



MEET *the candidates for Parish Council*



BILL BELKO



**DINO
BOZONELOS**



SPIRO KAILAS



**ANNE
PANAGAKOS**



ART PATHE



PAM PIERCE



**GEORGE
POLEONDAKIS**



**JEANNIE
RANGLAS**



**JAMES
RIGOPOULOS**



LISA WATTS

**CHOOSE 8 (EIGHT) CANDIDATES
ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD 12/8
FOLLOWING LITURGY**

Candidate Statements



BILL BELKO

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

If elected, I will continue to foster efforts of obedience to Christ's commandment: "Go forth and teach all nations". It is often referred to as "The Great Commission".

Simply stated, I will promote efforts to invite all our neighbors to "Come and SEE" all that we do together. Then welcome our new guests with love and respect.

Certainly, some will "Come and See"! Some will be attracted and want to be part of the loving environment we enjoy. And the Holy Spirit will grant the gift of grace to some to become Orthodox Christians.

My personal information:

- I was Baptized and Chrismated in The Three Saints Orthodox Church in Ansonia, Connecticut in 1936.
- Nancy Belko is my Orthodox wife. We were married by Father Federoff of St. John of Damascus Orthodox Church of Poway, California in 1992.
- I served on the Parish Council at St John of Damascus for several years and was involved in the building of our new church complex.
- I served one term as Parish Council President before leaving to join this church which is much closer to my home.
- I served several terms here on the Parish Council and have held the position of Vice President and Secretary.
- Blessed with skills from God, I was able to become financially independent and retired at 54.
- I remain active in the technology business, start-ups, physical fitness, and gardening.
- But, using God's gifts to serve Him, is of the utmost importance to me.



DINO BOZONELOS

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

I wish to become a Parish Council member because I see service to Orthodoxy as my calling. Over the past decade, my involvement in this Parish has grown deeply, encompassing many of its activities and ministries. I strongly believe in servant leadership, and I've been blessed to assist in founding the Men's Group and the Young Adult League, as well as in revitalizing Orthodoxy 101, which now serves approximately 20 catechumens. For each ministry, I've worked alongside fellow parishioners to organize events, recruit members, and integrate those new to our Parish and to Orthodoxy.

I view this work as my way of repaying God for the countless blessings He has given me. Hieromonk Christodoulos, who headlined our first Men's Group seminar in 2023, emphasized that the best way to bring people to Orthodoxy is to be a "good Christian." I take this to heart, striving to serve in ways that positively impact the lives of others. Every event and ministry effort supports our brothers and sisters in Christ, and that is what inspires me to continue serving this Parish with joy and dedication.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I have extensive experience in parish life through my service on two parish councils: St. Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church in San Bernardino (2008–2009) and Sts. Constantine & Helen in Cardiff (2021–2022). These experiences have given me valuable perspectives, including insights into the importance of strong parish structures. At St. Elias, I observed how the absence of integration pathways for newcomers led to a decline in membership as people sought parishes with more active ministries. This realization inspired my focus on strengthening and developing ministries in our Parish, especially following the pandemic.

Some of my contributions include:

1. Founding the Men's Group – Modeled after a ministry in another Orthodox parish, this group supports men over 35 in deepening their faith through fellowship and service. Monthly meetings feature meals, Orthodox discussions, and preparations for the Sunday Agape meal. We have hosted seminars with guest speakers, organized events like Taverna Night, and recently brought in a priest from Chicago for a Couples in Community discussion.
2. Founding the Young Adult League (YAL) – This ministry integrates young adults (ages 21–35) into parish life through peer-led activities, such as the popular monthly Orthodoxy on Tap. We've also organized quarterly events and are preparing to send young parishioners to the San Francisco Metropolis YAL conference in September.
3. Revising Orthodoxy 101 – Our catechumen program saw a surge in attendance after shifting from online lessons to in-person sessions. Working with our Catechist Jeff Lee, I helped reconfigure the program to create a more personal and engaging experience, which has also attracted baptized Orthodox seeking to deepen their faith.
4. Captaining the Souvlaki Booth at the Greek Festival – Since 2018, I've led the booth's operations, ensuring its success through teamwork with parishioners, friends, and family. I am now mentoring a younger parishioner to co-captain the booth in 2025, fostering leadership for the future.

These efforts have been driven by my commitment to strengthening our parish community and fostering opportunities for growth in faith and fellowship.

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

I am quite active in the scholarship of Religion in Society and in Orthodox Christianity. I earned my Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside where I looked at the political incorporation of religious minorities. Presently, I serve as a lecturer in the Department of Political Science and Global Affairs at California State University, San Marcos, and as Chair of the Department of Social Sciences and Professor in Political Science at Victor Valley College. My primary research interests revolve around various global issues, including geopolitics, religious tourism and pilgrimage, religion and politics, comparative political economy, and pedagogy in political science. I have published numerous journal articles and book chapters and have coauthored three open-source textbooks. I recently co-edited an edited volume titled The Politics of Religious Tourism.

CHOOSE 8 CANDIDATES; ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD 12/8 FOLLOWING LITURGY

Candidate Statements



SPIRO KAILAS

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

I want to continue to use my professional experience and skill set to manage our Parish's operations and financial well being.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I am currently a member of our Parish Council and strongly believe in my fiduciary and spiritual responsibility to effectively manage our Parish's operations.

