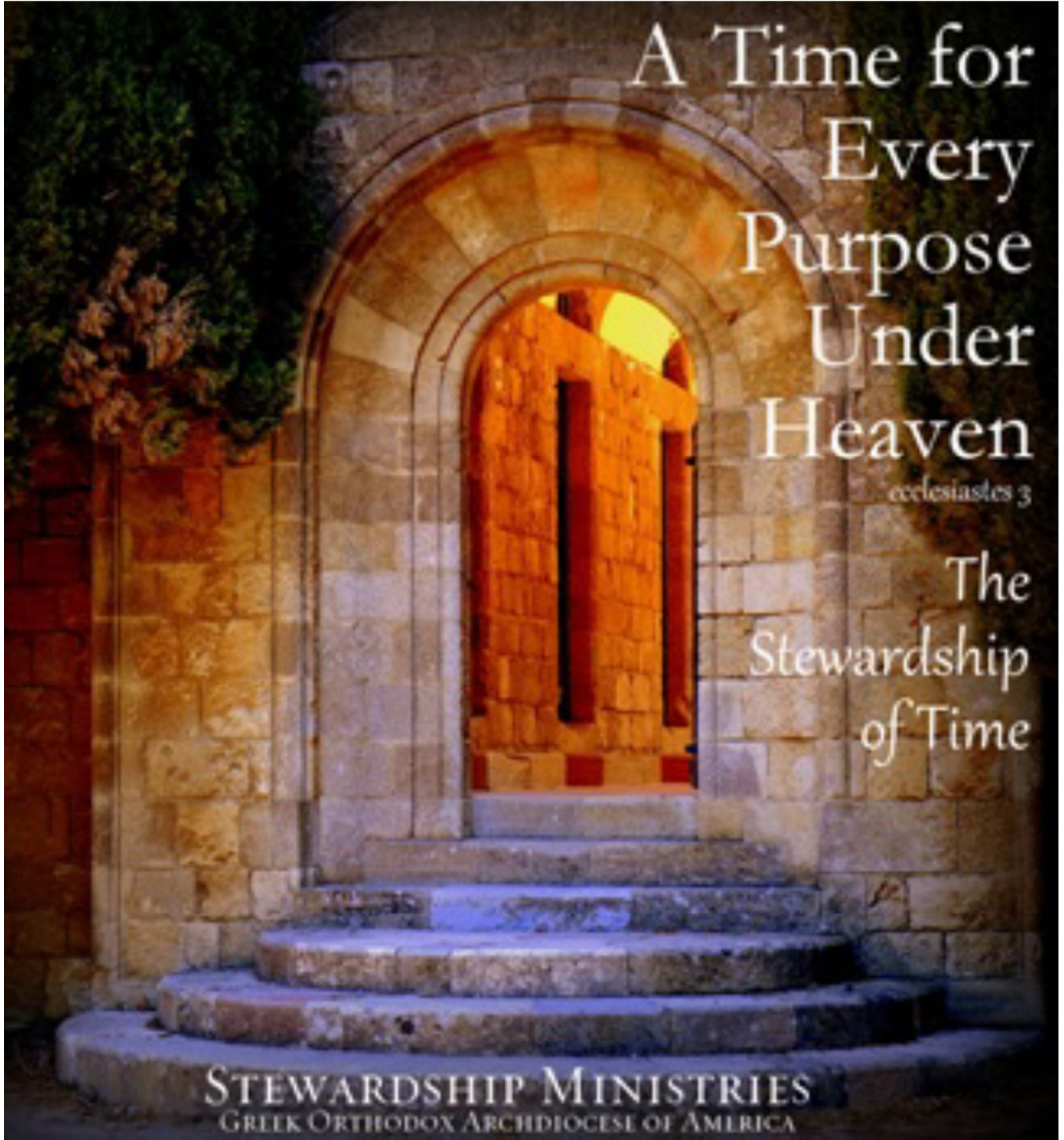


NOVEMBER 2019



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

Saint Andrew Family News

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

“ICON” STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 24TH

SAINT ANDREW DAY – NOVEMBER 30TH

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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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 **DECEMBER ISSUE 2019 ISSUE** is November 4th*

DIVINE SERVICES

NOVEMBER

- Friday 1 +COSMAS AND DAMIAN
- Sunday 3 5th Sunday of Luke**
- Friday 8 SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGELS
- Saturday 9 +ST. NEKTARIOS
- Sunday 10 8th Sunday of Luke**
- Wednesday 13 *+ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE in Westfield NJ*
- Thursday 14 +ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE
- Saturday 16 +MATTHEW THE APOSTLE & EVANGELIST
- Sunday 17 9th Sunday of Luke**
- Thursday 21 THE PRESENTATION OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE
- SUNDAY 24 13TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**
- Monday 25 +ST. KATHERINE THE GREAT MARTYR
- Tuesday 26 + STYLIANOS THE MONK OF PAPHLAGONIA;
- Wednesday 27 THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE +ORTHROS & Divine Liturgy @6pm
- FRIDAY 29 ST. ANDREW | GREAT VESPERS SERVICE FOR @7PM**
- SATURDAY 30 +SAINT ANDREW THE FIRST CALLED APOSTLE * Orthros & Divine Liturgy @9 AM**

DECEMBER

- Sunday 1 14th Sunday of Luke**
- Wednesday 4 +ST. BARBARA THE GREAT MARTYR * / Relics
- Friday 6 +ST. NICHOLAS ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA
- Sunday 8 10th Sunday of Luke**
- Monday 9 +THE CONCEPTION OF +ST. ANNA
- Thursday 12 +ST. SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER OF TRYMITHOUS
- Sunday 15 11th Sunday of Luke | +ST. ELEUTHERIOS THE HOLY MARTYR**
- Sunday 22 Sunday before the Nativity | +ST. ANASTASIA THE GREAT MARTYR**
- Tuesday 24 +EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST, +EUGENIA THE RIGHTEOUS | Orthros, Great Hours, Great Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
- Tuesday 24 +HOLY NATIVITY OF OUR LORD Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom @6PM
- Friday 27 +ST. STEPHEN, ARCHDEACON & FIRST MARTYR
- Sunday 29 Sunday After Nativity**
- Tuesday 31 CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & COMMEMORATION ST. BASIL | Great Vespers Service @3:30pm

Sundays: Orthros @ 8:45AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10AM | **Weekdays:** Orthros @ 8AM & Divine Liturgy @ 9AM

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

Sunday school students will attend the Divine Liturgy at 10am, receive Holy Communion and then proceed to their classrooms

Ι Ε Ρ Ε Σ Α Κ Ο Λ Ο Υ Θ Ι Ε Σ

Ν Ο Ε Μ Β Ρ Ι Ο Σ

Παρασκευή	1	+ΚΟΣΜΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΔΑΜΙΑΝΟΣ ΑΝΑΡΓΥΡΟΙ
Κυριακή	3	Ε΄ Λουκά
Παρασκευή	8	Η ΣΥΝΑΕΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΡΧΙΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΩΝ ΜΙΧΑΗΛ ΚΑΙ ΓΑΒΡΙΗΛ
Σαββάτο	9	+ΝΕΚΤΑΡΙΟΥ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΠΕΝΤΑΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
Κυριακή	10	Η΄ Λουκά
Τετάρτη	13	+ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΥΣΟΣΤΟΜΟΥ, ΑΠ. ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ – <i>IN WESTFIELD NJ</i>
Πέμπτη	14	+ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ
Σαββάτο	16	+ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗΣ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΣ
Κυριακή	17	Θ΄ Λουκά
Πέμπτη	21	ΤΑ ΕΙΣΟΔΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ	24	ΙΓ΄ Λουκά
Δευτέρα	25	+ΑΙΚΑΤΕΡΙΝΗ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ
Τρίτη	26	+ΌΣΙΟΣ ΣΤΥΛΙΑΝΟΣ ο ΠΑΦΛΑΓΩΝ
Τετάρτη	27	ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΗΜΕΡΑΝ ΤΩΝ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΙΩΝ Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία - <u>ώρα</u> 6πμ
ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ	29	ΜΕΓΑΣ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ
ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ	30	+ΑΝΔΡΕΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΚΛΗΤΟΥ Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία <u>ώρα</u> 9π

Δ Ε Κ Ε Μ Β Ρ Ι Ο Σ

Κυριακή	1	ΙΔ΄ Λουκά
Τετάρτη	4	+ΒΑΡΒΑΡΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ*
Παρασκευή	6	+ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΜΥΡΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΛΥΚΙΑΣ ΤΟΥ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
Κυριακή	8	Ι΄ Λουκά
Δευτέρα	9	Η ΣΥΛΛΗΨΗΣ ΤΗΣ +ΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΠΡΟΜΗΤΟΡΟΣ ΆΝΝΗΣ
Πέμπτη	12	+ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΤΡΙΜΥΘΟΥΝΤΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΘΑΥΜΑΤΟΥΡΓΟΥ
Κυριακή	15	ΙΑ΄ Λουκά +ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΟΥ ΙΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ
Κυριακή	22	Κυριακή πρό τῆς Χριστοῦ Γεννήσεως +ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΕΥΤΡΙΑΣ
Τρίτη	24	+ΠΡΟ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, +ΕΥΓΕΝΙΑΣ Όρθρος, Μεγάλοι Ώραι, Μέγα Εσπερινός, και Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου
Τρίτη	24	+Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Ιωάννη Χρυσοστόμου <u>ώρα</u> 6:00μμ
Παρασκευή	27	+ΣΤΕΦΑΝΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΡΧΙΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΥ
Κυριακή	29	Κυριακή μετά την Χριστοῦ Γέννησιν
Τρίτη	31	Η ΚΑΤΑ ΣΑΡΚΑ ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙΑΣ ΜΕΓΑ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ 3:30ΜΜ

Την Κυριακή: Όρθρος ώρα 8:45πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 10πμ | **Τις καθημερινές** – Όρθρος ώρα 8πμ & Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 9πμ
(*Έχουμε τα Λείψανα του Αγίου στην Λειψανοθήκη της εκκλησία μας*)*

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 10πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία θα συνεχίσουν στις τάξεις τους

The Decision

By Fr. John Theodosion

Brothers and Sisters in Christ we see that the Gospels have a lot to say to us about money. One passage is about “The Rich Man and Lazarus.” Another is about the Foolish Rich Man who wanted to build bigger barns to store his crops and found out that very night that he was to die.

And in still another gospel in Luke chapter 18, we read of a rich young man who approaches Christ with the question, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” and Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, honor your father and mother. And he said “All these I have observed from my youth.” and when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven; come follow me.

What an honor to be called to follow Christ. To be called into his inner circle. Can you imagine what it would be like to be a disciple and to, on a daily basis witness the miracles of Christ; or even to perform miracles yourself; to benefit from the teachings and the examples of our Lord right in front of our very eyes? We would jump at the chance right? Or would we? The Bible says that the rich man in this gospel



became very sorrowful for he wasn't just a little rich, he was very rich. Imagine being in the rich man's shoes. How difficult would it be to sell all that we have and distribute to the poor? It's not an easy decision to make when you think about all that it takes to live in today's world, but very few people are asked to make a decision like this except monks

and nuns. We in the world do not have such a decision to make, but we do also have a calling from God when it comes to money and material possessions.

