Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Houston, Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had a chance to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, “You’d better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it.”

Then he thought, “Oh, forget it, it’s only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a gift from God and keep quiet.”

But when his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, “Here, you gave me too much change.” The driver, with a smile, replied, “Aren’t you the new preacher in town? I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I’ll see you at church on Sunday.”

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, “Oh, God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter.”

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians and will put us to the test! Always be on guard and remember- YOU carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself Christian.

Watch your thoughts; they become words
Watch your words; they become actions
Watch your actions; they become habits
Watch your habits; they become character
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny!
Did you know that the church phone system has a Prayer Line? Anytime, day or night, that you may need a prayer, call 440-331-2246 ext.7 and you will hear a seasonal prayer.
PARISH COUNCIL THANKS GOYA

Our GOYA heard the request from their church for financial help and took action. With the help of their advisors John and Betty Poulos, they put together their project of requesting our parishioners to collect their change during Lent.

At the end of Lent, the contents of the change containers were counted and the total results were turned in to the Parish Council - $1,400. The money has been put into our Operations Fund to help pay the bills.

We want to thank the parishioners and their children that participated in this fundraiser. One of the nicest moments, during this fundraiser, was when a little boy brought a filled container to the pangari, one Sunday morning. He reached up with his little hands holding the container and presented it to the Parish Council. He too wanted to help his church.

Thank you to our GOYA and their advisors for stepping up and taking action to help!

We urge all our parishioners to complete the form below, indicating the times and areas for which you are available and interested in working. Please return this form to the church office.

NAME________________________________________

PHONE________________________________________

EMAIL___________________________________________

I would like to assist in the following area(s):
___ Drive thru ___ church tours
___ Kitchen - salads ___ Souvlakia/Gyro booth
___ Kitchen - chef ___ Inside/Outside bars
___ Cleaning vegetables ___ Pastries
___ Busing tables ___ Pop
___ Coffee ___ Taverna
___ Food Line (servers) ___ Food Line (Runners)
___ Setup of Booths

I’m available on the following days/times (check all that apply)
Thu., June 16: ___11 a.m.–3 p.m. ___3-7 p.m. ___7-10 p.m.
Fri., June 17: ___11 a.m.–3 p.m. ___3-7 p.m. ___7-11 p.m.
Sat., June 18: ___11 a.m.–3 p.m. ___3-7 p.m. ___7-11 p.m.
Sun., June 19: ___11 a.m.–3 p.m. ___3-7 p.m. ___7-10 p.m.

Festival Cooking Schedule

Wed., June 1 – Tsoureki
Thu., June 2 – Koulourakia
Tue, June 14– Leg of Lamb
Wed., June 15– Tourlou and Rice Pudding

Thanks to all our hardworking volunteers who have already prepared so many delicious dishes!

Γεια στα χέρια σας!

Speaking of Stewardship…

We welcome new members:

The Alhanna family
Georges & Farida Khoury
Tom & Jennifer Papanikolaou

PARISH COUNCIL THANKS GOYA

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Thank you to our GOYA and their advisors for stepping up and taking action to help!

FESTIVAL 2011 VOLUNTEER FORM

We urge all our parishioners to complete the form below, indicating the times and areas for which you are available and interested in working. Please return this form to the church office.

NAME________________________________________

PHONE________________________________________

EMAIL___________________________________________

I would like to assist in the following area(s):
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___ Kitchen - salads ___ Souvlakia/Gyro booth
___ Kitchen - chef ___ Inside/Outside bars
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Thanks to all our hardworking volunteers who have already prepared so many delicious dishes!

Γεια στα χέρια σας!

Festival Promotion

This year’s festival flyer will be emailed to our parishioners. Please take a moment to forward it to all your friends, family and neighbors!

There are also festival details at our website (www.saintdemetrios.org) and on our Facebook page (where you can also invite your friends!)

We welcome new members:

The Alhanna family
Georges & Farida Khoury
Tom & Jennifer Papanikolaou
OUR NEWEST LITTLE ANGEL

Illyana, daughter of Mike Dagiasis & Jenny, and granddaughter of George & Lula Dagiasis, was born on April 7, 2011.

THOSE THAT HAVE PUT ON CHRIST

Nicholas and Anastasia Despres, children of Mern Johnson, were baptized on May 6, 2011. Mern Johnson was also chrismated into the Orthodox faith on the same day. The family’s sponsor is Dianne Johnson of Massachusetts.

Andrew Rocco, son of Matt & Jamie, was baptized on May 7, 2011. His dônoûsis Christine DesPasquale of Holy Trinity Church, Canton, Ohio.

“Cadence” Ermione Beeler, daughter of John & Alexa, was baptized on May 15, 2011. Her dônoûsis Lily Anitas.

Kristine Katsaras was chrismated in the Orthodox faith on May 23, 2011. Her sponsors are Kleanthis & Litta Klidas.

Vasiliki “Lillian” Douzos, daughter of George & Vicky, was baptized on May 28, 2011. Her dônoûsis Maria Whitacker of St. Paul Church, North Royalton.

JOINED WITH STEFANA

Ted Giallouakis & Angela Jones were married on May 14, 2011. Their dôoumbariðeare Harry & Angie Giallourakis.

Georges Khoury & Farida Boutros were married on May 23, 2011. Their dôoumbariðeare George & Liora Nader of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cleveland.

ASLEEP IN THE LORD

Anastasia “Ann” Kolas (nee Christ), mother of Christine Hericks (David), Constance Cusma (Chris), Mark, and Mary Klasa (Ed) and grandmother of 6, passed away on April 16, 2011. Mrs. Kolas was also a long-time member of St. Demetrios Choir.

