

APRIL 2026



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey



Saint Andrew Family News

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

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS ACTIVITIES - APRIL 4TH

PALM SUNDAY COMMUNITY LUNCHEON - APRIL 5TH

AGAPE SERVICE OF RESURRECTION FOR CHILDREN - APRIL 12TH

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

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E-mail info@standrewgonj.org Web site <https://www.standrewgonj.org/>

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Please submit your articles and information on time to
info@standrewgonj.org

*Deadline for the **MAY 2026 ISSUE** is April 15th*

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DIVINE SERVICES

APRIL

- Wednesday 1 Pre-Sanctified Gifts Liturgy @6:30pm
- Saturday 4 LAZARUS SATURDAY – Orthros @9am & Divine Liturgy @10am
Saturday of Lazarus Activities after Services
- Sunday 5 Palm Sunday**
- Sunday 5 Nymphios Service @7pm
- Monday 6 -
Saturday 11 **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**
- Sunday 12 @11pm Midnight Service of THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST -Orthros and Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**
- Sunday 12 @11am Vespers of Agape – CHRISTOS ANESTI SERVICE for the Children**
The Gospel will be read in many Languages
- Friday 17 RENEWAL FRIDAY DIVINE LITURGY +THEOTOKOS OF THE LIFE-GIVING SPRING
- Sunday 19 +THOMAS SUNDAY**
- Thursday 23 DIVINE LITURGY +SAINT GEORGE
- Sunday 26 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women**

MAY

- Friday 1 DIVINE LITURGY +ST. JEREMIAH
- Sunday 3 SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC +ST. XENIA OF KALAMATA**
- Friday 8 Divine Liturgy +ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN
- Sunday 10 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman |Mother's Day**
- Sunday 17 Sunday of the Blind Man – MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DECEASED MEMBERS OF AHEPA & DAUGHTERS' OF PENELOPE**
- Thursday 21 Divine Liturgy +HOLY ASCENSION – +SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
- Sunday 24 +Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council**
- Saturday 30 DIVINE LITURGY +SATURDAY OF SOULS
- Sunday 31 PENTECOST**

Ι Ε Ρ Ε Σ Α Κ Ο Λ Ο Υ Θ Ι Ε Σ

Α Π Ρ Ι Λ Ι Ο Σ

Τετάρτη	1	Προαγιασμένη Λειτουργία <u>ώρα</u> 6:30μμ
Σάββατο	4	ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΛΑΖΑΡΟΥ <u>ώρα</u> 9.00πμ Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία
Κυριακή	5	Κυριακή τῶν Βαΐων
Κυριακή	5	Η Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου <u>ώρα</u> 7μμ
Δεύτερα- Σάββατο	6- 11	ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΑΣ
Κυριακή	12	Στις 11 μμ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΗ / Θεία Λειτουργία
Κυριακή	12	Στις 11πμ Ακολουθία του Εσπερινού της Αγάπης -
Παρασκευή	17	+ΖΩΟΔΟΧΟΥ ΠΗΓΗΣ
Κυριακή	19	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Β ΤΟΥ ΘΩΜΑ
Thursday	23	+ΑΓΙΟΥ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ
Κυριακή	26	Κυριακή Γ' τῶν Μυροφόρων

Μ Α Ι Ο Σ

Παρασκευή	1	ΊΕΡΕΜΙΑΣ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ
Κυριακή	3	Κυριακή Δ' τοῦ Παραλύτου +ΑΓΙΑΣ ΞΕΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΛΑΜΑΤΑΣ
Παρασκευή	8	ΑΓΙΟΥ ΊΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ·
Κυριακή	10	Κυριακή Ε' τῆς Σαμαρείτιδος - ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΗΤΕΡΑΣ
Κυριακή	17	Κυριακή ΣΤ' τοῦ Τυφλοῦ ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΟ ΑΗΕΠΑ & ΘΥΓΑΤΕΡΕΣ ΤΗΣ ΠΗΝΕΛΟΠΗΣ
Πέμπτη	21	ΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ; ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΝΗΣ
Κυριακή	24	Κυριακή Ζ' τῶν 318 Ἀγίων Πατέρων τῆς Α' Οἰκ. Συνόδου
Σάββατο	30	ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ
Κυριακή	31	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Η' Τῆς ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ

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

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



SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. John Theodosion
Pastor

Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
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SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK 2026

- April 04 **SATURDAY OF LAZARUS**
8:00am Orthros & Divine Liturgy@9:00am
- April 05 **PALM SUNDAY**
8:15am Orthros and 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
7:00pm The Orthros Service of the *Nymphios* (Bridegroom)
- April 06 **HOLY MONDAY**
7:00pm The Orthros Service of The *Nymphios* (2nd Bridegroom)
- April 07 **HOLY TUESDAY**
9:00am Divine Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts
7:00pm The Orthros Service *Nymphios* (3rd Bridegroom) The *Hymn of Kassiani*
- April 08 **HOLY WEDNESDAY**
6:00am Divine Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts
3:00pm The Sacrament of Holy Unction *for Children and Families*
7:00pm The Orthros Service of The *Nymphios Holy Unction Offered Afterward*
- April 09 **HOLY THURSDAY**
7:30am Vespereal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
6:30pm The 12 Passion Gospels- *Agia Pathi*-Procession of the Crucifix
- April 10 **GOOD FRIDAY**
9:00am The Royal Hours
3:00pm Great Vespers *Apokathelosis* (Unnailing Service)
7:00pm The Lamentation Service and *Epitaphios* Procession 7PM
- April 11 **HOLY SATURDAY**
9:00am Morning Vespereal Divine Liturgy St. Basil the Great 9-11:30AM with
Old Testament Prophecies Joyful Noise
11:00pm **HOLY PASCHA**, Orthros @11PM, **RESURRECTION** at Midnight
Orthros & Divine Liturgy follows immediately
- April 12 **SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**
11:00am **AGAPE** Vespers *The Gospel to be read in many Languages* Christos Anesti!
(For Children and Families)



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ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΗΣ ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΟΣ 2026

04 Απριλίου 9:00 π.μ.	ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΛΑΖΑΡΟΥ Όρθρος & 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
05 Απριλίου 8:15 π.μ. 7:00 μ.μ.	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΒΑΪΩΝ Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία Η Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου
06 Απριλίου 7:00 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ Ιερά Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου
07 Απριλίου 9:00 π.μ. 7:00 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΤΡΙΤΗ Θεία Λειτουργία των Προηγιασμένων Δώρων Ιερά Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου και Τροπάριον της Κασσιανής
08 Απριλίου 6:00 π.μ. 3:00 μ.μ. 7:00 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ Θεία Λειτουργία των Προηγιασμένων Δώρων Τελέσεις Μυστηρίου Ιερού Ευχελαίου Ιερά Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου
09 Απριλίου 7:30 π.μ. 6:30 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ Εσπερινή Θεία Λειτουργία Μ. Βασιλείου επι τη Ανάμνησή του Μυστικού Δείπνου Ακολουθία Των Αγίων Πάθων
10 Απριλίου 9:00 π.μ.. 3:00 μ.μ. 7:00 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ Ακολουθία Των Μεγάλων και Βασιλικών Ωρων Ακολουθία Της Αποκαθήλωσης Ακολουθία Του Επιτάφιου και Εγκώμια
11 Απριλίου 9:00 π.μ. 11:00 μ.μ.	ΜΕΓΑΛΟ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ Μ. Εσπερινός, Θ. Λειτουργία του Μ. Βασιλείου & Πρώτη Ανάστασις Ακολουθία Παννυχίδος, Τελετή Αναστάσεως και Αναστάσιμη Θεία Λειτουργία
12 Απριλίου 11:00 π.μ.	ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ Ακολουθία του ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΥ ΤΗΣ ΑΓΑΠΗΣ

Keeping the Light of Christ's Resurrection Throughout the Year

Rev Fr John Theodosion

Keeping the Light of Christ's Resurrection Throughout the Year

In the life of the Orthodox Church, no proclamation is more central than this: Christ is Risen! It is not simply a liturgical exclamation or a seasonal greeting—it is the very foundation of our faith and the source of our life in Christ. The Resurrection of our Lord is not confined to a single night or even to the Paschal season; it is a reality meant to shape and illumine every day of the year.

