

Dear Parishioner - Member,

I wish A Healthy Happy New Year to every one of you in the Community of St Michaels Greek Orthodox Church.

The year 2020 has gone and hopefully can take with it all the bad memories and the bad moments we have experienced. I wish a better and healthier 2021 to all of us.

Due to Covid-19 we had to make restrictions on our activity program in our Community. The only activities we were able to do, were the Church Services program, following the Covid-19 Protocol. The Church Committee and The Trustees worked hard on the Administration side of the organisation. We created protocols and procedures for the safety of our members and our guests. We have in place 14 Policies and protocols for our Church / School, and we have now produced the following documents:

- Covid-19 Risk Assessment
- Fire Risk Assessment
- Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding Children Policy
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy
- Bullying and Harassment policy, Code of Church working Practice
- Discipline and Grievance Procedures, Investment Policy
- Legionella Policy, Whistleblowing Policy
- Financial and Accounting Policy

As a Chairman of the Church Committee I had a vision under the 2 years of duty, which was “To work together for the best interest of our Church - the Epicentre of our Community”.

We worked hard to eliminate the personal interest actions and past culture. Some members stayed away, turned their backs and many times criticised our work. At the end we gathered and worked together in a united spirit for the best of our Church and the protection of the members. All of us gave our time, our money, our knowledge, our energy for the Faith - the Orthodoxy. Many thanks to all those, they participated and supported our work.

My leadership was based on the 3 “Gospels” for the Church Committee and our Community.

1. The Gospel of Evangelists - The Jesus words and actions - The Right Way to the Right Faith.
2. The Constitution of the Charity Commission - The Government’s laws and regulations in line with HMRC
3. The Constitution of the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain - The Link between the Faith and the Laws.

This made the Church Committee united and strong.

As an outgoing Chairman I am begging everyone to try to be involved in the Community. Our hope is our Faith and our Church. We can work together to be better humans, better Christians better members. For everyone who’s is getting involved in the Committees, it is important he/she is working for the best interest of the organisation under leadership of the 3 “Gospels”

I am very proud that I served the Community and The Archangel Michael’s Greek Orthodox Church. I would like to thank all the people they worked hard to create our Community, our Church, our School and all the Assets since 1964. I will continue to work from a different position in the community, because I owe The Archangel Michael and Jesus Christ a lot. They protected me when I needed it. They showed me the right way when I was lost. They gave me the smile when I was sad and in tears. They gave me strength when I was weak. They gave me health when I was ill. They showed me love when I was angry. They gave me a helping hand to overcome the daily problems in my private and my professional life.

My advice to all of you - based upon my own experiences - is to stay close to the Faith, the Church and to the Fellows. Alone we are getting weaker - Together we are getting stronger. Show Christian Love, Respect and Appreciation.

With Respect

Dr Konstadinos Papadimos