

MAY 2026



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of  
New Jersey



## Saint Andrew Family News

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

ICON OF PENTECOST – MAY 31 | SATURDAY OF SOULS – MAY 30

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GRADUATION, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS SUNDAY - MAY 18

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL GRADUATION THURSDAY - MAY 21

# 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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Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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

*Deadline for the JUNE 2026 ISSUE is May 15<sup>th</sup>*

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# DIVINE SERVICES

## MAY

- Friday 1 +ST. JEREMIAH
- Sunday 3 SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC +ST. XENIA OF KALAMATA**
- Friday 8 +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 +HOLY ASCENSION | +SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
- Sunday 24 +Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council**
- Saturday 30 +SATURDAY OF SOULS  
*Fr. John visits Locust Hill Cemetery to pray for +Loved ones*
- Sunday 31 PENTECOST**

## JUNE

- Monday 1 MONDAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
- Sunday 7 SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**  
*Holy Apostles FAST begins on Monday June 8-28 (21 days)*
- Sunday 14 2ND SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
- Sunday 21 3RD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW *FATHER'S DAY***
- Wednesday 24 THE NATIVITY OF +ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
- Sunday 28 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
- Monday 29 +SS. PETER AND PAUL

**Sundays: Orthros @ 8:15AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:30AM**  
**Weekdays: Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:00AM**

*Sunday School students attend Divine Liturgy at 9:30am, receive Holy Communion, and then proceed to their class – Graduation is on May 18<sup>th</sup>*

# ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ

## ΜΑΪΟΣ

Παρασκευή	1	ΊΕΡΕΜΙΑΣ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Κυριακή Δ' τοῦ Παραλύτου + ΑΓΙΑΣ ΞΕΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΛΑΜΑΤΑΣ</b>
Παρασκευή	8	ΑΓΙΟΥ ΊΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Κυριακή Ε' τῆς Σαμαρείτιδος - ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΜΗΤΕΡΑΣ</b>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Κυριακή ΣΤ' τοῦ Τυφλοῦ</b> <i>ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΟ ΑΗΕΠΑ &amp; ΘΥΓΑΤΕΡΕΣ ΤΗΣ ΠΗΝΕΛΟΠΗΣ</i>
Πέμπτη	21	ΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ; ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΝΗΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Κυριακή Ζ' τῶν 318 Ἀγίων Πατέρων τῆς Α' Οἴκομ. Συνόδου</b>
<b>Σάββατο</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ π. Ιωάννης θα επισκεφτεί το Νεκροταφείο στο Ντόβερ</b>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Η' τῆς ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ</b>

## ΙΟΥΝΙΟΣ

Δευτέρα	1	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Κυριακή Α' τῶν Ἀγίων Πάντων</b> <i>ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ των Αγίων Αποστόλων (21 ημέρες) 8–29 Ιούνιος</i>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Β' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ</b>
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Γ' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΤΕΡΑ</b>
Τετάρτη	24	ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΩΝ ΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ
<b>Κυριακή</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ Δ' ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ</b>
Tuesday	29	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΙ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ

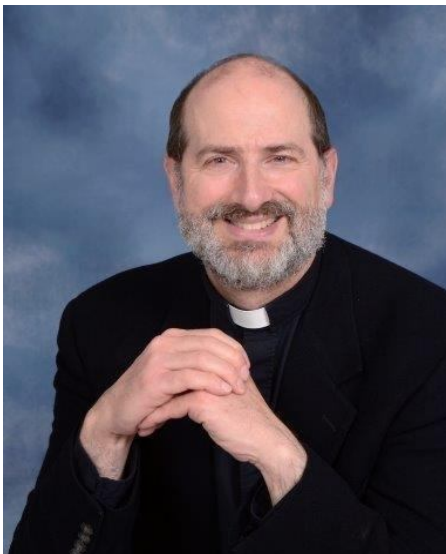
**Την Κυριακή – Ὁρθρος - ώρα 8.15πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9:30πμ**  
**Τις καθημερινές – Ὁρθρος - ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9.πμ**

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 9:30πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία θα συνεχίσουνε στις τάξεις τους. - *αποφοίτηση Κατηχητικού σχολείου 18<sup>η</sup> Μαΐου*

# Keeping a Spirit of Prayerfulness in Daily Life

*Rev Fr John Theodosion*

In the life of an Orthodox Christian, prayer is not simply an activity among many—it is the very breath of the soul. The holy Apostle Paul gives a command both simple and profound: *“Pray without ceasing”* (1 Thessalonians 5:17). At first hearing, this may seem beyond our ability. How can we pray constantly while managing the responsibilities, demands, and distractions of daily life?



“the light of the soul... a mediator between God and man... the root, the fountain, the mother of a thousand blessings.”

Importantly, prayer is not confined to church services or private devotions. It can accompany us everywhere. As Chrysostom teaches, even in the marketplace or while traveling, the heart can remain lifted up to God.

Yet the Church, through Holy Scripture and the witness of the Fathers, teaches that this command is not only possible—it is essential. Prayer is not limited to specific moments or words. It is a way of life, a continual turning of the heart toward God.

## **The Meaning of Prayerfulness**

To cultivate a spirit of prayerfulness means to live with an awareness of God’s presence in all things. It is not merely about reciting prayers in the morning and evening—though this remains a vital foundation—but about learning to carry God within our thoughts, our actions, and our relationships throughout the day.

## **St. Theophan the Recluse writes:**

“The principal thing is to stand before God with the mind in the heart, and to go on standing before Him unceasingly day and night, until the end of life.”

This “standing before God” is the essence of prayerfulness. It is an inner attentiveness, a quiet but constant orientation of the soul toward Christ our creator and savior.

## **The Wisdom of the Fathers**

The Fathers of the Church consistently remind us that prayer is the foundation of spiritual life. St. John Chrysostom describes prayer as:

St. Isaac the Syrian deepens this understanding:

“When the Spirit dwells in a man, he does not cease from prayer, because the Spirit Himself prays within him.” Prayer, then, is not only our effort—it is the work of the Holy Spirit within us. Our task is to make space for this grace.

## **The Jesus Prayer: A Path to Inner Stillness**

One of the greatest treasures of Orthodox spirituality is the Jesus Prayer:

*“Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”*

This simple invocation has been handed down through generations as a means of fulfilling the call to unceasing prayer. St. Gregory Palamasteaches that through such prayer, the mind descends into the heart, uniting the whole person in communion with God.

Likewise, St. Hesychios the Priest instructs: “Let the remembrance of Jesus be united with your breathing, and then you will know the value of stillness.”

In a world filled with noise and distraction, this practice offers a way to return to inner peace and attentiveness.

## Obstacles Along the Way

Maintaining a spirit of prayerfulness is not without struggle. The cares of daily life, constant stimulation from cell phones and other media, and the wandering of the mind can easily pull us away from God. Christ Himself warns that *“the cares of this world... choke the word”* (Matthew 13:22).

The Fathers often speak of three primary obstacles:

- Forgetfulness of God
- Distraction of the mind
- Hardness of heart

St. Maximus the Confessor reminds us that spiritual growth requires purification:

*“A pure mind is one that is free from thoughts and constantly dwells in God.”*

This purification is not instantaneous. It is a lifelong process of repentance, patience, and perseverance.

## Cultivating Prayer in Daily Life

While the goal of unceasing prayer may seem lofty, it begins with small, faithful steps:

- Establish a daily rule of prayer. Even brief, consistent prayers in the morning and evening provide a foundation.
- Use the Jesus Prayer throughout the day. In quiet moments, or every time a commercial comes on, repeat it gently and attentively.
- Sanctify ordinary tasks. A simple *“Lord, bless what I am about to do”* before beginning and *“Glory to God”* or *“Thank you Lord”* upon completion can transform daily routines.
- Read Scripture or even listen to it regularly. God’s Word illuminates the path and nourishes prayer.
- Participate in the liturgical life of the Church. The Divine Liturgy and the services form and sustain a prayerful heart.
- Practice watchfulness. When distractions arise, return calmly to the remembrance of God.

These practices gradually reshape the heart, making prayer a natural and continuous presence.

## Prayer in Times of Difficulty

It is often during hardship that prayer becomes most earnest—and most necessary. The Apostle Paul exhorts us: *“In everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God”* (Philippians 4:6).

Even when we feel dryness or distance, we continue to pray.

## The Fruit of Prayerfulness

A life rooted in prayer begins to bear visible fruit. The heart grows in peace, the mind becomes clearer, and love for others deepens. Gradually, we begin to perceive God’s presence in every aspect of life.

Christ promises: *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God”* (Matthew 5:8). Prayer purifies the heart, and through this purification, we come to know God more intimately.

St. Seraphim of Sarov beautifully summarizes the goal: *“Acquire the Spirit of peace, and thousands around you will be saved.”*

## A Life Transformed

A spirit of prayerfulness is not reserved for monastics or clergy. It is the calling of every Christian. Whether at home, at work, or in the midst of daily responsibilities, each of us is invited into a life of constant communion with God.

This journey begins simply: a few sincere prayers, a moment of remembrance, a humble turning of the heart toward Christ. Over time, these small acts become a way of life.

As the Psalmist declares and wishes the same for us as well:

*“I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth”* (Psalm 34:1). May we, through the prayers of the Holy Fathers, learn to keep our hearts always lifted toward God, and to live each day in His presence.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – MAY

## **Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!**

As we continue to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection, we are reminded that our faith is rooted in renewal, hope, and new life. This spirit of renewal is guiding the work of our parish as we move forward together.

