

DECEMBER 2018



Saint Andrew Family News

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

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS DEC 25TH -JAN 5TH

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS – DEC. 9TH

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT (*All Students particitpate*)- DEC 16TH

Saint Andrew Family News

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

On Sundays we celebrate

Orthros @ 8:45 AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM

For other services please check our website or call the office

OFFICE HOURS

Mon – Fri 10am-4pm

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NJ Metropolis Web: www.njgoarch.org G.O. Archdioceses Web: www.goarch.org

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The Saint Andrew Family News is published monthly except in July and August and is distributed free of charge to all members. Submissions for the magazine are accepted **only as electronic files, (via e-mail attachment)**. Pending availability of space and permission from Editor-in-chief, your submission will be in the next month's issue.

*Please submit your articles and information on time to
Vasiliki (Bessie) Petrakos info@standrewgonj.org
Deadline for the **JANUARY 2019 ISSUE** is December 10th*

DIVINE SERVICES

DECEMBER

- Sunday 2 14th Sunday of Luke**
- Tuesday 4 +ST. BARBARA THE GREAT MARTYR *
- Thursday 6 +ST. NICHOLAS ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA
- Sunday 9 10th Sunday of Luke +THE CONCEPTION OF +ST. ANNA**
- Wednesday 12 +ST. SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER OF TRYMITHOUS
- Saturday 15 +ST. ELEUTHERIOS THE HOLY MARTYR
- Sunday 16 11th Sunday of Luke**
- Saturday 22 +ST. ANASTASIA THE GREAT MARTYR
- Sunday 23 Sunday before the Nativity**
- Monday 24 Orthros, Great Hours, Great Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
+EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST, +EUGENIA THE RIGHTEOUS
- Monday 24 Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom +HOLY NATIVITY OF OUR LORD @6PM
- Thursday 27 +ST. STEPHEN, ARCHDEACON & FIRST MARTYR
- Sunday 30 Sunday before Epiphany**
- Monday 31 CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & COMMEMORATION ST. BASIL | Great Vespers Service @3:30pm

JANUARY 2019

- Tuesday 1 CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & COMMEMORATION OF ST. BASIL @8:45AM
- Saturday 5 Orthros, Great Hours, Great Vespers, & Divine Liturgy Of St. Basil The Great, Great Agiasmos (*Fasting Day*)
- Sunday 6 HOLY THEOPHANY, Baptism Of Our Lord And Saviour Jesus Christ
Orthros, Divine Liturgy & The Great Agiasmos**
- Monday 7 THE SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY PROPHET +ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
- Sunday 13 Sunday after Epiphany**
- Thursday 17 +ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT
- Friday 18 +ST. ATHANASIOS THE GREAT & CYRIL, PATRIARCHS OF ALEXANDRIA
- Sunday 20 12th Sunday of Luke** ST. EUTHYMIOS THE GREAT
- Sunday 27 15th Sunday of Luke | HAS Three Hierarchs Program**
- Wednesday 30 SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS: +BASIL THE GREAT, +GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, & +JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sundays: Orthros @ 8:45AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10AM | **Weekdays:** Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9:15AM
(*We have this saint's Relics at our Saint Andrew Reliquary*)*

Religious Education School students will attend the Divine Liturgy at 10am, line up on the left to receive Holy Communion, and then proceed to their class.

ΙΕΡΕΣ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΕΣ

ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ

- Κυριακή 2 ΙΔ΄ Λουκά**
Τρίτη 4 +ΒΑΡΒΑΡΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ*
- Πέμπτη 6 +ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΜΥΡΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΛΥΚΙΑΣ ΤΟΥ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
- Κυριακή 9 Ι΄ Λουκά** | Η ΣΥΛΛΗΨΗΣ ΤΗΣ +ΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΠΡΟΜΗΤΗΡΟΣ ΆΝΝΗΣ
Τετάρτη 12 +ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΤΡΙΜΥΘΟΥΝΤΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
Σαββάτο 15 +ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΟΥ ΙΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ
- Κυριακή 16 ΙΑ΄ Λουκά**
Σαββάτο 22 +ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΕΥΤΡΙΑΣ
- Κυριακή 23 Κυριακή πρό τής Χριστού Γεννήσεως**
Δευτέρα 24 Όρθρος, Μεγάλοι Όραι, Μέγα Εσπερινός, και Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου +ΠΡΟ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, +ΕΥΓΕΝΙΑΣ
Δευτέρα 24 Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Ιωάννη Χρυσόστομου +Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ ώρα 6:00μμ
Πέμπτη 27 +ΣΤΕΦΑΝΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΡΧΙΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΥ
- Κυριακή 30 Κυριακή προ των Φώτων**
Δευτέρα 31 Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙΑΣ Μέγα Εσπερινός 3:30μμ

ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2018

- Τρίτη 1 Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙΑΣ ώρα 8.45πμ
Σαββάτο 5 Προεόρτια τών Φώτων - ΘΕΟΠΕΜΠΤΟΥ & ΘΕΩΝΑ ΤΩΝ ΜΑΡΤΥΡΩΝ (*Νηστεία*) – Όρθρος, Μέγα Εσπερινό, Θεία Λειτουργία του Αγίου Βασιλείου & Ακολουθία του Αγιασμού
- Κυριακή 6 ΤΑ ΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΗΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ & ΜΕΓΑΣ ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ**
Δευτέρα 7 Η ΣΥΝΑΞΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΒΑΠΤΙΣΤΟΥ
- Κυριακή 13 Απόδοσις τών Αγίων Θεοφανείων**
Πέμπτη 17 +ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
- Παρασκευή 18 +ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΛΛΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΩΝ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΕΙΑΣ
- Κυριακή 20 ΙΕ΄ Του Λουκά** +ΕΥΘΥΜΙΟΥ ΟΣΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
- Κυριακή 27 ΙΣΤ΄ Λουκά -Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου** | *Πρόγραμμα των Τριών Ιεραρχών*
Τετάρτη 30 ΤΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ +Μέγα Βασίλειος, +Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος & + Ιωάννης Χρυσόστομος

Την Κυριακή – Όρθρος - ώρα 8.45πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 10πμ |
Τις καθημερινές – Όρθρος - ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία - ώρα 9.15πμ

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

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού Σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 10πμ, θα προχωρήσουν από την αριστερή πλευρά για να λάβουν την Θεία Κοινωνία και θα συνεχίσουν στις τάξεις τους.

Giving Gifts This Christmas

By Fr. John Theodosion

In the past few weeks I have been watching and listening and I hear so many of our people preparing and getting ready for the Christmas Holiday. Did you get your tree yet? Did you decorate your house? Are you done shopping for your presents? I have so much baking to do, I don't know how I am going to get it all done. I sense a real energy and fervor amongst our people as they prepare for Christmas.



gifts nonetheless. Of course, the greatest gift we receive this holiday season is the gift of the birth of Christ. This gift although it is not something we can see and hold it means more to us than all the gifts and presents this world can offer. The gift of the birth of Christ is really the gift of salvation; the gift of the Kingdom of heaven; and the gift of eternal life.

It is my sincere hope that we are not only preparing for the day of Christmas by engaging in the more commercial side of the preparations, presents; food; decorations; etc. I haven't forgotten that many of you are fasting in order to receive communion and I know that it is not easy fasting at this time of year when there are so many Christmas parties with all kinds of food. I am sure that there were many of you who gave up many a tasty morsel at the office Christmas Party. Of course, I remind you that it is not only food we give up when we fast but also sin as well.

The presents we give one another this Christmas are heart felt expressions of love and joy. None of us can forget the looks of joy in our children's faces as they open presents on Christmas day. Sometimes I think they like opening the presents more than playing with the toys they receive. Each one of us probably has a memory of a favorite toy that we received as children. Each of us has gifts we have been given some have been given more some less, but all have

This gift is not something that we wait to receive at some future date this is a gift that each of us has right now. The gift of eternal life started at the time of our birth and continues from now until forever. We don't need face lifts, we don't need the fountain of youth, we don't need the human growth hormone that we hear advertised on the radio because we already have eternal life. And we thank the Lord for the gift of life that he has given us both through his birth, his death and resurrection.

But I have to say that the most important gift we give this year is not the one we buy for our children, or our parents, or our spouses or anyone else. The most important gift you can give is the gift you give to Jesus. You might be thinking Father John are you crazy? What can I buy for God? Well of course I know that you can't buy anything for God that He can't create for himself anyway, but you can still give him a gift. You can give him the gift of yourself. In the Divine Liturgy we say, "let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God." And we say this not once but many times

in both Greek and English. But how many of us do this? Do we really commit our whole life to Christ? If we did then we would give up our hatred for one another, our gossip, our discrimination, our cliques, our divisiveness, our meanness, and our lying. You see, if you give up meat and dairy and you continue to do these things then you really haven't really kept the fast and you haven't done anything for yourself or for God.

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me' (Matthew 25:40). I believe that this verse can apply to the good things that we do to and for others as well as the for the things we say or do to hurt others. Our gift to Christ this year should be to show love and kindness to those around us. This would include the people we live with as well as

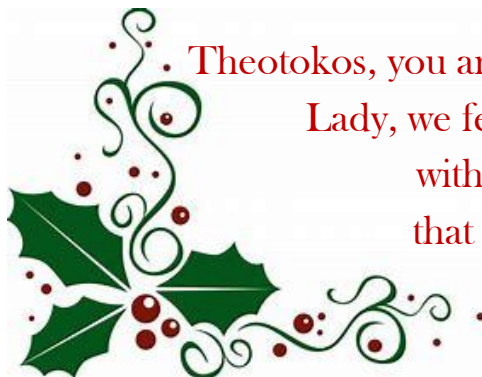
the stranger we encounter and the acquaintance at work, school, the mall or anywhere else. Saint John the Apostle and Theologian says 'If any one says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot^[a] love God whom he has not seen' (1 John 4:20).

