

# Victoria and Vancouver Island Greek Community Society

## Newsletter

April – May – June 2009



“O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? **Christ is risen**, and you are overthrown. **Christ is risen**, and the demons are fallen. **Christ is risen**, and the angels rejoice. **Christ is risen**, and life reigns. **Christ is risen**, and not one dead remains in the grave.” *Paschal Homily; St. John Chrysostom.*

Pascha is the feat of feasts and Joy of Joys. It is the proof that the Kingdom of God has come upon the earth. It is with the love and prayers of our Board of Directors, Fr. Kosta and family, that we wish you all a blessed Lent and a life-giving Pascha. May God bless all your endeavours that lead to salvation.

“ For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.”

**Easter** is the greatest of all the Feast Days of the Orthodox Church. Pascha, as it is better called, means the “passing over”. This pass over is the trampling of death by death by Jesus Christ. For those of us that hold this belief as the very core of our life, Pascha is a joyous day. We prepare for 40 days with fasting, confession and the putting away of our bad habits so that we may pass with Christ into ever-lasting life.

### ❖ *Luncheon*

*Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon*

Following the Church service on April 12<sup>th</sup> (Κυριακή των Βατών) we will host a luncheon at our community centre, everyone is welcome.

### ❖ *Anastasis*

*(April 18<sup>th</sup>)*

This year the Consul General of Greece in Vancouver, Mr. George Ayfantis, and his wife will celebrate with us the midnight church service of The Holy Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ (Η Αγία Ανάσταση του Κυρίου ημών Ιησοῦ Χριστοῦ). Following the church service we will all get together at our Hall to enjoy a hot plate of our traditional Pascha Magiritsa and to exchange our Pascha wishes in conjunction with the cracking of the red Easter eggs tradition.

### ❖ *Greek Easter at Panagia Ypapantis*

*(April 19<sup>th</sup>)*

Similarly as in previous years we plan to host a potluck type dinner on Easter Sunday at our community centre, everyone is welcome. Those who wish to participate will be responsible to bring and prepare their own food. We will provide some barbeque space and the kitchen will be available for those of you who wish to use it. If possible, it will be best that you bring your own barbeque as what we have available may not be suitable for your needs. We will make available tables, chairs, plates and utensils. Please call us at **479-9391** before April 10<sup>th</sup> to let us know how many of you are coming so we can plan accordingly. **We are looking forward in celebrating with you our special Greek Easter.**

### ❖ *Thrifty's Smile Card Program*

Our Community, as a non-profit organization, participates in this program and receives from Thrifty Stores 5% of the funds you spend towards purchases at their stores. Please keep on using the Thrifty Smart Cards as they result in an easy but yet substantial revenue for our community. If you need a new card please call us (479-9391) and we will send you one.

### ❖ *Taverna Night*

*Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>, cocktails at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm*

Please join us with your family and friends for a fun night at our community center. The tickets are \$30 per person for adults, \$35 at the door, and \$20 for youth under the age of 16 (the fee covers food and entertainment). **Please Book your tickets early as space may not be available without a reservation, call 479-9391.** As with previous functions we will pre-assign seating in order to use the space available the most efficient way possible. If you would like to have a table assigned to your company please provide such information at the time of booking. Tables will be booked on a first-come first-served basis.

### ❖ *Easter Baked Goods Sale*

*(April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>)*

This event is organized by the **Ladies of Philoptohos** of our Church and it is to be held at our community centre on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. **Order your Pascha Tsourekia from the Ladies of Philoptohos.** Please call Mrs. Soula Trikeriotis at 384-1054 to place your order.



### **Things to consider..**

**Baptisms and Weddings-** All the Mysteries of the Church, such as Baptism, Weddings and the Liturgy should be approached with preparation. It is Christ Himself that changes us in the course of the Mystery and the Priest is a living Icon and instrument of His Grace. For a correct approach to Baptism and Marriage in the Orthodox Church please contact Father Kosta a minimum of **6 months to a year** before hand. Planning for a wedding always takes several months, as such contact the Father at the beginning of this process. If a baby is on the way, contact Father before it is born. In this way the Mysteries of the Church become more personal revelations of God's love.

**Questions?** Feel free to contact Fr.Kosta from Tuesday to Saturday, between 10:00am to 4:00pm at 661-1192. If it is an emergency leave a message at any time.

### ❖ *Important Information From Greece*

On a regular basis we receive information from the Greek Consulate in Vancouver, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education in Greece and several other organizations. These communications provide information about Greek education courses in Greece specially designed for Greeks living abroad, summer camps most of which are free of charge, scholarships and other related topics. Sometimes by the time we receive the information is close to the deadline for application and as such it is difficult to communicate this information to you via our newsletter. If you are interested in these programs please feel free to call Michael G. Ikononou at 658-3337 and he will provide you with the latest details we have in our correspondence file as they relate to these programs.

## *April 2009 Church Services*

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> - Τετάρτη 1 <sup>η</sup> -	Evening Presanctified Liturgy. 6:00 p.m. Προγιασμένη Θεία Λειτουργία 6:00 μ.μ.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Παρασκευή 3 <sup>η</sup> -	The Akathyst Hymn to the theotokos. 7:00 p.m. Ο Ακάθιστος Ύμνος. 7:00 μ.μ.
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 5 <sup>η</sup> -	St. Mary of Egypt. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Οσίας Μαρίας της Αιγυπτίας. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Τετάρτη 8 <sup>η</sup> -	Evening Presanctified Liturgy. 6:00 p.m. Προγιασμένη Θεία Λειτουργία 6:00 μ.μ.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Παρασκευή 10 <sup>η</sup> -	Coffee, Discussion, Hand-made Crosses and Confession. 7:00 p.m. Καφεδάκι, Συζήτηση, Χειροποίητα Σταυρουδάκια και Έξομολόγησι. 7:00 μ.μ.

