



METROPOLIS  
OF BOSTON

The 35th Annual

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*Metropolis of Boston  
Ministry Awards  
Ceremony*

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Sunday, June 13, 2021

*“Who do you say that I am?”*

– MATTHEW 16:15

# June 14 – Feast of Saint Methodios the Confessor Patriarch of Constantinople



## Apolytikion of Methodios the Confessor Fourth Tone

*A model of faith and  
the image of gentleness,  
the example of your life  
has shown you forth to  
your sheep-fold to be a  
master of temperance.  
You obtained thus through  
being lowly, gifts from  
on high, and riches  
through poverty.  
Methodios, our father and  
priest of priests, intercede  
with Christ our God that  
He may save our souls.*



*Many Years to His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios  
On the Occasion of His Feastday Tomorrow!*

### *Thank You Your Eminence for:*

*37 years* of Archpastoral Leadership of our Holy Metropolis  
*35 years* of this annual Ministries Awards Recognition Dinner  
*35 years* of loving hospitality offered at our Philoxenia House  
*31 years* of vibrant ministries at our MBC Camp  
*23 years* of ministries to young and old alike at our  
St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center

*May God grant you MANY YEARS  
of continued good health to  
“Rightly Teach the Word of His Truth”!*

*ΕΙΣ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΕΤΗ ΔΕΣΠΟΤΑ!!*



*His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios,  
the New England Clergy Brotherhood,  
the Metropolis Council,*

*the Metropolis Philoptochos Board,*

*and The Faithful of the Metropolis of Boston*

***Congratulate the Recipients of the  
2021 Ministry Award***

***Together with last year's 2020 Ministry Award Recipients!***



***Thank you for your faithful service!***

***God bless you!***

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# Program

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**National Anthems** American National Anthem  
Eleftheria Horiatis, *MBC Alumna*

Greek National Anthem  
Philippos Gurguliatos, *Sophomore – Hellenic College*

**Invocation** His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston  
Assisted by Reverend Theodore J. Barbas, *Chancellor*

**Master of Ceremonies** Phil Paleologos  
*'Morning Mayor' on WBSM Radio*

**Greetings** Athena Kalyvas  
*President, Metropolis Philoptochos Board*

The Reverend Father Thomas Chininis  
*President, New England Clergy Brotherhood*

The Honorable Stratos Efthymiou  
*Consul General of Greece in Boston*

***Musical Interlude*** Performance by Şeker

**Presentation of the Metropolis Scholarships  
of St. George Society of Tsamanta** Nick Athanasiou  
*Scholarship Committee Member*

**Presentation of 2020 Ministry Awards**

***Musical Interlude*** Performance by Şeker

**Video Presentation**

**Archpastoral Remarks** His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

**Presentation of 2021 Ministry Awards**

**Benediction** His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

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# Tonight's Master of Ceremonies

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## Phil Paleologos

Phil Paleologos is the proud son of the late Rev. Father Nicholas and the late Presbyteria Theodora {Talembecos} Paleologos. He entered broadcasting as a teenager in Hot Springs, Arkansas over 50 years ago and today continues to wake up the people of the South Coast in New Bedford, Massachusetts on WBSM 1420 AM. During his career at numerous stations, he anchored television news in Charlottesville, Virginia and was the afternoon host on WEZE Boston. Phil went on to become the morning anchor on the Talk America Radio Network that served over 200 markets nationwide. Phil balanced his broadcasting career while owning and operating the Shawmut Diner in New Bedford along with his wife Celeste. They have since donated the diner to the Bristol County House of Correction to eventually be used as a non-public working diner for inmates to get hands-on experience in the hospitality industry when they re-enter community life. Phil also volunteered to help addicted inmates get their lives back on track and was a charter member of a foundation that raised money for the local community health center. He has been acknowledged as a steward of the community by many nonprofit organizations and local government officials. Phil has been happily married for 41 years to Celeste {Barrett} Paleologos. Together, they have three adult children, Andrea, Athena, and Alex. They are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. Phil is the brother of Father Dean and his wife Presbyteria Cynthia {Kaloyanides} Paleologos; Neia Paleologos Rhodes; Gregory {deceased} and his wife Dorothy {Brous} Paleologos.

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# 1 Virtual Ticket = 7 Meals

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This year 100% of the virtual ticket proceeds of our Metropolis Ministries Awards Ceremony will go directly to providing meals to people in need as well as healthcare workers. The Metropolis of Boston has partnered with Lombardo's who is donating their time and their staff to cook, prepare, package and deliver seven meals for every ticket purchased. Lombardo's has partnered with an organization called Rescuing Leftover Cuisine to help with deliveries and distribution. The following is a list of the organizations, food banks, shelters and hospitals across the Commonwealth that may be receiving these meals from this event beginning on Monday, June 15.

## HOSPITALS

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Boston Medical Center  
South Shore Hospital  
Tufts Medical Center  
Newton Wellesley  
Faulkner  
Lahey Hospital - Burlington  
Brigham & Women's  
Mass General

## HOUSEHOLDS

Heading Home  
Women's Lunch Place  
Pine Street Inn  
St. Francis House

## HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES

### BOSTON

Boston Public Schools  
Boston Rescue Mission  
Commonwealth Land Trust  
Safe Haven  
Women's Lunch Place

### BROCKTON

Father Bill's

### CAMBRIDGE

Baycove / Caspar  
Heading Home  
Heading Home Shelter  
YWCA Cambridge  
Salvation Army Cambridge  
YWCA Cambridge Family & Shelter:  
Rena's Place  
Material Aid and Advocacy Program  
Cambridge Health Alliance

### CHELSEA

The Salvation Army Chelsea  
Chelsea Collaborative:  
Dinanyii at Paulino's House  
St. Luke's-San Lucas Episcopal Church

### DORCHESTER

Boston Public Schools  
Brookview House  
Catholic Charities:  
St. Ambrose Family Shelter  
Geneva Elderly Housing  
Catholic Charities Columbia Rd  
Geneva Elderly Housing  
Upham's Corner Health Center

### EAST BOSTON

Boston Public Schools  
East Boston Community  
Soup Kitchen

### EVERETT

Grace Ministries North Shore  
Cambridge Health Alliance

### FRAMINGHAM

Turning Point

### HYDE PARK

Boston Public Schools  
Grace Ministries North Shore  
Cambridge Health Alliance

### JAMAICA PLAIN

Southern JP Health Center

### LOWELL

House of Hope

### MATTAPAN

Boston Public Schools  
Mattapan Center for Life

### MEDFORD

HH ShelterTufts Mutual Aid

### NEWTON

Genesis

### QUINCY

Salvation Army Quincy

### PEMBROKE

Bethesda House

### ROSLINDALE

Boston Public Schools

### ROXBURY

Boston Public Schools  
Catholic Charities:  
Nazareth Family Residence  
New Jocelyn's Home

### SOMERVILLE

City of Somerville

### STONEHAM

First Congregational Church Food  
Pantry & Community  
Dinner Program

### WALTHAM

The Salvation Army Waltham

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*“At the end, we will not be asked to voice a holy formula but we will be judged on how we treated our neighbors.”*

+ METROPOLITAN METHODIOS

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# The Metropolis of Boston Proudly Announces the Establishment and Awarding of Two New Scholarship Funds

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## St. George's Hellenic Benefit Society of Tsamantas, Greece Scholarship Fund

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston is pleased to announce the launch of the Saint George's Hellenic Benefit Society of Tsamantas Scholarship Fund, which in its first year will award two scholarships for Greek-American college and graduate school students for the upcoming 2021-2022 academic year.

Known in Epirus as the 'village of benefactors,' Tsamantas, a once-thriving mountainous village of more than 1,500 inhabitants located in the prefecture of Thesprotia, Epirus, today has a population of fewer than twenty residents. A large chain migration of young men from the village ventured to Worcester, MA at the turn of the 20th century seeking to forge a new life for their families. In 1908, some forty of these pioneers established one of the first Greek-American fraternal organizations in the United States – The St. George Hellenic Benefit Society of Tsamantas. Their aims were to assist their family and friends back in their home village, build the village's two schools and help establish the now long-thriving Greek Orthodox church and community in Worcester, MA. The new perpetual Scholarship Fund continues the Society's founders' storied tradition by aiding deserving Greek-American students in achieving their academic ambitions while also commemorating their ancestral village, its venerable Society and its many founders and benefactors for generations to come.

The first scholarship award is named in honor of Stavros Bellos, one of Tsamantas' native sons and the village's greatest benefactor, who bequeathed a very generous sum to the St. George's Society. This sum, together with other Society funds, have endowed a perpetual scholarship fund administered under the auspices of the Metropolis of Boston, continuing the long and fruitful leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of New England. The second scholarship is in memory of Arthur Athanasiou, a former 61-year member of the St. George's Society who also served several tenures as President of the Society and was the driving force in establishing the Society's original scholarship program more than 30 years ago. The "Stavros Bellos Scholarship" will provide a \$7,500 award and the "Arthur Athanasiou Scholarship" a \$5,000 award.

### The Inaugural Scholarship Award Winners for the Upcoming 2021-2022 Academic Year Are:

#### **Elli Gurguliatos**

*Resident of Natick, MA., she matriculated at Natick High School, where she graduated with a 4.54 GPA. She has been accepted to Wellesley College, where she will be concentrating in Biology, Mathematics and Environmental Science.*

#### **Anastasia Coclin**

*Resident of Cranston, RI., and a graduate of Cranston High School West, where she graduated 13th in her class with a 4.775 GPA. She be entering Boston College in the Fall Semester, taking a double major Applied Psychology and Human Development & Transformative Educational Studies.*







## Charles C. Condes Memorial Scholarship Fund

His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios announces that the Metropolis will be offering additional scholarship opportunities to Greek Orthodox college students, in furtherance of its long-standing and successful mission promoting engaging campus ministry throughout the college and graduate school years.

The Charles C. Condes Memorial Scholarships will be offered annually from funds granted to the Metropolis from the trust of Charles Constantine Condes to provide college student aid. In its inaugural year, two scholarship recipients will each receive \$7,500.

Charles Condes was born in Chicago, Illinois to Constantine S. and Harikleia (Yiannias) Condes who had emigrated from Niata, Lakonia and Alea, Arkadia, respectively. He was the third of their four children. The Great Depression was affecting millions of Americans while Condes was growing up. This didn't stop his ambition to be successful and at the young age of 16, he opened his own dairy store. Condes worked a series of additional jobs while attending the Illinois Institute of Technology as a first-generation college student. After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, Condes served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II as a meteorologist, attached to the RAF. During the war he was stationed across North Africa, the Middle East, and Cyprus. After the war, he worked as an engineering consultant, including work as a bridge design engineer for the City of Chicago. In addition, by making many astute investments, he greatly expanded his personal fortune.

Charles was happily married for 25 years to the late Phyllis Holik. He was a highly principled man who was devoted to his family and his faith. A philanthropist who donated to many charities and churches, he was a great believer in the power of education and an admirer of all things Hellenic. Through his endowment of scholarships, he chose to demonstrate his pride in the Greek American students who represent the future of Hellenism and Orthodoxy in the United States.

