



The Word

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth."

John 1:14

Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ

"Thanksgiving -- An Act of Christian Pilgrimage"

November 2012

To offer thanks is a very spiritual moment! It is not only an affirmation of your appreciation, but an extension of gratitude to the source of your appreciation. In the moment of authentic thanks, love and stewardship are experienced as we offer back to the source of our blessing with an appreciation for something other than ourselves.

How appropriate that in our country's initial formation the offering of thanks was established as foundational, even to the point of becoming a beloved national holiday. And how intuitive to recognize the abundance of American experience was beheld after the experience of giving thanks. What spiritual moments in the life of our Nation -- to formally dedicate an experience of love and stewardship, ultimately to God, Who is the initial source of all blessings. This was recognized by our founding fathers and should be encouraged to each and every one of us... the very same recognition that all our blessings come from our Father Who is in Heaven, and we have a responsibility to offer thanks!

In the same way that our faith must be made manifest in actions, our offering of thanks must become tangible if it is to be considered authentic. If we recognize and express appreciation

for the multiple forms of grace that God has gifted us, then we are obligated to do something with that grace. Giving thanks is step #1, steps #2, 3, 4, etc, all demand that we apply that which we appreciate in a way that glorifies God. For example, if you have been blessed with a beautiful singing voice:

- 1) thank God for it;
- 2) develop your singing ability;
- 3) use it to sing in church during the divine services;
- 4) perhaps use it to sing your children lullabies;
- 5) etc., etc., etc...

When we develop the process of offering true thanks, we have the ability to positively impact the world around us! We have witnessed that as a Nation, however, as the faith we have witnessed it throughout the history of God's creation. From Genesis through Revelation we witness the beauty of giving thanks. From the time of the apostles until today we have witnessed the affect of giving thanks. Now, in this season of thanksgiving, let us consciously choose to continue this spiritual tradition, and witness the total process of giving thanks by actualizing it in our daily lives.

May our Heavenly Father, Who bestows all forms of grace and is the source of all blessings, receive our thanks as humble stewards and increase His grace in our individual lives, the life of our Church, and the world around us.

I pray that this year we will enjoy and experience a true and authentic season of Thanksgiving!

Fr. Luke



November Services & Readings

Date/Time	Service	Epistle	Gospel
Nov 1 9:30 am	Sts. Cosmas & Damianos	I Corinth. 12:27-13:8	Matthew 10:1, 5-8
Nov 4 9:30 am	5th Sunday of Luke	Galatians 6:11-18	Luke 16:19-31
Nov 8 9:30 am	Archangels Michael & Gabriel	Hebrews 2:2-10	Luke 10:16-21
Nov 9 9:30 am	St. Nektarios the Wonderworker	I Thessalon. 2:14-20	Luke 13:31-35
Nov 11 9:30 am	8th Sunday of Luke	II Corinth. 4:6-15	Luke 10:25-37
Nov. 13 9:30 am	St. John Chrysostom	Hebrews 7:26-8:2	John 10:9-16
Nov 18 9:30 am	9th Sunday of Luke	Ephesians 2:14-22	Luke 12:16-21
Nov 21 9:30 am	Presentation of the Theotokos	Hebrews 9:1-7	Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28
Nov 25 9:30 am	13th Sunday of Luke St. Katherine, the Great Martyr	Galatians 3:23-4:5	Luke 18:18-27
Nov 30 9:30 am	St. Andrew, the First-Called	I Corinth. 4:9-16	John 1:35-52

November Acolyte Schedule

All acolytes are asked to serve in November.

November Candle Duty Schedule

Nov 4	Chris Siefkas and Nick Livanos
Nov 11	Bruce Corcoran, Pete Gikkas and George Kokalis
Nov 18	Peter Eliades, George Georgeson and Scott Walters
Nov 25	Alex Slenkin, George Sotiras and Tony Kosmas



KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please use this list to pray for members of our parish and others who are sick or in need of God's care.

