



ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ 2010: Ο ΚΥΡΙΟΣ ΗΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ, Ο ΝΕΟΣ ΑΔΑΜ ΕΙΣΕΡΧΕΤΑΙ ΝΑ ΑΝΑΣΤΗΣΕΙ ΤΟΝ ΚΑΤ' ΕΙΚΟΝΑ ΘΕΟΥ

*«Ετοιμάζον Βηθλεέμ ήνοικται πάσιν η Εδέμ, εντρεπίζον Εφραθά ότι το ξύλον της ζωής, εν τω Σπηλαίω εξήνθησεν εκ της Παρθένου, Παράδεισος και γαρ η εκείνης γαστήρ, η εδείχθη νοητός εν ω το Θείον φυτόν, εξ ου φαρόντες ζήσομεν, ουχί δε ως ο Αδάμ τεθνηζόμεθα, Χριστός γεννάται, την πριν πεσούσαν αναστήσων εικόνα»
(Απολυτίκιον των Προεορτίων)*

25

.(26-27, 1-2).

D

«μιμηταί τοῡ θεοῡ, ως τέκνα αγαπητά» και «θείας κοινωνοί φύσεως, αποφυρόντες τῆς ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἐν ἐπιθυμίᾳ φθορᾶς.» (1, 4).

«ὁ θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν.» (8,16).

«ἠγάπησεν τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχη ζωὴν αἰώνιον.» (16).

q

4).

«ἐστὶν εἰκὼν τοῦ θεοῦ» (15,

«ὁ ἑώρακώς ἐμὲ ἑώρακεν τὸν πατέρα» (9).

q

q

q

q

2011.

GOYA, HOPE & JOY

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΓΕΝΝΑΤΑΙ ΔΟΞΑΣΑΤΕ!

THE NEW ADAM, COMES TO RESTORE THE IMAGE

*ed to all. Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, For the Tree of Life blossoms
spiritual paradise planted with the fruit of the divine; If we eat of it,
we shall live forever and not die like Adam. Christ is coming to restore the image which He made in the beginning.”
(Troparion of the Prefeast of the Nativity)*

Beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,

On December 25th, we will be celebrating the Great Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, in the Flesh. While even secular society has some connection to this unprecedented historical event, there are many of us who don't realize and understand the deeper meaning of God's actions in our human history. A fundamental doctrine to Christianity is that all human beings are made in the image and according to the likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27; 5:1-2). This means that we, as humans, are not just a product of DNA and our environment. We are not simply made up of biological cells, or an outcome of historical processes, economic systems or sociological configurations. Our lives are not defined by our material possessions or our will to power, our educational opportunities or even our physical desires and satisfactions. While these and other factors are important and even critical in our lives, they are not what make us human.

We are human beings because we are made to be **“imitators of God”** and **“partakers of the Divine nature”** (Ephesians 5:1; 2 Peter 1:4). We are called to be the most perfect expressions of God's being and life. As all of the Orthodox Christian saints have taught, this means that by God's grace and goodwill we are able to be absolutely everything that God Himself is by nature. God, Himself, is a personal God. He is free, self-determining and self-aware. He knows and does good, acts and cares. He governs and cultivates, creates and rules. God is a living God who is good, wise, peaceful, joyful, kind, compassionate, powerful, gentle, forgiving, and eternal; this is the way we are to also be. This is how we imitate Him! This is how we partake of the Divine nature! Most important of all, God is love (1 John 4:8, 16). As God's creation, we human beings are made to love as He loves, to love all things which He loves and to love Him first of all. The cause of all sadness and sorrow is that human beings have failed to love. This is the meaning of the sin of Adam and Eve in the Holy Scriptures. We have used our energies for ungodliness instead of goodness, for lies instead of truth, for destruction instead of creation, for selfishness and individual agendas instead of sacrifice and the common good, and thus, have corrupted our beings and shattered the divine image within us. Essentially, we have lost our likeness to God!

