



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 9

December 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Lord! I hope and pray that you all are well and that you all had a very blessed Thanksgiving. I would like to thank everyone who was able to attend our most recent Parish General Assembly and extend a special thank you to Fr. Bill Bartz for helping us in this process, per His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas. Everyone's support and contributions in and to the process has been greatly appreciated. We look forward, with God's help, to moving forward in the growth of our parish and its ministries. It is good, and encouraging, to see new people coming to visit us and worship with us. We continue to hope and pray that they will find a solid church home with us, as well as bringing in friends and relatives. Remember, it is the personal invitation to people that you know or are acquainted with that helps this along.

Once again, in the midst of a typically busy holiday season, be sure to remember to take time aside, quiet, for prayer, meditation, contemplation, to do with the real reason for this time of year, the Birth of Our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Please also be sure to remember those who are alone at this time of year with a visit, or a phone call, or an invitation to join in for a meal or even a cup of coffee or tea. This can greatly brighten someone's life, or even save a life. We are all greatly blessed. Let us be very thankful, as well as seek to share those blessings with others. Try to make it to as many Sunday Liturgies this month as possible, as part of your preparation for Christmas. AND.....come join us for Liturgy on Christmas morning, Tuesday, December 25th. Abundant Blessings to one and all!

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr. John

MAJOR FEAST DAY AND OTHER NOTEWORTHY DATES IN DECEMBER:

- December 4 – Barbara, the Great Martyr
- December 6 – Nicholas, the Wonderworker
- December 12 – Spyridon, the Wonderworker
- December 15 – Eleutherios, Bishop Illyria
- December 15 – Susannah, the Deaconess
- December 25 – Nativity of Jesus Christ – MAJOR FEAST DAY
- December 27 – Stephen, First Matyr

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Services to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord will be held at Holy Apostles on Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. Alternatively, an invitation to celebrate Christmas Eve Vespers has been extended to us by Fr. Bill Bartz, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Carmel, Indiana. Vespers there begin at 6:00 pm.

VASILOPITA LUNCHEON-SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 – Kick-off the New Year with your church family by attending this wonderful fellowship gathering! Our luncheon will be held at Binkley's, located at 5902 N. College Ave, where you will be able to choose from a few different menu items. Chairman, Dr. Tom Kocoshis, is now accepting reservations. Please RSVP to Tom by calling 765-286-7242 to leave a voice mail message or via e-mail to kocoshist@gmail.com. **DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.**

Of special note, an anonymous donor has graciously agreed to pay for your meal. The donor kindly asks that the you consider donating the cost of your meal selection to St. Basil's Academy. Checks should be made payable to Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church with "St. Basil's Academy" noted in the memo line. Cash donations will also be accepted. Envelopes will be provided for your donations.

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS: The Fall General Assembly was held on Saturday, December 1. Important items approved by the General Assembly include some changes to our By-Laws. All updates will be detailed in the revised By-Laws. In the meantime, for your information, a few of these changes include: 1) reduction in the number of Parish Council seats; 2) fulfillment of a pledge commitment by year end for individuals interested in running for a seat on the Parish Council; and 3) clarification of voting privileges for parishioners delinquent in fulfilling a Stewardship commitment. It is important to note that while these changes were approved by the General Assembly, they are subject to review and final approval by the Metropolitan. Your Parish Council will notify you once the changes become effective.

Additionally, President McKnight notified the General Assembly that the 2019 Stewardship Committee will be Phyllis Kriner, Chair with John Kofodimos and Debbie O'Reilly as members. A thank you to Dr. Emmanuel and Irene Kratsios for leading the 2018 Stewardship Committee was extended by President McKnight.

PROSFORO BAKERS NEEDED: Due to recent physical limitations, our current prosforo baker, Mary Kostarides, is temporarily hanging up her apron. As such, we have a great need for prosforo bakers! Please see Fr. John or any Parish Council member if you can help.

STEWARD NEWS:

JOHN KOFODIMOS - A hearty congratulations to John Kofodimos on his recent retirement from WTHR. John had a remarkable 40-year career with Channel 13 having started with the station following his graduation from Indiana University. John looks forward to spending time with his wife, Teresa, their 2 daughters, enjoying his many hobbies and overseeing the building of their new home. Congratulations John!! Πάντα άξιός!

ARISTOTLE NICHOLAIDES - Our deepest thanks and appreciation is extended to Aristotle Nicolaides for his steadfast loyalty to chant for us and, as needed, for other special occasions such as Holy Week and funerals. Aristotle has been chanting at Holy Apostles since our church officially opened. He was also instrumental in the creation of Holy Apostles having held a seat on the Board of the former Genesis Orthodox Group. Aristotle chanted his last service with us on Sunday, November 25. He and his wife, Martha, will be moving to Athens, Georgia to be closer to their daughter. Καλή αντάμωση!

DR. EMMANUEL KRATSIOS - We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Dr. Emmanuel Kratsios on the untimely passing of his mother, Mrs. Lucretia Kratsios in Long Island, New York. Αιώνια της η μνήμη.

DEBBIE O'REILLEY – Thank you, Debbie, for leading the fundraising efforts for our annual community Christmas card and for donating your time, exquisite talent and materials needed to make the beautiful Christmas ornaments that adorn our Christmas tree. Your creativity is a beauty to be admired by all!

NEARHOS & ETHEL DARZENTAS, DEBBIE O'REILLEY, MIKE PAPPAS – We extend our heartfelt thanks for Nearhos, Ethel, Debbie and Mike for taking time out of their busy schedule to decorate our church for the Christmas season! Your efforts bring the spirit of Christmas alive within our church!

GEORGIA DERZIOTIS and GEORGIA STEVENS - Please continue to keep Georgia Derziotis and Georgia Stevens in your thoughts and prayers particularly during this holiday season!

FR. BILL BARTZ, Presiding Priest, Holy Trinity Cathedral – We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Fr. Bill on the recent announcement of his upcoming retirement in July. Fr. Bill has been an invaluable resource for Holy Apostles always being readily available to share his deep knowledge and expertise when asked. We are grateful and blessed to have had him within arm's reach. His unwavering recognition of Holy Apostles as a sister church and his gracious welcoming approach toward our parishioners is treasured and cherished. Fr. Bill and Presbytera Emily will be relocating to Virginia to be closer to family. Πάντα άξιος!

YOUR 2018 PARISH COUNCIL:

President – Elijah McKnight, Secretary – Helen Kostarides, Treasurer – Debbie O'Reilley, Xanthippi and Nearhos Darzentas, Angelus Kocoshis, Dr. Tom Kocoshis.

WE WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευτυχισμένο το Νέο Έτος

GOD'S BLESSING FOR A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR

