The BRIDGE
Η ΓΕΦΥΡΑ
Rejoice, bridge that conveys unto heaven earthborn men.
- Akathist to the Theotokos - Oikos 2

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of:

Dormition of the Mother of God Greek
Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Andreas Papayiannis, Proistamenos
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April - May 2017 Issue

From Father:

HOLY PASCHA!

By Meliton of Sardis. The author was Bishop of Sardis near Smyrna in Asia Minor, and a great authority in early Christianity. Meliton held a foremost place in terms of Bishops in Asia due to his personal influence on Christianity and his literary works, most of which have been lost but of what has been recovered has provided a great insight into early Christianity.

Christ rose up from the dead, and cried aloud with this voice: Who is he who contends with me? Let him stand in opposition to me. I set the condemned man free; I gave the dead man life; I raised up the one who had been entombed. Who is my opponent?

I, He says, am the Christ. I am the One who destroyed death, and triumphed over the enemy, and trampled Hades under foot, and bound the strong one, and carried off man to the heights of heaven.

I, He says, am the Christ.

Therefore, come, all families of men, you who have been befouled with sins, and receive forgiveness for your sins. I am your forgiveness. I am the Passover of your salvation. I am the lamb which was sacrificed for you. I am your ransom. I am your light. I am your Savior. I am your resurrection. I am your king. I am leading you up to the heights of heaven. I will show you the eternal Father. I will raise you up by my right hand.

This is the one who made the heavens and the earth, and who in the beginning created man, who was proclaimed through the law and prophets, Who became human through the virgin, Who was hanged upon a tree, Who was buried in the earth, Who was resurrected from the dead, and Who ascended to the heights of heaven, Who sits at the right hand of the Father, who has authority to judge and to save everything, through whom the Father created everything from the beginning of the world to the end of the age.

This is the Alpha and the Omega. This is the beginning and the end – an indescribable beginning and an incomprehensible end. This is the Christ. This is the King. This is the General. This is the Lord. This is the One who rose up from the dead. This is the One who sits at the right hand of the Father. He bears the Father and is borne by the Father, to Whom be the glory and the power forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.
Joseph Stewardship Is...

…learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ’s Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

…our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ’s redeeming love.

…caring for the needs of others.

…offering one’s self to God as He offered Himself to us.

…what a person does after saying “I believe…” as proof of that belief.

…devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as parish, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

How Do We Abide in Jesus?

We abide in Jesus Christ when follow His example and love, serve and support the Church which is His Body. When we abide in Christ, we express this through generosity and devotion, especially in our financial stewardship and acts of personal generosity. Bearing fruit in the world is the visible result of our abiding in Christ.

From Oriented Leadership by Williams & McKibben
2017 Holy Week and Pascha Schedule

April 8: Saturday of Lazaros
8:15 AM: Orthros
9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy
5:00 PM: Great Vespers

April 9: Palm Sunday
9:00 AM: Orthros & Blessing of Palm Fronds
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy
7:00 PM: Bridegroom Service

April 10: Holy Monday
9:00 AM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
7:00 PM: Bridegroom Service

April 11: Holy Tuesday
9:00 AM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
7:00 PM: Mystical Supper Orthros

April 12: Holy Wednesday
9:00 AM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
5:00 PM: Mysterion of Holy Unction
7:00 PM: Mystical Supper Orthros

April 13: Holy Thursday
9:00 AM: Vesperal Liturgy of Basil the Great
7:00 PM: Passion Service of 12 Gospels

April 14: Holy (Good) Friday
9:00 AM: Royal & Great Hours
3:30 PM: Descent from the Cross Vespers
7:00 PM: Lamentations & Epitaphios Procession

April 15: Holy Saturday
9:00 AM: Vesperal Liturgy of Basil the Great
11:15 PM: Pannychis (Vigil)

April 16: Great & Holy Pascha
12:00 AM: Resurrection Service & Divine Liturgy
11:00 AM: Agape Vespers

8 Απριλίου: Σάββατον του Λαζάρου
8:15 π.μ. - Όρθρος
9:00 π.μ. - Θεία Λειτουργία
5:00 μ.μ. - Μέγας Έσπερινός

9 Απριλίου: Κυριακή των Βαΐων
9:00 π.μ. - Όρθρος
10:00 π.μ. - Θεία Λειτουργία
7:00 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

10 Απριλίου: Μεγάλη Δευτέρα
9:00 π.μ. - Λειτουργία των προηγιασμένων Δώρων
7:00 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

11 Απριλίου: Μεγάλη Τρίτη
9:00 π.μ. - Λειτουργία των προηγιασμένων Δώρων
7:00 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου

12 Απριλίου: Μεγάλη Τετάρτη
9:00 π.μ. - Λειτουργία των προηγιασμένων Δώρων
5:00 μ.μ. - Τό Άγιον Ευχέλαιον
7:00 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία του Μυστικού Δείπνου

13 Απριλίου: Μεγάλη Πεμπτή
9:00 π.μ. - Έσπερινή Λειτουργία του Μ. Βασιλείου
7:00 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία των Παθών