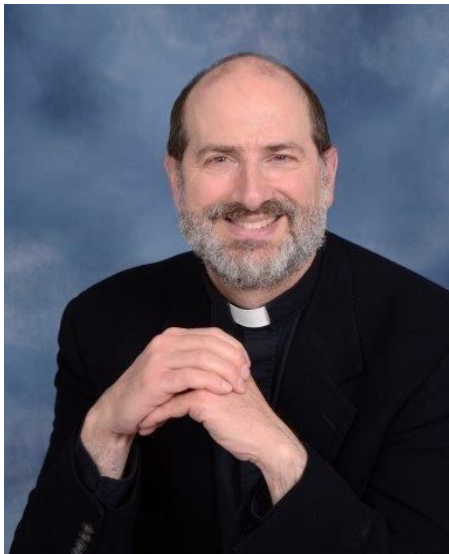
And yet, many of us recognize how easily the radiant joy of Pascha can fade. The candles are extinguished, the festal hymns give way to ordinary routines, and the intensity of Holy Week becomes a memory. Slowly, almost imperceptibly, the brilliance of that night seems to dim within us.

The Church, however, calls us to something deeper. We are not meant simply to remember the Resurrection—we are called to live in it, to carry its light within us continually.

The Resurrection as a Living Reality

The Resurrection of Christ is not merely an event of the past; it is a present and abiding reality. As the Apostle Paul writes, "If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile" (1 Corinthians 15:17). But Christ is risen, and this truth changes everything.

Through His Resurrection, death has been overthrown, sin has been conquered, and the path to eternal life has been opened to humanity. This means that no darkness we encounter—whether suffering, fear, or even death itself—has ultimate power over us. In his Paschal homily, [St. John Chrysostom](#) proclaims with boldness: "Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free."



This is the light given to us at Pascha—a light not subject to time or circumstance.

Guarding the Flame Within

On the night of Pascha, the faithful receive the light from the altar, hearing the invitation: "Come, receive the light from the Light that is never overtaken by night." This moment is deeply symbolic, but it is also profoundly practical. The flame we hold in our hands must become a

flame within our hearts.

To preserve this inner light, the spiritual life must be cultivated intentionally. Daily prayer keeps the soul attentive and receptive to God's presence. Immersion in the Scriptures nourishes the mind and strengthens the heart. Watchfulness—over our thoughts, words, and actions—protects the soul from the subtle encroachment of darkness.

As [St. Seraphim of Sarov](#) teaches, "Acquire the Spirit of peace, and thousands around you will be saved." The light of Christ is not maintained by external observance alone, but by an inner transformation that radiates outward.

The Eucharist: Communion with the Risen Christ

The most profound way we remain in the light of the Resurrection is through our participation in the Divine Liturgy. In the Holy Eucharist, we encounter not a memory of Christ, but Christ Himself—risen, glorified, and truly present.

Each reception of Holy Communion is a participation in the life of the Resurrection. It is here that the faithful are united to the One who has conquered death and bestowed life upon the world.

[St. Ignatius of Antioch](#) famously referred to the Eucharist as “the medicine of immortality.” Through it, the light of Christ is not only preserved but deepened within us. Regular and reverent participation in the sacramental life of the Church is essential if the Paschal flame is to remain bright.

Repentance as Renewal

Despite our best intentions, there are times when the light within us grows dim. We fall into sin, become distracted, or grow spiritually weary. Yet the message of the Resurrection is one of unceasing hope: the light of Christ is never fully extinguished.

Repentance is the means by which the flame is rekindled. It is not a descent into darkness, but a return to the light.

The Risen Christ approaches us not with condemnation, but with peace, just as He came to His disciples after His Resurrection, saying, “Peace be with you” (John 20:19).

The life of [St. Mary of Egypt](#) stands as a powerful witness to this truth. From a life of profound sin, she was transformed into a radiant bearer of divine grace through repentance. Her example reminds us that no fall is final, and no soul is beyond restoration.

Every act of sincere repentance becomes a personal Pascha—a passage from death to life.

Bearing the Light into the World

The light of the Resurrection is not given to us for our sake alone. Christ calls His followers to be “the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), to reflect His divine light in a world often overshadowed by darkness.

This calling is fulfilled not through grand gestures, but through the quiet, consistent witness of a Christ-centered life. Love extended to others, forgiveness offered freely, patience in times of trial, and joy that endures even amid suffering—these are the marks of a life illumined by the Resurrection.

As [St. Gregory Palamas](#) teaches, the divine light is not merely symbolic; it is a real participation in the life of God. Those who are united to Christ become, by grace, bearers of this uncreated light.

Living the Paschal Mystery Daily

The Church, in her liturgical rhythm, continually brings us back to the Resurrection. Every Sunday is a celebration of Pascha, a weekly reminder that Christ has conquered death. Every Divine Liturgy proclaims and makes present this victory.

Yet beyond the liturgical cycle, each day offers an opportunity to live the Resurrection personally. When we begin the day in prayer, we rise with Christ. When we turn away from sin, we pass from death to life. When we love sacrificially, we participate in His victory over the powers of darkness.

The question before each of us is not whether Christ is risen—this is the unchanging truth of our faith—but whether we are living as those who have been raised with Him.

The Unfading Light

In a world marked by uncertainty, anxiety, and division, the light of Christ’s Resurrection remains constant and unchanging. It is a light that no darkness can overcome, a light that is entrusted to each of us.

To keep this light alive throughout the year requires intentional effort: a life of prayer, participation in the sacraments, continual repentance, and active love for others. These are not burdens, but pathways into deeper communion with the Risen Lord.

If we embrace this calling, then the joy of Pascha will no longer be confined to a season. It will become the very atmosphere in which we live.

And so, not only on the radiant night of Pascha, but in every moment of our lives, we will bear witness to the truth that transforms the world:

Christ is Risen! Χριστός Ανέστη!

President's Message

First, I would like to sincerely thank all of you who support St. Andrew through your stewardship, volunteerism, prayers, and participation in parish life. Your generosity of time, talent, and treasure helps our church remain a vibrant place of worship, fellowship, and service.

Recently, the Parish Council held a full-day Strategic Workshop to reflect on the future of our parish. The goal was to step away from day-to-day activities and focus on how we can strengthen and sustain St. Andrew for the years ahead.

This workshop represented **Step 1** in our strategic planning process. During the session, we reviewed the results of the 2022 Parish Voice Survey and conducted an initial financial and operational review of the parish. The feedback confirmed that St. Andrew is blessed with a committed and caring community that values its worship life, ministries, and fellowship.

The next step is to hear directly from you. In the coming weeks we will distribute a **new, simplified Parish Voice Survey** so parishioners can share their ideas and perspectives. Once the responses are collected, the Parish Council will hold a **follow-up workshop** to review the feedback and help finalize our parish strategy. The results will be shared with the Parish and we will solicit feedback.