### **The Inaugural Scholarship Award Winners or the Upcoming 2021-2022 Academic Year Are:**

#### **Kyriaki Kiafoulis**

*Resident of Middletown, New Jersey. She has been studying at the University of Maryland in College Park, where she has maintained a 3.67 GPA, and will be transferring to Boston University this fall. Kyriaki's focus is on film and television, elementary education, and arts administration.*

#### **Nicholas Dennis Lambros**

*Resident of Cranston, Rhode Island and a current student at Providence College. Nick is studying Political Science and maintains a 3.94 GPA.*



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### **Metropolis of Boston Scholarship Committee - Spring 2021**

John Anton

Nicholas Athanasiou  
Ann Bezzerides  
Harriette Condes-Zervakis

Leah Kofos, Esq.  
Spyrithoula Koullisis  
Pete N. Zervakis

Nicholas Kourtis, Esq.,  
*Chairman*

# 2020 Ministry Award Recipients

## CONNECTICUT

Holy Trinity, Danielson John Haidemenos  
 St. Sophia, New London Melpomeni G. Mustakis  
 Holy Trinity, Norwich Anna-Helene Grossomanides

## MAINE

St. George, Bangor Marina (Diane) Smitherman  
 Holy Trinity, Portland Gregory Tselikis

## MASSACHUSETTS

Sts. Constantine & Helen, Andover Doris Diamond  
 St. Athanasius, Arlington Anthony (Posthumously)  
 & Joanne Piandes  
 Annunciation Cathedral, Boston Ross N. Triant  
 St. John the Baptist, Boston Apostolos Paul Yiotis  
 St. Catherine, Braintree Evangelos Xenophon Papageorg  
 Annunciation, Brockton Ioanna Pappas Calogrias  
 Sts. Constantine & Helen, Cambridge Vasilios Kritharas  
 (Posthumously)  
 St. George, Centerville Timothy P. Kandianis  
 Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Cohasset James Daoulas  
 St. George, Dartmouth George Tsaliagos  
 Assumption, Dracut Nicholas Papageorgiou  
 St. Luke, East Longmeadow Dorsey Cokkinias  
 St. Demetrios, Fall River Vasilios Efthimiades  
 Holy Trinity, Fitchburg Litsa Idaris Haidousis  
 Holy Apostles, Haverhill Gregory Karampalas  
 Assumption, Ipswich Avgenia Rooney  
 St. Nicholas, Lexington Alex & Christina Constantine  
 Holy Trinity, Lowell George & Susan Pergakis  
 Transfiguration, Lowell Evanthia Karatassos Dukakis  
 St. Gregory, Mansfield Chris & Mary Ann Metrakas

## MASSACHUSETTS (continued)

Sts. Anargyroi, Marlborough Joyce Giotas  
 Annunciation, Newburyport James Sperelakis  
 St. Vasilios, Peabody Helen Nanis Papadopoulos  
 St. George, Pittsfield Kevin Nolli  
 St. Nectarios, Roslindale Sassa (Isaia) Sarantopoulos  
 Dormition of the Virgin Mary, Somerville Pauline Karavakis  
 St. George Cathedral, Springfield Helen Gouzounis  
 Taxiarchae, Watertown John Kopellas  
 Sts. Constantine & Helen, Webster Constantine Kulax  
 St. Demetrios, Weston Carolyn & Van Spiros  
 Annunciation, Woburn Olympia Frazier  
 St. Spyridon Cathedral, Worcester Savvas Fotiadis

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Holy Trinity, Concord Theopoula Tsaros  
 Annunciation, Dover Thomas Anthony 'Toby' Weir  
 Assumption, Manchester Michelle Kapos  
 St. Philip, Nashua Cosmos E. Marandos  
 St. Nicholas, Portsmouth Greg & Valerie Filias

## RHODE ISLAND

Annunciation, Cranston Gabriel & Hoda Daiaa  
 St. Spyridon, Newport Charlie & Elaine Holder  
 Assumption, Pawtucket Elaine Bassis

## VERMONT

Dormition of the Virgin Mary, Burlington Georgia J. Maheras

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## CONNECTICUT

St. Sophia, New London Michael Podeszwa  
Holy Trinity, Norwich Yannoula Thanas Ballassi

## MAINE

St. George, Bangor George Louis Lealos  
Holy Trinity, Lewiston George Simones

## MASSACHUSETTS

Sts. Constantine & Helen, Andover Rev. Dr. George Karahalios  
(Posthumously)  
St. Athanasius, Arlington Tony & Elaine Sgouras  
Annunciation Cathedral, Boston James Karimbakas  
St. John the Baptist, Boston Dr. George & Dr. Maria Tsokos  
St. Catherine, Braintree Dr. Spyros & Ann Braoudakis  
Annunciation, Brockton Haido Barbas  
Sts. Constantine & Helen, Cambridge Costas & Elizabeth Hatzis  
St. George, Centerville Maria Zombas  
Sts. Constantine and Helen, Chicopee David Gilrein  
St. Nicholas, Clinton Steve & Georgia Iatrou  
Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Cohasset Audrey Jean Samara DiBona  
St. George, Dartmouth Helen Kronteres  
Assumption, Dracut Emmanuel Tamvklis  
St. Luke, East Longmeadow Michael & Christine Kennedy  
St. Demetrios, Fall River Maria Bushell  
Holy Trinity, Fitchburg Harris Karis  
Holy Apostles, Haverhill Martha Cutrumbes Brienze  
Holy Trinity, Holyoke Mario Bolivar  
Assumption, Ipswich Constance Markos  
St. Nicholas, Lexington Brian Holmes Mackintosh  
& Carol Irene Bearse  
Holy Trinity, Lowell George Tgibides & Jill Cricones  
Transfiguration, Lowell Spiros & Olivia Sintros  
Saint George, Lynn Peter C. Katsos

## MASSACHUSETTS (continued)

St. Gregory, Mansfield Steve & Liz Christo  
Sts. Anargyroi, Marlborough Martha Celli  
Annunciation, Newburyport John Housianitis  
St. Vasilios, Peabody Michael S. Zolotas  
St. George, Pittsfield Nicholas L. Parsenios  
St. Nectarios, Roslindale Emily Chronopoulos  
Dormition of the Virgin Mary, Somerville Louise Lambrukos  
St. George Cathedral, Springfield Kathleen A. Mouneimneh  
Taxiarchae, Watertown Harry Chehames  
Sts. Constantine & Helen, Webster Mary Teguis Fatsi  
& Eleanor Teguis  
St. Demetrios, Weston Christopher & Matina Pappas  
Annunciation, Woburn George John Bibilos  
St. Spyridon Cathedral, Worcester Efrosini Kika

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Holy Trinity, Concord Anestis & Angeliki Kalampalikis  
Annunciation, Dover Zoe Polychronopoulos  
Assumption, Manchester Georgia Gancarz  
St. George Cathedral, Manchester Angela Dion  
St. Philip, Nashua Dr. Samuel & Elizabeth Kouchalakos  
St. Vasilios, Newport Alexander John Stevens  
St. Nicholas, Portsmouth Rebecca (Bekki) Iordanou

## RHODE ISLAND

Annunciation, Cranston Kevin & Marianne Phelan  
St. Spyridon, Newport Maria Stefanopoulos-Johnson  
Assumption, Pawtucket Anastasios Andrikopoulos

## VERMONT

Dormition of the Virgin Mary, Burlington Nicholas Rorris

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## CONNECTICUT

### Saint Sophia New London

#### Michael Podeszwa



Michael Podeszwa has been a lifelong member of St. Sophia. He graduated from Sunday School with near perfect attendance each year and served as an altar boy under Fr. Charles Simones. He has been a member of the Parish Council for 7 years, while serving as President for the past 3 years. He led the parish for a year with an interim priest and facilitated the hiring of Fr. James Katinas as St. Sophia's new priest. As Parish President during the COVID pandemic, Michael

was able to secure funding to pay off an over six figure mortgage balance enabling St. Sophia to become debt free and financially stable.

Michael has worked at many of St. Sophia's Food Festivals over the years in many capacities including being Co-Chairperson during the most profitable Festival in the history of St. Sophia. He is also a part of Chef Angelo Semos' team in the kitchen during community meals, fundraising events, and parish celebrations.

Outside of church, he has worked in public education for 25 years and is currently the principal of Winthrop STEM Elementary Magnet School in New London, CT. He has been married to his wife Kimberley for 28 years and has two children, Olivia, who recently graduated from college and Ben, who is currently attending college. ❖

Community in Norwich, Connecticut is honored to name Yannoula Ballassi as the recipient of the 2021 Metropolis Ministry Award.

Yannoula embarked on her lifelong journey of service to her church and community at a very young age, following in the footsteps of her parents and grandparents. If something needed to be done for the church, even as a young girl she would be the first in line to volunteer. On any given day at Holy Trinity Church in Norwich, CT, she could be found helping her father and papou make repairs to the old church building, assisting her yia yia and the ladies of the parish make koliva, or singing alongside her mother in the choir- all by the age of ten. As a teen her family moved and became members of Holy Trinity in Danielson, Connecticut where she served as President and Vice President of GOYA and joined the choir. Upon receiving her master's degree, she was elected to her first term on the Parish Council at the age of 23, continuing on to serve as Secretary and GOYA Advisor, all the while singing in the choir.

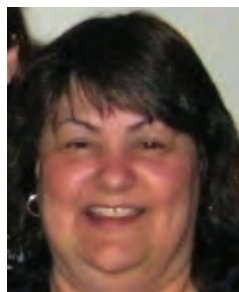
Yannoula married her husband George, and they began their life together in Southeastern CT, where they raised their children Gregory and Amanda as members of St. Sophia Church in New London. Throughout the years, she served as GOYA Advisor, Dance Troupe Advisor, Philoptochos Treasurer and Vice President, Stewardship Chair, Asst. Treasurer, Treasurer, VP and President of the Parish Council. Recently, Yannoula has returned to her roots at Holy Trinity in Norwich where she is presently the Parish Council Treasurer, Philoptochos Vice-President, and is serving her third term on the Metropolis Philoptochos Board.

In addition to her countless volunteer roles in her Church communities, Yannoula has served on innumerable boards and committees in the community at large, including 13 years as a Girl Scout Leader. All the while, she has worked full time as a financial systems analyst. Yannoula is the epitome of selflessness. In the Holy Trinity Community, she can be found humbly serving at any and every Church event. She serves quietly and continually behind the scenes, never seeking the spotlight. She exemplifies the love of Christ, counting others as more significant than herself. Not only does Yannoula emulate Martha's commitment of serving the Lord, but she has also chosen the 'good portion' as Mary did. She actively serves, but also participates regularly in Divine Liturgy and the Sacraments of the Church.

Yannoula is the embodiment of what a faithful servant should be. Her outstanding contributions to the Church make her a devoted steward, giving of her time, talents, and treasure in such a way to glorify God. By her example, she demonstrates the true worship of the Orthodox Faith. May our Lord continue to bless Yannoula so that in turn she may continue to reflect His Light at Holy Trinity and in the community beyond. AXIOS! ❖

### Holy Trinity Norwich

#### Yannoula Thanas Ballassi



"For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have

shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister" Hebrews 6:10. The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MAINE

### Saint George Bangor

#### George Louis Leakos



George has been a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church for 65 years and has served on the Church Council for the past 16 years, formerly serving as Past President for a term, and currently as Vice President. His family has a long history with the church. His grandfather and father were Parish Council members and Board Presidents years ago. His mother and grandmother were also very active in the church.

George participated in the annual Greek Ball in Bangor during the seventies and eighties. The church and the local community looked forward to the event each year which was a major fundraiser. In later years, when the Folk Festival became a yearly event, he and his wife Sharon would enjoy helping fellow church members at the Greek Taverna at the Bangor Waterfront cooking gyros to sell along with baklava and other pastries to the crowds who attended the event. It showed how the Greek community worked together to support the church and local community.

George has two older children, Nicholas and Dianna, who are both married. He has four grandchildren. They are Ezra, Jude, Maximus and Isrielle. He is a Vice President at Bangor Savings Bank and has been with the bank for 34 years. ✦

### Holy Trinity Lewiston

#### George Simones



George Simones was born in Lewiston, Maine on June 27, 1980 to Jimmy and Linda Simones. His love for God and our Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church started from a young age and continues to this day. After finishing high school, he attended Central Maine Technical College. He followed in his father's footsteps at Simones Hot Dog Stand and as a Firefighter for many years. He married Lera Simones in 2008 and has a beautiful daughter Arianna

who is now six years old. From 2011 to 2013, George attended and finished the summer Diaconate Program at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. During this time George further developed his love for chanting the services of our Orthodox Church. He is constantly and consistently at every divine service helping the priest in any way possible. In 2014 he became the part-time Pastoral Assistant for Holy Trinity in Lewiston. George has served the Church faithfully and obediently for many years. When asked to do something for our church, George's answer is always a resounding, "Yes!" God has truly blessed him. ✦

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saints Constantine and Helen Andover

#### Rev. Dr. George Karahalios (Posthumously)



Saints Constantine and Helen Church of Andover is proud to honor the late Fr. George Karahalios as recipient from our parish for the 2021 Metropolis of Boston Ministry Award.

