



PANAGIA PANTOVASILISSA
HOLY MOTHER QUEEN OF ALL
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

A COMMUNITY FOR ALL

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Summer Bulletin – June/July 2018

Merry it is while summer lasts...



Mirrie it is while sumer ilast
with fugheles song,
Och nu necheth windes blast
and weder strong.
Ei, ei, what this night is long,
And ich with wel mychel wrong.
Soregh and murne and fast.

Merry it is while summer lasts
with birdsong,
But here now the winds do blast
with weather strong
Oi! Oi! What this night is long
And I with many great wrongs,
Sorrow and mourn and fast.

As we enter into the charming summer weather, my beloved, we prepare to revel in a variety of vacations and entertainments that will draw our families and friends closer together. We note that our sojourn on this earth, amidst the trials of the world, is short, and that we must appreciate the gifts which we have been temporarily given by Our Creator. And the earth, itself, is one such gift, whose days turn slowly over the next few months and are gently warmed by the soothing light of the Sun. Yet we know that, in the end, winter will come once again. Indeed, we have always known, as the song above, dated to the first half of the thirteenth century, can attest. It is the oldest known secular song in the English language, and we note that it is about the transient gift of pleasant weather that will all too soon perish in frozen darkness. And all things here, in our sojourn, must pass away; indeed, earthly gifts are perishable. I say this not to discourage you. I say this not to depress you. I say it, rather, because it is true. And as precious and fleeting as these gifts are, we must learn to appreciate and give thanks for them.

In my pastoral ministry, and before, I have noted that appreciating where one is and what one has been given is often quite a bit more complicated than it sounds. Summer is no exception. We often get so caught up *trying* to enjoy our vacations and activities—the lazy days and languid evenings of summer—that we forget to truly *enjoy* them. We rush about, to this or that activity, never pausing to take stock of what we have been given, and the reasons for which it might have been given. And while we may give thanks individually, in the summer months, we seldom give thanks together, as the Body of Christ, amidst the activities of the world.

Enjoy the merriment! Do not fear, but rather be aware, of the cold winter wind on the horizon. Take stock and prepare yourselves. Lay up treasures in your hearts with your families, and give thanks together with your Church family. For indeed, the nights are getting longer now, and soon the gentle caresses of the summer breeze will be replaced by the chill blast of Boreas as he wends his way ever southward. Now, however, is the time for appreciation and thanksgiving, and for a joyful and prayerful revel in the great gift which our Creator has given us! With every pastoral blessing, in the midst of the warmth of our common love, I remain,

Fr. William

Summer Stewardship Message

By: Peter Sawaya

“As we call ourselves a family, so do we call the beautiful temple that has been raised to God in our fair city our home. And just as the homes in which we each live privately are united by blood relations, so are we all united corporately in our home through the precious Blood of Christ, which has been shed for us all. And the similarities do not end there; for, indeed, each of these types of "home" are united by a common purpose, and by common sacrifice. In essence, we offer of ourselves, for our families, and for the sustainment and growth of what we might provide for them. This is more than sacrifice; indeed, it is, properly speaking, sacramental. Creation was given to us by God that we might partake of what we need for our sustenance, sacrifice and sanctify that which we do not, and offer it back to Him that He might sanctify it in turn, and pour forth His blessings on us all. For this we were put on the earth! This is true whether we are speaking of the offering a young couple makes of themselves to one another in marriage; the offering we make as a community of the bread and wine, transformed into the Body and Blood; or the offering of our time, talents, and treasures, that we make so that our community might survive and thrive into the future—so that our children's children might look back on our actions, and glorify God in Whose Name they were undertaken.”

- *Fr. William Redmon*

Beloved Parishioners,

These are the words of our own priest! Over the years, I have chaired the Stewardship program for close to a decade. I wrote many letters, gave reports and tried on many occasions to express the meaning of our stewardship program. I don't think I have ever come close to the beauty, eloquence and perfect expression of the true meaning of Stewardship than what Fr. William has shared with us in these beautiful words. Beloved parishioners, Stewardship to our church should not be an obligation or a calculated “expenses”, but rather a way of life. It should be our way of expressing gratitude for all the blessings we have received. It should be our way of maintaining and spreading the spiritual health of our families and beyond. It should be our way of expressing true commitment to our Faith, Church and indeed one another. In 2016, 99 families or individuals pledged commitment to our Church. In 2017, 88 have done so. As of June 24, 2018, only 70 families expressed commitment to this Church that we call home. This is the Church that nourishes us and inspires us to be Christ-like and Good Samaritans for those who are less fortunate than us. This is the Church that helps us shine in the darkness that surrounds us. This is the Church that we go to not because we have to, but rather because we want to, and we feel the need to. Stewardship is not about what to give or how much to give, it is rather about your expressed commitment to your Church and spiritual home. Please think deep and hard how much this Church means to you. Pick up a pledge card, pray and put your heart in your writing hand.

