

CROSS CURRENTS

Monthly Newsletter
November 2006



God's Word and Our Gossip

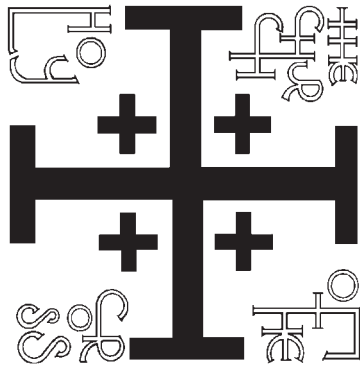
by *Father Peter G. Salmas, Pastor*



Let us become like Christ, since Christ became like us. Let us become gods because of Him, since He for us became man. He took upon Himself a low degree that He might give us a higher one. He became poor, that in His poverty we might become rich.
-- Saint Gregory of Nazianzus

It has come to my ears, from time to time, that *Cross Currents* has two many "religious" articles and not enough "news" about parishioners. Though it may seem and may even be a fact that many are more interested in the lives of people that in the word of God, *Cross Currents* will continue to be a publication focused on God's word and not the "daily words and works of people" that all too often reflect more gossip than truth and, at the very best, reflect only those aspects of life which are exclusively worldly.

Which brings me to the foundational point regarding our lives as Orthodox Christians... as Orthodox Christians, we are called to live our lives AS Orthodox Christians. We are to be imitating the life of



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CROSS CURRENTS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Church of the Holy Cross
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Articles and ads for *Cross Currents* are due on the **15th** of the month prior to the month of desired publication.

(continued from front cover)

our Lord and the lives of His saints and not those of athletes or movie stars, rock music stars, or politicians or even the successful business or entrepreneur we strive to emulate. Please take a good and hard look at the priorities in your life and tell me, if you will, if they are not more focused on worldly interests rather than those of our Creator. Is it not more appropriate that our parish publication reflect the priorities we are called to emulate rather than those of passing accomplishments?

Of course, we all have legitimate daily concerns regarding work and school, paying the bills and providing for our family needs. Material goods are ours to use as wise stewards; in and of themselves, as is reiterated on countless occasions, these are certainly not “bad,” but when we misconstrue their origin and when we claim them as “our own” . . . the fruits of our own talents, our own hard work, our own

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business savvy then we ignore the fact that our very being is a gift from God, as are our talents and our accomplishments. When Christ tells us that doing the will of His Father will insure our physical as well as spiritual needs, He is not guiding us to necessarily live in poverty. He is, rather, teaching us what we must learn about our lives, that we are His creatures Whom He loves and whom He seeks to guide to eternal life. We are more important to Him than the flowers of the fields and the birds of the air. Somehow we allow our insecurity and fear to dominate our life to such a degree that we find little solace in God's word. When we desire first the spiritual gifts, then the physical needs are placed in proper perspective.

Placing our trust in Him who grants us life is a far better investment in our “long term future.” But trust is part of a long term relationship whose assurances must be experienced. It may seem more interesting to read about the everyday happenings of *kyria Marianne* or *kyrie Kosta* or who donated to what fund or what church is having financial challenges but unless it leads us to a more Christian life style it is useless information.

The priority from which we must all begin is worship. Get yourselves and your family to Sunday Church Worship on time and regularly, and then we will talk about how you can assist in the Vineyard of the Lord and become a minister of His word. As we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas I can assure you that, as always, there is plenty of work to be done. I look forward to receiving your questions and your comments. So open yourself up to God's word and instruction and let the grace of the Holy Spirit do the rest. And trust that as you open the pages of *Cross Currents*, you will find news that will pertain to that which is truly pertinent.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by *Gary Brenner*, Parish Council President

On the first Tuesday of November, registered voters will go to the polls to cast their ballots for officials who may be elected to serve in local, state and national positions. There are also a number of measures and propositions that can have a significant



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impact on our daily life. There are property tax and sales tax implications and the outcome of these elections can impact the quality of life in your community, state, and the nation. The voting process allows every individual to have a voice in the government process.

There are many of us who are unhappy with our elected officials at all levels. We complain about taxes, roads, immigration issues and our involvement in certain world affairs. Every vote counts (in most states!) And more importantly it gives us standing to use our freedom of speech to voice our concerns to elected officials after the election. A person who does not take the time to register to vote or who does not vote when given the opportunity speaks with a hollow voice. Our government at all levels depends upon the voice of the people to govern effectively.

Our church also provides a forum for parishioners to express their concerns about issues which are deemed important in the life and administration of our church. We all love our church and most of us have an opinion about how we budget and how we administer the activities that affect us all. Our Parish Council has the responsibility to insure that we operate according to the uniform Parish Guidelines and that budget is balanced. In order to balance the budget the Parish Council must coordinate fundraising activities and encourage personal stewardship of every parishioner.

A Parish Council member takes an oath and has a significant responsibility to provide leadership and to be accountable to the parish at large for the policies that impact the day to day administration of church business.

It is important for your voice to be heard. You should vote when Parish Council elections are held, you should be a member in good standing by pledging and paying your stewardship commitment and you should attend the General Assemblies of our Parish which are held twice a year.

Please mark your calendar for **November 19** immediately after Liturgy to attend the Fall General Assembly.

If you choose not to attend then you forfeit an opportunity to participate in the governance of our church. We need your voice and your participation to insure that we are providing the activities and ministries to keep our parish vibrant. May the Lord bless us all as we work in his vineyard?

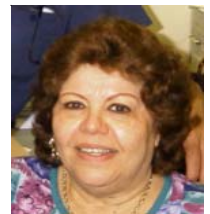
50TH ANNIVERSARY

“AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL
SERVE THE LORD” JOSHUA 24:15



MEMORY LANE -- 50 YEARS AGO

by *Ella Stamates, 50th Anniversary Committee*



Father Peter Salmas arrived in August 1988. Initial work again began to enlarge the present Community Center and storage areas and to improve the kitchen and administrative facilities of the church. Many new programs were initiated including Outreach and Bible Study while others saw new growth especially the Youth and ORA.

The Parish Festival witnessed dramatic growth within a few years, easing financial concerns and allowing the parish to pay off the remaining \$150,000 mortgage, leaving the parish, for the first time, debt-free, without a mortgage.

In November, 1991, the General Assembly enthusiastically approved a new Building Fund-Raising Campaign to begin in 1992. With pledges coming in, construction began in January, 1993, with hopes of completion before the 1993 Festival. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held on January 3, under a light drizzle. The weather that day turned out to be a good indicator of what loomed ahead-the seven year California drought came to an end with what turned out to be one of the wettest winters in history. The contractors forged ahead with the new administration building and the new hall/kitchen/storage complex.

Most of the project was completed in time for the Festival, with the old office wing renovation completed in December of 1993. Dedication ceremonies were held over the weekend of October 9, and 10, 1993. Following the Great Vespers, a special reception, sponsored by the Philoptochos and Parish Council, was held in the new “Oaks” facility. “An Evening of Thanks” recognized the financial and spiritual commitments of over 200 parishioner (and non-parishioner) families toward the project. A special icon of Saints Peter and Paul was awarded to 10 members of the community,

recognizing their leadership skills and unselfish giving of time and talent to the new facilities. A beautiful weekend culminated with a Hierarchal Divine Liturgy. Bishop Anthony presided over the ribbon cutting ceremonies and the new facilities were officially opened.

