GLAD TIDINGS

“Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.” Luke 2:10

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

146 West Utica Street | Buffalo, NY 14222-2085
716.882.9485 (24 Hours) | 716.886.9151 fax | www.greekorthodoxchurchbuffalo.org

NOVEMBER 2019 · VOL 51/NO 8
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Fr. Christos B. Christakis

Designer
Jennifer Gogos

Contributing Photographers
Presvytera Lisa Christakis, Nick Malamas
In the name of the Triune God, and with the blessing and guidance of our Churches, the International Commission for Anglican–Orthodox Theological Dialogue met in Canterbury, England from October 10 - 17, 2019 to continue consideration of ecology and end-of-life issues. The meeting was hosted by The Very Rev. Robert Willis, Dean of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Canterbury, on behalf of the Anglican Communion. The Commission is deeply grateful to the Dean for his generous and warm hospitality.

As ever, the Commission’s work was undergirded by daily prayer and worship. The Commission attended the Sunday Eucharist at Canterbury Cathedral, and the celebration of the Orthodox Divine Liturgy at the parish of the Archangel Michael, Margate, presided over by His Eminence Metropolitan Athenagoras of Belgium, Co-Chairman of the Commission. On this occasion Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain (Ecumenical Patriarchate) made his first visit to the parish and greeted members of the Commission. The Archbishop generously hosted a lunch, provided by the parish community and Archimandrite Vissarion Kokliotis.

Visits were made to holy and historic sites, including a tour of St Augustine’s Abbey and the ancient church of St Martin, and to the Cathedral archives and library, and the Eastbridge Hospital. One of the highlights of the Commission’s meeting was a meditative candlelit walk of prayer led by the Dean around the Cathedral, including the site of the martyrdom of St. Thomas Becket.

The Commission completed its work on issues surrounding the environment and ecology according to principles established in its agreed statement, In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology (Buffalo 2015). The text of a statement, entitled Stewards of Creation – A Hope-Filled Ecology, was finalized and will be prepared for publication as part of a projected series. Further consideration was then given to the proposed statement on the end of human life, now provisionally entitled Good Dying: the Christian Approach to Life and Death. This work will continue at the Commission’s next meeting in October 2020 hosted by the Church of Greece.
Members of the Commission present at the meeting:
The Most Rev. Dr Richard Clarke of Armagh
Anglican Co-Chairman

His Eminence Metropolitan Athenagoras of Belgium
Ecumenical Patriarchate
Orthodox Co-Chairman

Representatives of the Orthodox Church
His Eminence Metropolitan Serafim of Zimbabwe
Patriarchate of Alexandria

The Rev. Fr. Jonathan A. Hemmings
Patriarchate of Antioch

The Very Rev. Professor Dr. Protopresbyter George Dion Dragas
Patriarchate of Jerusalem

Professor Dr. Bogdan Lubardic
Patriarchate of Serbia

His Eminence Metropolitan Nifon of Târgovişte
Patriarchate of Romania

The Very Rev. Professor Dr. Protopresbyter Giorgi Zviadadze
Patriarchate of Georgia

His Eminence Chrysostomos, former Metropolitan of Kition
Church of Cyprus

Emeritus Professor Dr. Miltiadis Konstantinou
Church of Greece

Professor Nathan Hoppe
Church of Albania

The Very Rev. Dr. Protopresbyter Christos B. Christakis
Ecumenical Patriarchate
Co-Secretary

Representatives of the Anglican Communion
The Most Rev. Dr. Phillip Aspinall
The Anglican Church of Australia

The Rt. Rev. Dr Humberto Maiztegui Gonçalves
The Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil

FAMILY LIFE CENTER DIRECTOR AND PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Nick Malamas

A quick note to our teens. Thank you for participating, when you can, for attending church and Sunday School. For helping and caring about our community. For growing in your friendships and in Christ. We’re blessed by having you in our lives.

Upcoming events. Please share!

