“Rejoice, bridge that truly leads us from death to life!”  Akathist Hymn

DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
600 South Willard St., Burlington, VT 05401
Mailing address: P. O. Box 8122 Burlington VT 05402
(802) 862-2155  Fax: 881-0717  www.gocvt.org

CLERGY
Rev. Presbyter Andreas Papayiannis, Proistamenos
802-881-9459 E-mail: priest@gocvt.org
Rev. Protopresbyter Robert Athas, Retired
802-865-4416

FATHER’S MESSAGE
Christos Anesti!  Alithos Anesti!  Christ is Risen!  Truly He is Risen!

General Tips for Orthodox Living – Part One

THE FOLLOWING "TIPS" are based upon a list put together by Sister Pelagia of Lesna Convent, who prefaces them with the remark: "Orthodox families (should) train their children from a very early age to acquire religious habits."

1. Prayers are said morning and evening, either together as a family or individually. We traditionally pray the Midnight Service in the morning and Small Compline after supper.

2. A blessing is said by a priest, or the head of the family, before a meal, and a prayer of thanks afterwards.

3. Read a portion of Holy Scripture every day, even if only one chapter.

4. On seeing a priest, geronta (elder) or gerontissa (eldress), or even when phoning them or writing to them, always ask for their blessing. This blessing comes from Christ Himself.

5. Before going to bed, make the sign of the cross over it and pray for protection during sleep.

6. When you hear of anyone's death, immediately say a prayer for their eternal memory.

7. If discussing or planning the future say: "God-willing."

8. If you offend or hurt anyone, say as soon as possible, "Forgive me," always trying to take the blame yourself.

9. If something turns out well, say "Glory to God."

See more in the next Newsletter.
Dear Parishioners:

On June 5, 2015, Sunday, we shall have a General Assembly meeting as defined in the UPR and our own Charter, which call for two to be held annually. This General Assembly will be immediately after Church in the Fellowship Hall.

The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Spring General Assembly Meeting
Sunday, June 5, 2016

1. Call to Order—election of meeting Chair
2. Opening Prayer
3. Pastoral Report
4. State of the Parish
5. Reading and Approval of Fall General Assembly Minutes
6. Financial Reports:
   a. Audit of 2015 Statement, Stewardship, Accounts Update
7. Philoptochos Update
8. Committee Updates:
   a. Buildings and Grounds Committee:
      i. Ramp Update
   b. Education Committee
   c. Environment Committee
   d. Internet/Social Media Committee
   e. Outreach and Mission Committee
   f. Stewardship Committee
9. New Business
   a. By-Laws—First Reading
   b. Redeemers Contract
   c. Majestic Use of Parking Lot
10. Other
11. Closing Prayer
12. Adjourn

Sincerely,

Rev. Fr. Andreas Papayiannis
Georgia Maheras
Proistamenos
President, Parish Council
PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH COUNCIL & *Committee Contacts:
Georgia Maheras (President) Georgiajohn@gmail.com 857-234-5171(c); Nectar Rorris (V-Pres.) 802-863-4375 *Buildings and Grounds; Angelike Contis (Secretary) Angelike.contis@gmail.com 802-355-6201(c); Nectar Rorris (V-Pres.) 802-233-7629(c) *Environment
Justin Griffing (1st Treasurer) justin.m.griffing@gmail.com 802-503-5480; Eleni Churchill echurchill@ccrpcvt.org 802-233-6201(c) *Education; Paul Henninge -phenninge@gmail.com 802-865-2321(c)
Lynne Lambesis – llambesis@hotmail.com 802-527-0016
Jacqueline Maria (2nd Treasurer) - jmariad226@gmail.com 802-238-3521(c);
Sotos Papaseraphim - sotosandmaria@gmail.com 802-878-116; Nancy Trombley -Nancy05464@myfairpoint.net 802-652-0249; Stephen Yialiades - workingbirds@aol.com 802-728-9023 *Stewardship
Additional committee contacts:
John Oleszkiewicz *Outreach and Mission – 802-879-8842
Zoe Griffing *Internet/Social Media – internet@gocvt.org