Following our March 21 Strategic Workshop, and building on last month's message, the Parish Council has aligned and made a commitment to each other, around a set of core values that will guide our decisions and actions.

## **Parish Council & Executive Team Values**

- Christ-Centered Faith – We place Jesus Christ at the center of all we do through worship, prayer, and sacramental life.
- Faith Tradition – We honor and preserve the teachings, liturgy, and traditions of the Greek Orthodox Church.
- Worship & Spiritual Growth – We commit to lifelong spiritual growth through worship, education, and personal faith formation.
- Community & Fellowship – We foster a welcoming and inclusive parish family rooted in love, gratitude, respect, and mutual support.
- Service & Stewardship – We serve God and one another generously with our time, talents, and treasures.
- Leadership with Humility – We lead with integrity, accountability, and humility in service to our parish and clergy.
- Unity & Collaboration – We work together in faith, valuing cooperation, communication, and shared responsibility.
- Witness & Outreach – We live our faith openly, serving as a light of Christ within and beyond our parish community.

These values are not simply statements, they are commitments that will guide how we serve, lead, and grow together as a parish family. Our team slogan is **“One Team, One Dream!”**

This past month, many of us had the joy of participating in the Greek Parade, a beautiful expression of our faith, heritage, and identity. At the same time, the Greek Revolution reminds us of the deeper meaning of freedom. As Orthodox Christians, we understand that true freedom is not only political, but spiritual, found in Christ, who calls us to live with faith, courage, and purpose.

We are continuing to work and assess St. Andrew's financials, and we will be releasing soon our monthly financial report, which will include clear and simplified charts showing:

- The current status of our parish mortgage
- A breakdown of our operating expenses
- 2025 full year and 2026 month-to-date income compared to expenses
- The monthly income target required to sustain our parish and support our ministries

At the same time, we must address several urgent capital needs related to our church facilities that were not included in the 2026 budget and if we are not able to complete the work this year these projects will be included in the 2027 budget. We are currently evaluating and prioritizing important projects, including:

- Replace Parking lot lights around the circle
- Replace repair sidewalks and Belgium block
- Re pave and strip parking
- Repair/replace sidewalks
- Replace and repair roofs
- Refinish Church doors

- Paint church ceiling
- Replace ceiling tiles in the Alter
- Change lighting to LED
- Scrap and paint the surface near the office entrance
- Upgrade fire alarm system to ensure safety and fire code regulations

Each project will be competitively bid to ensure transparency and responsible stewardship of parish resources.

The recent Parish Voice Survey closed on April 30, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated. The strong response from our community reflects a shared commitment to the future of our parish.



As we move forward in this season of renewal, let us remain grounded in our faith, united in purpose, and committed to building a strong and sustainable future for St. Andrew.

With faith and gratitude,

Michael Serghiou, Parish Council President, St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church.

## ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ – ΜΑΙΟΣ

Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!

Καθώς συνεχίζουμε να εορτάζουμε τη χαρά της Αναστάσεως, μας υπενθυμίζεται ότι η πίστη μας έχει τις ρίζες της στην ανανέωση, την ελπίδα και τη νέα ζωή. Αυτό το πνεύμα ανανέωσης καθοδηγεί το έργο της κοινότητάς μας καθώς προχωρούμε μαζί προς το μέλλον.

Μετά το Στρατηγικό Εργαστήριο της 21ης Μαρτίου, και συνεχίζοντας το μήνυμα του προηγούμενου μήνα, το Κοινοτικό Συμβούλιο ευθυγραμμίστηκε και δεσμεύτηκε μεταξύ του γύρω από ένα σύνολο βασικών αξιών που θα καθοδηγούν τις αποφάσεις και τις ενέργειές μας.

Αξίες Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου & Εκτελεστικής Ομάδας

- Χριστοκεντρική Πίστη – Τοποθετούμε τον Ιησού Χριστό στο κέντρο όλων όσων κάνουμε μέσω της λατρείας, της προσευχής και της μυστηριακής ζωής.
- Παράδοση της Πίστεως – Τιμούμε και διαφυλάσσουμε τις διδασκαλίες, τη λατρεία και

τις παραδόσεις της Ελληνορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας.

- Λατρεία & Πνευματική Ανάπτυξη – Δεσμευόμαστε σε διαρκή πνευματική πρόοδο μέσω της λατρείας, της παιδείας και της προσωπικής καλλιέργειας της πίστεως.
- Κοινότητα & Συναδέλφωση – Καλλιεργούμε μια φιλόξενη και ενωμένη ενοριακή οικογένεια βασισμένη στην αγάπη, την ευγνωμοσύνη, τον σεβασμό και την αλληλοϋποστήριξη.
- Διακονία & Υπεύθυνη Διαχείριση – Υπηρετούμε τον Θεό και τον συνάνθρωπο γενναιοδωρα με τον χρόνο, τα χαρίσματα και τους πόρους μας.
- Ηγεσία με Ταπεινότητα – Ηγούμαστε με ακεραιότητα, υπευθυνότητα και ταπεινοφροσύνη στην υπηρεσία της κοινότητας και του ιερού κλήρου.
- Ενότητα & Συνεργασία – Εργαζόμαστε μαζί με πίστη, εκτιμώντας τη συνεργασία, την επικοινωνία και τη συλλογική ευθύνη.
- Μαρτυρία & Εξωστρέφεια – Ζούμε ανοιχτά την πίστη μας, αποτελώντας το φως του Χριστού μέσα και πέρα από την κοινότητά μας.

Αυτές οι αξίες δεν είναι απλώς δηλώσεις· είναι δεσμεύσεις που θα καθοδηγούν τον τρόπο με τον οποίο υπηρετούμε, ηγούμαστε και αναπτυσσόμαστε μαζί ως ενοριακή οικογένεια. Το σύνθημα της ομάδας μας είναι: «Μία Ομάδα, Ένα Όραμα!»

Τον περασμένο μήνα, πολλοί από εμάς είχαμε τη χαρά να συμμετάσχουμε στην Ελληνική Παρέλαση, μια όμορφη έκφραση της πίστης, της κληρονομιάς και της ταυτότητάς μας. Ταυτόχρονα, η Ελληνική Επανάσταση μας υπενθυμίζει το βαθύτερο νόημα της ελευθερίας. Ως Ορθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί, κατανοούμε ότι η αληθινή ελευθερία δεν είναι μόνο πολιτική αλλά και πνευματική, και βρίσκεται εν Χριστώ, ο Οποίος μας καλεί να ζούμε με πίστη, θάρρος και σκοπό.

Συνεχίζουμε να εργαζόμαστε και να αξιολογούμε τα οικονομικά της κοινότητάς μας και σύντομα θα δημοσιεύσουμε τη μηνιαία οικονομική μας αναφορά, η οποία θα περιλαμβάνει σαφή και απλοποιημένα διαγράμματα που θα παρουσιάζουν:

- Την τρέχουσα κατάσταση του στεγαστικού δανείου της κοινότητάς μας
- Ανάλυση των λειτουργικών μας εξόδων
- Τα συνολικά έσοδα και έξοδα του 2025 και τα έσοδα/έξοδα του 2026 μέχρι σήμερα
- Τον μηνιαίο στόχο εσόδων που απαιτείται για τη διατήρηση της κοινότητάς μας και την υποστήριξη των διακονιών μας

Ταυτόχρονα, πρέπει να αντιμετωπίσουμε αρκετές επείγουσες κεφαλαιουχικές ανάγκες που αφορούν τις εγκαταστάσεις του ναού μας, οι οποίες δεν είχαν συμπεριληφθεί στον προϋπολογισμό του 2026. Αν δεν μπορέσουμε να ολοκληρώσουμε τα έργα αυτά φέτος, θα ενταχθούν στον προϋπολογισμό του 2027. Αυτή τη στιγμή αξιολογούμε και ιεραρχούμε σημαντικά έργα, όπως:

- Αντικατάσταση φωτιστικών στον χώρο στάθμευσης γύρω από τον κυκλικό κόμβο
- Αντικατάσταση και επισκευή πεζοδρομίων και κυβόλιθων
- Νέα ασφαλτόστρωση και διαγράμμιση του

χώρου στάθμευσης

- Επισκευή/αντικατάσταση πεζοδρομίων
- Επισκευή/αντικατάσταση στεγών
- Επαναβαφή και συντήρηση των θυρών του ναού
- Βαφή της οροφής του ναού
- Αντικατάσταση πλακών οροφής στο Ιερό Βήμα
- Αναβάθμιση φωτισμού σε LED
- Καθαρισμός και βαφή της επιφάνειας κοντά στην είσοδο του γραφείου
- Αναβάθμιση του συστήματος πυρασφάλειας για ασφάλεια και συμμόρφωση με τους κανονισμούς

Κάθε έργο θα δοθεί με ανταγωνιστικές προσφορές ώστε να διασφαλιστούν η διαφάνεια και η υπεύθυνη διαχείριση των πόρων της κοινότητας.

Η πρόσφατη έρευνα «Η Φωνή της Κοινότητας» ολοκληρώθηκε στις 30 Απριλίου και θα θέλαμε να εκφράσουμε τις ειλικρινείς μας ευχαριστίες σε όλους όσους συμμετείχαν. Η ισχυρή ανταπόκριση της κοινότητάς μας αντανακλά τη συλλογική δέσμευση για το μέλλον της ενορίας μας.

Αυτή τη στιγμή βρισκόμαστε στη διαδικασία συγκέντρωσης και ανάλυσης των αποτελεσμάτων. Αυτό περιλαμβάνει μια βαθύτερη εξέταση των σχολίων ώστε να εντοπιστούν βασικά συμπεράσματα που θα βοηθήσουν στη διαμόρφωση της ανανεωμένης στρατηγικής της κοινότητάς μας.

Περίληψη των ευρημάτων, μαζί με τα επόμενα βήματα, θα κοινοποιηθεί στο τεύχος του Ιουνίου.

Καθώς προχωρούμε σε αυτή την περίοδο ανανέωσης, ας παραμείνουμε σταθεροί στην πίστη μας, ενωμένοι στον σκοπό μας και αφοσιωμένοι στην οικοδόμηση ενός ισχυρού και βιώσιμου μέλλοντος για τον St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church.

Με πίστη και ευγνωμοσύνη,

Michael Serghiou

Πρόεδρος Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου, St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church



GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF  
NEW JERSEY

# SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. John Theodosion  
Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

Christ is Risen!

We would like to address several important matters that have recently arisen within our parish community regarding the daycare school, safety protocols, and questions about prior approvals.

## 1. Daycare Safety & Recent Incident

Recently, there was an incident involving a child attempting to access a restroom in the daycare-designated area during school hours. While no harm occurred, this highlights the importance of maintaining clear boundaries between parish use and school operations.

During weekdays when the school is in session, designated school areas—including restrooms—are not accessible to parishioners. These measures are in place to uphold youth safety standards and ensure a secure environment for the children in the daycare.

To support this, we are implementing simple safeguards such as keeping fire doors closed during school hours and posting signage indicating: “*School in Session – No Access.*” We kindly ask for everyone’s understanding and cooperation.

## 2. General Assembly Approval & Historical Context

We have heard questions regarding whether the daycare lease was formally approved by the General Assembly. We want to clarify that the day school lease has, in fact, been discussed and approved at previous General Assembly meetings.

Additionally, the vision of utilizing our community center for educational purposes has existed since its opening approximately 20 years ago, and the Parish Council acted within this long-standing vision in entering into the lease.

For the sake of transparency and completeness, we will continue reviewing past General Assembly minutes and documentation and will make this information available to the parish as needed.

## 3. Stewardship & Financial Responsibility

The daycare currently provides approximately \$45,000 annually in revenue, which supports the ongoing needs and ministries of our parish. As we consider any concerns or future decisions, it is important to recognize the financial impact.

If there is a desire within the parish to discontinue the daycare, we must also be prepared, as a community, to prayerfully and responsibly consider how to replace this income through increased stewardship. We cannot separate decisions from their practical consequences, and faithful stewardship calls us to approach both with care and responsibility.

## Moving Forward Together

As First Epistle to the Corinthians reminds us: “*Let all things be done decently and in order*” (14:40). Let us move forward with clarity, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to the well-being of our parish.

We thank you for your attention, understanding, and continued love for our Church. If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please feel free to reach out.

With love in Christ,  
Michael Serghiou, Parish Council President

Hosted By  
**SAINT ANDREW PHILOPTOCHOS**

# **KICKING IT FOR A CAUSE!**

**TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER**

**FRIDAY, MAY 8<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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**



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\$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](mailto:SAINTANDREWSTT@GMAIL.COM)

ST. ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
**2026 CAR RAFFLE**



**PRIZE DETAILS**

- Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 W4
- MSRP: \$54,585
- Exterior: Polar White
- Interior: Macchiato Beige
- All-Wheel Drive (AWD)
- All-Wheel Drive (AWD)
- PARKTRONIC with Active Parking Assist
- Panorama Sunroof
- And Much More!

**TICKET INFORMATION**  
**TICKETS: \$25 EACH**

Drawing: SEPTEMBER 27, 2026, 12:30PM

All ticket sales benefit Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church.  
 Winner need not be present to win.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

\*Note: Image is for advertising purposes only. Actual car may vary.\*

1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869



**CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD 2026**



**Virginia**

**July 5-11**  
 Camp Piankatank  
 1586 Stampers Bay Rd  
 Hartfield, VA 23071

Early Bird: \$600  
 until May 31

**Maryland**

**July 12-18**  
 Camp Wo-Me-To  
 1200 Knopp Rd,  
 Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Early Bird: \$625  
 until May 31

**New Jersey**

**July 12-18**  
 Camp Linwood MacDonald  
 1 Flatbrook Rd,  
 Sandyston, NJ 07826

Early Bird: \$675  
 until May 31

**Register here!**



[www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd](http://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)

**HOPE & JOY**

PLEASE JOIN US AT  
**VALLEY SHEPHERD CREAMERY**  
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**SUNDAY, MAY 17TH**  
 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM

**CHEESE MAKING TOUR**  
**SEE BABY LAMBS & SHEEP**

- Tour the farm
- See how cheese is made
- Visit the baby lambs and sheep

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS  
**IT'S FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!**  
[ValleyShepherd.com](http://ValleyShepherd.com)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT  
[hopejoystandrews@gmail.com](mailto:hopejoystandrews@gmail.com)

**Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School Graduation Celebration**

Εορτασμός αποφοίτησης και λήξη της σχολικής χρονιάς!

May 21, 2026, at 5:00pm  
 Saint Andrew Auditorium

Απολαύστε μια μαγική Παράσταση όπου οι μαθητές μας Ζωντανεύουν τραγούδια του Ελληνικού κινηματογράφου!

Join us for a magical evening where our students bring the music of the cinema to life!

Τι θα απολαύσετε / What to Expect:

- \* Παραστάσεις μαθητών εμπνευσμένες από τον Ελληνικό κινηματογράφο
- \* Student performances inspired by famous movies
- \* Γιορτή Ελληνικής γλώσσας και πολιτισμού
- \* Μία χαρούμενη εκδήλωση αποφοίτησης

**Φώτα, μουσική, αποφοίτηση!**

# BIG GREEK FESTIVAL.COM

## June 5 – June 6 – June 7



### Friday ♦ June 5 ♦ Lunch 11am – 2pm

Eat in or take out – pre-order at:  
[standrewgonj.square.site](http://standrewgonj.square.site)

### Dinner 5pm – 11pm

### Saturday ♦ June 6 ♦ 11am – 11pm

### Sunday ♦ June 7 ♦ 12pm – 7pm



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

### FREE ADMISSION

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

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

BigGreekFestival.com  



# GOYA NEWS

Xristos Anesti!

We hope everyone had a blessed Pascha!  
We would like to recognize James Andrews, who represented our parish at the District Oratorical Festival at St. Anna in Flemington on March 30th. Thank you James!

During the last weeks of lent, the GOYA participated in many events. Faith Kitchen prep and service, I Am Hope NJ Easter Basket prep, and lastly our traditional candle making and Epitaphio decorating on Holy Friday. We even helped wrap over 200 eggs, hopefully yours didn't crack on the first shot!

As we moved into April, we started preparing for indoor soccer tournaments (May 2nd), Olympics, indoor (May 9th) and outdoor (Memorial Day Weekend), and of course, the festival (June 5th-7th).

We hosted a Parents Night Out on April 24th, as our current Goyans baby-sat future Goyans. We hope to host this event twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring! In addition we have a **Car Wash fundraiser** planned for **May 16th** (Rain date May 30th). We will hold our elections for Mr. and Mrs. GOYA, Cross Divers, and 2026-27 GOYA Board Members. Lastly, we are saying goodbye to our seniors at our Senior Sendoff. Thank you to our seniors for all of the years committed to the GOYA! We are looking forward to a fun and active season filled with fellowship, faith, and community.

Thank you all for your continued support and participation!

By [Kosta Giannikopoulos](#)





We had a wonderful turnout for Saturday of Lazarus! The children enjoyed making Holy Week lanterns, to help light their way to Pascha. They enjoyed the Spring weather with an Egg Hunt on church grounds, and the "Easter Bunny" surprised our youngest members, making the day

even more memorable.

Please join us for our final event before the summer break.

We will be visiting **Valley Shepherd Creamery in Long Valley on Sunday, May 17th**. Come join us for a tour of the farm, learn how cheese is made, and visit the baby lambs and sheep! We will be visiting during a reserved session from 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.

Please see our flyer for more information.

Tickets must be purchased in advance, please click on the link to purchase your tickets on a first come first served basis: <https://valleyshepherd.myshopify.com/products/newborn-lamb-tours-2026>

Want to join our mailing list for upcoming events? Email us at: [hopejoystandrews@gmail.com](mailto:hopejoystandrews@gmail.com)

**Interested in Joining Hope & Joy? Scan the QR CODE!**



## SAINT ANDREW HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL.

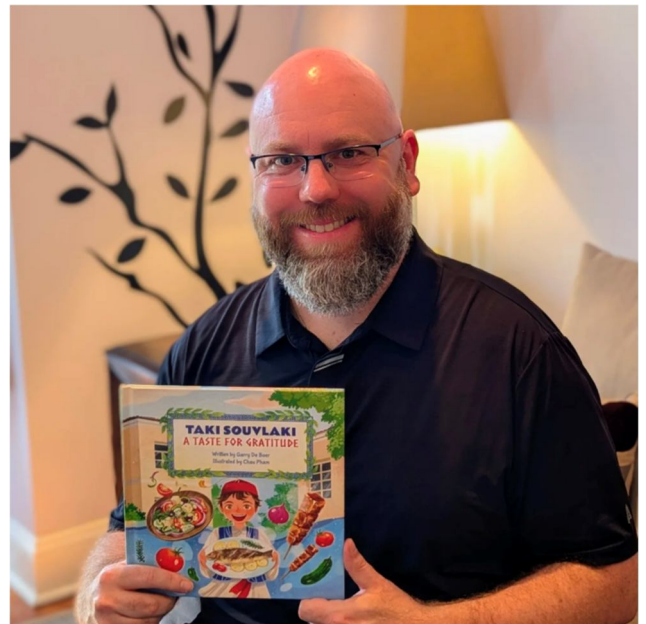
The Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS) continues to foster a love of Greek language and culture through engaging, meaningful experiences that inspire our students to learn and grow. With a strong emphasis on reading, we encourage curiosity by introducing stories in both Greek and English that deepen students' understanding of language, culture, and values.

