

## ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ KOINOTHTA ΤΩΝ ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΩΝ Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church

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October 15, 2023

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

> **Epistle Reading** St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15.

**Gospel Reading** The Reading is from Luke 8:5-15.

> **Memorial** 40 day – *Alex Kolokythas*

1 year - Trifon Vlagopoulos

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

**WEEKDAY SERVICES** - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες: Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - every Thurs., at 6pm. Feast of St. Demetrios - Thurs., 10/26, Orthros 8:30/Liturgy 9AM.

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

#### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then, the light of Your divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, "Glory to You our Christ, the Giver of Life."

Ότε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῆ ἀστραπῆ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον Ζωοδότα Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

#### Apolytikion for Sun. the 7th Ecumenical Council in the Plagal Fourth Mode

You are greatly glorified, O Christ our God, who established our Fathers as luminaries upon the earth, and through them led us all to the true Faith. O Most compassionate, glory to You.

Ύπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστῆρας ἐπὶ γῆς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν πίστιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὁδηγήσας πολυεύσπλαγχνε, δόξα σοι.

## Seasonal Kontakion in the Second Mode

The protection of Christians unshameable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, do not turn from the prayerful cries of those who are in sin; instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercession and speed now to supplication as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε. Μὴ παρίδῃς ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεί, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

**Receiving Holy Communion** - We welcome to this celebration of the Divine Liturgy those Christians who are from other Christian Denominations and who are not fully united with us. Sadly, it is a consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to you an invitation to receive Holy Communion. Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is the work or action of the celebrating Community signifying a oneness of faith, life, and worship of the believing Community. Reception of Holy Communion by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must pray. **However, all present** are welcome to partake of the Antidoro (blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the Liturgy.

#### **Epistle Reading**

#### Prokeimenon. Fourth Mode. Daniel 3.26,27.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers. Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

#### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15.

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

## Epistle Reading

#### Προκείμενον. Fourth Mode. Δανιήλ 3.26-27.

Εὐλογητός εἶ, Κυριε, ὁ Θεὸς τῶν Πατἐρων ἡμῶν. Στίχ. ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἶς ἐποἰησας ἡμῖν.

#### τὸ Ἀνἁγνωσμα Πρὸς Τίτον 3:8-15.

Τέκνον Τίτε, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος, καὶ περὶ τούτων βούλομαί σε διαβεβαιοῦσθαι, ἵνα φροντίζωσιν καλῶν ἕργων προΐστασθαι οἱ πεπιστευκότες θεῷ. ταῦτά ἐστιν καλὰ καὶ ωφέλιμα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις · μωρὰς δὲ ζητήσεις καὶ γενεαλογίας καὶ ἕριν καὶ μάχας νομικὰς περίΐστασο, εἰσὶν γὰρ ἀνωφελεῖς καὶ μάταιοι. αιῥετικὸν ἄνθρωπον μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ, εἰδὼς ὅτι ἐξέστραπται ὁ τοιοῦτος καὶ ἁμαρτάνει, ὢν αὐτοκατάκριτος. Ὅταν πέμψω Ἀρτεμᾶν πρὸς σὲ ἢ Τυχικόν, σπούδασον ἐλθεῖν πρός με εἰς Νικόπολιν, ἐκεῖ γὰρ κέκρικα παραχειμάσαι. Ζηνᾶν τὸν νομικὸν καὶ Ἀπολλῶν σπουδαίως πρόπεμψον, ἵνα μηδὲν αὐτοῖς λείπῃ. μανθανέτωσαν δὲ καὶ οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἕργων προΐστασθαι εἰς τὰς ἀναγκαίας χρείας, ἵνα μὴ ὦσιν ἄκαρποι. Ἀσπάζονταί σε οἱ μετ ἰἐμοῦ πάντες. Ἄσπασαι τοὺς φιλοῦντας ἡμᾶς ἐν πίστει. ἡ χάρις μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν.

