May 26, 2024

Xristos Anesti!

Sunday of the Paralytic
Orthros 8:45/Liturgy 9:30 AM.

Epistle Reading
The Reading is from Acts of the Apostles 9:32-42.

Gospel Reading
The Reading is from John 5:1-15

Trisagion
In memory of our Parishioners who gave their lives in service to our Country:
George Andreoties, George Galtanis, Minas Loisou, Louis Marchacos, Michael C.
Pappas and Christopher Straggas. May their memory be eternal.

WEEKDAY SERVICES - Καθημερινές Λειτουργίες:
Paraklesis to the Panagia Gorgoipikoos - will resume in the Fall.

Best way to reach the office day or night is by email:
Office@goarchangels.com.

For Pastoral emergencies, please call Fr. Nenes at 914-479-8096.
HYMNS OF THE DAY

Apolytikion of Great and Holy Pascha in the Plagal First Mode

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Χριστός ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord by His Might, has created a Dominion. He has conquered death by death, and become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ὄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades’ power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατῆλθες ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ ᾍδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Ἐχλά αὐξηθεὶς Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος, Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

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.
In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, rise." And she opened her eyes; and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.
At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.
Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had round about it five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies, awaiting the moving of the water. The first to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel way lying, torment by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." And straightway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.
SERMON

THE HOPE OF MAN

Christ was and is the only and constant request of every person. He puts to flight all sorrow and transfigures all human pain. No one loved man so much and freed him from the fear of his borderline situations as much as Christ did.

In Jerusalem, in the area of the sheep gate, in the so-called pool of Bethesda, as the gospel reading of the Sunday of the Paralytic mentions, the miracle of the healing of the paralytic, who had been carrying the cross of his illness for 38 whole years, takes place. He was led into this condition, as we conclude from the Gospel text, by sin and the interruption of his relationship with God. And where the human forms had cultivated in him despair and loneliness, he patiently waited for his healing. And the miracle happens. God does not leave him. He doesn't disappoint him. Christ's word is saving: "Behold, you have become well; from here on do not sin, so that you do not suffer worse things". The Lord’s redemptive presence heals the paralytic’s body and soul.

The Search for God

God becomes accessible through His uncreated grace and His uncreated energies, which are part of His divine being. Man can really meet God. However, this meeting takes place in a hesychastic way, that is, it takes place in the area of the heart, just as the meeting of Christ with the paralytic happened. Therefore, the search for God does not occur only with the human intellect, cut off from the rest of the human being, but with the whole indivisible person, and the heart is the center of this effort. Man cannot meet God as long as the devil is in his heart, who often dominates the heart of man.

The Constant Spiritual Struggle

Our only care should be to live the life of Christ, to be His disciples, and to stop being captives of sin. "Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. While the slave does not stay in the house forever. The Son remains forever. If then, the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (Jn. 8:34-36). The Lord precisely gives this freedom to the paralytic, to each one of us, who strives to become a son of God by grace, and to dwell eternally in his Father's house. Of course, our prayer for this does not come immediately. It is not an easy task to keep the memory of God in our hearts, while we are surrounded by a world that does not pray and does not live a eucharistic life.

Praying People

Prayer transports the mind and heart to eternity and the only thing that concerns us is how we will become worthy of God. This does not mean a passive life outside of our brothers, a vertical individual relationship with God. On the contrary. The person of prayer is the one who with his prayer embraces all people, all creation, the whole world. "Our Father", we say in our prayer. The spirit of prayer makes us rule over our passions and not over others, it makes us people of love, compassion, understanding, and kindness. It makes us be like the Lord who heard the paralytic’s complaint: "Lord, I have no man", that is, "Lord, I have no one, I am unbearably alone", and He
heals him, He delivers him.
Prayer in joy, in trial, temptation and struggle is our monologistic hope and our joy: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us"

______________________________

**We Welcome all who worship with us today.**

Trisagion
In memory of our Parishioners who gave their lives in service to our Country: George Andreoties, George Galtanis, Minas Loisou, Louis Marchacos, Michael C. Pappas and Christopher Straggas.