- Mary Camamis
- Alexandra Edrich
- Fr. Haralambos Fox
- Heloisa Gavallos
- Lula Kamages
- James Kolyvas

From time to time, we may remove names that have been on the list for awhile. If you feel a name should remain on the list, or if you would like a new name placed on the list, **please contact the office.**

The Word

Monthly Newsletter

published by

**Nativity of Christ
Greek Orthodox Church
1110 Highland Drive
Novato, CA 94949**

**Phone: (415) 883-1998
Fax: (415) 883-2057**

e-mail: ncchurch@pacbell.net

www.nativityofchrist.org

**Fr. Luke Palumbis,
Pastor**

November 2012



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Parish Activities & Ministries

Parish Socials

Our next monthly social is on **SATURDAY, November 10th**. Please plan to join your Parish Community for fellowship and laughter!

NOVEMBER SOCIAL: We'll be tying blankets for the UCSF Pediatrics Department and have some activities for the kids, too.

PARISH SOCIAL
Saturday, November 10
6:00 pm
Dinner will be served
\$5 person
Children 8 and under free

Philoptochos

Coffee Hour

In October, Katherine Pantazes and Michael Lagios hosted coffee hours in memory of their loved ones; we thank you both very much for your support. We would also like to thank those of you who dropped off baked items. So far the only coffee hour taken in November is the 11th, which will be our annual Harvest Luncheon.

Holy Cross Luncheon

On October 7 we had our yearly luncheon to benefit the students of Holy Cross/Hellenic College. As a result of your generosity, we were able to raise \$950 to send to the seminarians, which includes donations received by mail. Thank you so much!

Harvest Luncheon

Our annual Harvest Luncheon fundraiser will be held on **November 11** after Divine Liturgy. It will be the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. The proceeds will be used to help serve our local charities and help with our Metropolis and National Philoptochos obligations. Please see the flyer on page 6 for more information.

Cookbook News

We are excited to announce that the ball is rolling for our next cookbook project. We have been talking for some time now about updating our classic cookbook. Since we have to start all over because the print plates for the original cannot be found, the possibility of a second book is in the works. Cathy Selmi, who was

the driving force behind getting our first book reprinted so we have some stock, has graciously agreed to lead up this project. Our goal is to have this new book up and available for sale by December 1, 2013. The first organizational meeting will be held on **Saturday, November 27, at 10 am** in the small hall. Please see the flyer on page 8 of the bulletin

BAPSAEF Luncheon

This year the Bishop Anthony Philoptochos Student Aid Endowment Fund luncheon will be held on **December 1** at Holy Cross Church in Belmont. Our chapter will be responsible for providing a 3-4 foot, live or artificial, decorated "theme" tree to be raffled off at the event. They are also asking for items for the boutique, handmade items, pastries, cookies or anything else you can think of. Last year the room was beautiful with all the Christmas and food items available for sale. We hope you will consider attending this lovely event, working on something for the boutique or maybe a small donation. All the proceeds from this event go to the seminarians at Holy Cross/Hellenic College. Invitations will be coming soon.

Turkey Bomb Week

Last year Father Luke's "turkey bomb" week was so successful that we think it's a great idea to do it again. We were able to donate over 60 turkeys to the Food Bank in Novato. This year, during **the week of November 11 through November 17**, please stop by your local market and purchase a turkey, bring it to church any time during the week and on Monday, November 19, we will have the Food Bank stop by and pick them up. Last year they were ecstatic when they saw the freezer full of turkeys. In

the spirit of giving during the season of the birth of our Lord, please help to make this a more joyous time of year by helping those in need.

Community Christmas Card

It's that time of year when we start accumulating names for our Community Christmas Card. To have your name added this year, please fill out your information on the enclosed flyer on page 14. Please keep in mind that 100% of the net proceeds go directly to the Retired Clergy Association to help priests and presbyteres who retired prior to a retirement system being put into place by the Archdiocese. These funds are desperately needed so please be generous with your donations. The deadline for the Community Christmas Card is **November 25**.

Valentine's Dinner Dance

We are excited to announce that on **February 2, 2013**, Philoptochos is planning an elegant evening of dining and dancing. It will be fully catered and will have live, big band/swing type music for your dancing pleasure. We will have our first planning meeting **after Divine Liturgy on November 4**. This meeting is open to anyone interested in helping to make this an **evening to remember**. See flyer on page 13.

