

MOSAIC

Coming together, we form an icon of God's Kingdom

Vol. 8, No. 3

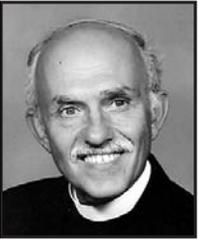
Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church 2501 S. Wolf Rd. Westchester, IL

June / July 2003

(708) 562-2744

www.holyapostleschurch.com

From Father Bill...



What does God expect of me?

When taking on a new job and responsibilities, we review a job description. This document is intended to describe in some detail what is expected of us. If it is a new job, it is wise to study this thoroughly in order to avoid any misunderstanding or disappointment in the future. In a more informal way, parents assign children weekly tasks around the house: make their beds; take the garbage out; mow the lawn; or for the smaller children, pick up the toys. Grant you, this plan is not always successful, nonetheless it should be in place for the family to see and understand. Now that we appear to know and understand our expectations of each other, what does God expect of us?

The ancient prophet Micah isn't exactly a household name. Too bad. Though obscure, the man had his stuff together. Eclipsed by the much more famous Isaiah, who ministered among the elite, Micah took God's message to the streets. Micah states exactly what many, to this day, incorrectly assume about pleasing God.

We have a tendency to complicate what is utterly simple. To many, God is virtually impossible to please. Therefore, religion has become a series of long, drawn-out, deeply painful acts designed to appease this peevish Deity in the sky who takes delight in watching us squirm.

Micah erases that notion, replacing the complicated possibilities with one of the finest definitions of simple faith: "He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

Local GI to come home soon

Spc. Joshua Dimitri, oldest son of Joan and Dean Dimitri, is a U.S. Army truck mechanic who, since February, has been stationed in the Middle East. In recent weeks, he's been serving at an air base in Iraq. Josh cannot tell his family which base.

"When he called us during the war," Joan said, "he was nervous. He said that getting used to the air raids was difficult. You had to get used to that right away."



March and April were anxious and agonizing months for the Dimitris, but Joan said she was comforted deeply by the overwhelming support from parishioners and others. Holy Apostles' Adventure Theater has sent Josh packages, as have local Brownie Girl Scouts, even local school children. "He called me one day and said, 'Mom, I get more packages than anybody else in the whole camp,'" Joan said. "People who I know just occasionally have called and offered me prayers. They have helped me get through."

Josh calls his family about 2 a.m. Elburn time about once a week, Joan said. He has told the Dimitris he may return as early as June to Ft. Benning, Ga., where he is based. They are hoping to be in Georgia when he does arrive.

For the last decade or so, the Dimitri family has been taking on the ambitious task of cooking the Communion breakfast every December. They are hoping to continue their tradition of cooking the 400 pancakes and 50 lbs. of sausages at the Holy Apostles breakfast. The Dimitris had attended Holy Apostles for about 12 years before moving to Elburn. Although they attend St. Athanasios in Aurora and St. George in DeKalb most frequently, they still drive to Holy Apostles for Adventure Theater performances. George "Mr. D" Demetralis is Justin's Godfather.

God does not look for big external displays. What is required? Be careful you don't stop reading here. Read the list again, this time aloud: To do justice... To love kindness... To walk humbly with your God...

When you love kindness, live uprightly, and walk humbly, you model God's life to others in unspoken, but easily observed ways.

While I penned these thoughts, I kept in mind that June is a special month for gradu-

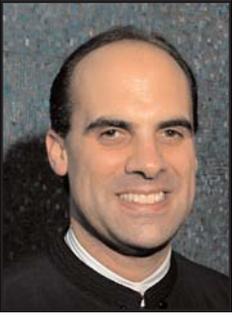
ates, dads on Father's Day and wedding anniversaries. What does all this have to do with God's expectation of us? Plenty.

We are often at a loss to know what kind of gifts to buy our friends, loved ones and especially our dads. For some people, especially for those who have everything, the standard gift won't cut it.

I have a suggestion. It may not seem that

...See Fr. Bill on P.3

From Father Nicholas



The Power of God

One New Year's Day, during the Tournament of Roses parade, a beautiful float suddenly sputtered and then stopped moving. It was out of gas. The whole parade stopped until someone could get some gas to refuel the float. Who owned the float? The Standard Oil Company. Although the company has vast oil resources, its truck and float were out of gas.