Yet, our hope lies in God who **“so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”** (John 3:16). This is our affirmation, that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ has been born in our human history in order to restore God's image and likeness within us. He is **“the image of the invisible God”** (Colossians 1:15; 2 Corinthians 4:4). As we see and we know Christ Himself, we see and know God the Father (John 14:8-9). As the second and final Adam, Christ does everything the first and original Adam was called, but failed, to do. He obeys God and honours His name; He delights in His presence and adores His Divinity; He gives thanks for God's gifts, speaks God's words, does God's works and accomplishes God's will. He restores God's image and likeness in humanity and makes this available to all people.

This is the genuine message of Christmas. The restored image of God in us is God's Son and Word, Jesus Christ. In Christ, all humanity has found its fulfillment and perfection. In Christ, all humanity can have true life and all people can be truly human. As we celebrate Christmas, let us prepare properly with prayer (both private and in the Divine Liturgy) and acts of charity (including fasting), by participating in the sacraments of Holy Confession and Holy Communion, thus, restoring the shattered image within us. May the King of Peace bless you and your families with health, joy, wisdom and love and every material and spiritual progress in the New Year for His Glory.

On behalf of Presbytera Stamatia, the Church Council and administrative staff, the Ladies Philoptochos, the Sunday School, The Youth and Youth leaders of the Goya, Hope and Joy and Greek dance programs, the Choir, the Chanters, and the Altar Servers,

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

With love in the Incarnate Christ and Best Wishes,
«Rev. Fr. Konstantine Chatzis, Parish Priest

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



Once again, the Sunday School of Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church is underway with a growing number of students. This year students are enjoying extended lesson time, as classes begin after the reading of the Gospel. Thank you to parents, students and teachers for enabling a smooth transition to the new schedule. What a difference it makes in the quality of programming that is delivered to the children of our community! If you have not yet registered your children or grandchildren in our Sunday School program, please see Presbytera Stamatia or one of the Sunday School teachers to obtain a registration form. All children from JK to Grade 8 are welcome. Reminder: Students should arrive to the front pews of the Church by 10:15 a.m.

Please contact Presbytera Stamatia for your child's enrolment at: prez.stamatia@hotmail.com

Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features

Church Office: 519-579-4703
Fax: 519-579-8392
saintspeterandpaulchurch@rogers.com

Fr. Konstantine Chatzis
fatherkonstantine@rogers.blackberry.net
Mobile: 519-573-1033

Council President:
Panagiotis Panagos

Council Vice-President:
Paul Georgopoulos

Council Treasurer:
Menelaos Deligianis

Council Secretary:
Apostolos Vogiatzis

Council Directors:
Efstathios Georgiou
Evelyn Giannopoulos
Evangelos Gikopoulos
Apostolos Lazaridis
Charalambos Paleshi
Demetrios Stamatelos

Philoptochos President:
Barbara Bitsakakis

Sunday School Director:
Pres. Stamatia Chatzis

Chanter:
Mike Mavros

Choir Director:
George Loucas

Altar Server:
Andreas Karashalis

Office Administrator:
Mary Ananiadis

Church Office Hours:
Tues., Thurs. & Sundays
11:00 a.m. ó 3:00 p.m.

Church Council

On behalf of the Community Council, I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and all the best from the Community Council.

Sincerely,
Panagiotis (Peter) Panagos, Council President

Εκ μέρους του Δ. Συμβουλίου της Κοινότητας, ευχόμεθα Χρόνια Πολλά για την εορτή των Χριστουγέννων, ευτυχισμένον τον καινούργιον χρόνον, και κάθε όμορφη ευχή προς το νέο Δ. Συμβούλιο.

Με ειλικρινή εκτίμηση,
Παναγιώτης Πανάγος, Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

This year, we are very happy to share our financial resources with 7 needy families, and provide them with Christmas turkeys & other essentials. We also thank everyone for the kind food donations, which will be delivered to the Food Bank in the new year. Come join us for the cutting of the Basilopites at the New Year's Eve Dance!

With Best Wishes For A Joyous Christmas Celebration and Good Health, Peace, and Progress in the New Year! CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!!