Our church community has been blessed with the services of exceptionally fine leaders beginning with its first president, George Catomer. He was followed by John Kanakaris, William Dascoulias, Peter Tryforas, Thomas Pallad, Peter Angelides, Chris Lianides, Sam Pappageorge, George Sotir, Zan Tragoutsis, Peter Bibbes, Ted Pappas, Steven Markas, Gus Zongus, Harry Mitsanas, Constantine Stamates, Constantine Pavsidis, George Tzantos, Chris Evangelides, Virginia Lagiss, Paul Pavsidis, Andy Salis, Peter Economus, Nicholas Peros, Zinovia Hatzopoulos, Ella Stamates, Chris Canellos, Tom Mavrakakis, Genevieve Cladis, and our current Parish Council President, Gary Brenner.

We are furthermore blessed with an outstanding Philoptochos Society which has been lead by talented and skillful ladies. The first president was Dorothy Saribalís who was elected in 1956. Following her lead were Popi Pallad, Frances Poulos, Penny Evangel, Elaine Sotir, Vivi Sarantitis, Pan Kerhoulas, Jeannette Angelides, Edna Athas, Tessie Geranios, Mary Marcopulos, Judy Dolkas, Dena Karbo, Helen Demarest, Vula Stamos, Fran Bibbes, Ella Stamates, Mary Pappas, Jenny Hatzopoulos, Valerie Roumeliotes, Marika Tsardoulías, Dolores Theodore, Demetra Sperow, Helene Nemchik, and Mary Peros.

LET'S ALL PLAN TO ATTEND THE GALA BALL!

by *Jenny Cladis, 50th Committee Chair*



Register now to attend our Gala Ball that will be held **December 29** at the Westin Airport Hotel. This event will cap-off the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our Holy Cross Church. We will be joined in this celebration by **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos**; the Council General of Greece, **Xenia Stefanidou**; the Honorary Council General of Cypress, **Nicolaos Theophanous**; and many priests. **Vicki Liviakís**, the TV host on Channel 4 (KRON) will be our MC. Our Choir will sing a heart-warming song composed by our talented Choir Director,

Steve Cardiasmenos. Background and dance music will be played by *Vital Sounds* DJ **Alexander Mallas**.

We thank all of you for supporting our previous events held this year to commemorate the 50th, especially the Spiritual Odyssey, the Honoring of our previous Parish Council Presidents, and the Remembrance of our beloved parishioners who passed away in the Lord.

Now we will rejoice at this Golden milestone! By now you should have received your invitations. The price is \$125. The reservation deadline is **November 29**. All the tickets will be held at the door. Let's make this a memorable occasion! The tickets will be held at the door. For further information please call the church at 591-4447.

LEAVE YOUR MARK in the 50th Anniversary Photo Directory!

This is a once-in-a-decade opportunity to advertise your business, remember a loved one, or send a personal message to the community by taking out an ad in the Holy Cross 50th Anniversary Photo Directory.

1/4 page - \$100 - 3.25" x 4.25"

1/2 page - \$200 - 4" x 7"

Full page - \$350 - 6.25" x 8.50"

You won't have another chance until 2016 -- so act today!!!

Place ad by sending payment and ad to :

**Church of the Holy Cross, c/o Photo Directory Ad
900 Alameda, Belmont, CA 94002-1604**

50TH ANNIVERSARY GIFT

by *Chris Canellos, Parish Council Treasurer*

The fall season is upon us at Holy Cross. Our religious education classes are brimming with beautiful, inquisitive students learning about God's love from truly dedicated teachers. Our weekday afternoons are brightened by our Greek School program and our evenings once again are filled with dance groups, choir rehearsals, parishioners learning more about our faith and remarkable individuals dedicated to the betterment of the community at large.

Holy Cross has come a long way in its 50 years. From its humble beginnings in a San Mateo restaurant, to the recent majestic event of the gifting of the relic of the Holy Cross, our parish has been a shining light for Greek Orthodox faithful here on this Peninsula.

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, we have invited each parishioner's family to offer a gift to Holy Cross out of their love. So far, over 140 parishioners families have responded by offering over \$163,000. At this time, I ask you to join us. Your gift will provide important support to the Church as we begin the second half century of our service to the faithful. As an incentive, donors at the \$1000 level and above will receive two tickets to our Grand Gala celebration on **December 29**. You may also earmark your gift for any good church cause. Any amount is welcome. It is important that every Holy Cross Family participates in some way.

Please return your pledge card as soon as possible. Thank You.

CALLING ALL PHOTOS!

As part of Holy Cross 50th Anniversary celebrations, we would like to create a photo archive of the many moments, both large and small, that have taken place at our church. We would like to create a pictorial record of the baptisms, weddings, chrismations, and other sacraments that have taken place at our church. We would also like to see pictures of the many events that have taken place at our church. We also want pictures from all of the organizations in the church.

If you have photos of any of these events or occasions that have taken place at our church, please send or bring them to the church office. We are asking that all photos be clearly labeled with a post-it note. The note should state the **people** in the photo and the **name of the event and/or organization** and the **date**. Please place pictures in a letter size envelope (9" x

12") to ensure that they will be returned to you. Please label the envelope **Holy Cross Photo Archive, 50th Anniversary** with RETURN: your name.

Please take the time to send these photos. They will be an invaluable part of our church's 50th Anniversary celebrations this year and for always.

PHILOPTOCHOS

A NEW PHILOPTOCHOS YEAR

by *Mary Peros, Philoptochos President*

At our General Meeting on October 3, we presented our calendar for the year and shared new information from the Archdiocesan and Metropolis Philoptochos organizations. The **Archdiocesan Convention** was held in Nashville and highlighted "75 Years of Philanthropy." **Arleen Brenner** and I attended meetings and workshops aimed at inspiring new programs and increasing and building membership. It is truly energizing to meet with ladies from all over our country and bring back new ideas. It is also comforting to realize that everyone experiences similar challenges. At the end of our general meeting, we watched a DVD titled, "75 Years of Philanthropy." We plan to share this short film with our whole Church community soon. It is amazing to see that Philoptochos ladies played a part in American history, from preparing meals during the Great Depression to comforting soldiers during our wars.

At the end of September, **Kathy Craighead** and I went to Saint Nicholas Ranch to participate in the **Metropolis Philoptochos Fall Retreat**. We came away with some very important information about how our organization supports our priests. Through an endowment fund originally set up by Metropolitan Anthony of Blessed Memory and monitored and added to by the Philoptochos, **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos** assured us that no theology student at Holy Cross who is ordained a priest and stays within our metropolis will have to face **any** student loans and debts. In addition we were updated on many of the ministries of our organization. One example is Kids 'N' Cancer. Over \$250,000 was raised within this metropolis which goes directly to camps where cancer patients and their entire families can find a renewal of energy to continue the battle against their disease.

A new camp has been opened in the San Diego area and there is a hope that an additional camp will be opening soon in Northern California.

