

**JANUARY 2025**



# **Saint Andrew Family News**

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

Please make your 2025 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT of : TIME, TALENT & TREASURE this month

AGIASMOS +HOUSE BLESSINGS will begin in January 2025

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL resumes on January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Cutting & Distribution of COMMUNITY VASILOPITA on January 12<sup>th</sup>



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of  
New Jersey

# 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](mailto:info@standrewgonj.org)**

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

**NJ Metropolis Web: [www.njgoarch.org](http://www.njgoarch.org) G.O. Archdioceses Web: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)**

Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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*Please submit your articles and information on time to  
Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos [info@standrewgonj.org](mailto:info@standrewgonj.org)*

*Deadline for the **FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE** is January 13*

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# DIVINE SERVICES

## JANUARY 2025

Wednesday	1	CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & COMMEMORATION OF ST. BASIL @8:15AM
<b>Friday</b>	3	Orthros & Great Hours
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>EVE OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST: Orthros, Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom &amp; Great Agiasmos (Fasting Day)</b>
Monday	6	HOLY THEOPHANY, BAPTISM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST - Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great and Great Agiasmos
Tuesday	7	THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY PROPHET, BAPTIST +Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Sunday after Epiphany; Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ</b>
Friday	17	+ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT
Saturday	18	+ST. ATHANASIOS THE GREAT & CYRIL, PATRIARCHS OF ALEXANDRIA
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Luke   Three Hierarchs Program (HAS &amp; RelEd)</b>
Thursday	30	+SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS: +BASIL THE GREAT; +GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN; & +JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

## FEBRUARY

Saturday	1	ST. TRYPHON OF PHRYGIA / RELICS*
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IN THE TEMPLE</b>
Thursday	6	ST. PHOTIOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today [Godparent's Sunday]</b>
Monday	10	ST. HARALAMBOS THE MARTYR / RELICS*
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b>
Saturday	22	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of Souls
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Judgement Sunday</b>

**Sundays:** Orthros begins @ 8:15AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:30AM

**Weekdays:** Orthros begins @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:00AM

*(We have this saint's Relics at our Saint Andrew Reliquary) \**

Sunday School students will attend the Divine Liturgy at 9:30am, receive Holy Communion, and then proceed to their class.

# Ι Ε Ρ Ε Σ Α Κ Ο Λ Ο Υ Θ Ι Ε Σ

## ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2025

Τετάρτη	1	Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙΑΣ ώρα 8.15πμ
Παρασκευή	3	Όρθρος & Μέγα Όρες
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Παραμονή των Φώτων Θεοπέμπτου και Θεωνά των μαρτύρων (Νηστεία) – Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία του Αγίου Ιωάννη Χρυσοστόμου και Ακολουθία του Αγιασμού</b>
Δευτέρα	6	Τα άγια Θεοφάνεια του Σωτήρος ημών Ιησού Χριστού - Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου και Μέγα Αγιασμός
Τρίτη	7	Η Σύναξις του Προδρόμου και Βαπτιστού Ιωάννου - Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>ΑΠΟΔΟΣΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΩΝ;</b>
Παρασκευή	17	+ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
Σάββατου	18	+ ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΛΛΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΩΝ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΕΙΑΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>ΙΒ΄ Του Λουκά</b>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>ΙΕ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΪΟΥ (ΤΗΣ ΧΑΝΑΝΑΙΑΣ) (ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ – ΕΑΣ]</b>
Πέμπτη	30	ΤΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ +ΜΕΓΑ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ, +ΓΡΗΓΟΡΙΟΣ Ο ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ , +ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΣ

## ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ

Σάββατο	1	ΤΡΥΦΩΝ ΜΑΡΤΥΣ* / <i>Λείψανα</i>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	2	+Η ΥΠΑΠΑΝΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ
Πέμπτη	6	+ΦΩΤΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ, ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>ΙΣΤ΄ Λουκά (Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου)</b> [Κυριακή των Νονών]
Δευτέρα	10	+ΧΑΡΑΛΑΜΠΟΣ ΊΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ *   <i>Λείψανα</i>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>ΙΖ΄ Λουκά (του Ασώτου)</b>
Σάββατο	22	Α΄ Ψυχοσάββατων
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Κυριακή τής Απόκρεω</b>

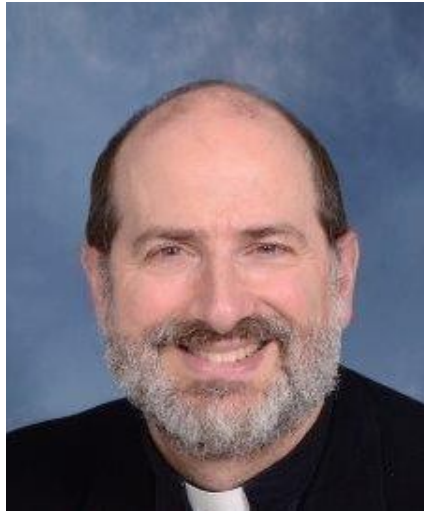
**Την Κυριακή – Όρθρος - ώρα 8.15πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9:30πμ**  
**Τις καθημερινές – Όρθρος - ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9.00πμ**

*(Έχουμε τα Λείψανα του Αγίου στην Λειψανοθήκη της εκκλησία μας)\**  
Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία  
ώρα 9.30πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία και θα συνεχίσουν στις τάξεις τους.

# New Year A New You

Fr. John Theodosion

When we attend a baptism of a child, we are filled with joy at seeing a small cute cuddly child who is about to be baptized. They are so sweet, and everyone wants to hold them. Sometimes the children cry because they do not understand what is going on, but they are still cute and they make us smile just to see them. However, there is more to the baptism than a beautiful baby dressed in a white



outfit. The baptism of a person marks a new beginning in the life of the person who is baptized. Some churches or faiths won't baptize a child, they wait for an age of reason or a time when a person can choose to follow Christ. We Orthodox don't promote this idea. It is our belief that the good things we learn and the good habits we develop from the time we are young, are the good things we will keep with us throughout our lives. So, we baptize infants, and we raise them in the Orthodox Faith so that as they grow and mature, the Faith will be a natural part of their life. That the Faith will be an intertwined part of their life as they grow and mature. The thought and the hope is that the faith will become so deeply intertwined that it cannot be undone.

I read a book recently called *Becoming Bulletproof* by Evy Poupouras, Evy is an Orthodox Christian and was a secret service agent for several U.S. presidents. On September 11, 2001, she was at the World Trade Center when one of the towers collapsed. As she realized what was happening, she took steps to protect herself although she thought that she would not survive. As the debris fell, what did she do? She began to pray. *Pater imon o en tis*

*ouranis...* Our Father who art in Heaven... In that moment, the thing that was part of the core of her very being came out; it was her Faith in God. I don't personally know Evy, however the story she tells indicates that the Faith she was raised with is the Faith that gave her strength in her darkest hour. That doesn't happen by accident. It happens because her parents raised her

with the Orthodox Faith, and it became a part of her very being.

The baptism of a person happens on one day and then it is over. Living the Faith is something that begins on the day of our baptism, but something we do for our whole life. It is a process that we enter into on the day of our baptism and doesn't end until we leave this earth. What is the process? It is the process of becoming.

When God created Adam and Eve He created them to live forever both physically and spiritually and He placed them in the Garden of Paradise. Their disobedience and their lack of repentance caused them to be expelled from the Garden and have the life of struggle that we all experience to this day.

The process of becoming is the process of becoming like Adam and Eve were when they were created. They were created in the image and likeness of Christ. We also were created in His image, however, with the fall of Adam and Eve we now have a struggle. A struggle to become like Christ and a struggle to regain what was lost with the fall.

Christ is the new Adam who came into the world to teach us, to lead us, to heal us and to blaze a trail for us to follow His example in all these ways.

He did not start His ministry until He was about 30 years old and when He did start it He started it by being baptized. At His baptism the Father blessed Him by calling Him His Beloved Son and the Holy Spirit alighted upon Him like a dove. John the Baptist was humble before Him saying "I need to be baptized by you." But the Baptism of Christ needed to happen because when He was baptized, He wasn't cleansed like we are cleansed from sin at our baptism. He never had sin and had no need for cleansing. By His baptism He cleansed the waters and all of creation so that we could be saved and regain what was lost with the fall of Adam and Eve. When John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation were shown. That is to say, the Lord took upon Himself the sins of humanity and died under them. In other words, He took on and was immersed in the multitude of our sins and when He came out of the water, He came alive again thereby giving us life.

So, what does this mean? It means that on the day of our own baptism, something very

profound happened. With our baptism, we too are immersed and when we enter the font, we die a death to sin and when we emerge, we begin a new life in Christ. With this new life we are clothed in Christ, and we begin to live a new life. With this new life our earthly struggles are not wasted energy taking us nowhere. Our struggles become struggles which have a goal. A goal to lead us back. Back to the Garden of Paradise where we belong. To the Garden where Adam and Eve walked and talked with the Lord. Back to the relationship with God through prayer and Holy Communion.

It is no accident that Theophania or Epiphany takes place at the time we celebrate the New Year. The New Year is a time of new beginnings and a time when we recommit ourselves to starting fresh, doing the things that we know are right and turning from the things we know are wrong. The Baptism of Christ and our own baptism is about cleansing ourselves of the infirmity of sin and being strengthened, purified and healed in Christ. Let us think back on our own baptism on our own death to sin and our coming alive to Christ. Let us recommit ourselves to the Lord and His teachings, and to the new life He gives us.

