

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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August Services

Sunday, August 4

6th Sunday of Matthew
Orthos **8:30am**
Divine Liturgy **9:00am**

Tuesday, August 6

Holy Transfiguration
Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Wednesday, August 7

Paraklesis/Parish Family Dinner
Paraklesis **5:30pm**

Friday, August 9

Paraklesis/Parish Family Dinner
Paraklesis **5:30pm**

Sunday, August 11

7th Sunday of Matthew
Orthos **8:30am**
Divine Liturgy **9:00am**

Wednesday, August 14

Dormition of the Theotokos/Parish
Family Dinner
Vespers Liturgy **5:30pm**

Sunday, August 18

8th Sunday of Matthew
Orthos **8:30am**
Divine Liturgy **9:00am**

Sunday, August 25

9th Sunday of Matthew
Orthos **8:30am**
Divine Liturgy **9:00am**

Bible Study

Tuesday August 13th & 20th

6:15pm – 7:30pm

Thursday August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

11:00am – 12:15pm

I've Got It Covered

Sally and her two older brothers were raised in a loving and secure Christian home. Her father and mother were both loving parents that provided a stable household for their three growing children.

The family was no stranger to struggles and hardships however. There was the time that Sally's father lost his job and the family had to relocate to another state. Then there was the time that her mother was diagnosed with cancer. And, of course, there was the time that the basement in the new house flooded and the family had to live in a rental trailer for six months while the house was being repaired.

Like every person, Sally was afraid at times. She was afraid when the family had to move. She was afraid when her mother was diagnosed with cancer. She was afraid when the family had to leave their new home after the basement flooded.

Every time Sally told her father that she was afraid he would respond with the magical four words "I've got it covered." That was Dad's catch phrase.

Sally trusted her father immensely. All she needed to hear was those four words "I've got it covered" and she would sleep well at night. For the most part "anxiety" was a foreign word to Sally and her brothers because Daddy always seemed to "have it covered;" even when things appeared to be falling apart.

Whether I am watching the news on television, listening to podcasts online, or speaking with parishioners I am reminded that "anxiety" is on the rise. I am often told that people young and old suffer more from anxiety today than ever before. If, indeed, anxiety is on the rise then I would bet my boots that our gravitation away from the Gospel of Jesus Christ has something to do with it.

Prayer in public schools has been banned since 1962. For decades now, youth sports have taken the place for Sunday worship.

I've Got It Covered.....continued

Several court cases have taken place since the early 2000's debating the removal of the Ten Commandments from US court houses. According to a 2023 Pew Research Center survey, only 54% of US adults believe in God as described in the Bible.

If the people of our nation have been voluntarily distancing themselves from the Lord God, and if they no longer believe that "He has it covered" then it is no wonder that anxiety appears to be on the rise.

It is true that all of us will suffer at times, but God has promised us that there is more than just this life. Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt 4:17), meaning that, since God took on flesh, heaven itself is here, among us. The Kingdom will be a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1) which is to say that everything will be transfigured, and perfected.

The short answer is "God has it covered." Regardless of the sadness and hardships that we all experience in this life, the Lord God, in the end, "has it covered."

My brothers and sisters in the Lord, be at peace for God is with us!

Your brother in Christ the Lord,

Father Christopher Kolentsas

Donations

In Loving Memory of Helen Sarantopoulos
Avgenia Rooney

In Loving Memory of Marina Aggelakis
Christine Sarantopoulos

In Loving Memory of Harrison Sagris
James Sagris

General Donation
Bette & Seraphino Ferriero

Melissa Society

Melissa Society Comfort Pack Project

The Melissa Women's Society has consistently endeavored to promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach. Our generous parishioners have always been supportive of our efforts. For that, we are grateful.

Our next project is the "Comfort Pack Drive". Items will be collected from September 1 to October 31. This endeavor will be helping children between the ages of 2 to 17 who are entering foster care, living with homelessness, or being rescued through trafficking. How unfortunate that these children need to move quickly, so they lack a bag to carry their limited personal items and clothing.

Melissa will be collecting **brand new items** for these children in need. These new items will include:

- Back packs
- Pajamas for children aged 2 to 17
- Underwear for children aged 2 to 17
- Blankets
- Journals
- Water bottles that are bpa free
- A comforting stuffed animal

Donation boxes will be labeled and placed on the stage in our church hall.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, we will gratefully accept it and use the money to purchase needed items. Please make checks out to **Melissa Society and send checks to:**

Chris Sarantopoulos
7 Brownville Avenue
Ipswich, MA 01938

You may also give the check to Chris in church.

