



# ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΖΩΗ • ORTHODOX LIFE

*A Publication of*

## SAINT VASILIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

5 Paleologos Street, Peabody, MA 01960-4496 · Tel: (978) 531-0777 · Fax: (978) 538-9522

October/November 2025

### A Blessed Fall to All



For anyone who wishes to enjoy life and experience God's goodness – to be happy, respected and, in short, live a full rich life – read slowly but reflectively and humbly the following verses:

*For "Those who desire life and desire to see good days, let them keep their tongues from evil and their lips from speaking deceit; let them turn away from evil and do good; let them seek peace and pursue it." (1Peter 3:10, 11)*

In these two verses are listed just a few things that put happiness in your heart.

We are told to curb our tongues from speaking evil about anyone. Simply put, never say anything to hurt anyone. Moreover, we are to refrain from double talk, from shrewd remarks that are designed to advance our interests at someone else's expense or disadvantage. We are to turn our back upon evil and, in every way possible, do good. We are to help people and bring blessings into their lives. We are to seek peace on earth and in our own hearts, and live so that peacefulness may flow from us to others. We are to become an island of peace in a world of turmoil.

Do simple, honest Christian things and life will be good...and you will love it! A blessed Fall to all of you and may we gather together each Sunday to thank the Lord for all of His blessings!

+Father Chris

#### ***Inside this issue***

Fr. Chris' Message	p.1
Announcements	p.2
Fr Yanni's Reflection	P.3
Parish Council—President's Message	p.4
Parish Advancement Campaign	P.5-7
Notice of Parish Assembly	P.8
Stewardship Update	p.9
October/November Calendars	p.10-11
Church School News	P.12
Donations	P.12
Philoptochos News	p.13
Greek School News	p.14-17
Remembering our Veterans	p.18
Call for Myrofores	P.19
St. Vasilios for Dance Group	P.20
Save the Date Winter Dance	P.21
Christmas Donations	P.22
Children's Page	P.23
Parish Night	p.24

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## CHURCH SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### FUNERALS

The following members of St. Vasilios has fallen asleep into the hands of our Lord over the past months.

**Athan Evangelos Galanis**  
**Ekaterini (Zervoleas) Batsinelas**  
**George Makros**  
**Arthur Siasios**  
**Marlene (George) Glynos**



May their memory be eternal



### CHRISTMAS OFFERING

A special envelope for the Christmas Offering is included in today's bulletin. As we celebrate the birth of Christ—the greatest gift of all—we invite you to share in the spirit of giving by making a special offering to support the ministry and outreach of our church. Your gift, given in love, helps bring hope and light to others this Christmas season. Thank you for your generosity.

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## KOLLYVA AVAILABLE FOR MERCY MEAL

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The office has been asked many times by parishioners who would like to have Kollyva for the Mercy Meal after the funeral. If you would like to order Kollyva a parishioner has stepped forward and is willy to accommodate parishioners. If you are interested call Niki at [978-578-7292](tel:978-578-7292)

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## SCHOLARSHIP HELP NEEDED

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As you may know, St. Vasilios has been blessed with a number of scholarship opportunities for students of our parish. Some are for 1st year freshman while others are for continuing education.

Managing this program is not an easy task, and we would appreciate some thoughtful parishioners who are experienced in higher education, especially who may have some experience with the admissions process and/or the granting of scholarships.

One goal is to finalize the requirements for receiving a scholarship from St. Vasilios. Another goal is the administration of the program, and yet another is the celebration at the end of this journey when we recognize the recipients of the awards and the generosity of the donors.

Please contact Parish Council President, John Maihos at [parishcouncil@stvasilios.org](mailto:parishcouncil@stvasilios.org).

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## Forgetting our First Love

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In the book of Revelation, God chastises the Church in Ephesus for forgetting our first love. One could argue that the beginning of all sin is found in forgetting God. When we struggle to stay focused, life in the parish becomes fragmented; this struggle is exacerbated by the distractions and demands of the day. We may find ourselves working on various tasks without a clear or cohesive plan, we find ourselves working hard but progress becomes slow and diffused.

It becomes necessary to step out of our daily grind and situations and learn the art of thinking strategically, not unlike the way Christ did with His disciples. In this way we as individuals and as a church community may stay focused and in touch with what matters most.

If our parish's purpose is poorly defined, or if we feel like we don't grasp or understand the first thing about our faith, it is usually our personal failure to hold true to a commitment to Christ and the Gospel. This then leads to the experience some of us have had of Christian community that has lost its way and whose actions continually contradict the first component of health. In a state of being such as this, there is a gap between our statement of faith in Jesus and the way we live.

Orthodoxia literally means "right glory". It can also mean "correct belief" and "true worship". As Christians we should understand that in order to be truly transformed and changed for the better, we must be connected to right glory, correct belief, and true worship. This is why the first component and step of parish health is a commitment to Christ and the gospel, orthodoxia.

The Liturgy reminds us of this first love by stating emphatically, and multiple times, "let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God." To do this, we must follow our Lord's first public command, to repent. We must constantly renew our hearts and our minds in Jesus, and this prayer cannot be stylized, it must be actualized in our everyday lives.

I thank you for your time, commitment and attention to your life in Christ, and if this brief reflection has peaked your interest, then I encourage you to consider reading "Reclaiming the Great Commission; A Roadmap to Parish Health" by Fr. Evan Armatas of Colorado.

With Love and Respect,

Fr. Yanni



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

John Maihos, President

St. Vasilios continues to exceed my expectations in so many ways, and I hope you are as excited about the coming year as I am. When you attend Sunday Divine Liturgy, you'll see our church is filled. Many who come are familiar faces which is a great comfort, and yet others are new people, possibly experiencing St. Vasilios for the first time. I don't know about you, but when I go somewhere that has a strong yet comfortable vibe, I feel like I've made some good choices.



As you look over the people in the pews, it's not just the older members who have been with us forever, it's the younger children who are the future of our parish. This is really important and even though they sometimes have a moment, I would rather imagine their future choir voices than sit in a silent sanctuary. Our church is living.

