

## PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for February-March 2019

I would like to thank the Parish Council for selecting me as president for the current year. It was just a few years ago that I felt I was ready to join the Council, and once I did, I found everyone to be supportive, collaborative, committed and loving to the St. Vasilios community. There truly is a family atmosphere at our church, which is something that benefits us all.

In the first few weeks of the year, I have met many people who have shared their concerns, and often they are shared concerns among others too. Everyone loves St. Vasilios and wants to see it prosper.

We have many great programs and “families” within our church community. We involve members of every age through regular attendance at church services, Sunday School, Greek School, Basketball, youth groups, Bible study, Philoptochos, Kalee Parea, Men's Club, the making of pastries, Koliva, breads, and so many more. Can we do better? Of course we can. Can we do more? Of course we can.

The foundation of our Orthodox parish rests on what those before us have done. Our sustainability and growth are on our shoulders as we prepare for the generations ahead.

The Parish Council stands ready to assist in finding ways to get things done. Good ideas are aplenty. Time and money will come when we build a strong case for any project. The generosity of our parish members shows the love we have for St. Vasilios, and each individual's contributions, whether in time or money is valued and necessary.

Our HVAC and roof projects are currently on our plate. Our accessibility project (mostly the elevator) is ongoing, and will need much fundraising and continued support. Accessibility to our beautiful center should be to all, and if that's not motivation to support the project, remember that we are all getting older, and will need and appreciate those services in the not-to-distance future.

We are also committed to the clergy of St. Vasilios. We are blessed to have involved spiritual leaders. Please feel free to share your ideas about the future of St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church. I, as well as any member of the Parish Council, will always listen. See me at coffee hour, call me by phone, or send me a letter or an email.

-John J. Maihos

P.S. We love to see you in church. Our liturgies are beautiful. The lessons we learn on Sunday are uplifting, and they sustain us through every other day of the week!