

# From Father Anthony

## Council of Ministries - The best form of Stewardship

*The Council of Ministries, which we began last year, is an attempt to make sure that every person that comes to St. Philothea has an opportunity and a place to offer themselves to God in loving service. From experience we each know that helping others is the most rewarding thing we can do. God designed us that way. By nature He has placed this desire in us. The following sermon by Fr. James illustrates this truth in a beautiful way. Fr. Anthony*

“Witnessing” the LOVE OF GOD is to live in Christ and live a life of the purest, unqualified love. Love lies at the very heart of Orthodox Christian life. This Divine Gift causes unity, fulfillment and everlasting joy. When we witness in today’s society, we share in the Life of our Lord. His is the Head and we are the body. Our witness, as we carry His Cross and rise again, is described by Saint Paul as those who are in Christ are a “New Creation”. (2 Corinthians 5:17) Let us rejoice!



We receive also as we witness the Good News and our true faith amongst all the world’s people. We have the gift to feed others with our prayers, our support and human expressions of Christian outreach. Simply put: to go into the world and love one and all. Generations have passed whereby some faithful may have had the attitude of hearing these sweet religious words and just went on with their lives. Without the gift of stewardship, meaning one’s faith and witness, the end of their lives are lonely and unforgiving. On this very day as I pen these words; a faithful parishioner fell asleep in the Lord as he lay in his hospital bed. Offering the prayers of the Church; along with his loving wife, he kissed my right hand, witnessed the love of his wife and shortly after entered into Paradise. The kissing of the hand was not for my unworthy person; but it was a witness to the many years of his life as an Orthodox Christian. He gave of his life as a dedicated physician, husband, father, grandfather, relative and friend. He witnessed his faith and love for the Church. The soul of this man was given his true reward in Heaven we pray. It is our privilege to offer the gifts bestowed unto us and to share with God’s people without recognition or earthly reward. Truly, Love bears fruit!

“Service” is our rendering to His Church. Our whole being must praise and worship the Father who provides for us all. Indeed, a great invitation. As we offer service to the Church with a grateful heart; we realize our true mission as baptized Orthodox Christians. To be amongst a community of people who choose to live not only in the world, but also for the world. To offer outreach and service to proclaim the Good News of not only what God has done, but also what He is doing in our time. We proclaim our faith, service and stewardship of life not only to ourselves, our families, our Church Communities; but also to society as we realize our Orthodox Mission Works. We enhance the good works and service of our faith walk in establishing the Kingdom of God, the rule of righteousness and the love in and for this world.

*“The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* (Mark 10:45) When we love people, we are drawn instinctively to help them, to give them service as best we can. But if love is service, sin is the refusal to serve. It is proud, vain, arrogant, self-centered. It will not spend itself generously for the needs of others. By offering our hearts, our time, our talents to the Church and His people; we come to share in the Life of Christ. Indeed, a privilege of honor, joy and sustaining Blessings. We Christians are called to share in the Life of Christ. Service to His Church and His people is our discipleship to Christ. It’s real and inspires the people of God to offer their very best of time, talent and treasures which are abundantly blessed. Truly, Service bears fruit!

*“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in my Name He may give you.”* John 15:16

*As Orthodox Christians; we bear the fruits of God’s Love. “Freely you have received. Freely give.”* Matthew 10:8

## Parish Happenings

You are invited to the **Archangel Michael Banquet, Saturday, November 7**, at the Cathedral in Atlanta. Tickets are \$60 each. Vespers is at 5:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Stacey Cramer and Greg Daglis are the St. Philothea honorees. When making reservations ask to be seated with the Athens and Augusta group.

The **Panagia Soumela Icon** will be on view at the Cathedral during the feast of the Archangel Michael and then installed in the Paracletos Monastery in Anderson, South Carolina, on Sunday, November 8 at 5:00pm.

