



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

INFO@HOLYAPOSTLESINDY.ORG

Fr. John Koen Tel: 317-908-8511

Volume 6

January 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I pray the holiday (holy-day) season is warm and greatly blessed for everyone. I seem to have missed most of you at Holy Trinity Christmas Eve. I'm sorry you missed it --- it was a very special and very blessed service. Holy Apostles and I were hugely, warmly and publicly welcomed and supported by Fr. Bill, with the same feeling being echoed by his people. However and wherever you all celebrated Christmas, I pray it was also a very blessed occasion for one and all.

So, a new year is almost at hand. What does it hold? Who knows? Only God knows. But as the year just ending has been a very difficult one, in many ways, for many people, I find it definitely in order to pray for God's abundant Mercy and Grace, that the coming year be Lighter in many ways, may it please God! It seems change is very much in the air. Change is not always easy. Perhaps, honestly, it is rarely, or even never, easy. But, like it or not, it is constant, it happens. We can either choose to resist and fight it, or try our best to go with the flow, adapt and change. The second approach, though, again, not easy, is nonetheless easier and far less stressful than the first. Following Christ will always bring change. The Way is eternal, ever going onward, forward, upward, and with this, there is continuing change and transformation. It is a price we pay to follow Christ, serve Him, and grow in Him. It is a process of continual healing, transformation, challenge, also spiritual warfare. But the fruits of it are eminently worthwhile.

I heartily wish each and all of you, for the coming New Year, abundant good health, blessings, supply, grace and wisdom, in Christ our Lord, God and Savior.

In Christ,
Fr. John

NOTED DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

January 1: St. Basil the Great and Circumcision of Christ

January 4: Confirmation of 2015 Parish Council and Parish Council meeting

January 6: Holy Theophany

January 11: Free will Vasilopita Luncheon for St. Basil's Academy

January 30: Three Hierarchs

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS:

Sunday, January 4: St. John the Forerunner prepares the way for Jesus. We will learn about Jesus' baptism.

Sunday, January 11: The Kingdom of God is Here! We will also talk about St. Basil.

Sunday, January 18: Returning thanks to God

Sunday, January 25: Zacchaeus wants to see Jesus

STEWARDSHIP FORMS:

Again you will find enclosed the new 2015 Stewardship Form. It is easy to fill out if you have not had any changes regarding your information. Under **NOTE**, there is a box you need to check if this is the case. Just fill out your name and your financial pledge, along with how it will be paid. This enables you to stay on the church's mailing. Your statement for tax purposes will be sent to you by the end of January 2015.

HOUSE BLESSINGS-ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ:

Father John will be conducting House Blessings in early January. This is an ancient custom where the priest blesses people's homes, schools and businesses. You will need to call Father to make an appointment to visit your home or business. (To reach Father John via phone @317-908-8511, or via email:

FrJohnKoen@hotmail.com).

Ο Πατερ Ιωαννης θα κανη αγιασμο στα σπιτια αρχας Ιανουαριου. Αν θελετε να επισκε- φθη το σπιτι σας, επικοινωνησατε μαζυ του στο τηλεφωνο 317/908-8511.

CONFIRMATION OF NEW PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY 4TH:

The Parish Council for 2015 is the following to be confirmed following the Divine Liturgy:

Ann Barnhart George Chimples, Angelus Kocoshis, Dr. Thomas Kocoshis, Phyllis Kriner, Debbie O'Reilley, and George N. Pappas

VASILOPITA LUNCHEON SUNDAY, JANUARY 11:

The Vasilopita Luncheon will be held in the Blue Parlor upstairs following the liturgy. The luncheon will be free will donations for all that attend, which in turn will be donated to St. Basil's Academy in New York. Chairman Xanthippi Darzentas will be serving pastichio, salad, and bread. Michael Pappas and Angelus Kocoshis will be making the vasilopita for the cutting and luncheon. Please call Xanthippi by **January 5** for your reservations at **317-353-6497**, so she has an idea how much to prepare.

WINTER WEATHER:

We never seem to know what the weather will be in Indy from day to day. If we have a winter like we did last year, we may have to consider cancelling the liturgy for safety reasons, as we did last year. We will try to post our closing on Channel 13 and/or Channel 8, as well as our Facebook page, and send out an email. Also, a Parish Council member will attempt to call as many people as possible regarding the cancellation if they do not have email.

DONATION OF BOOKS:

We have received only a few books for our Orthodox library that we are trying to start. They will be for anyone who may be interested in reading more about their faith, or just learning about it hopes to join the faith.

PEW CUSHIONS:

Irene Kratsios will no longer be able to chair the investigation of possible new cushions for the church due to some prior commitments. If you are interested in filling the position then please let a Parish Council member know. You will be working with Pamela Van Bruaene from Northwood Christian Church.

PARISH NEW;

Holy Apostles would like to thank Tony Antonopoulos for donating again the bottles to be used for our Holy Water. We wish him and his family a blessed year.

Once again thanks to Mary Kostarides for making the Prosforo used weekly.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL