

JUN JUL AUG 2023



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey



Saint Andrew Family News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF MORRIS COUNTY

THE ICON OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS - AUGUST 15

Saint Andrew Family News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF MORRIS COUNTY

On Sundays we celebrate

Orthros @ 8:15 AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:30 AM

For other services please check our website or call the office

OFFICE HOURS

Mon – Fri 10am-4pm

☎: 973-584-0388

Fax: 973-584-3573

E-mail info@standrewgonj.org

Web site <https://www.standrewgonj.org/>

NJ Metropolis Web: www.njgoarch.org G.O. Archdioceses Web: www.goarch.org

Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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The Saint Andrew Family News is published monthly except in July and August and is distributed free of charge to all members. Submissions are accepted **only as electronic files, (via e-mail attachment)**. Pending availability of space and permission from Editor-in-chief, submissions will be in next month's issue.

Please submit your articles and information on time to

Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos info@standrewgonj.org

*Deadline for the **SEPTEMBER ISSUE** is August 15th*

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DIVINE SERVICES

JUNE 2023

Saturday	3	SATURDAY OF SOULS <i>Fr. John will visit the Locust Hill Cemetery to pray for our +Loved ones</i>
Sunday	4	HOLY PENTECOST
Monday	5	MONDAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
Sunday	11	SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS + BARTHOLOMEW THE HOLY APOSTLE <i>Fast of the Holy Apostles (17 days) 6/12 to 6/28</i>
Sunday	18	2nd Sunday of Matthew - <i>FATHER'S DAY</i>
Saturday	24	THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Sunday	25	3rd Sunday of Matthew
Thursday	29	STS. PETER AND PAUL (LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED)
Friday	30	SYNAXIS OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

JULY

Sunday	2	4TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
Sunday	9	5TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
Sunday	16	SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS;
Sunday	23	7TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
<i>Service TBD Tue</i>	25	DORMITION OF ST. ANNA, MOTHER OF THE THEOTOKOS
<i>Service TBD Wed.</i>	26	ST. PAASIKIVI / <i>Relics</i>
<i>Service TBD Thur.</i>	27	ST. PANTELEIMON THE GREAT MARTYR & HEALER / <i>Relics</i>
Sunday	30	8TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

AUGUST

Tue-Thu	1-3	PARAKLESIS SERVICE @6:30PM
Sunday	6	TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
Mon-Thu	7-10	PARAKLESIS SERVICE @6:30PM
Sunday	13	9TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
Tuesday	15	THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS
Sunday	20	11TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
Sunday	27	12TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
<i>Service TBD Tue</i>	29	BEHEADING ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (<i>Strict fast Day</i>)

(We have this saint's Relics at our Saint Andrew Reliquary) *
Sundays: Orthros @ 8:15AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:30AM
Weekdays: Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:15 AM

ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ

ΙΟΥΝΙΟΣ 2023

Σάββατο	3	ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ <i>π. Ιωάννης θα επισκεφτεί το Νεκροταφείο στο Ντόβερ μετά την Λειτουργία</i>
Κυριακή	4	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Η' ΤΗΣ ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ
Δευτέρα	5	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ
Κυριακή	11	Α' Ματθαίου τῶν Ἁγίων Πάντων ΒΑΡΘΟΛΟΜΑΙΟΣ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ; ΒΑΡΝΑΒΑΣ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ <i>Νηστεία των Αποστόλων 12/6 - 28/6</i>
Κυριακή	18	Β' Ματθαίου <i>ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΤΕΡΑ</i>
Σάββατο	24	ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΟῦ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ;
Κυριακή	25	Γ' Ματθαίου
Πέμπτη	29	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΙ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑῦΛΟΣ (Θα ανακοινωθεί)
Παρασκευή	30	ΣΥΝΑΕΙΣ ΤῶΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΔΩΔΕΚΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΩΝ

ΙΟΥΛΙΟΣ

Κυριακή	2	Δ' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ
Κυριακή	9	Ε' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ
Κυριακή	16	Κυριακή των Αγίων Πατέρων της Δ' Οικουμενικής Συνόδου;
Κυριακή	23	Ζ' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ
Θα ανακοινωθεί.	25	ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ἼΑΝΝΗΣ, ΜΗΤΡῶΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
Θα ανακοινωθεί.	26	ΑΓΙΑ ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ / Λείψανα
Θα ανακοινωθεί	27	ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ ΠΑΝΤΕΛΕΗΜΩΝ / Λείψανα
Κυριακή	30	Η' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ

ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΣ

Τρίτη-Πεμ	1-3	Ακολουθία Παράκλησις - <u>ώρα</u> 6:30μμ
Σάββατο	5	Εσπερινός <u>ώρα</u> 6:30μμ
Κυριακή	6	Η ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ ΥΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ
Δευτ-Πεμ	7-10	Ακολουθία Παράκλησις - <u>ώρα</u> 6:30μμ
Κυριακή	13	Γ' Ματθαίου
Τρίτη	15	ΚΟΙΜΗΣΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
Κυριακή	20	ΙΑ' Ματθαίου
Κυριακή	27	ΙΒ' Ματθαίου
Θα ανακοινωθεί Τρίτη	29	ΑΠΟΤΟΜΗ ΚΕΦΑΛΗΣ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΒΑΠΤΙΣΤΟΥ <i>(Αυστηρή Νηστεία)</i>

*(Έχουμε τα Λείψανα του Αγίου στην Λειψανοθήκη της εκκλησία μας)**
Την Κυριακή – Όρθρος - ώρα 8.15πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9:30πμ
Τις καθημερινές – Όρθρος ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9:15πμ

One Thing Is Needful

Rev Fr. John Theodosion

Over past few years I have had a growing concern about the state of our youth ministries here at St. Andrew. I have the impression that many of our parishioners feel that our church and the ministries of the church will always be available, and our children and families will always be able to access it whenever they have a need. I have to say, I'm not sure that this will always be true.



Sports, dance, cheerleading, music, and other activities are all good and wholesome activities. They build strength, both physically and mentally, they help to build character and work ethic. My own children over the years have participated in these activities and have benefited greatly from their involvement. As a parent I also have enjoyed seeing our children grow and learn through their involvement in sports and other activities. I have also enjoyed the fellowship I experienced with the other parents as we all hung out on the sidelines watching the games, viewing the game, exhibition, or performance. I want to emphasize that I believe that there is so much good that comes out of these types of extra-curricular activities.

For so many years as I conducted ministries in the church families came and supported whatever we did. They volunteered in various ways. They lead, they organized, they went to the store to buy things, they donated, and they of course participated. It seems that nowadays commitments are lacking. Parishioners are hesitant to commit and get involved. I am not sure why, but I think it is because they are committed or maybe even over committed elsewhere. Also, it

seems that being the one responsible for something is a very intimidating idea for some people. When asked to take a position of responsibility, the response is oftentimes, "I can help but don't ask me to be in charge." I believe that it is not a good thing for one person to be in charge of and responsible for an entire activity or event. I really believe that everyone should work together, and all

participating families should take responsibility for a part of the activity or event. Many hands make light work. Doing things this way avoids the people feeling worn out or burned out by being overburdened. Having said that, it is imperative that each of us does our part here at Saint Andrew to continue the beautiful programs and activities that have brought families to church and children closer to God.

Some people say that the children are the future of our church. I don't believe that this is true. I believe that the children are the present and the future of the church. Truthfully, if our children aren't present here now, they will not be here in the future. Their involvement in the life and faith of the church today is essential to the existence of the church for our grandchildren in the future.

Think about your relationship with the church. Is it a place you go because your parents always made you go? Is it a place you go because your children need exposure to the Greek Faith? Maybe it is a place where you go to pray? A place to go to seek salvation? Whatever your motivation for getting involved or not involved in the life of the church it is important to examine your motivation.

Examine your priorities and think about what is truly most important. One day we are going to be called to give an account of our life on earth at our Lord's Judgement seat. How will we answer? What will we hear? It is my hope and prayer that we will all hear "Well done good and faithful servant" (Luke 19:17).

I believe that nothing is more important than our relationship with God. The church is an essential part of the process to having relationship with Him. It is teachings, canons, sacraments, community, services, guidance, prayers, and more, all provide us with what we need to grow in our spiritual life and our relationship with God.

So, the church is not just another activity that we sign up for if it fits our schedule. Our Christian Faith is not something that we do only when it is convenient. Our Faith is something that should be a way of life for us. In fact, Christ said, "*Seek first the Kingdom of God and all its righteousness and*

all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33). Missing a game, performance or a practice is not as bad as missing out on the Kingdom of Heaven.

When Jesus was visiting Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Martha was working hard to prepare the food and take care of the guests in the house. She complained to the Lord that Mary was just sitting and listening to Him teach. Jesus said to her, "*Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her*" (Luke 10:41).

Let us not choose to be worried and troubled about the things of this world which are all only temporary, but rather let us choose the good part which cannot be taken away. Let us choose the Kingdom of God and then all the necessary important things will be added in their proper place.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Attached is the financial summary for the four months ending April 30, 2023. So far this year our expenses have exceeded our income by \$37,686. Even though our income has come in above budget and our expenses have been a bit below budget we are still in a tough position financially. In the prior few years we had PPP funds to make up shortfall and those items are not available going forward.

Our unrestricted cash, which is available for expenses is very low at \$52,199 and has deteriorated from the year end 2022 balance of \$89,885 which was also uncomfortably low. We normally like to have two months' expenses in unrestricted cash and are now short of that amount by just over \$90,000 and we may not have sufficient funds to meet unexpected repairs and expenses.

There are several other repair projects that we will need to tackle in the future such as paving our parking lot and repairing our outside lighting.

Although the festival is drawing near there is no guarantee as to what the income will be and we should be cautious to rely on events like this for making up shortfalls as there are many factors that could impact our bottom line.

Please keep these items in mind when you are considering your support for the community.

