

SEPTEMBER 2023



## Saint Andrew Family News

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

ICON OF CHRIST, OUR LADY THEOTOKOS AND ST. JOSEPH  
ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE ON SEPT 8-9-10  
GYRO & SOUVLAKI FEST ON SEPT 23  
**CAR RAFFLE** | MERCEDES-BENZ ON SEPT 24



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 **OCTOBER ISSUE** is September 15<sup>th</sup>*

Please find magazine issues on our web site <https://www.standrewgonj.org>

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# DIVINE SERVICES

## SEPTEMBER 2023

- Friday 1 *+BEGINNING OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR*
- Sunday 3 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**
- Friday 8 THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
- Saturday 9 HOLY & RIGHTEOUS ANCESTORS OF GOD, JOACHIM AND ANNA
- Sunday 10 Sunday before the Holy Cross**
- Thursday 14 +EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
- Saturday 16 THE ENTHRONEMENT OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN APOSTOLOS OF NJ at 10:30 a.m., *Cathedral of St. John the Theologian, Tenafly, NJ*
- Sunday 17 Sunday after the Holy Cross**
- Friday 22 *PHOCAS THE MARTYR, BISHOP OF SINOPE\* Relics*
- Saturday 23 CONCEPTION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
- Sunday 24 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LUKE**  
*DIVING FOR THE CROSS AT ASBURY PARK @12:30PM*
- Tuesday 26 FALLING ASLEEP OF JOHN, THE THEOLOGIAN AND EVANGELIST

## OCTOBER

- 1 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke**
- Service TBD*
- Wednesday 4 *ST. HIEROTHEOS OF ATHENS Relics*
- Friday 6 ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
- Sunday 8 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke**
- Sunday 15 Sunday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council**
- Wednesday 18 ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
- Sunday 22 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**
- Monday 23 ST. IAKOVOS THE BROTHER OF THE LORD
- Thursday 26 ST DEMETRIOS THE MYRRH BEARER
- Saturday 28 OXI DAY" *Greek National Holiday* | +HOLY PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS
- Sunday 29 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**

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

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

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

### SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> IS THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School students will attend the Divine Liturgy at 10am, receive Holy Communion, return to their pews for **AGIASMO** and then proceed to their class.

# ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ

## ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2023

Παρασκευή	1	ΑΡΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΙΝΔΙΚΤΟΥ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>ΙΓ' Ματθαίου</b>
Παρασκευή	8	ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
Σάββατο	9	ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΚΑΙΩΝ ΘΕΟΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ ΙΩΑΚΕΙΜ ΚΑΙ ΆΝΝΗΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Προ της Υψώσεως</b>
Πέμπτη	14	ΎΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ
Σάββατο	16	Η ΕΝΘΡΟΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΣΕΒΑΣΜΙΟΤΑΤΟΥ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ / <i>Cathedral of St. John the Theologian, Tenafly, NJ</i>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Μετά την Ύψωσιν</b>
Παρασκευή	22	ΦΩΚᾶΣ ἹΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ* <i>Λείψανα</i>
Σάββατο	23	ΣΥΛΛΗΩΣ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Α' ΛΟΥΚΑ</b>
Τρίτη	26	ΜΕΤΑΣΤΑΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ

## ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΣ

<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Β' Λουκά</b>
Θα Ανακοινωθεί	4	ἹΕΡΘΘΕΟΣ ἘΠῖΣΚΟΠΟΣ ἈΘΗΝῶΝ * <i>Λείψανα</i>
Παρασκευή	6	ΘΩΜᾶΣ ἈΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Γ' Λουκά</b>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Τῶν Ἁγίων Πατέρων τῆς Ζ' Οἰκ. Συνόδου</b>
Τετάρτη	18	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΛΟΥΚΑ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>ΣΤ' Λουκά</b>
Δευτέρα	23	ΙΑΚΩΒΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΑΔΕΛΦΟΘΕΟΥ
Πέμπτη	26	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΑΣ
Σάββατο	28	28 <sup>H</sup> ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ» ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΣΚΕΠΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Ε' Λουκά</b>

Την Κυριακή – Ὁρθρος - ὥρα 8.15πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ὥρα 9:30πμ  
Τις καθημερινές – Ὁρθρος - ὥρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ὥρα 9.15πμ  
(Ἐχομε τα Λείψανα του Αγίου στην Λειψανοθήκη της εκκλησία μας)\*

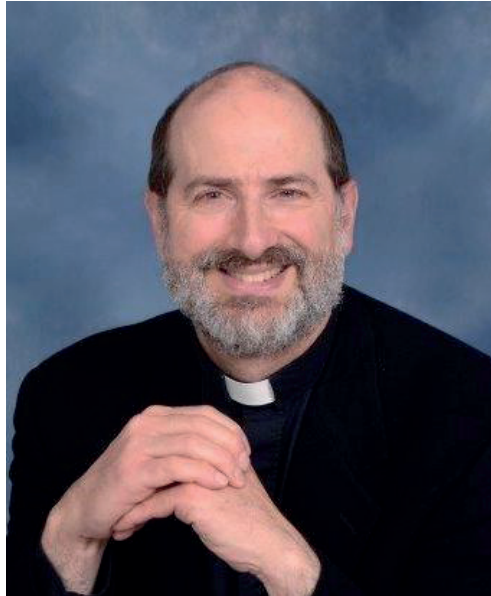
### 10<sup>H</sup> ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΖΕΙ ΤΟ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ὥρα 10πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία θα κάνουμε τον **Αγιασμό** και θα συνεχίσουμε στις τάξεις τους.

# The Church is the Kingdom of Heaven

*Rev Fr John Theodosion*

Friends, as we begin the New Ecclesiastical Year, I wish to bring up to you something which concerns me. It is our church attendance. I have to say that I am very pleased that some people come to church on a regular basis. The Children really seem to enjoy their experience while they are at church. It is truly a blessing for me to see how the people thirst to receive the precious body and blood of Christ.



The hard part for me is watching the church fill up slowly or not fill up at all. You understand where I am going with this. It's like throwing a party at 4:00 p.m. and people don't show up until 6:00 p.m. It is agonizing and worrisome to wonder, "Are they coming?" Even the so called "Greek time" cannot explain that kind of lateness.

We have been taught from the time that we were young children that we need to go to church and prepare for Holy Communion, and this indeed is true. We need to prepare for Holy Communion through prayer and fasting. Part of that "prayer" is the prayer we pray during the Divine Liturgy. The prayers, the Gospel and epistle readings, the sermon, the confession of Faith (i.e. the Creed), the kneeling at the consecration of the gifts, and the communion prayers are designed to help us to prepare for receiving the precious body

and blood of Christ. If we walk into church only in time to recite the communion prayers before receiving Holy Communion, then we really cannot consider ourselves as prepared. As well, we are teaching our children that this preparation is either not important or nonexistent. Worshiping at the Divine Liturgy is the most important thing we can do each week.

We need to make the most of this opportunity that God has given us to pray and worship Him together each week.

You might have heard it said that when people go to a baseball game, they don't show up in time for the seventh inning or show up at the seventh inning and leave just after the eighth inning, but many of us are doing just that each Sunday. We show up just before Communion and leave just after communion. Just as we do when we go to the movies, we should show up a few minutes early and leave only when everything is over, when we have received *antidoro*.

In this way we will make the most of our Sunday Worship experience. We will offer ourselves to God in prayer and we will receive His precious body and blood in return.

Our service isn't perfect. There may be times when you are bored, or the priest sings out of tune, or the sermon isn't to your liking, but I

guarantee that if you come to church at 9:20 a.m. and pray with all your heart you will begin to feel like you are in the Kingdom of Heaven. This won't happen because of the singing or the sermon or any of those things. It will happen because you have prayerfully allowed the Holy Spirit to work in you because you are present both physically and spiritually. If your children are bored, bring them to sit close to the choir so you can all sing together with the choir. Maybe they can help read the epistle or the creed. These are beautiful ways to help the

children participate more fully in the service and avoid boredom. The boys can help in the altar as well.

It is my prayer for you in this coming year that God will grant to us all a year of many blessings. These blessings I pray will come in many different forms, but most of all I pray for our collective spiritual growth and a greater appreciation and understanding of the worship in our church. Kali Archi! A blessed new beginning.



Dear parents!

I would like to welcome you to Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS). The teachers, administration, and staff are so excited and look forward to beginning the new school year in learning the Greek language and culture. **The first day of HAS is on September 7, 2023.** The parents and children will meet in church for Agiasmos at 4:30 pm, followed by a **HAS OPEN HOUSE at the Social Hall** to meet with the HAS teachers and the Education committee. All parents are invited who have enrolled and parents who plan to enroll their child. Registration forms will be provided. There will be a brief discussion on the HAS program, as the parents are welcomed to ask any questions. Drinks, snacks, and ice cream will be served! We look forward to seeing you all there!

The Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS) offers a unique educational program that emphasizes not only the Greek language, but also our Greek history, culture, and the Greek Orthodox religion. In expanding and experiencing these concepts and ideas, the students participate in various schoolwide cultural and religious day presentations and events during the school year, which showcases students' language skills and the ability to engage with the Hellenic culture historical days. The OXI Day, the Three Hierarchs, the Christmas pageant, and the 25<sup>th</sup> of March commemoration are such events the students work hard and proudly perform. Our professional, qualified, and dedicated teachers have many years of experience, and look forward to engaging and teaching your children.

As the Greek school seeks to instill in our students an understanding of the important contribution Greece has made to our western civilization, to our democratic principles, and to the English language. With this understanding of their ethnic background, the Greek School program leads our children to one of the greatest pieces of knowledge, to "Know Thyself". It is our goal that our children appreciate and understand their Greek language and heritage.