Dates to Remember

Oct 27	First Cookbook Meeting
Nov 4	Valentine's Dinner/Dance Meeting
Nov 6	Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Nov 11	Harvest Luncheon
Nov 11-17	Turkey Bomb
Nov 25	Deadline for Christmas Card
Dec 1	BAPSAEF Christmas Luncheon



**Daylight Savings
Time Ends
Turn Clocks Back
1 Hour
on Sunday, Nov. 4**

Youth Ministries

Religious Education News

We had wonderful attendance at the Parent Orientation last month, and we are continuing to see new friendships and fellowship in Christ emerge among our students attending youth education classes each Sunday. Registrations are open and ongoing, and all young people are always welcomed!

Open House

This month, parents are invited to learn more about their child's program by participating in one or more of our Open House sessions.

On **November 11 and 18**, between **11:00 -11:45 am** parents will have an opportunity to meet our teachers and participate in a portion of the lessons along with their children. The students and teachers welcome your participation.

HOPE/JOY News

Book Drive

The HOPE/JOY Book Drive has been extended through November. Please place new, unwrapped books in the box in the Narthex. They will be donated to the Committee on the Shelterless' Mary Isaak Center in Petaluma.

November HOPE/JOY Activity

Watch your e-mail for an announcement regarding a November family outing for the HOPE/JOY youth.

Please see the calendar below.

November 4 Attend Sunday Classes
November 11 Attend Sunday Classes
Open House for Parents - Pre-K/K;
Grade 1/2; Grade 3/4
November 18 Attend Sunday Classes
Open House for Parents - Grade 5/6;
Grade 7/8;High School
November 25 Attend Liturgy with Family

December Christmas Pageant

We are in need of additional Shepherd's costumes. They are easy (and fun) to put together. If you can sew or assist, please contact Gigi Medan directly at gandd2@comcast.net or at 707-996-6167 or 707-529-7441. The Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 23.

Angel Tree Program

During Advent, **beginning on Sunday, November 18**, the Angel Tree will be in the Narthex so you can select the "angels" for whom you would like to purchase gifts. Monetary contributions to buy perishable food items and Christmas presents are gratefully accepted.



*"For I was hungry and
you gave me food, I
was thirsty and you
gave me drink, I was
a stranger and you
welcomed me."*

Matthew 25:35

Holiday Food Drive

We can help others enjoy their Thanksgiving. How? Nativity of Christ is again sponsoring a **FOOD DRIVE** program and is asking for the support of the entire parish to help as many families as possible.

Beginning on **Sunday, November 4**, please bring one or two non-perishable food items every Sunday through Christmas so that we can help as many families as possible. Place the food items in the Food Bank barrel in the Narthex.

Suggested items include canned goods and dry packaged goods such as: rice, beans, pasta, cereals, cake mixes, powdered milk, flour, sugar, etc.

IT'S NATIVITY OF CHRIST PARISH SOCIAL TIME!



JOIN US ON SATURDAY, November 10th AT 6 PM!

Bring your family and bring your friends!

Give your kitchen a night off and come enjoy fellowship
with your church family.

DINNER WILL BE SERVED; PLEASE BRING A BOTTLE OF
WINE OR OTHER BEVERAGE TO SHARE.

\$5 PER PERSON; NO CHARGE FOR KIDS 8 AND UNDER.

We'll be tying blankets for the UCSF Pediatric Department
and have some activities for the kids, too.

Look forward to seeing you there!



Harvest Luncheon

Sunday November 11th

Fellowship Hall


Immediately Following Divine Liturgy

Traditional Turkey Dinner

Adults		\$15.00
Students	13-18	\$10.00
Students	5-12	\$5.00

Proceeds to Benefit the
Philanthropic Work of Philoptochos

Community Retreat
November 2 - 4, 2012
Location - Nativity of Christ Campus



Retreat Master
Reverend Father Nicholas Triantafilou
 President, Hellenic College & Holy Cross
 Greek Orthodox School of Theology

A Nativity Parish Retreat
focused on the development of
the Body of Christ

God's House to Your House

We eagerly anticipate the Reverend Father Nicholas Triantafilou's visit to our parish on November 2-4. **Saturday, November 3**, Father Nicholas will lead a parish retreat on developing the relationship between God's House & your house, as substantive nourishment on the journey of faith.

