



# MISSION NEWSLETTER

## From the Heart of Fr. Costas

My Dearest Ones,  
God bless you.

I hope and pray that all of you were able to escape the worst fires in our history. It is at moments like this that we feel deeply for those who lost homes and loved ones. May the Lord comfort them and strengthen them to rebuild their lives and homes.

In a few days the Christmas Advent will be at hand, starting November 15. Unfortunately it will be interrupted again in this country by the Thanksgiving holiday. Nevertheless, that's not an excuse not to fast and pray more intensely in preparation for the Nativity of the Lord, Christmas.

November is known as the month of the Unmercenaries, Cosmas and Damian, the Archangels, St. Nektarios and the Panagia's feast on November 21.

The Unmercenaries (Anargyroi) are definitively the purest symbol and example of unselfish and never ending love and giving freely to all people. No wonder our Ladies of Philoptochos consider that feast day their own. It sets the exceptional mood and high character of their mission and service.

The seven Archangels who sit around the Throne of God and the angels in general are somewhat left out and forgotten by us in our daily prayers. We keep forgetting the heavenly ladder that Jacob saw when he was granted the famous

vision to see the Angelic powers coming down from heaven and ascending the gigantic ladder, carrying all the messages from us to God. That very hour was a very difficult one for Jacob. His world was falling apart, but the vision gave him hope, inspiration and new life.

St. Nektarios was the saint of the 20th century. Many thousands have been touched by his miracles. He is an example of a man who was severely slandered and despised by the Patriarch of Alexandria and yet this pure man ascended spiritual height that the patriarch himself was unable to reach even the base.

Last but not least, in this month we remember the Virgin Mary entering the Temple, something which is disputed by many scholars. Yet these scholars have no faith and do not realize that the Virgin Mary herself was the real temple for the Son of God.

May this beautiful and happy period bring much joy and many spiritual thoughts to our minds, so that the rest of the Advent may be helpful to prepare us well for coming of Christ at Christmas.

The happiest priest,

Fr. Costas

### Steering & Operations Committees:

REV. DR. COSTAS  
CONSTANTINOU  
Pastor

STEVE DAFNIS\*  
Chairman

IRENE BASDAKIS  
Vice Chairperson  
Operations

EJ CONSTANTINE\*  
Capital Formation and  
Genesis Program Chair

GEORGIANN ELLIS  
Treasurer

ANDREW KERATZIDES

MICHAEL SELBERIS\*

REGGIE SELLAS

EMMANUEL SFAKIANAKIS

\*Executive Committee Member

### Mission Statement

"To establish a Greek Orthodox Church in South Orange County which follows, preserves and continues our timeless religious beliefs and traditions and emphasizes our Hellenic heritage, customs and values."

Please email [r.henning1@juno.com](mailto:r.henning1@juno.com) with any monthly newsletter in-put suggestions by the last week of the month preceding publication.

## Building Fund Benefit Dinner Dance

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

On November 10, 2007 our Mission Parish will be holding a semi-formal dinner dance in an effort to raise funds to build a church of our own. The event will take place at the Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club in Mission Viejo and will start at 5:00 pm. Invitations were mailed out in the middle of September and seating is limited to 220 people so please reply promptly to the invitation. Please RSVP immediately—seating is limited. For more information please contact Mrs. Mia Domingot at 949-637-5278 or via email at [mdomingot@cox.net](mailto:mdomingot@cox.net).

The success of this fundraiser depends on the participation of all our generous parishioners. If you can help sell raffle tickets to your outside contacts, let Mia Domingot know.

Thank You for your support,

Steve Dafnis, Steering Committee President  
Mia Domingot, Dinner Dance Chairwoman  
Dean Papas, Program/Ad Book Chairman

## St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church to Celebrate

The congregation of St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Redondo Beach, CA will be celebrating their 50th Jubilee Celebration with events on the following dates:

Saturday, November 10, 2007—  
Vespers, 6:00 PM

&

Banquet, 7:00 PM at Crowne Plaza,  
Redondo Beach

Sunday, November 11, 2007—  
Hierarchical Divine  
Liturgy, 10:00 PM

Please mark your calendars and join them for this Celebration. For information, please call St. Katherine church office at (310) 540-2434.

### Card of Thanks

*Presvytera Ioannie would sincerely like to thank the Ladies of the Philoptochos Society for the beautiful roses and the gift card (to Nordstrom's no less!) that they gave here at the luncheon last month for finishing her Ph.D. It was very kind, and she truly appreciates their thoughtfulness and love*

### Celebration of the 1600th Anniversary of the Repose of St. John Chrysostom

On November 13, there will be a Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy for the 1600th Anniversary of the repose of St. John Chrysostom at St. Sophia Cathedral. Our own Metropolitan Gerasimos and other Orthodox bishops will be present. This is an important anniversary for a very important saint. Orthros will be at 9:00 AM with the Divine Liturgy at 10:00

### Services for November

Every Sunday Morning  
9:00 AM: Matins  
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy

### Weekday Services

\*HOLY ARCHANGELS, Wednesday Evening,  
November 7, 6—7:30 pm  
ST.NEKTARIOS, for Services please attend  
the Church of St. Nektarios in West Covina  
\*PANAGIA'S ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE,  
Wednesday Morning, November 21, 10:00 AM

\* Location of Service To Be Announced

**DOOR PRIZES**

**FOOD**

**BEVERAGES**

**PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**DATE: DECEMBER 9TH**

**PLACE: SAME AS LAST YEAR**

**TIME: 4 PM**

**Fun for  
Everyone**

## Announcements

### Christmas Party

The planning of this year's Parish Christmas Party is actively being pursued. The date has been chosen: December 9th—Mark your calendars now! It will start at 4 pm and is being held in the same location as last year's Christmas Party. This event was a great success last year and is not to be missed! The organizing committee is seeking door prize items. Please see if you can contribute something to this worthy effort. If you can help, contact Danny Tonge at (949) 457-9524. Thank you so much!

### Christmas Trip Retreat to St. Anthony Monastery

A Christmas Trip Retreat to St. Anthony Monastery in Florence, Arizona has been planned. The cost is \$55 per person for the bus. Attendees will leave on December 21st and return on December 22nd. Watch for further details in future weekly bulletins and the December Newsletter.

### Sunday School News

Student instruction began on September 16th. Be sure to register your children if you have not already done so. Please remember to bring your children every Sunday so that they can be taught the Faith! If you have any questions, please see Ariana Sfakianakis after the Divine Liturgy or call her at (714) 879-7758. Thank you so much!

### Dinner Dance Fundraiser Planned

A Dinner Dance Fundraiser is being planned. Proceeds will benefit our Building Fund. Circle this date on your calendar now - **November 10, 2007**. You can find more details on this worth-while event on page 2. **Raffle Tickets**. Please participate in selling raffle tickets to outside contacts. The success of the Grand Opportunity Drawing for the Building Fund Benefit Dinner Dance depends on all of our generous and hard-working parishioners.

### Greek Dance Group Fundraiser

The parish's Greek Dance Groups are sponsoring a Christmas Boutique—for your One Stop Shopping convenience! The Boutique will feature unique gifts for everyone on your Christmas list. You may also enjoy a tasty Greek meal for lunch at the same time. The Boutique will be held in the hallways outside the chapel on Sunday, November 18th immediately following the Divine Liturgy

### FDF Regional Meeting

There will be a regional FDF meeting at St. Sophia Cathedral on November 13 at 7:00 PM with Metropolitan Gerasimos. The Metropolitan has requested that all dance teachers, parents, and FDF participants be in attendance. Please plan to attend.

### Ladies Philanthropic Society News

**Next Meeting.** Please mark your calendars to attend the next meeting of the Society on December 2nd immediately following the Divine Liturgy. **Questions, comments or concerns?** The Society has a box upstairs in the Fellowship Room that you can use to relay any questions you have. Please be sure to leave your name and phone number so someone can contact you with a response or action.

### GOYA and YAL News

Please let us know if you have a teenager at home (13-17 years old). We would like to be able to contact them and welcome them into the **GOYA** group which has now formed. Advisors are also needed. Let us know if you can help in that capacity. Miss Yeoryia Selberis has been appointed as the first president until we have elections. **YAL** (Young Adults ages (18-40) have had a very good start. Join them at their monthly meeting and gathering. Please call or email Sophia Kollias for specific dates of upcoming events. Her contact information is phone number 388-9123, or email her at [sophia99@cox.net](mailto:sophia99@cox.net).

### Church Office Updates

**Cell Phone.** Fr. Costas' cell phone number is (949) 365-6339. Do not hesitate to call him. Father would prefer that you not leave messages on the office 800 number because it seems that we are still not receiving all of the messages. Please call him directly. **Regular Day Off.** **FRIDAY** is now Fr. Costas' day off. Please refrain from calling him on that day, unless it is an emergency. **Office hours.** Monday & Wednesday: 4:00-7:00 pm. Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00 am –1:00 pm. When not in the office Fr. Costas will be visiting your homes and businesses, hospitals and convalescent homes, etc.

### Prime Timers

**Palm Springs Follies.** A trip is being planned for all interested in attending the Palm Springs Follies. A date of January 10th has been selected. Those interested can contact John Argos at (714) 549-2503 for further information.

**Greek Orthodox Mission**  
of South Orange County  
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San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693

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METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

## **Sunday Liturgies:**

Orthros and Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Liturgy	10:00 a.m.

JSerra High School Chapel  
26351 Junipero Serra Rd.  
San Juan Capistrano

Directions: From I-5 take the Junipero Serra Road exit. Go west on Junipero Serra Road. Just past the Shell gas station on your right, make a right into the next driveway. Proceed to the north end of the property (signs are posted).

**Office and Greek School:** 28570 Marguerite Parkway #223  
(just north of Avery Pkwy)  
Mission Viejo

**Telephone:** (866)350-1933; Father Costas Cell Phone (949)365-6339

**Website:** [www.gomsoc.org](http://www.gomsoc.org)

**Email:** [info@gomsoc.org](mailto:info@gomsoc.org)