Sincerely,
Barbara Bitsakakis, Philoptochos President

Εφέτος έχουμε μεγάλη χαρά να προσφέρουμε φιλανθρωπική βοήθεια σε 7 οικογένειες να γιορτάσουνε χαρμόσυνες γιορτές. Επίσης, είμαστε ευγνώμωνες για τις γενναιοδωρίες σας τροφυμάτων για το Food Bank. Ελάτε να γιορτάσουμε μαζί τη Πρωτοχρονιά που θα μοιραστούν οι Βασιλόπιτες!

Σας ευχόμεθα Καλά Χριστούγεννα και ευτυχές το Νέο Έτος 2011! Χριστός Γεννάται!! Δοξάσατε!!

Κάλαντα Caroling

Come Join Us to Spread Christmas Cheer!

Ελάτε να ψάλουμε τα Κάλαντα μαζί!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19th, 2010

Please contact Barbara Bitsakakis

For more details: 519-885-3561.



TREE OF HOPE

Our Annual Philoptochos 'Tree of Hope' Gift Drive has now begun. Please find instructions on the Christmas Tree in the Church Hall. This year, we hope to match the 130 gifts generously donated by our kind Parishioners last year! We appreciate any help you can offer. Please contact Helen Vogiatzis for more information at: 519-623-8344.

HOPE & JOY YOUTH

Join us at 'Dive For The Cross' Pool Party!!

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2011

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

AT: Cameron Heights Collegiate Pool

WHERE: 301 Charles Street East
Kitchener, ON N2G 2P8

Please contact Pat Timms for more info
at: 519-836-7845, or ptimms@golden.net

Greek Orthodox Youth Association

CALLING ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 7-12!!

Next G.O.Y.A. Meeting To Be Announced
Come out for some great fun & fellowship!
Please contact Father Konstantine
For more information: 519-573-1033 or
fatherkonstantine@rogers.blackberry.net

'Levendogenia'

DANCE GROUP PRACTICES!!

Every Monday 6-7 PM in the Church Hall
All Kids Ages 7-18 Welcome!
Please contact Androula Patsalis
For more information: 519-498-7049
kwgreekdance@yahoo.ca

NEW YEAR · ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΟΙΚΙΩΝ

...ional for Orthodox Christians to have their homes blessed
...ater Service celebrated on the Feast of Theophany. If you
...s your home, please fill out this form and submit to the
church office. House Blessings will be held throughout the month of January.

Name / : _____
Address / : _____
Phone / . / Email: _____

Please Reserve Your Tickets for the New Year's Eve Celebration!

Προμηθευθείτε τα Εισητήρια σας για το Πρωτοχρονιάτικο Χορό!



*New Year's
Ball*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2010

**Adults: \$85
Youth: 6-12, \$25
Kids Under 5 FREE**



Live Entertainment By:

THE OLYMPIC BROTHERS ORCHESTRA

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner Served at 7:30 p.m.

Fully Decorated Venue • Party Favours

Door Prizes • Great Music & Dancing

Champagne Toast at Midnight

Prime Rib Dinner

Church Community Centre, 527 Bridgeport Road East, Kitchener

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2011

Let's join together to form an even stronger Greek Orthodox Christian Community by renewing our commitment to continued financial stewardship & faith-building for the coming year!

Single Adult.....	\$200
Married Couple.....	\$250
Senior Single.....	\$150
Senior Married Couple.....	\$175
Students (under 22, at home).....	Free

Please visit the Office Administrator during scheduled office hours, or call: 519-579-4703.
Debit, VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, Cash or Cheque are accepted.

This Community cannot continue to flourish and grow for future generations without your kind stewardship.

2011 MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT

Please make your cheque payable to Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, and mail to:
Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 527 Bridgeport Road East, Kitchener, ON N2K 1N6
PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING AND MAIL, OR VISIT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE (Home): _____ (Cell): _____

EMAIL: _____

SINGLE ADULT MARRIED COUPLE SENIOR SINGLE SENIOR MARRIED COUPLE