

Woven Together in Love Tapestry

You Are Sorely Missed!

Perhaps you remember that old favourite bit of church promotion: **CH_RCH** What is missing? You know what's missing, the letter U. In other words, you are missing!

Perhaps I should start using that tired old bit of word-play in all my communications because we have a lot of U's out there that are missing. And believe me, You are sorely missed! The church is not complete if you're not there to join in the chorus that worships God — and we worship God not only with words and hymns, but with our physical presence, with our love and fellowship.

I don't want to make anyone feel guilty. I just want to tell you simply, that I miss you. We started Sunday School with just about the smallest number of children I can remember, and for several weeks I've seen no improvement. I'm saddened by this, because I enjoy the children.

Please read this as my appeal to you. Don't stay away any longer. And please bring the children! I know how much children and parents enjoy the children's sports and other family activities. I would never ask you to sacrifice or miss out on anything that

brings your family closer together!

But church is also about togetherness. Your family is part of God's family! And how does that saying go? "*Families that pray together stay together.*" That's true in your home, and it's true in God's home. Please find a way to balance activities and responsibilities so that you and your family may also be part of this other togetherness.

We have a lot of things going on in our church this fall and winter. We have expanded our Sunday School program to include a class for middle schoolers, and this class is already brimming with ideas and excitement! Soula Varaklis is leading this class. We now have monthly gatherings for children on Friday or Saturday nights. David Parker is working closely with me to make these nights extra special. We made improvements to our parish hall that are enabling us to plan more and better events. For example, this month we have one of our own, Elizabeth Prodromou, coming back to the church of her youth to give us the kind of lecture for which she is in great demand throughout the country. Bible

Study is off and running with fabulous, and sometimes heated, discussions. Plans are underway for a major iconography project that will immensely add to the spiritual richness of our church.

And let me talk a bit about spiritual richness. Do you realize what a precious inheritance we all have in this church community? When I first came to Portland I was struck by the warmth of the building and the people; they seemed inseparable! And that's how I still feel 21 years later. But the warmth is diminished when you're not there. We'll be moving forward with the idea of a family-friendly Liturgy, and I've already started teaching the children some of the hymns of Liturgy. It's the beginning of a new era in the life of Holy Trinity, and I'm overjoyed to be part of it. Are you?

On November 15th we'll distribute Stewardship pledge cards for 2010. Your financial commitment is very important to the life of our church. But equally important is your physical presence. Don't ever underestimate how important your presence is. It's true in your home, and it's true in God's home. And God's home is not the building at 133 Pleasant Street, no matter how much we love it. God's home is *all of us* gathered together in prayer, fellowship, and unity of purpose. The purpose and excitement are there. All that's missing is U.

Love,
Fr. Constantine

SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Wednesday, 10 AM — 2 PM

Luci Nanos, Secretary — Office Phone Number: 207-774-0281 — Email: htrinity@maine.rr.com
Fr. Constantine's Cell Phone Number: 207-831-3016. His email address: ksarant@maine.rr.com.
Holy Trinity Website: www.holytrinityportland.org

SUNDAY MATINS
SUNDAY LITURGY
SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM
10:00 AM
10:00 AM

November 1st — Fifth Sunday of Luke (Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas & Damian)

READINGS: 1 Corinthians 12:27-13:8; Luke 16:19-31 READERS: Angela Varipatis, Tom Peterson
PARISH COUNCIL: Team II—Helen Blewett*, Tom Stratis, Paul Ureneck, Philip Sferes
PROSFORO: Persephone Poulis GREETER: Angela Moustrophis
FELLOWSHIP: Elaine & Jonathan Fitts, in honor of Elaine's mother, Lola Leveris.

November 8th — Seventh Sunday of Luke (Holy Archangels Michael & Gabriel)

READINGS: Hebrews 2:2-10; Luke 8:41-56 READERS: Stacy Gikas, Diana Dowd
PARISH COUNCIL: Team III—Jim Nicholas*, Greg Tselikis, Eugenia Lebares
PROSFORO: Bettie Moustrophis GREETER: Mary Gianibas
FELLOWSHIP: Tess Paras, in memory of her mother, Mary Efthimiou.

November 15th — Eighth Sunday of Luke (23rd Sunday) — Stewardship Sunday

READINGS: Ephesians 2:4-10; Luke 10:25-37 READERS: Demo Varipatis, Cynthia Young
PARISH COUNCIL: Team I—Tess Paras*, Chris Dilios, George Koukos
PROSFORO: Elaine Vorias GREETER: Bettie Moustrophis
FELLOWSHIP: Daughters of Penelope, in honor of Founder's Day.

