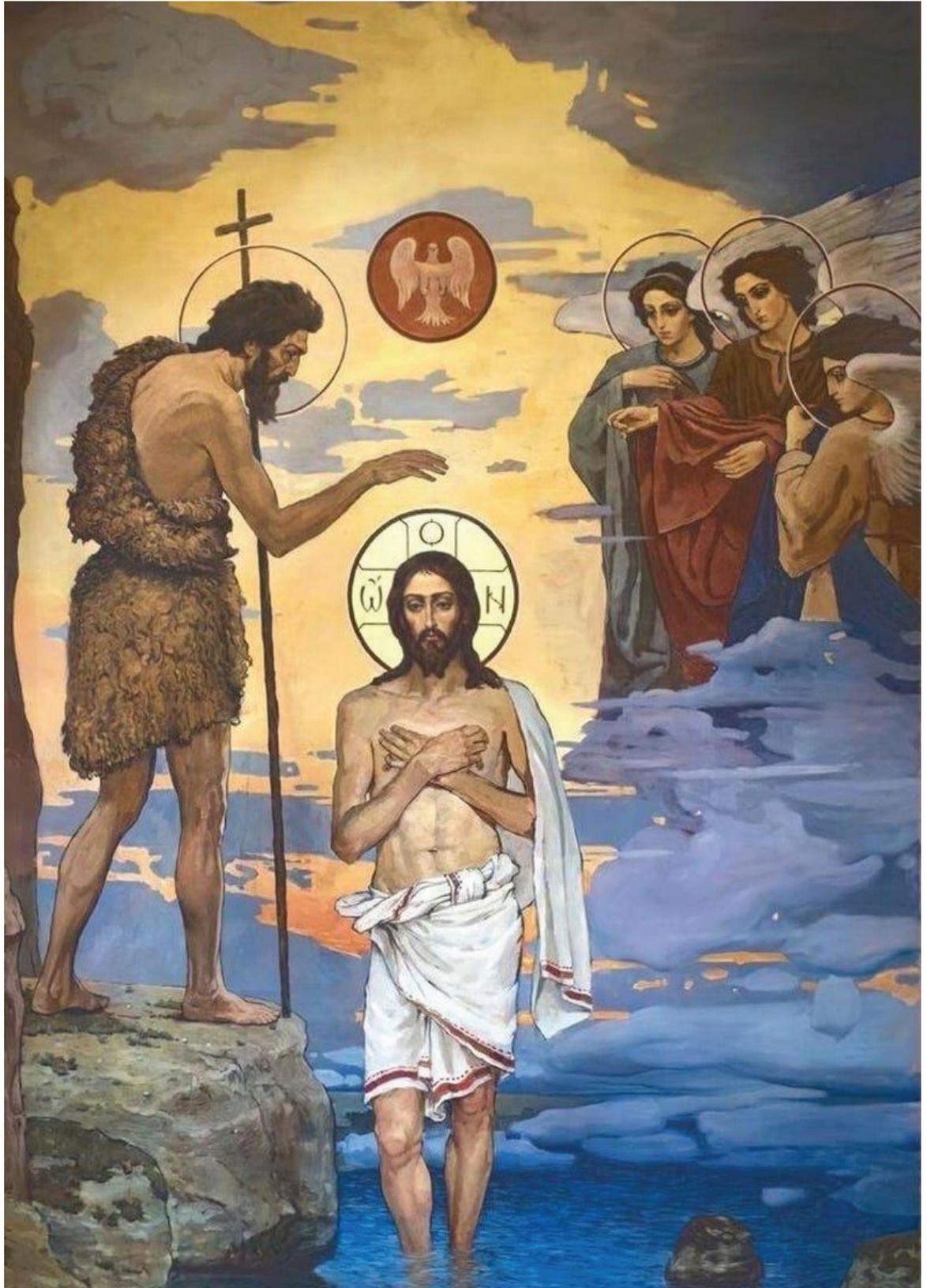


JANUARY 2026



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

Saint Andrew Family News

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

HOLY THEOPHANY, BAPTISM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST "ICON" - SUNDAY JANUARY 6TH

COMMUNITY VASILOPITA CUTTING - JANUARY 4TH

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - JANUARY 11TH

GODPARENT SUNDAY - JANUARY 25TH

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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

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Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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Please submit your articles and information on time to
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ABUNDANT APP



DIVINE SERVICES

JANUARY 2026

Thursday	1	CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & COMMEMORATION OF ST. BASIL @8:15AM
Sunday	4	Sunday before Epiphany, Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
Monday	5	EVE OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST: Orthros, Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom & Great Agiasmos (Fasting Day)
Tuesday	6	HOLY THEOPHANY, BAPTISM OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST - Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great and Great Agiasmos
Wednesday	7	THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY PROPHET, BAPTIST +Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
Sunday	11	Sunday after Epiphany; Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
Saturday	17	+ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT
Sunday	18	12th Sunday of Luke +ST. ATHANASIOS THE GREAT & CYRIL, PATRIARCHS OF ALEXANDRIA
Sunday	25	15th Sunday Luke [GODPARENT'S SUNDAY]
Friday	30	+SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS: +BASIL THE GREAT; +GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN; & +JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

FEBRUARY

Sunday	1	ST. TRYPHON OF PHRYGIA / RELICS* Triodion Begins Today
Monday	2	THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IN THE TEMPLE <i>CELEBRATING Three Hierarchs Program (HAS & Religious Education)</i>
Friday	6	ST. PHOTIOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE
Sunday	8	Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Tuesday	10	ST. HARALAMBOS THE MARTYR / RELICS*
Sunday	16	Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Saturday	14	1st Saturday of Souls
Sunday	15	Judgement Sunday
Saturday	21	2nd Saturday of Souls
Sunday	22	Forgiveness Sunday (Lent begins Monday)
Saturday	28	3rd Saturday of Souls

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

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

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

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

Ι Ε Ρ Ε Σ Α Κ Ο Λ Ο Υ Θ Ι Ε Σ

Ι Α Ν Ο Υ Α Ρ Ι Ο Σ 2026

Τετάρτη	1	Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙΑΣ 8.15πμ
Κυριακή	4	Παραμονή των Φώτων Θεοπέμπτου και Θεωνά των μαρτύρων (Νηστεία) – Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία του Αγίου Ιωάννη Χρυσοστόμου και Ακολουθία του Αγιασμού
Δευτέρα	5	Παραμονή των Φώτων Θεοπέμπτου και Θεωνά των μαρτύρων (Νηστεία) Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία του Αγίου Ιωάννη Χρυσοστόμου και Ακολουθία του Αγιασμού
Τρίτη	6	Τα άγια Θεοφάνεια του Σωτήρος ημών Ιησού Χριστού - Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου και Μέγα Αγιασμός
Τετάρτη	7	Η Σύναξις του Προδρόμου και Βαπτιστού Ιωάννου - Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου
Κυριακή	11	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΦΩΤΩΝ; ΜΕΘΕΟΡΤΙΑ ΤΩΝ ΦΩΤΩΝ
Σάββατο	17	+ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
Κυριακή	18	ΙΒ΄ Του Λουκά + ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΛΛΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΩΝ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΕΙΑΣ
Κυριακή	25	ΙΕ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ (τῆς ΧΑΝΑΝΑΙΑΣ) ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΝΟΝΩΝ
Παρασκευή	30	ΤΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ + ΜΕΓΑ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΣ, + ΓΡΗΓΟΡΙΟΣ Ο ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ, + ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΣ

Φ Ε Β Ρ Ο Υ Α Ρ Ι Ο Σ

Κυριακή	1	ΤΡΥΦΩΝ ΜΑΡΤΥΣ* / <i>Λείψανα Το Τριώδιο ξεκινά σήμερα</i>
Δευτέρα	2	+ Η ΥΠΑΠΑΝΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ (ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ)
Παρασκευή	6	+ ΦΩΤΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ, ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ
Κυριακή	8	ΙΖ΄ Λουκά (τοῦ Ασώτου)
Τρίτη	10	+ ΧΑΡΑΛΑΜΠΟΣ ΊΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ * <i>Λείψανα</i>
Κυριακή	16	ΙΖ΄ Λουκά (τοῦ Ασώτου)
Σάββατο	14	Α΄ Ψυχοσάββατων
Κυριακή	15	Κυριακή τῆς Απόκρεω
Σάββατο	21	Β΄ Ψυχοσάββατων
Κυριακή	22	Κυριακή τῆς Τυροφάγου (Η Σαρακοστή ξεκινά τη Δευτέρα)
Σάββατο	28	Γ΄ Ψυχοσάββατων

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

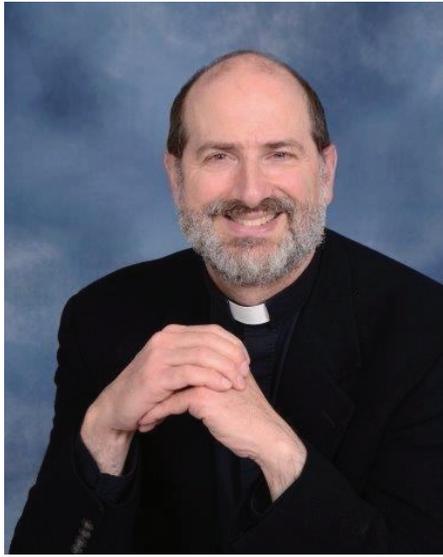
Λείψανα (Έχουμε τα Λείψανα του Αγίου στην Λειψανοθήκη της εκκλησία μας)

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 9:30πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία θα συνεχίσουν στις τάξεις τους.

Entering Into the Theophany and the New Year

Rev Fr John Theodosion

As we stand at the threshold of the new year 2026—and celebrate the great Feast of Holy Theophany, the Church invites us not simply to mark the passing of time, but to behold the revelation of eternity within time. The calendar turns, years advance, and yet today the heavens are opened, and God is made manifest to us in a way that renews all things.



At the Jordan River, Christ comes not as a sinner seeking repentance, but as the Sinless One who enters the waters for our sake. Saint John the Baptist stands in awe, saying, “I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?” (Matthew 3:14). Yet Christ insists, because He comes to fulfill all righteousness—not by words alone, but by descending into the depths of human life, into the waters of a fallen creation, to restore it from within.

At Theophany, the Holy Trinity is revealed. The Son stands in the Jordan. The Father’s voice is heard from heaven: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” The Holy Spirit descends in the form of a dove. What was hidden is now made known. God does not remain distant. He reveals Himself, not in thunder and fear, but in humility, light, and love.

This revelation is not only something we remember; it is something we enter into. As the hymns of the feast proclaim, “Today the nature

of the waters is sanctified.” All creation is touched by Christ’s presence. The water of the Jordan becomes life-giving because the Author of Life has stepped into it. And in this sanctification of the waters, we see a sign of our own calling: to be sanctified, renewed, and transfigured in Christ.