His Eminence  
 Archbishop Elpidophoros of America  
 Patriarchal Vicar of the  
 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

cordially invites you to

*The Enthronement of*  
**HIS EMINENCE**  
**METROPOLITAN APOSTOLOS**  
*of NEW JERSEY*

Saturday, September 16, 2023  
 10:30am

Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian  
 353 East Clinton Avenue, Tenafly, New Jersey 07670

Your presence and prayerful participation  
 at this sacred and historical event  
 is most appreciated.

On the occasion of the Enthronement  
 a Luncheon will be held

Saturday, September 16, 2023  
 1:00 pm

The Venetian  
 546 River Drive, Garfield, NJ 07060

RSVP required by September 1  
 908-301-0500 or  
 EnthronementLuncheon@nj.goarch.org

**LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS**

Table of Ten .....\$1,500          Single Ticket..... \$150

**SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM LEVELS OF SUPPORT**

Benefactor ..... \$10,000

Table of 10 for Luncheon, Prominent listing in Program

Patron ..... \$5,000

Table of 10 for Luncheon, Listing in Program

Supporter ..... \$2,500

4 Tickets for Luncheon, Listing in Program

Sponsor ..... \$1,000

2 Tickets for Luncheon, Listing in Program

Checks should be made payable to the "Metropolis of New Jersey" and mailed to 215 East Grove St., Westfield, NJ 07090.  
 All net proceeds from sponsorships and tickets for the Enthronement Luncheon will be restricted to solely benefit  
 the Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministries and Programs

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, as Patriarchal Vicar of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, is pleased to announce that the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate accepted the Holy Eparchial Synod's petition and unanimously elected **His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia as the new Metropolitan of the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey** at its meeting on Monday, July 24, 2023.

His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey was born in Rhodes and is a spiritual son of the late Metropolitan Apostolos (Demelis) of Rhodes. He has served the Sacred Archdiocese of America for twenty years in various capacities as an Archimandrite and Presiding Parish Priest, as Chancellor of the Holy Metropolis of San Francisco, as an Auxiliary Bishop, as Spiritual Advisor to the National Ladies Philoptochos Society, and as Chief Secretary of the Holy Eparchial Synod. Most recently, he served the pastoral and liturgical needs of the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey.

Archbishop Elpidophoros — from the very first day of the election — directed the clergy of the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey to commemorate the canonical name of their new Shepherd in the divine services. The Archbishop also expressed his joy that Metropolitan Apostolos will serve as a member of the Ecumenical Patriarchate's Holy and Sacred Synod for one year beginning on September 1.

**The Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey** will take place on **Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Saint John the Theologian in Tenafly, New Jersey. The following day, Sunday, September 17, His Eminence will also celebrate his first Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral as the new Metropolitan of New Jersey.

Communiqué from the  
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Ο Σεβ. Αρχιεπίσκοπος κ. Ελπιδοφόρος, ως Πατριαρχικός Επίτροπος της Ιεράς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης, με μεγάλη χαρά ανακοινώνει ότι η Αγία και Ιερά Σύνοδος του Οικουμενικού Πατριαρχείου, στη συνέδρια της Δευτέρας, 24ης 'ουλίου 2023, έκανε δεκτό το αίτημα της Ι. Επαρχιακής Συνόδου και εξέλεξε ομοφώνως τον Θεοφιλ. Επίσκοπο Μηδείας κ. **Απόστολο ως νέο Μητροπολίτη της Ιεράς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης.**

Ο Σεβ. Μητροπολίτης Νέας Ιερσέης κ. Απόστολος, γεννήθηκε στη Ρόδο, πνευματικό τέκνο του μακαριστού Μητροπολίτου Ρόδου κυρού Αποστόλου Δημέλη και υπηρετεί στην Ιερά μας Αρχιεπισκοπή πλέον των είκοσι ετών, ως αρχιμανδρίτης και προϊστάμενος ενοριών, ως πρωτοσύγκελλος της Ι. Μητροπόλεως Αγίου Φραγκίσκου και ως βοηθός επίσκοπος, εξυπηρετώντας τις ποιμαντικές και λατρευτικές ανάγκες της Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης. Διετέλεσε δε Αρχιγραμματέας της Ιεράς Επαρχιακής Συνόδου και πνευματικός σύμβουλος της Εθνικής Φιλοπτώχου Αδελφότητας Κυριών.

Ο Αρχιεπίσκοπος προέτρεψε τους κληρικούς της Ι. Μητροπόλεως ήδη από την πρώτη μέρα να μνημονεύουν στις ιερές ακολουθίες το κανονικό όνομα του νέου ποιμενάρχη τους ενώ εξέφρασε την χαρά του που ο νέος Μητροπολίτης από 1ης Σεπτεμβρίου και για ένα έτος θα είναι μέλος της Αγίας και Ιεράς Συνόδου του Οικουμενικού Πατριαρχείου.

**Η ενθρόνιση του νέου Μητροπολίτου Νέας Ιερσέης κ. Αποστόλου θα πραγματοποιηθεί το Σάββατο, 16 Σεπτεμβρίου 2023, ώρα 10:30 πρωινή**, στον Ιερό Καθεδρικό Ναό Αγίου Ιωάννου, Τενεφλάι Νέας Ιερσέης, ενώ την επόμενη μέρα Κυριακή, 17 Σεπτεμβρίου 2023, ο νέος Μητροπολίτης θα τελέσει την πρώτη του Θεία Λειτουργία ως Μητροπολίτης Νέας Ιερσέης στον ίδιο ναό.

Εκ της Ιεράς Αρχιεπισκοπής Αμερικής





# SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. John Theodosion  
Pastor

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 2023-2024

Dear Parents and Students

Welcome Back to St. Andrew Church!!!

The goal of the Religious Education School is to show our children how to lead Christian lives. The Religious Education teacher supplements and reinforces the work of the priest and the parents in educating the child to know Jesus Christ and His Church. Our first concern is that the child learns about his Saviour, Jesus Christ. Using His teachings as our foundations we bring the child to know and practice his Orthodox faith. Each teacher in the Religious Education School is not only a source of religious information to the child, but also one of the child's prime examples of Christian behavior.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated, conscientious, and responsible group of volunteers who will spend each week preparing a lesson to teach our children on Sunday. However, they can only be with them for a mere one-hour a week. Family involvement is essential to a child's religious growth and development. As parents you can:

- Encourage prompt and regular attendance to Divine Liturgy on Sunday.
- Ask your children what was learned in class and discuss the lesson.
- Show an interest in your children's projects and take-home work.
- Encourage your children to do their assignments and help them if help is needed.
- Worship together as a family even when classes are not in session, it helps the children realize that church worship and Religious Education School go together.

***Teach a child how he should live, and he will remember it all his life. (Proverbs 22:6)***

Church and home go hand in hand. **Share the Experience.**

This year we are pleased to continue with our classes as follows:

**Divine Liturgy:** Parents and children should be in church on time

**Altar Boys** should be in church 5 minutes before liturgy begins

**Students & Teachers** will receive Holy Communion and then proceed to their Classes.

**Additional information** about Services found on our weekly bulletin & web site

**Parents for Pre-K3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade please bring snacks**

**Registration (Complete FAMILY & STUDENT FORM) Agiasmos and 1<sup>st</sup> Class is on September 10<sup>th</sup>**

To maintain an orderly environment for our students, we respectfully ask parents to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please bring your children on time to church and for class.
- Parents are asked to return upstairs after dropping off students. Please do not linger downstairs or outside the classrooms since this will be a distraction for the classes in session.
- After dismissal, parents of younger children please pick them up directly from their classes.

We want to assure you that the safety of our children is most important to us. We thank you for your support and look forward to a successful year!

In the Service of the Lord,

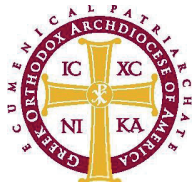
Fr. John Theodosion

Protopresbyter

Maro N. Schuster

Director of Religious Education

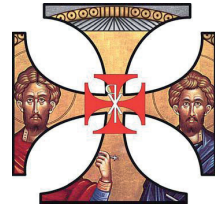
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Web: [www.standrewgonj.org](http://www.standrewgonj.org) • E-mail: [info@standrewgonj.org](mailto:info@standrewgonj.org)



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of  
New Jersey

## SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### PHILOPTOCHOS



#### 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.*

#### 2023-2024

##### The Executive Board

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1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Maro Schuster

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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Panayiota Louca

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Athena Theodosion

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Mary Michailidis

##### Spiritual Advisor

Fr John Theodosion

Saint Andrew Philoptochos

Welcome back! Hope you had wonderful Vacations!

Our dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Philoptochos is considered the Philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church. Philoptochos identifies need and knows how to respond. Philoptochos responds to this need on the local, national as well as on the international level by feeding the homeless, providing clothing and shelter for needy families, by collecting food to stock food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters. The focus on outreach is contemporary with assistance for victims of Hurricanes, Earthquakes, Tsunamis and any overwhelming devastation. We work with Habitat of Humanity to help built and repair homes.

In order to raise the necessary funds to respond to the many cases, which are in our parish or come to us from our Metropolis and National Office Social Services, we have to hold various fundraisers.

We begin the ecclesiastical year with our Rummage Sale. Funds from this fundraiser support our Saint Andrew Church and the knitting group, which provides blankets, hats, and scarves to nursing homes, senior centers, homeless shelters and hospitals. We have responded to needs in our church and we are now saving funds to beautify our beloved Saint Andrew with iconography. At the end of the rummage sale all unsold items are donated to major organizations such as: Soles 4 Souls (shoes), Market Street Mission, Lupus Foundation, Purple Heart Veterans, Peace Works (Nicaragua), Helping Hearts & Handbags (Janet Outreach), Roxbury Social Services, Battered Women's Shelter, Cape Regional Medical Center, Randolph Township Library, Ironia Firehouse, New Legacy Books (VFW Book drop), Morristown Library & Community, Roxbury Fire Department (collection box), Dog Shelters and others. We thank you, St. Andrew community for providing the clothing, furniture, electronics and so many things to make the rummage sale a success. We thank everyone who dedicated his or her time to setup and clean up for the rummage sale.