Anna Safos (nee Amaxis), mother of John, Garyfalia (Steve), Helen Papadorotheou (George), Antonia Perris, and Vasiliki Mavrodonis (John), grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 8, passed away on April 26, 2011.

Nick S. Alexander, husband of Deena, father of Sonia Alexander, Maria Alex (Steve) and Alex (Laura), and grandfather of James, Deena, Anastasia, Nicole and Sarah, passed away on May 5, 2011.

St. Demetrios Bereavement Support Group

Join us to discuss your feelings about grief, on the first Monday of each month, except July (June 6 and August 1) 9:30 am, in the St. Philothei Chapel.

AHEPA & DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPS PRESENT LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Sunday, May 15, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese celebrated AHEPA Sunday. Here at St. Demetrios, the Metro-Cleveland AHEPA Chapter and the Daughters of Penelope Icarus Chapter 321 presented scholarships to three very deserving and outstanding high-school seniors of our parish.

The Metro-Cleveland AHEPA chapter, in honor of Dr. John G. Janas presented scholarships to Jacqueline Pyros, daughter of Carrie & Jack Pyros, a senior at Rocky River High School who will be attending Miami University, and to Nicholas Steffas, son of Maggie & Manuel Steffas, a senior at Westlake High School who will also be attending Miami University. The Daughters of Penelope Chapter 321 presented their scholarship to: Anastasia Souris, daughter of Loula & Jim Souris, a senior at Olmsted Falls who will be attending Ohio University.

With these three scholarships AHEPA and Daughters have now totaled 75 local scholarships presented to children of families attending St. Demetrios Church! In celebration, cake and coffee was served during the social hour to honor our scholarship winners with an invitation for all to join in the festivities. Congratulations to Anastasia, Jacqueline and Nicholas. We wish you continued success and Best Wishes to all of this year’s graduating class! Ï Maria Fotinos

We thank the following people for their donations to St. Demetrios Church* in loving memory of:

Nick Alexander+: Mike Butts, Georgia Georgakopoulos, David & Dena Grubb, Bill Loizos, Theodore & Stacy Loizos, Barbara Pasalis, Steven & Debra Peters, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Sfekas

Ann Kolas+: John & Dorothea Apostolakis, Phillip & Dina Covey, Anthony & Veronica Kounelas, David & Janine Lambros,

Nikitas Makris+: Jane Miller

Anna Safos+: Gary & Crystal Thomas

*This list does not include those donations gratefully accepted by the Trust Fund or Philoptochos
Yassou Club

A good time was had by all who attended the Dean Martin tribute at Carrie Cerino’s in May

(photos courtesy of Estelle Callas)

IOCC Summer Fundraisers

The 19th annual International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) banquet was held last month with IOCC’s Executive Director and CEO, Dean Triantafilou, as keynote speaker. As he reviewed the natural disasters of the past year - earthquakes, tsunamis & nuclear disasters in Japan…flooding along the Mississippi River…deadly tornados in the midwest, even on the very night of the event - he stressed the need for continued support in their economic assistance programs around the world (with the possibility of a new field office in northern Iraq) and disaster relief here in the U.S. He also thanked Clevelanders for their great support of the fundraising via the banquet, at which there were 300 people in attendance.

For those who wish to continue helping IOCC in the coming months, there are two more local events (see below) whose proceeds will go toward relief programs. As our neighbors in the south and midwest try to rebuild their lives amidst floods and rubble, we can help while also enjoying time with our families and fellow Orthodox Christians.

IOCC Day at Cedar Point

Wednesday, June 15

$35 discounted regular admission
$25 for those under 48” or over 62 years

Reserve tickets by June 6 by contacting Lissa at 216-407-2119 or mmolchan@sbcglobal.net

We will gather as a group around 1 p.m. at the main pavilion (bring or buy your lunch) and take a group picture!

IOCC BASEBALL NIGHT

At Progressive Field

Friday, August 26 @ 7:05 p.m.

Cleveland Indians vs. Kansas City Royals

Mezzanine Seats $22

Great fireworks after the game!

Contact Millie Vovos at 440-884-1305
Focus on Philoptochtos

This is a double issue for The Epistle so I apologize in advance if I forget to mention someone or something. As we prepare for our Churchâ€”Festival, I know that we will all come together to work for the good of our Community. That uplifting spirit that always brings us together, and has been growing in our Community throughout this past year, will once again be answered by many of you and I look forward to working side by side with you all on those fun filled, but hard working days in June. The Philoptochtos, as in the past, sponsors the Loukounades booth. As in the past many years, Mary Poulos will be Chairing this area for us and coordinating the many Volunteers needed to serve the long lines of people that wait patiently for our well known specialty! To help in this area, please call Mary (440-734-0567).

In May, we had a wonderful dinner meeting at Stino da Napoli, attended by 23 members. At this meeting we took names for the openings we now have for Board members due to the increase in our General Membership. We had an overwhelming response, and I am pleased to announce that for the coming term we will have 19 Board Members: Jeanne Paras, Barb Pasalis, Crystal Thomas, Jan Spooner, Mari-beth Famiano, Ann Frangos, Elpida Kosmides, Janine Lambros, Anna Goldense, Mary Levendusky, Connie, Yahm, Mary Poulos, Joanne Harootunian, Stephanie Zavatchen, Vantthi Pallam, Dorothea Markakis Apostolakis, Annouska Remmert, Aggie Arabian, Mary Costakis. Remember though, that it is not just the Board members that do all the work. It is the membership that needs to support and work hard if the true work is to be accomplished. Many of our fund raising events begin in the Fall. I hope you will consider stepping up to help chair one of our many activities in the coming year, or one of the many activities that we are involved in on a weekly basis.

