

Saint Spyridon
Golden Anniversary 1928 - 1978



SAINT SPYRIDON

The front cover of this album depicting the Holy Spirit as a descending dove, the inside front cover portraying Saint Spyridon, and Christ the Teacher (a mosaic in St. Sophia in Constantinople) on Page 3, have been graciously donated by:

MRS. THEODORA KARAMPELAS

Fifty Years

of

Greek Orthodox Life

1928 - 1978



Saint Spyridon

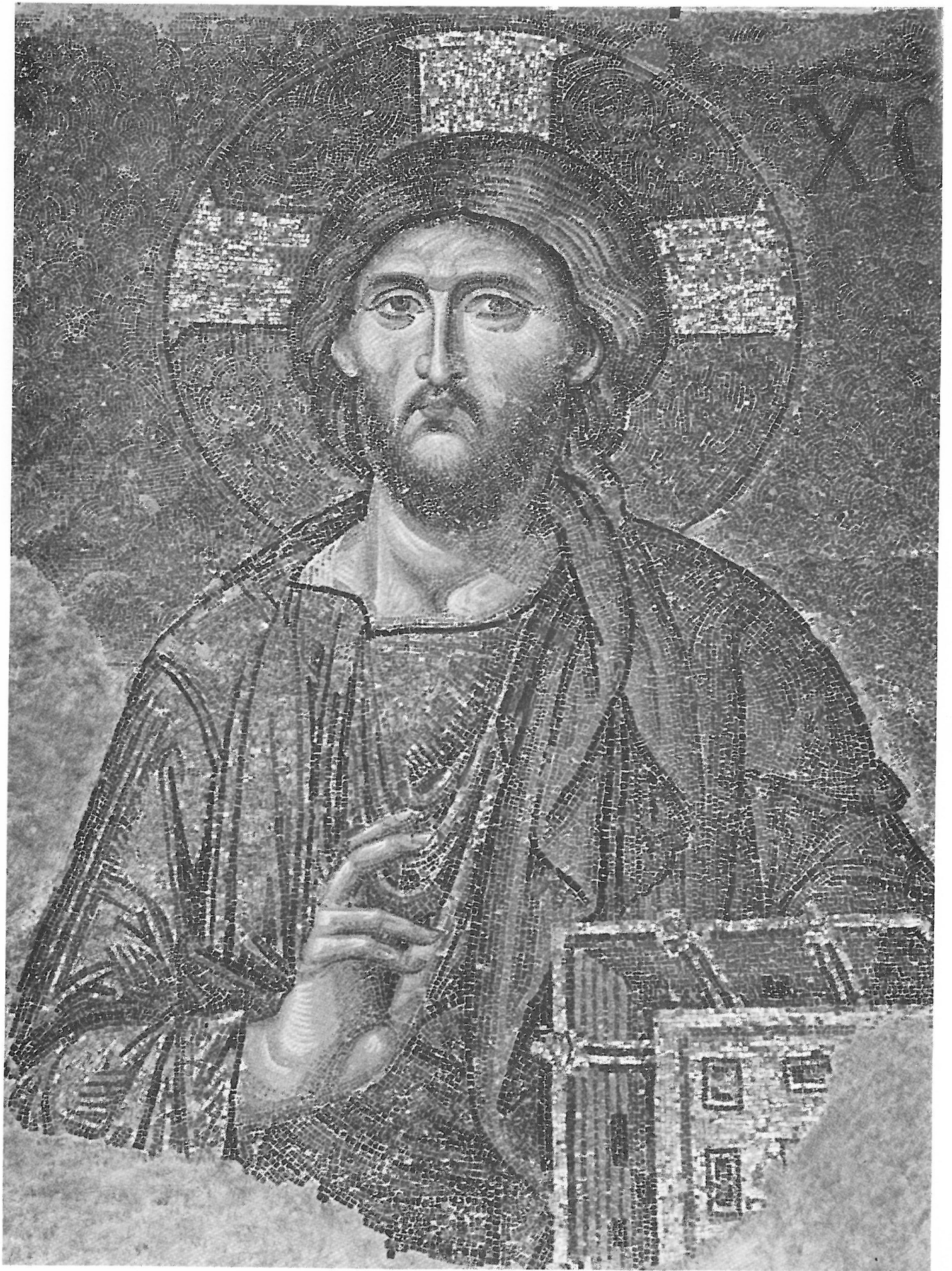
Greek Orthodox Church

Palos Heights, Illinois

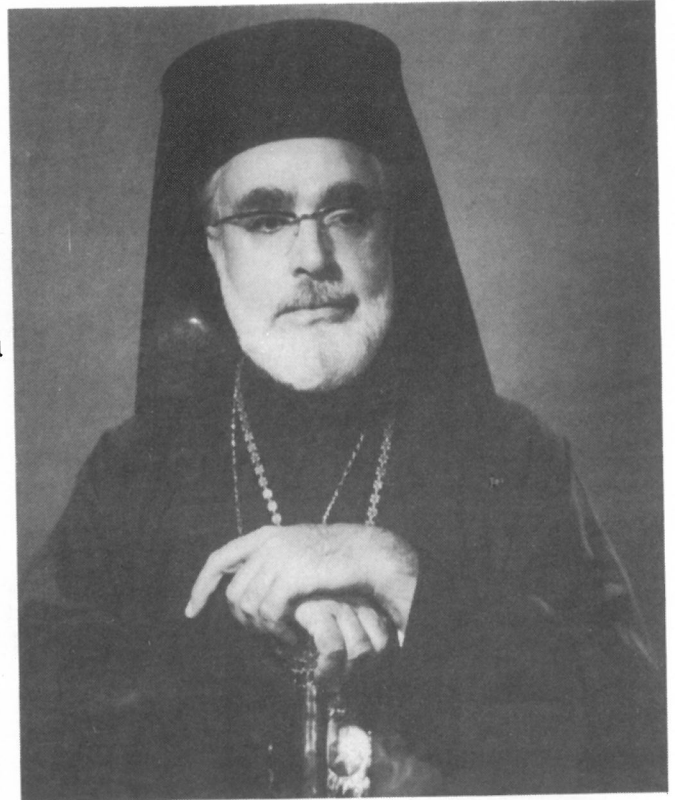


WHAT PEOPLE HAVE DONE, CREATIVELY,
DEDICATEDLY, COMPASSIONATELY,
SACRIFICIALLY, HUMBLY, AT SAINT
SPYRIDON, IS BUT A REFLECTION OF THE
MASTER'S RADIANCE AND HAS BEEN IN-
SPIRED BY HIS EXAMPLE. IT IS TO ALL WHO
HAVE WORKED AND SERVED, IN THE
FOOTSTEPS OF OUR CHRIST, THE CLERGY
AND THE LAITY, VISIBLY OR QUIETLY, HAV-
ING OFFERED THEIR TALENT OR TREASURE
AND THUSLY BENEFITED THE COMMUNI-
TY, THAT THIS BOOK IS

LOVINGLY DEDICATED



His Eminence Iakovos Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΒΟΡΕΙΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΝΟΤΙΩΣ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

10 EAST 79th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 • TEL. (212) 628-2500 • CABLE: ARCHGREEK, NEW YORK

Τῆ 20ῃ Σεπτεμβρίου 1978

Εύλαβέστατον Ἱερατικῶς Προϊστάμενον
καί Ἐντιμότατον Διοικητικόν Συμβούλιον
τῆς Ἑλληνορθοδόξου Κοινότητος
Ἁγίου Σπυρίδωνος
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL

Ἄγαπτοί,

Σᾶς ἀπευθύνομεν θερμότατα πατρικά συγχαρητήρια
ἐπί τῷ προσεχεῖ ἑορτασμῷ τῆς πεντηκονταετηρίδος τῆς ὑμετέρας,
λίαν ἡμῖν ἀγαπητῆς καί εὐλογημένης Κοινότητος τοῦ Ἁγίου
Σπυρίδωνος.

Οἱ τίμιοι Ἕλληνες πρωτοπόροι, οἱ ἰδρύσαντες τὴν
Κοινότητα ὑμῶν, ἐκληροδότησαν εἰς ὑμᾶς πολύτιμον πνευματικὴν
κληρονομίαν, τὴν Ἑλληνορθόδοξον Πίστιν καί Παράδοσιν.

Πιστοὶ συνεχισταὶ καί ὑμεῖς τοῦ θεαρέστου ἔργου
τῶν πρωτοπόρων πατέρων καί ἀδελφῶν ὑμῶν, μεταλαμπαδεύσατε τὸν
ἀνεκτίμητον τοῦτον θησαυρὸν εἰς τὰ τέκνα σας.

Προσελκύσατε πάση δυνάμει τὴν νέαν γενεάν καί
ἐμπιστευθῆτε εἰς αὐτὴν σταδιακῶς μέρος τῆς εὐθύνης τῆς διοικήσεως,
ἐάν θέλετε νὰ βλέπετε τὴν Κοινότητά σας προοδεύουσαν καί δι-
αιωνίζουσαν τὴν ἱερὰν αὐτῆς ἀποστολήν.

Εὐχόμενοι δ' ὅπως ἑορτάζητε πολλὰς παρομοίας εὐτυχεῖς
ἐπετελείουσ, διατελοῦμεν

Μετὰ βαθείας πατρικῆς ἀγάπης
καί εὐχῶν πρὸς πάντα

Ο ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ

Iakovos

Ο ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΙΑΚΩΒΟΣ

Συνημμ. 1. φωτογραφία

His Grace Philotheos Bishop of Meloa



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΒΟΡΕΙΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΝΟΤΙΩΣ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

SECOND DIOCESAN DISTRICT 2α ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ

40 EAST BURTON PLACE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 • TELEPHONE (312) 337-4130

Τῷ Αιδεσιμολογιωτάτῳ Πρωτοπρεσβυτέρῳ Τῆ 22α Σεπτεμβρίου 1978
Π. Θεοδώρῳ Θαλασσινῷ
καὶ τῷ Ἐντιμωτάτῳ Διοικητικῷ Συμβουλίῳ
τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Κοινότητος
Ἁγίου Σπυρίδωνος
PALOS HEIGHTS, ILL.

Λίαν μοι ἀγαπητοί,

Γιληροφηθέντες ἐκ γράμματος τοῦ Αἰδεσιμολογιωτάτου Πρωτοπρεσβυτέρου Π. Θεοδώρου Θαλασσινοῦ τόν ἑορτασμόν τῶν πενήκοντα ἐτῶν ἀπό τῆς ἰδρύσεως τῆς εὐλογημένης ὑμῶν Κοινότητος, δραττόμεθα τῆς εὐκαιρίας ὅπως εὐχηθῶμεν ὑμᾶς καὶ ἐπικαλεσθῶμεν τήν Χάριν τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, διὰ Πρεσβειῶν τοῦ ἐν Ἁγίοις Πατρὸς ἡμῶν Σπυρίδωνος, ἐφ' ὑμᾶς, τό ἔργον καὶ τήν ἀποστολήν ὑμῶν.

