In the month of November, we celebrate the Synaxis of all the bodiless powers of heaven, but in particular the two great Archangels Michael and Gabriel, the mentors of our parish.

As faithful Christians, we recite the Symbol of Faith, at every Divine Liturgy as well as during our morning and evening prayers. This is the confession into which we were baptized and became members of the Church, the Body of Christ. In this Creed, we confess our belief in one God who is maker “of all things visible and invisible”, that is, of both the material and spiritual parts of creation. The tradition of the Church tells us about an invisible spiritual world which is much more vast than the material world we see with our eyes. The inhabitants of this spiritual world are far more numerous than us human beings. As we read in the Divine Liturgy every Sunday, they are “angels, archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities, powers, the many-eyed Cherubim” and the six-winged Seraphim.

The Archangel Michael, who is normally depicted with a sword in his hand, is the defender against evil and sin. In many icons we see, beneath his feet, Satan, who was the former angel of light, Lucifer. As you know, the fall of man was preceded by the fall of a third of the angels — “I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven”, says the Lord (Luke 10:18). This fall is described in greater detail in the Revelation of John: “There was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought with his angels and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Revelation 12:7–9).

Tradition tells us that Michael, on seeing the fall of Satan and his angels, cried out to the remaining angels, “Let us stand with awe, let us stand with fear!”, exhorting them to remain faithful. We too, at every Divine Liturgy, begin the anaphora — the summit of Christian worship — with the same exhortation: “Let us stand with awe, let us stand with fear, let us attend to the holy oblation, that in peace we may offer mercy, peace: a sacrifice of praise”. We use Archangel’s words because that war is also our war, because it is not only angels and demons who belong to the invisible world — we human beings do too.

Man is unique among creatures in that he alone is both material and spiritual. The purpose of man is to unite those two parts of creation — the material and the spiritual — the human being to be in constant communion with God and through him, the whole of creation. And as a leader of creation, to offer back to God the whole of the world in order that the whole world may be united to Him.

This is why we see that, with the fall of the angels, only angels fell, but with the fall of man, the entire world fell. And it is this position that Gabriel, the second Archangel, calls us back to, when with the words “rejoice” and “fear not,” he announces to us the restoration of humanity through the incarnation, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The Archangel’s Call

is the monthly newsletter of the
Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church
25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617.924.8182    Fax: 617.924.4124
Email: office@goarchangels.com

The Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church is a parish under the spiritual and ecclesiastical shepherding of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

The Mission of the Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church is to proclaim the Gospel of Salvation through the Orthodox Christian Faith for the glory of our Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are a community of believers who journey towards our Lord Jesus Christ and one another through our WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WITNESS, and SERVICE. We invite all people to join us on this journey toward the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Archangel’s Call is published on the first of each month. The deadline for submissions to this newsletter is the tenth of the prior month.

Layout and production by Cynthia Mitaras Alex
Cover Design by Alexandra Roll
Published by the Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church, Watertown, MA

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AHEPA: John Abate
Altar Boy Ministry: George Antonakas, Nick Yiokarinis
Athletic Ministry: George and Peter Karalis
Bookstore: Charles & Maria Patsios, Richard & Ileana Strakus
Chantor: Costa Magimbi
Choir Director: Cynthia Alex
Computer and Internet Ministries: Tim Papakyrikos
Family Ministries Coordinator: Christina Kourkoulis
GOYA: Demetri Dogias
JOY/Youth Ministry: Christina Kourkoulis
Greek School Director: Agni Thurner
Hellenic Cultural Center: Irene Apostolou Cobb
Helping Hands: Jody Bitsikas
Holy Cross Seminarian: Demetri Dogias
Hospital/Nursing Home Visits: Fr. Athanasios
IOCC Representative: Frank Catrickes
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Sexton: Nicholas Yiokarinis
Social Services: Costa Magimbi
Sunday School Director: Costas Karageorgis

Visit Our Taxiarchae Website
www.goarchangels.com
Our site is updated every week!