In October, Market Street Mission coordinates donations of coats, hats, and scarves to be distributed to adults and children in Morristown. Saint Andrew Philoptochos has already donated over 25 coats.

Next comes our Thanksgiving Baskets giveaway. The items you will donate will give families a chance to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner and will restock the Interfaith Food Pantry.

And at Christmas we will gather toys for the children of the Market Street residents as well as hygiene items for the residents of the Dover Seniors Center. The Christmas Greetings form will be available for all St. Andrew families to place their family names and wishes. Please support the Greeting card, as money raised will help needy cases.

We will hold a Christmas and Easter Bake Sales.

In May we hold our largest fundraiser, our Tricky Tray. Over the years portion of the funds raised helped Make A Wish Foundation, children with physical and mental disabilities, Family Promise, Faith Kitchen, Saint Jude's Children's Hospital, Muscular Sclerosis, St. Michaels Home, Dover Orphanage, Dementia Foundation and other charities.

So, please keep all these things in mind when you see us ask for your support and generosity.

Once a month, as you exit the church, you will see us holding a basket. Money that you graciously donate supports the National Philoptochos commitments. Listed here are some of these commitments:

Saint Basil's Academy, Hellenic Holy Cross Seminary School, Cancer and Other Major Illnesses Fund, Autism, OCF, IOCC, UNICEF and many others. We thank you for your generous donations.

Please visit the **National Philoptochos Society Website** and learn more about who we are and what we do. Join our sisterhood.

Philoptochos - (Friend of the Poor), but we also are: **Philotheos** (Friend of God), **Philadelphos** (friend of our brothers and sisters), **Philanthropos** (friend of mankind), **Philoxenos** (friend of the strangers)

We ask that every woman in our church, over 18 years of age become a member of Philoptochos. Men are also welcome and invited to join as associate members. Imagine how much we can accomplish if we are all united as one family helping our Church and our neighbors. Isn't this what Christ asks of all of us?

In January 2024 we will begin our new membership drive. Please join us and be part of the Saint Andrew Philoptochos Society.

Our monthly meetings are the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Thank you.

In the Service of the Lord,

Maro Nicolaou Schuster, First VP St. Andrew Philoptochos

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## **SAINT BASIL ACADEMY**

**2023 Walk-a-Thon is on Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> from 11am-2pm**

Blessing of the Waters, Beautiful Campus Walk, Cookout, Bounce Castles, Games...

\$25 suggested donation pp | more info email Lauren at [l.biniaris@sbagoa.org](mailto:l.biniaris@sbagoa.org)

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**Scripture Talk** reveals the Scriptures one week at a time.

A different priest is invited each week to help guide our discussion.

The meeting begins **every Tuesday, 7-8 pm EST, on Zoom**. Weekly Zoom Link:

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

*Please share this ministry as we continue to unveil the Word of God.*

*The Daughters of Penelope Alexander #250 presents*

*An Afternoon in Paris  
Fashion Show & Luncheon*

*Please join us on  
Saturday October 14, 2023  
11:00 am - 3 pm*



*The Meadowood | 461 Rt. 10 East, Randolph NJ  
Featuring: Fashions by Beciga of Sparta NJ  
Luncheon & Designer Raffles*

*To benefit the charitable works of the Daughters of Penelope\**

***Donation \$60***

*\*Penelope House Family Violence Center, 5<sup>th</sup> District AHEPA Cancer  
Research Foundation, DOP 5<sup>th</sup> District Scholarship Fund, American  
Foundation for Suicide Prevention*

*For tickets and more information please contact :  
[DOP.Alexander250.Randolph@gmail.com](mailto:DOP.Alexander250.Randolph@gmail.com) or Eleni Boyadjis (609)304-3714*

We are delighted to invite you on behalf of the  
**Daughters of Penelope, Alexander #250**

to join our sisterhood.

The Mission of the **Daughters Of Penelope** is to promote  
Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family, and Individual  
Excellence.

Join us at our next meeting, on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 12pm  
At St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph, New Jersey

Fellowship  
Faith Kitchen  
Fashion Show  
Festival of Tables  
Bowling Night

And many more fun activities throughout the year



# BIG GREEK GYRO & SOUVLAKI FEST

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 · 11AM – 6PM

GYRO · SOUVLAKI · GREEK DESSERTS & MORE

ORDER IN ADVANCE · CALL FOR INFO · 973.584.0388

[BigGreekFestival.com](http://BigGreekFestival.com)

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church  
1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ



If you can help at the **GYRO & SOUVLAKI FEST** please contact the office.  
We will need **VOLUNTEERS** for this much needed Fundraiser for our Church.

**Please sell your raffle tickets**, mail, or bring in our money with the stubs to the office, and consider selling more tickets in front of the church.

We need your help to make this year's raffle a success! **Sign up for JUST 2 HOURS** and sell raffle tickets! Sit and read or even bring your laptop (*Wi-Fi available*).

To schedule times email [info@standrewgoj.org](mailto:info@standrewgoj.org) or call 973-584-0388. It is an easy way to help our church meet our annual budget and unforeseen expenses. We have made over \$1,000 in just one day by manning the curbside raffle ticket sales. Please consider helping out in this easy way. Your church needs your support.



## RAFFLE!

**2023 MERCEDES-BENZ  
GLA 250 SUV W4 MSRP \$50,150**

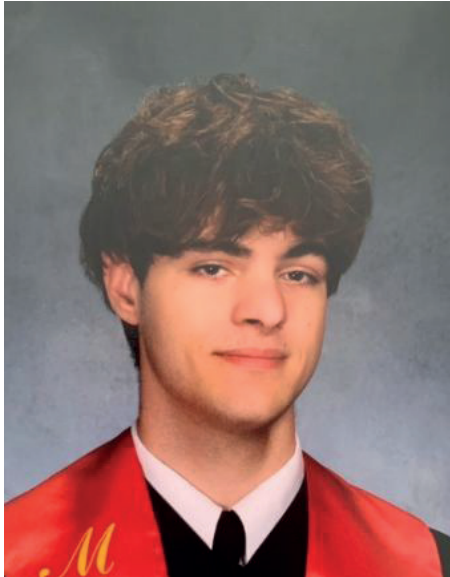
**PATAGONIA RED METALIC | ALL-WHEEL DRIVE | REMOTE START PARKING ASSISTANT | NAVIGATION  
TICKETS \$25 EACH | DRAWING SEPTEMBER 24, 2023, 1PM**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

To benefit Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church 1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869 973.584.0388  
Winner need not be present at drawing. IMAGE FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ONLY, ACTUAL CAR MAY VARY

## **Congratulations to all our graduates!**

May God's graces be with you as you step ahead towards your dreams. The future is all yours now. Go for it! May the Lord bless your steps and watch over you. God has a special plan for each one of you.



### **Michael Aaron**

Throughout Michael's Mount Olive Middle School and Mount Olive High School years Michael has always been very active in the Greek Orthodox Youth Association (G.O.Y.A.) at Saint Andrew. In G.O.Y.A. Michael would take part in monthly dances, basketball competitions, track and field, soccer competitions with other churches, and variety show competitions called Sights and Sounds. He was always ready for any opportunities to volunteer at the food kitchen or help around the church which is always in need. When Michael was not practicing or playing football he was at G.O.Y.A. volunteering and participating in fellowship sports and activities. Last year during Sights and Sound his play group came in 1st place for the play that the GOYANS performed "Odysseus and the Cyclops" and he played the lead Odysseus. Michael

is also the Corresponding Secretary of the youth group board.

The ancient Greeks believed those who are blessed have a healthy body, a resourceful mind and a nourished soul. G.O.Y.A. taught Michael how to bring all these together by teaching religion, fellowship, sportsmanship, charity, time management and so much more. These are some of the qualities that G.O.Y.A. taught Michael to help continue life as a faithful Greek Orthodox christian person.

Michael will be attending the University of Alabama in the fall. He will be majoring in Business/Finance.

### **Evangelos Clapsis**

Vageli has been a member of the church since he was born, 18 years ago. He has been involved with Being an Altar Boy, a Goyan, a Student of Greek School and Sunday School, a volunteer for the Festivals and Gyro Sales as well. Over the years he has strengthened his Faith and has met many amazing people that have influenced him throughout his life. He plans on attending CCM and later transferring somewhere more tech oriented and later potentially go back in for acting as both acting and technology are things that he is most experienced in. He wants to thank Father John, the advisors, his friends, his family and the many people he has met through the church for helping him get to this point and inspiring him to keep going.



### Alexander Dorizas

Alex graduated from Randolph High School and will be attending Pennsylvania State University in the fall. Alex graduated with honors and is a member of the National Honor Society. At Randolph High School, Alex is a member of the Bridges, Key Club, and Future Business Leaders of America. He played baseball all four years of high school and is a pitcher for the Varsity Baseball team. Alex works for the Randolph Recreation Department as a basketball referee and baseball umpire. He enjoys volunteering for the Little League Challenger Baseball Program for individuals with physical or intellectual challenges. Alex graduated from St. Andrew's afternoon Greek School Program and is a member of GOYA. He will be attending Pennsylvania State University in the fall of 2023



### Demetrios Seretis

Demetri is the 3<sup>rd</sup> son of Niko and Sophia Seretis. Both parents roots are from Nafpaktos Greece, where Demetri still has his maternal grandparents, Uncles and cousins from both parents. He is the younger brother of Panagiotti and Giorgio. Demetri was born and raised in Rockaway NJ and attended the public school system where he graduated from Morris Knolls High School. He was baptized at St. Andrew in Randolph by Fr Tsigas and Fr John, the church his late grandfather Takis Seretis along with four others started back in 1962. He attended Sunday School, Greek School, Greek Dance, Goya, and was an altar boy from a very young age and still loves to assist on Holy Days in the Altar. He enjoys Greek Dancing, especially Demotika from Nafpaktos which he danced with his Great Grandfather, and his Papou when they were still alive. He enjoys spending time with his Yiayia Soultana and his entire family, where they get together every Sunday since he was born at his Yiayias house

in Dover for Sunday Dinner. Demetri works on weekends and holidays at the family business with his Yiayia, his father, uncle and brothers. He never misses the Greek Parade on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. in NYC and assists with the roasting of the lamb on his back porch every Greek Easter. We wish him Good Health and Happiness going forward.

