

SEPTEMBER 2019



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of
New Jersey

Saint Andrew Family News

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

"ICON" NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS – SEPTEMBER 8

GREEK SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 12

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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

☎: 973-584-0388

Fax: 973-584-3573

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

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Father John Theodosion, *Editor in Chief*

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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 **OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE** is September 16*

DIVINE SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 2019

- Sunday 1** +ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR
- Sunday 8** **Sunday before the Holy Cross** +THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
First Day of Sunday School
- Monday 9** HOLY & RIGHTEOUS ANCESTORS OF GOD, JOACHIM AND ANNA
- Saturday 14** +EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
- Sunday 15** **Sunday After the Holy Cross**
Services will be held at Asbury Park St. Andrew Church will be closed
- Monday 16** +ST. EUPHEMIA THE GREAT MARTYR
- Sunday 22** **1st Sunday of Luke** + PHOCAS THE MARTYR, BISHOP OF SINOPE*
- ?? **Monday 23** +CONCEPTION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST ??
- Thursday 26** +FALLING ASLEEP OF JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN AND EVANGELIST
- Sunday 29** **2nd Sunday of Luke**

OCTOBER

- Friday 4** +ST. HIEROTHEOS OF ATHENS*
- Sunday 6** **3rd Sunday of Luke** +ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
- Sunday 13** **7th Ecumenical Council**
- Friday 18** +ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
- Sunday 20** **6th Sunday of Luke**
- Wednesday 23** +ST. IAKOVOS THE BROTHER OF THE LORD
- Saturday 26** ST. DEMETRIOS THE MYRRHBEARER
- Sunday 27** **7th Sunday of Luke** (*HAS will be celebrating "OXI" Day*)
- Monday 28** OXI DAY" *Greek National Holiday* | +HOLY PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Sundays: Orthros begins @ 8:45AM & Divine Liturgy @ 10AM

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

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

SEPTEMBER 8TH IS THE 1ST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school students will attend the Divine Liturgy at 10am, receive Holy Communion, return to their pews for **AGIASMO** and then proceed to their class.

Ι Ε Ρ Ε Σ Α Κ Ο Λ Ο Υ Θ Ι Ε Σ

ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 2019

Κυριακή	1	ΑΡΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΊΝΔΙΚΤΟΥ
Κυριακή	8	Προ της Υψώσεως +ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ <i>(αρχίζει το Κατηχητικό Σχολείο)</i>
Δευτέρα	9	+ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΚΑΙΩΝ ΘΕΟΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ ΙΩΑΚΕΙΜ ΚΑΙ ΆΝΝΗΣ
Σαββάτο	14	+ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ
Κυριακή	15	Μετά την Ύψωσιν <i>Λειτουργία στο ASBURY PARK</i> <i>Εορτάζουμε την ΎΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ</i> <i>Δεν θα έχουμε λειτουργία στον Άγιο Ανδρέα</i>
Δευτέρα	16	+ΕΥΘΥΜΙΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ
Κυριακή	22	Α' Λουκά +ΦΩΚᾶς ἹΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΣ*
Δευτέρα	23	+Η ΣΥΛΛΗΨΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΒΑΠΤΙΣΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ
Πέμπτη	26	+ΜΕΤΑΣΤΑΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ
Κυριακή	29	Β' Λουκά

Ο Κ Τ Ω Β Ρ Ι Ο Σ

Παρασκευή	4	+ ἹΕΡΟΘΕΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ *
Κυριακή	6	Γ' Λουκά +ΘΩΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ
Κυριακή	13	Των Αγ. Πατέρων (Ζ' Οικ. Συν.)
Παρασκευή	18	+ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΚΑΣ
Κυριακή	20	Σ' Λουκά
Τετάρτη	23	+ ΙΑΚΩΒΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΑΔΕΛΦΟΘΕΟΥ
Σαββάτο	26	ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΑΣ
Κυριακή	27	Ε' Λουκά <i>Ελληνικό Σχολείο θα εορτάσει</i> <i>«28^Η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ» Εθνική Εορτή</i>
Δευτέρα	28	28 ^Η ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ» ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΣΚΕΠΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

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)**

8^Η ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΖΕΙ ΤΟ ΚΑΤΗΧΗΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ

Οι μαθητές του Κατηχητικού σχολείου θα έρθουν πρώτα στην Θεία Λειτουργία ώρα 10πμ, μετά την Θεία Κοινωνία θα κάνουμε τον Αγιασμό και θα συνεχίσουμε στις τάξεις τους.

Let Down Your Nets

Fr. John Theodosion

In Luke chapter 5, Jesus tells His disciples to, "*Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch of fish.*" Simon answered him and said: "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the nets." These are not words of disbelief, but they are words of simple obedience, from a man who was tired and had been up all night, and taken nothing.



He mentions this almost incidentally to our Lord, and the Apostle Peter's words teach us something else very important. Are you ever tired, or despondent, or do your emotions ever play tricks with you? It doesn't matter. If you have faith, you live as a man or woman with faith. Regardless of whether you are happy or sad, tired or not tired, you just obey. Even when things seem pointless, or hopeless, you know that they cannot in reality be pointless or hopeless, because you know Who it is who is telling you to do this thing. If the Lord tells you to do something, then you do it, because you know that He will bless it. When the Apostles had fished all the previous night, they had done so without God's help. He was not in the boat with them, and he had not told them to go out and let down their nets for a catch. It was not that they were being disobedient, after all they were fishermen, and that was their craft, but when Christ blessed their endeavors, and told them to do something, and was with them in the midst of their efforts, then they had a miraculous catch.

And this is the way it is in the church and in all of our endeavors. When we seek the blessing of the Lord and follow his teachings as we go, our

efforts will be blessed. It reminds me of when I first became a youth director in a parish that never had a youth director before. The YAL president came up to me and said, "What do you think you are going to do to get things going around here, and get people interested?" And when I gave her my suggestions, she said, "We did all that already and it didn't work." And I said "Then we will

keep trying until it does." |In other words we needed to let out our nets again and we needed to seek the Lord's blessing and try for another catch of people, in this case.

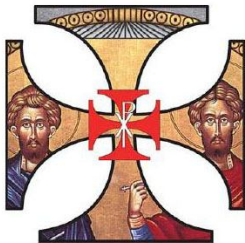
Around Saint Andrew we sometimes begin to feel that kind of negativity, but that's not a reason to give up. If we know that what we are doing is what's best for the church and the community, we must seek the Lord's blessing and let out our nets again, in other words keep trying until we reach some success. The way to tell if something is not the Lord's will or does not have his blessing is to be objective look closely and ask. Is the thing I am doing self-serving? Am I doing this in a prideful way to earn the admiration of my peers or others in the community? Or If I succeed in this endeavor will it hurt someone else? Does what I am doing contradict in any way the teachings of Christ and the Church? If the answer is yes to any of those questions then we cannot ask the Lord's blessing, in fact it is most certainly hypocritical.

Brothers and Sisters as we enter the new Sunday School Year let us remember that the gospels are not only the nets but the teachings of the church as well. I encourage you to keep nets of the

church full and bring your children to Liturgy on time. Whether they be young or old, their involvement in the church is going to help them to grow and mature as persons but more importantly as Christians who are created to grow in the image and likeness of God. They need to be caught in the nets of the church.

I understand that on a Sunday morning it is not an easy endeavor to get them up or get them away from their games and the TV and get them

dressed and into the car as they complain and drag their feet. I'm sure sometimes they make you want to give up but I hope you do not give up. In fact I will be praying for you that God will give you the patience, strength and persistence it takes to be successful and get them to church on time. Remember Peter and be like him and the other apostles, let out the nets and keep trying. I know the Lord will bless your efforts if you do.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

September 2019

On behalf of the Saint Andrew Philoptochos, we welcome you to the 2019-2020 ecclesiastical year.

Saint Andrew Ladies Philoptochos Society is part of one of the largest women's philanthropic organizations in the United States, the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society. Philoptochos means "friend of the poor" and our mission is to help those in need. The National organization membership is 26,000 strong and has more than 400 active chapters nationwide.

We would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt welcome to our new President and her new Board,

Mary Michailidis, Philoptochos President

Marina Venizelos, 1st VP

Mary Daniskas, 2nd VP

Irene Karoly, Treasurer

Jeanie Kalas, Assistant Treasurer

Melissa Dobias, Recording Secretary

Maro Schuster, Corresponding Secretary

Antonia Clapsis, Board Member

Betty Kelly, Board Member

Salomi Massaras, Board Member

Eleni Constantinides, Advisor to the Board

We encourage you to make an effort to meet the new Board of Directors and ask them how you can help with the many functions that Philoptochos is involved with: the Faith Kitchen, the Annual Coat Drive, the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Donations to the Interfaith Food Pantry and other organizations, the donations of daily essentials to the Market Street Mission, the Dover Senior Housing Authority. And let us not forget the Knitting, Crochet and Pillow Ministries, who donate blankets, scarves, mittens, hats, and pillows throughout the United States and abroad.

Your support is essential to the growth of our chapter and to our success with providing assistance and sustenance to those less fortunate.

On behalf of the Saint Andrew Philoptochos and the Saint Andrew community, let us welcome the new board and pledge our support to them.

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 @7:30PM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is a ministry? One word defines this - WORK! It's a special kind of work however, because it is people and members, acting together to express and share their faith. The Church of St. Andrew has many ministries in which the message of salvation is being expressed in their various activities. Father John and the members of the parish council are very pleased with this "work".

All ministries have a vision for their activities whether it be stated or just understood. The members of the parish council and Fr. John feel it is important to be Christ-centered as we undertake to do the work of our respective ministries. This Christ centeredness unites the different ministries into one common vision. We are meant to be like different states united into one central faith. Kind of like our country. Sometimes a separation of states can occur, and ministries become isolated from each other. We call this "silo-ing". Meaning, every ministry has its own storage silo. When this occurs, ministries fail to communicate with each other, work together and support one another. While each may still share the same vision, each ministry acts like an entity of its own.

In an effort to engage in dialogue about this and other issues with all of the Church ministries, (Philoptochos, Mazi me ti Mama, Joy Group, GOYA, Religious Education, HAS, Dance Group and YAL), of St. Andrew, the Parish Council and Fr. John have set aside **September 17, 2019 at 7:30 pm for a Council of Ministries Meeting** and are asking each ministry to be represented. Here we will have an opportunity to discuss and develop a common vision that will help us to conduct our ministries in a more harmonious manor that fosters unity of purpose in Christ. This will not be an accountability check but an opportunity to meet the various people actively representing their ministries.