The gifts we give to God this year should be our love for one another, our kindness towards one another, our honesty, our peacefulness, our charity, and our inclusiveness. All of the presents we buy this Christmas are meaningless if we haven't learned to show genuine love for others. Showing love for God means showing love for our neighbor. If you want to experience the true gift of the birth of Christ, then you must be willing to give your goodness to Him by showing love to those around you. Amen.

As she carried in her womb that she conceived without seed, Mary went to Bethlehem with elder Joseph to enroll, for they were of the house and the lineage of David. The time arrived for her to give birth to her Child; but then there was no place * in the inn for them. Therefore the grotto served as a luxurious royal palace for the Queen. And Christ the Lord is born, to raise the image * which was formerly fallen.

Theotokos, you are the true vine that produced the fruit of life.

Lady, we fervently entreat you to intercede along with the Apostles and all the saints, that our souls be treated mercifully.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY
ADDRESSES OPIOID ABUSE
M.O.R.E. (METROPOLIS OPIOID RESPONSE EFFORT)
PROGRAM PROVIDES AWARENESS AND HOPE

Westfield, NJ- His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey, unveiled a new awareness program and informational video about opioid abuse at the 2018 Metropolis Clergy Laity conference held at “**The Venetian**” in Garfield New Jersey. The awareness program is entitled the **Metropolis Opioid Response Effort (M.O.R.E)** and His Eminence created a committee from his Metropolitan Council to plan and oversee the initiative.

With the blessings of His Eminence, the committee is comprised of dedicated Clergymen and Lay Orthodox Christians under the chairmanship of Archon H. James Polos, a member of the Metropolitan Council of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey and a steward of St. George Parish in Piscataway, NJ. Concerns about opioid abuse which have affected our youth and not only, throughout the Country, even in our parishes and communities were discussed at a meeting of the Metropolitan Council and the decision was made that we must also face reality and deal with this crucial issue which has found its way into the Orthodox Christian home.

His Eminence asked Archon Polos to serve on the committee because of his involvement as a Public Safety Director and County elected official. The committee immediately began work on the program with clear direction from His Eminence who said, **“This issue must be brought into the light and our parishioners should not be afraid to talk about this disease or embarrassed to seek help from their parish or this Metropolis. Our Church needs to do MORE to help those afflicted with this disease and we need to reach beyond the borders of our church to enlist help and support for our own who are affected and as our Orthodox faith teaches us, offer help and support**

for others in the communities where we live and worship”.

With that charge in hand, the committee looked beyond the creation of a standard written encyclical and instead focused on the creation of a video so that His Eminence could speak directly to the people about this very important yet very sensitive and personal issue. A very powerful video was produced which includes a message from His Eminence, true life stories from members of the Greek Orthodox Church and critical information about awareness and response offered by Dionysios Mihalopoulos, a United States DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge who was born in Greece and whom presents his views in both Greek and English. Tom and Chrystallo Trachy, share the intimate details of their struggle with their young son who ultimately lost his struggle with addiction. “If sharing and viewing this video can even help one family become more aware of this issue and be able to intervene with their child in time to save their life, it will be well worth the time and tears we have shed to be a part of this important program. My wife and I applaud the Metropolitan for taking a leadership role to bring opioid addiction in our community into the light because it is real and exists in every parish”, said Tom Trachy. Father Kosmas Karavellas, Proistamenos of the Greek Orthodox Church of Sts. Constantine and Helen in Annapolis, Maryland added, “I have had to experience the loss of members of our parish to opioid abuse and have had to try and console and minister the loving surviving family members who have to look back each day and wonder if they could have done more. I don’t want anyone to have to live through that. The MORE program will go a long way to start the dialogue in our churches.”

“We must do all that we can to assist and guide the faithful have to deal with opioid abuse by their loved ones or friends. We must also provide information and access to resources to assist families with identification of abuse and intervention methods. MORE has begun the dialogue but now it will be up to each parish to continue the discussion, challenge the status quo and insure that local experts are brought in to drill down further on the important elements of abuse. The MORE program will better inform and prepare parents and families and most importantly send a strong message to our youngsters about the dangers of addiction to hopefully keep them on the right track before they become addicted. We can and we should all do MORE”, said His Eminence, Metropolitan Evangelos.

“This video is one of the most compelling and important works I have seen developed to address opioid abuse in our Greek Orthodox parishes

because it encourages people to openly discuss the issue and seek help when necessary from the Church and the other expert resources provided”, said DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Dionysios Mihalopoulos.

The video is posted on the Metropolis of New Jersey website (<https://www.nj.goarch.org/>) and parishes throughout the Metropolis and the Archdiocese are encouraged to show it in their parish at various organizational meetings such as GOYA, Philoptochos and PTO. The **M.O.R.E** program and video is simply the first step in what should be an ongoing dialogue at the community level. Follow up discussions and meetings organized by the Priest and parish council at the parish level are also necessary to further the dialogue and the dissemination of important information and resources in each region of the Metropolis. Please help us do **M.O.R.E.**

ΤΑ ΠΑΝΤΑ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΔΥΝΑΤΑ Σ’ ΑΥΤΟΝ ΠΟΥ ΠΙΣΤΕΥΕΙ ΣΤΟΝ ΧΡΙΣΤΟ

Από τον Πατέρα Ιωάννη Θεοδοσίου

Στο ξεκίνημα μιας νέας εκκλησιαστικής χρονιάς στον Άγιο Ανδρέα είμαι γεμάτος συναισθήματα δέους και ευχαριστίας καθώς σκέπτομαι όλα όσα έχουμε κάνει και κάνουμε ως κοινότητα. Μερικές φορές τα πράγματα δεν πηγαίνουν όπως θα θέλαμε και αρχίζουμε να αναρωτιόμαστε αν όλα θα πάνε καλά ή αν ο Θεός είναι ακόμη μαζί μας. Αλλά όταν κάνω ένα βήμα πίσω και κοιτάζω την εκκλησία μας και πώς οι άνθρωποι πάντα συνεισφέρουν και πετυχαίνουμε, βλέπω το χέρι του Θεού να εργάζεται για την κοινότητά μας. Τα πράγματα δεν είναι τέλεια και δεν συμβαίνουν χωρίς κάποιον αγώνα, αλλά τελικά γίνονται και πάντα μεγαλώνουμε και μαθαίνουμε στη διαδικασία.

Έτσι, όταν η Βίβλος μας διδάσκει, **«Όλα είναι δυνατά για αυτόν που πιστεύει στον Χριστό,»**

είναι μία επιβεβαίωση για όσα γνωρίζω και έχω ζήσει στον Άγιο Ανδρέα. Κάποιες φορές, τα πράγματα φαίνονται ζοφερά αλλά μετά με κάποιο τρόπο φτιάχνουν. Για παράδειγμα, το θαύμα με τα ψάρια και τα ψωμιά, τόσοι άνθρωποι έπρεπε να φάνε και δεν υπήρχε αρκετό φαγητό. Μόνο ένα αγόρι είχε επτά ψάρια και δύο φρατζόλες. Ο Θεός πήρε μία φαινομενικά αδύνατη κατάσταση και την έλυσε ώστε 5000 άτομα να ταϊστούν και να μείνουν και 12 καλάθια φαγητό. Πριν μερικά χρόνια, ο προϋπολογισμός μας κυριολεκτικά διπλασιάστηκε όταν ανοίξαμε το καινούριο κτίριο. Πρέπει να σας πω ότι ανησυχούσαμε. Είπαμε, «Πώς θα καλύψουμε τα έξοδά μας;» Δεν είχαμε τις απαντήσεις, αλλά ξέραμε ότι έπρεπε να συνεχίσουμε την εργασία της εκκλησίας. Δεν θα σας πω ότι δεν ανησυχούσαμε λίγο, αλλά

αισθανόμασταν την παρουσία του Θεού καθώς διαπραγματευόμασταν εκείνους τους ταραγμένους καιρούς και κατά κάποιο τρόπο οι εισφορές διπλασιάστηκαν, το φεστιβάλ μεγάλωσε, και καταφέραμε να πληρώσουμε τους λογαριασμούς. Πιο σημαντικό είναι ότι αυξήθηκαν τα ποιμαντικά μας έργα και η ενορία μας. Για παράδειγμα, επισκεπτόμαστε την Κουζίνα Πίστης στο Dover κάθε μήνα για να δώσουμε φαγητό στους πεινασμένους - και οι κουβέρτες μας, που φτιάχνονται από την ομάδα πλεξίματος τις Τετάρτες, προσφέρονται να θερμάνουν ανθρώπους σε όλο τον κόσμο - τα σάντουιτς που φτιάχνονται από τους GOYANS διανέμονται σε όσους έχουν ανάγκη στο Newark - η Επιτροπή Thinking of You επισκέπτονται τους συνανθρώπους μας που βρίσκονται σε οίκους ευγηρίας ή είναι στο σπίτι τους, και μπορώ να αναφέρω πολλά άλλα. Ως κοινότητα δεν χάσαμε ποτέ την ελπίδα ότι ο Θεός θα μας βοηθήσει να κάνουμε το έργο Του.

Φέρνω όλα αυτά στην προσοχή σας γιατί στα σπίτια μας έχουμε επίσης πολλές οικονομικές πιέσεις. Επίσης ανησυχούμε για τα παιδιά μας, τα παιδιά μας που φοιτούν σε κάποιο κολλέγιο, τους ηλικιωμένους γονείς μας, και τη δική μας συνταξιοδότηση μια μέρα, και τόσα πολλά ακόμη, αλλά ο Θεός δεν είναι μόνο μέσα στην εκκλησία μας, βρίσκεται και μέσα στα σπίτια μας επίσης. Είναι πάντα εκεί έτοιμος να μας βοηθήσει και να μας καθοδηγήσει όταν δεν ξέρουμε προς τα πού να στραφούμε. Μας δίνει δύναμη να πετύχουμε τους στόχους μας που μας οδηγούν στη σωτηρία.