### Cutting of Community's Vasilopita *(rescheduled from 1-4-2025)*

Our yearly tradition has it, we will cut our Community's Vasilopita. Fr. John will bless the Vasilopita with the cutting knife crosswise in the  
*"Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

He then will cut the center in a circle as an offering to our Lord Jesus, Who is first in our life. Then he will proceed to cut wedges starting with a piece for the *Ever-Virgin Mary*, for *Saint Basil* and for *St. Andrew*. Subsequently, a wedge will be cut and received by a representative on behalf of each one of our  
*St. Andrew ministries and organizations.*

Please join us in wishing all a Blessed and fruitful New Year.

# Νέο Έτος - Νέος Εαυτός

π. Ιωάννης Θεοδοσίου

Όταν παρακολουθούμε μία βάπτιση, είμαστε γεμάτοι χαρά που βλέπουμε ένα μικρό χαριτωμένο αγαπησιάρικο παιδάκι που πρόκειται να βαπτιστεί. Είναι τόσο γλυκούλικα που όλοι θέλουν να τα πάρουν αγκαλιά. Μερικές φορές τα παιδάκια κλαίνε επειδή δεν καταλαβαίνουν τί συμβαίνει, αλλά και πάλι είναι χαριτωμένα και χαμογελάμε και μόνο που τα βλέπουμε. Υπάρχουν όμως περισσότερα σε μία βάπτιση από ένα όμορφο μωρό ντυμένο με άσπρα ρουχαλάκια. Η βάπτιση ενός ανθρώπου σηματοδοτεί μια νέα αρχή στη ζωή του βαπτιζομένου. Μερικές εκκλησίες και θρησκείες δεν βαπτίζουν ένα παιδί τόσο μικρό, αλλά περιμένουν να φτάσει σε μία λογική ηλικία ή μια ηλικία που να μπορεί να επιλέξει να ακολουθήσει τον Χριστό. Εμείς οι Ορθόδοξοι δεν προωθούμε αυτή την ιδέα. Έχουμε την πίστη πως τα καλά πράγματα που μαθαίνουμε θα τα κρατήσουμε μέσα μας για όλη μας τη ζωή. Έτσι, βαπτίζουμε βρέφη και τα μεγαλώνουμε με την Ορθόδοξη Πίστη και καθώς μεγαλώνουν και ωριμάζουν, η Πίστη θα είναι ένα φυσιολογικό μέρος της ζωής τους. Η Πίστη θα είναι συνυφασμένη με τη ζωή τους καθώς μεγαλώνουν και ωριμάζουν. Η σκέψη και η ελπίδα είναι η πίστη να είναι τόσο γερά συνδεδεμένη με τη ζωή τους που να μην μπορεί να διαλυθεί.

Πρόσφατα διάβασα ένα βιβλίο με τίτλο *Γίνε Άτρωτος* της Εύης Πούμπουρα. Η Εύη είναι Χριστιανή Ορθόδοξος και ήταν πράκτορας της μυστικής υπηρεσίας για αρκετούς Αμερικανούς προέδρους. Την 11<sup>η</sup> Σεπτεμβρίου 2001 βρισκόταν στο World Trade

Center όταν ο ένας από τους πύργους κατέρρευσε. Μόλις συνειδητοποίησε τί συνέβαινε, έκανε κάποια βήματα για να προστατευθεί αν και πίστευε πως δεν θα επιζήσει. Την ώρα που γκρεμιζόταν τί έκανε; Άρχισε να προσεύχεται: Πάτερ ημών, ο εν τοις ουρανοίς,.....Εκείνη τη στιγμή αυτό που ήταν το σημαντικό κομμάτι της ύπαρξής της ήλθε στην επιφάνεια, δηλαδή η Πίστη της στον Θεό. Δεν γνωρίζω προσωπικά την Εύη, όμως η ιστορία που διηγείται δηλώνει πως η Πίστη με την οποία μεγάλωσε είναι η Πίστη που της έδωσε δύναμη στην πιο σκοτεινή της ώρα. Αυτό δεν συνέβη τυχαία. Συνέβη επειδή οι γονείς της την ανέθρεψαν με την Ορθόδοξη Πίστη, και έγινε ένα μέρος της ύπαρξής της.

Η βάπτιση ενός ανθρώπου γίνεται σε μία ημέρα και μετά τελειώνει. Ζώντας την Πίστη είναι κάτι που ξεκινά την ημέρα της βάπτισής μας, κάτι που όμως συνεχίζεται σε όλη μας τη ζωή. Κάτι που ξεκινάμε τη μέρα της βάπτισής μας και δεν σταματά μέχρι να φύγουμε από αυτόν τον κόσμο. Τί είναι αυτή η διαδικασία; Είναι η διαδικασία του γίγνεσθαι.

Όταν ο Θεός δημιούργησε τον Αδάμ και την Εύα, τους δημιούργησε για να ζήσουν για πάντα και σωματικά και πνευματικά τοποθετώντας τους στον Κήπο του Παραδείσου. Η ανυπακοή τους και η έλλειψη μετάνοιας προκάλεσαν τον διωγμό τους από τον Κήπο και μια ζωή γεμάτη αγώνες που όλοι ζούμε ως σήμερα

Η διαδικασία του γίνεσθαι είναι η διαδικασία να γίνουμε όπως ήταν ο Αδάμ και η Εύα αρχικά, όταν δημιουργήθηκαν. Δημιουργήθηκαν κατ' εικόνα και καθ' ομοίωση του Χριστού. Και εμείς επίσης δημιουργηθήκαμε κατ' εικόνα Του, όμως, με την πτώση του Αδάμ και της Εύας έχουμε τώρα έναν αγώνα. Έναν αγώνα να γίνουμε όπως ο Χριστός και έναν αγώνα να ανακτήσουμε όσα χάθηκαν με την πτώση.

Ο Χριστός είναι ο νέος Αδάμ που ήλθε στον κόσμο να μας διδάξει, να μας καθοδηγήσει, να μας θεραπεύσει και να ανοίξει τον δρόμο σε εμάς να ακολουθήσουμε το παράδειγμά Του με όλους αυτούς τους τρόπους.

Δεν ξεκίνησε τη διακονία Του μέχρι περίπου το 30ό έτος της ηλικίας του και όταν ξεκίνησε, ξεκίνησε με την βάπτισή Του. Στη βάπτισή Του ο Πατέρας Τον ευλόγησε αποκαλώντας Τον, Τον Υιό Του τον Αγαπητό και το Άγιο Πνεύμα Τον φώτισε ως περιστερά. Ο Ιωάννης ο Βαπτιστής ταπεινά μπροστά Του λέγει «Εγώ πρέπει να βαπτισθώ από εσένα.» Όμως η Βάπτισή του Χριστού χρειάστηκε να γίνει γιατί όταν βαπτίστηκε δεν είχε καθαρισθεί όπως εμείς καθαριζόμαστε από την αμαρτία στη βάπτισή μας. Αυτός ποτέ δεν είχε αμαρτία και δεν είχε ποτέ ανάγκη κάθαρσης. Με τη βάπτισή Του καθάρισε τα νερά και όλα τα δημιουργήματα για να μπορέσουμε να σωθούμε και να ανακτήσουμε όσα χάθηκαν με την πτώση του Αδάμ και της Εύας. Όταν εμφανίστηκε ο Ιωάννης και βάπτισε τον Κύριο στον Ιορδάνη, φανερώθηκαν η αποστολή του Χριστού στον κόσμο και ο δρόμος της σωτηρίας μας. Δηλαδή, ο Κύριος πήρε πάνω Του τις αμαρτίες της ανθρωπότητας και πέθανε για αυτές. Με άλλα λόγια, ανέλαβε και βυθίστηκε στις πολυπληθείς αμαρτίες μας και όταν εξήλθε

από το νερό, ζωντάνεψε πάλι και έτσι μας έδωσε ζωή.

Επομένως, τί σημαίνει αυτό; Σημαίνει πως την ημέρα της δικής μας βάπτισης, κάτι πολύ σημαντικό έγινε. Με τη βάπτισή μας, και εμείς αναδυόμαστε και όταν βυθιζόμαστε στην κολυμπήθρα, πεθαίνουμε τον θάνατο της αμαρτίας και όταν αναδυόμαστε από το νερό, ξεκινάμε μια νέα εν Χριστώ ζωή. Με αυτή τη νέα ζωή, ντυνόμαστε τον Χριστό, και ξεκινάμε να ζούμε μια νέα ζωή. Με αυτή τη νέα ζωή οι γήινοι αγώνες δεν είναι χαμένη ενέργεια που δεν μας οδηγεί πουθενά. Οι αγώνες μας γίνονται αγώνες που έχουν ένα στόχο. Το στόχο να μας οδηγήσουν πίσω. Πίσω στον Κήπο του Παραδείσου όπου ανήκουμε. Τον Κήπο όπου ο Αδάμ και η Εύα περπάτησαν και συνομίλησαν με τον Κύριο. Πίσω στην σχέση με τον Θεό μέσω της προσευχής και της Θείας Κοινωνίας.

Δεν είναι τυχαίο που τα Θεοφάνια ή τα Φώτα γίνονται την εποχή που εορτάζουμε το Νέο Έτος. Η Πρωτοχρονιά είναι εποχή νέων ξεκινήματων και εποχή που ξανά-δεσμευόμαστε για νέα αρχή, και κάνουμε πράγματα που ξέρουμε πως είναι τα σωστά και απομακρυνόμαστε από πράγματα που ξέρουμε πως είναι λάθος. Η Βάπτισή του Χριστού και η δική μας βάπτισή είναι η κάθαρσή μας από την αρρώστια της αμαρτίας και η ενδυνάμωσή μας, η εξάγνιση και η θεραπεία μας εν Χριστώ. Ας θυμηθούμε τη δική μας βάπτισή με τον θάνατο της αμαρτίας και η αναγέννησή μας στον Χριστό. Ας δεσμευτούμε ξανά στον Κύριό μας και τις διδασκαλίες Του, και τη νέα ζωή που μας προσφέρει.

*with many thanks to Maria Kiritsis, Athens GR  
for providing an adaptation of this article*





GREEK  
ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF  
NEW JERSEY

# SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. John Theodosion  
Pastor

## *"Your Own from Your Own"*

### ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP 2025 PROGRAM

Dear Beloved Saint Andrew Parishioner,

Oftentimes, with our church, we imagine only what is humanly possible, but if we do our part in faith, God will lovingly return to us much more than we could ever imagine. This is the true meaning of "Your own from Your own." Just as in the Divine Liturgy when we make an offering of bread and wine, and God returns it back to us in His precious body and blood. We will see our church, not as it is, but as it could be, with our humble gifts multiplied by God's generosity and love.

This past year we initiated new ministry programs and renewed some from our past. An example of a new ministry is *Faith Works* which offers free services like career mentoring and resume review. Next, the revival of our *Hope & Joy* ministries will create a welcoming and fun learning environment for our young children and families. In the coming year we also expect to launch the new *Planned Giving* ministry which is an endowment to help support the future of our community, as well as our initiative to add a *Pastoral Assistant to our ministry team to grow and increase the ministries of our church*. We ask you to continue supporting these worthy ministries with your financial pledge and prayerfully consider rounding up your giving to tithing as we did last year.

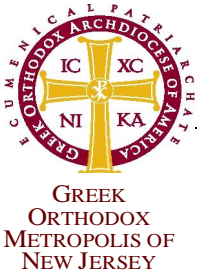
We will dedicate January as Stewardship Month at Saint Andrew. During this month we will worship together and in addition, we will learn more about our parish, our leadership our ministries, and how we look to grow our church and community to better serve the future generations of Orthodox Faithful and community members around us.

We look forward to meeting with you and sharing the current vision of our parish leadership and seek your participation in realizing this vision. We see our church, not as it is, but as it could be. We would like to see it grow and be a blessing for everyone who has contact with it. This reminds me of the words of Saint Paul who said "But we all... beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord (II Corinthians 3:18). When we offer our treasure and ourselves sacrificially, as members of the Body of Christ, we will reach our full potential in Christ both personally and as a community.

To conclude I offer you my sincere gratitude for your dedication to our parish and your participation in Christ's work of salvation.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. John Theodosion



# SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. John Theodosion  
Pastor

## “Τὰ Σὰ ἐκ τῶν Σῶν” ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP 2025 PROGRAM

Αγαπητέ ενορίτη του Αγίου Ανδρέα,

Στην εκκλησία μας συχνά φανταζόμαστε μόνο τα ανθρωπίνως δυνατά, αλλά εάν κάνουμε αυτό που μας αναλογεί με πίστη, ο Θεός με αγάπη θα μας επιστρέψει πολλά περισσότερα από όσα μπορούσαμε ποτέ να φανταστούμε. Αυτό είναι το αληθινό νόημα του “τὰ Σὰ ἐκ τῶν Σῶν”. Όπως ακριβώς στη Θεία Λειτουργία όταν προσφέρουμε τον άρτο και τον οίνο, και ο Θεός μας τα επιστρέφει ως το πολύτιμο σώμα και αίμα Του. Θα βλέπουμε την εκκλησία μας, όχι όπως είναι, αλλά όπως θα μπορούσε να είναι, με τα ταπεινά δώρα μας στο πολλαπλάσιο λόγω της γενναιοδωρίας και της αγάπης του Θεού.

Αυτόν τον περασμένο χρόνο ξεκινήσαμε νέα εκκλησιαστικά προγράμματα και ανανεώσαμε και κάποια από τα παλιά. Για παράδειγμα ένα νέο πρόγραμμα είναι το τα Έργα Πίστης (Faith Works) που προσφέρει δωρεάν υπηρεσίες όπως συμβουλές επαγγελματικού προσανατολισμού και δημιουργίας βιογραφικού. Επίσης, η αναβίωση των προγραμμάτων Hope και Joy δημιουργούν ένα περιβάλλον φιλόξενο και διασκεδαστικής εκμάθησης για τα μικρά μας παιδιά και τις οικογένειές τους. Με τον νέο χρόνο προσμένουμε να ξεκινήσουμε το νέο πρόγραμμα Προγραμματισμένη Προσφορά (Planned Giving) που είναι δωρεές για να βοηθήσουμε και να στηρίξουμε το μέλλον της κοινότητάς μας, όπως και η πρωτοβουλία μας να προσθέσουμε έναν Ποιμαντικό Βοηθό στην ιερατική ομάδα μας για να αυξήσουμε και να εξελίξουμε τα εκκλησιαστικά μας προγράμματα. Σας παρακαλούμε να συνεχίσετε την υποστήριξή σας προς αυτά τα άξια προγράμματα με την οικονομική σας ενίσχυση και με προσευχή να σκεφτείτε για τη συνεισφορά σας δίνοντας το ένα δέκατο των εσόδων σας όπως κάνατε και τον προηγούμενο χρόνο .

Με τον ερχομό του Νέου Έτους, θα αφιερώσουμε τον Ιανουάριο ως Μήνα Συνδρομής (Stewardship Month). Κατά τη διάρκεια αυτού του μήνα θα προσευχηθούμε μαζί και επιπλέον, θα μάθουμε περισσότερα για την ενορία μας, τη διοίκησή μας, τα προγράμματα της ενορίας μας, και πώς σκεπτόμαστε να μεγαλώσουμε την εκκλησία μας και την κοινότητά μας για να υπηρετούμε καλύτερα τις μελλοντικές γενιές των Ορθοδόξων Πιστών και τα μέλη της κοινότητας που μας περιβάλλει.

Ανυπομονούμε να σας συναντήσουμε και να μοιραστούμε το τρέχον όραμα της διοίκησης της ενορίας μας και αποζητούμε την συμμετοχή σας στην πραγματοποίηση του οράματος αυτού. Βλέπουμε την εκκλησία μας, όχι όπως είναι, αλλά όπως θα μπορούσε να είναι. Θα θέλαμε να τη δούμε να μεγαλώνει και να είναι μια ευλογία για οποιονδήποτε επικοινωνεί μαζί της. Αυτό μου θυμίζει τα λόγια του Αποστόλου Παύλου που είπε « Όλοι, εμείς, λοιπόν, .... κοιτάζουμε σαν σε καθρέφτη τη λαμπρότητα του Κυρίου και μεταμορφωνόμαστε σ’ αυτήν τη λαμπρή εικόνα του· με την ενέργεια του Κυρίου, που είναι το Πνεύμα, βαδίζουμε από δόξα σε δόξα.» (Β Κορ. 3,18). Όταν προσφέρουμε τους θησαυρούς μας και τον εαυτό μας με θυσία, ως μέλη του Σώματος του Χριστού, θα φτάσουμε εν Χριστώ στο μέγιστο των δυνατοτήτων μας και ατομικά και ως κοινότητα.

Σας προσφέρω την ειλικρινή μου ευγνωμοσύνη για την αφοσίωσή σας στην ενορία μας και για τη συμμετοχή σας στο έργο του Χριστού για τη σωτηρία μας.

Εν Χριστώ δικός σας,

Αιδεσιμότατος Πατήρ Ιωάννης Θεοδοσίου

## FROM THE SAINT ANDREW STEWARDSHIP TEAM

### Happy New Year from your Stewardship Committee!

As we enter this new year, we wanted to share with you the great work being done by your Stewardship Committee.

This year we took the first steps toward becoming a percentage giving on the way to tithing community. We called this our “Round Up” program and, thanks to many of you, it is off to a great start. So far, 50 parishioners have rounded up their pledge for 2024 and many more parishioners have inquired as to how the Round Up program works. Your enthusiasm is inspiring and is demonstrative of the love we have for our Saint Andrew community.

If you're still unclear about the Round Up program, it is quite straightforward. We simply ask that you:

- stay engaged with our parish by attending liturgy weekly, either in person or online. This is the highest priority.
- stay engaged with each other to strengthen and add joy to the lives of your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Make a phone call, send a quick text, or mail a card to a parishioner that you have not seen in months.
- consider your gifts of time and talents and how they can be used weekly at our parish.
- prayerfully and honestly look at your finances and decide what percentage of your income you can give for your stewardship offering.
- take advantage of the convenience of automated online monthly transfers in making your financial stewardship gifts, ensuring the timely payment and fulfillment of your pledge.
- to the degree you are able, round up your financial gift to the next percentage point (or even half-percentage point) starting right now.