There are so many different areas that we are trying to reach out to, and so many areas that we are missing.

Our Tutoring program at Louis Agassi School is such a success, so we will continue next year. Many thanks again to our Volunteers and mostly to Janine Lambros for organizing it all again this past year. During Holy Week, I sent out emails to many of you regarding a needy family from our other school, The Bridge Avenue School. I canâ€™t thank you enough for the outpouring of support that came from many of you to help them. We will be doing more for this family, and the school in the coming months and school year. Stay tuned!

We are also supporting two young ladies of our Community on Mission trips this summer. Stacy Loejos is going back to Africa and Alexis Stefias is off to Alaska! We canâ€™t wait to hear their stories and see all of their pictures when they return.

Our Food Pantry is still going strong and is helping many. Donâ€”hesitate to donate or use it! As always, let Father or myself know if there is someone in need of anything, so that we can reach out to them. If it is a utility bill, or medical bill or whatever, we will do what we can, privately and to the best of our ability. Remember, when we work together the job is small; when we work alone the job is large.- Jeanne C Paras, Philoptochtos President

St. Demetrios Philoptochtos Responding to 21st Needs Locally and Globally

The National Philoptochtos Society is the largest Christian Philanthropic association in North and South America with 485 Chapters and over 27,500 members. Like the myrrh bearing women who entered into Christâ€™s tomb after his death, National Philoptochtos is often a first responder in an emergency. Archbishop Demetrios calls us his Army of Women. Since the new Millennium, our Philoptochtos has disbursed over $20,000 annually to support our local community in these difficult economic times:

- Monthly support to 6 local families
- Emergency assistance for payment of rent, mortgage, utilities, medical expenses
- Food coupons for the needy
- Legal assistance for needy families
- Donations to community organizations such as The City Mission, Second Harvest, Zoe for Life, Berea Childrenâ€”Home
- Nearly $50,000 collectively from the local and National Philoptochtos Societies to the Steven Giallourakis AYA Fund
- Visits to shut-ins
- St. Demetrios Food Pantry provides food to residents throughout the Westshore community
- Hand-made Afghans and blankets to children, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins, and Native American Communities in New Mexico and Montana
- Support for our St. Demetrios community: Sunday School, Jr. GOYA, Yassou Club, parish library, festival, and parish missionaries
- Spiritual outreach through our Family & Society Committee icons for new babies and book on Greek traditions for new brides
- Weekly tutoring at inner-city Cleveland schools, as well as school clothes, school supplies and monthly lunches

Additional funds support programs within our Metropolis:
- Emergency assistance for needy families throughout our Metropolis
- Support for our senior citizens through the 75th Anniversary Founders Fund
- Support for every Ronald McDonald House in the Metropolis
- Support for womenâ€”shelters
- Contributions for the upkeep of the Metropolis Home
- Support for our Metropolis newspaper, the Illuminator
- Support for Monasteries throughout our Metropolis
- Support for the youth programs in our Metropolis
Through the National Philoptochos Society, national and international donations averaging $1.4 million annually:

- Emergency Fund has provided assistance to victims of disasters: 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the Greek Fires, the Tsunami, floods in Tennessee, earthquakes in Haiti and Japan. (The National Philoptochos was first response on the ground during Hurricane Katrina and the Haitian earthquake, even before the American Red Cross.)

- Social Services Fund provides support to needy families across our nation

- Over $250,000 annually through the Children's Medical Fund to hospitals throughout America that support programs serving sick children, as well as funding for research programs which target childhood disease

- Thousands of children across America receive weekend meals so that they will not return to school hungry on Mondays through the Blessings in a Backpack program

- Reading books and warm pajamas provided to needy children through a national partnership with the Pajama Program

- Support for retired Clergy and widowed Presbyters

- Scholarships for seminarians at Holy Cross Seminary and students at Hellenic College

- Maintenance and upkeep of Hellenic College/Holy Cross Seminary, St. Basil's Academy, and St. Photios Shrine

- Care packages for our troops overseas

- Emergency health kits for victims of disasters provided to IOCC and FEMA for distribution

- Nationwide HIV/AIDS Walkathon

- Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) Connect Kits for college students away from home

- Programs for women's heart health through a national partnership with the American Heart Association

- Autism Assistance Fund

- International partnerships with IOCC have provided funding and labor for the construction of 2 children's medical clinics, in Zimbabwe and Ethiopia

- The Wheelchair Project provided the gift of mobility to the handicapped in Thessaloniki, Greece and the Republic of Georgia.

- Support for Orthodox international missionaries through donations to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) and Support-A-Mission Priest

- Annual support for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

- Support for the Ecumenical Patriarchate

(continued from previous page)

Theotokos Fellowship will meet weekly each Wednesday at 7 p.m. until June 8, when we will break for summer.

LITURGICAL CHOIR

Our first rehearsal in June will be held on Wednesday, June 1st instead of on Monday, May 30th, because of Memorial Day. The choir will also be hosting the MEGOFOX Executive meeting on June 4th from 9am to 4pm. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided by the choir members for those attending. Please contact Diane Matzorkis if you can attend and help with the lunch.