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

I was invested as an Archon of our Ecumenical Patriarchate in November, 2023 and have communicated the activities, actions, and achievements of the Archons in support of our Patriarchate and the pursuit of global religious freedom.



ANNE PANAGAKOS

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

I would like to continue to work to help grow our church and continue along with our team to get the new apartments built. We are finally really close to accomplishing that goal.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I am a past president of the Parish Council. I served in that capacity for 5 years. Presently I am first vice president and co chair along with Nicki Cometa, of the Advanced Planning Ministry, This Ministry deals with the new apartments. We have been working with the city of Encinitas, the architects and the bank for the past 8 years and are finally really close to accomplishing our goal.

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

I love working with the amazing people in our church. We are so blessed to have a loving, caring community. I am really proud to be able to serve our beloved Church.



ART PATHE

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

This is one way that I serve my church and fellow parishioners.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I taught the youngest gave group in 2018-2019; I've worked the greek festival for many years; I served on the PC from 2023-2024.

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Candidate Statements



PAMELA PIERCE

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

As a dedicated member of the Parish Council for several years, I am honored to have the opportunity to continue serving our community and am eager to seek re-election. In my role as Parish Council Secretary, I have worked diligently to keep the parish organized and informed. I am committed to preserving the traditions of our faith and our parish while embracing new opportunities for growth and connection with the parish and with the community at large.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I am currently the Parish Council Secretary. I help manage the church's online calendar, update our website, manage livestreaming of services online, and I work to promote church events and the festival through social media and church web sites.

I have 30+ years of business experience, including managing personnel and office operations for a top 5 international law firm. I work closely with our church office administrator to help our community stay connected, informed, and engaged through the Vine, the weekly bulletin, and emails.

For the past three years I have helped manage our transition to credit/debit transactions as cash and check usage has continued to wane.

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

This has been my home parish since I was 17 years old. I'm blessed to be able to give something back to my church family through serving on the Parish Council. I am a proud Thea and Nouna, and mom to a "pandemic pup" named Max. I had the honor of serving as St. Helen Philoptochos President and I am a member of Daughters of Penelope. I believe in giving back to the community through acts of service and I encourage others to do the same.



**GEORGE
POLEONDAKIS**

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

I wish to keep the community connected and have our members thrive. I believe in the support that the church provides.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I worked with my previous church to set up a scholarship fund for young Greeks going to college



JEANNIE RANGLAS

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

Being part of the Parish Council is a natural extension of my love for our church. I have 47 years of faithful unwavering dedication, a servants heart and a willingness to collaborate to ensure our parish continues to thrive and fulfill its mission faith and service.

I serve with faith, humility, vision, and commitment to ensure that the Church remains a beacon of hope and love in a changing world.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

- Gerry and I are married for 47 years, proud parents to Athan and Alexis, son in law, Romin and two beautiful granddaughters, Juliette and Georgia
- I served as Saint Helen Philoptochos President
- Parish Council President, serving on the board for many years.
- Cardiff Orthodox Housing
- Goya leader
- Chaired both the Thyranxia and the Consecration of the Church
- Currently serves on The National Philoptochos Executive Board
- Chaired the 2024 Clergy Laity Congress and The National Philoptochos Convention
- Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos President for 12 years
- Leading innovative and beloved ministries:
 - Kids n Cancer
 - Bishop Anthony Philoptochos, supporting Seminarians and Students at Hellenic College/ Holy Cross
 - Metropolis Council Board
 - Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Board
 - Supports Monastery of the Theotokos, Life Giving Spring
- Supports the Ecumenical Patriarchate
- Leadership 100
- National Hellenic Society
- Faith Forward

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CHOOSE 8 CANDIDATES; ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD 12/8 FOLLOWING LITURGY

Candidate Statements

JEANNIE RANGLAS (Continued)

- Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine
- Endowed Chair in Ancient Greek History at UCSD
- and many community at large projects

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

As one of the founding members of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, I have a great love and respect for the history of our church and embrace forward thinking and innovative ways to remain relevant

It is about being the hands and feet of Christ, ensuring that His work continues for generations to come. I believe in making a difference in lives of people. Living our mission to help those in need.

I truly believe Faith, Family and Philanthropy and I encourage all to remember, "For with God all things are possible." Luke 1:37



**JAMES
RIGOPOULOS**

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

I enjoy service to the church and wish to continue at the council level.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

Well acquainted with the history, development, and people of our Sts. C & H Community. Volunteering, and following through, on commitments to the church, whatever it might be.

What else would like folks to know about you? (Optional)

Really enjoy singing in the choir, reading the Epistle in Greek, and occasionally helping by the chant stand. Come sing with us!



LISA WATTS

Why do you wish to be a Parish Council member?

II love my church! When I first arrived at Sts. Constantine and Helen, I was a staff member, but my heart quickly grew to deeply appreciate the church and the wonderful people who make it special to our community.

I aspire to be a parish council member to help ensure the church stays true to its mission, enriches the lives of its members and the community with Orthodox traditions, and provides a welcoming church home for our youth, creating a haven from the world's challenges.

Please state your relevant experience. (Optional)

I have four years of experience as the Parish Office Manager and know what it takes to attend to the various needs of the church community, ministries, and staff.