This message speaks powerfully to us as we begin a new year. The

world tells us that a new year means resolutions, fresh starts, and self-improvement. While these are not without value, the Church offers us something far deeper: not self-renewal, but renewal in Christ. Not merely turning over a new leaf, but dying and rising with Him who is the New Adam.

In the waters of baptism, each of us has already crossed our own Jordan. We have renounced Satan, united ourselves to Christ, and received the seal of the Holy Spirit. The New Year, then, is a call to remember who we are. It is an invitation to return to our baptism—to live once again as children of the light, as sons and daughters of God as Adam and Eve did before the fall.

Saint Gregory the Theologian tells us, “Christ is illumined; let us shine forth with Him. Christ is baptized; let us descend with Him, that we may also rise with Him.” This is the rhythm of the Christian life, and it is the path set before us in 2026. We are called to descend in humility,

repentance, and love, so that we may rise in grace, holiness, and joy.

The waters Christ sanctifies today are not only in the font or in the rivers and seas of the world; they are also the troubled waters of our lives. The anxieties we carry into this new year, the uncertainties we face in our families, our communities, and our world—Christ enters these waters as well. He does not stand on the shore and call to us from afar. He steps in. He sanctifies even what seems dark and chaotic.

As we receive the Great Blessing of the Waters and bring this holy water into our homes, let us remember that it is not magic, or a charm or a symbol alone. It is a reminder that Christ desires to dwell with us—to bless our homes, our work, our relationships, and every moment of the year ahead. Each time we drink it or sprinkle it, we are reminded that we belong to Him, that we are connected to Him and that His light has already overcome the darkness in our lives.

Brothers and sisters, the New Year of 2026 is not unknown to God. He already stands within it. The same Christ who stood in the Jordan walks with us into the days ahead. The same Spirit who descended as a dove rests upon us and the Church today. The same Father who



proclaimed His beloved Son now calls us His beloved children.

Let us, then, begin this year not with fear, but with faith; not with anxiety, but with hope; not relying on our own strength, but trusting in the grace revealed at Theophany. May the light of Christ illumine our hearts, sanctify our lives, and guide our steps in every day to come.

“When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.”

May the Holy Spirit rest upon us throughout the whole of 2026 and lead us unto salvation.

Cutting of Community’s Vasilopita on Sunday January 4th

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.

Φτάνοντας στα Θεοφάνεια και το Νέο Έτος

Αιδεσιμότητας Πατέρα Ιωάννη Θεοδοσίου

Καθώς στεκόμαστε στο κατώφλι του νέου έτους 2026 – και εορτάζουμε τα Άγια Θεοφάνεια, η Εκκλησία μας προσκαλεί να μη σημειώσουμε απλά το πέρασμα του χρόνου, αλλά να κρατήσουμε την αποκάλυψη της αιωνιότητας μέσα στον χρόνο. Το ημερολόγιο αλλάζει, τα χρόνια περνούν, σήμερα όμως οι ουρανοί ανοίγουν και ο Θεός μας φανερώνεται με ένα τρόπο που ανανεώνει τα πάντα.

Στον Ιορδάνη Ποταμό έρχεται ο Χριστός όχι ως αμαρτωλός που ζητά μετάνοια, αλλά ως Ο Αναμάρτητος που εισέρχεται στα νερά για χάρη μας. Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Βαπτιστής στέκεται εκστατικά και λέγει, «Εγώ χρειαν ἔχω ὑπὸ σοῦ βαπτισθῆναι, καὶ σὺ ἔρχῃ πρὸς με;» (Ματθαίος 3:14). Όμως ο Χριστός επιμένει, επειδή έρχεται να εκπληρώσει πάσαν δικαιοσύνη – όχι μόνο με λόγια, αλλά κατεβαίνοντας στα βάθη της ανθρώπινης ζωής, στα νερά μιας δημιουργίας που έπεσε, να την ανακτήσει.

Τα Θεοφάνεια αποκαλύπτει η Αγία Τριάδα. Ο Υιός στέκεται μέσα στον Ιορδάνη. Η φωνή του Πατέρα ακούγεται από τα ουράνια: « "Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱός μου ὁ ἀγαπητός, ἐν ᾧ εὐδόκησα". Το Άγιο Πνεύμα έρχεται με μορφή περιστεράς. Όσα ήταν κρυμμένα τώρα αποκαλύπτονται. Ο θεός δεν μένει σε απόσταση. Αποκαλύπτεται, όχι με κεραυνούς και φόβο, αλλά με ταπεινότητα, με φως, με αγάπη.

Αυτή η αποκάλυψη δεν είναι μόνο κάτι που θυμόμαστε· είναι κάτι στο οποίο εισερχόμαστε. Οι ύμνοι της πανήγυρης διακηρύσσουν, «Σήμερον η φύση των υδάτων αγιάζεται». Όλα τα δημιουργήματα αγγίζονται από την παρουσία του Χριστού. Τα νερά του Ιορδάνη δίνουν ζωή γιατί ο Συγγραφέας της Ζωής πάτησε μέσα τους. Και με τον αγιασμό των υδάτων βλέπουμε ένα σημάδι του δικού μας καλέσματος: να αγιάσουμε, να

ανανεωθούμε και να μεταμορφωθούμε για τον Χριστό.

Αυτό το μήνυμα μας μιλά δυναμικά καθώς ξεκινά ο νέος χρόνος. Ο κόσμος μας λέει πως το νέο έτος σημαίνει νέες αποφάσεις, φρέσκα ξεκινήματα και αυτο-βελτίωση. Δεν τα υποβιβάζουμε όλα αυτά, η Εκκλησία όμως μας προσφέρει κάτι πολύ πιο βαθύ: όχι αυτο- ανανέωση, αλλά ανανέωση με τον Χριστό. Όχι απλά γυρίζουμε σελίδα, αλλά πεθαίνουμε και ανασταίνουμε μαζί Του, τον Νέο Αδάμ.

Στα ύδατα του βαπτίσματος, ο καθένας μας έχει ήδη διασχίσει τον δικό του Ιορδάνη. Απαρνηθήκαμε τον σατανά, ενωθήκαμε με τον Χριστό, και λάβαμε το σφράγισμα του Αγίου Πνεύματος. Έτσι, το Νέο Έτος είναι ένα κάλεσμα να θυμηθούμε ποιοί είμαστε. Είναι μία πρόσκληση να επιστρέψουμε στην βάπτισή μας – να ζήσουμε άλλη μια φορά ως παιδιά του φωτός, ως γιοι και κόρες του Θεού όπως έκαναν ο Αδάμ και η Εύα πριν την πτώση.

Ο Άγιος Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος μας λέει, «Ο Χριστός είναι φωτισμένος· ας λάμψουμε και εμείς μαζί Του. Ο Χριστός βαπτίστηκε· ας κατέβουμε μαζί Του, ώστε να αναστηθούμε και μαζί Του». Αυτός είναι ο ρυθμός της Χριστιανικής ζωής, και είναι το μονοπάτι που ετοιμάστηκε για εμάς το 2026. Καλούμαστε να πέσουμε με ταπεινότητα, μετάνοια και αγάπη, για να αναστηθούμε με χάρι, αγιότητα και χαρά.

Τα ύδατα που καθαγιάζει ο Χριστός σήμερα δεν είναι μόνο τα νερά της κολυμβήθρας ή των ποταμών και θαλασσών του κόσμου· είναι και τα ταραγμένα νερά της ζωής μας. Οι αγωνίες που κουβαλάμε στο νέο έτος, οι αβεβαιότητες που αντιμετωπίζουμε στις οικογένειές μας, στις κοινότητές μας και στον κόσμο μας – και ο Χριστός μπαίνει και σε αυτά τα νερά. Δεν στέκεται στην παραλία να μας καλεί από μακριά. Μπαίνει μέσα.

Αγιάζει ακόμη και αυτό που φαίνεται σκοτεινό και χαοτικό.

Αφού λάβουμε τη Μεγάλη Ευλογία των Υδάτων και φέρουμε τον αγιασμό μέσα στα σπίτια μας, ως θυμηθούμε ότι δεν είναι μαγικός, ούτε ένα γούρι ούτε ένα σύμβολο από μόνος του. Είναι μία υπενθύμιση πως ο Χριστός επιθυμεί να κατοικήσει μαζί μας – να ευλογήσει τα σπίτια μας, την εργασία μας, τις σχέσεις μας, και κάθε στιγμή της χρονιάς μπροστά μας. Κάθε φορά που πίνουμε ή τον ραντίζουμε, μας υπενθυμίζει πως Του ανήκουμε, πως είμαστε συνδεδεμένοι μαζί Του και ότι το φως Του έχει ήδη καλύψει το σκοτάδι στις ζωές μας.

Αδέλφια μου, το νέο έτος 2026 δεν είναι άγνωστο στον Θεό. Ήδη στέκεται μέσα του. Ο ίδιος Χριστός που στεκόταν στον Ιορδάνη, περπατάει μαζί μας τις μέρες που είναι μπροστά μας. Το ίδιο Πνεύμα που

κατέβηκε ως περισσότερά, κάθεται πάνω μας και στην Εκκλησία σήμερα. Ο ίδιος Πατέρας που διακήρυξε τον αγαπητό Του Υιό, μας αποκαλεί και εμάς αγαπητά Του παιδιά.

Επομένως, ας ξεκινήσουμε αυτή την χρονιά όχι με φόβο, αλλά με πίστη· όχι με άγχος, αλλά με ελπίδα· όχι να βασιζόμαστε μόνο στη δική μας δύναμη, αλλά να εμπιστευόμαστε στη χάρι που αποκαλύπτεται τα Θεοφάνεια. Ας φωτίσει τις καρδιές μας το φως του Χριστού, να αγιάσει τις ζωές μας, και να καθοδηγεί τα βήματά μας την κάθε ημέρα που έρχεται. «Ότε έβαπτίζου εν τῷ Ἰορδάνη, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, ἡ τῆς Τριάδος ἐφάνη λατρεία» Είθε το Άγιο Πνεύμα να μας φωτίζει όλο το 2026 και να μας οδηγήσει στη σωτηρία!

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

House Blessings 2026

Fr. John Theodosion will begin the HOUSE BLESSINGS in our community on the **1st week in January 2026**. Saint Andrew Parishioners will be notified of Father's pending visit. Please look for a **"POST CARD"** or an **"EMAIL"** indicating date and time.