• 11/3 GOYA Youth Service, Thanksgiving placemat project.
• 11/9 Church Gala
• 11/8-10 GOYA Basketball Holiday Hoops Tourney, Sterling Heights Michigan
• 11/11 GOYA Movie Day. 1:00-5:00
• 11/15, 6:30 PM. GOYA, Youth Rock Climbing. We’ll all meet there. https://centralrockgym.com/buffalo/
• 11/29-30 Greek Heritage Night, Cleveland Cavs vs. The Greek Freak and the Milwaukee Bucks. Cleveland, OH
• 12/8 Youth Sunday, Ice Cream Social with the Annunciation Seniors. Designing Christmas cards to send to local Veterans.
ITEMS THAT WILL BE COVERED BY THE STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION GRANT
Family Life Center, Buffalo, NY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORK AREA</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapel:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Floor (2070 sq. ft)</td>
<td>30,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iconostasis</td>
<td>58,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Wooden Structure ($51,100.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>*6 Hand-painted Icons for Iconostasis ($7,800)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pews</td>
<td>19,440.00</td>
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<td>*For Laity</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Chandeliers</td>
<td>27,940.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>*2 Side Chandeliers ($14,440.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Central Chandelier ($13,500.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Ceremonial Tables</td>
<td>2,100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Side Rooms off of Altar need to be completed</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shipping Cost from Greece to the Family Life Center</td>
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<td>*For all the Chapel items, including Installation</td>
<td>150,280.00</td>
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<td><strong>Kitchen:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Floor (733 sq. ft.)</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
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<td>Kitchen Wall</td>
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<td>Hoods/Exhaust Fans/Intake Fans with Heated Air, Ansol System</td>
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<td>Walk-In Cooler/Freezer</td>
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<td>Stainless Steel Shelving</td>
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<td>90,600.00</td>
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<td><strong>Storage Room (by Kitchen):</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Floor (958 sq. ft.)</td>
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<td>Shelving for Dry Goods and Paper Goods</td>
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<td><strong>Outside Patio:</strong></td>
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<td>3-Bay Sink and Counter</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
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<td>2,500.00</td>
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<td><strong>Outside Grounds:</strong></td>
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<td>100,000 sq. ft. of Blacktop Topcoat for Parking Lots and Driveway</td>
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<td>*Includes Striping, Sealing, and all necessary Signage</td>
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<td>Seeding and Grading for Proper Drainage</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscaping</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
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<td>*Trees, Shrubs, Landscaping Beds: Around Building &amp; Front Circle Area</td>
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<td>Illuminated Street Pole Sign</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
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<td>Dumpster Area</td>
<td>7,500.00</td>
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<td>*Concrete Pad and Fencing</td>
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<td>182,500.00</td>
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<td><strong>Plumbing:</strong></td>
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<td>60,000.00</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total:</strong></td>
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ITEMS AVAILABLE TO BE PURCHASED BY PARISHIONERS

HOLY CROSS CHAPEL at the FAMILY LIFE CENTER

1) **Holy Gospel** – Gold-plated copper, with embossed representations inspired from the Holy Bible. The inside text is the bilingual Holy Cross edition. Price: $1,080  **DONATED!**

2) **Holy Apostle** – Gold- and silver-plated copper with embossed drawings and representations of SS. Peter & Paul and St. Andrew. The background is deep red velvet. Price: $375

3) **Zeon** – Gold- and silver-plated copper with embossed drawings of twigs in excellent handicraft. Price: $410

4) **Holy Myron** – Gold-plated copper, with an embossed drawing. For the security of the Holy Myron there is an internal glass ampule with plastic lid. It is accompanied by special pair of stainless safety scissors with rounded ends. Price: $400

5) **Sprinkler** – Gold- and silver-plated copper with embossed twig drawings. Price: $205

6) **Sanctification Cross** – Gold- and silver-plated copper, with handmade perforated and engraved drawings. The center has a plastic cross with representations. Price: $210

7) **Cherubim Set** – Gold- and silver-plated cast brass with embossed representations. Price: $675  **DONATED!**

8) **Chalice Set** – Gold- and silver-plated copper, with embossed Vines drawings. The upper part of the cup is from sterling silver and inox (stainless steel) the front part of the spoon. Price: $1,520

9) **Presanctified Gifts Box** – Gold- and silver-plated copper and brass. At all five sides are embossed representations of Christ, Cherubims, etc. Price: $305

10) **Tabernacle** – Gold- and silver-plated copper and brass. All six perimetrical sides have embossed Hexapteryga, Crosses and Vines drawings. Price: $1,400

11) **Censer** – Gold- and silver-plated copper, with embossed vines drawings. Price: $235

12) **Blessing Cross** – Gold- and silver-plated copper, with embossed representations on both sides. Price: $460

13) **Candlesticks** – Gold- and silver-plated copper, with handmade embossed twig drawings. Price: $410/pair

14) **Sanctuary Lamps** – Gold-plated copper with handmade embossed drawings of vines and three Peacocks for brackets. Accompanied with electrified deep red colored glass cup. Price: $1,320/6 pieces

15) **Vigil Lamps** – Gold-plated copper with handmade embossed drawings. It is accompanied by deep red colored glass cup. Price: $330/2 pieces

16) **Holy Week Censers** – Gold-plated copper with handmade embossed drawings. Price: $270

17) **Candlestick for the Resurrection** – With three Dragons and cast Representation of Resurrection. Gold plated with 24k and local silver plate. Price: $200

18) **Holy Cross Tray with Blessing Cross** – The Tray is made of bronze and has engraved designs, silver plated candle holders and a special gold - silver plated base for the Cross in the middle, with embossed designs. Price: $440

19) **Candlestick for Blessing the Bread** – Gold and silver-plated copper and brass with engraved twig drawings and three ampoules. Price: $220

20) **Holy Bread Holder** – Chrome-plated brass, for unlimited resistance in the time. The lid and the base have handmade engraved drawings of vines. Price: $600/2 pieces