As children grow in the church, so do we as adults grow in our service to the church, which really means service to each other. The church is all of us working together for a common good, based in our faith. When we volunteer in a ministry or donate our hard-earned money, we aren't doing it for naught. Instead, we are doing it for our growth and the continuance of our beautiful parish for future generations.

I am asking you to get involved and stay involved. We need you as much as we need so many other things.

The church doesn't run itself. We need your talents, whether those talents are in organizing, painting, balancing books, running events, teaching children, cooking, cleaning, developing marketing material... you get it. We need whatever you are willing to offer. And it will be appreciated.

There are emotional and spiritual rewards for your service in knowing that you are a part of helping everyone succeed and grow at St. Vasilios and beyond.

Right now, we need help with stewardship, the launching of our new Realm software, general maintenance around the campus, building a ramp for the Little Bears school, organizing events, redesigning old space for new uses, and so much more. For that matter, you might see something that needs to be done, and you have an answer. I'd love to hear about it. Also, our Parish Council needs you... We really do. We have elections upcoming and want to fill a few vacant seats.

One final ask... If you haven't made your pledge for the calendar year that's almost over, or if you haven't completed your promised giving for the year, please do it now. As we enter the holiday season, things get busy and pushed off to later. This hasn't been the easiest year for our budget so your lift as we come to the end of 2025 is needed. Even with this struggle, we have had an incredibly successful year. Thank you for being a part of St. Vasilios.

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## ST. VASILIOS PARISH ADVANCEMENT CAMPAIGN

### The Final Push!

The St. Vasilios Parish Advancement Campaign has transformed our campus into a modern, accessible, and welcoming space for all. With the generous support of our parish family, we have enriched our church with new iconography, installed a four-stop elevator, constructed the Church - Educational Center connector, created new fully accessible bathrooms, added air conditioning to the Parlor and Youth Rooms, and renovated the lobby and classrooms. Together, these improvements reflect our commitment to serving the needs of today while preparing for the generations to come.

Over the past two years, this campaign has raised nearly \$2 million and is now nearing completion. As a permanent expression of gratitude, all donors will be recognized on the Tree of Life mural in the Educational Center. **The campaign will officially close on December 31, 2025—don't miss your opportunity to be part of this historic milestone.**

**This is the moment for 100% participation. If every parishioner contributes what they can—whether that's \$100, \$500, \$1,000, or more—we will reach our goal and complete this project as a fully united community. And remember - pledges may be fulfilled monthly over 3 years.**

**We need you now—please return your pledge card to the office today. For more information or to give online, visit [givetostvasilios.org](http://givetostvasilios.org).**

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### RSVP TODAY!

#### Elevator Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Reception



THE SAINT VASILIOS  
PARISH ADVANCEMENT CAMPAIGN  
invites you to attend our

#### RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Sunday, October 19, 2025  
Divine Liturgy 9 a.m.

Ribbon Cutting 10:30 a.m.

Reception to follow in the Rev. Andrew J. Demotses Educational Center where  
His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston  
will join us to recognize all of those who contributed to our campaign  
Event is free of charge and open to all

Please visit our campaign website, [givetostvasilios.org](http://givetostvasilios.org) for more information or reach out to our Co-Chairs, Christine Hasiotis Martins and Speros Venios at [pac@stvasilios.org](mailto:pac@stvasilios.org).

*(Continued on page 6)*



# ST. VASILIOS PARISH ADVANCEMENT CAMPAIGN

## Thank You Honor Roll of Donors!

The St. Vasilios Parish Advancement Campaign is proud to recognize the stewards and friends of our parish who have contributed to the campaign as of September 28, 2025. These generous donors will be honored on the Tree of Life mural, which will be prominently displayed in the elevator foyer of the Rev. Andrew J. Demotses Educational Center. **Be part of this lasting tribute by submitting your pledge now!**

If you have already made a pledge and your name was unintentionally omitted, or if you would like to update how your name appears, please email us at [pac@stvasilios.org](mailto:pac@stvasilios.org).

The Gerondelis Foundation  
 Thomas L. Demakes & Family  
 St. Vasilios Philoptochos  
 St. Val's Men's Club  
 St. Vasilios Kolyva Committee  
 St. Makrina Women's Study Group  
 Paraskevoula Alexandrou  
 Mr. Michael M. Ambeliotis  
 Stephanie Andrews, Marc White Jr and family in memory of Reverend Dean T. and Presbyteria Maritsa Andrews  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kyriakos & Pat Andrino-poulos  
 Margaret Anezis in memory of husband Solon A. Anezis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Arion S. Anezis  
 The family of John & Helen Anezis  
 Mr. Steve Anezis  
 Konstantinos & Bonnie Antoniou in Memory of Antonios & Alexandra Antoniou  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Apostolides  
 Mr. & Mrs. John & Helen Apostolides  
 Esther Chakoutis Arcand in memory of Nicholas P. Chakoutis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emmanouil & Dorothy Asonitis  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Athanasopoulos  
 Mrs. Valerie Batsinelas  
 Mrs. Christina Bray  
 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Brooks  
 Mrs. Vasiliki Brown  
 Katherine Pavlas Brown in memory of son, Gregory H. Brown  
 Mrs. Stephanie Brown in memory of parents Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Caparell, and husband William R. Brown, Jr..  
 Mrs. Francine Butler  
 Maria Cameron in memory of Spiros Mouzithras  
 Christine A Carlson  
 Gina M. Titelbaum  
 Mrs. Carla Casey  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Cassidy  
 Kiki Chakoutis in memory of Nicholas P. Chakoutis