By doing these things, we will be ensuring that the richness of our parish exists not by simply meeting its expenses, but in the ability to serve others in His name, as we have been asked to do.

In addition to the Round Up program, your Stewardship Committee is in the process of:

- adopting methods to communicate with you more effectively, e.g., through text messaging;
- is planning to publish a Ministry Handbook (hopefully by Summer) that will give detailed information of all the ministries and help to channel your talents to the ministry of your choosing.
- has started the Faith Works Career Ministry which is focused on offering FREE services and advice in domains such as mentoring, interview preparation, resume review, presentation skills and more.
- will be reaching out to all parishioners through individual or small group meetings to find out how we can better serve you and your family;
- and, finally, is launching a Planned Giving and Endowment program so that we can diversify revenue streams and become more financially viable well into the future.

We wish you all a blessed New Year. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our Stewardship journey, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

With love in Christ,

The Stewardship Committee – Georgia Haglund, *Chairperson*;

Tom Castorina, Greg Chrysler, Jaime Andrews, Chris Tsamutalis, Nik Karkanias, Ervin Mile

## Elections for the Parish Council - December 15<sup>th</sup> 2024

A Parish Council is the administrative body of a Church community elected by its stewards for the purpose of working together with the Parish Priest or Proistamenos in fulfilling the mission and goals of that community.

Historically, clergy and laity have worked together in dealing with matters of the Church's life. The Parish Council is an example of the synergy of clergy and laity; it is a vehicle for implementing the ongoing mission of the Church and planning the necessary strategies, policies, procedures, and activities that will enable the Parish to move forward in accomplishing God's work.

Elections to serve Saint Andrew Church the calendar years 2025-2026-2027 for the Parish Council were held on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2024 . We would like to welcome back our four re-elected Parish Council members: Nicholas Monokandilos, George Papanikolaw, Michael Serghiou, and Chris Tsamutalis; and the four newcomers: George Baroulakis, Sotiria Hambos, John Jelis, and Fotios Kontogiannis. We would like to share with you a little information about them.

**George Baroulakis** was born on the island of Crete and migrated to the United States with his family at a young age. He grew up and went to school in New York, where he graduated with degrees in Financial Economics and Computer Science from the City College of the City University of New York. George's professional career spans over 30 years in the technology sector of the Finance industry, playing key roles in organizations such as Reuters, New York Stock Exchange and most recently Cantor Fitzgerald.



George, along with his wife Irene and two children Michael & Artemisia moved to Budd Lake, NJ approximately 13 years ago. Soon thereafter they became parishioners of St. Andrew. As a member of St. Andrew Church, George has volunteered on numerous occasions for Church sponsored events. As a prospective parish council member, he plans to use his experience to assist the various Church ministries and projects achieve their respective goals. With new ideas and energy George hopes to engage and help grow the St. Andrew community to new heights.



**Sotiria Hambos** was born in Edgewater, NJ and grew up in Cliffside Park, NJ. Sotiria is the first generation here. Her parents are from Crete and Ioaninna. Sotiria is married to her husband of 24 years Peter Hambos and they have three boys: Yianni 21, Maximus 19 and Andreas 13. Sotiria and her husband presently live in Blairstown, NJ.

Sotiria and her family have been members of Saint Andrews church for 10+ years. Sotiria is a member of Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope. Sotiria's youngest son Andreas is an active member of GOYA and serves as an altar boy. Over the years Sotiria's older children also have served in the altar, attended Greek school, Sunday school, Greek dance, and Goya. Sotiria is very proud of her Orthodox traditions, culture and has instilled in her children the importance of our Orthodox Christian Faith.

Currently, Sotiria and her Husband Peter own a fast food/ Ice cream drive-in located in Stroudsburg, PA and on weekends run a Greek stand at a local farmers market called Yianni's and Yiayia's Taste of Greece! Sotiria also works in the district office at North Warren Regional High School as Accounts Payable/ Receivable and an Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator / Superintendent.

Sotiria serves as the Vice President on the Board of Education at Blairstown Elementary along with being on Warren County Boys Basketball League as the secretary. Sotiria takes pride in everything she is involved in. It is very important to Sotiria to be able to help and support everything she can and be part of the community and her kids' everyday schedules.

Sotiria says it would be a great honor to serve as an additional member of the Saint Andrew Parish Council and seeing Saint Andrew community keeps growing and watching the children flourish.



**John Jelis** has been a devoted member of the Saint Andrew community for nearly 38 years, having moved to Budd Lake with his family: father Vaios, mother Fotini, and brother Louie. A graduate of Mt. Olive High School, John went on to earn both his bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from NJIT. For over 20 years, he has served as an ammunition logistics and maintenance engineer for the U.S. Army at Picatinny Arsenal, where his work includes conducting ammunition malfunction investigations.

John is blessed to be married to Stala, who leads HOPE at Saint Andrew, and together they are the proud parents of two wonderful, beautiful children, Sofia and Andreas.

In addition to his career, John has a deep commitment to the youth of our parish. He has been a GOYA volleyball coach for five years and has coached two Olympic gold medal teams—an accomplishment he humbly attributes to the dedication and teamwork of the players.

Growing up in a family that owned and operated the Budd Lake Diner, John learned early on the value of hard work, integrity, and the importance of serving others. The lessons he learned there continue to inspire him in all that he does.

Following in the footsteps of his mother, who was always dedicated to giving back to the community, John is excited to contribute further by serving on the St. Andrew Parish Council. He is passionate about helping our parish grow stronger and more vibrant, and he looks forward to working together with you all.

**Fotis Kontogiannis** was born and raised in Jersey City, NJ and has been a parishioner of the Saint Andrew community since 2017. He and his family have enjoyed the Saint Andrew community and the parishioners who reside in it. He strives to foster an atmosphere where people can grow in their faith and experience God's love.

Fotis and his wife Alexia, have two daughters, Despina and Andromahi, who actively participate in the church community. Alexia is a Hellenic



Greek School teacher while Despina and Andromahi participate in GOYA and Greek School, respectively.

Professionally, Fotis received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance from William Paterson University and then his MBA from St. Peter's College. He is a Sales Professional having worked for financial, technology and real estate institutions throughout his career. He is currently a Franchise Sales Consultant for CENTURY 21, helping business owners transition to the largest national/international brand in the real estate space.

Fotis is eager to utilize his professional experience to better help the Saint Andrew community in any way possible.



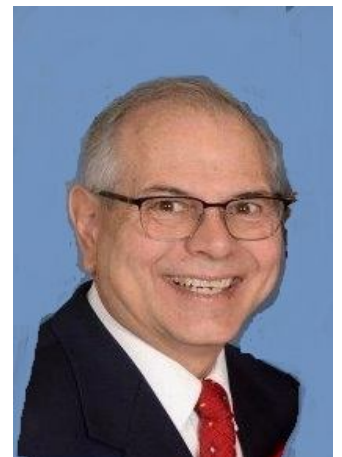
**Nick Monokandilos** was born in Campbell Ohio and grew up in Kalymnos where he earned his Mechanical Engineering Degree. He worked for many years in the construction industry inspecting and painting bridges, and most recently has been supervising construction of site development.

Nick has been a parishioner at Saint Andrew for the past 20+ years. Over the years he has been involved with festivals and most recently the Souvlaki & Gyro fest along with the car raffle. He is currently the Chairman of the festival/fund raising committee.

He has been a member of the choir for many years and loves chanting. Nick also has been involved with buildings and grounds and he is currently the Chairman of the church beautification project.

Nick currently serves as the President of the Parish Council. He is blessed with a loving family who supports him as he serves Saint Andrew whole heartily. Nick and his wife Roslyn have two sons Themelis and Stavros. Nick strongly believes in keeping our Orthodox traditions in our youth and looks forward to serving Saint Andrew as a Parish Council member.

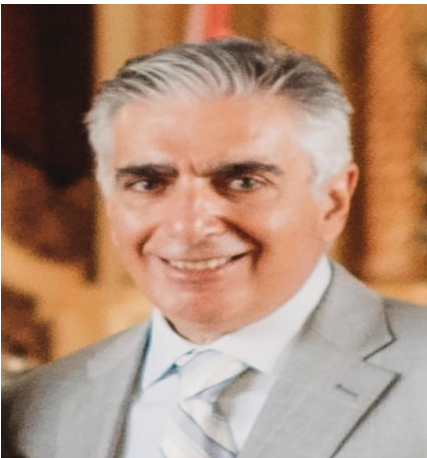
**George E. Papanikolaw** and his wife Anastasia (Stacey) have been members of the Saint Andrew community since 1983. The church has always been an important part of his family's life, and George considers it a blessing to be able to volunteer his time to the church. George and Stacey have two daughters,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



George has been actively involved in helping our Saint 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 30 years and three years as Vice President, The Greek School Education for 10 years and five 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. 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 blessings, George prays that he will continue to serve the community of Saint Andrew with love and dedication.

**Michael Serghiou** has been a member of the Saint Andrew family for the past 24 years and previously served the Parish as the Director of the Greek afternoon school, Parish Council Secretary and GOYA basketball coach. He is blessed with a loving family, his wife Eleni, his son Agathoclis and daughter Maria. The bonds that their children have created with their Sunday School, Greek School and GOYA friends are still going strong to this day.