November 22nd — Ninth Sunday of Luke (24th Sunday)

READINGS: Ephesians 2:14-22; Luke 12:16-21 READERS: Panos Pantelas, Alex Gikas
PARISH COUNCIL: Team II—Tom Stratis*
PROSFORO: Rhea Williams GREETER: Lisa Flocatoulas
FELLOWSHIP: Koukos Family, in honor of Harry & Maria's wedding anniversary.

November 29th — Thirteenth Sunday of Luke (25th Sunday)

READINGS: Ephesians 4:1-7; Luke 18:18-27 READERS: Tass Varaklis, Kay Cannon
PARISH COUNCIL: Team III—Greg Tselikis*
PROSFORO: Persephone Poulis GREETER: Angela Moustrophis
FELLOWSHIP: Friends of Persephone Chrissikos, in honor of her 100th birthday.

December 6th — Tenth Sunday of Luke (St. Nicholas)

Stewardship Commitment Sunday

READINGS: Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 13:10-17 READERS: Angela Varipatis, Greg Tselikis
PARISH COUNCIL: Team I—Chris Dilios*
PROSFORO: Bettie Moustrophis GREETER: Mary Gianibas
FELLOWSHIP: Parish Council.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY will follow the fellowship.

We have many opportunities for sponsoring a Sunday Fellowship. Please call the office for available dates.

December 13th — Eleventh Sunday of Luke (29th Sunday)

READINGS: Colossians 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24 & Matthew 22:14
READERS: Stacy Gikas, Rahwa Michael PARISH COUNCIL: Team II—Paul Ureneck*
PROSFORO: Elaine Vorias GREETER: Bettie Moustrophis
FELLOWSHIP: Luci Nanos, in memory of her parents, Chris & Kay, and her brother, Bill.

DEATHS

*Hajdhica Makoci, fell asleep in the Lord on September 11th, after a courageous fight against cancer. Her funeral was on September 15th. She was a remarkable woman of great faith and open-hearted love, and she was with us for too short a time after moving to the United States and our city. Our sympathies to her devoted husband, Ksenofon, their children, Krita, Mirilla, Eva and Miltjadh, and five grandchildren. Services were conducted for **Cynthia Valley**, niece to Thalia Prodromou. Her burial was on October 1st.*
MAY THE LORD GRANT ETERNAL AND BLESSED REST TO OUR SISTERS IN CHRIST.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

*A daughter, **Christianna**, was born to Ben & Eleni Braley. Proud grandmother is Mary Morelli and jubilant great-grandparents are Mino & Alex Gikas!*
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PARENTS AND MANY BLESSINGS ON THEIR DAUGHTER.

ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΙ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΩΝ ΧΟΡΩΝ

Ο χορευτικός μας όμιλος αρχίζει κανονικά τα μαθήματα την 1^η Νοεμβρίου 2009. Παιδιά ηλικίας 7 ετών και άνω μπορούν να παρακολουθούν. Τα μεγαλύτερα παιδιά, ιδιαίτερα αυτά που έχουν τελειώσει το Ελληνικό Σχολείο, είναι ευπρόσδεκτα για να βοηθούν τα μικρότερα να μάθουν τους ελληνικούς παραδοσιακούς χορούς.

Τα μαθήματα γίνονται την πρώτη και τρίτη Κυριακή κάθε μήνα αμέσως μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία στη κοινοτική αίθουσα.

Τα μαθήματα, υπο την διεύθυνση της κυρίας Βαρυπάτη είναι δωρεάν και παιδιά που φοιτούν ή όχι στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο είναι δεκτα.

΄Αν χρειάζεσθε περισσότερες πληροφορίες τηλεφωνήστε στην Κα Βαρυπάτη στο 799-6485.

GREEK DANCE GROUP

Our dance group begins a new year of instruction on November 1st. Children 7 years of age and older can take part. Older children, particularly graduates of Greek School, are welcome to come and help the younger children learn the traditional Greek dances.

Lessons are on the first and third Sunday of every month, immediately after Liturgy, in the Parish Hall.

The lessons, under the direction of Mrs. Angela Varipatis, are free and open to all children, regardless of whether they're enrolled in Greek School or not.

For more information, please call Mrs. Vatipatis at 799-6485.