Retreat details:

- Saturday, November 3rd
- 10:00 am - Welcome & Registration
- 10:30 am - Discussion #1
- 12 noon - light lunch & break
- 1:00 pm - Discussion #2
- 2:30 pm - Closing

All are welcome to participate in this day of spiritual edification and growth at Nativity of Christ. This retreat is being hosted by the Nativity parish. Any and all donations and free-will offerings will be accepted to support the continuance of such ministries.

Let us praise the all-lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, who is also our support and succour and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now doth ask great mercy for us all.

Apolytikion of St. Katherine

O friends of martyrs, now divinely raise up a renewed chorus, praising the all-wise Katherine. For she proclaimed Christ in the arena, trampled on the serpent, and spat upon the knowledge of the orators.

Kontakion of St. Katherine

Lenten Acolyte Robes

With the generous sponsorship of John and Susan Stockton, our Nativity altar boys, together with the entire community have been enjoying our new altar robes. In addition to the beautiful gold robes that the boys have been wearing each Sunday, we also have new robes for the Lenten seasons of the liturgical year. Beginning with the Nativity Lent (November 15-December 24) the altar boys will wear these beautiful burgundy robes -- glorifying God with beautiful vestments, through their service to the Lord!

If you are interested in sponsoring an ecclesiastical item, or experience in the Sanctuary at Nativity, please contact Father Luke to discuss current and future needs.

The Akathist to the Nativity of Jesus Christ

This relatively short service of the Church teaches a great deal about the Nativity of Christ through poetic representation and song. During the Nativity Lenten period, we will be praying this Akathist on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm, before the 6 pm Orthodoxy 101 class begins. All are encouraged to pray this blessed service with us as we prepare for our parish feast day, and all are encouraged to stay for continued exploration of the faith in Orthodoxy 101.



St. Katherine
The Great Martyr of Alexandria
November 25



It's Cookbook Time!!!!

We've been talking about it forever, and your Philoptochos has decided the time is right to create a new cookbook to join our very successful *Greek Cookery* which was originally published more than thirty years ago.

We will need lots of help, including but definitely not limited to, recipe submissions, recipe testers, text layout, cover design, graphics, photography, writing and editing, marketing and publicity, sales and advertising, computer input, proofreading and copy editing. So there's a job for everybody!

This is a chance for the entire Parish community to get involved with another piece of our history. Hope you can join us for our first meeting. Your expertise is invaluable to the success of this project. We welcome **EVERYONE**, especially if you worked on the first book. Hope to see you there!

Saturday, October 27, 2012
10:00 a.m. - Small Hall

For more information, please contact
Cathy Selmi
cathyselmi@gmail.com
415.246.1760



NATIVITY OF CHRIST

C H U R C H C A L E N D A R

NOVEMBER

2 0 1 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 7th Sunday of Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow • Baptism 2:00 pm	29 Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow • Baptism 2:00 pm	30 • Bible Study 10:00 am	31 • Orthodoxy 101 6:00 pm	1 Sts. Cosmas & Damianos, the Holy Unmercenaries Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	2 Parish Development Weekend Retreat Nov. 2-4	3 Daylight Savings Time Ends Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour on Sunday, Nov. 4
4 5th Sunday of Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow Religious Education Open House Youth Religious Education Teachers Meeting 11:30-12:30 • IOCC Dinner in Castro Valley	5 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow	6 • Bible Study 10:00 am • Philoptochos Board 6:30 P.m.	7 • Greek School 4:00-5:45 pm • Folk Dance Practice • Orthodoxy 101 6:00 pm • GOYA 7:00 pm	8 Archangels Michael & Gabriel Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	9 St. Nektarios the Wonderworker Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Parish Social 6:00 pm	10
11 18th Sunday of Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow Annual Philoptochos Harvest Luncheon	12 Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow	13 St. John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Bible Study following Liturgy • Parish Council Meeting 7:30 pm	14 • Greek School 4:00-5:45 pm • Akathist Hymn to the Nativity of Christ 5:30 pm • Folk Dance Practice • Orthodoxy 101 6:00 pm • GOYA 7:00 pm	15 Nativity Fast Begins	16	17
18 9th Sunday of Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow Fall Parish Assembly Meeting	19 Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Rel. Ed. classes follow Fall Parish Assembly Meeting	20 • Bible Study 10:00 am	21 The Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Akathist Hymn to the Nativity of Christ 5:30 pm	22	23	24 • Wedding 3:30
25 13th Sunday of Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Baptism 3:00	26 Luke Divine Liturgy 9:30 am • Baptism 3:00	27 Fr. Luke will be attending the National Clergy Retreat in Los Angeles November 27-29	28 • Greek School 4:00-5:45 pm • Folk Dance Practice • GOYA 7:00 pm	29	30 St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	Dec. 1 • BAPSEF Luncheon Holy Cross-Belmont