(Reposed September 8, 2015)

The Rev. Dr. George Alexander Karahalios was a man of the cloth and a renaissance man, a teacher and scholar who was passionate about education, Hellenic language, culture,

and philanthropy. Besides his native Greek and English, he also spoke German, French, Latin, and Classical and Hellenistic Greek.

Father Karahalios was born September 22, 1931, in Athens, Greece, the fourth son of Irene and Alexandros Karahalios. He grew up in Athens during the Second World War, receiving his early and secondary education there. In 1953, at the age of 21, he came to the United States to attend the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School in Brookline, Massachusetts. In 1954, he married Calypso Arianoutsos, herself an immigrant from Greece. He was ordained as a Deacon on March 11, 1956, and to the Holy Priesthood on March 24, 1957.

Father Karahalios earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1958 from Holy Cross; a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Boston University in 1965; a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Heidelberg, Germany, in 1971; and a Doctor of Theology degree from the University of Athens, Greece, in 1991. While studying in Heidelberg, Germany, he served as Auxiliary Chaplain in the United States Army for Greek Orthodox military and civilian personnel at the US Army Headquarters there.

In 1971, he was assigned to Saints Constantine & Helen Church in Lawrence, MA and served there until retiring from the parish in 1992. The community grew rapidly during his service and continues to thrive to this day. Among his many accomplishments in the parish, he led the congregation's move from Lawrence to a new edifice in Andover. Father

Karahalios taught philosophy at his alma mater Holy Cross for over 25 years and also served as the school's Vice President and Provost. He served as Senior Editor for Orthros, Narthex Press and also held the position of Chancellor of the Metropolis of Boston. ❖

### Saint Athanasius Arlington

#### Tony and Elaine Sgouros



Tony and Elaine Sgouros have been members of the St. Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox Church in Arlington for almost 50 years. You can often find them together sitting towards the back of the church, admiring their grandson who is serving in the altar or their granddaughters sitting in the pews across the way. This quiet presence is what makes Tony and Elaine so deserving of this award. They are not a couple who wants the attention; they would much rather work behind the scenes.

Elaine is always helping with the Philoptochos, spending entire days at the church preparing alongside the other women. She can always be counted on to support the church. She is a warm presence and is welcoming to everyone who joins to help. During the festival, she works in the back, preparing salad after salad for the large volume of customers that visit our festival. For years, Tony has provided the church with provisions needed for events, and even served on the Parish Council in its early days. You may have most often seen him over the past 5 decades playing the drums with the Makredes Ensemble, where he and the band played Greek music and entertained us for countless church dinner dances and festivals.

Tony and Elaine have always believed in helping and giving to their church in any way possible. They clearly learned the importance of this from their own parents who were committed servants to their church and could even be found feeding the poor and homeless on weekends. They stepped up when their church needed them the most and continue to make the church an important part of their life. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Annunciation Cathedral Boston

#### James Karimbakas



James (Jim) Karimbakas is a life-long member of the Annunciation Cathedral of New England. Born in Boston to Charles and Athanasia, Jim had one brother, Chris (of blessed memory) who also dedicated himself to the Cathedral, where he was born and raised, and has a sister, Anna, who resides in Florida. Jim earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Jim was married in September of 1973 to Fran Savas at

the Annunciation Church of Brockton. Jim was always entrepreneurial, and he carried that spirit into his professional career, building businesses in both the retail and electronics sectors. The skills and experience of Jim's entrepreneurial endeavors have been applied many times in his many years of service to the Cathedral. Without question, the parish has benefited enormously from Jim's skill, wisdom, and experience!

What everyone knows and cherishes about Jim is his completely unselfish dedication to his beloved Cathedral. There are people in our midst that are so dedicated, so committed, and so humble in the service they offer to Christ and His Church that they can sometimes be taken for granted. Jim has been responsible for treasury and financial functions of the Cathedral for the last 7 years and before that he worked closely with his brother Chris, who was similarly dedicated and committed to the Cathedral in capacities similar to Jim. Combined, the Karimbakas brothers were and are servants of Christ in the truest sense of how that phrase is intended. The Karimbakas family, particularly Jim and his brother Chris before him, were and are unassuming pillars of our Cathedral Community; they are truly servants of Christ and His Church. In their own quiet and humble service to the church, they achieved much, contributed more, and exemplarily demonstrated the definition of 'humble servants of Christ.' Always present, always dedicated, Jim personifies the words of Christ, "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ." - Colossians 3:23-24. Jim lives, and his brother Chris before him lived this word.

For the 35 years of the bestowing of the Metropolis of Boston Ministry Awards, the Annunciation Cathedral has proudly been represented by incredibly dedicated and committed stewards of our parish - Jim Karimbakas continues this proud tradition. Axios! ❖

### Saint John the Baptist Boston

#### Dr. George and Dr. Maria Tsokos



**Maria Tsokos, MD:** Dr. Tsokos was born in Greece and received her Medical Degree and a Doctorate in Sciences from the National and Kapodistrian University in Athens. She trained in Anatomic Pathology at the Hellenic Red Cross Hospital in Athens and in the Laboratory of Pathology at the National Cancer

Institute, Bethesda, MD, where she also received postdoctoral training in ultrastructural pathology and solid pediatric tumors. Subsequently, Dr. Tsokos was appointed chief of the Pediatric Tumor Biology and Ultrastructural Pathology section at the National Cancer Institute, a position which she held for 23 years. She also became tenured senior investigator and led a research laboratory identifying previously unknown molecular pathways in sarcomas, which were explored in early phase clinical studies and hold promise for novel treatments. Dr. Tsokos also generated classification criteria for pediatric sarcomas and contributed to the identification of novel clinical entities. In 2012 she joined Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center as a research physician, and Harvard Medical School as a Professor in Residence of Medicine. She has served as a member and chair of committees in the Society for Pediatric Pathology and as academic editor and editorial board member in various scientific journals.

**George C. Tsokos, MD:** Dr. Tsokos was born in Greece and received his Medical Degree and a Doctorate in Sciences from the University of Athens. He trained in Internal Medicine at the University of Athens and Georgetown University/VA Medical Center in Washington DC and completed Immunology and Rheumatology Fellowships at the National Institutes of Health. Between 1987 and 2007, he was a member of the  
(continued)

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

Uniformed Services University/Walter Reed community, where he served in various leadership positions including: Professor of Medicine and Molecular/Cell Biology, Vice Chair for Research, Chief of the Department of Cell Injury, special consultant to the Surgeon General for vaccine side effects, and appointee of the Secretary of Defense to the Council of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases. In 2007 he joined the Beth Israel Medical Center as Chief of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology and Harvard Medical School as Professor of Medicine. He conducts basic and clinical research in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus and has identified novel pathways that have served as the basis for new treatments currently in various phases of development. More recently, he has launched studies to decipher the interaction between immune and kidney resident cells and to identify local processes that enable kidney damage. Dr. Tsokos has served in various leadership positions, including: President of the Clinical Immunology Society, the member of the Boards of Directors for the American College of Rheumatology and the Lupus Foundation of America, member or chair of multiple federal committees, and editor or member of the editorial boards for top scientific journals. He holds a MERIT Award from the National Institutes of Health and has received several prestigious awards including: the Kirkland, Lee C. Howley Sr. Prize, and Evelyn V. Hess awards; the Distinguished Basic Investigator Award from the American College of Rheumatology; the Lupus Insight Prize from the Lupus Research Alliance; the Carol Nachman Prize for Rheumatology; and the Dr. Marian Ropes Physician Achievement Award. He is a Master of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Rheumatology. ❖

### Saint Catherine Braintree

#### Dr. Spyros and Ann Braoudakis



Spyros was born in Athens in 1965, the oldest son of Vardis and Georgia Braoudakis, both from the island of Crete, where most of his extended family still lives. After completing his BS at the University of Crete, he came to the United States in 1988 for graduate studies at Boston University from where he received his PhD in Computer Science.

Ann was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the United States with her parents, Nestor and Liza Cruz, at a young age. She grew up in Illinois and later moved with her parents to Massachusetts. She also studied at Boston University from where she received her MBA and Masters in Telecommunications.

Spyros and Ann met during their time at Boston University and got married in 1998. They have one daughter, Bostony-Georgia, who recently graduated from Eckerd College with a double major in Marine Science and French. She is now pursuing a PhD in Marine Biology at the University of South Florida.

Ann has worked her entire career until her retirement as a Programmer-Analyst at the telephone company (New England Telephone, NYNEX, Bell Atlantic, and Verizon.) Spyros has worked as a Data Warehouse Architect in several companies and is currently the Manager of the Data Warehouse at Grand Circle Travel.

Their pride and joy is their daughter Bostony whom they brought up in the Orthodox Faith! She drove them to be more involved in the church by enrolling her in the Sunday School and Greek School.

Ann and Spiro are dedicated members of St. Catherine Church in Braintree, MA. They are active in all aspects and ministries of the church, having both participated and volunteered in many essential ministries. Ann and Spiro are true examples of the stewardship of time, treasure, and talent to our church. They are very grateful for our church community, for our fellowship, and for our body of believers in Orthodoxy! ❖



# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Annunciation Brockton

#### Haido Barbas



Congratulations to Haido Barbas, our 2021 Laity Award winner!!!! Haido has been an active and devoted member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Brockton, Massachusetts and the Greek community, since she immigrated to Brockton in 1970. She has been an active member of the Ladies Philoptochos Society and served many years as President, Vice President as well as a member of the Executive Board. During her tenure, she spent countless hours

volunteering her time cooking, planning and working at our annual food festival. She would be in the kitchen for weeks at a time making everything from baklava to tsourekia!

On Holy Thursday, she made sure to stay and hold vigil with other ladies of our parish into the early morning hours of Holy and Great Friday. She also made many visits to the Philoxenia House, the Hellenic Nursing home and to shut-ins of our community. She also served as President of the Pan-Macedonian Association of Brockton. She planned and executed many successful dances that brought hundreds of Greek Americans together.

Haido and her late husband Vasilios immigrated to the United States from Loukomi, Kozani in 1970. They have 2 children, Chris and George and they all still reside in Brockton. ❖

### Saints Constantine and Helen Cambridge

#### Costas and Elizabeth Hatzis



Mr. Costas Hatzis was born and raised in Alexandroupolis, Greece. He started his career as a photographer and married Elizabeth from Lemnos. After a few years of hard work in Germany, they arrived in the United States on Thanksgiving of 1967. They settled in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Mr. Costas found his passion in the Food Industry. He worked at the famous Jimmy's Harborside restaurant. After the restaurant closed, he ran his own food establishment in Cambridge. Later, he offered his services to the church. For 10 plus years he was the familiar face, all the seminarians saw for breakfast, lunch, and dinner at Hellenic College Holy Cross. The students would plan their schedule around Mr. Costa's cooking. They would go out for pizza or Chinese food on Mr. Costa's off days. He also worked as the cook at the Metropolis of Boston Summer Camp. Even to this day, priests around the whole United States call-in and reminisce on his exceptional meals.

Since 1967 he has been a member of the church of Saints Constantine and Helen. He was on the Board for many years; and always helps with the church's services as an Usher.

He and his wife are always present every Sunday and weekday services. The only time he is not in the church is during the festival and the special church functions. You will always find him in the kitchen offering his culinary skills and teaching the younger church volunteers. His little notebook is notorious among the church members, and there you find records for every event for the past 50 plus years.