Many parishioners generously support ministries such as Philoptochos, GOYA, Greek School, Greek Dance, and other programs that



enrich our community. These ministries often manage their own funds to support their activities.

At the same time, the **daily operation of our parish**; including maintenance of our church and 24,000-square-foot facility, utilities, insurance, and other essential expenses is

supported primarily through parish stewardship and general parish income.

Simply put, **stewardship supports the house of the Church, while ministries support the life and programs within it.**

To encourage broad participation, the survey will be available **in English and Greek** through paper forms, a QR code in the bulletin, and online options.

As we move forward, our planning will focus on strengthening spiritual life and worship, stewardship and financial sustainability, ministries and volunteer engagement, community outreach, governance, and the continued role of our Greek Festival as an important cultural and outreach event.

Most importantly, we are not simply members of a church, we are **stewards of a sacred community**. The church building was built by those who came before us, and its future will depend on how we care for it today.

With gratitude and faith

Michael Serghiou

Parish Council President,

Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church

Μήνυμα Προέδρου

Θα ήθελα να εκφράσω τις θερμές μου ευχαριστίες σε όλους εσάς που στηρίζετε την κοινότητα του Αγίου Ανδρέα μέσω της συνδρομής σας, του εθελοντισμού, των προσευχών και της συμμετοχής σας στη ζωή της ενορίας μας. Η προσφορά σας σε χρόνο, ταλέντα και οικονομική στήριξη βοηθά την εκκλησία μας να παραμένει ένας ζωντανός χώρος λατρείας, συναναστροφής και προσφοράς.

Πρόσφατα, το Κοινοτικό Συμβούλιο πραγματοποίησε μια ολόημερη Στρατηγική Συνάντηση για να εξετάσει το μέλλον της ενορίας μας. Στόχος ήταν να απομακρυνθούμε από τις καθημερινές δραστηριότητες και να επικεντρωθούμε στο πώς μπορούμε να ενισχύσουμε και να διασφαλίσουμε τη βιωσιμότητα της κοινότητάς μας.

Η συνάντηση αυτή αποτέλεσε το **πρώτο βήμα** της διαδικασίας στρατηγικού σχεδιασμού. Κατά τη διάρκειά της εξετάσαμε τα αποτελέσματα της Έρευνας της Κοινότητας του 2022 και πραγματοποιήσαμε μια αρχική οικονομική και λειτουργική αξιολόγηση της ενορίας μας. Τα αποτελέσματα επιβεβαίωσαν ότι η κοινότητα του Αγίου Ανδρέα διαθέτει μια δυνατή και αφοσιωμένη ενοριακή οικογένεια.

Το επόμενο βήμα είναι να ακούσουμε ξανά τη δική σας φωνή. Σύντομα θα διανεμηθεί μια **νέα, απλοποιημένη Έρευνα της Κοινότητας**, ώστε οι ενορίτες να μοιραστούν τις σκέψεις και τις προτάσεις τους. Μετά τη συλλογή των απαντήσεων, το Κοινοτικό Συμβούλιο θα πραγματοποιήσει **μια δεύτερη στρατηγική συνάντηση** για να διαμορφώσει την τελική στρατηγική πορεία της ενορίας.

Πολλοί ενορίτες στηρίζουν γενναιόδωρα διακονίες όπως τη Φιλόπτωχο, τη GOYA, το

Ελληνικό Σχολείο και τα Ελληνικά Χορευτικά, οι οποίες εμπλουτίζουν τη ζωή της κοινότητάς μας και συχνά διαχειρίζονται τους δικούς τους οικονομικούς πόρους.

Την ίδια στιγμή, η **καθημερινή λειτουργία της ενορίας**, συμπεριλαμβανομένης της συντήρησης του ναού και των εγκαταστάσεων μας των 24.000 τετραγωνικών ποδιών, των λογαριασμών κοινής ωφέλειας, της ασφάλισης και άλλων βασικών εξόδων, καλύπτεται κυρίως μέσω της ενοριακής συνδρομής και των γενικών εσόδων της ενορίας.

Με απλά λόγια, **η συνδρομή στηρίζει το “σπίτι” της Εκκλησίας, ενώ οι διακονίες στηρίζουν τη ζωή και τα προγράμματα μέσα σε αυτό.**

Η έρευνα θα είναι διαθέσιμη **στα Αγγλικά και στα Ελληνικά** μέσω έντυπης φόρμας, QR code στο δελτίο της εκκλησίας και διαδικτυακά.

Καθώς προχωρούμε μπροστά, θα επικεντρωθούμε στην ενίσχυση της πνευματικής ζωής και της λατρείας, στη βιωσιμότητα της ενορίας, στην ενίσχυση των διακονιών και του εθελοντισμού, στην προσέγγιση της κοινότητας και στη συνέχιση του Ελληνικού Φεστιβάλ ως σημαντικού πολιτιστικού γεγονότος.

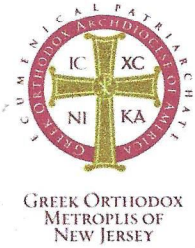
Πάνω απ’ όλα, δεν είμαστε απλώς μέλη μιας εκκλησίας, είμαστε **φύλακες μιας ιερής κοινότητας**. Ο ναός μας χτίστηκε από τις προηγούμενες γενιές και το μέλλον του θα εξαρτηθεί από το πώς θα τον φροντίσουμε σήμερα.

Με ευγνωμοσύνη και πίστη,

Μιχάλης Σεργίου

Πρόεδρος Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου,

Ελληνορθόδοξη Εκκλησία Αγίου Ανδρέα



SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. John Theodosion
Pastor

March 2026

Re: 2026 COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM

Dear Saint Andrew supporter: ☐

We would like to invite you to participate in our Saint Andrew Community Partners Program.

As a Saint Andrew Community Partner, you are helping to support our charitable outreach programs and community service. At the same time, you will reach a wide audience through our various advertising efforts. There are five partner levels available.

Our upcoming yearly festival attracts several thousand visitors, providing exposure to your business.

The dates for this year's **BIG GREEK FESTIVAL** are **June 5, 6, 7**.

We welcome participation at any time, however, the deadline to advertise during the festival is May 15.

If this program is of interest to you, please return the "**COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM**" contract designating your participation level.

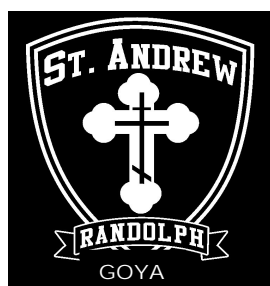
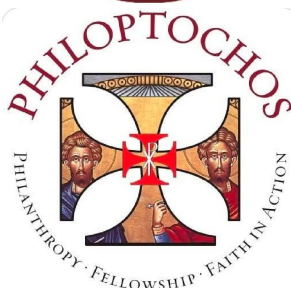
We look forward to promoting your business throughout the year and pray that you and your family will have a healthy and joyous year.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. John Theodosion
Parish Priest

Michael Serghiou
Parish Council President

Please find Enclosure



community partners program

JOIN OUR Saint Andrew Community Partners Program

As a Saint Andrew Community Partner, you will help to support our charitable outreach programs and community service. At the same time, you will reach a wide audience through our various advertising efforts. There are five levels available.

Contact us today to discuss the one that is right for you.

DIAMOND PARTNER • \$5,000

For a full year, your sponsorship is promoted at ALL events at St. Andrew and in all publications.

