.

Third through eighth graders will again have lots of fun at this year's sock hop to be held June third.

You can help GOYA go to New York and Boston

Hello. My name is Elena Manolis and I am currently a senior Goyan. I am pleased to inform everyone about the spiritual trip our GOYA will be taking this summer to Boston and New York from July 14th through the 20th.

In Boston, we'll visit and stay at Holy Cross Seminary. Additionally, we'll visit a local monastery, Harvard Square, and walk along the trail Paul Revere once rode.

In New York we'll spend time at St. Basil

Academy, which serves as both a home and a school for children whose families cannot take care for them. In New York City, we will be taking tours, seeing a Broadway show, and visiting ground zero. These are only some of the exciting experiences that will be having.

We would greatly appreciate all of your support by coming to the GOYA bake sale on June 2nd. Thank you in advance for helping us with your contributions. See you at the bake sale!

Seniors Social Annual June Luncheon at The Greek Islands in Lombard



Wednesday, June 12
12pm noon

RSVP to Jean or Georgia Contos
(630) 769-1923

\$18.00 is due by June 9th
Please choose chicken or fish
at time of reservation.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy GOYA Bake Sale	3	4	5 1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group	6	7 Fanari Camp Counselors Orientation	8 10:00am GOYA Car Wash (Till 1pm)
SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy GRADUATES' SUNDAY	10	11 7:00pm Parent/Child Meeting For Boston-New York Trip	12 12:00pm Seniors Social Luncheon	13 ASCENSION OF OUR LORD 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy	14	15
FATHER'S DAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour 2:00pm Fanari Campers Depart (1st Session)	17	18	19	20 8:00pm Parish Council Meeting	21	22 12:00pm Fanari Campers Return
PENTECOST SUNDAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour 2:00pm Fanari Campers Depart (2nd Session)	24 HOLY TRINITY-HOLY SPIRIT 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy	25	26	27	28 7:00pm Great Vespers At SS. Peter & Paul	29 12:00pm Fanari Campers Return 7:00pm Great Vespers At Holy Apostles
FEAST DAY OF HOLY APOSTLES 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour	<p style="text-align: center;">Happy Fathers' Day</p> <p>Sonora Smart Dodd, of Spokane Washington, was the oldest of six children raised by William Jackson Smart. While listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909, she determined there should also be a day to honor fathers. Sonora gained local support and made her dream a reality one year later. She chose June 19th to celebrate father's day because that was her father's birthday. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge made it an official holiday.</p>					
30						

Weekday Services

Ascension of Our Lord

Thursday, June 13
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Holy Trinity - Holy Spirit

Monday, June 24
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Great Vespers

Friday June 28 at SS. Peter & Paul
7:00pm
Saturday June 29 at Holy Apostles
7:00pm

Mosaic Deadline

The deadline for the August Mosaic is Monday, July 8th.

Another successful year for Philoptohos

This year Philoptohos raised and distributed \$24,800 among many worthy charities. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society and Hellenic Foundation, beneficiaries of the fashion show, received the largest contributions. The Arts & Crafts and Bake Sale also produced a large portion of the revenues.

Approximately \$1,600 was donated to medical research. Monies were also sent to approximately thirty other local and national charities, from UNICEF and the National

Philoptohos 9/11 Relief Fund, and used for our local holiday baskets and gifts.

The Board extends its thanks to the members, contributors, and everyone who assisted in accomplishing another productive year. In addition to the fund raising, Philoptohos fulfilled its duties to our church in hosting many scheduled events throughout the year. We look forward to another successful year in 2002-2003. Have a safe and blessed summer.

... by Cynthia Stathopoulos

Memorials

*Harry Chrisopulos
Loula Metropoulos
Nicoletta Decolias
Andrew Decolias
Pota Asvos
John Pekras
Penelope Pekras
Louis Couretas*

*Thomas Chiampas
Gus Alevizos
James Cotsirilos
Hrysoula Athan*

Funeral

*James Cotsirilos
Melia Papantonatos*

God sends email to Earth

One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the rascally behavior that was going on. He decided to send an angel down to Earth to check it out. So He called one of His angels and sent the angel to Earth for a time. When he returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on Earth; 95% are misbehaving and 5% are not." God thought for a moment and said, "Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another opinion." So God called another angel and sent him to Earth for a time too. When the angel returned he went to God and said, "yes sir, the Earth is in decline, 95% are misbehaving and 5% are being good." God was not pleased so He decided to send an email to the 5% that were good because He wanted to encourage them... give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what God's email said? Oh, you didn't get one either...

Hospital Visits

If you or a family member would like a pastoral visit while in the hospital, it is essential that someone call the church office at (708) 562-2744 and a staff member will handle your request. Thank you, and may God bless you or your loved one with a complete recovery.

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
2501 S. Wolf Rd.
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(708) 562-2744

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