Ἐπί πενήκοντα συναπτά ἔτη ἡ Κοινότης ὑμῶν προσέφερον ἀνεκτιμήτους ὑπηρεσίας εἰς τε τήν Κοινότητα καὶ τήν ἀγαπήτην Ὀμογένειαν CHICAGO, ILL., ἀλλά καὶ θά προσφέρῃ, τῇ συνεργασίᾳ ὄλων, καὶ διὰ τήν δευτέραν πενήκονταετίαν, ἵνα ἡ ἐορτή τῶν ἑκατῶν ἐτῶν εἶναι προῖον καὶ ἀγών καὶ αἶμα καὶ πόνος ὑμῶν, ὡς ὑμεῖς κατὰ τό τρέχον ἔτος ἐορτάζετε μεγαλοπρεπῶς τά πρῶτα πενήκοντα ἔτη, τά ὅποια, διὰ τῶν ἰδίων μέσων, προετοίμασαν οἱ ἀείμνηστοι, ἀγαπητοί, εὐσεβεῖς καὶ ἀλησμόνητοι πρωτοπόροι ὑμῶν, οἵτινες ὡς πραγματικοὶ ἱεραπόστολοι μετεφύτευσαν τήν τε θρησκευτικὴν καὶ Ἑθνικὴν Παράδοσιν ἡμῶν εἰς τόν Νέον Κόσμον καὶ εἰς τό κέντρον αὐτοῦ, τήν μεγάλην πόλιν CHICAGO, ILL.

Εὐχόμενος εἰς πάντας ἔτη πολλά, ὑγιείαν καὶ πᾶν παρά Κυρίου ἀγαθόν, διατελῶ,

Μετ' εὐχῶν πολλῶν καὶ ἀγάπης πατρικῆς

Φιλόθεος
Ὁ Μελότης Φιλόθεος
Ἀρχιεπισκοπικός Ἐπίτροπος

Spyridon Dokianos Consul General of Greece



Tel. (312) 372-5356

CONSULATE GENERAL OF GREECE
168 North Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Σικάγο, 22 Νοεμβρίου 1978

ΠΡΟΣ: τόν Πρόεδρο,
τό Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο,
τά μέλη της Έκκλησιαστικής
Κοινότητας Άγιου Σπυρίδωνος
Palos Heights- Chicago

Άγαπητοί φίλοι,

Με είλικρινή χαρά επικοινωνώ μαζί σας για να σας εκφράσω τα έγκερδια συγχαρητήριά μου με την ώραία εύκαιρία του έορτασμού των 50 χρόνων ύπαρξεως και δημιουργικού έργου της Κοινότητός σας.

Τό έργο αυτό, οι συγκινητικές και έπιτυχεύς προσπάθειες όλων σας για την συνέχιση θρησκείας, γλώσσης, έθιμων και παραδόσεων της φυλής μας, τιμά ιδιαίτέρως τόσον ιδρυτάς, πρωτεργάτας και άκούραστα μέλη της Κοινότητος όσο και όλη την μεγάλη Έλληνοαμερικανική Οίκογένεια της περιοχής μας.

Εύχομαι σε όλους ύγεια, προκοπή και πρόοδο καθώς και λαμπρή έπιτυχία σε κάθε εύγενή σας προσπάθεια.

Σπυρίδων Άπ. Δοκιανός
Γενικός Πρόξενος

Rev. Dr. Theodore Thalassinos

Rector

**Protopresbyter of the
Great Church of Christ**

Πενήντα Χρόνια Πίσω Ἄλλά Πόσα Ἐμπρός;

Τὸ χρόνο δὲν μπορεῖ κανεὶς νὰ τὸν σταματήσῃ. Κυλάει ἄλλοτε ὀρμητικὰ καὶ ἄλλοτε σιγανὰ, πάντοτε, ὅμως, παρασύρει στὸ διάβα του κάθε πρόσκομμα, πού θὰ συναντήσῃ. Τὸ πρόσκομμα αὐτὸ εἶναι ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ τὰ ἔργα του.

Ἡ πρώτη ἐκκλησία τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος κτίστηκε ἀπὸ τὴν εὐσέβεια, τὸν κόπο καὶ τὸν ἰδρώτα τῶν πρωτοπόρων. Ὀλίγοι μόνον ἀπὸ αὐτοὺς ἄνθεξαν στὸ πέρασμα τοῦ χρόνου καὶ εἶναι σήμερα τὸ καμάρι τῆς κοινότητας. Οἱ περισσότεροι ἔφυγαν καὶ ἄφησαν πίσω μιὰ ἀνάμνηση, πού θὰ κρατήσῃ ὅσο θὰ εἶναι ἐπάνω στὴ σκηνὴ τῆς ζωῆς ἐκεῖνοι, πού τοὺς ἐγνώρισαν, καὶ ἓνα ὄνομα, πού συλλογικὰ ἀναφέρει ὁ λειτουργός, ὅταν μνημονεύει τοὺς κτήτορας τῆς ἐκκλησίας, καὶ ἀτομικὰ στὰ μνημόσυνα καὶ τὰ σάββατα τῶν νεκρῶν.

Καὶ ἐκεῖνοι μὲν ἔφυγαν, τὸ ἔργον τους, ὅμως, ἔμεινε καὶ ἄνθεξε στὸ πέρασμα μισοῦ αἰῶνα.

Ἡ ἐκκλησία τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος ἀνοίξε τὸ 1928 καὶ ἔκλεισε στὶς 8 Φεβρουαρίου 1976, ὅποτε σὲ πρωτοφανῆ συναγερμὸ λαοῦ ἐγένετο ἡ τελευταία λειτουργία. Κατὰ τὰ σαράντα ὀκτὼ αὐτὰ χρόνια μέσα στὴν ὠραία καὶ κατανυκτικὴ ἀτμόσφαιρα τῆς παλαιᾶς ἐκκλησίας ἀκούστηκαν κλάμματα βρεφῶν, πού βαπτίστηκαν, ἐξόδιοι θρήνοι πενθούτων, σκιρτήματα χαρᾶς σὲ γάμους ἀγαπημένων παιδιῶν. Ἀκούστηκε ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ, πού ἐχαροποίησε, ἐδίδαξε, ἐνουθέτησε καὶ ἤλεγξε τὰς συνειδήσεις τῶν πιστῶν. Ἀκούστηκαν ψαλμοὶ καὶ ὕμνοι καὶ ὠδαὶ πνευματικαὶ καὶ τὸ θυμίαμα ἀπὸ τὰ ἀναμμένα κάρβουνα ἀνέβηκε πρὸς τὰ ὕψη, ὅπως καὶ οἱ προσευχῆς καὶ οἱ ἀλάλητοι στεναγμοὶ τῆς ἰκεσίας ἀπὸ τίς φλογισμένες ἀπὸ εὐσέβεια ψυχῆς ὑψώθηκαν πρὸς τὸ θρόνο τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Εἰς τὸ Ἑλληνικὸ καὶ τὸ Καταχητικὸ Σχολεῖο διασταυρώθηκε ἡ φωνὴ τοῦ δασκάλου μὲ τὴ φωνὴ τοῦ παιδιοῦ. Στὶς συνεδριάσεις τῶν διοικητικῶν συμβουλίων τῆς Φιλοπώχου Ἀδελφότητος καὶ τῶν ὀργανώσεων καὶ ἀδελφοτήτων τῆς κοινότητος ἀκούστηκαν σοφαὶ καὶ ἄσοφαὶ γνώμαι, ἀπλώθηκαν χέρια συνεργασίας, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀπειλῆς. Ἀπὸ τότε πού στοὺς Δελφούς ἀκούστηκε τὸ "μηδὲν ἄγαν" ὁ Ἕλληνας ἐπίστευσε στὴ μετριοπάθεια, ἀλλὰ σπανίως τὴν ἐπέτυχε καὶ τὰ πάθη του πολλάκις ἐσκέπασαν τὴ λογικὴ του. Στὴν ἱστορία τῆς Κοινότητος δὲν ὑπῆρξαν ὅλα ρόδινα, δὲν ὑπῆρξαν ὅλα τέλεια, καὶ στὸν ἑορτασμὸ τῆς Πεντηκονταετηρίδος ἀντὶ νὰ βγάλουμε δεκαράτικους πανηγυρικοὺς εἶναι προτιμότερον νὰ κάνουμε μιὰ ὠριμὴ ἀξιολόγηση γιὰ τὸ παρελθόν, γιὰ νὰ βγάλουμε σωτήρια μαθήματα γιὰ τὸ μέλλον. Ἡ ὠριμότης, ὅμως, τῆς κρίσεως, ἐπιβάλλει τὴν ἀναγνώριση τοῦ ἔργου πού ἐγένετο.

Ὁ ναὸς κτίστηκε τὸ 1928, μέσα στὴν οἰκονομικὴ κρίση, ἐπεξετάθη τὸ 1950 - 52 καὶ συντηρήθηκε ὡς τὸ τέλος. Τὸ σχολεῖο ἐγαλοῦχησε γενεές μαθητῶν καὶ μαθητριῶν. Καὶ



ὅλα αὐτὰ ἐγιναν μὲ ἀντιμέτωπη ἀνυπερβλήτων καμμιὰ φορά δυσκολιῶν ἐκ μέρους κληρικῶν καὶ λαϊκῶν, ἀνδρῶν καὶ γυναικῶν. Ἡ τιμὴ ὑπῆρξε ἰδρωτᾶς καὶ αἶμα. Αἶμα, ὄχι μεταφορικὰ, ἀλλὰ κυριολεκτικὰ. Τὸ αἶμα τῆς Μαρίας Ἀναστασοπούλου, πού ἔχασε τὴ ζωὴ τῆς πρὶν πενήντα χρόνια στὴν ὑπηρεσία τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος. Καὶ πίσω τῆς ἀκολούθησαν ἀναριθμητὲς θυσίες, ἂν ὄχι ζωῆς, τοῦλάχιστον χρόνου, δυνάμεως, ταλέντων, καὶ χρήματος, ἄλλοτε φανεραὶ καὶ ἄλλοτε ἀφανεῖς, ἄλλοτε ἀνεγνωρισμένα καὶ ἄλλοτε ὄχι. Ὅχι ἀπὸ τοὺς ἀχαρίστους ἢ φθονεροὺς ἀνθρώπους, γνωσταὶ, ὅμως, εἰς Θεόν, ὁ ὁποῖος ὑπόσχεται νὰ ἀνταμειψῇ ἔστω καὶ ἓνα ποτήρι κρῦο νερό, ὅταν δίδεται «εἰς ὄνομα μαθητοῦ» τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

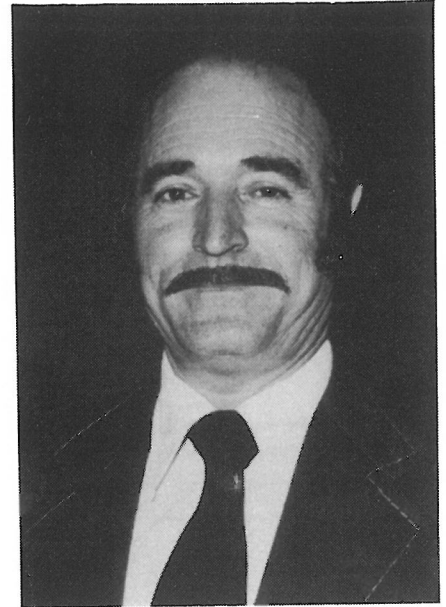
Μὲ ὅσα εἰσεπράχθησαν ἀπὸ τὴν παλαιὰν ἐκκλησίαν, μὲ κόπον καὶ ἰδρώτα τῶν συγχρόνων ἐργατῶν τῆς καὶ μὲ δάνειον ἄρχισαν τὰ νέα κτίρια καὶ τὸν Ἰούλιο τοῦ 1977 ἐγένετο ἡ πρώτη λειτουργία στὸ σημερινὸ παρεκκλήσιο, πλάι στὰ θεμέλια τοῦ μελλοντικοῦ Ναοῦ.