**All Greek Festival chairs and workers** are invited to a "Lessons Learned" Festival Evaluation Meeting on Sunday Nov. 8, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. All festival chairs should plan to attend.

**A General Assembly is scheduled for November 15.** We will review the proposed budget for 2010, choose an Election Committee, and open up nominations to fill three (3) Parish Council positions.

**Stewardship Sunday is November 15.** You should have received your pledge card in the mail. Please fill it out and be ready to turn it in on the 15th. An appreciation pancake breakfast will follow.

**Parakleisis** for our on-line prayer ministry will be held on Wednesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm.

**MoD meeting** on November 1 following the Divine Liturgy.

**GOYA Winter Youth Rally** registration is due by November 5. Please contact Presbytera for details.

**Philoctochos Baking for the OCAF Holiday Market** will be on Sunday afternoons during the month of November:

Nov 1, 8 & 15 and pastry packaging will be Monday November 30 beginning at 4:00 pm. Also please sign up with Sandy Sarandos to work a shift at the market on December 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds from this holy work benefits charity—please plan to help.

**Secret Santa – Toy Collection** for the needy will begin in November. GOYA will be distributing information on this worthwhile event.

**On Sunday December 13**, the **Sunday School Nativity Pageant** will be followed by our monthly **Covered Dish Luncheon** and **Parish Council Elections**.

**December 6 – No coffee hour** this day. Everyone is encouraged to attend the OCAF Holiday Market where our church members will have a food booth and a pastry booth.

**Visit St. Philothea Website for** parish calendar and all the latest information:  
<http://www.stphilothea.ga.goarch.org/>

Marswood Hall Calendar:  
<http://calendar.goarch.org/cgi-bin/calweb/calweb.exe?level=marswoodhall>  
\*Announcements for the bulletin can be emailed to [Greekgirl1087@aol.com](mailto:Greekgirl1087@aol.com)

### **OUR MISSION**

*St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church is dedicated to the continuation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's ministry of salvation through the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel; through Baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and through loving service to God and to all humankind.*



## SUNDAY READINGS

	<b>Matins</b>	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
11/01/09	<a href="#">John 21:1-14</a>	<a href="#">St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8</a>	<a href="#">Luke 16:19-31</a>
11/08/09	<a href="#">John 21:14-25</a>	<a href="#">St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:2-10</a>	<a href="#">Luke 8:41-56</a>
11/15/09	<a href="#">Matthew 28:16-20</a>	<a href="#">St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2</a>	<a href="#">John 10:9-16</a>
11/22/09	<a href="#">Mark 16:1-8</a>	<a href="#">St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:14-22</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28</a>
11/29/09	<a href="#">Mark 16:9-20</a>	<a href="#">St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Luke 18:18-27</a>

### **NOVEMBER COFFEE HOUR HOSTS**

If the date listed below does not work for you please call Georgia Parthemos (706-548-3876) or Lynn Manzione (706- 369 0546) to make any necessary changes.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>COFFEE HOUR HOST</b>
<b>1 Nov</b>	Covered Dish <b>O'Malley</b>
<b>8 Nov</b>	<b>Lieffring</b>
<b>15 Nov</b>	<b>Pagonis &amp; Parthemos*</b>
<b>22 Nov</b>	<b>Pappas</b>
<b>29 Nov</b>	<b>Pottier</b>

**\* Beginning 15 November please bring Lenten items for coffee hour.**

### **FOOD FROM THE FATHERS AND MOTHERS**

When in truth we appreciate the gifts which God gives us, we don't have time to seek anything else. We run to say thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you. We see a person ... thank you. We see a flower ... thank you. We see a glass of milk ... thank you. For everything ... thank you. And such a joy comes into our life, that many do not understand even if they are close to us; What is all this! They said to me once in England: "What's happening? Why are you so cheerful?" "Because I am alive and I see you!" Have a good day!