Christopher & Effie Chigas  
 George and Georgia Christoforos and family  
 Dr. Theodora Christopher  
 Mr. Theodore P. Christopher  
 Mrs. Anna Chronis  
 Mrs Maria Collins  
 Mr. Nicholas P. Collins  
 Mrs. Christine Coufos  
 Mr. Panagiotis Coufos  
 Mrs. Bernice Coumounduros  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis & Stephanie D'Agnesse  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Dalkouras  
 Mr. & Mrs. James & Allyson Danforth  
 Mrs. Frances Diamantopoulos  
 Mr. Christos Diamantopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Dimopoulos  
 In memory of Michael & Despina Drougas  
 Van & Chrysovalantou Duros  
 Mrs. Paula Ellison  
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Fanikos  
 Kalafatis Finley Family  
 Rev. & Prv. Christopher Foustoukos  
 Mr. Peter Foustoukos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Franggos  
 Michael and Mary Lou Gargas in memory of father, Michael Gargas, and mother, Mary Lou Fraser  
 Mr. Peter Gargas  
 Mrs. Cynthia Gargas  
 Maria Gauvain  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nickolas Gazios  
 Mrs. Linda Geary  
 In memory of Stella George  
 Zina Gerolimatos  
 Anonymous  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas & Theodora Gikas  
 Mrs. Valarie Giordano  
 Mrs. Sylvia Gioulis & Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Glaros  
 In memory of Kevin Goggin  
 Mr. Steven Gonsiorawski  
 Mrs. Helen Goudreau

Mrs. Sophia Grevelis  
 Mr. Chris Grevelis  
 Mrs Pamela Gruntkosky  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Guibas  
 Mr. Joseph Hennessey  
 Mrs. Sophia Hennessey  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kostas Himaras  
 Mrs. Pamela Hutchison  
 Lilly Hasiotis  
 Despina Ianuzzi in loving memory of mother Mary Zolotas  
 In memory of Harry Syrigos  
 In memory of Nikolaos and Maria Korkaris from their family  
 Demetrios & Dina Kalaitzidis  
 Stephen S Kalivas in Memory of Grandparents Aristos & Eugenia Kalivas and George & Martha Zantos and Parents Spero & Poppy Kalivas  
 Mrs. Theodora Kalivas  
 Mr. Dimitrios Kaloutas  
 Mr. Nikolaos K. Kanaloupitis & Family  
 Michael & Sofia Karamas  
 Mr. Anthony Karamas  
 Ms. Evangelina Karavolas  
 Paul and Mary Karavoussianis  
 Mrs. Alexis Karras  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yiannis & Pam Katsiris  
 Fran Katsulis in memory of Basil (Bill) Katsulis  
 Argery and Mary Beth Katzounos  
 Mrs. June Kazes  
 Mr. & Mrs. Antonios & Chrisothemi Konstantilakis  
 Mr. Steven Kontis  
 Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Koshy  
 Mr. Gregory Koulas  
 Mr. John Kourtelidis  
 Mrs. Sophia Koziski  
 Nancy C. Lalikos in memory of Constance Lalikos  
 In memory of Solon Anezis, with love the Lanning Family, Jack, Mary, Alexis and Ava  
 Lantzakis Family

## ST. VASILIOS PARISH ADVANCEMENT CAMPAIGN

Dimitrios & Chrisovalantou Lekakis  
 Paul & Georgette Leontakianakos  
 Mrs. Rhea Lesage  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Lignos  
 Mrs Netta Lomasney  
 Mr. John J. Maihos  
 Mr. Anthony C. Maistrellis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Apostolos Makridis  
 Mr & Mrs John A. Makros in memory of father Angel Makros and Brother Emanuel Makros  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Mandragouras  
 Mr. Nicholas Mandragouras  
 Mrs. Fotini Manolakos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Angie Mantsourani  
 Mrs. Bessie Marashi  
 Peter & Pauline Maravelias  
 The Martins Family  
 Ms. Denise Martwichuck  
 Mr. George Martwichuck  
 Rev. & Prv. Ioannis Michaelidis & Family  
 In memory of Nicholas Diamantopoulos  
 Mrs. Carolee McCulloch  
 Mrs. Cathy McDonnell  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Megaloudis  
 Mr. George Metaxakis  
 In memory of James Metropolis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Metropoulos  
 Mrs. Niki Michael  
 Mrs. Cornelia G Mirra  
 Mrs. Lydia Muggeo  
 Mrs. Stephanie Najjar  
 Mr. Andrew Najjar  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Nako  
 Mrs. Gianoula Nanis  
 In memory of William G. & Irene B. Kajos and daughter Kendyl Rene Nordquist  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter O'Donnell  
 Kosta and Stasia Pantazelos and Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pantazelos  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Papadopoulos  
 Ms. Chrysovalantou Papadopoulos  
 Mr. Elias Papadopoulos  
 Mr. John E. Papamechail  
 Mr. Charles Papanandreou  
 Mrs Rose Papanickolas-McGrath  
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pappagianopoulos  
 Mr & Mrs. Mike Pappas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter N. & Heidi Pappas  
 Tom & Cathy Pappavaselio  
 Billy, Andrea & Sofia Pargas  
 Costa Partaledis & Family

Ann Patten & Family  
 Arthur & Maria Pavlo  
 Richard and Nancy Pelletier  
 Frank & Cynthia Peters  
 Pauline Pretradelis in memory of husband John  
 Jonathan & Sophia Petromelis and Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stavros Pissios  
 Mr. Christos Pissios  
 Mr. Dionisios Pissios  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros Pissios  
 Mr. Dimitrios Pissios  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Pnevmatikos  
 Mr. & Mrs. George T. Pouloupoulos  
 Mrs. Ellen Pramas  
 George & Argiro Psyhogios  
 Paula Prew in memory of Sylvia George  
 George & Evelyn Rockas  
 Mr. Konstantinos Roumeliotis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Roumeliotis  
 Mr. James Roumeliotis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Roumeliotis  
 Dr. & Mrs. Alexander Ruggeri  
 Mrs. Sandra Ruggeri  
 Mr. & Mrs. Roy Santos  
 Angelo & Stephanie Scangas  
 Mrs. Tessie Scangas  
 Ms. Janet Scangas  
 Doree Scarmoutzos in honor of her children  
 Martin & Meg Scrivener  
 Mr. & Mrs. Basil S. Simou  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kostantinos Sofronas & Family  
 Mr. & Mrs. Petros Sofronas & Family  
 Takis & Paula Soteropoulos  
 Theodore & Pam Soteropoulos  
 Ms Lili Spathanas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Spathanas  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Speridakos  
 Carrie Speros in loving memory of husband Peter and parents  
 Valerie and Michael Splaine, in memory of John and Georgia Salaris  
 Mrs. Carol Spyropoulos  
 The Spyropoulos Family  
 Fotios, Sofia, Aggeliki and Maria Stamos in memory of Maria Psihogios  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Stavropoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Stephanides  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leonidas Stephanides  
 Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Stephanides  
 Mr. Demetrios Stephanides  
 Vanessa Stolar  
 Mrs. Janice Terzakis