His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios
of the Holy Metropolis of Boston

The Reverend Father Athanasios Nenes, Proistamenos
Cell: 914.479.8096    Email: anenes@goarchangels.com

Parish Council 2023

President: George Faggas
Vice President: George Brakoumatos
Treasurer: Costas Karageorgis
Asst. Treasurer: Georgia Bitsikas
Secretary: Chrisoula Salamantis-Rivera
Stewardship Chair: Evelyn Haralampu

Honorary Lifetime Member:
Ernest G. J. Anastos

A Concert of Christmas Joy

Two performances:

Saturday, December 9 at 4 PM
hosted by St. George Greek Orthodox Church Choir
54 South Common Street, Lynn, MA
Cynthia Mitaras Alex
Director

Sunday, December 10 at 4 PM
hosted by Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church Choir
25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA
Sophia Argeros
Accompanist, Director

Monty Hill, Guest Director
Jim Speros, Accompanist

Donations to our Choirs will be graciously accepted.
A reception will follow each performance, co-hosted by members of the Chorus and the Philoptochos Society.

Please let us know if you prefer to receive your monthly bulletin through email, rather than hard copy. Please email Cynthia Alex at cindialex1@gmail.com to let us know your preference. Thank you!
My beloved!
We are entering the month of November, a month that is significant for us, as we will be celebrating our patrons and mentors Taxiarchae-Archangels! The Archangels together with all the invisible powers of Heaven, are the ones who shelter and guide us in our lives. Come, my beloved, let us honor our patron Archangels on their feast day, let us pray together that they may continue to protect us and guide us and keep us strong in faith and health, united in the name of our Triune God! Chronia polla, many blessed years to all!

Your parish priest,
Fr. Athanasios Nenes

All are warmly invited to join the Bible Study Group which meets via zoom every week on Monday evenings at 8 PM. With the participation of Father Nenes, and facilitated by Dr. Nicholas S. Racheotes, we engage in lively, thoughtful, and uplifting discussions of Holy Scripture in what always proves to be a fast-moving hour. Our current focus is on the Birth of Christ. As we traverse the season of Advent, we shall be looking at the prophesies of the Savior’s coming, the scriptural narratives of the Nativity, and the ways in which this most important event was treated by the Eastern Fathers. This is a precious opportunity for us to add to the devotion of the season.

To become part of our welcoming group, you need only contact Frank Catrickes at fdcatrickes@gmail.com

On October 29, Taxiarchae hosted renowned OCMC missionary Nathan Hoppe, who has served in Albania for the past 25 years. Over that time, he has helped resurrect the Orthodox Church of Albania after 45 years of persecution and enforced atheism under the communist government (1945-1991).

Thirty-five parishioners gathered for dinner, fellowship, and an inspirational talk. Nathan implored us to share our faith with others who have not chosen Christ and Orthodoxy. If our faith is just something we keep inside, then is it truly something that we highly value? Rather, we are obligated to share it with others.

OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center) is the world’s only pan-Orthodox mission agency and has sent over 100 missionaries, supports hundreds of priests, and provided millions of dollars of grants for theological training and building churches in over 50 countries around the world.

The event was sponsored by Frank Catrickes, an OCMC Board member, who noted that Christ’s final commandment given to his Disciples after he was crucified, resurrected, and right before returning to Heaven was the “Great Commission:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

Costa Magimbi, our chanter, is available to assist and guide parishioners who are having problems navigating the Massachusetts Social Services system. You can meet with Costa on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy to set up an appointment.
Thanksgiving is right around the corner and we are thankful for all the blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon us personally, to our families and to our Church Family.

This month we celebrate the feast day of our Church. I hope that you will be able to join us on Tuesday evening, November 7th for the Vesper service, followed by a reception hosted by the Philoptochos. If you can make something for the reception it would be greatly appreciated. Xronia Polla to our beloved Church. May the Archangels Michael and Gabriel watch over us today and always.

We are preparing for the annual 2023 Church Christmas Card. Kindly fill out the form on page 5 and send in your donation as soon as possible. The funds from this fundraiser help people in need. What a beautiful way for us to reach our church family and let them know that they are on our minds. Many parishioners tell me that they look forward to receiving that card in the mail and how it brings a smile to their faces.

On November 29, Philoptochos will host a Christmas Wreath Decorating evening!!! Please look at the flier on page 5 for details. We will decorate our wreaths and have some wine and mezethakia and fellowship. If you have not joined us in the past, please consider coming that evening, we will have a great time. It’s a great way to begin decorating our homes for the Christmas Season. Hope to see you all there!

On Sunday, December 10, we will be co-hosting with our AHEPA chapter our Christmas Senior Luncheon in the Metaxas Hall, immediately after the Divine Liturgy. We are so happy to work together with the Ahepeans, to celebrate and break bread together as a parish family. Kindly make your reservations with the church office by December 3rd!

