

# MONTHLY BULLETIN

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## July Services

### **Sunday, July 2**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew  
Orthos **8:30 am**  
Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

### **Sunday, July 9**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew  
Orthos **8:30 am**  
Divine Liturgy **9:00 am**

### **Sunday, July 16**

Sunday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council  
Orthos **8:30 am**  
Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

### **Thursday, July 20**

Prophet Elias  
Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

### **Sunday, July 23**

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew  
Orthos **8:30 am**  
Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

### **Sunday, July 30**

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew  
Orthos **8:30 am**  
Divine Liturgy **9:30 am**

## Bible Study

### **Thursday, July 13**

11:00am – 12:30pm

### **Tuesday, July 18**

6:15pm – 7:45pm

### **Tuesday, July 25**

6:15pm – 7:45pm

## St. Christina, July 24th

The daughter of a freebooting pagan who held his own child virtually captive to keep her from hearing the name of the Lord mentioned, seems an unlikely candidate for sainthood. Yet Christina became a saint under these bizarre circumstances.

Her father, Urbanus, was a man of no small means, coming by his wealth in an unscrupulous manner as a camp follower of the legions of Emperor Severus in about the year 200. After the birth of his daughter, he used his ill-gotten wealth to erect a huge tower for her, designed to admit no sound from the outside world and to allow for freedom of movement within the upper levels only, and at the very top, he installed an open terrace, thus ensuring that she would never encounter a Christian or hear of Christianity - for he feared Christianity as much as he hated it.

Christina was content initially, yet over time her native intuition told her that she was missing a great deal, and she grew weary of the tower with its pagan gods placed everywhere to remind her of her duty to her father. She found pleasure in her walks around the terrace where she gazed at the stars and pondered the wonders of nature and how it all happened in the first place. So great was her longing to learn the reason for her being that an angel of the Lord appeared to her, and in the confines of the tower she came to know God and His Son Jesus. Her joy was so great that she was eager to tell her father of her new faith, but she never got the chance because he was killed in one of the Roman forays.

Free at last, she sold everything and vowed that she would serve Jesus Christ for the rest of her life. She gave the entire proceeds to the poor and the afflicted. Possessing nothing but a love of the Savior and an eagerness to serve Him, she became an inspiring woman of the Church.

She carried the message of Christ to the pagans but failed to heed the warning that she had trod on sensitive pagan toes and found herself imprisoned. She suffered brutal tortures but endured them all with the name of the Savior on her lips. And when she spoke on even after her tongue had been cut out, the ruler Dion ordered her put to death. She died for Christ on July 24, 234. George Poulos, *Orthodox Saints: Volume III, Brookline 2005, pp. 91-93.*



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF IPSWICH

# GREEK FESTIVAL 2023

**CELEBRATING OVER 100 YEARS OF TRADITION**

Roasted Lamb • Greek Specialties • Greek Salads • Gyros  
Greek Fries • Loukoumades • Authentic Greek Pastries & Frappés

**SATURDAY, JULY 8 12:30-10:30 PM**

**SUNDAY, JULY 9 12:30-6:00 PM**



- Greek Dancing & Live Music All Day Long!  
Live music by ENOSIS
- RAFFLES!  
Grand Prize – \$2,500.00 / First Prize – \$500.00  
and many more exciting prizes!
- Boston Lykeion Ellinidon Dance Group  
Two Shows Sat. / One Show Sun.
- Authentic Greek Taverna
- Free Kids' Zone!

**THE HELLENIC CENTER, IPSWICH, MA**  
 Junction of Routes 133 and 1A, Ipswich, MA • Take Exit 20N on Route 128  
 • Admission \$5.00 (valid for both days) • Children under 10 are still free  
 • Plenty of FREE Parking with Admission

[www.greekfestivalipswich.com](http://www.greekfestivalipswich.com)

All major credit cards accepted — Follow us on #ipswichgreekfestival

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## FESTIVAL 2023

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### **FESTIVAL- Your help is needed!**

**Raffle Tickets**- Please support the raffle & if you have not mailed them in, please bring them to the raffle booth.

There is also help needed at the **Raffle Booth**. One person for either shift Sunday- 12:00-3:30 and 3:00- 6:00. Contact Connie 617-212-5353 for Raffle Booth.

**Pastry Booth**-We are purchasing trays of Baklava at \$35 per tray. You may sign up in the link below. Checks can be sent to the church to PO Box 6, Ipswich Ma or through church website. Please note "Baklava Donation". Those who prefer to bake baklava are also welcome to do so. Please bring them on Saturday morning.

**All Greek Desserts** are also needed! Please click pastry booth link to bake desserts or volunteer. Contact Kathy 617-293-6872 with questions.