21) **Base for Torches and Censers** – Chrome plated brass. It allocates 2 hooks, at both sides, for censers, two receptions for suspension torches as well as two containers for charcoals and incense. Price: $605

22) **Holy Water Font** – Copper and chrome plated for unlimited resistance in the time. It does not need tin ware. It has embossed designs of Vines and Crosses. The bottom of the cup has a valve for evacuation of water. Price: $385

23) **Baptismal Font** – Solid handmade forged copper-and chrome-plated for unlimited resistance. It has inlaid solid cross at the cup. Accompanied by a base with 4 wheels. Price: $2,070

24) **Chalice Set Covers** – Ornated with gold embroidered flower drawings, on excellent quality (super fine) German velvet material. Included are the cover for the Chalice, the cover for the Diskarion and the Aeras. Price: $585
25) **Corridor Carpet** – Corridor carpet, heat set quality, with 600,000 bonds. **Price: $405**
26) **Round Carpet** – Round carpet, heat set quality, with 600,000 bonds. **Price: $420**
27) **Holy Altar Carpet Set** – 3 pieces, heat set quality, with 600,000 bonds. **Price: $310/set**
28) **Children’s Robes** – Brocade material with the Orarion. **Price: $1,585/6 sets**
29) **Holy Prothesis** – Hand-carved Prothesis in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $4,730 with the cabinet**
30) **Holy Altar Table** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $11,880**
31) **Armchair** – Hand-carved Armchair for the Altar in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $2,090/2 pieces**
32) **Candle Stand for Votive Glasses** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $4,180**
33) **Candle Stand for Candles and Votive Glasses** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $6,270**
34) **Candle Stand for Lit Candles** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $5,390**
35) **Icon Stand (daily)** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $1,235**
36) **Icon Stand** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $11,550/2 pieces**
37) **Bishop’s Throne** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $3,655**
38) **Chanter’s Seats with Analoy** – 2 seats for chanters and the Analoy. Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $4,510**
39) **Gospel’s Analoy** – Hand-carved in Byzantine style, from dry basswood and varnished in natural chestnut wood color. **Price: $1,210**
40) **Hand-Painted Icon** – Hand-painted Icon of Christ on Throne, with gold leaf for background (24k). **Price: $1,430**

**All above items include Shipping and Handling Costs**

**DONATED!**

**KITCHEN**

1) **Double Convection Oven Stacked** – **Price: $11,000**
2) **1 Fryer** – **Price: $2,500**
3) **6-Burner Stove and Oven** – **Price: $2,500**
4) **Ice Machine** – **Price: $10,000**
5) **Commercial Dishwasher with Drainage Board and Pre-Rinse Board** – **Price: $10,000**
6) **12’ x 4’ Stainless Steel Prep Table with Cutting Board** – **Price: $2,000**
7) **48” Flat-Top Griddle** – **Price: $5,000**
8) **2 of the 3-Bay Compartment Stainless Steel Sinks with Drain Boards** – **Price: $2,000**
9) **2 Upright Food Warmers** – **Price: $5,000**
10) **Commercial Slicer** – **Price: $4,500**
11) **Commercial Hobart Mixer** – **Price: $13,000**
12) **Pots, Pans, Utensils** – **Price: $2,000**

**OUTSIDE PATIO**

1) **Outdoor Patio Furniture** – **Price: $10,000 - 10 Sets of Tables, Chairs, Umbrellas**
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Family Life Center

DONATION/COMMITMENT for ECCLESIASTICAL ITEMS

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

City: ____________________ State: ________________ Zip: __________

Cell Phone: ____________________ Email: ____________________

A) I would like to select, as a donation, the following item(s) for the Family Life Center:

1) Item Name: ____________________________________________
   Item Number: ____________________________________________
   Item Price: ____________________________________________

2) Item Name: ____________________________________________
   Item Number: ____________________________________________
   Item Price: ____________________________________________
   Total Donation: $________

B) Select the following Payment Plan:

1) $__________ Total Enclosed (Check payable to the Family Life Center)

2) $__________ 50% Deposit Enclosed

3) $__________ Balance to be Paid By: ____________ (Date)

C) For the Family Life Center Donation Book:

1) ___ I wish my donation to be in memory of: _____________________________

2) ___ I wish my donation to be for the health of: _____________________________

D) Your Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: ____________

------------------------------------------------------------------------

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED BY: ____________________ DATE: ____________

TOTAL PAID: ____________________ CHECK NUMBER: ________

NOTE: To Secure Your Donation you must do the following:

1) Call the Church Office at (716) 882-9485 and Communicate your Intention

2) Please Complete this Form and Submit it to the Church Office

3) You will then Receive a Confirmation that your Donation has been Received

4) You must follow this process, otherwise we cannot guarantee that your donation will be honored

5) No text or verbal commitment to Fr. Christos or any Committee Member will be honored unless this form is completed

6) If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mary Danakas at (716) 912-8300 (she does not text)
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD

For a minimum donation of $20, you can send your best wishes for a wonderful Christmas holiday from you as a family unit, or as an individual, to all our parish families and friends.

