

# THE DOVE



## The Ascension

The time had come for the Lord to bid farewell to His disciples. The day before this feast is the last day we say, "Christos Anesti," Christ is Risen. The Ascension marks the end of Christ's resurrection appearances. The Ascension was a miracle, a supernatural event, for Christ ascended into Heaven to be seated at His Father's Right hand, for now He has authority over Heaven and Earth. He brings His human nature and unites it with the Kingdom of God. It must have been an incredible event, for the disciples stood and watched with amazement, for they see their Master rise into the air disappearing into the skies. Seeing the Lord disappear must have been frightening to them, but the disciples knew that He would be with them through the Holy Spirit. This same Christ, who lived with the disciples, who died and was buried, and who rose from the dead, loves us and promises to be with us always. No, we may not see Him physically, but we could get to know the Lord better through the studying of the scriptures, praying, coming to Church, and by allowing the Holy Spirit to immerse in our hearts. His Ascension means a lot to us because we now know that Christ is in Heaven, alive, listening to our prayers and comforting us when times are tough, "Lo, I am with you always." Christ promised His disciples that He would send them the Holy Spirit, who would give them the strength, the courage, and guidance necessary to accomplish their missionary objectives. Today, this same Holy Spirit is available to

all us if we enable the Spirit to enter our lives through prayer. This same Holy Spirit can change lives as it changed the lives of so many when Christ was here on earth, for if we allow this Spirit to enter our lives then we may someday "ascend" into Heaven with Christ. The Fathers of the Church, the Saints, and the Prophets of old received gift of the Kingdom of Heaven because they allowed this same Holy Spirit to permeate their hearts and minds, and because of this Spirit, they performed miraculous deeds because of faith. We chant at the midnight Holy Resurrection Service, "The Angels in Heaven praise your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior. Make us also here on earth worthy, to glorify you with pure hearts." In order for us to ascend into Heaven, we can become worthy and pure in heart through repentance, a change of heart, and by seeking forgiveness from God and from others. Remember Noah in the Old Testament, he himself was loved by God and his life and his family were spared from the Great Flood because he was the only one on earth who had any faith. Many of us can be spared from the flood of sin and hate if we allow the Holy Spirit to engulf our lives. At Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles in the form of "Tongues of Fire" filled them with a burning desire to proclaim the Gospel. In order for us to receive God's most greatest gift, eternal life, we must have a burning desire to reach out, to love others, to come to church, to love the faith, and to love God. Let us now "Ascend" to new heights!

### Parish Council

*President*

Mr. Chris Rongos

*Vice-President*

Mr. Dimitri Gogos

*Treasurer*

Ms. Maria Katsis

*Asst. Treasurer*

Mr. Greg Doublas

*Secretary*

Mrs. Deanna Gountras

*Asst. Secretary*

Mrs. Souldana Myers

*Council Members*

Mr. George Gogos

Miss Antonia Printzos

Mr. Chris Ioannou

Mrs. Trish Poursanidis

Mr. Tony Zannis

Mr. George Raptis

*When the devil  
can't make you  
bad, he makes  
you busy.*



## Theodosia of Constantinople (Friday, May 29th, 2009)

Four centuries after Theodosia of Tyre was martyred, she appeared in a vision to a childless woman who was praying to give birth. St. Theodosia told her that she would give birth to a child and her name would be Theodosia. She was dedicated to God and given to live in the Monastery of the Resurrection in Constantinople at an early age. She grew up to be a devout nun. When her parents died, she was left with great wealth, and she spent her money on gold icons, one of Christ, one of the Theotokos, and one of St. Theodosia. The rest of her wealth, she gave to the poor. When the iconoclastic period intensified, when icons were being destroyed and outlawed, Theodosia

became an activist. She led a demonstration to the city gates where a city leader was on a ladder about to remove an icon of Christ. The group surged forward, toppling the ladder and killing the leader. For this, many were tortured, in fact the monks involved were beaten for eight months. Theodosia then led a group of women against the pseudo-patriarch Anastasios, who had been given the office by Leo to replace the deposed Patriarch Germanos. They stoned Anastasios, and again many were beheaded. Theodosia was martyred by stabbing on the same day as St. Theodosia four centuries earlier.

