

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

4550 North Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205

[WWW.HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG)

[INFO@HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG](mailto:INFO@HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG)

Fr. John Koen Tel: 317-908-8511

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Hoping and praying that this finds you each and all well, inside and out. I also hope and pray that your Thanksgiving time was a good one.

We are on our way to Christmas. Please remember to take regular times out to pray during this time and season. I know I say that frequently, at various times of the year, but I would emphasize that it is especially important at this particular time of year. Christmas brings, for people, experiences and memories of great warmth and goodness, to do with special times with family and friends, including our experiences with our church family. It also, for many, brings out a profound spirit of caring and giving, which usually benefits not only immediate family and friends, but many others far beyond those immediate circles. Many great outreaches take place during this season, with many poor, under-privileged and homeless people being taken care of. All of this is very, very good.

This is also important to remember that this is a time of year when far too many people are very depressed, very alone, and may lose all hope, and either die from tiredness and broken hearts, or commit suicide. It is darker in terms of physical light, colder, and the outer shows of fun and celebration can come to be a mockery for those who have come to the ends of their ropes, for whatever reason. Please be aware of this side of life also. You may not be able to do anything directly about it, though you may, sometimes in unexpected ways. But you can do a LOT to help through your prayers for the hidden lonely, abandoned, depressed, hurt and wounded in the world. Do NOT be deceived into thinking that your prayers are not real or do not help or count. ALL prayers from a good-intentioned heart both count and help. Wherever you are in life, at whatever age, regardless of economic or educational or vocational status, your prayers count AND make a difference. Follow the promptings of your heart. If you feel moved to call, write, text, e-mail, or drop in on someone, then DO IT! YOU could be a life-changing and life-saving event! The same happens with prayer. You may or may not know anyone personally who is in some type of dire need, but God for sure knows. Follow the heavenly prompts. You'll be doing more good than you can possibly imagine.

Know that my prayers and love are with you. Merry Christmas! And God bless!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Fr. John

**NOTED DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

**December 18:** Benevolent basket

**December 25:** Holy Nativity (there will be services) **Καλὰ Χριστούγεννα**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

Sunday school will begin after Father John's sermon and will end in time to bring the children in for communion.

**CHAPEL:**

Please dress a bit warmer than normal since Northwood is working on getting new heating for the church.

**VASILOPITA LUNCHEON:**

We are in need of a chairman for the luncheon that has been scheduled for Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact a member of the Parish Council if you are willing to chair it. Remember this luncheon is to help St. Basil's Academy.

**2017 PARISH COUNCIL:**

We want to congratulate the new Parish Council. They are: Georg Chimples, Phyllis Kriner, Angelus Kocoshis, Dr. Thomas Kocoshis, Nearhos Darzentas, Xanthippi Darzentas, and Deborah O'Reilley.

**IRVINGTON FALL FESTIVAL:**

Chairs, Xanthippi Darzentas and Debbie O'Reilley, cannot begin to thank the people enough for their time working at the festival. We sold out all of items and were able to do some outreach into the community. Many thanks go out to Nearhos Darzentas Angelus Kocoshis, Phyllis Kriner, and Yianni Petsalis who helped making it a successful event.

**2017 STEWARDSHIP FORM:**

Please fill out the enclosed stewardship form and either send to the church, or give it to a Parish Council member. This form helps plan for the upcoming year. The sooner you do it, the less chance you having of forgetting.

**2017 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR:**

They are now available for pickup at church.

**CHANGES TO THE CHURCH DIRECTORY:**

Christ Tsiros new address: 550 West Hunter Drive #B, Carmel 46032 – (317) 800-5307

Helen Zarvas at the Stratford: 2460 Glebe St. #260, Carmel 46032 - (317) 334-2833

**ABOUT OUR STEWARDS:**

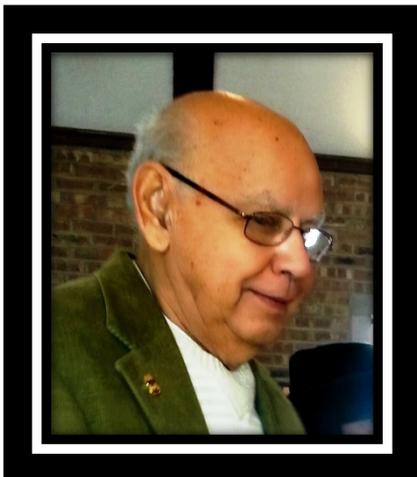
Our deepest sympathies go out to Parish Council member George Chimples on the passing of his grandmother Jean Nott. May her memory be eternal.

Congratulation to Nick and Melanie Magdalinos on their daughter Gabriella's christening, and the proud godparents Nearhos and Xanthippi Darzentas. God bless them all.

Thank you to Debbie O'Reilley for repairing two of the stain glass panels in the candle for the procession.

Glad to hear Sandra Roberson is recovering well after breaking her leg.

Thank you to Christos Darzentas for the heater he is loaning the church for our coffee hour room.

**HOLY APOSTLES GIVES A BIG THANKS TO GEORGE N. PAPPAS:**

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*George has proudly served his church for 8 years on the Parish Council. We cannot forget the 3 years prior that he spent as part of the Genesis Group to get our church here today. It is dedicated people like George that every parish needs. Holy Apostles thanks him from the bottom of our hearts, and may God bless him always.*

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