Inside this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introducing the 2009-2010 Federation Board</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Message</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Annual Conference</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Choir Conference</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009 “Notable” Members of the Federation</td>
<td>5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heard from our Choirs — “Lofty Notes”</td>
<td>7-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Direct Archdiocesan District Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians

2008-2009 Board Members

President: Anna Dounelis
kalimera@optonline.net

Vice President: Marcelle Wheeler
greekscorp@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary: Eleftheria Brewster
herathegreek@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary: Angela Arettines
anaretti@optonline.net

Treasurer: Irini Kapareliotis
imvck@optimum.net

Public Relations: Michael Papantoniou
mpapantoni@optonline.net

Librarian: Stephanie Pavlidis
aristeph@aol.com

Youth Choir Liaison: Georgia Kaufman
kriseleni@yahoo.com

For Federation Focus inquiries contact: Michael Papantoniou
mpapantoni@optonline.net

Save the Date!

Sunday, December 13, 2009
4:00 PM
Federation Christmas Concert
St. Paul Cathedral, Hempstead, N.Y.
Our President’s Message

It has been a pleasure serving as your president for 2008-2009... a very exciting and productive year! We began celebrating our 25th Anniversary last June with a successful Church Music Institute on Vocal Techniques, conducted by Marina Alexander, Director of the Metropolitan Greek Chorale and the Arcadian Chorale. In the months that followed, I represented our Federation, along with Georgeann Mavrovitis, Holy Trinity Youth Choir Director in New Rochelle, NY, at the National Forum’s Annual Meeting at the Clergy-Laity Congress in Washington, DC, and our Federation Board began to plan for the Annual Federation Conference, 25th Anniversary Celebration, and our first-ever Youth Choir Conference.

We fulfilled that long-time goal on January 24-25, when Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn, NY hosted our First Youth Choir Conference! Saturday’s activities included informative and fun-filled workshops presented by Georgia Kaufman, Roslyn Youth Choir Director; Anne Ktorides, Danbury Choir Director; and Marina Alexander. Talented youth choir members participated in a Variety Show, including a group from St. Paul’s, Hempstead who performed a beautiful Kenyan rendition of Kyrie Eleison. At Sunday’s Divine Liturgy I was overwhelmed by the angelic voices of the Conference Choir lifted up in praise to our Lord. It was truly an amazing weekend! I congratulate and thank Georgia for organizing a spectacular program for our Direct Archdiocesan District youth choir members, as well as Fr. Dennis Strouzas, Fr. Evan Evangelides and the Archangel Michael Community for their generosity and ongoing support of the Federation.

The Annual Federation Conference was held at Saint Paraskevi in Greenlawn, NY during the weekend of February 28-March 1. Important issues were discussed and voted upon, and I thank everyone who participated and expressed their views. I was honored to be re-elected as your president for 2009-2010, and I look forward to working with the new Officers: Vice President Mike Papantoniou, Recording Secretary Fay Pavlidis, Corresponding Secretary Peggy Stilianos, Treasurer Irini Kapareliotis, Public Relations Officer Spyro Kalas, Youth Choir Liaison Georgia Kaufman and Librarian/Historian Stephanie Pavlidis. To the outgoing Board members, I extend my most sincere thanks!

We are grateful to Rev. Archdeacon Panteleimon Papadopoulos and Rev. Dr. Dimitri Moraitis of St. Paraskevi who presented interesting and illuminating workshops for choir directors, organists, chanters and choir members at the Annual Conference. Our special guest that weekend was Dr. Vicki Pappas, Chairman of the National Forum, who joined us to celebrate our Federation’s 25th Anniversary. Our Conference choir sang the Anna Gallos II Liturgy in Greek & English, under the direction of guest conductor Paul Mavromihalis of the Eastern Federation. His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios presided at the Divine Liturgy, administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board, and at the reception, presented the Choir Member of the Year Medal to Mrs. Soteria Macris of the Holy Trinity Choir in Hicksville. Congratulations, Terril!

During the Annual Conference weekend, Federation Scholarship Awards for 2008 and 2009 were presented to MaryAnn Vlahos and Stacy Anagnostopoulos, respectively, and we congratulate MaryAnn and Stacy, both from Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn, and wish them much success in their future endeavors. Dr. Pappas presented the Patriarch Athenagoras I Medallions from the National Forum, for outstanding service to our Federation, to Angela Arettines, Strati Demertzis and Kon Kontos, and we congratulate them for their well-deserved awards!