## GOSPEL

#### The Reading is from Luke 8:5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

## GOSPEL

#### Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 8:5-15

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τήν παραβολὴν ταὐτην. Ἐξῆλθεν ὁ σπεἰρων τοῦ σπεῖραι τὸν σπόρον αὐτοῦ. καὶ ἐν τῷ σπεἰρειν αὐτὸν ὃ μὲν ἔπεσε παρὰ τὴν ὁδόν, καὶ κατεπατήθη, καὶ τὰ πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ κατἑφαγεν αὐτὸ· καὶ ἕτερον ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν πἑτραν, καὶ φυὲν ἐξηρἀνθη διὰ τὸ μὴ ἔχειν ἰκμάδα· καὶ ἕτερον ἔπεσεν ἐν μἑσῷ τῶν ἀκανθῶν, καὶ συμφυείσαι ai ἄκανθαι ἀπἑπνιξαν αὐτὸ. καὶ ἕτερον ἔπεσεν εἰς τὴν γῆν τὴν ἀγαθήν, καὶ φυὲν ἐποίησε καρπὸν κατονταπλασίονα. ταῦτα λέγων ἐφώνει· ὁ ἔχων ὠτα ἀκοὐειν ἀκουἑτω. Ἐπηρώτων δὲ aὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ aὐτοῦ λέγοντες· τἰς εἴη ἡ παραβολὴ aǚτη; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· ὑμῖν δἑδοται γνῶναι τὰ μυστήρια τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ, τοῖς δὲ λοιποῖς ἐν παραβολαῖς, ἵνα βλἑποντες μὴ βλἑπωσι καὶ ἀκούοντες μὴ συνιῶσιν. ἔστι δὲ aǚτη ἡ παραβολή· ὁ σπόρος ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ· οἱ δὲ παρὰ τὴν ὁδόν εἰσιν οἱ ἀκοὐσαντες, εἶτα ἕρχεται ὁ διἀβολος καὶ αἴρει τὸν λόγον ἀπὸ τῆς καρδίας aὐτῶν, ἵνα μὴ πιστεὐσαντες σωθῶσιν. οἱ δὲ ἐπὶ τῆς πἑτρας οἳ ὅταν ἀκοὑσωσι, μετὰ χαρᾶς δἑχονται τὸν λόγον, καὶ οὐτοι ῥίζαν οὐκ ἔχουσιν, οἳ πρὸς καιρὸν πιστεὑουσι καὶ ἐν καιρῷ πειρασμοῦ ἀφἰστανται. τὸ δὲ εἰς τὰς ἀκἀνθας πεσόν, οὐτοὶ εἰσιν οἱ ἀκοὑσαντες, καὶ ὑπὸ μεριμνῶν καὶ πλούτου καὶ ἡδονῶν τοῦ βἰου πορευὀμενοι συμπνίγονται καὶ οὐ τελεσφοροῦσι. τὸ δὲ ἐν τῆ καλῆ γῆ, οὖτοἱ εἰσιν οῦ βίου πορευἰρενοι συμπνίγονται κοἰ σαντες τὸν λόγον κατἑχουσι καὶ καρποφοροῦσιν ἐν ὑπομονῆ. ταῦτα λἑγων ἐφώνει· ὁ ἔχων ὦτα ἀκοὐειν ἀκουἑτω.

## Saints & Feast Days



October 15

#### Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

On the Sunday that falls on or immediately after the eleventh of this month, we chant the Service to the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, which gathered in Nicaea in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasius and during the reign of the Empress Irene and her son,

Constantine Porphyrogenitus, to refute the Iconoclast heresy, which had received imperial support beginning with the Edict issued in 726 by Emperor Leo the Isaurian. Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the second assult of Iconoclasm in the ninth century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilus.

# We Welcome All Who Worship with Us Today!

Memorial

40 days – Alex Kolokythas

1 year - Trifon Vlagopoulos

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η Μνήμη!

