



SAINT NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Message from FR. MICHAEL L. PASTRIKOS, PROTOPRESBYTER

To all our Parishioners and friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and Blessed New year 2017.

Each New Year, brings with it hope of new beginnings and that means that people are making resolutions all around us. I pray that the renewal and hope of the New Year will be remembered in each moment of the coming year and in all years to come. That every day, every moment, every breath will bring to you a constantly unfolding awakening to the beauty, joy and love that resides in your deepest heart within which is the Truth of who you are. In every New Year we leave the old and look forward to a challenging and exciting new one. We can reminisce and look back in time on what happened to all of us in the year 2016. Last year was a year that we all should remember. So many activities and events took place in our Parish and we should be proud that when we work together for a common cause, and common goals, we will always be successful. I'm sure there are positives as well as negative reactions concerning what we experienced last year, but those thoughts are very minor considering on what transpired throughout the year in our Church. It would take another two pages of this article to explain all the challenges and accomplishments that took place last year in our Parish. But now we are opening a New Year in our lives, a time where we can fix or correct the errors that occurred during our lives and we need to start anew bringing the Lord Jesus Christ into the forefront of our lives. We need to get back on track and set sail to a new destination; a destination that only God can provide for us. Look at all the problems that are going on in this world, look at our own Society. The only thing that our Society can provide for us is our fake and temporary existence. We are going backwards instead of going in a positive direction. Why? Because we have taken Christ out of our lives and we have substituted Him with earthly pleasures and desires. St. Clement said, "The primary lesson for life must be implemented in the soul from the earliest age. The primary lesson for children is to know the eternal God, the One who gives everlasting life."

We the today Christians, with due respect, we lack in worship, in faith and in knowledge. We are slowly losing our children to the pleasures of this world. God is not an idea or



a piece of information. God is Someone to know, Someone to Whom we must introduce our children too. You might ask? How does one introduce God to our children? Well, the Parents have to make the acquaintances first; we have to seek Him out and get to know Him, so that we can help our children to know who Jesus Christ is. Remember the best way to raise a Saint- is

to become a Saint. There is no instant pill-no catchy phrase that will do it. It's a path, it's the way, it's a very huge task to accomplish but it can be done if we seek the way to the Lord.

During this month we will also be celebrating the Feast of Epiphany - The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord gives us another opportunity to reflect again on our relationship with Christ. Thanking our Lord for the blessings we have received. During the Holidays it's great to have our children, your grandchildren, your relatives and friends over the house for the Holidays. It's great to share gifts with each other. It's great to break bread and enjoy the spirit of Christmas and New Year's with the family.

During both celebrations the Church also provides for the spiritual welfare for everyone in the parish to come together, to pray and glorify God, and receive Him in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Let us make a positive resolution to pursue our lives in accordance with the Will of God, and put our spiritual household in order, not only on certain events of the year, but for the remainder of our lives.

May our Incarnate Lord bless and keep you healthy and wise, and let's make this New Year 2017 the Year of Christ.

K O I N O N I A



# Μήνυμα Από τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Α. Παστρικό

Πρός όλους τους Ενοριίτες και φίλους μας,

Θα ήθελα να εκμεταλλευτώ αυτή την ευκαιρία και να ευχηθώ ευτυχισμένο και ευλογημένο το Νέο έτος 2017.

Κάθε νέο έτος, φέρνει μαζί του την ελπίδα για νέα ξεκινήματα, που σημαίνει ότι οι άνθρωποι κάνουν νέες υποσχέσεις και παίρνουν νέες αποφάσεις. Προσεύχομαι όπως την ανανέωση και την ελπίδα του νέου έτους θα τις θυμόμαστε σε κάθε στιγμή του επομένου έτους, και σε όλα τα χρόνια που θα ακολουθήσουν. Η κάθε μέρα, η κάθε στιγμή, να σας φέρνει συνεχώς πιο κοντά στην ομορφιά, τη χαρά και την αγάπη που κατοικεί στο βαθύτερο μέρος της καρδιά σας, μέσα στην οποία κατοικεί η αλήθεια για το ποιο είστε.