Thank you,
Thomas J. Borzeka, *Parish Council Treasurer*



St Andrew Financial Summary 2023

INCOME	Jan-Apr	Budget	\$ over Budget
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	177,752.50	160,680.00	17,072.50
EDUCATION/DANCE NET INCOME	6,290.08	-	6,290.08
SUMMER CAMP NET INCOME	-	-	-
FUNDRAISING EVENTS NET INCOME	6,403.48	16,500.00	(10,096.52)
OTHER INCOME	37,117.00	30,464.00	6,653.00
TOTAL INCOME	227,563.06	207,644.00	19,919.06

EXPENSE	Jan-Apr	Budget	\$ over Budget
STAFF EXPENSE	112,188.23	129,934.00	(17,745.77)
CAR EXPENSE	3,619.46	4,000.00	(380.54)
INSURANCE EXPENSE	23,839.83	23,772.00	67.83
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,602.04	3,280.00	(1,677.96)
EQUIPMENT	2,493.23	2,328.00	165.23
BANK CHARGES	1,178.97	1,514.00	(335.03)
MORTGAGE PAYMENT (Principal & Interest)	44,574.92	44,575.00	(0.08)
TELEPHONES/INTERNET EXPENSE	1,798.35	1,862.00	(63.65)
ADVERTISING	-	500.00	(500.00)
PERMITS	-	-	-
LITURGICAL	2,950.00	832.00	2,118.00
UTILITIES	21,845.90	25,228.00	(3,382.10)
SUPPLIES & PRINTING EXPENSE	3,605.91	9,755.00	(6,149.09)
BLDG & GROUNDS EXP.	13,365.30	21,636.00	(8,270.70)
POSTAGE & HANDLING	2,008.50	1,500.00	508.50
MINISTRY EXPENSE	27,608.90	26,761.00	847.90
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	494.30	2,232.00	(1,737.70)
CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS	2,075.00	2,000.00	75.00
TRANSPORTATION	-	-	-
MISC.	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	265,248.84	301,709.00	(36,460.16)
NET CASH RECD (SHORT)	\$ (37,685.78)	\$ (94,065.00)	\$ 56,379.22

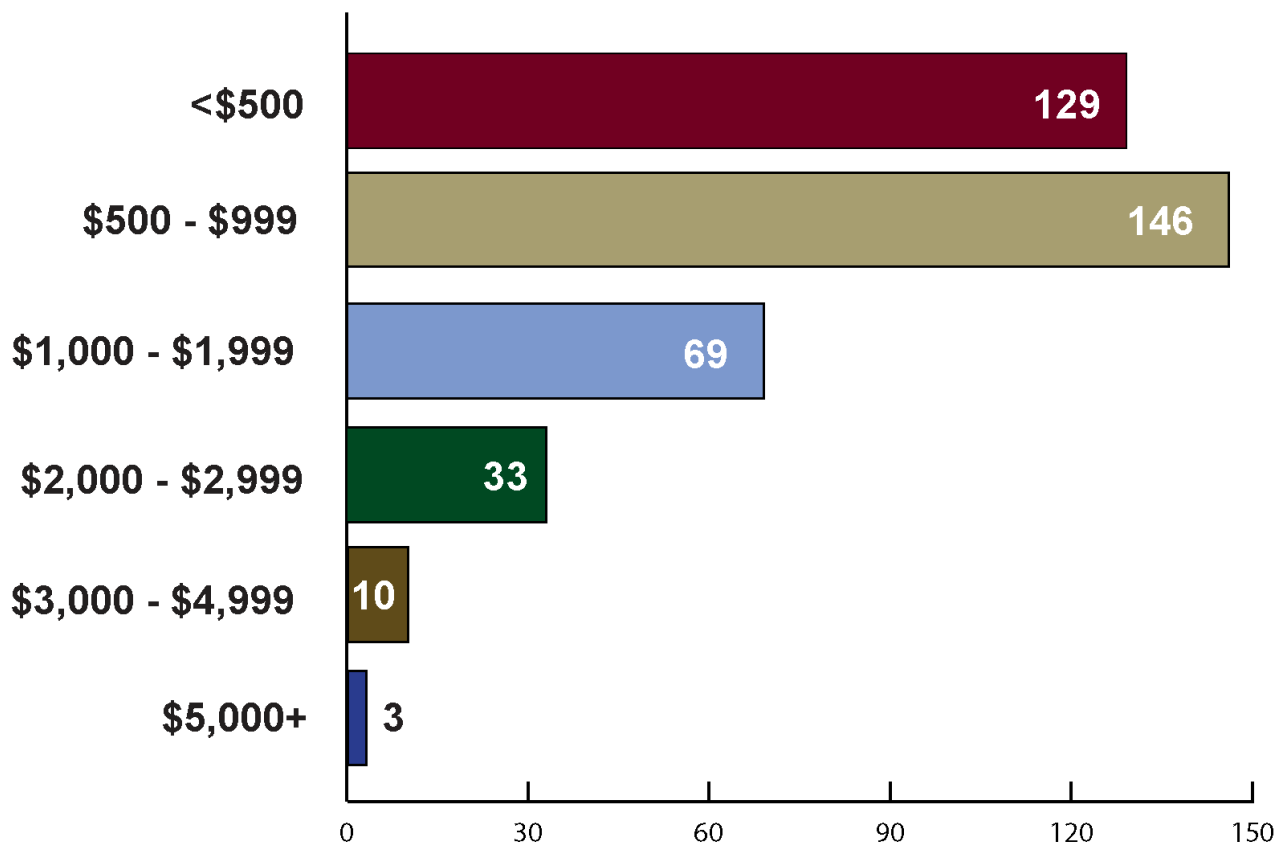
From Operations

Unrestricted Cash 12/31/22	89,885.11
Cash generated (used) this year	(37,685.78)
Cash Balance 4/30/23	52,199.33

You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World

The base from which we serve as the *Voice of Christ in a Changing World* is the parish. A strong parish provides opportunities for sharing the Good News of Christ, for welcoming those that are searching for a spiritual home, and a base from which we are sent out into the world. The parish also provides a place for worship, community and education in the faith. To be stewards of the Gospel, we need to be stewards of our parish. This requires the vision and inspiration to see the parish, not as it is, but as it could be. We are called to offer ourselves and our treasure to make our local church all that it can be.

Saint Andrew 2022 Stewardship Distribution



Where does your pledge fall? A pledge of \$2000 per family will allow the church to continue its ministries. Would you consider increasing your 2023 pledge?

BIG GREEK FESTIVAL.COM

June 9 – 10 – 11



Friday ♦ June 9 ♦ Lunch 11am – 2pm

Eat in or take out – pre-order at:
standrewgonj.square.site or 973.584.0388

Dinner 5pm – 11pm

Saturday ♦ June 10 ♦ 11am – 11pm

Sunday ♦ June 11 ♦ 12pm – 7pm



- Authentic Greek Food and Drink
- Greek Bakery – Homemade Pastries
- Outdoor Taverna Grill and Bar
- Live Greek Music, DJ, and Dancing
- Traditional Greek Folk Dancers
- Church Tours and Bookstore
- Kiddie Corner – Fun and Games
- Raffles and more

FREE ADMISSION

Free parking at County College of Morris with free round-trip shuttle service

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, 1447 Sussex Tpk., Randolph, NJ
Tel: 973 584-0388 • Fax: 973-584-3573 • info@standrewgonj.org

BigGreekFestival.com





Demetri Seretis, Evangelos Clapsis, Michael Aaron, Alexander Dorizas (not in picture)

Congratulations and best wishes to our 2023 graduates!

May God bless you and grace you with courage and determination to follow your dreams. We pray you each find your passion, as well as strive to make the world a better place for all!

Calling all families of recent High School Graduates
and current College Students!

As our students leave for college and embark on exciting new journeys, it is our hope that they remember the Saint Andrew community is always here for them, offering support and guidance along the way. This is why Saint Andrew's Stewardship Committee is collecting contact information for our college students, in order to help them stay connected during these transitional years. It is our hope that through our new College Outreach Initiative, students will maintain their sense of comfort and belonging to both the Saint Andrew community and our Greek Orthodox faith overall.

College decision day is a very exciting time in a student's life! Once plans are in place, please reach out to the church office with your child's contact information, including their college email and mailing address so they can be included in this exciting new outreach program.

Also, be sure to visit us at our Stewardship table at Saint Andrew's Big Greek festival to learn more about this initiative and share your contact information. If you have any questions, please contact Stewardship Committee member Jaime Andrews at jnja13@gmail.com.



Congratulations to our GOYA Soccer Teams!
Our Girls Team finished 4th place, and the Boys team upset a strong Holmdel team!
We are proud of our GOYAn's for the sportsmanship they showed throughout the tournament. Thank you Coach's Pavlos and George for your dedication to the soccer teams this year, and we are looking forward to another great tournament next season!

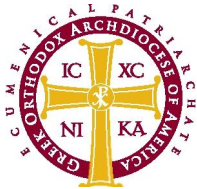


The next fun and exciting event for Goya is Olympics, which will be held at Monmouth University. There will be fellowship competition, a fun dance, and a sleepover bonding with friends in the Monmouth college dorms.

The senior send off will be June 13 where we will honor our seniors. Even though GOYA ends for the Senior 2023 class Father John will continue to pray for them and wish them well for their future endeavors whatever they may be.

As a senior Goyan, I consider myself lucky to be part of such an organization. I will truly miss all its wonderful events and I want to say a big thank you to all the advisers and chaperones who helped make it happen.

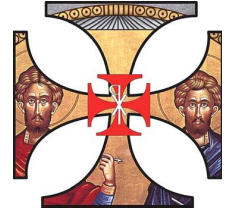
Written By: Michael Aaron



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

PHILOPTOCHOS



Dear Saint Andrew Community,

First, thank you to all who contributed either money, items and/or volunteer time to help make this year's Tricky Tray another success! The Tricky Tray, co-chairs Marina Venizelos and Melissa Dobias as well as the committee worked very hard to create a fun time for all as well ensuring that this a large portion of the funds raised would be donated to: The Parkinson's foundation, St. Michael's Home, and St. Peter's Orphanage (Denville).

PHILOPTOCHOS MISSION

To promote charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic outreach, to preserve the sanctity of life and family, and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.

The Executive Board

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Fr John Theodosion



Second, I would like to thank the Saint Andrew Executive Directors and Board Members for all the support they have given me and the membership over the last four years (two consecutive terms). Without their dedication to the ministries of Philoptochos and to this community, nothing would have been possible.

Lastly, by the time the June newsletter reaches your homes, the 2023 Elections would have been held in May. According to the National Philoptochos By-laws, I now assume the role of Advisor to the Board. Wishing the new Board of Directors and Executive Board good health, patience, and strength to continue the good work together as a Philoptochos with the Saint Andrew community.