- Exclusive 5' x 7' billboard in Community Center for 1 year
- An ad in the Saint Andrew Family News Magazine, 10 issues
- 1 full-page ad in annual Mardi Gras journal
- 1 full-page ad in annual Tricky Tray journal

PLATINUM PARTNER • \$2,000

6' x 4' sign in gym

GOLD PARTNER • \$1,000

5' x 3' sign in gym

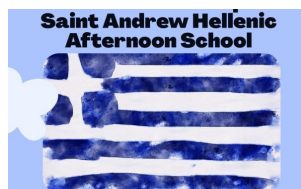
SILVER PARTNER • \$750

4' x 3' sign in gym

BRONZE PARTNER • \$500

3' x 2' sign in gym

BigGreekFestival.com



community partners program

Deadline to advertise during our annual Festival is May 15

Business name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____ Website _____

Contact person name _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Partner Level :

Diamond \$5,000 Platinum \$2,000 Gold \$1,000 Silver \$750 Bronze \$500

Payment method:

Check made payable to: **Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church**

Credit card (complete info below)

Credit card type: MasterCard Visa

Credit card number: _____ Exp date: _____ / _____

Please list brief information you want on your banner (note size of banner will determine how much we can fit) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please supply your company logo. High-resolution digital files are preferred.

Mail check and form to:

Saint Andrew Community Partners

1447 Sussex Turnpike

Randolph, NJ 07869

tel: 973-584-0388

email: info@standrewgonj.org

BigGreekFestival.com

Thank you for your support!

Ad content subject to approval by Advertising Committee. Sponsor is responsible for accuracy of all information provided and for securing permission for content including the logo, copyright or trademark rights of any third party.

Dear Church Family,

What is our future, and where do you want our Parish to go? We are blessed due to the vision of our founders and the hard work of so many stewards over the years. However, our current challenges require the same dedication to chart our course into an uncertain tomorrow.

Elements of future/strategic planning are well-accepted among the world's most successful Christian, non-profit, and for-profit organizations, and Christ modeled it with his Apostles. He challenged us to make a difference and to build up God's house on this earth. We are blessed to pursue this noble work and a "good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ."

Our Parish leadership has decided to pursue a systematic process that has been successful in many Orthodox Churches, Dioceses, and Metropolises, as well as ministries. To that end, we have assembled a very diverse cross-section of our Church family who will together begin to work on a new and comprehensive Strategic Plan that will guide our Church for years to come.

However, we also want to engage EVERY community member in this process. Thus, I am enclosing a document in which we ask you to help identify our Parish's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (referred to as a SWOT analysis). Your participation and helpful insights will provide us with the necessary information to build upon our past's strong legacy while strengthening our Parish in the future, creating a place where joy, peace, and love abound.

Enclosed, you will find two documents. The first is a one-page description of what we ask you to do. This is followed by two pages upon which you will offer us your SWOT analysis. Please complete these final two pages by **NO LATER THAN April 30th, 2026**, and either email them to **info@standrewgonj.org** or leave them at the Church office.

Please help us by letting your voice be heard by returning a completed SWOT analysis by no later than **April 30th, 2026**. Thank you in advance for participating in this transformational process as we chart our bright future together. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours in Christ,

-Father John

<https://tinyurl.com/saintandrewplan>



Our Parish will complete a **SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)** analysis as part of our strategic planning efforts, with a primary focus on our **Strengths and Weaknesses**—the internal factors that most directly affect our mission and future.

Strengths are the qualities, resources, and practices that give our Parish vitality and advantage—what we do well and what we can build upon.

Weaknesses are internal challenges or limitations that hinder our effectiveness and must be addressed for continued growth.

While **Opportunities and Threats**—factors outside our Parish—will also be considered, this analysis asks us first to look inward with honesty and care. By clearly identifying our strengths and weaknesses, we can better discern priorities and develop strategies to guide our Parish forward.

BY NO LATER THAN April 30, 2026, please:

(a) type your answers into this following two-page Word document and email it to strategicplan@standrewgonj.org or

(b) if you cannot type your answers on this form, print them neatly and bring them to the church office.

Again, the final submission deadline is April 30, 2026

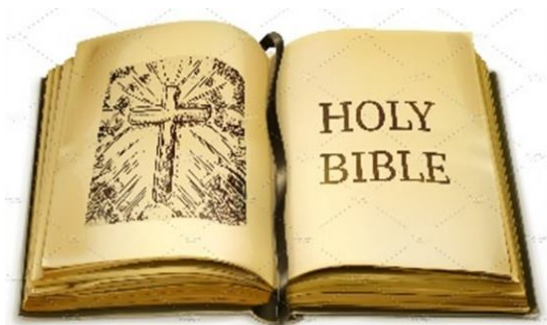
S & W Please provide the most important **Strengths** of our Parish and the most critical **Weaknesses** we face internally. Please focus on bigger, more strategic, and longer-term issues.

STRENGTHS

WEAKNESSES

In addition, how satisfied are you with the following areas of St. Andrew.
Please rate on a scale of 1 to 3,

	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Satisfied</u>
Orthodox Identity of Exterior	1	2	3
Function of Drop Off to Church	1	2	3
Exo-Narthex / Front Door	1	2	3
Size and Function of Narthex	1	2	3
Environment of Nave and Dome	1	2	3
Sanctuary and Icon Screen	1	2	3
Other Liturgical Furnishings	1	2	3



Bible Study

Thursdays at 7:30pm
April 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21, 28



Agape – Αγάπη

Luncheons on Thursday at 11:30am

Apr 23, May 28, Jun 11

For more information contact: **Julie I.** 201-602-1359,
Joanne D.V. 973-432-1950 or **Irene L.** 973-479-5221

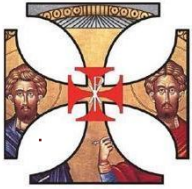


Knitting, Crochet & Pillow Ministry

We Will Teach You!

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11am-2pm:

This is a non-denominational ministry. All are welcome! Bring a friend - join us in crafting for a cause!
Apr: 15, 29, May: 13, 27



SAINT ANDREW PHILOPTOCHOS

1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869-1830



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

Dear Friends of Philoptochos,

The Saint Andrew Philoptochos of Randolph, New Jersey, is part of one of the largest women's philanthropic organizations in the United States, the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society. Each year we raise funds to disburse to local and national charities thus honoring our Mission Statement which is "to help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick..."

Our main fundraiser, the Tricky Tray, will be held on Friday, **May 8, 2026**. A portion of the proceeds will go to various charities. In order for our event to be successful, we rely on donations from our community as well as the local business community.

We would greatly appreciate your support by donating one or more of the following:

- . **Gift basket with items valued at \$50+/\$100+/\$200+**
- . **Gift card/gift certificate**
- . **Ad in our Journal**, (for example: business, congratulations, memorial, etc.)
- . **Monetary donation** (TT Committee to purchase gift items on your behalf)
 - ❖ Cash or Check
 - ❖ **Venmo now available (using QR code)**
 - **Please note Tricky Tray 2026 and Dollar Amount**

Philoptochos SaintAndrew
@StAndrewPhiloptochos



All donations should be mailed or delivered by April 2nd or earlier.

Our committee members will also gladly pick up your donation.

Checks should be made payable to:
Saint Andrew Philoptochos and sent to:

Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
Saint Andrew Philoptochos/Tricky Tray
1447 Sussex Turnpike
Randolph, NJ 07869



*All donations are tax deductible.
We are a 501-c3 organization. EIN- 22-1755125.*

If you have any questions about our organization, or our Tricky Tray, please contact a committee member directly or email:

SaintAndrewsTT@gmail.com

We thank you in advance for your support and generosity!