### **GOYA Kick-Off Meeting and Pizza Social**

9/7/2023 6:30 pm (5:30 for GOYA Board)

### **Harvest Dance: 9/29/2023 at OUR CHURCH!**

Please use the link below to register.

Registration costs \$130 for the first child and \$110 for siblings.

 **\*St. Andrew GOYA Registration 2023-2024**

Please pay the registration on the WeShare Link. [WE SHARE LINK](#)

# Look Up

By Bill Marianes <sup>1</sup>



“LOOK UP!” Everyone has heard that shouted at them at some point when they were playing sports or just having something thrown their way. If you don’t, you will probably end up getting bopped on the head, or in some other body part, by a ball or other thing being thrown at you. It is great advice since it is harder to see (and catch) things with your eyes closed.

More recently, I found the need to exclaim “LOOK UP!” more frequently in daily life as we all have become fixated with our eyes looking downward at so-called “smart” phones. Ever notice that when you are in an elevator, waiting in line, on a train, etc., more people are looking down at their devices than at each other or what is going on around them. And how many times have you either called out “LOOK UP!” or been tempted to do so (or use your car horn equivalent) at people walking down the street or headed your way who are not looking where they are going but are instead glued to the little electronic screen in their hands.

In a study released by the Pew Research Center, as of January 2014:

- 90% of American adults have a cell phone
- 58% of American adults have a smartphone
- 42% of American adults own a tablet computer
- 67% of cell owners find themselves checking their phone for messages, alerts, or calls (even when they don’t notice their phone ringing or vibrating).

Think about it. Do you know anybody who does not own a cell or smart phone?

The Knight Foundation, in partnership with the Pew Research Center, found that:

- 64% of adults in the United States use Facebook, and staggeringly
- 30% of Americans get their news on Facebook

There is a whole lot of “looking down” going on in our society. And these downward looking trends are increasing.

In contrast, “The State of the Bible 2013” study completed by The Barna Group for the American Bible Society found that:

- 77% of Americans think the nation’s morality is headed downhill
- 88% of respondents said they own a Bible
- 80% of respondents think the Bible is sacred

Yet only 26 % of Americans said they read their Bible on a regular basis (4 or more times a week). In other words, we may be looking down more, but perhaps at the wrong things!

These disturbing facts got me wondering about the great advice “LOOK UP!” and where else I had heard it. My Yiayia (paternal grandmother), an uneducated, immigrant woman of strong faith would frequently admonish me to look upward to the heavens where our Lord resides and where he is waiting for us if we live a righteous and faithful life. And while we clearly bow our heads for many prayers, she reminded me that it was in looking up that we saw the glory of God’s great creation and could be inspired to aim toward the goal of all of eternity in a state of theosis.

Are you living your life by looking down or up? And what form of example are you setting for others who may be watching (in between glances up from their electronic tethering devices). Are you following the clear guidance of our Lord in Matthew 5:14-16?:

***“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”***

Indeed, the Holy Gospel is replete with many admonitions to “LOOK UP!” and see the wonders and miracles of the Lord, and also some examples of those who could not “LOOK UP!” in shame for what



they had done (or not done), including the repentant tax collector in Luke 18:13.

The message today is to humbly, inquisitively and prayerfully **“LOOK UP!”** as we celebrate the glory of God’s creation, the wonder of the world around us, the incredible actions of faith we can pursue in our lives, and the proper living of the stewardship callings each us have been given. We also do this as a testament and in grateful appreciation of Christ’s redeeming love and on our journeys on The Path toward theosis.

I believe stewardship is what you do with all of the gifts God gave you. All of those gifts and talents. So if you want to live the stewardship calling entrusted to you by your Father, ask yourself, “What have I done today (or this week) to live the stewardship calling given to me through the many gifts of which I am a mere steward on this earth?” In what person

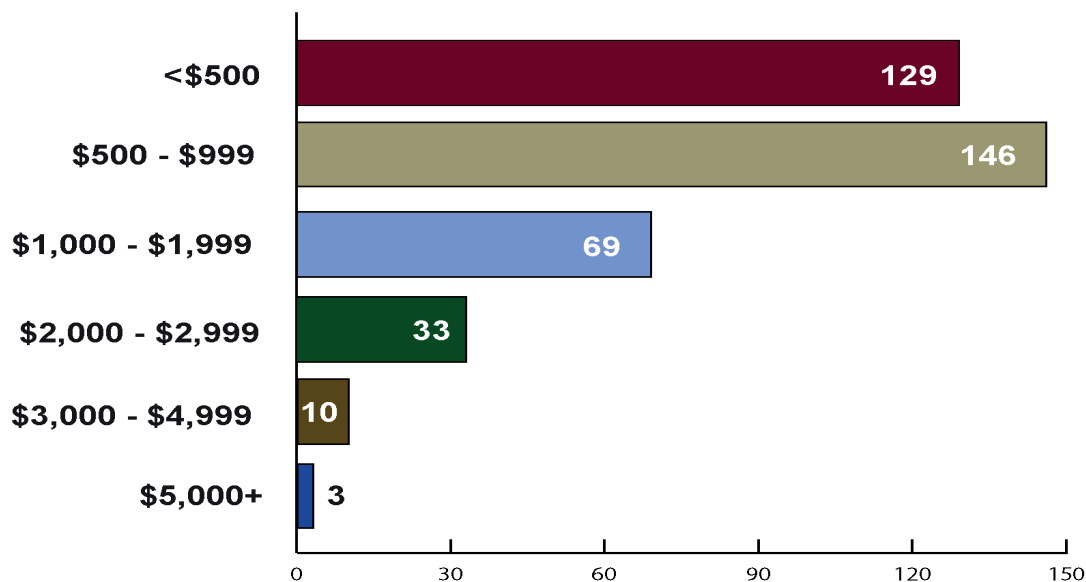
or ministry of your church or community have you “invested” your valuable time and talents in hopes of the ultimate “return on that investment” of an eternal life filled with joy, peace and love?

Yes, you must periodically look down to humbly pray, or answer (or screen) a call on your cell phone, or to ensure that you don’t stumble or misstep as you walk on your journey through this life. But your ultimate destination is hopefully headed toward a higher trajectory. So take aim on that which you seek, and expend your energy in that direction. You just might be amazed at the wonders of God’s creation available to those who seek, see and hear, and then pursue their stewardship callings. May God bless you as you pursue your own unique stewardship calling. Stay on The Path and enjoy the journey. (SOTPAETJ)

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1 Bill Marianes is the Chief Evangelist Officer of the Stewardship Calling ministry focused on helping people and parishes discover and live their stewardship callings so that they may have a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ. The always free [www.stewardshipcalling.com](http://www.stewardshipcalling.com) website contains many resources to help churches and parishioners with stewardship, strategic planning, engaged discipleship, discovering your WHY, servant leadership, effective communications and church operational excellence. Bill is also a member of the Orthodox Ministry Services Team: <https://orthodoxministry.org/>. Bill can be reached at [Bill@stewardshipcalling.com](mailto:Bill@stewardshipcalling.com)

## 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?***



*“...and he had compassion on them...” Matthew 14:14*

Jesus spoke of love and showed compassion. He taught us by his example to love one another and to be compassionate toward those in need. In the Gospels, we read of the compassion of Jesus:

*When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick (Matthew 14:14).*

*Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him (Matthew 20:34).*

*...he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd (Mark 6:34).*

Compassion can often mean kindness and sympathy. In these verses, it means something deeper and much more powerful. “And he had compassion” is translated from the Greek ἐσπλαγχνίσθη (esplachNEEsthee) and comes from the root word in Greek for “guts.” In other words, it is compassion and concern that are felt in one’s guts – a compassion that is felt in a deeply physical way. Compassion felt in this way compels us to respond with love and deep concern.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus says “But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him...” (Luke 10:33).

In the parable of the Prodigal Son Jesus says, “But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him”(Luke 15:20).

These stories reflect the love and compassion that Jesus has for his people. His compassion inspires and challenges each one of us to live compassionately.

This understanding of the full meaning of compassion in the New Testament means that another person’s suffering becomes our own suffering. Compassion in this sense can change the way we live and care for others and for our community. When we feel this physical type of compassion, we are fully and physically engaged. We serve others and care for our community with love.

To love in the way Saint Paul writes to the Christians at Corinth, when he says, “...the greatest of these is love,” means we can’t live without compassion for

others. Love and compassion are not expressed only in our offerings of money and other love and compassion.

The love that Saint Paul describes in his letter to the Christians at Corinth is an expression of stewardship. Stewardship is everything we do after we say "I believe." Stewardship is about how we live our lives and make our choices. That means that stewardship is about love and love is about stewardship.

Love and stewardship are inseparable when we consider God's blessings in our life. We use God's blessings with love and compassion for others and to honor, worship and give thanks to him.

Our parishes can be transformed, becoming beacons of Christian love as we care for one another, face challenges together, and serve our

neighbors. We would be known as Christians by the love and compassion we embody as a parish family.