SWINE FLU PRECAUTIONS. In accordance with guidelines issued by the government and health authorities, our parish is taking responsible steps to minimize the spread of the flu. We have placed dispensers of hand sanitizers throughout the basement and classrooms of Sunday School and Greek School. We have permanently closed the Nursery room as part of an effort to avoid excessive contact with unsanitary surfaces and unsupervised use of the room by older children. Guidelines are printed in the Sunday Bulletin to assist participation in the Liturgy. Parish Council members do their best to clean the icons several times during Liturgy, but people should be careful how they venerate icons. We suggest that people avoid shaking hands during the greeting of peace. The guidelines we have been observing as to reception of communion have served us well through the years and reminders are printed in the Sunday Bulletin to benefit visitors to our parish.

Children are the most likely to come down with the H1N1 flu, and we must do our best to protect our children, at home, at school, in church and in their sports and other activities! The government and all health professionals recommend that people stay home when a member of the family is sick with the flu. Let's pray that the effects of this flu will not be as severe as many fear.

A CELEBRATION of GREEK MUSIC



A PREMIER CONCERT

**Boston Metropolis
Philharmonic Orchestra**

accompanied by the

Boston Chorale Group "Kallifonoi"

FRED ELIAS AND CHRISTOS PAPOUTSY
CO-CONDUCTORS

Saturday, November 21, 2009

Starting at 7:30 p.m.

**SANDERS THEATRE
at Harvard University
45 Quincy Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts**

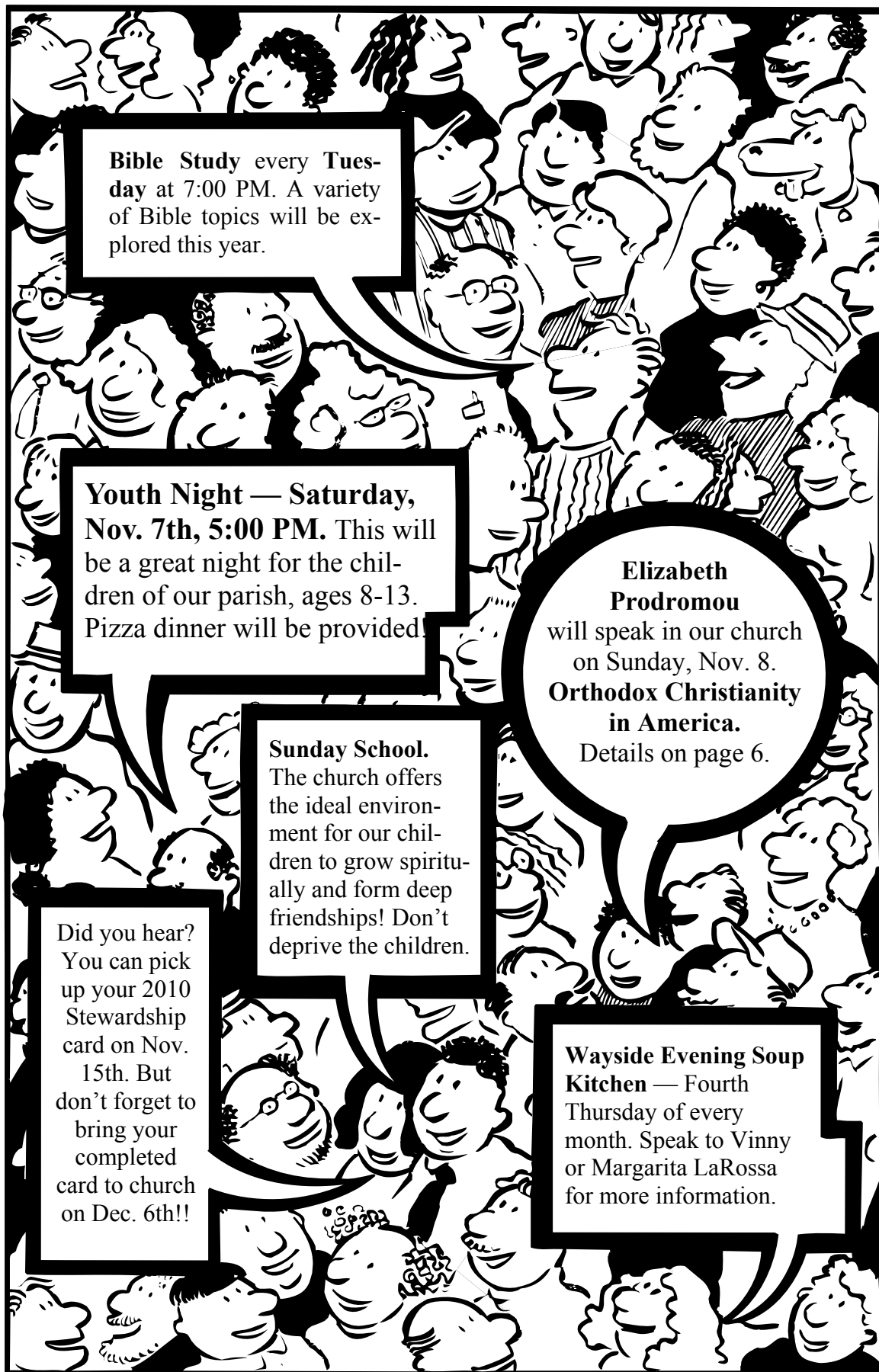
**Make your Reservations Today!
First Come, First Served.**