Our recent "Meet the Author" event featuring Garry De Boer was a wonderful success, bringing his heartwarming book *Taki Souvlaki: A Taste for Gratitude* to life. Students followed little Taki on his journey across Greece, discovering not only delicious foods but also the deeper meaning of gratitude and the cherished tradition of φιλοξενία (hospitality). The event was both educational and engaging, as students enjoyed the reading, asked thoughtful questions, and connected personally to the story. They also participated in a special Greek-language activity, practicing expressions of gratitude and kindness while reinforcing important cultural values.

The evening, which began at 5:30 pm, brought together storytelling, culture, and community in a meaningful way. We are grateful to all the parents who attended and supported this special event, helping make it a memorable experience for our students. We look forward to many more opportunities to celebrate the joy of culture, food, and gratitude together.

In addition, we are excited to introduce our new "Sweet Success Attendance Raffle," designed to encourage consistent attendance, punctuality, and active participation. Each week, students earn raffle tickets for attending class, arriving on time, and completing their work. This initiative promotes important values such as Προσπάθεια (Effort), Υπευθυνότητα (Responsibility), and Φιλοξενία (Kindness & Community), helping students build positive habits while feeling proud and motivated.

Congratulations to our first winner, Sofia Saba! We look forward to celebrating many more students—remember to come prepared, be on time, and ready to learn!



Author Garry De Boer presents his book, *Taki Souvlaki: A Taste for Gratitude*, captivates HAS students through his storytelling while fostering a deeper, meaningful appreciation of the cultural values of gratitude and φιλοξενία.

# HONOREE GRAND BANQUET

*This year's Annual Grand Banquet is held on Monday, May 11, 2026 @ 6pm at the Venetian in Garfield NJ. Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox church is honoring only a few of the many hard working and dedicated parishioners of our community. Community Honoree **Pauline Pappas**; Parish Council Honoree **Pavlos Giannikopoulos**; **Philoptochos** Honoree **Maria Galvin**; GOYA Honoree **Stamatina Mousis**; Religious Education Teacher Honoree **Faye Dardaganis Paskas**; Greek Education Teacher Honoree **Efstratia Kritharis**; Youth Worker Honoree **Irene Baroulakis**; Senior Steward Honoree **Harriet Drosos**. We would like to thank them all for their services and contributions to the success of our ministries. Please join us on **Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>** after church services when we will represent their plaques to our very deserving honorees.*

## COMMUNITY HONOREE **Pauline Pappas**

Polixeni was born on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1934 to Ioannis and Angeliki Thoma in the village of Sopoto (Aroania). Sopoto is village on the outskirts of Kalavrita in the northern Peloponese. Polixeni and her five siblings grew up during the great depression, World War II and the Greek Civil War. During the depression, at the age of 8 or 10 she was sent to Patras to live with a family and learn how to be a seamstress. She survived the German invasion of her village and the forced apprehension of her home by the Germans and Andartes. Polixeni's mother arranged a marriage between Polixeni and Demetrios who was living in Thunderbay, Ontario Canada at the time. Polixeni has three sons, Peter, Nicholas and John and was married to Demetrios for 45 years. She worked as a banquet waitress at the Zerris Inn and as a full time seamstress. Demetrios and Polixeni were one of the original families which provided funding for the first church in Dover NJ. She currently lives in the family home in Morristown NJ.

## PARISH COUNCIL HONOREE **Pavlos Giannikopoulos**

Pavlos Giannikopoulos is a dedicated community leader serving his sixth year on the Parish Council and is currently Vice President . A first-generation Greek-American raised in Vineland, NJ, Pavlo is deeply committed to his Hellenic heritage and the Orthodox faith—values he and his wife, Eleni, proudly pass down to their children, Karmen and Kosta.

An IT Program Manager with a background in engineering and finance, Pavlo holds a BS in Electrical Engineering and an MBA from Rutgers University. Since joining the council, he has utilized his technical expertise to modernize Parish infrastructure, overseeing church networking upgrades, security systems, and the implementation of the Square POS system for the Festival.



Beyond the council, Pavlo currently serves as a GOYA Advisor, where he truly enjoys interacting with the youth and sharing his passion for Hellenic dancing.

Known for his humility and "solutions-oriented" leadership, he excels at cultivating mutual respect within the community.

In his spare time, Pavlo enjoys family movie nights, cheering for the Philadelphia Eagles, and traveling to his favorite destination: Greece.

He is honored to be a recipient of this recognition and award.

#### **PHILOPTOCHOS HONOREE Maria Galvin**

Maria Galvin is grateful to the ladies of Philoptochos and the St Andrew community for this honor. Growing up in Randolph, Maria was both baptized, and married to her husband Chris, in the St Andrew Church. She has been a member of the Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope for over a decade, and currently holds a board position in both. She has also taught Sunday school for over 20 years as well as being a member of the education committee. Maria's children Nicholas and Johnathan are also active members of the GOYA and the Hellenic afterschool program. As a member of Philoptochos this year, Maria managed the Market Street Mission Coat Drive, Justin's Wish Shoe Drive, and The Interfaith Pantry Food Drive. She is also part of the Kali Parea committee which provides support to the elderly in the community.



#### **GOYA HONOREE Stamatina Mousis**

Stamatina Mousis has been actively involved in GOYA and is grateful for the relationships and personal growth it has fostered. Through this ministry, she has had the opportunity to serve, connect with others, and strengthen her faith in meaningful ways.

Outside of GOYA, Stamatina serves as the president of Rox-THON, an overnight fundraising event that supports children with cancer. This experience has been especially meaningful, teaching the values of leadership, compassion, and working toward a cause greater than oneself.

In addition, Stamatina plays volleyball at both the high school and club levels, where she has developed a strong sense of teamwork, discipline, and perseverance.

Stamatina is thankful for the opportunity to serve as Vice President of GOYA and hopes to continue supporting others, encouraging involvement, and helping build a strong and united community. She is grateful to be part of a church family that has played an important role in shaping who she is today.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER HONOREE **Faye Dardaganis Paskas**

Faye teaches the Religious Education class for 9th - 12th-grade students. She began teaching Sunday School at St. Andrew when she was a senior in high school. She is a retired high school teacher, having taught Spanish and French for 32 years. Faye has a BA in Modern Languages, K-12 Teacher Certification and an MA in Curriculum and Supervision. She graduated from Seton Hall University and studied abroad at the Universidad de Salamanca in Spain and the Sorbonne University in France. She continues to work with students in a substitute teacher capacity at her local high school.



While teaching has always been her passion, Faye also enjoys hiking, biking and reading. Most importantly, she loves spending time with her family, daughters Kia Paskas (John Meyer) and Kayla Hunsicker (Kyle), and her granddaughters, Sunny and Lyra. She and her partner, Martin, like to travel and spend time at the beach.

Faye also enjoys attending Bible Study and participating in the Philoptochos Society. She is forever grateful to Father John for his guidance in her religious journey. Faye very much appreciates the dedication, creativity and love that her fellow Religious Education teachers bring to the community and wishes to share this honor with all of them.

### GREEK EDUCATION TEACHER HONOREE **Efstratia Kritharis**



**Efstratia (Effie) Kritharis** was born and raised on the beautiful island of Limnos, Greece. She pursued higher education in Athens, earning a diploma in Computer Programming from Doxiadis College, and also studied Economics and English at the Hellenic American Institute. Efstratia began her professional career in Athens, working for four years as a secretary in an import/export company. During this time, she discovered her passion for education, tutoring elementary school students and teaching Sunday School.

After marrying her husband, Kosta, she moved to the United States and has proudly called Morris County, NJ home for over 30 years. She is a devoted mother to her daughters, Athina and Amalia, and grandmother to Cassandra. She cherishes time spent with her family, including her sons-in-law, Panayiotis and Chase. In the U.S., Efstratia continued her dedication to education. She served as a teacher's assistant at Apple Montessori School, taught 2nd grade at Saint George Hellenic Afternoon School in Piscataway, NJ, and worked as a teacher's aide at Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School. For the past 13 years, she has been a committed Greek School teacher at Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School teaching first grade and supporting students across multiple grade levels. Her focus is on creating engaging lessons, fostering a supportive classroom environment, and helping each child thrive. Fluent in Greek and English, Efstratia brings warmth, patience, and enthusiasm to her teaching. She is deeply committed to sharing her love of the Greek language, culture, and traditions with her students. Efstratia is grateful to be part of the Saint Andrew Hellenic Afternoon School community and looks forward to inspiring the next generation through her love of learning and faith.

## YOUTH WORKER HONOREE **Irene Baroulakis**

Irene Baroulakis is a devoted wife, loving mother, and proud grandmother whose life is centered around family, faith, and community. She is married to her amazing husband, George, and together they have built a strong and supportive life filled with love. Irene is the proud mother of two incredible children, Michael and Artemisia, who continue to inspire her every day. One of her greatest joys is being a grandmother to her beautiful granddaughter, Anastasia, who she lovingly calls the sunshine of her life.

Irene has a deep passion for working with children, especially those with diverse learning and developmental needs. Her caring nature, patience, and dedication allow her to make a meaningful impact, helping children grow, learn, and feel supported in a positive environment. She is also actively involved with GOYA youth, where she mentors and guides young individuals, encouraging them to build confidence, strengthen their faith, and develop strong values. As a GOYA advisor, Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope member, Irene takes pride in being a positive role model and creating lasting connections within the St. Andrew community.

Known for her kindness, strength, and warm spirit, Irene is someone others naturally trust and turn to. She continues to inspire those around her through her compassion, dedication, and unwavering love for her family and community.



SENIOR STEWARD HONOREE **Harriet Drosos** (*not available*)

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## AND THEN ALONG CAME BESSIE

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Greg Warholak and I was on the St. Andrew's parish council during the mid-1990's. I was elected as president (the first non-Greek to be elected to that position) of the council in 1997, the year we hired Bessie for parish secretary. It was a significant time in the life of our parish as we approached Y2K (Remember Y2K?) and the new millennium. It was also the beginning of our third attempt to build our community center, which is now a beautiful reality.

In 1997, Maria Kostakis, our long-time secretary, announced she was retiring so we set about looking for a successor to that very important position. Angela Gribas, a parishioner, was interested but she would only be available short term and we were looking for a long-term replacement. One day, Nicole Siamas, head of our Sunday School at that time, invited me to her home where I met her sister-in-law, Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos and her husband, Kiriakos (Gerry). Bessie and Gerry were moving from Florida to New Jersey and Bessie was interested in the secretary position. I'm glad I already knew Terry, Nicole's husband and Bessie's brother, before I met Gerry as I'd have a bit of a challenge distinguishing Terry from Gerry. After a brief chat, I realized Bessie was perfect for the job. She checked all the boxes and then some. She had both secretarial and computer experience and was fluent in Greek and English. She even spoke French. I recommended her to the council and she was unanimously hired.



Some changes were in store as we moved forward. Maria Kostakis, as secretary, used to pick up the parish mail at the Dover Post Office. We purchased ( a onetime expense) and installed a mail box on the grounds of the church. We used to print, collate and mail the monthly parish magazine in house. George Speal, one of the founders of St. Andrew's parish, was in charge of the magazine. We'd walk around the table picking up pages and

then at the end they were stapled to be mailed. We found a company that does the printing for free, paid for by ads.

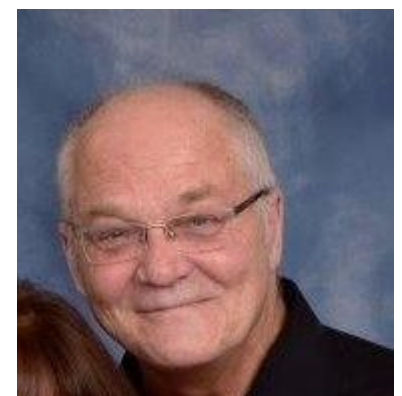
Early into the new millennium, Father Tsigas (of blessed memory), the founding priest of St. Andrew parish, announced he was retiring. Father John Theodosian was assigned to be our pastor, the second priest of St. Andrew's parish. A few years prior to this assignment Father John had substituted for Father Tsigas and I felt good vibes from him during the liturgy. During coffee hour I approached him and expressed how I hoped, when circumstances required, he would be our next priest.

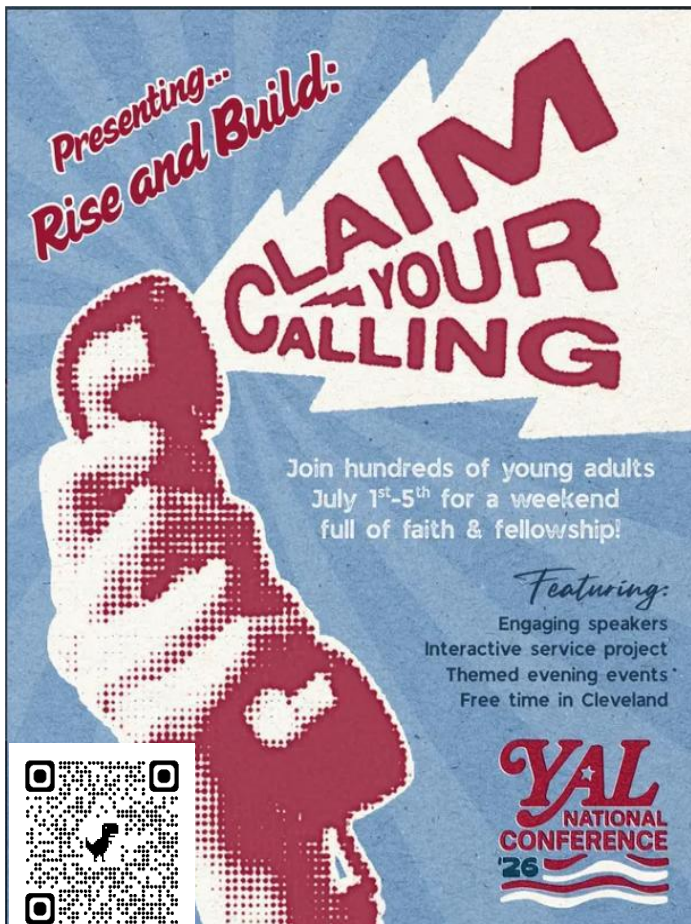
During the early years of the new millennium, effort continued to build our community center, complete with a full gymnasium, stage, offices, bookstore, and classrooms. Gone were the days of setting up and taking down portable classrooms in the old hall. Our community center has served various functions, including temporary worship space for a neighboring church, hosting our annual festival and home court for our youth basketball team rather than renting gyms elsewhere. Throughout these changes and challenges, Bessie was in the midst of it all, taking our phone calls, answering questions and evolving from secretary into office manager. In many ways she was like the early deacons of the Christian Church, mentioned in the Bible, who took on the non-ecclesiastic work so that the clergy could focus on spreading the Gospel.

As we thank Bessie for almost 30 years of dedicated service to St. Andrew's parish, we wish her God's blessings during her next chapter, along with Gerry, Alexia, William, Stephanie and her grandchildren (yes, Bessie is a YiaYia) as we welcome Christen Demnitz to take the baton and carry on into the future.

Christos Anesti, Christ is Risen and God bless us all!

Submitted by: Gregory Warkolak



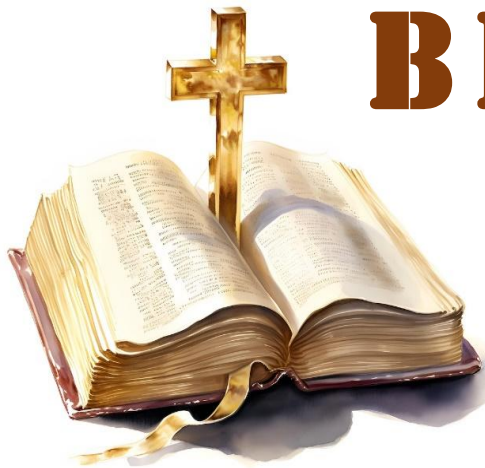


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# **BIBLE STUDY**

**THURSDAYS**

**@7:00 PM**

***IN FR JOHN'S OFFICE***

**MAY: 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>**

# ACCOUNTING FOR OUR BLESSINGS

One day, we will have the privilege to stand before Christ and give an account of how we have used the gifts entrusted to us (2 Corinthians 5:10). Take a few minutes and think about what you would say to the Lord at this time. Do a mental inventory of all the gifts, experiences, people, and resources you have at your disposal and all the needs of Christ's church at which you pray for salvation. Ask yourself if there is anything more you can offer. If there is not, and you have given everything, then glory to God! If there is more you can do, then please read on.

The term stewardship has gotten a bad rap. It is usually associated with asking for money. This misconception is what makes the proper theological understanding of stewardship based on Holy Scripture so very difficult for parishioners. Understanding stewardship is, however, quite simple.

## **Stewardship is what you do with ALL the gifts God gave you.**

Those things you possess (temporarily while on this earth) are what you are a steward of during your life. Those gifts include your very time, skills, and abilities (i.e., your time and talents), as well as your financial resources and other assets (i.e., treasures).

It helps to understand what stewardship is by exploring the wisdom from the Holy Scripture and wise Fathers of the Christian church.

Saint Paul was among the most effective stewardship teachers, such as when he told the people of Corinth: *"But this I say, he who sows*



*sparingly will also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully"* (2 Corinthians 9:6-8). Here, Paul reminds us that generosity is not merely an obligation, but a spiritual principle. What we give reflects the condition of our hearts.

Saint Luke shares one of the many direct teachings of our Lord when he spoke of the need to give proportionally and generously: *"For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more"* (Luke 12:48). As we continue to receive additional blessings, our generosity should increase in proportion.

Even in the Old Testament, this principle was well understood. As Moses reached the end of his long and blessed life in the territory of Moab, he wrote his Book of Deuteronomy and said, *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings the Lord your God gave you"* (Deuteronomy 16:17).