The CD of the Divine Liturgy which we recorded earlier this year should be ready in time for the festival! Look for our festival booth in the Zapis Activity Center where you can purchase copies for your own edification or as a gift to shut-ins, etc.

The last Sunday that the choir will chant the liturgy for this Ecclesiastical year is Pentecost Sunday, June 12th. However, we will still have an active summer. Look for our Choir Booth at the St. Demetrios Festival this year! Many Choir Members will also be attending this year's MEGOFOX Convention in Ann Arbor, MI from July 14th-17th. District rehearsals and extra rehearsals will be taking place during the summer to prepare the new music for the convention.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Save the date for a Holy Cross Retreat on Wed., September 14, at 6 p.m. in the hall. The entire community is welcome to the Spiritual Life Committee's showing of the movie, The Mysteries of the Jesus Prayer. A simple Lenten meal will also be provided to those in attendance. A study guide will be included to help attendees follow the movie and enhance discussion at the end. No charge for admission, but good-will offerings will be accepted.

Saturday, November 12, 2011

3rd Annual Enchanted Evening
$100 Dinner-Dance and Silent Auction

We are now accepting items, services, etc. for the Silent Auction. To donate, please contact Vaso Diamantis at 216-870-8314 or at vsdiamantis@yahoo.com
Sacred Spaces: Veria

By Eleni Papouras-Jenks

Last summer on our trip to Greece, while traveling through Macedonia, we made a short but uplifting visit to the town of Veria (also seen spelled as Berea). To walk where St. Paul once did.

St. Paul was a Jew by race, a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, an expert in the Law, and a Pharisee, so from the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot for the traditions of the Jews and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ. At that time, his name was Saul. In his great passion of rage and fury against the disciples of the Lord, he went to Damascus bearing letters of introduction from the high priest. His intention was to bring the disciples of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. As he was approaching Damascus, about midday, there suddenly shone upon him a light from Heaven. (Depicted in the Veria mosaic, bottom left.) Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And he asked, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest." And that heavenly voice and brilliance made him tremble, and he was blinded for a time. He was led by the hand into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias, he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of the Sun of Righteousness. Immediately and beyond all expectation, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21). As he himself tells in his Epistles, his zeal in preaching the Gospel led to his unabating labors and many afflictions, including wounds, prisons, bonds, beatings, stoneings, shipwrecks, journeys, peril on land and sea, in cities and in wildernesses, continual vigils, daily fasting, hunger, thirst, nakedness, and all those other things that he endured for the Name of Christ. With his heart aflame, he continuously traveled throughout all parts of the world, Asia and Europe, the West and East, neither staying nor living in any one place (Book of the Acts).

Among his many travels, spreading the Word, St. Paul also visited Greece, the heart of the pagan world. His famous sermon at the Aeropagos in Athens is commemorated in stone at the entrance to the Acropolis. But the small, modern Greek town of Veria has commemorated its welcoming heritage with a small open-air park, paved with white marble and surrounded by a curved wall decorated with vibrant, mosaics depicting scenes from the saint's life.

Veria is located across the Aliakmon River from the archaeological site of the grave of Philip of Macedon, father of Alexander the Great. But it is known to Christians all over the world as the town that received St. Paul after he was chased out of Thessaloniki by the Jews there. Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica for they received the word with all eagerness. (Acts 17:11) The Verians' reception of St. Paul is depicted in one of the larger mosaics. (pictured, bottom right.) Many of them therefore believed, along with many Greek women of high standing as well as men. (Acts 17:12) The park marks the site of the 1st Century building which no longer stands. All that is left of it are the stone steps that led to its entrance, over which another mosaic, of the saint, has been added (top, center.)

St. Paul's 14 Epistles were further explained in 250 homilies by St. John Chrysostom. In them, he brings together, in a wondrous manner, the Old with the New Testaments, and expounds on the mysteries which had been concealed. He confirms the doctrines of the Faith, expounds the ethical teaching of the Gospel, and demonstrates with exactness the duties incumbent upon every rank, age, and order of man.

Having completed the work of his ministry, he ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified. Therefore, the Church commemorates both Saints Peter and Paul together on June 29. (Photos courtesy of JP Jenks; historical source: goarch.org)

The feastday of Sts. Peter & Paul will be celebrated at St. Paul Church, 4548 Wallings Rd., North Royalton. Tue., June 28 with 7 p.m. Vespers, followed by coffee reception, and on Wed., June 29 with 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by 11 a.m. Feastday luncheon.
Celebrate Youth!

Sunday School

Congratulations to Eleni Nikolakis, senior division speaker in the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, who progressed as far as the Metropolis Level after coming in first in the District Level competition at Annunciation Church in April. The Metropolis competition was held on May 14 in Pittsburgh.

Youth Choir

Congratulations to the following Youth Choir Members who are have earned points toward their trip to Cedar Point on June 11th due to their commitment and participation! Mary Matzorkis (Asst. Director), Maria Steffas, (Asst. Director), Angelia Szekely (Pres.), Antonia Hadgis (Vice-Pres.), Matthew Szekely (Treas.), Jordyn Prock (Sec.), Sophia Loizos (Sec.), Alexi Bahas, Andrew Giavroutas, Avgero Kopasakis, Eleni Nikolakis, Steven Nikolakis, Anna Packis, Cassie Packis, Sophia Rechin, Alex Stamatis, Nick Stamatis, Peter Stamatis, and Anastasia Young. Seven of these students do not have to pay any money for their ticket, their food or their drinks! Others whose attendance was not as regular must pay for part of their trip and their food and drinks.