**Deadline: December 1, 2019**

Please complete the form below and return it to the church office, along with your donation. Also, a table will be set up in the Demakos Community Center to collect forms/donations during the fellowship hour on Sundays in November.

*Sponsored by the Youth Council*

---

**Community Christmas Card 2019**

Name: _____________________________________________

(Clearly PRINT exactly as you wish your name(s) to appear on the card)

Amount Enclosed: $ __________

☐ Cash  ☐ Check

*Please make checks payable to HOCA Youth Council*
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>NOVEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy at W. Utica</td>
<td>- Youth Choir</td>
<td>- Veterans Day</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sunday School</td>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>- Office Closed</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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<td>- Youth decorating placemats for Orthodox Action Thanksgiving Dinner</td>
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<td>- 10:00am-1:00pm - Orthodox Action Soup Kitchen</td>
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<td>- 6:00pm - Church Gala at The Columns</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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<td>- 10:00am-1:00pm - Orthodox Action Soup Kitchen</td>
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<td>- Greek School Bake Sale</td>
<td>- Greek School Bake Sale</td>
<td>- Greek School Bake Sale</td>
<td>- Greek School Bake Sale</td>
<td>- 6:00pm - Church Gala at The Columns</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>- Philoptochos Baking</td>
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<td>Entrance of The Theotokos into the Temple</td>
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<td>- Sunday School</td>
<td>- Philoptochos Baking</td>
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<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy at W. Utica</td>
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<td>- 7:00pm - Bible Study at FLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>- 12:00pm-3:00pm - Orthodox Action Thanksgiving Dinner Prep</td>
<td>- 11:00am-3:00pm - Orthodox Action Thanksgiving Dinner Prep</td>
<td>- 11:00am-3:00pm - Orthodox Action Thanksgiving Dinner Prep</td>
<td>- 10:30am-1:00pm - Orthodox Action Thanksgiving Dinner Prep</td>
<td>- St. Andrew</td>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy at FLC</td>
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<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy - Sunday School</td>
<td>- 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy - Sunday School</td>
<td>- 7:00pm - Children’s Hospital Service of Remembrance</td>
<td>- 7:00pm - Bible Study at FLC</td>
<td>- St. Nicholas - 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy at W. Utica</td>
<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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<td>- Youth Sunday - 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy - Sunday School</td>
<td>- Philoptochos Baking</td>
<td>- St. Spyridon - 9/10:00am Matins/ Divine Liturgy at W. Utica - 7:00pm - Bible Study at FLC</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC - 10:00am-1:00pm - Orthodox Action Soup Kitchen</td>
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<td>- Philoptochos Baking</td>
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<td>- 10:30am - Greek School at FLC</td>
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**RE-ACTIVATION OF AHEPA CHAPTER #91**

We are excited to announce that there is an effort to re-activate the historic AHEPA Chapter # 91 of Buffalo (founded in 1926). All those interested in joining this AHEPA Chapter and becoming a member of the oldest and largest international Hellenic-American organization please contact Steve Eoannou at 716-431-3071 or seoannou@hotmail.com

**WINTER IS COMING!**

With the arrival of inclement weather, we would like to inform you of the following:

*If Church services should be cancelled, it will be announced on:*

- WKWB-TV Channel 7  
- WGRZ-TV Channel 2  
- WBEN 9:30 AM Radio

*If it is not announced on television or radio, church or Sunday school has NOT been cancelled.*

For the latest calendar update, please visit www.greekorthodoxchurchbuffalo.org/calendar
**ORTHODOX ACTION**

*Maria Kosmas-Papafagos*

“Share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless and poor into your house.” Isaiah 58:7

---

Thanksgiving and Christmas will soon be here. We are having our **13th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner** on Thursday November 28. We are preparing to serve 600 meals and I am reaching out for assistance. It always seems to run seamlessly, but to do so it requires many helping hands. It is a busy time of year for everyone, but if you have the opportunity to volunteer your time, or make a donation, it will be greatly appreciated. There is an overwhelming need for help in our community; it is a true blessing to be able to offer a wonderful holiday meal for those hungry and/or in need of fellowship. See the flier on the following page for details.

Donations for turkeys can be dropped off at Church during office hours during the week, and on Sundays. Monetary donations are always appreciated, and will go towards our meal.

**Christmas with the Vets**

We will again collect personal care items for the residents of **WNY Veterans Housing Coalition**. Located at W. Utica and Main Streets, it houses and helps disabled and homeless veterans.

---

Each week from October 20 - November 24th, we hope to collect 115 of each of the following items:

- Individually wrapped Bathroom Tissue and Paper Towels
- Disposable Razors and Shaving Cream
- Bars of Soap, Deodorant and Bottles of Shampoo
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Bottles of Laundry Detergent (128 oz) which will be purchased from Dollar General for $2 each

Please Note: We encourage you to bring in the above items; however, a donation of $10 will cover the cost of a gift bag and all of the items above.