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

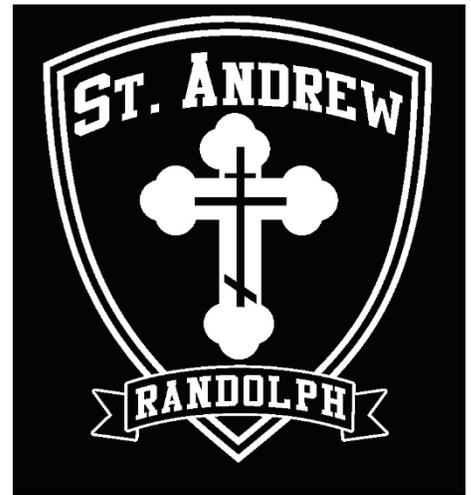


Αγιασμούς 2026

Ο π. Ιωάννης Θεοδόσιου θα ξεκινήσει τις επίσκεψις για αγιασμό στην κοινότητά μας την **1^η εβδομάδα του Ιανουάριου του 2026**. Οι Ενορίτες θα ενημερωθούν για την εκκρεμούσα επίσκεψή του. Θα λάβετε μια **ΚΑΡΤΑ** ή **"EMAIL"** 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.

GOYA

December was exciting month for GOYA. We were very happy because the junior basketball team made it to the semifinals and the senior team finished in 2nd place. Also we are proud of all our basketball and volleyball teams which had great seasons, and our friendships were strengthened. Christmas Caroling was a great event we were happy to see that our singing touched the hearts of those we visited. Parents night out was fun for the GOYans and the kids they were baby-sitting. It was a fun fundraiser, and we hope to do it again in the future. We welcomed His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos to our church with flowers and greetings; he was so happy to see us and watch the Christmas Pageant. The Christmas dance was a great time, and we danced all night, thank you Rosaland for hosting. In January we are looking forward to the GOYA retreat, Fr. Symeon Williams our new Metropolis Youth Director, will be our guest speaker. In February we have the Valentine's dance in Holmdel, and the Metropolis Music and Dance Festival in Philadelphia. Finally, we will be practicing very hard because we have Sights and Sounds in March. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and extend our best wishes for a heathy and happy New Year.



Joseph Theodosion



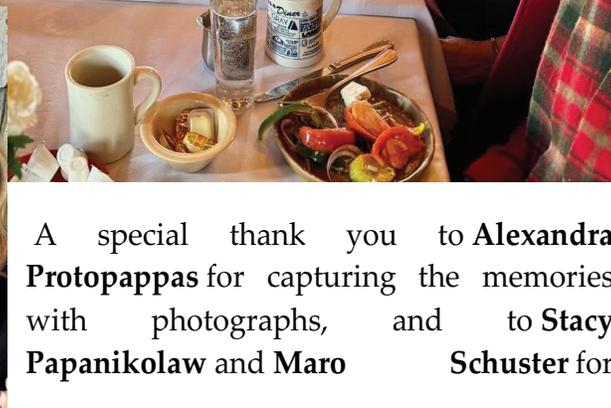


Saint Andrew Agape Senior Group

Thirty-eight members of St. Andrew's Agape senior group met at the Jefferson Diner in December to celebrate the Christmas season with an enjoyable Holiday Luncheon. Sultana, Nick, and Jimmy Seretis, Jefferson Diner owners, were gracious hosts and made everyone feel warmly welcomed as they celebrated with the St. Andrew family.

The luncheon featured an excellent meal, with amazingly generous portions, beginning with salad and pasta, followed by a choice of half chicken, cod, or calamari. Coffee, tea, soda, and dessert completed the meal.

The afternoon was filled with festive cheer as members sang beloved Christmas carols and participated in a fun guessing game to estimate how many candies were in each of five jars. Congratulations to Jean Pelligrino, who won two of the jars, Maria Stamoutsos, Soula Tsakiris and Chrys Duncan. The fellowship, laughter, and holiday spirit made the luncheon a truly heartwarming celebration.



A special thank you to **Alexandra Protopappas** for capturing the memories with photographs, and to **Stacy Papanikolaw** and **Maro Schuster** for

leading the Christmas caroling.

Agape will meet again on **January 29, 2026**, for a fun exercise session to be led by **Faye Paskas**, followed by lunch generously sponsored by **Irene and John Laoudis** in loving memory of their daughter. We hope you can join us.



Elections for the Parish Council - December 7th 2025

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 2026-2027-2028 for the Parish Council were held on December 7th 2025. We would like to welcome back our six re-elected Parish Council members: Athena Borzeka, Thomas J Borzeka, Pavlos Giannikopoulos, Steven Mitrakos, John A Paxos, Peter Sedereas; and our new member Konstantinos Merkos We would like to share with you a little information about them.

Athena Borzeka

Athena has been a lifelong member of St. Andrew Church. She grew up involved in the Sunday School Program, the Greek School program and GOYA. Throughout her life she has served the church in many different capacities. In addition to spending time as a Sunday School teacher, GOYA Advisor and Dance Instructor, she has actively volunteered for the Festival serving as co-chair in 2025. She is currently a member of the Education Committee, Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope where she currently serves as District Governor. Athena believes in the importance of preserving the Greek Orthodox faith and Community through education and service within the Church. She is looking forward to an opportunity to continue her service with the Parish Council.



Thomas J. (TJ) Borzeka

Tom has been an active member of St. Andrew for 56 years. He grew up in the church attending Sunday school, being an altar boy, a GOYAn and joining the parish council upon graduating from university. Previously he was the activities treasurer at St. Andrew. He volunteers for the annual festival, the Faith Kitchen and tries to help whenever he can. He is also the treasurer for St. Andrew and the Morris County Chapter of the Order of AHEPA.

He graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a BS in Accounting and is a CPA. He started his career in public accounting and after seven years he left public for his first controllership position.

He currently works for Atlantis UGS, an audio/visual installation firm as CFO. He served as Controller for a telephone equipment distributor for six years, a gasoline and oil distributor in Northern New Jersey for three and a half years, an IT staffing firm for six years, a security products distributor for three and a half years. He is also a member of the NJ Society of Certified Public Accountants, Financial Executives International, the CFO Leadership Council, and is the current Treasurer for AHEPA District 5.

Tom is following the example of his family's service to the church and believes in maintaining the Orthodox Church and preserving Greek traditions. He has served several terms on the parish council over the last 25 years and would like to return to the council to be of service to the St. Andrew community.

Pavlos Giannikopoulos

Pavlo was born and raised in Vineland, NJ to Greek immigrant parents Kosta and Karmen (Kiritsi). In 2002 he married Eleni Tikos and together they have two children: Karmen and Kosta. Pavlo and his family reside in Succasunna, NJ.

As a first-generation Greek, Pavlo holds dear his Hellenic Heritage. He maintained the fluency of the Greek language from his younger years through adulthood. He participated in advanced Hellenic dance group events as a team lead and was instrumental in teaching dance for youth groups in his home community of Saint Anthony. He shares a passion for the Hellenic Culture along with his wife, who was raised in Thessaloniki Greece. They have passed on their love of the Orthodox Faith and Greek Heritage to their children, as both are currently active participants in GOYA and his son is in his final year of the Hellenic After School program.



He is a graduate of Rutgers University, with a BS in Electrical Engineering and MBA in Finance and is PMP certified. He moved to Morris County in 1997 to work as a Hardware Design Engineer. He is currently an IT Project Manager.

In his spare time, he enjoys watching movies with his family and is also a recreation Soccer coach in Roxbury. He is an avid sports fan, especially of the Philadelphia Eagles. His favorite vacation destination is where else, Greece!

Pavlo is solutions oriented and is known for his loyalty, dedication, leadership skills and humility. His ability to work in a team at various levels cultivating mutual respect with his peers will be a key element in his contribution to the community.

He looks forward to the challenges and opportunities that will come with volunteering his time and talents to our growing parish.

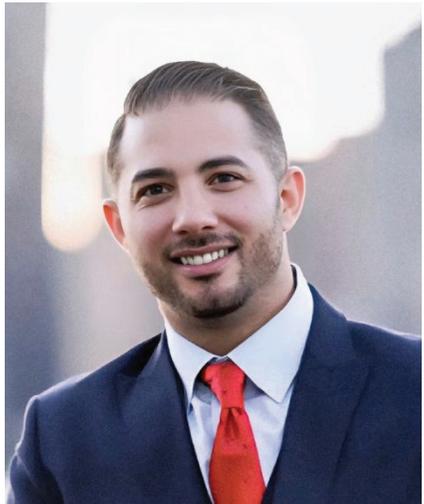
Konstantinos Merkos

Konstantinos is a devoted member of the Saint Andrew parish community in Randolph, NJ. Having recently relocated with his family to Succasunna from Union, he is excited to contribute to the life of the parish and serve its mission. Konstantinos is married to Rania Merkos, and together they are proud parents to two sons, Niko and Christos.

Currently, Konstantinos works as an Aircraft Technician and Avionics Specialist at West Star Aviation in Teterboro, performing advanced maintenance and diagnostics on private jets operated by NetJets. Born in New Jersey and raised in Maine, he is a first-generation Greek American—his father hails from Empesos, and his mother from Analipsi, Greece. This heritage has deeply influenced his values and commitment to family and tradition.

The Merkos family has roots in the restaurant business, and Konstantinos grew up immersed in the vibrant food and hospitality scene, with parents who owned Pizzerias, Diners, and Greek restaurants in both Maine and Bergen County, NJ. This upbringing has instilled a strong work ethic, a spirit of service, and a deep sense of community.

Konstantinos brings a blend of technical expertise, a heritage of service, and a heartfelt desire to strengthen the Saint Andrews parish. He looks forward to fostering fellowship and contributing to the growth and outreach efforts of the parish committee.



Steven P. Mitrakos

Steven was born and raised in Manhattan where he was a Parishioner of the Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church and a Graduate of the Saint Spyridon Parochial Day School. He has served on the Saint Andrew Parish Council for the past eighteen years. He is currently serving as Assistant Treasurer and is on the Safety committee. He previously served on the Parish Council as President and Vice President. He also served as a coach for the Junior and Senior Boys GOYA Basketball teams. He has chaired past Festivals, and has served on the Stewardship, Education and Personnel committees. He has been part of the Saint Andrew community for the past twenty-eight years. He has been blessed with three children: Marina, Peter and Anthony, who have lived our Orthodox Faith at Saint Andrew by regularly attending and graduating from Sunday School, Hellenic Afternoon School & Greek Dance, and actively participating in GOYA. He holds an MBA degree from Manhattan University, and is a Digital Product Management professional at a leading financial technology organization. He believes in the importance of growing Saint Andrew to glorify God through the proclamation and education of our beautiful Orthodox Christian Faith, adopting modern digital technologies to simplify & streamline operations, and establishing a Parish of Faith, Love, and Respect. He looks forward to the continued opportunity to serve on the Saint Andrew Parish Council.