Tgavalekos/Sprycha Family  
 Mrs. Anneli Tgavalekos  
 Ms. Kristen Tgavalekos  
 Mr. Karl Tgavalekos  
 Mrs. Christine Theodore  
 Ms. Naya Erika Thompson  
 Mr. Jordan Eric Thompson  
 Mrs. Katerina Thompson  
 In loving memory of parents, Panteli and Aspasia Tilas  
 Mr. John Trimmings  
 Joan Tsapatsaris in loving memory of parents James and Dora Maravelias  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Tsapatsaris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Antonios Tsimounis  
 Mr Arthur Tsionis  
 Mr. Peter Tsoutsouras  
 Mr. & Mrs. John P. Tsouvalas  
 In memory of our parents, Peter & Georgia, and sister Maria Tsouvalas  
 Eugenia, George, Louis M. and Andrew Tsouvalas  
 In loving memory of parents Spiro & Betty Vasilakopoulos and uncle and aunt Dr. Raymond & Rose Bosse  
 Speros C. Venios  
 Christy & Joanne Venios  
 Angelica M. Vontzalides, in memory of Plato N. Vontzalides  
 Stefan, Lea, Alana, James, Alyssa & Janna Vounesse  
 Mrs. Aspasia Yankopoulos, in memory of Basil Yankopoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Yavorski  
 Joakim and Anthy Yeannakopoulos  
 Ms. Dimitria Yeannakopoulos  
 Jean S. Yokas in memory of husband, Sotirios G. Yokas  
 Mrs. Anna Zaimis  
 Speros & Linda Zakas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros Zamakis  
 Mrs. Theodora Z. Zannino  
 Miss Mary Zappas  
 Mr. Anthone Zarkades  
 Ms. Elaine Zetes  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Zgonis  
 Anne & Peter Ziavras  
 Michael S. and Harriet Zolotas and Family  
 John and Gia Zolotas and Family

# PARISH ASSEMBLY



## *Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church*

5 Paleologos Street, Peabody, MA 01960-4496

Tel: (978) 531-0777 Fax: (978) 538-9522

Web: [www.stvasilios.org](http://www.stvasilios.org) E-mail: [info@stvasilios.org](mailto:info@stvasilios.org)

### NOTICE OF PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Autumn Parish Assembly will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. (or 15 minutes after the conclusion of our Divine Liturgy) in the Rev. Andrew Demotses Educational Center. All members in good standing are invited to attend and vote. The agenda will be as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Prayer
- III. Election of Chairperson of the Parish Assembly
- IV. Approval of the minutes of May 4, 2025, General Assembly
- V. President's Report
- VI. Priest's Report
- VII. Stewardship Update
- VIII. Financial Report
- IX. Continuing Business
  - a. Parish Advancement Project
  - b. Thriving Congregations
- X. New Business
  - a. Ratification of Election Slate – Parish Elections
  - b. Audit Committee report on 2024 financials
  - c. Appointment Audit Committee for review of 2024 financials
  - d. Approval of 2026 Budget
- XI. Adjournment

For the Minutes of the May 4, 2025, meeting, or any other handouts, please contact the Church Office. We do not post confidential information on our church website.

**Quorum is required to conduct business.** Per *Article II, Section 4* of Parish Bylaws, "The quorum for the parish Assembly will be twenty-five (25) Parish Members in good standing. If a quorum cannot be achieved, no vote may be taken, except to adjourn. If a quorum is not present the parish Assembly shall be called a second time with 21 days."

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexander Ruggeri  
Secretary

John J. Maihos  
Parish President

Rev. Christopher P. Foustoukos  
Proistamenos



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## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

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### JULY 29 THROUGH OCTOBER 2

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Mrs. Margaret Anezis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Graham Buck  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Calas  
 Mr. James Steven Calas  
 Mr. Gregory Costas  
 Mr. Lucas DeCarvalho  
 Ms. Sophia Deurloo  
 Ms. Andrianna Duerloo  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kosma Evangelidis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Frangias  
 Mrs. Ruth Galaris  
 Melanie Gargas-Witmer  
 Mr. & Mrs Leonidas Gianellis  
 Mr. Dino Gianellis  
 Mr. Argirios Gianellis  
 Mr. Joseph Hennessey  
 Mrs. Cortney Hurley  
 Elaine Iuanow

Mr. George Kajos  
 Ms. Demi Karavoussianis  
 Mr. Demetrios Kavallieratos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Srou Khouiri  
 Mr Theodore Kokoras  
 Mr. Panagiotis Kontakos  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Levantakis  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Markos  
 Miss Denise Martwichuck  
 Ms. Nina Mitchell  
 Mrs. Elena Moreira  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christos Nikou  
 Mr. & Mrs. William & Lorraine Nolan  
 Lucca Papanastasiou  
 Ms. Kym Pappathanasi  
 Ms. Kimberly Pascucci  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros & Elaina Pissios  
 Mrs. Mina Rivers

Mrs. Sheryl Sholds  
 Mrs. Crystal Silva  
 Ms. Ismini Soteropoulos  
 Mr. & Mrs. Fotios Stamos  
 Mrs. Beatrice Thibedeau  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Votto  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jared Yagjian  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Zakas  
 Mr. Stephen Zolotas  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Zolotas