Κάθε νέο έτος, αφήνουμε πίσω το παλιό και προσδοκούμε το συναρπαστικό νέο. Μπορούμε να αναπολούμε και να κοιτάζουμε πίσω στο χρόνο, ό,τι όλοι μας βιώσαμε το έτος 2016. Πέρυσι ήταν μια χρονιά που όλοι πρέπει να θυμόμαστε. Στην Ενορία μας έλαβαν χώρα πολλές δραστηριότητες και εκδηλώσεις που μας κάνουν υπερήφανους, διότι όταν δουλεύουμε όλοι μαζί, για έναν κοινό σκοπό και για κοινούς στόχους, έχουμε πάντα επιτυχία. Είμαι βέβαιος ότι υπάρχουν θετικές καθώς και αρνητικές αντιδράσεις σχετικά με το τι βιώσαμε πέρυσι, αλλά αυτές οι σκέψεις είναι πολύ μικρές σχετικά με το τι επιτελέστηκε τη χρονιά που πέρασε στην Εκκλησία μας. Θα χρειάζομαι άλλες δύο σελίδες αυτού του άρθρου, για να εξηγήσω και να απαρηθμίσω όλες τις προκλήσεις και τα επιτεύγματα που πραγματοποιήθηκαν πέρυσι στην Ενορία μας.

Αλλά τώρα ανοίγουμε ένα νέο κεφάλαιο, ένα νέο έτος στη ζωή μας, μια

εποχή όπου μπορούμε να φτιάξουμε ή να διορθώσουμε τα λάθη που σημειώθηκαν στη ζωή μας και να αρχίσουμε εκ νέου φέρνοντας τον Κύριο Ιησού Χριστό στο προσκήνιο της ζωής μας. Πρέπει να ξαναμπούμε στο μονοπάτι και να βάλουμε στόχο σε ένα νέο προορισμό, ένα προορισμό που μόνο ο Θεός μπορεί μας υποδείξει. Κοιτάξτε όλα τα προβλήματα που συμβαίνουν στον κόσμο, κοιτάξτε τη δική μας Κοινωνία. Το μόνο πράγμα που η κοινωνία μας μπορεί να μας προσφέρει είναι την ψεύτικη και προσωρινή μας ύπαρξη. Πάμε προς τα πίσω αντί να βαδίζουμε σε μια θετική κατεύθυνση. Γιατί, Επειδή έχουμε βγάλει το Χριστό από τη ζωή μας και Τον έχουμε αντικαταστήσει με γήινες προσωρινές απολαύσεις και επιθυμίες. Ο Άγιος Κλημέντιος είπε, «Το πρωταρχικό μάθημα ζωής πρέπει να επιτελείται στην ψυχή από την πολύ νεαρή ηλικία. Το πρωτεύον μάθημα για τα παιδιά είναι να γνωρίζουν τον αιώνιο Θεό, Αυτόν που χαρίζει την αιώνια ζωή.»

Εμείς, οι σημερινοί χριστιανοί, με όλο το σεβασμό, στερούμαστε εκκλησιασμού, πίστης και γνώσης. Σιγά σιγά χάνουμε τα παιδιά μας για τις απολαύσεις αυτού του κόσμου. Ο Θεός δεν είναι ιδέα ή ένα είδος πληροφοριών. Ο Θεός είναι Κάποιος που γνωρίζει, και Κάποιος τον οποίο θα πρέπει σίγουρα να συστήσουμε τα παιδιά μας. Μπορεί να αναρωτιέστε... Πως μπορεί κάποιος να συστήσει τον Θεό στα παιδιά μας; Οι γονείς πρέπει να κάνουν τις πρώτες συστάσεις. Πρέπει να Τον αναζητήσουμε και να Τον γνωρίσουμε, έτσι ώστε να μπορούμε να βοηθήσουμε τα παιδιά μας να γνωρίσουν ποιος είναι ο Ιησούς Χριστός. Να θυμάστε ότι ο καλλίτερος τρόπος για να προβάλλεται ένας Άγιο- είναι να γίνεται εσείς Άγιοι. Δεν υπάρχει

κάποιο αυτόματο χάπι-ή κάποια φράση που θα το κάνει. Είναι ένα μονοπάτι, είναι ο τρόπος, είναι ένα πολύ μεγάλο έργο που πρέπει να ολοκληρωθεί, και αυτό μπορεί να γίνει, αν επιδιώξουμε τον δρόμο προς τον Κύριο.