Mr. Costas wouldn't be as successful without the support of his loving wife Elizabeth. A talented seamstress and a great cook, she has been an active member of the Philoptochos. Both of their sons Theodore with his wife Magdalene, and George with his wife Maria, are very successful businessmen. Mr. Costas and Mrs. Elizabeth are blessed with four beautiful grandchildren - Costas, Kosmas, Alexandra, and Katerina. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint George Centerville

#### Maria Zombas



Congratulations to Maria Zombas, this year's recipient of the Metropolis of Boston 2021 Laity Award!

Maria is a native Cape Codder, born in Hyannis, Massachusetts. Since birth Maria has been a member of the St George Greek Orthodox Church. In her younger years, she attended Sunday School, Greek School, as well as GOYA. Over the years, Maria has continued to contribute her time and talents for her Church.

Maria has been very involved in the life of her Church. She served on the Parish Council for 8 years, with 2 years as President. She is also on the Finance Committee, Golf Committee, and our Greek Festival Committee (with one year serving as Chairman). She is always there to lend a helping hand if needed. During the Annual Greek Festival, you will find Maria behind the register in the pastry section, selling tons of desserts and sweets making a lot of people very happy!

Maria's love for the Church was instilled in her by her parents Tony and Voula Zombas to whom she feels forever grateful for having raised her in an Orthodox home. With strong faith as her foundation, she can now instill that love in her twin boys as well – Andrea and Antoni.

Outside the Church, Maria's number one priority is being a good role model for her boys. She enjoys being around her family and friends, and never passes up an opportunity to do a little Greek dancing if given the chance. Maria works in property management, commercial and residential.

She is humbled and grateful for this honor. We thank you Maria for your love and service to our Parish. ❖

### Saints Constantine and Helen Chicopee

#### David Gilrein



Having the honor and privilege of working in the field of human services for 35 years, it seemed a natural progression for David Gilrein to bring that practice to his next vocation.

Schooled in education and social work, he has worked with the disabled as a Caretaker in the now shuttered Belchertown State School; a Case Manager with the Massachusetts Department of Disabilities and lastly; as a Special Education School

Counselor with the Chicopee Public Schools.

Three years ago, he was welcomed through Chrismation into the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Chicopee. Through the strong support of the Parish Council and Fr. Ephraim Peters, David along with other parishioners has become active with Lorraine's Soup Kitchen, assisting in occasional meal preparation along with organizing community events where clothing and food has been distributed to Chicopee's needy population.

With all the tumult and discord we experience in life, David believes we can find peace and solace in as small an action as giving back to the community. He believes this is why we give and why we strive to take care of one another. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint Nicholas Clinton

#### Steve and Georgia Iatrou



Congratulations to Maria Zombas, this year's recipient of the This husband-wife duo has been a main pillar of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church for over 60 years. Steve met Georgia shortly after immigrating to this country in 1962. They married and had four children who they raised in this very church.

Steve and Georgia are involved in every aspect of running their church. From cleaning and vacuuming weekly,

shoveling snow, ordering candles, handling all the bookkeeping and financial records, as well as baking the prosforo every week for the past 40 years. Their pride for St. Nicholas led them into joining the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope 45 years ago. They have both organized bake sales, yard sales, and picnics to raise money for their beloved church.

Their strong faith in God and their church have kept this couple happy, healthy, and extremely loved. Steve and Georgia have welcomed with open arms and open hearts many priests, bishops, and parishioners, and will continue to do so as long as they are physically capable. ✚

### Nativity of the Virgin Mary Cohasset

#### Audrey Jean Samara DiBona



I first became a member of the Panagia Greek Orthodox Church of Cohasset in 1988. Under the direction of Fr. John Maheras, I served as a Singer, Co-choir Director, Reader, Sunday School Teacher, GOYA Chaperone, and served on the Parish Council. I participated in many Taverna and fundraising events. Under the direction of Fr. Tony Vrame, I have resumed singing and reading during services, and am currently on the Parish Council. In order to help grow

our Parish, I have been participating in the Thriving Congregations Initiative. ✚

### Saint George Dartmouth

#### Helen Kronteres



Helen Kronteres has been an active member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church all her life since coming to America at the age of ten. Brought up by a very religious mom, she attended Sunday School, sang in the Choir, and was a member of GOYA.

In her adult life, Helen has continued serving her church as a Senior Advisor to GOYA for over ten years. She has been an active member of the Parish Council and has held the position of Corresponding Secretary for more than eight years; she is also a member of the Philoptochos Society.

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# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

Most recently, she was the sole chairperson for the successful sale of a colorful, 3-D Christmas tree ornament displaying the front exterior of our church. In addition, Helen along with her husband Jim, was on a team that faithfully performed custodial duties for our church. During the last ten years, she has been a great fundraiser, a volunteer, and a member of our annual Greek Festival Committee. In 2019, she was the Chairperson for the 10-year celebration of our beloved St. George Church at our new location in Dartmouth.

Helen and her husband, Jim, have been married for 49 years and reside in Dartmouth. They have 2 daughters, Kelly and Stephanie and 4 lovely grandchildren, Alexa, Kyra, Ayden, and Athena. ❖

### Assumption of the Virgin Mary Dracut

#### Emmanuel Tamvaklis



Emmanuel “Manny” Tamvaklis was born in Jamaica Plain, MA to parents from Samos, Greece. His father was one of the founding members of “Panagitsa” in Lowell. Manny has fond memories of traveling from Jamaica Plain to Lowell every Sunday to attend services, until the family moved to Dracut, MA in 1968. He was on the Parish Council before the fire destroyed the old church building; served on the church Rebuilding Committee; and has been an active member of the Parish Council since the new church opened in 2001. Manny and his wife Linda have three daughters, Christina, Demitra, and Anastasia. He works as an Auto Mechanic and in his spare time, enjoys bowling and fishing. ❖

### Saint Luke East Longmeadow

#### Michael and Christine Kennedy



We are pleased to recognize Michael and Christine Kennedy as this year’s Metropolis of Boston Ministry Award recipients. Saint Luke Church has been extremely fortunate to have two very dedicated individuals, through their labor of love and knowledge working behind the scenes for years, supporting Father and the church.

When we walk into church for Divine Liturgy or a special service there are certain expectations. We take for granted all that is done prior to services – the preparation. Who changes the votive candles? Who organizes the prosporo bread for the Liturgy? Who prepares the icons for various feasts? Who sets up the baptismal font before a baptism and who cleans it after?

During Holy Week, one can find an ironing board set-up in the fellowship hall draped with altar coverings and find Christine inspecting them – altar coverings that she herself made! Saint Luke has a wonderful set of altar coverings for the different ecclesiastical seasons, all made by Christine. In this time, one will find Michael setting up the icons, preparing for Holy Unction and the following intensive services – all behind the scenes.

When we received liturgical items from a local parish, Christine inspected each of the linens and cloths with our Priest to see which could be salvaged and sent to missions. In one case, a frayed Epitaphio was restored to newness. Throughout the year, Michael can be seen polishing the censor, or Christine inspecting an item and offering to bring it home to fix it, iron it, beautify it.

Christine in recent years also learned how to read and pronounce Greek so she could sing the church hymns. She currently chants for the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, and other services at our sister parish of Sts. Constantine and Helen in Chicopee Falls.

The knowledge, loyalty, dedication, and commitment of Michael and Christine Kennedy make them worthy recipients of the recognition and service the laity award highlights. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint Demetrios Fall River

#### Maria Bushell



Maria Bushell has been a lifelong parishioner of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Fall River. She has been a member of the Parish Council in years past and currently serves as Secretary. Every Sunday, she has organized the parish's Coffee Hour, and helps coordinate fundraisers to raise money for the community. She has been a Sunday School Teacher in the past and looks forward to help establish the Sunday School once again in the Fall. She is

always ready and able to dedicate her time to the church in any capacity she can and is honored to have received this award. She has been an educator for 26 years at Swansea Public Schools and is a proud mother of two beautiful children and wife of a very supportive husband. ✝

Growing up next door to the church, it was only natural that Harris would be involved in the life of the church which was shepherded by Fr. John Michaelides, later by Fr. Solon Tsandikos besides his dad (who was Psalti of Holy Trinity for more than 60 years). First as the youngest Altar Boy at age six, he served his church later as a Sunday School Teacher, sang in the choir, serving on the Board of Directors, later as Treasurer, Vice President, President and Chairman of the 50th and 100th anniversary of the church and worked on many past church festivals.

A tireless worker, he also volunteered by helping serve food to those of need. In those days, the food was cooked at our church kitchen and transported to the Episcopal Church on Main Street. Now, Holy Trinity Hope Luncheon is hosted at our church.

Harris has been active in various organizations from the AHEPA, to Aurora Lodge A.F.A.M. and the Fitchburg Conservation Commission Committee. Married to his wife Nancy, he is most proud of his three children James, Jonathan, and Christina and their many accomplishments. Throughout his life, Harris has remained close to the church and loves its traditions, chants, and scriptures. If asked, he is willing to help. Even today, Harris thanks his parents and church while praying for teaching him Philoxenia and Greek Orthodox Values. ✝

### Holy Trinity Fitchburg

#### Harris Karis



Harris was born in Groton, Massachusetts on March 21, 1940, the son of James and Pauline (Bicoules) Karis and the sister of Marcia Karis Pinault. Educated in the Fitchburg Public School System, he graduated from Boston University, and earned a Master of Education Degree at Fitchburg State University. Thus began a distinguished 38-year career as teacher, counselor, and administrator in the Lunenburg Public School System.

### Holy Apostles Saints Peter and Paul Haverhill

#### Martha Cutrumbes Brienze



The Holy Apostles Saints Peter and Paul Church in Haverhill, Mass. is proud to announce their Laity Award recipient for 2021 - Martha Cutrumbes Brienze.

Martha was born and raised in Lowell, Mass., the daughter of the late Constantine and Eleanor Cutrumbes. Along with her sisters Phyllis, Gloria and Connie, she was very involved in the Holy Trinity community since childhood. Martha graduated

from the University of New Hampshire at Keene where she received her bachelor's degree in Education. She taught in the area of Special Education from grades kindergarten through grade 12 for 36 years.

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# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

Martha is very involved as the Parish Council Treasurer, serving numerous terms. She heads the Church's Caring & Sharing program that feeds the needy of Haverhill and other Haverhill ministries and continues to work diligently for the Annual Church Festival.

Martha enjoys traveling, spending most summers in Greece. She is an avid gardener and a Yoga enthusiast. Martha is married to Vincent Brienze and is the proud mother to three sons, Jon, Constantine, and Adam and grandmother to Elena.

Whether she's helping in the kitchen or somewhere else in the church, Martha is always willing to give of her time, talent and treasure to her Haverhill community, assisting in any way she can. Martha thanks the Holy Apostles of Haverhill for bestowing this memorable honor upon her. ❖

While in college, Mario met Elizabeth Vulopas who was studying to become a teacher. She is the daughter of Father Harry and Presbyteria Tula Vulopas. Fr. Harry served at the Church of The Holy Trinity in Holyoke, MA for 51 years, until his retirement in 2012. Mario espoused the Orthodox faith in 1993 with much love and dedication. He and Elizabeth were married in October of that year.

Mario has been an active member of Holy Trinity since those early days and quickly became part of the church's close-knit family where he would offer his time and services wherever they were needed. He joined the Parish Council in the mid 90's and became Vice President from 2000-2014. He has served as the Parish Council President for the past 7 years. Mario, along with the dedicated fellow council members, has been involved in numerous fundraising events, annual dinners/dances, and construction projects during the time of his tenure.

He has a deep love for his father-in-law's former parish and has desired to continue Fr. Harry's legacy by serving this relatively small but dynamic community with all his heart. He treasures his relationship with Holy Trinity's present dedicated priest, Fr. Thomas Cokotis.