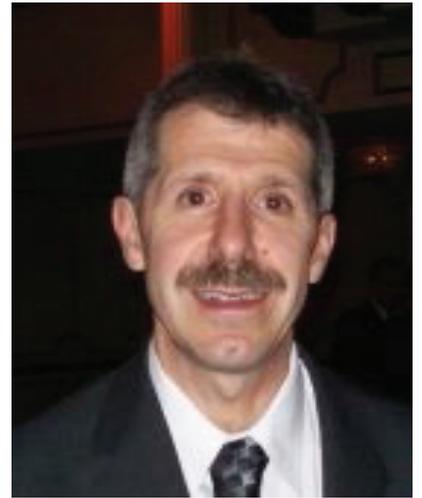


John A. Paxos

John was born in Newark New Jersey. He was raised in Roxbury NJ with his four sisters. As a child he attended Saint Andrew Greek orthodox Church and graduated Greek Education in Dover NJ. He Graduated Roxbury High School. He worked with his family in the Restaurant industry. John and his dad owned a successful restaurant in Mendham before entering semi-retirement.

Presently John enjoys volunteering at Saint Andrew Ministries. He prepares the meals with other volunteers for the monthly outreach to the Faith Kitchen. John is also involved in the furniture re-sale ministry. John and other volunteers pick-up donated furniture, bring it to the church there it is posted on the web site and sold. The

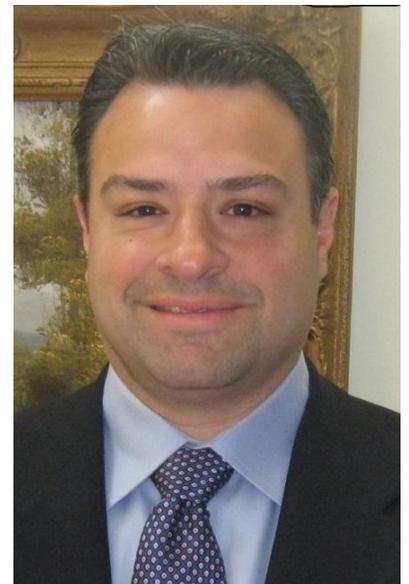
proceeds go to Saint Andrew ministries. John also volunteers his time to the maintenance and beatification of our church and has joined the Parish Council. John A. Paxos can be found in the kitchen for the GYRO FEST, organizing, cooking and cleaning up for the sale. He feels it is a responsibility to God and his faith to give back to our church family. Thank you, John, for your dedication and devotion to Saint Andrew.



Peter C. Sedereas

Peter is currently the longest tenured Parish Council member, completing his tenth term on the Parish Council, serving as President for two years. During the past twenty-nine years, he has seen the board evolve into a family that works together for the good of the Parish, not their own personal agenda. Peter also served as the Corresponding Secretary (eight years) and as the Parish Council Vice-President (two years) and is a past President of the Order of AHEPA (1996) as well as the Past District Warden (2005). He has served as Chairman for several events such as the \$100 ticket 50/50 raffle (1995-2001); Father Tsigas' 35th Anniversary Dinner Dance (1998); the Budget and Finance Committee (1999-2001); New Year's Eve Party (2008) and the Buy-A-Brick Fundraiser (2001-2006). He has also served on the Planning Committee (1997-2001), the Development Committee (1997-2001), and the Steering Committee for the Community Center (2004-2005). Peter

was also a GOYA advisor (15 years), past GOYA Basketball Coach (seven years) and the GOYA District One Youth League Commissioner (9 years). Currently Peter serves on the Personal and the Security committees on the Parish Council. Both Peter and his wife, Diana, work for our youth, with Diana having served as Hope President for two years and has been a Sunday School Teacher, GOYA advisor and on the Joy Board. Their children, Venia, Constantine and Despina are fourth generation members of the Parish and were active members of the GOYA and Joy Groups. Peter believes in the importance of giving our children the same Spiritual and Educational opportunities that he received through the Community. He sees our Church as a place to teach our children the words and works of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Our Community Center should be a place where we will be able to promote and teach our rich Greek language, culture, and history. For our children and our future, Peter feels that the facilities and programs we offer cannot be anything less than the best.



SAINT ANDREW FEED THE HUNGRY MINISTRY

Saint Andrew Feed the Hungry Ministry is responsible for providing a lunch to the homeless and underemployed through Faith Kitchen. Faith Kitchen is a non-profit organization located in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Dover, NJ. Faith Kitchen assigns the lunch responsibility to various volunteer religious organizations. Lunch is served every day (except Sunday).



Saint Andrew is responsible for feeding the hungry on the fourth Saturday of every month. Our church ministries (Philoptochos, Daughters of Penelope, AHEPA, the Parish Council, and GOYA) sponsor the Saturday lunch, which means that they help provide volunteers and cover the cost of the food. There is a core group of volunteers, unrelated to the sponsoring group, who show up every month to cook, make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, serve the lunch and clean up afterwards. If you would like to participate, you can be a part of the core volunteer group or join in with any of the sponsoring ministries of which you are a member.

All volunteers are asked to be at St. Andrew's kitchen at 900 a.m. so that we may prepare the day's meal as well as the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches handed out for the guest's Sunday meal.

All preparations need to be completed and ready for transport for an 11:00 arrival. Lunch is served beginning at 11:30 and ends promptly at 12:30. We clean up and are back at St. Andrew by 1:00, at the latest. If you would like more information, please contact Georgia Haglund by email at thehaglundfamily@comcast.net.

FAITH KITCHEN 2026 SCHEDULE

1/24 Faith Kitchen PARISH COUNCIL
2/28 Faith Kitchen PHILOPTOCHOS
3/28 Faith Kitchen GOYA
4/25 Faith Kitchen DOP/AHEPA
5/23 Faith Kitchen PARISH COUNCIL
6/27 Faith Kitchen PHILOPTOCHOS

7/25 Faith Kitchen PARISH COUNCIL
8/22 Faith Kitchen DOP/AHEPA
9/26 Faith Kitchen GOYA
10/24 Faith Kitchen PHILOPTOCHOS
11/28 Faith Kitchen GOYA
12/26 Faith Kitchen DOP/AHEPA



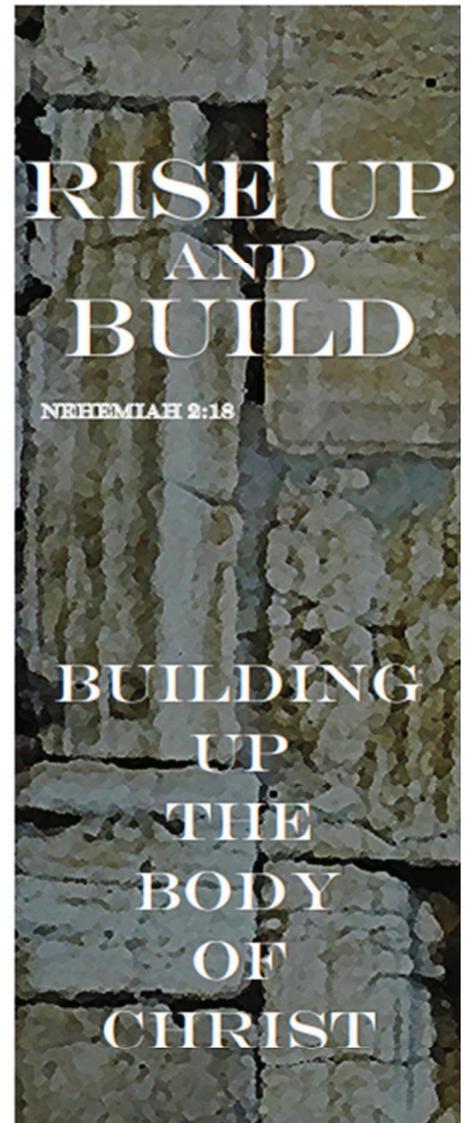
We collected SEVEN LARGE BAGS of toys for the US MARINES. Thank you for all your support and I'm sure the Marines will distribute these toys to deserving children. This is the 10th year Saint Andrew has collected for the Marines. Thank you again for all your help. This is another way Saint Andrew is helping the community in which we live.

A Glance at the Numbers

The Dashboard below shows that Stewardship covers less than half of our annual expenses, with a median pledge of \$500. It underscores how heavily we depend on the festival and other fundraising to close the gap.

In Randolph, New Jersey, the median household income is \$175,000 (U.S. Census). Assuming the median income, if our 400 families gave 10% of their income in Stewardship—the Biblical tithe—Saint Andrew could fully cover operating costs and use the remainder, along with our festival, to support our ministries, our community, celebrate our culture and faith, broaden our outreach in countless ways, and change lives.

To keep with Holy Scripture, if you are a new Steward, we ask that you give as much as you are able starting at 1% of your yearly income and working to increase your contributions towards the Biblical goal of tithing (10%). If you are a returning Steward, we ask that you consider “rounding up” to tithing (10%), by incrementally increasing year to year until you reach the Biblical goal.



“He who is faithful over a little is faithful over much.” — Luke 16:10

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP DASHBOARD					
	2025 Thru	2024	2023	2022	2021
	Oct				
Total Income	658,195	825,118	785,673	768,120	769,569
Total Stewardship Income incl tray other yr	276,580	402,264	355,877	356,025	341,737
Total Expenses	707,319	833,514	802,984	806,257	760,586
Net Income or Loss	(49,124)	(8,396)	(17,311)	(38,138)	8,983
% of Expenses Covered by Stewardship	39%	48%	44%	44%	45%
Number of Stewards	250	408	407	415	414
Median Stewardship Pledge	500	500	500	500	500

TOGETHER WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2025

- 120 Meals Every Month Cooking for Faith Kitchen
1440 Meals per Year
- 2000 Festival Volunteer Hours
- 16 Participants St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival
- Christmas Pageant
- 5 Groups and Many Families Hosted 49 Weeks of Coffee Hour
- 52 Weeks of Worship Services — Time & Talent from Chanters Acolytes Readers Ushers Greeters & Attendees
- 5 Part Series on Orthodoxy 101
- \$60,000 of Philoptochos Philanthropy
- Dozens of Cozy Blankets and Pillows Donated
- \$6000 of Daughters of Penelope Philanthropy including \$1000 for Cancer Research
- 23 Weeks of Bible Study
- 6 Agape Luncheons for our Seniors
- 100s of Attendees for the Feast Day of Saint Andrew
- 400 Toys Collected for Toys for Tots
- 1300 Pounds of Food Collected for Interfaith Food Pantry
- Trunk or Treat Harvest Party
- 75 Children Enrolled in Sunday School
- 49 Children Enrolled in Greek School
- Ministry Fair Sunday
- 30 Backpacks Blessed
- 2 Successful Gyro Sales
- 5 Movie Nights
- 12 Sessions of Greek Language Classes for Adults
- 8 Community Honorees
- 60 Marchers in Greek Independence Day Parade
- NEW Sunday School Classroom
- Ongoing Beautification of Social Hall
- Ongoing Beautification of Nave and Sanctuary
- NEW Narthex Floor Tiles
- 200 Light Fixtures Replaced with LED Bulbs
- NEW HVAC Motor
- NEW Parking Lot Signs
- *New Ministry* Faith Works
- 1 O.C.M.F. Missionary Priest Sponsored

IMAGINE WHAT ELSE IS POSSIBLE WHEN WE ROUND UP TO TITHING!