In the service of the Lord,

Mary H. Michailidis

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

September 10th

AGI ASMOS in Church

Register by completing the

"FAMILY & YOUTH INFORMATION"

Form

Hellenic Afternoon School

Agiasmos in Church

September 7th

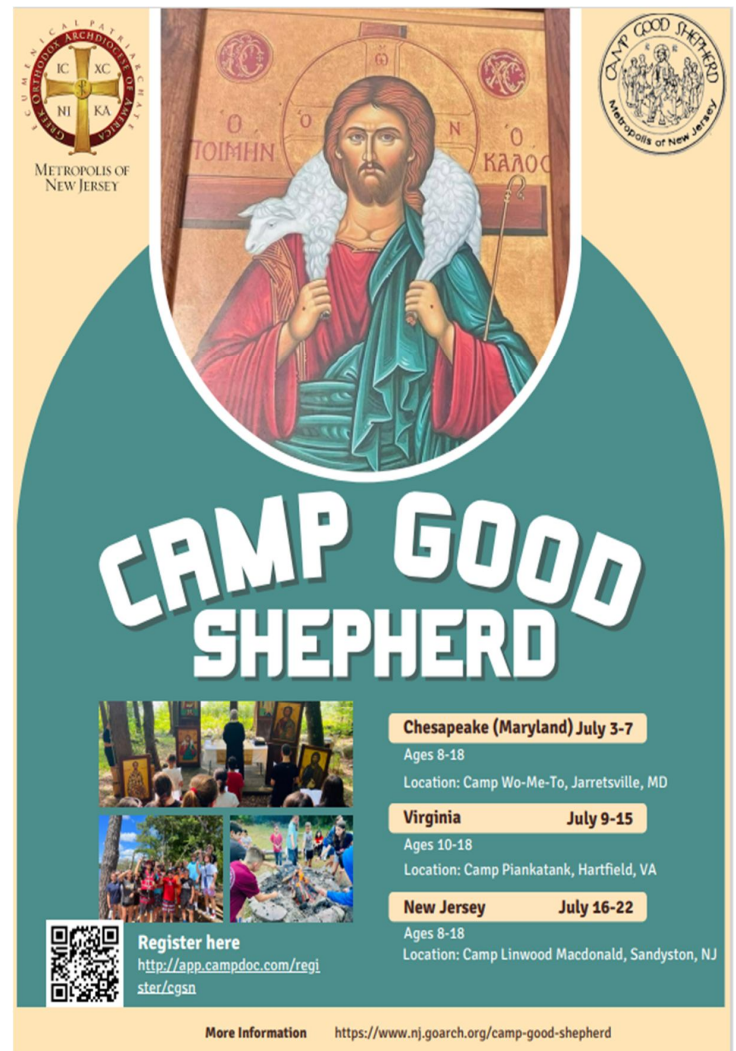
Thursday at 4:30 pm

Greek Dance Sept 14

GROUP 1 @ 6:30 PM

GRP 2 @ 7:15 PM

GOYA DANCE @ 8:00 PM



The poster for Camp Good Shepherd features a central religious icon of Christ the Good Shepherd. The icon is set within a circular frame and is surrounded by a decorative border. The text "CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD" is prominently displayed in large, bold, white letters with a black outline. Below the title, there are three sections listing camps in different locations: Chesapeake (Maryland) July 3-7, Virginia July 9-15, and New Jersey July 16-22. Each section includes the ages of the participants and the location. A QR code and a registration link are also provided. The poster is set against a dark green background with a light blue circular element behind the icon.

Chesapeake (Maryland) July 3-7
Ages 8-18
Location: Camp Wo-Me-To, Jarrettsville, MD

Virginia July 9-15
Ages 10-18
Location: Camp Piankatank, Hartfield, VA

New Jersey July 16-22
Ages 8-18
Location: Camp Linwood Macdonald, Sandyston, NJ

Register here
<http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn>

More Information <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd>

The **Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School** year program has ended, and as we reflect on all the students hard work and the wonderful support of our teachers and staff, we look forward and plan ahead on the new school year starting Thursday, September 7, 2023. To plan ahead for the upcoming new school year, we encourage parents to enroll their children at their earliest convenience for the teachers and staff to plan accordingly. Contact the Saint Andrew Office to receive an e-mail of the registration forms or stop by and fill them out in-person.

The new school year will bring students together and practicing the Greek language and learning the Greek culture, using various learning strategies with their teachers to support engagement. The students will find with this experience how to be more comfortable speaking in the Greek language with their peers during discussions while having fun.

We want to thank all our students for their hard work in learning the Greek language and culture in new ways and look forward to many more experiences when we return for the new school year. Our teachers and staff cannot wait to see you. We wish everyone a safe and fun summer!

We look forward to seeing you for the new school year 2023-2024!

Συγχαρητήρια στα παιδιά μας και καλό καλοκαίρι!



The Metropolis of New Jersey Holds Annual CLERGY LAITY ASSEMBLY AND PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION

Westfield, NJ – On Monday, May 15, 2023, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey held its annual Clergy Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Convention at “The Venetian” in Garfield, New Jersey. Over 180 Clergy and Lay delegates representing 52 Parishes from across the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey participated in this year’s Assembly.

The Clergy Laity Assembly began with the Opening Prayer Service offered by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, together with His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia and the V. Rev. Christoforos Oikonomidis, Chancellor of the Metropolis of New Jersey. Following the prayer, His Eminence recognized two of the senior Clergy of the Metropolis, the Rev. Protopresbyters Nicholas Bacalis and John Alexandrou, and on behalf of His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew bestowed on them the Office of the Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne.

Throughout the day, the delegates heard various reports and updates regarding the works and ministries of the Metropolis, an update on the new Archdiocesan Charter, as well as the financial

reports for the Archdiocese and the Metropolis. At the same time close to 100 dedicated Philoptochos representatives gathered for their Annual Assembly where they discussed their most important philanthropic ministries and held elections for the new Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos board.

Later that evening, the annual Clergy Laity and Philoptochos Grand Banquet was held with over 850 faithful from throughout the sacred Metropolis of New Jersey in attendance. During the course of the banquet, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America recognized numerous dedicated Orthodox Christians from the parishes of the Northern New Jersey Region for their selfless contributions and service to their respective communities. This year the parish honorees were selected from the following eight categories: Community Honoree, Philoptochos Honoree, Most Senior Steward, Greek Education Honoree, Parish Council Honoree, Psalti/Choir Honoree, Youth Worker Honoree and Youth Honoree.

METROPOLIS CLERGY LAITY ASSEMBLY & PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION BANQUET



On Monday May 15th at 6pm the Annual METROPOLIS CLERGY LAITY ASSEMBLY & PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION BANQUET was held at the Venetian in Garfield NJ. Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox church honored only a few of the many hard working and dedicated parishioners of our community. The Community Honoree is **Ioannis (John) Zois**, Parish Council Honoree is **George Papanikolaw**, Philoptochos Honoree is **Irene Laoudis**, GOYA Honoree is **Despina Sedereas**, Greek Education Teacher Honoree is **Anastasia (Stacey) Papanikolaw**, Psalti Honoree is **Panagiotis Fotinis**, Youth Worker Honoree is **Polymnia Crysler**, and Oldest Person being honored is **James Lioudis**. We would like to thank them all for their services and contributions to the success of our ministries. Please join us on **Sunday June 4th** after church services when we will represent their plaques to our honorees.

JOHN IOANNIS ZOIS PARISH HONOREE 2023

John was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia. Growing up he spent his time living between Greece and Australia before his family moved to Astoria, New York. For the past 30 years, along with his brothers, he has been one of the managing partners of Ariston Flowers in NYC.

John has been a proud member of Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox parish for the past 25 years. John has supported our church in many ways. The beautiful flowers that we all receive during the holidays are from his business Ariston Flowers and Cafe located on 78 5th Avenue in New York City, NY 10011". John, along with his brothers and uncles are always ready to assist whenever the need or request arises.

He currently lives in Morris Plains with his wife, Maggie, who is an Elementary School teacher. Together they have three children Eleni, Lia and Vasili. When

John is not working, he enjoys spending time with his family at home or traveling. John has been blessed with a great family and friends who are all very proud of his accomplishments in life and in the church.





JAMES LIODIS OLDEST PERSON HONOREE 2023

James Lioudis was born in Chios, Greece in 1926 and immigrated to the United States in 1952. When he first came to the United States, he lived in Newark, where he started his life in the United States. In 1957 James married his wife Viola, of over 60 years and the wedding was officiated by his long-time friend Fr. Condoleon from St. Demetrios Church in Newark.

When James came from Greece, he started a career as a painting contractor serving mostly Union County. He and Viola raised their three children Michael, Sophia and George in Berkeley Heights and Basking Ridge, and during that time, helped to raise the building funds to start the construction of Holy Trinity Greek Church in Westfield, where he remains a lifetime member.

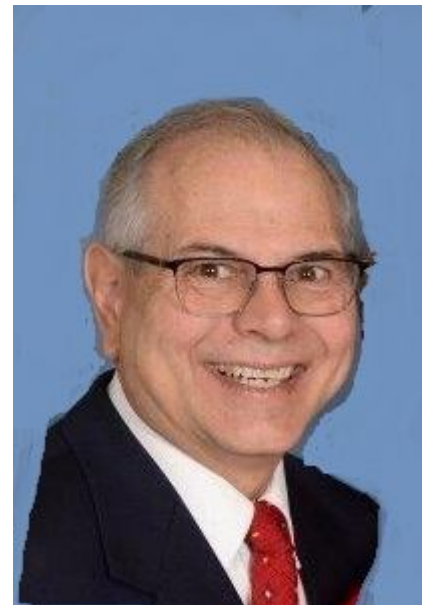
In 1988 James and Viola moved to Chester then Mendham where he currently resides and joined St. Andrew’s Church where he has been a member ever since. Until recently, you could always count on seeing James and Viola in church every Sunday. James celebrated his 97th birthday this year.

GEORGE E. PAPANIKOLAW PARISH COUNCIL HONOREE 2023

George E. Papanikolaw and his wife Anastasia (Stacey) have been members of the St. Andrew community since 1983. The church has always been an important part of his family’s life, and George considers it a blessing to be able to volunteer his time to the church. George and Stacey have two daughters, Chrysanthi (Christie) and Vasiliki (Valerie), and to beautiful grandsons Nicholas and George.

George has been actively involved in helping our St. Andrew community flourish and grow over the past 40 years. He has contributed his time to many festivals and fundraising events for the benefit of our community and has served our Parish on the following committees:

- ❖ Parish Council for 28 years and 3 years as Vice President
- ❖ The Greek School Education for 10 years and 5 years as Chairperson
- ❖ GOYA Advisor for seven years
- ❖ The Church Festival
- ❖ The Chairman of the Parish Oratorical Festival
- ❖ Buildings and Grounds
- ❖ Parking Lot Fund Raising
- ❖ Assistance during Holy Week, major Church Holidays, and Sunday Services



Before his retirement, George spent 42 years working in IT as a Systems Analyst, Project Manager, and a Program Manager. With gratitude to God for His many blessing, George prays that he will continue to serve the community of St. Andrew with love and dedication.

DESPINA SEDEREAS GOYA HONOREE 2023

Despina Sedereas is a fourth-generation member of St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church! From an early age, Despina's family instilled in her the values and importance of the Greek Orthodox Faith, and she has tried to live her life in this manner.

At St. Andrew she has been a very active member, attending Sunday School and graduating from St. Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School, knowing that thru active participation in Church services will bring her spiritually closer to God.

Currently she serves as GOYA President and takes her leadership role very seriously. Her goal coming into this GOYA year has been to boost membership at all GOYA functions that Randolph attends and bring her peers closer together.

As GOYA President she has led such endeavors as the Faith Soup Kitchen, Christmas Caroling, Bridges, and other ministry-based events. Despina was the captain of the GOYA Volleyball team, plays on the GOYA Soccer team and won multiple medals in the 100- and 400-meter races and the 4 x100 relay at the GOYA Olympics. She has also participated in Sights and Sounds. Despina was also Runner-Up at the Miss GOYA Pageant this year.

Scholastically, she will be Graduating from Jefferson High School next June, where she is her class President and has been inducted into the National Honor Society, as well as the National English, Spanish and History Societies. She also is a member of Student Council, SADD, a Blogger for the Student Newspaper, Prom and Yearbook Committees and the Future Business Leaders of America, where she finished 2nd in the Regional Competition. She competes on the Varsity Volleyball and Track Teams, and has been honored on the All-Conference Volleyball team. Despina's family: Peter, Diana, Evgenia and Constantine are tremendously proud of her accomplishments and wish her nothing but continued success as she continues her spiritual and scholastic journey.



