Let us commend ourselves and one another and or whole life to Christ our God  
-- The Divine Liturgy

November has arrived, which means we are preparing for Thanksgiving and our annual Stewardship Campaign. It is a time we take to reflect and prayerfully consider the many blessings of God, and in thanksgiving, to share in the generosity of love.

There are so many positive aspects to Stewardship. Living a life of stewardship liberates us from an attachment to material desires, or to the fear that we will not have enough. It is a confession of trust in God, as well as love for others, as the purpose of the Church is the salvation of souls.

The early Christians, according to their means, lived with the realization that the Lord is indeed coming, and that He “knocks on the door,” asking to be invited in to eat with us (Revelation 3.20). One of the earliest Liturgies we have from Hippolytus of Rome (2nd century), attests to how the Christians would bring their first fruits to the Sunday Liturgy and have those gifts shared with everyone present.

Stewardship calls us to see life from a holistic view. That is, instead of seeing Church as one item on our schedule, we try to live prayerfully at all times during the day, and to see all our actions as acts we do for Christ.
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

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- Kristen Flanagan

Endowment Fund - James Bologa

GOYA Advisor - Jennifer Russell

JOY Advisor - Sarah Kirchner

Memorials - Maria Laware

Messenger - Editor - Need a Volunteer
- Creative Director- Presvytera Eleni

Stewardship Chairs - Joe and Meghan Dasco

Sunday School
Director - Christina Nikolis

Welcome Committee — Judy Lelas-George, Maria Laware, Parris Ochsner, Ron Rookey

Facilities Committee - Nicles Lefakis

Church Secretary - Paula Assad

O Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, intercede with our Merciful God, that He may grant our souls remission of sins
— Apolytikion of Saint Luke
More so than this, Stewardship call us to see our lives from the perspective of the eschaton, that is, the Coming of Christ. What will our legacy be seen as? Were we generous and trusting, or did we expect others to carry us on our spiritual walk? Did we trust, as Saint Paul says, that the Church is indeed the pillar and ground of truth (1 Timothy 3.15)?

As you prayerfully consider your Stewardship for the coming year -- of your time, talent, and treasure -- please take the time to answer the questions above. Even the act of being prayerful is an aspect of Stewardship, as it transfigures the time of the day to spiritual reflection. God bless you!

In XC,
+ Fr. Panteleimon

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Never doubt the presence of God in your life!

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint

— Isaiah 40.31

Schedule of Services Orthros, 8:30, Divine Liturgy 9:30

SUNDAY SERVICES
November 3rd
November 10th
November 17th
November 24th

WEEKDAY SERVICES
Friday November 8th
Holy Archangels 9AM

Monday November 25th
St Katherine 9AM

Saturday November 30th
St Andrew the Apostle 9AM

Confession can be heard by appointment

November 28th
Happy Thanksgiving!

Let us all be grateful and mindful of our blessings.
Dear St. Luke Parishioners,

May the blessings of our Lord and Savior be upon all of you and your families!

This is the Thanksgiving month. We give thanks to all of you and wish all of you a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving season.

The fall season in New England is so beautiful and so are all the people that made the Taste of Greece so successful. I thank you, my family thanks you and the entire Parish Council thanks you for a great event. An event that brought us together, for one cause and that is our beloved Church of St. LUKE. The Taste of Greece, our biggest fund contributor, is no walk in the park. It is hard work, long weeks of preparation, pains and aches yet rewarding. Thank you to our parishioners who participated in this event in one way or another. Thank you to the workshop ladies, the kitchen staff, the grill/loukoumathes staff, dishwashers, cleaning staff, serving stations staff including the pastries, agora and to all that I have forgot to mention. Vicki and Judy, we can’t thank you enough for your leadership. I don’t think any thank you or words describe our true gratitude. We look forward to your leadership again in 2020.

We are experiencing great times, as our Church heads in the right direction towards prosperity. The attendance is going north. We are more vibrant than ever. We have seen new faces and new families. With that said, we need more involvement from everyone. We need new blood, new leaders and committee chair people along with committee members.