He calls us not to be attached to our money and our things he calls us to think of our possessions as being borrowed. To be borrowed and used while we are on this earth, but to what purpose? For the purpose of glorifying the name of the Lord, and when we do good works we glorify His name we draw people to him. We inspire them want to learn about the Lord and the Christian Faith. This is the calling of the church. To witness to the Faith; to Glorify God; to help the poor; educate the people; and to strengthen the community of believers. But this does not happen without you. It does not happen unless the people of the community make the commitment to commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our Lord. In other words, tying in with our theme of Stewardship with

our time, talent and treasures. The commitment of time, talent and treasures is like a three legged stool on which the church rests. Some people think that the church can somehow be sustained by only one or two of those legs on the stool. However, we have learned over the years that when families contribute and support all three legs of the stool then the church begins to not just survive but to thrive! I am certain we all want our church to thrive and grow as we move into the future, but it is up to you.

Friends, the man in the gospel of The Rich Young Man, was given and a once in a lifetime

opportunity. He had to make a choice and it should have been simple one because the Lord was offering him the blessing of “treasure in heaven”, if he was willing to show that he loved God more than his possessions. The decision for us should be simple also. We should show the Lord that we love him by helping our church as much as we are able and giving him our hard work, our knowledge, and our financial resources. In this way we will help the church thrive and grow. The support we give now will be a blessing for us today and for generations to come and into eternity.

FEAST DAY OF SAINT ANDREW THE FIRST CALLED APOSTLE

Friday, November 29th, 2019 @ 7 pm

Great Vespers with Artoclasia

Reception following Services will be hosted by St. Andrew Philoptochos.

Saturday, November 30th, 2019 @ 9 am

Orthros and Divine Liturgy with Artoclasia

Luncheon following Services will be hosted by St. Andrew Philoptochos.

ΕΟΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΝΔΡΕΑ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΚΛΗΤΟΥ

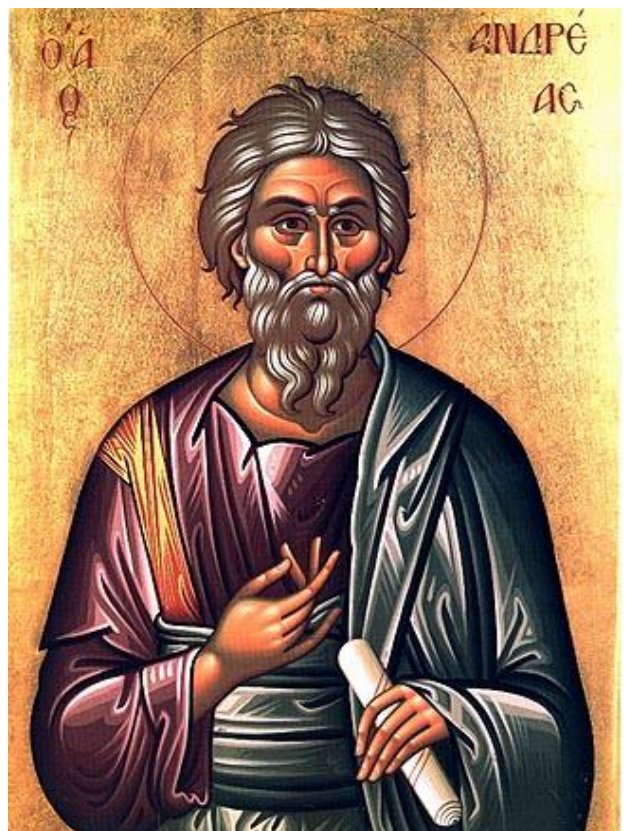
Την Παρασκευή 29 Νοεμβρίου, ώρα 7 μμ

θα τελεστεί Μέγας Εσπερινός με αρτοκλασία

Το Σάββατο 30 Νοεμβρίου, ώρα 9 πμ

Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία για την γιορτή του Αγίου Αποστόλου Ανδρέου του Πρωτοκλήτου.

Θα επακολουθήσει Γεύμα προς τιμήν του



A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven Ecclesiastes 3



T H E S T E W A R D S H I P O F T I M E

Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” Psalm 90:12

The first long-term Orthodox Christian missionary priest from America to East Africa was sent by Archbishop Iakovos in mid-1980s. As he gradually assimilated into the local culture, he found the local concept of time to be a most difficult adjustment, and upon his return to America, liked to quote the Kenyans who loved to tell him, “White men have watches. We have time.”

Our brief time on earth is God’s gift. As faithful Christians, we are accountable for our stewardship of this precious gift. The American scientist, Thomas Edison said, “Time is not a commodity that can be stored for future use. It must be invested hour by hour or else it is gone forever.”

“Man is like a breath; his days are like a fleeting shadow.” Psalm 144:4

Our lifetime is a small bit of eternity, “a fleeting shadow.” (Psalm 144), which we receive as

stewards. Time is a precious gift that we dare not waste. Like the three stewards in the Parable of the Talents, one day God will call each one of us to give account of how we have used the time entrusted to us

“...a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is “a time for every purpose,” as the verse from Ecclesiastes instructs us: “...a time to plant, a time to reap....” the challenge is to appropriately allocate our time to the various purposes that make claims on it. The passage teaches us to make the most of God’s great gift of time.

The Gift of Time

“The greatest gift I ever received,” said a young attorney, “was a gift I got one Christmas from my dad. He gave me a small box with a note inside that said, “Son, this year I will give you 365 hours, one hour every day after dinner. We’ll talk about what you want to talk about, go where you want to go, play what you want to play.”

The young attorney continued, “My dad not only kept the promise of his gift, but he renewed it every year – and it’s the greatest gift I ever had in my life. I am the result of his time.”

The most personal, most appreciated and most unique gift that you can give is the gift of time – Your time. That valuable 24 hours a day that only you can spend. Depending on your profession, your time may be worth hundreds of dollars an hour. But the time you give to another person and the Church is priceless.

Our children need our time, helping shape their lives by word and by example. The time we give to our children is an investment in their lives that is not wasted.

Spending Time with God

As Christians it is also important to value the time we spend at church, in worship, service and activities. Every member of the Body of Christ plays a role, according to their gifts, in the life of the local church. The church is not a social club, but rather a place where people of faith gather for worship, fellowship and service.

Most importantly, we gather together in worship, praising and thanking God for the blessings in our lives and hearing His Word. Of the 168 hours in every week with which we have been blessed, we offer back the short time we spend in church on Sunday morning and other services, gathered together as the Body of Christ. We are united in prayer and united in Holy Communion. We become His hands and feet carrying out His work in the world. As we offer ourselves and our time as His Church, we are part of something much bigger than we can imagine – much bigger than the project we support, the service we provide, the prayer we offer.

The Great Feast (Luke 14)

In the Gospel of Luke we read of the man who planned a great feast and invited many people. When it was time to serve the dinner, they were all too busy – one with his farm, one with his bride, another with his

oxen. We can become so *busy* making a *living* that we forget to make a *life*. God gets crowded out of our lives over the most unimportant things.

At the first Christmas when Jesus was born, there was no room at the inn. And today we still have no room for Jesus. We crowd Him out with so many things.

In *The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis shows how the devil captures us, *not* by preventing encounters with God, but by whispering in our ear that we are “*just too busy right now. We’ll get to that soon. But just not right now.*”

Resetting Our Priorities

Just as we budget our financial resources to reflect our priorities, we can re-set our allocation of time. We are all busy, but not all of that busy time is well-spent. We may need to say no to certain demands on our time, opening our schedule to God’s prompting. We can live each day anticipating the opportunities he places in our path to offer our gift of time.

For further Reflection...

Are you a contributing member of the body of Christ? Are you actively serving God and sharing Him with others? Are you contributing to peace and unity within His body? Do you worship regularly? Take a moment to evaluate your life in light of these principles.

We are called to apply our gifts, training, abilities, education and skills to the tasks that God places before us. If we do this humbly and prayerfully, the body of Christ will function to its full potential.

The Biblical motivation for giving is grace; giving is an act of worship in response to the generosity of God. You are to give, Paul says, “as God has prospered you.” II Corinthians 8 and 9 teach clearly, “He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” God blesses those who give with generosity.”

Giving is a way to thank God for His grace and generosity. The question is not, “How much do I give to stay in the club?” or “What are the dues?” but “How can I thank God for my many blessings?”

Ο Καιρός για κάθε τι Κάτω από τον Ουρανό

Η Οικονομία του Χρόνου

«Δίδαξέ μας πώς να αξιοποιούμε τις ημέρες μας ώστε να αποκτήσουμε σοφή καρδιά.» ψαλμός 90:12

Ο πρώτος μακροχρόνιος Ορθόδοξος Χριστιανός ιεραπόστολος ιερέας στην Ανατολική Αφρική στάλθηκε από την Αμερική από τον Αρχιεπίσκοπο Ιάκωβο στα μέσα της δεκαετίας του '80. Καθώς σταδιακά αφομοιώθηκε με τον τοπικό πολιτισμό, κατάλαβε ότι η τοπική έννοια του χρόνου ήταν η πιο δύσκολη προσαρμογή, και με την επιστροφή του στην Αμερική, του άρεσε να αναφέρει κάτι που άρεσε στους Κενυάτες να του λένε, «Οι λευκοί έχουν ρολόγια. Εμείς έχουμε χρόνο.»

Ο σύντομος χρόνος μας στη γη είναι δώρο Θεού. Ως πιστοί Χριστιανοί, θα λογοδοτήσουμε για την οικονομία αυτού του πολύτιμου δώρου. Ο Αμερικανός επιστήμονας Τόμας Έντισον είπε, «Ο χρόνος δεν είναι εμπόρευμα που μπορεί να αποθηκευτεί για μελλοντική χρήση. Πρέπει να επενδύεται η κάθε ώρα, διαφορετικά χάνεται για πάντα.»

«Ο άνθρωπος είναι σαν μια ανάσα· οι ημέρες του είναι σαν σκιά, που παρέρχεται.» (ψαλμός 144:4)

Ο χρόνος της ζωής μας είναι μια μικρή αιωνιότητα, «μια σκιά που φεύγει.» (Ψαλμός 144), που τον λαμβάνουμε ως οικονόμοι. Ο χρόνος είναι ένα πολύτιμο δώρο που δεν τολμούμε να σπαταλήσουμε. Όπως οι τρεις οικονόμοι στην Παραβολή των Ταλάντων, μια μέρα ο Θεός θα καλέσει τον καθένα από εμάς να λογοδοτήσουμε για το πώς χρησιμοποιήσαμε τον χρόνο που μας εμπιστεύτηκε.

«.....χρόνος υπάρχει για κάθε τι, και καιρός για κάθε πράγμα κάτω από τον ουρανό.» Εκκλησιαστές 3:1

Υπάρχει «χρόνος για κάθε τι,» όπως μας συμβουλεύει ο στίχος από τους Εκκλησιαστές: «.....ο καιρός να φυτέψουμε, ο καιρός να θερίσουμε.....» η πρόκληση είναι να μοιράσουμε σωστά το χρόνο μας στους διάφορους

λόγους που μας διεκδικούν. Το κείμενο αυτό μας διδάσκει να εκμεταλλευόμαστε με τον καλύτερο τρόπο το δώρο του Θεού, τον χρόνο.