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**Sunday Schedule: Orthros: 8am****Liturgy: 9am****OCTOBER 2025**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Luke</b> St. Basil's Kitchen	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Parish Night 5pm
<b>12</b> <b>Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council</b>	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Baking Demo Diples 9-1
<b>19</b> <b>3rd Sunday of Luke</b> <b>Ribbon Cutting</b>	<b>20</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 6th Sunday of Luke	<b>27</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	



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**IN MEMORY OF PARENTS  
GEORGE & ANNE  
GIANARELIS AND  
HUSBAND RALPH V. MIRRA**

**Sunday Schedule: Orthros: 8am**  
**Liturgy: 9am**

# NOVEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Sts. Cosmas & Damien Orthros 8am Liturgy 9am
<b>2</b> <b>5th Sunday of Luke</b> St. Basil's Kitchen	<b>3</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Parish Night 5pm
<b>9</b> <b>7th Sunday of Luke</b>  2nd tray for Seminary	<b>10</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>11</b> Office Closed	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>Matthew the Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b> <b>General Assembly</b>	<b>17</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9th Sunday of Luke</b>	<b>24</b> Orthodox Life 10:30 Inquirers 7pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Office closes at noon	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> Office Closed	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>Andrew the First-called Apostle</b>						



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## CHURCH SCHOOL

Sunday Church School began on September 14<sup>th</sup>, but it is never too late join us in class! Little Lambs is a ministry that meets in the educational center gym during Church School, so if you have children too young for Church School (40 days to 4 years) please stop by to see what they are all about.

Our youth from preschool to high school meet most Sundays during the school year to be instructed in the Orthodox faith by wonderful and enthusiastic teachers. Church School teachers are committed to teaching the faith in a way that is engaging, accessible and age appropriate. The curriculum emphasizes the importance of living our Orthodox Christian faith daily and our program encourages participation in all aspects of Church life.

Our Church's future is in our youth. Please encourage them to attend the Divine Liturgy and Church School, and to join JOY, Jr. GOYA, or Sr. GOYA, the Myrophoras or become an Acolyte (Altar server).

Some of this year's Church School events include the Teaching Liturgy, the Christmas Pageant, the Icon Procession on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, Godparent's Sunday, and the Oratorical Festival. Students and parents will receive notices for all events.

On **Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**, students together with their families are invited to attend the Divine Liturgy at 9:00am, for the **Teaching Liturgy**. Fr Yanni will celebrate the Liturgy with the altar facing the congregation giving all an opportunity to view what is taking place. During the Liturgy, there will be pauses where explanations will be given by some of our high school students. Immediately following the Liturgy, we invite you all to attend the Coffee Hour as a family. The Teaching Liturgy will serve as your child's lesson this Sunday.

## DONATIONS

- \$100 Elizabeth Aoun in loving memory of son: John Panagiotis Aoun
- \$100 Catherine Koumarianos in memory of husband; Michael Koumarianos-3 yrs.
- \$100 Evangelia Siakallis in loving memory of parents; Savas & Stavroula Siakallis
- \$50 Stacia Lazarou in memory of husband; George Lazarou
- \$150 Family & Friends in memory of Nicholas G. Grevelis
- \$300 Family & Friends in memory of Barbara Copp
- \$345 Family & Friends in memory of Athanasios Siasios
- \$150 Family & Friends in memory of Marlene Glynos
- \$100 Mary Karavoussianis in memory of mother; Helen Doukas Tzortzis
- \$25 St. Vasilios Philoptochos Athena in memory of Dorothy Galanis



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## ST. VASILIOS PHILOPTOCHOS ATHENA

October/November 2025

Dear Reverend Fathers, Sisters and Friends,

Our Philoptochos is very happy that we had a very successful day with all our baked goods that were offered at the Peabody International Festival. It was a beautiful day, and downtown Peabody was full of happy, friendly people. We had an amazing team that came to help out during the day, but I would be remiss if I didn't mention all the ladies that showed up to make all the delicious treats that we had to offer. My heart-felt thank you to each and every one that came and did their part.

On Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> we had our first meeting of the year. It was very well attended, and we had many new faces. Lots of great ideas were shared and we're very excited for a fun year coming along. If you were not able to come to our meeting please come to the next one on Sunday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> again in the parlor room at 11:00 and see what we're all about.

On Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios will be joining us here at St. Vasilios for the ribbon cutting and blessing of our remodeled campus and will recognize all who contributed to the St. Vasilios Parish Advancement Campaign. After the ceremony there will be a reception for us to share and celebrate. Please visit the campaign website, [givetostvasilios.org](http://givetostvasilios.org) for more information.

I am very excited to announce that on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 in the parlor room, our first special presenter will be Stella Nahatis, author of *Taxi to America*. Stella is a talented writer who has recently captivated readers with her poignant memoir of being orphaned as a young child, being separated from her only sister and her journey to America with the many twists and turns her life takes. It is a very emotional and inspiring story. Mark your calendars for this wonderful presentation by Stella and take the opportunity to purchase one or more of her books...think Christmas gifts!!

### FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

October 12—meeting in the parlor room

October 19—ribbon cutting and blessing with His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios

November 9—Stella Nahatis author of *Taxi to America*

Please reach out to me with any questions that you may have.

With love to all,

**Zwitsa Joyce Kachinski, President** St. Vasilios Philoptochos Athena  
[zjoycekachinski@comcast.net](mailto:zjoycekachinski@comcast.net) (978)852-4730

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## ST. VASILLIOS GREEK SCHOOL ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓΙΟΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ

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### It's Time for Greek School

As we dive into the start of the school year and juggle work and extracurricular activities, remember the importance of our afternoon Greek School. At St. Vasilios Greek School, we offer a unique opportunity to preserve and embrace our Greek culture by introducing children, from age 3 onward, to the Greek language. The St. Vasilios Greek School has functioned continuously since the founding of our parish. The Greek School is the oldest educational program within the church.

Our curriculum includes conversational skills, reading, and writing in Greek. While we understand that busy schedules might be a challenge, we offer flexibility, allowing children to attend one day a week. It is crucial for us to sustain our culture, or it risks being lost. Even if you don't speak Greek, exposing your child to this language can be incredibly beneficial. Research shows that early exposure to foreign languages enhances the ability of becoming fluent.