The permission slips with emergency information and amount due (if you owe any) must be turned in to Mrs. Diane by June 4th. Prepaid tickets will be picked up on June 5th so that we do not have to wait in line to get in. Checks can be made out to St. Demetrios Church.

Diane Matzorkis, Mary Szekely, Mary Matzorkis and Maria Steffas will be chaperoning the trip and driving to Cedar Point. We will meet at the front doors of the church by 8:45 am. on Saturday, June 11th. The cars will leave at 9:00am and will return to the church front doors at 9:00pm. Any parents and siblings of these students who can chaperone their own children, arrange their own transportation and pay for their trip to Diane by June 4th, can also get a group rate of $37.00 for children (including the drink wrist band) and $39.00 for chaperones (including the drink wrist band.) The prepaid meal vouchers are $10.00. Otherwise you will not be included in the group rate and must make your own purchases. Please contact Diane Matzorkis (440-463-3068 or dianematzorkis@hotmail.com) for further information.

Hellenic Dancers

Aeraki (5- and 6-year-olds) and Kymata (junior) Dancers rehearsal dates/times for June will be emailed to those who are already signed up. Contact Eleni Giavroutas or Mary Szekely with any questions.

Kyklonas (senior) Dancers Thanks to all our parent drivers who got us to our May performances & and all our parish dansâ€” who cheered us on at St. Nicholas and Annunciationâ€” festivals! Rehearsals listed on the June calendar (see p. 16.)

Sun, June 12- Folk Dance Festival Planning meeting for ALL parents. Immediately after church.

JUNE 16-19 – St. Demetrios Greek Festival, all groups!

Sun, June 26- Kyklonas Dancers perform at Cleveland International Festival (see p. 14 for more details)

Labor Day Weekend (day/time TBA) Kyklonas Dancers perform at Cretan Club food fest. (August practices TBA)

October 14-16, 2011. The annual Metropolis of Pittsburgh Folk Dance Festival, hosted by all our dance groups!

G.O.Y.A.

On Sunday, May 15. GOYA outgoing president Paul Poulos and incoming president Tom Steffas presented Fr. Jim and the Parish Council with a check for $1,400 which GOYA collected during their Lenten Spare Change Fundraiser. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this project!

We also thank outgoing GOYA advisors John & Betty Poulos for their hard work and dedication over the past several years! And we welcome incoming advisors Manuel & Maggie Steffas.

Vacation Church School 2011

August 1-5, daily 9 a.m. – Noon, at St. Demetrios

Look for registration forms at church this summer

Free for St. Demetrios members of good standing, but good will donations will be gratefully accepted!

CAMP NAZARETH 2011

Metropolis of Pittsburgh Summer Camp in Mercer, PA.

JOY (Entering Grades 3 – 6, Fall 2011)

Session 1: June 19-25 and Session 2: June 26 - July 2

GOYA (Entering Grade 7, Fall 2011 - 2011 Graduates)

Session 3: July 3 - 9 and Session 4: July 10 - 16

Online registration at pittsburgh.goarch.org/register
Ladies & Gentlemen,
we
Present
the
Class of 2011

MICHAEL KARIOTAKIS
Graduate of Rocky River High School
Activities: RRHS Football for 4 years, Honor Roll student, Varsity Swimmer for 4 years and Captain as Jr. & Sr., St. Demetrios GOYA, Altar Boy, and Greek Festival set-up and clean-up worker.
Future Plans: University of Toledo, majoring in Civil Engineering

THOMAS KAZANAS
Graduate of Bay High School
Activities: Cross-country, basketball, Bay High School Newspaper; elected Homecoming King.
Future Plans: Ohio University, majoring in Marketing

DENISE KYRKOS
Graduate of Westlake High School
Activities: WHS French club and choir; St. Demetrios GOYA
Future Plans: Cleveland State University, to study International Relations and Foreign Language.

PAUL JOHN POULOS
Graduate of Westlake High School, Summa Cum Laude
Activities: National Honor Society, WHS Band, GOYA (2010-11 President); graduate of Balourdas Greek School; St. Demetrios Altar Boy, Hellenic Dancer; 2011 Honors Diploma, 2011 Presidents Award of Excellence, State Board of Education Award of Merit 2011; Recipient of OSU Provost Scholarship.
Future Plans: The Ohio State University, Honors Program, in Mathematics

JACQUELINE PYROS
Graduate of Rocky River High School
Activities: Rocky River High School Student Council, Yearbook Editor, Spirit Club, Senior Class Representative, Wrestling Statistician, St. Demetrios GOYA.
Future Plans: Miami University
ANDREW ROBERT RIPICH

Graduate of Lutheran West High School

Activities: LWHS Football, Basketball and Golf. 2 years each; Academic All-Ohio; National Honor Society; GOYA (Vice President) & basketball.

Future Plans: Miami University, majoring in Business, minoring in Engineering.

WILLIAM THOMAS ROUSSOS

Graduate of Strongsville High School

Activities: Vice President of Project Support; Captain of Varsity Tennis team; Pre-Med Club; working as an umpire for Strongsville Rec Center for 3 years; Assistant Youth Basketball Coach for 3 years; National Kidney Foundation.

Future Plans: University of Akron

ANASTASIA RODANTHI SOURIS

Graduate of Olmsted Falls High School

Activities: Student Council; DARE; Bulldog Buddies mentoring program for elementary students; 4 years Varsity Track & Field (100 meter & 300 meter Hurdles and relay events); SW Conference finals all four years and her relay team set school record for the 400 Shuttle Hurdle Relay sophomore year coming in 1st place; Varsity Football Cheerleader for 3 years; St. Demetrios GOYA and a Communion prayer reader.