Το Δώρο του Χρόνου

«Το σπουδαιότερο δώρο που έχω ποτέ λάβει,» έλεγε ένας νεαρός νομικός, «ήταν ένα δώρο που πήρα κάποια Χριστούγεννα από τον πατέρα μου. Μου χάρισε ένα μικρό κουτάκι με ένα σημείωμα μέσα που έλεγε, «Υιέ μου, φέτος θα σου χαρίσω 365 ώρες, μία ώρα την ημέρα μετά το δείπνο. Θα μιλάμε για ό,τι θέλεις, θα πηγαίνουμε όπου θέλεις, θα παίζουμε ό,τι θέλεις να παίξουμε.»

Ο νεαρός νομικός συνέχισε, «Ο πατέρας μου όχι μόνο κράτησε την υπόσχεση αυτού του δώρου, αλλά την ανανέωνε κάθε χρόνο – μάλιστα είναι το πιο σημαντικό δώρο που είχα ποτέ στη ζωή μου. Είμαι το αποτέλεσμα αυτού του χρόνου του.»

Το πιο προσωπικό, πιο πολύτιμο και πιο μοναδικό δώρο που μπορείς να χαρίσεις είναι το δώρο του χρόνου – του Δικού σου χρόνου. Τις πολύτιμες 24 ώρες της ημέρας που μόνο εσύ ξέρεις πως θα περάσεις. Ανάλογα με το επάγγελμά σου, ο χρόνος σου μπορεί να αξίζει εκατοντάδες δολάρια την ώρα. Όμως ο χρόνος που θα αφιερώσεις στον συνάνθρωπό σου και την Εκκλησία είναι ανεκτίμητος.

Τα παιδιά μας χρειάζονται το χρόνο μας, αυτός διαμορφώνει τις ζωές τους μαζί με τον λόγο και το παράδειγμα. Ο χρόνος που αφιερώνουμε στα παιδιά μας είναι επένδυση στις ζωές τους που δεν πάει χαμένη.

Περνώντας Χρόνο με τον Θεό

Ως Χριστιανοί είναι επίσης σημαντικό να εκτιμούμε τον χρόνο που περνάμε στην εκκλησία, στη λατρεία, στη λειτουργία και τις δραστηριότητες. Κάθε μέλος του Σώματος του Χριστού παίζει ένα ρόλο στη ζωή της τοπικής εκκλησίας, ανάλογα με τα δώρα τους. Η εκκλησία

δεν είναι μια κοινωνική λέσχη, αλλά μάλλον είναι ένα μέρος όπου οι πιστοί μαζεύονται για να προσευχηθούν, να χαρούν τη συντροφιά των αδελφών τους και να προσφέρουν υπηρεσία.

Πιο σημαντικά, μαζευόμαστε για να λατρέψουμε, να εξυψώσουμε και να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Θεό για τις ευλογίες της ζωής μας, και να ακούσουμε τον Λόγο Του. Από τις 168 ώρες που ευλογούμαστε κάθε εβδομάδα, ανταποδίδουμε με τον σύντομο χρόνο που περνάμε στην εκκλησία την Κυριακή το πρωί ως το Σώμα του Χριστού. Είμαστε ενωμένοι με προσευχή και ενωμένοι με την Θεία Κοινωνία. Γινόμαστε τα χέρια Του και τα πόδια Του και εκτελούμε το θέλημά Του στον κόσμο. Καθώς προσφέρουμε τον εαυτό μας και τον χρόνο μας ως η Εκκλησία Του, είμαστε μέρος ενός πράγματος πολύ μεγαλύτερου από ότι μπορούμε να φανταστούμε – πολύ μεγαλύτερου από τη δουλειά που κάνουμε, την υπηρεσία που παρέχουμε, την προσευχή που προσφέρουμε.

Η Μεγάλη Γιορτή

Στο κατά Λουκάν Ευαγγέλιο διαβάζουμε για έναν άνθρωπο που οργάνωσε μια μεγάλη εορτή και προσκάλεσε πολλούς ανθρώπους. Όταν ήταν η ώρα να σερβιριστεί το δείπνο, ήταν πολύ απασχολημένοι όλοι τους – ένας με το αγρόκτημά του, άλλος με την σύζυγό του, άλλος με τα βόδια του. Είμαστε τόσο απασχολημένοι βγάζοντας τα προς το ζην, που ξεχνάμε να ζούμε. Ο Θεός παραγκωνίζεται και δεν χωράει στη ζωή μας εξαιτίας των πιο ασήμαντων πραγμάτων.

Τα πρώτα Χριστούγεννα που γεννήθηκε ο Ιησούς, δεν υπήρχε χώρος στο πανδοχείο. Σήμερα, ακόμη δεν έχουμε χώρο για τον Ιησού. Τον παραγκωνίζουμε για τόσα άλλα πράγματα.

Στο THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS, ο C.S. LEWIS δείχνει πώς ο διάβολος μας αιχμαλωτίζει, όχι εμποδίζοντας τη συνάντησή μας με τον Θεό, αλλά ψιθυρίζοντας στο αφτί μας ότι «απλά είμαστε πολύ απασχολημένοι αυτή τη στιγμή. Θα ασχοληθούμε με αυτό σύντομα. Αλλά όχι τώρα.»

Επαναπροσδιορίζοντας Τις Προτεραιότητές Μας

Όπως κάνουμε προϋπολογισμό των οικονομικών μας πόρων για να ανταπεξέλθουμε στις προτεραιότητές μας, μπορούμε να επαναπροσδιορίσουμε το χρόνο μας. Όλοι είμαστε απασχολημένοι, αλλά δεν είναι και ωφέλιμος όλος ο χρόνος που μας απασχολεί. Ίσως χρειαστεί να πούμε όχι σε κάποιες απαιτήσεις, δίνοντας χρόνο στις προτροπές του Θεού. Μπορούμε να ζούμε την κάθε ημέρα προσδοκώντας τις ευκαιρίες που βάζει στο δρόμο μας και να προσφέρουμε το δώρο του χρόνου.

Για περαιτέρω σκέψη.....

Εσύ είσαι μέλος του σώματος του Χριστού που συνεισφέρει; Υπηρετείς ενεργά τον Θεό και Τον μοιράζεσαι με άλλους; Συνεισφέρεις για την ειρήνη και την ενότητα μέσα στο σώμα του; Εκκλησιάζεσαι τακτικά; Αφιέρωσε ένα λεπτό και αξιολόγησε τη ζωή σου βάση αυτών των αρχών.

Καλούμαστε να εφαρμόσουμε τα χαρίσματά μας, την εκπαίδευσή μας, τις ικανότητές μας, τη μόρφωση και τις δεξιότητές μας στα έργα που ο Θεός παραθέτει στο δρόμο μας. Εάν το κάνουμε αυτό με ταπεινότητα και με προσευχή, το σώμα του Χριστού θα λειτουργήσει σε πλήρη ισχύ.

Το κίνητρο για να δίνουμε είναι η χάρις· η προσφορά είναι μία πράξη λατρείας που αποκρίνεται στην γενναιοδωρία του Θεού. Να προσφέρεις, λέγει ο Παύλος, «όπως και ο Θεός σε έχει ευεργετήσει.» Η Προς Κορινθίους II 8 και 9 διδάσκει ξεκάθαρα, «Αυτός που θα σπείρει πλουσιοπάροχα, θα λάβει πλουσιοπάροχα.» Ο Θεός ευλογεί όσους προσφέρουν γενναιοδωρα.»

Η προσφορά είναι ένας τρόπος να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Θεό για τη χάρη Του και την γενναιοδωρία Του. Η ερώτηση δεν είναι, «Πόσο να δώσω για να είμαι μέλος;» ή «Πόσα οφείλω;» αλλά «Πώς μπορώ να ευχαριστήσω τον Θεό για τις τόσες ευλογίες Του;

Adaptation by Maria Kiritsis, HAS Teacher

He Who Has Ears Let Him Hear

was offered in English. We are happy to be able to include the same article for our Greek readers.

Ο Έχων Ὦτα Ακούειν Ακουέτω

του πατέρα Ιωάννη Θεοδοσίου

Ακούσαμε τον Χριστό να λέει μόλις ολοκλήρωσε την διήγηση της παραβολής του Σπορέα (Ματθαίος κεφ. 13), «Ο έχων ὠτα ακούειν ακουέτω.» Πιστεύω ότι αυτή η φράση συνοψίζει τη σημασία της παραβολής. Αυτή η παραβολή δεν είναι απλά μία ιστορία για έναν αγρότη, αλλά υπάρχουν σημαντικά βαθύτερα νοήματα που πρέπει να κατανοήσουμε, να ακούσουμε με τα «ὠτα» μας και να ενσωματώσουμε στις ζωές μας.

«Βγήκε ο σπορέας να σπείρει τον σπόρο του.» Ποιός είναι ο σπορέας; Μα ο Κύριος ημών Ιησούς Χριστός. Η φράση «βγήκε» αναφέρεται στην ενσάρκωση του Υιού του Θεού. Και ο σπόρος είναι ο λόγος του Θεού, τα λόγια Του και οι διδασκαλίες Του.

Η παραβολή λέει «Καθώς έσπερνε, μερικοί σπόροι έπεσαν σε διάφορα σημεία, στο δρόμο, σε πέτρες, ανάμεσα σε αγκάθια, «έπεσαν» και σε καλό έδαφος. Δεν τους έριξε. Έπεσαν παντού ομοιόμορφα σε αυτά τα μέρη, που αντιπροσωπεύουν τις ψυχές όλων των ανθρώπων. Ο Χριστός έσπειρε τη διδασκαλία Του σε ολόκληρη την οικουμένη, όμοια και ελεύθερα σε όλους τους ανθρώπους. Είναι διαθέσιμη στον καθένα.

Έτσι σε αυτή την παραβολή βλέπουμε πως περιγράφονται τέσσερα είδη ανθρώπων. Πρώτον είναι η ομάδα του δρόμου. Ο δρόμος είναι το σκληρό έδαφος· οι καρδιές αυτών που ίσως ακούσουν το λόγο του Κυρίου μα δεν τον αφήνουν ποτέ να περάσει στην καρδιά και το μυαλό τους και να επηρεάσει τις ζωές τους.

Τα πουλιά στον αέρα αμέσως αρπάζουν τον λόγο από τις καρδιές τους, και αυτοί οι άνθρωποι ποτέ

δεν πιστεύουν αληθινά. Τα πουλιά είναι οι δαίμονες, που αρπάζουν το λόγο από την καρδιά του ανθρώπου, μόνο και μόνο επειδή αφέθηκε εκεί, απροστάτευτος, και έτσι δεν φυλάγεται στην καρδιά τους.

Μερικοί σπόροι έπεσαν σε πέτρες, και όταν μεγάλωσαν, πέθαναν από έλλειψη υγρασίας. Η περιοχή που περιγράφεται εδώ είναι σαν ένα ξέφωτο. Μία περιοχή όπου υπάχει λίγο χώμα, πολύ μικρή ποσότητα, που δεν φτάνει για να διατηρήσει την υγρασία, υγρασία που είναι η ουσία του Χριστού. Ο άνθρωπος που αντιπροσωπεύεται από την πέτρα, έχει μόνο μια μικρή ποσότητα γνώσης, και δεν αγωνίζεται ούτε επιθυμεί, και κατά τη μικρότερη και απλούστερη δοκιμασία τέτοιος άνθρωπος πέφτει μακριά και πεθαίνει η Πίστη του.

