

MONTHLY BULLETIN

greekchurchips@verizon.net | 978-356-9730 | www.greekorthodoxchurchipswich.org

JANUARY CHURCH SERVICES

Monday, January 1

Circumcision of our Lord, St. Basil the Great

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Saturday, January 6

Theophany

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Sunday, January 7

Orthos **8:30 am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Sunday, January 14

Leavetaking of Theophany

Orthos **8:30 am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Sunday, January 21

12th Sunday of Luke

Orthos **8:30 am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Sunday, January 28

15th Sunday of Luke

Orthos **8:30 am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

Bible Study

Tuesdays 6:15pm – 7:30pm

Jan 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

Thursdays 11:15am – 12:30pm

Jan 4th, Jan 11th, Jan 18th

WAITING FOR MOTIVATION

It was early fall and a woman named Shirley said to her brother Joe “Come this New Year, I’m going to get healthy.” So, for the number of days leading up to January first she intended to load up on all of the sweets and treats that she could find at the plethora of holiday gatherings leading up to the New Year. Pecan pie at Thanksgiving, figgy pudding at Christmas and New Year’s cocktails were just a few of those tasty holiday season treats.

She would say to her friends and family at those gatherings, “It’s ok. Come New Years I’m going to get back in shape.” Fifteen years had passed since her first “better health” proclamation, and still she was not anywhere close to achieving her goal.

In late January of the fifteenth year, Shirley and her brother Joe, gathered for coffee once again. Joe asked Shirley “How is the health plan going?” Shirley responded “I just don’t have the motivation. I just don’t feel like doing it.” Joe said “You’re never going to feel like it. Get up, get started and do it anyway!”

How correct was Joe when saying “You’re never going to feel like it. Get up, get started and do it anyway!”

Brothers and sisters, motivation is expensive and unreliable. If we wait to be motivated to do anything in life, we may, very well, never accomplish our goals.

Whether our goal is better health, better time management, or better participation in the Liturgical life of the Church (also known as going to Church) sometimes, perhaps many times, we have to do as brother Joe said and “get up, get started and do it anyway.”

Brothers and Sisters, may the Lord God bless us all with a peaceful New Year and many more to come.

Your brother in Christ the Lord,

Father Christopher Kolentzas

DONATIONS

In Loving Memory of Jeanne Soffron

Melissa Society
Christine Galanis
Lorayne Tsoutsouras
Daniel & Elaine Theriault
Andrew & Elaine Kaszuba
Sagris Family
Richard & Myrna Lombard
Baer Family
Connie James
Peter & Vivienne Argeropoulos
Connie Geanakakis

In Loving Memory of Andrew Nickas

Kiricoples Family

In Loving Memory of Alice Nahatis

Chrissi Pappas
Filius Family
Danile & Elaine Theriault

In Loving Memory of Andrew Galanis

Georgia Galanis

In Loving Memory of Arhtur & Etta Sotis

Arthur & Nia Sotis

In Loving Memory of Father John Govostes

Arthur & Nia Sotis

In Loving Memory of Angelo & Ann Vlahos

Joan Wiendczak

In Loving Memory of William Markos

George & Connie Markos
Eleanor Todd
Katherine Georgopoulos
Cushing & Sandra Titcomb
Peter & Mary Manos
Mary Macdougall
Jay & Mary Ann Tsoutsouras
Steven & Heidi DiCicco
Stella Markos
Anne Waisnor

Hellenic Center Building Fund

Charles & Stella Nahatis (in memory of William Markos)

Christmas Donations

Charles & Stella Nahatis
George & Eugenia Hasiotis
Christopher Tsoutsouras
Sarantopoulos Family
George & Connie Markos
Joseph & Margot Ciccotelli
Perry & Kathy Eliopoulos
Avgenia Rooney
Mary Sagris
George & Leah Gelasakis
John & Christine Galanis
Katherine Georgeopoulos
Antonia Baer
Angela Donahue (In Memory of Peter Nicholson)
Andrew & Elaine Kaszuba
Dana & Marcia Karas
Christine Sarantopoulos
John & Nicholas Vontzalides
Cushing & Sandra Titcomb
John Mavroides
Pamela & Greg Scangas
Presvytera Kathleen Govostes
Richard & Myrna Lombard
Stanely & Robin Treantos
Stella Spyropoulos
Virginia Kandris

General Donations

George & Connie Markos
Mr. & Mrs. Kolentsas
Chris Tsoutsouras
Panagiotis Manginis & Anne Phippen
Ktisis Family
Kathy & Kevin Dyer
Sophia Fowler/Ipswich Foundation

Special Purpose Donation

Avenia Rooney

Philoxenia House

Panagiotis Manginis & Anne Phippen

MELISSA NEWS

Towers of Gifts

The Melissa Women's Society will be sponsoring Towers for Gifts during the months of January and February. There will be a large heart on the church hall stage. Donated items will be posted on the heart. Brand new items may be left in the bin on the stage.