**Coffee Fellowship is** sponsored by the *Kolokythas family* in memory of their loved one.

If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Fellowship, please contact the Office.

#### Announcements

Grandparent Sunday, October 22nd — The Sunday School students and staff invite all the Grandparents to join their grandchildren in their Sunday School class. If your Grandparents are not available, then students can invite parents, aunts or uncles to attend.

Ministry Sunday, October 22nd - Following the Divine Liturgy during Coffee Fellowship Hour. Join us and find out more about the various ministries of our Parish.

## SERMON

#### THE SELF-CONDEMNATION OF THE HERETICAL PERSON

On today's Sunday, the Church honors the Godbearing Fathers, who convened the Seventh Ecumenical Council in Nicaea of Bithynia in the year 787. The Fathers of the aforesaid Council submitted their experience in Christ with reference to the subject of the veneration of the holy icons. With their theological speech, holiness, and their high spiritual level, they proclaimed that, since the Son and Word of God incarnated, we have the ability to depict His figure, according to the ancient church tradition.

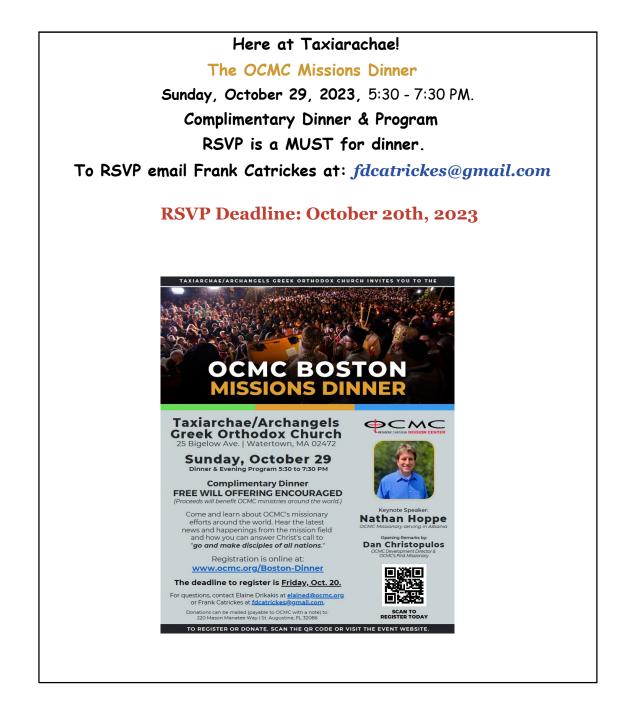
The depiction of the Lord expresses the faith of the Church that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn. 1:14). Also, we depict the figure of the Holy Theotokos, who through the action of the Holy Spirit gave birth to the Son of God, the incarnate and, of course, we depict all the Saints, who were shown to be true members of the Body of Christ and who intercede to God for the salvation of all people. Thus, the Church teaches that the honor, the relative worship of the icon goes, passes, refers to the original, i.e. to the depicted person. Therefore, the truth of the icons is found in the persons that are depicted; and every believer who piously venerates them lives this truth, with grace of God. We consider this to be the position of the Church against the iconoclasts of every era.

The Epistle reading of this Sunday comes from the Apostle Paul's letter to Titus and is directly connected with the issue of heretics - iconoclasts. Titus with Timothy belonged to Paul's closest colleagues. In Paul's second imprisonment in Rome, Titus is probably near him. Furthermore, before this imprisonment, Paul had entrusted him with the governing of the Church of Crete, with the exhortation to install presbyters there. In Crete, he reposed peacefully, after he had suffered hardships with Paul and other Apostles for the sake of the Gospel of Christ.

The Apostle Paul, at the beginning of our passage, underlines the truth of the words he mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph. In other words, he urges Titus to remind the members of the Church that they have received the baptism of rebirth and the renewal that the Holy Spirit gives. Therefore, they must proceed accordingly, to lead a life full of love for God and fellow man. Love for God is expressed, first of all, by the acceptance of the right faith of the Church. Every heretical deviation from this belief results in man's separation from God. And according to this, the heretic becomes self-condemned, since he himself chooses darkness rather than the light, falsehood rather than the truth, death rather than life.