ANASTASIA (STACEY) PAPANIKOLAW GREEK EDUCATION TEACHER HONOREE 2023



Anastasia (Stacey) Papanikolaw is a native of Piraeus, Greece, and has been an active member of the St. Andrew community since 1983. Stacey and her husband George raised their two daughters Chrysanthi and Vasiliki in our community. Their oldest daughter Chrysanthi (Christie) is currently teaching high school literature in Bernards Township and completed her graduate work in school counseling. Her youngest daughter Vasiliki (Valerie) graduated from Quinnipiac University with a doctorate degree in Physical Therapy. Stacey is also blessed with two wonderful grandsons, Nicholas and George.

Before coming to the St. Andrew community, Stacey lived in Westchester, New York, where she worked in the Medical Records Department at St. John's Riverside Hospital. While residing in Westchester, Stacey taught Sunday School at the Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox church and was a member of the parish choir.

Since her arrival at St. Andrew, Stacey have been teaching with the Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS) for 30 years and was also a Sunday School teacher. Prior to St. Andrew's HAS, Stacey enjoyed teaching Greek language

classes at a language school where her students ranged from the kindergarten to adult levels. Teaching the Greek language has been such a rewarding experience for her! She loves sharing our faith and culture with so many eager students and feels blessed to have the opportunity to pass down her love for our Hellenic heritage. Stacey will continue to strive in making our school a place where students can learn the Greek language in an environment that fosters education, enthusiasm, and lifelong friendships with the other students in their classes. Stacey thanks God for His blessings and prays that by the Grace of God, she will continue to serve the community of St. Andrew with love and dedication.



PANAGIOTIS (TAKIS) FOTINIS PSALTIS HONOREE 2023

Panagiotis (Takis) Fotinis was born in Rhodes, Greece where he completed his primary and secondary education. After serving in the Greek army, and motivated by his uncle, he came to the United States to study Computer Science. He started by learning English at Rutgers University in Newark, and completed his studies at New Jersey Institute of Technology with a bachelors and masters in Electrical Engineering. During his college years, he worked at a number of restaurants and diners to pay for his school and other expenses. After graduating, he had the opportunity to work for a number of small and large scale corporations as a computer scientist and electrical engineer. He joined Saint Andrew church in 1989 where he met Vassiliki Tsigas whom he married in 1990. God blessed them with two beautiful children Spyridoula and Emmanuel. Panagiotis was inspired by our church music and started learning Byzantine chant. He was initially taught by Saint Andrew main chanter Christos Neroutos, and continued with other instructors and choirs in the Northeast. His passion for Byzantine chant as well as traditional folk music brought him to a number of concerts and conferences throughout the United States and Europe. He eventually became the chanter at Saints Nicholas, Constantine and Helen, in Orange, Saint Demetrios in Union, and Saint Andrew. He holds the belief that Byzantine music serves as a valuable tool for chanters and choir members, enabling them to fulfill the sacred responsibility of guiding the congregation in prayer during worship.

POLYMNIA CRYSLER YOUTH WORKER HONOREE 2023

Polymnia Crysler was born in North Bergen and was baptized in Ascension Greek Orthodox Church in Fairview. She later moved to Dumont and attended The Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John The Theologian for most of her youth and young adulthood. She joined the community of St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in the early 2000s and has felt at home there since.

Polymnia is married to Greg Crysler and has two sons, Anthony and Jonathan. Greg is a graphic designer and is lending his talents in St. Andrew through various ministries. Anthony is a sophomore attending Seton Hall University pursuing a Political Science Degree with the hopes of attending law school after. Jonathan is a junior at Morristown High



School. He is the vice president of GOYA and an altar boy. The Cryslers attend church as a family regularly as our faith is an important part of our lives.

Polymnia was a graduate of Trenton State College with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. After starting her teaching career, she became a fifth grade teacher in Rockaway Township. In addition to teaching fifth grade, she is a curriculum writer, professional development facilitator, Instructional Council representative, RTEA representative, and has led *Parent Nights* in her school. She has also been Teacher Leader for the past five years. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Contemporary Instructional Design through Ramapo College.

Besides teaching and being a parent, Polymnia often volunteers in the community. When her children were younger, she was involved in their Cub Scout pack as a treasurer. She later served on Morristown High School's Maroon and White Music Boosters board for three years as secretary and marching band liaison. While both of these were time consuming, being involved with her children made them well worth it for her.

In 2006, Polymnia began teaching fourth grade Sunday School with Claire Moshen. She loved working with Claire and helping the Youth of St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church learn about God and their faith. In 2011, Polymnia took on the role of co-director of Religious Education with Vickie Geannakakes. She enjoyed her time as co-director and instituted many activities within Sunday School. These included Youth Sundays (where the children took an active role in the Liturgy) and Youth Readers (where older students read Bible stories to younger students). During this time, she also played a role on the JOY board as well as the PTA board, helping to organize events like the Mardi Gras.

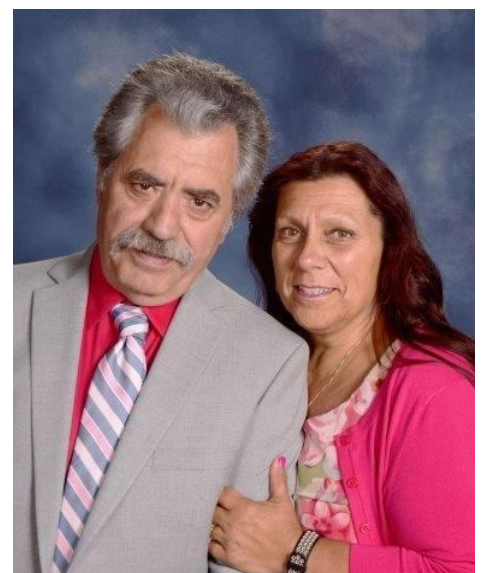
In 2016 Polymnia ended her tenure with Religious Education and began her new role in 2017 as a GOYA advisor. She has enjoyed working with the past advisors and the current advisors. As a former GOYAn herself, helping the children work together to build their bond in the St. Andrew community has brought her great contentment. Whether it is organizing Sights and Sounds, chaperoning the Olympics, or attending various retreats, Polymnia will always be there helping the children of the church. Polymnia feels very blessed to be a member of Saint Andrew.

Irene Laoudis Philoptochos Honoree 2023 & Mother of the Year

Irene (Moniodes) Laoudis was born outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She grew up in Connecticut before moving to Mt. Arlington when she was 12. Her Greek roots come from Chios and Karpathos. In 1980 she became a member of St. Andrew when Father Tsigas officiated her marriage to the love of her life Ioannis Laoudis. She is the proud mother of twin boys Georgios and Dimitri and daughter Alyxsondra. For nearly 20 years she worked side by side with her husband in their luncheonette Netcong Sweet Shop.

Despite some tragic occurrences in her family's life, she has never lost her faith or positive spirit. Her smile is always with her no matter what task she faces. Christ is always in her heart. Irene is an active Philoptochos member, co-chairs the rummage sale, enthusiastic member of Tricky Tray committee. She is always ready to volunteer to help at church functions such as Faith Kitchen and Festival.

Her greatest joy is her four grandchildren, Alexandros, Jonathan, Sophia and Christian.



Homily on the Great Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

We are gathered here today in the presence of the Lord and His Saints to “keep the Feast” of the „falling asleep,” or, Dormition, of Mary the Theotokos, or, „Birth-Giver” of God. Mary is acclaimed in the Church as „more honorable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim.” And yet, this vessel of God, chosen to carry in her womb the uncontainable God, in the holy mystery of the Incarnation, who is also accorded „hyper-dulia,” (that is, the greatest honor and veneration) by the Church, also needed her Son and God as her Savior. He saves her in this extraordinary way and in a manner fitting for the one who is, in the hymnody of the Church also acclaimed as, „higher than the heavens” for she bore our Creator.

In Psalm 115 (LXX), King and Prophet David reminds us that „precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints.” Likewise, Solomon writes in Proverbs that „the memory of the just is praised” (Prov. 10:7). God has created us „a little lower than the angels,” writes St. David in Psalm 8:5, but calls him to glory and the adoption of sonship through the regeneration of new birth by „water and the spirit”. If this is the value that God has bestowed on His human creation, the same God who created man to be in loving communion with Him, who became incarnate to enter into our human nature and renew it, who wept at the tomb of His friend Lazarus, and willingly and for our salvation offered Himself up for the life of the world and our salvation by defeating sin and death on the cross by virtue of His own vivifying resurrection, then how much more precious is the death of His Mother who carried the God of the universe in her womb?

Yes, Mary, like all of the race of Adam, was created „a little lower than the angels” and yet, through her miraculous virginal birth-giving and holy Dormition and subsequent ascension, is raised to a place higher and more honorable than the cherubim and so much more glorious than the cherubim. These angels who specifically are charged to worship at the throne of God, now behold her as the Mother and Queen of Heaven.



As the Mother of the „New Adam,” another name for Christ—the one who renewed and restored the fallen race of Adam with His new and perfect life, which He freely gives to all who put Him on in holy baptism, we are assured in the hymnody of the Feast of her falling asleep that Adam and Eve rejoiced to see this day when a new Eve of their own lineage would be raised to heaven where together they glorify the One who undid the ancient curse caused by their first sin.

Through her yes to God in being willing to carry and then bear her Creator and Savior, the Theotokos has become of the first fruit of the resurrection of her Son and our God, who now, by virtue of His own resurrection and His power over sin and death, raises His own dear Mother from the grave that was the rotten fruit of Adam and Eve’s first disobedience. This is the joy God gives us in this Feast: the spiritual exclamation mark on His already life-changing resurrection is once more brought to the fore as His own dear Mother is redeemed: her body along with her soul are set in heaven beside His holy throne.

For this reason, the Dormition is sometimes referred to in Church Tradition as „the summer Pascha.”

Certainly, the fruit of Christ's salvific death and resurrection and a foretaste of the final eschaton (end and new beginning) are seen here in that His blessed Mother, the Church's Mother, is able even now to experience the promise of the Second Coming of Christ, when our own bodies will be raised to stand before His dread Judgment Seat.

The falling asleep of the Mother of God is recorded in Apostolic times from the beginning. "Already in the first century, the Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite wrote about Her "Falling-Asleep." In the second century, the account of the bodily ascent of the Most Holy Virgin Mary to Heaven is found in the works of Meliton, Bishop of Sardis. In the fourth century, Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus refers to the tradition about the "Falling Asleep" of the Mother of God" (OCA.org) You will recall that at the time of her falling asleep in the Lord, Mary was again in Jerusalem, praying before the holy sepulchur and place of Christ's holy resurrection. The Archangel Gabriel came to her to tell her that the time of her departure to heaven was fast approaching and gave her a palm branch as a pledge. Mary prayed that the Apostle John, to whom Christ had entrusted His dear Mother as He was dying on the cross, would be brought to her. The Holy Spirit not only miraculously transported John, but all the Apostles, St. Paul and his disciple, Dionysios the Aropogite, Timothy, and others of the Seventy. Too many to count, St. John of Damascus likenes them to clouds and eagles. Holy Tradition relates that she called each by name and wished them eternal bliss.

