



*Best wishes for a
successful festival.*
Costas & Ann Perdikakis & Family

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97th
ANNUAL
*Grecian
Festival*



ASSUMPTION of the VIRGIN MARY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

August 16, 17 & 18, 2024



ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
97 WALCOTT STREET PAWTUCKET, RI
PHONE: (401)725-3127

Priest's Message



Welcome to our 97th Annual Greek Festival and the celebration of our parish's feast of the Assumption (Dormition) of the Virgin Mary.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our parishioners, what began many years ago as a small Greek picnic has transformed into a 3-day full-fledged festival. Whether you are attending for the first time or are returning to visit us again, we invite you to experience for a weekend here in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the depth of the Orthodox Christian tradition and the magic of Greece from which this originated.

We invite you first of all to visit our worship to understand how this tradition of life in Christ is the source of everything else we do. There will be tours of the church given by me at certain times so be sure to check the schedule (the schedule is taped to the church entrance) in order to experience the genuine Byzantine architecture and iconography of our church as well as our recently installed traditional marble floor. In my tours I will explain the symbolism of the church architecture and iconography and how this communicates to us the biblical theology and message of Christianity in a tangible way. We invite you to then tour the grounds and experience a world reminiscent of the Greek Islands. We invite you to enjoy our Greek hospitality, food and pastry, as well as Greek music and dancing. Our famous dance troupe will be performing at specific times so be sure to consult the schedule in order to enjoy this unique experience. Regarding the food, you shouldn't miss the gyro or souvlaki! ... not to mention some awesome Greek pastries topped off with a frappe (Greek iced coffee). You especially need to try our baklava cheesecake which is a unique recipe that is found only here in Pawtucket. It is the invention of our late parishioner Tina Georgitsis and will always be served in her memory. Be sure to stroll through our "Agora" (Greek marketplace) where you can find Greek trinkets as if you were in Athens or on the Greek Islands.

We hope you enjoy our Festival! We look forward to hosting you and hope you come again and again year after year!

May the Lord Jesus Christ protect you and yours through the intercessions of the Virgin Mary, the very Mother of God who is the patron saint of our beloved parish.

Rev. Dr. Philip Zymaris



Assumption of the Virgin Mary
Greek Orthodox Church
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED BEING GREEK FOR A WEEKEND



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



2024 Parish Council



A sincere thank you to all Assumption Parishioners and Friends who supported the efforts, activities, and responsibilities of our Church throughout the year!!!

President

George Karalis

Vice President

Nickolas Vellopoulos

Secretary

Olga Limnios

Treasurer

Michael Karavolis

Assistant Treasurer

Brian Gerace

Members

Triantafillio Foussekis

Jean Soukatos

Golfo Katsios

Anastasia Vellopoulou

Lily Carlson

George Delis

Eleni Katsios

Rev. Dr. Philip Zymaris, Ex Officio

A Message from your



Festival Co-Chairpersons:

Welcome to our 97th Annual Greek Festival, a three-day event celebrating the nameday of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. It truly “takes a village” to put on such an event. The 2024 Festival Committee is honored to have the opportunity to be a part of this year’s Festival.

Our Festival is a feast of the senses. We encourage you to take in the sights, the sounds and, of course, the aromas and tastes of our delicious cuisine, pastries, and beverages. It has also been a group effort where our parishioners have come together to give their time, talent, and resources in order to make our 2024 Festival a success. We thank everyone for their energy, support, patience, and generosity!!!

So come on in, have something to eat and drink, take a walk around our Greek Marketplace, stop into our Kafenio for a Greek coffee, watch the Greek Pride Dance Troupe perform and have a great time. OPA!!!

Sincerely,

Brian Gerace and Sophia Augoustakis

Co-Chairpersons | 2024 Greek Festival Committee

History of the Church



The Greek community in Pawtucket began somewhere near 1896 with six to ten young men who emigrated from Greece. They rented halls and houses to hold Divine Liturgy services whenever a priest was available.

By 1910, the community had grown to about 75 members. This small community raised a grand total of \$750 towards a church, and in 1911 property was bought on George Street for this purpose. (Present home of Hampton Inn).