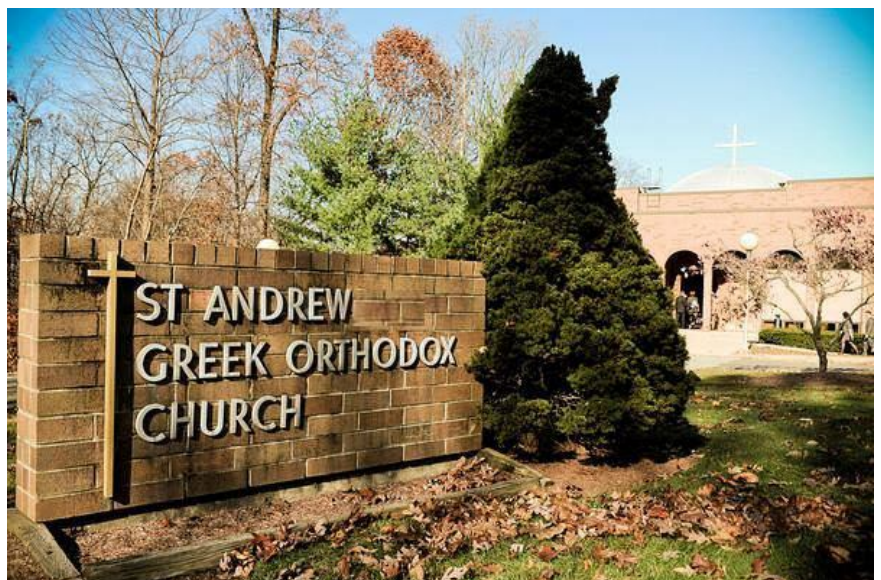
It is felt that by knowing each other personally, and understanding the various ministries available to our community, greater participation will occur. The goal of this meeting is to strengthen the family of St. Andrew as a worshiping community centered on our salvation in Jesus Christ.

We need to have leadership representatives of all of the various ministries participate at this meeting.

Please **RSVP by September 7, 2019 to Maro Schuster**
schuster20@verizon.net

Thank you!

In the Service of the Lord,
Maro N. Schuster,
Corresponding Secretary,
Parish Council of Saint Andrew



**«Ὡ τρισμακάριστε Σταυρὲ καὶ πανσεβάσμιε, Σὲ προσκυνοῦμεν οἱ πιστοὶ
καὶ μεγαλύνομεν, ἀγαλλόμενοι τῇ θεΐᾳ σου ἀνυψώσει»**

(Κοντάκιον Χαιρετισμῶν Τιμίου Σταυροῦ)

Ἀγαπητοὶ ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοί·

Μέσα σέ κλίμα χαρᾶς καὶ συγκίνησης ταυτόχρονα, ἡ ἅγια μας Ἐκκλησία προβάλλει σήμερα γιὰ προσκύνηση τό μεγάλο, ἱερό καὶ πανσέβαστο σύμβολο τῆς χριστιανικῆς μας πίστεως, τόν Τίμιο Σταυρό τοῦ Κυρίου. Ἡ Δεσποτική ἑορτὴ τῆς Παγκοσμίου Ὑψώσεως τοῦ Τιμίου Σταυροῦ ἀποτελεῖ τὴν ἀφορμὴ γιὰ νὰ ἐμπνευσθοῦμε ἀπὸ τό παράδειγμα καὶ τὴ θυσία τοῦ Ἐσταυρωμένου, ἐνῶ τό πανίερο αὐτό σύμβολο τῆς πίστεώς μας γίνεται ἡ πηγὴ τῆς δυνάμης καὶ τῆς θεΐας χάριτος γιὰ νὰ ἀνταπεξέλθουμε στὸν βιοτικό καὶ πνευματικό μας ἀγώνα.

Ὁ Τίμιος καὶ ζωοποιὸς Σταυρὸς ὑψώνεται σήμερα στό μέσον τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ὡς σύμβολο ἀναφορᾶς, σύμβολο ζωῆς, σύμβολο τῆς «ἐν Χριστῷ» λυτρωτικῆς πορείας κάθε χριστιανοῦ. Εἶναι τό θυσιαστήριον πάνω στό ὁποῖο ἡ ἄπειρη ἀγάπη τοῦ Θεοῦ θυσίασε τόν Μονογενῆ Αὐτοῦ Υἱόν, ὡς «λύτρον ἀντί πολλῶν», γιὰ τὴ σωτηρία τῆς ἀνθρωπότητας. Ὁ Σταυρὸς τοῦ Κυρίου ἦταν ὁ δικός μας σταυρὸς, ὁ σταυρὸς τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν καὶ τῶν παραβάσεών μας. Ἀπὸ ἀπέραντη ὅμως ἀγάπη καὶ ἄκρα συγκατάβαση, ὁ Κύριός μας τόν πῆρε ἀπὸ τοὺς ὤμους μας, γιὰ νὰ μᾶς λυτρώσει ἀπὸ τό φορτίο τῆς προπατορικῆς παραβάσεως, προβάλοντάς μας ὡς πρότυπο τῆ δικῆ Του ἀγάπη καὶ θυσία. Ὡς ὀρθόδοξοι χριστιανοί, καλούμαστε νὰ ἀκολουθήσουμε τόν Κύριό μας μέ τοὺς ὅρους πού ἔθεσε ὁ ἴδιος καὶ ἰσχύουν διαχρονικά, λέγοντας: «Ὅστις ΘΕΛΕΙ ὀΠΙΣΩ ΜΟΥ ἘΛΘΕῖΝ ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτόν, καὶ ἀράτω τόν σταυρόν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι».

Ὁ Χριστός, σεβόμενος τό αὐτεξούσιο κάθε ἀνθρώπινης ὑπαρξης, δέν ἐξαναγκάζει κανέναν.

Εἶναι δική μας ἐπιλογή νὰ μιμηθοῦμε τό παράδειγμά Του καὶ νὰ βαδίσουμε συνειδητὰ τόν δρόμο πού ὁ ἴδιος χάραξε μέ ὑπομονὴ καὶ καρτερία. Οἱ περισσότεροι ἄνθρωποι θλίβονται καὶ ἀπελπίζονται μπροστὰ σέ δυσάρεστα γεγονότα. Αὐτοὶ ὅμως πού πραγματικά πιστεύουν στὸν Θεὸ σηκώνουν τόν σταυρό τῆς δοκιμασίας τους μέ ἰώβεια ὑπομονὴ καὶ πίστη, ἐνθουμούμενοι τόν Παῦλειο λόγο, «τῇ ἐλπίδι χαίροντες, τῇ θλίψει ὑπομένοντες». Ἡ ἐλπίδα γιὰ τὰ μελλοντικά ἀγαθὰ τῆς Βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ τοὺς γεμίζει χαρὰ καὶ τοὺς βοηθᾷ νὰ ὑπομένουν τίς ὅποιες δοκιμασίες, κατὰ τό παράδειγμα τοῦ Κυρίου μας, πού σήκωσε τόν Σταυρό Του ἀγόγγυστα, με ὑποδειγματικὴ ὑπομονὴ καὶ συγκλονιστικὴ αὐταπάρνηση, δείχνοντας πραγματικὴ ὑπακοὴ πρὸς τόν Πατέρα, «γενόμενος ὑπήκοος μέχρι θανάτου, θανάτου δὲ σταυροῦ».

Ἀγαπητοὶ μου ἀδελφοί·

Ὡς ποιμενάρχης τῆς θεοσώστου αὐτῆς ἐπαρχίας, σᾶς καλῶ ὅλους νὰ προσκυνήσουμε σήμερα τόν Σταυρό τοῦ Κυρίου μας μέ εὐλάβεια καὶ πίστη, λαμβάνοντας ταυτόχρονα τὴ μεγάλη ἀπόφαση νὰ σηκώσουμε μέ ὑπομονὴ καὶ σταθερότητα τόν σταυρό πού ὁ Κύριος ἐπιτρέπει νὰ ἔχει ὁ καθένας μας. Ἄς ἀναφωνήσουμε μαζί μέ τόν ἱερό ὑμνογράφο: «Ὡ τρισμακάριστε Σταυρὲ καὶ πανσεβάσμιε, Σὲ προσκυνοῦμεν οἱ πιστοὶ καὶ μεγαλύνομεν, ἀγαλλόμενοι τῇ θεΐᾳ σου ἀνυψώσει». Ἄς γίνει ὁ Τίμιος Σταυρὸς ἐφαλτήριο πίστεως, πού θά ὀλοκληρώσει τὴν ὑπαρξή μας καὶ θά φέρει τόν Χριστό στὴ ζωὴ μας. Ἄς ἀποφασίσουμε νὰ ἀκολουθήσουμε τὴ «στενὴ πύλη καὶ τεθλιμμένη ὁδὸ» πού θά μᾶς ὀδηγήσει στὴν Ἀνάσταση

Καὶ τὴ Βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ. Μετὰ πατρικῶν εὐχῶν καὶ τῆς ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀγάπης

Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ

† Ὁ Νέας Ἱερσῆς ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ

Ecclesiastical New Year

My Beloved,

We see in Holy Scripture, “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven” (Eccl. 3:1). Today we recall an important celebration in the life of the Church – the Ecclesiastical New Year (the Indiction). The Indiction serves as an opportunity for a new beginning as we all engage in our spiritual struggle for perfection. It gives us an occasion to reflect on our spiritual progress and that which allows us to come closer to Christ such as our prayerfulness, love, charity, and dedication to our Lord. It also gives us an opportunity to introspectively look at our shortcomings as we strive to commit ourselves more to God and less towards these spiritual inadequacies which draw us away from Him. Thus, we come to recognize this most important time of year as a time of personal renewal so that we may better prepare ourselves for participating in the communal life of the Body of Christ, that is, the Church.

Our participation in the communal life of the Church is of paramount importance since it is an image of our participation in the Kingdom of God. Therefore, our commitment and devotion to Christ and His Church cannot be seen as merely an obligation to be fulfilled, but an opportunity to be an active participant in Heaven. This can be expressed in a variety of ways such as our presence in the divine services, our support of parish ministries, our active engagement with the needy, and our unceasing efforts to build the body of Christ through our own words and deeds both inside and outside the confines of the church building.

In today’s social climate, it can be easy to be apathetic towards the Church, believing that it is always someone else’s responsibility to accomplish the vital work that is needed for our parishes to function. Many people believe that it is acceptable to



do the bare minimum for the Church or to give the bare minimum to the Church in order for our parishes to get by, but this perspective is flawed. We should never be content in how much work or offer to the Church because Christ has always done more for us than we could ever imagine. We should never remain complacent about our ministries because there are always opportunities to improve our ministries so that we may better serve

each other and our fellow man. We should never become apathetic so as to think “someone else will do the work of the Church, so I do not have to”. The reality is that every one of us has a responsibility for the success of each of our parishes, not just to the point that they may be sustained, but to the point that they should grow and flourish in success. This must be accomplished through every parishioner according to the extent of their personal abilities so that we may give glory, not to ourselves, but to God.