For more information please call or text Carolyn Skaros 228-0001 or Alexandra Mastoras 907-1674.

May God see your good works and bless you abundantly.

---

**BIBLE STUDY**

**NOVEMBER 7, 14 & 21 AT 7:00PM**

**AT THE**

**ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

5992 Genesee St., Lancaster NY

Join Fr. Christos on Thursday evenings to learn about the Gospel of Mark, one of the earliest and more vivid eyewitness accounts of the words and deeds of Christ. Throughout the classes we will also talk about the faith and practice of the Orthodox Church.

**ADDITIONAL BIBLE STUDY DATES ARE:**

December 5 and 12
Orthodox Action invites you to help us as we host the

13th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner
Thursday, November 28th, 10:30 am-1:00 pm
in the Demakos Community Center for Buffalo's homeless and needy.

We will provide a hot, nutritious, delicious meal of turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, cranberry sauce, bread, butter, pie, coffee and juice.

Beginning Sunday, October 13th, donations will be collected in the Community Center. Help us feed 600 meals to our neighbors!

Your gift of $5.00 will provide a complete dinner.

Volunteers needed: Mon, Nov. 25th from 12 AM-3 PM;
Tues, Nov. 26th & Wed, Nov. 27th from 11 AM-3 PM
For food prep, turkey carving and room set-up.
ALSO: Thursday, November 28th (Thanksgiving Day!)
9:00 AM-1:30 PM & Sat, Nov 30th
10 AM-1 PM to help serve.

Text or Call to volunteer
Maria Kosmas-Papafagos
716-583-3929

YIA YIA'S ATTIC TREASURES

After a very successful 3 Days at GreekFest '19, our inventory is very low. We appreciate how generous the Church community has been and want you to know that we accept items all year round.

Please think of us when you are clearing items from your home.

You may bring clean, usable items to Church Monday through Friday from 10am to 3pm.

Thank you,
Mary Eyler, Ann Rossiter, Marge Manos
The teachers have been very busy preparing their lesson plans and excited to share with their students. We understand that students are also very busy with their regular school responsibilities as well as sports. But, it is very important that they make the time to come to Church and Sunday School. We are very happy to see our students come regularly to Church and Sunday School.

We will be decorating placemats for Orthodox Action’s Thanksgiving Dinner. It is a simple, but meaningful way to demonstrate love for our neighbors in need.

As Thanksgiving is fast approaching, we are very thankful for:

1) Fr. Christos, who guides the students and teachers closer to God.
2) Presvytera Lisa, who encourages students to come to Church, youth activities and takes the best pictures of all the special events.
3) Parents and relatives, who bring the youth to Sunday School.
4) All the staff, who prepare their special lessons every Sunday.
5) OUR STUDENTS, who help us see God’s Love in their hearts.
Our children are learning more about the hymns of their faith in their Sunday morning Church School classes. Dr. Vicki Pappas is teaching Hymnology to the elementary grades. They are learning the new music that appears in our new green Pew Hymnals and are preparing songs and hymns for the Christmas Pageant. Dr. George Marinides is teaching the middle and high school students “Hymnology and Theology” once a month.

There are three things that parents can do to assist the Church School in this endeavor:

• First, when you are in Church with your young child or teenager, help them to follow along the service in the new Hymnal. Encourage them to sing along.

• Second, on Youth Sundays, the Church School students sing! Support your children (grades 1st through 12th) to gather with the others in the front-left pews of the Church to sing or to serve as a reader or greeter. Youth Sunday is a day when we expect all children to participate in the service in some way.

• Third, on the Sundays when the Adult Choir is singing, our older elementary students and teens (Grades 3rd through 12th) have been invited to join the Adult Choir and sing along with them. Please encourage them to experience this “other” way of coming for Liturgy!

The following are the Youth Sunday dates – the SECOND Sunday of the month. Please mark your calendars:

- November 10th
- December 8th
- December 22nd (Christmas Pageant)
- January 12th
- February 9th
- March 8th
- April 12th
- May 10th

WANTED: ADVISORS FOR JUNIOR ORTHODOX YOUTH (JOY) & HOLY ORTHODOX PRIMARY EDUCATION (HOPE)

JOY & HOPE are ministries of the Church. JOY ministers to youth in grades 3rd – 6th while HOPE is for children, Kindergarten through 2nd grade. In our parish, these ministries are combined to form JOY/HOPE. The mission of JOY/HOPE is to strengthen the relationship of young Orthodox Christians with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is a spiritual ministry based on the theological tenets of the Orthodox Christian Faith.

JOY/HOPE integrates the following elements throughout the year: worship, fellowship and service. These tenants of JOY/HOPE are seen in their yearly events including: St. Timothy’s summer camp, Vacation Church School, monthly JOY/HOPE activities, retreats, outdoor activities, and other exciting events.

We need volunteers/advisors ASAP. Contact Nick Malamas, Youth Director, 716-374-4707.