The first Parish Council, consisting of seven members, was formed on February 22, 1912, at which time the Assumption Church received a religious corporation charter from the State of Rhode Island. In November 1912 the cornerstone was laid on the George Street site. On June 13, 1914, by-laws were written, and the church was given its official name, "Hellenic Orthodox Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary."

In 1925, the community purchased property on Armistice Boulevard (then known as Brook Street) as a cemetery for the church.

In 1952 the community bought 27 acres of land on River Road in Lincoln to be used for church outings. Urban Renewal displaced the George Street church, and on May 30, 1966, ground was broken at 97 Walcott Street, the former Ott Mansion. Services were held at the renovated chapel in the former carriage house on the property, and in January 1967 construction of the present church began. The Mansion House was renovated for offices and living quarters for the priest and his family. The parish grew to its present size of 350 families.

This year, as we celebrate our Annual Festival, we are thankful for our growth. We are a thriving parish. Our youngsters attend Sunday School and are enriched in our faith, and they learn the Greek language and culture at our Greek School. GOYA provides activities for our youth. We have a renowned Dance Troupe. Our Philoptochos Society supports its church and many other philanthropies. We are a strong presence in the community, locally and regionally. In 2012 we proudly celebrated our 100th Anniversary. We are proud of our past and look forward to a prosperous future.

With Gratitude and Thanks to our Donors and Volunteers



Our Grecian Festival is our largest fundraiser throughout the year. It allows our parish to grow and continue our religion, culture, and community for generations to come.

Without the help of every one of our donors and volunteers, this festival would simply not be the success it has become over the years.

So many of our parishioners and friends of our parish have donated food, money, various supplies, knowledge and most of all, their time and effort.

All of them are the fabric and heartbeat that make up what is our Grecian Festival. While it is impossible to name them all individually, please know we thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts.

*thank
you*



Best Wishes for a Successful Festival and to the Ladies of Philoptohos

In loving memory of Nancy Forest

Rick and Elizabeth Forest



 **Assumption of the Virgin Mary**
Greek Orthodox Church
Pawtucket, Rhode Island



FOLLOW US




 

Best Wishes for a Successful Festival

Dr. & Mrs. Angelo Pharmakidis



KYRIAKOS KONDYLLIS
Owner / Project Manager

 401.592.4896
 info@bigbeargc.com
 www.bigbeargc.com

SCHEDULE

16 AUG 5:00 PM-10:00 PM

Dance Performance
Performance by Elliniki Yperiphania (Greek Pride of RI)
7:00 PM

17 AUG 12:00 PM-10:00 PM

Dance Performances
Performance by Elliniki Yperiphania (Greek Pride of RI)
4:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Church Tours
Join Rev. Dr. Philip Zymaris
2:00 PM & 5:00 PM

Baking Demonstrations
Baklava **3:00 PM** Spanakopita **6:00 PM**

18 AUG 12:00 PM-9:00 PM

Dance Performances
Performance by Elliniki Yperiphania (Greek Pride of RI)
4:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Church Tours
Join Rev. Dr. Philip Zymaris
2:00 PM & 5:00 PM

Baking Demonstrations
Baklava **3:00 PM** Spanakopita **6:00 PM**

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Father George
&
Presbyteria Elaine
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Best Wishes for a Successful Greek Festival 2024



from the Augoustakis Family
Sophia, Ellena and George



In Loving Memory of
Husband and Father
Anastasios Augoustakis





Best Wishes for a
Successful 97th Annual
Greek Festival!