Future Plans: Ohio University, majoring in Business/Marketing

STEPHEN STAMATIS

Graduate of John Marshall High School

Activities: John Marshall High School Baseball and Golf; St. Demetrios GOYA Basketball

NICHOLAS MANUEL STEFFAS

Graduate of Westlake High School

Activities: WLHS Band and Student Council; St Demetrios Altar Boy Captain, GOYA (Vice President), Hellenic Dancers.

Future Plans: Miami University, majoring in History.

JOSEPH TERRY

Graduate of Rocky River High School

Activities: Honor Roll at RRHS, YOCAMA missionary, St. Demetrios GOYA.

Future Plans: Kent State University, majoring in Commercial Design
MARY MATZORKIS
Graduated summa cum laude, from Cleveland State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education. Over the past two years, Mary has successfully completed coursework to the proficiency of obtaining a Dean’s List Honorary Recognition. She served on CSU’s Student Government Association senate, worked with the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, and the Student Life department, variously as a senator, honorary member and officer. Founding member of the CSU Greek Hellenistic Society and Students for an Ethical Economy, serving as VP and secretary of both. Assistant Director of the St. Demetrios Youth Choir and member of the adult Choir as singer, librarian, and recording secretary. Her studies focused on an intervention specialist licensure program to teach students with disabilities.

NICHOLAS COSTARAS
Graduated from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law with a JD/MBA in December 2010 and passed the Ohio Bar Examination in February 2011.

ANGELA NIKOLAKIS
Graduated magna cum laude, from the University of Toledo, earning the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. While attending pharmacy school, she was an Experiential Education Teaching Assistant. Angela also sang first soprano with the University of Toledo Concert Chorale and had the honor of opening her commencement ceremony by singing the Star Spangled Banner a cappella. She will begin her career as a practicing pharmacist with Giant Eagle.

St. Demetrios’ Dr. Michael A. Balourdas Hellenic Cultural School, Class of 2011

You are all cordially invited to the Greek School Graduation Ceremony
Sunday, June 5, immediately following Divine Liturgy
St. Demetrios Cultural Hall
Refreshments will be hosted by the families of our graduates:

(l-r, seated) Andreas Giavroutas, Fr. Jim, Sevaste Kontokanis; (standing) Principal Diamanta Poulos, Mavroudis Mavroidis, Nick Stamatis, and their teacher Antonia Perris.

Photo: Eleni Papouras-Jenks
AROUND THE COUNTRY

HC/HC Graduation
BROOKLINE, MASS - Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Church in America presided over the sixty-ninth Commencement of Hellenic College-Holy Cross School of Theology on May 21. Among the 59 graduates was Demetrios Kazakis (pictured above,) husband of Dianna and son-in-law of Fr Jim & Presvytera Goldie Doukas. Demetrios earned a Master of Divinity and hopes to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood later this year. The Doukas family was in attendance as were several other families and clergy from the Metropolis of Pittsburgh. (see photo below)

Of the graduates, 15 graduated from Hellenic College with Bachelor of Arts degrees, and 44 from the School of Theology (30 receiving the degree of Master of Divinity, intended for those who wish to be ordained.) Another eight graduates received the degree of Master of Theological Studies and six the degree of Master of Theology. Fifteen of them are already ordained clergymen.

The Archbishop told the graduates to take away from the feast of Sts. Constantine and Helen the elements of "initiative, boldness and attachment to the Church." After all, he said, you are going to be the carriers of this tradition.

Demetrios Kazakis receiving The Cross (Stavrophoria) for his Masters of Divinity from Archbishop Demetrios and Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

Orthodox Organizations Speed Relief Services to States Stricken by Spring Disasters

A shipment of personal health kits, many of which were donated by Orthodox Christians from across the United States, have been shipped by International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) to Birmingham, Alabama for distribution to survivors of severe storms and tornadoes that devastated the area in late April. The kits, valued at more than $120,000, represent the first of several planned shipments of relief supplies that have been requested following an assessment by one of IOCC's Frontline responders working in Alabama. IOCC has also provided tents, air mattresses, flashlights, and other supplies for displaced homeowners who are attempting to stay on their own property to expedite recovery efforts, clean up and to secure their remaining possessions.

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society also announced its support today for the IOCC response to Alabama and flood areas along the Mississippi River and committed $20,000 from the Society's National Emergency Fund. AHEPA has also made available its Emergency Relief Fund to help the victims of the deadly tornadoes and storms that devastated six states in the South and killed as many as 215 people.

"Accommodations are being found for the many affected residents of the stricken areas," reported Deacon Dan Gray, a retired Naval Officer from Eagle River, Alaska and member of the IOCC Frontline who has been in Alabama since May 5. Trained in emergency management, critical incident response and pastoral care in crisis, Deacon Gray has been making assessments and providing pastoral care. He visited many of the badly damaged, small communities to the north and west of Birmingham and is coordinating IOCC's response in cooperation with local Orthodox parishes.

While the response in Alabama continues, IOCC is also monitoring the historic flooding along the Mississippi River and the needs of communities that will emerge as floodwaters recede. IOCC U.S. Program Director Pascalis Papouras also met with other relief organizations in Kansas City in May to discuss coordination of efforts. Ironically, the group had to temporarily delay the meeting, as they were evacuated due to one of many deadly tornados that hit Missouri that month.