At the Ninth Hour, as those gathered by the Holy Spirit sang songs of praise, glorifying God, a bright lights came into the midst of them. „Descending from Heaven was Christ, the King of Glory, surrounded by hosts of Angels and Archangels and other Heavenly Powers, together with the souls of the Forefathers and the Prophets, who had prophesied in ages past concerning the Most Holy Virgin Mary."

Seeing Her Son, the Mother of God exclaimed: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God My Savior, for He hath regarded the low estate of His Handmaiden" (Luke 1:46-48) and,

rising from Her bed to meet the Lord, She bowed down to Him, and the Lord bid Her enter into Life Eternal. Without any bodily suffering, as though in a happy sleep, the Most Holy Virgin Mary gave Her soul into the hands of Her Son and God." (OCA.org) Then began a joyous angelic song. Accompanying the pure soul of the God-betrothed and with reverent awe for the Queen of Heaven, the angels exclaimed: "Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee, blessed art Thou among women! For lo, the Queen, God's Maiden comes, lift up the gates, and with the Ever-Existing One, take up the Mother of Light; for through Her salvation has come to all the human race. It is impossible to gaze upon Her, and it is impossible to render Her due honor" (Stikherion on "Lord, I Have Cried").

The heavenly voices joined the earthly voices as all gave praise to God for the life of Mary the Theotokos. All the faithful kept vigil for three days after she was buried, singing, praying, and glorifying God. St. Thomas arrived only then. In tears he beseeched the other Apostles to allow him to gaze once more on the Most Holy Theotokos. It was then, in compassion for St. Thomas, that they brought her body back out from the grave that the miracle was made known: Christ God has taken His Mother bodily to heaven. Her belt and robe were left behind as relics of veneration which are still with us to this day.

St. Gregory Palamas says of this holy mystery revealed, "Earth, the grave and death could not ultimately detain her life-giving body, which has held God and been a more beloved habitation for Him than heaven..." King and Prophet David, her forebear, prophesied concerning her, "Upon the right hand did stand the Queen (Ps. 44:9). She is one closest to God. Her Son is always ready to hear her entreaties as He was when we walked the earth. For her part, the Theotokos is always eager to enjoin our prayers for growth in faith and union with Christ. She is the exception where we can honestly say that she is like her Son and not the other way around. And, like her Son, in whose image she was also made and whose likeness she attained, she, like her Son, cares for the healing of our souls and our salvation.

This day, of all days, I challenge you to think of one thing you need to receive from Christ God to advance in faith and love—the gift of one virtue, one discipline, the healing of one vice or unhealthy way of being, Know this:

Our Mother, Mary, the Theotokos, stands ready to intercede for us this day when Christ, her Son and our God, is so quick to hear His holy Mother. Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him forever!

Fr. Robert Miclean | Holy Archangels Orthodox Church | 15 August 2017—Holy Dormition
Epistle: Phil. 2:5-11 Gospel: Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

Η Κοίμηση της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου | 15 Αυγούστου

Αρχιμ. Γεώργιος Καψάνης | Μεγάλες γιορτές, Παναγία

Έχουμε όλοι χαρά, διότι σήμερα είναι η πραγματική εορτή της μητέρας. Διότι μόνον η Κυρία Θεοτόκος είναι η όντως μητέρα μας, επειδή μας μεταδίδει την όντως Ζωή μας, που είναι ο Χριστός μας. Και σήμερα θα έπρεπε όλες οι μητέρες να εορτάζουν την εορτή της μητέρας Ορθοδόξως, διότι κάθε μητέρα καταξιώνεται ως μητέρα μόνον εάν αποβλέπει και εάν παίρνει την ευλογία και την χάρη της Μητέρας του Θεού, της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου.

Αλλά ο κόσμος με το κοσμικό πνεύμα, με την εκκοσμίκευση, η οποία προχωρεί και διαβρώνει την ψυχή και την καρδιά και το φρόνημα του λαού μας, έχει αρχίσει να αντικαθιστά και να υποκαθιστά μάλλον τεχνηέντως τις εορτές της Ορθοδοξίας με εορτές κοσμικές, όπως είναι η εορτή της μητέρας, η εορτή του παιδιού και άλλες παρόμοιες, όπως τα γενέθλια, που εορτάζουν οι άνθρωποι, ενώ πρέπει να εορτάζουμε τις μνήμες των Αγίων, των οποίων φέρουμε τα ονόματα. Και όλα αυτά είναι μία προσπάθεια να αλλοιωθεί το Θεανθρωποκεντρικό φρόνημα του λαού μας, και ο λαός μας να γίνει ανθρωποκεντρικός και να μην έχει τον Χριστό ως κέντρο της ζωής του. Να μη ζει ζωή εκκλησιαστική, αλλά να ζει μία ζωή μακριά από την Εκκλησία και από τον Θεάνθρωπο Χριστό μας.

Σήμερα λοιπόν είναι η εορτή της μητέρας, της μητέρας μας. Και γι' αυτό έχουμε χαρά. Ότι γίνεται στην Παναγία μας γίνεται για όλους μας και γι' αυτό η χαρά είναι όλων μας. Η Παναγία έκανε υπακοή στον Θεό. Τέλεια υπακοή. Η Εύα η Προμήτωρ έκανε ανυπακοή και στέρησε το ανθρώπινο γένος από την ευλογία της κοινωνίας με τον Θεό, της ενώσεως με τον Θεό, της μακαρίας ζωής του Παραδείσου. Η Παναγία μας διόρθωσε το λάθος της Εύας και έκανε

τέλεια υπακοή στον Θεό. Και όταν έκανε τέλεια υπακοή στον Θεό και αγάπησε τον Θεό ολοκληρωτικά και δόθηκε στον Θεό ολοκληρωτικά, δεν μπορούσε παρά να γίνει αυτό το μέγα Μυστήριο που έγινε σ' Αυτήν. Μία απλή και ταπεινή γυναίκα τού ισραηλιτικού λαού, μία χωριατοπούλα, μία αγράμματη δηλαδή, δεν μπορούσε παρά να ελκύσει τον Θεό και ο Θεός να σκηνώσει σ' Αυτήν και να γίνει η «Χώρα του Αχωρήτου».

Έτσι μας έδειξε η Παναγία μας την οδό της υπακοής στον Θεό και για λογαριασμό όλων μας έκανε εκείνο που δεν έκανε ο Αδάμ και η Εύα· πρόσφερε στον Θεό την ελευθερία της. Γιατί ο Θεός θέλει να είναι ενωμένος με τον άνθρωπο, θέλει να κατοικεί μέσα στον άνθρωπο. Αλλά δεν μπορεί ο Θεός να κατοικεί μέσα στον άνθρωπο, εάν ο άνθρωπος δεν προσφερθεί ολοκληρωτικά στον Θεό, εάν δεν του προσφέρει την ελευθερία του, το θέλημά του, την ύπαρξή του όλη. Η Παναγία μας προσφέρθηκε. Είπε το “ναι” στον Θεό.

Ήθελε ο Θεός να έλθει στην γη, γιατί αγαπούσε τον άνθρωπο, αλλά περίμενε να βρεθεί ένα πλάσμα που θα απαντούσε στο ερώτημα που έθετε ο Ουρανός: «Θέλετε να έλθω στην γη; Θέλετε να γίνω άνθρωπος;» Περίμενε ο Θεός να βρεθεί ένας άνθρωπος που θα έλεγε το “ναι” στον Θεό με όλη του την ύπαρξη, με όλη του την καρδιά, ολοκληρωτικά. Και αυτός ο άνθρωπος που είπε το “ναι” στον Θεό ήταν η Παναγία μας. «Ιδού η δούλη Κυρίου· γένοιτό μοι κατά το ρήμα σου» (Λουκ. α' 38). Και όταν είπε αυτό το “ναι”, ήλθε ο Θεός στην γη, ήλθε στην κοιλία της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου, σαρκώθηκε και έγινε άνθρωπος.

Και εμείς σήμερα, επειδή η Παναγία μας πρόσφερε στον Θεό την ελευθερία της, είπε το “ναι”, έχουμε Σωτήρα και Λυτρωτή, το δεύτερο Πρόσωπο της Αγίας Τριάδος, τον Δεσπότη Χριστό, ο οποίος μας ανέστησε από τον τάφο της αμαρτίας, από τον Άδη, από τον αιώνιο θάνατο, και μας χάρισε την αιώνια ζωή. Και σήμερα δεν είμαστε οι απελπισμένοι μελλοθάνατοι, όπως θα ήμασταν προ Χριστού, οι υπόδουλοι του διαβόλου και του θανάτου, οι χωρίς ελπίδα υπόδουλοι, αλλά είμαστε τα φωτόμορφα τέκνα της Εκκλησίας, οι υιοί της Αναστάσεως, τα τέκνα του Θεού τα αγαπημένα, οι κληρονόμοι της αιώνιας ζωής και μακαριότητας. Όλα αυτά τα αγαθά δια της Κυρίας Θεοτόκου, της μητέρας μας ήλθαν στον κόσμο.

Γι’ αυτό σήμερα την ευγνωμονούμε, την ευχαριστούμε. Σήμερα και πάντοτε την προσκυνούμε, την δοξάζουμε. «Εξαιρέτως της Παναγίας αχράντου, υπερευλογημένης, ενδόξου Δεσποίνης ημών Θεοτόκου και αειπαρθένου Μαρίας». Γι’ αυτό και ο λαός μας ο Ορθόδοξος, ο πιστός, έχει τόσο μεγάλη ευλάβεια στην Υπεραγία Θεοτόκο. Διότι γνωρίζει ότι χωρίς Αυτήν δεν θα είχαμε τον Χριστό. Διότι γνωρίζει ότι Αυτή μας αντιπροσωπεύει. Αντιπροσωπεύει το ανθρώπινο γένος ενώπιον του θρόνου της θείας Μεγαλοσύνης.

Όπως όλα τα της Θεοτόκου μυστήρια ήσαν μυστήρια αγάπης τελείας, προσφοράς τελείας, υπακοής τελείας, ελευθερίας τελείας, προσφοράς της ελευθερίας της προς τον Θεό, έτσι και η μακαρία και σεπτή της Κοίμηση, «τελευταίον ούσα επ’ Αυτή μυστήριον», που λέγει και το τροπάριο (α’ τροπ. Λιτής). Ήταν και αυτή το τελευταίο μεν επίγειο μυστήριο της Παναγίας, όμως και αυτό μυστήριο αγάπης, ελευθερίας και υπακοής.