### **Holy Week - Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα.**

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Σάββατο 11 <sup>η</sup> -	The Raising of Lazarus from the dead. Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Σάββατο - Ανάσταση του Λαζάρου. Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 12 <sup>η</sup> -	Palm Sunday. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Κυριακή των Βαΐων. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ. Bride Groom Service 7:00 p.m. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μ.μ.
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Δευτέρα 13 <sup>η</sup> -	Bride Groom Service 7:00 p.m. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μ.μ.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> - Τρίτη 14 <sup>η</sup> -	Bride Groom Service 7:00 p.m. Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μ.μ.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> - Τετάρτη 15 <sup>η</sup> -	The Service of Great Unction (Holy Oil) 7:00 p.m. Μέγα Ευχέλαιον 7:00 μ.μ.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Πέμπτη 16 <sup>η</sup> -	The Last Supper. Divine Liturgy. 10:00am. Ο Μυστικός Δείπνος. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ. The Passion of Christ our Lord. 7:00pm. Τα Πάθη του Σωτήρος Χριστού 7:00 μ.μ.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Παρασκευή 17 <sup>η</sup> -	Royal Hours and the Aprocathilosis. 9:00am. Βασιλικές Ωρες και Αποκαθήλωσις 9:00 π.μ. Epitafios Thrinos (Descent into Hades). 7:00pm. Επιτάφιος Θρήνος – Εγκώμια 7:00 μ.μ.
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> - Σάββατο 18 <sup>η</sup> -	Vespers of the Resurrection. 10:00am. Εσπερινός Αναστάσεως 10:00 π.μ. The Holy Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. 11:15pm. Η Αγία Ανάσταση του Κυρίου ήμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. 11:15μ.μ.
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 19 <sup>η</sup> -	Vespers of Love 1:00p.m. Εσπερινός της Αγάπης 1:00μ.μ.
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Σάββατο 25 <sup>η</sup> -	St. George the Great Martyr and the Life Giving Font. 10:00a.m. Αγίου Γεωργίου και Ζωοδόχου Πηγής 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 26 <sup>η</sup> -	Thomas Sunday. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Κυριακή του Θωμά. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.

### ❖ *May 2009 Church Services*

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Κυριακή 3 <sup>η</sup> -	Sunday of the Myrrhbearers. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Κυριακή των Μυροφόρων. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Τριτη 5 <sup>η</sup> -	St. Irene the Great Martyr. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Αγίας Ειρήνης της Μεγαλομάρτυρος. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Παρασκευη 8 <sup>η</sup> -	St. John the Theologian. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Αγίου Ιωάννου του Θεολόγου. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 10 <sup>η</sup> -	Sunday of the Paralytic. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Κυριακή του Παραλύτου. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Τετάρτη 13 <sup>η</sup> -	Mid-Pentecost. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Μεσοπεντηκοστή. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 17 <sup>η</sup> -	Sunday of the Samaritan Woman (St. Photini). Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Κυριακή της Σαμαρειτίδος (Αγία Φωτεινή). Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> - Πέμπτη 21 <sup>η</sup> -	Sts. Constantie and Helen. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Αγ. Κωνσταντίνου και Ελένης. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 24 <sup>η</sup> -	Sunday of the Blind Man. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Κυριακή του Τυφλού. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> - Πέμπτη 28 <sup>η</sup> -	The Ascension of our Lord. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Η Ανάληψης του Κυρίου. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> - Κυριακή 31 <sup>η</sup> -	(Fr. Kosta is at the Clergy Laity Assembly) Divine Liturgy at the other Orthodox Churches. (Ο πάτερ Κωνσταντίνος είναι στο Τορόντο για την Κληρικολαϊκή συνέλευση).

### ❖ *June 2009 Church Services*

Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> - Σάββατο 6 <sup>η</sup> -	Saturday of the Souls. All names and Koliva welcomed. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Ψυχοσάββατο. Ονόματα και το Κόλιβα διαβάζονται σήμερα. Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 7 <sup>η</sup> -	Pentecost. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Πεντηκοστή. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Δευτερα 8 <sup>η</sup> -	Monday of the Holy Spirit. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Δευτερα του Αγίου Πνεύματος. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 14 <sup>η</sup> -	All Saints Day. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. Κυριακή των Αγίων Πάντων. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ. (Monday- Apostles Fast Begins.) (Δευτερα- νηστεία των Αγίων Αποστόλων αρχίζει)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> - Κυριακή 21 <sup>η</sup> -	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Matthew. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. 2 <sup>α</sup> Κυριακή Ματθαίου. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> - Τετάρτη 24 <sup>η</sup> -	Birth of St. John the Baptist. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Γενέθλιον του Τιμίου Προδρόμου. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> - Κυριακή 28 <sup>η</sup> -	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Matthew. Orthros and Divine Liturgy 9:00a.m. 3 <sup>α</sup> Κυριακή Ματθαίου. Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00 π.μ.
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> - Τετάρτη 30 <sup>η</sup> -	St. Peter and Paul and the Holy Apostles. Divine Liturgy 10:00a.m. Αγίον Πέτρου, Παύλου και των 12 Αποστόλων. Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ. (Apostles Fast ends.) (Τέλος νηστείας των Αγίων Αποστόλων)