Mario and Elizabeth, a Health and Physical Education Teacher in Westfield, MA, have 3 children: Nicholas, 24 who works and resides in Boston. Alexander, 22, a recent UMASS graduate and Kathryn 18, who will be entering The Isenberg School of Management in September. ❖

### Holy Trinity Holyoke



### Mario Bolivar



In the fall of 1977 Mario Alonso Bolivar emigrated from Colombia, South America with his parents and 2 siblings. At that time, Colombia was experiencing a great deal of turmoil due to the violence and pervasive influence of the drug cartels. Thus, Mario's parents dreamed of a better life for their young family in the United States. They settled in Holyoke, with its thriving paper factories and worked tirelessly to provide for their 3 children.

Assimilating into this new country was not easy at the age of 11, but Mario and his family always confronted the challenges they faced with their strong faith and a fierce determination to succeed. Mario attended parochial elementary schools in Holyoke and upon graduating from Holyoke High School in 1985, he attended Holyoke Community College where he earned an Associate Degree in Engineering. He went on to receive his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Western New England College. Mario has worked for Parker Hannifin Corporation for 17 years and has been their National Sales Manager for the past 4 years.

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ipswich

#### Constance Markos



After growing up in Swampscott and graduating from BU, Connie married her husband George L. Markos and moved to Ipswich. When her children Tatiana and Eli started school, she was able to be more involved in parish activities while still working at her family business. She served as a GOYA Advisor for six years helping coordinate trips, service projects and activities, and has also helped coordinate many other church events such as trips and fundraisers.

The Centennial Album and celebration and the yearly July festival, an important fundraiser for our community, are 2 examples. Connie played a vital role in organizing the 40- and 50-year dinners to honor our beloved Father John's years of service to our parish. She helped with the church bulletin for many years and initiated the ongoing Events Committee, a valuable group she formed to introduce new ideas for community activities.

Connie's longest contribution to our parish has been her service on the Church Council. Starting in 1999, she has not only served as Vice President a number of times, but also as our first and thus far only female Council President. Connie continues to serve on the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Council and stated that "The church has been such a big part of my life and I am blessed to have worked with and become friends with so many wonderful people!" ❖

### Saint Nicholas Lexington

#### Brian Holmes Mackintosh and Carol Irene Bearse



Brian was raised in the Presbyterian Church, in Rochester, New York. Carol was raised in the Greek Orthodox faith. She was baptized at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England in Boston and lived for many years with her Greek grandparents George and Irene Kyrias. When she moved to Stoneham, she attended the Annunciation in Woburn, where she served as a Sunday school teacher and a choir member. Brian married

Carol in 1988. He was impressed by the traditions and philosophies of the Orthodox faith, including the constant striving to become a better servant of God and the warmth of the faith, expressed through repentance and forgiveness. He admired the Greek traditions of family life that are abundantly on display in Greek Orthodox communities. Through this exposure to Carol's faith, he came to know and to appreciate her in very important new ways. He decided to join the faith, and after the necessary learning, he was chrismated by Fr. Ted Barbas at the Taxiarchae Church in Watertown, MA in 2005.

Carol and Brian attended the Taxiarchae Church for five years, where they worked at the annual Greek festival. In 2006 Carol moved to Manhattan to work as a Professor of Language and Literacy at Touro College. There they joined the church of St. John the Baptist, where Carol served as a Parish Council member and Treasurer for 4 years, and she and Brian helped to organize and lead the annual Greek Festival. When Carol retired in 2013 and moved back to Concord, they joined the St. Nicholas Church, where they were welcomed by the friendly, dynamic community there. Inspired by their service at St. John's Church, Brian did a 2-year term on the Parish Council at St. Nicholas in 2016-2017. He currently serves as the Chair of the Maintenance Committee, where he has devoted his engineering skills to working on the HVAC system, as well as the sound system and many small maintenance tasks. Carol is a member of St. Irene's Philoptohos, and has enjoyed baking prosphora, and helping with the annual Greek festival. She is currently a member of

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# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

the 50 Year Strategic and Vision Planning Leadership committee where she is the chair of the research section.

We both have grown in our Greek Orthodox faith through our various ministries and are humbled to receive this year's Metropolis Ministry award. ❖

### Holy Trinity Lowell

#### George Tgibides and Jill Cricones



George has been a licensed realtor for the past 30 years and involved with property management. Jill has been employed at the Massachusetts Medical Society/New England Journal of Medicine (MMS) for 25 years as a project manager in the Department of Health Policy and Public Health, and Staff Executive to the Massachusetts Medical Society Alliance, a volunteer organization made up of physicians, physician spouses, a subsidiary of MMS.

George has been a lifelong member of the Holy Trinity Church; served in the altar at a young age; and has been a member of the Parish Council for the past 4 years.

Jill became a member at Holy Trinity in 2015 and has been a member of the Philoptochos for the past 4 years. She currently holds the position of Assistant Treasurer and Co-chair of its Membership Committee. Together, George and Jill are dedicated and enjoy volunteering when and where they are needed in all church and school events.

George and Jill are proud parents of their two Boston Terriers, Sophie and Theo. George and Jill thank God and hopes that everyone has been blessed and safe during this pandemic. ❖

### Transfiguration Lowell

#### Spiros and Olivia Sintros



The Transfiguration parish is pleased to select Spiros (Spike) and Olivia Sintros as the 2021 Metropolis of Boston Award recipients. Spike and Olivia are life-long faithful members of the parish and integral to the ministries of the Transfiguration community.

They have proven to be exemplary stewards of the parish and the faith. Spike and Olivia were called to education as teachers.

Spike eventually became an elementary school Principal and Olivia coordinated special educational programs. They use the same calling in the religious education ministry of the parish. Olivia has coordinated the parish Vacation Church Camp during the summer and various annual VCC retreats with Spike working behind the scenes. She serves on the Philoptochos board, has served as president, and chair of special projects, such as the Literacy Campaign and Annual Charity Tea.

Spike was deeply involved in the building committee and fund-raising efforts of the Family Center expansion project. He was a member and leader of the Men's Guild. He sings in the choir and actively ensures that special projects are completed by encouraging teens to take special pride in their parish.

Both have served as members of the Parish Council and as Parish Council president. They have worked tirelessly on the Grecian Festivals and on steering committees of many other special events. Aware of the blessing in their lives, they work through the parish outreach ministry to provide for those who are food, shelter, or clothing insecure.

They take great pride in their three sons and their families. ❖



# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint George Lynn

#### Peter C. Katsos



Peter Katsos is a life-long member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Lynn MA. He is the son of the late John & Joanna (Caneles) Katsos, born and raised in Lynn, and is one of five children. He attended Lynn schools and he is a graduate of Salem State University. Peter was baptized in 1960 and became a Steward of the church at the of 18 in 1978. He and his wife Christine were married at St. George in 1994. He has been employed for over 30 years as I.T. Specialist

at Demakes Enterprises/Old Neighborhood Food in Lynn. Peter is a current member of the Board of Directors of Community Credit Union and is an active member of AHEPA, Chapter 50 (Past President). His grandfather Nicholas Caneles served as Psalter at St. George for over 50 years and was a past Parish Council President. Peter's father John also served on the Parish Council.

Peter has been a dedicated Parish Council member since 1996 and has served as President, Vice President, Secretary and is currently serving as Treasurer. He is an active participant in a variety of church activities and committees such as the annual Grecian Festival, Budget & Finance Committee, Church Committee, Harry Agganis Basketball Tournament, Golf Tournament Committee, and various dance/entertainment committees.

Peter has used his computer expertise to integrate technology into the church, most recently coordinating the installation of a live streaming system to enable the broadcast of church services.

Peter is always available to assist the church in many capacities. He gives not only his talent but also his time and does so quietly without seeking recognition. His love and dedication to St. George make him an example for future generations and he will continue to be a humble servant of the church community for many years to come.

Peter would like to dedicate this award in memory of his mother Joanna, a past Ministry Award recipient, who passed away in January 2021 at the age of 90. May her memory be eternal. ✚

### Saint Gregory the Theologian Mansfield

#### Steve and Liz Christo



Steve and Liz Christo have been devoted members and deeply committed servants to the ministries of our St. Gregory's community for 27 years. Their steadfast dedication to St. Gregory's embodies the full essence of what it means to be good and faithful servants.

Steve has served as President and Treasurer of the Parish Council, Steward Committee Chair (and current member), Sunday School

Teacher, Mansfield Family Fun Night Chair for seven years running, Capital Committee Member, and as an Usher.

Liz has served as Parish Council Treasurer, on the St. Gregory's Fund Committee, the 25th Anniversary Committee, as Book Store Director, Sunday School Volunteer, Food & Friends Volunteer, and as a member of Philoptochos.

Together, Liz and Steve are presently GOYA Ministry Leader Co-Chairs, have served as Family Night Co-Chairs, and in our Driving Ministry. Their consistent and whole-hearted involvement over the years is truly inspirational to all. Our community thanks them dearly for the love and dedication that they have blessed our St. Gregory's family with over the years! ✚

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saints Anargyroi Marlborough

#### Martha Celli



Martha Celli is a devoted daughter, mother, and grandmother who grew up at Sts. Anargyroi. She is a tireless worker who volunteers for every church event and program. Her quiet leadership and calm demeanor help all of those around her in a church setting. Martha is a prominent Realtor in Central Massachusetts and Sunday is the busiest day of the week in real estate. Despite this, she is always there for church on Sunday, often on duty in the narthex, with a welcoming

smile for all who come to service. Martha is very involved in community charity work and coordinates the church's participation in local social work. ❖

Since his days as an altar boy reading the Epistle at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church in Lawrence (now in Andover), and later as president of GOYA, John has always been true to his Greek Orthodox roots and Greek culture. John has embodied devoted service to his church and to the wider community in the following ways: A 1979 Harry Truman Scholar from Massachusetts while a sophomore at Merrimack College; the youngest official in the city of Lawrence, elected as a member of the school committee at the age of 21 – serving for 16 years; a member of the District Lodge of the Order of AHEPA and for several terms AHEPA District Governor for Massachusetts.

During his 34 years as a social studies instructor and administrator at Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, John could always be counted on to take to the microphone on March 25th to wish fellow Greek-American colleagues and students a very happy Greek Independence Day! Summering with his family at Salisbury Beach, John would attend the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Newburyport, along with his brother Arthur and sister Joanne. After a permanent move to Salisbury, where John currently resides, he joined the Annunciation and was elected to serve on the Parish Council, along with Arthur. He has served on the PC for 20 consecutive years, in the role of Secretary and most recently, elected as Vice-President.

In a leadership role with the Men's Club of the Parish, John has organized numerous charitable and social events, including serving delicious all-parish meals and fundraising for an annual gift to graduating parish seniors. He has been an ever-present figure at the annual Greek Food Festival, participating in many food workshops, manning the beverage center, and chairing the gyro cart during Newburyport's week-long Yankee Homecoming event. During the last several years John has also taken upon himself the responsibility of the parish's annual Christmas card fundraiser. John's calm steadfast presence and ethic of service to others inspires us all to be our best selves. AXIOS! ❖

### Annunciation Newburyport

#### John Housianitis



The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Newburyport is proud to honor John Housianitis as this year's 2021 Metropolis of Boston Ministry Award recipient! With his steadfast faith, gentle humility, practical wisdom, and unfailing kindness to one and all, John has been an anchoring rock of Annunciation Church for many years. These marvelous qualities were no more evident than during the past turbulent year, when he was willing to step up to

address any need—and we had many, “making it up as we went along” in a terrifying pandemic.

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint Vasilios Peabody

#### Michael S. Zolotas



Born in Salem, Massachusetts to Stephen and Mary Zolotas, Michael has lived and worked in Peabody his entire life. He is the third generation of the Zolotas Family to worship at Saint Vasilios Church. He and his wife, Harriet were married 46 years ago at the church. They have two children, Stephen and Christina, both of whom were baptized and married at Saint Vasilios; and 3 grandchildren,

Maggie and Michael Zolotas and Tessa DiMare who were baptized at the church as well.

