

Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church

WWW.SAINTMARKBOCA.NET

October • 2013



RECAP FROM SAINT MARK MINISTRY KICKOFF MONTH PAGE 4





THIS MONTH'S FOCUS: THE TRUE SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP PAGE 7



THE CALL TO HOLY ILLUMINATION PAGE 10



### SAINT MARK PARTICIPATES IN PRAYER Service for Peace in the Middle East

On Friday, September 20, 2013 twenty-two members of Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church took a bus trip down to Coral Gables, FL to participate a special ecumenical prayer service held at the Saint George Antiochian parish. The service was a "general prayer service for peace and solidarity with the Christians of the Middle East" presided by His Grace Bishop Antoun and assisted by 28 other clergy. After the conclusion of the service His Grace and the presiding priest of Saint George, Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba, offered a few remarks during the reception that followed in the hall. The clergy in attendance signed an offical resolution for prayers and a statement of support for the Christians in the Middle East.

#### Iconography Campaign Now Underway

.....

On Monday, September 30th, 2013 scaffolding workers began raising scaffolding inside Saint Mark and thereby commencing work on the parish's longawaited iconography project. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our community leadership and the many generous donations from our members our internal beautification plan is finally coming to fruition. Work on the iconography will be ongoing throughout the fall. The project is expected to be done, and the scaffolding to be removed, by the end of 2013.



The Message is an in-print outreach to the Orthodox Christian community of Boca Raton and the greater South Florida region. This publication aims to inform, edify, and serve as a witness to its readers of the Truth of Jesus Christ as confirmed in the Holy Gospel.

The Message is a ministry of:



Saint Mark **Greek Orthodox Church** 2100 NW 51st Street

Clergy:

Rev. Fr. Mark Leondis, Pastor Rev. Fr. Alexander Leondis, Protopresbyter Rev. Fr. Steven Klund, Priest Rev. Dn. John Christakis, MD

Office Staff: Dawn Riger, Parish Administrator Patti Ali, Bookkeeper

**Church Maintenance:** Yosban Pazbalino & Tim Caldwell

**Office Volunteers:** Pat Anthony, Niki Core, Joann Haros, Petitsa Macaulay, Marlene Buettner, Pres. Mary Leondis, Debbie Fread, Kay Poly

Parish Council: John Koutsoupis

Philoptochos: Pam Parent

Choir: Sophia Christakis

Chanters: Ramona Bean, George Demopoulos, Art Poly

Ushers: Tom Hantzarides & Tim Sharp

Acolytes: Brian Giusti

Church School: Helen Lang

Youth Choir: Virginia Barnes

JOY: Angela & Girard Mitchell, and Jim & Claudia Dovas

Super Seniors: Athena Sperantsas

Syrtaki: Mark Christakis & Jenny Saiger

Greek School: Anna Kaiser

Bookstore: Yvette Koutsoupis, Barbara Tasiounes, Stella Pores

Welcome: Elaine Zographus

Readers: Vivian Jenetopoulos

Photography: Constantine Mukasa & Irina Giakouminakis

The Message: Fr. Steven Klund



#### PASTORAL MESSAGE Rev. Fr. Mark Leondis

My Dear Faithful,

Ducipsapis eum quid qui ut alibus esci doluptas que nos et, ut explita ni tes sum nihita saeceped eatur, od etur? Qui velisqu atemporit hictorepudis iur?

Reiciliquias ea videlig endent aborunt vit libusdae parum est ute rerio dignatectem. Ficab in cusdae. Ut di dolo et dolut quia quo eos essimporibus idel eatur aut alit quae velecer chillaute poritem eaquisc itaturibust faces es unt et, tem quae evelis earchit et aut ut maximus.

Sitaspero moluptat. Faceari onemquat ut ab ipsae volut faccae. Itaqui occus ma earum aut facea nus. Aribusa idi venem landunt di repreptasit, omnisci litates nonseceaquas etur aboribus, tem re, conempo raturio explige nimagnimosam isque simus dem. Nis ius dolupta quiae. Am fuga. Pit modios non cusae officipsam volorature, tet vit, conseque consequam rese omnihil itationsedit et arum et as et laboreris re verum, sim endae num re aut et ellab idus velicip sandiam nonsequ aectat licil enditatur moditiuri suntemoloris a aut a vellutempor aut erum lab id mintiis ut es sus quaererione erum et ature vit quiatium harum repudit inveruntem ent que laudic tectis quia dundess inust, simporis cuptas et omnihilis escim quate di restio. Nem dem. Nulpa doluptinus volut lant quas sunt arciassincta num nonsedio. Nequia neceperita comnimus molum aut oditius sit alissit ibusandus aut aceat.