TOGETHER WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2025



IMAGINE WHAT ELSE IS POSSIBLE WHEN WE ROUND UP TO TITHING!

WHY DO WE BAPTIZE INFANTS IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH?

Because from the beginning, the Church has seen children not as outsiders to the Body of Christ, but as full members—brought to Jesus not by their understanding, but by His grace.

Some ask: “Where does Scripture say to baptize infants?” But we might also ask: “*Where does Scripture say not to?*” The New Testament speaks of households being baptized (Acts 16:15, 33; 1 Cor. 1:16). St. Paul tells us, “*the children of even one believing parent are holy*” (1 Cor. 7:14). And the Apostle Peter declares, “The promise is to you and to your children” (Acts 2:39).

By the late 2nd and early 3rd centuries, the Church was already baptizing infants. St. Hippolytus writes, “*Baptize first the children... if they cannot speak for themselves, let their parents or other relatives speak for them.*”

St. Irenaeus—born into a Christian family around 140 A.D.—affirmed the regeneration of infants in Christ, writing:

“Jesus came to save all... infants, children, youths, and old men.”

From Origen to Cyprian to Augustine, the Church Fathers consistently defended the baptism of infants—not as a novelty, but as an apostolic tradition. No Father in the early Church argued against it.

So when did this practice come into question?

Not until the 16th century, during the Radical Reformation. While the magisterial Reformers like Luther and Calvin upheld infant baptism, certain radical groups rejected it—basing their views not on ancient Christian witness, but on a new reading of Scripture and a break from



ecclesial tradition. These “Anabaptists” re-baptized even the baptized, creating a rupture that would later influence modern Baptist theology.

But history bears witness: from the Apostolic Tradition through the undivided Church, infant baptism was universal. It only ceased in certain Protestant circles when tradition was set aside.

The early Church baptized infants because they understood baptism as more than a symbol. It is the laver of regeneration (Titus 3:5), the circumcision of Christ (Col. 2:11–12), the new birth into the Kingdom (John 3:5). Why would we withhold such grace from those to whom Jesus says, “*the Kingdom belongs*”?

Brothers and sisters, the baptism of our children is not an afterthought—it is our sacred duty. As parents, godparents, and the Church community, we offer them to Christ. We say, “*Yes, Lord—they belong to You.*”

And He receives them. He sanctifies them. He makes them His own.

Let us rejoice in this ancient and holy mystery.

GODPARENT’S SUNDAY ON JANUARY 25TH

Please join us as we celebrate and pray for this special relationship and ask for God’s blessing for godparents and godchildren everywhere.

Godparents, Godchildren, Family & Friends will Worship God Together.

Following the Services please join us for fellowship and refreshments.

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

The Bakers

The Bakker Family -
Melissa, Jarred, John,
Anneliese, and Zoe

Michael, Cathy, Nikki,
James, Thomas, and
Alexandra Barrett

The Berman Family

Thomas Borzeka

Chrysanthe Borzeka

Athena Borzeka

Ryan, Katerina, Emilia, and
Nicholas Brooks

Angeliki, Maria, and Dimitri
Brouard

John, Nikoletta, and Maria
Canticas

Tina and Tom Castorina

Manny and Sylvia Christakos

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

Presvytera Spyridoula Tsigas

Charles, Angela, Andrew, and
Michael Aaron

AHEPA

The Albo Family

Joseph and Linda
Antonakakis and Family

The Arvanitis Family

Irene Christodoulou

Hariclea Christodoulou
and Family

Vasilias and Marios
Christodoulou

Sotirios and Antonia Clapsis
and Family

Marios and Eleni
Constantinides

Nicos and Maria Constantinou

Greg, Polymnia, Anthony, and
Jonathan Crysler

Daughters of Penelope
Alexander #250

Nick, Panayiota, George,
and Joanna Delis

Eleni Demakos

James, Melissa, and Eleni
Dobias and Eleni Gougas

Despena and Sophia
Eptamenitis

Kosta, Olga, Evan, and Niko
Floris

Takis, Vasiliki, Spyridoula, and
Emmanuel Fotinis

The Galvin Family

The Sergio Gatoulis Family

Elias and Erato Gatoulis
and Family

Pavlos, Eleni, Karmen, and
Konstantinos Giannikopoulos

Eftychia Gizas

Sergei and Katerina Greenlee

Ben and Georgia Haglund

Peter, Sotiria, Yianni,
Maximus, and Andreas
Hambos

Christ, Joanna, Peter, and
Helen Haritos

The Ibrahim Family: Robert,
Doniki, Christopher, Amanda,
Karlie, Cassandra, and Stella

Julie and Peter Ioannou

The Karkanias Family

Jack and Betty Kelly

Fotis and Alexia Kontogiannis
and Family

The Kostis Family

Maria Kovas



Sofia Jelis / 7

Konstantinos and Effie
Kritharis

Ioannis and Irene Laoudis
and Family

The Lopardo Family

Antonios and Yiota Louca

Eleni Lytra-Kyriakides

John and Ellen Manetas

Aristotle and Salomi Massaras

Reta J. Matthews

Nick and Roslyn
Monokandilos and Family

John and Maria Moskonas
and Family

George and Irene Mousis
and Family

Dr. John and Eleni Paitakes

Dimitra Pallis

Paris Pallis

George and Stacey
Papanikolaw, Christie
Papanikolaw

Faye Paskas and Family

Kia Paskas and John Meyer

Yotta Pavlos

John Paxos and Janet

Charlie, Eleni, Chase,
Nicholas, and Dean Peterson

Gerry and Bessie Petrakos
and Family

Peter, Irene, John, Maria, and
Demetri Petrou

Saint Andrew Philoptochos

Janet Polizois

Alexandra Protopapas

Peter and Bettina Rotsides

Saint Andrew GOYA

Saint Andrew Parish Council

Saint Andrew PTA

Nicholas Sauter, MD, Mary
Michailidis, Yiayia Pamela
Sentementes and Family

Evan and Caroline Schneider

Herbert and Maro Schuster
and Family

Maria Stamoutsos

The Stathopoulos - Dabrowski
Family

Ted Stratigis

Chris and Eleftheria
Tsamutalis and Family

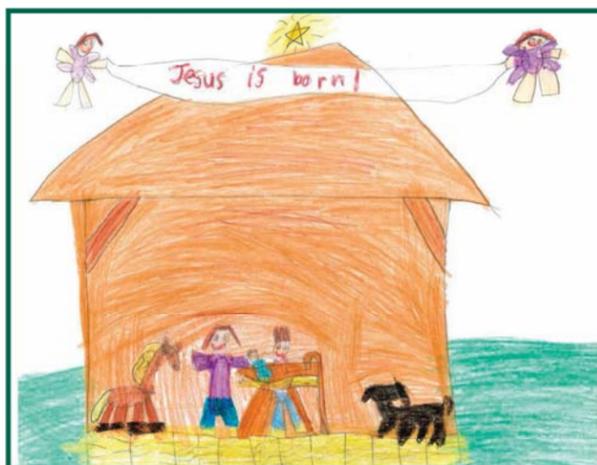
Maria Tsitsiragos

Brandon, Athina, Thomas,
Vincent, Marion, and Zoe Vella

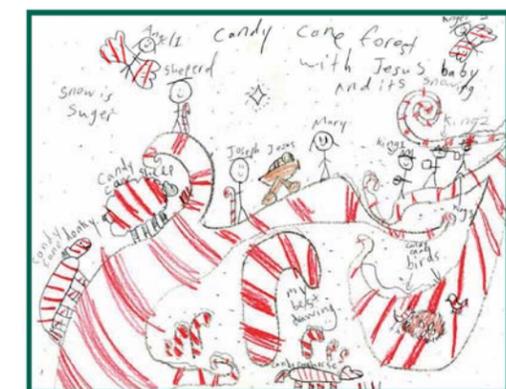
George and Marina Venizelos
and Family

Alex and Effie Vlassis

Stamatis and Eleni Zeris
and Family

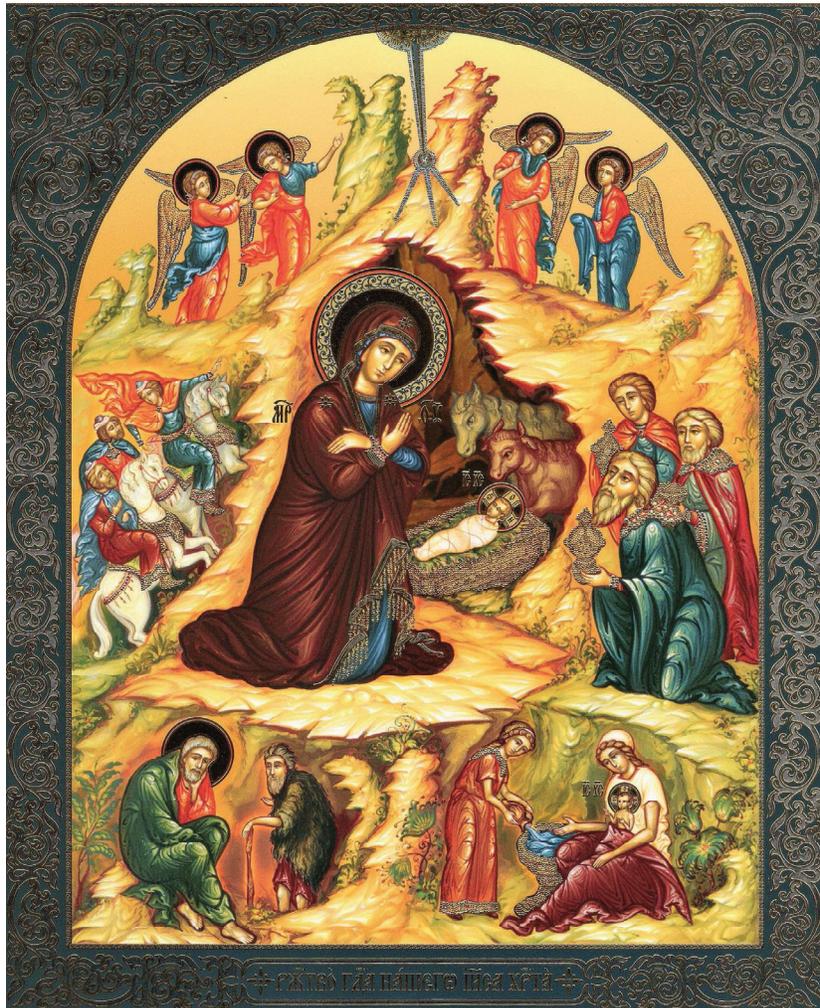


Andrea Kontogiannis / 9



Eli Pittas Szilag / 7

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και ευτυχισμένο το νέο έτος



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 2026.