Michael's son Stephen is now serving on the Parish Council following in his grandfather and father's footsteps. Mike served on the Parish Council from 1991 to 1998, became Treasurer in 1994-1995, and then served as President of the Parish Council in 1996-1997. When bingo was hosted at the church, Mike assisted from 1991 to 1998. He helped establish the Saint Vasilios Youth Basketball Program for boys and girls ages 7 to 14 in 1991, a program which continues to this day. From 1991 through 1995, he chaired the Saint Vasilios Annual Festival. He has served on the Building Committee since 1991, and he co-chaired three major renovations to the church. He is currently a leader on the Universal Access Project for the Rev. Andrew Demotzes Educational Center at St. Vasilios. ❖

### Saint George Pittsfield

#### Nicholas L. Parsenios



Nicholas L. Parsenios ("Nick"), the son of Lewis G. Parsenios and the late Doris I. Parsenios, was born in Cumberland, Maryland. Notwithstanding the fact that there was no Greek Orthodox Church in the immediate area, his parents regularly drove Nick and his younger brother, George, the 75 plus miles to St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church in Johnstown, Pennsylvania for Divine Liturgy on Sunday. It was at St. Mary's that Nick and George began their

'careers' of church stewardship under the guidance and tutelage of their devoted parents. Years later, the Parsenios family relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio where the family served the community of the Holy Trinity / St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in various meaningful capacities. After graduating from college, Nick worked for several years in social services. In 1994, he moved to Boston to attend law school. Then in 1998, Nick opened a private law practice in Lee, Massachusetts where he has been in practice ever since. Nick and his wife of nearly 20 years live in Lenox, Massachusetts with their daughter Chloe. Nick, a devoted member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Pittsfield, joined the Parish Council in 2010 and has served the local church community as Vice-President for many years, past Treasurer and five-time Greek Festival Chairperson. Nick sees a need, and steps in to take care of it. His insights and astuteness offered is welcomed and heeded. His love for his church, his family and friends, finds expression in his providing and serving those who have need. His quiet demeanor speaks volumes of the faith in his heart, the desire to live an Orthodox lifestyle, and his dedication to the St. George Parish in Pittsfield, Mass. We are privileged to have him as an integral part of our community, and he enjoys the respect, high regard and esteem of parishioners and colleagues alike. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint Nectarios Roslindale

#### Emily Chronopoulos



Emily and her family have served the parish of St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church since its founding in 1974. She has been an active Philoptochos member and enthusiastically offers her services in numerous ways to honor our Lord and the saints of the Church. She is a loving and nurturing person by nature, a gourmet cook, and a gifted gardener known for her many exotic and beautiful plants and special way with flowers (and people). As such,

she generously, passionately, and tirelessly lends her gift to the Floral Committee Ministry of St Nectarios Church.

She is first in line to seek out, order, purchase, transport, maintain, trim, cut, design, and meticulously install all the flowers into the frames surrounding the icons for all the important feast days. She ensures that the flowers and greenery needed for all the services are the freshest around, and the right size and color; a process that takes several weeks of advanced planning and preparation. In preparing for Palm Sunday services, you might even find her on a ladder arranging a garland of palms over the entryway to the Church. These are just a few examples of the labor of love that she carries out selflessly throughout the ecclesiastical calendar of the Church; ALWAYS keeping in her heart and in her mind the prayers of the many donors who lovingly contribute to the worthwhile mission of adorning our beautiful church of St Nectarios.

She inspires and welcomes all volunteers to participate in the Flower Committee Ministry. Being a very modest and humble person, she is not one to seek out accolades and awards for her work. She is very grateful to ALL those who have stepped forward over the years to participate and lend a hand to this complex, all hands-on deck mission and welcomed tradition at St Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church. ✦

### Dormition of the Virgin Mary Somerville

#### Louise Lambrukos



Louise Lambrukos has been a steward of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church, since she married her husband, Phillip Lambrukos. She converted to the Greek Orthodox Faith prior to getting married to her husband of 42 years until he passed away in 2013. She has two children, a daughter, Katherine, who is married to Jason Hanley and a son, Phillip. She is the proud grandmother of three grandchildren – Julie, Ava, and Joel.

She has been serving the parish, since the early 1970's at various capacities. She joined the Parish Council in the early 70's for the first time and became a council member serving under the leadership of President, James Bremis.

She was a Human Resource Department Manager for Verizon until her retirement in 1995. Once she retired, they moved back to Medford, Ma in 1995 and rejoined the Dormition Church, in Somerville. Louise again became active and joined ministries where her children were involved, such as the PTO and GOYA.

When her children grew older, she became a member of the St. Catherine's Philoptochos Society and held positions as Secretary, Treasurer, and President for 6 years, prior to her husband's lengthy illness. During her tenure on the Philoptochos, along with the other members she ran many functions, including New Year's Eve parties, and cooking and working during the Festival weekends. Those years were best remembered for the comical plays they put on after the Spaghetti Luncheons every February right before Lent. The plays were written and directed by the late Toulou Dres.

In 2014, she returned to the Parish Council as a member and served until 2020, where she served as Secretary for the last 4 years of her service. Louise currently serves on the Philoptochos Board as Vice President. She worked on many functions to help support the church and cooked and served many times for the Dormition Table, which serves the less fortunate in the City of Somerville and beyond. ✦

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Saint George Cathedral Springfield

#### Kathleen A. Mounemneh



Kathy was born on April 13, 1954, in Springfield, MA to Millie and Phil Ghareeb, the children of Lebanese immigrants. She and her sister Chriss grew up in Springfield and attended Sunday School at St. George Cathedral.

After Kathy graduated from Classical High School, she attended Holyoke Community College and received an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. She then attended the

University of Massachusetts in Amherst, where she received her Bachelor's in English. At UMass, Kathy met her husband Gus, and they have been blessed with over 44 years of marriage. They live in Feeding Hills, MA where they raised their 3 children. They are now blessed with 6 grandchildren whom she loves with all her heart.

Choosing to stay at home to raise her family, Kathy did not begin her teaching career until later in life, having a very successful career teaching English at Agawam High School. She has been retired since 2009, but she is very busy volunteering with activities in the Agawam Junior Women's Club and with church activities. Kathy teaches Sunday School to the high school students. She is a member of the Philoptochos and Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. She coordinates meal preparation through the Loaves and Fishes ministry. She also participates in church services by reading scriptures during the many special services that are held.

Kathy is grateful for the past guidance of Fr. Christopher Stamas and the current guidance of Fr. Dionysios Koulianos. She is also very grateful for God's many blessings and is very humbled by this honor being bestowed upon her. ✚

### Taxiarchae Watertown

#### Harry Chehames



Harry Chehames was born in Cambridge, MA, the son of the late Harry and Mary Chehames. He attended Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Cambridge, MA until his early adult years, when upon marrying his wife Fay (Vlahos) 40 years ago, becoming members of the Taxiarchae/ Archangels Greek Orthodox Church. They have two sons, Steven & his wife Jessica, and their son Callahan; and

Nicholas & his wife Jessica, and their daughter Kaleigh.

As the owner of Cedar Builders for over three decades, Harry focuses on residential as well as commercial construction. Harry is honored to serve on the Taxiarchae Parish Council for several years. Harry enjoys taking part in the church's largest fundraiser, the Annual Grecian Festival, along with all the other Taxiarchae events. ✚

### Saints Constantine and Helen Webster

#### Mary Teguis Fatsi and Eleanor Teguis



Mary Teguis Fatsi and Eleanor Teguis were baptized and raised in the Saints Constantine and Helen Church, their father having arrived in the Webster community in 1914 making him a founding member of the Church five years later. Their mother, Irene Karapanos Teguis, arrived in 1931 with three-month old Roxanne.

Mary and Eleanor have many memories of joyous church celebrations throughout their early years.

*(continued)*

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

Mary was an active member of the Philoptochos baking pitas and working at the tables at the annual church festival for decades. She served as President of the Philoptochos in the mid 2000's for two years during which time she, together with other members, quilted blankets that were donated to Boston Children's Hospital as well as to other local hospitals.

Eleanor was a member of the Parish Council from 2005 to 2009, during which time she also served as Secretary of the Council. She managed the publicity and advertising campaigns for the Festival in 2005 and 2006 which helped increase Festival attendance by local residents. In 2012, Eleanor together with Fr. Luke compiled a brief history of Webster's Sts. Constantine and Helen Church which was featured in the church's first directory.

Both Mary and Eleanor have been regular participants in Fr. Luke's weekly Bible Study classes, in which Eleanor has participated since its inception in 2005. They have been faithful stewards of Saints Constantine and Helen Church throughout the years. Together with their sister Dorothy Dina Theodora, they sponsored a classroom through their donation to the Church Renovation Project in 2015.

Mary and Eleanor are deeply honored to represent Saints Constantine and Helen at the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston Awards Dinner, but also humbled given those who preceded them with this honor. ❖

region of Trikala, Greece. Her parents were married in Larissa, Greece.

Matina and Chris were both raised in loving homes, where the church was central to their upbringing, and they were taught to love the church, and to give selflessly. They grew up in the St. Demetrios Church community of Weston, Massachusetts. They met each other at the first St. Demetrios Grecian Country Festival in 1984, where Chris' mother was coordinating the Pastry booth. They have been married for 34 years and are proud parents of two children, Ariana Penelope and Alexander Constantine. Both children were baptized at St. Demetrios and were actively involved with GOYA and Alexander served as an altar boy.

Early on Matina and Chris became involved serving the church as GOYA Advisors. Chris went on to serve on various committees throughout the years, including Metropolis Council, Archdiocesan Council, Buildings & Grounds, and Internet Ministries. He is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, a Parish Council past President and current Vice President. Chris is an Electrical Engineer, an IT professional, and is also a member of The Alpha Omega Council.

Matina has also served as a Sunday School Teacher, GOYA Advisor, Philoptochos Board member, Vice President, and currently serves as the Philoptochos President. She is also a newly appointed member of the National Philoptochos Board. Matina has worked in Retail Management and Jewelry Design and has been involved in various charities including the Hellenic Cardiac Fund.

Both Matina and Chris recently served on the 60th Anniversary Committee for the church. They feel truly blessed to be part of such an amazing church community and are grateful to Fr. Nick Krommydas and Fr. Vincent Minucci for their love and guidance over the years.

They have resided in Hopkinton, Massachusetts for 27 years. They enjoy traveling, spending time with family and remain committed to maintaining a strong and loving family life. ❖

### Saint Demetrios Weston



### Christopher and Matina Pappas



Christopher Pappas is the son of the late, Constantine, (Gus) and Penelope (Penny) Pappas. He has two brothers Peter and George Pappas. Matina Pappas is the daughter of Athanasios and Fotini Grontzos. She has one brother, Nick Grontzos. Chris' grandparents emigrated from Asia Minor and settled in Astoria, New York, where his parents met and were later married. Matinas'

paternal family is from Kalipefki, a village on a plateau of Mt. Olympus in Greece. Her maternal family comes from the village of Grizano in the

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Annunciation Woburn

#### George John Bibilos



George was born in Woburn and is the son of John and Kaye (Chaconas) Bibilos. He is a lifelong member of the Annunciation Church in Woburn. He has been employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 30 years, currently serving as the Director of Human Resources at the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance. He and his wife Doreen (Khouri) Bibilos live in Melrose with their four children, Elena 21, Christina 19, John 17 and

James 15. George graduated from Melrose High School and received his bachelor's degree from Northeastern University. He was active in GOYA serving as President for 3 years with his friend, Father Ted Barbas who served as Vice President. George served in the altar and was greatly influenced in this early stage of his life by his priest at the time, Father George Tsoukalas. George has volunteered at many Greek Festivals over the years, dating back to when they were held at the old Woburn Armory. He served on the Parish Council in the 1990's and returned to the Council in 2013. Around that time, he was appointed as Chairman of the 100th Anniversary Committee of Annunciation Woburn which was celebrated in 2017 with major renovations to the church and many celebratory events. George was elected as Parish Council President in 2017 and 2018. He stepped back as Vice President in 2019 and returned to the Presidency in 2020, where he continues to serve and works closely with a great Council to lead the community through the pandemic. ✨

### Saint Spyridon Cathedral Worcester

#### Efrosini Kika



This year, St. Spyridon Cathedral in Worcester, MA is proud to nominate Efrosini "Sue" Kika, one of our most faithful and dedicated parishioners. Sue was born in Constantinople, Turkey where she and her brother were raised with strong faith and respect of the Church. From a young age, Efrosini was inspired by the philanthropy of her parents who always prioritized supporting the weak and the needy.

