RACHMANINOFF BENEFIT CONCERT: ANNUNCIATION CHURCH, DOVER, NH - The Rachmaninoff Choir will be performing a concert at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Dover on Sunday, April 11. The Choir will sing a famous piece of sacred music, the Rachmaninoff’s Vespers (also known as the All Night Vigil), a concert work in 15 parts written by the composer in 1915 during a period of great turmoil in Russia. Many of the melodies in the Vespers are of Greek and Byzantine origin and date back to the ninth century when Russia was converted to Orthodoxy. Rachmaninoff added folk tunes from the oral tradition to give the music an unmistakable Russian sound. The Rachmaninoff Choir, combining members of The Bowdoin College Chorus and the Down East Singers, was first formed in 1992 by Dr. Anthony Antolini, director of the Bowdoin Chorus. The group, consisting of between 60 and 80 singers, has performed at churches and cathedrals across New England, Canada, and Washington D.C. In 2002, the Rachmaninoff Choir toured Russia and sang the Rachmaninoff setting of the St. John Chrysostom Liturgy. This remarkable work, that has been long forgotten, was reconstructed by Dr. Antolini from surviving books at an Orthodoxy monastery in the U.S. and microfilm at the U.S. Library of Congress. The ensemble took this piece of music on tour again in 2009 across Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece. The choir is now joining our Seacoast Community on April 11 as the last stop of their 2010 Spring Tour. The Rachmaninoff Vespers will be performed as a whole piece (fifteen parts) with no intermission. The performance will last about an hour and fifteen minutes. A reception will follow the performance. The proceeds will benefit “My Friend’s Place” and the music ministries of the Annunciation. For tickets please contact: Church office (603) 742-7667, announciationdover@gmail.com or Siroun Braun (603) 332-3914, singingsing@netzero.com

LENTEN RETREAT - MARCH 20, 2010 - To describe the day as very spiritual... uplifting... thought provoking... challenging... and enjoyable, is not enough. Those who participated in the Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 20th, were rewarded many times over. We found the day blessed not only with the warmth of sunshine and the sight of the beautiful forests, but especially with the wonderful, inspiring words of three gifted and blessed speakers. The discussions and questions were energized, when the topic of “Repentance and Confession” was presented to the highly motivated group. We found ourselves truly in a soul searching mind set, and yet, enjoying the banter and good humor of our understanding and sensitive speakers. Many, many thanks to Rev. Fr. Peter Chamberas, Rev. Fr. Agathonikos Wilson, and our own Rev. Fr. Nicholas M. Kastanas. Unfortunately, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios was called to Greece unexpectedly, and was not able to attend. The Retreat Center at the Camp was a perfect location, and the feelings that permeated the group cannot be described! To merely say “Thank you,” to all the staff, the volunteers, and Mike Sintros at the camp, is simply not adequate. Participants came from the churches of Arlington, MA, Concord, NH, Weston, MA, Watertown, MA, Brockton, MA, East Longmeadow, MA, and the Annunciation Cathedral of Boston. Thank you to each of you who gave your support in many ways, and helped to make the day an extraordinary and unforgettable success! For those who could not attend this year, mark your calendar with a reminder for next year. See you then!
CONFERENCE 2010 REHEARSALS BEGIN - Rehearsals for the MBFGOCM Conference 2010 music will begin on April 11, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the Annunciation Church, Brockton, MA, and will be held at the Annunciation Church every Sunday through October 3 unless otherwise announced. Please note that there will be no rehearsals on April 25 (Boston Independence Day Parade) and May 9 (Mother’s Day.) The Brockton choir will be learning the complete Limberakis Liturgy for their upcoming Consecration, to be held on October 9 & 10, 2010, and has graciously opened their weekly rehearsals to the entire Metropolis. Light refreshments will be served following the rehearsals. The Annunciation Church is also inviting Federation musicians to join their choir on this most important occasion in the life of the church. Other Conference Area Music Rehearsals will be scheduled throughout the Metropolis in the coming months. Contact any Federation Board Member to schedule a rehearsal at your church and check future issues of the Mini Acouste Key and the Federation web site for more details.

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON CALENDAR
Please send us your dates to add to the Calendar.