The Tricky Tray committee:
Marina Venizelos, Melissa Dobias, Antonia Clapsis, Irene Laoudis, Yiota Louca, Julie Ioannou, Maro Schuster, and Kia Paskas

Hosted By
SAINT ANDREW PHILOPTOCHOS

KICKING IT FOR A CAUSE!

TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER



FRIDAY, MAY 8th 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM | CALLING BEGINS AT 7:30PM

**SAINT ANDREW CHURCH
1447 SUSSEX TURNPIKE, RANDOLPH
973-584-0388**

\$25

ENTRANCE TICKET \$25

- Includes:
Coffee, dessert and
25 Regular Prize tickets
(1 sheet)

\$65

ADVANCED TICKET BUNDLES \$65
(PRE-SALE BY APRIL 30th or UNTIL SOLD OUT)

- At the Door: \$80
- Bundle Includes: (75 Regular prize tickets,
30 Large prize tickets, 2 Super prize tickets)

Additional individual tickets may be purchased at event.
ALL TICKETS WILL BE PICKED UP AT EVENT

GREAT PRIZES! 50/50! CALENDAR, MONEY TREE & MORE!



**REGULAR PRIZES
\$50-\$99**



**LARGE PRIZES
\$100-\$199**



**SUPER PRIZES
\$200+**

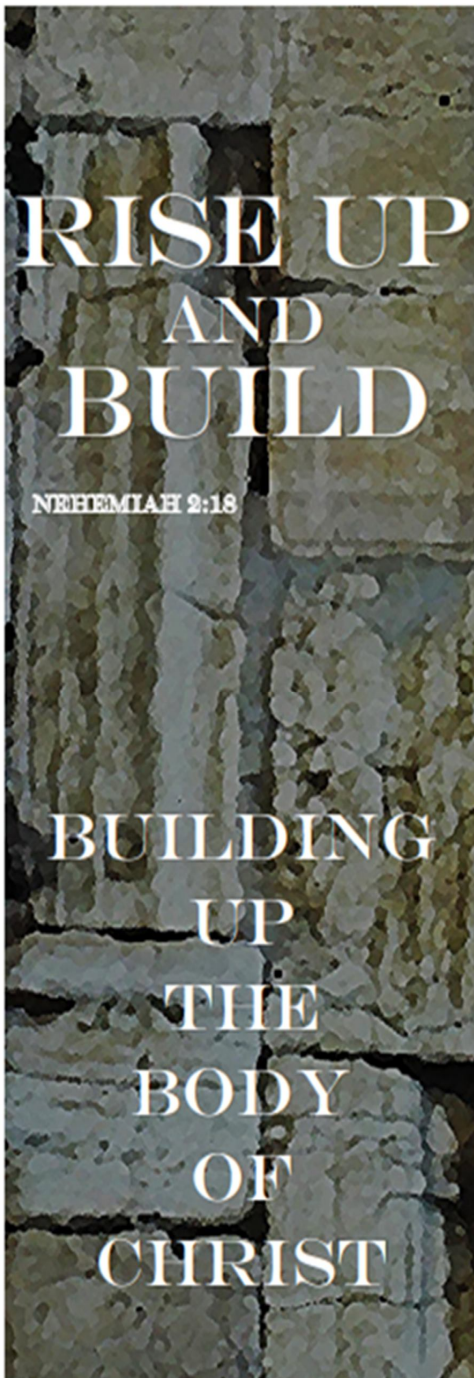


THE TRICKY TRAY IS OUR MAIN FUNDRAISER
and a portion of the proceeds will go to the following charities:
**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE/GREEK DIVISION,
PROJECT SELF-SUFFICIENCY & SAINT ANDREW CHURCH**



- No consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted
- Food will be available for purchase

For questions: SAINTANDREWSTT@GMAIL.COM



Growing in Stewardship: Why Monthly Giving Matters

In the life of the Church, Stewardship is about faith, gratitude, and participation in God's work. Everything we have is ultimately a gift from God, and Stewardship is our response of thanksgiving for those blessings. As our parish continues to grow through our "Round Up to Tithe" campaign, we need to reflect on **how** we give, not just on **how much** we give.

One of the most meaningful ways that we can strengthen our Stewardship is by **giving consistently throughout the year, rather than waiting until December to fulfill our pledge.**

Stewardship as a Spiritual Practice

In Scripture and in the tradition of the Orthodox Church, giving is meant to be intentional and regular. Just as we pray daily and gather weekly for the Divine Liturgy, our offering to God is meant to be a continual act of faith. When we give monthly, we are reminded regularly that our blessings come from God and that we are offering back a portion in gratitude.

Consistent giving transforms Stewardship from a year-end obligation into an ongoing spiritual discipline. Each gift becomes a quiet prayer of thanksgiving: "From what is Yours, we offer to You."

Supporting the Church's Mission All Year

Our parish operates every month of the year, not only in December. The Divine Liturgy, ministries, outreach programs, youth education, charitable efforts, and the daily care of our church facilities all require steady resources.

When most pledges arrive as end-of-year lump sums, the parish must spend much of the year operating with uncertainty about available funds. This can make it difficult to plan ministries, maintain programs, and respond to needs in the community.

Regular giving allows our church to faithfully carry out its mission all year long. Furthermore, breaking Stewardship into smaller, regular gifts makes the commitment easier to plan and integrate into household budgeting.

Faithfulness Over Timing

What matters most is the spirit in which we give. A generous heart is always more important than the timing of a contribution. However, choosing to give monthly helps align our Stewardship with the rhythm of our spiritual lives and the ongoing needs of the parish.

It reminds us that Stewardship is not something we do once at the end of the year. Rather, Stewardship is something we live throughout the year.

Convenient Ways To Give Monthly

Setting up monthly Stewardship giving is simple. Parishioners can give **online** through the church website at standrewgonj.org where recurring donations can be set up from your checking account or by using a credit card through the **Abundant** giving platform. Monthly giving can also be accomplished by **mailing a check each month to Saint Andrew**, or by using your bank's **online "bill pay" feature**, which can automatically send a monthly check to the church. Any of these methods can help ensure that your Stewardship commitment is fulfilled steadily throughout the year.

Walking Together in Stewardship

As a parish family, we are all on a journey of faith and generosity. The "Round Up to Tithe" campaign invites each of us to take a small, faithful step forward each year. By growing toward the tithe and supporting the church through regular monthly giving, we strengthen not only the financial health of our parish but also the spiritual life of our community. May our Stewardship always be an offering of gratitude to God, who has given us everything.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." (James 1:17)



The Clergy-Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America gathers the Church to pray, listen, and work together for the life and growth of our parishes. Rooted in the theme Rise & Build, this Congress is centered on parish development and renewal, grounded first and foremost in our shared life of worship. A deliberate decision has been made to celebrate the official Divine Liturgy of the Congress on Wednesday, while we are all together, so that clergy and lay delegates may pray as one body and partake together in the Holy Eucharist. Throughout the Congress, this emphasis on prayer continues through expanded daily chapel services, affirming that all of our deliberations and planning flow from our life in Christ.