Educated in Constantinople and at Worcester State College, she worked as a Senior Personal Banker/Investor for 33 yrs. During her professional career, she used her fluency in multiple languages to help the community at large.

Efrosini immigrated to Worcester in 1978 with her family and soon after, she became a dedicated member of St. Spyridon Cathedral which she has served for over 40 years. She was the Parish Council Secretary for a number of years and also served on the board of the Philoptochos as their secretary. Efrosini organized the Holy Trinity Nursing Home coffee hour for the Philoptochos. She is a member of the Choir, attends Bible Study weekly as well as all special worship services, and continues to serve in the church's Feeding Ministry, providing hot meals to the needy of Worcester.

Throughout her life, Efrosini has remained close to and served the Church, contributing not only to St. Spyridon Cathedral, but also to the other Orthodox churches in the area. She has a selfless devotion to philanthropy and a very generous spirit. ✨

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Holy Trinity Concord



#### Anestis and Angeliki Kalampalikis



Anesti and Angie Kalampalikis have been dedicated and active parishioners of Holy Trinity, Concord since about 1986. Anesti began his service on the Parish Council in 1999 until the present and has been President for 7 years. He can be found most often in the kitchen, cooking for our annual festival since it began, or for our monthly Greek Meals to Go. We can depend on Anesti's help for whatever the parish needs. But above all, his favorite place is in the altar, helping Father for every Divine Liturgy and service, and overseeing the altar boys.

Like her husband, the parish can depend on Angie to help out whenever and wherever she is needed. She has been a Philotochos Lady since becoming a member of the parish. Angie is also a big help at the annual Festival, where her smile from behind the cash register makes the festival goers feel at home. She is also a member of the parish Outreach Ministries. We are all so thankful for Anesti's and Angie's continued service of ministry to our parish family. ✦

### Annunciation Dover



#### Zoe Polychronopoulos



Zoe has been a lifetime member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Dover, NH. She began as a Sunday School student, a Greek School student and a member of the GOYA. As time went on, Zoe found herself serving the community in a number of different ways, including as a member of the Parish Council for 10 years. One of those years, she was Parish Council President, making her the first female president in the parish! Zoe has also focused on

the Outreach Ministry as part of her stewardship. "Lending a Helping Hand" with the Outreach committee found her working at Thanksgiving Soup Kitchens, making holiday deliveries to house-bound parishioners, collecting school supplies and food for students in the Dover area, and fundraising for fuel assistance. Zoe also makes her way to the baking sessions for the annual festival, as well as volunteering her time the weekend of the festival. She also cherishes the time she spends on Good Friday decorating the Kovouklion with other women of the parish. Outside of her parish life, Zoe is a dedicated Elementary School Teacher of 37 years. She enjoys spending time at York Beach in Maine with her family, finding a good trail to walk and golfing with her favorite foursome. In her service within and outside the parish, Zoe has followed the example of her parents who were past recipients of this award, and she is proud to share this honor with them. ✦

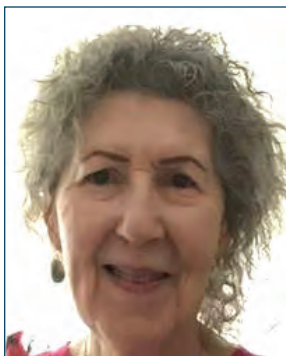


# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Assumption of the Virgin Mary Manchester

#### Georgia Gancarz



Georgia Gancarz was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, to Helen and Andrew Kousios. At that time, Georgia's family lived across the street from the Assumption Church and Georgia's yiayia Eftihia and papou Nicolaos took her to church every Sunday. Georgia recalls hearing her yiayia singing the different hymns. The music was magic to Georgia and impacted her life to this day.

Following high school, Georgia worked at New Hampshire Insurance.

Soon after, she married her husband, John Gancarz, and a year later their son Mark was born. Georgia then joined the Philoptochos Soteria and helped wherever needed. She learned much from the Philoptochos ladies. She also joined the Assumption Church Choir and sang for many years.

In the mid 70's, when her daughter Kathryn was born, Georgia stayed home to care for the children. Her husband then got very ill, and Georgia had to regain employment. She joined McLane Law firm and was gratefully employed there for 33 years. Sadly, John passed away in December 1999.

Georgia has remained a dedicated steward of her church. She served as Philoptochos treasurer from 2014-2016 and currently serves as Corresponding Secretary. She also spends much time and effort volunteering with the cleaning/maintenance at church. Her contributions continue to be tireless.

Georgia is now retired and enjoys time with family, friends and at church. Her son, Mark and wife, Tina live in Nevada. Georgia's daughter, Kathryn and husband Timothy, adopted two children, young Fisher and Fletcher who give Georgia such joy. Becoming a yiayia has been a great blessing for Georgia. ✚

### Saint George Cathedral Manchester

#### Angela Dion



Angela and her husband Rob have two sons, Matthew and Nathan who are very active in church activities. She is a long-time member of the Anagenesis Ladies Society and Daughters of Penelope. Angela is a long-standing GLENDI festival volunteer and a purchaser for GLENDI supplies. She is a Co-chair of the church coffee hours and has helped with the Hope and Joy youth group. Over her years of service to the St. George Cathedral commu-

nity, Angela is considered to be a "go-to" person who is always asking, "How can I help?" ✚

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Saint Philip Nashua



#### Dr. Samuel and Elizabeth Kouchalakos



Samuel is the son of William and Clara Kouchalakos of Lowell, Massachusetts and Elizabeth is the daughter of Evangelos and Eugenia Miller of Newport, NH. Having been raised in the Greek Orthodox Faith, they have spent their lives actively supporting the Greek community and its youth as well as their local communities in NH and NJ. They pride themselves as role models to their children and grandchildren in sharing their love of

the Greek Orthodox Church and Greek heritage.

Sam and Elizabeth met at a Greek dance in Lowell Massachusetts in 1959. They have been together in a blessed marriage for over 60+ years. Sam is a graduate of Lowell High School, Boston University, and Fairleigh Dickinson Dental School in New Jersey. He practiced Endodontics in Nashua, NH for more than 45 years while also holding licenses in NY, NJ, FL, and MA.

Elizabeth was an honors graduate of Towle High School in Newport, NH. She worked as a Real Estate Broker in NH and spent many years managing the office and assisting Sam in his Endodontic practice in Nashua.

Sam served as an Altar boy for Fr. John Sarantos at the Transfiguration Church in Lowell, MA. Upon completion of Dental School, he and Elizabeth moved their family to Nashua where Sam became a member of the Parish Councils of the Annunciation Church, and later St. Philip Church where he served for 18 years and is a past President.

At St. Philip he served on the Architectural Committee, Consecration Committee and was co-editor of the Consecration Album when St. Philip Church was created from the merging of St. Nicholas and the Annunciation Churches in Nashua. He was instrumental in the hiring of St. Philip's first priest, Fr. Soterios Alexopoulos, and he has contributed countless hours working at the annual St. Philip Greek Food Fest as one of the founding members of the AHEPA "Salad Masters." Sam has been involved in chairing countless other fundraising events over his many years with St. Philip.

Additionally, Sam has been a member of the AHEPA Chapter 35 since

1970 as well as past President, past District Governor and Attending Delegate for many district and national conventions. In 2010, he was the recipient of the District #9 Pericles Award; an award he helped establish many decades before. Sam was involved with setting up the criteria and guidelines for the AHEPA Chapter #35 and District #9 Scholarships in 1971 and continues to be happily involved as Chairman of the Chapter #35 Scholarship Committee. Within the greater Nashua community, he is a current 48-year member of the Mason's and Shriners and past member of the Rotary Club and Lions Club of Nashua.

Elizabeth was a founding member of St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church in Newport, NH and served as a Choir Member and Sunday School Teacher for many years in the parish.

In Nashua, Elizabeth was a member of the Elpis Society of the Annunciation Church and a founding member of the St. Philip AGAPE Ladies Society where she served on the Board of Directors for two years.

She was President and Treasurer of the Greek School PTO at St. Philip, and she also served on the Consecration Committee. She was Chairwoman of the annual elegant Cotillion Ball and co-chaired many annual Taverna Night Dances as major fundraisers for the Church. Elizabeth has contributed countless hours working at the annual St. Philip Greek Food Fest, happily serving food to the Nashua community.

She has been a member of the Daughters of Penelope since 1973 and served as past President and Treasurer and as an attending Delegate to many district and national conventions.

They have been blessed with a wonderful family. Their family includes son William and wife Ellen (Feehan) their children Zachary and Steven; son Evan and wife Leslie (Lastowka) and their children Samuel and Arianna; and daughter Christina and husband George Eftimiou and their son Alexander. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Saint Vasilios Newport

#### Alexander John Stevens



Alexander is a senior at Hanover High School in New Hampshire and has been a member of St. Vasilios parish since 2004. He has served as an altar boy since 2018. Alexander was born in Boston in 2003 and moved to Hanover, New Hampshire in 2004. From a very young age he showed a great interest in sports and became a passionate athlete. In high school he has played varsity soccer and tennis and was blessed to be named captain for both varsity teams this year. He also

won the Sportsmanship award for varsity soccer this past fall.

Another one of Alexander's great loves is going to Greece to visit his family. He has been to Greece every summer since he was born, developing an especially strong bond with his yiayia. She was a big Panathinaikos soccer fan, spending many hours together with Alexander, watching soccer games as well as playing games. He loves going the beach and eating many gyros! Alexander is also an avid baker- a skill which he learned from his mother. They have been baking together since he was young and one of their favorites is making tsoureki at Easter.

Alexander is graduating high school this year and is looking forward to attending IMG Tennis Academy in the Fall, where he hopes to hone his tennis and academic skills in order to gain a tennis scholarship to college.



### Saint Nicholas Portsmouth

#### Rebecca Iordanou



Raised in San Diego, Rebecca (Bekki) Iordanou moved to Portsmouth, New Hampshire 33 years ago from California. Bekki and her three siblings were raised in a Greek Orthodox home by Anna and Charles Kouskoutis. The family were communicants of St. Spyridon in San Diego.

It was through the actions of her mother, Anna, that young Bekki learned the importance of using one's time and talents to support ministries

of the Church, the Orthodox Faith and our Greek culture. Bekki often accompanied her mother to choir practices, as she was the parish's dedicated Choir Director and Sunday School Director for a number of years. It was these warm memories and experiences that inspired Bekki to become an active member at St. Nicholas.

Upon moving to Portsmouth, Bekki and her husband Thanasi were married at St. Nicholas Church in 1988. Their daughter Ana was born in 1990 and was baptized at St. Nicholas in 1991. Far from her roots in San Diego, the parish of St. Nicholas became Bekki's extended family. Over the years, her involvement in the parish grew. She became a dedicated Sunday School teacher for many years. She was a Parish Council member and served on the Executive Council as Recording Secretary. She remains a member of the vibrant choir of St. Nicholas, and volunteers her time supporting the parish's administrative needs.