Fugit denis dunt omnimincto bearuptae. Is experataquat diaturi temporporem dolupta sperunt ionserferum ipsaper itectio rectem es eles et ut fugit porerum qui odigent, oditas arumqui offic to modisquiat quassitatquo blaut aut volor resed molupta dit offic tem incia que nobisto iust omnis alique ea suntemp oratiaes dolor aut od minustio. Et eaque sitiatu rioneca borest, uteturit, nonse pero ma non pre mo doluptae re, secteni arumqua erferch itisto temporiti utae vel ium eventi am ea qui dolupta quiaepudae. Cest venis ipsum et quam volorendi volupta temqui nos mod ut qui omnimil ea simintotatis alitatibus mincti doleser iassedi ciissundit, illest ditio et re, volectatus ab iusdae percipsunt andant atia vendae. Et anda dipid utati cum ipid eliquae nam int rest lacit accullabo. Itatibus dit, qui que verum et alita debis ut vent int.

Ximodigent molorpos audit exceper natur, consequae experspel molesto et repe none odicien ecessimus etum et aut dolore vendige nditae rest, sinullit, qui conse nim fugias consequi berorum apistrum facerovid magnam, omnimodiae. Ic to corem inverorem et qui officaborae consequis doluptam es eiusdan ducillorepel id que di volecto te destiant fuga. Agnis ilicabor sinum dolo estrum non eumqui dolese platur aut aceperupta ipidus evellant que aut quam cum et aut dolo blant voluptaque abor modigent etur, sit eostrum quantotatem quam quatium, sundam res etur acipien dictem eostio. Mintem et antus, corenes tiatinto omnis etur?

Officto opta aut elit, nis eriant est moloreprat eos et pelis eum aut quunt.

Vent. Omni unt. In ratem. Am, sam nonsequae coneseces eum aped magnihilis et ea est omnite ipsantur? Quiatat iberum re el id et faceatiur, sum que mo idelit, quis delecatatur, sequi unt hitat.

Iquiati onsequibus iunt voluptae erum ercipsunt quaepelest, si omnisquam re cus restrumetur, odi cuptas utem fugitaquas cus qui voluptatiis sitas reped moloreh endaectur aut est, officil eosam serum sum faciusa ndisciatin remolup tatestius nonsed quidundi aut occulpa natio omnimendent digniendi secto totatur as rem fugia con nonsequiam nobitaque la voluptatecti doluptates dolendi ctiumqui seque con nulluptatem quiande ntiissit quis accuption cus, est aut quiae si veriam fugiam verum voluptaerum sam quibus eature volo enihic te sus nobit am cones ne mi, sum fugitius am consequat.

Biti de consequatur mos si tem sitatem earum hicimo esentiis senimus.

+ Jr. March by Leonds

Fr. Mark Leondis



#### MARBLE THRONE, PULPIT AND CHANT Stands Arrive from Italy

he brand new marble-work has finally arrived from Italy! The pieces were shipped from Italy and made landfall in Miami, and after a short delay in customs were moved up in several large wooden containers to Boca Raton arriving on Friday, September 27, 2013. Master Craftsman Bruno Salvatori and his two apprentices soon followed, flying into South Florida as well during the last week of September.

The installation of the pieces spanned the course of several days over the weekend and were finally completed on Monday, September 30. The completion of the pulpit, chanter's stands, and the bishop's throne coincided with the beginning of the raising of the scofflding inside the church in anticipation for the final stages of our iconography campaign.

These pieces' arrival marks the end of a long fundraising endeavor and the dawning of a new age of spiritual fruitfulness within the parish. We remember the closing prayer of the Divine Liturgy when we ask God to "Sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house and Glorify them by Your divine power." It is our hope that these new pieces, together with our beautiful iconography will serve as a glorification of our community as the Body of Christ and as a witness to the truth of His Gospel and the might of His Kingdom for many years to come.



#### STEWARDSHIP Penelope Douglas Moloney

#### Greetings fellow Stewards!

It's not too late to fill out a pledge card for the 2013 Stewardship campaign and become a member in good standing of Saint Mark. Just call the office and request a pledge card or take one that is in the pew.

We are putting the finishing touches on this year's campaign and getting ready for the kick off of the 2014 campaign on Stewardship Sunday in November.