Τὶ ἐπιφυλλάσσει ἡ δευτέρα πεντηκονταετηρίς; Κοινότης καὶ κτίρια στάθηκαν ὄρθια στὸ πέρασμα τοῦ χρόνου κατὰ τὴν πρώτην πεντηκονταετηρίδα. Θὰ σταθούν καὶ στὴ δευτέρῃ; Θὰ μῆ ἡ Κοινότης στὸ δεύτερο αἰῶνα τῆς ζωῆς τῆς. Πιστεῦμε καὶ ἐλπίζουμε, ἐργαζόμεστε καὶ προσευχόμεστε νὰ γίνῃ αὐτὸ. Δὲν θὰ γίνῃ ὅμως αὐτόματα φυσικὰ, μοναχὸ του, ἔστω καὶ χωρὶς τὴν προσπάθειά μας. Οἱ καιροὶ ὅμως ἄλλαξαν.

Ἡ ἀνθρωπότης περνᾷ μεγάλη κρίση καὶ ἡ κοινωνία μας ἰδιαίτερως. Μέσα στὶς μεγάλες ἀλλαγές, ἡ Ἐκκλησία, σὲ μεγάλη κλίμακα καὶ σὲ μικρῇ, ὅπως ἡ ἐνορία, μιὰ μονάχα ἔχει ἐλπίδα νὰ ἐπιζῆσῃ καὶ νὰ ἀνθῆξῃ στὸ πέρασμα τοῦ χρόνου. Καὶ αὐτὴ εἶναι νὰ κατέβῃ κάτω βαθειὰ στὴ ρίζα τῆς παλαιᾶς πίστεως καὶ νὰ ἀντλήσῃ ἀπ' ἐκεῖ δύναμη καὶ ζωὴ. Ἡ ἐκκλησία τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος, ὅπως καὶ ὅλαι αἱ ἐκκλησῖαι, ἀσφαλῶς θὰ ζῆσῃ καὶ θὰ προκόψῃ, ἐὰν χρησιμοποιοῦσῃ τὰ νέα κτίρια, ὡς προπύργια τῆς Ὀρθόδοξου Πίστεως καὶ τῆς χριστιανικῆς ἀρετῆς. Ἡ Ἐκκλησία καὶ τὰ ἐξαρτήματά της εἶναι διδασκαλεῖα πίστεως, ἰατρεῖον ψυχῶν, τόπος λατρείας καὶ ἔδαφος ὅπου καλλιεργεῖται καὶ ἀναπτύσσεται ἡ ἀγάπη καὶ ἡ χριστιανικὴ κοινωνία. Μὲ αὐτὸν τὸν προσανατολισμὸν εἰσερχόμεστε σὲ νέα φάση στὴ ζωὴ τῆς κοινότητος. Δὲν εἶναι κάτι τὸ καινούργιο. Εἶναι ὁ ἴδιος ὁ δρόμος, εἰς τὸν ὁποῖον ὠδήγησε τὸ ποιμνιὸ τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶν, ἐπίσκοπος Τριμυθούντος, κάπου στὴ ματωμένη Κύπρο δέκα ἑπτὰ αἰῶνες ποῖο πρὶν ἀπὸ μᾶς.

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος Θεόδωρος Ν. Θαλασσινός

John Eliacostas
President
Parish Council



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

ST. SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

12307 S. Ridgeland Avenue

Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

Phones: 385-2311, 385-0787, 385-2313

If no answer: 386-4320 or 597-5797

December, 1978

Dear Parishioners:

All of us take great pride in this moment of our community's life. St. Spyridon may be fifty years old but in reality it is fifty years young in spirit.

We remember with gratitude the many years that the warm church—St. Spyridon-I, nurtured our spiritual needs in Roseland. Built by determination of the first immigrants to this country it was a testimony to the faith we all cherish.

Fifty years later we have even more reason to be grateful. St. Spyridon-II, is emerging on a much larger scale in new gentle surroundings. Our community center buildings are virtually complete and the foundations of the church proper are in place. We hope in the near future to see the church rise to be yet another symbol of praise to our Creator.

Over and above the gift of land and structure is the gift of people. In the persons of so many of you we have an indispensable resource that has given St. Spyridon an auspicious new birth. Truly we have been greatly blessed. As we accept these blessings we do so with humility.

As president of the community I want to personally thank everyone old and young, women and men, for all their support. With such a continued sense of dedication and effort we can look forward to the future with great expectations.

May God be with you all.

Yours with dedication,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Eliacostas".

John Eliacostas
President



A Sketch of Our History . . .

Έτσι Ξεκίνησε Ἡ Κοινότης Τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυρίδωνος Σικάγου



1928

ΜΙΑ ΑΝΑΜΝΗΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΖΑΠΠΑ ΠΡΩΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΟΣ



1978

Τὰ κάτωθι ἀφηγεῖται ὁ Πρῶτος Πρόεδρος τῆς Κοινότητος τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυρίδωνος ὁ ἀκούραστος καὶ ἀξιοθαύμαστος παλαιμαχος Ἰωάννης Ζάππας.

Ὁ Ἰωάννης Ζάππας γεννήθηκε στὰ Μεσοχώρια τοῦ Δήμου Καρύστου τῆς Εὐβοίας τὸ 1887 κι' ἦλθε στὴν Ἀμερική τὸ 1910.

Ὁ πρωτοπόρος αὐτὸς γνήσιος Ἕλληνας, παρ' ὅλα τὰ 90 χρόνια περασμένα τῆς ἡλικίας του, σήμερα, διατηρεῖ μιὰ ἐξαιρετικὴ διαύγεια πνεύματος καὶ μνήμης καὶ δὲν παύει νὰ ἐνδιαφέρεται μὲ πατρικὴ ἀγάπη καὶ στοργὴ γιὰ ὅτι ἀφορᾷ τὴν Κοινότητα.

Ἡ ἀφήγησή του εἶναι ζωντανή, γνήσια καὶ καθαρὴ μὲ μόνο σκοπὸ νὰ πῆ μὲ τὰ δικὰ του λόγια τὸ πῶς καὶ μὲ πόσους κόπους ἔγινε ἡ Κοινότης αὐτὴ καὶ λέγει:

Ὅταν ἐκηρύχθηκε ὁ Ἑλληνοτουρκικὸς πόλεμος τοῦ 1912 καὶ μετέπειτα ὁ Ἑλληνοβουλγαρικὸς πόλεμος τοῦ 1913 τὰ Ἑλληνοπούλα Παλικάρια τῆς Ἀμερικῆς εἶχαμε στὴ σκέψη μας τὴν Πονεμένη Πατρίδα, πού βρισκότανε σὲ κίνδυνο καὶ δὲν ξεχάσαμε τὰ λόγια τοῦ Σοκράτη πού μᾶς διδάξανε στὸ σχολεῖο: "ἀπὸ Μητέρα καὶ Πατέρα προτιμότερα καὶ ἀγιωτέρα εἶναι ἡ Πατρίς"

Μ' αὐτὸ τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ τὸν ἐνθουσιασμὸ εἶπαμε ὅλοι μ' ἓνα λόγιο καὶ μὲ μιὰ φωνὴ "Πᾶμε".

Κι' ἔτσι ἀπ' ὅλα τὰ μέρη Βορείου καὶ Νοτίου Ἀμερικῆς, ὅπως καὶ ἀπ' ὅλα τ' ἄλλα μέρη τοῦ κόσμου, ἐτρέξαμε ὅλοι καὶ πολεμήσαμε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς τῆς Πατρίδας καὶ φέραμε τὴ νίκη.

Τὸ Νοέμβριο τοῦ 1913 ἀπολυθῆκαμε ἀπὸ τὸ Στρατὸ καὶ μείναμε στὴ Πατρίδα μέχρι τὰ Χριστούγεννα, ὅπότε οἱ περισσότεροὶ παντρευτήκανε κι' ἄρχισαν πάλι νὰ ἐπιστρέφουν μὲ τὴν οἰκογένειά τους στὴν Ἀμερική.

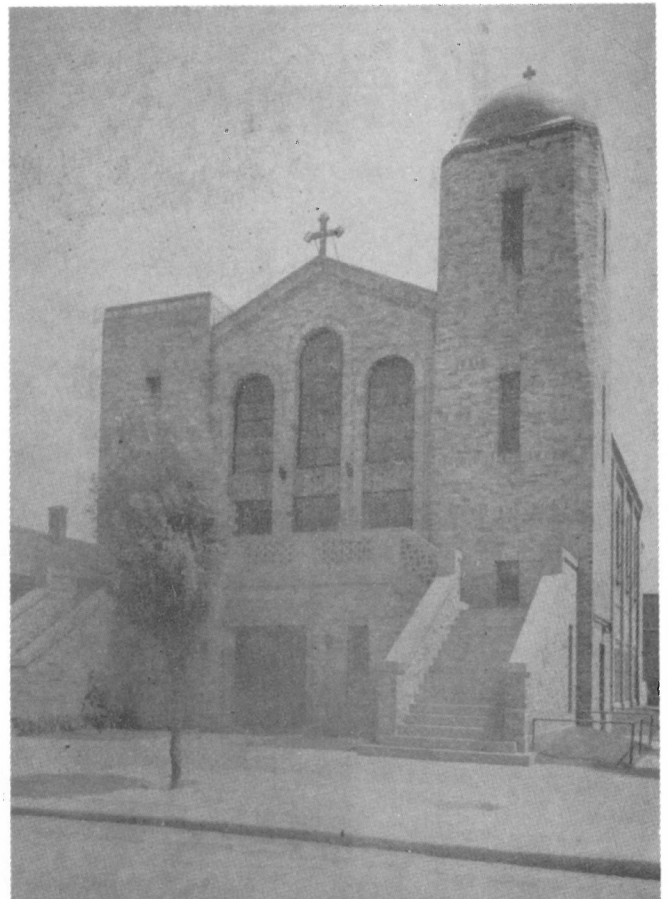
1914 - 1922

Ἐδῶ ἀρχίζει ἡ ἱστορία τῆς Κοινότητάς μας.