The Vellopoulos Family



IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE
MICHALOPOULOS FAMILY
GEORGE, ANNA, PETER, HIS
SON RAYMOND, DORA, KAY,
HELEN & JAMES CONNOLLY,
ZOE & PETER
DIONISOPOULOS, ANDY,
ARTHUR, ANGELO & JOHN

MAY THEIR MEMORIES
BE ETERNAL



Best Wishes and
Continued Success

For a Joyful Festival 2024

The Sioras Family
&
Donald Dessert



*Best Wishes
For A Successful Festival*

In Loving Memory of
Peter A. Lazouras,
Andrew & Chrysanthe (Sue) Lazouras

You will forever be in our hearts and
may your Memory Be Eternal

We miss and love you always

The Lazouras Family



**Best Wishes and Continued
Success To Your Parish and
All Your Community Events**



Rev. Father Andrew G. George
PROTOPRESBYTER

Rev. Father Nickolas Lanzourakis
PRESBYTER

Church of the Annunciation
Greek Orthodox Parish of Greater Providence
175 Oaklawn Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

401-942-4188

www.annunciationri.org



BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL

OPA!



Directors: Nancy Georgitsis, George Microulis, Andrea Vastis

www.greekprideri.com



Best Wishes for a Successful Festival



**In Loving Memory of our
Father George Vastis**

Ken Carlson, Andrea Vastis,
Lily & Shuwei



**In Loving Memory of our
Father and Pappou George A. Vastis**

Valerie Vastis, Maria Saxionis, Joanne Boccelli, Andrea Vastis

Andrew and Peter Saxionis
Nicholas, George, and Dominic Boccelli
Lily and Shuwei Carlson



BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL

97TH FESTIVAL

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
NICHOLAS AND HELEN PAPAS



STEPHEN AND EVANNE MIRABILE



IN LOVING MEMORY OF THOMAS SOUKAS



Emily Soukas & Family



AHEPA Pawtucket Chapter Supports our Festival!

We wish all the Success to our Festival!



Year 2024 marks the 102nd year anniversary of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association). For 100+ years we have promoted the Hellenic ideals of education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, family and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism.

People of Greek heritage and Philhellenes joined together in Brotherhood to promote and to defend the ideas of Hellenism. We make a difference in our communities, the nation and the world by our engagement and our contributions in so many areas.

Join our AHEPA Pawtucket Chapter and help us promote and defend Hellenism, the legacy we inherited!



The Assumption PTO

Greek School & Sunday School



Best Wishes for a Successful Festival

Assumption Board PTO Members

PTO@assumptionri.org

BEST WISHES FOR
A SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL



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**Mihalis, Loukia, Katerina, Emily and
Georgios Damianos**

BEST WISHES FOR
A SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL



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NIKOS KALANTZIS & FAMILY

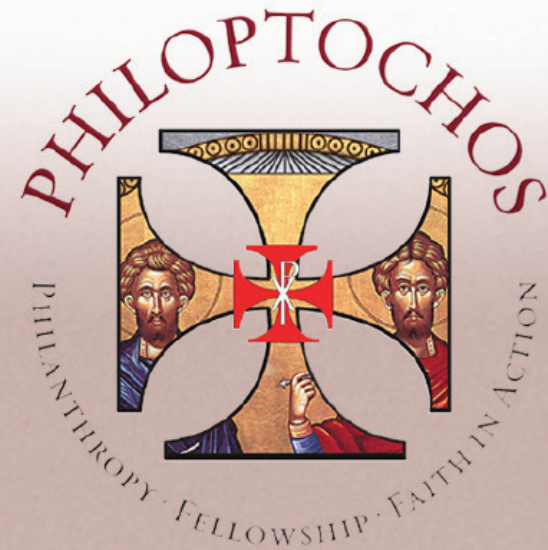
**Dr. Basil and Maria Amfilo,
in memory of their beloved parents and late wife,
would like to wish the parishioners of the
Assumption Church in Pawtucket a most
successful, productive, and enjoyable festival.**

Angeliki Lysikatos
Panayiotis Lysikatos
Theodora Amfilo
Dimos Amfilo
Sophia Pulas Amfilo