Peter Sawaya
Stewardship Chairperson

Pastoral Notes

IMPORTANT – HOSPITAL VISITS – IMPORTANT

It is the honour and privilege of the priest to visit the members of the parish community when they are in need of spiritual succour in the hour of medical treatment. That said, there are some very important things that family members may do to facilitate this. Please note that, since the passage of HIPAA legislation in 1996, medical staff are no longer permitted to provide pastors with discharge or transfer information. Furthermore, while they are technically permitted to provide me with information on general medical condition, and while most doctors and many nurses are aware of this fact, some administrative staff have not read the law, and, consequently, are overcautious about providing this. Consequently, patients and their families should assume that they are the *only* source of information available to the pastor. As this is the case, please be aware of the following to facilitate a pastoral visit to yourself or your loved one if they are under medical care: (1) Anytime a patient is transferred, the priest should be informed *immediately*. If I can schedule a visit ahead of time, I can generally spend more time with the patient than when I receive a call and am forced to fit it into the schedule at the last minute. (2) If the patient's medical condition changes, the priest should be informed *immediately*. (3) If a patient or their family requests unlisted status at a medical facility, the hospital staff, due to the immensity of the organizational tasks set before them, will generally interpret this as applying to the priest, whether the family has verbally made the exception to a nurse in passing or not. Consequently, you will need to provide the priest with the location and room number, and may need to be present if the patient is in a restricted area. (4) I have heard several times in my ministry, especially when dealing with hospitalizations and deaths which happened after hours, "I would have called, but I didn't want to bother you, father." Please remember that it is an honour and a privilege to bring the Church to people who are under medical care. Never avoid calling the priest, at any time, day or night, if you or your loved one are experiencing an emergency and in need of spiritual support.

HOPE/JOY

This summer we will be founding our local chapter of HOPE/JOY. This is a combined ministry which focuses on youth, grades K-5, and seeks to provide an atmosphere of fun and fellowship while complementing the SCS and VCS programs and curricula. If you are interested yourself, or know someone who may be, please contact Fr. William. Leslie Bliziotis has graciously agreed to act as the founding Chair. The ministry will open in September.

OVER 50S GROUP

On August 6, at 7:00 PM, we will be holding an organizational meeting for our Over 50s Fellowship. This is a fellowship oriented group that helps us to stay in touch with one another, and to provide opportunities for fun, study, and common service to Christ. If you are interested yourself, or know someone who may be, please contact Fr. William. Jim Hangis has graciously agreed to act as founding Chair. The ministry will open in September.



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President's Notes

By: Delores Minor

As we move in to the summer months, let us remember the many opportunities that we have to worship and spend time in our church home. Often times, summer allows for a slower pace to our hectic lives which also means that you have potentially more choices to try a church service or participate in a church activity that otherwise you have not been able to enjoy. So for June, July and August, try to attend a Wednesday evening or Saturday evening Vesper Service. Or try out one of Father William's Adult Study informational sessions after Vespers on Wednesday evening. Or attend a Lexington Legend's game with our church group; one is coming up on June 24! Or if you have age appropriate children, send them to Vacation Church School the week of July 16-20, 2018. 5-8 p.m. for K-6th grade. Or think about sending your child to St. Nicholas Orthodox camp July 22-28, 2018. My three children participated in VCS and camp and still maintain those friendships! Or think about visiting some of our shut-ins. A once a week visit can brighten their day.

As we enjoy the sunshine and slow days of summer, I encourage you to try one church related activity that might be new to you or that you have not been able to attend in recent past!! You can always check the church calendar at www.goclex.org for updates.

In Christ,
Delores Minor
Parish Council President

Philoptochos Corner

By: Carolyn Janssen

School's out for summer, vacations are planned, it's a time for barbeques and a swim in the pool. In July we will not have a Philoptochos meeting but will meet again in August to start planning for the year to come. We will however be planning a back to school picnic with Y'ALL, so I will be in touch.