SELL-OUT EXPECTED!!!

*Order your tickets TODAY!
Call the Parish Office.
Or, the Metropolis at 617-277-4742.*

PROGRAM BOOK SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

All Proceeds Benefit The Ministries Of The Metropolis



Bible Study every Tuesday at 7:00 PM. A variety of Bible topics will be explored this year.

Youth Night — Saturday, Nov. 7th, 5:00 PM. This will be a great night for the children of our parish, ages 8-13. Pizza dinner will be provided.

Elizabeth Prodromou will speak in our church on Sunday, Nov. 8. **Orthodox Christianity in America.** Details on page 6.

Sunday School. The church offers the ideal environment for our children to grow spiritually and form deep friendships! Don't deprive the children.

Did you hear? You can pick up your 2010 Stewardship card on Nov. 15th. But don't forget to bring your completed card to church on Dec. 6th!!

Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen — Fourth Thursday of every month. Speak to Vinny or Margarita LaRossa for more information.

H
O
L
Y

T
R
I
N
I
T
Y

N
E
W
S

Hellenic Society Paideia of Maine Presents:

Orthodox Christianity in America: The Adventure of Unity
in the Context of Pluralism

Lecture by Elizabeth Prodromou

Sunday, November 8, 2009 at 12:00 noon

The lecture will be followed by a reception in the Holy Trinity Parish House.

The lecture is open and free to the public.

The United States of America is one of the most religiously diverse countries in the world. Where does Orthodox Christianity fit into what some analysts call the “religious supermarket” of American public life? How do Orthodox Christians participate in American society and in the U.S. foreign policy process as it relates to religion? Is the current moment a time of potentially great change for Orthodox Christians in America, towards the possible formation of a unified, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural Orthodox Church of America? What are the causes, dynamics, and consequences of this tipping point in the history of Orthodox Christianity in America? This lecture will provide a synthetic response to the above questions.

Elizabeth H. Prodromou is Asst. Professor in the Department of International Relations at Boston University, where she is also the Faculty Coordinator of the M.A. Program in International Relations and Religion. Elizabeth holds a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

She is currently working on a book on “Church-State Relations in Greece: Pluralism, Democracy and European Integration” (forthcoming: University of Notre Dame Press). Some of her publications include a co-edited volume entitled *Thinking Through Faith: New Perspectives from Orthodox Christian Scholars* (St. Vladimir’s Press: 2008); “Election 2008: Day-After Policies for International Religious Freedom” (*The Review of Faith & International Affairs*: 2008); “Negotiating Pluralism and Specifying Modernity in Greece: Reading Church-State Relations in the Christodoulos Period” (*Social Compass*: 2005); “Religious Pluralism in 21st-Century America: Problematizing the Implications for Orthodox Christianity” (*Journal of the American Academy of Religion*: 2004); “Christianity and Democracy: the Ambivalent Orthodox” (*Journal of Democracy*: 2004); “God Is Not Neutral: Religion and US Foreign Policy After 9/11” (*Orbis*: 2004); “Reintegrating Cyprus: the Need for a New Approach” (*Survival*: 1998); “The Perception Paradox of Post-Cold War Security in Greece” (*The Greek Paradox, Promise vs. Performance*, G. Allison & K. Nicolaidis, eds.: 1997); “Paradigms, Power and Identity: Rediscovering Religion and Regionalizing Europe” (*European Journal of Political Research*: 1996).