We are called to be compassionate stewards, placing the needs of others before our own. Scripture is filled with passages of God's call for us to be generous, loving, compassionate givers. Saint Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians tells us of God's call for us to "excel in the grace of giving." We are "hard-wired" to live as members of the Body of Christ and serve our larger community with compassion and love.

The priority of compassionate stewardship is not paying the congregation's bills. It is about how we, as a community, can do God's work with love and compassion. It is less about the parish's need to receive, and more about our need to give. It is our generosity with the gifts and blessings God has entrusted to us. Compassionate stewardship is an attitude and a way of life.

text: Fr Jim Kordaris | icon: afentoulis.com



**To Benefit Saint Andrew G.O. Church  
2023**

**Friday, September 8th 9am-6pm**

**Saturday, September 9th 9am-6pm**

**Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> 12noon-4pm**

**CAR WASH  
FUNDRAISER**

**SAINT ANDREW GOYA DANCE GROUP  
CAR WASH FUNDRAISER Sept 9 -SATURDAY**

**from 10am - 3pm - Suggested Donation \$10.00**

**Come to the Rummage Sale and get your car washed (exterior only) while you shop!**



## Knitting Crocheting & Pillow - We are back in full force

Meeting dates in 2023 on **Wednesdays at 11am**

For more information contact *Ellen Manetas* or *Antonia Clapsis*

September 27

December 6

October 11

January 10, 2024

October 25

January 24, 2024

November 8

## Agape Luncheons - we are also back!!



Join us for Lunch on

**Thursday at 11:30am**

September 21

October 19

November 16

December 14

*We will be at the Saint Andrew Church Social Hall unless we decide to go to one of our local restaurants.*

*Please look for updates in the Weekly Bulletin or ask Jack or Betty Kelly or Chrissy Borzeka.*





Αγαπητά μου παιδιά της ΣΤ' τάξης,

*Κωνσταντίνος Γιαννικόπουλος, Νίκος Γκάλβιν, Ιωσήφ Θεοδοσίου, Μαρία Καλαβρουζιώτη, Σταματίνα Μούση, Λαμπρινή Πάξου, Νίκος Σιφωνιός, Ζαχαρίας Τζούμας, Δήμητρα Τριανταφύλλου*

Θερμά συγχαρητήρια για την αποφοίτηση σας από το Ελληνικό Απογευματινό Σχολείο του Αγίου Ανδρέα!

Σας εύχομαι κάθε επιτυχία στα επόμενα βήματα της ζωής σας, καλή πρόοδο, καλή συνέχεια και καλούς αγώνες. Μάθετε να αγωνίζεστε τίμια, για μια ζωή που θα τιμά πρώτα εσάς, την οικογένεια σας κι όλους εμάς τους δασκάλους σας.

Να σέβεστε τον Θεό, να αγαπάτε και τις δύο πατρίδες μας, την Αμερική αλλά και την Ελλάδα μας, και να είστε περήφανοι για την Ελληνική καταγωγή σας.

Μιλήστε με καμάρι τα όσα Ελληνικά μάθατε σ' αυτό το σχολείο και συνεχίστε να τα μαθαίνετε. Διαβάστε ένα Ελληνικό βιβλίο, μια σύντομη ιστορία, στείλτε ένα μήνυμα στους Έλληνες φίλους σας, μιλήστε με την οικογένεια σας. Έτσι θα κερδίσετε γνώση, αυτοπεποίθηση, αυτοεκτίμηση, περηφάνεια και βεβαίως τον θαυμασμό των φίλων και συγγενών σας.

Σας συγχαίρω και πάλι και σας εύχομαι καλή σταδιοδρομία και ο Θεός να είναι πάντα μαζί σας!

Με την αγάπη μου,

Η δασκάλα σας, Χαρίκλεια Χριστοδούλου

## **THESSALONIKI**

*Κωνσταντίνος Γιαννικόπουλος*

### **ΣΥΓΧΡΟΝΗ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ**

Η Θεσσαλονίκη είναι η δεύτερη μεγαλύτερη πόλη στην Ελλάδα. Είναι το σημαντικότερο λιμάνι των Βαλκανίων και η πρωτεύουσα της περιοχής της Κεντρικής Μακεδονίας. Με πάνω από ένα εκατομμύριο ανθρώπους και μια μεγάλη και ζωντανή κοινότητα, η Θεσσαλονίκη είναι μια μεγάλη πόλη με αίσθηση κολεγίου-πόλης. Θεωρείται η πολιτιστική πρωτεύουσα της Ελλάδας, που φημίζεται για τα φεστιβάλ, τις εκδηλώσεις και τη μοναδική πολιτιστική ζωή της. Κατά την απονομή των International Congress and Conference

Association Awards 2019, η Θεσσαλονίκη κατέλαβε την 39η θέση, μεταξύ των ευρωπαϊκών πόλεων, φιλοξενώντας 39 εκδηλώσεις και καλωσορίζοντας 10.350 μέλη.

Το πιο σημαντικό είναι ότι είναι ένα πολυπολιτισμικό κέντρο με συχνή ιστορία 3.000 ετών με λείψανα του ρωμαϊκού, βυζαντινού και οθωμανικού παρελθόντος και του κάποτε κυρίαρχου εβραϊκού πληθυσμού του.

Η Θεσσαλονίκη φιλοξενεί τρία γνωστά πανεπιστήμια, το Αριστοτέλειο Πανεπιστήμιο Θεσσαλονίκης (το μεγαλύτερο στην περιοχή της Ευρώπης), το Πανεπιστήμιο Μακεδονίας και το Τεχνολογικό Εκπαιδευτικό Ίδρυμα Αλέξανδρος Θεσσαλονίκης και δύο ερευνητικά κέντρα, το

Κέντρο Έρευνας και Τεχνολογίας, Hellas και το Κέντρο Ερευνών Νοτιοανατολικής Ευρώπης. Συνολικά, ο φοιτητικός πληθυσμός της πόλης ξεπερνά τις 100.000, ενώ ο αριθμός των επιστημόνων και ερευνητών που εργάζονται στα πανεπιστήμια και τα ερευνητικά κέντρα υπολογίζεται ότι ξεπερνά τις 10.000.

Η Θεσσαλονίκη είναι μια πολύ ευχάριστη και εύκολη πόλη για να περπατήσετε. Οι πιο σημαντικοί και δημοφιλείς προορισμοί βρίσκονται σε μικρή απόσταση για περπάτημα μεταξύ τους. Προσφέρει στον επισκέπτη την ευκαιρία να απολαύσει μια ποικιλία από τοπία, ιστορικούς χώρους και γαστρονομικές εμπειρίες. Με έναν ανακαινισμένο παραλιακό δρόμο μήκους 10 χιλιομέτρων, οι επισκέπτες μπορούν πάντα να απολαμβάνουν έναν ασφαλή και χαλαρό περίπατο ή βόλτα στην πόλη.

Η Θεσσαλονίκη προσφέρει πολλές επιλογές για να μετακινηθείτε στην πόλη. Εκτός από τις τρέχουσες δημόσιες συγκοινωνίες, το νεόδμητο Μετρό αναμένεται να παραδοθεί έως τον Απρίλιο του 2023, παρέχοντας μια επιπλέον επιλογή στα μέσα μαζικής μεταφοράς. Πολλές τοπικές και παγκόσμιες εταιρείες ιδρύονται και παρέχουν κοινόχρηστα οχήματα, από σκούτερ μέχρι συστήματα κοινής χρήσης ποδηλάτων χωρίς σύνδεση. Με ένα μεγάλο δίκτυο ποδηλατοδρόμων και τον παραλιακό χώρο περιπάτου χωρίς αυτοκίνητα, οι επισκέπτες μπορούν να μετακινηθούν στην πόλη γρήγορα, με ασφάλεια και με χαμηλό κόστος. Μια τελευταία επιλογή είναι τα ταξί, τα οποία είναι πολύ εύκολα στη μίσθωση και σε λογικές τιμές.

Η Θεσσαλονίκη θεωρείται επίσης η γαστρονομική πρωτεύουσα της Ελλάδας, με εκατοντάδες εστιατόρια και εστιατόρια, που καλύπτουν ένα ευρύ φάσμα στυλ, κουζινών και μεγεθών.

Οι καιρικές συνθήκες στη Θεσσαλονίκη στις αρχές Ιουνίου είναι ιδανικές. Ένα μεσογειακό κλίμα με υψηλή θερμοκρασία περίπου 28°C και χαμηλή θερμοκρασία 19°C, σχεδόν καθόλου βροχή και 15 ώρες ημέρας με 11 ώρες ηλιοφάνειας κάθε μέρα είναι η τέλεια ευκαιρία για τους επισκέπτες να απολαύσουν την πόλη.

## MODERN THESSALONIKI

Thessaloniki is the second-largest city in Greece. It is the Balkans' most important port and the capital of the Central Macedonia region. With over a million people and a large and vibrant community, Thessaloniki is a big city with a college-town feel. It is considered Greece's cultural capital, celebrated for its festivals, events, and unique cultural life. During the 2019 International Congress and Conference Association Awards, Thessaloniki was ranked 39th place, among European cities, hosting 39 events and welcoming 10,350 members.

More importantly, it is a multicultural center with a frequent 3,000-year-old history with relics of its Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman past, and of its once dominant Jewish population.

Thessaloniki is home to three well-known universities, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (the largest in the area of Europe), the University of Macedonia, and the Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, and two research centers, the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas, and the Southeast European Research Centre. In total, the student population of the city is more than 100,000, while the number of scientists and researchers working in the universities and research centers is estimated to exceed 10,000.

Thessaloniki is a very pleasant and easy city to walk around. Most important and popular destinations are within a small walkable range to each other. It offers the visitor the opportunity to enjoy a variety of sceneries, historical sites, and culinary experiences. With a renovated 10km long seafront promenade, visitors can always enjoy a safe and relaxed walk or ride across the town.