Saint Paul reinforces the proportional giving message while making it clear to the early faithful that their first fruits must be given weekly for the work of Christ's church: *"On the*

*first day of the week (i.e., Sunday) let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper ...I will send... your gift to Jerusalem" (i.e., the Church center at that time) (1 Corinthians 16:2-3).*

Saint Paul further admonished: *"Command those who are rich... not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches... Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life"* (1 Timothy 6:17-19).

This passage from 1st Timothy directly connects the dots of the **"Three Ss,"** Stewardship, Spiritual growth, and ultimately Salvation. Through acts of stewardship, one will grow personally and spiritually and can achieve the salvation that comes when we can seek our *"good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ"* (II Corinthians 5:10). Our stewardship giving in the *"here and now"* is expected of us

and helps prepares us to receive the gift of eternal life in the *"hereafter."*

As we close out this focus on what stewardship and generosity are and what the Holy Gospel and our Lord taught us about it, think about what you spent this last day, week, month, or even year, and ask yourself how you would feel if you had to review these expenditures with your Creator, who gave you all of it and your very life. Each week, consider filling out an *"accounting to God"* of what you did with His money. Then, conduct an imaginary discussion session with Him about how you invested the *"talents"* he gave you and what return you produced.

In that accounting, can you say that your gifts have been used for His glory, for the good of His Church, and in accordance with His teachings?

That is the heart of stewardship.

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## TOO MUCH TO ASK?

I must admit that before joining the choir a year or so ago, I would often not get to Church at the beginning of the service. Now that I am there at 9:30am sharp most Sundays, I see that there are often fewer than 20 people in attendance to hear those stirring first words: *"Blessed is the Kingdom of the Lord!"*

We all have busy lives. We are all pulled in a thousand different directions, usually at the same time. We are all over-worked and under-rested. And yet. Would we bring our children to a birthday party an hour late? Would we go to see our favorite sports team at the start of the second quarter? Would we attend a Broadway show and get there at intermission? I don't think so.

God made this beautiful world for us. He made us in his image, and gave us free will to decide how we would live. When he could not reach us, he became human and sent his Son to speak directly to us about how to live, about how to be closer to Him. He gave his Son over to death so that we may live.

And so I wonder. Is it too much to ask to get to Church on time? Is it too much to ask that we take some time to read scripture? Is it too much to ask that we attend funeral services for our parishioners, regardless of how well we knew them? Is it too much to ask that we help the poor? Visit the elderly and the sick?

These, and many like questions, are things we should ask of ourselves, and answer for ourselves.  
Anthony A. Boyadjis



# St Andrew AGAPE Group "Chair Exercises"



# A.H.E.P.A. News

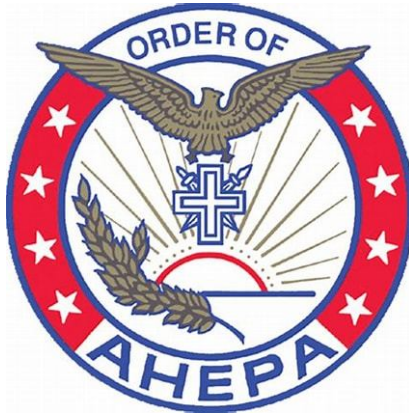
Christ is Risen! *Χριστός Ανέστη!*

Although it was not an A.H.E.P.A. event, a number of our members marched in the Greek Independence Day parade in New York on Apr. 26. On the previous day the A.H.E.P.A. and Daughters of Penelope were the sponsors and hosts for the Faith Kitchen at 1<sup>st</sup> Trinity Lutheran Church in Dover. The warm meal was well

received and a number of people took meals home with them. Prior to serving the meal the A.H.E.P.A. made a donation to the church in appreciation for allowing us to use their facilities and to offset the cost of using their utilities. We welcome the opportunity to do God's work in Dover to feed the hungry, as Jesus commanded, since many of those who are in need lack transportation and would be unable to travel to Randolph. A photo of the presentation will be included in the June issue.

The focus now will be on the upcoming conventions. In anticipation of these events the District Lodge had a visitation at a combined meeting that we had with Roseland's Eagle Rock 375 chapter. The Lodge was represented by Tom Borzekas, the district treasurer and George Perentesis, the Lt. Governor. The first convention is the District Convention to be held in Wildwood and is hosted by the Cherry Hill chapter. It will be held on the weekend of June 4-7. We realize that this conflicts with our festival but perhaps for those who aren't working the entire weekend a day at the shore can be planned. Official delegates will be elected at our May meeting.

The national convention follows in Philadelphia. It will be held during the week of July 5. It is an



appropriate site as this is the year of the semi-quincentennial. Besides the convention events, the city of Philadelphia will have a number of celebrations for this noteworthy event in our history. The national delegates from our chapter will be elected at our May meeting as well. More details will be provided in the June issue.

To commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence our chapter is using the numbers to plan a raffle in conjunction with the Eagle Rock 375 chapter. We'll be selling 250 tickets and raffling seven cash prizes. First prize will be \$5,000; second prize will be \$2,500 with an additional five \$1,000 prizes. Tickets are \$100. Only 250 tickets will be sold and with 7 prizes the odds on possibly winning are better than other raffles or the lottery. The winning tickets will be drawn on a Sunday after the National Convention.

In closing we'd like to mention that the chapter is proposing to have a river cruise evening. This would promise to be a nice family event. One alternative option being discussed is choosing a cruise that has a drop-off at a town along the Hudson such as Tarrytown. Participants would have the opportunity to do some sightseeing or shopping. This option would take the bulk of the day. Under consideration is using a portion of the raffle proceeds to offer a small family discount on the cruise tickets. The boat would depart from the Jersey side of the Hudson. This event would be co-hosted with the Roseland AHEPAns.

Submitted by Chris Haritos

## PENTECOST - GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

On May 31, Orthodoxy recognizes Pentecost, considered the birth of the Church. Many of us are accustomed to associating the “Church” with a particular building wherein the faithful gather for worship services. But this is not the “Church” born on this radically new event. Let’s begin with a meaningful study of Pentecost where as a Christian community, the Church is considered “a kind of living icon of divine activity in the world. God is evoking and provoking a new identity and character, a new way of being in the world” (*Divine Teaching*, Mark A. McIntosh, 2008, page 11).

Jesus has revealed a new form of life and thought to His followers. The Holy Spirit becomes our teacher that allows us to discover the relational character of God. Pentecost is not a time and place we remember as another historical event but the “place where our way of knowing and God’s way of being most intimately encounter one another, so that knowing is transformed, is in Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Our human way of knowing is, in Christ, taken up into a particular divine way of being. You could even say that your way of knowing undergoes, through the encounter with Christ, a death and resurrection” (McIntosh, page 59).

During Holy Week, the message of repentance was proclaimed loud and clear. This is not an ethical action in which we might promise changes to our behavior. Metanoia is a foundational event in which transformation occurs. It is a profound turning towards



spiritual healing. Crucial for any healing to occur is application of the correct medicine that can bring about healing. You cannot simply repent by yourself. Just as it is impossible to lift yourself off the ground, you need someone else to begin spiritual healing. “Life in the Holy Spirit is life where Jesus is alive in the community of others; life where each person, by the power of the Spirit, gives the promise and possibilities opened

up by Jesus to every other. If the Church is where the life of Jesus is visibly active, it is the place where the life of the Holy Trinity is visibly active; the Spirit brings Christ alive in us, and that life is a life of adoration and self-giving directed towards God the Father (*Tokens of Trust*, Rowan Williams, 2007, page 135).

Orthodoxy is a triune faith. There is never a time when the presence of the Holy Spirit is not also fully Christ and the Father. The relationnel reality into which God invites us to participate in a new creation. In Genesis, the Spirit passes over the “deep”, the reality awaiting its birth. Mary allows the Spirit to bring Jesus into the world groaning for renewal. Our faith is never “belief” or some ideas we prefer. Orthodoxy is orthopraxis. How we actually live our lives is where the Spirit is active, recreating us, giving form to a humanity desperately in need of being healed from the damaging effects of Sin.

This is not something that occurs without conflict, deep struggle. We have convinced ourselves that we are healthy, that we are in charge of making our lives better. Pride offers

confidence so that a call to being a new creation simply becomes a call to be a “better” person. Jesus invites each of us to be “reborn” but this rebirth is not without profound struggle. We often dismiss the ascetic life as something for monks and nuns, but each of us is called to walk a path often painful, often alone. God offers us the Spirit and the Spirit leads us into community, It is here, in the community of the Church, that we offer Christ’s love by our relationships with each other. Do you see Christ even in the most annoying of persons you might encounter? “Our holiness is bound up with other people and with the things of the world. Our relationship with God is made visible in how we conduct these everyday relationships (Williams, page 141).

Pentecost is a radical and deeply profound change in our reality. We often “fit” God into our structured world but here at Pentecost, we are called to “fit” into God’s world. Doing God’s will is a surrender of our reality to God’s reality. To be reborn, we need to die first. Holy week has taken us along this path in Jesus’ death on

the Cross. Now, in Jesus, we too will experience resurrection, but through the community, the body of Christ, the Church, and through each other. When the Spirit allows the apostles to speak in the languages of all who were present, it reveals the relationality of our salvation. Here is connection with each other as community. We need each other and the Church is born at Pentecost to guide all of us through each of us into the Kingdom.

“The character of Christian life and the beliefs of Christian faith are God’s way of re-creating the world. The practices of Christian life and the theory of Christian faith are human expression of God acting within the lives and minds of the believing community (McIntosh, page 12).

