September-November 2017

**THE BRIDGE**

**Ν ΓΕΦΥΡΑ**

“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](http://www.gocvt.org)

**CLERGY**

Rev. Father Andreas M. Papayiannis, Proistamenos
802-881-9459 E-mail: priest@gocvt.org

Rev. Father Robert Athas, Retired
802-865-4416

**FATHER ANDREAS’S MESSAGE**

*And when He had called the people unto Him with His disciples also, He said unto them, Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (Mark 9:34)*

My beloved,

In September, not only have we arrived at the beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year, we celebrate the Universal Elevation of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross on September 14. There are multiple themes to this day:

1) The discovery of the True Cross by St. Eleni, the Great Sovereign and Equal-to-Apostles, in Jerusalem in 326;
2) The recovery of the Holy Cross from the Persians in 628;
3) A recalling of the Passion and Crucifixion of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ upon the Cross at Golgotha.

But there is another purpose to this most holy feast, and that is a **rededication of our lives to Christ**. Shortly before His Transfiguration upon Mt. Tabor, our Lord gave instruction to all people, that to truly follow Him, we must take up our own cross, that we must minimize our own selfish ideas, and re-devote our lives to following Him. There are many paths to follow in taking up our own crosses, but we as Orthodox Christians know that a key component in all of these paths is life in the Church: participating in the Sacraments; practicing our Christian virtues of prayer, fasting and charity; and above all, loving God and our brothers and sisters.

Christ and His Church know that we can be spiritually frail and that we are easily distracted. Thus there is no “one point in time” for us to take up our cross — Jesus Christ did that on Golgotha — that we may have the rest of our
lives to turn and follow Him. Whether we take up our cross shortly before death, as did St. Constantine the Great, or through a long life in the Church, the sins and failings which we acknowledge will be forgiven, and we are one step closer to Theosis, our union with God.

Use this upcoming year to re-dedicate yourself to Christ and take up your cross: participate in the Church, pray and fast, practice charity in your life, study Holy Scripture and the lives of the Saints.

May the blessing of the Lord come upon you all throughout this upcoming year!

Fr. Andreas

LIFE EVENTS:

Baptisms:
July 1: Victoria, daughter of Victor & Aliona David; Sponsor: Ana Orfin.
July 8: Constandina, daughter of Andrew & Kristin Hamilton; Sponsors: Evangeline Kokkinos, Andrew Pappas.
July 23: Elisabeth, daughter of Igor & Tatiana Arhiri; Sponsor: Maia Capbatut.
August 5: Elina, daughter of Daryl & Steliana Schmidel; Sponsor: Fidanka Kaneva.
September 2: Stella, daughter of Constantin & Noelle Cemirtan; Sponsor: Vadim Stirbate.

Wedding:
June 23: Veaceslav Marin & Cristina Staver; Sponsors: Victor Bantus & Daniela Condratiuc.

Funeral:
July 28: Christine Scangas, 83. Fell asleep July 22.

PARISH MINISTRY DIRECTORY

PARISH COUNCIL:  Georgia Maheras (Pres.) – georgiajohn@gmail.com; 857-234-5171(c)
                 Nancy Trombley (VPres.) – nancy79@comcast.net; 802-652-0249
                 Roy Barnes (Secretary) – rbarnes12543@student.mbts.edu; 802-497-0543
                 Vasilios Contis (Treasurer) – vcontis@msn.com; 802-662-4396
                 Dave Hunt – 2dhunts@gmail.com; 802-524-2620
                 Lynn Lambesis – llambesis@hotmail.com; 802-527-0016
                 Nectar Rorris – 802-863-4375
                 Sotos Papaseraphim – sotosandmaria@gmail.com; 802-878-1163
                 Nick Pitt – nvpitt@gmail.com; 802-734-3316
                 David Saur — david_saur@yahoo.com; 757-871-2716

EDUCATION MINISTRY: Georgia Maheras, Sunday School Coordinator

PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD:
Theodora Contis (President)—tcontis1@msn.com; 802-899-2893
Aleka Michaelides (V. Pres) – alekam@live.com
Tammy Validakis (Secretary) – tammysi@gmavt.net; 802-917-1113
Maria Michaelides (Treasurer) – meroulavt@comcast.net; 802-878-3933

ORDER of AHEPA: Dr. John Tampas, President

PROTOPSALTIS: Presvytera Mary Papayiannis
PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – Georgia Maheras, Parish Council President

Thank you!