Αυτό το μήνα θα εορτάσουμε επίσης την Εορτή των Θεοφανείων, την Βάπτισή του Κυρίου Ιησού Χριστού. Ο Κύριος μας δίνει άλλη μια ευκαιρία που και πάλι αντανάκλα στη σχέση μας με τον Χριστό. Να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Κύριο μας για τις ευλογίες που έχουμε λάβει. Κατά τη διάρκεια των Εορτών είναι μεγάλη χαρά να έχουμε τα παιδιά μας, τα εγγόνια μας, τους συγγενείς και τους φίλους μας μαζί μας στο σπίτι. Είναι μεγάλη χαρά να ανταλλάσουμε μεταξύ μας δώρα. Είναι μεγάλη χαρά να τρώμε όλοι μαζί και να απολαμβάνουμε το πνεύμα των Χριστουγέννων και της Πρωτοχρονιάς με την οικογένεια.

Κατά τη διάρκεια των δύο αυτών εορτών η Εκκλησία προβλέπει την πνευματική και κοινωνική παρεμβάση για όλους στην ενορία, να προσέλθουν, για να προσευχηθούν, να δοξάσουν τον Θεό, και να Τον δεχθούν με το Μυστήριο της Θείας Κοινωνίας.

Ας πάρουμε μια θετική απόφαση, να συνεχίσουμε τη ζωή μας σύμφωνα με το θέλημα του Θεού, και να βάλουμε την οικογένειά μας στην πνευματική πορεία, όχι μόνο για ορισμένα γεγονότα της χρονιάς, αλλά για το υπόλοιπο της ζωής μας.

Σας εύχομαι ο ενσαρκωθείς Κύριός μας να σας ευλογεί και να σας χαρίζει υγεία, και σοφία. Ας κάνουμε αυτή τη νέα χρονιά, 2017, χρονιά του Χριστού.

## 2017 STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE . . . CAN YOU DO IT?

### ONE YEAR - ONE PERCENT

Not 10%... Not 5%... Only 1% of your annual income.

Complete your stewardship card today and receive your **2017 Parking Permit** for the church parking lot (see page 17 for more information)

**PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE YOUR STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS FOR 2016!**

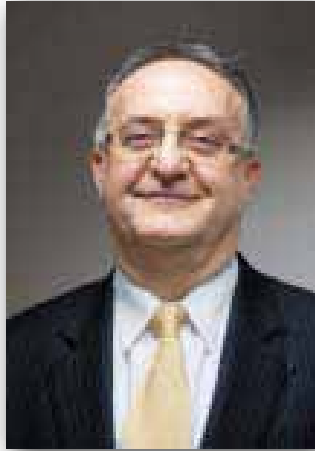
## Message from DEMOS ANASTASIADES, PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT / ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟ

Dear Parishioners,

New beginnings, fresh starts and infinite possibilities come to mind as the church bells ring in the new year. Let's make heartfelt promises to care more, pray more, forgive one another, improve strained relationships with family, or friends, make new friends and live more of a Christ centered life. Let's promise to pray generously for those facing difficult circumstances who may be entering the new year with apprehension or anxiety as well as to pray generously for those with good fortune that their blessings may continue. Let's promise to pray regularly for the well-being of St. Nicholas Church, our ministries, our parish organizations, the success of the Greektown Square and Event Center, the learning center, Father Michael L. Pastrokos and the Parish Council so that they may lead us with divine guidance and humility.

Today, I send heartfelt wishes for happiness, health and prosperity to all the St. Nicholas Parishioners.

God bless and Happy New Year!!



In Christ,

Demos Anastasiades, Parish Council President

Αγαπητοί Ενοριτες,

Νέα ξεκινήματα, νέα αρχή και άπειρες δυνατότητες έρχονται στο μυαλό, όταν σημαίνουν οι καμπάνες της εκκλησίας το νέο έτος. Ας υποσχεθούμε με ειλικρίνεια, να ενδιαφόμεστε περισσότερο, να προσευχόμεστε περισσότερο, και να συγχωρούμε ο ένας τον άλλο, να βελτιώνουμε τεταμένες σχέσεις με την οικογένεια ή τους φίλους μας, να κάνουμε νέους φίλους και να έχουμε ως επίκεντρο της ζωής μας το Χριστό. Ας υποσχεθούμε ότι θα προσευχόμεστε όσο μπορούμε περισσότερο για εκείνους που αντιμετωπίζουν δύσκολες καταστάσεις και που μπορεί να ξεκινούν το νέο έτος με ανησυχία ή άγχος, επίσης να προσευχόμεστε για τα άτομα που είναι ευλογημένα με καλή τύχη, ώστε οι ευλογίες τους να συνεχιστούν. Ας υποσχεθούμε να προσευχόμεστε τακτικά για την ευημερία της Εκκλησίας\ Κοινότητας του Αγίου Νικολάου, τις οργανώσεις της ενορίας μας, την επιτυχία του Greektown Square & Event Center, το κέντρο εκμάθησης, τον Πατέρα Μιχαήλ Παστρικό και το Ενοριακό Συμβούλιο, ώστε να μας οδηγούν με θεία καθοδήγηση και ταπεινότητα.