2010
Apr. 11 Conference 2010 Rehearsals Begin - 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Annunciation Church, 457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA
Rehearsals will be held at the Annunciation Church of Brockton every Sunday through October 3rd unless otherwise noted
Apr. 11 Rachmaninoff Concert
Annunciation Church, 93 Locust Street, Dover, NH
See attached flyer for more details
Apr. 18 Conference 2010 Rehearsal - 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Annunciation Church, 457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA
Apr. 25 Boston Independence Day Parade
May 2 Conference 2010 Rehearsal - 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Annunciation Church, 457 Oak Street, Brockton, MA
Jul. 4-8 34th Annual Meeting of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians
In conjunction with the 40th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress
Marriott Atlanta Marquis
265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, GA
Oct. 3 2010 National Church Music Sunday
Nov. 5-7 2010 MBFGOCM Conference St. Athanasius the Great Church 4 Appleton Street, Arlington, MA
Dec. 12 Annual MBFGOCM Christmas Concert Annunciation Cathedral of New England
More details to follow

2011
Nov. 4-6 2011 MBFGOCM Conference
Submit your bids!

MBFGOCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2010
Host Parish
St. Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox Church, Arlington, MA
Celebrant
His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston
Co-Chairmen
Rev. Father Nicholas Kastanas & Stella Pathiakis
Music
Dean Limberakis Bilingual Liturgical Setting
Conductor
Gregory Condakes, St. Demetrios Church, Weston, MA
Organist
Athena Marken, St. Demetrios Church, Weston, MA
Hotel Information
Hilton Garden Inn, Burlington, MA - $79 per night (Reservation information to follow)

HAS YOUR PARISH SENT IN ITS 2010 MBFGOCM MEMBERSHIP FORM AND STEWARDSHIP?
Please ask your Choir Director to fill out the attached form!

To submit information for the Mini Acouste Key:
Send to
George Theodossiou
E-mail: gtheodossiou@msn
Deadline Date: April 25, 2010
RACHMANINOFF

Benefit Concert
SUNDAY, APRIL 11 AT 4:00 PM

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
93 Locust St. Dover, NH 03820

THE RACHMANINOFF CHOIR
COMBINING MEMBERS OF THE BOWDOIN COLLEGE CHOIR & DOWN EAST SINGERS
WILL PERFORM SERGEI RACHMANINOFF’S ALL-NIGHT VIGIL FOR UNACCOMPANIED CHORUS, FEATURING 70 VOICES UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. ANTHONY F. ANTOLINI.

Tickets $15 per person  General Admission Seating

Proceeds will benefit My Friends Place & the music ministries of the Annunciation
For tickets please contact:
Church office (603) 742-7667  annunciationdover.org
or Siroun Braun (603) 332-3914 singsingsing@netzero.com

Parking available in rear of church behind the Dover Library
TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
PARISH MEMBERSHIP LIST FOR 2010
(January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010)

The Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (MBFGOCM) exists for the benefit of all parishes in the Metropolis of Boston. It also serves as the liaison between each local parish and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese’s religious choral group, the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, which provides many resources to each parish and Choir Federation. MBFGOCM’s ability to support Church Musicians is dependent upon the financial support from its choirs, organists, psaltai, and individuals.

Now that we are at the start of our fiscal year (January 1 - December 31), we take this opportunity to invite you to submit a Choir Membership List, along with your Annual Stewardship Membership of $100, and mail them to: 
Andrew Marken, 4 Garrison Ln, Southborough, MA 01772.

Thank you for your prompt response!

Name of Parish ________________________________
Parish Priest ____________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)
Tel. ____________________ Fax ____________________ E-mail _________________________________

Choir Director’s Name ________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)
Tel. ____________________ Fax ____________________ E-mail _________________________________

Organist’s Name ________________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)
Tel. ____________________ Fax ____________________ E-mail _________________________________

Parish Psalti’s Name ________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)
Tel. ____________________ Fax ____________________ E-mail _________________________________

Youth Choir Coordinator/Director (If you do not have a coordinator, please appoint someone who will be able to work with the Youth Music Ministry in the parishes of the Metropolis of Boston.)
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip Code)
Tel. ____________________ Fax ____________________ E-mail _________________________________

Please mail or email (akmarken@comcast.net) your separate list of adult choir and junior/youth choir members, giving each name, address, city, state, zip code, telephone, e-mail address, voice part (s-a-t-b), together with this form and your stewardship ($100) made payable to “MBFGOCM,” to:

ANDREW MARKEN, TREASURER
4 GARRISON LANE
SOUTHBOROUGH, MA 01772