Κάποιοι άνθρωποι αντιπροσωπεύονται με το ακανθώδες έδαφος. Τα αγκάθια ξεπετάγονται μαζί με τον καλό σπόρο, τον λόγο του Θεού. Αυτά τα αγκάθια πνίγουν τις ακόλουθες εντολές. Πνίγουν τη γνώση του Θεού, επειδή αυτοί οι άνθρωποι απομακρύνονται από τον Θεό, και στρέφονται στα αγκάθια, όποια και να είναι, είτε είναι πλούτη, έννοιες αυτού του κόσμου, υλικές απολαύσεις, υπερηφάνια, φόβος, φιλοδοξία. Υπάρχουν εκατοντάδες τρόποι που ένας άνθρωπος απομακρύνεται από τον Θεό, ακόμη και αν φαίνεται πως είναι ένας καλός χριστιανός.

Είναι σαν την παραβολή των ζιζανίων. Η παραβολή αυτή είναι παρόμοια με τη σημερινή παραβολή επειδή περιγράφει τον καλό σπόρο, το σιτάρι που μπορεί να καταστραφεί από τον κακό σπόρο

γνωστό ως ζιζάνιο. Τα ζιζάνια είναι σαν τα αγκάθια. Τα ζιζάνια μεγαλώνουν ακριβώς δίπλα στο σιτάρι και μάλιστα μοιάζουν και με σιτάρι, τις περισσότερες φορές δεν μπορείς να τα ξεχωρίσεις από τους αληθινούς χριστιανούς. Πηγαίνουν στην εκκλησία, δημιουργούν οικογένεια, κάνουν δωρεές, και κάνουν τα πάντα εξωτερικά όπως όλοι οι άλλοι, με τη διαφορά όμως πως δεν έχουν τον Χριστό μέσα τους. Αυτοί οι άνθρωποι που είναι ανάμεσα στα αγκάθια δεν έχουν τον Χριστό, ακόμη και αν αποκαλούνται Χριστιανοί. Αυτή είναι μία πολύ επικίνδυνη κατάσταση γιατί μπορεί να πιστεύεις ότι επειδή κάποιος ασχολείται με έργα της εκκλησίας, είναι υπόδειγμα καλού Χριστιανού. Στην πραγματικότητα όμως είναι είτε ζιζάνιο είτε αγκάθι που μπορεί να μας βγάλει από το δρόμο του Θεού και να πνίξει την πίστη μας.

Τέλος, κάποιος σπόρος έπεσαν σε καλό έδαφος. Και φύτεψαν και έφεραν καρπούς. Και ο Χριστός λέει ότι έγιναν εκατονταπλάσιοι. Δηλαδή από έναν σπόρο γεννήθηκαν εκατό. Αυτοί είναι οι άνθρωποι των οποίων οι καρδιές είναι σαν το καλό έδαφος που έχοντας ακούσει τον λόγο του Χριστού με ευγενή καρδιά τον κράτησαν και έφεραν καρπούς με υπομονή.

Πρέπει να αναρωτηθούμε «Πώς μπορούμε να γίνουμε καλό έδαφος;» Τί ωφελεί αυτή η ωραία παραβολή αν δεν επιζητούμε να γίνουμε το καλό έδαφος. Αυτό αλήθεια δεν πρέπει να διδαχθούμε από αυτή την παραβολή; Και ποιά είναι το καλό έδαφος; Το καλό έδαφος είναι αυτό που έχει οργωθεί προσεκτικά, έχει σκαλιστεί, και οι σβόλοι του χώματος έχουν διαλυθεί, έχει καλά κοσκινιστεί και του πρόσθεσαν λίπασμα, ποτίστηκε και τέλος έχει περιφραχθεί για να μην μπαίνουν μέσα ζώα. Φυλάσσεται για να μην μπορεί να κλέψει κανείς τα φρούτα που θα παράγει. Χρειάζεται κόπος για να έχεις καλό έδαφος. Δεν γίνεται έτσι τυχαία.

Αλλά πώς θα το πετύχουμε αυτό; Φαίνεται ότι είναι πολύ δύσκολο να αλλάξουν οι καρδιές μας και έχουμε βουλευτεί στους τρόπους μας. Ή αγαπάμε πολύ τους δικούς μας τρόπους. Μοιάζει σαν ένα έργο πάνω από τις δυνάμεις μας. Ο Απόστολος Παύλος το συζητεί αυτό με θαυμάσιο τρόπο. Λέει, «Αφού εγώ κατά το νόμο είμαι νεκρός για το νόμο, για να ζω με τον Θεό. Σταυρώθηκα με τον Χριστό κι όμως ζω· αλλά όχι εγώ, αλλά ο Χριστός ζει μέσα μου: και η ζωή που ζω τώρα η κατά σάρκα ζω με την πίστη στον Υιό του Θεού, που με αγάπησε.» Θαυμάσια, υπέροχα λόγια! Ας είναι αληθινά στις ζωές μας. Ας ανοίξουμε το καλό έδαφος με τις καρδιές μας και ας επιτρέψουμε τον σπόρο της πίστης να φυτευθεί και να ποτιστεί εκεί. Ας λέμε ότι εμείς δεν ζούμε πλέον, αλλά ότι ο Χριστός ζει μέσα μας, Αυτός είναι που θα αλλάξει τις καρδιές μας και αυτός θα είναι εκείνος που θα μας διδάξει τον αληθινό τρόπο να είμαστε Χριστιανοί. Αλλά πρέπει να είμαστε πρόθυμοι να ακούσουμε τον λόγο Του και να έχουμε βαθιά επιθυμία να τον ακολουθήσουμε.

Μετά από αυτό πρέπει να ζούμε με πίστη, αφού αυτός είναι ο μόνος τρόπος να διεκπεραιώσουμε το έργο μας. Και ποιά είναι το έργο μας; Είναι να γίνουμε σαν τον Χριστό, έτσι δεν είναι; αυτός δεν είναι ο τρόπος για να ακολουθούμε αληθινά τη διδασκαλία Του; Φίλοι μου, πρέπει να παρακαλούμε τον Χριστό να μαλακώσει τις καρδιές μας σαν εκείνο το καλό χώμα και να φυτέψει τον σπόρο Του της αλήθειας εκεί. Έπειτα πρέπει να

προσευχόμαστε για να κατανοήσουμε αυτή την αλήθεια. Στη συνέχεια να ποσευχόμαστε για τη δύναμη του Κυρίου να κάνουμε αυτό που είναι καλό και σωστό προς δόξαν Θεού και για την σωτηρία μας.

Adaptation by: Maria Kiritis, HAS teacher



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY - ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΕΛΕΥΣΗ

Reverend
John Theodosion

November 2019

Dear Steward of St. Andrew,

On behalf of the Parish Council, we cordially invite you to attend a St. Andrew General Assembly meeting on **Monday, December 2nd, 2019 @7:00pm**.

According to the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Archdiocese, all parishioners present, and wishing to participate in the discussions and voting, must be active stewards for 2019. There will be many important topics discussed.

The AGENDA is as follows:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Nomination and election of Chairperson and appointment of Recording Secretary by the Chairperson for the General Assembly Meeting
3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly Meeting
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Audit Report
6. President's Message
7. 2020 Budget
8. Capital Campaign: Church Entrance Repairs/Improvements
9. Priest's Remarks
10. Nominations for Parish Council Elections (*will be held on December 15, 2019*)
11. Nominations for Election Committee
12. Nominations for Auditing Committee
13. Comments & Questions
14. Closing Prayer

Yours in Christ,
Rev. John Theodosion, *Protopresbyter*
Steven P. Mitrakos, *Parish Council President*

November 2019

Αγαπητέ Steward του Αγίου Ανδρέου,

Εκ μέρους του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου ευρισκόμαστε στην ευχάριστη θέση να σε **προσκαλέσουμε** στην Γενική Συνέλευση της Κοινότητας που θα γίνει την **Δευτέρα, 2 Δεκεμβρίου στις 7:00μμ ακριβώς**.

Σύμφωνα με το ομοίομορφο καταστατικό των Κοινοτήτων της Ιεράς Αρχιεπισκοπής όλοι οι παρόντες οικονόμοι (*stewards*) για να έχουν δικαίωμα συζητήσεων και ψήφου πρέπει να είναι ενεργά μέλη για το 2019. Θα συζητήσουμε πολλά σημαντικά θέματα.

Τα ΘΕΜΑΤΑ είναι τα εξής:

1. Προσευχή
2. Διορισμός και εκλογής προέδρου και διορισμός Γραμματέως Πρακτικών για την Γενική Συνέλευση.
3. Έγκριση των πρακτικών της τελευταίας Γενικής Συνελεύσεως
4. Έκθεσης Ταμείου
5. Εφορευτική Επιτροπή Έκθεσης ταμείου Επιτροπής Αναπτύξεως
6. Μήνυμα ου προέδρου
7. Προϋπολογισμός για το 2020
8. Επείγουσα Εκστρατεία Εξεύρεσης Κεφαλαίου: Βελτιώσεις επισκευών Είσοδος εκκλησιάς
9. Μήνυμα του π Ιωάννη
10. Προτάσεις για την ανάδειξη νέων μελών προς πλήρωση των κενών θέσεων του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου (*οι εκλογές θα γίνουν στις 15/12/19*)
11. Προτάσεις για την Εξελεγκτική Επιτροπή
12. Προτάσεις για την Εφορευτική Επιτροπή
13. Ερωτήσεις & Παρατηρήσεις
14. Προσευχή

Με αγάπη Χριστού,
π. Ιωάννης Θεοδοσίου, *Αιδ. πρωτοπρεσβύτερο*
Σωτήριος Π Μητράκος, *Πρόεδρος Διοικ. Συμβουλίου*



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

As the new Philoptochos president, I would like to thank the current members of St. Andrew Philoptochos for your ongoing support of our mission.

The Philoptochos fulfills its mission to "help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, those with disabilities, and victims of disasters" through its 26, 000 members and more than 400 active chapters, nationwide.

I also encourage each member, to "recruit" one more family member or friend to join us on our journey to help those in need. Our membership drive begins again January 2020. Below the event calendar for November so you can make plans to join and help us.



Wishing us a successful fundraising and philanthropic year.

Mary H. Michailidis, St. Andrew Philoptochos, President

November 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Street Mission Coat Give Away
<i>November 2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New : St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults and Dinner Dance, Perth Amboy</i>
<i>November 3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coffee Hour & monthly commitment tray</i>
November 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Michaels’s Home Gala, Metropolitan Club, NYC
<i>November 12</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John Chrysostom Hierarchical Vespers & Liturgy at the Metropolis
November 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith Kitchen, Dover
<i>November 26</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Philoptochos Meeting 7:00pm Host: Antonia Clapsis</i>
November Friday 29 & Saturday 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Andrew Vespers • Name Day (<i>Maro Schuster & Committee</i>)
Nov 1-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Food Drive; Thanksgiving baskets, Interfaith Food Pantry • Holiday Bake Sale/Vasilopita Sale begins • Holiday Card



The Mr. & Miss GOYA pageant was held at the Pines Manor in Edison on October 13th. Congratulations to our Randolph representatives, Lia Zois and Andrew Venizelos. The judges chose the top 5 the day before after an intense interview process. GOYAns were asked questions about our faith, current events, and their accomplishments.