For those parishioners that have been missing for a while, for whatever personal reasons that may you have, I want to be the first to tell you that we missed you and missed your families. You are the life, of our beloved Church. St. Luke was built by hard working faithful people who had a vision. We must work very hard together to carry our founding parishioners’ vision and for the continuation of our Orthodox faith. I want to also challenge all of you to remember our obligation towards St. Luke. We need to stop relying on events to raise money. Stewardship should be the main source for balancing our budgets. We continue to fall short of our budgeted income goals year after year. We need to increase our stewardship to meet the annual inflation at least.

We like to invite all of our parishioners to attend the General Assembly on the 17th of November. Everyone by now should have received the traditional agenda, the minutes and the proposed budget.

We look forward to seeing you all and to answer any question that you may have. God Bless you all.

Assaad Andrew Hallak
Parish Council President

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With the holiday season fast approaching, the ladies of Philoptochos have several very important community campaigns running. So please don’t miss out on the chance to support one or all of these wonderful worthy traditional giving opportunities.

* Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Outreach (see our flyers later in the Messenger for details)

* 2019 Saint Luke Christmas Card (Deadline is Friday, November 15, 2019)

* Christmas Poinsettia Sale (Deadline is Sunday, December 8, 2019)

During the month of November Philoptochos will be collecting new hats, mittens, gloves and scarves along with any monetary donations to support the youth of the Homer School in Springfield. This worthy and much needed cause will honor the memory of Karen Louis a lifelong member of the ladies of Philoptochos.

If you have any questions about any of the above campaigns please visit the Philoptochos table in the fellowship hall during coffee hour to speak with a board member. Thank you all for the generous spirit found in St Luke’s church community and in continually supporting and participating in these giving opportunities now during the holidays and throughout the year. We could not accomplish so many of these campaigns without the support from each and every one of you. May our church family continue to experience God’s abundant love and may we all continue to share it with others.
Dear Fellow Parishioners;

Our Stewardship Committee is preparing to kick-off our 2020 Campaign:

*A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven. Ecclesiastes 3
The Stewardship of Time…*

The 2020 Stewardship packets including the pledge and commitment cards will be available to take on the day of the Parish Lamp Lighting Ceremony on November 24. This symbolic event is another opportunity for our parish to come together in fellowship and love for our parish. As we start the holiday season and prepare to end the year, we count our blessings and share with our community our common bond of Christian love and faith.

As we begin our 2020 campaign, there are still some parishioners whom we have not heard from. Please be sure that you are up to date with your giving and have fulfilled your pledge to St. Luke. Our Church counts on everyone’s participation!

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank and congratulate all of those parishioners that offered their time and talent and treasure to our largest fundraiser, The Taste of Greece. It was an overwhelming success, both financially and as a means of strengthening our community through involvement. When we all work together for the glory of God, we can achieve great things.

May God Bless our Many Gifts,
Sincerely,

Joe and Meghan Dasco
co-chairs Stewardship Committee

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**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.

Coffee is made for you and plates and cutlery are all provided. All you need to do is bring something to share and help put it out and clean-up afterwards. If you are a first timer and need guidance -Help will be provided happily.

*Only one current opening to sponsor: November 10th*
**Treasurer’s Report**

Summary of Our Financial Statement for the Nine Month Period Ending September 30, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan-Sept 2018</th>
<th>Jan-Sept 2019</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Including Loose Offerings*</td>
<td>$121,857</td>
<td>$125,454</td>
<td>$3,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dancing With Heart</td>
<td>$51,413</td>
<td>$46,692</td>
<td>$(4,721)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>30,269</td>
<td>37,357</td>
<td>7,088</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$203,539</strong></td>
<td><strong>$209,503</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,964</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses**</td>
<td><strong>$271,678</strong></td>
<td><strong>$246,656</strong></td>
<td><strong>$(25,022)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income (Deficit)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$(68,139)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$(37,153)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$30,986</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** In 2019 we have received 118 Stewardship Pledges totaling $84,274 through September 30, 2019. Through September 30, 2019 we have received $105,088 towards Stewardship with 174 Stewards giving (we have 56 parishioners giving who we have not received pledge cards from). Stewardship giving is up $2,144 as of 9/30/2019. Approximately 50% of the parishioners who pledge or give, give under $300 annually towards Stewardship.

** Total expenses are down primarily due to the fact that in 2018 we had begun our bathroom renovation project. In 2019 we have not undertook any significant projects. In addition we have incurred less snow removal cost in 2019.
FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

November begins a very busy time for our choir. Several of our choir members will represent St. Luke at the annual choir conference which will be held November 1, 2 and 3 at the Somerville church. It concludes Sunday with His Eminence presiding over a Hierarchical Liturgy.