Σήμερα στέλνω εγκάρδιες ευχές για ευτυχία, υγεία και ευημερία προς όλα τα μέλη της Κοινότητας του Αγίου Νικολάου.

Ευτυχισμένος ο Καινούργιος Χρόνος!

Εν Χριστώ,

Δήμος Αναστασιάδης,

Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου

### THE BLESSINGS OF THE WATER . . . ANNUAL TRIP TO OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

The Ladies Panchian Society is sponsoring a trip to St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean City, Maryland to celebrate the "Blessings of the Waters." The trip will take place on Saturday, January 6, 2017. After the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, participants will travel to the beach for the Blessing of the Waters and for the "diving of the Cross". Youths and adults are welcomed to dive for the Cross in the Atlantic ocean. Those interested in that activity should bring appropriate bathing suits, wet-suits and towels. The cost of the trip is \$35.00 per person.

The bus will depart St. Nicholas Church at 7 a.m. and return by 7 p.m. that same evening. All children must be accompanied by an adult. If you are interested, please contact Sofia Koumoudis at 240-375-5464 or Kiki Stroumbis at 410-952-3679. Let's fill the bus!!!

Thank you,

Rev. Father Michael L. Pastrokos

*The Church would like to start interviewing parishioners who either volunteer their time or work at below market wages for our beloved St. Nicholas Church. The interviews will be shown on the large video screen in the Atrium after Church services and at various times when people are at the Church. Interview scripts have already been prepared and a list of people to be interviewed is being developed.*

*To get this started, the Church is seeking someone who would be interested in contacting the volunteers on our list and to conduct the interviews. It should actually be a lot of fun. The interviews will start with Father Michael, then Demos and followed by our Board members. Next, the interviews will include everyone else who supports the Plateia and our many Church and Church-affiliated organizations.*

This is what you will need to do:

1. Contact the individuals on our interview list,
2. Set-up interview dates,
3. Coordinate with our videographer who will professionally record the interviews, and
4. Conduct the interviews...

*If you are interested in being the interviewer, please notify the Church office or tell someone on the Parish Council.*

# CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

**PROTOPRESBYTER FR. MICHAEL PASTRIKOS, PASTOR** Tel: 410-633-5020 • Fax: 410-633-4352 • Cell: 443-742-8314

**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
MARIA SALPEAS

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL

NURSERY AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN:  
LIA KARAGIANOPOULOS, ROSE KOSTAKIS  
KINDERGARTEN: YANA KARABELAS, AIDE-NIKI CANNING  
1ST GRADE: PENNY GERAPETRITIS, AIDE-LEMONIA  
2ND GRADE: NIKOL AKALESTOS, JENNA STAKIAS  
3RD GRADE: KRISTINA ANASTASIADES, 3RD GRADE  
4TH GRADE: GEORGE KARAGIANOPOULOS,  
AIDE-ELENI PIKOUNIS  
5TH GRADE: STAVROULA SAKELAKIS,

## SUNDAY SCHOOL continued

AIDE-MARKELLA CORNIAS  
6TH GRADE: MARIA FILIPPOU,  
AIDE-FLORA GIAKOUMAKIS  
7TH GRADE: CHRISSE COSSIS,  
8TH GRADE: FOULA PARAGIOS  
9TH GRADE: PHAEDRA AVGERINOS  
10TH GRADE: VASILIS PHILIPPOU

## AFTERNOON GREEK SCHOOL

CHAIRMAN OF THE GREEK SCHOOL COMMITTEE &  
DIRECTOR OF THE GREEK SCHOOL:  
STAMATIA IEROMONAHOS  
EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL:  
CHARA RONTOULI-BACHER  
DESPINA CHATZAKOU-LARENTZOS  
ASIMINA BLETTA-FILIPPAKIS  
EIRINI ANASTASIOU-TSIATSOULI  
SEVASTI FROUMIS  
STELLA TZINI-MOSHONISIOTIS  
ELENI MASTORAS  
DANCE TEACHER: ZENOVIA (JENNA) D. STAKIAS