A reminder that our effort to collect non-perishable food items to donate to those in need will continue throughout the year. We have made donations to Salvation Army, the Catholic Action Center and the Hope House and they were thrilled.

And finally I want to say thank you to all the wonderful ladies in this community that have risen to the occasion every time they have been asked. As a result of your hard work we have been able to contribute to many worthwhile causes, have made church events warm and welcoming and fun, provided wonderful meals for a number of special events, remembered by visits and cards those who are unable now to attend church, and always with a smile.

Wishing all an enjoyable and relaxing summer!

GOYA

On June 2nd, our GOYA Chapter went on our first offsite fellowship trip. We travelled to Louisville, KY for the Greek Festival held by our sister parish, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. Many thanks to Fr. John Boukis and the Louisville community for hosting, and to our GOYA Chair, Mandy Xenos, for providing transportation!



Y'ALL [Young Adult League of Lexington]

On June 24th our Y'ALL fellowship drove up to Cincinnati for the Panegyri hosted by our sister parish Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. Many thanks to Fr. Mark, Mr. Nick, and the staff and volunteers of the Cincinnati community for the warm welcome, and to Alyssa Eliopoulos for driving!



June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 3:30 PM – GOYA Trip to Louisville Greek Festival 6:00 PM – Vespers in Louisville
3 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	4 Apostles Fast Begins 7:00 PM – Master Calendar Meeting	5	6 6:00 PM – Vespers 7:00 PM – Adult Study	7	8	9 6:00 PM – Great Vespers 7:00 PM – Confession
10 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	11	12 7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting	13 6:00 PM – Vespers 7:00 PM – Adult Study	14	15	16 9:30 AM – Pre Cana Wedding Preparation
17 9:00 Am – Matins and Liturgy 12:00 PM – Father's Day Luncheon (Philoptochos)	18	19	20 6:00 PM – Vespers 7:00 PM – Adult Study	21	22 3:30 PM – Y'ALL Outing to Cincinnati Panegyri	23 9:30 AM – Volunteer Church Grounds Cleanup
24 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy 4:45 PM – Lexington Legends Outing	25	26	27 6:00 PM – Vespers 7:00 PM – Adult Study	28	29 Sts. Peter and Paul Apostles Fast Ends 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	30

Parish Ministries and Organizations

Altar Servers: Fr. William, Joel Scott
Adult Education: Fr. William, Elizabeth Smith
Cantors: Chrisi Karounos, Jacob Kaylor, Nick Douglas
Choir: Helen Pantazakos
GOYA: Mandy Xenos
HOPE/JOY: Leslie Bliziotis
Over 50s: Jim Hangis
Philoptochos: Carolyn Janssen

Parish Council

President: Delores Minor
Vice President: Vlad Radulescu
Secretary: Peter Sawaya
Treasurer: Dennis Karounos
Members: Virgil Cornea, Nick Douglas,
 Thomas Finsand, Ken Kiriapoulos, Joel
 Scott, Elizabeth Smith, Eleftherios Xenos

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Early Registration for VCS Ends 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	2 Clergy Laity in Boston: Office Closed	3 Clergy Laity in Boston: Office Closed 7:30 PM – Y'ALL Dinner at Athenian Grill	4 Clergy Laity in Boston: Office Closed Happy Independence Day!	5 Clergy Laity in Boston: Office Closed	6 Clergy Laity in Boston: Office Closed	7 6:00 PM – Great Vespers 7:00 PM – Confession
8 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	9	10 7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting	11 6:00 PM – Vespers 7:00 PM – Open Q&A with Fr. William	12	13	14 6:00 PM – Great Vespers 7:00 PM – Confession
15 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	16 Vacation Church School 5:30 PM – VCS Day 1: Walking with Christ	17 Vacation Church School 5:30 PM – VCS Day 2: The Upper Room	18 Vacation Church School 5:30 PM – VCS Day 3: Pentecost	19 Vacation Church School 5:30 PM – VCS Day 4: Spreading the Fire	20 Vacation Church School 5:30 PM – VCS Day 5: Review and Pizza Party	21 6:00 PM – Great Vespers 7:00 PM – Confession
22 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	23 St. Nicholas Summer Camp: Office Closed	24 St. Nicholas Summer Camp: Office Closed	25 St. Nicholas Summer Camp: Office Closed	26 St. Nicholas Summer Camp: Office Closed	27 St. Nicholas Summer Camp: Office Closed	28 6:35 PM – Lexington Legends Faith and Family Night
29 9:00 AM – Matins and Liturgy	30	31				

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