In addition to language instruction, we teach prayers and hymns in Greek. We also teach traditional Greek dance. Imagine the joy of your child being able to communicate and participate fully when visiting Greece! Many adults who missed out on learning Greek as children later express regret and seek ways to learn as adults.

We also prepare students for the Ellinomatheia Exam, with a strong track record of success among our students. This exam, administered globally each year, awards a proficiency certificate from the Greek Ministry of Education. Furthermore, achieving fluency in a second language can earn your child a Seal of Biliteracy on their high school diploma.

Our public schools often introduce foreign languages too late to achieve full proficiency. By starting early at our Greek School, your child will have a significant advantage. Our dedicated, highly qualified teachers are passionate about passing on the Greek language and heritage.

Lifelong friendships are forged at our Greek School, where children develop a special bond with one another. We hope that these connections will be cherished and passed on to their own children, ensuring that they remain dedicated parishioners of St. Vasilios.

Don't miss this opportunity for your child to gain valuable skills and cultural knowledge. We're here to provide that chance to your child.

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## ST. VASILLIOS GREEK SCHOOL ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓΙΟΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ

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We are beyond pleased to share that our Greek School's enrollment continues strong! This is a true testament that students are learning and wanting to come even after a very long day of school and extracurricular activities after!

### Exciting News

*The following students successfully passed the A1 Level in the Ellinomatheia Exam:*

*Eirini Nikou*

*Sefi Lympelopoulos*

*Maria Stamos*

### *A2 Level:*

*Ioannis Lympelopoulos*

The Ellinomatheia Exam is administered once a year worldwide and students that pass it receive a Certificate of Attainment in Modern Greek. It is an official certificate issued by the Greek Ministry of Education. It is given to candidates who successfully complete oral and written exams in Greek. There are six levels( A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2).

**This is a huge accomplishment for our Greek School!**



**A number of our students performed traditional dances at the International Festival!**

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## ST. VASILLIOS GREEK SCHOOL ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓΙΟΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ

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### **Greek School Fundraiser**

Students will be selling calendar raffles for the month of December. Names will be drawn weekly during the month of December and posted to our facebook page: St. Vasilios Greek School.

*If you own a business and would like to donate a gift card we would greatly appreciate it!*

*The proceeds from our raffle will supplement our Greek School program and contribute towards the Ellinopoula online platform we use, registration fees for the Ellinomatheia Exam as well as for replenishing the traditional Greek costumes that our students wear throughout the year .*

**Calendar sales will begin November 1st**

To purchase a calendar email [greeksschool@stvasilios.org](mailto:greeksschool@stvasilios.org)

### ***Meet the Greek School Teachers***

#### ***Our Teachers***

Our highly qualified and experienced teaching staff comes together to provide our community's children with knowledge of their heritage and Greek language. The staff adjusts the curriculum to the needs and abilities of our children who come from a wide variety of backgrounds. Our curriculum consists of conversational skills, culture, reading, religion, writing and dance. In addition to this, students perform traditional dance at a number of church and city events throughout the school year.

#### ***Sophia Stamos***

Sophia is our Introductory Class teacher. Sophia holds an undergraduate degree in History with a minor in Secondary Education and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Salem State University. While earning her degrees, Sophia taught 1<sup>st</sup> grade at St. Vasilios for close to a decade. She currently teaches second grade at the Hoover Elementary School in Melrose, and has been teaching in the community of Melrose for 20 years. She is very passionate about teaching and is driven by a deep desire to see her students learn new things at their own pace. This will be Sophia's 7th year teaching our Introductory Class.

#### ***Maria Fykari Tsimounis***

Maria is our Kindergarten teacher. She was born in Athens, Greece and raised on the island of Chios. She holds a degree in Accounting from TEI Serres, Greece. She moved to America in 2002 and worked at our Greek School from 2007-2010. She moved back to Greece for 9 years and came back to the USA in 2019. This is Maria's 2nd year teaching Kindergarten.

#### ***Georgia Christoforos***

Originally from the Greek island of Samos, Georgia is proud to be a Greek school teacher at St. Vasilios, where she has been teaching Greek to first grade students for the past 19 years. She grew up in Peabody, and studied education at Salem State University. She is a wife and mother of three, and an avid advocate for autism awareness.

She has a true passion for working with young learners and enjoys creating a positive, interactive learning environment focused on building conversational skills. Georgia strives to make learning fun for students through creative games to develop teamwork and social skills. She takes teaching first grade seriously, because she says it is a building block year that lays the foundation for learning the complexities of the Greek language.

#### ***Christina Tsetsakoy***

Christina is our 2nd grade teacher. Christina is a graduate of our Greek School and previously assisted as a Teacher's Aide for 4 years and taught Pre-K during the 23-24 school year. We welcome Christina back this year after spending a semester abroad studying at Deree University in Athens, Greece. She is a junior at



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## ST. VASILLIOS GREEK SCHOOL ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΑΓΙΟΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ

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Salem State University, studying English with a minor in Educational Studies. She plans on pursuing a Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language. Christina has a Seal of Biliteracy in Greek and holds the following certifications in Ellinomatheia A1, A2, B1 & B2.

### ***Joanna Lagogiannis***

Joanna is our 3rd grade teacher. Joanna was educated in Arfara, Messinia Greece and holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Patras in Pre-School Education. This is Joanna's 11th year at St.Vasilios.

### ***Mirsini Vaggelakis Tesetsakos***

Mirsini is our 4th-6th grade teacher. Mirsini lived in Greece for 15 years and taught English as a second language for 14 years. She holds a diploma of Foreign Language from the Greek Ministry of Education, 2 certificates of proficiency in English and a certification to teach English as a Second Language from the Teaching Center of Athens branch of the British Consulate. Mirsini is currently a paraprofessional at the Higgins Middle School in Peabody. This is Mirsini's 13th year at the Greek School.