ANNUNCIATION’S ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (OCF) COLLEGE OUTREACH PROJECT

Attention all parents of college students:

Annunciation’s Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) is the official campus ministry of Orthodox Christians in North America. New this year, we have a project whose goal is to keep in touch with our college youth, away at school or attending a local university. We will periodically send them goodies, gifts, cards... We want them to know that our Church Family is not far away and that we always have them in our prayers as they work on their life’s goals.

Please email this info to Nick Malamas our Youth Director.

*Student’s Full Name
*Student’s college mailing address
*Student’s cell phone number
*Student’s baptismal name and birthday

Please send this information asap so that we can set this program in motion to Nick at familylifedirector@gmail.com. Questions? Want to get involved? Nick’s cell is 716-374-4707.

OCF guides and supports fellowships on college campuses for Orthodox students and others interested in Orthodoxy. We experience Orthodox Christianity through community life, prayer, service to others and study of the Faith. (Acts 2:42)
I cannot believe that this month’s article is going to be about Christmas! Yes, it’s time to place your baked goods orders, come and help with Christmas baking, and start shopping for this year’s Christmas project. Here are the details.

On the opposite page is this year’s Order Form for baked goods. It also includes the Vasilopita from Holy Protection Monastery. Please... place your orders as early as possible! It makes scheduling and gift packaging so much easier to plan.

The Christmas baking dates are as follows: November 18, December 2, 9, & 16. Start times are at 10am, and lunch is always provided. Pick-up dates are Friday the 20th from 10-2, and on Sunday the 22nd after Liturgy.

Once again this year, we will be doing the Shoe Box project for this year’s chosen recipient, C.D.C. of Seneca Babcock. The kids’ lists are available, and the boxes will be due back to us by December 1st, as their last day of sessions is December 12th. This project is great, because your kids can help pick out the requested items, but beyond that, the recipients are SO very, very happy with everything they receive from you. Thank you for helping to make their Christmas a little more special.

Finally, the Women’s & Children’s Hospital Service of Remembrance will be held at our Church on Wednesday, December 4th. Please watch the weekly bulletin to see what kind of refreshments we will be serving this year, and how you can help out.

Greetings Hellenic Seniors, and all interested readers.

I have much to cover. Past news first – our September Luncheon Meeting, although attendance was low, proved to be extraordinary. Father Christos and Presvytera Lisa joined us for lunch. Not unusual, but this time very special for them and for us. It was their 25th Wedding Anniversary! Once again, Congratulations Father and Presvytera! How wonderful it was to have you share your Silver Anniversary with us!

My thanks to Pete Plumpis, Georgia Colis, Sophia Sykas, Mona Ticco and Kelie Morphis for bringing something to share; and to Mary Eyler, Rebecca Ribes and Nick Skaros for preparing the stuffed peppers, tomatoes and zucchini; and to all who set-up, served and cleaned-up. Thanks to +Marion Halstead’s daughter Liz Klein we had corn. How ironic that Liz brought us corn when this year we were serving stuffed peppers – the fare, +Marion, when president, traditionally served in September.

At our meeting we decided to hold our October 22nd meeting at the Family Life Center and have no November meeting. However, conflicts have made it necessary to hold our October meeting in the Demakos Center, 146 W. Utica St. Feedback from some members, make it necessary to reconsider a Tuesday, November 19th meeting at the Demakos Center. Look for that decision to be made at the October Luncheon meeting. Information regarding a November meeting will be in the Sunday, October 27th and early November Sunday Bulletins. We decided at the September meeting to once again do The Mitten Tree – so knitters and shoppers, donations of mittens, scarves, hats and gloves will be graciously accepted; placed on The Mitten Tree and given to the needy – thank you!

In my September Glad Tidings article I requested that you Save the Date, Tuesday, December 10th when our Annual Christmas Luncheon will take place at The Columns Banquet facility, 2021 Transit Road, Elma, NY – doors open at 11:30 AM.

In early November you will receive your invitation noting all the particulars for choosing an entrée, making a reservation and prepaying. We will have hors d’œuvres, entrées, desserts, Christmas cookies, door prizes and I’m sure we can invite the Adult Choir to lead us in Christmas Caroling! See you there!

I do hope you already joined us for the Tuesday, October 22nd luncheon which featured spaghetti with meat sauce, and we celebrated the August through December birthdays with cake and ice cream.