Our next choir rehearsal will be held on Thursday, November 7th at 6:30. We will cover some patriotic hymns for Veterans’ Day and Thanksgiving hymns as well.

Our Sunday school will join us once again on the 10th of November. It was such a joy to have them join us last month and we all agree they are doing a marvelous job with the liturgical hymns.

GOYA

Hello everyone!

So far GOYA has elected its officers for the year and discussed an overview of the initiatives we would like to take this year. We are looking forward to doing the 30 Hour Famine again, volunteering in various ways, growing in our faith, and bonding together as a group. If you have any ideas for GOYA or suggestions you would like to share, feel free to let me know!

Best,
Thomas Coulouras
GOYA President

Ushering Ministry

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

Romeos & Juliets

The next Romeos & Juliets schedule is 12:30 pm on 11/21 (a week earlier than normal due to Thanksgiving holiday). The restaurant is The Grapevine Grill, 62 Turkey Hill Road, Belchertown, MA. Hope you can join us! Tentative schedule for December is 12/19* (Christmas Party - a week earlier than normal due to Christmas holiday).

Knitting Group

Knitting Group meeting every other week on Weds in the Church conference room.

Sunday School

We are continuing to learn our hymns, practice the Lords Prayer together and build on our parent’s teaching in church school. Remember church truly starts in the little church at home with prayers at meals and bedtime and reading about the lives of the Saints.

Loaves & Fishes

We wish to thank our volunteers!
November - Endowment Committee

Hope/JOY

We had a fun time at Austin Brothers farm, feeding the cows and corn maze.
Save the date- Friday November 22nd Movie Night!
Philoptochos will be collecting new hats, mittens, gloves and scarves along with any monetary donations to support the youth of the Homer School in Springfield. This worthy and much needed cause will honor the memory of Karen Louis – a lifelong member of the ladies of Philoptochos.

Watch for an opportunity to support the Lighthouse Clubhouse. The Clubhouse is organized to support people living with mental illness. During the course of their participation in a Clubhouse, members gain access to opportunities to rejoin the worlds of friendships, family, employment and education, and to the services and support they may individually need to continue their recovery.

MONETARY DONATIONS are now being accepted.

Suggested amount is $35 but any amount will help those in need.

This Thanksgiving & Christmas Philoptochos decided to accept monetary donations ONLY. In an effort to streamline the process and assist the chairperson, the board will do all the shopping and prepare the baskets for Thanksgiving & Christmas food outreach. We’ve appreciated the donated goods in the past and will continue that process in the future. Thank you for accommodating this request.

Please make your check payable to St. Luke’s Philoptochos Society Memo - Thanksgiving Food Outreach

Mail To: St. Luke Philoptochos Society P.O. Box 381 East Longmeadow, MA 01028

FOOD OUTREACH
THANKSGIVING 2019

Please HELP our neighbors that might otherwise go WITHOUT.
Fun times at Austin Brothers Farm in Belchertown MA. It was a fabulous warm Fall day- corn maze, cow feeding and pumpkin picking and gourd catapulting.

Taste of Greece was awesome fun!

**Taste Trivia...**

How many spots needed to be filled over the weekend? 516

How many parishioners signed up to help? 120

How many friends of St. Luke’s signed up to help? 50

How many volunteers in all did we have? 170

Many thanks to the 170 people who worked multiple shifts over the course of the weekend to fill all 516 spots!
Taste of Greece
What Makes the Taste of Greece Happen?????

* Workshops began on June 4th and ended on October 11th... 26 in all. Many thanks to the chair people and volunteers who participated.

* We relied on three men to take care of the purchasing and delivering of ingredients for the workshops as well as those who purchased food and additional supplies needed for the weekend.

* Publicity is a must...flyers, TV, radio, newspaper, lawn signs, menus, wall signs...made our event visible to areas outside our community.

* Volunteers are the backbone of this event...sign up sheets go out Labor Day weekend with additional phones calls and emails as the event gets closer.

* The Giving Tree gave our parishioners an opportunity to support this event by defraying some of the pre-event costs.

* Thanks go to the “strong armed men and women” who broke down the hall, moving tables chairs, etc.