Όπως προσφέρθηκε ως τριετές νήπιο –οι γονείς της την πρόσφεραν στον Ναό του Σολομώντος, για να υπηρετεί στα Άγια των Αγίων– και προσφέρθηκε με όλη της την καρδιά και την θέληση, όπως όταν προσφέρθηκε κατά την ημέρα του Ευαγγελισμού στο μήνυμα το αρχαγγελικό ότι θα γίνει η Μητέρα του Δεσπότη Χριστού, έτσι και τώρα που ήλθε η

ώρα και Αυτή, ως άνθρωπος θνητός που ήταν, να φύγει εκ του κόσμου τούτου, πάλι προσφέρθηκε στον Θεό με εμπιστοσύνη.

Πρόσφερε με εμπιστοσύνη την μακαρία ψυχή της στον Δεσπότη Χριστό, ο οποίος ήλθε να την παραλάβει, αλλά πρόσφερε με εμπιστοσύνη και το σώμα της, το πανάχραντο και πανακήρατο, εκείνο το τρισένδοξο σώμα, το οποίο έδωσε Σώμα στον Υιό του Θεού, εκείνη την σάρκα, η οποία εσάρκωσε τον Θεό. Το πρόσφερε και αυτό με εμπιστοσύνη στον Θεό, για να μπει μέσα στην γη, χωρίς να φοβάται το σκοτεινό μυστήριο του θανάτου, χωρίς να φοβάται το χώμα που θα την κάλυπτε, διότι είχε μεγάλη εμπιστοσύνη στην αγάπη του Θεού.

Και όταν κανείς έτσι προσφέρεται στον Θεό, με τέλεια εμπιστοσύνη, και ο Θεός δεν αφήνει το πλάσμα του να χαθεί, αλλά προσφέρει και ο Θεός το παν στον άνθρωπο. Γι’ αυτό την μεν ψυχή της Κυρίας Θεοτόκου, την φωτεινή και ολόφωτη, παρέλαβε ο Υιός της ο μονογενής, ο Κύριός μας, το δε σώμα της, αυτό το μακάριο και σεπτό και πανάχραντο σώμα –το οποίο δεν ήταν δυνατόν, αφού έτσι προσφέρθηκε στον Θεό με τέλεια ελευθερία και υπακοή και αγάπη, να γίνει βορά των σκωλήκων– Χάριτι του Παναγίου Πνεύματος και αποφάσει και επινεύσει της Παναγίας Τριάδος την τρίτη ημέρα ανεστήθη και μετέστη στους Ουρανούς και βρίσκεται δοξασμένο μαζί με την μακαρία ψυχή της και λυτρωμένο στους αιώνες.

Και έτσι η Κυρία Θεοτόκος «προϊσταται», όπως λένουν οι Θεολόγοι της Εκκλησίας μας, «των σεσωσμένων». Είναι η προϊσταμένη της Εκκλησίας όλης. Όπως η Μαριάμ, η αδελφή του Μωϋσέως, προεξήρχε του χορού των λυτρωθέντων από τους Αιγυπτίους και εν τυμπάνω και χορώ εδόξαζε τον Θεό μετά την έξοδο εκ της Ερυθράς θαλάσσης, έτσι και τώρα η Κυρία Θεοτόκος, η αληθής Μαριάμ του ανθρωπίνου γένους, προϊσταται του χορού των σεσωσμένων και λελυτρωμένων και ψάλλει ωδή καινή ενώπιον του θρόνου του Αρνίου στους αιώνες. (1981)

[Μεγάλες γιορτές - Κοινωνία Ορθοδοξίας \(koinoniaorthodoxias.org\)](http://koinoniaorthodoxias.org)

Από το βιβλίο: Αρχιμανδρίτου Γεωργίου, Ομιλίες σε ακίνητες Δεσποτικές και Θεομητορικές Εορτές.
Έκδ. Ι.Μ. Οσίου Γρηγορίου, Άγιον Όρος 2015, σελ. 189.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

ALEXANDER #250

JUNE 2023 MONTHLY NEWS

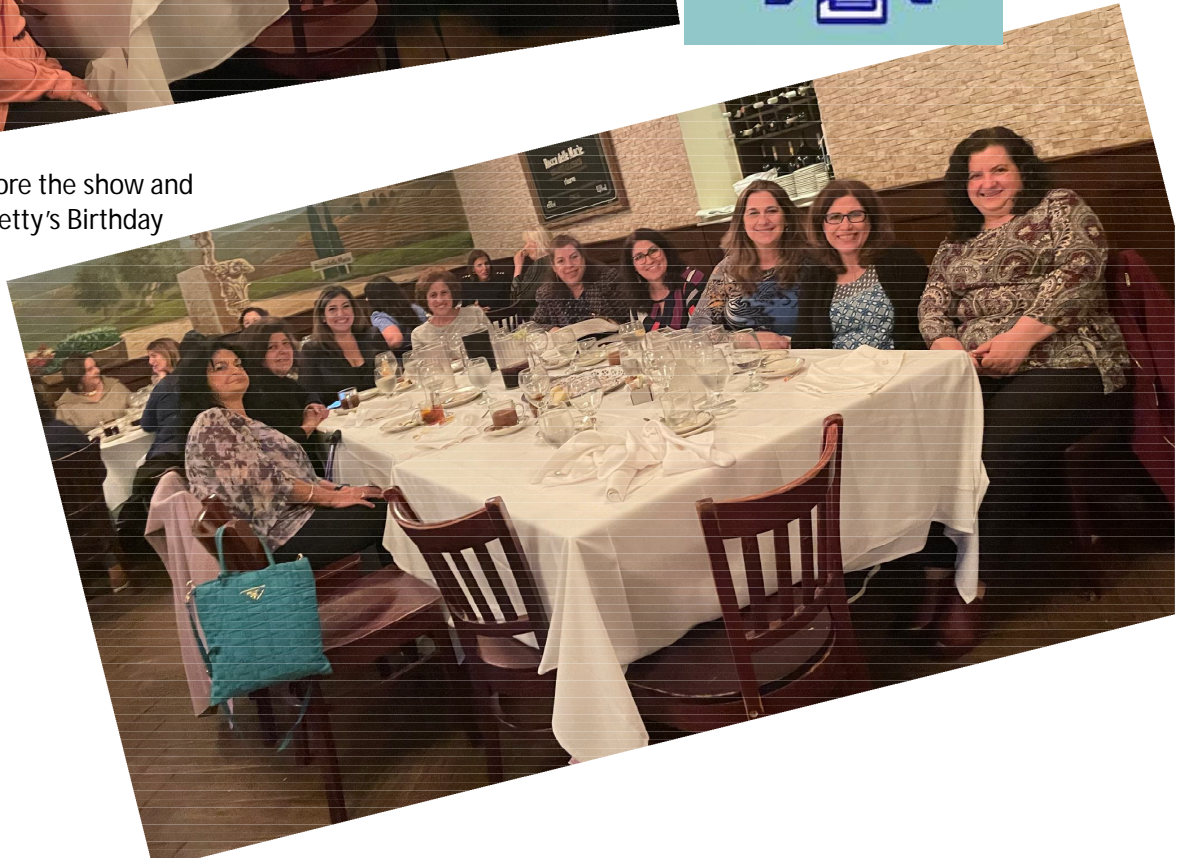
The Spring arrived with a flurry of activity which kept all of our members active and engaged in promoting the good works of the Daughters of Penelope. On April 22nd, we had 16 Sisters attend the District 5 Spring Luncheon in Point Pleasant. This was a chance to hear what the other chapters have accomplished and to brainstorm for new ideas. One short week later, we boarded a bus and headed to New York to see the Broadway hit, "Six" which was a modern twist on the six wives of Henry the VIII. The bus ride was spectacular as we celebrated a milestone birthday of Betty Kelly, put together by her daughter, Maria. Another short week passed and we found ourselves back on the bus to New York, this time to celebrate Divine Liturgy and a tour of St. Nicholas Church and Shrine. Sister Anna Kavalos spearheaded this wonderful trip which was attended by 55 people and open to our entire Saint Andrew family. Our year concludes with dinner and elections on June 1st at Portofino Restaurant in Morristown and the District Convention on June 3rd in Toms River. Please look for details about our Fall Fashion Show and Raffle to be held on October 14th at the Meadowbrook in Randolph.



District Luncheon at the Lobster Chanty



Lunch in NYC before the show and Celebrations of Betty's Birthday



PARENTS' CORNER

By Alexandra Protopapas

THE CYCLE of FAMILY LIFE - June 2023

It is the end of the school year for parents with children in school - elementary, high school, college, etc. Let's talk about the future now for all in the family. Let's focus on FAMILY as this time of the year we make big decisions about the future. Do we know what "Family" entails, and did you know there is something called *Family Life Cycle*? This month we will talk about the stages of the *Family Life Cycle*. I know I've had to deal with some of the issues of the "Family Life Cycle", how about you, parents, and grandparents? I believe June is a good time to talk about the *Family Life Cycle* again!

Let's talk about us as parents as we move through these stages!

What is a "Family"? A definition of "family" according to health professionals' articles which states, "family consists of two or more people living in the same household that are related by blood, marriage, or adoption." Of course, we know family also consists of "relatives" who may not live with us, and who can forget our "church family"? Graduation time is usually a time we spend with "family", and now the summer season is another time we will spend with family for graduations, weddings, vacations, and barbeques together.

Do we understand the concept of "family"? How do we interact with family? Are there really stages in "family"? Yes! Let's examine the family cycle. It has five stages that extend from marriage to the death of a spouse.

The "newlywed stage" takes on new roles as husband and wife. The beginning of a new family begins as one that consists of a family of two. As adjustments are made to being a "pair", the "early parenthood stage" comes up with the birth of the first child that continues all the way through the

child's toddler, preschool, and elementary years. During those times the rewards of parenting are evident, yet they are very challenging. The *newly married stage and early parenthood stage* occurs between the ages of 20 and 40 although in recent years young adults are waiting longer to get married. Are any of your children in that stage? Get ready to be a parent to those no longer in school!

Next? The "later parenthood stage" occurs between the ages of 40+ and 60 and consists of the time when the oldest child begins adolescence and he/she goes through puberty, junior high years, senior high years, and dating. The first child may move out of the house, then the second and third child follow. The first child may marry or decide to remain single for a while. Major changes take place during this stage with parent-teen adjustments. With good communication and understanding, there are many rewards of parenting during this stage. I enjoyed this stage. We launch a new generation that is independent and self-sufficient. We look forward to the achievements our teens anticipate. We begin to become adult friends with our children. Letting go at this stage may become difficult as parents want to "control" as a way of protecting. This is the time we remember to pray for strength!

The next two stages are considered in the "aging marriage" which occurs about age 60+. We have the "empty nest stage" when the last child leaves home. Children no longer depend on parents to meet their needs. It is also a time when parents need to accept a new family member that is now the child's mate. Parental involvement includes being a grandparent, but the role of a parent does not belong to the grandparent and this stage, and it may become lonely for many. During that time besides

being grandparents, we have renewal of spousal relationships and caring for elderly parents. Strengthening relationships are important at this stage as retirement approaches. It is also important to spend more time renewing relationships currently.