This Summer has been a time of blessings on our community. We hosted a successful Annual Festival: thank you to all who volunteered before, during, and after this critical event that benefits our Church. We are also grateful to Justin and Zoe Griffing! Their contributions to our Parish are too numerous to count and we wish them well at St. Tikhon’s Seminary.

Have you signed up as a Steward yet for 2017? If so, have you sent in your pledge? If not, OR, if you are able to contribute more, please let us know! Dave Hunt is the Stewardship Chair.

Fall is packed with events for all members of our community: from a Golf Outing, to a Game Night, to our Fall Bake Sale and Take-Out Dinner, there is something for everyone. Let us know if you can attend or if you want to help with the planning!

Do you have an interest in supporting the Church’s internet and social media ministry? Let us know!

PC Updates: We also thank Paul Henninge and Justin Griffing for their service on the Parish Council – we appreciate your time and talent! Welcome to David Saur who joins the Parish Council to serve for the remainder of Justin’s term in 2017. Nancy Trombley is replacing Justin as Vice President of the Parish Council.

Trying something new: You will see many new events in the calendars at the end of this Newsletter. These calendars will also be posted on the bulletin boards in the hall connecting the Church to the Community Center.

Sunday School News:

Sunday School is starting on September 24th with Registration. We look forward to welcoming all kids who are in Preschool through 8th Grade.

We are also looking for parent volunteers to help teach lessons each week- check out the schedule below and let us know when you can help out!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 24th</th>
<th>Fishers of Men- Registration; Let’s Go Fishing!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1st</td>
<td>Do Unto Others- the Golden Rule</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8th</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15th</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22nd</td>
<td>Miracles</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 29th</td>
<td>A Sowers Sows a Seed; Halloween!</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5th</td>
<td>The Lord’s Prayer</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12th</td>
<td>Church Etiquette- Week 1; Why do we do what we do?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 19th</td>
<td>Church Etiquette- Week 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26th</td>
<td>No Class- Happy Thanksgiving!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 3rd</td>
<td>Pageant Practice; Ornaments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10th</td>
<td>Pageant Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 17th</td>
<td>Pageant!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 24th</td>
<td>No Class- Merry Christmas!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
August 8, 2017

Dear Dormition Family,

Dormition has been a home for us both for over a decade and you all truly do feel as family to us. Words can’t adequately express the special place you all have in our hearts.

We appreciate the gifts, kindnesses, and well wishes as we prepare to take this next step in the Lord’s service. Though we go with gratitude toward the Lord for the opportunity and an openness to His will in this stage of our lives, we also go with sadness at having to leave all of you as we do so. The most important thing we could ask of any of you is your continued prayers for us.

God willing, we will be back to visit over the next three years and will look forward to seeing all of you then. Know that just as we ask you to pray for us, all of you remain ever in our prayers.

With Love in Christ,

[Signature]
Philoptochos News and Announcements
The Philoptochos Society is the official philanthropic organization of the Greek Orthodox Church in America.
Come and join us in doing the charity of our Orthodox Christian faith in this place.

**Mark Your Calendars:**

- **SEPTEMBER 17** – Sunday - Note: We will pass a tray for the benefit of Holy Cross Seminary.

  NOTE: There will be no meeting in September.

- **OCTOBER 15** Sunday - The **first meeting** will be Sunday, October 15 – After the Coffee Hour (around 12:30) - All women of the parish are invited to attend and hopefully join us in our charitable work.