## Memorial Day

On Monday, May 25th, 2009, we will observe Memorial Day, an important and sacred American Holiday dedicated to our departed loved ones. Father Paul will be away on Memorial Day to come to the cemetery. However, Father Paul will be able to come to the cemetery to offer prayers on Friday, May 29th, 2009. As is customary, Father Paul will visit

Lindenwood Cemetery from 8:00AM to 11:00AM as well as Greenlawn Cemetery from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. Let us remember our departed relatives and friends not only with flowers and plants, but also with our presence and prayers. Let us pray according to the customs, practice, and teachings of our Orthodox Faith for the repose of their souls.

### Ushers for this month

*Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>*  
Deanna Goutras  
Toni Printzos

*Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>*  
Tony Zannis  
George Raptis

*Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>*  
Dimitri Gogos  
Chris Rongos

*Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>*  
Trish Poursanidis  
Soutana Myers

## New Church Directory

We are still scheduling picture sessions for the new directory and have many time slots available for yours! Dates and hours are Thursday and Friday, May 14 and 15th, from 2:30PM to 9:00PM, Saturday, May 16th, from 10:30AM to 5:00PM. We will be making appointments through Tuesday,

May 12th, 2009, so be sure to call the Church at 489-0774 between 10:00AM and 3:00PM to schedule yours. In addition, you can sign up after Church Services during the Coffee Hour on Sunday, May 10th, 2009. It would be wonderful if we could get "All" parishioners included!

## President's Corner by Chris Rongos

Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen! Spring has sprung upon us and let us continue to thank God for such a glorious Lenten season when we are reminded of his purpose for coming into the world to save our souls.

It's official, Spring has arrived. The call went out and the response was phenomenal. Our Spring General Assembly went very well. I was so pleased with the attendance. Many issues needed to be addressed and the community support was overwhelming. I'd like to thank El Maggos for referring Star Financial Back to help the church satisfy our financial needs. We were able to save the church a substantial amount of money by refinancing our mortgage.

During Lent our Young Adults were honored to have our Detroit Diocese Youth Director, Eva Kokkinos, facilitate a Retreat. Over 100 people attended and lunch was graciously provided by Cindy and Niko Pliastos. Palm Sunday was also a very spiritual day. Our own Tony Zannis, Dance Director, along with his wife Zoe, organized a Fish Luncheon. The purpose for the dinner was to raise funds for new

dance costumes. With over 200 people in attendance, it definitely exceeded expectations, and confirmed the decision to place the large order for over 90 childrens costumes. Holy Week was a moving, spiritual time for everyone. With the church decorated with Palms onto the exquisite Epitaphio, the warmth and spirit was felt by everyone. Thank you to Theodora Harmon for donating the Easter Candle. George Tricolos was also gracious to donate the Sunrise Breakfast. God Bless you and your families! I applaud Theodore and Tammy Toscos for donating their time and effort for another successful Easter Egg Hunt this year. The children had a great time! Thank you to all Board Members for making the Pascha Season a success. Above all, I thank Father Paul for his strength during this very Holy Season.

Our Ladies Philoptochos is working very hard preparing for the festival. If you are able, please help whenever possible. These women and their tedious work are the backbone of our festival.

In closing... Our festival is FAST approaching...**please volunteer!!!**  
Sign up sheets will be posted soon...

## Ahepa Corner

If you are graduating from High School or College, please come to the Ahepa Scholarship Luncheon on Sunday, May 17th, 2009 following Divine Liturgy. Even if

your name has not been submitted for a scholarship, please attend anyway! The graduating students may attend for free! (See flyer in back for details).

## Daughters of Penelope Corner

Arrangements are being made for the Annual District Convention in Orland Park, Illinois on June 5th, and 6th. If you are planning on attending this event, please let Toni Printzos know as soon as possible. Next Daughters of Penelope meeting is Thursday, May 14th, 2009 at 7:00PM at the Church.