As we look ahead to the coming year, there are many exciting events to note. Soon our **Holiday Boutique** will begin with amazing holiday items for sale during coffee hour. Stock up on holiday baked goods as well at our **Holiday Bake Sale**. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 10** and celebrate our annual **Christmas Tea and Charity Drawing** in The Oaks. A book club just for ladies is beginning soon. A women's health event will be held in **January**. The Circle of Friends is looking for volunteers to do outreach. You do not need to be on the Board to help. The Philoptochos is over 160 strong within our Church. If you are a member, then we will be asking you to help us in our work.

Finally we said good-bye to four ladies who have been outstanding on our Board. **Dee Sperow**, twice-president, and **Theo Hegis** collectively have given more than 25 years of service. **Annette Vlahos** and **Yvonne Sarles** are busy young moms, but have served our organization with wonderful new ideas. These four gracious ladies are taking a break, but will stay connected. It has been my personal honor to have worked with each of them. We look forward to announcing several new Board members very soon. It has been and will continue to be an honor to serve on a Board which supports philanthropy, fellowship and love for our Church and its community.

"CIRCLES OF FRIENDS"

Coming soon in **January**, after the craziness of the holidays, the Philoptochos is sponsoring three wonderful new ways to share fellowship and have some fun instruction along the way. The first is a **Book Club**. This club will meet one Thursday evening a month in our Contos Library to discuss the critically acclaimed book, *Encountering Women of Faith – Saint Catherine's Vision* by Kyriaki Fitzgerald. The group will be lead by **Fran Bibbes**. Second is a **Crocheting/Knitting Circle** that will meet once a month in the lovely home of Brenda Visas to learn how to create snuggly blankets for children in pediatric units, and perhaps a scarf or pair of socks along the way. Finally, we are trying to assess the interest in a "for-a-small-fee" set of **Greek Cooking Classes** under the leadership of chef extraordinaire **Roxanne Koston**. These classes will be hands-on. Imagine preparing an exotic dinner for your friends! Roxanne will teach you all the Greek secrets!

For information on the Book Club, see below! or please call **Fran** at 572-1026. For information on the Crochet Circle, call **Brenda** at 333-6223. And, if you are interested in the Cooking Classes, call **Roxanne** at 368-7891. For general information on any or all of these, you can also call **Mary Peros** at 347-6910.

PHILOPTOCHOS BOOK CLUB

Attention all women of Holy Cross. The Philoptochos Society is sponsoring a Book Club Study starting **January 11**. The book we will be reading is "Encountering Women of Faith - Saint Catherine' Vision - Collection, Volume 1."

This book is a composite of stories for women told by prominent Christian women who also share the stories of their lives. It is inspiring, funny and sad, as the authors explore how the witness of these holy women have influenced their lives. This book brings alive some of the saints whose icons we venerate in our church.

Please contact **Fran Bibbes** at 572-1026 or **Mary Peros** at 347-6918 if you are interested and or have questions.

REFLECTIONS
REFLECTIONS

SUNRISE, SON RISE

by *Chris Canellos, Parish Council*

It is Thanksgiving Day once again. I smell that turkey in the oven. I watch that umpteenth football game of the day on television. I hear the children at play. I feel the warmth of the crackling fire and feel the touch of a loved one as we bow our heads and offer our thanks to God for the great abundance of His blessings.

I am thankful for **Eva** and **Christian**. I cannot imagine life without them. And just how lucky I am that both of them have come into my life. I

marvel at Christian's enthusiasm and passion for life, his love of reading, his friends at Church and at school, his tenderness and inquisitiveness, and, yes, the fact that he is 100% boy! Sharing his days has given me new life! Eva is a wonderful mother and wife, with the love and patience to look beyond the faults of the two boys in the house, to make Somerset a peaceful and happy Place.



I am thankful that God has given me the means to provide for my family, a good job and practice and reasonable health.

I am thankful to live in the greatest country in this world. It has become somewhat fashionable to look upon our nation with a bit of contempt. But nowhere else in the world can you find the confluence of freedom, generosity and creativity that you find in this land. The American dream is alive and well today, and those who study a little harder, work a little harder, save and sacrifice a little more than the rest will taste success here.

I am thankful for my parents of blessed memory. A father who taught me the value of a good education and a mother who made sure I was always dressed just so and took pride in all the school work that left the house in the morning. For growing up in a safe neighborhood and attending the very best schools possible. And how many times do I speak their very words to Christian.

I am thankful for our Church community and for all our friends there. I am grateful that my son has a Sunday School and a spiritual Father to teach him the most important lessons about the road to salvation and leading a good Christian life. I am glad he can grow up in a community of Christians that sets positive examples for one another. I am glad for the joy we all share. And, yes, I am glad we are there to be able to share our sorrows as well.

I am thankful for the 50 years we have shared together and the miracle that stands at 900 Alameda. From 15 visionary families to 750. From the IOOF Hall in San Mateo, to the peaceful Belmont campus. From a portable altar to a glorious church, Sunday School and Hall. From the small congregation that named itself for the Cross of our Lord, to the one that welcomes that Cross into its midst. Literally, a cast of thousands has, over these 18,000 days, hosted Festivals, Golf Tournaments, Crab Feeds, Glendis, Jean Sales,

and Dances, spent a million hours in meetings, generously offered their Fair Share and Building Fund offerings and, most importantly, spent 2,600 Sundays in prayer. "How great are Your works, O Lord. In wisdom, You have wrought them all."

Eva, Christian and I have joined over 140 special families that have honored the Holy Cross community on the occasion of its 50th anniversary with a financial gift. As each of you contemplates your blessings in this Thanksgiving season, we hope you will do the same. Your gift will assure that the Church is able to continue a high quality Sunday School and Youth Programs, to maintain facilities that we can all be proud of, and be in the position to offer even better programs for our families in the future.

And we invite you to be with us on **December 29** as we celebrate these magnificent 50 years at our Golden Gala at the Westin Hotel in Burlingame. Don't miss this one! It's a long way till 2056!

KING SCHEDULE

by *Konstantine Salmas*



Part of education is developing habits that help us participate in the world. This begins in preschool, where kids get used to the idea of a schedule. The best parents allow their children to feel out their own interests and then plug them into activities which cultivate this interest. The interest becomes a tangible skill, the parent hopes, so the child can do something with the skill. Music lessons, sports, and martial arts, are the chief activities children find themselves in by the time they are in middle school, all for the purpose of helping to form this little person. By middle school, a child has a schedule and the parent's hope for the success of their children in school is coming to fruition. And the schedule reigns supreme. A child, under this kind of schedule that guarantees them college entrance success, has had very little time to develop the emotions which over the years have appeared in them. Our skillful children become immature adults, able to build buildings, attract spouses, heal bodies, and make technological and scientific advances that are applied to the spheres of education, military, economics, business, and government. Now, we have a world; a world, full of skilled people, who have absolutely no ability to think through things from a Divine, and holy perspective.

This skilled world is unskilled in faith. As Orthodox Christians, we show our miseducation by developing the habits of our life without develop-

ing our mind in Christ. Specifically, we have little sense for the people and places of the Church. Put us in front of a car, a movie theatre or a club and we want to go in. Put us in front of a private school, and we salivate for our children to go in. Put us in front of the reflections of a Christian figure who, as part of their education, or as their entire education, committed to explaining the faith, and we need to leave.