Currently Michael is the Sr. Director of Discovery Research procurement for a pharmaceutical biotech company dedicated to the discovery of breakthrough medicines to save people's lives around the world. He is looking forward to serving Saint Andrew as a Parish Council member and considers himself fortunate and privileged to work with the other Parish members and realize the ambitions and dreams of the Saint Andrew family.



**Chris Constantine Tsamutalis** has been a steward of the Saint Andrew community since 1991. Chris is active in promoting Hellenic Culture and is an advocate for sharing our faith and culture with the larger community. Chris is grateful to have served the church through various positions including parish council member, GOYA advisor and coach, choir member, member of the Stewardship committee, festival volunteer, and past President of the Saint Andrew Parish Council in 1996. Until his recent retirement, he worked in the telecommunications industry for various companies for over four decades. Chris is a graduate of The Cooper Union, with a BS in Electrical Engineering and a graduate of Stevens Institute of Technology with an MS in Electrical Engineering.

Chris and his wife, Eleftheria, live in Long Valley, NJ and are overjoyed to have recently become grandparents. He is devoted to expanding the legacy of Saint Andrew as a parish, where all families put their faith in Christ first in their lives. He would specifically welcome the opportunity to contribute to "Faith Works", a recently started stewardship ministry that strives to connect members of our community for the purpose of sharing our talents, experiences, and faith with others.

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## Everyone has a story to tell...What is yours?

In 2025 Saint Andrew will be highlighting different parishioners and their unique stories on how the church has impacted their lives. We will hear from a diverse group of our brothers and sisters in Christ regarding matters such as how their Greek Orthodox faith has guided them through challenging times in their lives, how they came to be members of the church and overall inspiring journeys that have been shaped by their faith. We hope these testimonials will serve as an inspiration to all of us to stay connected to our Greek Orthodox faith as well as create new and deeper connections within our parish of Saint Andrew.

If you have a story, you would like to share in a recorded testimonial to Saint Andrew, please contact Stewardship committee member Jaime Andrews by cell: 973-727-8956 or email: [jnjuvelis@yahoo.com](mailto:jnjuvelis@yahoo.com), for further details.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

## HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL (HAS)

The Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School teachers, Education Committee and staff would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We will start off the new year with several events after our Christmas break on **Thursday January 2, 2025**. Fr. John will join us as the students learn the traditions of the new year and the cutting of the Vasilopita.

The Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS) commemorates The Three Hierarchs with a wonderful program on **Sunday, January 26, 2025**, after church service. The students have been working hard preparing their songs and poems. We look forward to seeing you on this special day!



The students enjoyed the "Fall for Reading" read aloud event as we will continue another event on **Sunday, February 13, 2025**, for the winter season. This Greek language winter Read Aloud will consist of popular themed children's titles along with a fun activity. We look forward for every child between the ages of 6 years old to 12 years old to join us. In the meantime, stop by and see our winter window book display of our bilingual library to access a great selection of books in most genres of children and adult Greek language, cultural and Orthodox religious books. One can find books in both the Greek and English language. There is so much variety as we continue to accept book donations, to bring the latest book authors and popular titles.

**ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΠΟΛΛΑ ΚΑΙ  
ΕΥΤΥΧΙΣΜΕΝΟ ΤΟ ΝΕΟ ΕΤΟΣ!**



## HOPE & JOY Highlights: A Month Full of Fun and Connection

November was a month of wonderful moments for HOPE and JOY! We kicked off the month with a delightful meetup at HORSESHOE LAKE PARK, where the children had a blast bike riding and playing on the playground, while the parents enjoyed a relaxing opportunity to reconnect and catch up.

Later in the month, we hosted a creative TURKEY CRAFTERNOON, where the children crafted beautiful religious-themed projects to express their gratitude. They also wrote down what they are thankful for on handprints, which we turned into a banner displayed in the gym for all to see. It was a special way to share the spirit of Thanksgiving with our community.



In early December, we gathered for a cozy movie night featuring *THE POLAR EXPRESS*. The children had a wonderful time crafting, playing, and enjoying each other's company both before and after the film.

Looking ahead, we are excited for even more fun in the new year! January will bring our annual Vasilopita Cutting and a trip to XTREME ENERGY in Rockaway. We can't wait to continue making memories and sharing joy with everyone!

[hopejoystandrews@gmail.com](mailto:hopejoystandrews@gmail.com)



# Christmas Pageant!

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the students of both the Religious Education Program and the Hellenic Afternoon School presented their Annual Christmas Pageant. Children from two years old to 18 helped tell the story of Jesus' birth. With songs and costumes galore, it was a wonderful program. Fantastic job, students!



**WISHING A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL**

# Merry Christmas



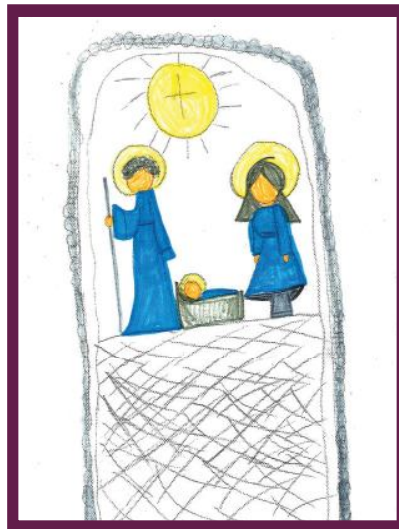
*For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior,  
who is Christ the Lord.*

LUKE 2:11

# Καλά Χριστούγεννα

# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Family of Saint Andrew

Anora Mainkar / 17



Father John, Presbytera  
Athena, Vasilias, Alexandra,  
Nicholas, Joseph, and  
Andreas Theodosion

Presbytera Spyridoula Tsigas

Charles, Angela, Andrew,  
and Michael Aaron

AHEPA

Joseph and Linda  
Antonakakis and Family

The Baker Family  
**Jarred, Melissa, John,**  
Anneliese, and Zoe Bakker

The Baroulakis Family

**Michael, Cathy, Nikki,**  
James, Thomas, and  
Alexander Barrett

The Berman Family

Taki and Alice Bobotas

Chrysanthé Borzeka  
and Family

Thomas Borzeka

Athena Borzeka

Ryan, Katerina, Emilia,  
and Nicholas Brooks

**Angeliki, Maria, and**  
Dimitri Brouard

Frank and Doreen Cavathas

**Manny and Sylvia Christakos**

The Clapsis Family  
**Marios and Eleni**  
Constantinides

The Constantinou Family

Greg, Polymnia, Anthony,  
and **Jonathan Crysler**

Daughters of Penelope  
Alexander #250

Nick, Panayiota, George,  
and **Joanna Delis**

Eleni Demakos

**Costa and Mary Demos**  
and Family

**James, Melissa, and Eleni**  
Dobias and Eleni Gougas

Constantine and Doreen  
Dukas

**Marion Economo**

Despena and Sophia  
Eptamenitis

Takis, Vasiliki, Spyridoula,  
and **Emmanuel Fotinis**

The Galvin Family

**Dr. and Mrs. Sergio Gatoulis**

and Family

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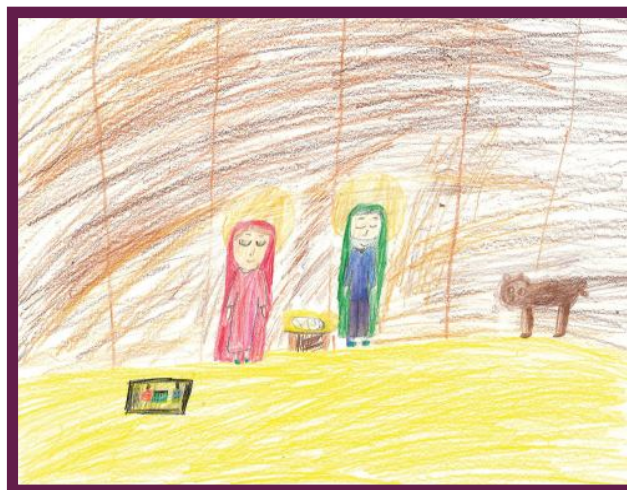
**Alex and Effie Vlassis**

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Andy and Alex Zezas



Eli Pittas Szelag / 7



Andrea Kontogiannis / 9

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και ευτυχισμένο το νέο έτος



Effie Bermudez Petrakos / 11

Summy Hunsicker / 6

The Philoptochos wishes our Saint Andrew parishioners a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year! We thank you for your generous donations!

May God Bless You and keep you safe in 2025.

# ST. ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

## CHRISTMAS 2024

# GOYA

This past December in GOYA was an eventful and exciting month! The Goyans made a significant contribution to the faith kitchen, preparing and serving different types of food to those in need. Also, the group attended the St. Andrew Vespers services and served His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of NJ during the dinner following the service. Throughout that month, the volleyball and basketball teams finished their seasons and competed in the playoffs. The teams did a great job, strongly representing the church. Later that month, the Goyans went Christmas caroling, visiting elderly people's homes. It was a positive experience for both and lifted the elderly spirits for the holidays. Lastly, the Goyans attended the Christmas dance at St. Demetrios in Union. It was a fun time for everyone and a great way to end the year. Next month, the Goyans will take part in snow tubing, the Valentine's Dance, start preparing for Sights and Sounds, and more.