ST. ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

CHRISTMAS 2025



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

November 19, 2025

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy
Of the Greek Orthodox Communities
Of the Sacred Metropolis of New Jersey

My beloved brethren in the Lord,

It brings me great joy to share with you the blessing and endorsement of a new ministry initiative, Project SAM — a heartfelt effort to seek out, identify, and reconnect individuals with disabilities and their families, to the life of their local parish.

Project SAM was born from the spirit of love and inclusion that lies at the very heart of our Orthodox faith. Every person, regardless of ability, bears the image of God and has a sacred place within the Body of Christ. This initiative invites each of our parishes to extend that embrace more intentionally — reaching out to those who may have become distant from the Church and ensuring they know they are not forgotten, but deeply loved.

I ask that you all give your prayerful attention and support to this effort. Encourage your parish ministries, youth, and Philoptochos members to assist in identifying individuals and families who would benefit from reconnection and fellowship within the Church.

Together, through Project SAM, may we reflect Christ's unconditional love and make His Church a true home for all. Please contact Fiffy Eliades at projectsam1989@gmail.com or call her at 516-659-6964 for her assistance to get you onboard.

With paternal love and blessings,

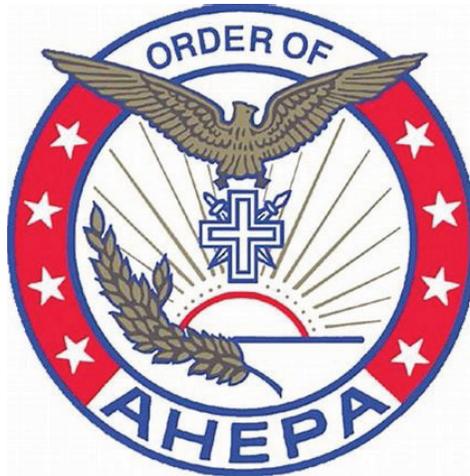

†APOSTOLOS
Metropolitan of New Jersey

A.H.E.P.A. News

The Morris Chapter continues to hold and plan events remaining active and vibrant. In October the chapter held its annual Cigar Night and recently donations were made from the proceeds from that event. Donations include funds for Cancer Cares and sponsoring a service dog. The funds needed for obtaining the latter are close and the chapter may tap its treasury to make up the difference. Additionally, responding to a request from St. Basil's Academy, a \$250 donation was made to offset heating oil costs.

Upcoming events, which unfortunately will happen after this issue goes to print so that they can't be reported yet, include a combined Daughters of Penelope-A.H.E.P.A. Christmas Party. It will be held at Casa Bella in Denville on Dec. 16. Barring unforeseen bad weather, the evening should be a convivial, fun-filled event with plenty of good food and fellowship. Two days later on Thursday Dec. 18, The chapter will host its 2nd Annual Bourbon Night. The location will be at Jersey Spirits Distilling in Fairfield starting at 6:00 P.M. A ticket gets one a shot of a bourbon of choice, a tour of the distillery and the chance to learn how bourbon is distilled.

On Dec. 27 at the Graycliff in Moonachie a testimonial dinner will be held in honor of the Past Supreme President, Savas Tsivicos. He is a fellow District Five member from the Ocean (formerly Asbury Pk.) chapter. Besides honoring him, P.S.P. Tsivicos has requested that proceeds from this dinner should be placed in the Journey to Greece program which he wants to revive. This program fully funds a six-week educational and cultural trip



to Greece. Student participants receive six college credits since it is an intense learning experience in Hellenic culture.

Following the testimonial we will have entered 2026. Several events carrying us to the end of the year (July) have been planned. Leading in January will be the District History Tournament which will be a series of questions on Greek history from ancient times to the present. Each member of the team, comprising three students, will receive a text with dates, events and names which they must study. Each member of the winning team will receive \$1,000. Later the national tournament will be held with each member receiving \$3,000. Morris County Chapter 300 has fielded one team but would like to field a second team. It is encouraged that you speak to your children about being a part of this team since it is open to the St. Andrew family. To be eligible a student should be in grades 9-12.

Later in '26 the chapter will host Brew Night. The venue will be at the Double Tap in Whippany and is scheduled for Mar. 24. A tour of this facility is part of the night's festivities.

At our December meeting the District Lodge held a visitation. They spoke about the Sporting Clay Tournament on Mar. 21. It's held in Coldplay, Pennsylvania and shotguns to shoot the clay pigeons are provided. There will be a Greek flag raising ceremony at the State House on Mar. 25 for Greek Independence Day. The District convention will take place during June 5-7 in Wildwood. The following month the National Convention will be held in Philadelphia from July 26-31.

A SECOND NEW YEAR

The Orthodox New Year begins in September. This is the beginning of a new liturgical year for Orthodox Christians. On January 1 we celebrate another New Year. It is a time for reflection on one's life and how it has been lived. In a very similar way, both New Years bring us before ourselves. Here we see that our humanity is both physical and temporal as well as spiritual and eternal. Sadly, our materialistic and individualistic culture has dimmed our vision of the spiritual dimension and has us increasingly focus on this worldly existence as the only existence.



belief? How is it being utilized to navigate your life each and every day? Isn't that what the coming New Year is challenging you to do - to re-examine how you've been living your life? Only then do words like "repent" or "resolutions" acquire their full power for change. No one changes if there's no need to change. I don't lose weight if there's no weight to lose.

The truth is, a spiritual life is very difficult. God isn't simply another "thing" that we can seize hold of and own. Imagine having a family in which all that matters is YOU. How do you think such a family is even a "family"? Our current postmodern mentality rejects "truth" that isn't anything but "my truth"! Don't you think that living that way can become very dangerous? Suppose a sign warns of thin ice, but you're not going to believe someone's "opinion" about the quality of the ice. No, you're convinced that it's not thin at all and, after all, your truth rules! Sometime later someone finds your frozen body that has broken through the thin ice. Don't we ask too much of our opinions, our very limited knowledge in those areas, we most need some help?

Belief is often just words and isn't the foundation of how you live your life. We say "God" but seldom experience a reality called "God". This results in simply meeting the minimum requirements of your "religious" commitment. Orthodoxy is NOT a religion. Religions separate us from what is claimed as a belief. If you don't "walk the talk" what are you doing with your

How do we put these two New Year's together? We first must recognize who we are. How real is your spiritual life? It's easy to live in the world because everything is a tangible presence that impacts our daily living. The spiritual is more elusive for many. God's presence isn't so easily detected. Each of us has to make a serious effort know how to look for God's presence and God's actions. In order to do that, we need to know what to look for in each moment. Sometimes God's right there but we just don't know how to see God there. I find this to be one of my biggest obstacles to a genuine Christian life. A spiritual life begins with a response to God. There are three critical areas one needs to know about in order to know how to respond.

The first one is "**WITNESS**". A witness experiences that to which they are testifying. Unfortunately, many people bear "false witness" and this is a never-ending problem in any faith. Whose witness do you accept as genuine? We need confirmation but be mindful that this too can be a false witness. This is why it is imperative to attend Church and actively engage its witnesses. There is no question too small and you should never feel embarrassed to ask, even the simplest question. The Church is your spiritual family and is there to offer support and guidance. Every child need guidance.

The second area is “**SCRIPTURE**”. For many of you, reading Scripture is very difficult. It is written in multiple languages that are often translated with a loss of meaning. There are historical and cultural issues that often produce strong emotional responses as a result of our new cultural mindset. This causes a surface reading and has little value. Proper reading of Scripture requires serious prayer, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and a community sharing that experience. An important feature of studying Scripture is how it opens deeper and deeper meaning with each re-reading.

This brings us to the third area - “**PRAYER**”. It often happens that pray becomes routine recital of very familiar words so that we don’t even hear these words anymore. The Lord’s Prayer has become so routine that many simply mumble through it. But have you ever stopped hearing the words being said? Of all the prayers, why did Jesus give us this one? Does it put before God my condition of both living in the world and living in the spirit? The Psalms only become prayers when you actually pray them. Where can you learn how to pray? The Divine Liturgy offers continuous prayer, but you have to be engaged with it. It won’t do to simply attend or come just before it ends. Prayer begins with an attitude to

want to be in God’s presence. Have you ever tried having a meaningful conversation with someone on the phone? I see this so often in which whole families out for dinner are each absorbed in their private lives on the phone so that they never seem to know how to stop talking and texting and start talking with each other! If you can’t have dialogue with family, how can you begin to dialogue with God if something else owns your attention and focus?

Elder Arsenie has this to say, “we must be grateful and in a state of awareness. Every moment is a taste of eternity, and every sigh can be a prayer. God needs our depths, not the outward appearance of our habits. Blessed is the one who prays intently.” (***Every Sigh Can Be A Prayer***, Elder Arsenie Papacies, St. Herman of Alaska Brotherhood, 2023, pg 26).

So, as we begin a New Year with resolutions for ourselves, let’s not forget that the seriously important New year is about your walking and talking with God who invites you into a very special life led by the Holy Spirit given to us through Christ’s love for each of us.

Happy and blessed New Year
Herbert Schuster



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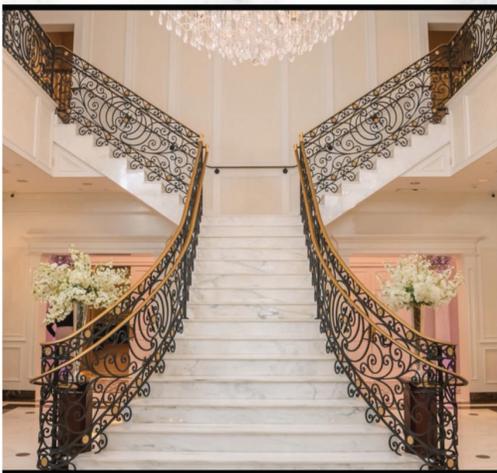
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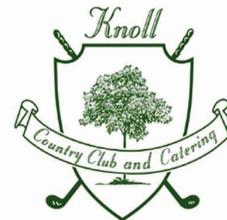


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PARENTS' CORNER

By Alexandra Protopapas

JANUARY "RESOLUTIONS" THROUGH JESUS' TEACHINGS - 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2026! I hope everyone had a Blessed Christmas, and please continue to discuss the true meaning of Christmas with your children. Every year, we talk about "resolutions" and what we will promise to do, but how about tying resolutions to the teachings of Jesus? How can we set "resolution" goals for our children to His teachings?

Let's explore these ideas this January of 2026! Ready parents? (Oh yes, this applies to us as well - let's practice what we preach!)