* Decorating the hall created a festive atmosphere for the event...blue sky, blue water, blue table cloths!

* Event set-up...tables, serving line, bar, coffee booth, baklava sundae booth, raffle booths, and pastry booth begin on Sunday and are finalized Thursday night.

* Two weeks before the event the ladies are pricing, ironing, and displaying the many items for sale in our famous AGORA and Yia-Yia’s Closet.

* Throughout the course of the event, the food prep crew was busy at work cutting the veggies for gyros and salads. With the size crowds we had this year, their workload created many overtime hours.

* The wonderful shuttle and parking crew transported our working and visiting parishioners to and from the shuttle parking thus allowing our guests easy access to our church parking lot.

* This year, a new addition, charging with “The Square” was a huge success. After a bit of trepidation, our cashiers became pros with the process. The Square was located at the bar, the pastry booth, and on the food line with plans for expansion!

* Always a draw to our event are our St. Luke’s dancers. Both the younger group as well as the older group wowed the audience.

* Those in the kitchen, outside grilling area, and loukoumades area did outstanding work again this year. We received many compliments on the excellent quality of the food.

* You may not have seen them, but there was a sequestered group of four diligently working throughout the day and evening keeping our finances straight.

* No one likes a dirty table with food and dishes cluttered about...never was that the case at our event! Our fabulous Table Maintenance crew with their “blue rags” and our backroom tray washers (manned by many of our youth and their friends) kept our hall looking presentable.

* The Dream Team...the job that no one wants...is the best!!!! The sink is constantly filled with pots and pans and our crew of dish washers patiently keep up with the washing, drying, and putting away.

* We can never forget those individuals who pack orders at the cashier station, man the phone for take-out orders, handle the trash removal, make the coffee, greet people as they enter the hall, and last but not least help with our laundry each night.

* A very special thanks to our custodian who cleans the bathrooms and the hall each evening after all our guests leave.

* Even though we see this year after year, it is truly amazing how a room filled with 28 tables, a serving line, and several booths can be broken down in less than an hour by a group of tired volunteers.

* Oh, and we can’t forget the week after the Taste when the hall, the kitchen, the supply room, the Sunday School addition, and the shed all have to be cleaned and organized.

As you can see, it doesn’t just happen. It takes months of planning, many volunteers, and a lot of time to put on St. Luke’s largest fundraiser, The Taste of Greece.

Thank you everyone,
Vicki and Judy
Thank you

Friends of St. Luke who volunteered to work at the Taste of Greece 2019 ....

The following are friends of St. Luke’s who stepped forward to help us make the Taste of Greece 2019 the success it was. Some filled one work slot, some filled multiple work slots, and some came to help on more than one day. We are so appreciative... as you can see, we would have been in trouble running a smooth event without them!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandi Anagnostou</td>
<td>Andrew Giuliano</td>
<td>Irene Roumeliotis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logan Arsenault</td>
<td>Gary Gootzit</td>
<td>Tony Savona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Assad</td>
<td>Jonathan Harris</td>
<td>Karen Sheridan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Bailey</td>
<td>Liam Heinze</td>
<td>Costas Stathis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Barbieri</td>
<td>Matt Jameson</td>
<td>Tara Timsatiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Barseleau</td>
<td>Ryder Johnston</td>
<td>Jen Vamvilis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nona Bilionis</td>
<td>Cindy Kassanos</td>
<td>John Vamvilis</td>
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<td>Lauren Blanchette</td>
<td>Nick Katsoulis</td>
<td>Justin Vamvilis</td>
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<td>Roxanne Bonatakis</td>
<td>Mike Lavelle</td>
<td>Peter Vamvilis</td>
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<td>Jacob Burnham</td>
<td>Steve Maki</td>
<td>Mary Ann Vechiarelli</td>
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<td>Michael Coscore</td>
<td>Elaine Nelson</td>
<td>Dom Vechiarelli</td>
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<td>Peter Coscore</td>
<td>Jim Nicholson</td>
<td>Christopher Visser</td>
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<td>Troy Crockett</td>
<td>Corrinne Ochsner</td>
<td>Audra Vitale</td>
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<td>Ellen Farquhar</td>
<td>Laura Posnik</td>
<td>Greg Wentworth</td>
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<td>Pat Fecke</td>
<td>Angie Poulis</td>
<td>Jacob Wimble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Foscolos</td>
<td>Leah Rookey</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beverly Germaine</td>
<td>Derek Russell</td>
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</table>
Harvest Day Dinner

Sunday, November 24, 2019

Join family and friends in the Pappas Fellowship Hall
Following Sunday Liturgy

Home-Style Chicken Dinner
or Baked Haddock

Adults $16
Children (under 12) $6

Graciously prepared and served by
The Vamvilis Family

Reservations may be made on
Sunday, October 27, 2019 following Liturgy or
by calling the church office at 413-525-4551.