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NITSA ZDZIERA, BOARD MEMBER

## THE HELLENIC HERITAGE MUSEUM and ARCHIVES of Maryland, Inc.



### Presents Its 3rd Speaker Series Celebrity

**MIKE EMANUEL**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2017  
12:30 P.M. following church services

ANNUNCIATION ORTHODOX CENTER  
25 West Preston Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



Free Parking on Both Cathedral Lots

Make your checks payable to HHMAM, and please,  
Include your email and phone number.

Mike Emanuel currently serves as chief congressional correspondent and senior political correspondent for FOX News, Channel (FNC).

Payment should be forwarded to,  
Stacy Kosmides  
11936 Mays Chapel Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

Mike will share his experiences and the influences  
of his Greek heritage and his Greek Orthodox faith.

Please plan to attend this special event!  
\$45.00 a person includes lunch.

For inquiries, please contact  
Stacy, at 410-560-1095, [skosmides@msn.com](mailto:skosmides@msn.com)  
or Anna Z. Pappas, 410-296-2522, [azplato@verizon.net](mailto:azplato@verizon.net)

# DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

***In memory of Katherine Tagliamburis***

Ms. Mary Lou Pizanis  
Mrs. Tina Halkias

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Saint Paraskevi Society  
Ms. Alinda O'Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Galiatsatos  
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Mr. & Mrs. Philip & Marina Christ & Family  
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***In memory of Andreas & Paraskevi Kaikis***

Mr. & Mrs. Philip & Marina Christ & Family  
Ms. Irene Lericos  
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***In memory of George Fantis***

Mr. & Mrs. Clemis Kaikis

***In memory of Maritsa Kosmas***

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***In memory of Anna Farsadakis***

Mrs. Angelilki Hatzidakis & Konstantinos

***In memory of Anna Stavrakis***

Mrs. Angelilki Hatzidakis & Konstantinos

***In memory of Epaminondas Chrissomallis***

Mrs. Sophie Chrissomallis

***In memory of Gus Bakas***

Mr. Patrick Smith

***In memory of George Tsambicos***

Theodore & Toula Onasis

***In memory of Victor Woods***

Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Galiatsatos

***In memory of John Rigopoulos***

Theodore & Toula Onasis  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Antonas

***In memory of George Cornias***

Mrs. Sophie Chrissomallis  
Mrs. Flora Christ

***In memory of Nicholas Souranis***

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Antonas  
Ms. Olympia Demides & Maria Chrissopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Maria Christ  
Mrs. Flora Christ  
Saint Paraskevi Society

***In memory of Dr. Nicolas Papadimitriou***

Mrs. Erma Papadimitriou  
Dr. George Dimitri

***In memory of Steve Kosmos***

Maria Salpeas & Family

***In memory of Carol Fotiou***

Ernest & Lillian Eliou  
Ms. Maria Salpeas  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Hartofilis  
Mr. Christ Angelopoulos

***In memory of Athanasios Sarioglou***

Mrs. Anastasia Sarioglou

***In memory of Stella Melissaratos, Bessie Sfikas, Efthimios Michlos, Katerina Tagliamburis, Amalia Hatzikosmas, Kiki Micklos, Diamond Philippou, Miltiadis Micklou, Fotitsa Olzewski, Chrysi Micklos, Philomela Siskos, John Siskos, Thomas Macaronis, Gus Micklos***  
Ms. Christine Micklos



*Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Katina Yianakis  
wish everyone in the community*

*“Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2017”*

2017

# PATRIARCHAL ENCYCLICAL FOR CHRISTMAS

Prot. No. 1297

✠ B A R T H O L O M E W  
By God's Mercy Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome  
and Ecumenical Patriarch to the Plenitude of the Church  
Grace, Mercy and Peace from the Savior Christ Born in Bethlehem  
"Christ's incarnation is my own recreation"[1]

Beloved brothers and sisters, dear children in the Lord,

We praise and glorify the God in Trinity, who deemed us worthy once again this year to reach the great feast of the Nativity in the flesh of the Son and Word of God the Father in "little Bethlehem."

