

## ***From Maria Melts Stasios, Parish Council President***

As I write these words, we have just held our 2009 Fall General Assembly meeting here at St. Nicholas. It's the fourth and final one during my time as President of the Parish Council. We thank those parishioners who were able to attend and participate in the business meeting of our parish. As was announced at the meeting, we have added two important roles to the parish leadership. We thank Barbara Reynolds, our assistant treasurer, and Irene Sotiriou Vogiatzis, who serves as our procurement manager. Both have spent many hours in their roles to the benefit of our parish. Please join me in thanking them for their dedicated service to our parish and to the assistance of our treasurer, Manny Miliotis. We also launched our 2010 Stewardship drive and hope you will provide your financial support to St. Nicholas as we prepare our budget for next year's ministries and programs.

I have recently returned from Atlanta where I attended the Archangel Michael Feast and Honors weekend. This Metropolis event honors one adult and one youth from each parish as living examples of Orthodox Christian life and journey to Theosis. While Pantelis Miliotis and I were selected to receive this honor for our parish, we actually represented you, our faithful stewards who join us in giving unselfishly of your time, talent, and resources. It was a beautiful weekend and we are proud to join other recipients who help make realities of the hopes and dreams of our church and our metropolis. I hope we can all continue the challenge of living a Christ-centered life.

We are in the process of planning our St. Nicholas Day events for Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> (vespers with fellowship afterwards) and Divine Liturgy on Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. Please join us as we celebrate our church's patron saint. If you need more information, please call the church office.

Our Parish Council elections are scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an important event in the life our parish community and we hope you take advantage of the opportunity to vote. We will be electing five members to our Council. Thank you to our Election Committee, Dr. Emmanuel Koklanaris, Peter Saffo and Anesti Logothetis, and to those who agree to have their name placed in nomination to serve our parish.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish you peace and joy during this Advent season. We hope you find an opportunity to help someone less fortunate and will participate in the spiritual life of our parish. As you will see in this newsletter, we are an active parish with many opportunities for everyone to participate as much as they desire. As always, please let me know if you have questions or concerns we can address.