## MONTHLY BULLETIN

greekchurchips@verizon.net | 978-356-9730 | www.greekorthodoxchurchipswich.org

#### **AUGUST SERVICES**

Friday, August 1
Paraklesis 5:30pm

Sunday, August 3 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Wednesday, August 6
Holy Transfiguration
Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Friday, August 8 Paraklesis 5:30pm

Sunday, August 10 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Wednesday, August 13 Paraklesis 5:30pm

Thursday, August 14
Dormition of the Theotokos with Parish Family Dinner
Vesperal Liturgy 6:00pm

Sunday, August 17 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am

Sunday, August 24 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos **8:30am** Divine Liturgy **9:30am** 

Sunday, August 31 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

**Tuesday Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup>** 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Thursday Aug 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> 11:00am – 12:30pm

#### **Not My Boys**

Another True Story

Jack and Diane were a happily married Greek Orthodox Christian couple with three fine sons named Moe, Larry and Curly. All three sons played soccer for their local town's youth soccer team. The team held daily practices after school during the workweek and games on Saturdays. Sunday morning practices were optional but the team coach strongly encouraged all team players to participate at Sunday practice.

Moe, the oldest son came home one day after school and said "Mom, Dad! Coach told us that if we do not attend Sunday soccer practice, we will not be kicked off the team, but we may lose our starting position on the soccer field come game day.

Jack looked at his wife and three sons and said "I don't need the "Blue Laws" to keep Sunday as the Lord's Day. I'll take care of the situation with Coach."

On Monday evening Jack drove his three sons, Moe, Larry and Curly to soccer practice. Jack approached the team's head soccer coach saying "Coach we need to have a little talk."

Coach walked over to Jack and said "how can I help you, Jack?" Jack replied "My family participates in our Church Sacraments every Sunday morning until noon. Coach responded "If your boys don't attend Sunday morning practice, they may not have a spot on game day." Jack replied "then you don't have my sons."

### **Not My Boys continued**

Jack called his three boys and said "Paidia! It's time to go home."

Moments after that, coach ran after Jack and his three sons yelling "Wait. Jack, our soccer team represents this town. We practice and play to win." Jack said to Coach "I agree, we do practice and play to win. But not on Sundays during Church Sacraments. Understood Coach?" Coach begrudgingly answered "We will work something out." Jack answered "We already have worked something out. Do we have an understanding Coach?" Coach bowed his head and responded with a disappointed "Yes."

Brothers and Sisters, this story is a true story. The names used are stage names, but this series of events actually happened.

Fathers like Jack remind me of Joshua from the Old Testament when he speaks to the nation of Israel saying,

And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

Brothers and Sisters, we Orthodox Christians don't need the Blue Laws. We need our *Jacks* to have the same talk with Coach.

Your brother in Christ the Lord,

Father Christopher Kolentsas

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school registration was due by July 31st. If you haven't registered and plan to do so, please fill out an enrollment form as soon as possible. We welcome all children in our community to join, including toddlers through seventh graders. (Please note: a parent must accompany any child/ baby under the age of 4)

Please take a moment to fill out the below form for registration.

#### 2025-2026 Registration Form

As always, if you have questions regarding our program, please reach out to me by text, phone or email.

If any parishioners are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please reach out to me or Father Chris.

#### **Elayne Georgoulakos**

Sunday School Director PH: (978) 618-3844 sundayschool@greekorthodoxchurchipswich.org

#### **DONATIONS**

#### **General Donations**

Peter & Mary Manos Pam Scanga

# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Paraklesis <b>5:30pm</b>	2
8 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	4	5 Bible Study 6:00 – 7:30pm	Holy Transfiguration Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	7 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:30pm	8 Paraklesis <b>5:30pm</b>	9
10	11	Bible Study 6:00 – 7:30pm	Paraklesis 5:30pm	Dormition of the Theotokos/Parish Family Dinner Vesperal Liturgy 6:00pm	15	16
17 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	18	19 Bible Study <b>6:00 – 7:30pm</b>	20	21 Bible Study 11:00am – 12:30pm	22	23
24 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Orthos <b>8:30am</b> Liturgy <b>9:30am</b>	25	26	27	28	29	30
31				·		