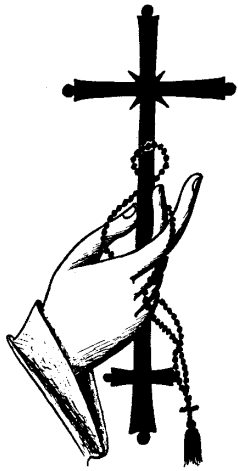
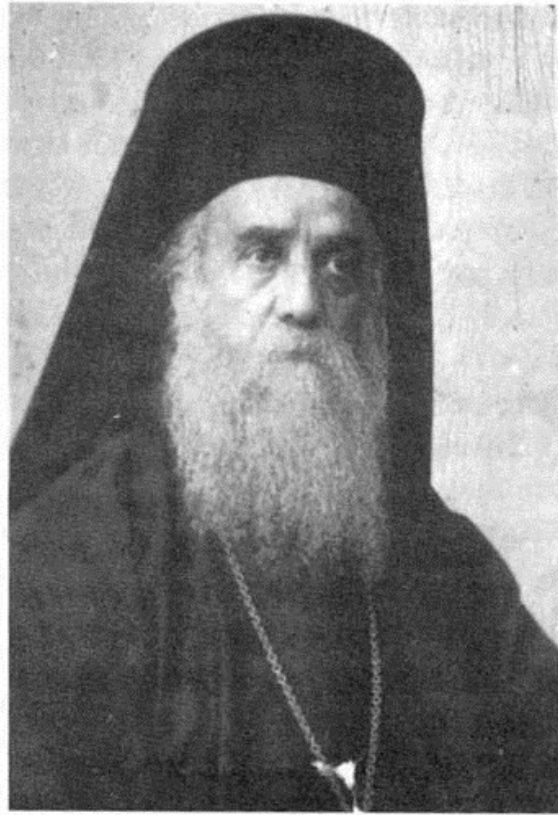


# THE VOICE



A MINISTRY OF FAITH,  
PRAYER, AND HEALING



REPENTANCE AND

FORGIVENESS



Forgiveness is to be *reconciled* with Christ and all mankind. St. Matthew tells us:

But I say to you that every one who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be *reconciled* to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison; truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny" (emphasis added) (Matthew 5: 22-26). This involves an active behavioral effort toward

reconciliation.

**Repentance: The Condition for Forgiveness**

When someone who offends God or us they must repent. God, and we in imitation of Him, should embrace the repentant sinner with God's own love, in order to forgive him. We have to pray that we or anyone who has offended us or God, be *reconciled* to God and to us through His Church. The foundation of this repentance is a sense of his unfaithfulness to God and offense to us, contrition of heart, and determination to amend and have a *metanoia*, a fundamental change of mind and heart so as not to offend again.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SAINT NECTARIOS CHURCH AND SHRINE OF COVINA

# ***THE VOICE***

**APRIL—MAY 2011**

**Rev. Fr. Constantinos Douvikas, Priest**

**PARISH COUNCIL 2011**

**President: George Gofas**

**Vice President: Pantelis Magaziotis**

**Recording Secretary: Helen Polychroniou**

**Treasurer: Mary Yaffa Iacobsohn**

**Assistant Treasurer: Carolyn Bushnell**

**Other Members: Andriana Bonorris, Paul Bonorris, Michael Frentzos,  
John Karagias, Yeprem Katsikian, Xenophon Langis, Panikos Leonidas, George Varelas**

## **PARISH PROGRAMS**

**CLASS ON THE ORTHODOX FAITH: WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 PM**

**BIBLE DISCUSSION STUDY GROUP: TO BE SCHEDULED**

**PARAKLISIS SERVICE TO ST. NECTARIOS: WEDNESDAYS 7:00 PM**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: SEPTEMBER TO JUNE EACH YEAR**

**SUNDAY CATECHISM SCHOOL: EVERY SUNDAY, FOLLOWING HOLY COMMUNION**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**ALTAR BOYS: EACH BOY SERVES IN THE ALTAR ON THEIR SCHEDULED TEAM (SEE BELOW)**