Also, on December 10, the Choir Christmas Concert will take place at 4 PM with a beautiful reception following. The Philoptochos is happy to support this wonderful concert, please join us as we usher in the season.

Finally, Happy Thanksgiving to all and let us all be thankful to be a part of this wonderful Church family.

With sisterly love, Frances

Our Choir recently took part in the Metropolis of Boston Choir Federation Annual Conference at St. Spyridon Cathedral in Worcester, joining 45 other choir members from parishes in New England. Taxiarchae was well represented, with 10 of our choir members participating. Joining me were Maria Atsiknoudas, Poppy Psinakis Patterson, Angie Good, Carol Salvo, Cathy and Charlie Kalivas, Stephanie George, Anthoula and Rich Rozakis. Thank you to all.

Rehearsals continue for our Christmas Concert, (see page 2) which will take place this year in Watertown on Sunday, December 10 at 4 PM and in Lynn on Saturday, December 9 at 4 PM. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming to support our choir.

Cynthia Mitaras Alex, Choir Director
2023 Taxiarchae Community Christmas Card

It’s that time of year again to send your Christmas greetings to our parish family!

All Christmas card donations will go towards the Philochohos Agape Fund which was established to assist those members in our community who are in need of a little extra help financially due to tragedy or illness.

Preparation of this project requires a great deal of planning, so please make your donation now before the busy holiday season approaches.

May God bless you as we joyfully celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Καλά Χριστουγέννα! Kala Hristouyenna! Thank you for your support!

(Complete the form and return to the church office. Any questions, please call 617.924.8182.)

Community Christmas Card Order Form

Send to: Taxiarchae/Archangels
Attn: Philochohos — Fran Levas
Greek Orthodox Church
25 Bigelow Avenue
Watertown, MA 02472

Deadline:
Sunday, December 3, 2023

Make checks payable to:
Taxiarchae Ladies Philochohos

Clearly print the name(s) you wish to appear on the card.

Name(s):

Telephone

Your donation: $_______

For more information, call
Frances Levas at 617.519.3422

Christmas Wreath Decorating Evening

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
7 PM

An evening of fun, friends, Fellowship, decorating, and light refreshments

Reserve your spot and your wreath
TODAY!

Christmas Wreath Decorating!

Please fill out and return no later than Tuesday, November 21 along with a check made out to:
Taxiarchae Philochohos Society.

Name: ____________________________

Day Phone: _______________________

Email: __________________________

12” Double-Faced Balsam Fir Wreath
Qty _____ @ $35 each _________

For more information, call
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For more information, call
Frances Levas at 617.519.3422
Join us on Tuesday evening, November 7, as we celebrate the Great Vespers of our parish’s Feast Day and on Wednesday, November 8, the Divine Liturgy of our Feast Day.

There are many activities in our parish for all of us to enjoy. Especially encourage your children to participate in the ministries of the church. Most of us have life-long friends from Greek School, Sunday School and GOYA.

Our parking lot renovations should be completed by the weekend of November 18. Thank you for being understanding of the inconvenience this may have caused. This will be a major improvement of our property when completed. Please consider a donation to our Capital Improvement Campaign Fund, to support our church in other needed improvements.

As we come to the end of yet another year, I ask that each and every one of you consider becoming stewards in good standing. To those who have already fulfilled their pledge thank you. If you have not made a pledge for 2023 or fulfilled your pledge, kindly do so. This assists us in preparing the budget for 2024. Please see the form on page 10.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.
George Faggas,
Parish Council President

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Community Night, which was scheduled for November 10, has been cancelled.
In our Greek culture we do not celebrate Thanksgiving. I would say for the Greeks, Thanksgiving is every day. We, here at our Greek School in Watertown, give thanks to our Church, the Taxiarches, whose feast we celebrate this month, our Presbyter and the Greek Community for keeping us together and safeguarding our religion, traditions and culture in the diaspora. We give thanks to the parents who bring their children to the school every week, to the children who, despite their other school work load, learn Greek with joy. We also thank the teachers and their dedication to teach the children.

Please stop by at our table during Fellowship on Sundays and buy your raffle tickets to win a Thanksgiving Basket! The funds raised will go to support our Greek School. Thank you!