Thessaloniki offers many options for getting around the city. On top of current public transportation, the newly constructed Metro is expected to be delivered by April 2023, providing an additional choice in public transportation. Many local and worldwide companies are established and provide shared vehicles, from scooters to dockless bike sharing systems. With a large bicycle lane network and the car-free beach promenade visitors can move around the city fast, safely, and at a low cost. A last option

is taxis, which are very easy to hire and reasonably priced.

Thessaloniki is also considered the culinary capital of Greece, featuring hundreds of restaurants and food spots, covering a wide range of styles, cuisines, and size.

Weather conditions in Thessaloniki in early June are ideal. A Mediterranean climate with a temperature high at around 28°C and low at 19°C, hardly any rain, and 15 hours of daylight with 11 hours of sunshine each day it's the perfect opportunity for visitors to enjoy the city.

## ΑΡΧΑΙΑ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ

Η Θεσσαλονίκη ιδρύθηκε τον περ. 316 π.Χ. από τον Μακεδόνα στρατηγό Κάσσανδρο. Ονόμασε την πόλη από τη σύζυγό του Θεσσαλονίκη, κόρη του Φιλίππου Β΄ της Μακεδονίας. Ωστόσο, υπάρχουν στοιχεία για οικισμό ακόμη πιο πίσω, που χρονολογείται στον 5ο αιώνα π.Χ. Αυτό για το οποίο είναι γνωστός ο Κάσσανδρος είναι ότι έχει κατακτήσει υπάρχουσες αποικίες για να τις ενώσει στην ενιαία πολιτική εξουσία της Θεσσαλονίκης. Η Πόλη, ένα λιμάνι που βρίσκεται στον Θερμαϊκό Κόλπο, ήταν σε καλή θέση για κερδοφόρες εμπορικές διαδρομές από το Βυζάντιο και τη λεκάνη του Δούναβη. Αντικατέστησε γρήγορα την Πέλλα ως το κύριο λιμάνι της Μακεδονίας και ο Λευκός Πύργος κατασκευάστηκε για να προστατεύσει την πόλη. Χρησιμοποιήθηκε αποτελεσματικά ως στρατιωτική βάση από την οποία επιτέθηκε στον Πύρρο, βασιλιά της Ηπείρου, γ. 273 π.Χ.

Μέχρι το 58 π.Χ., η Θεσσαλονίκη έγινε ελεύθερη πόλη με ελκυστικές φορολογικές απαλλαγές για εμπορικές συναλλαγές, η ευημερία της πόλης κατά την περίοδο αυτή οφείλεται στην παραγωγική κατασκευή νομισμάτων.

Στο γ. 250 μ.Χ., επί Δεκίου, η Θεσσαλονίκη έγινε ρωμαϊκή αποικία. Ο μελλοντικός αυτοκράτορας Γαλέριος τίμησε τη νίκη του επί του Ναρσή, του Πέρση βασιλιά, χτίζοντας μια αψίδα θριάμβου στην πόλη το 298 μ.Χ. Όταν έγινε αυτοκράτορας το 305 μ.Χ., επέλεξε τη Θεσσαλονίκη ως κατοικία του και η πόλη επωφελήθηκε από ένα έργο ανοικοδόμησης που περιλάμβανε έναν ιππόδρομο και ένα νέο

φόρουμ. Η πόλη άκμασε στη Βυζαντινή Αυτοκρατορία, με πιο σημαντική μόνο την Κωνσταντινούπολη.

## ANCIENT THESSALONIKI

Thessalonica was founded in c. 316 BC by the Macedonian general Cassander. He named the city after his wife Thessalonike, daughter of Philip II of Macedonia. However, there is evidence of a settlement even further back, dating to the 5th century BC. What Cassander is known for is to have conquered existing colonies to unify them into the single political rule of Thessaloniki. The City, a port located at the Thermaic Gulf, was well-positioned for profitable trade routes from Byzantium and the Danube basin. It quickly replaced Pella as the major Macedonian port, and the White Tower was constructed to protect the city. It was used effectively as a military base from which attacked on Pyrrhus, King of Epirus, c. 273 BC.

By 58BC, Thessalonica was made a free city with attractive tax exemptions for trading, the prosperity of the city during this period is due to a prolific making of coinage.

In c. 250 AD, during the reign of Decius, Thessalonica was made a Roman colony. Future emperor Galerius commemorated his victory over Narses, the Persian king, by building a triumphal arch in the city in 298 AD. When he became emperor in 305 AD, he chose Thessalonica as his residence and the city benefitted from a re-building project which included a hippodrome and a new forum. The city flourished in the Byzantine Empire, with only Constantinople being more important.

## ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟ

*Σταματίνα Μούση*

## ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟ

Το Ναύπλιο βρίσκεται στην Πελοπόννησο. Η πόλη του Ναυπλίου ήταν η πρώτη πρωτεύουσα της Ελλάδας. Ονομάστηκε έτσι από τον Ναύπλιο, γιο του Ποσειδώνα και ήταν το σπίτι του Παλαμήδη. Ο Παλαμήδης ήταν τοπικός ήρωας του Τρωικού πολέμου και εφευρέτης των μέτρων και σταθμών (βάρους, απόστασης κ.λ.π), του πρώτου ελληνικού αλφάβητου και των φάρων. Από τον Παλαμήδη πήρε

το όνομά του το περίφημο κάστρο του Ναυπλίου. Κατά την διάρκεια της Ελληνικής Επανάστασης, το Ναύπλιο ήταν πολύ δυνατό οθωμανικό οχυρό και πολιορκήθηκε για ένα χρόνο. Τελικά η πόλη ελευθερώθηκε, αφού οι εγκλωβισμένοι Τούρκοι υπέφεραν από πείνα. Μετά από την Απελευθέρωση έγινε η πρωτεύουσα της Ελλάδας.

Το Ναύπλιο είναι δημοφιλής τουριστικός προορισμός καθώς βρίσκεται πολύ κοντά στην Αθήνα. Είναι γνωστό για το «Μπούρτζι», ένα φρούριο το οποίο χτίστηκε σε ένα μικρό νησί στο λιμάνι του Ναυπλίου.

Ο Καποδίστριας ήταν ο πρώτος πρωθυπουργός της Ελλάδας. Δεν δέχτηκε μισθό όσο ήταν στην κυβέρνηση. Βοήθησε ακόμα και με δικά του χρήματα στην ανασυγκρότηση του νέου ελληνικού κράτους. Πριν έρθει στην Ελλάδα, ήταν υπουργός του Τσάρου της Ρωσίας. Γεννημένος στην Κέρκυρα, από αριστοκράτη Κερκυραίο πατέρα και αριστοκράτισσα Κύπρια μητέρα, απέκτησε πολλές γνώσεις και πολλά πτυχία. Μέχρι σήμερα θεωρείται ο πιο ηθικός και αγνός πατριώτης Πρωθυπουργός της νεότερης Ελλάδας. Δολοφονήθηκε το 1831 από πολιτικό του αντίπαλο, στον δρόμο για την εκκλησία, κάποια Κυριακή.

## NAFPLIO

The city of Nafplio was the first capital of the modern Greek state.

Named after Nafplios, son of Poseidon, and home of Palamidis, their local hero of the Trojan war and supposedly the inventor of weights and measures, lighthouses, and the first Greek alphabet and the father of the Sophists.

During the Greek War of Independence, Nafplio was a major Ottoman stronghold and was besieged for more than a year. The town finally surrendered on account of forced starvation. After its capture, because of its strong fortifications, it became the seat of the provisional government of Greece.

Nafplio is a popular tourist destination as it is located just 140 km from Athens. It is well known for Bourtzi, a small fortress built on an island in the harbor of Nafplio. Nafplio is located in Peloponnesus.

Kapodistrias was the first prime minister of Greece and he didn't accept money as a payment for his service as a governor. Instead, he spend a lot of his own money to help the people of Greece. He was a minister of Russia, then he came to Greece and helped Greece's government and people after the Turks left. His mom was from Cyprus and his dad from Corfu. His dad was very wealthy and well educated. They were aristocrats. Kapodistrias was then assassinated by a Greek opponent.

## PELLA

*Ιωσήφ Θεοδοσίου*

## ΠΕΛΛΑ

Η Πέλλα ήταν αρχαία πόλη της Μακεδονίας. Χτίστηκε το 433 π.Χ. και είναι η πατρίδα του Μ. Αλεξάνδρου. Η σημερινή πόλη της Πέλλας είναι χτισμένη δίπλα στην αρχαία πόλη, περίπου 23 χιλιόμετρα μακριά από την θάλασσα.

Ο φιλόσοφος Ξενοφών την ονόμασε σαν την μεγαλύτερη πόλη της Μακεδονίας. Ήταν το σπουδαιότερο εμπορικό και πολιτιστικό κέντρο της Ελλάδας την τότε εποχή.

## PELLA

Pella was an ancient city of Macedonia and was built in 433 B.C. It is the birthplace of Alexander the Great. Today's city of Pella is located next to the ancient city and it's about 23 kilometers from the sea.

Xenophon, a Greek philosopher and historian, called ancient Pella the biggest and most important commercial and cultural center of Greece. (on the map it is between Veria and Thessaloniki)

## ΝΑΥΠΑΚΤΟΣ

*Λαμπρινή Πάζου*

## ΝΑΥΠΑΚΤΟΣ

Η Ναύπακτος είναι μια όμορφη πόλη με πλούσια ιστορία. Είναι μια από τις παλαιότερες πόλεις της Ελλάδας με ιστορία 3,500 ετών. Το κάστρο της Ναυπάκτου προστάτευε τους ανθρώπους σε πολέμους για πολλά χρόνια. Το 1829 η πόλη ανάγκασε τελικά τους Τούρκους να παραδοθούν. Σήμερα πολλοί τουρίστες πηγαίνουν στο κάστρο καθώς είναι ένα από τα δημοφιλή μέρη.