We are also preparing for an amazing presentation by the Metropolis' expert on Stewardship -- Bill Mariannis. Bill will present a seminar on Stewardship Saturday November 2 beginning at 10am. All are welcome to join us at the church and I can tell you it is very worthwhile!!! Bill is a fabulous speaker and he has a dynamite presentation that will change the way you think about stewardship. So please mark your calendars-- Nov 2 beginning at 10am. Lunch and refreshments will be served and again there is no cost and all are welcome !

See you there!!

- Penelope Douglas Moloney Stewardship



<u>**75%</u>** of the Saint Mark budget comes from Stewardship. Without you filling out your stewardship pledge card each and every year, we cannot exist. Everything we possess are gifts from God and they ultimately belong to Him. They are given to us — by Him. If you haven't filled out your 2013 Stewardship Pledge Card please, do so today (they are located in the pews). "God loves a cheerful giver."</u>

## SAINT MARK MINISTRY KICKOFF



#### GOYA - MIKE GONEDES

Our GOYA ministry has started with a boom. We have more GOYANS this year than we ever had before. To date we have over 50 participating in GOYA and once again we are the largest GOYA in South Florida. This ministry is for our youth in grades 7 through 12th.

The mission of the St. Mark GOYA Ministry is to strengthen the relationship of young Orthodox Christians with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The program works to educate and edify young members of the Church, encouraging them to become active sacramental participants in the life of the Body of Christ. In order to do so we have our youth participate in church services, outreach programs and of course keeping the balance with sports and social activities.

We kicked-off our new year in September with a bowling night at "Strikes." We then followed that with our first District GOYA event down in Miami at the "Survivor Retreat." During this retreat over 70 GOYANS (32 of which were from Saint Mark) discussed the dangers of temptations and had fun competing in several relay races at Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church. It was a beautiful sight to see so many young believers come together to worshipping and socialize. The kids had such a good time, that the kids ended up staying in Miami longer in order to play an impromptu game of football!

Adolescence is an exciting time for young people, but also a difficult period in their lives.

Adolescents have many forces pulling them in different directions. Today even more than ever. They are developing at a rapid pace—physically, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. They are making life-long decisions about who they are and what they will become. St. Mark hopes to be a part of putting our youth on the right track. If the Church is missing from this process, there is a serious gap in the development of the young person. With the guidance of Fr. Mark and Fr. Steven and our advisors we are expecting a wonderful year!

Every child deserves to experience this ministry. If your child is interested in participating in GOYA please register by calling the Dawn at the church office: 561-994-4822, or Mike Gonedes 561-756-1313



#### ACOLYTES - BRYAN GIUSTI

Our newly revamped Acolyte program started this month with a pizza party and training workshop after Liturgy on September 8, 2013. There the boys registered for one of two teams (Team Seraphim or Team Cherubim) and we spoke about the honor of being able to serve as ministers in our Lord's Holy Altar. In other news, the fabric just arrived to the Church this week and our volunteers will soon begin work on making the new Acolyte vestments. Exciting things to come!





#### "REAL" YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY - FR. STEVEN KLUND

Saint Mark's new young adult program REAL started off the year with a bang! After the Divine Liturgy for the Holy Cross on Saturday September 14, our young adults volunteered in the "Feed My Community" food drive (the largest philanthropic food distribution effort in South Florida). We followed up that service outing with a our parish's first ever "Orthodoxy on Tap" event. Originally created by the Catholic Church, "Orthodoxy on Tap" is an opportunity for our young parishioners to come together at a local bar or restaraunt and discuss issues that matter to them. It is a way to bring Orthodoxy to our young adult believers without any imposing formalities. Just an open, honest conversation over drinks.



Both of these events have been also supported by the OCF ("Orthodox Christian Fellowship") chapter at Florida Atlantic University. The OCF group at FAU has just finished establishing itself as an official student organization on campus and has already had several meetings to plan activities for this year. Both REAL and OCF have a growing and exciting group of core members who are quickly gaining momentum.

Our young adults are looking for a way to connect with the faith. We hope that through our various events and get-togethers we will provide that and in doing so create an active community of young adult leaders within the parish.

We are looking forward to having 2 more "Orthodoxy on Tap" events at the Biergarten on October 17 & November 27. Please contact Fr. Steven Klund at frsteven@saintmarkboca.net or at (561) 994 4822 for more information regarding REAL or OCF at FAU.

#### GREEK SCHOOL - ANNA KAISAR

Our school year began with an Agiasmo Service on Tuesday September 17th. It was great to see so many returning students as well as so many new faces. We have many different classes based on the level of Greek fluency for all ages starting with our Pre-K class through the teenage years and even offer adult classes too! We are proud to be the largest Greek School in South Florida.