Was Jesus kind? Did He not love all people? "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31). In one of my recent articles, I wrote about diversity, so to show love and kindness, encourage your children to be a good friend to others, and volunteer to serve and help in one of our many St. Andrew ministries.

Jesus forgave so many and gave second chances. Did someone say something that hurt your child? Talk about forgiveness with your child. Did you find out your child hurt someone? Encourage your son or daughter to apologize when they are wrong or teach them to be more understanding. As parents, we also make mistakes. Do we always apologize, or do we make excuses? Hmmm.

I am sure that during Thanksgiving, we prayed and thanked Jesus for all our blessings, but do we understand "gratitude" and "generosity"? All the Christmas presents were surely appreciated and let them know that "gratitude and generosity" align with Jesus' teaching

(Luke 6:38). Have them thank "pappou and yiayia" and anyone they received gifts from. Even a short-handwritten note would be truly appreciated!

Here is another resolution that we need to encourage in our children, or even for ourselves! **SELF-CONTROL AND SELF-DISCIPLINE** I searched one of Jesus' teachings in Corinthians 9:24-27. Let's be honest about self-control; we have yelled out of control at times as parents, and our children have had tantrums at times. Self-discipline could be eating healthier, being more patient, respecting others, and all the vices that we may have experienced in our lifetime and with our children. Are we perfect parents? Do we have perfect children? We need to work on ourselves first, and then practice on our children by forgiving them when they are "naughty", teaching them about self-discipline and self-control.

Did we need to make specific resolutions this year, or do we just need to follow Jesus' teachings? I remember last year I made resolutions like going to church more, eating less, getting rid of clutter, and on and on and on But I will also follow Jesus' teachings in 2026 as my resolutions! This year, I will practice love and kindness, forgiveness, gratitude, generosity, self-control, and self-discipline with others and with myself! I hope as parents, you do the same!

I want to wish everyone a Blessed New Year 2026, and if you see me, come say hello!

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.”



Feel free to email me or call with your comments and suggestions for our “Parents’ Corner” at: alexandraproto@gmail.com | (973) 214-2583 (You can also find me on FACEBOOK under my name, Alexandra Alex Protopapas) | **Alexandra Protopapas MEd** Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences – Retired, part-time at Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC).

ORTHODOXY 101

look for dates on Tuesday evenings in the new year



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«ΤΟ ΜΥΣΤΙΚΟ ΤΕΤΡΑΔΙΟ»

Ένας ηλικιωμένος άντρας, ο κύριος Νίκος, και η γυναίκα του, η κυρία Ελένη, ήταν παντρεμένοι πάνω από εξήντα χρόνια. Είχαν περάσει μαζί σχεδόν όλη τους τη ζωή είχαν γελάσει, είχαν κλάψει, είχαν μεγαλώσει παιδιά και εγγόνια. Ήταν αχώριστοι.

Υπήρχε όμως κάτι που ο Νίκος ποτέ δεν κατάλαβε.

Από την πρώτη κιόλας μέρα του γάμου τους, η Ελένη κρατούσε ένα μικρό, παλιό τετράδιο με δερμάτινο εξώφυλλο, το οποίο φύλαγε πάντα στο κομοδίνο της. Δεν το άφηνε ποτέ από τα χέρια της, ούτε του επέτρεπε να το ανοίξει.

«Είναι κάτι δικό μου, Νίκο μου», του έλεγε πάντα γλυκά.

Κι εκείνος, από σεβασμό, δεν ρώτησε ποτέ ξανά.

Τα χρόνια πέρασαν. Κι όταν πια η Ελένη αρρώστησε και κατάλαβε πως πλησίαζε το τέλος, κάλεσε τον άντρα της κοντά της.

«Νίκο», του είπε ήρεμα, «ήρθε η ώρα να ανοίξεις το τετράδιο.»

Με δάκρυα στα μάτια, εκείνος το πήρε στα χέρια του.

Το άνοιξε προσεκτικά. Οι σελίδες ήταν γεμάτες γραμμένες λέξεις χιλιάδες και στο πάνω μέρος της κάθε σελίδας υπήρχε η ημερομηνία!

Διαβάζοντας, ο Νίκος συνειδητοποίησε πως κάθε φορά που είχαν έναν καβγά, κάθε φορά που την είχε πληγώσει ή στεναχωρήσει, εκείνη δεν του κρατούσε κακία.

Απλώς καθόταν και έγραφε.

Έγραφε όλα όσα ήθελε να του πει τον πόνο της, την απογοήτευσή της, τις σκέψεις της και μετά, στο τέλος κάθε σελίδας, σημείωνε:

«Αλλά τον αγαπώ ακόμα.»

Στο τέλος του τετραδίου, στην τελευταία σελίδα, υπήρχε ένα γράμμα.

«Αγαπημένε μου Νίκο, αν διαβάζεις αυτές τις γραμμές, σημαίνει ότι έζησα τη ζωή που ονειρεύτηκα. Μπορεί να μην ήμασταν πάντα σύμφωνοι, αλλά ποτέ δεν σταμάτησα να σε αγαπώ. Κάθε φορά που πονούσα, έγραφα όχι για να κρατήσω τον θυμό, αλλά για να τον αφήσω να φύγει.

Έτσι έμεινε χώρος στην καρδιά μου μόνο για σένα.»

Ο Νίκος έκλεισε το τετράδιο, το φίλησε και ψιθύρισε:

«Ίσως τελικά αυτό ήταν το μυστικό μας, Ελένη μου. Δεν χρειάζεται να έχεις πάντα δίκιο... αρκεί να αγαπάς αληθινά.»

"THE SECRET NOTEBOOK"

Mr. Nikos and his wife, Eleni, had been married for over sixty years. They had spent almost their whole lives together. They laughed, cried, and raised children and grandchildren. They were inseparable.

But there was something that Nikos never understood.

From the very first day of their wedding, Eleni kept a small, old notebook with a leather cover, which she always kept on her bedside table. She never let go of her hands, nor did she allow him to open it.

"It's something mine, my Nikos," she always told him sweetly.

And he, out of respect, never asked again.

The years have passed. And when Eleni fell ill and realized that the end was near, she said calmly, "Niko it's time to open the notebook."

With tears in his eyes, he took it in his hands.

He opened it carefully. The pages were full of thousands of written words and at the top of each page there was the date.

As he read, Nikos realized that every time they had a fight, every time he had hurt or upset her, she didn't hold a grudge against him.

She just sat and wrote.

She wrote down everything she wanted to tell him about her pain, her disappointment, her thoughts and then, at the end of each page, she noted:

"But I still love him."

At the end of the notebook, on the last page, there was a letter.

"My dear Nikos, if you read these lines, it means that I lived the life I dreamed of. We may not have always gotten along, but I've never stopped loving you. Every time I was in pain, I wrote not to hold the anger, but to let it go, so there was room in my heart just for you."

Nikos closed the notebook, kissed it and whispered:

"Maybe this was our secret after all, Eleni_mou. You don't always have to be right, as long as you truly love."

Respectfully submitted by: Paraskevi Katsigiannis



BAPTISMS – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΙΣ

OLIVIA ROSE KRASSAS, daughter of Christopher and Jacqueline (DeVito) Krassas, was Baptized & Chrismated according to the rights of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on, Sunday, December 7th, 2025, at 1:30pm and given the name **ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ ΚΑΤΕΡΙΝΑ - PARASKEVI KATERINA**, Godmother was Vivienne Katrina Krassas.



OBIT & FUNERAL SERVICE – ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΑ & ΚΗΔΕΙΑ

James G. Lioudis passed away on December 4, 2025. He was 99 years old.



Born in Chios, Greece in 1926, to parents George and Sophia Lioudis. James served as a Merchant Marine in Greece before emigrating to the United States in early 1950's. He settled in Summit before moving to Mendham in 1995. He was a man of faith and a parishioner of St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church for many years.

James married the love of his life, Viola, in 1957. He and his wife worked together to manage their family business, managing real estate rentals together. He was a family man and enjoyed spending time with his family. He was very proud of his US citizenship and stayed up to date with current events in the United States and around the world.

James is predeceased by his wife of 63 years, and his brothers, Nick, John, and Gus Lioudis. He is survived by his children Michael, Sophia, and George; daughters-in-laws Susan and Nancy and son-in-law Jimmy; grandchildren Michael (Carrie), Kristopher (Valerie), Emily, Vincent, Katherine, Stellios (Catrina), and Debbie (Kosta); as well as 14 great grandchildren.

Visitation was on Tuesday, December 9th at Bailey Funeral Home. Funeral Service for the repose of his soul was at 10am on Wednesday, December 10th at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph NJ. Interment followed at Mendham Hilltop Cemetery, 18 Hilltop Road, Mendham.

Aristea "Aris" Argyriou, a beacon of love and warmth, passed away peacefully of natural causes on November 28, 2025, in Hanover Township, New Jersey, surrounded by her adoring family. Born on the idyllic island of Salamis, Greece, on January 5, 1932, Aris brought the vibrant spirit of her homeland with her when she later settled in the United States.

Aris's life was characterized by her dedication to her loved ones and her faith. As the wife of Kostas Argyriou, she was a partner in every sense, providing a foundation of support and care that extended far beyond their immediate family. Aris was a cherished mother to her son, **John Argyriou**, and a loving mother-in-law to



Amanda Argyriou. Her role as "Yiayia," the endearing Greek term for grandmother, was one she embraced with every fiber of her being, showering **John Paul and Justin Argyriou**, along with their spouses, **Brittany** and **Christina**, respectively, with unconditional love and attention. The joy of her great-granddaughters, **Magnolia and Sienna Argyriou**, was a source of immeasurable pride and happiness.

Aris's family tree was a testament to her heart's capacity, filled also with affection for her siblings and their spouses - the late Chris Kafantaris, Margie Kafantaris, Despina and Steve Plemenos, Stamatina and David Rice, and Nicholas Kafantaris and Millie Martino. Each relationship was nurtured with the same love and tenderness that so naturally emanated from her.

Professionally, Aristeia had a successful career as an International Manager with Cargill, Inc., bringing her expertise and grace to the company's New York branch. Her educational background, which included an Associate's Degree in Accounting from NYU, informed her meticulous and thoughtful approach to her work, traits that she transferred to all aspects of her life.

Aris was a devout Christian, her faith guiding her through the decades with quiet strength and humility. She lived her life in a manner that echoed the famous words of Mother Teresa, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." Indeed, this philosophy was evident in her passion for cooking, needlepoint, knitting, and, most of all, in the care she lavished upon her family and especially her grandchildren.

Those who knew Aristeia will remember her as a loving, thoughtful, and spirited individual. Her actions spoke volumes, and her legacy of kindness and generosity will be felt for generations. She had a gift for making the ordinary feel extraordinary, and her absence will leave a space that cannot be filled but can be cherished through memories and the continuous echo of her influence on all she touched.