Τὴν ἐποχὴ ἐκείνη, στὴ περιφέρεια Pullman τοῦ Σικάγου ζοῦσαν περὶ τίς 35 Ἑλληνικὲς οἰκογένειες μὲ τὰ μικρὰ παιδιά τους πού ἔπρεπε σύμφωνα μὲ τοὺς νόμους τοῦ Κράτους νὰ πηγαίνουν στὰ Ἀμερικάνικα Σχολεῖα.

Μὲ τὸ πέρασμα τοῦ χρόνου ἄρχισαν - ὅπως τὸ ξέρομε ὅλοι - νὰ δημιουργοῦνται προβλήματα καὶ δυσκολίες μέσα σὲ κάθε Ἑλληνικὸ σπιτί λόγω τῆς γλώσσας. Δηλαδή ἀπὸ τὴ μιὰ μεριά οἱ γονεῖς μὲ τὴν Ἑλληνικὴ γλώσσα κι' ἀπὸ τὴν ἄλλη τὰ παιδιά τους πού ἐμεγάλωναν μὲ τὴν Ἀγγλικὴ γλώσσα.

Ἐξω, στὰ Ἑλληνικὰ καφενεῖα καὶ σὲ κάθε φιλικὴ συγκέντρωση δὲν ἄκουγες παρά παράπονα καὶ διαμαρτυρίες τῶν γονεῶν γιὰ τὸ τι θ' ἀπογίνον τὰ παιδιά τους. Ἡ μόνη λύση ἦτανε νὰ βροῦνε Ἕλληνα διδάσκαλο γιὰ Ἑλληνικὸ σχολεῖο. Ἐξελέγη τότε μιὰ ἐπιτροπὴ γιὰ τὸν σκοπὸ αὐτὸ καὶ ἡ ὁποία δὲν ἄργησε νὰ εὑρῆ τὸν πρῶτο διδάσκαλο ὀνόματι Χρυσοστένου.



Saint Spyridon 1928 - 1951



Κι' έτσι τὸ πρῶτο μας Σχολεῖο ἐλειτούργησε σὲ μιὰ αἴθουσα ποὺ παρεχώρησε ὁ τότε Ἑλληνικὸς Σύλλογος τῆς περιφέρειας «Περικλῆς» καὶ ὅπου τὰ παιδιά μας ἐπῆγαιναν πέντε φορές τὴν ἐβδομάδα γιὰ νὰ μὴν ξεχάσουν τὴν γλῶσσα τῶν γονεῶν τῶν.

Τὴν ἴδια τότε ἐποχὴ ἔτυχε νὰ πωλεῖται ἓνα οἰκόπεδο ἐπὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ South Park καὶ μὲ τὴν εὐκαιρία μιᾶς χοροεσπερίδας, ποὺ κατὰ σύμπτωση ἐδίδετο τὴν ἡμέρα τῆς ἑορτῆς τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος, ἀπεφασίσθη ὡς ἀγορασθῆ τὸ οἰκόπεδο αὐτό, ὅπου θὰ ἐκτίζετο ἡ ἐκκλησία μας ὡς "Ἁγιος Σπυριδῶν". Ἐξελέγη εἰδικὴ ἐπιτροπὴ εἰς τὴν ὁποίαν μοῦ ἐζήτησαν νὰ συμμετάσχω, ἀλλὰ δὲν ἐδέχθηκα λόγω τῆς ἐργασίας μου εἰς τὸ Ἔργοστάσιον Sherwin Williams, ὅπου ἔκαμα 12 ὥρες ἡμερησίως. Τὸ οἰκόπεδο ἠγοράσθη πλὴν ὁμως ἡ ἐκκλησία ἐκτίσθη πολὺ ἀργότερα.

1927 - 1928

Τὴ χρονολογία αὐτὴ δὲ θὰ ξεχάσω ποτέ, γιὰτι εἶμουν σχεδὸν πιασμένος εἰς τὸ κατὰστημά μου, ὅπταν κατὰ τὶς ἀρχές τοῦ Ἰουλίου δύο φίλοι ἀπὸ τὴν

50. Services commencing the expansion program of the first church. Father Daniel Gambrilis a long time supporter of the Community is on the left next to Bishop Gerasimos. The priest on the right is Father Constantine Glynos.

παροικία καὶ μοῦ ἐζήτησαν νὰ παρευρεθῶ σὲ μιὰ συνεδρίαση ὅπου θὰ ἐψηφίζαν νέαν ἐπιτροπὴ τοῦ Σχολεῖου. Τοὺς εἶπα πὼς εὐχάριστος θὰ ἐπῆγαινα ἐὰν δὲν ἐτύγγανε ἀκριβῶς τὴν ἐπαῦριο νὰ εἶμαι εἰς Michigan γιὰ θεραπεία. Ὅμως ἐδέχθηκα νὰ συνεργασθῶ μὲ τὴν νέα ἐπιτροπὴ καὶ ὅτι θὰ ἀποφασίζανε θὰ εἶμουν καὶ ἐγὼ μαζί.

Ὅταν ἐπέστρεψα ἀπὸ Michigan, καθὼς μοῦ λέγανε, τὰ οἰκονομικὰ τῆς ἐπιτροπῆς ὄχι ἀνθρά καὶ ὑπῆρχε φόβος μήπως καὶ μὴ λειτουργήσῃ τὸ Σχολεῖο.

Εἶχαμε φθάσει στὰ μέσα τοῦ Σεπτεμβρίου καὶ τὸ Σχολεῖο δὲν εἶχε ἀνοίξει ἀκόμη καὶ τότε ἀνέλαβα ἐγὼ ὁ ἴδιος νὰ ἐνεργήσω γιὰ τὸ ἀνοιγμὰ του.

Καὶ γιὰ πρώτη φορά, ὕστερα ἀπὸ πολὺ καιρὸ λόγω τῆς ὑγείας μου, κατέβηκα στὸ καφενεῖο, ὅπου βρῆκα τοὺς: Εὐάγγελο Γουβαλάρη, Ἄνδρᾶ Πάππας καὶ Παναγιώτῃ Σοφοκλόπουλο καὶ ὁμοῦ ἐπισκεφθῆκαμε περὶ τὶς 30 οἰκογένειες καὶ τοὺς καλέσαμε ὅλους σὲ συνεδρίαση γιὰ τὴν ἐπομένη Κυριακὴ.

Στὴν ἱστορικὴ ἐκείνη συνεδρίαση παρουσιάσθηκα περὶ τὰ 80 πρόσωπα καὶ μοῦ ἐπρότειναν νὰ προεδρεύσω. Τότε ἔλαβα τὸ λόγο κι' ἐξεθέσα τὸ θέμα τῆς συνεδριάσεως τοὺς ἐρώτησα: «Ὅσοι θέλετε Ἑλληνικὸ Σχολεῖο καὶ Ἐκκλησία νὰ πῆτε -Yes -καὶ ὅσοι δὲν θέλετε, νὰ πῆτε -No» -. Ὅλοι ἐσήκωσαν τὸ χέρι "Yes" ἀλλὰ κανένας δὲν εἶπε "No" .

Τότε τοὺς ἐκάλεσα νὰ ἐγγραφοῦν ὡς τακτικὰ μέλη τῆς Κοινότητος «Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝ» καὶ νὰ ὑπογράψῃ ἕνας ἕκαστος. Ἐγένετο ψηφοφορία γιὰ τὴν ἐκλογὴ Συμβουλίου ἀπὸ 12 μέλη μεταξὺ τῶν ὁποίων καὶ ἐγὼ.

Δὲν θὰ ξεχάσω ἓνα περιστατικὸ ποὺ συνέβη στὴ Συνεδρίαση αὐτὴ. Κατὰ τὴν διάρκειαν τῶν συζητήσεων καὶ ἐνῶ κατέγραφα τὰ ὀνόματα, ἄκουσα κάτι ψυθιρίσματα νὰ λένε: «αὐτὸς τί ἄραγε νὰ εἶναι: Βασιλικὸς ἢ Βενιζελικὸς» καὶ τότε σηκώθηκα καὶ πάλι καὶ τοὺς ἐφώνησα ὅτι ἡ Ἐκκλησία τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος δὲν ἔχει κανένα πολιτικὸ χρωματισμὸ, εἶναι οὐδέτερη εἰς τὰ πολιτικὰ καὶ ὑπαγόμεθα ὡς Κοινότης εἰς τὴν Ἱερά Σύνοδο τῆς Μητέρας Ἑλλάδος.

Ὡς Διοικητικὸ Συμβούλιο, συνεδριάσαμε γιὰ πρώτη φορά στὴ κατοικία τοῦ Χρήστου Δρίτσα ὅπου μὲ ἐξέλεξαν Πρόεδρο τῆς Κοινότητος μὲ Γραμματέα τὸν Ἰωάννην Σκυλᾶ καὶ Ταμίαν τὸν Εὐάγγελο Γουβαλάρη καὶ ἀπεφασίσθη τότε νὰ εὑρεθῆ ἓνα προσωπινὸ μέρος γιὰ τὴν ἐκκλησία καὶ τὸ σχολεῖο.

Πράγματι ἐνοικιάσθη τὸ κατάλληλο μέρος καὶ ἐκεῖ ἐμείναμε ἀπὸ τὸν Δεκέμβριον τοῦ 1927 μέχρις ὅτου ἀνηγέρθη ἡ Ἐκκλησία τὸ 1928 μὲ Ἱερέα τὸν Αἰδ. Μαντηλάρη.

Βεβαίως συναντήσαμε πολλὰ ἐμπόδια καὶ δυσκολίες διάφορες τὸσον μὲ τὴν τακτοποίησιν τῶν τίτλων ἰδιοκτησίας ὅσο καὶ μὲ τὴν ὑποθήκην καὶ τὸ δάνειον τῆς Τραπεζῆς, 20.000,00 δολ. ἀλλὰ εὐτυχῶς ὅλα ὑπερπηθήθησαν.