### ***Dina Kalaitzidis***

Dina is the principal and Pre-K teacher. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Special Education. In addition to working at the Greek School, Dina has been employed by the Peabody Public School System for 21 years and is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Special Education teacher at the Higgins Middle School. This is her 23rd year at the Greek School and 15th year as Principal.

### **Teachers Aide**

#### ***Joanna Tsatsakoy***

Joanna is our Teacher's Aide in the Introductory Class. She is a Senior at Essex Tech. Joanna is a graduate of the St. Vasilios Greek School and holds the following levels of Proficiency in Ellinomatheia A1 & A2.

#### ***Ioanna Kalaitzidis***

Ioanna is our Teacher's Aide Volunteer in the Pre-K class. She is in the 8th grade at Higgins Middle School. She graduated from our Greek School last year and holds the following levels of Proficiency in Ellinomatheia A1 & A2.

***For more information regarding the Greek School contact Principal Dina Kalaitzidis at [griekschool@stvasilios.org](mailto:griekschool@stvasilios.org)***

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK ST. VASILIOS GREEK SCHOOL**



# PHILOPTOCHOS

## *St. Vasilios Philoptochos "Athens"*

### **REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS – EVERY DAY!**

#### **OPERATION HOUSEWARMING BASKETS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS**

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos, with the overwhelming support and generosity of all Philoptochos chapters and parish communities at large, to date, have provided more than 1000 "Housewarming Baskets" to veterans transitioning to independent living. Because veterans' needs are continuous, this is an important and ongoing ministry. The program now includes homeless women veterans with children. The items listed on the "Wish List" represent the needs as identified by the homeless veterans in order to establish their home in the community. Please be generous in providing this needed assistance to the veterans in grateful appreciation of their service.

Monetary contributions or gift cards to home goods stores and/or grocery stores are welcome. The Metropolis Philoptochos will use the funds to purchase items from the "Wish List". Checks should be made payable to: *Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos*.

#### **HOMELESS VETERANS WISH LIST – ALL NEW - NO USED ITEMS PLEASE**

Broom/dustpan, mop  
 Bucket, toilet brush/holder  
 Paper towels (pkg. of 4)  
 Dishpan, dish rack/tray  
 Dish soap  
 Bar soap (pkg. of 4)  
 Liquid hand soap  
 Toothpaste  
 Toilet paper (pkg. of 4)  
 Dish cloth & towels  
 All-purpose cleaner  
 Kitchen trash container  
 Small bathroom trash container  
 Microwave oven (countertop)  
 Alarm clock  
 Electric toaster oven  
 Water pitcher/filter  
 Coffee maker  
 Tea kettle  
 Gillette razors  
 Women's hygiene items  
 Bed pillows & blanket/comforter  
 Twin/full size bed cover

Queen size blankets/comforters  
 Queen size bed sheets  
 Bath towels and wash cloths  
 Welcome mat  
 Large area rug  
 Iron & ironing board  
 Cooking utensils & container  
 Set of pots and pans  
 Set of silverware for 4  
 Set of dishes for 4

#### **CHILDREN'S CORNER**

Girls and Boys: Stroller, Diapers  
 Ages 3-5: Clothes 5T, 6T and size 7; books/toys

**NOTE:** Items may be dropped off in the two large containers outside the church office; monetary contributions or gift cards may be left in envelopes labeled "Veterans" in church office or dropped off in the mail slot outside the door. Checks should be made payable to Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos. For any questions, please contact Maria Collins at 978-531-6832 or email at [mncollins35@gmail.com](mailto:mncollins35@gmail.com). Many thanks for your support.

*yahoo.com*

# CALL FOR MYROFORES

## CALL FOR MYROFORES [*Myrrh-bearing women*]

Our God Almighty established the position of women in the world by appointing The Virgin Mary to carry and care for His only begotten Son. Our Lord Jesus Christ followed this by holding His Mother and other women around Him in high esteem. It was these women, who today we call Myrofores that first received the Good News of the Resurrection and carried it to the rest of the disciples and the whole world.

The young ladies of our Church have commemorated the role of the Myrofores during the Paschal services. We all have observed their serious and dedicated way of performing this blessed mission and we are extremely proud of them. They continue to serve our Lord throughout the year by helping the Church Board in the Narthex and around the church during The Divine Liturgy on Sundays and other Feast days.

All girls ages 11-18 are invited to register to serve as Myrofores during the 2025-2026 Church year. If you are interested, please fill out the form below and return it to your Sunday Church School teacher.

General duties include: Welcome parishioners into the church, hand out bulletins, help parishioners with the candles, assist at the Narthex, pass the collection tray, if asked, assist with the distribution of the Kollyva after the Divine Liturgy.

-----Cut along line and return bottom portion-----

### 2025-2026 Myrofores Registration Form [PRINT CLEARLY PLEASE]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that Myrofores are expected to be active in the Church School program and will serve at Divine services on a 3 – 4 week rotation schedule. This schedule includes Sunday mornings throughout the year and at special services during the various Lenten seasons. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Brown at 978-595-8614 or email at [sbrown888@verizon.net](mailto:sbrown888@verizon.net).



## ST. VASILIOS DANCE GROUP

### St. Vasilios Dance Group



Open House Dates Coming Soon!



NEW CLASSES STARTING THIS FALL  
No experience necessary!

