Dear Graduates,

Χριστος Ανεστη! Christ is Risen!

This is June, a time for hope and personal growth. This is a busy month, with graduations and summer plans. Especially for high school students, the anticipation of college is ever present. In the Book of Life, new pages are now being written, though the connection with what came before is not forgotten.

To all the graduates -- whether of high school, university, or graduate school -- congratulations!

Since the last issue of The Messenger, our parish held a fun Quarter Auction, a successful (and entertaining) Dancing With Heart event, and our Spring Parish Assembly. May was a busy month, but something lay behind the events of May -- preparation.

No event, no matter how small, can exist or achieve its goals, without some level of preparation. And this, of course, involves effort and time.

It also involves service and selflessness.

When it is time for graduation, the school principal or dean always reminds the students of what their school should mean to the graduates as they embark on their journey ahead. College graduates are even familiar with the term Alma Mater, which is Latin for “our Mother.”
**Saint Luke Greek Orthodox Church**  
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frpklostri@gmail.com  
Church Office  
saintlukego@gmail.com

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**Bible Study**  
Tuesday @ 6:30PM/ Friday @ 11:00AM (unless otherwise stipulated)

**Orthodox Life** - Weds 6:30p

**Council Meetings**  
2nd Monday of the month @ 7:00 PM (unless otherwise stipulated)

**Dance Practice**  
TBA

**Loaves and Fishes**  
Pick up on the 3rd Friday of the month

**Knitting**  
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month @10:30 (unless otherwise stipulated)

**Romeos and Juliettes**  
4th Thursday of the month (unless otherwise stipulated)

**Choir**  
Thursday @ 6:30 PM (September 10th - June 10th) (unless otherwise stipulated)

**GOYA**  
3rd Sunday of the month following Liturgy (unless otherwise stipulated)

**JOY**  
3rd Friday of the month 6pm-7:30 unless otherwise announced

**Endowment Meeting**  
2nd Tuesday @ 6:30

**40 to 4 Club/Hope** - seeking a volunteer coordinator and meetings TBA

**Miles to Smiles**- Walking Ministry, TBA

**Health Ministry**- Monthly Blood Pressure during coffee hour, TBA

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**Pastor- Fr. Panteleimon Klostri**

2019 Parish Council  
Assaad Hallak — President  
Judy Lelas-George — Vice President  
Joseph Dasco — Treasurer  
Christos Nikolis — Recording Secretary  
Evangelie Gouzounis — Corresponding Secretary  
John Foscolos  
Harry Georgiades  
George Katsoulis  
Nick Vamvilis  
Ron Rookey

**Philoptochos**  
President - Maria Londo  
Vice President - Melissa Kaitis  
Treasurer - Vaceleci Zaharis  
Secretary - Rosanne Desautels  
Corresponding Secretary - Evangelia Tsikrikis  
Past President/Advisor - Dorsey Cokkinias

**Ministries**

**Chanters** - Aristidis Zaharis and Damian Zaharis

**Choir Director** - Toni Rizas  
**Organist** - Amanda Dee

**Endowment Fund** - James Bologa

**GOYA Advisor** - Kathy Kalaitzidis

**JOY Advisor** - Sarah Kirchner

**Memorials** - Maria Laware

**Messenger - Editor** - Maria Londo

**Stewardship Chairs** - Joe and Meghan Dasco

**Sunday School**  
Director - Priscilla Johnson  
Assistant Director - Leia Georgeopolus

**Outreach Committee** - Harry Georgiades

**Facilities Committee** - Nicles Lefakis

**Church Secretary** - Paula Assad

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O Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, intercede with our Merciful God, that He may grant our souls remission of sins  
— Apolytikion of Saint Luke
Yes, every school has had a formative role in your upbringing and formation. Your Church is such a school. After all, it was here where you were raised and fed on the lessons of the Gospel, on the Eucharist, the importance of generosity and selflessness, as well as thanksgiving and love for the needy Other.