*May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η Μνήμη!*  

Coffee Fellowship is being sponsored by the *George K. Menichios American Legion Post, #324* in memory of all the Veterans who gave their lives in service to our Country.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Memorial Day Cemetery Visits**

Fr. Athanasi will visit the Cemeteries according to the schedule shown here. For other Cemeteries and other days, please call Fr. Athanasi for an appointment.

Το πρόγραμμα για τις επισκέψεις στα διάφορα νεκροταφεία της περιφέρειας μας είναι ως κατωτέρω. Για άλλα νεκροταφεία και άλλες ημέρες τηλεφωνήσετε στο ιερέα για ιδιαίτερη συνέντευξη.

PLEASE NOTE: As in past years, we will meet at the main flagpole/gathering area at the times noted for each Cemetery. We will offer a group memorial service for our beloved departed. Please prepare a note with the list of names that you wish us to pray for.

**Monday, May 27 - Δευτέρα, 27 Μαίου**

Mt. Auburn, Cambridge: 9 AM  
Belmont Cemetery: 10 AM  
Watertown Cemetery: 11 AM  
Waltham Cemetery: 1 PM
Graduation Sunday - June 2nd.
All High School and College graduates are invited to join us in Liturgy on June 2nd so we may acknowledge them.

Please contact Costas at ckarageorgis@goarchangels.com with the following information: High School Graduates - which High School you are graduating from and if you are attending College, where you will be attending & what is your planned major.
College Graduates - the College you are graduating from and the degree you have earned.

TAXIARCHAE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - Calling all High School Seniors and Undergrads. The 2024-25 Taxiarchae Scholarship application are available on our website: www.goarchangels.org
The deadline for applications is May 31, 2024.
FESTIVAL MEETING
Monday, June 3rd, 7:00 PM.

FESTIVAL COOKING SCHEDULE - All Are Welcome To Come & Help!

Moussaka - Wednesday, May 29th, 9:30 AM.
Pastitsio - Thursday, May 30th, 9:30 AM.
Welcome Back Kali Parea!

Join us on Wednesday, June 12 at

BILL HANNEY’S NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
THE 60th ANNIVERSARY PRODUCTION

SHOWTIME at 2:00 PM

followed by dinner at kouzina

Savor the essence of Greece, one plate at a time.
Taxiarchae/Archangels Greek Orthodox Church

Parish trip to
St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church &
September-11 Memorial and Museum
Departing Church parking lot
25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA
Saturday, June 1, 2024
07:30 am - Boarding bus
8:00 am Departure

COST: $75.00
Veterans - FREE
Includes
Round Trip in Luxury Motor Coach (56 Pax)
Tour of St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
Self guided visit of Sept 11 Memorial
Lunch @ Pi Bakery 35 Cedar Street

Museum Visit is Optional
Tickets must be purchased ahead of time

Museum Admission -- $21-$33
Tickets can be purchased up to six months in advance.

To Purchase Tickets for the Museum
www.911memorial.org

Upon arrival we will be visiting St Nicholas Church. Afterwards there will be time to have lunch at the “Pi Bakery” (within 3 blocks) tour the Memorial grounds and/or visit the museum.

Remember comfortable shoes. Departure time dependent on museum visits
-- Stop enroute home for dinner

American Legion George K. Menichios Post #324 is sponsoring this event.
Any Questions? 617-964-0077 or Jet35pilot@aol.com

For payment information and any other questions,
please call Peter at 617-964-0077.
Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The Watertown Grecian Festival committee invites you to support our upcoming 2024 Festival as we celebrate 50 years of food and fun!

This year’s event will be held Friday, June 21st through Sunday, June 23rd in the Hellenic Center and under the tent on the church grounds at 25 Bigelow Avenue. This very popular cultural immersion experience is for everyone. Our Festival has been an integral part of the Watertown community and celebrates our Greek culture, traditions, heritage, and fun-loving spirit. Our event is attended by neighbors, local businesses and parishioners and the public who often come from miles away to enjoy themselves through our food, music, dancing, and socializing.