Sometimes we find ourselves spiritually out of gas. Why don't we personally experience God's power? We may feel weak and unable to change the path or direction of our lives. Can we do something to experience our Lord's power?

On the Day of Pentecost (June 15th this year), we celebrate the birth of the Church. On this day, the Apostles heard a "sound from heaven, as of a rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2) Fire is a symbol of transformation and the Lord's presence (the Holy Spirit). In the Old Testament "fire came out from the presence of the Lord" (Leviticus 9). When "Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering." (2 Chronicles) The supernatural fire was a sign of God's presence that fell on all sacrifices. On the Day of Pentecost, the supernatural fire came from heaven into each individual. From then on, God accepted each individual as the temple of His Holy Spirit. This day marked a new relationship with the Lord, for a new kind of supernatural power was given to us. When we were chrismated at our Baptism, we all received this power.

For us, Pentecost is not just commemorating or remembering the event, it is actually reliving it. As the Holy Spirit came over 2,000 years ago to fill the disciples with His presence and power, He will come to us during the kneeling prayers that follow the Divine Liturgy. We read the prophecy of Ezekiel that is fulfilled on Pentecost: "I will give them one heart and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them." To receive the gift and power of the Holy Spirit, the disciples' and apostles' hearts were eager to welcome Him,



This year on Holy Friday, the Church was graced with an unusually beautiful Epitaphion that was unique due to many, big white fragrant flowers.

How to Purchase a Cemetery Plot

To purchase a plot at Chapel Hills in the Holy Apostles section, first pay \$1,250 per plot at the church office. Liz Dorner will issue you a green receipt.

Then, telephone Mr. Strat Stoumbelis, 630-941-5860, at Chapel Hills cemetery for an appointment to select the actual plot site(s) in the Garden of the Ascension.

Mr. Stoumbelis will take your receipt and provide you with a Transfer Agreement, which will authenticate the transaction.

Chapel Hill Gardens will provide you with an actual deed to the selected property within two to three weeks. Safeguard this document as it is your proof of ownership.

...submitted by Don Alexander

their minds were open to learn from Him and their mouths trembled. We, too, must have soft hearts if we want to experience the power of God in our daily lives. The Spirit is like living water, always flowing and always available. We sing on the Day of Pentecost that "Every soul is enlivened by the Holy Spirit." He will come to us to refresh our parched souls. We are reminded in the Gospel of John that "if anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and

drink." If we earnestly seek the Lord with open, pliable hearts, His daily presence will be part of our lives. The Church has a beautiful prayer that we can pray daily to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives: "Oh Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth who is in all places and fills all things, the Treasury of Blessings and the Giver of Life, come and abide in us and cleanse us from every stain and save our souls O Good One. Amen."

The
HARC
CORNER

**The Mind
of the Orthodox Church**

By Metropolitan
of Nafpaktos Hierotheos

This is a theological treatise on the exegesis of the Orthodox Church. The analysis and definition of Christological and mystagogical aspects are fascinating, albeit profound, and difficult for this reviewer to relegate to memory. This book is definitely for the advanced, theological reader.

Softbound, \$17.00

Our Hearts' True Home

Virginia Nieuwsma, Editor

This collection of fourteen warm-hearted stories chronicles the events, many very subtle, that led to conversions to Orthodoxy. These most inspiring journeys are very interesting to those of us who are cradle Orthodox and sometimes take for granted the essence and beauty of our faith.

Softbound, \$13.00

*Reviewed by
Elaine Regopoulos*

**Wish List update
and thank you**

Holy Apostles has established a list of items the parish needs, in the form of a 'wish list'. The Parish Council would like to thank the parishioner who donated the 3 TV/VCRs, and those who have contributed toward the purchase of a defibrillator.

We are very grateful for your response. Still needed is an upright piano.

Fr. Bill from P.1

It is in giving, that we receive

expensive or novel, but believe me, it works every time. It's one of those gifts that has great value but no price tag. It can't be lost, nor will it ever be forgotten. No problem with size either. It fits any shape, age, or personality. This ideal gift...is yourself. That's right, give some of yourself away:

- a note of encouragement to someone feeling down.
- a hug of affirmation to someone in your family, especially to Dad.
- a second chance to the fallen.
- time to someone who is lonely.
- a meal to someone who is sick.
- a word of compassion to someone who has suffered a loss.