We also have the “*retirement stage*” when new interests and hobbies develop as well as extended family relationships. One or both spouses retire from their career. Some couples work if they are physically able. For many it is a time for volunteering, travel, part-time work maybe, and participating in leisure activities. Not all cope well with retirement. I love it! Some are unable to adjust to their new freedom. At times health and financial problems can prevent them from looking at the future with hope.

It is also a time when a death of a spouse may occur. I am experiencing this stage now and I do not wish it on anyone! In my case, my whole world will take a different path and there are many changes for me as we were married 50 years and not being with my other half is grueling. He left too soon. I am getting through with Jesus and Panayia.

This ends the family cycle.

The remaining partner returns to single living and the widow or widower faces challenges. Two

challenges occur. One is dealing emotionally with the loss of a partner, and the other is adjusting to a lifestyle change. Personal freedoms may be affected. The loss of income, health, and the ability to live independently for many is difficult to accept. Self-esteem may decline and dependence on family may increase. Family members and friends become very important at this stage as it can bring joy, meaning, and hope to the person’s life. Keeping the older person active in community groups, church groups, or educational settings helps the older person stay in contact with others.

Family traditions and our faith, as those practiced in our own St. Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Church are the most important elements in all stages of *FAMILY*. They are passed from one generation to another, and they add meaning to family life. The love of our Greek Orthodox faith strengthens the family unit as bonds between members grow and sense of family identity increases. Yes, I am speaking from experience. It works!

Let’s remember that in our ***CYCLE OF FAMILY LIFE*** we must remember all of our family members not only during the holidays and the seasons, through Facebook, or texts, but through the old-fashioned way of making a phone call, sending a letter or a card, or making a visit.

This month’s **Table Prayer Guide** is from “**Daily Prayers: “A Child’s Morning Prayer”**”

*“Lord Jesus, thank you for the bright sunshine of a new day. As you made the sun to rise in the heavens, so come to shine in my life today. For You are the Light in the world. Guide me, direct me, lead me that I may do Your holy will and please You in all that I do this day.
Bless my parents, my teachers, and all who care for me. Amen”.*

Feel free to e-mail me or call with your comments and suggestions for our “Parents’ Corner” at: alexandraproto@gmail.com (973) 214-2583

(You can also find me on Facebook under my name, Alexandra Alex Protopapas)

Alexandra Protopapas MEd Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences – Retired, but active with Educational Services Commission of Morris County, (ESC) and currently assigned to Academy of St. Elizabeth part-time.



The Holy Spirit

Heavenly King Comforter, Spirit of Truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things. Treasury of good things, and giver of life, come and dwell in us and cleanse us of every stain and save our souls; Oh Gracious Lord.

We encounter the Holy Spirit throughout our lives beginning with baptism. Baptism will consist of every sacrament with the exception of confession, marriage and ordination. Following the immersion in the waters the sacrament of chrismation is performed. The person will be anointed with Holy Unction (Chrism) as the priest states "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit". St. Paul writes that in the Holy Spirit we are all "sealed for the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30). Father Paul Lazor, in writing about the service, states that "Chrismation attends to the personal appropriation of the Christian life. Everyone shares the same life but each person lives differently. Chrismation, the granting of the Holy Spirit, attends to that difference". He is the 'treasury of good things and giver of life'.

This is a powerful statement which needs be read again. It summarizes how we are different as individuals, yet united to God through the Holy Spirit, who is with us until death. He is with us until death! Our lives begin in earnest because the Holy Spirit has entered our lives. If you want confirmation of how important this is to us consider that Jesus began his mission after the alighting of the Holy Spirit on Him. That He remained with Him is seen as He follows Him into the desert. The disciples only began their mission after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit alighted on them.

We often state that things are not clearly black and white. Two things need to be considered. First, and foremost, the Holy Spirit as an essence of God cannot live in filth or sin (if there's a difference). It will depart from a person who conducts himself in a sinful manner. He hovers close because it is not within Himself to abandon God's child. Any minute act of contrition, or repentance, will bring Him back

into the body. We cannot perceive, or state accurately, how close or quickly this will take place. It will and must happen for Chrismation is not to be undone. The Holy Spirit has his charge.

It is this principle that makes the somewhat popular ideology, mainly amongst Protestants, "born-again Christian" meaningless. Would God abandon his work? Would the Holy Spirit exit a soul? It is us (or those "born-again"-s) who forget God in all His essences. He is there. It's like a child who becomes lost. We haven't ceased being parents. We just don't have the object of our love in sight. Lest we forget; the child is seeking to be reunited with us as well. I had one of these people come to my door once and we got into a discussion about this. He could not see that God would not abandon him in spite of his transgressions.

We reinforce the power of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Holy Unction. In this sacrament we call on the Holy Spirit to 'cleanse us of every stain and save our souls'. We look for this sacrament in repentance for our deeds. It is performed to help us overcome an illness through the intercession of God. If we are aware that our time to depart this life is approaching, we will ask the priest to administer Holy Unction for the saving of our soul. This must be done while the person is living. It is not a part of 'Last Rites' as practiced in the Catholic Church. Once life has left, the soul is commended to God.

My mother had me learn this prayer when I was young. "Because it was important" and should be recited whenever the priest said it or as a prayer. There wasn't a lot of detailed religious education back then. Through the years by reading and exposure to many sermons and lectures across various Orthodox, and some non-Orthodox, jurisdictions I have come to understand my faith better. To be honest I hadn't given the Holy Spirit a lot of contemplation for most of my life.

When covid hit and the churches were forced to close our family still wanted to attend services. My wife Joanna, ever ready to use the internet, had done some searching and found some churches that were streaming their service. She felt comfortable with St. Mary Orthodox Church, in Cambridge Mass., under the Antiochian jurisdiction. Father Tom Hughes is the proestaminos. His sermons were ones that stayed with you. On Pentecost Sunday he spoke of having visited a Buddhist temple and admiring the structure and architectural details within it. What could this have to do with Pentecost I thought? Continuing he stated that when he relayed his feelings to his fellow Orthodox priests they were taken aback. Then he got to the meat of the sermon. "Isn't the Holy Spirit a foundation of our faith?". "Don't we say in our prayer to the Holy Spirit who is 'everywhere present and fillest all things'? Why wouldn't He be in that temple?"

I can use the quotation marks safely because it made a big impression on me. I've done a lot of travelling and visited many sites; some religious; including non-Orthodox ones. In Hawaii, a basically pagan state, I would be drawn to the baskets of fruit, offered to the god(s) whose temple lay within the national park I was visiting. I thought "It's the 21st century and this form of worship is still ongoing?". Father Hughes' words brought me back to that image.



Why wouldn't God be there? He is the Creator. The bowl, the fruit, the natives- they're all His creation.

I mentioned this sermon to Father Nick Solak who teaches at St. Vladimir's Seminary. I could picture the other Orthodox priests as his eyebrows arched in disagreement as I began. Then I got to the quote in the prayer and his looked relaxed. Slowly he started to nod in agreement. So I finish with that. The Holy Spirit is within and with us. Acknowledge and rejoice in his presence. May your works be ones that keep Him with you.

Some may note the disparity here. The Holy Spirit is with us but doesn't dwell in sin. We are chrismated and the Holy Spirit enters us but He is within pagans who have not and material things which are not. Frankly I can't answer this. These are the things that theologians and monks spend decades contemplating. Father Tsigas would periodically give a sermon where he would state that we were religious by coming to church regularly. But were we faithful? These are faith issues. As humans we want answers and expect two plus two to equal four. That's our world. Fthrs. John and Nick talk of not defining God and having formed a description placing God in a cubicle that meets that definition. God is God. For Him two plus two can equal three or five or whatever. Believe and be strong in your belief.

Submitted by Christ Haritos

Knitting Crocheting & Pillow Ministry wish all of you a wonderful summer ...

We will be back in full force in September.



How Can We Encourage Our Children and Grandchildren To Be Successful In College?

John M. Paitakes, Ph.D. , Professor Emeritus, Seton Hall University

From the time I entered school, my father had encouraged me to study hard and prepare myself to enter college. He had emigrated from Greece and came to America at age 12 and entered the educational system. Unfortunately, at age 16 he had to withdraw from school to assist his family financially as his mother was physically handicapped and his father was having a hard time securing and maintaining a full-time job. Despite all this responsibility and hardships, he became a successful businessman owning and operating a Diner, Restaurant and Cocktail lounge employing 50 employees. In addition, he assisted his four children in securing further education which was so important to him. He, like many of the emigrants from different countries, felt that it was very important for their children to attain a college degree even though they (parents) could not, due to the circumstances they faced adjusting in America. Granted, not everyone has to go to college to be considered successful. Success is measured in several ways; financial wealth, accomplishments, satisfying family life, helping others etc. The vocational trades can be very satisfying both financially and personally. Individual choices of youth and their desires must be considered.

Attending a college or university is still a popular choice among our younger generation currently. Therefore, as an educator for more than 40 years teaching at 5 different college and universities, I felt it was important to share my findings of students who were successful. This was based on teaching over 7000 students during my tenure. The findings are strongly recommended especially during these times when most educational institutions have returned to in class meetings. Personal interaction is invaluable in learning, communicating, and networking.



The following are some of the behaviors, traits and characteristics exhibited by students who were deemed to be successful:

1. **Classroom seating:** students who sit toward the front or middle of the classroom seem to do better scholastically than those who sit in the back or in the corner.
2. **Preparation:** students who are prepared from the initial class seem to do better. This includes having the text, review the syllabus and taking notes.
3. **Rested:** students who come to class rested are more alert and receptive to information.
4. **Class participation:** students who participate on a regular basis usually do well in class. This includes volunteering to respond to the professor's inquiries and posing relevant questions regarding the subject matter.
5. **Assignments:** Completion and remission of assignments when due according to the professor's format is critical in placing students in the upper range of the class.
6. **Attendance:** students who attend class on a regular basis usually do better than students who do not. Generally, students should try not to miss more than 3 classes during a semester. This is dependent on each professor's attendance policy.
7. **Professor interaction:** Students who get to know their professor by discussing relevant issues with him/her after class or during his/her office hours usually will enhance their chances of doing better during the course.
8. **Student networking:** students who network and get to know several other students in class through study groups or informally, usually perform at a higher level than those who do not.
9. **Join Professional groups or Associations:** this can enhance your knowledge on related issues.
10. **Outside Readings:** seek out related readings outside of required text for additional information on the class.

NB: During his tenure in teaching college students, Dr. Paitakes has taught students at the following colleges and universities: Seton Hall University, Rutgers University, Kean University, Thomas Edison State University, Rider University and the Union Institute & University. He can be reached at the following: pait@optonline.net

VOLUNTEER FOR OUR BIG GREEK FESTIVAL

June 9-10-11

It is only possible with the contributions of our devoted volunteers, like you! Please consider joining the festival team. You can volunteer for a specific area or let us assign a location to you. (before during and/or after)

Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners, to serve the church community, and to show pride in our Greek heritage and Orthodox faith. You can volunteer for a specific area or let us assign a location to you. Sign up in the lobby or text **Marina Venizelos** at **973-896-1591** or **Georgia Haglund** at **908-797-6454** or email **church** office at info@standrewgonj.org or call 973-584-0388. Let someone know when and where you want to be stationed

COME JOIN US: A great fellowship event -- come make friends that last a lifetime! Look for Volunteer Signup sheets by the church office.