The 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Larkfield Manor on Saturday, February 28th was a fabulous and unforgettable event! The fifteen charter member choirs and all who served as Federation president since its founding in 1983 were acknowledged. Eight former presidents joined us that evening and accepted our thanks for outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the Federation. Strati Demertzis, Leah Pappas Monias, Michael Papantoniou, Stella Kalos, Catherine Zarbis, Spyro Kalas, Harry Pappas and Marcelle Wheeler, and Sally Economou, on behalf of Jeff Economou of blessed memory, were presented with framed Certificates of Appreciation. As the fifteenth person to serve in that position, it is an honor for me to be counted among them.

The Annual Conference and the Banquet Dinner Dance were wonderful but would not have run as smoothly or been as successful had it not been for the hard work and commitment of so many, including Irini Kapareliotis, Angela Arettines, Spyro Kalas, Mike Papantoniou, Cathy Zarbis, Georgia Kaufman, Georgeann Mavrovitis, Pauline Kitsopoulos, Georgia Stavros, the Saint Paraskevi choir members, Fr. Dimitri Moraitis, Parish Council President Gus Constantine and church organizations, my daughter Joanna and my husband John! Everyone’s efforts and participation that weekend were greatly appreciated!

In May, I attended the Annual Presidents’ Meeting in Indianapolis with Vicki Pappas and the presidents of our sister Federations. I returned even more enthusiastic about our exciting plans for 2009-2010, and we will be discussing them at our Council Meeting on June 13th. Those events include our Biennial Christmas Concert scheduled for Sunday, December 13th at the Cathedral of Saint Paul in Hempstead, Church Music Institutes, our next Youth Choir Conference that will be hosted by Holy Trinity Church in New Rochelle, NY, and more!

In August, more information about the Christmas Concert and other events will follow by e-mail. Notices will also be mailed to choir directors for distribution to your church musicians. I hope you will choose to participate in the activities your Federation is planning for you! You will be glad you did!

Have a safe and relaxing summer with your family and friends!

Wishing you all God’s Blessings.

Anna
Our Federation celebrated its 25th Anniversary during the weekend of February 28 – March 1, 2009 at St. Paraskevi in Greenlawn, Long Island. Saturday was a very busy day, with activities including our annual business meeting, workshops for both Choir members and directors delivered by Rev. Archdeacon Panteleimon Papadopoulos and Rev. Dr. Dimitrios Moraitis, and a rehearsal of the music for the Divine Liturgy arranged by Presbytera Anna Gallos. In the evening, conference attendees and their families and friends went to the Larkfield Manor where we had a fabulous 25th Anniversary Banquet with a DJ and great food, honoring all past presidents of our Federation. On Sunday, our combined junior and senior choirs, under guest conductor Paul Mavromihalis from Maryland, with our own Spyro Kalas as the accompanist, celebrated the Liturgy officiated by His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios. Following the Liturgy, a luncheon reception was held in the St. Paraskevi Community Center, where His Eminence National Forum Chairman, Dr. Vicki Pappas and Federation President Anna Dounelis, presented several awards, including the Patriarch Athenagoras Award to Kon Kontos (Hicksville), Angela Arettines (Greenlawn) and Dr. Strati Demertzis (Hempstead), the Federation’s Annual scholarship Award to Maryann Vlahos (Roslyn) and Stacy Anagnostopoulos (Roslyn) and the Choir Member of the Year Award to Terri Macris (Hicksville).
Our Youth Choir Conference at Archangel Michael in Roslyn