REGISTER AT

<https://www.clergylaity.org/rise-and-build>

G O Y A



As we move into springtime, we reflect on the winter months. We, as a Goya, came together, and concluded another sights and sounds season. We recognize the following Goyans for earning trophies for art: Artemis Baroulakis(photography, soft sculpture,short story), Andreas Hambos(pen and ink,pencil, colored pencil, short story), Zoe Sifonios(painted ceramics, original design on clothing), Demetra triantafyllou(mixed media, colored pencil), Demetris Gergatsoulis(digitally manipulated photography),Niko Sifonios(black and white photography), Eleni Mousis(short story), Themis Sifonios(jewelry, recycled art, printmaking, computer art) and Panayiotis Sifonios(decoupage, jewelry, scratchboard). We also acknowledge all the kids in English singing, for earning second place!! Congratulations to all the play members for 4th place and band members for earning 5th place as well. And Melina and Eleni Henderson for placing 3rd for their dramatic pair!

Looking forward to Pascha, we have come together with neighboring churches to assemble Easter baskets with the I Am Hope group, and distribute them to families in need. In our continued effort to help our community, we also made sandwiches for faith kitchen and distributed them to people in need.

For a fundraiser, the Goya collected and resold lightly used and new formal attire to community members. The proceeds will go towards Goya events and renewing Goya sports equipment.

We hope all our St. Andrew families enjoy their Easter with loved ones, and we are excited for a fun spring season full of sports, outdoor fun, and celebration!





The HOPE and JOY children have been busy getting ready for Spring! On Sunday, March 8th, they celebrated Sunday of Orthodoxy by beautifully decorating their favorite icons.

On Saturday, March 28th we gathered at Randolph Climbing Center for a fun afternoon of fellowship, fitness, and teamwork as we put our climbing skills to the test!

Next, we look forward to celebrating the Easter season starting off with the PTA and HOPE & JOY Saturday of Lazarus Luncheon, Egg Hunt, and Craft on Saturday, April 4th immediately following Divine Liturgy. The children look forward to this event every year!



Interested in Joining **Hope &**



Joy? Scan the QR CODE!

Έχεις αναρωτηθεί ποτέ πόσο εύκολα χαλάμε;

Πόσο γρήγορα σηκώνεται ένας τοίχος ανάμεσα σε ανθρώπους που αγαπιούνται, που εκτιμούνται, που κάποτε γελούσαν μαζί;

Γιατί συμβαίνει αυτό;

Για κουβέντες.

Για λέξεις που ειπώθηκαν άτσαλα.

Για λέξεις που ακούστηκαν μισές.

Για λέξεις που άλλοι στόλισαν πριν σου τις μεταφέρουν.

Λέξεις.

Και ξαφνικά βαραίνει η καρδιά.

Χάνεται η γαλήνη.

Στενεύει το στήθος.

Κόβεται ο ύπνος.

Για μια φράση θυμώνεις.

Για μια κουβέντα πληγώνεσαι.

Για δυο λόγια απομακρύνεσαι.

Για λίγες συλλαβές χαλάνε φιλίες, παγώνουν σχέσεις, σβήνουν αγκαλιές.

Κι όμως...

Αν σταθείς λίγο πιο ήρεμα και το δεις καθαρά, θα καταλάβεις πως όλα αυτά δεν έχουν βάρος πραγματικό. Είναι αέρας. Είναι ήχος που πέρασε και έφυγε.

Και τότε λες:

«Τι μπορώ να κάνω;»

Λίγα και απλά πράγματα.

Να φυλάς το στόμα σου. Όχι από φόβο, αλλά από σοφία. Να αφήνεις τη σκέψη να προηγείται της φωνής. Δεν χρειάζεται να απαντάς σε όλα. Δεν χρειάζεται να κερδίζεις κάθε συζήτηση.

Να μαθαίνεις να ακούς χωρίς να φορτώνεσαι. Ο άλλος μπορεί να ξεσπά. Μπορεί να πονά. Μπορεί να μην εννοεί αυτό που λέει. Άφησέ το να περάσει. Δεν θα σου αφαιρέσει τίποτα.

Και πάνω απ' όλα, να κλείνεις τα αυτιά σου σε λόγια τρίτων. Οι φήμες δεν ένωσαν ποτέ κανέναν.

Μόνο δηλητήριο αφήνουν πίσω τους.

Για λόγια...

Χαραμίζουμε στιγμές.

Χαλάμε μέρες.

Πληγώνουμε ζωές.

Κι όμως, η ζωή είναι τόσο μικρή για να τη σκορπάς σε λέξεις που αύριο δεν θα θυμάται κανείς.

Have you ever wondered how easily we break down?

How quickly does a wall rise between people who are loved, who are appreciated, who once laughed together?

Why is this happening?

For conversations.

For words that were said clumsily.

For words that sounded half.

For words that others decorated before they conveyed them to you.

Words.

And suddenly the heart gets heavy.

Peace is lost.

The chest narrows.

Sleep is cut off.

For a phrase you get angry.

For a word you get hurt.

In short, you walk away.

For a few syllables, friendships are ruined, relationships freeze, hugs are erased.

And yet...

If you stand a little calmer and see it clearly, you will understand that all this has no real weight. It's air. It's a sound that has passed and gone.

And then you say:

"What can I do?"

A few simple things.

Guard your mouth. Not out of fear, but out of wisdom. Let thought take precedence over voice. You don't have to answer everything. You don't have to win every conversation.

To learn to listen without being burdened. The other may break out. It may hurt. He may not mean what he says. Let it pass. It won't take anything away from you.

And above all, close your ears to the words of others. Rumors never united anyone. They only leave poison behind.

For words...

We waste moments.

We waste days.

We hurt lives.

And yet, life is too short to be scattered in words that tomorrow no one will remember.

PARENTS' CORNER

By Alexandra Protopapas

April 2026 - EASTER – Family Cycle

We certainly had many changes in our weather this year. We also have changes in our family. This Easter, as I write this article, I will be spending Easter with my sister and nephew in Fort Lauderdale, and maybe even get a chance to visit my first cousins on the west side of Florida. A few years ago, I wrote about “The Family Life Cycle”. I have experienced the many cycles in my life, marriage, loss of a child, loss of my loving husband after many years of marriage, ups and downs, but getting through them all in a spiritual and positive way because of my faith. However, we all experience different stages, and we react to them differently.

Let’s talk about *The Family Life Cycle*. What is a *Family*? A definition of *family* from health professionals’ states, “*family consists of two or more people living in the same household that are related by blood, marriage, or adoption.*” Today, we have remarriages, stepchildren, and more extended family connections. Of course, we know family also consists of “relatives” who may not live with us, and who can forget our “church family”.

Easter, for example, is a time when we spend most of our time together with family, we may not see every day and connect more than usual. I will be in this situation this Easter. Do we understand the concept of “family”? How do we interact with family? I will be writing about the five stages, as I learned through research, the five stages may begin from marriage to the death of a spouse. Are there really stages in

“family”? Absolutely! Let’s see what they are, and did we experience any of them?

The “*newlywed stage*” takes on new roles as husband and wife. The beginning of a new family begins as a family of two. The “*early parenthood stage*” comes up with the birth of the first child through the child’s toddler, preschool, and elementary years. During those times, the rewards of parenting are evident, yet they are very challenging, as you, as parents, probably experienced if you are reading this. Later?

What’s next, you say, for us in our family cycle? The “*later parenthood stage*” occurs between the ages of 45 and 60 and consists of the time when the oldest child begins adolescence and he/she goes through puberty, junior high years, senior high years, dating, first child moves out of the house, second and third child follow, first child may marry. Major changes, maybe? With good communication and understanding, there are many rewards of parenting during this stage. We launch a new generation, which is independent and self-sufficient. We look forward to the achievements our teens anticipate. We begin to become adult friends with our children. Letting go here is difficult, but we must do it! This is the time we remembered to pray for strength!