My beloved children in the Lord, we must strive with all of our ability to offer our time, talent, and treasure to the Church in a way that glorifies God and gives thanksgiving to Him who gives us the gifts and ability to offer back to Him what He has already given to us. We must recognize that giving to the Church or through a Church ministry is the ultimate way in which we actualize our active participation in the Body of Christ and, therefore, in the Kingdom of God. For our successes, let us celebrate together; for our losses, let us mourn together; For our challenges, let us struggle together; and for our difficulties, let us “bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the Law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2). It is my sincerest hope and prayer that as we embark on this new ecclesiastical year together, that we grow in faith and dedication to our Lord, to the Church He established, to each other, and to our neighbors. Praying that we recommit ourselves to these endeavors, I remain

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

THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on **September 8 each year**. The Feast commemorates the birth of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Background

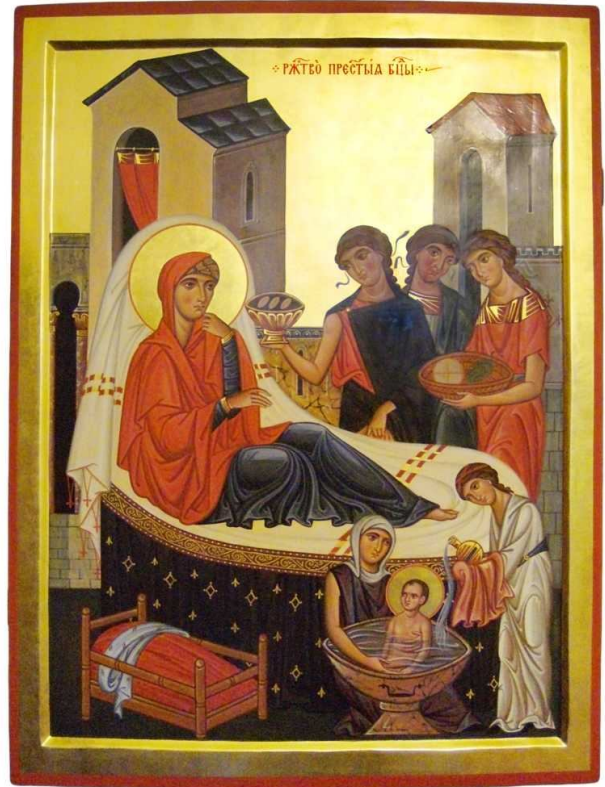
The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament, however this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James or Protevangelion

Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna, were childless for many years. They remained faithful to God, but their prayers for a child were unanswered. One day, when Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, Joachim retreated to the hill country to live among the shepherds and their flocks.

As Joachim was praying, his wife Anna was praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. An angel appeared to both of them and announced that Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. Anna promised to offer her child as a gift to the Lord. Joachim returned home, and in due time Anna bore a daughter, Mary.

Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos presents to us the central figures of Saints Joachim (2) and Anna (1), Mary's parents, and the Mother of our Lord as an infant. Saint Anna is in the middle of the icon with her right hand extended toward her daughter (3). Likewise, Saint Joachim, Mary's father, is gazing upon the young child with his right



hand extended toward her (3). Anna is surrounded by attendants who have assisted with the birth.

Apolytikion (Fourth Tone)

Your birth, O Theotokos, brought joy to the whole world, for from you dawned the sun of righteousness, Christ our God. Freeing us from the curse, He gave us His blessings. Abolishing death, He granted us eternal life.

Kontakion (Fourth Tone)

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."

Ο ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ:

Θεομητορική εορτή, κατά την οποία η Χριστιανική Εκκλησία τιμά κάθε χρόνο στις 8 Σεπτεμβρίου (21 Σεπτεμβρίου για τους παλαιοημερολογίτες) «το γενέθλιον της υπεραγίας δεσποίνης ημών Θεοτόκου», τη γέννηση, δηλαδή, της Μαριάμ (Μαρίας), της μητέρας του Ιησού Χριστού

Την ημέρα αυτή γιορτάζουν ο Παναγιώτης, η Μαρία, ο Μαρριανός, η Μαρριανή, η Δέσποινα, ο Τσαμπίκος και η Τσαμπίκα. Πολλοί ναοί ανά την Ελλάδα είναι αφιερωμένοι στο Γενέθλιον της Θεοτόκου.

Είναι γνωστό ότι τα τέσσερα Ευαγγέλια δεν παρέχουν πληροφορίες για την καταγωγή και τη γέννηση της Θεοτόκου. Τις σχετικές πληροφορίες τις αντλούμε από το απόκρυφο Πρωτευαγγέλιο του Ιακώβου (2ος αιώνας), σύμφωνα με το οποίο η Θεοτόκος γεννήθηκε στα Ιεροσόλυμα με θαυματουργικό τρόπο από μια ενάρετη γηραιά γυναίκα, ονόματι Άννα (εξελληνισμένος τύπος του εβραϊκού Χάνα = εύνοια, χάρη), μετά από επίμονες δεήσεις προς τον Θεό, αυτής και του συζύγου της Ιωακείμ. Η Άννα ήταν στείρα και συνεπώς άτεκνη, γεγονός που εθεωρείτο ντροπή στην ιουδαϊκή κοινωνία της εποχής της.

Στους πρώτους χριστιανικούς χρόνους ήταν γνωστές παρόμοιες διηγήσεις για τη γέννηση της Παναγίας και από το απόκρυφο Ευαγγέλιο του Ψευδο-Ματθαίου. Μετά την καταδίκη από την 3η Οικουμενική Σύνοδο της Εφέσου (431) της αίρεσης του Νεστοριανισμού, η οποία απέρριπτε, μεταξύ άλλων, το όνομα και τη συμμετοχή της Θεοτόκου στο σωτηριώδες έργο του Χριστού, οι διηγήσεις αυτές άρχισαν να ενσωματώνονται στη λατρεία της Εκκλησίας με τη μορφή των Θεομητορικών εορτών.

Το γενέθλιο της Θεοτόκου - 8 Σεπτεμβρίου: Οι γραπτές προφητείες

Η γιορτή της γέννησης της Θεοτόκου καθιερώθηκε για πρώτη φορά στα τέλη του 5ου αιώνα ή στις αρχές του 6ου αιώνα στα Ιεροσόλυμα και από εκεί διαδόθηκε σε όλη τη χριστιανική Ανατολή. Η εισαγωγή της στη Ρώμη έγινε στα τέλη του 7ου αιώνα από Έλληνες μοναχούς που κατέφυγαν στην Ιταλία μετά τους διωγμούς των Αράβων. Πρώτος ο πάπας Σέργιος Α΄ (687-701) την καθιέρωσε ως επίσημη γιορτή και την περιέλαβε μαζί με άλλες Θεομητορικές εορτές στο εορτολόγιο της Δυτικής Εκκλησίας. Τον 11ο αιώνα η γιορτή της γέννησης της Θεοτόκου είχε επικρατήσει σε ολόκληρη τη Χριστιανοσύνη.

Η γιορτή κατέχει σημαντική θέση στην υμνογραφία της Ορθόδοξης Χριστιανικής Εκκλησίας. Εξέχοντες υμνογράφοι (Σέργιος και Στέφανος Αγιοπολίτες, Γερμανός Α΄ Κωνσταντινουπόλεως, Ρωμανός ο Μελωδός, Ιωσήφ Υμνογράφος) έχουν γράψει ιδιόμελα, κανόνες και κοντάκια, που ψάλλονται κατά την ημέρα της γιορτής. Παράλληλα, οι διηγήσεις για τη γέννηση της Θεοτόκου έχουν καταλάβει εξέχουσα θέση στην εκκλησιαστική ζωγραφική. Εικόνες εκλεκτής τέχνης βρίσκονται στο Άγιο Όρος, στον Μυστρά και την Κρήτη, ενώ αξιολογότερα μωσαϊκά υπάρχουν στη Μονή του Δαφνίου (Αθήνα) και στο τζαμί Καχριέ στην Κωνσταντινούπολη.

Απολυτίκιο

Η γέννησίς σου, Θεοτόκε, χαράν εμήνυσε πάση τη οικουμένη εκ σου γαρ ανέτειλεν ο ήλιος της δικαιοσύνης, Χριστός ο Θεός ημών, και λύσας την κατάραν έδωκε την ευλογίαν και καταργήσας τον θάνατο εδωρήσατο ημίν ζωήν αιώνιον.

The Stewardship of Sts. Joachim and Anna

Much of the life of the Virgin Mary has been revealed to us from a book known as the "Protoevangelion of James." Although not considered a canonical book of Holy Scripture, it contains vital information pertaining to the life of the Virgin Mary. From this book we also learn about the parents of the Virgin Mary, Ss. Joachim and Anna.

It is important to study this saintly couple for we gain a good understanding of the environment in which the Virgin Mary was born. St. Joachim was of the tribe of Judah and therefore, a descendant of King David. Anna's family was derived from the tribe of Levi and her father was the high priest Nathan. She also had two sisters: Mary, whose daughter was Salome and Zoia, whose daughter was Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Baptist.

Ss. Joachim and Anna lived pious lives obedient to the teachings of the Old Testament. Whereas the Old Testament prescribed that God's people should give a tithe (10%) to the Temple (See Leviticus 27:30-34), these saintly people gave one-third of their income to the poor, one-third to the Temple, and one-third was spent on their livelihood.

Unable to bear children, Ss. Joachim and Anna prayed fervently that God bless them with a child. One day they each received a visit from the angel of the Lord who informed them that God had indeed heard their prayer and that it would be granted. Speaking to Anna, the angel said: "Fear not...For I am that angel who has offered up your prayers and alms to God, and am now sent to you, that I may inform you, that a daughter will be born unto you, who shall be called Mary, and shall be blessed above all women..." Rejoicing over this



wonderful news, they went to the Temple to offer praise and thanksgiving to God. When their daughter was born nine months later, they offered the child to the Lord and promised to dedicate her to the Temple at the age of three years old. In the Temple, the Virgin Mary was reared in prayer and fasting. Her parents visited her every day until they finally died, St. Joachim at the age of eighty years and St. Anna at seventy-nine.

Christian Orthodox parenthood must be viewed in the light of Stewardship. This beautiful opportunity to study the lives of Ss. Joachim and Anna reminds us that in Christ, we are all one family. God has placed upon us the responsibility to raise our children in the best possible manner. To some parents this may be understood by providing financial security for their children. To others, it may be found in providing a good education. While these are both worthwhile, are they the most important things in life? Of course, we should not neglect the necessary financial needs of our families and we should encourage our children to get the finest education, but there is something greater.

Christian parents will be successful if they educate their child according to the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Family participation in the life of the Church will instill the Christian virtues that are necessary to be happy and content with life. Perhaps it is for this reason that when the Dismissal Prayer is offered in almost every divine service of our Church, we commemorate Ss. Joachim and Anna as a reminder for Christian Orthodox parents to be faithful and obedient to the teachings of our Lord.



A new GOYA year has begun, and we have a lot of great and exciting things going on!

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

We will have our Kickoff Meeting, for GOYA's and Parents on **Tuesday, September 10th**. Please be sure to register thru the online registration form. GOYA is open to the children of all active Stewards of our Church, 12 years old, and in grades 7th thru 12th. Our email is saintandrewgoya@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Our first Volleyball practice for the girls will be Tuesday, September 17th and Basketball practice for the boys will be Wednesday, September 18th. The first games will be September 29th.