Ὡς Πρόεδρος ἐτέλεσα ἀπὸ τὸ 1928 μέχρι 1930, ἀλλ' ἔκτοτε δὲν ἔπαυσα ποτέ νὰ ἐνδιαφερόμαι γιὰ τὴν Κοινότητά μας καὶ νὰ βοηθῶ παντοιοτρόπως τὴν ἐκκλησία πάντα πρὸς τὸ καλλίτερον.

Ὅλους τοὺς συνεργάτες μου, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Διοικητικὰ Συμβούλια τοῦ Ἁγίου Σπυριδῶνος ἐπιθυμῶ νὰ εὐχαριστήσω καὶ τοὺς συγχαιρῶ ὅλους γιὰ τὶς πολὺτιμες προσπάθειές τους καὶ ἐργασία γιὰ τὴν πρόοδο τῆς ἐκκλησίας μας.



Saint Spyridon 1952 - 1976

Milestones In Our Community's Life

By

CONSTANTINE HADJI



Constantine Hadji is a member of the Parish Council. The historical information on the milestones of our community and the compilation of the names of our past rectors and parish council presidents was the fruit of his patient and persistent research in the community's records.

As is typical of many -if not all- Greek Orthodox Communities in America the parish of Saint Spyridon in Chicago began its activity long before the church structure was created.

The early years of this century was the period of the Greek Coffeehouses -*Kafeneia*- where the old timers and the newly arrived immigrants from Greece would gather to discuss their affairs or their views and allegiances in politics. The decision to found the community of Saint Spyridon purchase the property at 114th street and then South Park Avenue (later renamed Martin Luther King Jr. Drive) where the church and school building was built, was made in these *Kafeneia* of Michigan Avenue in Roseland on Chicago's far southside. Mr. John Zappas, the first president of the community provided us with a personal reminiscence of those early years which appears on the previous pages. Shown below are a few dates of special significance, milestones in the history of the community.

- 1922 Decision to buy the property at 114th and South Park Avenue in Roseland
- 1928 The church structure is completed.
- 1951 The church building is enlarged.
- 1957 The community is recognized as a non-profit organization.
- 1963 The Uniform Parish Bylaws of the Holy Archdiocese are adopted.
- 1970 Purchase of the property at 123rd and Ridgeland in Palos Heights, Illinois.
- 1972 Decision to build the new community buildings in Palos Heights.
- 1975 Ground breaking in Palos Heights September 7, 1975.
- 1976 The church in Roseland is sold. The last Liturgy is celebrated on February 8, 1976.
- 1976 - Services are held in temporary quarters in a school on west 127th street in Palos Heights, starting February 15, 1976.
- 1977 The first phase of building completed - the gymnasium, school, and reception hall where services are held until the church proper is completed. The first Liturgy was celebrated in the new buildings on July 3, 1977.

Our Spiritual Fathers

THE FOLLOWING PRIESTS HAVE SERVED THE COMMUNITY

THE FORMATIVE YEARS

Rev. Thomas Papageorgiou	1918	
Rev. Daniel Golemis		
Very Rev. Daniel Gambriles		Gave the oath of office to the first parish council on September 25, 1927

AFTER THE COMMUNITY WAS FOUNDED

Very Rev. Amvrosios Mantilares	1928 -	
Rev. Christos Marinos	Feb 1930 -	Mar 1930
Rev. Daskalakis	1930	
Rev. Thomas Mihael	Jul 1930 -	Feb 1931
Rev. George Sakellariou	Feb 1931 -	Jun 1932
Very Rev. Fotios Porihs	Jan 1934 -	
Rev. Christos Nanopoulos		
Rev. Constantine Glynos	Apr 1947 -	May 1952
Rev. Chrysostomos Trohadias	May 1952 -	Aug 1952
Rev. Theodore Thalassinos	Aug 1952 -	Oct 1953
Rev. Constantine Karkazes	Oct 1953 -	Nov 1953
Rev. Constantine Poulakidas	Nov 1953 -	Jul 1957
Rev. Chrysostomos Selimos	Jul 1957 -	Feb 1961
Rev. George Economou	Feb 1961 -	Jun 1965
Very Rev. Panayiotis Mitsis	Jun 1965 -	Feb 1967
Rev. Pater Karas	Feb 1967 -	Jul 1967
Rev. Dr. Theodore Thalassinos	Jul 1967 -	now

The Lay Leaders

THE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SERVED THE COMMUNITY AS PRESIDENTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL



JOHN ZAPPAS



A. PETRAKOS



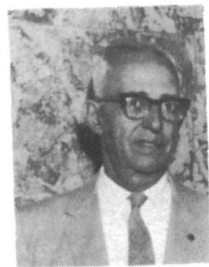
S. FALAKOS



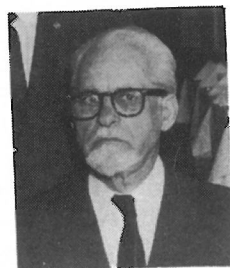
G. KARAMELAS



C. DRITSAS



A. GOUVIS



PETER ATHENS



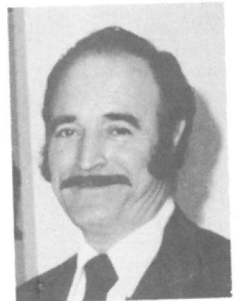
JOHN ALLEN



PETE FALARIS



GEORGE MILLER



J. ELIACOSTAS



J. HAMPILLOS



PETER POULOS



C. MITCHELL

THE FORMATIVE YEARS

Jun 1918 - Oct 1918	P. Demas
Oct 1918 - Jun 1919	Louis Anastasopoulos

AFTER THE COMMUNITY WAS FOUNDED

1927/1928 - May 1930	John Zappas
May 1930 - Dec 1930	Vasilios Varellas
Dec 1930 - Jan 1931	Andreas Pappas
Jan 1931 - May 1931	Louis Anastasopoulos
May 1931 - Jan 1933	Spyros Salapatas
Jan 1933 - Feb 1934	Dr. Andrew Petrakos
Feb 1934 - Oct 1934	Spyros Salapatas
Oct 1934 - Feb 1937	Gust Karampelas
Feb 1937 - Dec 1937	George Katemis
Dec 1937 - Feb 1939	Stephen Falakos
Feb 1939 - Feb 1940	Dr. Fimidas
Feb 1940 - Jan 1942	Gust Karampelas
Jan 1942 - Feb 1944	Chris Dritsas
Feb 1944 - Dec 1945	Angelo Gouvis (Gouvalaris)
Dec 1945 - Oct 1953	Peter Athens (Thanasoulas)
Oct 1953 - Nov 1955	John Allen (Karampelas)
Nov 1955 - Nov 1959	P. Falaris
Nov 1959 - Dec 1963	George Miller
Dec 1963 - Dec 1969	Christ Mitchell
Dec 1969 - Feb 1972	James Hampilos
Feb 1972 - Jan 1974	Peter Poulos
Jan 1974 - Dec 1978	James Hampilos
Dec 1978 -	John Eliacostas



Community Life

Directing The Action . . .



1959



1969

. . . The Parish Council



1978

CLERGY

Rev. Dr. Theodore Thalassinos Rector
1978 - 1980



PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

John Eliacostas President
Leo P. Bizoukas Vice President
Andrew Loukeris Treasurer
Andreana Petrakos Assistant Treasurer
James N. Stive Secretary

MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

John Arger	George Miller
Tom Athanasoulis	Dan Pappas
Gust Deligiannis	Peter Paxinos
Frank Fetsis	Crisula Petrakos
Andrew Georgiopoulos	Andreana Petrakos
Fanis Georgiopoulos	Stan Pipinis
Constantine Hadji	Thanassios Psinias
John Halikas	George Salapatas
James Hampilos	John Semeges
Akela Karampelas	Dean Souhlas
Gust Karampelas	Gust Stameson
Tom Katris	Dennis Thiakos
Chris Koulogeorge	Tom Tolias
Peter Manolis	Olga Varellas

1978 OFFICERS. Seated: Bizoukas, Petrakos, Standing: Loukeris, Eliacostas, Stive, and Christ Kolyvas who assists the officers in various ways in the office.

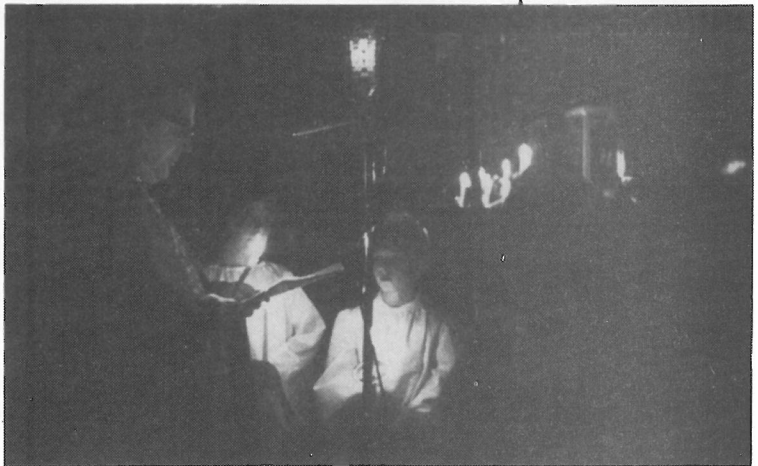
Praising the Lord . . .