A Reminder- there are still a few sisters who have not submitted their dues of \$35.00. Please give cash or check to Fran Foster. You can mail dues to her at 8924 Snowgoose Lane, Fort Wayne, IN., 46825.

### Alter Boys for this month

*Sunday, May 10th, 2009*

**"The Galatians"**

Co-Captains:

Yanni Boutaris &

Bayden Lee,

Demetrios Lee

*Sunday, May 17th, 2009*

**"The Corinthians"**

Co-Captains:

George Hatzigeorgiou &

Panagiotis Pliastos, Sam

Bourounis, Christos

Nakos Joshua Bebis,

and Anthony Fourgas.

*Sunday, May 24th, 2009*

**NO SERVICES**

*Sunday, May 31st, 2009*

**"The Colossians,"**

Co-Captains:

William Fliotics, &

Michael Fliotics, Alex

Bond, and Nick Bond

### Alter Boy Retreat

*Saturday, June 6th, 2009*

1:00PM to 3:00PM

at Holy Trinity

Food and refreshments  
will be served.

**Volunteers needed!**

*Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Kourambiethes"

Please come to Holy Trinity  
at 9:00AM

**Liturgical Calendar**

Friday, May 8th, 2009  
"The Feast of St. John the  
Evangelist"  
Orthros, 8:30AM  
Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Sunday, May 10th, 2009  
"The Sunday of the  
Paralytic"  
Orthros, 9:00AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

Wednesday, May 13th, 2009  
"The Feast of Mid-  
Pentecost"  
Orthros, 8:30AM  
Divine Liturgy, 9:00AM

Sunday, May 17th, 2009  
"The Sunday of the  
Samaritan"  
Orthros, 9:00AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM.

Sunday, May 24th, 2009  
**Father Paul will be away.  
The Church will be open  
for prayer.**

Thursday, May 28th, 2009  
"The Ascension"  
Orthros, 8:30AM  
Divine Liturgy 9:00AM

Sunday, May 31st, 2009  
"Fathers of the First  
Ecumenical Council"  
Orthros, 9:00AM  
Divine Liturgy, 10:00AM

**Philoptochos Corner**

"Christos Anesti!" We hope everyone had a happy and springing Easter!!!! The Philoptochos would like to thank all the GOYANS and the ladies for making the Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday. Special thanks to Tony Zannis, the director of the Greek Dancers for organizing the lunch that day. It was great! Also, special thanks to the ladies and the children of our church for helping to decorate the Epitaphion for Good Friday and for the Anastasi Service. Our Church was very festive for our Easter. Thanks to all the parishioners for donating monies for the Lilies and the Epitaphion Flowers. To Frita Gogos, may God bless you for donating the wreath for the cross on Holy Thursday evening. Currently, thanks to our ladies so far for making the baklava, the tiropites and the spanakopites for the Greek

Festival. Special thanks to George Kaplanis for working hard all day to help us prepare the spanakopites. Sweeping and cleaning the kitchen was very much appreciated. God bless you and your family George! The Philoptochos held the elections for the new board members at our general Philoptochos meeting on May 5th, 2009. God Bless to all of us with health, strength, and motivation to accomplish our obligations and duties so we can continue our philanthropic activities of our organization. We still need lots of help from the ladies making the rest of the sweets for the Greek Festival. Please come and help. Father will announce on Sundays all the working dates. Thanks again,"  
- Elly Schmidt,  
President of the Ladies Philoptochos

**GOYA Corner**

Greetings from GOYA! The next and the last GOYA Meeting of the year will be Saturday, June 13th, 2009. We will be organizing a car wash fundraiser earlier in the day on Saturday, June 13th, 2009. After the fundraiser car wash, we will have a year-end meeting and BBQ at my home for all GOYA Members. I will be providing details to GOYA Members over the next couple of weeks. I want to thank again everyone who has donated time and money over the past year to make this a successful and fun year for the GOYA. We also will be playing 6 VS 6, outdoor soccer at the Plex this summer. I want to thank Trish and Bobby Poursanidis for the discount that will allow us to play. I hope that we get as many GOYANS to sign up to

play as possible. We look forward to doing some more fundraisers and coming up with new and fun things for the GOYA to do in the Fall. Recently, I created a new EMAIL account for the GOYA, which is fortwaynegoya@gmail.com. I also have created a FACEBOOK profile simply called FORT WAYNE GOYA. This will allow all GOYANS to add this page to their face book friends. This page will be full of updates and information and pictures from events and fundraisers that the GOYA attends. Again, if anyone who has a youth who would like to join GOYA, or if anyone would like to donate to the GOYA Fund, please contact me at 260-341-4458. Thank you.