Η Ναύπακτος βρίσκεται στη δυτική Ελλάδα και βρίσκεται στον Κορινθιακό κόλπο. Ο πληθυσμός είναι περίπου 14,000 άτομα. Έχει και όμορφες παραλίες. Το λιμάνι χωρίζει την μεγάλη παραλία σε δύο περιοχές, Ψάνη και Γρίμποβο. Υπάρχουν πολλά εστιατόρια και καφενεία στις παραλίες.

Ιστορία, πολιτισμός και όμορφες παραλίες είναι αυτό που κάνει τη Ναύπακτο τόσο όμορφη.

## NAFPAKTOS

Nafpaktos is a beautiful town with a rich history. It is one of the oldest cities in Greece with a history of

3,500 years. The castle of Nafpaktos protected people in wars for many years. In 1829 the city finally forced the Turks to surrender. Today many tourists go to the castle as it is one of the popular places. Nafpaktos is located in western Greece and is located in the Gulf of Corinth. The population is approximately 14,000 people. It also has beautiful beaches. The port divides the long beach into two areas, Psani and Gribovo. There are many restaurants and cafes on the beaches. History, culture and beautiful beaches are what make Nafpaktos so beautiful.



# The Liturgical Imperative

It is a fact that Church attendance has been decreasing. There is a tendency to blame it on Covid19 or that there is a disconnect with the reality offered in Church with the reality we all seem to actually be living in. There are critics of the language used, but I wonder if an all-English Liturgy would motivate attendance. What is the real issue that has affected Church attendance and a decline in youth participation?



If a local sports favorite is having a losing season, then it will not be difficult to get seats for the games you might want to see. A Broadway flop seldom fills a performance. When things lose their importance, its not hard to lose interest in these things. We crave engagement. What we invest our time in has to matter, have some significance. There's a restless desire for excitement. People who are bored will be more likely to experiment, especially if slightly risky. Isn't this the most basic temptation? Weren't Adam and Eve attracted by the exciting possibility of being "gods"? Who needs God when I can be that myself?

Sadly, many "attend" Church and are "bored". Going Church requires effort and purpose. The Divine Liturgy isn't easy, nor is it there for your entertainment. Without purpose, the mind wanders. Other thoughts fill our time and distract from the Liturgy. Unless each of us has a focus of the Divine Liturgy, a disconnect occurs. When that happens, the Liturgy becomes "too long"!

At its simplest, the Divine Liturgy is worship. But worship cannot occur unless that which is being

worshipped is real. How real is God for you is not an unfair question. It's not just claiming a belief "in God" that matters but a response. Faith isn't belief. Faith is an action filled with real hope that what you put your faith in is responsive to you. You act toward God and expect God to act toward you. This faith is communicated in a special dialogue called prayer. The Divine Liturgy is that prayer by which you ask God to

allow you to draw near Him, in Christ, at the Eucharist. The true purpose of the Liturgy is to be in love with God and when you love God, you worship. God is the reality of your life. Everything you do is offered to God even if you have to wait for God's response.

It isn't easy to be this kind of Orthodox today. We have become demanding of things and have centered things on ourselves. We are unwilling to wait for things. That is why the Liturgy is "too long". But unless we don't know why we are attending anything that is "too long" how will we ever know why we're there anyway? If the Divine Liturgy is boring or going to Religious Education classes is unpleasant, then why are you "going" to Church? Prayer life takes effort. Proper reading of the Bible requires spiritual guidance. Getting to know who the Fathers and Mothers of our Church are demands study. We need to recognize that being a spiritual Orthodox has always challenged us to be in training. Nothing is more easily overcome than a weak spiritual life. This is one reason the "world" is rapidly replacing God. Even today, Jesus is constantly under attack or being

redefined to accommodate our worldly thoughts and ways. Without the Church developing us spiritually, we cannot even argue and defend Christ from such assaults.

And so another Liturgical Year begins. Each of us is called into the presence of the Divine Liturgy and to offer ourselves to Christ in order for Christ, through the Holy Spirit, to renew us, to re-create us into the likeness of Christ's reality God calls us to be. Theosis might sound terrifying and is often misunderstood, but each of us is called to transform our created "image" into His likeness. As we attend the Divine Liturgy, let's make a solid

effort to participate. Use the books, follow along each section, and prayer in order to come before Christ in the Eucharist and be "reborn"!

Salvation is offered freely but you have to accept it. God has offered it to us as a gift. And like all gifts, you have to receive it for yourself. God respects your freedom. There is no automatic salvation! It remains your choice and that should be taken very seriously. How am I choosing? Be mindful of that responsibility and return to the Church where you worship because you love God. May God bless you!

Herbert Schuster

## **FAITH KITCHEN**

### **SAINT ANDREW FEED THE HUNGRY MINISTRY**

On the fourth Saturday of each month, our church helps to feed the hungry. This important ministry is completed through the Faith Kitchen, located in the Trinity Lutheran Church on East Blackwell Street in Dover.

Faith Kitchen opened its doors over 30 years ago when a man asked for groceries and a can opener. This poor man proceeded to sit down on the curb and eat the food he was given. He was hungry and did not care if the food was cold or raw. Since that time, Faith Kitchen, through the volunteer organizations who support it, like St. Andrew, serves a nutritious meal free of charge six days a week to anyone who comes to eat.

Once a month, the different ministries (GOYA, AHEPA/Daughters of Penelope, Philoptochos and Parish Council) take turns serving a hot meal to between 70 and 100 people. The meal includes a main dish, vegetable, salad, bread, fruit cup and dessert. We also serve seconds, provide take out at the end of the lunch service, and hand out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the guest's Sunday meal.

Please help us fulfill this ministry. We will be sponsoring Faith Kitchen on **September 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 28<sup>th</sup>, November 25<sup>th</sup> and December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. You can help by donating to the cost of the meal, by providing some of the meal and/or by volunteering to serve. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Georgia Haglund by email at [thehaglundfamily@comcast.net](mailto:thehaglundfamily@comcast.net).

## BAPTISMS – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΕΙΣ

**ANASTASIA TRINIDAD**, daughter of Carmelo Trinidad and Georgia Skrivanos of Parsippany, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Saturday at 11:00am on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and given the name **ANASTASIA – ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ** .  
Godparents were Nikolaos and Sone Caminis.

**OLIVIA ROSE SPIROPOULOS**, daughter of Christopher B. Spiropoulos and Lauren Hope Talamini of Randolph, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Saturday at 11:00 am on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and given the name **OLIVIA – ΟΛΙΒΙΑ**.  
Godfather was Demetrios Demopoulos.

**ARTEMISIA MARIA D'ANDREW**, daughter of Christopher Ralph D'Andrea and Katerina M. Melekos of Montville, NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Sunday at 1:00 pm June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and given the name **ARTEMISIA – ΑΡΤΕΜΙΣΙΑ**.  
Godfather was Yianni Kalas.

**MIHALIS REYES**, son of Bret Santos Reyes and Elena M. Melekos of Randolph NJ was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rites of our church on Sunday at 1:00 pm June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and given the name **MIHALIS- ΜΙΧΑΛΗΣ**.  
Godmother was Katerina D'Andrea.

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



## WEDDINGS - ΓΑΜΟΙ

On Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 1:00pm **Eric Warren** of Chester NJ wed **Katerina Constantinides** of Hopatcong , NJ. Officiant was Rev. Fr. John Theodosion, sponsor was Christina Bolton, witness was Natasa Mc Donnell.

On Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 2:30pm **Panagiotis Katsetos** wed **Eleana Schopperth** of Hackettstown, NJ. Officiant was Rev. Fr. John Theodosion, sponsor was Ioannis Karazoupis, witness was Matruna Schopperth.

*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!*

*It is with great sadness that we share this with you. Our beloved spiritual leader and priest of 42 years Reverend Fr. Konstantine D. Tsigas passed away peacefully on Wednesday July 12<sup>th</sup>. May God rest his soul. Sincerest condolences to his family and all who knew him.*

**Reverend Father Konstantine Demetrios Tsigas**, our beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and spiritual father to many, was called peacefully at the age of 95 to our Lord and Savior on Wednesday, **July 12, 2023**, to join his parents, sons (Father Demetrios Tsigas and baby Yianni), and siblings.

Father Konstantine is survived by his faithful wife Spiridoula (Stavropoulos), his two daughters Vasiliki (Fotinis) and Katerina (Papaioanou), their husbands Panagiotis and George, his daughter-in-law Eleni (Zuras Tsigas), and seven grandchildren for whom he had an unwavering soft spot: Spyridoula Fotinis, Emmanuel Fotinis, Jordan Tsigas, Jonathan Tsigas, Anastasia Papaioanou, Konstantina Papaioanou, Theofania Papaioanou, and grand-dog Gigi. He also leaves behind many cousins, nieces and nephews in Greece and the United States and countless parishioners and friends he profoundly affected.

Born on April 23, 1928, in Sitaralona, Greece, the fifth child of Demetrios and Vasiliki (Ulthasis) Tsigas. Even though his maternal grandfather was George, and he was born on St. George's feast day, his godfather boldly named him Konstantine. "Kosta" grew up helping his family with the farms, livestock, and family-owned cafe (the "kafenio"). We often heard about his long hikes up and down the mountains to attend high school in Thermo each week with only some dry bread in his bag, a hardship that he considered a privilege.



Thus began his trek on "My Road to Damascus" (the autobiography he wrote detailing his life's journey) articulating his trust in the love of God. As a mischievous young boy and teenager - smoking, gambling, disobedient and defiant towards his parents and authority - he reveled in describing his life-saving transformation, inspired by an itinerant preacher, that eventually led to his life-long pursuit to love God and all His people. This experience informed his purpose in life until the day of his passing (though he did maintain a competitive streak for checkers, ping pong and other games).