These lessons are in your hearts, and they have prepared you for life.

But more than a school, Saint Luke and the larger Orthodox Church is your spiritual home. And what is home? It is where you always can return to, where you know you are always welcome, and where growth and comfort is always present.

So this is not a goodbye to our graduates. The Church is as much your present as it is your future. We do not graduate from the Grace of God. We embrace it. It is this Grace which will guide you and protect you in your steps ahead, and shield you all the days of your life.

The Lord is my Rock and my shelter, says David. Amen!

+ Fr. Panteleimon
Dear St. Luke Parishioners, May the blessings of our Lord and Savior be upon all of you and your families!

There are plenty of good things happening at church. We feel the energy in the pews. The attendance during Holy week was beautiful. No bad weather or rain was able to stop the faithful from attending. I was proud of Father Panteleimon’s energy, charisma and upbeat delivery throughout the whole Holy Week. We were very happy that the book racks were installed on time.

We need everyone’s help to keep our church and mission on the right path. I mean everyone who is able. You need to challenge your will and strength. You need to ignite your passion and energy for the love of GOD, our Orthodoxy and our beloved church of St. Luke. We hear too many people say “you need to do this and that.” I say in return, with all due respect, you need to roll up your sleeves and join us in doing this and that. No one can carry on a good idea more than those who have come up with that specific idea. Also let’s continue to honor our Mission Statement, to Lovingly serve the liturgical and sacramental needs of the Orthodox Christians in our community through the Word of Jesus Christ and teachings of the church. By practicing charity through Stewardship and Christian Ministries, we all will create an environment where parishioners are involved in the life of the Church.

The Parish Council is happy to announce that $5000 allocated for scholarships are available to our seniors and college applicants. Father will be making an announcement to that effect.

Dancing with Heart, which benefitted St. Luke and the Shriners, was a big success this year. The credit goes to Dorsey, Judy and all their team who were involved. Way to go ladies, you topped last year’s event! Your talent and love for our church is humbling.

The Taste of Greece is our biggest fundraising event. June 2nd is the kickoff meeting/party. Vicki LaRoche loves to see the entire church as volunteers. I urge you to volunteer to help. Since it is our biggest fund raiser, it requires all hands on deck. Please see Vicki to volunteer your help, thank you Vicki and all who volunteer.

The Endowment Committee is almost formed with Jim Bologa, Charlie Bonotakis, Jr., Andrew Lemnios, James Danalis, and Thana Leventis. The first line item on their agenda is work with the bylaws.

You have heard this before….

The budget shows us off balance by about $19K for 2019. I am excited to share that the parishioners have been coming with various ideas to raise money. We would like to see that every steward raises their stewardship by $100 a year or by whatever one can. By doing so, the budget will be balanced. Also one idea was adopted by the Parish Council that came from Parris Ochsner to raise funds by raffling a new car. This idea is still fresh, we need a chair person along with a small committee to steer the ship.

Again, may the blessings of our Lord and Savior, grant you health and joy.

Kindest regards,

Assaad Andrew Hallak
Parish Council President
Stewardship Message

The following is the Stewardship Report that was presented at the General Assembly held on May 19, 2019.

We truly appreciate how generous our parishioners have been! However, for the majority of our parishioners, Stewardship giving has remained stagnant for many years while the cost of running our church continues to rise. It is time for all of us to reflect on what our church means to us and make it a priority to appropriately fund its operations. We would like to challenge each parishioner to increase their Stewardship both financially and with their time by 10% for 2019. As of 4/30/19 we have 137 parishioners/families who have given approximately $60,000 and we have 111 parishioners/families who have pledged approximately $84,000. If you have not yet completed a pledge card for 2019 we urge you to please do so. This helps us financially plan for the remainder of the year. Again, we want to thank all of our stewards who pledge their Time, Talent and Treasure.