## Ο Άγιος Τιμόθεος και η Αγία Μαύρα

ο Άγιος Τιμόθεος και η σύζυγός του Αγία Μαύρα ήταν μία αγιασμένη οικογένεια, που ζούσε σε κάποιο μικρό χωριό της Θηβαίδος, στην Αίγυπτο, κατά το δεύτερο ήμισυ του 3ου αιώνα μ.Χ.

ο Άγιος Τιμόθεος ξεχώριζε από τους άλλους συμπολίτες του για την μεγάλη ευσέβειά του και την επίδοση που είχε στα ιερά γράμματα. Τους τα διάβαζε στο σπίτι του ή στην εκκλησία και ξεδιψούσε τις ψυχές τους με το θάνατο νερό του λόγου του Θεού.

Επιβραβεύοντας αυτό το ζήλο του, ο Επίσκοπος της Θηβαίδος τον χειροθέτησε αναγνώστη, τοποθετώντας τον έτσι στο προστάδιο των κληρικών. Όμως, αντί εκείνου του σταδίου, η Θεία Πρόνοια τον εισήγαγε σε ένα άλλο. Στο υψηλότερο από όλα, δηλαδή στην κορυφή του Γολγοθά, που είναι στολισμένη από τον Σταυρό του Χριστού.

Εκείνο ακριβώς τον καιρό, δεν είχαν περάσει ούτε είκοσι ημέρες που ο Τιμόθεος είχε νυμφευθεί τη Μαύρα, ενώ όλοι χαιρόνταν για τον αρμονικό αυτό γάμο, κάποιοι φθονεροί χωρικοί τους διέβαλαν στον ειδωλόατρη ηγεμόνα της Θηβαίδος, Αρριανό. ο Αρριανός διέταξε τον Άγιο Τιμόθεο να παρουσιασθεί ενώπιόν του. Τον ανέκρινε. Και βλέποντας την ακλόνητη πίστη του, πρόσταξε να τον φυλακίσουν και να τον βασανίσουν, με την ελπίδα πως θα του συνέτριβε το φρόνημα. Μάταιος κόπος.

Σαν είδε πως δεν μπορούσε με τίποτα να αλλάξει την πίστη του Μάρτυρος, ο τύρανος σκέφθηκε να φέρουν τη γυναίκα του, Μαύρα, περιμένοντας πως εκείνη με τα καλοπιόσματά της, θα τον λυγίσει. Όταν η Αγία Μαύρα παρουσιάστηκε μπροστά στον ηγεμόνα, εκείνος της είπε: «Άκουσα, Μαύρα, πως δεν πέρασαν ούτε είκοσι

ημέρες που στεφανώθηκες τον άνδρα σου. Τα λεμονάνθια είναι ακόμα δροσερά στα νέα και όμορφα κεφάλια σας και είναι κρίμα να σταθεί η πίστη του εμπόδιο στο να χαρείτε τη ζωή μαζί. Πήγαινε λοιπόν, όπως είσαι στολισμένη, να τον πείσεις να έλθει στα λόγια μου και να θυσιάσει στα είδωλα».