- **OCTOBER 29** begins the **Thanksgiving Food Drive** to Sunday, November 12. Please bring your donations to the boxes in the church hall.

- **NOVEMBER 5** - Sunday– **Celebration of our patron Saints Cosmas & Damian,** we will have an Artoclasia and pass a tray for the support of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

- **NOVEMBER 5** - POT LUCK LUNCH - We call on all parishioners to participate in the pot luck lunch on the day that the Parish Council sets for the Fall General Assembly.

- **NOVEMBER 11** – Saturday - **Bake Sale and Take Out Dinner** – Please come and help us out.
  - Mon. 6 – 10 a.m. Bake Sale prep (Nuts & boxes etc.) & Koulourakia
  - Tues. 7 – 9:30 a.m.  –Baklava  (Crescent baking on Thursday)
  - Friday 10 - 10 a.m. - cupping and set up for bake sale
  - Sat. 11 - Bake Sale and Take Out Dinner 10 a.m. – Closing – Please sign up for a shift.

- **NOVEMBER 15** – Last day to bring your donations for the Thanksgiving Food Drive

- **NOVEMBER 19** – Sunday – Regular Philoptochos Meeting after Coffee Hour

*Coffee hour supervisors:* Presvytera Anthe Athas for September, Voula Zontanos for October, Maria Papaserafphim for November. Please sign up on the clip board in the Church Hall, or call Presvytera Anthe 865-4416.

You do a wonderful service when you sponsor COFFEE HOUR

Coffee /Fellowship Hour after the Divine Liturgy is a way of deepening our feeling of Community.

**What Do I Need to Bring?**

-1 quart of whole milk  
-2 half gallons of juice like apple, orange
-Snacks - for about 40-50 people.  
  Example: Dessert, Cheese and crackers, bagels & cream cheese, fruit.

**You do not need to bring** coffee, sugar, dishes, or napkins. These are provided at Church.

**During the fasting periods** 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.

Ladies of Philoptochos are glad to help if you need some in the kitchen.  -If you have any questions, please call Presvytera Anthe Athas (865-4416).
JOIN US!
This Fall is PACKED with Community Events for the Entire Parish:

Welcome Back on September 24th for a fun-filled event for all of our parishioners! Immediately following Sunday of the Holy Cross Liturgy, we will be hosting an afternoon of fellowship that includes: Sunday School Registration, homemade goodies, and music.

FAMILY BOARD GAMES!
Do you like to play board games? Come join us on October 21st from 3pm-5pm in the Church Hall. There will be light refreshments and beverages for all ages! We will have assorted games available for play including: Monopoly, Backgammon, Chess, Ticket to Ride, Scrabble, Connect Four, Memory, and MORE! Please contact the Planning Committee if you have a game that you can bring along or if you will attend.

Parish Council Meeting Schedule 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 5th</td>
<td>5:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10th</td>
<td>5:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 29th</td>
<td>5:15</td>
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All meetings are at Church in the Hall

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Our Annual Fall General Assembly is scheduled for November 5th. The Fall General Assembly Agenda includes: review of the Festival, 2018 Budget, and updates from Parish Committees. A more detailed agenda will be distributed closer to the meeting.
Vermont Chapter of the Order of the Ahepa
Dormition Greek Orthodox Church
Annual Golf Outing
To benefit the Ahepa Scholarship Fund and the Dormition Greek Orthodox Church
Sunday, September 17th, 2017
3:00pm (Shot Gun Start)
Catamount Golf Club – Williston, VT.
Appetizers @ 5:30 / Dinner @ 6pm
Golf (9 holes) + Dinner $65
Dinner Only $30
Come enjoy a day of Golf plus a fabulous dinner.
RSVP – Nick Pitt / John Tampas
802 734-3316 or nvpitt@gmail.com
**DORMITION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF BURLINGTON, VT**

