



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF LONDON & VICINITY

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NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2003

A Period of transition

As you all know our old church and property on Richmond Street was sold on August 13th 2003. The proceeds were \$650,000. We received \$400,000 down and are holding back a mortgage of \$250,000 at 5% payable in two annual payments of \$125,000 each.

We are renting the old church from the new owners, until such time as we will be able to move in to our New Church. We thank you for your understanding. Under this arrangement our Community has been served well without any interruptions or great inconveniences.

The New Church is nearing completion for occupancy. Weather permitting we expect to finish the required site work, landscaping, parking, cement and asphalt work outside by the first week of December. We are optimistic that the city inspectors will give us the permit to occupy our Church for Christmas. Unfortunately for this reason we can not yet publicise the exact date of the religious ceremony for this historic occasion. Of course, much more work remains to be done inside after we receive the occupancy permit, but with your help and generosity we will see this dream come true.

The telephone numbers have remained the same. The secretary's office and father Elias' offices have been set up at the Hellenic Centre on a temporary basis.

General Assembly and Elections of Board of Directors for the Years 2004-2005

On Sunday November 23rd 2003 a General Assembly was held for nominations of candidates to serve on the Community Council for the years 2004-2005. The listing of candidates is sent to you separately. Please make an effort and come and vote at the Hellenic Community center as follows: Advanced poll: Monday December 8th 2003, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm or Saturday December 13th 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Election Date is set for Sunday December 14th from 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm

AEK Olympians Soccer Club

Congratulations to all of our five soccer teams for an excellent 2003 season. They held their Banquet and Awards Night on November the 7th. Most of all we congratulate our Premier Team that won both the Championship and the League Cup! We are proud of your accomplishments!

Philoptochos

The Ladies Philoptochos Society held their annual Bake and Garage Sale on November 15th and wish to thank all the volunteers for a great job. They have published a Cook Book and it's on sale for only \$20 each. Purchase one today; it makes a great Christmas Gift. On Monday December 8th they will hold their 60th anniversary and Christmas Dinner. They deserve all of our support.

New Year's Eve Dance

The YAL is working hard to put this gala event together with the full support of the Community Council. Tickets will go on sale immediately after Church on Nov 30th, December 7, 14, 21, 28, and at the Hellenic Centre (East Room) on December 3, 10, 17, and 24 in the evening. You should refer to their flyer for more details.

Christmas a time of giving

As the Christmas Season is approaching do not forget your gift to our New Church. Your Gift is much appreciated during this period of progress and expansion of our Community.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School is taking place on Tuesday nights at the Hellenic Centre from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Please contact father Elias for further information. Encourage your children to participate in the Sunday School Program.

Upcoming Events:

- Pankoakos Christmas Party Sunday December 7, 2003 at the Hellenic Centre (South Room)
- Sterea Ellada Christmas gathering December 7, 2003 at the Hellenic Centre (East Room).
- Philoptochos Society 60th Anniversary and Christmas Party December 8th 2003 at the Hellenic centre.
- Seniors Gathering every 2nd Tuesday December 2->
- Greek School Christmas Assembly, Saturday December 13th at St Martin's School.
- AHEPA Family Christmas Dinner December 14th at the Hellenic Centre.
- AHEPA Boxing Day Dance December 26th at the Hellenic Centre.
- New Year's Eve Gala Dance December 31st 2003.
- Philoptochos Vasilopitta Dance Saturday January 10, 2004 at the Hellenic Centre
- Greek School Letters Day Dance, Saturday January 31, 2004 at the Hellenic centre
- Lacones Valentine's Dance, Saturday February 15th 2004
- Pankoakos Dance Saturday February 7th, 2004 at the Hellenic Centre
- Daughters of Penelope, Festival of Fashion, Sunday March 7th 2004 at the Hellenic centre

Watch for the opening of our New Church, Stay Tuned!

Christmas Message

"and lo the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy" (Matth 2: 9-10)

With this triumphant message of hope and joy, the magi set forth to find the incarnate logos who enlightens everyone coming into the world. Like the magi we too are called to embark on a spiritual journey to the little Bethlehem which rests deep with in us.

May the light which led the magi to our Lord and Saviour, guide us to do His will that we may in turn be blessed with every good and perfect gift which come from above.

To everyone a blessed Christmas and may the New Year be blessed by God with health, spiritual fervor and most importantly peace and good will among all.

With love in the Newborn Christ
From Father Elias and the Community Council