Serving the Church as a Member of the Parish Council

The following excerpts from the Uniform Parish Regulations and other pertinent material from our Archdiocese, offer us the guidelines necessary in determining qualified candidates for service on the Parish Council of our parish. Please bear them in mind as you consider nominating a fellow parishioner or offering your own name in nomination.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE PARISH

"The aims and purposes of the Parish are to keep, practice, and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled."

"The diakonia (ministry) of the Parish will include proclaiming and teaching the Gospel in accordance with the Orthodox Faith; sanctifying the faithful through God's grace in worship, the Divine Liturgy, and the other sacraments; enhancing its parishioners spiritual life; and adding to the numbers of the faithful by receiving persons into the Church through instruction, baptism, and/or chrismation. In addition, the Parish shall establish educational and philanthropic activities to foster the aims and mission of the Parish and to edify its parishioners in the Faith and ethos of the Church. The Parish shall also engage in such inter-Orthodox, ecumenical, and interfaith activities as are consistent with the policies of the Archdiocese."

(Uniform Parish Regulations, Part Three, Article 15, Sections 2 and 4)

PARISHIONERS

"Orthodox theology teaches that the Church is the Body of Christ (I Cor. 12:12-31). The characteristic of a healthy body is that every member performs its own function for the good of the whole. However, unity does not mean uniformity, and therefore within the Church there are differing gifts and differing functions. Every one of them is a gift of the same Spirit and designed, not for the glory of the individual members, but for the good of the whole.

"It is correct that the voice of the laity be heard in the Church. However, there must be a clear understanding of roles, prerogatives and limits. Only believing and worshipping lay persons should be permitted to assist in the governing of the Church; nominal and uninformed Christians should at all costs be excluded from governing roles."

(From the "Report to His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos Concerning the Future Theological Agenda of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese")

"Every person who is baptized and chrismated according to the rites of the Orthodox Church is a parishioner. The religious, moral, and social duties of a parishioner are to apply the tenets of the Orthodox Faith to his/her life and to: adhere to and live according to the tenets of the Orthodox Faith; faithfully attend the Divine Liturgy and other worship services; participate regularly in the sacraments; respect all ecclesiastical authority and all governing bodies of the Church; be obedient in matters of the Faith, practice and ecclesiastical order; contribute towards the progress of the Church's sacred mission; and be an effective witness and example of the Orthodox Faith and Traditions to all people."

(Uniform Parish Regulations, Part Three, Article 18, Section 1)

WHAT IS A PARISH COUNCIL?

"A Parish Council is a body of practicing Orthodox Christians sacramentally in good standing with the Church, elected by the members of a parish for the purpose of working together with the priest in fulfilling the goals and needs of that parish. This brief description of a local governing body also describes the fundamental structure of the Orthodox Church. That is, that we, as clergy and laity together, are the "People of God", seeking, to the best of our human capabilities, and with the grace of God, to fulfill the mission entrusted to us by our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ."

(Welcome to the Parish Council, A Guidebook for Parish Council Members)

DUTIES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

"The members of the Parish Council shall attend the Divine Liturgy regularly and participate in the sacramental life of the Church, thereby setting an example for the Parishioners."

(Uniform Parish Regulations, Part Three, Article 29, Section 1)

ELECTIONS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

"A candidate for the Parish Council must be a member of the Parish for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the election, and must live his or her life in accordance with the Faith and canons of the Church."