Upon graduation from high school, he became an assistant to a lay-preacher and later to a Greek Orthodox priest in the town of Agrinio. In 1950, Konstantine enlisted in the Greek army and was stationed in central Macedonia (Katerini) where he became a Sublieutenant. Upon completion of his three-year duty, he entered the University of Athens Theological School, receiving a Masters of Theology in 1957. He began work as the secretary of the Metropolis of Mesolongi and as a lay preacher.

On December 13, 1959, Konstantine Tsigas married Spiridoula, the daughter of Ioannis and Katerina Stavropoulos from Nafpaktos, Greece, his beloved wife and partner in ministry for the next 64 years. Their children, Demetrios and Vasiliki were born over the next two years while he taught at a high school in Patras. Their daughter, Katerina, was born two years later in the United States.

After the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America asked for priests to shepherd communities in the United States, the young couple followed their calling. On November 4, 1962, Konstantine was ordained a Deacon and four days later was ordained a Priest in Athens, Greece.

In exchange for passage to America, Fr. Konstantine served as the ship's chaplain as he and his young family boarded the *Homeric* for a 13-day journey across the Atlantic Ocean. At daybreak, they arrived in New York City Harbor and after two days in a freezing Jersey City hotel room they blindly and faithfully accepted the invitation to serve the burgeoning community of Dover, New Jersey. He spoke not a word of English; the community president spoke not a word of Greek. The challenge served them well as the Tsigas family never looked back. He spent the entirety of his priestly ministry as the spiritual leader of St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox community, first at the little church on River and Union Streets in Dover, and finally on Sussex Turnpike in Randolph, where he led the community in purchasing land and building a beautiful Orthodox edifice, consecrated in December 1991, as well as the community center.

From the first Divine Liturgy celebrated on the Sunday before Christmas 1962 with about 70 families, the community grew to over 500 families over the next 42 years. Together with Presbytera Spiridoula, the couple selflessly served with sincere commitment and concern for the welfare of their Saint Andrew's family. Their love and devotion were commemorated in 2011 when the newly erected gymnasium was commissioned in their name.

He would often visit the restaurants and diners to spread the Word, especially to those who worked on Sundays. As a spiritual father, he spent many hours regardless of the time of day to be with those whose lives were suddenly beset with trials and tragedy.

Father Konstantine touched the lives of so many people within and beyond the walls of the church, inspiring countless individuals and couples with his marriage counseling, promotion of education as the bedrock for all of life's challenges, his life story of personal transformation, and the penultimate roles of sacrifice and respect in any loving relationship. Sacrificial love and hospitality, above all else, personify The Tsigas Way. If you ever want

to do an impression of Fr. Tsigas, just don your heaviest Greek accent and proclaim with clear and unequivocal conviction, pausing between each word, "Love is sacrifice!" The passion and volume of his stories only grew with time, even as he held court in his final days in the hospital.

Outside the church, he was known and respected by many civic officials, served on the State Youth Committee for 41 years, and was a member of the Randolph Clergy Association. His love of the earth and comfort with animals was manifest in gardens he planted and nurtured, grafting fruit trees, hand feeding birds that arrived when he whistled, and growing the organic vegetables and fruit that made their way to the family dinner table - a table that always included new friends and abundant fellowship. He planted hundreds of olive trees in his hometown, a living legacy for his grandchildren that he tended during his many trips back to Greece in his later years.

In 2005 it was time to pass the torch to his successor and "retire" to Orlando, Florida. Holy Trinity in Maitland, Florida, became their new home even while Metropolitan Alexios tapped Fr. Konstantine, now in his 80's, to serve extended pastoral assignments for the communities of St. Demetrios, Daytona Beach (2008), St. Nicholas, Fort Pierce (2009), and St. Mark, Ocala (2012).

Reverend Father Konstantine Tsigas was bestowed three *Offikia* offices of honor in the priesthood. He was elevated to *Sakelarios* by Archbishop Iakovos on December 21, 1970. Metropolitan Silas bestowed the *Offikia of Ekonomos* on November 14, 1983, and *Protopresbyter* - the highest office for a married priest - on December 4, 1992.

The thousands of babies he baptized, couples married, confessions heard, faithful interred, exorcisms performed, sick and imprisoned visited, counseling sessions imparted, all testify to his faith, love and sacrifice for God, while trusting his family to the Lord's care. Neither family or friends can argue with his focused devotion and relentless quest to bring all people to the loving embrace of Jesus Christ, an embrace that clearly saved him.

Perhaps his most egregious sin was the amount of pride that he boasted for his progeny.

Visitation were held at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Maitland, Florida from 4-7 pm on Saturday, July 15. A **visitation** was also held in Randolph, New Jersey at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church on Tuesday, July 18 from 4-7pm.

On Wednesday, July 19, following Orthros Service at 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am, a Hierarchical Funeral Service was held at 11:00am at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph, New Jersey. Interment followed at Locust Hill Cemetery, Dover, NJ, with a luncheon at St. Andrew Community Center afterwards.



**THOMAS NICHOLAS "KOSTA" BORZEKA** passed away on Saturday, **July 8, 2023** after a short illness. He was 72. Thomas was born in Morristown, NJ on December 8, 1950. Son of Nicholas and Sophia Borzeka, he was raised in Morristown and graduated from Morristown High School. He attended Cosmetology School and was a hairdresser for many years. He worked for many different salons in the area, including a salon at the Willowbrook Mall, until finally retiring from "Salon George V" in Parsippany. He also worked for the Whippany Paper Mill as a welder.

Thomas was a hard worker and spent much of his retirement keeping up with his many rental properties in and around Morristown and Morris Township.

Thomas is predeceased by his parents, Nicholas and Sophia. He is survived by his Aunt Chrysanthe Borzeka, his Uncle David Baldwin, and many loving cousins and extended family members all over the Country.

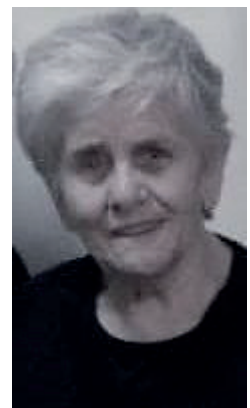
Visiting was on Friday, July 14, 2023 from 9:30am-10:30am at St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church, 1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph. A Funeral Service was held immediately at 10:30am at the Church. Entombment was to be at Restland Memorial Park, East Hanover.

**MARIA APOSTOLIDIS**, 93, of Boonton, NJ passed away peacefully on Tuesday, **June 27, 2023**. Maria (Marika) was born to Efstratios and Despina Kotsialiotis in Pylori, Greece in July of 1929. She immigrated with her husband and children to the United States in 1972, where she worked tirelessly to ensure her children could have a good life.

She enjoyed tending her garden, knitting clothes for her grandchildren, sipping afternoon coffee with friends, and sharing home cooked meals with her family. Above all else, Marika was a kind and loving person who dedicated her life to caring for others. She was a mother to countless people, and her nurturing spirit will be sorely missed.

Predeceased by her beloved husband, Antonios, and her cherished children, Ioannis (Vanos) and Maria (Maritsa), she is survived by her grandchildren, Gregory, Antonios, Stavroula, Christopher, Stephanie, and Petros.

Marika was welcomed into God's presence at the funeral service Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am in St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph. Visitation were at 9:30am until the service begins. Interment followed at Locust Hill Cemetery in Dover.



**Nicholas "Nick" Nichols**, (1938—2023) 84, of Washington, NJ (formerly of Belvidere, NJ) passed away peacefully on March 26, 2023 at Morristown Medical Center.

Nick was born on May 17, 1938 in Staten Island, NY to the late Modestos and Margaret Nichols. He was a graduate of Port Richmond High School class of 1956. He married the love of his life Sheila (nee; Sheehan) Nichols on September 30, 1962, celebrating 57 years of marriage prior to her passing in 2019. Nick proudly served his country in the United States Army National Guard.

He was employed as a salesman prior to his retirement in 2008. Nick loved automobiles and was an avid Jazz fan. Some of his favorites were Dean Martin, Glen Miller and Frank Sinatra. He was of the Greek Orthodox faith and a parishioner of Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph, NJ. Above all he loved his family and cherished the moments spent together. He will be greatly missed.



Nick is survived by his loving sons, Gregory N. Nichols and his partner Catherine Ostenfeld and James T. Nichols and his wife Melissa. His adored grandchildren, Hannah Nichols; Peter and Kevin Nichols; and step-grandsons, Christopher and Kyle Ostenfeld. He also leaves behind his siblings, brothers, John Nichols and George Nichols and his sister Olga Smith. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his devoted wife Sheila Sheehan Nichols.

Family and friends paid their respects on Friday, March 31, 2023 from 4-8 PM at the Warren Hills Memorial Home, Washington, NJ. Funeral service were held on Saturday April 1, 2023 at 10:00 AM with Rev. John Theodosion officiating. Entombment followed at Union Cemetery, 153 Mountain Avenue, Hackettstown, NJ.

***May their memory be eternal. Αιώνια η μνήμη αυτών!***

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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.

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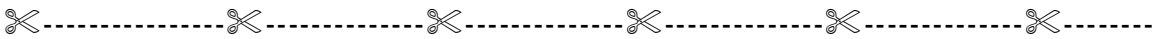


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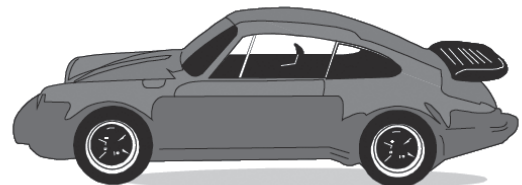
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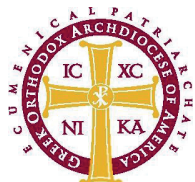
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intercede O Andrew,  
with the Master of all of us,  
peace to all the world to grant,  
and to our souls His great mercy.

### 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

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