It is up to the people of our parish to get involved and stay involved to continue the vitality of our church. Please be mindful that during the summer, while you may be on vacation, our bills and commitments do not take a break. Please don’t forget to submit your weekly stewardship and take part in the different ministries that meet throughout the summer, including the many baking workshops that are scheduled to prepare for the The Taste of Greece. We can’t do it without your help!

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to reach out to us.

God Bless,

Joe and Meghan Dasco
Co-Chairs Stewardship Committee

Start the Day with a Grateful Heart!

We are grateful for everyone who has sponsored this ministry in the past year and some for helping multiple times!

Fellowship time/coffee hour is a vital ministry of church - please consider signing up and stewarding a Sunday fellowship.

Make it as simple as you like - it is all appreciated. Sign up with others - it becomes another opportunity for fellowship.

It is a beautiful offering to remember someone or show friendship and gratitude to those around you. It is one of St Luke’s hallmarks of philoxenia (showing hospitality to others).

Summer time we continue the tradition!

Current openings are:
June 9th and 30th

And please mark your calendars-Father Panteleimon’s Name Day this year is on a Saturday. Cake and Fruit will be waiting after Liturgy to help celebrate him on July 27th.
Happy June everyone!

Among our usual activities this year, we are focusing on outreach to other GOYAs, starting with the St. George GOYA. We look forward to seeing them at our events and attending theirs. Our GOYA dance on the 1st of December was a success! Our trip to the Philoxenia House in Brookline was also a beautiful experience, as well as the 30 Hour Famine. Our next meeting is to be determined. We will continue to discuss possible fundraisers for 30 Hour Famine. We are also excited for Sunday School graduation! We thank all who support GOYA as we continue to pursue our ministry.

-Irene Dimitroglou

We wish everyone a beautiful summer. If you are interested in helping plan activities for next year please contact Father P or Sarah Kirchner.

Romeos & Juliets meet at 12:30 pm on the 4th Thursday of the month. This month they will meet on 6/27. They will meet at the Sofia’s Restaurant & Pizzeria, 136 Prospect Hill Road, East Windsor, CT.

Please call Harry Georgiades at 413-883-2560 regarding ushering on Sundays. All are welcome, youths, adults - all ages.

Our final choir rehearsal will be held on Thursday, June 6th at 6:30 pm. Music for Ascension Sunday and Pentecost Sunday will be reviewed. Hope to see you there.

Also, our End Of The Year choir party will be held on Thursday, June 13th at 6 pm. Please sign up to let us know you will be attending.

Wishing everyone a healthy and safe summer.
God Bless!
Toni

Knitting Group meeting bi-weekly on Weds in the Church conference room. Dates scheduled: First and Third Weds of each Month.

Knitting Group

We are grateful to all our beautiful teachers and volunteers for shining their beautiful Christian lights. Over the summer watch for a summer art/craft day TBD

To all those who Father us...

Priests – Brothers – Parents
Sons – Uncles – Grandfathers
Friends – Godfathers -- Neighbors
Parish Volunteers – Our Holy Father – the Bishop – and all those who have gone before us... thank you.

Happy Fathers Day! God bless you!
Thank you to our wonderful Dancing with Heart committee for a beautiful event—opening hearts for everyone, supporting great causes and for some, introducing our beloved Saint Luke Church to them. Congratulations to all the dancers and our own Sophia Zaharis Champion.

Philoptochos Quarter Auction was a ton of fun with great prizes and food and a good time for all! Thank you to all who donated and participated—benefitting the Scholarship Fund for our graduates.

We wish Tula Karamallis—a Happy 95th Birthday!
Congratulations to Our Graduates

God Bless you in your future endeavors.

Evan Bologa

Graduating from Simsbury High School, Simsbury CT

Evan has been an Altar Server and was tonsured a reader by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios in 2014. He was also a member of GOYA.

