



The Voice of Holy Apostles
Greek Orthodox Church of Indianapolis
Αγιοι Αποστολοι Ελληνορθοδοξη Εκκλησια Ινδιαναπολεως
+Metropolis of Detroit

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Liturgy: 10:30 a.m.

Volume 11

January-February 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Lord! I hope and pray that everyone had a great Thanksgiving, I also hope and pray that, by the time that you receive this, you will have had a most wonderful, peaceful, warm, beautiful and blessed Christmas. I also wish everyone a Happy and Blessed New Year, full of the Abundant Blessings and Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

The beginning of a new year is always a good time to reflect on our lives, both inwardly, and outwardly. You know, Holy Apostles has been going for over 10 years now. Experts in the area of founding churches and missions point out, from long study, experience and analysis, that it takes 20 years for a new church or mission to fully be established, and to fully flourish and manifest. So, we are half way there! Our Lord, His Mother, the Holy Apostles, along with the Holy Spirit, have blessed us immensely in our Journey, and continue to do so! Many people have witnessed to me about the spiritual aliveness of many smaller churches, ours included. Orthodoxy actually offers a variety of sizes of churches, and different styles and emphases, within the over-arching unity of Orthodoxy. It is good to remember the words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem: "Unity in essentials, diversity in non-essentials." We are not all "cookie-cutter" the same. We do not always see "eye to eye". But we are all family, all brothers and sisters in Light, called by Christ, to be together in our church and parish. We always need to pray for one another. Sometimes we need to forgive one another. Being thankful, praying, forgiving...these are powerful, and miracles happen! Let us continue to go from strength to strength!

I would like to respectfully suggest a couple of things that will make our Church experience together even better and more dynamically fulfilling. First, before the start of Divine Liturgy, let us make an even better effort to spend some time quiet in prayer, meditation and reflection, as we prepare for yet another Journey from Earth to the very Gates of Heaven. It is good to be glad to see one another before the service, after all, the Church is our Home, and we are all family. I love to come out and see and greet you all before the Liturgy. We just all need to try our best to minimize extra conversations that could, perhaps, wait until afterwards, at Coffee Hour. Thank you!

Second, as part of our continuing and growing spiritual Life in Christ, let's always strive, wherever we are, to do our best to maintain positive thoughts, feelings, words and actions, towards everyone whom we encounter, including of course, one another. This positive striving is the most important part of our spiritual life and ministry. It is indeed how we most effectively witness for and serve Christ.

May the Lord and all of Heaven bless us in this! Again, thanks to each and all of you, for all that you are, and for all that you do! God bless!

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr, John

MAJOR FEAST DAY AND OTHER NOTEWORTHY DATES IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY

January 5 - Holy Water, Vasilopita Luncheon for St. Basils in the Coffee Hour room – donation accepted
for St. Basils Academy

January 7 - Epiphany

February 2 – Presentation of the Lord

Happiest of Name Days to all who celebrate this month! Χρόνια πολλά! Να χαίρεσαι το όνομά σας!

2020 STEWARDSHIP:

When we believe, stewardship follows. Stewardship is faith in action; action motivated by humble gratitude to God for his blessings in our life.

Before completing the enclosed Stewardship Form, please give prayerful consideration to the commitment you are making. A check mailed to the church is most meaningful when accompanied by your presence, by your willingness to serve, by your prayers, and by your commitment. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of your commitment and an expression of thanks for the many blessings in your life.

**“VASILOPITA LUNCHEON FOR ST. BASILS”
JANUARY 5, 2020 in the Coffee Hour Room**

MENU:

Chili with condiments, cornbread, cherry cobbler with ice cream, and beverage

We will be accepting donations for St. Basil’s Academy.

Dr. Tom Kocoshis will still be accepting reservations at kocoshist@gmail.com or call (765)-286-7242.