For now, a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to all members of our Church Family.
NAME _______________________________________________________
PAY AT PICK UP

PHONE ___________________________ Amount Due ___________ Ck #___________

**ANNUNCIATION PHILOPTOCHOS BUFFALO**
**CHRISTMAS BAKED GOODS SALE 2019**

Orders are being taken during Coffee Hours on Sunday, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24 and Dec. 1. Orders can also be mailed into the church office. Pick up orders Friday, December 20th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, or Sunday, December 22nd following Divine Liturgy.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baklava (24 pc.)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Koulourakia – Unseeded (1 doz.)</td>
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<td>Kourambiedes (1 doz.)</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<td>Vasilopita</td>
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**PLATTERS**

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<td>Koulourakia – Unseeded (3 doz.)</td>
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<td>Kourambiedes – (2 doz.)</td>
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**COMBO PLATTERS**

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<td>Combo #1 (Seeded) – 2 doz. Koulourakia &amp; 1 doz. Kourambiedes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combo #1 (Unseeded) – 2 doz. Koulourakia &amp; 1 doz. Kourambiedes</td>
<td>21.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combo #2 (Seeded) – 2 doz. Koulourakia, 1 doz. Kourambiedes, &amp; 8 pc. Baklava</td>
<td>31.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combo #2 (Unseeded) – 2 doz. Koulourakia, 1 doz. Kourambiedes, &amp; 8 pc. Baklava</td>
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**SELECT A PICK-UP DATE:** Fri 12/20 ________  Sun 12/22 ________

_Thank You_ for helping Women’s Philoptochos Committee help others through our fundraising efforts!
Our Adult Choir has been busy these past few months learning the new music that goes with our new Pew Hymnals. As Father Christos urged, we also encourage our parishioners to join in the singing of the hymns and become more active participants in the celebration of our beautiful Divine Liturgy.

We have also been recruiting new members - we welcome Scott Maclean and Ethel Enserro who are enjoying the blessings participating with the adult choir in the Divine Liturgy. If you are looking for a good place to offer your “time and talents,” we hope you will consider becoming a choir member. The benefits are great: learning more about your faith, understanding how the Divine Liturgy is structured and how the changes in the ecclesiastical calendar affects the hymns we sing, enjoying fellowship of an active and forward-thinking organization, feeling more “connected” to what’s going on in our services, and many more!

To sing with us, you don’t have to worry about reading music or knowing Greek – many of us are in the same boat, but the phonetics help us with the Greek and rehearsals teach us the melodies. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the 4th Floor Choir Room and we sing on the third and fourth Sundays of the month. Contact any choir member about joining.

We celebrated National Church Music Sunday on October 6th – it’s a day the Archdiocese sets aside to recognize the contributions of church musicians – our clergy, chanters, choir members, and young singers. All three of our choirs sang on that Sunday – Adult, Byzantine, and Youth. We thank Father Christos for his wonderful words about the beauty and deep meaning of our church music. The Adult Choir hosted a sumptuous Coffee Hour and we were grateful for the many “thank you’s” we received from members of the congregation. Afterwards, we all gathered a Vasilis’s for a celebratory brunch (pictured, at right).

Looking ahead, the choir will now turn to learning the special liturgical hymns for the Nativity season. They will also be preparing for participating in our Christmas Pageant and also brushing up on the Christmas carols for the holidays.

Last, we appreciate the following Memorial Gifts which were designated to the Adult Choir in memory of former choir members, family members, and friends:

- In Memory of †Maria Busmalis: Nicholas & Dorothy Karras
- In Memory of †Helen Curtis: John Melithoniotes
- In Memory of †Nicholas Curtis: Nicholas & Dorothy Karras
- In Memory of †Elia Mastor: Martha C. Speros, Polyxena Speros & Michael Panner, William & Amanda Speros and Children
- In Memory of †Hope Vallas: Nicholas & Dorothy Karras
- In Memory of †Barbara Veanes: John Melithoniotes

**JANUARY CONCERT**

The Adult Choir is organizing an evening at the Buffalo Philharmonic where one of Annunciation’s own, Maria Parker, has been invited to be the mezzo soprano soloist in a unique musical production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” with Felix Mendelson’s brilliant score. Our concert tickets will be for Sunday afternoon, January 19th at 2:00 pm. Stay tuned for more information – choir members will have tickets to sell at a 15% discount. Make your plans now so we have a good-sized group from Annunciation to support Maria in this exciting concert and performance.
So we are members of the body of Christ. We read in the gospels that the Lord believed in his word, expected his coming, and received even circumcision in the flesh to seal their belonging to him, that they are members of this chosen people of God. And the Lord came, and, as I said, he perfected a body, and from then on he has descendants, not ancestors: descendants. We are his descendants. And in the same way as the ancestors of the Lord received circumcision as a seal of their belonging to the people of God, so the New Israel, through baptism, receives the circumcision of the heart, the circumcision that is not made by the hand of man but by the Spirit of God.

In the same way, it's the seal that all these people of the New Israel, the members of the body of the Church, they belong to the Lord. They believed and they loved his appearing in the flesh, and they expect his coming again in the last day. Of course, this belonging to the Lord and bearing the circumcision, the spiritual circumcision of the heart is accompanied with the consolation of the Lord. You know, the God of the Christians, as we read in the Scriptures, is the Father of mercy and God of every consolation, and the only way to relate with this God is to approach him with a contrite spirit, a humble heart.