Kindly review the sponsorship options on the enclosed form. Please consider a Diamond or Platinum sponsorship which will help offset our ever-increasing festival expenses and offer you high visibility through social media, logo signage, and logo projection. The Festival earnings are vital to our church’s financial security. The proceeds from this event help support the cultural, educational, and charitable activities of our church in addition to supporting our local community.

Your donation ensures the continued success of this major fundraiser. Please be as generous as possible. Our program book contains all the key information pertaining to the Festival and will be distributed to every single attendee. Placing an ad or listing in the book is the perfect way to support our community while promoting your business.

Every contribution truly makes a difference. We look forward to adding your name to the list of sponsors this year. If you need further information, please contact Frances Lefas at taxiarchae.festival.program@gmail.com or (617) 519-3422.

Thank you in advance for your support.

With our sincere appreciation,

2024 Festival Sponsorship Committee
2024 SPONSORSHIP FORM

YES! Please include our name/business as a 2024 Grecian Festival Sponsor.

_____ Diamond Sponsor - $2,500
Customized two-page ad with premium placement in our program book; continuous, high-visibility logo projection; company logo on all Festival signage; exposure on Festival FB page, Instagram & Twitter.

_____ Platinum Sponsor - $1,500
Two-page ad in our program book; continuous high-visibility logo projection, company logo on Festival signage, Festival FB page, Instagram & Twitter.

_____ Gold Sponsor - $1,000
Includes two-page ad in our program book; company logo on Festival signage.

_____ Silver Sponsor - $500
Features a full-page ad in our program book.

_____ Bronze Sponsor - $250
Half-page ad in our program book.

_____ Friend - $125
Quarter-page ad in our program book.

_____ Listing - $100

Forward a PDF or high-res. JPEG (300dpi+) of your advertisement or electronic copy of your company’s business card to: taxiarchae.festival.program@gmail.com Call Frances Lervas at 617-919-3422 with any questions. Thank you for your support! Please return this form by May 15, 2024 with your donation in the enclosed envelope. Please print how you would like your company’s name to appear on the acknowledgment.

Company Name: ____________________________________________________________

Contact Person: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City, State, & Zip Code: ____________________________

Telephone Number: ________________________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________________________

Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church | 25 Bigelow Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472 | 617-924-8182
2023-2024 Capital Improvement Campaign Fund

$150,000

$75,000

$0

Church Capital Improvement Campaign update. To date we have raised $45,000 of the $150,000 we need to raise for much needed improvements to our Church. We used approved monies from the operations account for the parking lot improvement but need to repay the operations account once we have raised the money. Thank you to those that have donated! If you would like to donate please visit the Church website, click on Donate, then Capital Improvement Campaign.
JOIN US FOR AN

Evening of Networking

THE STOCKYARD RESTAURANT
THURSDAY JUNE 6, 2024
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Tickets $60 - includes 2 drink tickets and food

To purchase tickets please visit www.hbbu.org

MDBC SUMMER '24

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 4 AT 7PM
Ages 8 - Grade 12
SPACE IS LIMITED

STAFF APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 1st
SEE BELOW FOR MORE

Are you a high school junior or senior?

Fill your summer with what counts

Join one of our four sessions:

SESSION 1 | New England, June 19-29
SESSION 2 | Southern California, June 26-30
SESSION 3 | Northern Plains, July 2-6
SESSION 4 | Chicago, July 9-13

Apply online at crossroad.org

Deadline: January 30, 2024

Register: February 20, 2024
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.

LOVE DOES NOT HURT.
INCREASED STATISTICS ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
HTTPS://WWW.NEJM.ORG/DOI/FULL/10.1056/NEJMP2024046

A pandemic within a pandemic: There are more cases of violence in the home than ever before. This means more families living in crisis.
We are collecting for monthly drop-offs each second Monday of the month, beginning with December 14th.

Items requested are:
Sanitary napkins
Shampoo
Vaseline
Cocoa butter
Baby shampoo
Baby lotion
Deodorant
Tooth brushes
Tooth paste

With any questions, please contact Christina Kourkoulis at CKourkoulis@goarchangels.org

RECOGNIZE. REPORT. PREVENT.

FINEX HOUSE
- Finex House
- PO Box 300670
- Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
- https://www.finexhouse.org
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 EVERYTHING YOU WISHED.