Constantinos Mantinaos - Goya Treasurer





## AGIASMOS HOUSE BLESSINGS WITH HOLY WATER

Agiasmos (eye-yahz-MOS, literally, "Sanctification") is the name for 1) Holy Water, 2) the service by which Holy Water is consecrated, and 3) the Blessing of Homes with Holy Water. It is customary for the parish priest to come bless a home before a family is to move into it or shortly thereafter. Each year, it is also customary for the priest to bless the home with Holy Water on or after the feast of Theophany, which celebrates Christ's Baptism and is the main occasion on which we consecrate Holy Water in the Orthodox Church.

### HOUSE BLESSINGS

Fr. John Theodosion will begin the HOUSE BLESSINGS in our community on the **first week in January 2025**. St. Andrew Parishioners will be notified of his pending visit. Please look for a "POST CARD" indicating date and time.

We will also be announcing in the WEEKLY BULLETIN the TOWNS that Fr. John Theodosion will be visiting. If you do not receive "POST CARD" or an E-Mail when your TOWN is listed, please contact the office ASAP and make arrangements for «AGIASMO» in your home.

### ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΥΣ

Ο π. Ιωάννης Θεοδόσιου θα ξεκινήσει τις επίσκεψις για αγιασμό στην κοινότητά μας την **1<sup>η</sup> εβδομάδα του Ιανουάριου του 2025**. Οι Ενορίτες θα ενημερωθούν για την εκκρεμούσα επίσκεψή του. Θα λάβετε μια ΚΑΡΤΑ που δείχνει την ημερομηνία και την ώρα. Επίσης θα ανακοινώσουμε στο ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΙΚΟ ΔΕΛΤΙΟ την πόλη που ο π. Ιωάννης θα επισκεφθεί. Εάν δεν λάβετε "ΚΑΡΤΑ" ούτε "EMAIL" όταν η ΠΟΛΗ σας είναι καταχωρημένη, παρακαλούμε επικοινωνήστε με το γραφείο όσο το συντομότερο και κάντε ρυθμίσεις για τον «Αγιασμό» στο σπίτι σας.



# What's NEW?

**How does a New Year become "New"?** Time does not come in different flavors. If the year that has just ended has not been a flavor you may have liked, how will the New Year be different? What needs to be changed in order to be capable of embracing something "New"? The way we live is driven by the person we are. Shouldn't we begin with an examination of ourselves?



**So, who am I? How do I stand before the world?** Most of us have some sense of who we are, how we feel about things, and what keeps us going in a world filled with challenges to who we are. We all have likes and dislikes. How do we re-arrange these, how do we change in order to be NEW?

Many of us enter the New Year with the same Old Year Self. How can anything be really "New" if there is no expectation for something "New"? Luke, chapter 5, tells us that Jesus came upon fishermen and entered their boat in order to speak to the multitude. He then asked them to launch into the deep and cast their nets for a catch. Peter, an experienced fisherman, told Jesus that they had fished unsuccessfully all night and were both tired and disappointed at their failure to catch anything. It's easy to get trapped into this routine of living based on outcomes. Jesus speaks in a way that overcomes Peter's objections and they do as Jesus asks of them. It might have seemed irritating to have to answer to a stranger for their failure. Then that stranger tells seasoned fishermen to cast their nets on the other side! How would you respond? I'm sure these tired and disappointed fishermen didn't welcome this advice, but the stranger sounded different, like someone you needed to listen to. Jesus spoke in a new way. They then did what Jesus asked them to do but with no expectation of catching anything when suddenly, the nets overflowed with fish and the boat almost tipped over! What just happened? Who is this stranger?

This brief encounter changed the lives of His first apostles. Jesus was a radical new presence to their

worldly routines. In Him, they perceived something about to occur, something the world was eagerly awaiting - a NEW YEAR! Years are not just defined by time but the very life of each person. What routines did you live that will have to be changed? Let's be honest - change is never easy. It demands risk, letting go of something about to be replaced with something new.

**How do you "attend" Church?** Do you go intending to find that new for your life or do you simply sit patiently until Liturgy is finished? Has your receiving the Eucharist been long overdue? If Jesus calls you to His Body and Blood, do you dismiss Him? It's easy to just disregard the advice of a passing stranger. What does He know about fishing?

**Time does not really care with what you do with it.** If I gave you a large sum of money, the money does not concern itself with how it is spent, You are the one that decides how it will be used. It can do much good or it can do much not-so-good. But these actions establish the kind of world you will be living in. You can re-invest in the same old ways or listen to a new way making itself present. If it is the same old You, December 31 isn't different from January 1. But the fishermen responded to Jesus and completely followed a new life of discipleship. This made all the difference to them and to us.

When you "go" to Church, you might have been fishing all night and caught nothing. You sit quietly in the pew and listen to the Liturgy, but do you "Hear" the stranger passing near you asking you about how things are going? Is there a call to receive His advice? Do you suddenly awaken to something so profoundly new, that you are speechless? Imagine receiving Jesus in the Eucharist in such a way that the "New" overwhelms you. How different going to Church will be from this time forward! New Year becomes new only when each of us embraces this New and then drops everything to follow this stranger. Jesus does not offer us suggestions we might consider. When we do what Jesus asks us to do, our lives



will be given a truly new reality, a reality that we, in our old reality, can never embrace enough to follow. Jesus is no ordinary "New" but something so "New", we must enter it and be renewed. Jesus reminds each of us that we are called to "being born" anew. This New Year ought to have each one of us routinely in a boat full of disappointed fishermen about to be transformed!

**Make this a truly wondrous New Year** by taking the advice of this "stranger", this Jesus, to cast your empty nets with the expectation of having them filled to overflow! Come and receive the gifts of Body and Blood Jesus offers each one of us - come and receive Him!

Herbert Schuster

## PARENTS' CORNER

*By Alexandra Protopapas*

### NEW JANUARY RESOLUTIONS FOR 2025

"Almost" every January I search my soul and pre-plan what I want to do in the upcoming year. Parents, it is okay to pre-plan for your children and yourselves. I have new personal goals and may not complete them all, but I will try.

***One goal for me will be to prepare for a change and mentally think about it.*** I am spiritually and mentally preparing for "A Journey of Faith" pilgrimage in February to Greece and Turkey led by His Eminence Apostolos of New Jersey. We will see the religious sites in Northern Greece as well as important Greek Orthodox sites in Constantinople. We will also attend a birthday banquet for His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. I will talk more about this in the next article. For me this is big! What preparations are you thinking about for your children? Is this not the time for your adolescent high school graduates to decide what they plan to do? Are your younger children doing well in school? Have you followed up with the teachers about their progress academically and emotionally? Do not wait until June.

***My next resolution is to set a goal that motivates me.*** I will not set goals that will be unpleasant for me and I will learn to say NO to some things. How many times as parents do you give in to your children when in reality you want to say NO to them?

In the past, I listed too many resolutions so now ***I need to limit my resolutions to a manageable***

***amount!*** Parents, I know you probably tried to please your children during the Christmas break, but now, slow down! Don't make promises that you may break because you may forget about them, but your children will not.

***I break up big goals into smaller goals and I try to write them down.*** I have been using my "reminder" tab on my cell phone and so many times when a goal pops up, I have forgotten about it! Have you planned something for your children? Use sticky notes and put them on the fridge or in their room. Sometimes you may want to forget about it, or your children may want to forget about it, but the proof is in the written reminder!

***I believe it is also important to share my resolutions with others.*** I will share my resolutions with my son, but I will also find a place to write them down somewhere so I can remember! Maybe that is a good thing to ask your children to write just three resolutions for the year and follow up on them.

Parents, our job is not easy, and being a parent is truly one of the most difficult, no matter what age our children are. We should thank Jesus daily for all we have and pray with our children, encourage them to pray daily, and have conversations with them about our faith. We are in the new year and we should continue to do what we do as parents and accept the fact that just like our children make mistakes, we make mistakes too!

My Table Prayer Guide prayer today is from "Prayers for Special Occasions – The Priest's Service Book:

**Prayer on the First Day of the Year**

"O Lord our God, Who have placed times and seasons under Your own authority, Who, in your infinite compassion and goodness, have counted us worthy to enter a new year of Your loving kindness, bless it and keep us in peace."

I hope you all had a Joyous and Merry Christmas and have a Healthy and Happy New Year, 2025!

Feel free to e-mail me with your comments and suggestions for our "Parents' Corner" at: [alexandraproto@gmail.com](mailto:alexandraproto@gmail.com)

Have a good month!