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BAPTISMS – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΕΙΣ

ANABELLE NICOLE VAKAR, daughter of Emil Vakar and Marlee Rose Mengel of Bridgewater, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Saturday at 11:00 am on April 29th, 2023, and given the name **NICOLE – ΝΙΚΟΛ**. Godmother was Anna Zavros.

LUCIANO THOMAS PUZIO, son of Thomas Landon Puzio and Diamnto K. Tsilios of Sparta, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Saturday at 12:30 pm on April 29th, 2023 and given the name **LUCIANO – ΛΟΥΚΙΑΝΟΣ**. Godfather was Panagiotis Tsilios.

NICOLETTA IRENE ROSENGARTH, daughter of Derek Joseph Rosengarth and Sara Alexandra Marin of Hillsborough, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Saturday at 11:00 am on May 6th, 2023 and given the name **NICOLETTA – ΝΙΚΟΛΕΤΑ**. Godfather was Christian Nicholas Marin.

*Congratulations to all wishing them all the blessings.
Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους και τους ευχόμαστε όλες τις ευλογίες.*

WEDDING - ΓΑΜΟΣ

On Saturday May 20th, 2023 at 1:00pm **Sotiris Athanasios Spiliotopoulos** wed **Erin Kathleen Caupro** of Hackettstown, NJ. Officiant was Rev. Fr. John Theodosion, sponsor was Vasilis Spiliotopoulos, witness was Kathleen Caupro.

*Congratulations and may God always bless you with lots of love and joy.
Συγχαρητήρια, ο Θεός να σας ευλογεί πάντα με πολλή αγάπη και χαρά!*

OBIT & FUNERAL SERVICE - ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΟ & ΚΗΔΕΙΑ

+Diana M. Moraitis (nee Romano) age 86 of Randolph NJ passed away on April 21, 2023 at Brightview Senior Living in Wayne NJ.

She is predeceased by her husband of 61 years, Spiridon Moraitis of Randolph, NJ; Loving mother to her three sons Peter and his wife Beth Moraitis of Weatherby Lake, MO; Dennis and his wife Patricia Moraitis of Pompton Plains, NJ; Andre and his wife Melissa Moraitis of New Paris, Indiana; grand-daughter Jaime Moraitis of Pompton Plains and her sister Joan DeCarlo of Bronx, NY.

The family received friends on Monday April 24, 2023 at Tuttle Funeral Home from 4:00pm-7:00Pm for visitation. A Funeral Service for the repose of her soul took place Tuesday April 25, 2023 at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church 1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ at 9:00am. Entombment followed at Restland Memorial Park 77 Deforest Ave, East Hanover, NJ at 11:00am.



May her memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτής.

Saint Andrew Family News June 2023

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Lela Kobatzer
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May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτών.

DONATIONS can be made **in HONOR** of a joyous occasion, **in GRATITUDE** for someone who helped you in a special way, or **in MEMORY** of a loved one to SAINT ANDREW Greek Orthodox Church | 1447 Sussex Turnpike | Randolph, NJ 07869 or website: <https://www.standrewgonj.org/> and choose **PayPal** / online WeShare

We will notify the recipient (or bereaved) of your kind thoughtfulness, we will pray in our Liturgy for you, the recipient and or bereaved, and we will announce your donation in upcoming magazine.

IN THE HOSPITAL? HOME-BOUND?

Please let the Church Office know!

In today's age of information privacy, churches are not notified when parishioners are admitted to hospitals, nursing homes or other care facilities. Both those facilities and your church depend on having the church notified by a friends or family member so pastoral care and outreach can be offered. The same goes for those homebound.

If you or any of your loved ones are in any of these situations, please contact the Church Office at **973-584-0388** to request a visit from our priest Fr. John Theodosion or our new and wonderful Visitation Ministry.

Also, if you are interested in helping reach out to fellow parishioners in those situations, please contact the office info@standrewgonj.org.

Βαπτίσεις

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN JUNE: 6/4 PHILOPTOCHOS,
6/11 FESTIVAL, 6/18 DOP, 6/25 BAKALIKO

6/3 SATURDAY OF SOULS / TRISAGION @ LOCUST HILL

6/4 Re-Presentation of Awards to Honorees

6/4 @2PM WEDDING

6/5 @6PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

6/9 •6/10 •6/11 BIGGREEKFESTIVAL

6/15 @11:30AM THURSDAY **AGAPE LUNCH**

6/18 @1PM TWO BAPTISMS

6/19 @7:30 m Parish Council Meeting

6/22 @7pm Bible Study (see weekly bulletin)

6/24 Faith Kitchen GOYA

6/24 @11AM BAPTISM

6/25 @1PM BAPTISM

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS JULY & AUGUST SUMMER SCHEDULE

It is our summer tradition that all coffee hour trays will benefit our Ministries. We all share the responsibility of bringing food. Please bring a cake, cookies, fruit, etc. to church with you from time to time to add to our coffee hour table. Or, arrange to host a COFFEE HOUR by contacting the church office. **If we** do not have someone host and/or sponsor the coffee hour, we will not be able have one on that particular Sunday. Thanking-you in advance for your participation this summer

7/16-7/22 **CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD** IN SANDYSTON, NJ

7/22 Faith Kitchen Philoptochos

7/29 @11AM BAPTISM

8/1 @7:45PM TUE. PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING 1 OF 2

8/7 @7:45 MON. PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING 2 OF 2

8/26 Faith Kitchen DOP/AHEPA

8/26 @2pm Baptism

9/4 Labor Day

9/7 @4:30PM HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL **AGIASMOS**

9/8 - 9/9 RUMMAGE SALE

9/10 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHOOL **AGIASMOS**

9/14 @11:30AM THURSDAY **AGAPE LUNCH**

9/14 GREEK DANCE IN SOCIAL HALL | ANGELO GERGATSOU LIS

GROUP 1 @6:30PM | GRP 2@7:15PM | GOYA DANCE @ 8PM

9/16 @2PM WEDDING

9/23 Faith Kitchen Parish Council

9/23 GYRO SALE

9/24 2023 MERCEDES-BENZ CLA 250W4

9/29 GOYA Harvest Party / SA GYM

10/7 @2PM WEDDING @4PM WEDDING

10/14 DOP Fashion Show at the Meadowood

10/15 @2PM WEDDING

10/28 Faith Kitchen GOYA

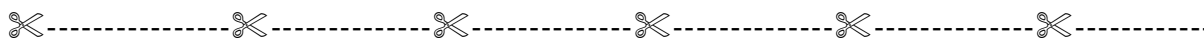
10/30-11/2 National Clergy Retreat in AZ

11/5 @12:15PM BAPTISM

11/10 @2PM WEDDING

11/25 Faith Kitchen Philoptochos

12/23 Faith Kitchen DOP/ AHEPA



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Please remember the Late † _____ in the prayers of the Divine Liturgy.
Kindly accept the memorial gift as a token of Love and Respect in his/her memory.

The deceased was the beloved _____ (husband, wife, father, mother, other) of bereaved*
Please **ACKNOWLEDGE** my/our gift to a member of the family.

NAME & ADDRESS OF BEREAVED* _____

NAME & ADDRESS OF DONOR(S) _____

MEMORIAL GIFTS PAYABLE TO ST. ANDREW ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

Reservations for: St. Andrew Community Center Gym, Social Hall or Classrooms must be made with Church Office.

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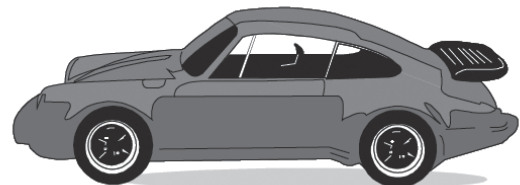
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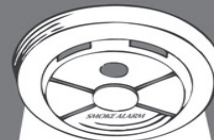
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Maro Nicolaou Schuster

BYZANTINE CHANTERS/CHOIR

Panayiotis Fotinis, *Chanter*

Salomi Massaras, *Choir Director*

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Fr. John Theodosion, Athena Borzeka, Vasilgia Christodoulou,

Maria Galvin, Maria Pallis

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL

Vasilgia Christodoulou, *Director*

TEACHERS: Haroula Christodoulou, Vasilgia Christodoulou,
Archontia Fromouzopoulou, Alexandra Kontogiannis, Effie Kritharis,
Yiota Louca, Stacey Papanikolaw, Eleni Zeris

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Philoptochos Society: Mary Michailidis, *President*

Knitting, Crocheting & Pillow Ministries: Ellen Manetas

Bakaliko: Maria Stamoutsos

Coffee Hour: Irene Laoudis

Agape Group: Betty Kelly

AHEPA: TJ Borzeka, *President*

Daughters of Penelope: Eleni Boyadjis, *President*

PTA:

Little Angels Playgroup (LAP): Athina Vella

HOPE & JOY: Dina Aspromatis

GOYA

Despina Sedereas, *GOYA President*

Peter Sedereas, Polymnia Crysler, Marlena Karipidis,
Diana Sedereas, Roslyn Monokandilos, *GOYA Advisors*

Hellenic Dance

GOYA Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor (assisted by: Pavlos Giannikopoulos)*

Jr & Sr Groups Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



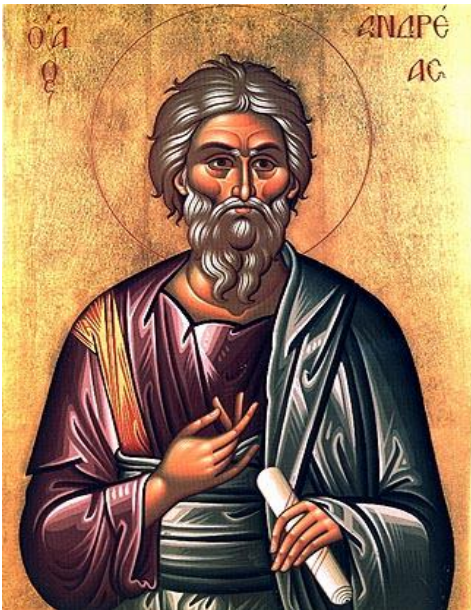
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HYMN OF THE APOSTLE ST. ANDREW

As first of the Apostles to receive the call,
and very brother of the prince of them,
intercede O Andrew,
with the Master of all of us,
peace to all the world to grant,
and to our souls His great mercy.

ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ

Ως των Αποστόλων πρωτόκλητος,
και του κορυφαίου αυτάδελφος,
τον Δεσπότην των όλων Ανδρέα ικέτευε,
ειρήνην τη οικουμένη δωρήσασθαι,
και ταις ψυχαίς ημών το μέγα έλεο

THE SAINT ANDREW VISION STATEMENT

Our Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church is a welcoming place where our family is committed to God, and salvation through Orthodox worship, Christian education, philanthropy, and sharing of Hellenic culture, for the benefit of those whose lives we touch.