I feel like worry and anxiety are the source of our decisions for ourselves and our children because we haven't developed a sense about faith. We come to church, but we look to other places to give us a vision for our lives and the lives of our children. We act as if commitment to our tradition, a tradition about life that stretches back thousands of years, will NOT bring us guidance from God. We fill ourselves with the same information as the people in our neighborhood, but we also take on their perspective when it comes to evaluating this information. If you want your child to be able to think, read, and write, and to do so with the slant of a person of faith, then make sure that you and them understand the Divine Liturgy and give them writings by some of the most intelligent people who have ever lived, figures in history who applied their mind to the Church.

NEWS

BIBLE STUDY SAYS, "HI"

by **Bob Frommer**, Bible Study student

To all who read this, I say, "Greetings." It sounds like my World War II notice; but it is much more. It is an invitation to all to join the Holy Cross Bible Study Class which meets at Church on **Tuesdays** at 10:30 AM.

I am a Roman Catholic, not a Greek Orthodox (yet), nor am I Greek -- so the class is for everyone. Never having really read the Bible before, I assure you this study has been an inspiration to me.

I have read many books, both classic, fiction, and history, but not have inspired or interested me as the stories of the Bible.

I look forward to the Tuesday morning sessions, not only for the informative and interesting instruction by **Father Peter** and **Konstantine Salmas**, but by the friends I have made who make up this class.



◀ Studying the Minor Prophets

If you think you already know it all and don't need it, I think you will be surprised.

Come join us. It's not only inspiring, but enjoyable. "Try it; you might like it."

BOOKSTORE NEWS

by **Presbytera Nikki Salmas**

With the season of gift-giving soon upon us, our Holy Cross Bookstore awaits your arrival. Whether to peruse or purchase, much awaits you. A very new publication which we are pleased to offer is entitled, "The Bible for Young People". Translated by **Father Spencer Kezios** from the original Greek edition, this beautifully illustrated book contains stories for young readers from both the old and the New Testaments. The stories, theologically Orthodox, are written in a fascinating style that will keep the interest of the very young, to whom they can be read, or those up to age 14 who are able to read themselves. Regardless of the number of books a child has, this addition to the bookshelf will be welcome.

Also available now is a new publication of the Paraclesis, or The office of Supplication, to Saint Nectarios. Written in both Greek and English, it is presented in a compact format which is easily carried in a purse or pocket. "This booklet containing the Office of Supplication to Saint Nectarios is lovingly presented to men and women everywhere, that they may turn in prayer to the Lord and seek help, aid, and healing through the intercessory prayers of this beloved Saint."

These are but a few of the new titles available. We look forward to sharing with you books, CD's, icons, cards and ornaments and other gift items. Each is offered in an attempt to enhance the understanding of and the sharing of our Holy Orthodox Faith.

FESTIVAL 2006 UPDATE

by **Bob Nemchik**, Festival Co-chair & a worker amongst workers

As Festival Co-Chair, with **Peter Bibbes** I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many, many workers it takes to put on our Church's annual Festival. This has been a tradition in our Church for 37 years and I applaud all of you for its success. Success is not only the measure of the income we bring into our Church but to the cooperative work we all do to make this community event fun for all who attend. We have many, repeat, Festival attendees and they are our best advertisement.

Thank you again and if there is someone who we have missed mentioning or whose name we misspelled, please accept our thanks and apologies -- and let us know who you are.

FESTIVAL CO-CHAIRS

Robert Nemchik, Peter Bibbes

FINANCE

Chair : Christine Longinidis

Audits : Cathy Zamenes, Ted Zamenes

Workers : Steve Charonis, Dora Gavros, Angelo Charonis, Jackie Charonis, Eleni Fiorentinos, John Longinidis, Athanasia Charonis, Tom Monolakis, Steve Monolakis, Greg Annis, Christina Meints, Tony Fotinos, Nick Fiorentinos

ADMINISTRATION

Coordination : Peter Bibbes

Volunteers : Ella Stamates

Permits : Bob Nemchik, Peter Bibbes

OFFICE STAFF

Secretary : Espie Cobos

Facilities Manager : Tyke Stamates

Facilities Support : Diego Palacio

Accounting : Ted Pappas

MARKETING

Program Book : Annette Vlahos

Paid Ads, Program Book Ads : Olivia Bagis

Media Ads : Eva Canellos

Raffle : Chris Canellos

ENTERTAINMENT

Manager : Chris Canellos

Play : Helene Nemchik, Alexandra Nemchik, Adrianna Boubalos, Alexa Fotinos, Amaal Greenwood-Goodwin, Aria Frangos, Aris Chechopoulos, Christian Canellos, Clark Lawson, Diana Dieguez, Dimitri Frangos, Elias Frangos, Ford Lawson, Gabby Nemchik, Kristin Cardiasmenos, Lia Buonocore, Madison Bolich, Nicholas Hulman, Nick Walker, Nicky Frangos, Nicole Kowtko, Nina Newman, Randy Boessenecker, Raquel Chechopoulos

Festival Ensemble : Conductors - Gus Gundunas, Tikey Zes; (parishioners) John Cladis, Ted Zamenes, Father Peter Salmas, Pan Yotopoulos, Chris Canellos, Mary Pappas, Khara-Maria Kalamaras, Kathy Craighead, Chris Frangos, Jim Frangos, Christina Kolotouros, George Liviakis

Aurora Mandolin Orchestra : Director - Josephine Pelligrini; (parishioner) George Liviakis

MC : Brenda Ropoulos

Dance : Ta Pedakia (directed by Athena Kabitzis); Angeloudakia (directed by Andreas Najjar and Chrysann Zongus); Kamari Mas – (directed by Eleni Hopkins, Alexa Makreas and Stephanie Giesecker); Epithia (directed by Dean Angelis, Kristina Dimmitt and Effie Zaharioudakis); Enomenoi, directed by Victoria Najjar and Nicole Tsardoulis

COOKING & KITCHEN OPERATIONS

Manager : Tanya Spirtos, Thomy Iuppa

Chairs : Tanya Spirtos, Jenny Kalaitzidis, Thomy Iuppa, Pre-Festival Cooking & Baking : Workers : Othonia Makris, Nikki Dakis, Pres Tula Karastamatis, Fani Haramalis, Katina Tzifas, Katy Haldezos, Theodora Kounalakis, Demitra Melas, Kathy Polychroniou, Soula Stathopoulos, Amalia Tragas, Terry Smith, Theo Hegis, Maria Mosdromos, Emmy Denton, Zoe Drossiadou, Mark Rowen, Dan Kalamaras, Mark Simon, Dean Bogios, Peter Economus, Olga Daskalakis, Barbara Malandros, Alexandra Capraro, Jenny Cladis, Gary Brenner, George Milanos, Todd Elliott, Steve Monolakis, Pete Metropoulos, Fran Bibbes, Vivian Metropoulos, Angela Murad, Maria-Demitroula Belich, Cathy Zamenes, Ella Stamates, Pagona Makris, Kitsy Anagnostou, Diane Stephanos, Helene Nemchik, Elly Jannings, Maria Partolas, Anne Koenig, Marie Gonas, Jeannie Savalas, Diane Bates, Dee Sperow, Vicki Demakas, Sophie Davos, Eula Tsvikas, Nikki Athanasiou