Our YOUTH CHOIR CONFERENCE was a great success! Rev. Fr. Dennis Strouzas, Rev. Fr. Evan Evangelidis and the community of the Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn, hosted the first-ever event on January 24-25. The conference commenced with a prayer for church musicians and the singing of Eis Agios / One Is Holy in Greek and English. Youth Choir Directors, Psalti and Organists from across the Archdiocesan District participated in workshops designed to promote a better knowledge of the magnificent hymns our Orthodox faith. Educational and inspirational workshops were given by Anne Ktorides, Choir Director - Assumption Church in Danbury, Ct., Marina Alexander, Conductor of The Metropolitan Greek Chorale, and Georgia Kaufman, Youth Choir Director of Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn. Organist of Archangel Michael Church, Eleni Rodopoulos Kaufman, provided the accompaniment for the workshops and the Youth Conference Liturgy. Workshops included the discussion of the value of being part of a youth choir, the study of hymnology and the understanding of our Divine Liturgy, Byzantine Chant, Solfege Sight-Singing, Vocal warm-up exercises, Diaphragmatic breathing techniques and Craft Creations of beautiful cross bookmarks. A fantastic Youth Choir Variety Show fostered fellowship between the young conference participants. The hymn Osi Eis Christon was played on cello and violin by the Anagnostopoulos Sisters from Archangel Michael. A lovely Kenya African rendition of Kyrie Eleison was performed by young people from St Paul’s Cathedral, directed by Virginia Pourakis. On Sunday, the angelic voices of the Youth Choir sang the Divine Liturgy in melodious harmony. After the service, Archangel Michael Parish Council President Barbara Mavro expressed the support of the Youth Music Ministry presenting a plaque and flowers to Youth Conference Coordinator and Conference Liturgy Conductor Georgia Kaufman. A poignant message about the choirs of the future and the preservation of the rich musical heritage of our faith was eloquently delivered by our President, Anna Dounelis. All youth participants were given a framed certificate and a Youth Choir Conference 2009 bumper sticker for their noteworthy participation. It was a glorious weekend singing praises to our Lord!
2008-2009 “Notable” Members of the Federation

CHOIR MEMBER OF THE YEAR... SOTERIA MACRIS... Axial

Terri Macris is a 25-year member of the Holy Trinity Church Choir in Hicksville, NY, although she has been singing in church choirs since she was 13 years old! Terri possesses all of the attributes of a Choir Member of the Year. She has a positive ‘can do’ attitude, is always eager to work with others to benefit her choir and the Federation, regularly participates in Federation events and consistently demonstrates the best characteristics of an Orthodox Christian, setting a good example for our Orthodox youth to follow. Her choir director, Leah Pappas Monias stated, “Throughout these years, Terri has shown constant dedication in her contribution as a choir member, has been consistently dependable, is confident and positive, and most recently is offering her services not only at Holy Trinity, but also at Holy Resurrection in Brookville and the Cathedral of St. Paul in Hempstead.”

OUR PATRIARCH ATHENAGORAS I MEDALLION RECIPIENTS...Congratulations

Angela Arettines has been a dedicated member of St. Paraskevi Church choir for many years, has served as Public Relations Officer on Federation Boards, as a rehearsal organist for Federation concerts, is a recipient of the Choir Member of the Year Medallion, and is serving on the current Board as Corresponding Secretary. Angela maintains and updates both our Federation website and database, jobs that take hours of concentrated effort, and she never refuses to help when and where needed. Angela can be counted upon to finish any job she undertakes and is a valued member of our Federation.

Strati Demertzis is one of the Federation’s founding members and served with dedication and distinction as its first elected president. He has been choir director at the Cathedral of Saint Paul for over 25 years, conducting two Sunday Liturgies weekly. He is also their psalti, not just on Sundays but whenever needed. Much of his life has been spent within the walls of Saint Paul, sharing his talents and time with the community he loves. Members of his own choir followed his example of dedication and commitment when they also took on the position of president, serving in the early years of the Federation.

Kon Kontos has been one of the Federation’s most dedicated and active members and has been involved in all Federation activities since its founding. At that time, he was choir director at Holy Trinity in Hicksville, one of the Federation’s charter church choirs. Kon, a recipient of the Choir Member of the Year Medallion, has also served on Federation Boards as Treasurer for many years. He has helped to organize and present various Federation events including the very successful Christmas concerts, as well as the Greek concerts and is still an active member of Holy Trinity’s choir.
2008 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT — MARYANN VLACHOS