Calendar for the beginning of our GOYA year:

Sunday, September 15th – Holy Cross Celebration Day – Diving for the Cross, Asbury Park

Friday, September 20th - Kickoff Dance – St George, Clifton

Sunday, October 13th – Mr./Miss GOYA Pageant, Pines Manor, Edison

Saturday, November 2nd – Bowling Tournament, Ascension, Fairview

Your 2019-2020 GOYA Advisors:

Peter Sedereas, Marina Venizelos, Polymnia Crysler, Marlena Karipidis, Diana Sedereas, Roslyn Monokandilos and Eleni Peterson



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS SUMMER/FALL 2019

June was a busy month as we attended the Fifth District Convention in Camden NJ on the Battleship New Jersey. We warmly congratulate our new District Governor Antoinette Marousis- Zachariades and look forward to the District Lodge Visitation. We thank all of our Sisters for volunteering at this year's Festival and making it such a success. On July 10th, our oldest member, Freda Sakas celebrated her 92nd birthday. She enjoyed a district wide birthday card campaign as the oldest Past District Governor.

Our Ahepa Family sadly said goodbye to John Borzeka, a backbone of our community, who will be sorely missed by all of us. John's dedication to his family, community and to the Ahepa serves as an inspiration to us all. Our sincere condolences and love go to his wife, Chrysanthe and children, T.J., Athena and Stavi. May his memory be eternal.

Preparations are now in full swing for our Fashion Show and Raffle to be held on Saturday, November 2nd at The Meadow Wood on Route 10 in Randolph. Please mark your calendars. Join us for a worthwhile fundraiser which allows us to donate to wonderful charities as well as to give back to our own Saint Andrew.

Fashion Show, Luncheon, & Designer Raffles

Saturday, November 2nd

at 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Donation: \$50

**Proceeds to Benefit the Charitable Works of the
Daughters Of Penelope**

For Tickets and More Information, please contact

Eleni Boyadjis (609) 304-3714 or eboyadjis@aol.com

Julie Ioannou (201) 602-1359 or jioannou18@yahoo.com

Yiota Louca (973) 615- 3215 or prlouca@yahoo.com



CROCHET/KNITTING & PILLOW MINISTRIES

Just because it's summer it doesn't mean the ladies of the Crochet/Knitting and Pillow ministry take a break! Hand crocheted/knitted blankets and hand sewn comfort pillows have been delivered all summer, starting in May to local organizations helping those in need.

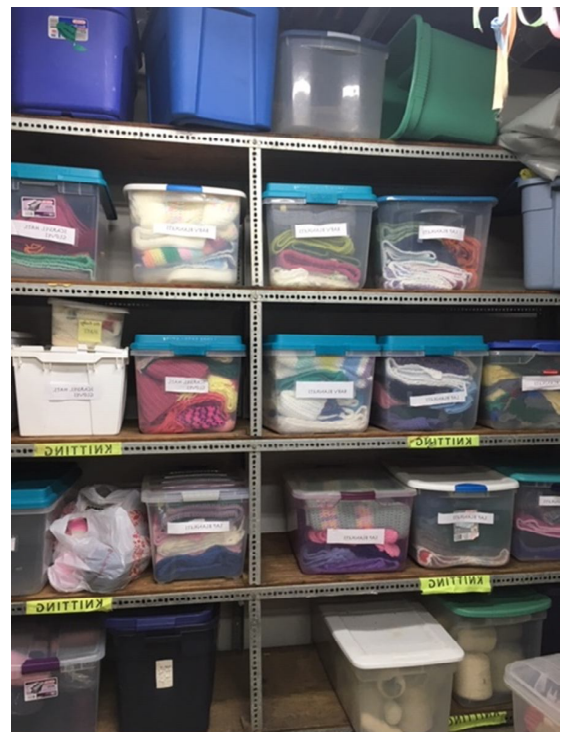
This summer we have made donations to The Fresenius Kidney Care Dialysis Center in Kenvil (25 lap blankets), Merry Heart Nursing Home in Succasunna (15 lap blankets), Regency Grande Nursing Home in Denville (15 lap blankets), Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice in Newton (20 comfort pillows) and St Claire's Hospital in Denville (15 baby blankets). We are also currently preparing a large donation of blankets, hats and scarves to help the needy at Russian Orphanages.

As we continue this ministry we are always finding new needs in our communities and abroad. For instance, people undergoing dialysis tend to be very cold during treatments because the rooms need to be kept at a lower than normal temperature for the equipment. Many of their patients are brought in from senior care facilities



and have forgotten to bring their blankets. The handmade blankets not only provide physical warmth, but they also warm their hearts. We also recently donated to a local hospice organization. Many of these people in hospice are in pain from terminal illnesses. The comfort pillows are most often used to help alleviate painful spots by providing a small level of support for the back or a leg. Every pillow (each blanket also has a similar tag) has a small hand sewn tag that says "A Comfort Pillow Just for You, St Andrew Greek Orthodox Church Randolph".

We pray that the hand crafted items we make continue to comfort and warm those around us in need. It is a blessing to be able to use our hands and hearts to bring joy and God's love to a hurting world!



ELEMENTARY ORATORICAL PRESENTATIONS, SR. GRADUATION AWARDS CEREMONY, SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS, SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEAM:

We would like to thank all of our dedicated teachers who endeavor to spread our faith to the next generation.

2018-2019 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEAM

Fr. John Theodosion

Grades 9-12: *John Moskonas*

Grades 7-8: *Dr. Herbert Schuster, George Moshen, Dr. Sylvia Christakos*

Grade 6: *Maro Schuster & Maria Daniskas*

Grade 5: *Marina Venizelos & Catherine Rabidis*

Grade 4: *Kelly Berman*

Grade 3: *Angeliki Brouard-Schorr, Vickie*

Geannakakes

Grade 2: *Presbytera Athena Theodosion*

Grade 1: *Eugenia (Gina) Wnek*

Kindergarten: *Christina Seretis & Dina Aspromatis*

Pre K Age 4: *Tina Kefalas*

Pre K Age 3: *Photeine Lopardo & Rachel Lopardo*

Many thanks to our substitutes: Lynn Axiotes, Eleni Giannikopoulos, Jenny Manis and Diana Sedereas

RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT

Paraskevi "Voula" Seretis .

Voula immigrated to the US in 1969 and for 50 years she has attended St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church. For the last 35 years she has been the second grade teacher of St. Andrew Sunday school, Voula said "I enjoy every minute of it. All my students are excited and ready to learn each time they step into class. Although this is true, I must say that I learn more from those kids than any class I have taught all these years. They are inspiring children, and I am so glad to have the opportunity to teach them the ways of our church." Voula is retiring to spend more time in her home in Marathia Greece.



SCHOLARSHIPS TO GRADUATES

AHEPA SCHOLARSHIPS: *Thomas J. Borzeka, presenter*
Alexia Louca and Constantine Sedereas, recipients

BORZEKA FAMILY GIFT FOR GRADUATES: *Chrysanthe Borzeka, presenter*
Nikodemus Barnes, Brendan Berman, Mariana Bulko, Philippos Christodoulou, Maria Elena Kalas, Christina Kalavriziotis, Alexia Louca, Constantine Sedereas, recipients

PHILOPTOCHOS OF SAINT ANDREW SCHOLARSHIPS *Maria Daniskas, presenter*
Brendan Berman, Alexia Louca and Constantine Sedereas, recipients

Bios of GRADUATING SUNDAY SCHOOL SENIORS



Nikodemus Barnes: Nikodemus (Niko) Barnes graduated from Mount Olive High School. Over the years, Niko has demonstrated his creativity, placing into a special program for graphic design. He created many figurines using the 3-D printers and has amused his teachers by hiding them around the classroom over the last two years.

He spends much of his free time drawing. He enjoys religious art as well as more secular images. Niko is also gifted in costume design. He has developed costumes for himself and his friends, working with various fabrics as well as leather and metals.

He has been an active member of our St. Andrew Community. He served as an Altar Boy since the age of eight and continues to serve most weekends and during holidays. Niko has been active in our Religious Education program and assists in teaching the 7th-8th grade class. He has helped at the St. Andrew festival each year as well, performing a variety of jobs over the years.

Niko plans to attend the County College of Morris where he will major in History.



Brendan Berman: Brendan graduated from Roxbury High School. He has been a member of the National Honor Society as well as served on its Executive Board. He is also a member of the Spanish National Honor Society. As well as being a Varsity Golf Captain and playing on the Varsity Soccer Team, Brendan has managed to excel in his studies and be a part of the Honor Roll. His memberships include the Interact Club and Junior Statesmen of America (JSA). Brendan has exhibited determination in his schooling years and has earned the high honor of Eagle Scout. His most beloved hobby is skiing as he is a competitive freestyle skier, as well as a ski instructor.



As a member of our St. Andrew community, Brendan has been part of our Religious Education program, our GOYA program and has served as an Altar Boy. He has competed in Sights and Sounds, as well as soccer and basketball. Brendan has also volunteered at our Big Greek Festival.

Brendan will attend Syracuse University in the fall, where he will major in Bioengineering with a minor in Finance.

Mariana Bulko: Mariana graduated from West Morris Mendham High School where she was both a member of the freshman soccer team and the JV fencing team. Her love of theatre made her a 3-year member of the girls' a cappella group and the theatre program. She has also enjoyed being a member of the highest level choir for 2 years. Mariana is a part of the National Honors Society and the French National Honors Society. She is a candidate in the International Baccalaureate Career Program.



Mariana has served our St. Andrew community well. As part of our youth group, GOYA, Mariana has been both secretary and historian. She has been a community volunteer at various events like making Palm crosses for Palm Sunday, caroling for

Seniors and the food bank. She has made friends at GOYA dances and competed on our GOYA Volleyball team.

Mariana plans to attend St. John's University and major in Speech Pathology and Audiology.



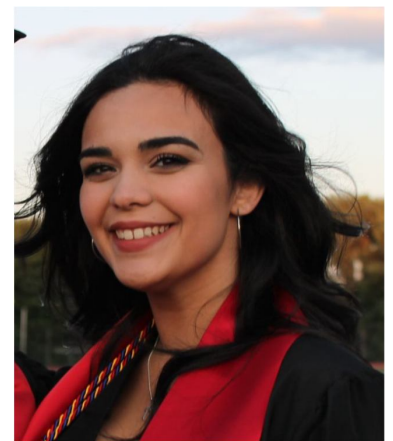
Philippos Christodoulou: Philippos is graduating from Sparta High School. His focus on his studies paid off in many ways as he was a member of the Honor Roll. Phil was inducted into the Russian National Honors Society and was even a Gold Medalist in the Russian Olympiads. Phil had time for athletics as well and was on the Sparta High School Varsity Soccer team and was a soccer Captain. He was also a Deca States Finalist.

As part of our St. Andrew GOYA, Phil was active in our Bridges program. He was also a part of our GOYA soccer team and volleyball and track at the GOYA

Olympics. He served as Treasurer on the Executive GOYA Board.

Phil will attend Hofstra University School of Business and major in Finance as part of the five year MBA program.