Best Wishes! Festival 2024

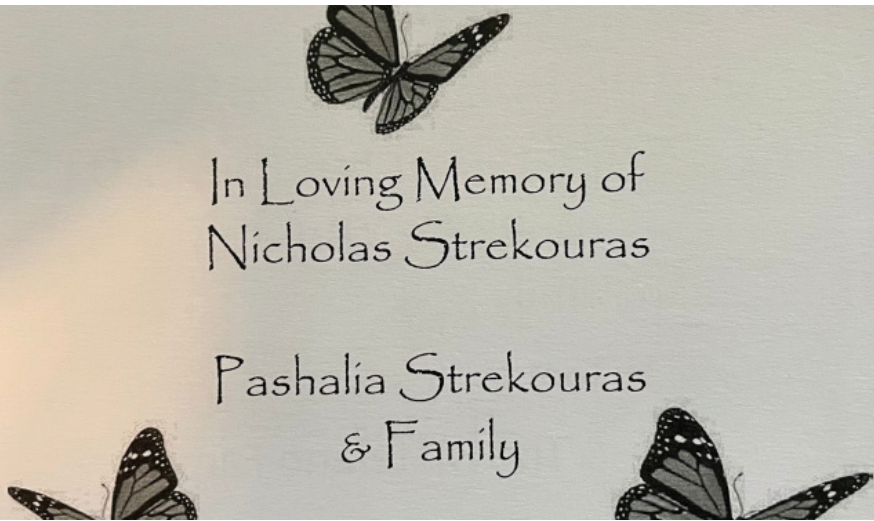
President Patricia Panichas



St. Barbara Philoptochos Society

In Loving Memory of
Nicholas Strekouras

Pashalia Strekouras
& Family





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**Best Wishes for a
Successful Festival**

Paul Microulis



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best wishes for a great festival



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 **Assumption of the Virgin Mary**
Greek Orthodox Church
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

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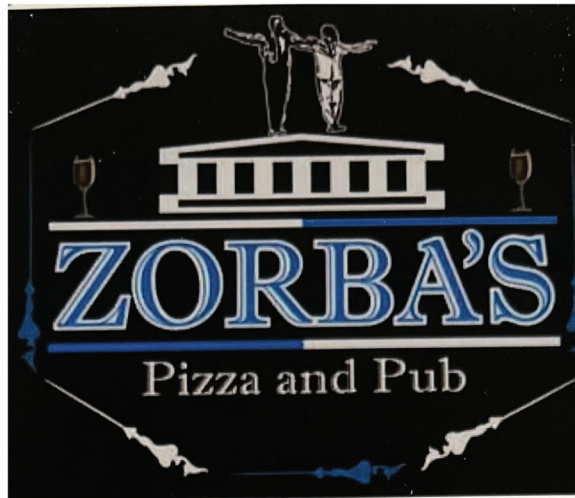
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*BEST WISHES FOR A
SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL!*



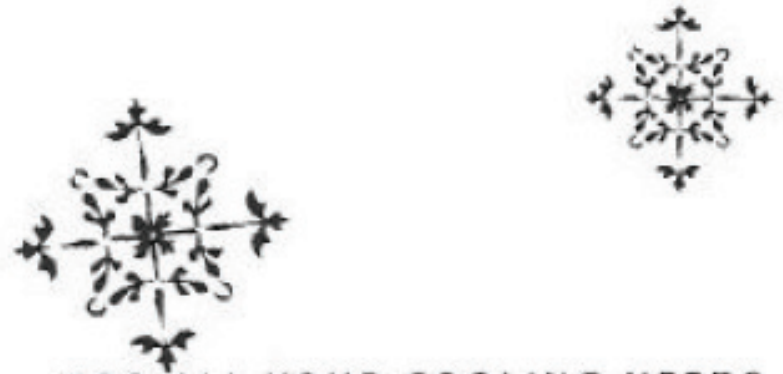
BEST WISHES FOR
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Sotiris Katsaras and children
Georgios, Nick, Kosta and Anastasia