Our teachers Anna Tomadakis, Fotini Amanatides, Rosa Lembessis, Yiannis Profylienos, Thalia Stahopoulos and Anna Kaisar are eager to teach and improve your child's speaking and learning of the Greek Language.

Our school offers so much more than "just the classroom" There are monthly extracurricular bonding activities such as parties, parades, Greek School special programs, dance, trips, camp that all play a vital part in being part of the St. Mark Greek School to pass on to the next generation our Greek language and traditions.

It is never too late to sign up for Greek School. Either call the church office at 561-994-4822 or Anna Kaisar at 561-613-8376

#### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - VIRGINIA BARNES

Mark your calendars! This year's community Christmas Pageant will be on Saturday, December 14th. The program will begin promptly at 5pm, and will be followed by the Saint Mark Community Christmas Party at 6pm.

The Christmas Pageant has truly grown into a community event, representing many ministries of Saint Mark. For me, it is a great joy to get to know my Saint Mark family through this rewarding endeavor.

Many have already come forward to help. If you are interested in participating, please contact Virginia Barnes.



#### **BIBLE STUDY & SYNAXIS** FR. Mark Leondis & Fr. Steven Klund

This month Saint Mark has started its Bible Study, and Orthodox Discussion group "SYNAXIS." We will be covering Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans in Bible Study every Tuesday at 7:00 pm (after vespers at 6:30 pm), and we will be discussing "Journies in Faith" every Thursday at 10:00 am (after Paraklesis at 9:00 am). Anyone and everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Behind the Scenes of PHILOPTOCHOS

#### PAM PARENT - PHILOPTOCHOS PRESIDENT

ost of you are aware of the many philanthropic efforts of the St. Mark chapter of Philoptochos, but not all realize the day to day efforts of the organization known as the right arm of the church. Many of our women go quietly about the daily work of providing comfort and support to those in need. Last season we had three teams of Philoptochos members who supported Father Mark with his visits to the sick and shut in on a weekly basis. Judy Solomon and Presbytera Mary Leondis made up one team, Yvonne Stamatellos and Pam Parent a second team, and Thelma Constantinou and her husband Gus continued the good work they have been doing for years. We are looking for more volunteers to continue this ministry this year. Contact Pam Parent to volunteer. Thelma also makes sure that a card goes out to those who have had surgery, or who have lost a loved one.

Coffe Hour provides refreshment and an opportunity to socialize with fellow parishioners each Sunday. Thanks to our many volunteers, led by Assimo Kitsos, coffee is prepared early Sunday morning, and pastries are cut and placed on trays for serving. Callie Papantoniou and Thelma Constantinou call each week to make sure there are enough women to serve the community. Thank you to the many women who quietly donate necessary items such as napkins, cups, sugar, etc. A very special thank you is due to Riad Boulos and Lil Campayno who provide pastry each week. Lil is at the hall early each Sunday to assist Assimo in the preparation of the pastries.

The proceeds from our coffee hour help to provide the funds to support our many philanthropic endeavours.



Koliva for memorials and Coffee Hour sponsorships are two services that Philoptochos provides for the members of our community. Thelma Sorrentino prepares the wheat on a weekly basis so that it is always fresh and ready for anyone requesting a koliva for a memorial. Mary Widmark, Terry Pariharos, Vasila Manolakis and others are always ready to prepare the koliva for serving after a memorial and we thank them for their diligence. Please contact the office if you wish to order a koliva from Philoptochos. Suzette Johnson and her mother, Florence Pavel lovingly prepare the sponsor tables for Coffee Hour, providing fruit, paximadia and other amenities. Florence makes sure that each table has a centerpiece that she has designed. None of these women ask for special recognition, but do their work in order to serve the needs of the church and community.

The Caring Kitchen is one of our outreach programs. Each month Fran Papamichael rounds up volunteers who cook and serve lunch to the needy of Delray. It is a very strenuous job to plan the menu, prepare the food and serve it all in about 2 1/2 hours, but it is also a rewarding task. Call Fran if you are interested in assisting.

On Saturday, November 2, we will hold our 3rd annual Men's Culinary Delights. Men from our community will prepare their specialities and vie for the honor of becoming top chef at St. Mark. Last year was a great success and a good time was had by all. This year will feature prizes for the winners in each category, a Chinese Auction, 50/50 raffle, wine and beer and lots of fun. Be sure to attend the opening event of the social season at St. Mark. Admission is only \$20.00 and, as always, proceeds will go to the philanthropic efforts of Philoptochos. Chefs should contact Suzette Johnson in order to register. Tickets will go on sale in the hall on Sunday, October 6.