She has appeared in print and television media in the United States and abroad, including in *The Washington Times*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Denver Post*, *The National Herald* (*Ethnikos Kyrikas*), Voice of America Iran, Online News Hour with Jim Lehrer, and New England Cable News, and Ancient Faith Radio.

Elizabeth is a regional expert on Southeastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, and has been an invited policy consultant in Europe, as well as to the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, and the National Intelligence Council in the United States. She is the recipient of numerous academic grants and service awards from various foundations and universities.

Since October 2004, Elizabeth serves by appointment of House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi as Commissioner on the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), and she is currently serving her third term as Vice Chair of the USCIRF. She is active in her local church of St. Athanasius the Great, Arlington, MA, where she served as an officer on the parish council. She is also active in national and international ecclesiastical and inter-faith activities.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Loucas and Thalia Prodromou, and she grew up in our midst here at the Holy Trinity church. We are very proud of her academic success and prominence. She is married to Dr. Alexandros K. Kyrou, an Associate Professor of East European and Russian History at Salem State College. They have one daughter, Sophia.

We welcome Elizabeth back home for this eagerly anticipated lecture.

Two charitable donations. The Parish Council approved donations to two very worthy organizations: **Camp Sunshine**, in Casco, Maine, and **Alzheimer's Association, Maine Chapter**. Each donation was in the amount of \$1,500. We received wonderful letters of gratitude from both organizations. The letters are available for viewing in the church vestibule bulletin board.

2009 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of October 21st: **212 Members** made Stewardship commitments and/or payments totaling **\$109,950**. The average commitment is **\$519**, exactly the same as last year at this time. Despite the economic downturn, we are holding our own, thank God. We still haven't heard from about 40 of our members and families, but we are grateful for the faithfulness of ALL our stewards.

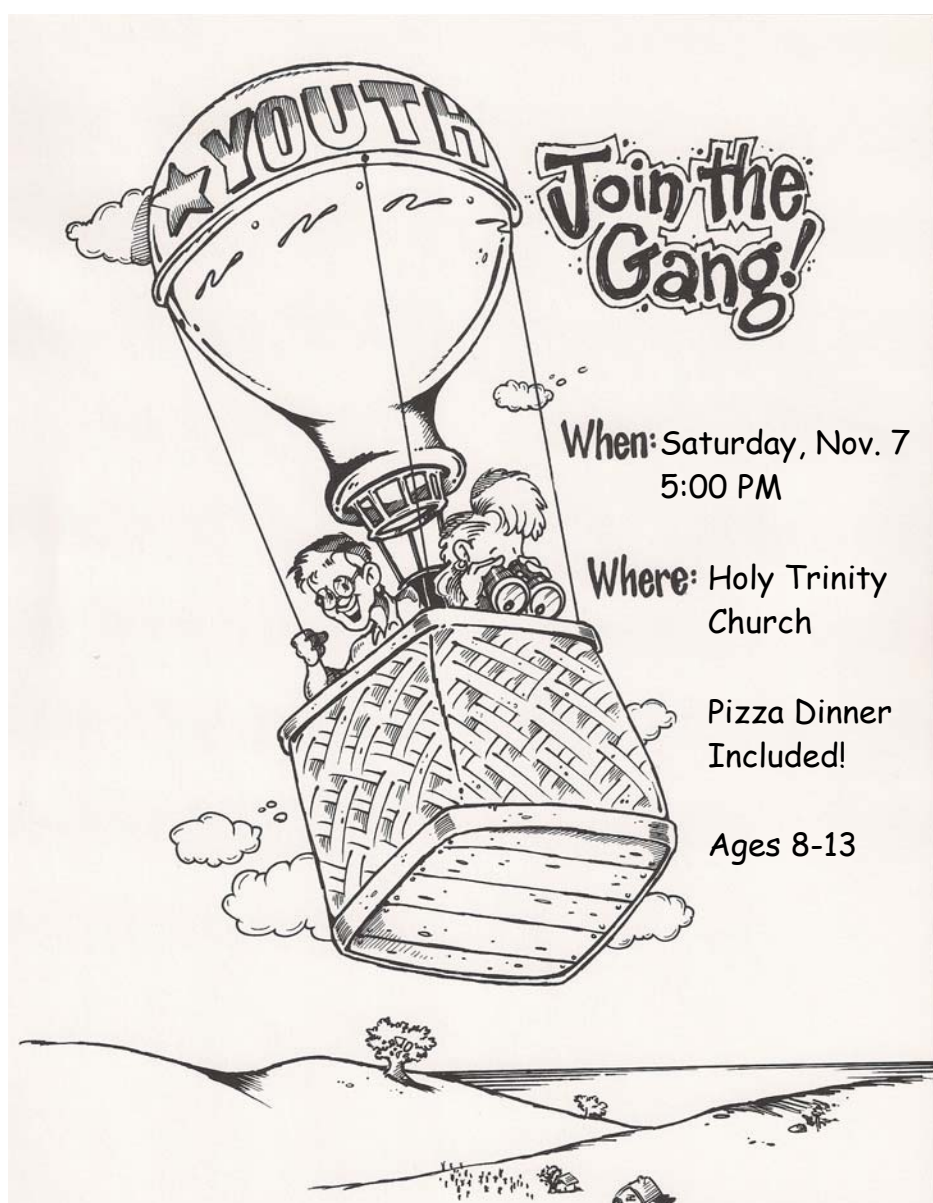
2010 Stewardship Campaign will kick off on Sunday, Nov. 15th, which is designated as Stewardship Sunday. On that day you'll be able to pick up your Stewardship package. We have then designated December 6th as Stewardship Commitment Sunday. On that day we ask our stewards to bring their completed pledge cards which will be collected. That Sunday is also the date for our annual General Assembly and Parish Council election. It's important that our church members be present on both of those Sundays.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE is available for our parishioners through the Holy Trinity Emergency Relief Fund. Assistance is offered in strictest privacy. Speak to Fr. Constantine if you need such assistance. We gratefully accept donations to this fund.