### **Pastry Volunteer Sign up and Baklava Donation**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4aaca2cabf58-ipswich2#/>

**The Food Booth and Parking** - HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED!!!! PLEASE sign up today using the link below!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4AACAE2CABF58-ipswich3>

### **The Kids Area also needs volunteers**

Bounce House - needs someone to supervise children being sure it's not overloaded and children take turns.

Sign up is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F44A5A929A5F49-bounce>

Sand Art sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f44a5a929a5f49-sand1#/>

We must have all parishioners come together and give of their time to make OUR FESTIVAL successful! There is a place for everyone to make a difference.

Thank you to all who have already worked so countless hours, given donations and helped in many ways.

**SEE YOU AT THE FESTIVAL!**

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## “Jamming with Father Chris”

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### **"You have not had jam until you have had our jam!" Father Christopher Kolenstsas & Family**

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

I invite you all to join me on **Thursday, July 27th** for a morning and afternoon of jam making, Bible study and good old fashioned para. This event is scheduled to take place in our Church Hall.

Over one decade ago my wife and I began making 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.

What makes our jam so unique is the recipe and process that we use. 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 – 2:00 pm** - simmer the jam on low heat stirring jam constantly.

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 water

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

**3:00 pm** – Finished!!

There are only 10 seats available for this class. Please RSVP to my cell phone at 774-372-9107.



In His Service,

Father Christopher Kolentsas

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## 2023 Ministry Award Recipients

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**The parish council is happy to announce this year's Ministry Award Recipients are Connie James and George Karras.**

Congratulations to Connie and George!

Connie's love of our beautiful Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Ipswich began as a child. It was instilled in her by her loving parents that we give back to God, Jesus Christ, and the Virgin Mary for the gifts they have given to us throughout our lives. Prior to Connie's marriage she was a member of the church choir, a Sunday school teach and volunteer at the annual festival. Then, she travelled and lived elsewhere with her beloved husband, Tony and their children, Helen, Sally, Christopher and Gregory, where she sought out a Greek Orthodox community.

After losing her husband, Connie returned to Ipswich. She felt so much love and support in our parish that she felt the need to continue the legacy she had always cherished throughout her life.

She has taken an active role as chairperson of the Hellenic Center committee. She works vigorously to ensure the success of our community center which is used as a venue for annual festival, weddings, proms and other events. For the past few years Connie has chaired the Greek specialty food booth at the festival. Spending many days prepping, cooking, then serving at the event.

Connie hopes to continue her endeavors in the years to come and that it will be an inspiration for her children, grandchildren and the younger generation.



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## 2023 Ministry Award Recipients

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George started his Christian life being baptized in the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Ipswich. His parents, Christos and Calliope, brought him up in the Greek Orthodox way. He went to Sunday School--his mother being a Sunday School teacher. When he was old enough, he was an Altar Boy.

In George's adult life he attended services with his two boys, Christopher and Michael. His faith brought him to church with his sons and continued each Sunday as he sat in the back corner pew until recently.

At our annual festival each year George was always volunteering in one capacity or another. He co-chaired the event as well, with much success.

Being a cook in the army, George could always be found grilling at the annual steakout. George also has served on the Parish Council for multiple terms. He was instrumental in the purchase of our beautiful Hellenic Center, a lovely Georgian style mansion on 13 acres on the Ipswich River. This foresight has helped support our Church for the past 50+ years.

Unfortunately, due to a medical condition George was unable to be present for this honor but we know he would be humbled and appreciative.



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## CHOIR NEWS

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A Big Thank you to all that sent in donations for the Reverend John Govostes Assumption of the Virgin Mary Choir Scholarship Fund. Scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors that give two years of faithful service singing and/or reading in The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church of Ipswich, MA choir or chant stand.

Without all of you, this scholarship would not be possible. Father John so loved the music of our church and the choir. If you would like to make a contribution please send your donation to Stella Spyropoulos 4 Bruce Road Danvers, MA 01923. Checks can be made out to The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Choir.

New Choir Members needed! We are one of few choirs in the Diocese that sing during the summer months. Please consider joining us! You may contact Paula Foukas at [procallplus@aol.com](mailto:procallplus@aol.com) or 339-338-9367 for more information.

### **Recent Donors**

Dr and Mrs. John Govostes  
Presvytera Kathryn Govostes

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## DONATIONS MADE TO THE CHURCH

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### **In Loving Memory of Andrew Nickas**

Peter & Kathy Eliopoulos & Family  
Jane Porter

### **In Loving Memory of Harrison Sagris**

James Sagris

# JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	3	4 Independence Day 	5	6	7	8 Festival 12:30-10:30pm 
9 Festival 12:30-6:00pm 	10	11	12	13 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:30pm	14	15
16 Sunday of the 4th Ecumenical Council Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	17	18 Bible Study 6:15pm - 7:45pm	19	20 Prophet Elias Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	21	22
23 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	24	25 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:45pm	26	27 Jamming with Fr. Chris <b>11:00am</b>	28	29
30 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Mathew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	31					