

## PARISH COUNCIL

Christos Anesti!

A beautiful Holy Week and Easter brought us all together as a church family last month. I wish to thank our clergy, Fr. Dimitrios and Fr. George, for a wonderful spiritual journey throughout the Lenten season. My gratitude, also, to our Parish Council and ushers for their assistance in keeping order during the various services this spring. A special note of appreciation to our sexton, Levan, for his efforts in preparing the church before each service, and to Gary Kent for his organization of the altar boys and Liturgical processions for each service during Holy Week. On Good Friday, our Philoptochos dedicated themselves to beautiful floral decorations, assisted by our youth, who continued the day with a clergy-lead retreat. No labor went unnoticed!

Our church was overflowing with worshipers; the lighted candles on Good Friday and Holy Saturday were a clear symbol of our faith bringing us together as Orthodox Christians. Thank you to all parishioners for your presence, creating an uplifting atmosphere singing hymns along with our choir and chanters, and praying together while reliving our Lord's Passion and triumph over death.

Moving quickly from Easter toward the spring festival, it is my hope that we continue the energy brought forth from receiving the light of the Resurrection to the work that needs to be done for our major fund-raiser. As with everything else in our parish community, the festival is a team effort! Each person's small donation of volunteer time will make a difference to the outcome. May we work diligently for the fruits of our labor and may we celebrate the festival weekend in fun and fellowship.

***For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's building***

*1 Corinthians 3:9*

This past month, members of our Parish Council, stewardship committee, staff and our clergy attended training sessions in CCB (Church Community Builder). This enhancement to our church technology will encompass every organizational aspect of parish life. As the system becomes integrated in the daily work of the office, our ministries leaders will be invited to learn how CCB will streamline communications and make ministries activities more efficient. By the end of the year, our goal is to provide every steward with the ability to access CCB, update their own profiles, visit the St. George web site, check ministry information, view event calendars, send emails, and many other features. The Herald will update the progress each month.

Following our spring festival, the Parish Council will be sending out notice of the spring Parish Assembly meeting, scheduled for Thursday, June 14th. Please save this date, plan to attend, and remain informed of the latest updates in our parish life. As always, it is every steward's chance to listen and share information. We had a wonderful turnout of about eighty stewards for our November assembly. The goal is to surpass this number for the spring assembly. As before, a light supper will be provided.

Other dates to keep in mind are the 40th Anniversary celebration events: October 20th Taverna Night, featuring Jimmy Santis; the Grand Banquet on October 27th; and the Charter Member Sunday on October 28th. Tickets and further information for these events will be available in the next few months through the committee.

Until then, I look forward to seeing and working with each and every one of you during the spring festival!

Debbie Zourdos, Council President