**ARMENIAN PRAYER SERVICE: SUNDAYS 12:00 TO 1:30 PM**

**(EXCEPT THE FIRST SUNDAY) FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY**

**GREEK SCHOOL CLASSES: MONDAYS 4:30-7:00 PM, TUESDAYS 5-7:00 PM,  
WEDNESDAYS 4:30-6:00 PM, THURSDAYS 5-8:00 PM, SATURDAYS 10AM—12 NOON**

**GREEK DANCE: WEDNESDAYS 7:00 PM (*FLOYES*),**

**SATURDAYS 11:00 AM (*KLEFTOPOULA*), 1:00 PM (*AEGINA*)**

**YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL WEDNESDAYS 6:00 PM**

**YOUTH P.T.A. MEETINGS: FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**G.O.Y.A. - AS SCHEDULED**

**ST. NECTARIOS “YOUNG AT HEART” – THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**

## **ALTAR BOYS (ACOLYTE) TEAMS**

**TEAM A:** *John Schrader, Vasilis Magaziotis, James Herzog, Max Pollalis, Dean Papatheodorou*

**TEAM B:** *Petros Stavrinidis, George Douvikas, Basil Reynolds, George Gofas, Basil Fasoulis, Spiros Kavathas*

**TEAM C:** *Costa Gofas, Jake Waddell, Alex Mejia, Spiros Thanopoulos, Vasillis Boukas, Christos Boukas*

**Visit our Web Site at: *www.Saintnectarios.org***

## ON THE WAY TO THE PASSION . . .

My dear brethren,

As we approach the end of the Great and Holy 40 days of Lent and as Holy Week nears, we are obliged to follow the footprints of the Bridegroom Christ on the way to His Passion. We should continue our valiant struggle that began at the beginning of Lent, “crucifying the old person within us with its evil ways and sinful thoughts.”

In this spiritual struggle our succor and strength is our Holy Orthodox Church with its Holy Sacraments and its spiritual, melodic, and compunctious services.

Imperative for all of us is our presence and participation in the Holy Services. These include the Presanctified Liturgies, the Salutations of the Virgin Mary, the Great Canon and the services of Holy Week

Only in this way, can we too suffer along with Christ the ANazarene during His Holy Passion and be risen up along with Him on the Feast of the Pascha.

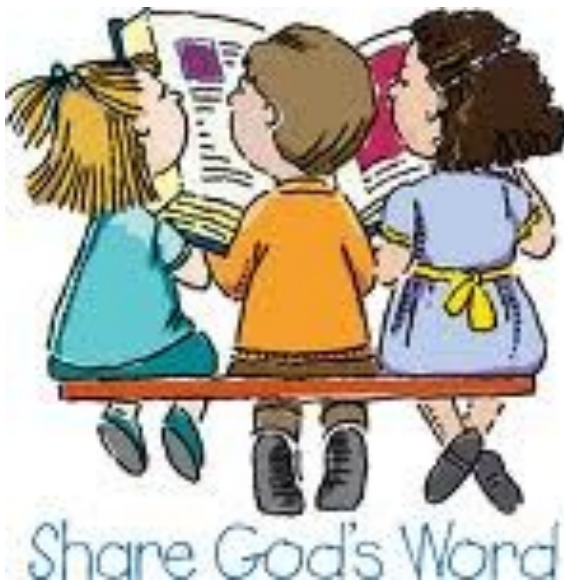
May the Crucified and Risen Christ, who for us men and for our salvation came down upon this earth to make us worthy to feel His Love and His beneficence, so that we may truly celebrate His Passion and His glorious Resurrection.