Η Αγία Μαύρα υποσχέθηκε να επισκεφθεί στη φυλακή τον σύζυγό της και να του μιλήσει. Πήγε όμως, όχι να τον βγάλει από την πίστη, αλλά να τον στηρίξει σε αυτήν και να στηριχθεί και η ίδια από τα λόγια του, για όσα έμελλε και εκείνη, ύστερα από λίγο, να υποφέρει για την δόξα του Χριστού. Γυρίζει λοιπόν στον ηγεμόνα και ομολογεί πως και αυτή είναι Χριστιανή, έτοιμη να μαρτυρήσει. ο Αρριανός έγινε έξαλλος. Δίνει εντολή να βασανίσουν την Αγία με φρικώδη βασανιστήρια. Αλλά η Μάρτυς πέρασε όλες τις φρικτές δοκιμασίες με απόητο θάρρος.

Στο τέλος, ο μιαρός Αρριανός προστάζει να καρφώσουν σε σταυρούς τον Τιμόθεο και την Μαύρα. Τους σταύρωσαν τον ένα δίπλα στον άλλο, για να είναι ο πόνος τους μοιός. Αλλά και εσταυρωμένοι οι δύο νεαροί σύζυγοι, οι Άγιοι Τιμόθεος και Μαύρα, αντικριστά επάνω στα ξύλα, ευχαριστούσαν τον Θεό, που τους αξίωνε να έχουν τέλος της επίγειας ζωής τους όμοιο με εκείνο του Υιού Του. Έτσι, λοιπόν, πάνω στον σταυρό παρέδωσαν στον Κύριο τις αγνές τους ψυχές και εισήλθαν στη βασιλεία του Θεού.

Απολυτίκιο. Ἦχος δ'Ο Ταχύ προκατάλαβε. Ως ζεύγος ομόζυγον, και ξυνωρίς θαυμαστή, Τιμόθεε πάνσοφε, και Μαύρα νύμφη Χριστού, ενθέως ηθλήσατε, σύμμορφοι γαρ οφθέντες, των παθών του Κυρίου, δόξης ακατάλυτου, ηξιώθητε άμφω, πρεσβεύοντες τω Σωτήρι, υπέρ των ψυχών ημών.

### Baking Schedule for Greek Fest

*Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Kourambiethes"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity

*Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Koulourakia"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity

*Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Melomecarona"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity

*Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>*  
"The Paximadia"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity.

*Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Kataifi"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity.

*Thursday and Friday,  
June 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>*  
"Bake Baklava"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity

*Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>*  
"The Karidopita"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity

*Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
"Cut/Syrup – the  
Baklava, Kataifi, and  
Karidopita"  
9:00AM at Holy Trinity.

*Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>*  
"Make combos, and  
set up for Festival"  
9:00AM

**Make Syrup** – Early in  
June.

### Sunday School Schedule for this month

*Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>*  
"Sunday of the Paralytic"

*Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>*  
"Sunday of the Samaritan"

*Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>*  
"No Sunday School,"  
Father Paul is away.

*Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>*  
"The First Ecumenical  
Council."



## Sunday School Commencement

Commencement Exercises: will be held on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 following Divine Liturgy for all students of our Sunday School classes. No classes will be held on this day.

They will receive certificates of attendance and a small gift. Parents are asked to bring their children and to be present also in the ceremonies.

## Vacation Bible School ... Save the Dates!

Vacation Bible School at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church! Bring your Children!

Please sign up on Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 between 8:30AM to 9:00AM.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>.  
From 9:00AM to 11:30AM.

Volunteers are needed! Please see Father Paul. More information will be forthcoming!

## Successful Pascha Canned Food Drive

Thank you to all of the families and children who donated canned food and money for the Community Harvest Food Bank during this year's Egg

Hunt. We were able to donate four large boxes of food and over \$40 in cash to the organization because of your generosity. Great job!

## Meeting Calendar

Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
"The Book Club,"  
following Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
"The Daughters of Penelope,"  
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
"The Parish Council,"  
at Holy Trinity, 7:30PM.

Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009  
"The Ahepa,"  
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
"The Fundraising Committee,"  
at Holy Trinity, 7:00PM.

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009  
"The Sunday School Teachers,"  
following Divine Liturgy.

### Youth Retreat!

*Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

See flyer in the back for  
more information.

### Greek School Celebration!

*Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009*  
End of Year Celebration for  
Greek School

6:00PM at Holy Trinity!!



**Note:** Father Paul will be  
away from Monday, May  
18<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>,  
2009.