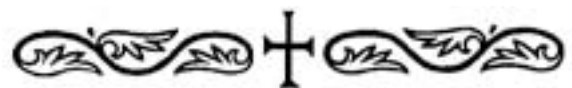
"All candidates shall attend a seminar conducted by the priest, prior to the election, at which the priest shall discuss and explain to the candidates the Uniform Parish Regulations, and the significance of the affirmation of office. At the conclusion of the seminar all candidates must sign a statement acknowledging that they understand the Regulations and will abide by them and the affirmation of office. If a candidate for the Parish Council does not attend a seminar and sign the statement, his/her name shall be deleted from the list of candidates."

(Uniform Parish Regulations, Part Three, Article 25, Sections 2 and 3)

PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING NOTICE

Parish Assembly Meeting Sunday, November 18, following the Divine Liturgy and Religious Education classes. A complete nomination form and agenda are included on page 11 and page 12.

Before nominating or considering accepting nomination for service on the Parish Council, please read thoughtfully the foregoing guidelines set down by our Church and Archdiocese.





Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church
 1110 Highland Drive • Novato, CA 94949 • (415) 883-1998

NOMINATION FORM

The enclosed nomination form is sent to you for the purpose of nominating and/or placing your name into nomination for service on the Parish Council beginning January 2013. **All eligible nominees are required by the Uniform Parish Regulations to attend a Parish Council Seminar before their name can be placed on the ballot. Those unwilling to attend will be ineligible to run.**

Members of the parish eligible to nominate and/or to be nominated, and/or to place their names in nomination, are all men and women of the parish **who are practicing Orthodox Christians, sacramentally in good standing with the Church, and who have fulfilled, or are current with, their pledge for 2012. In accordance with our Parish By-Laws, to be considered current with their pledge, members must have paid a total amount on their pledge which is at least equal to one-twelfth (1/12) of their annual pledge times the number of months passed in the current calendar year. Also, to be eligible to vote at the assembly, members must have submitted their completed pledge card 30 days prior to the day of the parish assembly. In addition, those eligible to be nominated are parishioners who apply the tenets of the Orthodox Faith to their life and activities and attend the Divine Liturgy faithfully on Sundays.**

DO NOT nominate the following members of the Parish Council. Their term of service on the council extends through 2013.

- Fran Corcoran
- George Gigounas
- Rose Hunter
- George Kokalis
- Steve Rouman
- Chris Siefkas

I wish to nominate the following members of our parish to serve on the Parish Council:

1. _____ 2. _____

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

All nomination forms must be submitted on, or before, Sunday, November 18, 2012. You may mail them or leave them at the church office.





Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church
1110 Highland Drive • Novato, CA 94949 • (415) 883-1998
PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2012

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Election of Parish Assembly Chairman.
3. Approval of minutes of last Parish Assembly Meeting.
4. Parish Ministries Reports:
 - A. Philoptochos
 - B. Youth Religious Education
 - C. Choir
 - D. HOPE/JOY
 - E. GOYA
 - F. Folk Dance
 - G. Greek School
5. Ministry Budget Report
 - A. Presentation and adoption of 2013 Proposed Ministry Budget.
6. Maintenance and repair status report.
7. Financial Stewardship Report - 2012
 - A. 2013 Stewardship Drive
8. Additional Parish Council Nominations from the floor
9. Selection of Election Committee
"The Board of Elections shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members elected at a Regular Parish Assembly within the same year as the election from among those who are not candidates for election to the Parish Council. Immediate family members of candidates and incumbent Parish Council members are not eligible to serve on the Board of Elections." (Part Three, Article 32, Section 1)
10. Announcements from the Chair
11. Adjournment.
12. Closing Prayer

Whatever your task, work heartily, as serving the Lord and not man, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, by which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:23-24, 12-17



Save The Date!



It's been a long time since we've had a fancy dinner dance, so what better occasion to have an elegant evening than "Valentine's Day"? Will include a catered dinner and live music to make your evening complete.