***Όταν πιστεύουμε, ακολουθεί και η εισφορά μας.
Η συνεισφορά μας είναι πίστη στην πράξη;
πράξη που έχει σαν κίνητρο την ταπεινή ευγνωμοσύνη στο Θεό
για όλες τις ευλογίες Του στη ζωή μας.***

Όταν προσφέρουμε τις ευλογίες μας πίσω στον Θεό θα μπορέσει να συνεχίσει να μας συγχωρεί, να μας θεραπεύει, να μας απελευθερώνει, να μας δυναμώνει, να μας μεταμορφώνει, να αγαπά τα έργα μας μέσω της εκκλησίας. Αφού ο Θεός, αν και είναι Άπειρος, έχει επιλέξει να δουλέψει μαζί μας, μέσα από τα δώρα μας, να συνεχίσει το έργο της σωτηρίας Του στον κόσμο σήμερα.

Πατέρας Αντώνιος Μ. Κόνιαρης

Όταν έχουμε πίστη στον Θεό και εμπιστοσύνη στη δύναμή του θα γίνει ο βοηθός μας σε οτιδήποτε καλό αναλαμβάνουμε να κάνουμε.

Φίλοι μου, τις επόμενες εβδομάδες θα έχουμε τρεις «Κυριακές οικονομικής συνδρομής». Θα συζητήσουμε τί σημαίνει να είσαι καλός οικονόμος της ευλογίας που σας έχει προσφέρει ο Θεός στη ζωή σας. Θα συζητήσουμε το

έργο της σωτηρίας του Θεού στη ζωή μας και γιατί είναι σημαντικό να συμμετέχουμε σε ότι συμβαίνει στην εκκλησία. Σας προσκαλώ εγώ ο ίδιος μαζί με τα μέλη του εκκλησιαστικού συμβουλίου και την Επιτροπή Συνδρομών, να έλθετε να δείτε την καλή δουλειά που γίνεται στην εκκλησία μας. Να κάνετε ερωτήσεις στα μέλη του εκκλησιαστικού συμβουλίου και στην επιτροπή οικονομικών συνδρομών. Να μιλήσετε στους υπεύθυνους των έργων και να ρωτήσετε για την καλή δουλειά που γίνεται στον Άγιο Ανδρέα.

Ελάτε να δείτε με ποιό τρόπο η προσφορά σας σε χρόνο, ταλέντο και χρήματα βοηθά την εκκλησία μας να είναι η Χριστιανική Κοινότητα που ο Χριστός μας έχει ζητήσει να είμαστε. Σας ευχαριστούμε για ότι κάνετε στην εκκλησία μας και για την υποστήριξή σας στο έργο μας. Ζητούμε από εσάς να προσεύχεστε για την εκκλησία μας και την ηγεσία της και για να μας δείξει ο Θεός το δρόμο, όπως προσευχόμαστε και εμείς για όλες τις οικογένειές μας να είναι μαζί σας οι ευλογίες του Θεού νυν και αεί.

Adaptation by Maria Kiritsis, HAS teacher

GOYA DECEMBER NEWS



We've had a lot of fun in GOYA! On October 25th we prepared peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and cooked for the Faith Kitchen in Dover. On Saturday, October 27th, a few of our GOYANS had the opportunity to serve at the soup kitchen. It was a very humbling and memorable experience! We look forward to participating again!





On Saturday, November 3rd, we attended the Fairview bowling tournament. We bowled for two hours at North Arlington Lanes and then went to the Ascension Church hall in Fairview for the dance. Some of our GOYans won medals for their amazing job bowling!

It was a great time being together and making new friends. On Sundays we continue to have our Volleyball and Basketball games where we get to play against other GOYAs. A big thank you to our great coaches!



Upcoming Events:

- Saint Andrew Vespers - Nov. 29
- Christmas Caroling - Dec. 1
- Basketball/Volleyball Tournament in Randolph and Roseland – Dec. 8 & 9
- Sights and Sounds practices will begin in early December
- GOYA meeting - Dec. 20
- Christmas Dance, at Asbury Park – Dec. 27



HOPE & JOY

HOPE & JOY are well underway at this point! Our zoo trip for October was cancelled due to inclement weather, but we are planning on going in December for the Holiday Lights. Please look out for our flyer in the Social Hall and our event announcement on Facebook.

Our joint **Trunk or Treat** with PTA was a great success, despite the rainstorm we had. We moved it indoors and the children enjoyed parading and showing off their costumes. There was pizza, candy and a Halloween movie.



In November, we are seeing the movie “Wreck it Ralph 2: Ralph Breaks the Internet” on Thanksgiving weekend. The children are looking forward to it. The JOY Group is also going to the Game Vault in Morris-town for an Arcade Night. *Fun and Fellowship for all.!!*

December will bring us to our annual caroling for the seniors! We love to spread some Christmas cheer and consider it one of our service projects as a group. Hope you can all make it!

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD IN GRADES K-6? Yes?

Then consider joining HOPE & JOY. HOPE (Hellenic Orthodox Primary Education) and JOY (Junior Ortho-

dox Youth) is a fellowship group for these ages. We have one meeting per month and one activity per month. The group is split into 2 - the HOPE is grades K-2, and the JOY is grades 3-6. HOPE is run by Lynn Axiotes and JOY is run by Harriet Karkanias. Meetings are held on Sundays after Sunday School and Liturgy (12:15pm-1pm) - child only, no parents. Activities are typically held on Saturdays once a month from 4pm-6pm (unless otherwise noted). Our calendar of activities is posted in the Social Hall on our HOPE/JOY Bulletin Board. Take a peek when you are at coffee hour!



For more information on JOY or any of our upcoming events/activities, please contact HOPE & JOY of St. Andrews: hopejoystandrews@gmail.com

PTA December News

On Saturday, October 27th, the children of St. Andrew participated in the annual Trunk or Treat. Approximately 50 children were in attendance. The Trick or Treaters paraded in costume around the social hall, and enjoyed pizza, popcorn and a Halloween Movie. Despite the rain the children went home with tons of candy and all who attended had a great time.

OXI DAY: The Students of our Hellenic Afternoon School presented a short program in the church after liturgy commemorating OXI DAY. They made us all proud of our faith and culture.



OXI DAY VIDEO “The Washington OXI DAY Foundation” HAS a video particularly for the younger generation, highlighting the “unsurpassed moral courage of the Greek Orthodox Church” during the Holocaust and in Selma, Alabama called “You Should Too”. This short film is documenting for the first time the Greek Orthodox Church's unparalleled expression of true Christianity during the greatest test in the modern era- the Holocaust. It also explains the continued tradition of courageous representation of our Church at Dr. Martin Luther King's dangerous march for civil rights in Selma, Alabama in 1965:

<https://www.oxidayfoundation.org/media/you-should-too/>

The PTA Annual Mardi Gras is quickly approaching and we need your help. Our first planning meeting was on, November 15th. We would love to hear new ideas and input please joins us at our next meeting scheduled for December 13th at 5:45pm in the St. Andrew Social Hall. It's not too early to drop off basket donations or business solicitations. We are also looking for local businesses to advertise in our Ad. Journal. The Mardi Gras will be held on Sunday, February 17th, so save the date!

PTA Board

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Religious Education and Hellenic Afternoon Schools students will present a
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
after Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, December 16th** (Snow Date 12/23/18)

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΙΑΤΙΚΟ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

Την **Κυριακή 16^η Δεκεμβρίου** μετά την Θεία Λειτουργία οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού Σχολείου μαζί με τους μαθητές του Ελληνικού Απογευματινού Σχολείου θα μας παρουσιάσουν το Χριστουγεννιάτικο πρόγραμμα.

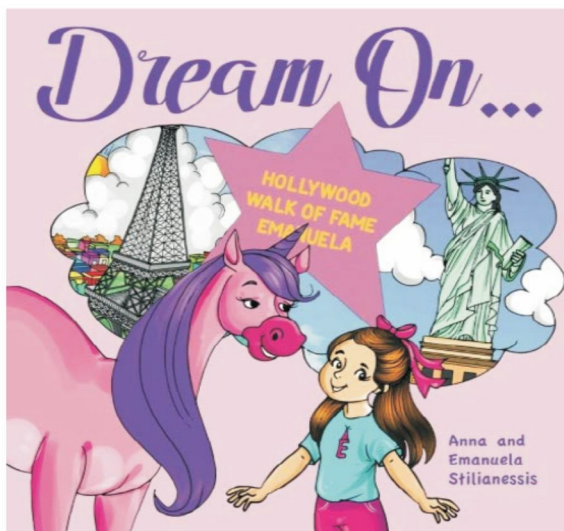
Merry Christmas! The children of the Hellenic Afternoon School, along with our Sunday school, are preparing a lovely Christmas Pageant this month. We hope you can attend after Liturgy on **Sunday, December 16th** (Snow date 12/23/18) to see the children present this traditional program.

Report cards will also be sent home on December 20th before we take a short break the following week for Christmas. Parents are encouraged to communicate with their children's teachers if they have any concerns about academic progress as we move into January.

On behalf of all the Greek school teachers, dance instructors, and myself, have a joyful Christmas and blessed New Year!

Salomi Massaras

Dream On is a story about a girl, Emanuela, who is a pediatric cancer survivor and her magical unicorn, Sparkles. They travel to Paris, NYC, and LA. She brings joy and Sparkle to the world of cancer. It teaches us that dreams can come true. Never stop believing!



Ten year old Emanuela was diagnosed with hepatoblastoma at 15 months old. She had an eight hour surgery where they removed the left lobe of her liver, gall bladder, and a lymph node. Following that, she had chemotherapy.

Emanuela and her mother have written a children's book to raise awareness. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to pediatric cancer charities.

Join Emanuela in the fight against childhood cancer by purchasing a book!

[HTTPS:amzn.to/2x4N8iu](https://amzn.to/2x4N8iu)

What are the 12 Days of Christmas?



Fr. Andrew George

The commemoration of the Nativity of our Lord, the Baptism of our Lord, and the events related to them developed over time in the life and practice of the Church. Originally celebrated together on the same day, their celebrations - and the sequence of 12 days in between them - offers the faithful a festal period of great joy.