Lia and Andrew were both finalists and their names were announced at the pageant!

It was a beautiful, exciting and memorable evening. We are very proud of them! We also congratulate Alexia Louca and Constantine Sedereas who were awarded the GOYA Scholarship at the pageant!

We look forward to our volleyball and basketball games on Sundays. Whether we win or lose, everyone is having a great time! We hope to see all our GOYAns at St. Andrew vespers on November 29th and the following day for Divine Liturgy.

It is never too late to join GOYA. It is open to children of all active Stewards of our Church and must be 12 years old and in grades 7th - 12th. Feel free to speak to an advisor or email us with any questions at saintandrewgoya@gmail.com.

Our advisors are: Peter Sedereas, Marina Venizelos, Polymnia Crysler, Marlena Karipidis, Diana Sedereas and Roslyn Monokandilos.

Our Executive Board for 2019-2020:

- President* - Lia Zois
- Vice Presidents* - Andrew Venizelos and Georgio Moskonas
- Treasurer* - John Karipidis
- Recording Secretary* - Despina Sedereas
- Corresponding Secretary* - Andrew Aaron
- Historian* - Jonathan Crysler

Upcoming Events:

- 11/2/19 - Bowling Tournament and dance in Fairview
- 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24 - Volleyball & Basketball games
- 11/21 - GOYA meeting
- 11/28 - Saint Andrew Vespers
- 11/30 - Church service for Saint Andrew
- 12/7 & 12/8 - Volleyball & Basketball playoff & championship games
- 12/27 - Christmas dance in Flemington
- 12/ Date TBA Christmas caroling



Back on September 15th at Asbury Park the Divers were Georgio Seretis., Peter Karipidis and Barbara Karkanias, Thank you for participating.

WE HONOR AND THANK OUR VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE

My Beloved in the Lord,

Few have given so much of themselves and few have sacrificed what Abraham Lincoln called, “the last full measure of devotion” as veterans have. Their love and devotion for their country highlights a selflessness which is centered around their country and their fellow countrymen. What is more is that their struggles and sacrifices help to wholly preserve our nation complete with our unmatched freedoms which we often take for granted, but are the envy of the rest of the world.

In no other country do we find so many freedoms. We live in a society where the freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly are fundamental; where the majority may rule, but not without the minority having rights; where equal protection and due process are considered sacrosanct; and where even those who would want to seek to harm our country from within are entitled to the same rights and protections under our Constitution.

These freedoms, however, came at a price. Hundreds of thousands of American patriots, some veterans in the armed forces, others veterans in intelligence agencies, died in the formation of this nation and the preservation of its freedoms. Through their sacrifice, our nation was able to gain its independence. When the nation faced one of its most challenging ethical and political dilemmas less than a century later, it was the blood of patriots that preserved the Union. When

the world faced its first global war, American soldiers solidified our country’s position as a defender of that which is right. When just one generation later another global war erupted at the hands of fascists, our military fought on two fronts to drive back these unparalleled evils the world had ever seen. It was with the selfless commitment of our soldiers that ensured the North Koreans have never crossed the 38th parallel. It was through with the persistence of our military and intelligence agents that prevented the Soviets from crossing the Elbe. Every generation has seen conflict; some more than others, yet every generation has paid some price.

It is for this reason **we honor and thank our veterans for their service** as we recognize their sacrifice to our nation, both those who engaged in battle and those who stood at the ready to defend their nation. We acknowledge those who fought and returned, but we also keep the memory of those who gave “*the last full measure of devotion*”. All of these people are heroes who would die for their country, but would much rather love for it. Let us keep their memory and honor those who have served, continually praying to God that our country be kept from all evil so that we need not send the members of the military into harm’s way.

With Paternal Love and Blessings,
† **E V A N G E L O S**
Metropolitan of New Jersey



**Honoring Our Men and Women in Uniform
November 11th is Veterans Day.**

Each year, we use this day to honor the bravery and commitment of the members of our armed forces. These individuals have sacrificed time with their families, and placed themselves in harrowing situations in the name of protecting our freedom. We hope that you will be taking some time to make your gratitude known to the veterans in your life. Keep these exceptional men and women in your thoughts. They are more than deserving of our thanks, and our pride.

Saint Andrew will have **an Artoclasia Service on Sunday, November 10th**. Please join us in praying for the brave souls who fought for our freedom and are the reason we are here today. Let us show our appreciation for their sacrifice, let us honor and thank them for loving and serving our country.

DROP OFF LOCATION HERE



SAINT ANDREW CHURCH

**Collecting until
Friday 12/13/19
TOYS FOR OTS
ACCEPTS ONLY
NEW
UNWRAPPED
TOYS**

TOYS FOR TOTS is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The program was founded in 1947 by reservist Major Bill Hendricks.

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL

Dear HAS Families,

Thanks for attending our annual Open House last month. The same evening you were learning about your child's curriculum, the teachers attended training on how to intergrade the new technology component in the new level K-3 textbooks. We also had a presentation of from Re-Booting Greek, an adjunct online program that can be used at home by all level students. We hope to have future presentations at the church that the parents can participate in and ask questions once we have a few months to work with the programs. With your continued support we can keep our students motivated to learn and engaged in the curriculum.

As a reminder on this month's calendar, we will not have Greek School or dance the last Thursday of November. A very Happy Thanksgiving from myself and all the Greek School Staff!

Wishing you a wonderful month!
Salomi Massaras, M.Ed, HAS Director

LITTLE ANGELS PLAYGROUP

Little Angels is St. Andrew playgroup for young children, from newborns - 3 years old. It's a great opportunity to expose your child to the Greek language and meet other families within our church community. We sing Greek songs, learn basic Greek, practice our prayers, and engage your child in active play. Our group will also take one field trip a month. In October we wore our costumes and went pumpkin picking at a local farm.

If you are interested please join us every Friday from 10-11am in the Social Hall. Parents, Grandparents and caretakers are welcome. Contact Athina Vella for more information text/call (973) 879-7095 or AMV1823@gmail.com.





LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

Have you noticed how getting into shape, looking good, requires a lot of hard work and discipline? But neglecting ourselves because something maybe be painful or unpleasant cannot avoid the inevitable consequences of such neglect. How we live our lives each day will determine the quality of the life we live. It matters that we pay attention to things that we cannot afford to become broken.



Our spiritual life is also often badly out of shape. Dumbing down faith, our Orthodoxy, to a few rules of conduct won't bring any of us much closer to God. Many act as if being "good" is good enough. But what exactly is "being good" enough? Do we tell God that's all we'll give? There's nothing wrong with making every effort to do the right thing, to be good, but does such an attitude make us spiritually out of shape?

Many people in and out of the Orthodox faith are avoiding the hard work it takes to be alive in Christ, to be present each day in His kingdom that is already in the world but not of the world. The Lord's prayer reminds us quite simply, "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth **as it is** in Heaven!" This is not a message of postponement. We don't live a short time on earth where we try to be good and then somehow execute God's will in some place called Heaven. We need to know God's will as revealed in Christ and then DO it, every second of our lives. Now that's the hard work of being an Orthodox Christian. Isn't it easier to just "be good" in my way of goodness?

A recent pamphlet entitled "Love Your Enemies" by Hieromonk Gregorios offers a focused glimpse into spiritual fitness. Love here is hardly the "and they lived happily ever after" story of our romantic worlds. Christ has given us the work out of our lives - to love our enemies! Now it's clear that on our own, we can't achieve this, so why would Christ ask this of us?

When Moses came before God at the burning bush, he was called to return to Pharaoh and demand the release of the Israelite people being held in captivity. You have to remember that Moses had earlier killed an Egyptian and had disappeared into a far away place where God found him. There would be a million reasons not to go back and Moses tried very hard to convince God that he was the wrong man for the job. That's exactly what God needed from Moses and God told Moses that when he does appear before Pharaoh, it will be God before him, not Moses. This tells us that we are called to do impossible things because God can do these things, and that with God, we will be able to do them as well.

You won't start loving your enemies until you first allow God to transform you. Christ forgave them from the Cross. We need to have the heart of Christ empowering our love to offer the forgiveness required before we can truly love our enemies. A measure of our spiritual life is easily recognized by how we engage in gossip, in using the social media to trash people, to bear false witness against others. We are offered a glimpse into our hearts by how we feel when we engage in these sorts of activities. We cannot love anyone when we dismiss them with harsh words and poisonous thoughts.

Perhaps most sobering are the very words of Jesus "If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has anything against you, leave your gift there and go to your brother or sister and be reconciled, and

then offer your gift.”(Matt. 5:23-24). St. John Chrysostom emphasizes: “No one with enemies should approach the Holy Alter or the sacred Body of Christ. No person should come and receive Holy Communion if he or she has an enemy. Reconcile yourself with your enemy and then come.” There is no greater urgency for all Orthodox Christians to begin living their spirituality in the life each of us lives. We need to be vigilant in our words, our conversations, in how we treat others and how we respond to how others treat us. If we have cultivated bitterness, envy, malice, in our hearts, we have created enemies. An enemy is not just someone out to kill you. Often we create enemies for selfish reasons. Once these reasons are personified, the person bearing our judgements is no longer anyone that we can love.

Forgiveness is one of the hardest challenges Christians have to do. When forgiving, we must forgive completely. Whatever harm has been incurred can never be a condition that lingers in forgiveness. If God forgets our sins as far as the East is from the West, ought not we forgive in this way? if we do not, we are not forgiving. It is clear

that once again, we are need of a transformation into Christ. To forgive in the way that will allow us to love our enemy means we have to be new, Christ-like. Once more, are we spiritually out of shape?

In our time, religion is being reduced to rules that are then discarded for other, more relevant rules. Examine the depth of your Orthodox spirituality and discover just what it is you believe. If you are not loving your enemies, if you are in constant struggle with family members, with relatives, with co-workers, with just about anyone who irritates you, maybe it’s a wake-up call to a spiritual life that is horribly out of shape. If Christ doesn’t warn us enough about the disastrous consequences of living this way, then you aren’t reading, you aren’t listening to Him as He suffers for us on the Cross! Isn’t it time that our world needs to see and receive this wonderful love through you and me?

Come to Church for a work-out and learn to love in such a bigger way - the way of Christ!

In Service of the Lord, Herbert & Maro Schuster

ROOM FOR AGAPE - VOICE FOR THE SENIORS – NOVEMBER 2019



We have so very much to be thankful for, it’s unbelievable – well, almost! Just the fact that we are present on earth and still half way lucid, for example, is a wonder – at least given the mess we’ve managed to make so far. Besides, we have no idea what lucid means as far as Father is concerned – at least in terms of our potential. That part is *believable*! And yet, still in all, we’ve progressed to the point we’re on overload because of all the stuff we’ve accrued – on account of a restless mind that simply cannot resist making more of the least and now are onto frayed - falling apart at the seams



I think I’ve decided (partially at least) we’re just so messed up because of the language we use: we can no longer figure out simple directions as being truly directed toward just one point. That, and one more thing: we don’t exercise our brain enough – at least in the righteous way: to think. Children are so overloaded they escape into pads, seldom saying a

word. Our language is our true-to-life anguish and we’ve soured on it, as pulling us this way and that (as it were) with subtle, blatant, blanketed - equally corrosive - innuendo. It’s “The Race”, so called.