Dining Room Operations

Chair : Jenny Cladis

Workers : Anna Terranova, Eliza Shintaku, Mary Anagnostou, Chris Daskalakis, Jim Bogios, Arick Mathios, John Cladis, Kosta Dedo, Al Keriotis, Jim Maneatis, Jordan Murad, Tony Sperow, Chris Bogios, Dean Bogios, Zaf Kyriakis, Kathy Flocas, Khara-Maria Kalamaras, Othonia Makris, Anna Terranova, Spai Walti, Tamara Zerebinski, Fred Zerebinski, Angie Philopopoulos, Sue Felios, Greg Felios, Mary Anagnostou, Carole Karkazis, Manny Baglanis, Adria Bagatelos, Tina Belich, Dianne Bates, Alexandra Capraro, Anna Cholakakis, Pat Clements, Paulette Clements, Stephanie Clements, Emmy Denton, Todd Elliott, Joseph Evangelos, Costa Flesoras, Bob Fromer, Enaam Gabor, Marilyn Habib, Christina Heropoulos, Mary Igoumenopoulos, Anne Iuppa, Irene Iuppa, Patrice Karos, Anne Kotsopoulos, Jim Lianides, Nancy Lianides, Pete Metropoulos, Vivian Metropoulos, Mary Monolakis, Maria Mosblenos, Bob Nemchik, Kevin Pak, Peter Panagoulis, Manoli Pappadotes, Diane Pappas, Kathy Polychroniou, Mark Rowen, Stravoula Sarris, Ella Stamates, Amalia Tragas, Elaine Vouchilas, Brian Young, Tamara Zerebinski, Yvonne Sarles

FOOD BOOTHS

Manager : Gary Brenner

Delicatessan

Chair : Evan Economos

Workers : Cal Cafas, Amy Sarles, Nick Sarles, Jeff Baxter, Michael Bazigos, Joanne Hanoumis, Greg Doukas, Irene Ramirez, Teri Xirakas

Gyro
Chairs : Erma Najjar, Joe Najjar
Workers : Peter Galanakis, Ann Galanakis, Elias Galanakis, Kim Cairo, Candice Cairo, Natalie Cairo, Victoria Najjar, Andreas Najjar, Tim Allen, George Bouboulos, Eleni Ford, Carol Angelis, Dana Bangs, Elaine Bangs, Gregory Bangs, Deanna Bangs, Ennam Gabor, Gihan Gabor, Kathy Perreira, Carol Giannakaras, Efrosini Poios, Rosie Salis, Harry Breeze, Steven Frangos, Daniel Woerz, Eleni Woerz, Angela Woerz

Kalamari
Chair : Dimitri Melas
Workers : Kosta Kalaitzidis, Tony DeFerrari, Eleni Melas, Polixeni Kalaitzidis, Andy Lunday, Antoni Tsangaropoulos, Mixalis Bazigos, Manthos Economou, Adam Angelis, Roland Ramirez, Todd Elliott, Leonidas Maharis

Inside Pastry/Kaffenion
Chair : Joanne Fetsco
Workers : Nikki Athanasiou, Hido Athens, Annemarie Buoncore, Vicki Buoncore, Edie Christoforidis, Virginia Coppock, Kathy Craighead, Mary Ann Davlantes, Emmy Denton, Janice Donegan, June Droutsas, Nadia Elliott, Desi Evangel, Peter Evangel, Daisy Fernando, Jim Fetsco, Jayn Feyling, Veronica Feyling, Alexandra Fotis, Matoula Gialis, Effie Giannaros, Jenny Kalaitzidis, Khara-Maria Karamalas, Joanne Karavolos, Iriini Kehagias, Hana Keilo, Anne Kotsopoulos, Alicia Loukianoff, Mary Makreas, Pogony Makreas, Bess Malekos, Jean Maridakis, Tulla Monolakis, Angie Psaros, Irene Ramirez, Vivi Sarantitis, Frosini Sclavos, Harriet Siacotos, Terry Smith, Katina Tzifas, Mary Zongus, Konstaina Alitari

Outside Pastry/Coffee
Chairs : Anastacia Stamates, Vicki Becker, Lorene Zouzounis
Workers : Catherine Dacey, Gene Becker, Dominick Becker, Theo Hegis, Mary Stamates, Christian Stamates, Khara-Maria Kalamaras, Athena Kozar, David Zouzounis, Willie Geranios, Beverley Maneatis, Leslie Cardiasmenos, Cathy Peirera, Kim Tragoutsis, Eula Tsvikas, Maria Farantos

Loukoumades Preparation
Chairs : Ted Pappas, Peter Bibbes, Mary Stamates
Workers : Eleni Hulman, Leslie Cardiasmenos, Steve Cardiasmenos, Cynthia Mattis, Stephanie Orth, Andrew Cardiasmenos, George Contos, Jim Bagis, Mary Stamates, Chris Brock, Stephen Brock, Nick Alafouzos, Mary Pappas, Thalia Hoenthal, Greg Hulman, Greg Bibbes, David Brock, Denise Kouzoujian, Konstantine Salmas, Nick Alafouzos, Spiros Kabitsis, Dean Bogios

Loukoumades Sales
Chairs : Pauline Alevizos, Irene Fotinos, Kathyann Albert
Workers : Dennis Vozaitis, Angela Karantzas, Alexa Boubalos, Anthoula Giotinis, Lela Kakis, Tony Kakis, Angela Murad, Connie Newall, Jordon Newall, Michelle Morando, Angie Torre, Alexandra Torre, Peter Torre, Melinda Glafkides, Alexandra Koutsogeorgas, Georgia Ellenikiotis, Terry Xirakis, Kettie Fotinos, Chris Shreve, Anthie Mitropoulos, Raquel Roque, Pam Navarro, Adrea Bagatelos, Dolly Reese, Tara Sangelista

Souvlaki
Chairs : Markos Kounalakis, Cleon Skourtis, Cara Skourtis
Workers : George Vangelatos, Elias Eleftheriades, Aleka Kambaka, Charlie Skourtis, Nick Skourtis, Maria Portolas, Harry Farantos, Dimitri Katakis, Petros Bratis, Flo Ahlouche, Alan Doulphus

Meat Cutters : Harry Mitsanis, Emily Mitsanis, Mary Liviakis, Nick Alafouzos, Kitsy Anagnostou, Carole Angelis, Anthony Belesis, Mary Belich, Maria Blasi, Darrell Blasi, Vicki Chapralis, Steve Chapralis, George Contos, Nora Contos, Peter Davos, George Franco, Mildred Franco, Angie Gavrilis, Eleni Gavrilis, James Gavros, George Giannakaras, Pete Haramis, Gus Hassapakis, George Heropoulos, Christina Heropoulos, Mike Koston, James Leonides, Kalliope Logothetis, Alex Maridakis, John Maris, Georgia Maris, Pete Metropoulos, Vivian Metropoulos, Steve Monolakis, Tula Monolakis, Jordan Murad, Angela Murad, Matina Pappas, George Paras, Frances Paras, Mary Portolas, Nick Sarles, Nick Siacotos, Harriet Siacotos, Mark Simon, Kathy Simon, David Simon, Terry Smith, Dimitrios Stathos, Angelo Tonas, Vaso Tonas, Nick Tsingaris, John Tsingaris, Eula Tsvikas, Anna Tsolakis, Gus Vasilakos, Gregory Vlahos, Annette Vlahos, Popi Vlahos, Dimitrios Vourthis, Ellen Vourthis, Phillip Phillipopoulos, Dimitrios Igoumenopoulos, Mary Igoumenopoulos