History

As they designated dates to commemorate events in Jesus' life, the early Christian Church selected January 6 as the date to observe both the birth and baptism of Christ. In the early 4th century it was felt by the church leadership that a distinction should be made between the two observances. They selected Dec 25 to be the date to celebrate the birth of Christ and kept Jan 6 to be the baptism.

The selection of Dec 25 also addressed a second issue. The end of December was filled with pagan gatherings and festivities (in honor of the "sun god" as he became victorious over the "god of darkness" as the days slowly began to become longer (the winter solstice). Christians were falling back to pagan temptations with these festivities, thus the church fathers wanted to provide them with their own reason to celebrate. This reason of course became the birth of the Son of God (who made the sun).

Once Christmas Arrives

Our Orthodox Church today celebrates highly and with great festivity and joy! Once Christmas arrives on December 25, we enter a new liturgical period. The major period runs 40 days, from [Jesus' Birth](#) to His 40 day [Presentation to the Temple](#) (Feb 2). Within these 40 days is some sub-division.

From December 25 to January 6, there became a 12-day period from the one major celebration to the next major observance. Thus, we have the “12 days of Christmas” that bridge the birth with the baptism and it became a festal period of time of great joy and celebration. As time progressed January 6 began to be called the “little Christmas.”

We have the 7 day Christmas tide which are part of the 12 Days of Christmas, focusing on immediate events up to His naming & Circumcision on the 8th day (January 1). Henceforth, we begin to prepare for the observance of His Baptism when He was 30 years old.

The Baptism of Our Lord

In the Orthodox Church January 6 is officially called the Baptism of our Lord – Theophany (sometimes called simply Epiphany). Theophany means “God’s appearance” and Epiphany simply “appearance”. On the day of Jesus’ baptism, the Holy Trinity was made manifest with the appearance of the dove and the voice that was heard from the sky (Matt 3:13 – 17).

The Catholic Church later in history changed January 6 to be the arrival of the Wise men and made the Baptism to be the Sunday after January 6. In our Orthodox observances, the arrival of the Wise men is combined on the same day as the birth. The Armenian Church still retains January 6 as their Christmas commemoration.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

These 12 days that comprise the “12 days of Christmas” also include other observances on various levels. The first level are events that are directly associated to Christ’s birth in the flesh, including the murder of the 14,000 baby boys that Herod ordered when Jesus was born (December 29) and the 8-day naming of Jesus (January 1).

A second level of observances during these 12 days are commemorations of people from the earliest decades of the spread of the Christian faith after

the death and resurrection of Christ and Pentecost, such as St. Stephen (one of the first of the 7 deacons) who became the first martyr in Christianity (December 27); and the “seventy” as they are known, these being the 70 apostles that the 12 apostles trained and sent off to travel and preach (January 4).

The third level of commemorations of these 12 days are for those who in later centuries lived and honored Christ in marvelous ways and became saints of the church, such as St Melanie of Rome from the 5th century (December 31), St Basil the Great from the 4th century era (January 1), and St Sylvester, Bishop of Rome also from the 4th century (Jan 2).

In its development over many centuries, the twelve days of Christmas that we celebrate today have become a theological and historical cornucopia of both the life of Christ and the life of the Church through its Christian Witness. What follows is a brief review of the themes from each of the twelve days of Christmas.

Day 1 - Dec 25 - The Nativity in the Flesh of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

The Shepherd's worship and the visit of the wise men from the East.

Day 2 - Dec. 26 - Synaxis of the Virgin

Gives Glory and Praise to her, who bore our Lord. Also on the 26th is the commemoration of the Flight into Egypt when an angel warned Joseph of King Herod's plans to kill the children in Bethlehem.

Day 3 - Dec. 27 - St. Stephen the Deacon and 1st Martyr

He was the 1st of the 7 deacons in the “start up” Christian Church (Acts 7) who was stoned to death by the Jews, in 34 A.D. Tradition says that the Theotokos & St. John the Theologian witnessed the stoning.

Day 4 - Dec. 28 - 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia (men, women and children)

An event in 302 AD when the wicked Emperor Maximian Hercules, while visiting in Nicomedia learned of the large number of Christians living there and devised a means to get rid of them. It was the days preceding Christmas that he visited so, on Christmas, as the Christians were in church...his soldier's surrounded the church, so no one could leave. The Emperor's envoy gave them a choice to deny Christ and offer sacrifice to the pagan idols, or, be burned to death. The congregation chose death (in fact catechumens were quickly baptized). The soldiers set fire on all 4 sides of the church and the building burned for 5 days The smoke had a fragrant scent and a golden light surrounded the church.

Day 5 - Dec 29 - 14,000 children of Bethlehem (Holy Innocents)

King Herod was furious hearing from the wise men about a new born King in Bethlehem, and ordered that all the babies, 2 yrs and under to be killed in Bethlehem and the surrounding area. This occurred, 1 yr. after the birth. Herod sought out Zachariah's son, also newly born (John, who later became the Baptizer of Jesus) thinking that John would be the "New King". When Zachariah refused to hand over baby John, Herod killed Zachariah as he also killed Simeon who had received Christ as the 40 day old baby Jesus. Angered with the Jews in general – Herod also killed Hyrcanes, their high priest and 70 elders from the Sanhedrin (their council). Herod was so enraged that "someone" would take his position – he also killed own brother and sister, as well as his wife and 3 of his sons! What a crazed man!

Day 6 - Dec 30 - Deacon Timon (one of the 7 Deacons)

Also counted as one of the 70 Apostles who became Bishop in Arabia. He died by crucifixion there in the third century (298AD). On the same day we have the martyrdom of St Anysia from Thessaloniki, born of wealthy and prominent parents. She was orphaned young. She assisted

the poor and devoted herself to prayer and fasting. This was the time of Emperor Maximian Hercules again. One of his decrees was that anyone was free to kill Christians when and where they came across them, without trial or sentences. So as Anysia was out in the streets one day, a soldier approached her and confirmed through direct conversation with her, that she was a Christian. He ran her through with a knife under her rib and killed her. This was actually during the days that the pagans had their festival of the sun god (which ultimately became later on in history the date selected for the observance of Christ's Birth).

Day 7 - Dec 31 - Nothing directly connected to Christmas per se, but 2 important figures of the 4th and 5th Century who witnessed greatly to Christian living.

4th Century - Martyr Zoticus, Protector of the Poor A priest in Constantinople, who had a home for the poor and those with infectious diseases. He was a close acquaintance of Emperor Constantine the Great. Constantine's son (Constantine) was jealous of all the money his dad gave to Zoticus to help the poor and the sick, that he tied Zoticus to the behind of a wild ass and he ultimately died of his wounds.

5th Century - Holy Mother Melanie of Rome

Born to wealthy parents, she was forced to marry a young nobleman. After having 2 children she convinced him that they should live as brother and sister. Their 2 children died some time later and they agreed to give their possessions to the poor and the church. They traveled as well to many far away places doing good works along the way. She ultimately became a nun at the Mt. of Olives in Jerusalem.

Sunday After Christmas - Honor is given Joseph the Guardian (i.e. also called Righteous Joseph), David the King (the son of Jesse) and Iakovos, the (step-brother) of Christ, the 1st bishop of Jerusalem.

Day 8 – Jan 1st - Circumcision and Naming of Jesus

In observance of Jewish Law since the time of Abraham, Joseph and Mary took baby Jesus to the Temple for circumcision and he was also given the name “Jesus”, the name announced to Mary at the time of the annunciation by Archangel Gabriel (Luke 1:31). This act of circumcision showed that Jesus took true human flesh upon Himself, (not its resemblance as heretics’ would later say about him).

Also on Jan 1st, St. Basil the Great is remembered. Born around 330 A.D. under the reign of Constantine the Great. As an un-baptized person, Basil spent 19 years in Athens studying philosophy, rhetoric, astronomy and other secular disciplines. In his mature years, he was baptized in the Jordan River. He became ultimately Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, died unfortunately young, at age 50. He was a great champion of the faith of moral purity and a great theological mind.

Day 9 - Jan 2nd - St. Sylvester, Bishop of Rome

At the age of 30 he was elected a bishop and served for 20 yrs/died in 335 A.D. He is the one attributed for bringing St. Helen to the Christian faith and ultimately King Constantine himself. He also is credited with “reforming” the Saturday fast (that it would not be a strict fast day) making only Holy Saturday a strict Saturday of fasting.

Jan. 2nd also remembers St. Theodota the mother of the brothers St. Cosmas and Damian, the unmercenary and miracle working doctors.

Day 10 - Jan 3rd - Prophet Malachi (500 yrs. before Christ)

Malachi, is the prophet who prophesied the coming and the mission of John the Baptist (Malachi 3:1). In fact there was no prophet between Malachi and John. Malachi also prophesied about the dread judgment, against

ungrateful Israel and against the lawless Hebrew priests.

January 3rd also remembers Martyr Gordius. Born in Caesarea of Cappadocia/an officer in the Roman Army in the reign of Emperor Licinius. After the Army, he went to Sinai (to Mt. Horeb) in contemplation and prayer. He was stabbed to death in 320 A.D.

Day 11 - Jan 4th - Synaxis of the 70 Apostles

This day honors these men, that Jesus also selected that followed the 12 Apostles (Luke 10:1-11), sending them out 2 by 2 going to every city before He himself has to go. This was similar to the Old Testament period in that Moses also had 70 elders that he appointed - Exodus 18:21, 22; 24:1. The 70 Apostles offered valuable service to Christ in those earliest of years as missionaries.

Day 12 - Jan 5th - Hieromartyr Theopemptos, Bishop of Nicomedia and also Martyr Theonas (a pagan magician)

This was the era of Emperor Diocletian who persecuted Christians. When Theopemptos was brought before the Emperor, he responded to the Emperor’s request to deny Christ, by quoting Scripture - (Matt 10:28) “Fear not them who kill the body, who are unable to kill the soul.” Then he added - do unto my body as you please. Diocletian sent his magician to trick and outdo the bishop...when Theonas saw that even poison would not hurt the Bishop, he converted to Christ! Theopemptos was then beheaded 298 A.D. Theonas was buried alive 298 A.D.