The next two stages are considered in the “*aging marriage,*” which occurs about age 60+. We have the “*empty nest stage*” when the last child leaves home.

Children no longer depend on parents to meet their needs. It is also a time when parents need to accept a new family member, who may now be the child's mate, and you may even have grandchildren, and then again, today many do not take that path.

How many of you have reached the "retirement stage" when new interests and hobbies develop, as well as experiencing extended family relationships? One or both spouses retire from their careers. Some couples work if they are physically able. For many, it is a time for volunteering, travel, and leisure activities. Not all cope well with retirement. At times, health and financial problems can prevent them from looking at the future with hope.

As the years fly by, it is also a time when the death of a spouse may occur. This ends the family cycle. The remaining partner returns to single living, and the widow or widower faces challenges. Two challenges occur. One is dealing emotionally with the loss of a partner, and the other is adjusting to a lifestyle change. Personal freedoms may be affected. The loss of income, health, and the ability to live independently are hard to accept. Family members and friends become very important at this stage, as they can bring joy, meaning, and hope to the person's life. This is a time when, if we notice this, we should reach out to them.

Family traditions and our faith, as those practiced in our own St. Andrew's Greek

Orthodox Church, are the most important elements in all stages of *FAMILY*. They are passed from one generation to another, and they add meaning to family life. The love of our Greek Orthodox faith strengthens the family unit as bonds between members grow and the sense of family identity increases.

Let's remember that in our "Cycle of Family Life" we must remember all of our family members not only during the holidays, but especially now during Easter, through Facebook, Instagram, or texts, but through the old-fashioned way of making a phone call, sending a letter or a card, or making a visit.

Everyone, have a great month, HAPPY EASTER, and enjoy the beautiful weather ahead with Christ in your heart, and reach out to more family members this Easter!



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).

◆ DIAMOND PARTNERS ◆



DIAMOND PARTNER



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and Paxos Families
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DIAMOND PARTNER



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therandolphdiner.com

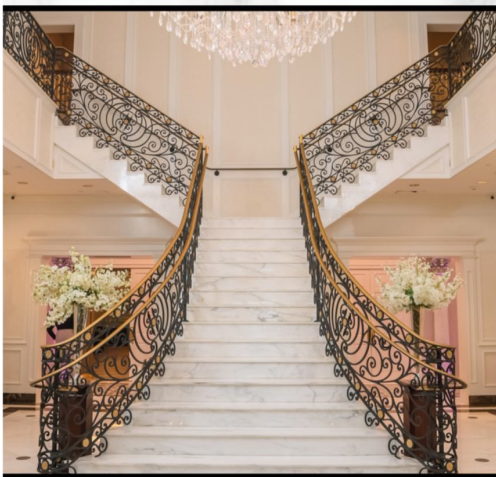


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973-963-2034

Your hosts: Kypros Andreou & Demetri Rotsides

**SAINT ◆ ANDREW COMMUNITY PARTNERS
◆ DIAMOND ◆ PARTICIPANTS**

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

Daughters of Penelope

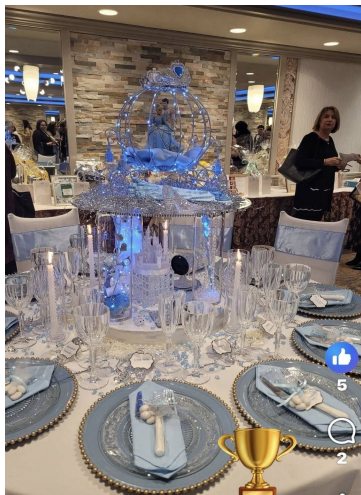
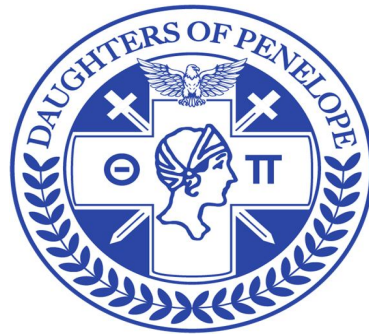
Alexander # 250

Festival of Tables

District 5 Education Foundation Fundraiser

CONGRATULATIONS!

Best Execution of Theme - Cinderella



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WEDNESDAY

APRIL 29, 2026

5:00 PM

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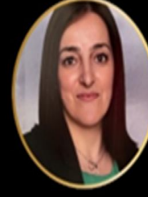
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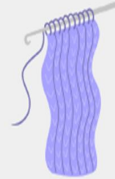
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A.H.E.P.A. News

Details about the District Bowling Tournament can be provided now. It was a combined event with the Daughters of Penelope. It took place at Bowlero No. Brunswick on Feb. 28th. It started at 2:00 P.M. and children and grandchildren participated. People came from as far as Delaware. Everyone enjoyed themselves.



There was a District Workshop on Mar. 14 at St. George in Ocean. The A.H.E.P.A. is in the process of establishing a data base to help those seeking a career path. An Ahepan, Chris Petrou, from our chapter, is in the final stages of creating a website for this. Ahepans from all professional fields should input whatever experience and knowledge that they have. This should provide solid guidance for any youth who are unsure about which career path to take or better inform them about a career that they have chosen. Besides the upcoming conventions, standardizing emails for better communication amongst the chapters, and their members, was discussed. There were 30 attendees at the workshop.

The chapter's first event was Brew Night on Mar. 25 at the Double Tap in Whippany. A tour of this facility was arranged. Proceeds benefited the A.H.E.P.A. District Cancer Society. This event was held after this month's deadline so no additional details can be provided with this issue.

There are more events being planned. At this time with Holy Week and Easter upcoming things will run at a slower pace. The next article will provide more details about our District and National Conventions..

SAVE THE DATE:

2026 GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE
APRIL 26, 2026, 1:30 PM
1821 - 205th Anniversary of Hellenic Independence
1776 - 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence

St. Andrew Parade Group Sign ups coming soon...

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**

KNITTING & PILLOW 1ST & 2ND (SOMETIMES 3RD)
Wednesdays @ **11am**

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

Youth Greek Dance Thursdays @ **6:30pm & 7:15pm**

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN APRIL : 4/5 All Organizations, 4/12
PASCHA, 4/19 PTA, 4/26 DOP

4/1 @11am Knitting Crocheting next on 4/15 @11
@ 7:45pm Adult Greek Dance Class Next on 4/15 @ 6:30

4/2 @4:30pm Goya Bundt Cake Pick Up

4/4 @10am Saturday of Lazarus Activities (PTA Hosting

4/5 @9:30am Palm Sunday (All Organizations hosting
Coffee Hr)

4/10 @11 am Holy Friday/Epitaphio Decorating

4/11 @ 11pm HOLY PASCHA-RESSURECTION

4/12 PASCHA continued...@11am Agape Service

4/13 @ 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

4/15 @11am Knitting Crocheting next on 4/29 @11
@ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

4/17 @ 7pm Goya Prom

4/22 @ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

4/23 @ 11:30 am Agape Lunch
@ 7:30pm Bible Study

4/25 Faith Kitchen DOP/AHEPA

4/26 @ 1:00pm Greek Independence Day Parade

4/28 @ 7pm Philoptochos Meeting

4/29 @11am Knitting Crocheting next on 5/13 @11
@ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

4/30 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN MAY: 5/3 Philoptochos, 5/10 PC,