The Church does not stop praying and loving in Christ, the person who found himself in the horrible darkness of heretical beliefs. With unique vividness, Saint Chrysostom points out that if we must turn away and hate anything, it is heresy and sin, and not the heretic or the sinner.

Because man is the work of God, while error is the work of the devil. "Do not therefore mix the things of God and the things of the devil." May all those who have separated from the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church receive God's illumination and return. To become partakers of the Bread of life and the Drink of immortality, which is imperishable love (St. Ignatius the Godbearer).



## **OUR PHILOPTOCHOS WILL HOST** STELLA NAHATIS, AUTHOR OF THE BOOK "TAXI TO AMERICA" SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 2:00 - 5:00 PM. Hellenic Cultural Center, 25 Bigelow Ave., Watertown

Join us on Saturday, November 4, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM, when Philoptochos will host an afternoon with Stella Nahatis, author of the book "Taxi to America".



Stella's journey from Thessaloniki, Greece to America begins with a pre-dawn taxi ride that she and her sister share while the coffin holding a loved one rides along in the tax's trunk. Orphaned and separated from her younger sister 'for her own good'' as the culture dictated at the time. Stella ends up being adopted by a Greek couple that had emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts in the US. At age 11, she overcomer multiple losses and cultural differences to find a place in her new homeland, while finding ways to stay connected to those she loved in Greece.

This story of resilience and perseverance follows Stella's journey of becoming an "Amerikanaki" and eventually reconnecting with her sister, who had stayed in Greece with her own set of adoptive parents. Even as Stella embraces her new life and culture in America, she rebuild her loving relationship with her sister after an eight-year separation. Later in life, the sisters take another taxi ride together, this time to recover important details of their birth parents' life stories that mirror the determination to survive and thrive that marks their own.



RDEROA

The book will be available for purchase—\$25/soft cover and \$35/hard cover.

orking with



Please join us for an interesting afternoon. Appetizers, pastries and coffee will be served. Reservations required. Donation: \$25 For reservations or more information please email Frances Levas at <u>franlevas@acl.com or call 617-519-3422</u>.

# AHEPA

GYRO DAY FUNDRAISER

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

Noon - 3:00 PM.