(You can also find me on Facebook under my name Alexandra Alex Protopapas)  
Alexandra Protopapas MEd, Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences – Retired.  
Currently Part-time with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC)



**SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS**

**+BASIL THE GREAT; +GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN; & +JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**  
JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY - Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:00AM

**ΤΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ**

**+ΜΕΓΑ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ, +ΓΡΗΓΟΡΙΟΣ Ο ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ, +ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΣ**  
30 ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ - Όρθρος - ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9.00πμ



ST. ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
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**PRESENTS**

FEBRUARY 8, 2025

**LITE BITES &  
COMEDY NIGHT**

**FEATURING**



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Foundation

For questions contact [aborzeka@gmail.com](mailto:aborzeka@gmail.com)

# Explanation of the Lord's Prayer

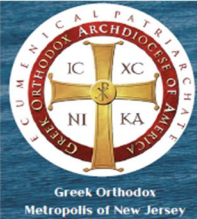
*By Saint Nikodemos the Hagiorite*

The Lord's Prayer, my brothers, according to St. Maximos, includes seven lofty subjects: theology, sonship, equality with the angels, the enjoyment of eternal life, the restoration of human nature, the destruction of the law of sin, and the abolition of the tyranny of the devil. The beginning of the "Our Father" includes the subjects of theology and sonship, for it simultaneously teaches us that God is by nature the Father of the Son and the Emitter [Proboleus] of the Holy Spirit, and that, according to creation and grace, He is our Father, and we His sons. The words, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven," include the subject of equality with the angels, by which words we ask to be united with the angels, and, just as the will



of God in heaven is done by the angels in heaven, so also must His will be done by us who are on the earth. The phrase, "Give us this day our [daily] bread," includes the subject of the enjoyment of eternal life. The restoration and union of human nature is attested to by the words, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors," for, when we forgive our enemies, we are united and no longer divided because of a difference of opinion and will. The distancing of sin far from us is disclosed by the words, "And lead us not into temptation," and by saying this we ask that we not enter into temptation proceeding from the law of sin. And the phrase, "But deliver us from the evil one," represents the destruction of the devil's tyranny.

This teaching of our Lord is called a prayer because it encompasses all that man should ask from God, and all that is fitting for God to give to man. The prayer is divided into three parts: 1) doxology and praise of God; 2) thanksgiving to God for His past, present, and future blessings; and 3) supplication for the forgiveness of our sins and for the sins of our brethren, and various other supplications. The Lord's Prayer contains seven subjects, as we previously said, and is therefore also divided into seven parts. But why seven? This is because man has permission to ask and receive from God during this present, seventh, age; while in the eighth age, that is, the future age, we will not be able to do this, for then it will no longer be time for work, but for the recompense for our actions.



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of New Jersey



## His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Invites you to the  
Annual Epiphany Celebration

Monday, January 6, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Great Blessing of the Waters  
with the Sacred Cross

Molos Restaurant  
1 Country Road 682  
Weehawken, NJ 07086



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of New Jersey

10th Anniversary Gala  
in Honor of the Episcopal Ordination of  
His Eminence  
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Monday, January 13, 2025

5:30 P.M. Cocktail Hour

6:30 P.M. Dinner

The Venetian  
546 River Drive, Garfield, NJ 07026

Tickets .... \$160.00 per person

For more information contact the Metropolis at  
908-301-0500 or Email [10thAnniversaryNJ@gmail.com](mailto:10thAnniversaryNJ@gmail.com)

*all ticket purchase and sponsorship are due by January 3, 2025*

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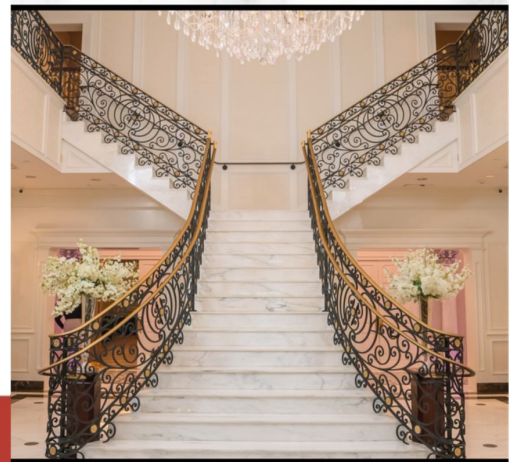
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*Contact the church office if you would like information on becoming a Community Partner. There are various levels and opportunities that you and your business can participate in*

## BAPTISM - ΒΑΠΤΙΣΗ

ROSALIE ANNE SPIES, daughter of Ryan Jeffrey and Margarita Maria (Sergonis) **Spies** was Baptized & Chrismated according to the rights of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm am and given the name **ΡΟΖΑΛΙΑ - ROSALIA**. Godmother was Angeliki Sergonis Melchionne. *Celebrant priest was Rev Protopresbyter John Theodosion*

Wishing them all the Lord's blessings



## OBITS & FUNERAL SERVICES - ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΕΣ & ΚΗΔΕΙΕΣ



### Helen " Eleni " Stamatos

*(Beloved Mother, Loving Yia Yia and Devoted friend) 2/12/30 - 11/18/24*

Eleni Stamatos was born in Nafpaktos, Greece. She passed away at the age of 94. Everyone and anyone who knew her, knew that above all else what mattered most to her was faith, family, and her friendships. It was the driving force in her life, all her love and much of her soul. She proved so many naysayers, wrong by being as my mother and I playfully nicknamed her " the respectable rebel." Through triumphs and turmoil her endurance and empathy showed no bounds, neither did her devotion or her dignity. She will always be the strongest woman I or anyone else (even if they were not aware ) we are blessed to have ever met. Although life should have hardened her instead gave her the ability to express endless love and have undeniable will power simultaneously. At a time when it was unheard of, she raised her two little girls as a young single mother of 30 in a new country. Life was harsh and relentless. Yet, she handled its difficulties with such determination and grace she made it look effortless. She learned a new language went to school, had three jobs and bought a home all on her own. Her modesty would never allow it but deep down I know she was proud of herself, we all are. If she was not in her kitchen, cooking up three different meals and asking "did you eat yet" she was at the kitchen at church doing and asking the same thing. Everyone knew Helen to not only offer a helping hand, but two. Whether she was singing in the choir joining in services or helping in any way she could, she was living her happiest moments in her church, her home. A home she created all on her own and a family that is a true testament to her legacy of hard work, hope and faith.

Eleni was predeceased by her brothers +Fotios and +Dimitry Paixos and sister +Maria Pappadopoulos. She leaves behind her daughters, eldest Mary and husband and godson Brian, and her youngest Athena . Her grandchildren Nicole, Daniel, Eleni, and Anastasia. Also, her true pride, joy and the loves of her life, her great grandchildren Eleni, Aubrey, Max, Xander and Monty. We will always and forever remember the generous, wonderful, and beloved woman she was and remain so in all our hearts forever. I know she would wish me to say "please, everyone love everyone". Let this be her last loving lesson she leaves us all.

The Funeral Service for the repose of her soul was held on Friday, November 22nd at 11:00 am at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph NJ. Interment followed at the Locust Hill Cemetery in Dover NJ. A Memorial Service will be held for the repose of her soul on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



**Ioannis Gregorgios Karipidis** "John", 85 of Madison passed away peacefully on November 18, 2024 surrounded by his loving family. Born on August 7, 1939 in Heimerino, Boiou Kozanis Greece, Ioannis was the son of the late Lazaros and Euharis Karipidis.

Ioannis was an incredibly hardworking individual who made countless sacrifices for his family. His love for his grandchildren knew no bounds, and he treasured every moment he spent with them.

Ioannis was a devoted husband to Kyriaki, devoted father to his children, Lazaros and Despina and daughter-in-law Marlena. A loving grandfather to his ten amazing grandchildren Magdalini, her husband Nicholas, Yianni, Kyriaki, Kyriako, Kyriaki, Vasili, Ourania, Yianni, and Panayioti. Survived by his brother Antonios, and numerous nieces and nephews. Ioannis was

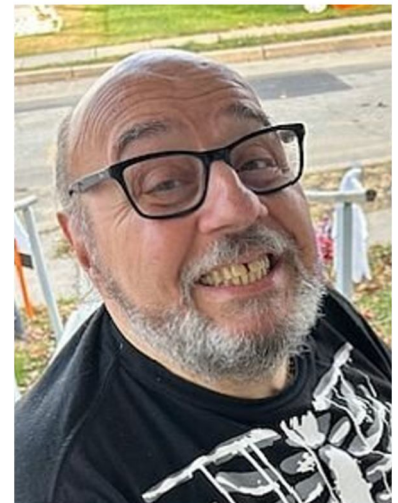
predeceased by four loving sisters and two loving brothers.

Visitation was held at Ss. Nicholas, Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, on Friday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 from 10:00 Am to 11:00 AM followed by the funeral service. Interment was at the Restland Memorial Park in East Hanover.

**Michael R. Lopardo, 67**, of Rockaway, NJ, passed away peacefully at his home on November 29, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Morristown, NJ, to Michael and Mary (Ambrosio) Lopardo, Michael was a longtime resident of Parsippany before moving to Rockaway, NJ, 38 years ago. He graduated from William Paterson University in 1981 with a Bachelor's degree, and went on to have a successful 40-year career as an industrial salesman. For the last 10 years, he worked with Northeast Industrial Technologies in Denville, NJ.

Michael had many passions throughout his life. He was an avid motorcyclist and loved riding his Kawasaki Vulcan 900. Music was another lifelong passion; Michael started playing guitar at the age of 15, and his Gibson Les Paul was his constant companion for many years. He played in numerous wedding and club bands when he was younger, and his love for music never faded. In addition to his musical talents, Michael was skilled at woodworking and video games, and was known for his ability to fix almost anything. However, above all, Michael cherished the time spent with his family, whom he loved deeply.



He is survived by his devoted wife of 41 years, Photeine (Stratos) Lopardo, his children, Michael Anthony and his wife Veronica of Ledgewood, NJ, and Rachel Christine of Rockaway, NJ. He also leaves behind many dear relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Norman Dean Home for Services, 16 Righter Avenue, Denville, NJ. The funeral service was on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 10AM at the funeral home, followed by entombment at the Gate of Heaven Mausoleum in East Hanover, NJ.