With Christ's Love,  
Father Konstantinos



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*Sunday 11:15 A.M. in the St. Nectarios Hall*



*Sunday School is the kind of school which gives a kind of opportunity to get acquainted with the truth, our faith, and Christ, and also, to discuss fundamental issues of life. Sunday School for our children is as necessary as the air they breathe. In such a challenging time when our kids are “bombarded” with violent “role models”, in a society that promises much but delivers little, and finally, where many dangers are lurking. Our parish and society’s future is in our children’s hands. We have an obligation as parents to lead them and teach them according to God’s will. Otherwise, others will get the opportunity to drive them to disaster or to unwanted situations, to say the least.*

### **ΤΟ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ**

*Το Κατηχητικό Σχολείο είναι το σχολείο εκείνο που δίνει την ευκαιρία στο παιδί να γνωρίσει την αλήθεια, την πίστη μας στον Χριστό μας και να προβληματισθεί στα μεγάλα θέματα της ζωής. Είναι αναγκαίο όσο η αναπνοή του ανθρώπου. Είναι απαραίτητο περισσότερο από κάθε εποχή και μαάλιστα <<εν μέσω γενεάς σκοτίας και διεστραμμένης>> σε μια κοινωνία που έχει και υποσχεται πολλά, σε μια κοινωνία που παραμονεύουν χιλιάδες κινδύνοι..*

*Το μέλλον της εκκλησίας μας και της κοινωνίας μας είναι τα παιδιά μας. Έχουμε υποχρέωση να τα καθοδηγήσουμε και να τα διδάξουμε σύμφωνα με το θέλημα του Θεού, πριν άλλοι παραγοντες τα οδηγήσουν στον όλεθρο και την καταστροφή.*



**- ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL -  
YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN ABOUT OUR  
LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST AND HIS TEACH-  
INGS. THE CHURCH HAS SOMETHING FOR YOU  
THAT YOU CAN'T GET ELSEWHERE.**

# GREEK SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULES

Valentina Stavrinides—Director



Greek classes are open to everyone who wishes to learn the Greek language, culture and traditions of our Greek heritage. Below are the schedule of classes currently in session. If you or your children would like to attend any of the classes listed, please contact the Director, Valentina Stavrinides at 626-914-7514 (home) or 626-485-8283 (cell phone). We have classes for adults and children, levels K through level 7. The students of the Greek class also present two Greek programs during the year which include the March 25th Greek Independence Day celebration and the October 28th OXI Day celebration. If you have been with us over the past several years, you know that the students, under the very capable direction of Valentina Stavrinides, present a very informative and moving program. We hope that you all will make plans to attend these programs and give support to our Greek School. If you wish to register for classes, or want more information, fill out the form below and bring or mail to the church office.

Mondays: 4:30 to 7:00 PM (Level 4) 4:30 to 6:00 PM (Level K) 6:00 to 7:00 PM

Tuesdays: 5:00 to 7:00 PM (Level 1)

Wednesdays: 4:30 to 6:00 PM (Level 4)

Thursdays: 5:00 to 8:00 PM (Level K) 6:00 to 7:00 PM (Level 2) 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Saturdays: 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon (Level K-Level 7 and Adults)

**FOR REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION CALL: VALENTINA STAVRINIDES,  
DIRECTOR at 626-914-7514 (home) or 626-485-8283 (cell)**

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to register for Greek Classes

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like more information about classes

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



## STEWARDSHIP 2011

We thank the following individuals and families who have renewed their stewardship pledge to the church for 2011 and who have returned their signed stewardship commitment card. If you have misplaced your stewardship card they are available in the narthex of the church. God has blessed each of us with unique talents and abilities. For St. Nectarios to become all that it can be, we need your active participation in the life of the church. St. Nectarios also needs your financial support. Only by pledging a percentage of our annual income can St. Nectarios grow in ministry and spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Rev. & Presbytera Douvikas  
Alexandris, Bill and Chrisanthe  
Bageris, Jim  
Bakolas, Christos and Kiki  
Basaites, Effie  
Barrett, Thomas and Ann  
Blaszczak, Georgia  
Bogris, Katy  
Bonorris, George and Andriana  
Bonorris, Bill and Fotini  
Bushnell, Carolyn  
Delis, Pearl  
Delis, Nicholas and Stephanie  
Finley, Christopher and Chrisanthi  
Frentzos, Michael and Doris  
Gofas, George and Vassiliki  
Haniotis, Nick  
Iacobsohn, Mary Jaffa  
Ioannou, John and Erasmia  
Jacovides Jr, Trasos and Tammy  
Kades, Nick and Georgia  
Kafcalas, Ilias and Nada  
Kalivas, Stelios and Helen  
Kalivas, George and Pota  
Karagias, John and Katerina  
Kokkinias, Nick and Antonia  
Konstanidis, Fotis  
Kontakiotis, Themis and Toulia  
Korolis, John and Helen  
Kripner, Robert and Eva  
Kruse (Giokaris) Anna  
Kyriakides, John and Louloudia  
Kyriakidis, George and Andromachi  
Lane, Jay and Vivi