In the words of Ephesians 4:32, be kind. To simply paraphrase: just be nice.

Kindness is something you and I can do today by giving the gift of time, compassion, and thoughtfulness. In ordinary ways, we can give ourselves away and by doing so, model God's agape love. Remember 1 Corinthians 13:4, "Love is kind."

What does God expect of me? The answer is straightforward: do justice... love kindness...walk humbly. You may have already made your gift list for Father's Day, a wedding anniversary or a graduate. If you have remembered to add the admonition from the Prophet Micah, you will have given the very best!

**Annual
Holy Apostles
Golf Open**



**Monday, July 14th
Oak Meadows Golf Course
900 N. Wood Dale Rd. Addison, IL**

Registration and Lunch 10am
Shotgun start 1pm
Scramble format

Filet Mignon Dinner at 6:30pm

\$125.00 Registration includes: 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, gifts and prizes.

\$50.00 registration includes hors d'oeuvres and dinner only.

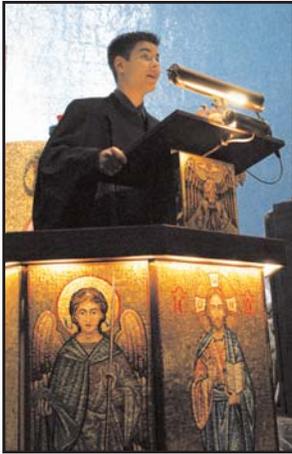
**Reservations are limited to the first 144 persons.
No reservation is guaranteed
until payment is received.**

To register, or for additional information, contact:
George Aravosis at (630) 530-1412
or register after the Liturgy, or in the church office.

Make checks payable to Holy Apostles Church.

Proceeds benefit Holy Apostles Charities.

John Schieber, below, presents his winning Oratorical Festival talk on stem cell research and the position of the Church.



Fifth and sixth graders joined the Senior Choir during the Divine Liturgy.

Young parishioners get more involved during annual Youth Sunday



Alex Bernardi adjusts candles at the candle stand.



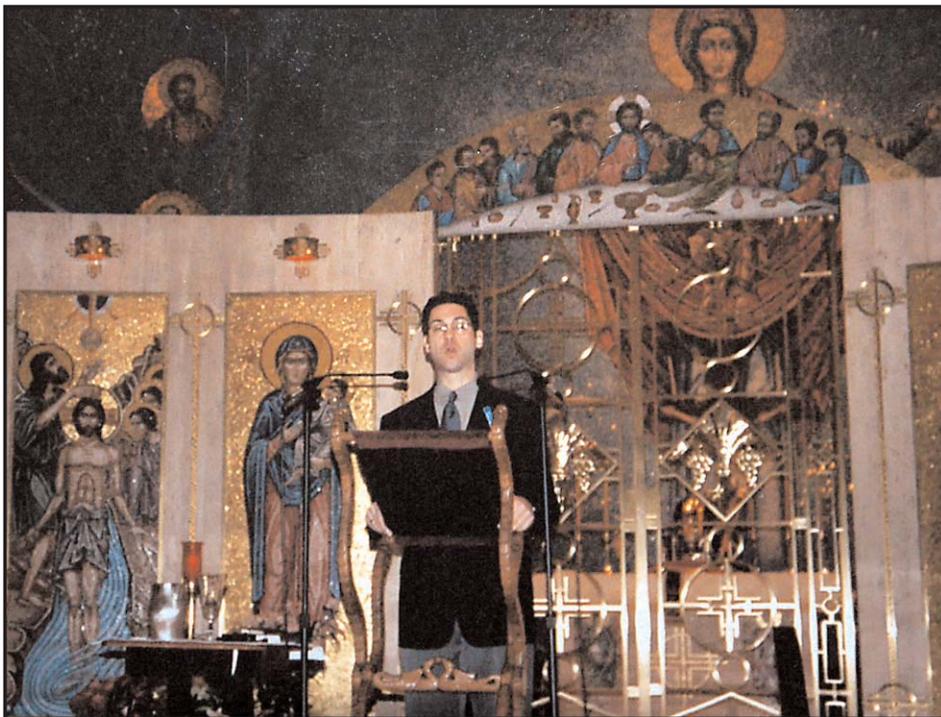
Andrea Zurales and Jason Kush read the Epistles during the Divine Liturgy.