We thank you all for your continued support. Thanks to you, almost 80 coats were collected. Over 400 socks were donated. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

About Towers of Gifts for Newborns in Need

We started "Towers of Gifts" for newborns-in-need in March of 2012. Emmaus House, a homeless shelter in Haverhill, was our very first agency. When people began to learn what we were doing, we began receiving wonderful donations and we started this Facebook page to spread the word of our mission. Because of the generosity of others, we have been able to add 3 more agencies (Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center in Amesbury, Our Neighbor's Table and the MSPCC in Lawrence).

We were also able to add 2 hospitals (Lawrence General Hospital and Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport). When our agencies/hospitals have a newborn-in-need, a social worker contacts us to create a "tower".

We deliver the "towers" to our agencies/hospitals at no cost. We accept new baby clothing in sizes newborn, 0-3-month, 3 month, 3-6 months and 6 months. We also accept diapers (size newborn or size 1), wipes, new baby blankets, baby bath products (shampoo, baby wash, lotion and diaper rash cream), hooded bath towels, wash clothes, small new infant toys, hats, socks and

Melissa Donations for the Year 2023

Purchased Vasilopeta for the January service
 Donated the men's bathroom renovation in our church hall
 March 13- sponsored the Dinner Bell at the Masonic Temple
 Donated to the Archdiocese Earthquake Relief Fund
 Donated \$500 raffle festival prize
 Collected money for Easter flowers
 Collected 427 pairs of socks for Friends of Boston's Homeless
 Collected over 60 coats for charitable donations through Anton's Cleaners in Andover
 Paid for church complete cleaning
 Cleaned and organized church storage room
 Cleaned and organized the church kitchen
 Oct. 16- sponsored the Dinner Bell at the Masonic Temple
 Donate all church coffee for the coffee hour
 Donated to the Ipswich Rotary Flags for Heroes in memory of Father John
 Paid for the polishing of the large brass Candelabras in front of the altar, three sets of candle holders, and the large cross on the altar table.
 Sponsored a memorial and coffee hour for deceased members
 Donated funds to senior Care to provide a Council on Aging lunch
 Donated to have the church Ramos painted
 Donated to restrain the church front doors as well as the hinges
 Donated to the Open-Door Food Pantry

Jamming with Father Christopher

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

Please join us on **Thursday January 25th** for a morning and afternoon of jam making, Bible study and good old fashioned *parea*. This event is scheduled to take place in our Church Hall.

For over two years our Parish has been producing the finest fruit jams that you have ever tasted. Those who have tasted our fruit spreads will attest to their fine texture and mouth-watering flavor. The recipe is simple as is the entire process.

What is required is your time and patience. The process cannot be rushed.

Order of events are as follows

11:00 am - arrival time and fruit preparation

11:45 am - 2:00pm – jam will simmer on low heat

While jam is simmering, we will take turns stirring the pot while holding our Bible study and taking lunch.

2:00 pm - ladle jam into sterilized jars

2:15 pm - process jars in boiling pot of water

While jars are processing, we will clean up our tools and work station

3:00 pm - finished!!!

Only ten seats are available for this class. Please RSVP to my cell phone at 774-372-9107

In His Service,
Father Christopher Kolentsas

GOYA NEWS

During November and December, GOYA was been busy with activity. They wrapped up assembling wreaths and finalized the Vasilopita orders. An afternoon was dedicated to sprucing up the Philoxenia House with a fall clean-up and outdoor decorations. Additionally, the GOYANs gathered for a Holiday celebration which was filled with fellowship and delicious food. Thank you to the Berry Family for hosting.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the community for their continuous support in purchasing wreaths and Vasilopita. Being part of this incredible church community is truly a blessing.

Upcoming events: All youth from 5th to 12th grade are welcome.

January 8th Dinner Bell (Tentative)

January 13th GOYA Game Night (6:00-8:00 p.m. The Scangas Home)

January 21st GOYA Meeting (Following Church in the Choir)



JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Circumcision of our Lord St. Basil the Great Liturgy 9:30am	2 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:30pm	3	4	5	6 Theophany Liturgy 9:30am
7 Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am	8 Greek School 4:00-7:00pm	9 Bible Study 6:15pm-7:30pm	10	11 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:30pm	12	13
14 Leavetaking of Theophany Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am	15 Greek School 4:00 -7:00pm	16 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:30pm	17	18 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:30pm	19	20
21 12 th Sunday of Luke Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am	22 Greek School 4:00-7:00pm	23 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:30pm	24	25 Jamming with Father Chris & Bible Study Starting 11:00am	26	27
28 15 th Sunday of Luke Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am	29 Greek School 4:00 -7:00pm	30 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:30pm	31			