Maryann Vlachos has been an outstanding member of the Byzantine Youth Choir of Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn, NY for eight years. She has been a vital part of the momentum that moves their Youth Choir. Her dedication and leadership have truly been extraordinary. At the 2004 Clergy-Laity Congress Hierarchical Liturgy held at the Marriott Marquis in New York City, she sang the soprano part and strongly contributed to creating a harmoniously blended ensemble. On choir trips to visit the senior citizens at St. Michael’s Home for the Aged in Yonkers, Maryann brought joy singing Divine Liturgies celebrated with His Grace Bishop Andonios. She was a featured soloist at the 2005 Archdiocesan District Christmas Concert. Maryann sang beautifully at every choir program presented for Philoptochos Christmas Fund Raisers, at St. George Church, at St. Eleftherios and at numerous Archdiocesan Choir Federation Conference Liturgies. She has also been a caring mentor to the younger members of the choir and has proudly lead her youth choir up Fifth Avenue in many Greek Independence Parades. At Challenge Liturgies, offered to physically and mentally challenged individuals and their families, Maryann always fosters kindness and respect. Although she is a high achieving freshman at Columbia University this year, she takes every opportunity on college breaks to return to sing in choir.

2008 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT — STACY ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

Stacy Anagnostopoulos is a brilliant soprano for the Byzantine Youth Choir of Archangel Michael Church in Roslyn, NY. For the past three years, Stacy has melodiously chanted the Aspile at Heretismi services. Her solo voice angelically sings the communion hymn *Tou Thipnou Sou* at the first service practically every Sunday. Stacy is an excellent sight-reader and can sing both the soprano and alto lines in Greek or English with expertise. For the past two years when His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios came to Archangel Michael Church for the Saturday of Lazarus Hierarchical Liturgy, Stacy has led her vocal section with confidence. At the 2009 Youth Choir Conference Variety Show, she played the hymn *Osi Eis Christon* on violin in a duet with her sister Crystal, who played the cello. Over the past eight years, Stacy has been singing with youth choir at Philoptochos Fund Raisers, at the 2004 Clergy-Laity Congress Hierarchical Liturgy with His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, at St. Michael’s Home with His Grace Bishop Andonios, at St. George Church with Reverend Father James Kordaris, at St. Eleftherios with Reverend Father Nicholas Soteropoulos, at many Archdiocesan Choir Federation Conference Liturgies and as a featured vocal soloist and violinist at the 2005 Archdiocesan Federation Christmas Concert. Stacy has diligently studied Byzantine hymnology and as a talented young musician holds great promise for the future of our choirs. She will be attending Fredonia University this Fall as a music major.
HOLY TRINITY CHOIR, Hicksville, NY

It has been another exciting and productive year for our choir, and we are grateful for our dedicated church musicians who attend regularly to praise and worship our Lord through song.

It is always a special blessing when His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios is with us, as he was this year for Palm Sunday, and we appreciated the generous compliments he gave us.

Congratulations Graduates! Leah Pappas Monias and Jerry Monias celebrated the graduations of their children, Cindy Monias from the Hofstra Law School and Constantine Caviris from the Bronx High School of Science!

Our choir family continues to grow! Choir member Effie Mihelis became Godmother to organist Stacy Svolos' fourth child, a son named Michael! Elizabeth Zannikos became a Yiayia for the third time to a little boy; Sophia Hatzigeorgiadis is expecting grandbabies 2 and 3; and Anna Dounelis has a new granddaughter, Jadyn, and a grandson, Angelo, for a total of 7 grandchildren! Na sas zisoun!

Of course, we’re proud of our choir members Kon Kontos who received the Patriarch Athenagoras I Medallion from the National Forum, Terri Macris who was awarded the Federation’s Choir Member of the Year Medal, and Anna Dounelis and Irini Kapareliotis who were re-elected to the Federation Board as President and Treasurer, respectively!

In February, and for the fourth consecutive year, a group of choir members with family and friends sailed out of Florida to the Caribbean, this time on a 10-night cruise to the Panama Canal, and the group of 40 passengers had a fabulous time!

Congratulations to Billy Proussalis on his engagement to Nicole Koveos and best wishes on their forthcoming nuptials!

Note from Kon Kontos

Holy Trinity, Hicksville, NY

When earlier this year, the Federation honored me with the National Forum’s Patriarch Athenagoras medallion, I was humbled for two reasons; one, for the honor itself, for which I am grateful, and two, for bringing back my memories of the man whose name is inscribed on the medallion.

Years ago I met the then Archbishop Athenagoras in a social gathering where we engaged in a long conversation regarding my exposure to some notable Ἱεροκήρυκες in Athens and Piraeus. He invited me the following Sunday to the Cathedral in New York, where he assembled a group of a dozen or so young people my age to talk with them about the historical Jesus and the veracity of the Bible. It wasn't a successful season because I didn’t speak tolerable English. But the memory of the man and his interest in a young man’s impressions and lessons learned shall live with me forever.