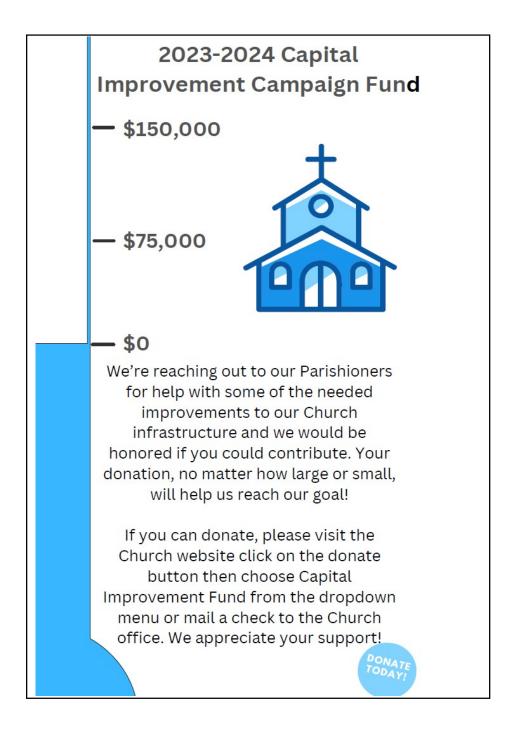
Taxiarchae Creek Orthodox Church

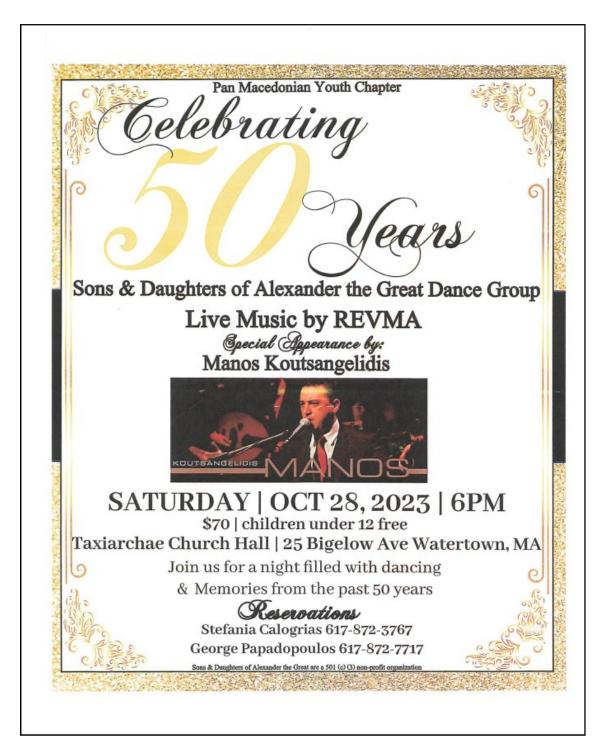
Dine In or Take Out

An AHEPA CHAPTER 406 FUNDRAISER

Proceeds to benefit the Rev. Metaxas Scholarship Fund

Need more info, contact: John Abate 617.797.9499, or Charlie Pentikis 781.530.6672.









Taxiarchae Feast Day Vespers Service Tuesday, November 7 at 7 PM Reception following service in the Social Hall TAXIARCHAE FEAST DAY Orthros and Divine Liturgy Wednesday, November 8

Orthros-8:30 AM Divine Liturgy-9:30 AM

If you would like to donate flowers for the icons or if you will be bringing loaves for Artoklasia, please call Irene at the church office—617.924.8182.

# Η Εορτή των Παμμεγίστων Ταξιαρχών Η Πανήγυρις του Ιερού Ναού

Τη Τετάφτη, 8 Νοεμβφίου εοφτάζει και πανηγυφίζει η Εκκλησία μας. Την Παφαμονή της εοφτής, Τφίτη, 7 Νοεμβφίου στις 7.00 μ.μ. θα ψαλή ο Μέγας Πανηγυφικός εσπεφινός. Αμέσως μετά τον εσπεφινό θα δοθεί Δεξίωσης στο Κοινοτικό Κέντφο.

Τη Τετάρτη, 8 Νοεμβρίου ανήμερα της εορτής, η Θεία Λειτουργία θα αρχίσει με τον Όρθρο στις 8.30 π.μ.

Δωρεές για τα Άνθη — Όσοι θέλουν να προσφέρουν για τα λουλούδια που θα στολίσουμε τις ιερές εικόνες των Ταξιαρχών ας τηλεφωνήσουν στο γραφείο της εκκλησίας. Όσοι έχουν αρτοκλασίες ας τις φέρουν στην εκκλησία πριν να αρχίσει ο εσπερινός.

## Youth Ministry

**Ongoing FOOD DRIVE - Collecting for the Watertown Food Pantry** Your donation of food items can be put on the table, located in the Lobby. We will deliver them to the Watertown Food Pantry every Tuesday. Thank you for helping your local community!

**ESPECIALLY NEEDED - CANS OF TUNA & BREAKFAST CEREAL.** As always, the Food Pantry is still in need of school snacks.



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# **Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center**

Planning a party or reception? Our beautiful venues are now updated and ready for any & all of your event needs, up to 500 people.

For information and assistance in planning your future event, please call Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office at 617-924-8182 or email: functionmanager@goarchangels.com



DREAM IT AND IT CAN COME TRUE! YOUR EVENT CAN BE <u>EVERYTHING</u> YOU WISHED.