Saturday, February 2, 2013

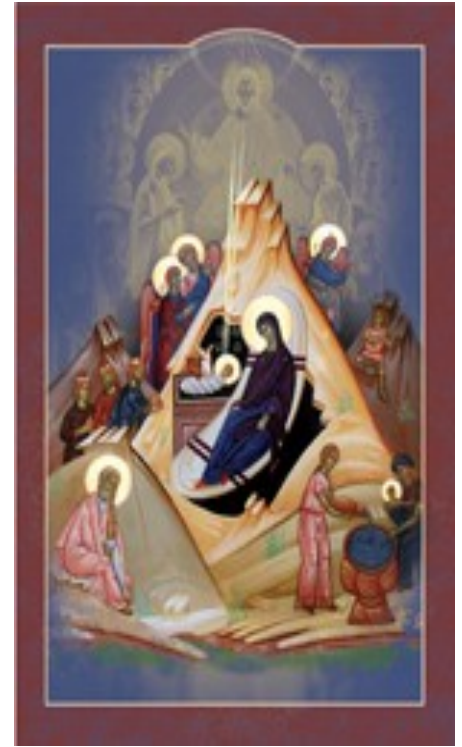
Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Christian Church

2012 Community Christmas Card

We are once again producing a Community Christmas Card to spread the good news and greetings of Christ's birth to families, individuals and friends throughout our community.

The proceeds of this card will benefit the RCA (Retired Clergy Association) Benevolence Fund. This group is made up of Retired Clergy and widowed Presbyteres who are currently receiving very minimal or no monthly pensions. A check will be mailed to the RCA during the holiday season.

We are requesting a ***minimum donation of \$20.00*** to include your name in the 2012 Community Christmas Card. Please send your response form to the Church Office, Attn: Karen Keller, **by November 25, 2012.**



Please encourage family members & friends to participate.

Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Please indicate how you would like your name to appear in the Community Christmas Card:

I have enclosed my donation of: \$ _____

Deadline—November 25, 2012

Please Make Checks Payable to : Philoptochos Society

Sacraments and Rites

Baptisms

September 29 **Zoe Maria**, daughter of Manoli and Demetra Kosmas Fanourgiakis. Sponsors were Christopher Doukakis and Maria Georgiou.

October 7 **Cecilia-Jean Hallinan**, daughter of Andrew and Megin Morris. Sponsor was Ted Morris.

October 13 **Zoe Eaton**, daughter of George and Katerina Pulis. Sponsors were Tom & Panayiota Makris.

"As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Funeral

October 25 **Charles Patrinnellis**

Our sincere condolences to Poppy and the entire Patrinnellis family on the passing of Charles. May our Lord give them comfort.

"May his memory be eternal."



Memorals

September 30 **George Pantazes**

October 7 **Lela Perivolaris**

October 14 **Athanasius Demetrios Lagios; Michael John Hontalas and Elias Hontalas**

October 23 Deceased members of the family of Victor & Tina Gavallos

The Christmas Advent Season Begins November 15

The Coming of The Lord

For forty days the Church seeks to prepare us for the true meaning of Christmas. Most of us need time to prepare for special events. It takes time to plan for a trip, a vacation, for entering college, for a baptism or a wedding. We need time to anticipate, to prepare for the practical aspects, to think about their significance for us. With adequate preparation we enjoy these events much more.

During the liturgical year the Church has several periods of preparation prior to great feast days. The first such period begins on November 15, the Christmas Fast, which is not as strict as Great Lent prior to Easter. For forty days we anticipate and prepare for the coming (Advent) of Christ into the world and into our lives. How will you prepare for Christmas this year?

Some Practical Advice

As part of your preparation for Christmas, resolve to give closer



attention to the Word of God by reading, for example, one chapter a day from the Gospels for the Forty-Day Advent Season. You might read the Gospels of Mark and Luke, which together have forty chapters. Getting to know more about the life of Christ will make you appreciate more deeply the significance of His coming, which we celebrate on Christmas.

In your daily prayers include thanksgiving for the Lord's coming, invite Him to be at the center of your life and let your heart leap for joy as you meditate on God's gift of His Son to the world.

Make attendance at the Divine Liturgy a priority.

Participate in the Sacrament of Penance (Confession), and through repentance, prayer, and fasting renew your commitment to Christ in preparation to receive Him in Holy Communion.





Nativity of Christ
Greek Orthodox Church
1110 Highland Dr., Novato, CA 94949

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*Archangels Michael
and Gabriel
Chief Commanders of God;
ministers of divine glory;
guides for men and lead-
ership of the Incorporeal;
as Chief Commanders of
the Incorporeal, plead
for our welfare and for
great mercy.*

Kontakion
Tone 2