Thereafter I found my niche. I joined the Cathedral Choir under the direction of the great Nikos Iliopoulos.

ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL CHOIR, Hartford, CT,

St. George Cathedral of Hartford, CT, presented a concert of Orthodox sacred music of the Easter Season, sung in Greek, Romanian and English, to an audience of 250 people on Sunday, May 17. The featured performers were the Cathedral’s choir, directed by Christine Perry, and the Romanus Quartet, a 4 part, 5 member group of local clergy who have named their group in honor of the great Byzantine composer, Romanus the Melodos.

Rooted in the Byzantine experience, Orthodox sacred music is one of the world’s great spiritual and cultural treasures. This concert provided a rare opportunity to expose family and friends—especially the non-Orthodox—to this musical tradition. The concert included penitential hymns from Great Lent and Holy Week, as well as the supremely joyful hymns celebrating Christ’s resurrection. CDs are available for $10 & $3 shipping through St. George Cathedral.
ARCHANGEL MICHAEL YOUTH CHOIR, Roslyn, NY
Submitted by Georgia Kaufman

The Youth Music Ministry at Archangel Michael Church is thriving with over fifty active youth choir members. The Byzantine Youth Choir sings the Divine Liturgy at the first service every Sunday and has rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. We are blessed to have three gifted organists who play for our choirs. These young women, Eleni Rodopoulos Kaufman, Christina Lipinski and Alexia Skiadas, are to be highly commended for their service and devotion. This year our youth choir has seven dedicated choir members who will be graduating high school in June. Congratulations and heartfelt appreciation to Stacy Anagnostopoulos, Caterina Anastasio, Sophia Loudaros, Christa Sotiriou, Nicolette Scott, Alyssa Tagios and Alyse Zaffos. Ke Se Anotera! The 2008-2009 ecclesiastical season was particularly exciting for our Byzantine Youth Choir because Archangel Michael Church hosted the first-ever Direct Archdiocesan District Youth Choir Conference. We are grateful to our spiritual leaders Father Dennis Strouzas and Father Evan Evangelidis for their guidance and outstanding support at the Youth Choir Conference. Our talented psalti, Andreas Modinos, participated in every workshop and shared his knowledge of hymnology with the young people who were in attendance. It was great to see youth choir graduates, Anastasia Alimaras and Alexandra Oleske who came to the workshops and activities offered at the Conference, which was held on the weekend of January 24-25, 2009. The Youth Choir Conference was filled with fellowship and fun, culminating with our Archdiocesan Youth singing Praises to Our Lord at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning. Another highlight of the Conference was having youth choir graduates, Teresa Gogas and Stephanie Rontiris, lending their beautiful voices to the Direct Archdiocesan District Youth Conference Divine Liturgy. Singing the beautiful musical treasures of our faith at the Heretismi service on the fourth Friday of Lent was uplifting! Stacy Anagnostopoulos and Theodora Misthos poignantly chanted the Aspile and ignited a glorious feeling among the youth and congregants. On Holy Friday, it was heart-warming to have so many former choir graduates singing the Lamentations with us – Calliope Iakovou, Chrissy Makris, Stephanie Rontiris, Maryann Vlachos and Maria Zachariadis. Thank you also to the graduates who returned to choir in December during college recess - Katie Patestas, Jennifer Pappas and Katerina Skiadas. We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Connie Katsoulis for her many years of devoted service to our choir. The Moving-Up Program is scheduled for May 31st and our annual Broadway Theatre Trip is set for June 6th. The Archangel Michael Community will soon mark a special milestone! We are thrilled to announce that the Archangel Michael Church will be relocating to Port Washington in September 2009! The Byzantine Youth Choir is very excited and looking forward to singing the Divine Liturgy in our new home!

HOLY TRINITY YOUTH CHOIR, New Rochelle, NY
Submitted by Georgeann Mavrovitis

The Youth Choir of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of New Rochelle was honored to have chanted the Liturgy on Sunday, May 24th at the NY Archdiocesan Olympics at Suffolk Community College.
Heard from our Choirs—”Lofty Notes”

When someday I depart from this light,
I will spiral upwards like a brook that murmurs.
And if by chance somewhere among those blue channels I would meet angels,
I will talk to them in Greek,
because they do not know tongues.
They speak among themselves in Music.