Reality check: we’re bodies of light - summary sound bodies of Life revisited, and translated to flesh - simply that: a light-life that grew and

multiplied until the in-borne invoice summarizer said, "Enough is enough; it's time to Work – go, get out of here. One way or the other every body works – for Life (for some, a sentence served)."

So there - here's the Word for all ways at once: **ubiquitous** – a boomer. Wondrous word: the *Sound -Voluminous!* What is ubiquitous? Ubiquitous means everything everywhere all the same forever in time right here – in There – at Heart: the Art of Life on wheels. We also have a fancy intellectual name that no one understands because of the way it walls a draft: **omnipresent** – and so we sleep on it instead. Here's the thing: "*nothing*" exists in limboland (*long before known to be there*) until it's given a name – but/and only *Then* does it become something special because now we can bond, making connections - that actually stick. In other words, we can communicate – even though nowhere to be found as now right here---until, for example, the flour and water paste we set aside for frying starts to bubble, and the grape juice we squeezed out yesterday begins to boil – all on its very own – without any help from anyone. What do I do with it? Well, you can always ask God; He knows *Ev-er-y-thing*. He gives me a bright idea: Allow it to rise to make the bread but you have to knead it – and give some Time: allow it to rise –get mixed up (with the next in line?) to stay in the dark a while to make cool water into warmth of fire. We have here Holy Communion, the most primal of all interactions – forever now known - as chemically speaking between God and human: Just Being - physical. *Ah, the awe! Wad a wonder! Knot: the tie to bond – eternal with internal bliss!* Yeast and mold – ubiquitous.

One thing sure, beyond everything else, is that God is willing to take the blame – as long as He also gets credit for all those things we still don't know but wish we did without raising a finger to find it. Effort: Everything and Everybody - Everywhere - simply Has (in order) to work: on Purpose. We have to be open to the likes of it – with a clearly unencumbered brain field. *We can understand yeast and mold as models with a future!*

Everything has a reason to be or it simply doesn't exist – not in God's World anyway – where **Glory Of Doing** means **Everything**; He's for Life nonstop – no rest except to review and reword to reward – and then keep on gathering and growing from There.

Just so you see: God's mind is very varied – and simple to a fault. The fault, if any – is on Our time, meaning to fall for anything more – never less. One way or the Other means either this or that – with variables within the golden mean. Mean, for Him, means off the edge when leaning toward extreme. There is a special law for this that's kept Life on a steady roll: the Give - for Give'n Get, or life in debt. It's called the Balance/Valence Factor – given Take when made to Mind.

The above: that's the sort of lightest brightness - that comes to life with a new clear vision: when we open our eyes - to translate by heart - all of His wonders - as we are ready - to receive - because of the way - we've used our gift - of the currency - present here - so far. One wee bit, step by step – appreciating more so – wall the time – indefinitely – in finite detail, here no less: becoming infinite - by measure.

So now, if you want to see all this – and more - for yourself, this is what you do: acknowledge your brain as a priceless present: *teach yourself* to make Mind first of all – slowly, step by step – no hurry/ no trips; otherwise, all you do is burn to blind your brain. First, clean out your heart so all you see to feel there is the pulse/ the force/ the wringer of time. You have to travel *light!* We all know what it means to travel light these days: no baggage – only to carry on – with your prayer rope: right there - in your pocket. You simply must be very close as friends are - with your rope! Why? For one thing, there's no end to it. You're never at the end of your rope – only back to the Cross - where you begin all over – once again. You simply must stay very closely connected; that way, you'll never be lost for long. I'm not talking cell phone here; that's a "narcotic" if ever was one (because of the dependency). If you're going to be "dependent" on anything, at least the cross with never let you stray:

only be back home again - in the heart of light where all things first began.

St George slew the dragon; he inspires architects. Evidence? St George chapel at St Anthony's and St George Church in Taylor PA where Kardiotissa, Holy Virgin Mother of God, weeps for us with a constant flow of lingering myrrh, so sweet and gentle lovers of Her Holy Spirit always want to follow. St George speaks by way of structure – sound structure to be sure: all geometrically inclined and therefore super simple still to follow – step by measure – and space by pace. Carbon rings all over the place. One's own pace – never hurry; just build - on'n on. Restart. Why wasn't Rome built in a day? It didn't have the ROM. Memory: saves the time – a seed – a knot – a note – a pearl – and many more.

How did St George slay the dragon? He took the words right out of his flare and put each sound

down - as a separate peace: on wee bit particle paper. Yes, indeed - with infinite patience - to test-teach singles – as the fire - of Light/Life every time. Here in there/ in silence – one pace/ one space – were two together: staid/ measured safe. Speechless there (to say the least) means to wait (hear by heart to stow it) – the invoice of (no less) careful storage: just be still. There, instill (now dead asleep): low glows now to fire water. The Word was This: no kill – only save. Why? It means fuel for the next/ no waste.

Agape Luncheon 3rd Tuesday Nov, 19 at 11:30am

For the winter, always weather permitting.
All seniors invited; bring along the little one if you're babysitting.

Maryann Brinkley and Betty Kelly, co-chairs

PARENT'S CORNER by Alexandra Protopapas

“Grateful for Good Health for Our Children & Faith”

I've had a good year in spite of many medical issues one after another before and after our trip to Greece. Because my faith always kept me going, I maintain a positive attitude.. My most recent issue was an almost paralyzing fall that resulted in unique surgery on my right leg, but faith got me through, excellent doctors, and a positive attitude. As we age, we worry about our health, but do we take a careful look about the health of our children? Let's talk about health care a bit...

In recent months we have been listening to the news and reading all about health care. Do we know what to choose? Do we need to have our children protected? Of course we do, but many of us do not know the “lingo”. Before we form opinions about health care, we need to know what it is. In addition, we should take time to do research and get the facts about health questions from our health care professionals and agencies,



not information from our neighbors, or pappou, or yiyia.

Health care is expensive. While people can pay directly for medical expenses, most cannot afford this out-of-pocket method so they seek Health Insurance, which is a plan that pays a primary part of medical costs. There are three major kinds of health insurance and they are private, managed care, and government supported.

Private Health Insurance is when people pay for a policy themselves. A fee or premium is paid to an insurance company for a policy. As in most insurance plans, each individual may be required to pay a deductible, which is the first part of each year's medical expenses before the insurance company makes payments. Private health insurers have introduced new health care choices for consumers such as managed care which are organizations that are go-betweens for patients and doctors. The two common kinds of managed care

are HMO's – corporations made up of member doctors and professional staff who provide medical care, and PPO's, which provide members more coverage if they choose health providers in the plan. (Many employers provide group insurance for their employees).

Government Health Insurance is run by the Department of Health and Human Services. Medicare provides insurance for people 65 or older, and also covers people who receive Social Security disability. Medicare covers for hospital and nursing home care. To cover physician costs, people are expected to purchase additional insurance. Medicaid provides medical aid for people whose incomes are below an established level. It is different from Medicare as it has no age requirement. It is paid for by state and federal taxes. Individual states operate Medicaid and determine the benefits they will offer.

If you have a child that needs medical care, do not hesitate to get it for him/her. Below are five of the eight branches of USPHS, The US Public Health Service that provide a wealth of information:

- NIH, The National Institute of Health provides grant money for research on health and illness
- CDC, The Centers for Disease Control is responsible for the control and treatment of communicable diseases.
- FDA, The Food and Drug Administration enforce laws that ensure safety, effectiveness, and labeling of food, drugs, and cosmetics.

- SAMHA, The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration oversees programs to prevent alcoholism, drug addiction, and mental illness.
- HRSA, The Health Resources and Services Administration supports mother and child health programs, community health education, and training programs for health-care workers.

It is important to keep a record of your child's medical history. It is also important to keep your child's school nurse informed about allergies, medications, or any medical conditions. This information is kept confidential, but it is so important that the nurse has that information in the event of an emergency. If your child goes on a school trip, even for one day, make sure you let the teacher accompanying your child know if there are any allergies or medical conditions. Your child's Greek School and Sunday School teachers, as well as GOYA advisors should be aware of the same information.

For the next few months we will be hearing a lot about health care. Let's make our children's health care a priority by being well informed, and do what we can do to prevent them from diseases and accidents. ALWAYS HAVE FAITH THAT IF THERE IS A HEALTH ISSUE, IF WE HAVE FAITH, ALL WILL BE RESOLVED.

Enjoy the fall season, pray a lot, play a lot, love a lot, and laugh a lot!!

With Thanksgiving in the month of November, This month's **Table Prayer Guide is from "Prayers for Special Occasions – Thanksgiving - Psalm 92: 1-2, 4-5, 12-15**

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to our name, O Most High: To declare Your loving kindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night. For You, Lord, have made me glad through Your work; I will triumph in the works of Your hands. The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, To declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

With my husband Mike, and son Nicholas, we wish a grateful month and a Blessed Thanksgiving for your children, family, and friends with plenty of love, peace, and serenity throughout the year!

Feel free to email me with your comments and suggestions for our "Parents' Corner" at:
alexandraproto@gmail.com - Have a good month!
Alexandra Protopapas MEd

Certified Teacher of the Handicapped & Social Sciences serving Parsippany Schools and Teacher at Educational Services Commission of Morris County serving St. Elizabeth's Academy & College in Convent Station, & Arrow Academy School in Whippany. (Information, Teaching, Tutoring, Counseling, Homebound Instruction)

NATIVITY FAST STUDY 2019

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AND WHY DO WE BELIEVE IT?

November 15, 22, December 6, and 13 - Fridays at 10:30 am

Most of us at one time or another have been asked, *“Just what is it that you Orthodox believe?”* Often many of us are uncomfortable explaining just what it is that we do believe. However, the sharing of our Faith with others is a wonderful way to witness to the world, not only by our actions but also by our replies to these types of questions.

Please join us as we examine our beliefs in such areas as The Divine Liturgy, Prayer, the Sacraments, Salvation, the Saints, and the Theotokos, among others. Bring your questions, expand your knowledge, share with others in this interactive study.

Bring a friend!!! Let’s invite others to examine the beliefs of our Holy Orthodox Church with us.

A Lenten luncheon will follow the study. Please bring something to share as you are able.

FAITH KITCHEN – FEED THE HUNGRY MINISTRY

As the weather turns cold, the need for a hot meal is growing. Last month, the St. Andrew Faith Kitchen volunteers, sponsored by Parish Council, served approximately one hundred hot lunches, including dessert, and prepared and served one hundred peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Thank you to all who gave up their Saturday morning to be part of this important ministry.