If you are interested in joining or supporting Philoptochos please contact Pam Parent at: pamnwally@icloud.com

## **2013 SAINT MARK STEWARDSHIP REPORT**







#### PACESETTERS

Fr. Mark and Anastasia Leondis Fr. Steven and Nicole Klund Fr. Alexander and Mary Leondis Dn. John and Stephanie Christakis Elias and Irene Alexandrou Steve and Denise Alman Dean and Kathy Andreadis Constantine and Patricia Anthony Andrew and Sophia Arbes Peter and Eileen Averkiou Dean Bacalos James and Helen Ballerano Theodore and Nena Barabutes Tim and Virginia Barnes Thomas and Peggy Bartzokis George and Gia Bavelis Thomas and Ramona Bean Maria Benestad Berman Law Group Philippe and Julie Boulos Riad Boulos Rich and Nicole Brochu Marlene Buettner John and Sylvia Cardone Andrew Cassas Paul and Sophia Christakis Mary Cocores Bill and Diane Cocose Daniel and Josephine Contogiannis Thomas and Georgia Copulos Nick and Monica Csakany John and Maria Cucuras Chris and Maria Danias Maria Demetroules George and Maria Demopoulos Harry and Tula Diamandis Charles and Diane Diamantis Peter and Maria Dion Dean Douglas John Douglas James and Claudia Dovas George and Harriet Eliopoulos Thelma Fail

Tom and Debbie Fread Glen Ged and Rhonda Ellis George and Elly Georges James and Donna Ginopoulos Nick and Katina Glaros Mike and Haroula Gonedes George and Michelle Grous Steve and Helen Hadgigeorge Tom Hantzarides John and Barbara Horey Matthew and Vivian Jenetopulos Nicholas and Mary Kaleel **Basil Kaloyanides** Paul and Estelle Knowles Kim and Elaine Koehler George and Keri Kolettis Chrysanthe Koumas John and Yvette Koutsoupis Emanuel and Helen Logothetis Alan and Petitesa Macaulay Emmanuel Manos Mary Manos Barbara Marino Constantinos and Antonia Markakis Paul and Maria Matthews Zachary and Patricia Menegakis Girard and Angela Mitchell John and Joan Mitsinikos Dennis and Penelope Moloney Louis and Helen Nicozisis Michael and Fran Papamichael Diane Paterakis Eric and Susan Peart Steve and Athena Pelekanos Gary and Angela Pelletier Argy and Christa Petros Frederick and Maria Pokrajac Art and Kay Poly Theodora Preston **Constantine** Pyshos Ted and Vickie Raptis George and Anna Regas Chris and Carole Rodis

Gerard and Joanne Scheller

Tim and Kathy Sharp

George and Stephanie Sigalos

#### 101 PACESETTERS



Louis and Ann Sinopulos Bill and Katherine Skoundridakis James and Thelma Sorrentino Anastasios and Angela Spyredes Amelia Stevens Anna Terezi Chris and Margaret Theodore Costas and Joanne Trataros James and Betty Veras Matthew and Nadia Weaver Marcia Williams Charles and Christine Zacharias John and Louise Zervas Elaine Zographus George and Donna Zoley

#### SUPPORTERS

Ellen Acosta Jeff and Vivi Ahrenstein Perry and Georgia Alexiou Anthony and Charlene Alvanos Peter Amanatides Helen Amditis Betty Andreadis Kalle Andromidas John and Dede Antonaras Neophetos & Georgia Apostolopoulos Thomas Araps Dora Argyropoulos Gus and Julia Armenakis William and Hilary Ashmen Nick and Sofia Athan Frank and Vickie Athanason George and Georgia Athanasopoulos Artie and Kika Averkiou Fay Averkiou George and Olga Bacalos Alex and Courtney Bafer Gerald and Christine Baldino Arthur and Loula Barakos George and Efrosini Barris Vera Bassy Charles Bekiaris Fotini Bekiaris