14 Απριλίου: Μεγάλη Παρασκευή
9:00 π.μ. - Αί Μεγάλαι Ώραι
3:30 μ.μ. - Έσπερινός και Αποκαθήλωσις
7:00 μ.μ. - Επιτάφιος Θρήνος, Εγκώμια

15 Απριλίου: Μεγάς Σαββάτον
9:00 π.μ. - Έσπερινή Λειτουργία του Μ. Βασιλείου
11.15 μ.μ. - Ακολουθία πρὸ τῆς Αναστάσεως

16 Απριλίου: Τό Αγίον Πάσχα
Μεσάνυχτα - Λαμπροφόρος Ανάστασις καὶ Θεία Λειτουργία
11:00 π.μ. - Έσπερινός τῆς Αγάπης
PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
– Georgia Maheras, Parish Council President

Stewardship-living our faith daily

We all have numerous opportunities to participate in our faith every day. Fasting, prayer and contributing our time and our talents should be integral to all of our activities. However, we have many, many additional opportunities to serve God, and our Church community. Each of us is called to a "ministry" of our time, talents and resources.

For example, we can cook and serve at the upcoming Take-Out Dinner and Bake Sale on April 8th. We can participate in prayer and fellowship through our Palm Sunday Dinner. We can attend services throughout Holy Week. We can celebrate our children by teaching Sunday School each week. We can join one of the Church’s committees—Communications, Fundraising, Finance, Planning, Stewardship, and Environment. And we can become a steward by signing a pledge card and donating weekly, monthly, annually to support our Church’s annual expenses.

If we have 100 stewards contributing just $3.64 a day, our annual expenses will be covered.

We all have the ability to take advantage of these opportunities to serve God and minister to one another. They make us better people and bring us closer to God.

Parish Council Committee Liasions

Fr. Andreas, as Proistamenos, and Georgia Maheras, as Parish Council President, are ex officio members of all committees.

Justin Griffing, Communication Committee and Strategic Planning
Paul Henninge, Financial Planning Committee
David Hunt, Stewardship Committee
Nicholas Pitt, Fundraising Committee and Ladies’ Philoptochos Society Liaison
Nectar Rorris, Building and Grounds Committee

Communications – parish’s online presence and newsletter

Strategic Planning – Works with the Council to chart our parish’s growth

Financial Planning – Helps to identify investment for our parish

Stewardship – Holds stewardship program to educate parishioners about this important form of ministry

Fundraising – planning and overseeing parish events

Building and Grounds – Upkeep and supervision of real estate

All we’re missing is YOU! If you are interested in serving on one of the above committees as part of your service to the Church, please reach out to the parish council member listed above or Georgia or Justin.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

April 8th is our ANNUAL SPRING TAKE-OUT DINNER AND BAKE SALE!
Bake Sale: 10a-7p
Dinner: 11a-7p

We need people to help every day from April 3rd-April 8th for this major fundraiser for the Philoptochos and Parish.

Can you help with preparation the week of April 3rd? Can you help by taking a shift in the kitchen or serving on April 8th?

Please talk to the Philoptochos or Parish Council to sign up to help!
**Coffee Hour Sponsors Needed**

One of the things that helps our parish thrive is our fellowship at coffee hour after the Divine Liturgy. Be part of that important ministry. Sponsor a coffee hour, in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a family milestone, a graduation, a birthday or an anniversary.

Thank you in advance for your help in making our fellowship hour possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coffee Hour: What Do I Need to Bring?</th>
<th>You do NOT need to bring coffee, sugar, dishes, or napkins. These are provided at Church.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 quart of whole milk</td>
<td><strong>During the fasting periods</strong> of the Church, please be careful to avoid bringing meat or dairy products for coffee hour. Hummus and crackers/pita bread, peanut butter and jelly are examples of what have been brought during those times.</td>
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<td>(Dairy free “milk” for fasting days)</td>
<td>Questions? Call Presvytera Anthe Athas (865-4416).</td>
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<td>2 half gallons of juice (apple, orange juice etc.)</td>
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<td>Snacks - Plan for about 50-60 people.</td>
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<td>Suggestions for snacks:</td>
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<td>Pastry / cookies / doughnuts/ muffins etc.</td>
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<td>Cheese and crackers, bagels &amp; cream cheese</td>
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<td>Fruit (preferably cut up)</td>
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### Church Income and Expense 1st Quarter 2017

#### Income 1st Quarter 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Candles/Trays</td>
<td>$3,065.96</td>
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<td>Fund Raising</td>
<td>$1,471.52</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,508.25</td>
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<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>$15,131.01</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$22,176.74</strong></td>
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#### Expenses  1st Quarter 2017

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ministries*</td>
<td>$33,821.16</td>
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<td>National Ministries</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
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<td>Occupancy</td>
<td>$7,408.46</td>
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<td>Fund Raising</td>
<td>$653.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$3,772.05</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,655.29</strong></td>
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#### Net Operating Revenue

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Operating Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>($26,478.55)</strong></td>
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* This category, which covers Fr. Andreas's compensation and benefits, includes an exceptional expense of $11,937, which covers the 2016 self-employment tax reimbursement from the parish.