EDUCATION & YOUTH Sunday Church School Coordinators:
Georgia Maheras & Angelike Contis; Greek Dance: Tammy Valadakis Greek Language: Theodore Contis
MUSIC MINISTRY Director -Presbytery Anthe Athas Cantors –Vasilios Contis & Yazan (George) Qumsiyeh Choir: George Bennis, Alina Caciur Colondres, Theodore Contis, Zoe Griffing, Paul Henninge, Aleka Michaelides, Maria Michaelides, Mariana Moscin & Adriana Putregai
ALTAR SERVERS: Thomas Dede, Nicholas Rorris, Justin Griffing
BOOKSTORE: David & Dawnie Hunt
PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD - President – Presv. Anthe Athas (865-4416); Vice President – Theodore Contis (899-2893); Treasurer – Maria Michaelides (878-3933); Secretary – Tammy Valadakis (583-3880); Helen Costopoulos (864-5661); Jacqueline Maria (862-7372); Aleka Michaelides (862-3803); Maria Papaseraphim (878-1163); Voula Zontanos (878-5475)
MAILINGS VOLUNTEER -Pat Oleszkiewicz
ORDER of AHEPA -President Gregory Lambesis

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – Georgia Maheras, Parish Council President
Christ is Risen! Christos Anesti!

I invite all of our stewards to join us on June 5th for the General Assembly. If you are not sure if you are a Steward, please check in with Steve Yialiades or any Parish Council member.

Who can vote at the General Assembly:
A parishioner who is a member in good standing, which is a category certified by the priest of the parish, is eligible to vote in a GA.

Article 18, Section 1 of the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

Every person who is baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church is a parishioner. The religious, moral and social duties of a parishioner are to apply the tenets of the Orthodox Faith to his/her life and to: adhere to and live according to the tenets of the Orthodox faith; faithfully attend the Divine Liturgy and other worship services; participate regularly in the holy sacraments; respect all ecclesiastical authority and all governing bodies of the Church; be obedient in matters of the Faith, practice and ecclesiastical order; contribute towards the progress of the Church’s sacred mission; and be an effective witness and example of the Orthodox Faith and Traditions to all people.

A parishioner in good standing practices all the religious and moral duties as described in this Section 1. At a minimum, a parishioner in good standing must: be eighteen years of age or over; be current in his or her stewardship and other financial obligations to the Parish, abide by all the regulations herein stated and the Parish Bylaws; and cooperate in every way towards the welfare and wellbeing of the Parish. (Stewardship is recommended to be ten percent (10%) of one’s annual income as stated in Holy Scripture to help meet the financial obligations of the Parish, the Metropolis and the Archdiocese.)

In Christ,
Georgia Maheras
Christian Stewardship = the responsibility that Christians have to maintain and use wisely the gifts that God has bestowed. This includes our gifts of our time, talents, and treasure.

**Stewardship** – Stephen Yialiades, Stewardship Chairman

As we are approaching summer, I just wanted to update everyone on Stewardship participation.

We are down about 60% from where we were last year at this time. Please understand that this number only indicates that many parishioners have not filled out the "2016 Stewardship and Family Information Form" that was mailed out in January.

Repeating the mailing to everyone on our list is a very expensive endeavor. **Please** consider joining our 2016 Stewardship Campaign by filling out the form that can be picked up at the church or downloaded from our church website [www.gocvt.org](http://www.gocvt.org)

Thank you!

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Dormition Orthodox Bookstore – David & Dawnie Hunt

*In our parish hall. Visit anytime when the church is open. Some titles we recommend.*

**MY ORTHODOX PRAYER BOOK** - 123 pages - $6.95
- published by the Dept. of Religious Education of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese
  - A wonderful first prayer book.

**ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE**, St. John Chrysostom 114 pages – $15.00
  - A collections of sermons and writings on marriage and family.

**MAKING GOD REAL IN THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN HOME** by Anthony M. Coniaris – 269 pages - $11.75
  - This is a classic and very readable guide to parents committed to raising their children in the Orthodox way of life.