Barbara Bell Ernst and Christine Beyerle Helen Bisignano Theodore and Marysia Boinis Constantine and Kathryn Callas Ronald and Lillian Campayno Gerald and Georgia Carignan Heonia Cassimatis Basil and Barbara Chaltas Joanne Chamar Ann Chambertides George and Kathy Chapekis Ted and Bert Chapekis Walter and JoAnn Chapman Nicholas and Sara Chinappi Solon and Marsha Chris George Christakis Mark and Anastasia Christakis Nick and Vasiliki Christakis Bill and Eduarda Christo Steve Christopher Louis and Voula Christopoulos Milton and Susan Christopoulos Peggy Clarke Elaine Constantine Stephen and Tamra Constantine Gus and Thelma Constantinou Sotirios and Carmen Contos Aristides Copulos Nicholine Core Ernest Coshonis Dimitri and Yessyka Cosmios James and Angela Damilatis Bertha Dangles Helen Danis Dina Darras Gus and Eva Daskalakis John Daskalakis Taso and Dora Daskalopoulos Peter Davekos Kyriakos and Alexandra Davides Effie Davis Theodora Day Louis and Christina DeLuca Joseph and Patricia Denaro Tom and Marilyn Denney Catherine Deros Greg and Kristina Dittamore Ann Douglas George and Rosie Douglas Angelo and Pauline Dovas Theodore and Barbara Drakos Panagiotis Dranias Mary Ducas Jim and Edwina Duros Pete and Angie Duros Michael and Bess Economos Violet Economou Keith and Judy Ely William and Linda Esposito

Anna Fanning Elizabeth Ferguson Marianne Ferguson Tasia Foundoukis Katherine Fox John and Mary Ann Frazer Michael and Val Gandolfo Theodore Ganzos Eugene and Maria Garda Helen Gatsonis Stavros and Alexia Georgakopoulos Bessie George Constantinos Georgiou Steve and Irina Giakouminakis Sean and Sandra Gibson Becky Gidas George and Maria Gines Michael Glamoclija Grace Glaros Mimi Glass Irene Gonedes Steven Gonedes George and Dimitra Gounakis Michael and Yvonne Grammen Joel and Maria Gross Harry and Mary Ann Groutas William and Joann Haros Helen Harris Joyce Haseotes Anastasia Hatsis Robert and Faith Heeg Peter and Helen Hoffman David and Selena Huck Connie Janis Jeanne Janis William and Suzette Johnson Gus and Melody Jones Maria Jula Mario and Vivian Kafetzis Evangelos and Anna Kaisar Kenneth and Rema Kaleel Stephen Kalivas George and Mary Kalomiris James and Sally Kaloyanides Katherine Kaltenbach Angelo and Olympia Kanarios Phil and Theodora Karahalis Ann Karambelas Peter and Lynn Karantonis Christina Karas Marie Karras-Feigman Nicholas and Dorothy Karras Pete and Lula Karras Nicolas and Angie Katsiyianis Christ Kazalas Assimo Kitsos Theodora Klarides Theodore and Mary Klarides Eracles and Mary Klotsas Christos and Stella Kokinakos Alex and Penelope Kokkinelis Lambros and Sandra Kokkinelis Brasidas and Lisa Kokoros Helen Konopiots George Kontzias Alexandra Kopatsis Tom and Phyllis Kopatsis George and Christine Korakis Tassos and Sofia Kostopoulos Sam and Mary Kouchis Mary Koukos Angelo and Anna Koukoulis

Vicky Kourgiantakis Richard and Irene Kovacs Helen Livanios John Kusturiss Marie Kyriacou Evelyn Lagoumis Helen Economou Lang Ronald and Connie La Sota David and Antigoni Lauta Peter and Vivian Lazaridis William and Elizabeth Lazarou Eve Lefes Theodore and Nora Lekas Constantine and Irene Lekatsos Leo Lemonis Kyros and Varcia Leondis Athena Letsou Vasileios Leventakos Theodora Leventouri Stella Lindaropoulos Alexis Lindholm Edith Lindholm Brad and Anna Maria Lipsig Peter and Aliki Los Irene Magafan Cynthia Makris Hope Makris Olga Malides Mercina Maltezos Rena Mamolou Vasila Manolakis Arthur Manos Aristotle and Thula Maragoudakis Emmanuel and Nancy Markakis Joanne Markopoulos James Massialas Sara Massialas Angeliki Mavrikou Theodora Maxakoulis Alex and Sandra McGraw Claire Melissas George and Connie Mellides Madeline Metrenas Alice Meyer Harry and Constantina Mirabile Maria Mitsinicos Coula Modenos Paul and Elizabeth Modesto Norys Molinares Emanuel and Tina Moraitis Nick and Dawn Morf James and Stacey Morris John Morris Christian and Eleni Mougogiannis Stephen and Donice Muccio Robert and Connie Muir Constantine and Mary Mukasa Elliot and Alexa Nanos Anthony and Tracie Neonakis Anthony and Marina Nicolaides Constantine and Zsuzsa Nicholas Nick and Dorothea Nicolas Simona Niculescu George Nikolopoulos Constantine Nonas Anastasios and Agatha Orfanos Christina Õrfanos Calin Padurean Carlos and Evangelia Pagan Dimitrios and Georgia Panagopoulos Paul Panagos Alex Panagoulias