You can help the victims of natural disasters in the United States, by making a financial gift to the United States Emergency Response Fund, which will provide immediate relief at www.iocc.org, or mail a check or money order payable to IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, Md. 21263-0225.
“Strike” for Shut-Ins

The first annual St. Panteleimon Bowling Tournament will be hosted by Yorktown Lanes, 6218 Pearl Rd., Parma Heights. The fun begins on **Friday, June 10**, at 6:00 p.m. Ticket prices for 2.5 hours of bowling are $15 for adults and $10 for children. You may register individually or as a 4-player team. All proceeds will benefit the St. Panteleimon Orthodox Christian Outreach ministry, serving those in nursing homes and other facilities who are no longer able to go to church on a regular basis, including some members of the St. Demetrios family. See Angie Giallourakis, Lea Georganas or Irene Panagopoulos for tickets; or call Gerald Largent at 440-941-4850 for more information. [www.stpanteleimon.com](http://www.stpanteleimon.com)

**Pan Orthodox Young Adult Fellowship Picnic**

All area young adults welcome for fun & food; rain or shine! **Sunday, June 5** from 3:30-9 p.m. at the Lagoon Picnic Area in the Rocky River Reservation. (off Valley Parkway, between Cedar Point & Spafford Roads in Brookpark.) Bring a side dish, dessert or beverage to share; meat will be provided. RSVP to Mary Bozikis (mbozikis@sbcglobal.net)

This week-long annual event celebrates the many diverse cultures of Lorain County. The 2011 Spotlight Nationality is Greece! Events include:

**Mon., June 20** ï Our own Ousia Band will play Greek music at a Band Concert at Veteran’s Park (West Erie & Washington Avenues) in Lorain at 7 p.m. Free and open to the public!

**Wed., June 22** - Spotlight Nationality Cultural Night at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 2000 Tower Blvd., Lorain, featuring a Greek dinner & live music from 6 p.m. to midnight. $20 advance tickets at 440-960-2992.

**Fri., June 24** ñ International Bazaar at Black River Landing in downtown Lorain. Opening ceremony at 6 p.m. featuring the Inner Circle Hellenic Dancers, Cleveland & Lorain’s adult dance group; Stigma Greek Band performing from 8-11 p.m.

[http://www.facebook.com/LorainInternational](http://www.facebook.com/LorainInternational)

The 2011 John & Helen Collis Lecture has been scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 25 at the Cleveland Museum of Art. The topic for this annual lecture on Ancient Greek & Byzantine Art will be “The Art of Ancient Greek Theater,” presented by the associate Curator of Antiquities of the J. Paul Getty Museum. Free tickets can obtained at 216-421-7350.

**The Art of Ancient Greek Theater**

The Kyklonas Hellenic Dancers of St. Demetrios Church will be representing Greece!
OCMC Missionaries Gear up for Summer 2011

We once again pray for the health and safety of OCMC Missionary Stacy Loejos, who traveled to Africa on May 25 and will return on June 17. As many may recall, Stacy was one of the 2011 Lenten Lecture speakers, giving a vibrant presentation of her past medical mission trips to central American and Uganda. This is her second trip to Africa, where she will again take part in a medical mission to Uganda, as well as Tanzania. She will also be helping to orient the next medical team that comes in June.

Later this summer, another St. Demetrios parishioner, Alexis Steffas, will take part in an OCMC mission trip. Alexis will travel to Bethel, Alaska, with a 10-person team that will renovate a church, painting, landscaping, and adding a handicap accessible ramp. The church serves the 5,000 person community of native Yupik Eskimos and is in great need. The group will be there from July 22 through August 2, assisting the parish. This is Alexis’s second mission trip, having gone to New Mexico with YOCAMA as a teenager.

We join the Loejos and Steffas families in keeping them in our prayers.

The Missionary Department of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC,) based in Florida, is also pleased to announce that six new long-term Missionary Candidates have been approved in the spring of 2011.

- Michael and Lisa Colburn plan to serve in Kenya, assisting with translation work and serving other OCMC Missionaries and Candidates in linguistic consulting.
- Kurt Bringerud, Faith Young, and Joseph and Alexandra Sima plan to serve in Albania as part of the Church’s ongoing educational efforts.
- Blake and Pam Dilullo plan to serve in Kodiak, Alaska. Blake will initially work in construction as Pam home schools her own children and helps with other children’s programs.

Please pray for these Missionary Candidates as they begin to build their support teams and as they train to help spread the Light of Christ overseas!

From 1995 to the present, the OCMC has reached out to over 31 countries worldwide with mission programs. If you are interested in supporting a Missionary Candidate, please contact the Missionary Department at 1-877-463-6784 or at www.ocmc.org

AHEPA Condemns Attacks on Places of Worship

The demolition of a church in Cyprus and arson at a synagogue in Corfu (Kerkira) during the recent Paschal season were both strongly condemned by AHEPA.

On May 2, 2011, a 200-year-old church in Turkish-occupied Cyprus was demolished and Supreme President Nicholas A. Karacostas stated, “We strongly condemn the demolition of the Chapel of Saint Thekla located in the village of Vokolida in Turkish-occupied Cyprus. This is yet another in a long line of egregious acts that demonstrate a blatant disrespect of religious freedom and destruction of cultural heritage by Turkey in Cyprus through its illegal Turkish Cypriot regime and 40,000-plus occupation troops.”