The Glorious Observance of the Baptism of Our Lord

Jan 5 - The Paromy / Preparation (Strict Fast)

Jan 6 - The Baptism Observance

Jan 7 - Synaxis in honor of St John the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist

Certainly, these 12 days are of great significance and should be known, honored and lived rightly.

The Eternal Light Society

“...but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven....”

Matthew 6:20 (RSV)



REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH THROUGH PLANNED GIVING

The Church is the Body of Christ on earth and carries on His ministry in the world today. Making a Planned Gift to the Church is an opportunity to leave a legacy that strengthens His ministry and expresses our thankfulness to Him.

Through a charitable gift, you can have a significant positive effect on the ministries of the Church and the people whose lives are changed by them. The impact of your gift will be felt for years and generations to come.

A charitable gift may also give you substantial current tax benefits as well as estate tax benefits.

Eternal Light Society was established in 2012 as an organization of all that have made a commitment to support the ongoing ministries of our Church through a planned gift. Regular meetings, luncheons, dinners, newsletters, financial planning seminars, annual artoclasia, annual memorial service and more make up

the various programs and benefits of the Eternal Light Society.

As you explore the ways outlined here by which you can support the ministries of the Church, please know that the staff in the church office, the Metropolis and the Archdiocese are available to assist you in any way possible.

Ways to Give

Consider making a gift in one of the following ways:

BEQUEST:

When you include the Church in your testamentary plans, you support its vital mission on a long-term basis. The most common way this is done is through a single bequest. Any type of property, including cash, securities, real estate, works of art and jewelry, and more, may be given to the Church through a bequest. Your generosity will assist in sustaining the faith, ministries and mission of

our Orthodox Christian Church in the world today and for generations to come.

TYPES OF BEQUESTS

Specific Bequest This may be a specific dollar amount, a specific piece of tangible or real property, or a stated percentage of your estate.

Residuary Bequest This includes all or a portion of your estate after distribution of other specific bequests, debts, taxes, expenses & fees.

Contingent Bequest Under this type of provision, the Church will only receive the bequest if the primary intention cannot be met or if certain specified circumstances take place.

MATCHING GIFTS

You can make a gift to the Church and multiply the benefit. Many employers will match your charitable gifts. Please check with your employer to see if they have a matching gift program.

GIFTS OF CASH

A gift of cash is by far the easiest and most common way to make a charitable gift to the Church. If you itemize, you are entitled to a charitable deduction based on the full amount of your gift (up to 50% of adjusted gross income). If you cannot use the entire deduction this year, it can be carried forward over the next five years.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

If you own appreciated securities (held more than 12 months), you can benefit by giving them to the Church:

- In most cases, you can avoid payment of capital gains tax that would

have been due if you sold the shares; and

- If you itemize, you will receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift. Gifts of appreciated assets are generally deductible up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income. Any excess can be carried over for five years.

GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE

Do you have a life insurance policy that is no longer needed? Rather than giving it up, consider gifting the policy to the Church. Unneeded life insurance often provides a significant method of supporting the Church. If you designate the Church as owner and beneficiary of a paid-up life insurance policy, you receive a charitable deduction approximately equal to the replacement cost. If the policy is not paid up, you receive an income tax deduction equal to the "cash surrender value" in the year the gift is made. Even term life policies can have significant value. Check with your advisor to find out.

GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE

Gifts of real estate offer you an opportunity to make a significant gift to the Church.

An outright gift of real estate held more than 12 months is the simplest method and is governed by the same basic rules governing securities. When the property has been transferred through a properly executed deed, in most cases, you receive the following benefits:

- You can avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation; and
- You receive an income tax deduction based on the current appraised fair market value. You

can claim a deduction up to 30% of your adjusted gross income in the year of the gift. Any excess may be carried over for up to five years.

Speak to your attorney or tax advisor about the following real estate giving alternatives:

- **Real Estate Gifts Used to Fund a Life Income Trust**
- **A Retained Life Estate**

QUALIFIED RETIREMENT PLANS

For many individuals, retirement accounts are a major financial resource and the basis for a financially secure future. Qualified retirement plans provide substantial benefits for accumulating funds for retirement. However, these plans can be subject to both estate and income taxes when funds are distributed or when the plan participant dies. A current distribution directly from a retirement account to the Church can result in significant tax savings. In addition, by naming the Church as the beneficiary of the remainder after your death and/or the death of your spouse, 100 percent of the plan's balance would avoid both income and estate taxes. You can also name the Church as a beneficiary for a portion of the plan along with your spouse and/or children. If you wish to make this type of gift, contact your plan administrator for a "change of beneficiary" form.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

A very popular life income arrangement, a charitable gift annuity, is a simple contract between you and the Church. You make a gift and, in return you receive:

- Guaranteed fixed-income payments for you and/or another beneficiary for life. The rate is

based on your age, the number of annuitants and the date of gift. If the gift is made in cash or non-appreciated assets, a portion of the income payment will be tax-free;

- A substantial charitable income tax deduction in the year the gift is made. Any excess can be carried forward;
- Minimization or elimination of capital gains tax on appreciated, long-term property; and
- Because the payout rate on a gift annuity is based on the age of the beneficiary or beneficiaries at the time the gift is made, the guaranteed fixed payout rates are particularly beneficial if you are 55 years or older.

DEFERRED GIFT ANNUITY

Younger donors may find the deferred charitable gift annuity an attractive giving alternative by which you make the gift now and defer receiving payments until a future date which you designate. The annuity rate is based on your age at the time you establish the annuity and the number of years before the first payment.

Benefits: • A substantial charitable income tax deduction in the year the gift is made;

- Deferred annuity payments - often deferred until retirement when you will likely be in a lower income tax bracket;
- Annuity payments, a portion of which are tax-free if established with cash or non-appreciated securities, are fixed; and
- Your philanthropy helps to secure the future of the Church.

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

The charitable lead trust is a giving opportunity which enables you to make a gift to the Church

and transfer assets to your heirs in the future at a reduced gift tax cost. As a lead trust donor, you irrevocably transfer assets, such as cash, securities or other property to a charitable lead trust. The trust is set up for a specific term of years during which you designate the Church as the income beneficiary. When the term of the trust ends, the trust property reverts to your heirs, either outright or in trust. While no current income tax deduction is available for the lead interest, the income is tax-free and a gift and estate tax charitable deduction is available. This program is attractive to individuals desiring to transfer significant assets to heirs and an interest in reducing estate taxes.

Benefits:

- You qualify for a federal gift tax deduction which may vary modestly depending on the timing of your gift;
- For the term of the trust, the Church will receive fixed or variable payments depending on the type of trust. Upon termination of the trust, your designated beneficiaries will receive the trust's assets; and
- Any asset growth occurring within the trust will be distributed to trust beneficiaries free of gift or estate tax.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

In a charitable remainder trust you may transfer assets to the trust while retaining the right to receive income for life or a term of years. You can also name beneficiaries to receive an income stream. Benefits:

- A substantial income tax deduction and avoidance of capital gains tax on the transfer of appreciated assets to the trust;
- Income for life for you and/or a loved one; and
- Federal estate and inheritance tax savings.

LIVING WILLS

When doing your estate planning it is common to also include a Living Will dealing with how medical care will be provided if you are unable to give the instructions yourself. The Archdiocese has prepared an Orthodox Living Will that can be filled in and reviewed by your family, doctor and legal advisor. For Orthodox faithful, it is important that the Living Will reflect your Orthodox Christian beliefs. There are many prayers and observances that can give great comfort to the patient and family. If you choose to have your attorney prepare your living will, we urge you to include language in that reflects your Orthodox Christian beliefs.

The material provided here is designed to furnish our Orthodox Christian faithful with general information. It is not intended as legal or financial advice. When considering a charitable gift, be sure to consult your attorney, professional adviser or accountant to ensure that it meets your individual circumstances. Please contact your church if you have any questions or concerns about planned giving opportunities. The Department of Stewardship, Outreach & Evangelism as well as the Office of Parish Development will be happy to assist you, your priest and your advisers in developing an approach that will best fit your needs and desires.

Contact your priest or these Archdiocesan Offices with questions or for further assistance:

Stewardship Ministries Telephone 646/519-6160 E-mail Stewardship@goarch.org

Office of Parish Development Telephone 847/478-5275 E-mail JMinetos@goarch.org

“For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.”
Romans 14:8

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE DEPARTMENT OF STEWARDSHIP, OUTREACH & EVANGELISM



SAINT ANDREW LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Cordially Invite You to Our

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

6:30 PM

Taphouse 15

75 State Route 15 South, Jefferson, NJ 07885

Cost: \$40.00

Menu: Soup or Salad, Appetizers, Choice of Three Entrees, Soft Drinks,
Coffee, Tea and Dessert / Cash Bar

Please R.S.V.P. by November 30th

Eleni Constantinides/Marina Venizelos

email: eleni.constantinides@gmail.com/mjvenizelos@gmail.com

call: 201-919-8685/973-896-1591



Market Street Mission sends thankyou letter

November 7, 2018

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for volunteering your time and helping us by gathering coats for our Annual Coat Giveaway which was held on November 3rd. Because of your involvement the coat giveaway was a great success once again. As you know, it was a nice day and how good it was to see so many being provided for as winter draws near.

Through your partnership with Market Street Mission all of us are making a real difference in the lives of many individuals and families. We are very grateful for your faithful service and support and pray the Lord will richly bless you as we continue to serve our Lord together.