Demetrios and Anna Panayotopoulos Isabela Pando Ernest and Cindy Papadoyianis Calliope Papantoniou Michael and Kathryn Papantoniou Nicholas Papayani Despina Pappas Harry Pappas Peter and Agatha Pappas Kathryn Pappelis Charles and Katherine Papuchis Angelo Parandes Pam Parent Stanley and Sophia Parzyck Michael and Andonia Pasvantis Gari Paticopoulos William and Despo Paul Florence Pavel John and Nicole Pelekanos Urania Perakos John and Terry Periharos Amy Pershyn Bess Peterson Vasilike Petroff Iosif and Valentine Petrou **Constance** Pilallis George and Phyllis Pistolis Jim and Elizabeth Platis Victoria Polentas Peter and Helen Politis Lee Polydefkis Anna Prikes Spiro Priovolos Ioannis and Evangelia Profylienos Peter and Effie Protos Kyriakos and Joanna Pylarinos Mark and Dana Rados Angene Rafferty Catherine Rafferty Anastasia Raftis Cynthia Raftis George Raftis Eleftherios and Alicia Rasis George and Arhontia Repantis Betty Rickerby James and Dawn Riger George and Litsa Rokanas Steve and Gayle Romain Elaine Saetta Pete and Jenny Saiger John and Felis Sakellaris Michael and Nicole Scalise Genevieve Scaltsas Jon and Anastasia Schauer Marialena Selvaggio Vito Selvaggio Marika Siavelis Michael and Cosmina Siegel Stephan Silva John and Chrissa Skeadas Eleni Skiba Mary Smyrniotis Nia Smyrniotis Saul and Judy Solomon Pat Sourlis Thalia Sourlis Athena Sperantsas Costa Sperantsas Tom and Maria Spiliopoulos Stavroula Spyreas Gus and Martha Spyridon Lisa Stabile

John and Yvonne Stamatellos Trudy Stamos Milton and Anna Stathes Anna Stathis Georgios and Thalia Stathopoulos Dino Stavrinos Laurette Stesanopoulos Elena Stewart James and Frosine Stolis Andrew and Anna Stylianos Christina Stylianos Nicos and Andria Stylianou Dorothy Suflas James and Kasey Terpos Anastasia Theodore Chris Theodore John and Sophia Theodore Themi & Eugenia Theodosopoulos John Theodossakos Leah Theofanis Mary Thomaris Anna Tomadakis Sue Townsend Lauren Trudel Theodore and Norma Truman Helen Tryforos John and Mary Tsakiris Costa and Dorothy Tseklenis Philip Tsiklis Christos and Anastasia Tsoumbas Andreas and Maria Tzanakakis Kali Valencia Juan and Sophia Valladares Matt and Neda Vanden Bosch Sandra Van Horn Athanasios and Maria Vasilakis Pantelis and Ethel Vasilopoulos Cathy Vayianos Savvoula Velentzas Niki Veoukos Ida Vias-Scardino Esther Vigliar Laura Villias Stella Vitellas George and Ekaterin Vogiatzis Mihai and Ana Voicu Dusan and Christine Vucetic Daniel and Helen Wachtl Lester and Maria Weaver Mary Widmark Danica Wuchenich Kallie Xenakis Constantine and Helen Xintas George and Margorie Yeonas Barbara Yurchuk George and Joy Zachariades Peter and Aliki Zachary Steve and Mary Zafiris Thomas Zafiris Nicholas Zaharias Zafeiris and Margaret Zambiyadis Simeon and Maro Zaparegos Desanka Zebic Spiros Ziros and Lauren Trudel Peter Zivanovich Anna Zivkovic Elizabeth Zographus Christopher Zoley George Zoumberos Michael Zourdos AS OF 10/03/13



#### BILL MARIANES

A Parish that practices true Orthodox Christian Stewardship is truly on fire and can achieve the unimaginable and experience no financial challenges as it strives to emulate the kingdom of God. It is the challenge of every Parish council, stewardship and other ministry leaders and Priest to ensure that his or her Parish practices true stewardship and gives every parishioner the opportunity to maximize his or her commitment of time, talent and treasures for God's work. The question is how best to implement a truly successful stewardship ministry program?

#### PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN

- The real facts of what is happening in Christian churches in America
- The meaning of true stewardship
- How to re-organize your Parish to maximize results
- The 3 critical stewardship principles
- Dynamic stewardship tactics
- · Communications strategies
- A highly successful parish operational and organizational paradigm.