Nikiforos Vrettakos

Nikiforos Vrettakos was an eminent Greek poet such as Seferis and Elytis. The power and beauty of music can be found in some of his poetry, as the iconographer, Kontoglou, found it in nature. Father Robert Stephanopoulos spoke about the power and beauty of our Orthodox music during a visit to St. Paraskevi. We have worked very hard this year, as we have in the past, to experience this beauty and hopefully to inspire everyone.

One of our major projects of this choir year was to host the Federation’s annual conference here at St. Paraskevi. As usual, Saturday was a time of renewal with choir members from around the district greeting each other and exchanging news. We were very proud that two of our members were elected to the board: Director Mike Papantoniou as Vice-President and Fay Pavlidis, Recording Secretary. It was also a pleasure to welcome the Federation and His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios, to St. Paraskevi, and we thank our Fr. Dimitrios for his continuing support.

If you have happened to visit St. Paraskevi and noticed a blond head with curls up in the choir loft, no, it is not Director Mike wearing a wig! We welcomed Catherine (Cathy) Zarbis to our choir. Cathy is sharing directing duties with Director Mike. We are lucky to have two such musically talented people at St. Paraskevi.

Speaking of musically talented, we are also lucky to have Marie Michaelopoulos Warren and her husband, Dana, both professional music teachers, in our choir, along with their talented daughter, Ariana. Dubbed the Von Trapp Family of St. Paraskevi, they are very involved in the music world, the latest of which was Marie’s duet at a monthly Opera Night where she sang the “Viens, Mallika les leanes en fluers” (Lakme Duet - familiar to many of us as the theme for British Airways) to a roaring audience approval.

Several of our choir members have been found participating in the highly successful "Greeks Got Talent" show which has been held for the second year here at St. Paraskevi, and which was organized by the family of choir member Angela Arettines. Angela has worked very hard, along with her brother, John who spearheads this show, to help make this event a success. These evenings have received rave reviews, and choir members are already talking of participating again next year!

We are very proud of our resident volunteer, Sally Economou. Sally was recognized by the VNS Hospice (Visiting Nurse Service) for 20 years of volunteer service. Sally also volunteers at RSVP, in our own nursing home ministry, and co-conducts the Diabetes Club at St. Catherine’s with two other volunteers. Congratulations Sally!!

Congratulations are also in order for Director Mike, and his wife, Kathy, who have now joined the choir’s Yiayia and Pappou Club with the births of their grandchildren, and to choir member Eleni Tomasides and her husband, Gary, upon the births of theirs. Na sas zisoune!!

This past National Church Music Sunday our choir was honored in a very special way. Our President, Pauline Kitsopoulos surprised everyone with a St. Romanos the Melodist pin, a present from the choir to the choir, which we all found pinned onto our choir robe sashes when we arrived that morning. Of course, our Psalti, Panteli, was also included in this surprise.

With all the happy events and activities of our choir, we were then saddened to hear of the falling asleep in the Lord of Father Demetrios Orfanakos. A long-time member of the St. Paraskevi community, we extended our condolences and deepest sympathies to his family. Eonia i mnimi! May his memory be eternal!!

We wish the Federation all the best for the coming year and are looking forward to sharing many activities together. Have a wonderful summer!! Stay well and see you soon!!

Submitted by Fay Pavlidis
The Metropolis of Denver just published a new choral work by composer Eleni Traganas, our choir director and organist. The Cherubic Hymn and Litany of Supplication is an original and beautiful new setting arranged for SATB with organ accompaniment/reduction. Of moderate difficulty, the work is in octavo format, 16 pages in length, and can be obtained through the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Denver Church Music Federation, 12 Tamerlain Ct., Highlands Ranch CO 80130-3984. For further information, call the publisher at (303) 773-0777 or contact artistpianist@aol.com. (see right)

In addition, Eleni’s new novel, Twelfth House, was just released by Seaburn Books with an inaugural book signing and reading May 22nd in Astoria. Praised by The American Organist Magazine and other literary critics as a striking new work, the book details the captivating story of one musician’s trials and tribulations in the intense musical world of Greece. Several upcoming book signings and readings are planned for the Metro area. For more information, or to acquire a copy of Twelfth House, contact artistpianist@aol.com or call (718) 899-3865. (see right)