Langis, Xenophon and Panagiota  
Lazinos, Aliis and Elizabeth  
Livanis, John and Marilyn  
Livanis, Lula  
Marinos, Tim and Helen  
Markezinis, Patricia  
Messer, Martha  
Michaelides, John and Connie  
Panagiot, Harry and Anne  
Panagiotacopulos, Nikolaos and Aliko  
Pantazis, Athanasia  
Papantonopoulos, Spyros and Stavroula  
Paul, Charles and Barbara  
Paziouros, Pitsa, Tom and Christine  
Petinarakis, Michael and Popi  
Pollalis, Dino and Kim  
Polychroniou, Kostas and Helen  
Restivo, Vlasimir and Natalya  
Reynolds, Jack and Hope  
Rozos, Irene  
Schrader, Philip and Lori  
Sfakianakis, George and Angie  
Sissons, Brad and Rini  
Stamos, Nikos A  
Tsironis, Vasilios and Electra  
Valaskantjis, Nikiforos and Georgia  
Vandarakis, Jim and Karen  
Varelas, George and Georgia

*\$35,215.00 monies pledged*  
*\$23,673.00 monies received to date*  
*Member pledges received to date: 63*  
*Average pledge amount: \$607.00*

# HELP THE CITY OF HOPE AND NEEDY FAMILIES



## CHRIST'S THREE-PART RECIPE FOR LENT (MATTHEW 6:14-21)

In the Gospel lessons for the Sunday before Great Lent, the Lord Jesus offers us a three-part recipe for Lent; forgiveness, fasting, and laying up treasures in heaven. Our first challenge for Great Lent is to receive God's forgiveness and to forgive. The second part of our Lord's recipe for Great Lent consists of fasting; "when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face that your fasting may not be seen by man but by your Father who sees in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:17-18) The third part of our Lord's recipe for Great Lent is Treasures in Heaven. After forgiveness and fasting the third

part of Christ's recipe for Lent is expressed in His words: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:19-21) The first and foremost treasure is the treasure of love. During Great Lent we are called upon to fast not only for reasons of self-control and prayer, but also for reasons of love: to deny ourselves something that we may share what we have saved with a needy person. The Lord God said through the prophet Isaiah: "Is not this the fast that I choose ... to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked to cover him..." (Isaiah 58:6-7). And St. John Chrysostom says: "Do you fast? Give me proof by your works ... If you see a poor man take pity on him." This is the fast that is pleasing to God. The Triodion, which contains our church services for Lent, says the following about the Lenten fast:

*The Lenten Spring has come, The light of repentance...  
Let us receive the announcement of Lent with Joy!  
For if our forefather Adam had kept the fast, We would not be deprived of paradise ...  
While fasting physically, brothers, Let us also fast spiritually;  
Let us loose every knot of iniquity,  
Let us tear up every unrighteous bond, Let us distribute bread to the hungry  
And welcome to our homes those who have no roof over their heads  
So that we may receive great mercy from Christ our God.*

We are again asking for donations to help families at the City of Hope whose children suffer from terminal cancer and other illnesses. If you would like to again be a part of this outreach ministry of St. Nectarios Church to families and individuals who need help in the way of grocery and gas gift cards, please see Martha Messer, chairperson for this Philoptochos outreach fund raiser. The only thing needed by these families are gasoline or grocery gift cards in denominations of \$25.00, \$50.00 or whatever you can give. During this Great Lent why not try Christ's three-part recipe: forgiveness, fasting, and laying up treasures in heaven. You will find it to be the perfect recipe if you are looking not only for a resurrected Christ, but also a resurrected *you* this Pascha!