Sincerely,

Debbie Hammond.Administrative Assistant
Market Street Mission.973-993-2871

Saint Andrew Financial Summary 2018

	Jan - Sept	Budget	\$ over Budget
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	327,170.15	362,766.00	(35,595.85)
EDUCATION/DANCE NET INCOME	30,175.56	29,700.00	475.56
SUMMER CAMP NET INCOME	128.88	500.00	(371.12)
FUNDRAISING EVENTS NET INCOME	161,453.87	229,250.00	(67,796.13)
OTHER INCOME	17,706.00	16,501.00	1,205.00
TOTAL INCOME	536,634.46	638,717.00	(102,082.54)
EXPENSE			
STAFF EXPENSE	233,937.59	236,660.50	(2,722.91)
CAR EXPENSE	1,921.66	3,375.00	(1,453.34)
INSURANCE EXPENSE	39,774.51	40,199.00	(424.49)
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	8,410.62	10,458.00	(2,047.38)
EQUIPMENT	2,933.59	7,808.00	(4,874.41)
BANK CHARGES	1,817.66	1,845.00	(27.34)
MORTGAGE PAYMENT (Principal & Interest)	100,939.50	101,250.00	(310.50)
TELEPHONES/INTERNET EXPENSE	3,935.43	3,828.00	107.43
ADVERTISING	-	-	-
PERMITS	-	250.00	(250.00)
LITURGICAL	-	377.00	(377.00)
UTILITIES	41,037.24	36,377.00	4,660.24
SUPPLIES & PRINTING EXPENSE	18,276.85	18,719.00	(442.15)
BLDG & GROUNDS EXP.	54,110.81	50,098.00	4,012.81
POSTAGE & HANDLING	3,306.55	2,627.00	679.55
MINISTRY EXPENSE	51,342.09	54,269.00	(2,926.91)
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	3,950.00	3,351.00	599.00
CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS	7,958.53	9,100.00	(1,141.47)
TRANSPORTATION	-	-	-
MISC.	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	573,652.63	580,591.50	(6,938.87)
NET CASH RECD (SHORT)	\$ (37,018.17)	\$ 58,125.50	\$ (95,143.67)
From Operations			
Unrestricted Cash 12/31/17	154,295.58		
Cash generated (used) this year	(37,018.17)		
Cash Balance 9/30/18	\$ 117,277.41		

- (1) Stewardship was significantly better than budget early in the year; but typical for this time of year has slowed down over the summer, so YTD total contributions are under budget
- (2) Fundraising is lower than budget due to all major efforts coming in under budget.
- (3) Total income is significantly (and dangerously) lower than budget due to lower Stewardship and Fundraising. Stewardship will likely pick up but there are no other fundraising events planned
- (4) Total expenses are slightly less than budget with offsetting variances due to timing.
- (5) Net cash is off budget due to lower revenues....we have less than 2 months reserve.

JOIN US FOR OUR 16TH YEAR!



CYPRUS

TAVERNA NIGHT

to benefit the St. Andrew Community Center
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19
at St. Andrew Hall

**LIVE MUSIC BY NICOS NICOLAIDES
& THE COSMOPOLITANS BAND**

FABULOUS BUFFET BY TAVERNA ZENON

Tickets will be pre-sold only. No tickets will be sold at the door.
Ages 18 and up \$60 • Ages 6-17 \$20 • Ages 5 and under are free

For tickets and info contact:
Chris Demetriou at 973-270-7730, cdemetriou37@optonline.net
or Maro Schuster at 973-584-3747, schuster20@verizon.net

VISA/MASTERCARD ACCEPTED FOR ADVANCE PAYMENT ONLY, NOT ACCEPTED AT DOOR

Knitting Group

The Knitting and Crochet Ministry is in desperate need of knitters/crocheters. Over the past year many of our members have either moved or passed away.

This beautiful ministry hand crafts crocheted/knitted blankets, scarves and hats to comfort the elderly, poor, ill, homeless and orphans.

Donations have been hand delivered to some of the following locations:

Merry Heart Nursing Home, Morristown Memorial Hospital, Hackettstown Hospital, Holy Cross Brooklyn Homeless Outreach to the streets of NYC, Regency Grande Nursing Home, Battered Women's Shelter, Newark University Hospital, Senior Citizen Housing of Dover, Orphanages in Russia, St. Michael's Nursing Home, St. Clair's Hospital, Warm the Children, Roxbury Social Services (homeless outreach), BRIDGES (Newark homeless outreach), Fireman's Retirement Home (Boonton), Oncology & Hematology Specialists in Mountain Lakes (for people receiving cancer treatments), Morris View Nursing Home

Please consider joining this ministry.

Here's the Info. and Reasons to join:

1. We provide all supplies; needles and yarn.
2. We will teach you if you don't know how.
3. This is not just for girls! We have also had male members.
4. You don't have to attend our Wednesday mid-morning fellowship but we would love to see you if you can! We crochet/knit, offer helpful crochet/knitting hints, encourage one another and then eat (of course---we're Greek!) Many of our members crochet/knit at home as their time allows and bring in their completed "masterpieces" to church when their schedule permits.
5. Knitting is a great stress reliever and good exercise for your brain!

Please stop by any Wednesday we'd love to show you some of our work and answering any questions. And we always have needles and yarn available for those that would like to join us, or take some yarn and work from home.

Or contact Catrina Albo catrinaalbo10@gmail.com or the church office for more information.





Room for Agape

a voice for the Seniors

December 2018

Merry Christmas! Καλά Χριστούγεννα!



As recalling the birth of precious Lord Jesus, Son of God and universally revered King of Creation, the thought occurred to me that He necessarily had to be humbled to extreme before getting low enough to start understanding man's wicked ways - from scratch: from conception to birth - and then start living from an earthly standpoint in order to share His message in a way that man could possibly begin to understand and/or comprehend.

Living among us two millennia ago, Jesus shared examples of universal law through every day events, and graphic examples of how to communicate - with salvation in mind. Yet, even after so many extraordinary measures, we've managed - even as of old - to somehow cut His costly lessons short by twisting and mutilating His Holy Word to promote ungodly personal agendas!

His Father had determined that the only way left to intervene in our death spiral was by way of a personal connection, meaning the Cross, hopefully to orientate us away from animal instincts - by first allowing His beloved Son to be cradled in a stable/bed of hay with dust and waste and odor (*but, while a child, with two balanced persons of Faith for nurture and guidance*).

And, here we are, wanting more - for *personal* gain rather than brotherly affection. **Just**

imagine: Christ Jesus, as King of Kings, willing to be the very least among us - in order to show us the way to our soul, and finally feel safe within realms of His love and grace! This memory's sealed in the soul of mankind whether to realize His presence as dynamically indwelling, or not. Angelic glow is unforgettable: a precious moment to remember because of the way it connects, embracing, summing, anchored with Love in singular wholeness - dynamically focused at heart!

There is even a far greater story here, fueling the Light of the power behind it. Christmas is here to remind us of all we've been given - for free, price prepaid in the name of our All-Holy Mother with the help of heavenly Father's idea: their Feat. I found the pattern of this Christmas scene sealed in my soul - filed away as Part One of **The Orthodox Christian heritage:** extraordinarily *precious* - priceless because the cost to bring it to earth in the first place (and then thrive among us against all odds!) was just too high to ever calculate in kind!

How in the world do we appreciate it right now? How do we offer even a most meager show of our gratitude for the gift of life that includes a way to word what we're feeling, so unlike how wild animals do with rage, confusion, and/or cunningness? How do we share His gracious understanding without love - especially His



unspeakable wisdom – even if only to balance - plus a wee bit more? How do we gain what we need to really *thrive* as Jesus taught? Does it actually help to be forgiving; must it hurt so bad, we have to plead for mercy? What does *conscience* tell us - or are we dead to it, too?

How do I learn *Your* lessons, Lord? Perhaps as a form that enlightens the meaning of meant: *“By way of the Gifts”* – by way of your personal Presents! (I had to keep listening to get this, keeping my silence intact!) *“Everybody has at least one gift: a gift of Life – to resurrect to live to learn: to set a Holy example. Focus on personal, growing; future gets costly when you fail to learn from those who failed. Share a sight with heavenly light – one that I personally gave you: my Child.”*

Subliming from field to field and beyond, I remembered to follow Jesus; joyfulness joined in. *“Love binds toward added strength; when bonded, to generate interest.”* He pauses and then carries on: *“Feed-links sublime in this field of togetherness, with tones of soul-fueled esteem.”* At oneness now, the feeling of Presence became kinship – family now - in awe: strengthening together!

The Word works; it truly does, generating powers of interest forever – by making ends meet with economy in mind, fusing through balance in trade! Gifts of the heart are priceless/ free. They come across as love to work - carefully wrapped with genuine understanding. What comes from within is all that *truly* matters, made to mind; feats proliferate – ***together!*** Respect, with circumspect: Work. God is mighty – not to smite but reward: as rewording what was otherwise missed – when offered with generous Spirit!

Love brings out the best in us when others (seem to) feel at their worst; balance means always to gain.

Many children have parents serving in the military – far from home, absence of physical presence leaving a terrible void. Every child (of every age – there’s one in each of us!) likes to feel as if someone cared enough to offer a little token of love especially for them. As we age, we can get over this – even harden and take heart by serving others, *because* we’ve gotten so many over the years - with “respites” in between perhaps. Some of us didn’t get gifts when we were little; we were lucky to have each other. But we knew the feeling of *not* getting one, without realizing (at a tender age) that the sweetest gifts of all are buried deep in one’s heart where no one can take them from us.

With all the above in mind, let’s each of us share the price of something we might have bought for ourselves – with a child (or children) who wouldn’t be getting any at all without “mine”. **Think “Me” but act “Other”: shower a smile of kindness.**

There’s a timesaving blessing attached to this: **don’t wrap. Toys for Tots people thoughtfully determine appropriate distribution, pairing the gift with aptitudes of the child.

Our Agape Christmas party will be Tuesday, December 18, 11:30am, at The Red Hut on Route 46, Rockaway - a convenient easy-to-find place both familiar and friendly - with very good affordable food. Thank you, Bill!

We simply must include our gratitude to family friends of Budd Lake Diner for all they so freely contribute to our monthly lunches; may they be greatly blessed!

Maryann Brinkley (973-442-3011) and Betty Kelly (973-704-0377) co-chairs



Protecting the Church We Love

September 26, 2018

The ark of the Christian Church sails through troubled waters these days. Mega-scandals have assaulted Christian communities throughout the United States and the world, scandals of a grave dimension, scandals which can only be described as sin, as the pervasiveness of evil, and as the failure of Christians and their leaders to live up to the Church's nature and ministry about which St. Paul wrote in Ephesians.