... *The Religious Dimension*



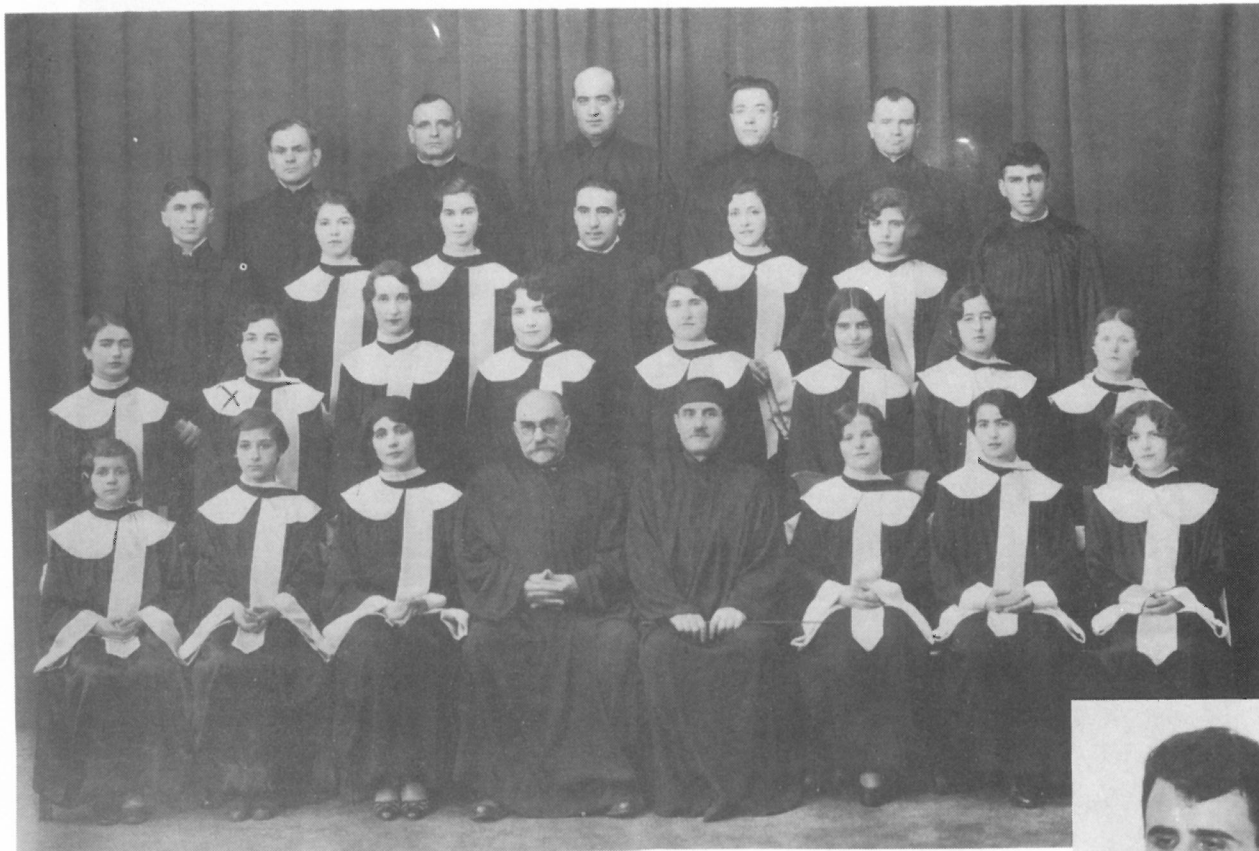
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The Time of Glory

Alleluiah . . . The Sounds of Faith

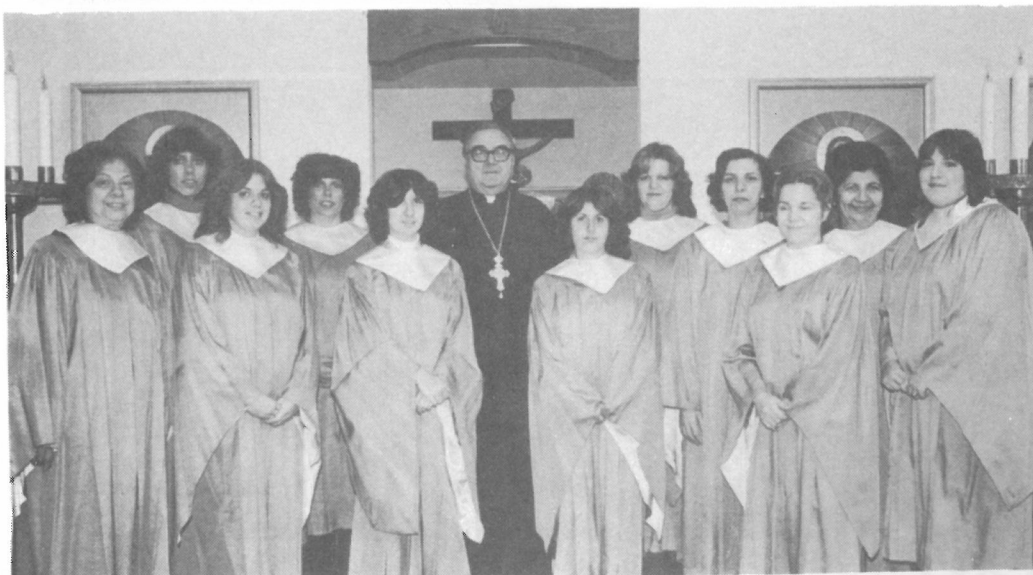
1932



Shown above is the first choir organized in July 1931 under the leadership of Mr. George Gretsris a noted violinist. He is shown sitting to the left of the priest the Rev. George Sakellaris. On the priest's right is Miss Olga Massias the organist. Consisting of twenty-six members, eighteen women and eight men, the choir made its first appearance on St. Spyridon's Day, December 13, 1931.



1978 The chanter Mr. Elias Anastasopoulos.



1978

Angels . . . The Acolytes of Service

1978



The popular late Bishop Timotheos flanked by Father Thalassinos and Dean Thalassinos

Women of Faith . . .



1938



1958

. . . *The Philoptochos*



Dear Parishioners:

The Philoptochos of Saint Spyridon takes great joy in participating in the 50th anniversary of our community. Ever since its inception the Philoptochos has been an indispensable element of service whenever the need has arisen.

Our community's fiftieth year finds us in the midst of an extensive building program in our new location. The needs are many and the Philoptochos will be there responding to those needs. It will do so in the same wonderful tradition of so many ladies that have preceded us. The memory of their service is our inspiration to carry on, always mindful that this is the Lord's work.

May the Lord always give us the strength to persist, the wisdom to pursue the right course and the faith to remain true to our Church and her teachings. God bless us all.

Pipina Salapatas
President

OFFICERS 1978

Pipina Salapatas	President
Toula Stameson	Vice-President
Mary Semeges	Secretary
Irene Pappas	Treasurer



1978

Learning the Faith . . .

The icon of Saint John the Baptist on the right (an example of the excellent iconography in Saint Spyridon - I) symbolizes what our Church is all about. Saint John, the forerunner of Christ, who preached in the wilderness reminds us that ours is a Church of the Word. And the lamb in the icon reminds us that the Word became incarnate and came to dwell among us. The Lamb of God, the person of Christ, teacher, exemplar, comforter, healer and above all redeemer is the center of our Faith. Quite often Christians are caught up in mundane concerns of church life and tend to forget what is central and truly important. Bricks and mortar, candles and trays, domes and icons, banquets and meetings, are necessary concerns. However, they are like the little colored stones that make up a mosaic. Of themselves they are meaningless. They take on significance only when they are properly placed together in a total picture that reflects Christ and projects His truth, His radiance, His love. Then, too, there are the facets of church life that are rooted in human weaknesses, the addictions to titles and recognitions, the passions and the politics, the self-interests and petty projections that tarnish the image of the Christ of our Faith.

Every church is confronted with the problems of human frailties and overcoming them is the purpose of its existence. The pulpit constantly addresses itself to these human conditions. But for the younger people the pulpit takes on a different form. This pulpit is the Sunday School, striving to instill in pliable hearts and uncrusted minds the beautiful image of the Christ of our Faith, the Lamb of God, the Good Shepherd, the Supreme Teacher, the Triumphant Saviour. The Sunday School wants this image to become a living reality in the lives of our young people as part of the total effort of the Church for all, so that sensitivity of heart, strength of character, warmth of God's love and the radiant brilliance of a redeemed soul will be our very own.



An Example of the beautiful iconography in Saint Spyridon - I.



1959

. . . *Our Sunday School*



1978

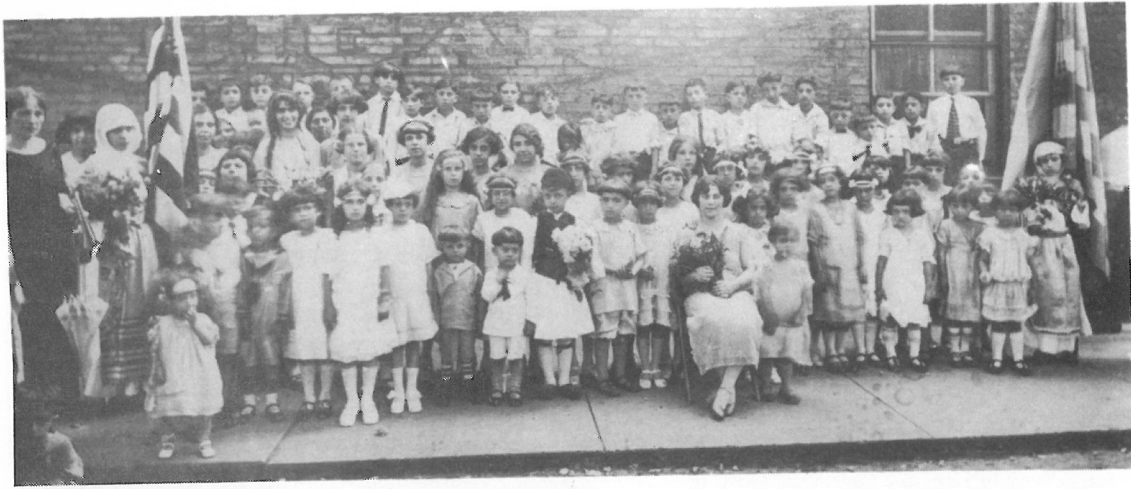
The primary grades and the teachers are Mrs. Joyce Bollas on the left, and Mrs. Mary Fetsis on the right.



1978

The junior and intermediate grades taught by Presvytera Thalassinis who directs the Sunday School.

Preserving Our Greek Culture..



1925 The earliest community school before the parish was founded.



1934. The Varellas boys and the Nichols girls.

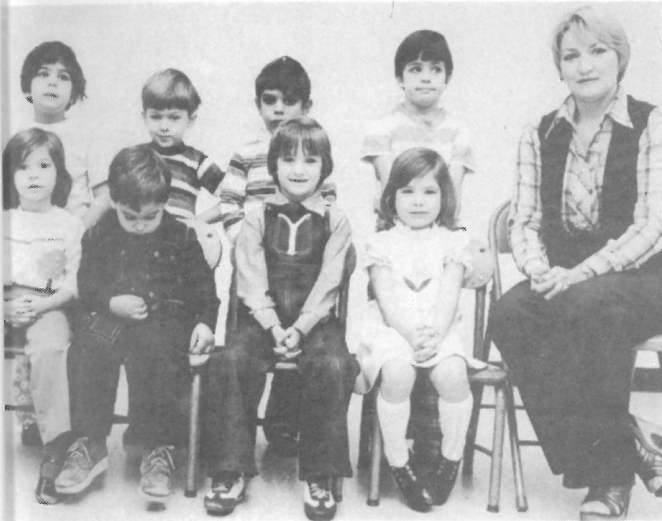


1967. The March 25th Celebration. On the left is Mr. Demos Fotopoulos, for years teacher of the school. On the right is the Rev. Peter Karas and Mr. Christ Mitchell president of the community.

Ploutarchos School



1970. The March 25th Celebration. Seated on the right Mr. Constantine Glynos who served the parish as priest for five years.



1978. Mrs. Kay Manolis a volunteer mother and the little ones.



1978. Father Thalassinos who teaches the older children.



1978. Mr. Dimitrios Alexakos and his two classes.



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Fellowship . . . and . . .