Bekki believes that St. Nicholas' success is a joint effort, and she is so pleased to be a small part of the greater whole that makes St. Nicholas the loving, vibrant and growing community that it is, here on the New Hampshire Seacoast! ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## RHODE ISLAND

### Annunciation Cranston

#### Kevin and Marianne Phelan



Kevin Phelan - Kevin started attending services at Annunciation Church in 2002 when he married his wife, Marianne. In 2005, he converted to Orthodoxy and in 2008 he a member of the Parish Council. Having served the Parish Council as Assistant Treasurer for three years, and as President for six years, he is currently the Vice President. He has also served as co-chair of our Cranston Restoration committees. Kevin and Marianne are both directors of the Interfaith Food

Ministry in European Operations and Vice President of Domestic Operations for International Packaging Corporation of Pawtucket, RI.

Marianne Phelan - Born and raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, Marianne relocated from Dallas, TX in 1999 and became involved in the Church of the Annunciation as a GOYA Advisor and Holy Friday Retreat volunteer. In addition, she became a volunteer at the Interfaith Food Ministry and continues to serve as Vice President there. As an active member of the Good Samaritan Philoptochos Chapter for many years, she is currently finishing her second term as President. She has volunteered for many years at our annual festivals working in the Kaf-fenio where our specialties included Frappes and Baklava Sundaes. She recently retired after 35 years working at AMICA Insurance in Lincoln, RI. Kevin and Marianne blended two families upon their marriage and have four children and six grandchildren residing in Taiwan, Utah, Alaska and Boston.

Fr. Andrew noted that both, Marianne & Kevin (having come from other parishes) from the moment they came to Annunciation, they have totally involved themselves in so many ways: First as regularly devoted worshippers and communicants; Add to this, that they have helped with so many projects and programs and later took on major leadership roles in the parish. They also take the name of our parish into the greater ecumenical community around us in numerous ways. Kevin & Marianne are beyond wonderful workers, true salt of the earth people. ❖

### Saint Spyridon Newport

#### Maria Stefanopoulos-Johnson



Maria Stefanopoulos was born and raised in Newport, RI. Her parents Chris and Sofia Stefanopoulos were born in Kalavrita, Greece and came to Newport, RI in 1962, where they became members of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church. Maria and her siblings were all baptized at St. Spyridon. From a young age, she was involved with GOYA and other church and community activities.

Maria married her husband, John Johnson at St. Spyridon Church; they have been married 23 years in June. They have 3 children, all baptized at St. Spyridon. Their twins, Christos and Melina, now 20 years old, are in college and their daughter Maria, 16 years old, is in high school.

The children, from a young age, were and are still very involved with the church. Their son has been an Altar Boy and in the Youth Group; their daughter Melina has been in the Choir, and chants Sunday services and is currently a Sunday School Teacher and Co-Leader of the Youth Group. Their daughter Maria was in choir and is now involved in the Youth Group. Maria is very proud of her children.

Maria worked at the Bank of Newport for 20 years, where she worked in the Mortgage and Commercial Lending Departments and also in the Insurance Division. She enjoyed her career at the bank, but then decided to retire and raise her three children. She also works, for the Atlantic Beach Club, now, Johnny's Atlantic Resort, for 27 years.

Maria has been a member of the Parish Council for 5 years, currently the Treasurer, and is very dedicated to keeping the church financially growing. She is also a member of the Daughters of Penelope and the Philoptochos, and has also volunteered, for many years at all the church fundraisers, especially at our Annual Hellenic Festival. She has spent many hours helping cook in all the workshops and the planning of the Festival. Maria is very dedicated to her church, always willing to help and enjoys welcoming new families and visitors. Her priorities are her family and her love for her church. ❖

# 2021 Ministry Award Recipients

## RHODE ISLAND

### Assumption of the Virgin Mary Pawtucket

#### Anastasios Andrikopoulos



Anastasios (“Tom”) Andrikopoulos was born in Piraeus, Greece and came to the U.S. when he was two years old. He grew up with his brother Andreas in Pawtucket, RI and is a life-long member of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church. He earned an MBA degree from Bryant University, and he has been involved in banking for more than 25 years. He presently is Technical Project Manager at Citizens Bank. Underneath these impressive credentials the real Tom is a faithful

and sensitive person who uses his many talents to serve others and the Church. He has served on multiple church committees and projects, always offering his good business sense for the benefit of our parish. He has served on the Parish Council multiple times; he served as Co-chair of the Festival Committee; Treasurer of the Greek school; and, most recently, as Chair of our Stewardship Committee. Due to his communication skills, he was able to impress upon our parishioners the importance of stewardship and has increased our stewardship donations significantly. More importantly, however, he cares for people as a Christian. His mother, Vasiliki, is extremely faithful and can't live without church! Always, but especially during the Pandemic, Tom makes sure that she has access to church, either through the web or by driving her to our parish, now that things have opened up. His father, Dionysios of blessed memory, was also very faithful and served as chanter at our parish for many years. Both of Tom's parents therefore instilled in him a love of Orthodoxy and Greece, and Tom now does the same for his wife Elizabeth and his two children, Emily and Thomas. One special place where he is able to relax with his family is at his parent's summer home on the beautiful island of Aegina, where, gazing at the view of Piraeus across the sea, he is able to ponder all the blessings given to him by his Orthodox faith, his parents, family and his Greek heritage. ❖

## VERMONT

### Dormition of the Virgin Mary Burlington

#### Nicholas Rorris



Nick Rorris, age 36, is a life-long member of Dormition of the Mother of God Church. He is the son of Nectar and Deborah, and they all live in South Burlington. Nick graduated from South Burlington High School and works at Barnes & Noble. He was tonsured as a Reader by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios and has been an indispensable server in the altar for many years! Nick is also the Chaplain of AHEPA Chapter #244. ❖

# Thank You

As of this evening, thanks to your generosity, we will be able to offer over 3,000 meals this coming week to our sisters and brothers who are in need, as well as to healthcare workers at our local hospitals. We offer this gift of love with the prayer that our lord bless and protect them always

## OUR GUESTS WILL BE ABLE TO SELECT ONE OF THREE MENU OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

A gift of love and support to you on behalf of the Greek-American Community of New England with our prayers. May God bless and keep you in health, comfort, and peace.

+ Metropolitan Methodios and the Clergy and Laity of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston

Lemon-Garlic-Oregano Roast Chicken, Basmati Rice, Flat Beans, Tomato, Kalamata Olive, Feta "Salsa," Tzatziki drizzle.

A gift of love and support to you on behalf of the Greek-American Community of New England with our prayers. May God bless and keep you in health, comfort, and peace.

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Vegetarian: Eggplant & Zucchini "Ratatouille," Quinoa and Basmati Rice Pilaf, Feta Cheese & Kalamata Olive Garnish

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Mediterranean Braised Beef, Basmati Rice, Zucchini & Grape Tomatoes, Kalamata Olive Reduction

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# Special Recognition

## This Evening's Music Performed by Şeker



### Members:

Qanoon/Voice: Maria Karamatsouki

Ud/Voice: Vasilis Nenes

Lute/Voice: George Theodoridis

Clarinet/Voice: Akrivos Zervos

### Μέλη:

Κανονάκι/φωνή: Μαρία Καραματσούκη

Ούτι/φωνή: Βασίλης Νένης

Λαούτο/φωνή: Γιώργος Θεοδωρίδης

Κλαρίνο/φωνή: Ακριβός Ζερβός

### Song Selections:

The presentation is composed of four favorite songs of the Greek tradition that were selected based on their popularity and the representativeness of four important cultural areas of Hellenism.

#### 1. My expatriate bird

A poignant song in a four-note measure that talks about her exile and her pain.

#### 2. Archontogios gets married

Absurdity in a seven-point measure originating in Central Asia that speaks of the unjust loss of a foreign bride. Through such songs the popular poet expresses his perception of the good and the bad, the right, the unjust and the immune that the imaginary heroes, perpetrators and victims do or suffer.

#### 3. From a foreign place

A song-anthem of Central Asia but also of many other countries of the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean. In four-meter subway.

#### 4. In the Aegean

One of the most famous songs of the Aegean islands originating in the Dodecanese. In a four-note measure, a sirtos is danced.

### Contributors:

Sound Recording-Editing: Bubaşvabe Studio

Cameras: Iris Molyvda, Katerina Theodorou

Image editing: Rafael Kotzapanagiotis

Production Coordination: Vasilis Nenes

**Şeker is a Greek music group** from Thessaloniki that performs music from Greece and eastern Mediterranean. It was created in 2018 and since then it has performed in music scenes, events and festivals in Thessaloniki, Athens, Smyrna, Larissa and Syros, while it has collaborated with great artists such as Glykeria, Areti Ketime and Pitsa Papadopoulou. The repertoire of Şeker ensemble is wide and covers music of many cultures as well as contemporary compositions. Şeker's significant music is characterized by the unique orchestrations and the highlighting of the various musical instruments that make it up.

### Πληροφορίες παράστασης

Η παρουσίαση συντίθεται από τέσσερα αγαπημένα τραγούδια της ελληνικής παράδοσης που επιλέχθηκαν με γνώμονα την δημοφιλία τους αλλά και την αντιπροσωπευτικότητα τεσσάρων σημαντικών πολιτισμικών περιοχών του ελληνοισμού.

#### 1. Ξενιτεμένο μου πουλί

Πωγωνίσιο τραγούδι σε τετράσημο μέτρο που μιλάει για την ξενιτιά και τον πόνο της.

#### 2. Αρχοντογίος παντρεύεται

Παραλογή σε επτάσημο μέτρο με καταγωγή στη Μ. Ασία που μιλάει για τον άδικο χαμό μια ξένης νύφης. Μέσα από τέτοια τραγούδια ο λαϊκός ποιητής εκφράζει την αντίληψή του για το καλό και το κακό, το δίκαιο, το άδικο και το ανόσιο που πράττουν ή υφίστανται οι φανταστικοί ήρωες, θύτες και θύματα.

#### 3. Από ξένο τόπο

Ένα τραγούδι-ύμνος της Μ. Ασίας αλλά και πολλών ακόμα χωρών των Βαλκανίων και της Ανατολικής μεσογείου. Σε τετράσημο μέτρο.

#### 4. Μες στου Αιγαίου

Από τα πιο γνωστά τραγούδια των νησιών του Αιγαίου Πελάγους με καταγωγή στα Δωδεκάνησα. Σε τετράσημο μέτρο, χορεύεται σιρτός.

### Συντελεστές:

Ηχοληψία-Επεξεργασία ήχου: Bubaşvabe Studio

Κάμερες: Ίρις Μολυβδά, Κατερίνα Θεοδωρού

Επεξεργασία εικόνας: Ραφαήλ Κοτζαπαναγιώτης

Συντονισμός Παραγωγής: Βασίλης Νένης

**Η Şeker είναι μία ελληνική ορχήστρα** από τη Θεσσαλονίκη που ερμηνεύει μουσικές από την Ελλάδα και την ανατολική Μεσόγειο. Δημιουργήθηκε το 2018 και από τότε έχει εμφανιστεί σε μουσικές σκηνές, εκδηλώσεις και φεστιβάλ σε Θεσσαλονίκη, Αθήνα, Σμύρνη, Λάρισα και Σύρο, ενώ έχει συνεργαστεί και με σπουδαίους καλλιτέχνες όπως η Γλυκερία η Αρετή Κετιμέ και η Πίτσα Παπαδοπούλου. Έχει ένα ευρύ ρεπερτόριο που καλύπτει μουσικές πολλών πολιτισμών καθώς και σύγχρονες συνθέσεις, ενώ ο ιδιαίτερος ήχος της Şeker χαρακτηρίζεται από τις πρωτότυπες ενορχηστρώσεις και την ανάδειξη του μέσω των ποικίλων μουσικών οργάνων που την αποτελούν.

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