As the sun sets on Aristeia's life, we realize that her spirit, like the sun's light, will never truly fade. It will continue to brighten the lives of those she loved, a cherished memory that will never dim. Aris Argyriou will be deeply missed yet forever remembered for the life she lived and the love she gave.

Funeral Service for the repose of her soul was on Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 10am | St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph, NJ 07869 | Internment at the Restland Memorial Park

77 Deforest Ave., East Hanover, NJ 07936

Evagelia Kalavrouziotis passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 27, 2025, with her family by her side. Evagelia was born on November 5, 1948, in Nafpaktos, Greece. In 1969, she got married and immigrated to the United States with her late husband, Hristos, to begin their life together. She will be remembered as a devoted wife of 50 years, loving mother, and doting grandmother. She enjoyed spending time with her family, whether it was on vacation, over holidays, or just simple day to day quality time. Evagelia is survived by her three children, Maggie and her husband John Zois; Vicki and her husband Tom Kostis; and Tim Kalavrouziotis and his wife Christina; and her seven grandchildren, Eleni, Evagelia and Vasili Zois, Emmanuela Kostis,



and Christos, Evangelos and Maria Kalavrouziotis. She will truly be missed by her loved ones. May her memory be eternal.

Visitation was on December 1st, 2025, at 10:30am at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph. The **Funeral Service** for the repose of her soul on Monday December 1st at 11:30AM, also at Saint Andrew. **Interment** followed at Gate of Heaven, East Hanover. | **Arrangements by:** Tuttle Funeral Home. Randolph NJ

Nina Larionova Obituary March 14-1939 -November 17 2025

With deep sorrow and love, we announce the passing of Nina Larionova, who left us on November 17, 2025 at 1:40 p.m. in New York. She was born in Orenburg, Russia, and spent most of her adult life in Saint Petersburg, Russia, where she built a life filled with purpose, friendship, and devotion.

For the past 25 years, Nina made her home in New York, close to her younger daughter and grandchildren - facing life's challenges with courage, including living through the events of September 11th with her family in Downtown Manhattan.

Nina dedicated her life to education, teaching English at every level and nurturing the minds and hearts of countless students. She was honored with the distinction of Excellence in Public Education and devoted many years to helping other teachers elevate their skills at the Institute for Advanced Teacher Training. She authored a number of instructional and methodological publications and served as Deputy Headmistress, respected for her leadership, integrity, and unwavering commitment to the school community.

Nina dreamed in her youth of becoming an actress - and in many ways, she did. Her classrooms were alive with imagination, humor, story, and performance, making each day feel like a small stage where confidence and joy took root. Her students respected and adored her - showering her with flowers on all holidays and returning to visit her at the school and at home long after they graduated, a testament to the lasting mark she made on their lives.

Nina's leadership extended beyond the school walls. For more than a decade, she served as the head of a children's summer camp, supervising approximately 300 children and 100 staff for three summer months each year. Under her guidance, the camp didn't just run - it thrived. She handled every challenge with integrity, courage, command and compassion, earning the trust and admiration of her teams. Each summer, she shaped a community of safety, adventure, learning, and friendship, where thousands of joyful memories were made.

Nina cherished her relationships deeply. She maintained treasured friendships for more than seventy years - bonds built on mutual respect, kindness, humility, and shared values. Her close friends remember her as principled, warm-hearted, and devoted, always ready to help and always loyal.

She is survived by her daughters, Svetlana Shevchenko (with her husband, Ivan) and Natalia Gribas (with her husband, Nikolaos); and by her beloved grandchildren Zisis (with his wife, Anastasia), Alexander, and Ekaterina - all of whom will carry her light forward.

Her departure leaves a profound emptiness, but her legacy remains in every student who found joy and courage in her classroom, in every colleague she guided, and in every heart she loved.

Funeral Service for the repose of her soul was held on Monday, November 24th at Saint Andrew in Randolph NJ | Internment followed at Pleasant Hill Cemetery, 85 Pleasant Hill Rd. Chester, NJ. Arrangement made by William J. Leber Funeral Home of Chester NJ.



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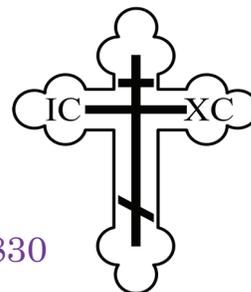
George & Mary Lioudis
 Sheree Collins

+Dimitrios Protogeropoulos

Nick & Violetta
 Protogeropoulos

+Constantinos Seretis

Deborah & Marty Burne



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) _____

SAINT ANDREW CALENDAR

* UPDATES IN WEEKLY E BULLETIN OR ON WEBSITE [Parish Calendar - St Andrew Greek Orthodox Church](#)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sundays after Holy Communion

BAKING GROUP Tuesdays 9am

GOYA Volleyball Tuesday @7:30-9pm

GOYA Basketball Wednesday @6:30-9pm

KNITTING & PILLOW 1ST & 2ND Wednesday @11am
2nd & 3rd Wednesday 6pm

Hellenic Afternoon School Thursday 4:30pm

Greek Dancing Thursdays @6:30 pm

Greek Dancing GOYA Thursdays @7:15 pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026

*COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN JANUARY : 1/4 PHILOPTOCHOS,
1/11 PTA, 1/18 DOP, 1/25 GOYA*

1/1 @7:15 GOYA/MDF DANCE PRACTICE

1/4 **COMMUNITY** VASILOPITA IN CHURCH

1/5 @7:30 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, NEXT ON 2/2

1/7 @11AM KNITTING CROCHETING NEXT ON 1/14 @6

1/8 @7:15 GOYA/MDF DANCE PRACTICE

1/10 @9AM -4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

1/11 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

1/11 HOPE & JOY VASILOPITA

1/14 @6PM KNITTING CROCHETING NEXT ON 1/21 @11AM

1/15 @ 7:15PM GOYA/MDF DANCE PRACTICE

1/16 @8:00AM LIFE LINE SCREENING

1/17 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

1/19 @6PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

1/21 @11AM KNITTING CROCHETING NEXT ON 1/28 @6PM

1/22 @7:15 GOYA/MDF DANCE PRACTICE

1/23 @6PM GOYA RETREAT

1/24 Faith Kitchen PARISH COUNCIL

1/24 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

1/24 @2 HOPE JOY Ice Skating

1/24 Three Hierarchs Program in Roseland @6pm

1/25 GODPARENTS' SUNDAY

1/25 @3:30PM WEDDING PAPAYIANIS_MURRAY
(REHEARSAL 1/24 @3PM)

1/27 @7 Philoptochos Meeting

1/28 @6 Knitting Crocheting Next on 2/4 @11

1/29 @7:15 GOYA/MDF DANCE PRACTICE

1/30 SPIRIT OF ORTHODOXY CHOIR AT ST ANDREW

1/31 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

*COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN FEBRUARY : 2/1 PHILOPTOCHOS,
2/8 PTA, 2/15 DOP, 2/22 GOYA*

2/1 *TRIODION* BEGINS

2/1 3 THE 3 HIERARCHS HAS & RELED PROGRAM

2/1 @2PM WEDDING SERGHIU_BAYIOKOS
(REHEARSAL 1-31 @4PM)

2/6 VALENTINE'S DANCE AT HOLMDEL @7-11PM

2/7 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

2/7 **MARDI GRAS** PTA

2-13 & 2/16 Metropolis Music & Dance Festival in PA

2/14 Saturday of Souls also on 2/21 and 2/28

2/14 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

2/15 @12:00 PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP TEA

2/15 @2:30PM WEDDING

2/21 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

2/22 GOYA S & S ARE DUE

2/23 **Great Lent** Begins

2/24 @7pm Philoptochos Meeting

2/27 @7:30pm GOYA S & S Rehearsal

2/28 Faith Kitchen PHILOPTOCHOS

2/28 @9AM-4PM GYM OUTSIDE RENTAL

*COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN MARCH : 3/1 PHILOPTOCHOS,
3/8 PTA, 3/15 DOP, 3/22 GOYA, 3/29 BAKALIKO*

3/1 SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

3/2 @7:30 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

GATEWAY DENTAL

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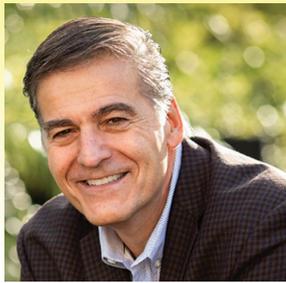
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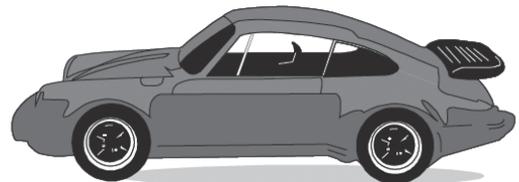
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Georgia Haglund, *Chairperson*

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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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Panagiotis Fotinis, *Chanter*
Salomi Massaras, *Choir Director*

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL

DIRECTOR: Vasilias Christodoulou

TEACHERS: Haroula Christodoulou, Eleni Zeris, Stacey Papanikolaw, Alexandra Kontogiannis, Effie Kritharis, Vasilias 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 and Jack Kelly & Julie Ioannou, Irene Laoudis, Joanne Varratos

AHEPA: Peter Tsilios, *President*

Daughters of Penelope: Dimitra Pallis, *President*

PTA: Katerina Corona, *President*

Little Angels Playgroup (LAP) *need chairperson*

HOPE – JOY : Stala Jellis, Jenny Manis, Pam Kotsaftis

GOYA

Zoe Sifonios, *GOYA President*

Pavlos Giannikopoulos, Christina Kalavrouziotis, Anna Sifonios, Irene Baroulakis, George Baroulakis, Sotiria Hambos *GOYA Advisors*

Hellenic Dance

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

Jr & Sr Groups Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



Greek Orthodox
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New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW

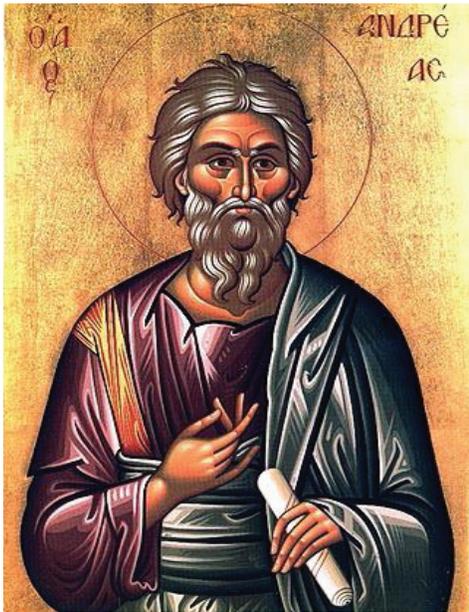
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You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World

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

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.