Maria Dangles and Alexa Lampros, left, teach first graders about Communion, and Vanessa Fossess, above, Helps Harry Theodore with his candle purchase.



Toni Fawell sets up for the fellowship hour.



Dr. John Fotopoulos, a former Holy Apostles parishioner, speaks at St. John's Church during a men's Lenten retreat.

Men's Lenten Retreat a first in the area

BY HARRY PAPPAS

On Saturday, April 12, the first Men's Lenten Retreat was held under the auspices of the Metropolitan of Chicago and was hosted by the St. Efstathios Men's Prayer Group of St. John's church. The retreat master was the Very Rev. Archimandrite Demetri Kantzavelos.

After a 9am breakfast, presentations were made by Dr. John Fotopoulos and Dr. Perry Hamalis on the theme "Living our Orthodox Faith in the Marketplace."

Dr. Fotopoulos is an assistant professor in the department of Religious Studies at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. He has received numerous academic honors and awards. He specializes in the letters of St. Paul. He authored a recent book, "Food Offered to Idols in Roman Corinth: A Social Rhetorical Reconsideration of 1 Corinthians 8:1-11:1, which was published by Mohr Siebeck in Tubingen, Germany. Dr. Fotopoulos has written several articles published in Oxford, Geneva, Louisville, Grand

Rapids and Brookline. He is proficient in ancient and Modern Greek, Latin, French, German, and Swahili. He is married to Dr. Eleni Makris and they have a son, Demetrios.

Dr. Perry Hamalis is currently finishing his Ph.D. dissertation in Theological Ethics at the University of Chicago. He received his B.A. in Philosophy summa cum laude and became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society while attending Boston College. In 1996, he graduated from Holy Cross with a Master of Divinity degree and was valedictorian of his class. He is an adjunct professor at both DePaul University and Loyola University. In addition, he is the Young Adults Coordinator and a chanter at Holy Apostles. He and his wife, Dr. Pat Spiropoulos Hamalis, originally from Los Angeles, have two children, Michael Romanos (4 years old) and Georgia Karria (2 years old).

A Lenten luncheon was enjoyed by about 62 laity men as well as a number of clerics. After lunch, the attendees broke up into six discussion groups. The retreat concluded with Vespers at 3:30 pm.

Mosaic mailing crew gets a break

The Mosaic mailing crew will get a much needed break as we take the month of June off.

Teri and Greg Kafkes head up the team consisting of past and present members: Sia Athanasas, Tom and Mary Athans, Ulysses and Rosette Backas, Ernie Carres, Mike Economos, John Gramas, Bernie and Kay Hiles, Elaine Janakas, Sandy Kotsakis, Gus and Irene Lekatsos, Nick Magas, Dee Manolis, Harry Pappas, George Patsavas, Peter and Mary Poulos, Ron Stachowiak, Angelo and Pat Tolios, George and Angie Vrettos

Special thanks to Tom Athans who accompanied Greg to the post office for the last 6 years.

June / July Registry

Baptisms

Chloe, daughter of
Sophia & Mauricio Forero
Sponsor: Andrei Rabadzeenko

Troy, son of
Oksan & John Pilafas
Sponsor: Eileen Szubert

Anna Therese, daughter of
Debra & Nicholas Savramis
Sponsors: Shari & Strati Patrakis

Alexandria, daughter of
Dena & Jonathan Arendt
Sponsors: Theoni & Nick Limouris

Andrew, son of
Constandina & Mark Doweidt
Sponsors: Constantina Douvlis
& Antonio Douvlis

Anastasia, daughter of
Persephone & Evans Pappas
Sponsors: Faye & Spiro Demakis

Zachary, son of
Tonia & Mark Sutter
Sponsor: Ted Tomaras

Thomas, son of
Laura & Daniel Pepke
Sponsors: Elaine & Ernest Davis

Weddings

Kristina Costaras & Jason Krotidlowski
Sponsor: John Panourgias

Nicole Angelos & John Kubesh
Sponsor: Mary Beth Shizas

Jolita Paradnyte & Daniel Vlahos
Sponsor: Nicholas Vlahos

Irina Vakos & Sasha Draizien
Sponsor: William Pihos

What's Happening at Holy Apostles

Outdoor Liturgy And Picnic

It's time again for Holy Apostles' annual outdoor Liturgy and picnic at Katherine Legge Memorial Park in Hinsdale (on County Line Road, south of 55th St.) on Sunday, July 13. The Liturgy will begin at 10 am and upon conclusion, the fun and festivities of an outdoor gathering will begin with hamburgers grilled free of charge by members of the Parish Council.