Will be attending Clemson University in Clemson, SC. His focus will be a Major in Construction Sciences and Management with an Architecture minor.

Sophia Clay

Graduating from East Longmeadow High School, East Longmeadow, MA

She was in gymnastics for many years and then in High School was on the Cross Country and Outdoor Track Teams. At St. Luke’s she has been an active GOYA member and attended Sunday Church School and participated in Loaves and Fishes, Food Outreach, the 30 Hour Famine and was a Myrrhbearer.

Sophia will be attending Springfield Technical Community College for Cosmetology, helping the world to become even more beautiful!
Philippos Athanasios Dimitroglou

Graduating from East Longmeadow High School, where he has been active in Band, Cross Country (captain), Swim team, Men's Track, National Honor Society, and Model Congress.

At St. Luke's he has been a faithful Altar server, Goya officer (past president), Sunday School, Greek Dancers, Loaves and Fishes, Food Outreach, and 30 Hour Famine. He has represented our parish in the Kosmos Project, Project Mexico, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and MBC camp in New Hampshire.

Philippos has been appointed by the President of the United States to the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Class of 2023. He plans a career in service to our country. Philippos would like to thank Fr. P for his guidance, Lt. Col. Coulouras for his example, and Mrs. K for everything.

Irene Timothea Dimitroglou

Graduating from East Longmeadow High School, where she has been active in Band, Cross Country (captain), Swim team (captain), Women's Track, National Honor Society, and Little Big Kids Nursery School.

At St. Luke's she has been a Goya officer (current president), Sunday School, Greek Dancers, Loaves and Fishes, Food Outreach, and 30 Hour Famine. She has represented our parish in the Kosmos Project, Project Mexico, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and MBC camp in New Hampshire.

Irene will attend the Westfield State Nursing Program where she will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She plans a career in psychiatric nursing. Irene would like to thank Pres. Eleni for her mentorship, Mrs. K for her example in church and in life, and her two favorite people to hug on the way to receive communion Mrs. Trial and the late Mr. Heropoulos.
**Maria Linda Dimitroglou**

Graduating from East Longmeadow High School, where she has been active in Band (Concert Master), Cross Country, Swim team, Women's Track, National Honor Society, and Little Big Kids Nursery School.

At St. Luke’s she has been a Goya officer (vice-president, two years), Sunday School, Greek Dancers, Loaves and Fishes, Food Outreach, and 30 Hour Famine. She has represented our parish in the Kosmos Project, Project Mexico, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, and MBC camp in New Hampshire.

Maria will attend the University of New England in Biddeford, ME, where she will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She plans a career in NICU nursing. Maria would like to thank Mrs. K for everything, Sophia Zaharis for dance practices, Mr. Sakel & Lt. Col. Coulouras for their teaching, and Mrs. Coulouras, Mrs. Clay, and Mrs. Kaitis for organizing amazing events for students these past years.

**Sophia Kaitis**

Graduating from Edwin O Smith High School of Storrs, CT. She was honored for high achievements in Accounting and English. Sophia participated in the Leo Club, Unified Basketball and Yearbook Committee.

She has been an active GOYA member and attended Sunday Church School and participated in Loaves and Fishes, Food Outreach, 30 Hour Famine and was the driving force behind the Blessing Bag Campaign as part of her senior project.

She will be attending Endicott College in the Fall. Her area of study will be Business Management.
Andrew Dasco

Graduated with a BA in Integrated Design from The New School — Parsons School of Design in NYC.

Andrew plans to work in the field of production for film or digital media.

Part of the Strings and Friends of Wilbraham (Youth Strings Orchestra) entertained residents of Reed’s Landing and we were happy to see 3 of our parishioners enjoying the music and fellowship.
Thank you

To the Wonderful Knitters of Saint Luke’s Church. We have as of today handed out 8 lap blankets to our residents, who were very excited to receive them and are feeling warmer physically and emotionally. We are very grateful for your talents and gifts and remembering our sweet residents!