Taverna
Chairs : Evangelos Hytopoulos, Kent Risting, Michael Malekos
Workers : Angelo Tonas, Alex Maridakis, George Sotir, Mark Tragoutsis, Mike Tragoutsis, Nick Makris, Steve Tonas, Chris Tonas, Bill Makris, John Tragas, John Longinidis, Danny Woerz, Eleni Woerz, John

Walti, Davis Zouzounis, Alex Geranios, Nick Svetcoff, Harry Vlahos, George Geranios, Julie Karbo, Mark Palmer, Gary Lam, Bob Schoenfeld, Thomas Fil, Anna Fil, Christofer Christoforidis, Julie Christoforidis, Chris Martinez, Paul O'Rear, Brian Roberts, Andrea Roberts, Marie Scott, Michelle Crisafis, George Boubalos, Don Galine

Lamb BBQ
Chairs : Gary Brenner
Workers : George Stergion, Jim Stephanos, Olivia Bagis, Jim Bagis, Darcy Anderson, Sonia Risting, Kent Risting, Arleen Brenner, Nitsa Swain, Matt Mak, Kathy Simon, Mark Simon, Jim Psaros, Pete Haramis, George Chechopoulos, David Iuppa, Ashley Brenner, David Simon, Chris Hopkins, Elias Kozanitas, Mary Ann Stergion, Nick Siacotos, George Komis, Kalliope Haramis, Jim Pappas

Outside BBQ
Chair : Jim Smith
Workers : David Boosalis, Jim Koch, Tom Mavrakakis, Konstantine Salmas, David Simon, Art Smith Jr., Peter Virsik

PROCUREMENT
Manager : Jim Smith

VENDORS and BOOTHS

Agora
Chair : Mary Peros
Workers : Helen Valavanis, Vicki Demakas, Mary Metropoulos, Frances Bibbes, Nora Contos, Kathy Craighead, Mary Ann Davlantes, Sophia Davos, Paulette Economus, Daisy Fernando, Helan Karos, Patricia Karos, Johanna Manley, Vivi Sarantitis, Dee Sperow, Cathy Zamenes, Mary Zongus, Esther Papangellin, June Drousis, Mary Pappas, Clara Nichols, Par

Stratigos, Marie Gonis, Harriet Siacotos, Nikki Athanasiou, Frances Schneider, Helen Ernst, Jeannie Savalas, Alicia Frangos, Evelyn Pappageorge, Arleen Breener, Dee Sperow, Lorraine Korpontinos, Sonia Risting, Merry Ann Loukianoff

Entrance
Chair : Art Longinidis

Workers : Jim Tragas, Andrzej Skoskiewicz, Dave Morrison, Alex Elms

Fun Zone
Chair : Nick Peros

Workers : Brenda Visas, Yiani Alevizos, Madison Bolich, Amber Carlson, Mercedes Carlson, Nicole Carmine, Andy Carmine, Ani Chechopoulos, Eleni Chechopoulos, Aris Chechopoulos, Caroline Colunga, Christina Colunga, Nicholas DeFerrari, Marika DeFerrari, Eleni Giotinis, Andrea Giotinis, Jerry Giotinis, Demetra Logothetis, Nick Love, Alex Simon, Yasmin Xirakis, Frank Catomer, Aidan D'Angelo, Zoe D'Angelo

Hellenika
Chair : Sue Anagnostou

Workers : Emily Mitsanas, Greg Dabanian, Sue Dabanian, Nicole Andrews, Alesia Panagiotides, Tulla Monolakis, Kitsi Anagnostou, Jean Anagnostou, Nadia Elliott, Elias Tsiknis, Loula Tsiknis

Icons and Bookstore
Chair : Pres. Nikki Salmas
Workers : Claire Gagas, Charles Gagas, Jamie Mason, Stephanos Lightfoot, Christine Demas, Johanna Manley, Emmie Denton

Vendors
Chairs : Ella Stamates, Tyke Stamates

FACILITIES
Workers : Don Craighead, Jim Stephanos, Andy Salis, Robert Nemchik, George Milanos, David Cleary, Dan Kalamaras, Jason Craighead, Dana Bangs, Greg Bangs, Peter Bibbes, Kim Cairo, Anthony Cairo, Kent Risting, Steve Lightfoot, Tom Mavrakakis, Peter Metropulos, Chris Frangos, Louie Koutogeorgas

**THANK
YOU
ALL!**

UPCOMING SERVICE & CHURCH HAPPENINGS

BE IN THE KNOW - COME TO THE FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Immediately after Divine Liturgy in The Oaks
Lunch will be served

Please attend and learn about :

- Parish organizations and their activities
- Programs in the community
- The budget for 2007
- Become more enlightened about our Church.

We look forward to seeing you!

Proposed Agenda FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following is the proposed agenda for the next General Assembly meeting. Join us on **Sunday, November 19** immediately following Divine Services. All active members of the Church of the Holy Cross are encouraged to attend. The minutes from the previous Assembly will be available in the Narthex.

1. Call to order & Opening Prayer
2. Selection of GA chair
3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting (*minutes of previous meeting available in the Narthex*)
4. Pastor's report – Fr. Peter
5. President's report – Gary Brenner

6. Treasurer's report – Chris Canellos
7. Committee Reports
 - A. Stewardship – Tanya Spirtos
 - B. Festival – Bob Nemchik
 - C. Audit – Cathy Zamenes
 - D. Technology – Kosta Kalaitzidis
8. Old Business
 - A. 2006 Clergy Laity – Tanya Spirtos
9. New Business
 - A. 2007 Budget – Chris Canellos (*proposed budget available in the Sunday Bulletin*)
 - B. Nomination Committee
 - C. Election Committee
 - D. Selection of Auditors
 - E. 50th Anniversary
10. Adjournment & Closing Prayer

DECEMBER IS FAMILY SHARING MONTH

“Family Sharing” is a program run by the Samaritan House, a non-profit organization in San Mateo. Families in need in San Mateo County register with the Samaritan House for help during the Holiday season. In turn, the Samaritan House finds organizations or families that are willing to adopt these families and provide them with food and gifts for Christmas.

Each year, Holy Cross adopts families. The goal of our efforts is simple, to provide families with needed items during the holiday season and a little bit extra (i.e., gifts that families normally wouldn't receive). Needless to say, everyone's help is appreciated and greatly needed.

Many organizations at Holy Cross contribute in special ways to Family Sharing. ORA collects flour, the choir collects pasta and Sunday School collects canned food. On Sundays during the month of December, members of our youth groups take special collections at the end of services that go toward the purchase of food certificates. And

last but not least, the Philoptochos sponsors a Christmas Tea for the community, with the monies going toward the purchasing of additional food certificates.