Mara Elena Kalas: Maria Elena Kalas graduated from Mount Olive High School. She was both a member of the National Honors Society (where she served as Historian) and the National Arts Honors Society. Maria loves to perform and was an active member of the Thespian Society. She was a part of the winning team of Bucks County Best Ensemble for Drama Club and a Nominee for Best Ensemble for Papermill Drama Club. She was also a select nominee for the National Poetry Competition. Maria has a passion for photography and placed Second at the Teen Arts Mixed Media Photography Competition.



Maria spends much of her time as a part of our St. Andrew community. She was a Greek Dance member for 10 years. She has served as a GOYA board member for many years - as Historian, her sophomore year, and as Vice-President for two terms in her junior and senior years. She is currently a member of the Ladies of Philoptochos Society.

Maria Elena is planning to attend the County College of Morris and major in Photography.

Christina Kalavriziotis: Christina Kalavriziotis graduated from Roxbury High School. She concentrated on her academic studies and has earned High Honor Roll multiple times.

As an active member of our St. Andrew Community, Christina has been a part of our GOYA. She joined the girls' Volleyball team and has competed in GOYA Olympics. As part of her service to St. Andrew's, she has volunteered for Christmas caroling to our seniors and has been a part of our Bridges program. ,

Christina will attend County College of Morris.



Alexia Louca: Alexia graduated from Randolph High School. Throughout her four years of High School, she achieved many accomplishments. She was an active member of many clubs, including Key Club, Chess Club, Environmental Club and Political Club. She also played on both the soccer team and the track team. Additionally, she prides herself on having made the Honor Roll all four years of High School and challenging herself in Honors and AP classes. Her greatest accomplishment of all has been being a member of our St. Andrew Community. St. Andrew was her second home and she developed her Orthodox Christian faith, and also learned the Greek language and beautiful Greek culture.



At St. Andrew, she held multiple leadership positions in GOYA, including Recording Secretary in junior year, and Vice President in senior year. She has been a part of our Religious Education program from Pre-school through High School. Alexia was also able to showcase her love of dance as a member of our Greek Dance group. She volunteered as a camp counselor at our St. Andrew Summer Camp. She participated in Sights and Sounds, and competed in both the soccer and bowling tournaments, as well as the GOYA Olympics and the Volleyball league. She learned to always find time to help others less fortunate and participated in the Bridges Outreach Program, serving food at the Soup Kitchen, supporting the Superbowl of Caring and singing Christmas carols for the elderly in our community.

Alexia will attend the University of Scranton and major in Marketing.

Constantine P. Sedereas: Constantine (Dean) Sedereas graduated from Jefferson High School. Dean was inducted into the National Honors Society and served as a Secretary of the National Science Society. He was a member of the National English Society and the National Spanish Society. His studious nature earned him the High School Honor Roll. He received the President's Education Award and the JTHS Falcon Scholar Award. Dean graduated from the St. Andrew Greek School program and this helped him to pass the Greek Language Regents in High School. He joined both the Drama Club and the Student Council. Dean was able to showcase his athletic abilities on the Cross Country, Indoor track and Spring track teams. He was the Captain of the Cross Country team and was honored as Team MVP and named to the All-Conference and All County Teams and State Sectional Qualifier.



Dean has been a very active member of our St. Andrew Community. He served as GOYA President in his senior year, and prior to that, served as Vice-President and Treasurer. He was Mr. GOYA in 2017 and was 3rd Runner Up. Dean was chosen as a diver for the Holy Metropolis Diving of the Cross and served as an Altar Boy. He was a member of the GOYA Basketball Team and part of the championship team in 2016, competed in Sights and Sounds as well as the GOYA Olympics. Dean won 1st place in the GOYA Olympics Marathon and 3rd Place in GOYA Olympics Soccer. He has learned about service volunteering to help with the Faith Soup Kitchen.

Dean is attending Rutgers University in New Brunswick and will major in Cell Biology.

Welcome back!

We hope everyone had a blessed summer break. The new school year is officially starting. We would like to start by saying a **HUGE thank you** to everyone for helping make all of last school year's events a success. We could not have done it without you! It is amazing to see how much we can accomplish when we all pull together as a community. The programs and activities the PTA and other committees offer provide a chance to learn, help, make new friends, and most important make a difference for our children and our community. By us leading by example, we show our children how important our religion and heritage is when attending church, Sunday school, Greek school and dance. Throughout the year, the PTA organizes various events for the children. These functions can only be possible if we all contribute, create time, and make an effort to help, every bit counts!

When signing up for Greek/Sunday School please take a moment to look over the PTA portion of the forms. There you will find a listing of various committees you can sign up to help with, if you have already signed for school and missed this portion of the form, we will be sending out an email sign up genius during the month of September providing a listing of all the committee the board offers.

The PTA will be hosting its first coffee hour of the year on September 8, which is also the first day of

Sunday of school. Anastasia Mitrakos will be sending out a signup genius soon for this event. We are looking for a few consistent people to organize/send out SUG/and help the day of the coffee hours. Please notify anyone of the board if you would like more detail and are interested.

You can also send an email to
ptastandrew@gmail.com

There will be many notifications of all events sent out prior to any event. Our board meetings will be quarterly, we encourage everyone to attend and learn about anything new that is being planned and please share your ideas.

PTA Board Members: Maria Pallis – President
Anastasia Mitrakos – Vice President
Tiffany Ulch Mihalitsas – Treasurer
Dina Aspromatis – Corresponding Secretary

We would like say a big thank you to Christos Haritos for all his many years of help and service as PTA Treasurer and take a moment to introduce our new PTA Treasurer. Congratulations Tiffany Ulch Mihalitsas! Tiffany joins us with great enthusiasm and brings in knowledge and ideas as she has served on other PTA boards.

You can always reach out to anyone with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to another blessed year.



Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!

The HAS staff is excited to start Greek School classes this month! Registration applications are preferred before Labor Day so that the children can have books on the first day of classes and take advantage of being present for the full school year.

Please note the calendar of class days on the HAS forms. We are now also registering for Jr. Dance which will commence on September 19th, the Thursday after the start of Greek School. See forms for age restrictions and other information.

All registered families will receive an email confirmation and information on the first session before the start of Greek School. See you on Thursday September 12th!

Sincerely, Salomi Massaras, M.Ed , HAS Director



ΜΙΛΙΕΣ ΑΠΟΦΟΙΤΩΝ ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΥ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ

Συγχαρητήρια! Στις απόφοιτες μαθήτριες 2019 του Απογευματινού Ελληνικού Σχολείου.

Κάρμεν Γιαννικοπούλου:

Με λένε Κάρμεν Γιαννικοπούλου και είμαι μαθήτρια στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο του Αγίου Ανδρέα του Ράντολφ της Νέας Υερσέης για τα τελευταία 7 χρόνια, ή μάλλον 8 αν βάλουμε και τα προνήπια «Μαζί με τη Δασκάλα». Θα ήθελα πρώτα να ευχαριστήσω όλες τις δασκάλες μου που είχα αυτά τα χρόνια. Θα ήθελα επίσης να ευχαριστήσω τους γονείς μου που με μεγάλη προσπάθεια και αυτοθυσία, ήθελαν να μάθω αποκλειστικά την Ελληνική γλώσσα, μέχρι να γίνω 5 χρονών. Είμαι ευγνώμων γι' αυτό γιατί μπορώ να μιλάω τα Ελληνικά μου όπως ακούτε σήμερα. Στο Ελληνικό σχολείο, έμαθα να διαβάζω και να γράφω Ελληνικά. Τώρα είμαι προετοιμασμένη και θα συνεχίσω τη ζωή μου με όλα αυτά που έχω μάθει, σαν «Ελληνοπούλα – Αμερικανίδα» με τον στόχο να διδάξω και όταν έχω δικά μου παιδιά την Ελληνική γλώσσα. Στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο, έμαθα επίσης την ελληνική παράδοση με τις εθνικές γιορτές μας. Στις 28 Οκτωβρίου είπαμε «ΟΧΙ» στον Μουσολίνι. Στις 30 Ιανουαρίου γιορτάζουμε τους 3 Ιεράρχες, προστάτες των μαθητών και των γραμμάτων, κάτι που με συγκινεί ιδιαίτερα γιατί γιορτάζω με τους Άγιους Πατέρες τα γενέθλιά μου. Στις 25 Μαρτίου, γιορτάζουμε την ελευθερία μας μετά από 400 χρόνια τουρκοκρατίας μαζί και τον Ευαγγελισμό της Θεοτόκου. Έφτασε η ώρα που τελειώνει αυτό το κεφάλαιο αλλά οι αναμνήσεις μου θα μείνουν μέσα στην καρδιά μου, στο νου για μια ζωή. Εύχομαι ο καλός Θεός να με ευλογήσει μια μέρα να γίνω μανούλα και 'γω και να μάθω στα δικά μου παιδιά την ελληνική γλώσσα.

Σας ευχαριστώ και πάλι, Με πολλή αγάπη και σεβασμό, Κάρμεν Χρύσα Γιαννικοπούλου

Χριστιάνα Γουίλσον

Γεια σας! Με λένε Χριστιάνα. Είμαι στον Άγιο Ανδρέα από μικρό κοριτσάκι. Θέλω να ευχαριστήσω τον Father John και όλους τους δασκάλους μου προ παντός την κυρία Αμαλία που μου έμαθε την ελληνική γλώσσα. Εγώ έμαθα τόσα πολλά από αυτούς όλα αυτά τα χρόνια. Είμαι τόσο υπερήφανη που είμαι Ελληνίδα και είμαι μέρος αυτής της εκκλησίας στην οποία μεγάλωσα μέσα. Ο καθένας εδώ είναι θαυμάσιος και τους ευχαριστώ για ό,τι μου μάθανε. Μου αρέσει να πηγαίνω στην Ελλάδα και όταν πηγαίνω στην Ελλάδα, μιλάω την ελληνική γλώσσα καλύτερα κάθε φορά. Το να είμαι στο ελληνικό σχολείο ήταν μια θαυμάσια τιμή. Ήταν μια σελίδα στη ζωή μου που πάντα θα θυμάμαι. Κάθε φορά που πήγαινα στο σχολείο, πάντοτε μάθαινα κάτι καινούργιο. Θα επιθυμήσω όλους τους δασκάλους μου που με έβαλαν στο μονοπάτι που βρίσκομαι τώρα. Θα μου λείψει το γέλιο, τα παιχνίδια και τα ωραία τραγούδια που μου έδωσε η κυρία Αμαλία να τραγουδήσω.



Ευχαριστώ και συγχαρητήρια σε όλους τους φίλους μου που τελείωσαν το σχολείο σήμερα.

Βαρβάρα Καρκανιά

Πάντοτε ήξερα ότι η έκτη τάξη είχε να γράψει μία έκθεση στο τέλος του χρόνου. Όμως όταν ήρθε αυτή η μέρα, δεν ήμουν πολύ χαρούμενη. Δεν κατάλαβα το νόημα της έκθεσης. Μα όταν το μελέτησα λίγο πιο πολύ, ανακάλυψα ότι γράφοντας αυτή την έκθεση, με βοήθησε να μεταφράσω τις σκέψεις μου στα ελληνικά, Το Ελληνικό Σχολείο με έχει βοηθήσει στην καθημερινή μου ζωή. Για παράδειγμα, πολλές ιατρικές και επιστημονικές λέξεις προέρχονται από την Ελληνική μας γλώσσα. Επίσης, πολλές Αγγλικές λέξεις έχουν βάση στα Ελληνικά.



