

Clergy honor Father Bratiotis



Father George and Mrs. Bratiotis

Members of the International Community of Christ and Rabbi Myra Soifer, emerita rabbi of Temple Sinai in Reno, accepted the invitation of Saint Anthony Parish to join them in giving thanks to their pastor Father George Bratiotis for his years of dedication to God's ministry as he conducted his final services as Protopresbyter of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, Reno, Nevada. These clergy attended the event as representatives of the Nevada Clergy Association to honor the many years of work Father George gave to the interfaith movement in Reno.

The luncheon program and celebration at the Cladianos Center to mark the retirement of the beloved priest and pastor was held Sunday, October 3, 2010. Father Bratiotis himself said at the event that he was honored by their presence and by the presence of the many members of his congregation, or "vineyard," as he called them, by the memories shared, by the cards and generous gifts given, and by the many acts of kindness and remembrances displayed. The event, which included a delicious chicken dinner and dancing by the young people of the church, was inspiring, poignant, and humorous.



The Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr., as president of the newly formed Nevada Clergy Association, presented a certificate to Father George on behalf of the association for his many years of participation in interfaith events; and as a

gift of the International Community of Christ, Bishop Savoy presented Father George with an icon of the Byzantine monk Symeon the New Theologian, who is recognized as a saint by the Orthodox Church and was enshrined in 2004 by the Advocates for Religious Rights and Freedoms.



Although Father George is retired from active duty as pastor of Saint Anthony's, he will continue to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the parish and will be at the church during the remainder of the month of October until the appointment of a new pastor.

In attendance representing the International Community of Christ were the Right Reverends Gene and Sean Savoy and the Reverend Robert Petrovich.