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HOLY APOSTLES STATEMENTS FOR 2019:

Statements will be emailed to you, and mailed out for those who do not have email. If you have any questions please contact Debbie O’Reilley fox6060@comcast.net or (317)252-4466

CONGRATULATIONS:

Barbara E. Kratsios, daughter of Dr. Emmanuel and Irene Kratsios, graduated from the University of Indianapolis, Magna Cum Laude, on May 4, 2019. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Archaeology, with a minor in Religious Studies.

Barbara will begin her Graduate Studies in January 2020 at the same university. She will be pursuing a Master of Science Degree in Anthropology, with a focus in Bio-Archaeology

STEWARD NEWS:

We hope Sandra Roberson’s husband Chuck is recovering well from his hip surgery.

Thank you to Xanthippi Darzentas and Debbie O’Reilley for chairing the Fall Bake Sale which brought in a little over \$350, and Debbie for donating the supplies needed.

Thank you to Debbie O’Reilley for chairing the Christmas card and ornaments which brought in \$435, and also for donating the cards , printing cost, and ornaments.

Thank you to Michael Pappas for donating the lovely poinsettias for the Church, and to the Darzentas duo and Debbie O’Reilley for decorating the chapel.

There was an oversight in not including Helen Zarvas in the Christmas card.

Thanks to Dr. Tom Kocoshis for chairing the Vasilopita Luncheon again this year. He would also like to thank: Xanthippi Darzentas for the chili and condiments; Alexandra Kocoshis for the cornbread; Debbie O'Reilley for the cobbler and ice cream; and Angelus Kocoshis for the Vasilopita.

UPDATES FOR YOUR CHURCH DIRECTORY:

There is some new information regarding some of our stewards that need to be updated. Often times on one's stewardship form they do not check the changes and assume we know them.

Georgia Crabtree - 4554 Cooper Grove Dr. Indianapolis 46237

Christos Darzentas – 3792 E. Pleasant Run Pkwy N. Dr. Indianapolis 46201

Demetrios Geroulis – cell 317-750-9350

Dena Kerhoulas – 317-280-7045

Dr. Thomas Kocoshis – Kocoshist@ gmail.com

John Kofodimos – 317-408-1014

Add: Dr. Elizabeth Strickland – 5865 E. 62nd St. Indianapolis 46220
317-726-1195 stricklandev@att.net

PARISH COUNCIL:

We are sad to announce that John Kofodimos has found it necessary to resign due to personal reasons, which leaves an open position on the council. We know he would have fulfilled his term if at all possible, and want to thank him for his service to his Church.

There were some unintentional procedural errors that were made in the process in the recent elections. Fr. John spoken to the Chancellor, Fr. Dean Hountalas, concerning this. The following is how we are going to proceed, at this time, for this election.

Many thanks to Helen Kostarides, Alexandra Kocoshis (who was missed on the original letter), and Angelus Kocoshis for their assistance with the work of the Board of Election Committee.

The fact that Debbie O'Reilley's position was up for a vote was totally missed. That situation will be handled, and voted on, at the Spring General Assembly.

The results of the balloting are as follows:

- George Pappas: 15 votes
- Dr. Emmanuel Kratsios & Ethel Darzentas: 14 votes each (a tie)
- Nearhos Darzentas: 13 votes.

The Parish Council, when it first meets in January, 2020, will consist initially of: George Pappas, Martha Koen and Debbie O'Reilley.

Therefore, the new partial sitting Parish Council at their first meeting in January, vote to break the tie between Dr. Kratsios & Mrs. Darzentas. Then, the new 4-member Council will vote to appoint a replacement for the 5th position, recently vacated by John Kofodimos. When the Council is fully staffed Fr. John will administer the Oath of Office to the members of the new Parish Council.

Fr. John is in accord with the Chancellor in noting and stating that we are a small, but viable, parish. Everyone pulling together and working together is absolutely a vital key in our going forward, and growing, and serving Our Lord Jesus Christ.