1947. A dinner in the church hall for World War II Veterans.



1962. The Annual Banquet at the Sheraton Chicago.



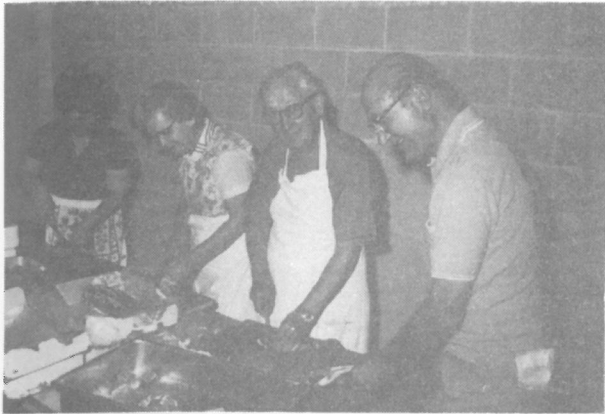
1978. Coffee hour after the Liturgy.



1964. Off to Greece

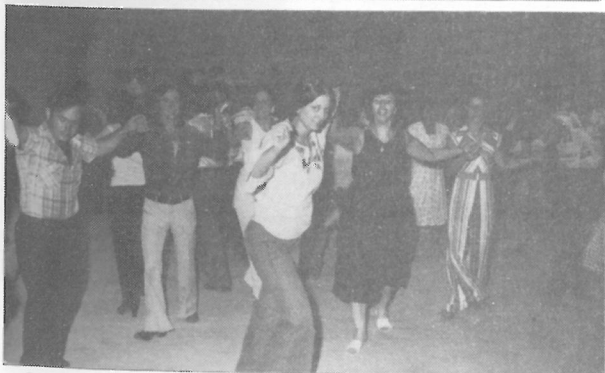


. . . *Fun Time*



ANNUAL

PICNIC



The New Beginning . . .

Scenes from ground breaking day in Palos Heights on September 7, 1975



John Eliacostas, then chairman of the building committee turns a spadeful.



Bishop Timotheos flanked by members of the parish council. To the Bishop's right is James Hampilos then president.



First the foundations then the walls.

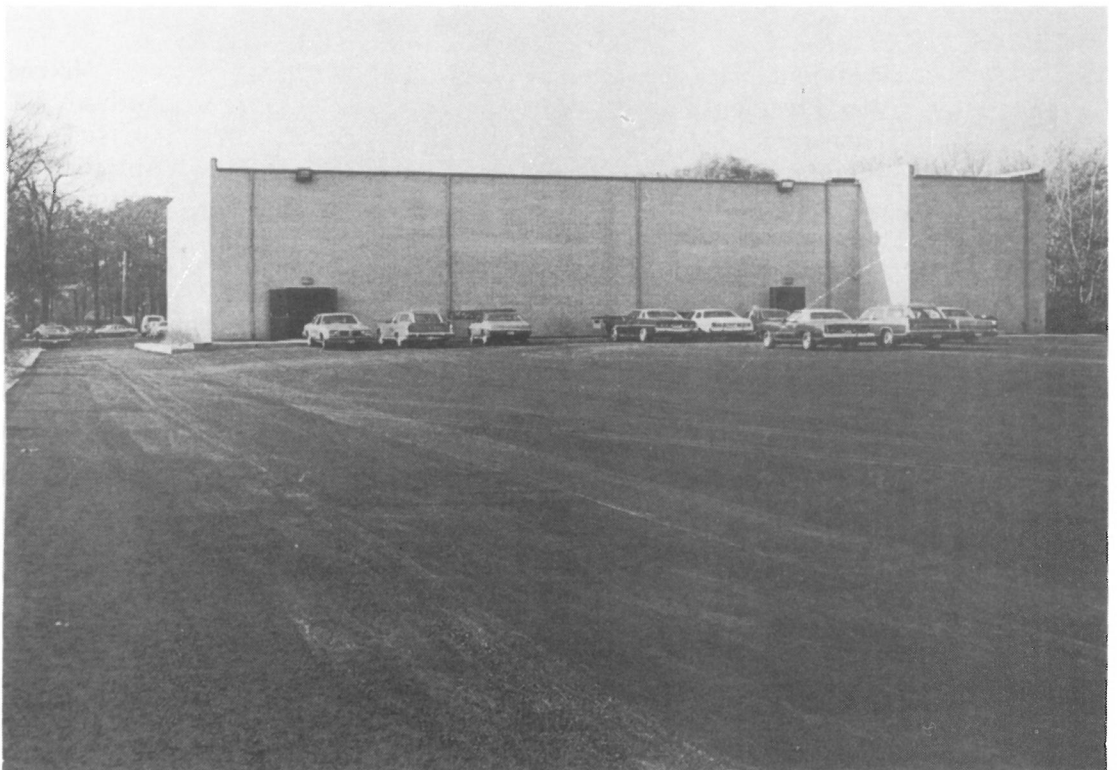


Father Thalassinus digs in.

. . . and The New Buildings



1977. First liturgy in the new buildings celebrated on July 3rd. The big gymnasium is in the background.



1978. Progress continues. The Parking lot is blacktopped. View is from the back of the gymnasium.

Other Church Activities . . .



1978 leaders. From left to right the Mrs. Papangelou, Pipinis, Koskinas, Katemis.

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 Treasurer Nick Tsapralis
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 Corresponding Secretary Irine Eliacostas
 Sergeant of Arms Peter Limparas



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say rejoice. Let all men know your forberance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, Brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Paul writing to the *Philippians* 4.4.





Our Gratitude to . . .



**WE KNOW THAT IN
EVERYTHING GOD
WORKS FOR GOOD
WITH THOSE WHO
LOVE HIM.**

Paul Writing to the *Romans* 8.28



**GOD BLESS
OUR CHURCH WITH LOVE**

**THEODORA
KARAMPELAS**



In Memory of

**GLYKERIA AND PETER
ATHENS**

Helen Carruthers - Marie Melonas - Electra Rush



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History Notes That the Following Five Took The Initiative In Founding St. Spyridon:

JOHN ZAPPAS

ANDREW PAPPAS

ANGELO GOUVIS

PETE SOFOKLOPOULOS

ELIAS ANASTASOPOULOS

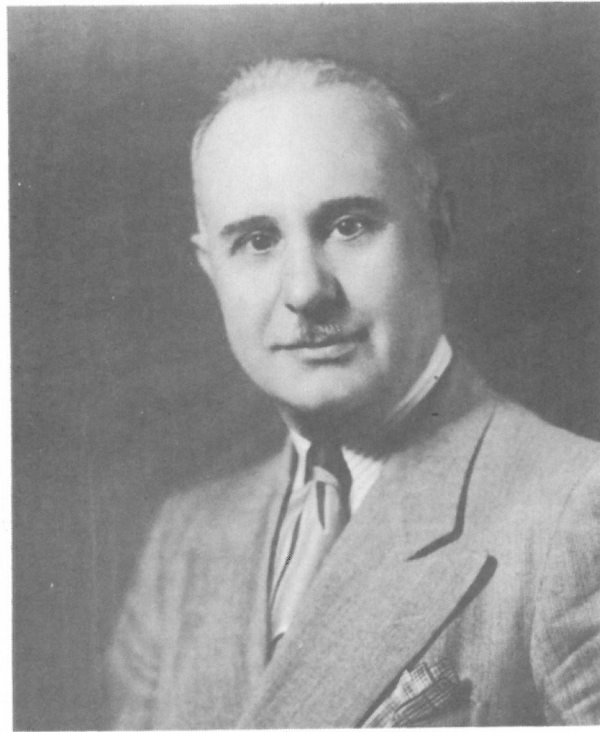
A Sense Of Deep Appreciation Goes To The Memory Of My Four Co-Workers Who Helped Me In That Effort.

John Zappas
The First President



In Memory of

**DOCTOR
ANDREW A. PETRAKOS**



**AND
THEODORE & ANDREANIE
FALAKOS**

Mrs. Crisula Petrakos, Andreana & Rebecca

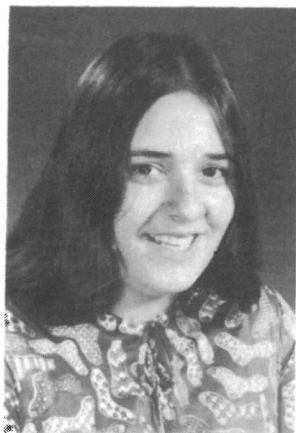


In Loving Memory
of Our Beloved Daughter

ANNA ELIACOSTAS

Born August 19, 1959

Passed Away September 5, 1977



Loving Parents:	John & Martha Eliacostas
Brother	George, Dean
Sister	Irene



In Memory of

MY BELOVED HUSBAND

Estella Poulos & Son



In Loving Memory
of My Husband

**GERASIMOS "MIKE"
VIREKEOS**



Mrs. Lulu Virekeos



In Memory of
My Beloved Son

GEORGE H. PAVLAKOS

on the 20th Anniversary
of His Departure for the
Arms of Our Lord



Mrs. Eurydice Pavlakos



Our Devoted Husband, Wonderful Father
And Beloved Grandfather



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Leon Marinakos



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Dear Niece And Cousin

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Mr. & Mrs. E. Sommer
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Mr. and Mrs. William Limparis
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With Loving Memories
Of Our Mother and Grandmother



SOPHIE PONTIKES

George and Harriet Pontikes
Rebecca - Rachel - Elizabeth

George and Kathryn Beshilas
Stacey - Bill - Sophia



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEAR SON

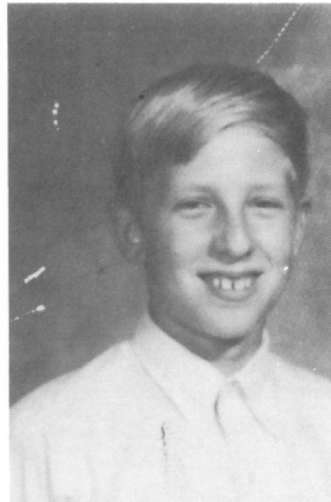
on his 5th anniversary in heaven
October 16.

He who's life brought naught
but joy to us,
In death has left sorrow
time can never soften
for hearts so broken and bereft.

To us his name will ever be
The key that unlocks memory
Of a dear one gone but cherished yet
A beloved face we'll ne'er forget.

Someday somewhere the joy we had
in him we lost will be,
Renewed again beyond the veil
For all Eternity.