Igniting the Flame of True Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a unique, inspirational and step-by-step educational and interactive experience that effectively teaches how to implement a highly successful stewardship paradigm. This 4-hour high energy and very entertaining program includes time to answer specific questions tailored to the unique needs of each Parish.

This dynamic training also provides a comprehensive 9-step process for how to organize the most effective Parish and stewardship ministry.

The experienced facilitator is Bill Marianes who has traveled over 100,000 miles energizing and inspiring thousands of church leaders throughout the country to achieve outstanding and significantly improved results in every aspect of their parish life. This highly effective, practical and spiritually based Christian stewardship approach can substantially improve a Parish's ministries, communications with its stewards and financial stewardship results. The conventional wisdom is that "insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." Many Parishes have practiced a degree of insanity with their unsuccessful or stagnant stewardship programs. This is the chance to break the chains that bind us to less effective stewardship and Parish practices.

To receive the most from this dynamic program, ALL members of the Parish council, stewardship ministry members and ministry leaders and Priest(s) of a Parish should attend to better understand how to work together to maximize their effectiveness. Please make every effort to attend this very exciting, informative and entertaining program that will help you: (i) take your Parish to new levels of success; and (ii) learn how to achieve your own unique stewardship calling to serve God and His Church.

"Much is required from the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom much more is given."

- (Luke 12:48)

#### BILL MARIANES WILL BE AT SAINT MARK SPEAKING ABOUT Stewardship After Divine Liturgy Saturday & Sunday, November 2 - 3, 2013



## THE CALL TO ILUMINATION

#### Rev. Fr. Steven Klund

n the Church when we speak of someone converting to the faith we refer to them as "Newly Illumined" or in Greek "N $\epsilon \delta \phi \eta \tau o \varsigma$ ." The prayers offered during the baptism service

mirror this theme of "illumination" saying: "Let us pray to the Lord that we may be enlightened by the light of understanding and piety through the descent of the Holy Spirit."

That "light of understanding" is what Christ provides, for as St. John says in chapter 9:5 He is "the Light of the World." With this light we may now walk according to the truth of His Gospel and no longer in the darkness of our own limited understanding.

Such a light was shown forth on September 14, 2013. As is tradition in the Orthodox Church, the fourteenth

day of September every year is the feastday of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It was on this day, centuries after our Lord's Crucifixion, that Saint Helen found the true Cross of Christ. Saint Helen along with Saint Makarios, Patriarch of Jerusalem exalted the newly discovered Cross for the veneration and enlightening of all the faithful. She then returned to Constantinople and her son Emperor Constantine the Great with a portion of the Cross which would be used as a symbol of strength and victory for the Byzantine Empire for centuries to come.

Fast-forward back to this date on 2013, following the Divine Liturgy for the Cross Fr. Mark Leondis and Fr. Steven Klund drove out to the Delray Rehabilitation Center where another miraculous discovery was made. Maria Pokrajac, her son Emmanuel, and family were waiting with a long-time friend. She was laying down on her bed in a floral shirt looking out of her bedside window. It was her



95th birthday that day and she was very thankful that she had lived to see it.

You see, Just a few nights earlier she had a near-death experience and was taken into hospice care not expecting to last through the night. However, God had other plans, for the next day she was walking around her room, eating, talking, laughing like nothing had ever happened. Maria was stunned to see her dear friend's miraculous turnaround and even more shocked to hear what she said next. "Maria," she turned and said, "before I die, I want to be baptised an Orthodox Chris-

tian." Maria was overjoyed and immediately called the Church to schedule her baptism for September 14th. What a beautiful way to celebrate your rebirth in Christ, by doing so on the date of your birth into this world!

The story of her illumination will provide a light for others to follow. Her discovery of the faith mirrored that of Saint Helen all those years ago. The most amazing though is just how fitting it really was to be baptized on the day of her soon-to-be nameday ...

...After all her name is *Elaine*.

10 • Message OF SAINT MARK



## \* BALL AND SILENT AUCTION \*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2013 | EMBASSY SUITES - BOCA RATON

## Under the Mistletoe:

6:00 PM COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION

Starry Night:

7:00 PM DINNER & DANCING TO LIVE MUSIC

Attire

ELEGANT PREFERRED

For Information & Tickets:

IRENE ALEXANDROU - (561) 994 9615 OR PAT SOURLIS - (561) 483 8517 PROCEEDS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE CONSECRATION OF SAINT MARK

TICKETS

\$60



Non Profit Org. U S postage PAID BOCA RATON, FL. Permit NO 277

#### Postmaster: Dated Material Please Expedite