Stewardship plays an important role in the vitality of our parish. It is only through the generosity of our Stewards that the work of the parish is able to continue on a daily basis. Currently, the parish has a total of 61 stewards through a total of 41 pledges. Our pledged amount is $51,680.00. As Georgia pointed out in her update earlier in this newsletter, we would need $132,860.00 to meet our parish’s financial obligations for the year, approved in the budget presented at the last Fall Assembly. This seems like a large amount, but can we look at our own situations and find the ability to give?

“What shall I give to the Lord in return for all His benefits towards me?” (Ps 116:2)
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<th>Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt</td>
<td><strong>3</strong> 9:00a Orthros 7:00p Great Compline</td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>5</strong> 9:00a Orthros 7:00p Presanctified Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>6</strong> 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Vespers</td>
<td><strong>7</strong> 9:00a Orthros</td>
<td><strong>1</strong> 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
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<td><strong>9</strong> Palm Sunday</td>
<td><strong>10</strong> Holy Monday 9:00a Presanctified Liturgy 7:00p Bridegroom Service</td>
<td><strong>11</strong> Holy Tuesday 9:00a Presanctified Liturgy 7:00p Bridegroom Service</td>
<td><strong>12</strong> Holy Wednesday 9:00a Presanctified Liturgy 5:00p Holy Unction 7:00p Mystical Supper Service</td>
<td><strong>13</strong> Holy Thursday 9:00a Vesperal Divine Liturgy 7:00p Passion Service</td>
<td><strong>14</strong> Holy Friday 9:00a Royal Hours 3:30p Apokathelosis Vespers 7:00p Epitaphios Service</td>
<td><strong>15</strong> Holy Saturday 9:00a Vesperal Divine Liturgy 11:15p Pannychis (Vigil)</td>
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<td><strong>16</strong> GREAT &amp; HOLY PASCHA 12:00a RESURRECTION SERVICE 11:00a Agape Vespers</td>
<td><strong>17</strong> Bright Monday</td>
<td><strong>18</strong> Sts. Raphael, Nicholas &amp; Irene Clergy Sneaks in Boston</td>
<td><strong>19</strong> Bright Wednesday 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
<td><strong>20</strong> Bright Thursday 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
<td><strong>21</strong> Life-Giving Spring 8:15a Orthros 9:00a Divine Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>22</strong> Bright Saturday 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
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<td><strong>23</strong> Sunday of St. Thomas/St. George</td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong> 5:00p Vespers</td>
<td><strong>27</strong> 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Vespers</td>
<td><strong>28</strong> 9:00a Orthros</td>
<td><strong>29</strong> 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
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<td><strong>30</strong> Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers</td>
<td><strong>1</strong> 5:00p Great Vespers</td>
<td><strong>2</strong> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt</td>
<td><strong>3</strong> 9:00a Orthros 7:00p Great Compline</td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>5</strong> 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Vespers</td>
<td><strong>6</strong> 9:00a Orthros 5:00p Vespers</td>
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**Notes: Fasting Rules:**
- **Strict Fast** – No meat, dairy products (includes eggs), fish (shellfish is permitted), wine or olive oil may be consumed;
- **Wine & Oil Allowed** – No meat, dairy products or fish (shellfish is permitted) may be consumed;
- **Fish Allowed** – No meat or dairy products may be consumed.
### May 2017

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<td>1</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros &amp; Agiasmos</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
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<td>5:00p Vespers</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
<td>Wine &amp; Oil Allowed</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
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<td>5:00p Vespers</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>Wine &amp; Oil Allowed</td>
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<td>5:00p Great Vespers</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Sunday of the Paralytic</td>
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<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
<td>10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>12:00p Parish Assembly</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>John the Theologian</td>
<td>8:15a Orthros</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
<td>Parish Council</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
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<td>5:00p Great Vespers</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Sunday of the Samaritan Woman</td>
<td>MOTHERS DAY</td>
<td>9:00a Orthros</td>
<td>10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School</td>
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<td>MEMORIAL DAY</td>
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**Sunday School:**
- 10:00a Divine Liturgy &
- 5:00p Vespers

**Philoptochos:**
- 12:00p

**Philanthropic Council:**
- 5:00p

**Parish Assembly:**
- 12:00p

**Great Vespers:**
- 5:00p

**Sunday of the Condemnation of the Pagan Gods:**
- 10:00a Divine Liturgy &
- 5:00p Vespers

**Fathers of the 1st Ecum. Council:**
- 10:00a Divine Liturgy &
- 5:00p Vespers

**Holy Ascension:**
- 8:15a Orthros
- 9:00a Divine Liturgy
- 5:00p Vespers

**Apodosis of Pascha:**
- 5:00p Great Vespers

**Memorial Day:**
- 10:00a Trisagion Service at Lakewood Cemetery

**Sunset:**
- 6:00p Vigil
- 7:00p Divine Liturgy

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**Sunrise**
- 5:00a Great Vespers

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**Church Council:**
- 10:00a