Reservations must be made by
Monday, November 18th.
No dinners will be sold
at the door.
2019 Saint Luke Christmas Card

WHO doesn't like receiving a Christmas Card? Certainly NOT the parishioners of St. Luke!

It’s the perfect time to come together, rejoice and express those feelings of joy and appreciation to the vibrant community we've found at Saint Luke Greek Orthodox Church.

That’s why we would love to see 100% participation in this year’s festive Christmas Card.

Please fill out the attached form with your $25 payment and send it to the church office.

Deadline to submit form and payment is Friday, November 15, 2019

***Philoptochos cannot guarantee your name(s) will appear in the card if order or check is received beyond the deadline date***

Parishioner’s Name placing the order: ______________________________________ Phone Number: ______________________

***Complete your name(s) as you wish it to appear on the card (1 line only please)***

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________ State: _________ Zip: __________________________

Please make your check payable to St. Luke’s Philoptochos Society
Memo – Christmas Card
Mail To: St. Luke Philoptochos Society
P.O. Box 381, East Longmeadow, MA 01028
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE

LOVE, a word that has a million different meanings to each and every person that says and shares LOVE. During the Christmas season we express that LOVE in so many different ways. It is a tradition of the St. Luke community to share that expression of LOVE by purchasing a Poinsettia plant to honor a loved one or to honor the memory of a loved one. By doing so, our church is beautified by a sea of LOVE that adorns the alter during the Christmas season.

The purchase price of the Poinsettia plant is $25
Please fill out the attached form and send it to the church office to place your order.
Deadline for placing your order is Sunday, December 8, 2019
(Philoptochos cannot guarantee your loved ones name will appear in the booklet if order or check is received beyond the deadline date)

Parishioner’s Name placing the order: _____________________ Phone Number: ____________________

***Please select one of the following options below***

In Honor of: ____________________________________________

In Memory of: _________________________________________

From: _________________________________________________

Please make your check payable to St. Luke’s Philoptochos Society
Memo – Christmas Poinsettia Sale
Mail To: St. Luke Philoptochos Society
P.O. Box 381
East Longmeadow, MA 01028
Parish Council Nominations close at the General Assembly on November 17th. Parishioners in good standing are encouraged to participate. Elections will be held in December.

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday December 8th 2019
During Coffee hour

Breakfast with Santa
Community Celebration

Hot Chocolate Bar
Story Time with Santa
Cookie Decorating

Please bring art supplies or an unwrapped toy for support to Baystate Childlife Services which helps children stay children while they receive treatment in the hospital. Sign up sheets for contributing to coffee hour and helping setup/clean up will be up soon.

Get your Angels Ready!
It’s time to start preparing for the Nativity Pageant. Rehearsal will be on Sunday December 15th after church school and Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 22nd following Liturgy.

Let’s Go Caroling
Everyone welcome to bring some joy.

We have been invited to carol to the residents of both Wingate East Longmeadow and Vero Hampden this year. Dates will be announced soon. We look forward to having anyone who would like to join us please let Father or Prez know so we have enough scarves and can make plans. God Bless You!

God Bless You!
Memorials

In memory of Andrea Argiro
Joanne Buckowski

In memory of Stephen Sgueglia and
Christina Kakoulidis
Elaine Sgueglia
Kiki Kakoulidis

May His Memory Be Eternal

William "Bill" James Cotopolis (Brother of Stephanie Bologa) fell asleep in the Lord on October 16, 2019

Bible Study Opportunities

Gospel of Luke
Tuesdays 6:30 PM in the Conference Room
The Friday morning Bible Study will resume in January

Orthodox Life
Join us on Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30 pm for an hour long session and discussion on Orthodox life — understanding and connecting our Faith with the world