Come in casual attire and do not forget your blankets, chairs and picnic baskets. A variety of games will be offered for all ages. Prizes will be provided by the Parish Council to the winners of the games.

Meeting Of The Generations

On Wednesday, July 2, at 1 pm members of the Adult Christian Study group will gather together with young people from the Adventure Theater, Lamplighters, sixth grade Sunday school class, and The Way eighth graders for prayer, snacks, fellowship, and a lively discussion of topics of interest to both generations.

Seniors Social

The annual June luncheon will be held Wednesday, June 11, at Ripples Restaurant in Darien. We will depart from the church at 12:15 pm. RSVP to Georgia Kontos at 630-769-1923.

Philoptohos

Philoptohos will host the Holy Apostles Namesday Vesper Reception on Sunday, June 29. You can help by making a monetary donation or a contribution of sweets. Please place your monetary donation in an envelope marked Vesper Coffee and drop it off at the office. Sweets may be brought to church that on Sunday morning. We thank you and look forward to this wonderful celebration.

Greek School Registration

Forms are available in the church office for the 2003-04 school year. Children must be four years old by September 1 and potty-trained to enroll in preschool.

Fashion Show

This year's event, *The Streets of Europe*, will be held Saturday, October 4. Beneficiaries will include the Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, and the Hellenic Foundation Family and Community Services.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
GRADUATES SUNDAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 1	2	APOTHOSIS OF PASCHA 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 3	1:00pm Adult Christian Fellowship And Study Group 7:00pm Great Vespers At Ascension Church In Lincolnshire 4	ASCENSION OF OUR LORD 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 5pm Fanari Camp Interviews 7pm Counselors Orientation 5	4:30pm Adventure Theater Rehearsal 6	7
8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 8	Vacation Church School				12:15pm Seniors Social Outing 12	SATURDAY OF SOULS 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy FLAG DAY 14
SUNDAY OF PENTECOST FATHERS DAY 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 2pm Campers Depart For Fanari Camp 15	HOLY TRINITY HOLY SPIRIT 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 16	17	18	19	20	12:00pm Campers Return From Fanari Camp 21
8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy Fellowship Hour 2pm Campers Depart For Fanari Camp 22	23	24	25	26	27	12:00pm Campers Return From Fanari Camp 28
FEAST DAY OF SS PETER & PAUL 8:00am Orthros 9:15am Awaken To God 9:30am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm Vespers For Holy Apostles 29	FEAST DAY OF THE HOLY APOSTLES 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">The signers of the Declaration of Independence</p> <p>fought their own government, friends and family to give us this free and independent America. Some of us get so busy with our day-to-day lives, the aggravation of traffic, work, over-scheduled families, and modern stresses and strains, that we forget to take an historical perspective on our hard-won privileges. Take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday to silently thank these patriots for the price they paid.</p> </div>				

Memorials

*Bea Georges
George Fotopoulos
Peter Fotopoulos
Eleftheria Pantelis
Kathryn Passiales
Koula Lamberis
Elaine Janakas
James Cotsirilos
Peter Valos*

Funerals

*Anna Zervakis
Mary Economy
Vasiliki Lampropoulos*

Hospital Visits

If you or a family member would like a pastoral visit while in the hospital, it is essential that someone call the church office at (708) 562-2744 and a staff member will handle your request. Thank you, and may God bless you or your loved one with a complete recovery.

And now for something kinda funny...

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly. "How do you know that?" "Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up. Like the priest said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

Six-year old Angie and her four-year old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

Mosaic Deadline

The deadline for the August Mosaic is Monday, July 7.

Weekday Services

Apothosis of Pascha

Tuesday, June 3
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Ascension Of Our Lord

Thursday, June 5
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday Of Souls

Saturday, June 14
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Holy Trinity Holy Spirit

Monday, June 16
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Feast Day Of Holy Apostles

Monday, June 30
8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church
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