Who are the Angels

Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel (November 8)

For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His own will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou carest for him? Thou didst make him for a little while lower than the angels, thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to Him, He left nothing outside His control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him. But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering. Hebrews 2:2-10 (Epistle from the Synaxis of the Archangels)

On November 8, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, as well as commemorating all of the angels in the heavens. There is a lot of confusion and misconception when it comes to the angels. The first misconception is that we become angels when we die. That is not true. Perhaps it is correct to say that we become like the angels in the sense that we will surround the throne of God like they do. Matthew 22:30 says *"In the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are*



like angels in heaven." So, we will be like the angels but will not be angels.

The angels were created between the first two "days" of Creation, when God separated the heavens from the earth. The purpose of the angels was to keep the creation close to the creator. One of the angels was named Lucifer, and sought to become God. So the angels warred with one another and Lucifer (Satan) and the angels loyal to him were cast out of heaven.

There is not much revealed about the angels in the Bible. We know that there are nine orders of angels. Those who stand closest to God are the Cherubim, the Seraphim and the Thrones. We read about the Cherubim and the Seraphim in Isaiah 6, in Isaiah's vision in the temple. The next three

groups of angels are called the Dominions, the Virtues and the Powers. The final three groups, the ones that are the closest to us, are the Principalities, the Archangels and the Angels. From this group, we are most familiar with the Archangels, who are sent by God to deliver His most important messages to people. Archangel Michael guards the door of Paradise, the angel stationed at the gate to the Garden of Eden with a sword burning in all directions. The Archangel Gabriel brought the good news of Christ's birth to the Virgin Mary at the Annunciation. The angels are the ones who guard each person, always ready to help us, and who protect us from falling. (Most of the information from the preceding two paragraphs was taken from an article entitled "The Archangels" by Fr. Demetri Tobias.)

The Archangel Michael is celebrated alone on September 6. The Archangel Gabriel is celebrated alone on March 26. But all the angels (meaning the Archangels plus all of the nine orders) are celebrated on November 8.

The angels are mentioned in the Epistle lesson from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews. He tells us that God send Jesus Christ into the world and made "*Him for a little while lower than the angels.*" (Hebrews 2:7) This means that He made Jesus Christ to be like us, to be fully human (as well as fully God), so that when Jesus was suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane, an angel came to strengthen Him, just as angels come to strengthen us. (Luke 22:43) Jesus was "*lower than the angels*" because He was in need of the comfort of the angels.

In our hymnology, we call the Virgin Mary "*greater in honor than the Cherubim and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim.*" (Magnificat, 9th Ode of Matins, Trans. by Fr. Seraphim Dedes) This means that the Virgin Mary ranks in honor above ALL the angels, even the Cherubim

and Seraphim who stand closest to God. We also believe that while the angels stand around the throne of God, that they do not touch God. This is an honor that the human beings have—to touch God in Holy Communion. So in this sense, God has honored us more than even the angels.

The angels are important in that they are God's messengers, and they are our guardians. We believe in guardian angels, that angels look over each of us, that they provide protection and encouragement to do the right thing. They are the ones who put God's voice into our minds and hearts. Think of the cartoon where a person is trying to make the right decision and we see a white angel sitting on one shoulder encouraging the good and a red devil on the other shoulder, encouraging the bad. This is actually pretty close to what we believe. That the angels bring the voice of God to our minds and hearts, while the devil (and his angels) bring the voice of doubt and temptation to each of us. It is proper then, for us to celebrate the angels, and to ask for their help and guidance to go towards what is good and to not fall to that which is evil.

O Chief Commanders of the heavenly armies, we the unworthy ones entreat you in earnest, that you might with your supplications fortify us, guarding us who run to you and beneath the protection of the pinions of your immaterial glory, and who with fervor shout: Deliver us, from every danger, as Captains of the hosts on high. (Apolytikon of the Synaxis of the Holy Angels, Trans. By Fr. Seraphim Dedes)

Keep your mind and heart open to hearing the voices of God's angels!

+Fr. Stavros



The Entrance into the Temple - November 21st



It seems thousands of years removed from us, but it was not so very long ago that life was marked out by religious feasts. Although everyone went to church, not everyone, of course, knew the exact contents of each celebration. For many, perhaps even the majority, the feast was above all an opportunity to get a good sleep, eat well, drink and relax. And nevertheless, I think that each person felt, if not fully consciously, that something transcendent and radiant broke into life with each feast, bringing an encounter with a world of different realities, a reminder of something forgotten, of something drowned out by the routine, emptiness and weariness of daily life.

Consider the very names of the feasts: Entrance into the Temple, Nativity, Epiphany, Presentation, Transfiguration. These words alone, in their solemnity, their unrelatedness to daily life and their mysterious beauty awakened some forgotten memory, invited, pointed to something. The feast was a kind of longing sigh for a lost but beckoning beauty, a sigh for some other way of living.

Our modern world, however, has become monotonous and feastless. Even our secular holidays are unable to hide this settling ash of sadness and hopelessness, for the essence of celebration is this breaking in, this experience of being caught up into a different reality, into a world of spiritual beauty and light. If, however, this reality does not exist, if fundamentally there is nothing to celebrate, then no manner of artificial uplift will be capable of creating a feast.

Here we have the feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple. Its subject is very simple: a little girl is brought by her parents to the temple in Jerusalem. There is nothing particularly remarkable about this, since at that time it was a generally accepted custom and many parents brought their children to the temple as a sign of bringing them into contact with God, of giving their lives ultimate purpose and meaning, of illumining them from within through the light of higher experience.

But on this occasion, as the service for the day recounts, they lead the child to the “Holy of Holies,” to the place where no one except the priests are allowed to go, the mystical inner sanctum of the temple. The girl’s name is Mary. She is the future mother of Jesus Christ, the one through whom, as Christians believe, God himself came into the world to join the human race, to share its life and reveal its divine content. Are these just fairy tales? Or is something given to us and disclosed here, something directly related to our life, which perhaps cannot be expressed in everyday human speech?

Here was this magnificent, massive, solemn temple, the glory of Jerusalem. And for centuries it was only there, behind those heavy walls, that a person could come into contact with God. Now, however, the priest takes Mary by the hand, leads her into the most sacred part of the Temple and we sing that “The most pure Temple of the Savior is led into the temple of the Lord.” Later in the Gospels Christ said, “destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up,” but as the Evangelist added, “He spoke of the temple of His Body” (Jn 2: 19, 21).

The meaning of all these events, words and recollections is simple: from now on man himself becomes the temple. No stone temple, no altar, but man — his soul, body and life — is the sacred and divine heart of the world, its “holy of holies.” One temple, Mary — living and human — is led into a temple made of stone, and from within brings to completion its significance and meaning.

With this event religion, and life even more so, undergoes a complete shift in balance. What now enters the world is a teaching that puts nothing higher than man, for God Himself takes on human form to reveal man’s vocation and meaning as divine. From this moment onward man is free. Nothing stands over him, for the very world is his as a gift from God to fulfill his divine destiny.

From the moment the Virgin Mary entered “the Holy of Holies,” life itself became the Temple. And when we celebrate her Entrance into the Temple, we celebrate man’s divine meaning and the brightness of his high calling. These cannot be washed away or uprooted from human memory.

Pemptousia Partnership OCN

November 21, 2018

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

NEWBORN Baby Clothing Drive

Underprivileged newborns need clothing. Many babies born in our inner city hospitals are abandoned by their mothers.

They have no home, no one to care for them and nothing to wear when they leave the hospital. A collection has begun for these newborns.

Donations of NEW clothing are requested.

A box for the donations is outside the Church office. Please bring unwrapped baby clothes **before December 15th**.

Donations will be delivered to **Newark University Hospital in time for Christmas Day.**

Thank you for your support.



SAINT ANDREW FAMILY CHRISTMAS CARD

FOR ALL ST. ANDREW YOUTH (6-18 YEARS)
Each Child is asked to submit One DRAWING:

1. DRAWING MUST be in COLOR on white computer paper 8 ½ x11.
2. **Original drawings only** will be judged
3. No tracing, or computer drawings
4. It must also be drawn with the religious theme of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ
5. Include on the **back** of drawing:

Date of Birth, Grade, First & Last Name and Telephone
number of contestant



The selected drawings will be published in our St. Andrew Family Christmas Card and mailed with the Ecclesiastical Calendar

*DEADLINE for drawing entry is MONDAY **November 11, 2019***

Share your Christmas & New Year's Wishes



Some volunteer, some donate. We know that our parishioners do both. Saint Andrew Philoptochos appreciate all that you do and we are grateful for your generosity which helps us offer hope and strength to those who are most in need.

The global economic crisis continues to affect each and every one of us. A great number of requests for assistance are being presented to us and WE CONTINUE TO RESPOND.

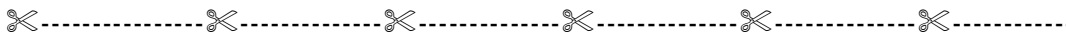
It is our tradition to mail **Christmas and New Year's greetings** from parishioners to the entire church family. This year we will again select a Holiday Card which will be drawn by one of the children in our parish. Please print clearly how you would like your family name to appear and return the form to the church office or to any Philoptochos member on Sundays after church.

Deadline for greetings is **November 11, 2019**

The donations you make this year will be set aside and will only be used to assist more individuals and families overcome these tough times.

We appreciate any assistance that you may offer.

Respectfully, St Andrew Philoptochos



Yes I/we would like to donate:

\$ _____ Other \$25.00 \$50.00 \$75.00 \$100.00 \$ _____ more

PRINT YOUR NAME CLEARLY

ΓΡΑΨΕΤΕ ΤΟ ΟΝΟΜΑ ΣΑΣ ΚΑΘΑΡΑ

Dear St. Andrew Parishioners,

This Christmas the PTA will be sponsoring a fundraiser that will help give back to other children less fortunate for the holidays. Operation Christmas Child sends Christmas gift filled boxes to children in need all over the world. The PTA will be providing each Hellenic Afternoon School (HAS) classroom and Religious Education (RE) classrooms with a shoe size box to fill for a specific age group needed. Your child's teacher will provide further detail at that time and will forward any hand out we are including.



We ask that other organizations take part in this rewarding fundraiser. We will leave boxes in the main office for anyone who would like to sponsor a box.

For all classes that are participating the PTA will be delivering the boxes to the drop off location during national collection week. There will be no shipping charge for these boxes. RE classes please the boxes returned by **Sunday November 10**. HAS and individually sponsored boxes, please have them to the church by **Thursday November 14**. For individually sponsored boxes, you have the option to pay 9 dollars per box to track the shipping and find out what country your sponsored box has been delivered to. For this, you will need to pre-print and pay for label via the link below. You have two options: You can drop off your box on your own or bring it to the church with the pre –paid label and the PTA will deliver it with the other boxes to the drop off location. You can also purchase a label via the below link.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/>

Please help put a smile a child's face this holiday season. For more information on this cause, please visit the webpage.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

For any questions, please contact us at ptastandrew@gmail.com or contact the main office.

Thank you for your time & God Bless,

The PTA Board

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΙΣ

LILLIAN SKY WESTBERG, daughter of Kenneth P. Westberg and Stamatia Pavlakos was baptized on August 10th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΑ – EVANGELIA**. Godmother was Barbara Pavlakos.