I remember an elder saying, “You want to know God? It is very easy. Just approach him with a painful heart, and it’s easy to relate with him, with a contrite and humble heart.” And it’s easy to relate to him and with him and receive his incorruptible consolation. And this incorruptible consolation overshadows the life of the members of this body. When this consolation abounds in the life, it brings the end of the world to them and to us the ends of the world have come, says St. Paul. That is to say, the members of this body, they live in an eschatological way. Like the Lord suffered for their sake outside of the camp of this world, they also come out of the camp of this world, renouncing all the vanity, the futility of this world, the values of this world, the illusions of this world, and the greatest illusion of this world is to want to make compatible the love of God with the love of the world. The love the world is enmity to God, says the Scripture.

So the true members of the body of Christ, they live continually in the presence of God, overshadowed with the incorruptible consolation of his Spirit, and they hasten to his second coming. They do not just simply wait for the second coming, but they hasten to the second coming, because of the great consolation that abounds in their life.

I say these things because, for us who are priests and have received in the Church the ministry of reconciliation of people with God, it’s very important. We are not just the celebrants of sacraments; we are not magicians. Forgive me for this exaggerated word. We are not just celebrants of sacraments. Of course, the sacraments are holy, and the Lord is present in them, but above all we are comforters of souls. God has given us such a grace, and he wants from us to be comforters of souls. But how can we be comforters of souls? Simply by entering the presence of the living God. Every time we approach this living God with a contrite heart and a humble spirit, we enter his presence, and coming out of this presence of the living God we find ready words in our hearts which we are ready to transmit to our fellows, words that will impart grace to them, words which will inform their hearts with grace and gain them for the Lord, and be co-workers with God for their regeneration.

(To be continued).
BE ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE FAMILY CENTER!

We thank the following 47 parishioners who have donated and have become the founders of the Family Life Center. The Capital Campaign Committee would like to conclude this opportunity as soon as possible.

There are only 3 spots left! Become one of the Founders!

As of 10/25/19 the following made a donation and belong to the Founders. Our goal is to reach 50 of our parishioners who will make this offering to the Church.

Apostolos and Eleni Apostolopoulos
The Aronis Family
George and Niki Bechakas
Terry and Stella Bechakas
Nikolaos and Jean Botsoglou
Nicholas and Priscilla Candiliotis
Brian, Lea and Dominic Cervi
Fr. Christos and Presvytera Lisa Christakis
Dean and Georgia Colis
Sotiros and Joanne Gogos
Dr. George Danakas and Dr. Maria Corigliano
Mary Danakas
Connie Danakas Hofert
The Demakos Family
Gerald and Thalia Greenan III
Peter and Michele Hiczewski
The Katholos Family
In memory of Theodore Katholos
The Konstantopoulos Family
Milton and Sophia Koutsandreas
Al and Fotini Koutsandreas
Paul and Donna Kouvoutsakis
+ Anastasios and Theologia Kukuliatas
Michael Likoudis
In memory of Andrea Georgeades Migliore
John and Suzanne Moshides
In memory of Mary C. Pappas
In memory of Mina A. Callas
In memory of Androniki Georgeades
The Marinides Children
Patrick and Joanne Markey
In memory of
Vlasios and Josephine Papadopoulos
The +Michael and Niki Pappas Family
George and Julie Peppes
Vasilis Peppes
The Rossiter & Perdicas Family
Larry and Tammy Schiavi
In Memory of George Scouras
+George and Chrissoula Scouras
John and Jane Semertzides
George and Lorraine Toufexis
+John and Tina Tzimas
Michael and Niki Varvakis
Angelo Veanes
David and Niki Watson
Women’s Philoptochos Committee

FAMILY LIFE CENTER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building/Room</th>
<th>Sq. Ft.</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapel</td>
<td>2,074</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>This donation will allow to name the chapel after a saint in honor of a loved one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONATED!</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- A great opportunity for individuals or families!
- Name a space in honor of or in memory of a loved one!
- A permanent commemorative plaque will be placed at the entrance of each space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building/Room</th>
<th>Sq. Ft.</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellenic Room</td>
<td>1,079</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library/Gift Shop</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Room</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen</td>
<td>1,079</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father’s Office</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Office</td>
<td>170</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Room</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobby</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONATED!</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The following is an updated list of parishioners who have donated to the Lancaster Campus Project so far. (This list does not include the parishioners who donated a total of $500,000 for the land alone).

Platinum: $100k-$500k
Alkis and Fotini Koutsandreas
Milton and Sophia Koutsandreas
Paul and Donna Kouvoutsakis
Marge Manos
George Marinides & Andrea Manyon

Gold: $50,000-$99,999
Lambros Apostolopoulos
Mary Danakas

Silver: $25,000-$49,999
Eleftheria Boubaris
Tom Jousma and Ellene Phufas
Gust E. Tassy Family
Angelo Veanes

Bronze: $5,000-$24,999
Anonymous
Alex and Tina Anas
Nikolaos and Jean Botsoglou
Brian and Lea Cervi
Panos Georgiadis
Barbara Gianiodis
Peter and Michele Hiczewski
Dean and Beth Mellas
George and Lorraine Toufexis
Women Philoptochos Committee

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