Agni Charalambous Thurner, Director
Phone: 617/610-9369
Email: athurner@goarchangels.com

Thank you to all the Grandparents and Parents that attended our Grandparent Sunday last month. Many attended Liturgy and then joined their grandchildren/children in their Sunday School class. Thanksgiving season is a time for all of us to be thankful and generous. On November 26th, we will put on display “The Giving Tree” in the main lobby of the cultural center. Please select a paper ornament or two from the tree. Place the wrapped gifts with the ornament attached under the tree by Sunday, December 17th. These gifts will be delivered to the Dimock Center in Boston and other nearby organizations. We will also be signing up children from our Sunday School, Grades K through 5th, for our Christmas Pageant that will be held on Sunday, December 17th.

Please support our Christmas Pageant and sign up your children. Thank you for your help and God Bless you!

Some important dates to keep in mind are below:
- Giving Tree: November 26 to December 17
- Christmas Pageant Rehearsals for Grades K-5 after Sunday School class: Dec 3 and 10
- Christmas Pageant: December 17th
- No Sunday School: November 26, December 24 and December 31
JOY-full Fall Fun

FAMILY MINISTRIES
A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
Thanksgiving Potluck
Friday, November 17th
6 to 8 pm
BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND ENJOY FELLOWSHIP
RSVP to Chourkoulis@goarchangels.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd
6:30 pm
GREEK MOVIE NIGHT
“PAPADOPOULOS AND SONS”
Light refreshments will be served
Free Will Donation
Contact Chourkoulis@goarchangels.org to RSVP or with any questions

JOIN US
Friday, November 10th
5 to 7 pm for
NOVEMBER JOY
Pizza and a treat will be provided.
We will also have a craft

YOU MUST RSVP TO CHOURKOU LIS@GOARCHANGELS.ORG BY NOVEMBER 3RD TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND PARTICIPATION
The HELPING HANDS MINISTRY's sole purpose is to make the lives of our Parishioners easier in view of the restrictions many are facing today. The services we offer are: RX pickup/drug store, Postal needs, Grocery shopping. If you know someone from our church who may need these services, please contact Georgia (Jody) Bitsikas by email gbitsikas@aol.com or by calling 617-653-2461.

Blessed is the wherein you walk today; for there is prepared for you a place of rest. Remember in your prayers our brother and...on October 4, Helen Gomez...on October 5, Anastasios "Andy" Paphanasiou...on October 12, Francine Kollias

May their memory be eternal.

Remembering Michael Pappas

In July of 2018, our parish hosted a presentation of Michael's story — his astounding mission, his enemy, his resting place, and the 74-year mystery shrouded in war and holocaust.

Watertown's Michael Papadopolous went off to war in 1944. His plane was shot down over Poland and he remained MIA. Now in 2023, we can share the conclusive report on Michael and his crew, which have at last been found! Their story, told with dignity and sensitivity, can be viewed at www.lindell-crew.com

Michael is the brother of Julia Welch. The Taxiarchae church played a huge role in Michael's life, and his whole family's lives before and after the events in this story. The report contains many references to the church and to the community.

May his memory be eternal.

The last photo taken of Michael and his siblings, when he was on his way to Italy.

The Archangel's Call - November 2023
Taxiarchae Hellenic Cultural Center
Planning a party or reception?

Our beautiful function rooms are now updated and ready for any and all of your event needs, up to 500 people. For information and assistance in planning your future events, please call

Irene Apostolou Cobb at the Church Office
at 617-924-8182 or email:
functionmanager@goarchangels.com
If any names have been mistakenly omitted from this list, please notify the church office and we will make corrections in our next bulletin.

Rev. Fr. Athanasios Nenes, Parish Priest

Thank You!
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<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<th>Sat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Schedule:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Orthros:</strong> 8:30, <strong>Doxology,</strong> <strong>Divine Liturgy:</strong> 9:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>Weekday Liturgies:</strong> 8:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>Paraklesis to the Theotokos Gorgoepikoos:</strong> Thursdays, 6 PM</td>
<td><strong>Adult Bible Study:</strong> Mondays, 8 PM via Zoom</td>
<td><strong>Greek School:</strong> Thu 4:30-6:30 PM; Sat 10 AM-12 PM</td>
<td><strong>English Emphasized Liturgy</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5th Sunday of Luke</strong></td>
<td><strong>Epistle:</strong> Galatians 6:11-18</td>
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<td>Bible Study via Zoom 8 PM p.3</td>
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<td><strong>Taxiarchae Great Vespers Artoklasia</strong> 7 PM p.1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8th Sunday of Luke</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9th Sunday of Luke</strong></td>
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<td>Bible Study via Zoom 8 PM p.3</td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
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**November 2023**

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**Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church**

25 Bigelow Avenue

Watertown, MA 02472