JORDAN ANDREW WOOD, son of Joseph M. Wood and Kalliope E. Papas was baptized on August 18th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΙΟΡΔΑΝΗΣ – JORDAN**. Godmother was Constantina Servos.

EVA DEMETRA PITTAS SZELAG, daughter of Adam J. Szelag and Despina Pittas was baptized on September 8th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΕΥΑ -EVA**. Godmother was Maria Irizzary.

ANASTASIA APHRODITI KASOLAS, daughter of Haralampos Kasolas and Ana Nebieridze was baptized on September 29th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ - ANASTASIA**. Godmothers were Fotini Kostopoulos and Anna Tatishvili.

DESPOINA NTEKAS, daughter of Panagiotis Ntekas and Angeliki Polydorou was baptized on September 29th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΔΕΣΠΟΙΝΑ - DESPOINA**. Godmother was Athanasia Zarkadas.

ELENI NTEKAS, daughter of Panagiotis Ntekas and Angeliki Polydorou was baptized on September 29th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΕΛΕΝΗ - ELENI**. Godfather was Dimitri Spiropoulos.

STEFANOS ARISTOTLE VOURDERIS, son of Denos J. Vourderis and Daniela J. Genoble was baptized on October 18th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΣΤΕΦΑΝΟΣ – STEFANOS**. Godfather was John Vourderis.

CARTER SHEA PRISCO, son of Brett Shea Prisco and Katrina L. Geannakopoulos was baptized on October 19th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **ΠΑΝΑΓΙΩΤΗΣ – PANAGIOTIS**. Godmother was Stephanie Geannakopoulos.

WEDDINGS – ΓΑΜΟΙ

On Sunday, August 25th, 2019 at 2:30pm **Demetrios N. Rotsides** of Randolph, NJ wed **Xin Veronica Dai** of Harrison, NJ. Sponsor was Constantinos Ioannou. Witness was Eleni Peterson.

On Saturday, September 28th, 2019 at 3:30pm **Jose Reboredo** wed **Olga Tsiavos** of Mine Hill, NJ. Sponsor was Antreanna Tsiavos. Witness was Rosanna Larrinaga.

Congratulations to all! Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους!

OBITS & FUNERALS – ΝΕΚΡΟΛΟΓΙΕΣ & ΚΗΔΕΙΕΣ

+Helen Ελένη Stathis, passed away on September 6th, 2019. She was 90 years old and the beloved mother of George Stathis, Hope Maglaras, Maria Klyvas, James Stathis, Michael Stathis, Fay Stathis, and Ariett Brynn.

The Funeral Service was held at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, 1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph NJ on Monday, September 9th, 2019 at 10:30am Burial took place at Rosedale Cemetery, in Orange, NJ. Our sincerest condolences to her family. May her Memory be eternal.



+John Ιωάννης Livas passed away on September 11th, 2019. He was 50 years old. John was born in Sydney, Australia and raised in Wharton NJ. He is survived by his daughter Eliana Livas, stepsons Fred and Austin Dalton, brother Jim (Irene) Livas and many nieces and nephews.

The Funeral Service was held at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, 1447 Sussex Turnpike, Randolph, NJ on Tuesday, September 17th 2019 at 10 am. Internment was at the Locust Hill Cemetery. Our sincerest condolences to his family. May his memory be eternal

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+Ekaterini Petridou

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Mary Stell
Helen, Constance, James &
Steven Christie
Jean, Vincent & Anastasia
Pellegrino
Viola Valvis
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Dimitrios & Maria Siatos
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Maria & Andrea Limongello

DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE HEALTH OF:

♥Afrodite Laggis

Charles & Mary Demos

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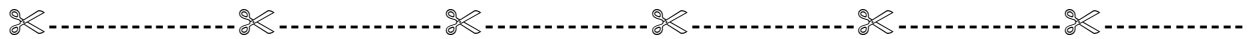
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| † Panayiota Kali | † Leo Tirondola
<i>donated by the Tirondola family</i> |
| † John Mpakarakes | † Euthalia Karlos |
| † Maria Mpakarakes | † Kenneth Michael Fackina
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| † Panayiota Mpakarakes | † Anna Boyiatgis,
<i>donated by Ennette Boyiatgis</i> |
| † John R Kelly | † Nicos Boyiatgis
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| † Claire R Kelly | † Paraskevi Livas
<i>donated by John A Paxos</i> |
| † Helen Ryan | † Alyxsondra Laoudis |
| † Vasili Giampilis
<i>donated by Maria Giampilis</i> | † Helen Stathis
<i>donated by: Baldini, Barnaby and Shadiack Families</i> |
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| ♥Dedicated to you, dear reader to enhance your participation and understanding of the Divine Liturgy | ♥Dimitrios Drosos Family |
| | ♥The Kovas Family |

Thank you to all the donors who have contributed towards the New Pew Books



THE DIVINE LITURGY | of our Father among the saints | JOHN CHRYSOSTOM | New Pew Books

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I would like to **donate** _____ DL books to St. Andrew to be used in pews by parishioners

_____ x \$20 per book = \$ _____ Total Amount enclosed **Cash or check** # _____

Your Name: _____

Phone: _____ E: mail: _____

Please indicate the **Name** you would like to appear on Dedication below (*print clearly*):

Donated by: _____ | _____
Your name (optional) In memory of: +Name or In honor of: ♥Name of (circle one)

Your book (with dedication) will be placed in a pew at Saint Andrew Church
Please use a separate form for each dedication you would like to donate.

SAINT ANDREW CALENDAR

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sundays after Holy Communion

PILLOW MINISTRY TBA ON A Monday 11am

BAKING GROUP Tuesdays 9am

KNITTING GROUP Wednesdays 10am -2pm

Hellenic Afternoon School Thursdays 4:30pm

JR Greek Dancing Thursdays 6:30pm

GOYA Greek Dancing Thursdays 7pm

Little Angels Play **NEW** Fridays 10am

10/27-11/1 NATIONAL CLERGY RETREAT San Antonio, TX

10/31 NO HAS Classes NO Greek Dance
@4:30pm HAS Teachers' Meeting

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NOVEMBER: 11/3 PHILOPTOCHOS
11/10 PTA, 11/17 DOP, 11/24 GOYA

11/2 DOP @11AM FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON AT THE
MEADOW WOOD MANOR RTE 10 (\$50 DONATION PP)

11/2 GOYA BOWLING TOURNAMENT IN FAIRVIEW

11/3 @12:45PM CAREGIVER WORKSHOP

11/4 @7:30 PM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE

11/7 @7PM ORTHODOX DISCUSSION GROUP

11/9 @7AM-2PM SPECIAL OLYMPICS FALL EXPO IN GYM

11/9 @11AM BAPTISM

11/11 VETERAN'S DAY

11/16 @3PM MULVANEY-SERETIS WEDDING

11/15, @10:30 am Nativity Lenten Study
Fridays also on: 11/22, 12/6 & 12/13

11/16 @6pm RHS HOCKEY EVENT IN GYM

11/17 @2:30PM FRANGOUDIS-KOKKINOS WEDDING

11/19 @11:30AM AGAPE LUNCHEON 3RD TUESDAY

11/21 @6:30PM GOYA MEETING DATE CHANGE?

11/23 @9:30-11am YOUNG ATHLETES PRGM IN GYM

11/23 FAITH KITCHEN - PHILOPTOCHOS

11/24 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

11/24 @2PM KAVRAZONIS-AFXENTIOU WEDDING

11/26 @7PM PHILOPTOCHOS MEETING 4TH TUESDAY

11/28 NO HAS Classes THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

11/29 @7pm Great Vespers at Saint Andrew

11/30 Saturday +Saint Andrew Day

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS DECEMBER 12/1 PHILOPTOCHOS,
12/8 PTA, 12/15 DOP, 12/22 GOYA, 12/29 BAKALIKO

12/1 NO REL ED CLASSES - FAMILY WORSHIP
(THANKSGIVING WEEKEND)

12/2 @7PM GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING FOLLOWED BY

12/2 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

12/6 & 12/13 @10:30 am Nativity Lenten Study:

12/7 Christmas Benefit Concert, Tenafly @6PM

12/8 @12:45PM CAREGIVER WORKSHOP

12/8 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND OPEN HOUSE
AT METROPOLIS OF NJ AT 5:30PM

12/13 TOYS FOR TOTS last day drop off

12/13 6pm PTA KIDS NIGHT OUT Christmas Party

12/14 HOPE/JOY Caroling -Time?

12/15 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT (HAS & RELIGIOUS Ed)

12/15 ELECTIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

12/22 SNOW DATE FOR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

12/26 NO HAS CLASSES - (CHRISTMAS BREAK)

12/28 FAITH KITCHEN- DOP/AHEPA

12/29 NO RELIGIOUS Ed CLASSES - FAMILY WORSHIP
(CHRISTMAS BREAK)

2020

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS JANUARY 1/5 PHILOPTOCHOS,
1/12 PTA, 1/19 DOP, 1/26 GOYA

1/12 VASILOPITA IN CHURCH

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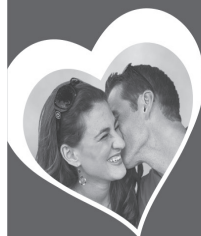
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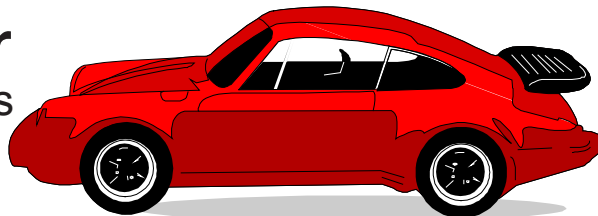
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Fr. John Theodosion, Athena Borzeka, Maria Galvin,

Salomi Massaras salomi@optonline.net

HELLENIC AFTERNOON SCHOOL TEACHERS

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

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Philoptochos Society: Mary Michailidis, *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): TBD

HOPE & JOY: Harriet Karkanias, Lynn Axiotes

GOYA

Evagelia Zois, *GOYA President*

Peter Sedereas, Marina Venizelos, Polymnia Crysler, Marlena Karipidis,

Diana Sedereas, Roslyn Monokandilos, *GOYA Advisors*

Hellenic Dance

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

Jr & Sr Groups Angelo Gergatsoulis, *Instructor*



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

SAINT ANDREW

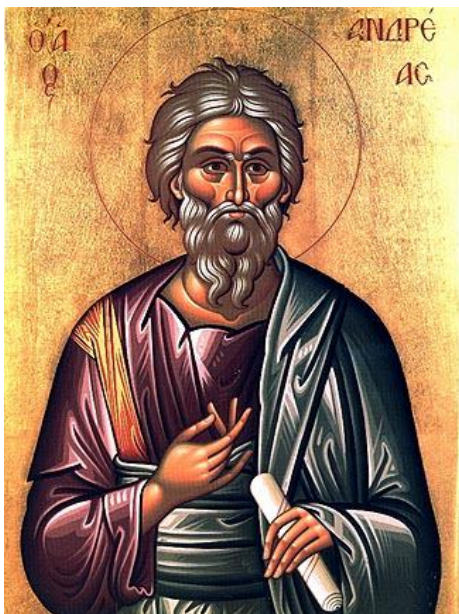
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...caring for the needs of others.

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal

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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.