Το λεξιλόγιό μου έχει επεκταθεί με βοήθεια του Ελληνικού Σχολείου. Τώρα, όταν οι γονείς μου μιλάνε στα Ελληνικά, για να μην ξέρουμε τί λένε, εγώ καταλαβαίνω περισσότερα.

Έχω τώρα πολλούς και καλούς φίλους. Έχω μάθει για την ιστορία και τα έθιμα της Ελλάδας από τα προγράμματα που παρουσιάσαμε. Κιόλας, μπορώ τώρα να ακολουθώ την Θεία Λειτουργία καλύτερα.

Θέλω να ευχαριστήσω θερμά όλες τις δασκάλες μου και θα συνεχίσω να μαθαίνω τα Ελληνικά μου όσο μπορώ.

Σας εύχομαι Καλό Καλοκαίρι!

Αγγελική Μάνη

Γεια σας! Με λένε Αγγελική Μάνη. Φέτος τελειώνω το Ελληνικό Σχολείο. Είμαι στο G.O.Y.A. και παίζω και βόλεϊ. Είναι πολύ δύσκολο να πιστέψω πως πέρασαν επτά χρόνια. Στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο συνάντησα τις φίλες μου, που θα είμαστε μαζί για πάντα. Το Ελληνικό Σχολείο ήταν δύσκολο, αλλά προσπαθούσα με την βοήθεια των δασκάλων μου. Έμαθα να διαβάζω, να γράφω, έμαθα την ιστορία μας, τα έθιμά μας, τους ελληνικούς χορούς. Τον τελευταίο χρόνο, η δασκάλα μου η κυρία Αμαλία, με έκανε υπερήφανη που είμαι Ελληνίδα. Αντίο Ελληνικό Σχολείο! Πάντα θα σε θυμάμαι! Καλό Καλοκαίρι!



Δέσποινα Σιδερέα:

Ονομάζομαι Δέσποινα Σιδερέα και φέτος τελειώνω το Ελληνικό Σχολείο του Αγίου Ανδρέα στην Νέα Υερσέη της Αμερικής, όπου ήμουν μαθήτρια για έξι χρόνια.

Όλα τα χρόνια μου εδώ στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο έκανα πολλούς φίλους αλλά και πάρα πολλές ωραίες αναμνήσεις που θα μείνουν για πάντα στην ψυχή μου. Έμαθα να μιλώ, να γράφω και να καταλαβαίνω Ελληνικά, που είναι η γλώσσα των παππούδων και των γονιών μου. Διδάχτηκα την Ιστορία, τη Θρησκεία και τον Πολιτισμό της Ελλάδας. Έμαθα Ελληνικούς χορούς και τα έθιμα της πατρίδας μας, που θα προσπαθήσω κάποτε να μεταδώσω και εγώ στα παιδιά μου.

Τελειώνοντας θέλω να ευχαριστήσω την μητέρα μου που όλα αυτά τα χρόνια με τόση υπομονή με πήγαινε και με περίμενε να τελειώσω το μάθημα. Επίσης ευχαριστώ πολύ όλες τις δασκάλες που τόσα χρόνια έκαναν τα πάντα για όλους εμάς.

Εύχομαι σε όλα τα παιδιά καλή τύχη και ας προσπαθήσουμε όλοι να κρατήσουμε για πάντα μέσα μας όλα όσα μάθαμε στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο.

Αντίο Ελληνικό Σχολείο!

Αμαλία Χρονίδη:

Το όνομά μου είναι Αμαλία Χρονίδη. Οι γονείς μου είναι ο Μανώλης και η Μαίρη και έχω μια μικρή αδελφή την Θεοδώρα.

Οι γονείς μου θέλουν πολύ να μάθω Ελληνικά και είμαι τυχερή γιατί έχω την γιαγιά μου, που είναι δασκάλα και με βοηθάει. Είμαι πολύ περήφανη που διαβάζω και γράφω Ελληνικά.

Έμαθα τα ήθη, τα έθιμά μας, την ιστορία και τον πολιτισμό της Ελλάδας.

Με τους γονείς μου πηγαίνουμε κάθε καλοκαίρι στην Ελλάδα. Έχω δει την Ακρόπολη, πήγα στην αρχαία Ολυμπία, το μέρος που άρχισαν οι Ολυμπιακοί Αγώνες. Στην Κρήτη, στις αρχαίες πόλεις Κνωσσός και Φαιστό εκεί που ήταν ο μεγάλος Μινωικός Πολιτισμός.

Το Ελληνικό Σχολείο με έμαθε να είμαι περήφανη για την καταγωγή μου. Δεν θα ξεχάσω τις φίλιες που έκανα, αγαπώ τις φίλες μου και θα συνεχίσουμε να κάνουμε παρέα.

Ευχαριστώ την μαμά μου, τον μπαμπά μου, την γιαγιά μου.

Αντίο Ελληνικό Σχολείο!



Hellenic Evening School HES

is pleased to announce that we will once again offer a Fall Session of classes in the Modern Greek Language.

Beginner & Intermediate Levels will start on

September 24th and run consecutively through December 3rd

Tuesday nights 7:00-9:00pm

SUBJECT TO MINIMUM REGISTRATION OF 4 STUDENTS AND A MAXIMUM OF 8

Registration is open to Ages 15 and up

TUITION IS \$300 IS DUE AT REGISTRATION

Please contact Salomi Massaras (973) 262-2091 or e-mail salomi@optonline.net or Bessie Petrakos at the church office (973)584-0388 or e-mail info@standrewgonj.org

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Be ready for the next natural disaster by creating an emergency supply kit today.



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Wet wipes, garbage bags, and plastic ties for personal sanitation



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Informed Faith

For me, September has always been associated with a return to school. It was an exciting time because it meant I'd be studying the next level of courses that were to become my life's work. Many students return to new courses, to old and new friends, and to new challenging courses. It also meant moving forward until one day, school ended, and a career was about to start. But not everyone is so lucky to have charted out such a journey. For many, school comes to an end with uncertainties. What do I do now? Should I go here, or maybe there? I'm not sure I like that anymore. What do I do now? Sadly, many of us arrive at the finish line only to wonder if we've run the right race.

One of the most amazing things about life is the potential ability to start another race, where the previous one may have gotten us ready for the new one. There's excitement at the many opportunities one never considered at an earlier time. But it's a different reality now. Possibilities seem so much more narrow. Maybe there's too much of a cost to something new. We are all reminded that we ought to get things right while we can. Let's not just go into college thinking we'd work it out and never do. It's not at all like deciding whether you prefer a vanilla or chocolate shake.

The things of the world occupy much of our time. You might notice the things that got you along yesterday barely seem sufficient for today and certainly seem wanting for tomorrow. We never seem to stop needing more! But is this reality or the reality we want to embrace? What is enough? And who provides the things we think we need?

If you read this, you probably consider yourself an Orthodox Christian. But what is this? If someone were to ask you what it is you believe and why, could you provide a satisfactory answer? Maybe you truly experience the Orthodox faith in your life, but how will you be able to express those deep



experiences to someone curious enough to ask? Are you cognizant of threats to what you believe? How do you respond to the many different ways people understand what they believe is true? Can we all be right at the same time?

I challenge each and every one of you to provide an answer to the simple question, **“Who is Jesus Christ?” Who am I that I should even dare to consider this challenge?** It is no small detail that our Church, most Churches, are losing priority over the aggressive secularity that is no longer shy about laughing at any kind of faith. But remember, “only the fool says in his or her heart, there is no God”. It's never that easy to simply say no to what you do not know.

And this brings us back to September and school. We need to study our faith and learn what it says. We need to respond to the world's challenges with truthfulness and boldness. Each of us who believes is not called to simply attend Church now and then; instead, Jesus Christ calls us to “feed My sheep”. How can you feed any sheep if you don't even know what they eat?

If you are an Orthodox family, take the time as a family to sit down and discuss what each member of the family understands of their faith. Can a family have such a discussion at all? If you find yourself unable to have such a discussion, it will serve to reveal to you and your family the importance of getting ready for some more classes. St. Andrew is working hard to provide you with the material you will need to face these ever increasing challenges to your faith. Can you boldly witness to your belief? Our faith must never accommodate to the world. But what we do need to know today has become very complex. I wonder how many of you even know what science is saying about you. You may agree to various authorities in diverse fields,

but how would you question their claims? How does science, psychology, history, philosophy say the things they do in the certainty that they have spoken truthfully? Imagine standing before an expert in any field who presenting claims you cannot accept. What will be your response? How well do you know what you believe?

It's never easy going back to school. So many things have taken over our lives, our time. There is never a good time to re-start, especially something challenging. It's a matter of priorities. Somehow everyone manages to find the time in a very busy day to attend soccer practice. We always have the time when we want something.

Why does this matter anyway? Salvation! You either treat it as the most important issue in your short life or you don't. You can dismiss it for any number of reasons, but if it's reality, eventually it catches up to you. Someone once had a sign on a church "Important if True". That's where we all have to stop in our many different journeys and ask ourselves that question. Is what we believe important? Does it ultimately matter? If you answered "Yes", then evaluate your knowledge. Isn't it desperately urgent to make relevant your belief? What good is something you believe if it doesn't work in your life? Why be Orthodox? Any belief might do just fine. George Harrison once said "If you don't know the road you're on, any road will do".

Did you know that the Bible offers a vision of ultimate reality? Why should that be of concern to me? Each of us lives from some foundation, some "ultimate" reality, that defines how we are going to live our lives. Many people have never stopped to consider this, but as an Orthodox Christians you are called to examine what directs your life. As we mature, we absorb beliefs. Some of these beliefs become powerful forces shaping how we live, how we determine value, and what significance others have in our life. There is a "buffet" mentality about selecting what is most appealing to how we'd like

to define our faith. We can do this consciously where we knowingly compare and contrast visions for their personal appeal and choose. But we often do this unconsciously where choices are made that affect how we believe about things but are never sure why we believe in the way we do. It just "feels" right and is often strongly supported by powerful emotions. It is at these deeper levels of thought that we are most susceptible to error. This is no more evident than in discussions centered on the Bible and its role. People often dismiss the Bible as mere ancient history or religious stories that seem irrelevant today. By failing to recognize that the Bible offers us an ultimate reality, we search for it elsewhere, often choosing a multitude of perspectives and identifying them as our own. Nothing is more satisfying to our postmodern emphasis on individuality than having our very own established ultimate reality defining the life that is our choice!