All of our efforts come together on **Monday, December 18**, when we sort the produce, food items and gifts for the families. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10 AM. Monday evening we will gather together for a light Lenten dinner, at 6 PM, pack our cars, deliver the food and gifts to the families and return to the Church for dessert, coffee and the return of the family forms.

There are many opportunities to help before **December 18**, by sharing your time, talents and treasury with the families we adopt:

- ❖ Adopt children/parents and/or seniors from the Angel Tree
 - Children (purchase a gift valued at \$50-\$70)
 - Parents (purchase a gift valued at \$10-\$15)
 - Seniors (purchase a gift valued at \$25-\$30)
- ❖ Donate food items and money for food certificates
- ❖ Help sort and pack the food and gifts
- ❖ Collect and bring in sturdy paper bags (with handles) to pack the food
- ❖ Make phone calls to our recipient families
- ❖ Sign up to deliver food and gifts

'TIS THE SEASON FOR THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - DECEMBER 10!

For a holly-jolly evening, grab your jingle bells, hop in your sleigh and glide over to the Holy Cross Community Christmas Program, **Sunday, December 10**, 6:00 PM, in The Oaks!

This wonderful family evening will feature musical and theatrical performances by the Holy Cross Choir, Youth Choir, Sunday School, Greek School, Drama Program and more! The Nativity scene will be as beautiful as ever, featuring our adorable young people!

Santa Claus has promised to make a special appearance, too!

Anyone (adult or child) who can play a musical instrument is invited to play during the Christmas Carol Sing-Along and Play-Along. So bring your guitar, trumpet, clarinet, violin or kazoo, and join in the fun! Contact **Eva Canellos** for your music, cecanellos@aol.com, or 529-0180.

Sunday School children will have one special rehearsal, on Saturday, December 9, at 10:00 AM in The Oaks. We have parts for young angels, shepherds and wise men, so contact **Irene Fotinos**, 349-1535, or Eva Canellos, to sign-up for the Nativity.

The children should arrive at the Christmas Program at 5:15 on Sunday the 10th.

See you there!

UPCOMING SERVICES

subject to change - please check your Sunday Bulletins

Sunday Services are 8:30 AM, Orthros, 10 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday Vespers are at 5:30 PM

Monday, November 13 - John Chrysostom, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 18 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, November 19 – 9th Sunday of Luke

Tuesday, November 21 – The Presentation of the Theotokos to the Temple, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, November 22 – Saint Philemon/Thanksgiving Eve, 7 PM, Vespers

Saturday, November 25 – Saint Catherine, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 25 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, November 26 – 13th Sunday of Luke

Thursday, November 30- Saint Andrew, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 2 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, December 3 - 14th Sunday of Luke

Monday, December 4 - Saint Barbara, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 5 - Saint Savvas, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, December 6 - Saint Nicholas, 9 AM, Divine Liturgy

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Also, please check your Sunday Bulletins for the dates and times of all meetings

15th of the Month, 4 PM - Articles and ads due for *Cross Currents* and *Youth Currents* (church office)

Wednesdays, Noon - Memorials for the following Sunday are due

Fridays, Noon - Items for the following Sunday's Bulletin are due

Daily, 9-Noon - Preschool

Daily, 4:30- 6:30 PM - Greek School (Classrooms)

Tuesdays, 10:30 - Noon - Bible Study (Fireside Room, or the Contos Library when ORA meets)

First **Tuesday** of the month, 11 AM – ORA (Oaks)

First **Tuesday** of the month, 7 PM – Philoptochos Board (Classrooms)

First **Thursdays** of the month, 6:30 PM - Technology Committee (Contos Library)

Third **Tuesdays** of the month, 7:30 PM – Parish Council (Contos Library)

First three **Wednesdays** of the month, 7:30 PM, Choir (Loft)

Wednesdays, 5-7 PM, Adult Greek School (Fireside Room)

Wednesday, 7 PM, Studies in the Faith (Contos Library)

Fridays, 3:30 PM, Youth Choir (Loft)

Please call the church office

if we missed your organization's meeting.

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

November 1 Family Sharing collections of donations begin

November 14 Thanksgiving Piece Meal (youth and their families)

November 19 Fall General Assembly, after church

December 10 Philoptochos Holiday Tea, after church

December 10 Christmas Program, 6:00 PM

December 18 Family Sharing Distribution, 6:00 PM

December 29 Golden Gala at the Westin Hotel, Burlingame

January 7 Vasilopeta, after church

ETC.



WEDDINGS

- May 28 Todd Elliott and Nadejda Milukhin; Kathy Ionin, sponsor
June 3 George Byron Visas and Brenda Ann Kraschuk; Denise Visas Tyng, sponsor
June 24 Aaron D'Amico and Katherine Ballart; Anna Bragg, sponsor
June 25 Andrew Anagnostou and Alicia Anagnostou; John Anagnostou, sponsor
July 8 Thomas Sperow and Ingrid Campos; Charles Gagas, sponsor
Aug 19 Angelos Dassios and Patricia Ivancich; Mr. & Mrs. Gus Boosalis, sponsors
Aug 20 Constantine Sapuntzakis and Helen Christakos; Alice Christakos, sponsor
Sept 16 Anthony Monolakis and Natalia Vsilyeva; Alexander Mallas, sponsor
Sept 16 David Clary and Terra Sant' Angelesa; Kathy Craighead, sponsor
Oct 7 Nicholas Giobres and Jacquelyn Volborth; Eleni Galitsopoulos, sponsor
Oct 21 Kenneth Van Trease and Connie Tzifas; Mary Papas, sponsor
Nov 4 Tony Sayegh and Jaime Lynn Dugman; Pierre Smayra, sponsor

BAPTISMS

- May 27 - Stavors Ioannis, son of John & Bonnie Kousoulakis; John Michael Zissimos, sponsor
June 3 - Anthony Mario, son of Theofane and Katerina Tsolakis; Ioannis & Marilena Glyptis, sponsors
June 4 - Aikaterini Zoe, daughter of Georgios and Argiro Papadopoulos; Eugenia Bazigos, sponsor
July 22 - Anastasia, daughter of Konstantinos and Ekaterini Papathanasiou; Maria Daskalakis Tsangaropoulos, sponsor
July 29 - Nicole Vasiliki, daughter of Spiros and Roula Tonas; Paul and Kathy Flocas, sponsors
July 30 - Katie, daughter of Thomas and Cheryl McGovern; Bob and Helene Nemchik, sponsors
July 30 - Elias, son of Jimmy Kim and Katie McGovern; Alexandra and Gabrielle Nemchik, sponsors
July 30 - John James Thomas, son of Hilamani Thompson and Katie McGovern; Bob and Helene Nemchik, sponsors
August 19 - Daphne, daughter of Colin and Maureen Hawkins; Corbett Hawkins, sponsor
August 20 - Samuel Ryan, son of Peter and Allison Virsik; Matthew Shaheen, sponsor
Sept 9 - Nicholas, son of Jimmy and Elise Clidas; Virginia Jennifer Clidas, sponsor
Oct 1 - Themistoklis Efthimios, son of Efthimios and Stephanie Drolapas; Sylvia Foundas and Shadi Bazouzi, sponsors
Oct 15 - Alexandra Grace, daughter of Dino and Elizabeth Dedes; Christian John Dedes, sponsor
Oct 15 - Evania Star, daughter of George and Sarah Georgiou; Linda and Steve Kamenis, sponsors

FUNERALS

- John G. Vasil, fell asleep in the Lord July 25
John Christopher Dickson, fell asleep in the Lord July 28
Evanthia Gounalakis, fell asleep in the Lord September 1
Geraldine "Geri" Sioutas Mayers, fell asleep in the Lord Sept. 11
Andrew Chrisafis, fell asleep in the Lord Sept. 14
John P. Metropulos, fell asleep in the Lord September 15

HOW OLD IS THE ORTHODOX FAITH?

by *Rev. Dr. Miltiades Efthimiou*

If you are a Lutheran, your religion was founded by Martin Luther, an ex-monk of the Catholic Church, in the year 1517.