Altar Oil

- ✧ Nov. 1-7, Louie & Thalia Prodromou, in memory of their parents.
- ✧ Nov. 8-14, Tess Paras.
- ✧ Nov. 15-21, Rosella Dragoumanos, for the health of her family.
- ✧ Nov. 22-28, Luci Nanos, in memory of her dad, Chris.
- ✧ Nov. 29-Dec. 5, Louie & Thalia Prodromou, for the health of their family.
- ✧ Dec. 6-12, Rosella Dragoumanos, in memory of her loved ones.
- ✧ Dec. 13-19, Bettie Moustrophis, for the health of her son, Joseph.

Donations are \$10 per week.



NEW CHURCH SOFTWARE

We have purchased new church management software for the office, and are currently in the process of making the transition to the new software. When the transition is completed you will see a vast improvement in how we handle your stewardship and how the office communicates with you. You will soon receive a form requesting additional information from you, especially email addresses. You will have the option of receiving statements by email instead of regular mail. One major advantage of the new software is that it will enable us to print our own photo directory! If you have a digital photo of yourself or your family, please email it to the office at htrinity@maine.rr.com. Or, send us a good photograph and we'll scan it and digitize it.

Tapestry

November 2009

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
133 Pleasant Street, Portland, ME 04101
207-774-0281 htrinity@maine.rr.com
www.holytrinityportland.org

**THIS ISSUE OF TAPESTRY
IS SPONSORED BY
DINA & MARY GIANIBAS,
IN MEMORY OF JOHN
GIANIBAS.**

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Hunger is becoming a critical issue in the country and the need for food is great in our city as well. We have launched an ongoing collection of non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meat (spam or the like) or fish (sardines or tuna), canned or dry soups, mustard, relish, dry pastas of any type, dry rice etc. You may drop off such items in the collection box in the Education Center. The Soup Kitchen will pick up the food when we have enough.

INVITATION FOR PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDATES

We have one opening in the Parish Council. You are invited to be a candidate for one of these positions.

Any member "in good standing" can be a candidate. This means a person who regularly participates in the worship of the church and receives communion on a regular basis, and has no ecclesiastical impediments (such as a marriage or divorce outside the church). Candidates must be members of Holy Trinity Church for at least a year and must have made **and** fulfilled a financial commitment to Holy Trinity Church this year. If you meet the above qualifications and are willing to give of your time and talents, please give this invitation serious and prayerful consideration. Thank you.

**Kindly return the Candidacy Form
on the left with your signature.**

I, _____
(*please print name in full*)

a member in good standing of the Holy Trinity Church,
herewith prayerfully submit my intent to be considered as a
candidate for the Parish Council of Holy Trinity Greek
Orthodox Church.

(*signature in full*)

RETURN TO:

Holy Trinity Nominating Committee
133 Pleasant Street, Portland, ME 04101

**Must be received or postmarked by November 15th.
Election will be on December 6th, at General Assembly.**