The Church is born. We, as temples of the Holy Spirit, are the sacred spaces loving for re-creation. As we are transformed into Christ through the Holy Spirit, the world will be transformed. This is the proclamation of Pentecost!

Christos Anesti!  
Herbert Schuster

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## “THE ILLITERATE GRANDMOTHER AND THE GOSPEL...”

An illiterate but pious grandmother went to Church one day and heard the preacher say:

He who does not read the Holy Bible will not be saved!

As soon as the grandmother heard this word, she turned pale, disappointed and returning home, she said to her daughter:

My child, I will be punished, because I do not read the Holy Bible!

Her daughter tried to reassure her, but in vain.

One day, the grandmother decided to go to an enlightened old man to help her.

As soon as the grandmother saw him, she told him:

My father, I will not be saved, because I do not read the Holy Bible, because I am illiterate!

But the elder reassured her and told her:

And how were so many illiterate people saved, grandmother? In fact, we also have Saints, who were completely illiterate! How were they saved? Letters do not save, but neither does ignorance punish.

So, grandmother, you will do the following: You will take the Gospel, open it on the first page, put your palm on the Gospel and then you will go to the iconostasis and say the following prayer: "My Christ, what you write in the Gospel, put it in my heart!".

The next day you will put your palm on the second page and so on.

The grandmother applied the words of the elder to the letter for several months. One day at home her

grandchildren were playing and they started talking badly and criticizing.

The grandmother heard this and observed them, saying to them:

My children, do not judge so as not to be judged!  
Her daughter is a bone!

Mother, where did you hear and say what you said?  
The Gospel says this, you don't know letters, who told you that?

My child, I didn't hear it from somewhere, but it came out of my heart!

From that moment on, the grandmother began to reproduce words of the Gospel, without realizing it!  
The grandmother, because she obeyed the elder with faith and simplicity, began to implant the words of the Gospel in her heart.

What will save us is faith in Christ and not our education.

Besides, Christ chose illiterate people as His Disciples, in order to show that He can make you all-wise, even if you are illiterate, as long as one has faith and humility.

Elder Ephraim of the Skete of St. Andrew | The State of Love on viber. To log in, click here:

<https://invite.viber.com/?g2=AQA23SO1I8u2k046%2B6Zef2%2BRbrQH1CuYhDZtVMHhk%2BrLiLmPa89RcnyHAYUB%2F%2FW8>

## Η ΑΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΗ ΓΙΑΓΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟ..

Κάποια αγράμματη αλλά ευσεβής γιαγιά, πήγε μια μέρα στην Εκκλησία και άκουσε τον ιεροκήρυκα να λέει:

Αυτός που δεν διαβάζει την Αγία Γραφή, δεν θα σωθεί!

Η γιαγιά μόλις άκουσε το λόγο αυτόν χλώμιασε, απογοητεύτηκε και γυρίζοντας σπίτι, λέει στην κόρη της:

Παιδί μου θα κολαστώ, διότι δεν διαβάζω την Αγία Γραφή!

Η κόρη της προσπάθησε να την καθησυχάσει, αλλά ματαίως.

Μια μέρα, αποφάσισε η γιαγιά να πάει σε έναν φωτισμένο γέροντα, για να την βοηθήσει.

Η γιαγιά μόλις τον είδε, του λέει:

Πάτερ μου, δεν θα σωθώ, διότι δεν διαβάζω την Αγία Γραφή, διότι είμαι αγράμματη!

Ο γέροντας όμως την καθησύχασε και της είπε:

Και πώς σώθηκαν τόσοι και τόσοι αγράμματοι άνθρωποι γιαγιά; Μάλιστα έχουμε και Αγίους, που ήταν τελείως αγράμματοι! Αυτοί πως σώθηκαν; Τα γράμματα δεν σώζουν, αλλά ούτε και η αμορφωσιά κολάζει.

Λοιπόν γιαγιά, θα κάνεις το εξής: Θα παίρνεις το Ευαγγέλιο, θα το ανοίγεις στην πρώτη σελίδα, θα βάζεις την παλάμη σου πάνω στο Ευαγγέλιο και μετά θα πηγαίνεις στο εικονοστάσι και θα λες την εξής προσευχή: "Χριστέ μου, αυτά που γράφεις στο Ευαγγέλιο, βάλα μέσα στην καρδιά μου!".



Την άλλη μέρα θα βάζεις την παλάμη σου στην δεύτερη σελίδα κ.ο.κ.

Η γιαγιά εφάρμοσε κατά γράμμα τα λόγια του γέροντα για αρκετούς μήνες. Μια μέρα στο σπίτι παίζανε τα εγγονάκια της και άρχισαν να μιλάνε άσχημα και να κατακρίνουν.

Η γιαγιά το άκουσε και τα παρατήρησε, λέγοντάς τα:

Παιδιά μου, μην κρίνετε για να μην κριθείτε!

Κόκκαλο η κόρη της!

Μάνα, αυτό που είπες, από που το άκουσες και το είπες; Αυτό το λέει το Ευαγγέλιο, εσύ δεν ξέρεις γράμματα, ποιός σου το είπε; Παιδί μου, δεν το άκουσα από κάπου, αλλά βγήκε μέσα από την καρδιά μου!

Από την στιγμή εκείνη, άρχισε η γιαγιά να αναπαράγει λόγια του Ευαγγελίου, χωρίς να το καταλαβαίνει! Η γιαγιά επειδή έκανε υπακοή στον γέροντα με πίστη και απλότητα, άρχισε ο Χριστός να εμφυτεύει τα λόγια του Ευαγγελίου στην καρδιά της.

Αυτό που θα μας σώσει είναι η πίστη στον Χριστό και όχι η μόρφωσή μας.

Εξάλλου ο Χριστός, επέλεξε αγράμματους ανθρώπους για Μαθητές Του, για να δείξει, ότι μπορεί να σε κάνει πάνσοφο, ακόμα και αν είσαι αγράμματος, αρκεί να έχει κανείς πίστη και ταπείνωση..

Γέροντας Εφραίμ της Σκήτης του Αγίου Ανδρέα | Η Πολιτεία Αγάπης στο viber. Για να συνδεθείτε, πατήστε εδώ:

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Respectfully submitted by Voula Katsigiannis

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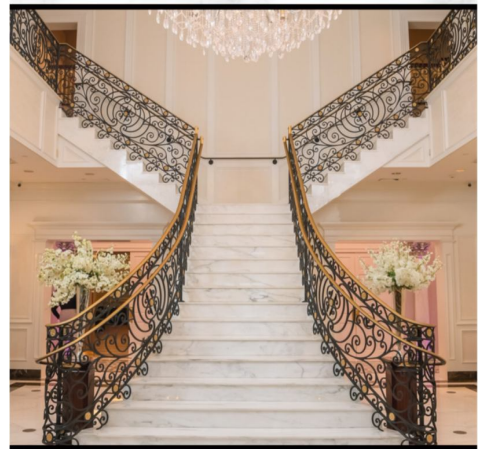


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*There are various levels and opportunities that you and your business can participate in*

# PARENTS' CORNER

By Alexandra Protopapas

MAY - 2026 -DANGERS OF DRUGS, VIOLENCE - Party Time, Proms, etc.

We just celebrated the Resurrection of Christ -  
"Xristos Anesti" "Christ is Risen"!

Let us talk about some of the dangers that our teens may get entangled in as they slide into adulthood! Parents, have you been reading about all the peer pressure our teens are exposed to? Those graduating, those going to proms, parties, and those who may be living away from home attending various colleges, and universities, may be exposed to a lot from the internet and new social media sites. Of course, they think they know everything now that they may be adults over 18 years old! Before they go out into the world by themselves, it is time to encourage them to think about their values and say no to risky behaviors and substances. With some research, let's go through the alphabet and recognize some dangers. Here is some information from the "National Institute on Drug Abuse", (NIDA), and "Mental Health Services Administration, (SAMHSA), that offer guidance and hotlines if needed. Remember how you felt when your children got their driver's license? Well, that stress is gone, now they are adults and "they know better". More stress coming parents! Review these A - Z suggestions and information with them, do not worry, pray, encourage them to keep up with their own prayers, and all will be fine!

Let's begin!

- A is for Alcohol. There is the same amount of alcohol in a 12-ounce bottle of beer, a 4-ounce glass of wine, a 10-ounce wine cooler, and a 1-ounce shot of whiskey. In other words, alcohol is alcohol. Even one drink can affect your judgment and lead to poor choices.
- B is for Benefits. There are terrific benefits to staying free of drugs. You can run faster, do better in school and have more money in your pocket. Chances are you can be happier, healthier, and safer, too.
- C is for Control. Drugs can take away control without a person even knowing it. Drug use doesn't only hurt the user – families, friends, and partners are affected as well.
- D is for Depressants or Downers. Barbiturates, sleeping pills, tranquilizers, and alcohol slow down the central nervous system. Depressants can be psychologically and physically addictive. They are extremely dangerous when combined with each other.
- E is for Everybody. Everybody does NOT do drugs. You won't have to look that far to find friends who know how to have fun without drugs. (Duh—GOYA!)
- F is for your Future. Where do you see yourself going in life? Will using drugs help or hurt your ability to get there? Drugs could turn your future dreams into nightmares.
- G is for Good Time. There are many ways to have a good time without using drugs – sports, art, music, the outdoors, friends, etc. The highs you get without drugs can be bigger, better, and last longer. GOYA!
- H is for Hallucinogens. These include LSD, mescaline, PCP, and psilocybin (mushrooms). These drugs cause hallucinations that make it hard to know what's real and what's not. Effects may continue even after a person stops using the drug.
- I is for Imitate. Designer drugs are chemicals made to act like illegal drugs – like heroin or speed, for example. Nobody knows exactly what's in them or how they might affect a person who takes them.
- J is for Jail. Many drugs are illegal. If you get caught using them, you can be kicked out of school or fired from your job. You could even end up in jail. Not a good place to be.
- K is for Killed. Around 500,000 people die from tobacco and alcohol use every year in the United States. Thousands more are killed because of drinking and driving and from the effects of other drugs. That's a lot of dead people! Don't let yourself be one of them!