“We applaud the May 12, 2011 statement by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom that calls on Turkish Cypriot authorities to rebuild the church. The Commission’s chairman, Leonard Leo, is right to task Turkish Cypriot authorities to take proactive measures to protect the hundreds of churches in northern Cyprus' and ensure the expeditious reconstruction of this church.” We furthermore applaud the Commission for placing Turkey on its ‘Watch List' for 2011, the third year in a row, in its newly-released 2011 annual report.

“We call on President Barack Obama and members of Congress to condemn this deplorable act, and all acts in violation of religious freedom that have occurred in occupied Cyprus under the Turkish Cypriot regime and Turkish occupation troops.”

The USCIRF statement also cites recent violations of religious freedom in occupied Cyprus that includes the prohibition to perform Easter Liturgy and the requirement to submit applications to perform Divine Liturgies.

Karacostas also issued the following statement regarding an arson attack upon a synagogue and vandalism of the Jewish community's local offices on the island of Corfu, Greece during the first day of Passover:

“This anti-Semitic attack upon the Jewish community in Corfu, which included vandalism of the community's offices, is simply unacceptable. We appeal to the people of Corfu, and all Greek citizens, to come together to defy these acts of hatred, intolerance, and bigotry; and to help the healing process begin. We applaud the swift action of Greek authorities which arrested two suspects. Ô

At least 30 ceremonial books were damaged in the blaze, according to the World Jewish Congress. The WJC, Greek government, and Central Board of Jewish Communities have also condemned the attack.
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<td>1. 9 a.m. Bake Tsoureki</td>
<td>2. ASCENSION 9:30 a.m. D/L</td>
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<td>4. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Choir hosting MEGFOX Executive mtg.</td>
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<td>2. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>3. 9 a.m. Bake Koulourakia</td>
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<td>3. 6 p.m. Parish Council mtg.</td>
<td>4. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
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<td>4. 7 p.m. Theotokos Fellows Hope Family Band</td>
<td>5. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
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<td>5.  Graduates’ Sunday</td>
<td>6. 9:30 a.m. Bereavement Support</td>
<td>7. 9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
<td>8. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>9. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>10. 5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit. Greek School Graduation Program</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Theotokos Fellowship last mtg for summer</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Theotokos Fellowship last mtg for summer</td>
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<td>3:30 p.m. POYAF picnic [@RR. Reservation]</td>
<td>7 p.m. Festival meeting</td>
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<td>7 p.m. Theotokos Fellowship last mtg for summer</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit. Last Sunday for choir</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>9 a.m. Leg of Lamb</td>
<td>9 a.m. Tourlou; rice pudding</td>
<td>11 a.m. – 10 p.m.</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.— Dance parents FDF meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m. Festival meeting/ Philoptochos Board mtg</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit. Adult Greek Dancers performance [@ Lorais International Festival]</td>
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<td>Noon— Dance practice</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Parish Council mtg.</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Daughters of Penelope</td>
<td>11 a.m.–10 p.m.</td>
<td>11 a.m.–10 p.m.</td>
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<td>19 Father’s Day</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit. GREEK FESTIVAL</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
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<td>11 a.m. – 9 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Kyklonas dancers</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Parish Council mtg.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Parish Council mtg.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. St. Peter &amp; Paul [St. Paul Church]</td>
<td>SCHEDULING NOTES: Kymata and Aeraki Dancers will be emailed practice times. Check your inbox!</td>
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<td>7 p.m. Festival meeting/ Philoptochos Board mtg</td>
<td>7 p.m. Festival meeting/ Philoptochos Board mtg</td>
<td>7 p.m. Theotokos Fellowship last mtg for summer</td>
<td>7 p.m. Theotokos Fellowship last mtg for summer</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Vespers [St. Paul Church]</td>
<td>Camp Nazareth JOY sessions are June 19-25 and Jun 26-July 2</td>
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<td>Camp Nazareth GoYA Session 1</td>
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<td>Camp Nazareth GoYA Session 2</td>
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<td>6 p.m. Parish Council</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Yassou Club Picnic</td>
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<td>Memorial: A. Kadras</td>
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Scheduling Notes:
Fr. Jim Dowkas will be on vacation from June 27 through July 23. We welcome Fr. Robert Stephanopoulos, who will serve the Divine Liturgy on those Sundays.

Coffee Hosts Needed! If your family would like to host a light summer coffee hour in honor of a memorial, nameday, etc., on July 3, 10 or 24, please contact the office to schedule.

July 14-17, our sister church of St. Paul, 4548 Wallings Rd., North Royalton invites us to their annual Greek festival.
## August 2011

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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. D/L; Coffee: Nameday celebrants</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Paraclesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dormition Vespers [@ Annunciation Church]</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. D/L. Coffee: Nameday celebrants</td>
<td>Κοιμήσεις της Θεοτόκου/ Dormition of the Theotokos</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>7 p.m. ALL-MINISTRY Calendar meeting</td>
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<td>Dormition Vespers [@ Annunciation Church]</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. D/L.</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m. Bible Study</td>
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<td>7:05 p.m. IOCC Baseball Night [@ Progressive Field]</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. Orthros; 9:30 a.m. D/L</td>
<td>Ἀποτομή Κεφαλῆς Προδρόμου/ Beheading of St. John the Baptist</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td>SCHEDULING NOTES: August 1-15 is Dormition Lent which we can observe through fasting and attending the Paraclesis evening services on Wednesdays and Fridays. No weddings may be scheduled during this entire time and no baptisms may be scheduled on the day of Jesus' Holy Transfiguration (Aug. 6)</td>
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<td>Anyone willing to host a summer Sunday coffee hour, please contact the church office.</td>
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