**SALUTATIONS TO THE  
THEOTOKOS**

Fridays, 7:00 PM  
Followed by the traditional  
LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS.

Friday, March 11 (First Stanza)  
Friday, March 18 (Second Stanza)  
Friday, March 25 (Third Stanza)  
Friday, April 1 (Fourth Stanza)  
Friday, April 8 (Akathist Hymn)

Friday, March 25th  
**Annunciation to the Theotokos**  
8:30 AM Orthros/Divine Liturgy



Thursday, April 7  
**Great Canon of Andrew of Crete**  
Pre-sanctified Liturgies  
Wednesdays, 7:00 PM  
March 9, March 16, March 23  
March 30, April 6, April 13

**Saturday of Lazarus**  
9:00 AM Orthros/Divine Liturgy  
Traditional Pancake Breakfast  
Following services and the  
Preparation of the palm crosses.



Plan to attend as many of the Holy Week services as you are able. Holy Week services begin on Palm Sunday evening at 7:00 PM. A schedule of Holy Week Services will be available in the Narthex soon.

# ***FAMILY NIGHT FUN***

The recent "Family Night" held on March 19th was very successful and informative on all subjects from Sunday Catechism classes, Greek Dance programs, Greek School, Altar (Acolyte) boys, to our youth outreach programs to needy families. Everyone had fun playing different board games. We wish to thank Mr. Pantelis Magaziotis for supplying the delicious Lenten meal for everyone. The evening was very successful and enjoyable. Thank you to everyone, youth, directors, and parents, for participating and supporting all the programs.



The youth are also collecting much needed funds for the recent earthquake and tsunami disaster in Japan. We appreciate your heart-felt response. If you wish to make a donation, please send it to the church office (earmarked for Japan) as soon as possible. A collection box is also available in the church hall. Your donation can make a difference in the lives of the people of Japan who have lost so much in this devastating earthquake and who are still suffering daily. God bless you for your help.



If you would like to have your son become an Acolyte (Altar Boy), please see Father Costa after church on Sundays, or call Michael Frentzos at 909-629-1793. Altar boys **MUST** be at church by 10:00 am on Sundays. If you are scheduled to serve and are not able to attend on your scheduled Sunday it is **YOUR** responsibility to call another altar boy to take your place. Schedules have been given to all Altar boys and their parents. If you need a

schedule, see Father Costa or Michael Frentzos.



# Philoptochos News and Notes

We apologize to all of our ladies of Philoptochos for having had to cancel or move our meeting dates recently because of conflicting dates in other parish meetings or programs. We ask for your understanding and we are currently planning for upcoming meetings and events. We are having our Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale on Palm Sunday, April 17th and hope that you will make plans to support us with your purchase of the delicious baked goods for your gift giving or your family table. See the flier enclosed in this Newsletter for more information. We will be having elections for the Philoptochos Board the first Sunday in May. Please pay your membership dues before that time. Dues for the year are \$40.00.



***LENTEN MID WEEK SERVICES:*** We invite everyone to join us on Wednesdays (Pre-sanctified Divine Liturgy) and Fridays Salutations for the Theotokos) and for the Lenten soup suppers which follow the Services of Salutations. All services begin at 7:00 PM. Proceeds from the Lenten soup suppers benefit both the Life Giving Springs Monastery in Dunlap, California and also the Los Angeles Youth Mission. The Salutations services are one of the most beautiful and peaceful sounding services during Lent. Come and share fellowship with your church family



## ***ST. NECTARIOS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES***

Enclosed is my donation of \$40.00 for the Membership dues for Philoptochos.  
\$40.00 Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_