## Donations Received +In Memory of:

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### +Nicholas Pallis

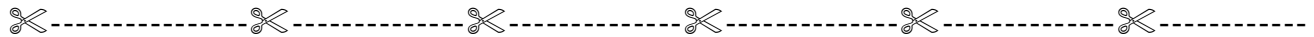
Beatrice Pallis

### +Eleni Stamatatos

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Vaios & Fotini Jelis  
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## MEMORIAL GIFT

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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

<https://standrewgonj.org/parish-calendar/>

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Sundays after Holy Communion

**CHOIR PRACTICE** 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 11AM

**BAKING GROUP** Tuesdays 9am

**Scripture Talk** Tue @7-8 pm Weekly Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88548756745>

**KNITTING & PILLOW** ALTERNATE Wednesdays 11am

**Hellenic Afternoon School** Thu 4:30pm

**Greek Dancing** Thu Groups 1 & 2 @6:30

**Greek Dancing GOYA** Thursdays @7:15pm

**2025 JANUARY IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH**

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN JANUARY:** 1/5 PHILOPTOCHOS,  
1/12 PTA, 1/19 DOP, 1/26 GOYA

1/2 @4:30PM HAS CLASSES RESUME | CUTTING OF  
VASILOPITA@6PM | GREEK DANCE RESUMES

1/4 @11AM BAPTISM

1/4 NNJ YAL NEW YEARS BASH @7:30PM

1/10 Grand Banquet in honor of His Eminence

1/12 **CUTTING & DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITY VASILOPITA**  
note date change (was 1-5-25)

1/12 @11:30AM HOPE JOY EVENT IN ROOM 103

1/20-1/23 NATIONAL CLERGY COUPLE RETREAT

1/25 FAITH KITCHEN - PARISH COUNCIL

1/25 NNJ GREEK LETTERS EVENT AT PARAMUS NJ @6PM

1/25 HOPE JOY OUTING XTREME ENERGY / Rockaway

1/26 THREE HIERARCHS PROGRAM AFTER SERVICES IN CHURCH

1/28 @7PM PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING

1/31 GOYA RETREAT AT ST ANDREW

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN FEBRUARY:** 2/2 PHILOPTOCHOS,  
2/9 PTA, 2/16 DOP, 2/23 GOYA

2/1 @9AM SOCCER NON-PARISH RENTAL

2/1 NON-PARISH EVENT

2/4 @8AM LIFELINE SCREENINGS AT SA SOCIAL HALL

FEBRUARY @11AM -6 PM GYRO & SOUVLAKI FEST DATE TO BE  
CONFIRMED

2/8 AHEPA & DOP COMEDY NIGHT at Knoll Country  
Club, 12 Knoll Dr, Boonton, NJ at 7pm

FEBRUARY GODPARENTS' SUNDAY DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

2/14-16 2025 Music & Dance Festival in Philadelphia

2/22 FAITH KITCHEN - PHILOPTOCHOS

2/22 SATURDAY OF SOULS ALSO ON 3/1 & 3/8

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN MARCH:** 3/2 PHILOPTOCHOS,  
3/9 PTA, 3/16 DOP, 3/23 GOYA, 3/30 BAKALIKO

3/1 SIGHTS & SOUNDS AT HOLY TRINITY

3/3 LENT BEGINS

3/9 SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

3/15 NNJ Oratorical Festival / at St Andrew Randolph |  
St Andrew is hosting the Metropolitan Oratorical  
Festival, GOYAns will participate in Mandatory Event.

3/16 NON-PARISH EVENT (INDIAN PROGRAM) in our gym

3/22 10a-2p NON-PARISH EVENT (WOMEN'S RETREAT) in  
our Social Hall and CR on 1<sup>st</sup> floor

3/21-3/23 CGS NJ Retreat

3/22 FAITH KITCHEN - GOYA

3/23 HAS Greek Independence Day Program in Gym

3/30 GID PARADE in NYC @1pm

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN APRIL:** 4/6 PHILOPTOCHOS, 4/13 PALM  
SUNDAY ALL ORGANIZATIONS, 4/20 PASCHA, 4/27 GOYA

4/12 **Saturday of Lazarus** join us for a Lenten Luncheon  
and Paschal Egg Hunt and making the Palm Crosses

4/13 PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON OFFERED BY ALL ORGANIZATIONS

4/17 -NO HAS CLASS -NO GREEK DANCE HOLY WEEK

4/26 FAITH KITCHEN - DOP & AHEPA

4/26 METROPOLIS ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

4/29 METROPOLIS CLERGY LAITY IN PHILADELPHIA

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN MAY:** 5/4 PHILOPTOCHOS, 5/11 PC,  
5/18 DOP, 5/25 BAKALIKO

5/9 TRICKY TRAY / PHILOPTOCHOS

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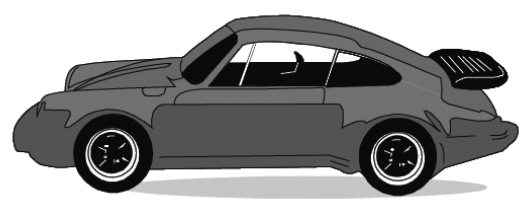
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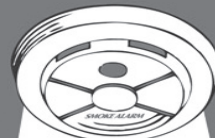
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## **OFFICE STAFF**

**Office Manager**, Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos [info@standrewgonj.org](mailto:info@standrewgonj.org)

**Financial Administrator**, Cathy Barrett [fin@standrewgonj.org](mailto:fin@standrewgonj.org)

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Georgia Haglund, *Chairperson*

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

*DIRECTORS*: Maro Nicolaou Schuster & Rachel Lopardo

*TEACHING STAFF*: Dr. Herbert Schuster, Faye Paskas, Kia Paskas, Maro Schuster, Marina Venizelos, Vickie Geannakakes, Maria Galvin, Presbyteria Athena Theodosion, Dina Aspromatis, Eleni Koukoularis, Photeine Lopardo, Rachel Lopardo

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Fr. John Theodosion, Athena Borzeka, Vasilgia Christodoulou, Maria Galvin

## **HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL**

*DIRECTOR*: Vasilgia Christodoulou

*TEACHERS*: Haroula Christodoulou, Eleni Zeris, Stacey Papanikolaw, Alexandra Kontogiannis, Effie Kritharis, Vasilgia Christodoulou, Yiota Louca, Nicole Pazvanti

## **MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS**

**Ladies Philoptochos Society**: Marina Venizelos, *President*

**Knitting, Crocheting & Pillow Ministries**: Ellen Manetas & Antonia Clapsis

**Bakaliko**: Maria Stamoutsos

**Coffee Hour**: Irene Laoudis

**Agape Group**: Betty & Jack Kelly

**AHEPA**: Peter Tsilios, *President*

**Daughters of Penelope**: Dimitra Pallis, *President*

**PTA**: *Parents of HAS & Religious Education*

**Little Angels Playgroup (LAP)** *need chairperson*

**HOPE** Stala Jellis & **JOY** Jenny Manis

## **GOYA**

Zoe Sifonios, *GOYA President*

Pavlos Giannikopoulos, Christina Kalavrouziotis, Anna Sifonios, Cathy Mantinaos, Irene Baroulakis, *GOYA Advisors*

## **Hellenic Dance**

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

**Jr & Sr Groups** Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



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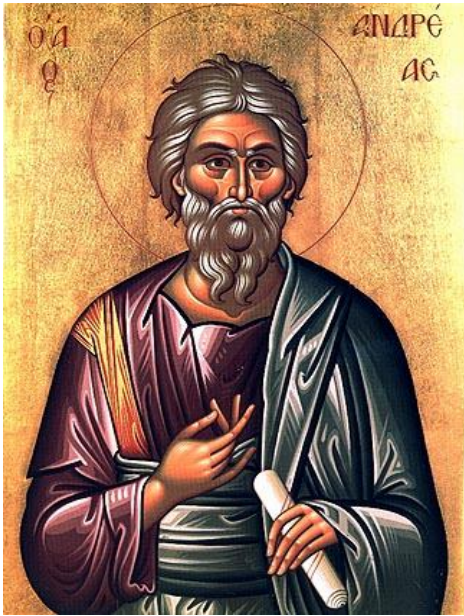
# SAINT ANDREW

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### God's Generosity

Saint Gregory the Theologian writes, "You will never overcome God's generosity, even if you give away all that you have. .... And however much you bring to him, always more remains. Nor will you give anything that is your own; for all things flow from God (Or 14.22).

### Leave the Rest to God

You cannot do *everything*, but you can do *something*. God wants you to do your best and leave the rest to him. Saint Theofan said, "Exert all your strength, but rest your concern for success on God."

The Lord doesn't expect any more from us than what we have to offer. But He does expect us to be faithful and that we do our very best for Him.

***We do our best and leave the rest to Him.***

### HYMN OF THE APOSTLE SAINT ANDREW

As first called of the Apostles and brother  
of Peter the Preeminent, O Andrew,  
intercede with the Master of all to grant  
peace to the whole world, and great  
mercy to our souls.

### ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ

Ως των Αποστόλων πρωτόκλητος,  
και του κορυφαίου ατάδελφος,  
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.