"...to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ and to make known to all men the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might be made known." (Ephesians 3:8-10)

Presently, even the Orthodox Church stands close to the brink of a new schism and that scandal of possible disunity and rancor is yet another signal that all is far from well in the household of the faith.

No Christian community can wash its hands of these scandals and their wanton violations of

servant leadership and pastoral solicitude. For despite our theological differences which are, for us Orthodox Christians, clear and certain, *we are disciples of the same Lord*. There are not "many Christs." Again, St. Paul reminds us, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is over all, through all, and in all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)

The sin of one brings darkness upon all. Just as we, by human nature, share the consequences of the ancestral sin of Adam, so too, the sins and scandals associated with various ecclesial bodies today must be "owned" by *all* Christians. The burden rests on all our hearts. We can be complicit, if even by apathy or mediocrity—or denial. None can run from the great betrayal. How do we, as holders of the Apostolic faith, protect the *koinonia*—the communion of belief—from those forces seeking to destroy it, dilute it, or compromise it. We must not look to an institution or an organization. It is pointless to see the real problem somewhere "out there." ***The fact is, we must look to our own***

hearts, it is there that the deceiver seeks to capture our attention (logismoi) and to spin his lethal yarn.

Our holy Father, St. Silouan of Mt. Athos, provides guidance in his writings for safeguarding Christ's Church. He wrote, "All our troubles come from pride. If we would have humility, then God would show us all His secrets because He loves us. As the Lord said, "*Learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly of heart, and you will find rest unto your souls.*"

To learn from Christ is to learn to discipline and transform our egos—the seat of pride. Ego is the source of spiritual unhappiness, dryness, and a nagging feeling of estrangement from God. Egotism can also be a contributing factor to unrest and scandal in the Church. God revealed to Schema-Monk Silouan that the root of all human sin is pride/self-centeredness. He taught Silouan that God is humility, and that the man who would "put on" Christ, the man who would be truly happy in life, the Church that would be the most fulfilled, **must learn the way of the humble.**

Because each believer can yield to egotism and control, the Church, the *ekklesia*, can itself become tarnished and lose its purpose and focus. Humility is certainly not a fashionable or popular virtue in our "me first—go drives all—I'm so impressed with myself" culture. Yet it is the greatest antidote to living with an unbridled sense of one's own importance in the struggle of my will versus God's will for me. Humility is the proper spirit for Bishops, priests, and lay persons to have if they want to stave off the evil one from causing scandal, disunity, or schism. Left unchecked, these can end in emptiness of soul, being spiritually dead. We begin to listen to the sordid voices of this world and get caught up in the vortex. How do we get to that humble place?

In his book *The Mountain of Silence*, Kyriacos Markides quotes Geronda Maximos, the Athonite Elder by saying, "When human beings completely obliterate their own egotism and reach for union with God, then whatever they wish is what God wishes, and it is given."

To find these dangers to our soul and therefore to the Church, **we must first search our heart and soul honestly.** St. Silouan wrote that "Pride and self-centeredness entail every disaster and downfall, grace departs, the heart grows cold, prayer is feeble."

Is this true in **my** life? Have I allowed pride and ego to take over in my person, in my marriage, my family and relationships, in my work in the world? In the battle of wills between me and God (the definition of pride), do I seek to prevail or to surrender? Do I demand the control of my life?

These questions require tough discernment. A doctor can't treat a disease without a diagnosis. Pride and ego cannot be healed without first recognizing them, honestly, in our souls and in our daily living—and in our Church.

Second, embrace the pain. Make no mistake, the effort to transform pride/ego into genuine humility will go against our natural impulses. The ego is a greedy and voracious thing. Once we submit to it, once we give it what it wants, it wants more and more of us. Redirecting our will to the will of God goes against that natural and intuitive reaction of our ego towards the self. After all, it is easier **not** to live as a Christian than to live as Christ lived. Yet St. Silouan assures us that "keeping our souls in hell" is the true path to humility. We need to know that our discipleship will cost us.

As St. Silouan wrote of Adam's battle with God, "There is an aching and deep regret in the soul. Adam pined on earth and wept bitterly, and the earth was not pleasing to him. He was heartsick for

God and this was his cry, “My soul wearies for the Lord and I seek Him in tears.”

Lived as a destiny everyday, our personal ego, our battle to wrest control from God rather than surrender to Him, will supply us with an endless font of tears and regret.

Lastly, never give up hope. St. Silouan suffered acutely in the spiritual and psychological struggle for some 15 years, but he never gave up. That was the key. He kept focused on the struggle, on the process of personal spiritual change. He kept hope in his suffering because Christ suffered. Hope was a way out of pain, a way out of despair and discouragement, a way out of spiritual death and its trap of the ego.

Rev. Fr. Dimitrios J. Antokas is the Presiding Priest at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Bethesda, Maryland. The Orthodox Christian Network is a commissioned agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America.



No matter what you find in your soul-searching or how painful taming your inflated ego and embracing the way of the humble Christ can be, **hold on, always hold on.** Pray for yourself and pray for the Church that it, too, might be faithful to its nature and call to service—not power and control; to spiritual truth and authentic asceticism—not the creation of comfortable self-serving theories of belief. The Lord Jesus promised “rest for our souls,” and he will deliver on His promise! May the Humble Lord touch our hearts and the heart of His Church with His abiding peace and humble way.

PARENTS' CORNER

By Alexandra Protopapas

CHRISTMAS TIME 2018!

“CELEBRATING DIVERSITY WITH OUR CHILDREN”

Our world and community is changing for the better even though it may not seem that way to some. We are more open to celebrating and appreciating our many differences and similarities. We encompass culture, religion, race, language, exceptional talents, size, shape, disabilities, and socio-economic status. A perfect example is our recent change in both our Mid-Term Elections and the meeting of the minds between the Eastern and Western religions. We are working towards an attitude of love and acceptance of everyone we meet and we are being successful in reaching out to others to benefit and bless their lives. We are doing this as adults with one another, but are we successful in



teaching our children that it is a positive and loving example to celebrate diversity?

It is that time of the year when as Greek Orthodox Christians we are getting ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Have we thought about how we treat those who do not celebrate Christmas? Do we teach our children that although not everyone celebrates Christmas, we can celebrate and learn about other holidays, cultures, and religions without judgment? How should we teach our children how to celebrate diversity instead of shunning it, and developing prejudices that may last through adult years? In many public schools this is the month when you may hear something

about a “Mix It Up Day” where students are being taught lessons in tolerance. How about if we did this at home with our children? These are lessons that our children could be learning at home and as parents we can put these lessons in practical use – let’s say - as our Christmas gift to our children?

How can we begin? What can we do at home, at church, in our community?

- *Teach our children that we are Greek Orthodox Christians, but we should not discriminate or have bias against those who are not.*
- *As parents, we take responsibility in raising tolerant children and we influence them in what we teach and don’t teach.*
- *Teach our children love and not to have negative attitudes towards other groups of people. Yes—let’s not be racist as our own beliefs about others affect our children on a*

subconscious level. Knowingly or unknowingly, we can pass along many of these unspoken beliefs to our own children.

- *Invite children from other cultures and/or religions to a church activity and visit one of their activities.*
- *Parents pass on lessons that emphasize acceptance and tolerance and we have to be willing to live those values. We must reflect upon and address our own personal biases.*
- *Celebrate Christmas this year by reading more about the true meaning Christmas and when we do that, we will see that Christmas teaches us about celebrating diversity.*

Once again, I would like to thank those of you who keep sending me e-mails and suggestions. Again this year I got an e-mail from one of our St. Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Community members who wanted me to bring up the issue of diversity again, thus, the current article.

This month’s **Table Prayer Guide Prayers:**

Today is born of a Virgin, He who holds creation in the hollow of His hand. As a mortal He is wrapped in swaddling rags, He who in His being cannot be handled. God lies in a manger, who of old established the heavens in the beginning. He is nourished with milk from the breast, He who rained Manna on the People in the desert. He summons Magi, the Bridegroom of the Church. He accepts their gifts, the Son of the Virgin. We worship your birth, O Christ. Show us also your divine Epiphany.

Christmas Royal Hours, 9th hour

Today the Virgin gives birth to Him who is above all being, and the earth offers the cave to Him whom no one can approach; Angels with Shepherds give glory, while Magi journey with a star, for to us there has been born a little Child, God before the ages.

Saint Romanos the Melodos

6th Century, Constantinople

On behalf of my husband Mike, and my son Nicholas, we would like to wish you all a Joyous and Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year, 2019!

Feel free to e-mail me with your comments and suggestions for our “Parents’ Corner” at: alexandraproto@gmail.com
Have a great month and a wonderful school year!

(You can also find me on FACEBOOK under my name Alexandra Alex Protopapas)

Alexandra Protopapas Med | Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences – Retired
Educational Services of Morris County (ESC) (currently at Academy of St Elizabeth, Arrow Academy, Parsippany Schools)
(Information, Teaching, Tutoring, Counseling, Homebound Instruction (973-214-2583)

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



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517 Route 10 East, Randolph • 973.328.2400
therandolphdiner.com

Brooklyn BAGEL & DELI
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and Paxos Families
Welcome You!**

MEMORIAL GIFT

ST ANDREW | 1447 SUSSEX TURNPIKE | RANDOLPH, NJ 07869-1830

Please remember the Late † _____ in the prayers of the Divine Liturgy.

Kindly accept the memorial gift as a token of Love and Respect in his/her memory.

The deceased was the beloved _____ (husband, wife, father, mother, other) of bereaved*

Please ACKNOWLEDGE my/our gift to a member of the family.

NAME & ADDRESS OF BEREAVED* _____

NAME & ADDRESS OF DONOR(S) _____

MEMORIAL GIFTS PAYABLE TO ST. ANDREW ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

BAPTISM – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΗ

PANTELIS ROBERT HANEY son of Robert C. Haney and Maria Klonstas of Succasunna, NJ was baptized on November 4th, 2018 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **PANTELIS – ΠΑΝΤΕΛΗΣ**. Godfather was Erwin Ruff.