We will be working with KDL Angels and HELPIS (Help Me Help Someone, Inc.) HMHS is a social network that promotes and encourages kind and charitable deeds.

If you have any questions or you are unable to leave off the items, please contact Janet Squires at 978-352-4281 or Chris Sarantopoulos at 978-500-6248 to arrange for pick up.

Thank you for supporting the Melissa Society and for continuing to aid those in need.

SPONSORED BY
ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

COMEDY NIGHT

SAURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

THE HELLENIC CENTER
117 County Road, Ipswich MA 01938

\$50 PER PERSON TICKETS IN ADVANCE
\$60 TICKETS AT DOOR (if available)

Appetizers and Dessert included
Cash Bar and Raffle

DOORS OPEN @ 6:00pm
SHOWTIME @ 7:30pm

STARRING
ELLEN KARIS
THE GREEK GODDESS OF COMEDY

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
Pay via Venmo @Denise-DeFrancesco
(Memo Comedian Tickets) or Call 978-314-1978
Pay via Check, Mail to: Ellie Sinkewicz
7 True Lane, Georgetown, MA 01833
or Call 617-365-8237

The events committee is excited and hoping you will come & laugh with them at Comedy Night featuring the "Greek Goddess of Comedy " Ellen Karis. She will be coming from NYC to entertain us and this show can be enjoyed by all, even if you speak no Greek! Tickets are available now, please see info below!

Saturday Sept 14th

Hellenic Center- County Rd. Ipswich

Doors open at 6:00 pm - Appetizers, Desserts, Cash Bar, Raffle

Show begins 7:30

\$50.00 per person /\$60 at the door

Purchase tickets by:

Venmo from Denise DeFrancesco: @Denise-DeFrancisco (memo comedian tickets)

Checks mail to Ellie Sinkewicz, 7 True Lane, Georgetown, Ma 01833

Questions: Denise: 978-314-1978, Ellie 617-365-8237

Choir News

Choir Rehearsals for The Paraklesis Services to The Theotokos and Assumption Panagia Vespers Liturgy Saturday August 10th 10:00 AM

Rehearsal location will be in Newburyport at the Annunciation.

New choir members needed to join our beautiful choir. What better way to celebrate the Liturgy each week than with singing praises to God?!! Please call or email Paula Foukas if interested.

procallplus@aol.com or 339-338-9367.

The Assumption Choir is happy to introduce the Father John Govostos Church Musician Scholarship Fund. A college scholarship will be given to a high school senior that volunteers in the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church of Ipswich Choir for a period of at least two years service. This scholarship will be given only to students that volunteer to chant or sing in the choir.

If you have any questions, please call or email Paula Foukas at procallplus@aol.com or 339-338-9367.

If you would like to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund, please make out a check to the Assumption Choir and mail to Stella Spyropoulos 4 Bruce Road, Danvers, MA 01923.

Thank you so much for your support!!

Greek School

We are happy to announce our Greek school program will be starting up again on **Monday, October 7th**. Classes will be held in the church hall on Mondays **4:00pm – 6:00pm** with potential of adding days.

Yearly fees are as follows and must be paid prior to the 1st day of class.

\$200 for the first child

\$100 for each additional child

\$400 maximum per family

Families are required to pre-register children First grade+ (ages 6+), prior to the commencement of the program.

To register please contact Marina Catalini at 978-810-0910.

As always, if there is a family hardship, please contact Father Christopher privately at 774-372-9107.

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:15pm	2	3
4 6 th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthos 9:00am Liturgy	5	6 Holy Transfiguration 9:30am Liturgy	7 Paraklesis/ Parish Family Dinner 5:30 pm	8 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:15pm	9 Paraklesis/ Parish Family Dinner 5:30 pm	10
11 7 th Sunday of Mathew 8:30am Orthos 9:00am Liturgy	12	13 Bible Study 6:15 – 7:30pm	14 Dormition of the Theotokos/ Parish Family Dinner 5:30pm Vesperal Liturgy	15 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:15pm	16	17
18 8 th Sunday of Mathew 8:30am Orthos 9:00am Liturgy	19	20 Bible Study 6:15 – 7:30pm	21	22 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:15pm	23	24
25 9 th Sunday of Mathew 8:30am Orthos 9:00am Liturgy	26	27	28	29	30	31