Kim Lowman  Director of Social Work, Wingate East Longmeadow

P.S. I can’t wait until October, looking forward to the Spanakopita-OPA!

Bible Study Opportunities
and
Orthodox Life
Will resume in September

Orthodox Inquiry- If anyone is interested in learning more about the faith with an interest in becoming Orthodox or just to increase their knowledge of Orthodoxy, please contact Father.

If you are not receiving the Wednesday Wisdom emails please contact Father P.

Taste of Greece

Taste of Greece workshops are going into full swing

OPA!!!

JUNE WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday June 4th 10AM — Bread
Thursday June 6th 10:30AM — Koulouria (following Ascension Liturgy)
Weds June 12th 10AM — Koulouria
Monday June 17th 10AM — Bread
Thursday June 20th 10AM — Spanakopita Prep
Friday June 21st 10AM — Large Spanakopita Assembly
Weds, June 26th 10AM — Spanakopita Prep
Thursday 27th June 10AM — Large Spanakopita Assembly
In memory of George W.
George
Phyllis LaVallee
Kathryn O'Connor
Starla George
Doris Henault
Meri Kassanos
Vicki and Lou LaRoche
Marianne Sergides
Nick Lefakis and Sarah Lefakis
Vange and Jordan Chatis
Despina Pesculis
John and Anita Themistos
George and Magda Galiatsos
Andrew and Sue Lemnios
Venetia Karamallis
Tom and Maria Laware
Chris and Eleni Bazos
Ann Flynn
Leonard and Mary Danos
Elaine Anagnostou

In memory of Anthony Heropoulos
Saint Luke Choir
George and Kathleen
Poulopoulos
Kiki Trial
Victoria Lanides
Antonia Rizas
Peter and Lanie Alexopoulos
Vicki and Lou LaRoche
Thia Ploubides
Marianne Sergides
Nick Lefakis and Sarah Lefakis
Vange and Jordan Chatis

Peter and Rita Rozantes
Victor and Mary Galiatsos
Suzanne and Richard Rerra
Gisele, Kimon and Christine
Zachary
Despina Pesculis
Mary Poulos
Tom and Kathy Themistos
Mary Ann Rodolakis
George and Magda Galiatsos
Andrew and Sue Lemnios
Phyllis LaVallee
Venetia Karamallis
Gregory and Katerina Laware
Michael and Christine Kennedy
George and Lynn George
Tom and Maria Laware
Chris and Eleni Bazos
Ann Flynn
Doris Henault
Alice Roumas
Charles Bonatakis, Sr.
Pete and Pat Fecke
Violetta and John
Georgopoulos
Mitchell Garabedian
Katherine Duclos
Donald Bliss
Charles Johnson
Elizabeth Strohman
Stella Dagenais
Peter Vogian
Father John and Presvytera
Helen Lardas
Lola and John Heretakis
Steven and Violet Lawrence
Thomas and Susan Fournier

In memory of Anne Votze
Vicki and Lou LaRoche
Vange and Jordan Chatis
Tom and Maria Laware

In memory of Mary Turner
Vicki and Lou LaRoche
Vange and Jordan Chatis
Despina Pesculis

In memory of Elias Zovas
Elizabeth Cokotis, Karen
Louis, Chris Delis,
Constantinos Philips and
Sophie Pettas
Vange and Jordan Chatis

In memory of Despina Sarantidis
Chrisostomos Moropoulos,
Konstantine Sarandis, Kalliopi
Gotsis, and Andrew Gotsis
Domna Moropoulos

In memory of Jennie Millas
Louie and Olga Papadopulos

In memory of George Kizanis
Ann Kizanis Klapper

In memory of Dena Clay
Doris Henault

May His Memory Be Eternal

Rockwell Rookey fell asleep on May 21, 2019. His funeral was held on May 25, 2019.

May consolation and comfort be with his family.