Loving you always Mom and Dad
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Poninski





In Loving Memory
of My Wife

MARY



James N. Stive

In Loving Memory
of Our Parents

**NICHOLAS & ANGELINE
SOTIRIS**

The Stive Family
The Galiatsatos Family



In Memory of
My Beloved Husband



THOMAS LELES

Veronica Leles



In Memory of Our Beloved Son

LEONIDAS

Gust & Dora Karamelas



In Loving Memory of

MY HUSBAND

Mrs. Angeline Alevizou
and Family



In Memory of

MARGARET A. STAVROS
AND
JOHN G. STAVROS

Alex Stavros
and Family



In Remembrance
of Our Parents



JOHN & HELEN FETSIS

Peter Fetsis
Chris Fetsis Metz
Tula Fetsis Lunsford



In Memory of
Our Beloved Parents

**PANTELIS & OURANIA
BIZOUKAS**

**NICHOLAOS & ELENI
KOCALES (KELLY)**

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Bizoukas Family



We Dedicate This in Memory of
Our Beloved Mother and Grandmother

MARIA PAPANGELOU

From Your Loving Children
Demetre, George, Andre
and Families



In Memory of

MY BELOVED HUSBAND

Toula Katemis



In Memory of
My Beloved Wife

JANE

Who Passed Away on October 21, 1977

Anthony Charloes



In Memory of

PETER AND JOSIE

VLASIS

Sam P. Vlasis



In Memory
of
My Beloved Parents

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AND
HARICLIA CONDES

Charles C. Condes



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EXCAVATION COMPANY**

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ANDREW MAHERAS

From
Harry Maheras
and Family



In Loving Memory of

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THE FRANK FETSIS FAMILY

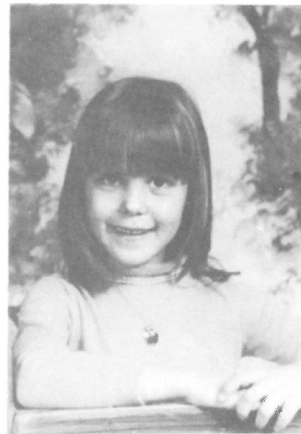


The Family of Frank Fetsis

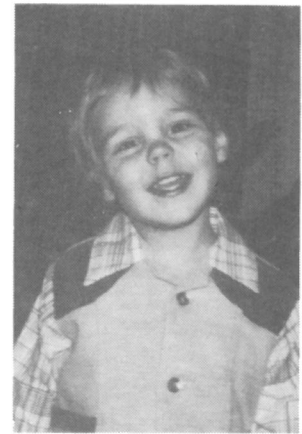
From Left To Right: Spiro - Kaliopo - Mr. Fetsis - Jim - Karen
Mrs. Fetsis - Chrisoula - Elene & Grandson Adam.



ANDREA



ANDRIANA



ALEXANDER



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offers its warmest congratulations to all the faithful Greek Orthodox Christians of Saint Spyridon Parish, for the observance and celebration of its 50th Anniversary, wishing them many more years of dedicated service and witness to the community.

The members of the Organization especially rejoice for this happy and historic event of Saint Spyridon Church, because the "Lefkadion Society", was founded, organized and held its activities in the church's facilities, from the very beginning to the present. For this service we are most grateful, and we share with you the past accomplishment and future dreams.

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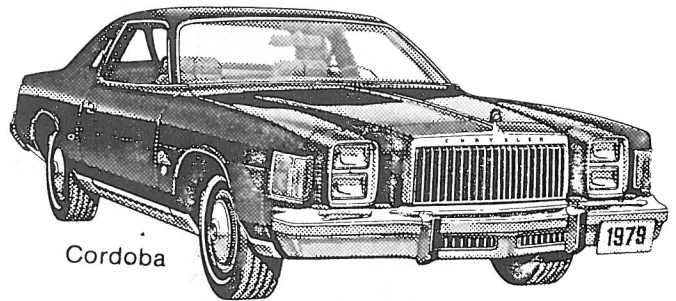
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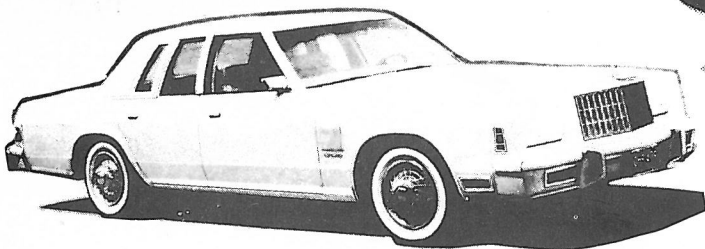
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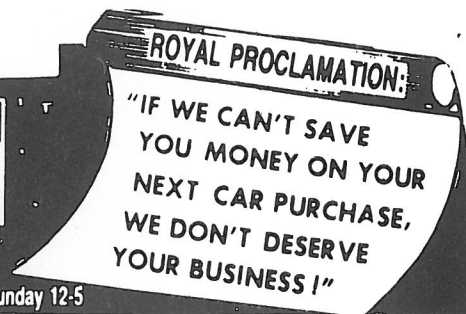
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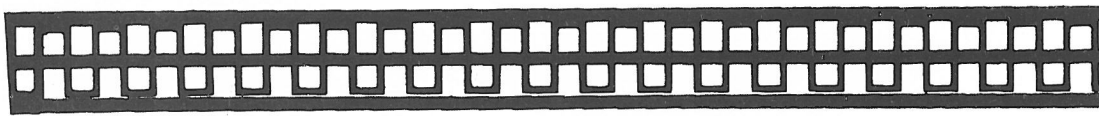
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For Twelve Consecutive Years



MRS. OLGA VARELLAS

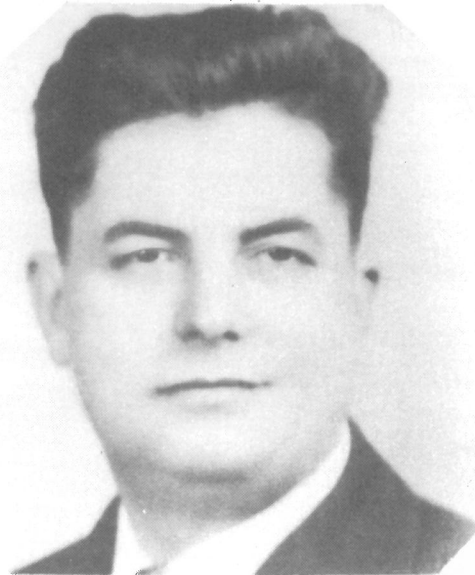
Editorial Note: Bishop Meletios Had Named
Mrs. Varellas Mother of the Community.



In Loving Memory of

GEORGE J. VARELLAS

(1894 - 1973)



A Founding Member of St. Spyridon Church

Mrs. Olga Varellas, Wife
And Sons
John and Spiro

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From Sons & Families of

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CHURCH

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and

George, Cleo, Kathy, Nick

and Jimmy Bizoukas

In Memory of Our Beloved Son

GREGORY

Chris & Pat Dritsas



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SOFIA & JOHN TOURLAS

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In Memory of
Our Parents

**JOHN AND PANAGIOTA
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In Memory of

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AND
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In Memory of

MY BELOVED HUSBAND
PETE

Mrs. Sofia Kambesis



In Loving Memory of

MY BELOVED HUSBAND

Mrs. Leo Stefanos and Family

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Best Wishes

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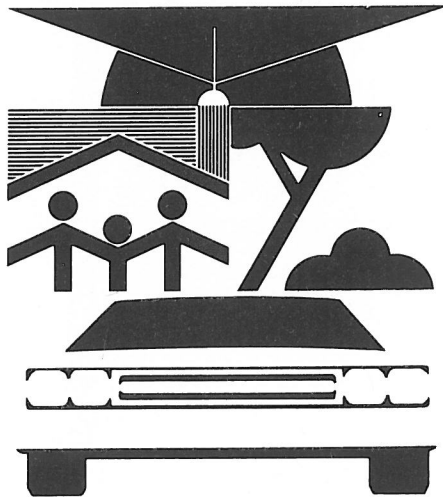
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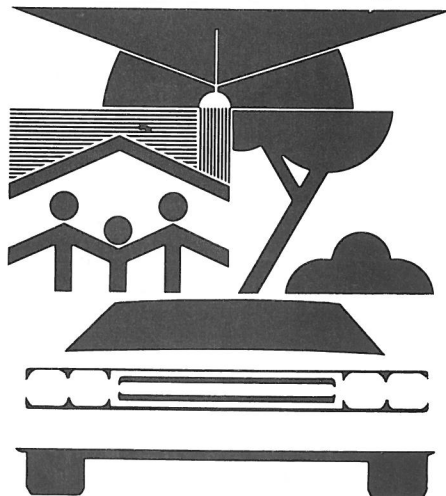
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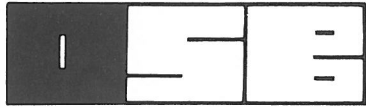
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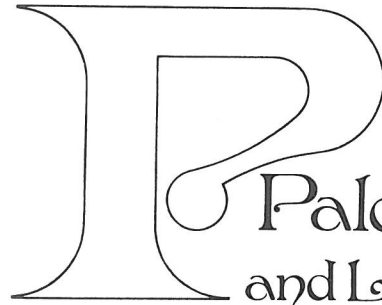
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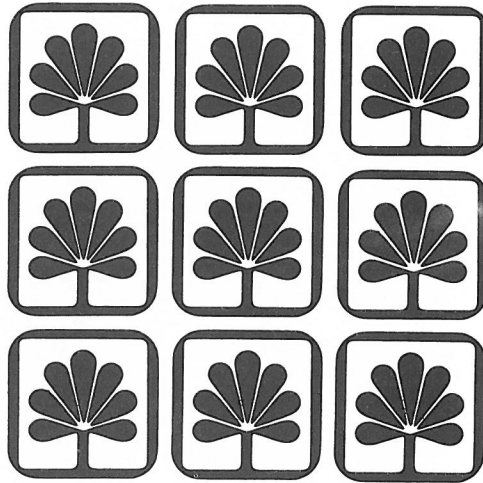
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Paul Writing to the *Romans* 5.1

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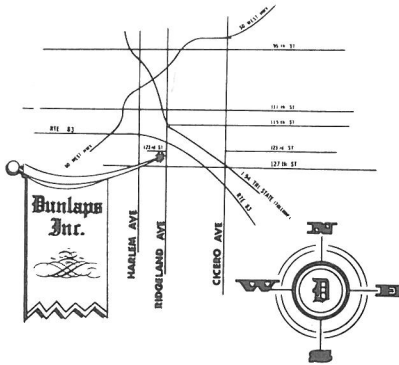
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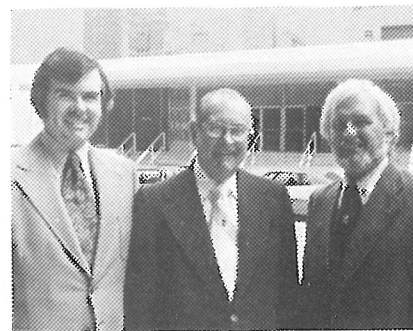
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