We are centered in Christ, not only as a wonderful moral example to live by, but as ultimate reality. We worship in Church because we recognize who we are before God. Such awareness awakens us to life in new ways. You might say that a true transformation is constantly occurring in each of us. That is why it is urgent to re-discover the Bible, the teachings of the Fathers and Mothers, to identify with a saint's life toward perfection, to see the universe as God's work and not a chance accident. You need answers to tough questions but unless you seek them within the Church, you will receive different answers, many of which are just different faith statements. We live in an age of information, but we also live in an age of mis-information. Unless you take the time to know your Orthodox faith, you might be led astray by well sounding ideas and visions. Where salvation is our ultimate concern, shouldn't we at least make the effort to get it right?

Come, find the time, and let us study together!
Herbert F. Schuster



ROOM FOR AGAPE - A VOICE FOR THE SENIORS – SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome back, all our beautiful brothers and sisters! Personally, I am still feeling a void in my heart from all those who passed on this year, so many. But then comes along the joy of all our new family members, eager to be helpful and fellowship with us.



I have a different kind of joy to share. It was seeded in my heart fifty years ago while I was into a major self-pity party. Oh, poor, woe was me, living in a lap of luxury I didn't know how to enjoy – because I couldn't share it with others beyond the framework of my house – husband being boss. I was reading the Gospel according to St John the Theologian (we celebrate him this month). "In the beginning was the Word—the Logos: the record/ memory/ seed/ logic – soundness: the two-edged sword. He spoke of the Word as Personality of God, made manifest through His Son, and then fortified by the Holy Spirit.

I wanted to know what it was about the Word that could be so instructive, enlightening, healing - curative, kind – and yet so cruel, vindictive, deceptive, misleading, demanding, demeaning, and could emotionally murder with the blink of an eye or a flash of a flame from the tip of one's vengeful tongue – so mean. And so I committed the rest of my life to the Lord to find out exactly what the Word was really all about. I volunteered with no reservation—regardless of cost to me. (Having no idea in the world what I was actually saying or committing myself to.)

Over the years, I kept adding more as He taught me unforgettable lessons; one at a time –repeating over and over until I got it right - *plus* applied it – then on to the next and the next--- The only rule to follow was, I could not sell my soul to anyone for any reason. Stop/quit: no sale or compromise.

And now, as I learn more about early Church history, I realize He gave the same course to the early Fathers – although in a different time - or age. Only they didn't have to ask about the power of the Word

because they literally lived with it – or got the straight story from the generation preceding, about the Transfiguration and Pentecost, Resurrection, plus many healing powers. Christ's power was revealed to them directly in very graphic ways, even though they couldn't comprehend it until actually working with it on their own by way of Holy Spirit from the Father later on, after the Roman persecution was settled down by Constantine when he moved headquarters to the East.

The fathers suddenly came face to face with the Other side of the two-edged sword, just as John had warned in his open letter, First John 2:22-27. warning about the anti-Christ already doing dirty work trying to destroy/mutilate the Gospel message.

When Emperor Constantine moved from Rome to new Constantinople, Christians were now free to worship, and/but the Romans wanted their House/throne back, doing everything possible to undermine, override and/or distort everything the East tried to do to pull Christians together as the Church of Christ. For example, soon enough golden-mouthed John Chrysostom kept being exiled by his own House/throne by the current empress.

These were very turbulent times but the Early Church took root in a formalized manner through Ecumenical Councils, focused on Orthodox structure. St Poimen was inspired to conceive and develop the practice of prayer known as Prayer of the Heart: to make oneself Mind by way of self -discipline through dedicated prayer: "*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, be merciful to me, a sinner:*" with help by way of pace control with a prayer rope. This was a wondrous practice and many

monks followed his way – including Roman ones with ideas of their own. In their fervor, for whatever deep reasons, they stirred up rage against anything having to do with reason – ie, the Logos of reason. They raged on Alexandria, “Greek Athens” of the times. What they did was a savagery of deepest darkness that Christ Jesus would have never been part of or condoned for any reason. And suddenly, perfectly obvious, the fiery two-edged sword showed its Other side at its ugliest.

One thing for sure, the Holy Fathers realized starkly that Word power, fueled by untamed Spirit, was phenomenally more than they had imagined in any way shape or form. And that Christ, as a man on earth, could only reveal the least of Himself because the people were so primitive and needed earthy consolation more than an exhibit of Noble Kingly power and knowledge.

This made a profound impression on the Holy Fathers and, if any had slighted the fullness of Christ’s manifold powers, surely they did no longer. Talk about humility? No way to go deeper in utterly speechless remorse than with ceaseless prayers of contrition.

And this is where God’s mercy came in to heal their devastated souls. John 3:16 PLUS 17: *for God sent not His Son to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.* And He lifted them up, allowing them to remember: Vengeance is Mine, sayeth the Lord; I will repay. (You do *your* work; I’ll do mine. You stay with the patterns and principles as My Son taught them; leave the rest to Me.) Then a breath of Holy Spirit breezed by to clarify a potential weakness: “Me meant ME – not you; and mine is Mine, not yours. Ownership is very personal with Me; I am your Creator – and balanced valence means Everything to Me.”

And so it was that the Holy Fathers, while building Liturgies for the followers, kept this weakness innate to power in mind at all times - because of our fleshly construction. We are chemical plants and react as chemicals do under stress. Indeed we are sinners all in many ways – synergy, synchrony, symmetry, for

example; also synthetic when forced into fallible reconstructions.

The incident at Alexandria became one indelible lesson. *Sound comes to Light for Life by way of the live-in Word, soundly structured.* - and has the potential/plus weakness to go nuclear when stressed beyond a certain limit – especially when enough is already more than plenty enough already, being heavy laden.

Resilience: this is the power that Christ offers us: to balance, to restore, to heal the already insults resulting from old injuries and provide, in its place, some alternate course that’s more beneficial to all – such as being forgiving – or at least understanding – *by way of the heart* – with feeling.

Dear brothers and sisters, we are the family of God. We can relate to one another in at least one way: all of us are Human – and all of us treasure understanding and forgiveness from time to time – regardless of who thinks they’re boss. Each of us govern our own personal kingdom – and Christ understands our pain. How? *Because He was here and He suffered for us – as a human being – PLUS He was humiliated in every which way on the cross – even though noble and King of us all! And here’s where the love truly comes to Light for all of us: He could have, at any moment, said – no more; I’ve had enough; they’re not worth it. BUT – B_U_T: beauty. He obeyed His Father – and completed His assignment – as an act of pure love – even though we definitely didn’t deserve it!*

Our first luncheon of the new season is September Tuesday September 17 at 11:30am. Please be thinking of topics you’d like to discuss or learn about – and also possible daytrips. If you are AARP age and would like to fellowship with our wiser older folk like yourself, please come along and, by all means, remember not to make doctor appointments on third Tuesdays so you can be with us.

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

September 2019 - Welcome Back!

Summer for me was hosting some family & friends in Karpathos, visiting family in Athens, Rhodes, and Crete, relaxing on the beach, eating natural & fresh food, laughing, and so on, and so on, and so on, whenever we go to Greece! Hope you had a restful summer and now time to focus on your children's schools and careers!



Here are some tips from the New Jersey Education Association to prepare your children for a safe and successful school year.

“Your child is heading back to school soon. Besides shopping for backpacks and new shoes, what should you be doing to get your child ready? NJEA has tips and

advice to help parents prepare their children for a successful school year...

Most of the burden for your children being in school is now on their teachers, not you. I hope this summer while your children enjoyed the great outdoors, trips to Greece, camps, swimming events, even summer school, etc., you sat with them and made these activities all learning experiences! These were all lessons from life and now other individuals will have the additional responsibility of teaching them about academic lessons that they need to know. These academic life lessons will assist them in understanding language arts, math, science, history, health, physical education, and of course the visual and performing arts.

Encourage your children to follow the code of conduct in their school. That includes college dorm life! Just because they are “adults” now, there are still rules. It goes for activities in Greek School, Sunday School, JOY, and GOYA. Encourage regular attendance. If you know your children will be absent, encourage them to ask for the assignments; don't ask for them; teach them responsibility. If they get a low grade for not turning work in – they will know it was their responsibility to ask. Work with their teachers – not against them.

- *“Plan a route - If your child walks or bikes to school walk the route and emphasize safety.*
- *Visit the school - Try to meet the teacher too!*
- *Set goals with your child - Create frequent rewards for success.*
- *Make a schedule - Set aside time each day for studying, reading and playing.*
- *Go to bed - Sleep patterns change slowly. Get your child back to a regular schedule.*
- *Shake off the cobwebs - Read a book together. Review last year's math skills. Practice neat handwriting.*
- *Create excitement - Shop together for clothes and school supplies to get in the school spirit.*
- *Remember, your attitude is contagious - Get excited about new teachers, friends, and opportunities and your child will too!”*

Don't forget the “adults” in the dormitory, at their jobs, or serving for their country! They may think they are independent, but they are still your babies!

This month's **Table Prayer Guide** is from **The Church of the Home** –

“Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home” by Rev. Fr. Anthony M. Coniaris

The most influential school in the world is not Oxford or Harvard or the Sorbonne or Yale or Cambridge. It is the home. The question is not, “Is there a school under your roof?” The real question is, “How good is the school under your roof?” What are you teaching? If the one hour a week spent in Church and Church School is to be effective, it must be supplemented in the greatest of all schools, the home, by dedicated Christian parents who, by family discussions, family prayer, a special family evening, family Bible reading, family devotions at the supper table, will give their children the greatest gift possible: the knowledge of the One, True God Christ Jesus Who will walk with them through life, strengthen them, heal them, guide them, and give meaning to their life, grant the peace of God and lead them ultimately to life eternal.”

With my husband Mike, and son Nicholas, we wish a great school year for your children, love, peace, and serenity throughout the year!

Feel free to e-mail 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 | Teacher at Educational Services Commission of Morris County, Parsippany Schools, Morris & Essex County, St. Elizabeth’s Academy in Convent Station, & Arrow Academy School in Whippany. | (Information, Teaching, Tutoring, Counseling, Homebound Instruction)

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS – ΒΑΠΤΙΣΙΣ

KONSTANTINOS LIAM TSIlios, son of Panagiotis K. TsiIios and Tara Marie Taggart was baptized on May 15th, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **KONSTANTINOS – ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ**. Godfather was Theodore Marcou.

NIKOLAOS TSAKIRIDIS, son of Dimitrios Tsakiridis and Maria Theodoridis was baptized on June 23, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **NIKOLAOS - ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ** . Godmother was Sophia Josephine Theodoridis .

XIN DAI, daughter of Jianjun Dai and Lijing Zhang was baptized on July 14, 2019 according to the rites of our faith and given the name **VERONICA – ΒΕΡΟΝΙΚΑ** Godmother was Julie Ioannou.

WEDDINGS – ΓΑΜΟΙ

On June 1st, 2019 **Richard Anthony Langone** of North Brunswick, NJ wed Marie Gizas of Dover, NJ. Sponsor was Panayiota Gizas, witness was Frank Sill.

On June 2nd, 2019 Ernes Palestis wed Monica Claire Nelson of Dover, NJ. Sponsor was John Moskonas, witness was Betty Kelly.