If you belong to the Church of England, your religion was founded by King Henry VIII in the year 1534 because the Pope would not grant him a divorce with the right to re-marry.

If you are a Presbyterian, your religion was founded by John Knox in Scotland in the year 1560.

If you are a Congregationalist, your religion was originated by Robert Brown in Holland in 1582.

If you are Protestant Episcopalian, your religion was an offshoot of the Church of England, founded by Samuel Senbury in the American colonies in the 17th century.

If you are a Baptist, you owe the tenets of your religion to John Smyth, who launched it in Amsterdam in 1606.

If you are of the Dutch Reformed Church, you recognize Michelis Jones as founder because he originated your religion in New York in 1628.

If you are a Methodist, your religion was founded by John and Charles Wesley in England in 1774. If you are a Mormon (Latter Day Saints), Joseph Smith started your religion in Palmyra, New York, in 1829.

If you worship with the Salvation Army, your sect began with William Booth in London in 1865. If you are Christian Scientist, you look to 1879 as the year in which your religion was born and to Mary Baker Eddy as its founder.

If you belong to one of the religious organizations known as “Church of the Nazarene, Pentecostal Gospel,” “Holiness Church,” or “Jehovah’s Witnesses,” your religion is one of the hundreds of new sects founded by men within the past hundred years.

If you are Roman Catholic, your church shared the same rich apostolic and doctrinal heritage as the Orthodox Church for the first thousand years of its history, since during the first millennium they were one and the same Church. Lamentably, in 1054, the Pope of Rome broke away from the other four Apostolic Patriarchates (which include Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem), by tampering with the Original Creed of the

Church, and considering himself to be infallible. Thus your church is 1,000 years old.

If you are Orthodox Christian, your religion was founded in the year 33 by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It has not changed since that time. Our church is now almost 2,000 years old. And it is for this reason, that Orthodoxy, the Church of the Apostles and the Fathers is considered the true “one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.”

This is the greatest legacy that we can pass on to the young people of the new millennium.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS INFORMATION WE ALL NEED TO KNOW

Each and every baptized Orthodox Christian must make some effort of active commitment to his or her Church. Some serve by participating in the Choir; some do so by joining the Philoptochos Ladies Society; others assist whenever the Parish sponsors a community activity; and others participate in the life of the Church by serving as members of the Parish Council.

Being a member of the Parish Council is truly a responsible task that must be served by an individual committed to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The role of a Parish Council member is a holy and spiritual one. In assisting in the administrative responsibilities of the Church, a Parish Council member acknowledges the importance of strengthening the earthly ministry through God’s Church. Being a member of the Parish Council should not be for social reasons or status in the Community; but rather an act of humility and conviction to Christ our Lord.

In accordance with the 2005 Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, all candidates wishing to serve on the Parish Council must attend a PARISH COUNCIL SEMINAR organized by the current Parish Council and under the guidance of the Parish Priest. The purpose of the Seminar is to prepare candidates for the Parish Council, as well as making them aware of the sacred responsibilities expected of a Council member.

This year’s PARISH COUNCIL SEMINAR will be held on **Monday November 20** and **Monday, November 27**, at 7:30 PM in the Contos Library.

ALL POTENTIAL PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS, INCLUDING THOSE SEEKING RE-ELECTION, MUST ATTEND THE SEMINAR.


In order to be placed on the ballot, one must complete the PETITION FOR CANDIDACY form and return it to the Church Office before **Monday, November 27**, at 7:30 PM. If a petition has not been turned in by the ascribed date and time, the person will be ineligible to run for the Parish Council.

YOUTH CURRENTS

November 2006 edition

*Grow in the Grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

2 Peter 3:18



YRE OFF TO A GREAT START

Our Youth Religious Education Program got under way for 2006-2007 under the direction of **Khara-Maria Kalamaras**, our new YRE Coordinator. The staff has met several times already, all with the intention of finding ways to emphasize the importance of Sunday School.

They also wanted you to learn more about the individuals who make up the staff -- they're not just the dedicated parishioners with big smiles who appear on Sundays and at various church functions. With this in mind, the teachers were asked to submit their answers to some probing questions by *Youth Currents*. Here are three of the results; more in subsequent issues :



Angela Woerz -- Kindergarten teacher -- I have lived in Redwood City all my life and I have grown up here at Holy Cross ever since I was a little girl. My family is very involved in the church. I have a mother and a father who are very supportive and younger brother who dances here too with me. Right now I am a freshman at the College of San Mateo and I am playing college softball for them. This is my 1st year teaching, but I feel that religious education is important because we understand

the reading and the messages from the Bible. The reason why I teach is because I want to be more involved in my community.

Marianne Cheatham -- Kindergarten teacher -- I live in San Carlos with my husband and 3 daughters. We have been part of the Holy Cross community for the past 4 years. This is my first year teaching the Kindergarten Religious Education class, and am excited to be in a classroom again as I used to teach elementary school before having children. I hope to help my students learn more about their faith in a supportive, loving atmosphere.



Adrienne Roberts -- Second Grade Teacher -- I grew up, was baptized and was married at Saint Nicholas. I am now a stay at home mom. I teach in Sunday School because I love the impact of the church on my family. I think Sunday School can be a critical part of a child's life. Parents can help by getting to church on time and not making exceptions about attendance.

**Πολλες ευχες απο Alhana Foods
για την ημερα των Ευχαριστιων**
(Best Wishes from Alhana Foods for a Happy Thanksgiving!)



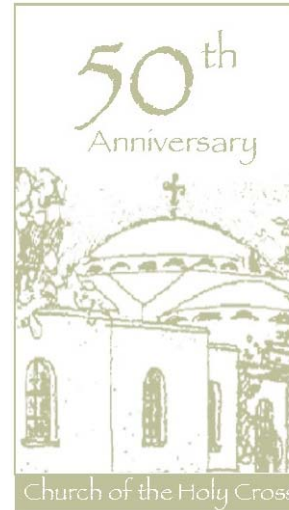
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We Cater all Occasions

25 West 37th Ave San Mateo, CA 94403
650-349-3300
www.alhana.net

Alhana Greek 2007 Calendars should be available within the next two weeks, please stop by and pick up your FREE Calendar



*Save the date -
Friday, December 29*

50th Anniversary Gala

*An event
50 years in the making.*

Join us with your family.

*Call 650-591-4447
if you did not receive an invitation*

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