**BEGINNING TO PRAY** by Archbishop Anthony Bloom – 114 pages – $7.95
  - Don’t be fooled by the title, this little book is a wonderful guide for even those who have practiced a lifetime of prayer.

**ICONS OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY and Prayers for Her Intercession** -102 pages – $14.95 Compiled by Theodore Khoury – Short narratives about various icons of the Theotokos along with short prayers.
Please join us as we celebrate our Sunday School students, on Sunday, June 12th, which is also the last class of the year.

Is God calling you to serve Him in Sunday School Ministry this coming fall? Pray on it and contact Fr. Andreas (priest@gocvt.org).

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**Philoptochos News and Announcements**

All women of our parish are invited to become members.

**Philoptochos means “friend of the poor.”**

The Philoptochos Society is the official philanthropic organization of the Greek Orthodox Church in America.

**Saturday, June 4 - 6 p.m.**

Annual End of the Year Dinner.

Members and all women of the parish may attend.

Dutch Treat (each person pays for their own dinner).

Toscano Café & Bistro, 27 Bridge Street
Richmond VT – about 20 mins from the church.

**RSVP prezanthe@aol.com by June 1**

If you need a ride or can give a ride from the Church parking lot please let Prez Anthe know asap.

(865-4416)

Would you like to join us as a member? Dues are $20/year. See Maria Michaelides, the Treasurer.

She will be glad to receive them any time.

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“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house:” Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-17 (RSV)

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**OPA!**

**ATTENTION DORMITION YOUTH DANCER PARENTS**

The first meeting of Dancer Parents will be **Sunday, June 12 after Church** to discuss rehearsal times and other details.

- Tammy Valadakis
  (E-mail - tammysi@gmavt.net)
Green Acts – Environment Committee
– Angelike Contis

Do you love fresh air, clean water and green mountains? Then, let’s all do our part to reduce the garbage we leave behind for future generations. Here’s how you can do your part at church events: **take a minute to consider what you toss.**

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<th>RECYCLE THESE (in blue bins):</th>
<th>TRASH THESE (in black bins):</th>
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<td>Coffee grinds, veggie/fruit peels, leftover food, paper napkins.</td>
<td>Cardboard, paper, aluminum cans, plastic bottles.</td>
<td>Any waxed/soiled cardboard, coffee/juice cups, tissues, plastic forks/knives, plastic lids under 2 inches in length</td>
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Parents, please teach children to be kind to the planet by reducing food waste.

Coffee Hour Sponsors: Please, **use the church’s “real” plates, cups, and cutlery** instead of plastic or paper ones. If you don’t know how to use the dishwasher, ask for help.

Festival Volunteers: We are proud of the waste reduced at last year’s Greek Festival through sorting our guests’ trash. Can you help make this year’s festival a success again, environmentally? If you have an hour or two you can volunteer, please sign up to help the Environment Committee at the trash sorting station. It’s a great way to get a suntan, while doing good.

**FESTIVAL 2016**

Sunday, July 31

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED
Preparing/Cooking – Setting Up – Serving
Cashiering
Take Down & Clean Up
Work one of our wonderful booths.

See the next Newsletter for more information.
Can’t wait to volunteer?
Contact Festival Chairman, Nick Pitt
nvpitt@gmail.com
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**Notes:**
- **Holy Week:**
  - Maundy Thursday: 8:00 pm Great Vespers
  - Good Friday: 7:00 pm Great Vespers
  - Holy Saturday: 7:00 pm Great Vespers
  - Easter Vigil: 7:00 pm Great Vespers
  - Easter Sunday: 8:30 am Divine Liturgy
  - Easter Monday: 8:30 am Divine Liturgy

**Special Events:**
- June 2nd: 6:00 pm Annual Dinner
- June 3rd: 6:00 pm Annual Dinner
- June 4th: 6:00 pm Annual Dinner
- June 5th: 6:00 pm Annual Dinner

**Kindred Parish:**
- Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Burlington, VT