Congratulations to all! Συγχαρητήρια σε όλους!

DONATIONS IN HONOR OF:

Jack & Betty Kelly’s ‘Golden’ 50th Wedding Anniversary
Nicholaos & Florence Mitsinicos ‘Golden’ 50th Wedding Anniversary
Chrysanthe Borzeka

To all who participated in the Funeral & Memorial Service for
+John Borzeka. Thank you for your friendship and love.
Chrysanthe Borzeka and Family

Hristos Kalavrouziotis passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, with his family by his side.

Hristos was born on April 20, 1945, in Kalavrouza, Greece. In 1969, he and his wife immigrated to the United States to begin their life together. His work ethic and drive for a better life were driving forces in him actively operating restaurants throughout his life. He was the owner of Golden Touch Diner until his retirement in 2013.

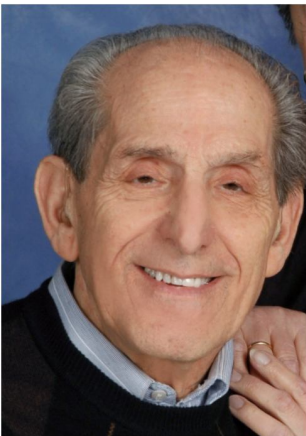
He will be remembered as a devoted husband of 50 years, loving father, and doting grandfather. His interests revolved around his family as he enjoyed vacationing and spending quality time together. Furthermore, over the years, he earned a reputation of being a social fellow that enjoyed conversing with his friends. He was a true family man and friend whom will be missed by all who knew him.



Hristos is survived by his loving wife, Evagelia, and his three children, Maggie and her husband John Zois; Vicki and her husband Tom Kostis; and Tim Kalavrouziotis and his wife Christina; and his seven grandchildren, Eleni, Lia and Vasili Zois, Emmanuela Kostis, and Christos, Evangelos and Maria Kalavrouziotis. He is also survived by his brother Tom Kalavrouziotis and his wife Penny, his sister-in-laws Kassiani and Irene Kalavrouziotis, numerous nieces and nephews, and other family and friends. He will truly be missed by his loved ones. May his memory be eternal.

A Funeral Service was held on Friday, May 24, 2019 at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph for the repose of his soul. The Interment is at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover.

John A. Borzeka passed away Saturday June 22, 2019 after a short illness. He was 86.



John was born July 29th 1932 in Carteret, NJ. He and his family moved to Morristown in 1940, and he graduated from Morristown High School in 1951. John began working at Allen Paper & Supply Company in Morristown at the age of 15. He worked for 65 years as a salesman and warehouse manager retiring at the age of 80. John proudly served 2 years in the US Army from 1956-1958 followed by 3 years in the reserves. John married the love of his life Chrysanthe (Kostas) on Feb 1, 1969.

George Moshen said "John was someone who always brought a smile to your face. He loved people and he had a way of making everyone feel special. From the time I entered ST Andrew in 1986 until the night, last December, before Claire and I left for our move to Arizona, John was a constant in the chaos of life."

John was a devoted husband loving father and cherished grandfather. He was a true family man and enjoyed nothing more than spending time with family. In his short retirement, John could often be found at the local diners enjoying the company of his former customers and lifelong friends. John is predeceased by his parents Athanasios and Athena Borzeka, his 4 brothers Peter, Efstratios, Michael and Nicholas and his 3 sisters, Julia Baldwin, Elsie Gerdes and Grace DeHagara. He is survived by his loving wife Chrysanthe, three children Thomas, Athena and Stephen and his wife Peggy and his two grandchildren Chrysanthe & John. He is also survived by his brother Stephen of Las Vegas, NV and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

A Funeral Service for the repose of his soul was held on Friday June 28, 2019 at Saint Andrew Greek Orthodox Church. Entombment is at Restland Memorial Park in East Hanover.

Styliani "Stella" Gounaris died on Monday, July 15, 2019 at her home. She was 81.

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, she lived in Cypress, Greece and in Astoria, NY before moving to Rockaway Twp. 45 ago.

Mrs. Gounaris was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She worked as a seamstress at Gotthelf Knitting Mills, Boonton prior to her retirement. She was a member of St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph and the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Chapter #1024.

She is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, John Gounaris; two children: Jason Gounaris and Rebecca (& Paul) Turner all of Wharton; and three granddaughters: Melina, Zoe and Sophia Turner.



A Funeral Service for the repose of her soul was held on Friday, July 19 at 10:00 AM at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church, Interment is at Locust Hill Cemetery in Dover.

Simeon Syristatides passed away in his home on July 20th 2019. He was 90 years old. Simeon was the son of the late Nikolas and Kalliopi (Michtatidis) Syristatides Simeon was predeceased by his wife Argyro (Roula) [Koutsaliotis] who passed away in September 2018. He leaves behind his three sons Nicholas, Stratos and Haralambos Syristatides, his brother Alexander and sister Parthean Kondis. 4 grandchildren.

A Funeral Service was held for the repose of his soul on Friday July 26 at 10:30am at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox church. Internment is at the Hilltop Cemetery in Menham.

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF:

+John Borzeka

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+Donald Galvin

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+Stella Gounaris

Constantine & Eugenia Sedereas

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John & Ellen Manetas

Charles & Mary Demos

Chrysanthe Borzeka

+Hristos Kalavrouziotis

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Athena Borzeka

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Athanasios & Christina Scinas &

Anthony

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John & Chrysanthe Borzeka

+Sopho Mavros

Despina Eptamenitis

+George Minakakis

Nicholas & Florence Mitsinicos

+Simeon Syristatides

Evangelia Papastavrou

Stilianos & Susan Nikolaou

Stratos & Zoe Kotsialiotis

Katina Couluris

Pauline Pappas

Charles & Mary Demos

Chrysanthe Borzeka

+Dionysios Troth

Evangelie Troth

+Vaia Zoidis

Michael & Irene Melekos

+Andreas & Lillian Boyadjis

Chrysanthe Borzeka

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Evangelie Troth

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

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS SEPTEMBER: 9/2 PHILOPTOCHOS
9/8 PTA, 9/15 AT ASBURY PARK, 9/22 DOP, 9/29 GOYA

9/2 LABOR DAY

9/6 & 9/7 @9am-4pm Rummage Sale

9/8 @11:15am AGIASMOS for Sunday school & all
educators (*Religious, Greek, Public schools*)

9/8 1st Day of Sunday School after Holy Communion

9/8 @3pm BAPTISM SZELAGE

9/10 GOYA REGISTRATIONS & MEETING W. PARENTS

9/12 @4:30pm Agiasmos for Hellenic Afternoon
School followed by 1st day of classes

9/15 Services will be held at Asbury Park
No Service at St. Andrew (to be confirmed)

9/17 @11:30am Agape Luncheon 3rd Tuesday

9/17 @7pm Council of Ministries Meeting

9/19 @6:30PM 1st Day of Greek Dance Jr &
@7pm GOYA Dance

9/20 GOYA KICK OFF DANCE in Clifton

9/21 75th Anniversary - St Basil's Academy

9/23 @7:30pm Parish Council Meeting 4th Monday

9/24 @7pm Philoptochos Meeting 4th Tuesday

9/26 @6:30pm GOYA Meeting 4th Thursday

9/28 FAITH KITCHEN – PARISH COUNCIL

9/28 @3:30PM WEDDING

9/29 @1:00PM BAPTISM NTEKAS TWINS

@3PM BAPTISM KASSOLAS

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS OCTOBER: 10/6 PHILOPTOCHOS
10/13 PTA, 10/20 DOP, 10/27GOYA

10/5 Philoptochos Bus TRIP TO LONGWOOD GARDENS,
Kennett Square, PA | Saturday 8am-6pm \$60pp
Contact Betty Kelly 973-704-0377 by 9/15/19

10/13 Mr. & Miss GOYA PAGEANT / PINES MANOR, EDISON

10/26 FAITH KITCHEN – GOYA

10/26 @3PM DRAKE –TIRONDOLA WEDDING

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

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

11/16 @3PM MULVANEY-SERETIS WEDDING

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

11/23 FAITH KITCHEN - PHILOPTOCHOS

11/24 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

11/24 @2PM KAVRAZONIS-AFXENTIOU WEDDING

11/25 TENTATIVE @7PM GA MEETING

11/29 @7pm Great Vespers at Saint Andrew

11/30 Saturday +Saint Andrew Day

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NOVEMBER 12/1 PHILOPTOCHOS,
12/8 PTA, 12/15 DOP, 12/22 GOYA, 12/29 PC

12/15 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

12/15 ELECTIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

12/28 FAITH KITCHEN- DOP/AHEPA

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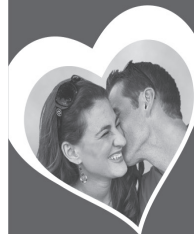
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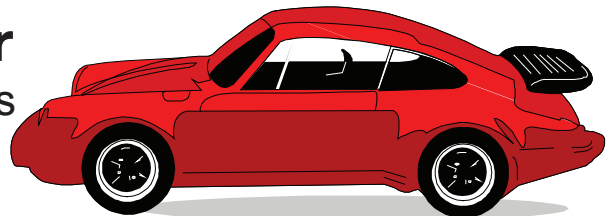
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Chris Neroutsos, *Chanter*

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, Vasilina 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): Maria Pallis

HOPE & JOY: Harriet Karkanias, Lynn Axiotes

GOYA

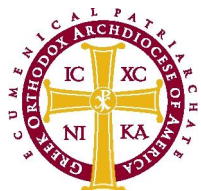
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Hellenic Dance

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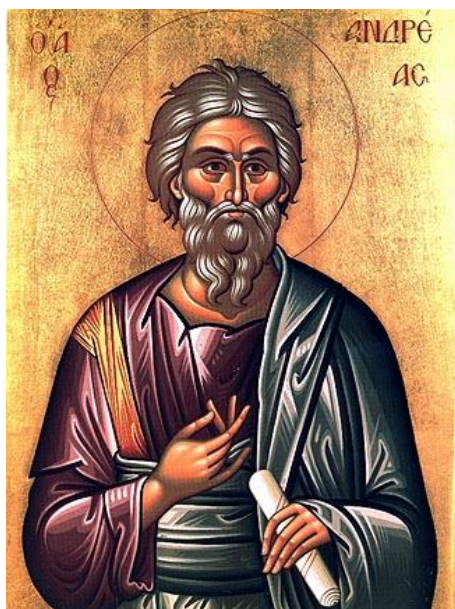
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"By this My Father is glorified, That you bear much fruit."

John 15:8

Are You Bearing Fruit?

We all know the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand in the wilderness --- there was no food, except for one boy who had five loaves and two fish – not much when you consider 5000 men. But Jesus blessed the loaves, multiplied them and used them to feed the 5000.

That boy did his best with what he had. And Jesus used it to perform a beautiful miracle.

Just like the boy who offered his five loaves and two fish, we offer what we have – however great or small our gift. If we do this prayerfully and in humility, God will take our gifts and multiply them in order to feed His people.

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.