- L is for Life. It feels great to solve problems and get through the difficult times in life with strength, courage, and brains – and to do it all without using drugs. Drugs won't solve problems – they can create big ones.
- M is for Marijuana. Smoking marijuana is bad for your lungs. It can be psychologically addictive. It's expensive – and – because pot is illegal, there's no way to know for sure if it's been mixed with other chemicals or drugs.
- N is for Narcotics. These are drugs such as heroin, morphine, codeine, and opium. Many people share needles to inject these addictive drugs. This puts them at risk for several diseases, including HIV.
- O is for Overdose. Too much of a drug can be dangerous. This includes alcohol too. If you think you or someone else is having a dangerous reaction to a drug, call 9-1-1 or an ambulance immediately!
- P – is for Pregnancy. A woman who is pregnant should never take drugs unless her doctor prescribes them. Drugs can damage the baby, cause birth defects, and lead to major problems with the pregnancy.
- Q is for Quadrillion. There are quadrillion reasons not to get involved with drugs. They can harm your body and brain, can be addictive, can cause you to lose control and make poor decisions—and a lot more!
- R is for Recovery. Help is available for people who are having problems with drugs. Programs such as AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) and NA (Narcotics Anonymous) can help people back on the drug-free track.
- S is for Steroids. You can be a great athlete without using illegal steroids. Weight training,

exercise and diet can give you the muscles you need without the physical and mental problems steroids can cause. (My involvement in the Athens 2004 Olympics sure pointed this out!)

- T is for Tobacco. Tobacco use is responsible for more deaths than any other drug combined. Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances known. Vaping is the new way teens think is “safe smoking”.
- U is for Uppers. Stimulants – drugs such as amphetamines, cocaine, and crack, speed up the central nervous system. Milder ones include nicotine and caffeine. Users can quickly become addicted. Heavy use can lead to heart problems, strokes, and death.
- V is for Violence. Once people are dependent on drugs, they will do practically anything to pay for them. Burglaries, robberies, muggings, and other crimes are often drug related.
- W is for Withdrawal. Someone who is physically dependent on a drug and stops using it may have “withdrawal”. Symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, sleeplessness, and seizures.
- X is for eXample. Set an example for yourself, your family, and your friends. Say, “No Thanks” to drugs and turn the other way.
- Y is for Yourself. Do yourself a favor by steering clear of drugs. You'll thank Yourself later!
- Z is for Zenith. As in the highest point – the peak! Get there by doing your best in sports, school, and work. Don't doubt your Greek Orthodox faith. Continue going to GOYA and organizations beyond that for young adults. Be the greatest friend and person you can be. Find out how high you really can reach by getting there without drugs!

A blessed May month to your family and friends, and next month, when schools will be ending for the summer, we will talk about activities for the younger ones!

This month's prayer from **Table Prayer Guide** is **Saint John – Fourth Century, Antioch**  
*“The human family constitutes the primary and essential element of human society. Peace in society will be a direct result of peace in the family.”*

Feel free to email me or call with your comments and suggestions for our “Parents' Corner” at:  
[alexandraproto@gmail.com](mailto: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).



## BAPTISM – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΗ

IVAN JOSEPH PACHAS was Baptized and Chrismated according to the rights of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 11:30am and given the name **ΙΩΣΙΦ JOSEPH**. Godmother was Nadale Nektarios Buntin.



## OBITS & FUNERAL SERVICE – ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΕΣ & ΚΗΔΕΙΕΣ

### Peter G. Licopantis 4/15/2026

Peter G Licopantis, a longtime resident of Stamford, CT, passed away on April 15, 2026, at the age of 92. Peter had a lifelong love for baseball and the Yankees, and he made it a priority to never miss a game- whether at Yankee stadium, on television, or on the radio. He enjoyed fishing, loved sunflowers, and he had a natural knack for fixing things. Although soft spoken, Peter's friends knew that if you asked him the right questions, Peter had countless stories to tell. His stories spanned from his childhood in the shadow of the Great Depression to the worldwide adventures he long enjoyed with his beloved wife, Yolanda.

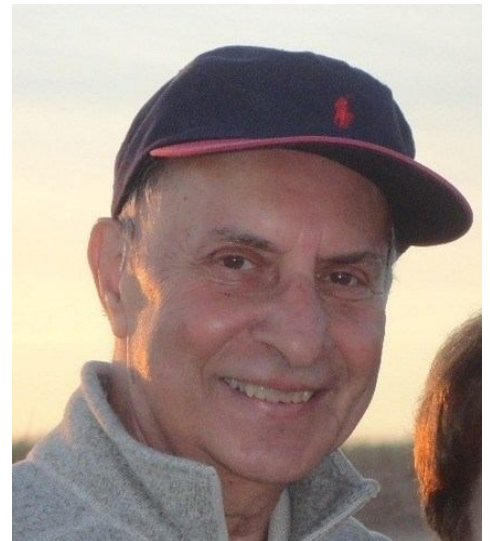
Peter was born in 1933, in Martin's Ferry, Ohio, to parents, Anastasia and Gus Licopantis. Unbeknownst to Peter, he was born a few miles away from his future wife, Yolanda Diamantis. They met as children because of mutual friends. When talking about his early childhood, he often spoke about playing stickball with his neighborhood friends. This pastime sparked his passion for baseball. After his brother, Michael, was born in 1938, his family moved to Hell's Kitchen in Manhattan because his father lost his job at the steel mill in Ohio...

\*... ..

Those fortunate enough to have known Peter remember his compassion and his patience, his sense of responsibility and his leadership, his humility, and his gift for a well-timed story. He stayed closely connected with those he loved, sending e-cards for every occasion, and expressing his care in thoughtful ways- like sharing batches of his homemade biscotti. To borrow from Wordsworth, he had "the best portion of a good man's life: little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love."

Peter is survived by his brother, Michael (Anne) Licopantis; his children, Dean Licopantis, Eve (Dino) Zacharakos; and his five grandchildren, Kalli and Peter Licopantis, and Athena, Stephanie, and Alexis Zacharakos. He is preceded in death by his devoted wife, Yolanda "Dukie" Licopantis; and his loving parents, Anastasia and Gus Licopantis. **A Funeral Service** for the repose of his soul was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 10 AM at Archangels Greek Orthodox Church, 1527 Bedford St., Stamford, CT 06905, followed by a committal service at Woodland Cemetery, in Stamford.

\* .....COMPLETE OBIT OF [Peter Licopantis Obituary \(1933 - 2026\) - Stamford, CT - The Advocate](#)





# 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** 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> (SOMETIMES 3<sup>RD</sup>)

Wednesdays @ 11am

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

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

**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 @ 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

5/16 @ 11:00am GOYA Car Wash

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

@ 8:00am GOYA Olympics

5/24 8:00am GOYA Olympics

5/26 @ 7pm Philoptochos Meeting

5/27 @ 11am Knitting Crocheting

5/28 @ 11:30 AM AGAPE LUNCH

@ 7:30pm Bible Study

5/29 GOYA Elections & Senior Send Off

5/30 @ 8AM SATURDAY OF SOULS

5/31 PENTECOST

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS IN JUNE:** 6/7 Festival, 6/14 Philoptochos, 6/21 DOP, 6/28 Summer schedule

6/4 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

6/5 @ 11:00am-11:00pm Saint Andrew Greek Festival

6/6 @ 11:00am-11:00pm Saint Andrew Greek Festival

6/7 @ 8am Orthros/@ 9:00am Liturgy ALL SAINTS DAY

@ 12:00pm to 7:00pm Saint Andrew Greek Festival

6/8 HOLY APOSTLES FAST Begins

@ 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

6/11 @ 11:00am Agape Lunch (Last before Summer)

@ TBD End of Year Philoptochos & DOP Dinner

@ 7:30pm Bible Study

6/14 @ 11:30 Community Honoree Plaque Representation

6/18 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

6/25 @ 7:30pm Bible Study

6/27 Faith Kitchen PHILOPTOCHOS

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS - SUMMER SCHEDULE**

7/12-18 CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

7/13 @ 7:30 Parish Council Meeting

7/19 Commemoration of the Fallen Cypriots of July 20th

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

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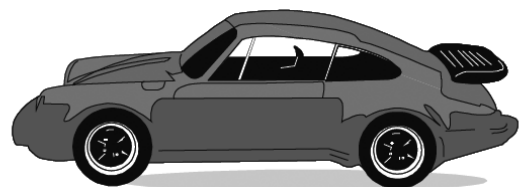
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**Facilities Administrator**, Chris Hawthorne [fac@standrewgonj.org](mailto:fac@standrewgonj.org)

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**Bakaliko**: Maria Stamoutsos

**Coffee Hour**: Irene Laoudis

**Agape Group**: Betty and Jack Kelly & Julie Ioannou, Irene Laoudis,  
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**AHEPA**: Peter Tsilios, *President*

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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

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