**September 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
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<th>Fri</th>
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</table>
| **Notes: Fasting Rules:**  
*Strict Fast* – No meat, dairy products, 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.  
**Before Receiving Holy Communion** – No food or drink should be consumed after the previous evening meal; for evening Liturgies, do not consume anything after the mid-day meal. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3 13th Sunday of Matthew**  
8:30a Orthros  
9:30a Divine Liturgy & Doxology  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4 LABOR DAY**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5 5:15p Parish Council**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **6 Wine & Oil Allowed**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **7 5:00p Great Vespers**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **8 Indication**  
ECCL. NEW YEAR  
Wine & Oil Allowed |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **9 5:00p Great Vespers**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **10 Sunday before Holy Cross**  
9:00a Orthros  
10:00a Divine Liturgy  
2:00p Holy Baptism  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **11 PATRIOT DAY**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **12 5:00p Great Vespers**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **13 Wine & Oil Allowed**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **14 Elevation of the Holy Cross**  
8:00a Orthros  
9:00a Procession & Divine Liturgy  
Strict Fast |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **15 FALL EQUINOX**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **16 5:00p Great Vespers**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **17 Sunday after Holy Cross**  
9:00a Orthros  
10:00a Divine Liturgy  
AHEPA Golf Outing  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **18**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **19**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **20 Wine & Oil Allowed**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **21**  
Strict Fast |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **22 1st Sunday of Luke**  
9:00a Orthros  
10:00a Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School Registration  
Parish BBQ  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **23**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **24 1st Sunday of Luke**  
9:00a Orthros  
10:00a Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School Registration  
Parish BBQ  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **25**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **26**  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **27**  
Strict Fast |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **28**  
Strict Fast |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **29**  
Strict Fast |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **30**  
1:00p Holy Matrimony  
5:00p Great Vespers  
No Fasting |  |  |  |  |  |  |

*Holy Confession after Saturday Vespers + Orthros Monday-Thursday 9:00 am, unless shaded in blue*  
*Parish Office hours on Monday & Tuesday 9:30 am – 11:30 am, unless shaded in blue*  
Rev. Father Andreas M. Papayiannis, Proïstamenos (Presiding Priest) + 802.862.2155 + www.gocvt.org
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<tr>
<td><strong>1st Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School Planning Meeting – Assembly for the Parish</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Wine &amp; Oil Allowed</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8 3rd Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy No Sunday School</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15 7th Ecum. Council</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy No Sunday School Philoptochos Meeting 1:00p Holy Baptism</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>22 6th Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>29 7th Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy, Doxology &amp; Sunday School 12:15p Parish Council Canned Food Drive Begins!</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
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**Holy Confession after Saturday Vespers + Orthros Monday-Thursday 9:00 am, unless shaded in blue**

**Parish Office hours on Monday & Tuesday 9:30 am – 11:30 am, unless shaded in blue**
### November 2017

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5th Sunday of Luke</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School 11:45a Parish Assembly</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Wine &amp; Oil Allowed</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No Fasting</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8th Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School 14:00p Holy Baptism Food Drive Ends!</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
<td>No Fasting</td>
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<td>Strict Fast</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
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<td><strong>No Fasting</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9th Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy &amp; Sunday School Philoptochos Meeting</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
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<td><strong>Fish Allowed</strong></td>
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<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>13th Sunday of Luke</strong> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Fish Allowed</td>
<td>Strict Fast</td>
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**Holy Confession** after Saturday Vespers + Orthros Monday-Thursday 9:00 am, unless shaded in blue

**Parish Office hours** on Monday & Tuesday 9:30 am – 11:30 am, unless shaded in blue
November 11th is our ANNUAL FALL TAKE-OUT DINNER AND BAKE SALE

Bake Sale: 10am-7pm
Take-Out Dinner: 11am-7pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
We need people to help every day from November 5th-10th to help with this major fundraiser for the Philoptochos and the Parish.

• Can you help the week of November 5th with prep (baking, skewering, set-up)?

• Can you help by taking a shift on November 11th? Either serving, preparing food, washing dishes, clean-up, cashier?

Please sign up with either (or both!) the Philoptochos or Parish Council to let us know when you can help.