- Gerontissa Gavrilia, Holy Protection, Aegina, 1989

# KIDS CORNER



## **St. Philothea Directory:**

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### ***Parish Council:***

President: Stacey Cramer

Vice-President; Paul Lavelle,

Treasurer: Andrew Shih

Secretary: Ann Volk

Panos Dekazos, Dimitri Lambros, Kurt Knisely,

Constantine Wright, Steve Demos

### ***Sunday School:***

Directors: Tara Mahoney and Elaine Lambros

### ***Philoptochos Board:***

President: Ann Volk

Secretary: Rose Lieffring

Treasurer: Presbytera, Christine Salzman

Advisor: Karen Kimberis

### ***Council of Ministries Chair:***

Dimitri Lambros

### ***Building Maintenance Chair:***

Bill Mahoney

### ***Hospitality Chairs:***

Georgia Parthemos and Lynn Manzione

### ***Bulletin:***

Writer: Kacina Lamson

Editor: Father Anthony

Publisher: Rose Lieffring

St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Calendar

Nov 2009 (Eastern Time)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>5th Sunday of Luke</p> <p>Kick-off - "Secret Santa"</p> <p>9am - Orthros</p> <p>10am - Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11am - Covered Dish</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Akindynos, Pegasios,</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Acepsimas the Bishop,</p> <p>6pm - Bread For Life</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Ioannikos the Great</p> <p>6pm - Readers Service</p> <p>7pm - Catechumen class</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Galaaktion &amp; his wife</p> <p>6pm - Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Paul the Confessor,</p>	<p>7</p> <p>33 Martyrs of Meitene</p> <p>5:30pm - Archangel</p>
<p>8</p> <p>7th Sunday of Luke</p> <p>Panagia Soumela Icon</p> <p>9am - Orthros</p> <p>10am - Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11am - Coffee Hour</p> <p>11am - Sunday School</p> <p>12pm - Festival follow up</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Nektarios the</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Erastos, Olympas,</p> <p>7pm - OCF Dinner</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Menas of Egypt</p> <p>6pm - Services</p> <p>7pm - Catechumen class</p>	<p>12</p> <p>John the Merciful,</p> <p>6pm - Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>John Chrysostom,</p> <p>8:30am - am Divine</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Philip the Apostle</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8th Sunday of Luke</p> <p>Advent Fast begins</p> <p>General Assembly, PC</p> <p>SP Christmas Card Start</p> <p>9am - Orthros</p> <p>10am - Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11am - Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Matthew the Apostle &amp;</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Gregory the</p> <p>12pm - OCF Lunch on</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Plato the Great Martyr of</p> <p>6pm - Services</p> <p>7pm - Catechumen class</p> <p>7pm - Parish Council</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Obadiah the Prophet</p> <p>6pm - Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>GOYA RETREAT</p> <p>The Forefeast of the</p>	<p>21</p> <p>GOYA RETREAT</p> <p>The Entrance of the</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9th Sunday of Luke</p> <p>GOYA RETREAT</p> <p>9am - Orthros</p> <p>10am - Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11am - Coffee Hour</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Amphilochios, Bishop of</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Our Holy Father Clement,</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Katherine the Great</p> <p>6pm - Services</p> <p>7pm - Catechumen class</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Alypios the Stylite of</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p>	<p>27</p> <p>James the Great Martyr of</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Stephen the New</p>
<p>29</p> <p>13th Sunday of Luke</p> <p>No Sunday School</p> <p>9am - Orthros</p> <p>10am - Divine Liturgy</p> <p>11am - Coffee Hour</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Andrew the First- Called</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Nahum the Prophet</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Habakkuk the Prophet</p> <p>6pm - Services</p> <p>7pm - Catechumen class</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Zephaniah the Prophet</p> <p>6pm - Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Barbara the Great Martyr</p>	<p>5</p> <p>OCAF Holiday Market</p> <p>Savas the Sanctified</p>





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