5/17 PTA, 5/24 DOP, 5/31 GOYA

5/2 Metropolis Oratorical Festival
@2:30 Baptism

5/3 @ 12:00pm General Assembly
@3:00pm OCMC PAN-Orthodox Concert

5/4-5/5 Metropolis Clergy Laity Congress

5/6 @ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

5/7 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

5/8 6pm Annual Philoptochos Tricky Tray

5/9 @ 5pm PTA Medieval Times Trip

5/11 Honoree Banquet, Garfield NJ

5/12 Tentative @ 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

5/13 @11am Knitting Crocheting next on 5/27 @11
@ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

5/14 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

5/17 @11:00 AHEPA & DOP Memorial
@11:00 Religious Education Graduation

5/20 @ 6:30pm Adult Greek Dance Class

5/21 @8am Orthros/@9am Liturgy ASCENSION
@ 4:30PM HAS Graduation
@ 7:30pm Bible Study

5/23 @ 9:00am Faith Kitchen: PARISH COUNCIL
GOYA Olympics

5/24 GOYA Olympics

5/26 @ 7pm Philoptochos Meeting

5/27 @11am Knitting Crocheting

5/28 @11:30 AM AGAPE LUNCH

@ 7:30pm Bible Study

5/30 @8AM SATURDAY OF SOULS

5/31 PENTECOST

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

DOP-Daughters of Penelope | HAS – Hellenic Afternoon School | PC -Parish Council | PH -Philoptochos | RelEd-Religious Education



Benefit Concert

& Reception - All Proceeds to Missions



Sunday, May 3
at 3 PM

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Orthodox Church

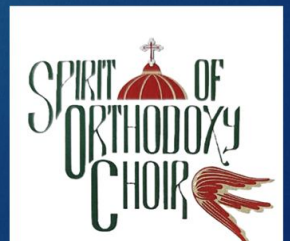
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BAPTISM – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΙΣ

Jessica Lauren Kim was Baptized & Chrismated according to the rights of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Saturday, February 28th, 2026, at 12:30pm and given the name **ΙΟΥΣΤΙΝΗ - JUSTINE**, Godmother was Anna Anagnostakos

Kenneth James Hamel was Baptized & Chrismated according to the rights of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Sunday, March 8th, 2026, at 1:30pm and given the name **ΒΑΡΘΟΛΟΜΑΙΟΣ- BARTHOLOMEW**, Godfather was Herbert Schuster



OBIT & FUNERAL SERVICE – ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΑ & ΚΗΔΕΙΣΣΕΣ



+Athanasios Vasilios Kritharis 70, of Sparta, NJ passed away peacefully, with his loving family by his side on February 25, 2026. Athanasios lived his life by two simple words: "Dream Big". The dream for a better life started in the late 1960's when Greece, under the rule of a military dictatorship, created few job opportunities for the emerging working class. This paved his way to America, where his dreams would eventually turn into reality.

Athanasios graduated with a Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from Manhattan College in 1979. Soon after, his greatest passions in life would be introduced. His love for his "omorfi" wife Maria of 45 years and his 38 year career in leading operational electrical service teams for Westinghouse and Eaton corporation. Both of which, in any conversation, Athanasios could not help but talk glowingly about.

Athanasios was a prideful man. He loved talking about the successes of his three children, the success of friends and family and his accomplishments at work. You couldn't drive a few miles without Athanasios telling you of an electric generator or electrical power plant he and his company serviced! Athanasios committed so much of his time and thoughts to the work behind these achievements and was excited to always share his news. He had paved the way to America with "big dreams" that all became big realities.

Athanasios is predeceased by his mother and father, Athena and Nikolaos Kritharis. He is survived by his wife Maria Kritharis, his children Athena, Nikolaos and George, his daughter-in-laws, Vicmary and Nicole, his son-in-law Andy,

ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΘΑ ΠΕΙ ΝΑ ΜΗ ΦΟΒΑΣΑΙ ΤΟ ΘΑΝΑΤΟ...

Ανάσταση θα πει να ξέρεις πως
πέρα από τη λογική σου υπάρχει
ένας ολάκερος κόσμος έλλογος...

Ανάσταση θα πει να βλέπεις φως
εκεί που ο κόσμος βλέπει
σκοτάδι...

Ανάσταση θα πει να βλέπεις
ελπίδα την ώρα της θλίψης
σου...

Ανάσταση θα πει να ελπίζεις στη
δύναμη της ψυχής...

Ανάσταση θα πει να ρουφάς τη ζωή σα να είναι η
τελευταία σου στιγμή και να πεθαίνεις σα να
είσαι Αθάνατος...

Ανάσταση θα πει να σε αγαπά ο ίδιος ο Θεός κι αν
είσαι τόσο μικρός και τόσο ασήμαντος...

Ανάσταση θα πει δημιουργία από την αρχή... να
λες πως το τέλος είναι απλά μια αρχή...

Ανάσταση θα πει ταπείνωση: να λες πως είσαι
πολύ μικρός για να ορίσεις τα μυστικά του
σύμπαντος...

Ανάσταση θα πει να αγαπάς πέρα από τα στενά
όρια της ζωής... κι έτσι να αντιλαμβάνεσαι τη
ζωή σου...

Ανάσταση θα πει να κοιτάς ανθρώπους και να
βλέπεις αγγέλους...

Ανάσταση θα πει... όλα κάπως αλλιώς... όλα πιο
όμορφα...

Η Πολιτεία Αγάπης



RESURRECTION MEANS NOT TO BE AFRAID OF DEATH...

Resurrection means knowing that
beyond your logic there is a whole
rational world...

Resurrection means to see light
where the world sees darkness...

Resurrection means to see hope
in the hour of your sorrow...

Resurrection means hoping for
the strength of the soul...

Resurrection means to suck life as
if it were your last moment and to die as if you
were Immortal...

Resurrection means for God Himself to love
you, even if you are so small and so
insignificant...

Resurrection means creation from scratch... to
say that the end is just a beginning...

Resurrection means humility: to say that you
are too young to define the secrets of the
universe...

Resurrection means to love beyond the narrow
limits of life... and thus perceive your life...

Resurrection means to look at people and see
angels...

Resurrection means... everything is a little
different... everything more beautiful...

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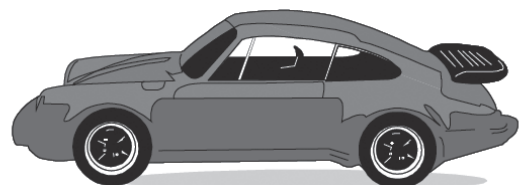
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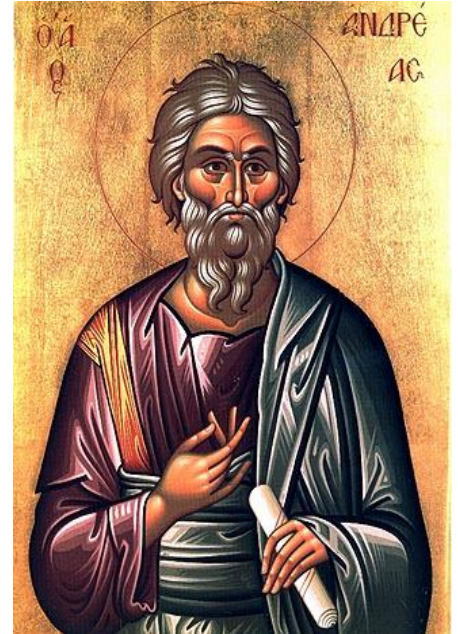
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As first called of the Apostles and brother of Peter the Preeminent, O Andrew, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the whole world, and great mercy to our souls.

ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ

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



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