Congratulations to all! Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους!

FUNERAL – ΚΗΔΕΙΑ

+Athanasios “Tom” Papathanasiou, of Denville, NJ passed away peacefully while vacationing in Spetses, Greece on October 19, 2018. Our sincerest condolences to his family. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 40 years, Maria. He is survived by his beloved children: Loukas Papathanasiou, Stefanos Papathanasiou, Kristal Hyer, and Georgia Siemion; and many cherished grandchildren. A funeral was held at Saint Andrew for the repose of his soul on Tuesday, October 30th.

May his memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτού

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN BLESSED MEMORY

+Olga Apostolopoulos

George Milonas
John & Vasiliki Milonas
Dimitrios & Harriet Drosos

+Tina Condoleon

Costa & Eugenia Sedereas

+Athanasios Ladas

Kostas & Effie Kritharis

+Dr. Mark Quadrel, MD

George Milonas

+Nicholas Pallis

John & Chrysanthe Borzeka
Michael & Jan Madura
Chrysoula Duncan
Investors Bank – Senior Leadership
Team
Dimitrios & Harriet Drosos
Charles & Mary Demos

+Athanasios Papathanasiou

Stilianos & Susan Nikolaou

+Baula Rodi

Herbert & Maro Schuster & Family

+Argyro Syristatides

John & Chrysanthe Borzeka
Dimitrios & Harriet Drosos
Charles & Mary Demos
Jack & Betty Kelly

+Catherine (Nina) Troth

Evangelie Troth

May their memory be eternal. Αιωνία η μνήμη αυτών.

COMMUNION WITH GOD IN LITURGY AND LIFE

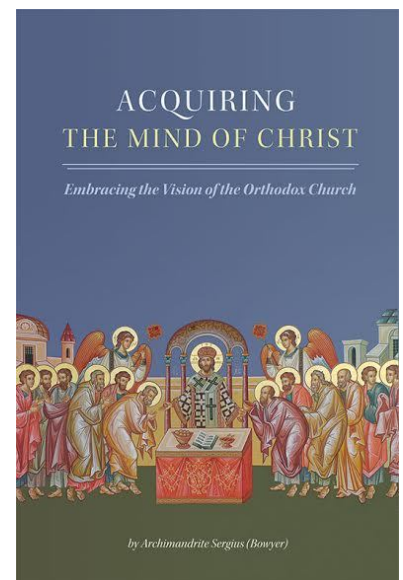
Nativity Fast Lenten Study

December 7, 14, 21, 2018 - Fridays at 10:30 AM

Serve the Lord in joy; come before Him in praise, Know that it is the Lord Who is God; it is He Who made us and we are His. ~ from Psalm 99

The Liturgy is the heart of the Orthodox Christian experience, the place where one meets the Lord and learns to abide and live with Him. It is here that one learns to serve and praise the Lord. It is through the Liturgy that one finds and works out one's salvation. Prayer is the central focus of both the Liturgy and our life. Without real prayer there is no real life!

We will be focusing on the first two chapters of ACQUIRING THE MIND OF CHRIST, by Archimandrite Sergius Bowyer. There will be free books available for participants of this study in the bookstore. Please pick up a copy and read the first two chapters 😊. Please join us, and bring a friend or two!!! A Lenten Luncheon will follow the study. Please bring and share what you are able.



SAINT ANDREW CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sundays after Holy Communion

PILLOW MINISTRY TBA ON A **Monday** @11am

BAKING GROUP **Tuesdays** @9am

GOYA Volleyball **Tuesdays** @6:30-8:30pm

KNITTING GROUP **Wednesdays** @10am -2pm

GOYA Basketball **Wednesdays** @6:30-8:30pm

Hellenic Afternoon School **Thursdays** @4:30pm

JR Greek Dancing **Thursdays** @6:30pm

GOYA Greek Dancing **Thursdays** @7pm

YOUTH GROUPS

HOPE HELLENIC ORTHODOX PRIMARY EDUCATION
grades K-2 in public schools

JOY JUNIOR ORTHODOX YOUTH grades 3-6

GOYA GREEK ORTHODOX YOUTH OF AMERICA
grades 7 in in public schools (and older than 13)

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/25 Stewardship Sunday "2019 Pledges"

11/26 @7pm GENERAL ASSEMBLY & Parish Council Meeting

11/27 @7pm Philoptochos Meeting 4th Tuesday

11/29 @4:30-6:30pm HAS TEACHERS MEET

11/29 NO HAS / NO Greek Dance

11/29 @7pm Great Vespers at Saint Andrew

11/30 Friday, SAINT ANDREW FEAST DAY

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS DECEMBER: 12/2 BAKALIKO

12/9 PTA, 12/16 DOP, 12/23 GOYA, 12/30 BAKALIKO

12/1 GOYA goes Christmas Caroling

12/2 @2:30pm GOYA GAMES (Tenafly/Randolph)

12/4 @7:30pm Parish Council Orientation

12/8 HOPE/JOY CAROLING at Marry Heart

12/9 Recognizing Ministries ARTOCLASIA for the
Philanthropic Volunteers of Saint Andrew
12/9 @1:30pm Wedding Andreopoulos & Barletta

12/9 @12-2pm ELECTIONS for Parish Council

12/9 @2:30pm GOYA Championship GAMES

12/11 Philoptochos Christmas Dinner at Taphouse
15 Jefferson NJ Tuesday at 6:30pm

12/15 Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn at Paper Mill
Playhouse

12/16 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM with Sunday school at
Church (all grades participate) SNOW DATE- 12/23

12/18 @11:30am AGAPE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be
at the Red Hut Diner, Route 46 in Rockaway NJ

12/20 @6:30 GOYA Meeting *NOTE date change*

12/21 PTA kids night out | TIME & location TBA

12/22 Faith Kitchen –Philoptochos

12/27 NO HAS / NO Greek Dance

12/30 Family Worship/ NO Religious Ed Class

2019 Happy New Year

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS JANUARY: 1/6 PHILOPTOCHOS
1/13 PTA, 1/20 DOP, 1/27 GOYA

1/3 @4:30p HAS / @6:30 Greek Dance

1/12 @2pm Wedding Ferrarini & Rotsides

1/13 Community Vasilopita in Church

1/13 @12:15pm HOPE/JOY Meeting & Vasilopita

1/13 @3pm Wedding Panagakos & Darling

1/14 @7:30pm Parish Council Meeting

1/19 HOPE/JOY Rizzo's Wildlife World

1/19 CYPRUS TAVERNA NIGHT

1/22@7PM PHILOPTOCHOS Meeting

1/27 @12pm HAS THREE HIERARCHS PROGRAM

1/28 @7pm Stewardship Meeting

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



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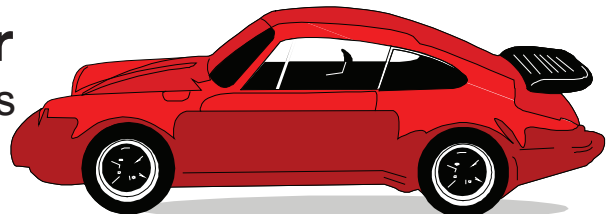
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Ellen Manetas, *Chairperson*

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Vickie Geannakakes, Harriet Karkanias, Rachel Lopardo, Maro Nicolaou Schuster

BYZANTINE CHANTERS/CHOIR

Alex Vlassis, *Head Chanter & Choir Director*

Chris Neroutsos, *Chanter*

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Fr. John Theodosion, Athena Borzeka, Maria Galvin,

Salomi Massaras salomi@optonline.net

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL TEACHERS

Amalia Armenakis, Haroula Christodoulou, Vasilias Christodoulou, Maria Kiritsis, Effie Kritharis, Yiota Louca, Salomi Massaras, Maria Pallis, Stacey Papanikolaw, Eleni Zeris

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Philoptochos Society: Petra Knox, *President*

Coffee Hour *need facilitator*

Agape Group: Maryann Brinkley & Betty Kelly *co-chairs*

AHEPA: TJ Borzeka, *President*

Daughters of Penelope: Eleni Boyadjis, *President*

PTA: Maria Pallis, *President*

Little Angels Playgroup (LAP): Maria Pallis

HOPE & JOY: Harriet Karkanias, Lynn Axiotes

GOYA

Constantine Sedereas, *GOYA President*

Polymnia Crysler, Yiota Louca, Peter Sedereas, Marina Venizelos, *GOYA Advisors*

Hellenic Dance

GOYA Tanya De Boer, *Instructor* & George Clapsis, *Assistant Instructor*

Jr & Sr Groups Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



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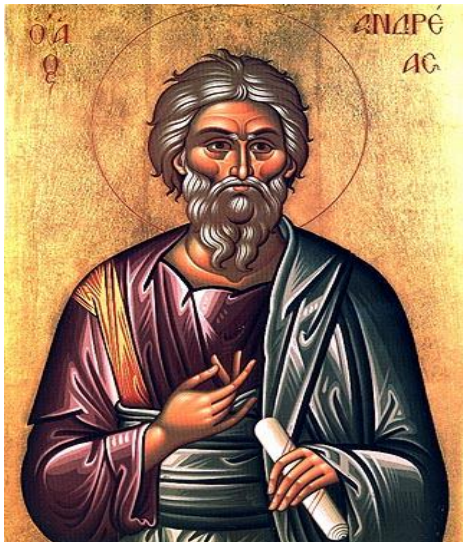
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You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World

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

HYMN OF THE APOSTLE ST. ANDREW

As first of the Apostles to receive the call,
and very brother of the prince of them,
intercede O Andrew,
with the Master of all of us,
peace to all the world to grant,
and to our souls His great mercy.

ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ

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

The Saint Andrew Vision Statement

Our Greek Orthodox Community of Morris County is a welcoming place where the family of Saint Andrew is committed to God, Orthodox worship, Christian education, philanthropy, and Hellenic culture, for the benefit of those whose lives we touch.