Please email for more information:  
[StValsDance@StVasilios.org](mailto:StValsDance@StVasilios.org)

Students aged 11 and older are invited to join us.  
*(Aged 9 and older, if enrolled in St. Vasilios Greek School!)*



# SAVE THE DATE



**SAVE THE DATE**

**THE  
ST. VAL'S MEN'S CLUB  
INVITES YOU TO OUR**

**WINTER DANCE**

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**

*COME ENJOY THE  
MUSIC, FOOD, AND  
FELLOWSHIP!*

*JOIN US WITH YOUR  
FAMILY AND DANCE  
THE NIGHT AWAY!*



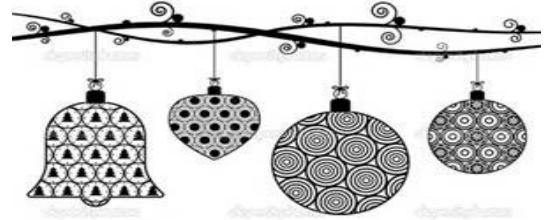
**St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church  
5 Paleologos St. Peabody, MA**



## CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

While Fall has just begun, we are beginning our planning for the decorating of our beautiful church and grounds for the Christmas Season. If you are interested in donating any of the following in memory of or for the health of a loved one, please contact Fr. Chris:

- 4 Christmas Wreathes - \$100 each
- Outdoor Arrangement - \$225
- Garland For Iconostasis - \$25 per strand



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

As part of your Christmas Offering to St. Vasilios, reserve a Christmas Poinsettia to be placed in the church in memory of, or for the health of a loved one. Father Chris will commemorate the names at the Christmas Divine Liturgy. The donation is \$20 per plant payable to "St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church."

Detach and return this form to:

St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church 5 Paleologos Street Peabody, MA 01960

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2025 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD

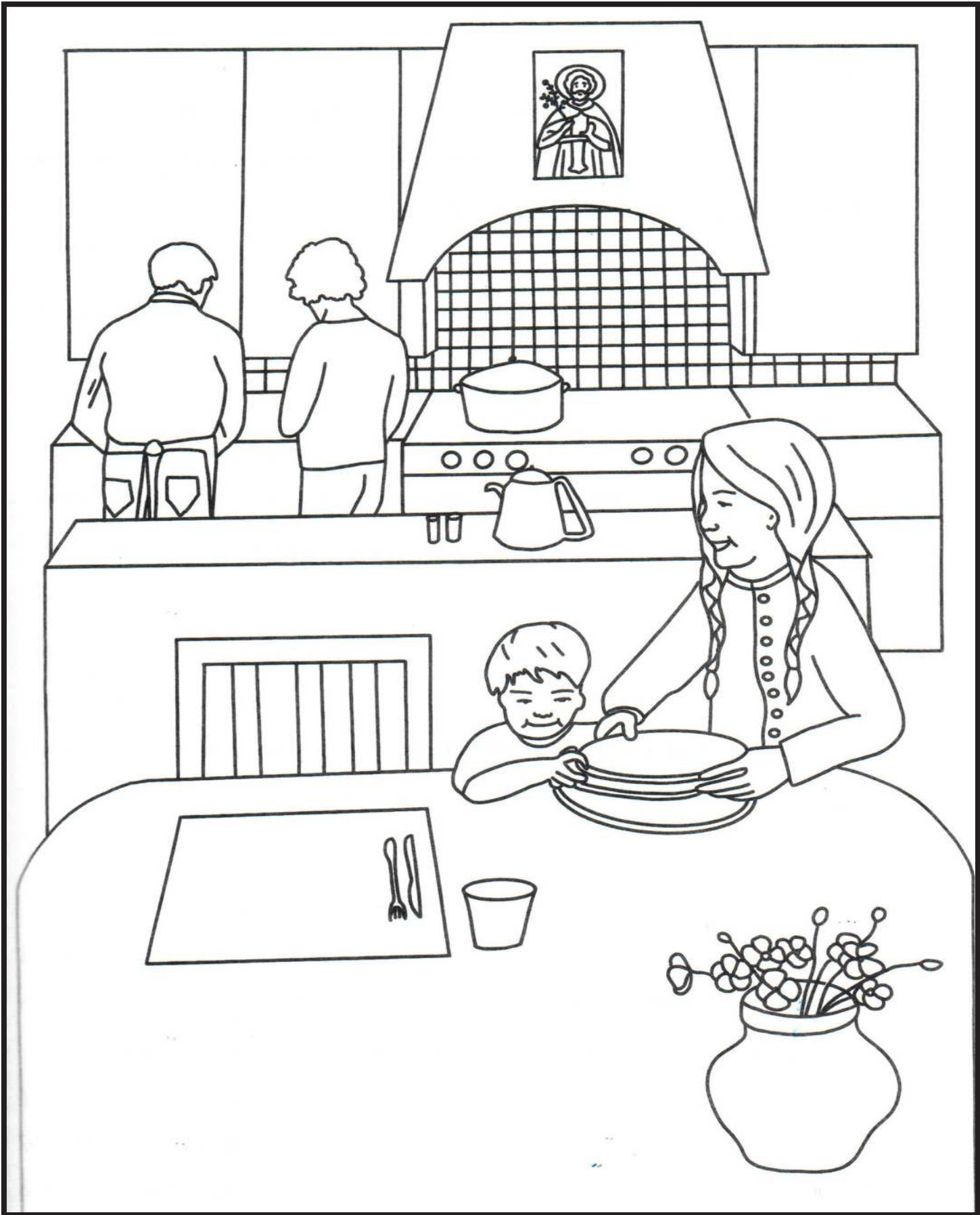
For many years we have used our Community Christmas Card as a way to send greetings to our relatives and friends. As the expense of mailing individual cards has increased over the years, and as busy lives leave little time for addressing stacks of envelopes, our community Christmas card has become more popular. The proceeds of the card are used exclusively to strengthen the parish's ministry of benevolence and help for the poor. In these difficult economic times, the exhausted resources of the Altar Fund need your generous response. We invite all who wish to make a free-will offering in whatever amount they consider appropriate. Please join us in sharing the blessings of the Christmas season. Fill in the following form and mail or bring it to the church office by the deadline of DECEMBER 2, 2025

### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Children’s Page





# PARISH NIGHT

Save the Date! Fall 2025

You, Your Family, and Your Friends are Invited to  
a Monthly Potluck Dinner at St. Vasilios Church!

## ALL ARE WELCOME! SECOND SATURDAYS

5 PM VESPERS IN CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY  
DINNER & ACTIVITIES IN THE GYM

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 13TH**

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 11TH**

**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 8TH**

**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 13TH**

PRAY TOGETHER. STAY TOGETHER

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