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George Dionisopoulos

Best Wishes for a Successful Festival
George, Carol, Matthew, David and Peter



**Best Wishes for a
Successful Festival!**

Dr. & Mrs. Constantine Pagonis



**Congratulations
to the Dance Troupe
&
Good Luck for a
Successful Festival**

God Bless
THE KONTOULIS FAMILY



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Successful Festival*

In Memory of our
Parents
Helen & Peter V. Panichas

Grandparents
Anastasia & Vasilios Panichas

Cousin
Kay Matook



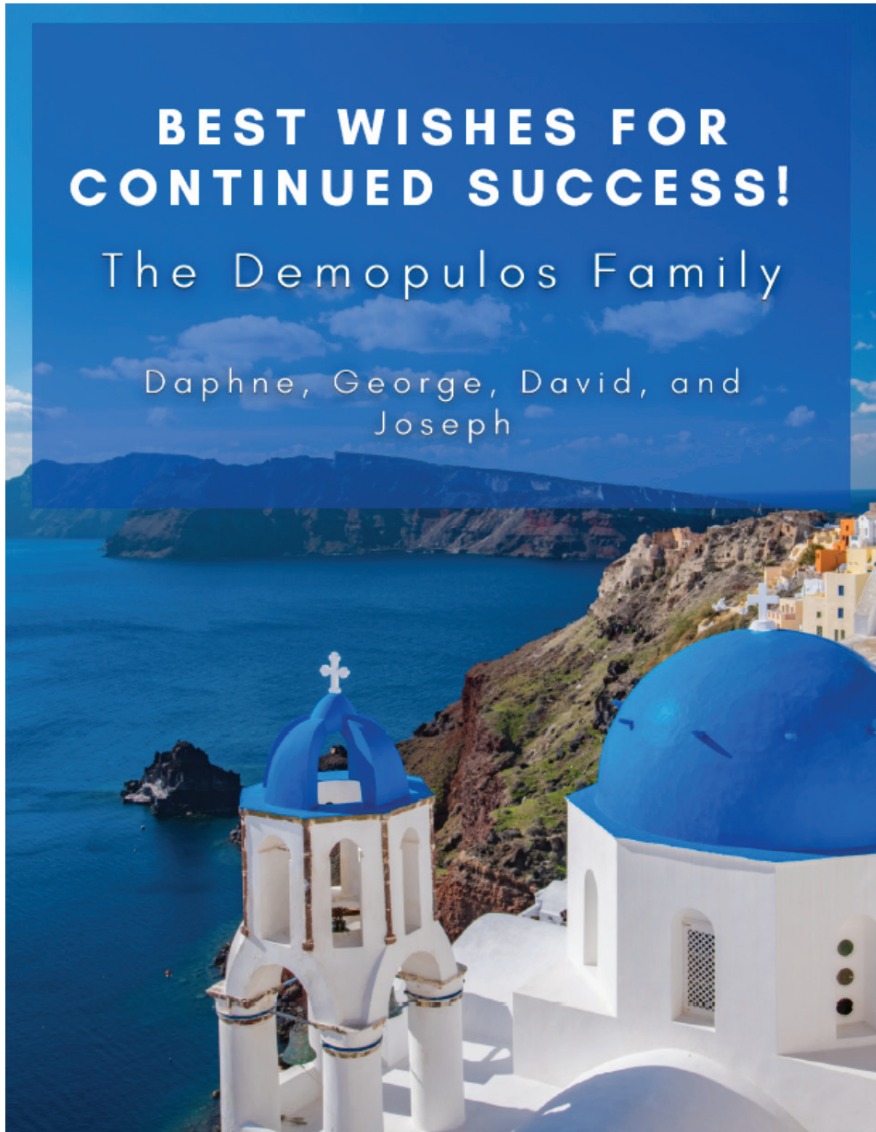
**The Gordon & Panichas
Family**



**BEST WISHES FOR
CONTINUED SUCCESS!**

The Demopoulos Family

Daphne, George, David, and
Joseph



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**We are honored to care for many of the
children of this church community.**

**In Loving Memory
of my Husband and our Parents**

George Andrew Vastis
Andrew & Vasiliki Vastis
Vasili & Vasiliki Vergakis

Panagiota Vastis



**In Memory of Father Evangelos and
Presbytera Anastasia Georgiadis**



The Georgiadis and Bunch Family
Wishing you a Successful 2024 Festival

Chris, Evan, George, Anna, John, Joseph, and Stacia