The holy Church is celebrating with fullness of joy, for Christ "assumed flesh" through His incarnation[2] and rendered the Church "an adornment for the world." [3] Indeed, the entire human race, and even "all of creation," rejoices over this divine blessing. "All of creation is today filled with joy because Christ is born of a Virgin." [4]

In contrast to the "unmoved mover" of the ancient Greeks, our God is the communion of love and lovingly moves in time toward humankind and the world. "In this is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us." (1 John 4.10)

The pre-eternal Word of the Father, who granted "being" to humankind, now grants us "well being" through His incarnation. "This is the reason behind the feast; this is why we celebrate today: namely, God's descent to us so that we might ascend—or return—to God . . . in order that, by laying aside the old man, we may assume the new man; and in order that, by dying to Adam, we might therefore live in Christ; in order that we might be with Christ, be crucified with Him, be buried with Him, and arise with Him." [5] The way of deification through grace is henceforth open to everyone coming into the world. All of us are "capable of containing God." "There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free man, neither male nor female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3.28)

Unfortunately, the Gospel of Christmas is once again proclaimed to a world where the racket of weapons is heard, where unprovoked violence against individuals and peoples is enacted, and where inequality and social justice prevail. It is unbearable to witness the state of countless children, victims of military conflict, irregular situations, manifold exploitations, persecutions and discriminations, as well as hunger, poverty and painful dispossession.

Last April, we had the opportunity in Lesbos to witness with our own eyes—together with His Holiness Pope Francis of Rome and His Beatitude Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens and All Greece—the tragic circumstances of refugees and immigrants, and especially the acute problems of the suffering children, innocents and defenseless victims of military violence, as well as the racial and religious discrimination and injustice, all of which are constantly increasing.

The feast of God's Word, who became an infant—the child Jesus, whose disappearance is pursued by worldly authority, according to the Evangelist Matthew (Matt 2.13)—is a reminder and invitation for us to care for children, to protect these vulnerable victims and to respect the sacredness of childhood.

Of course, children and sensitive souls are also threatened in economically developed and politically stable countries of the world, whether by the immense crisis of marriage and family, or by diverse interventions as well as the use of physical or spiritual force. A child's soul is altered by the influential consumption of electronic media, especially television and the internet, and by the radical transformation of communication. Unbridled economics transfigures them from a young age into consumers, while the pursuit of pleasure rapidly vanishes their innocence.

In light of these dangers, the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church addressed children and young people "with particular love and affection" (Prov. 8) by including the following in its Encyclical:

*Amid the medley of mutually contradictory definitions of childhood, our most holy Church presents the words of our Lord: "Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 18.3) and "whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it (Luke 18.17), as well as what our Savior says about those who "prevent" (Luke 18.16) children from approaching Him and about those who "scandalize" them (Matt 18.6).*

The mystery of Christmas is crystallized in the words of the festive Kontakion: "For us, a new child was born, God before all ages." The divine Word as child and the child as God is revealed to the world with "the pure heart" and simplicity of a child. Children comprehend truths, which "wise and prudent" people are unable to approach. As Elytis observes in his poem From one's neighbor: "You can build Jerusalem out of children alone!"

Beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,

We appeal to all of you to respect the identity and sacredness of childhood. In light of the global refugee crisis that especially affects the rights of children; in light of the plague of child mortality, hunger and child labor, child abuse and psychological violence, as well as the dangers of altering children's souls through their uncontrolled exposure to the influence of contemporary electronic means of communication and their subjection to consumerism, we declare 2017 as the Year of Protection of the Sacredness of Childhood, inviting everyone to recognize and respect the rights and integrity of children.

As underlined in another significant document of the Holy and Great Council, the Church of Christ does not look to "judging and condemning the world" with its word (John 3.17; 12.47), "but rather to offer to the world the guidance of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, namely, the hope and assurance that evil, no matter its form, does not have the last word in history and must not be allowed to dictate its course." [6]

Therefore, we venerate our Savior with humility and compunction, for He has visited us from on high; we praise with divine song the immensity of the sacred Incarnation; we kneel down before the All-Holy Theotokos, who holds the child Jesus; and we address from the sleepless Phanar the festive greeting to all children of the Church of Constantinople, both near and afar: "Christ is born; glorify Him. Christ has come from heaven; come out to meet Him," together with our paternal wishes and patriarchal prayer.

"Be strong in the grace of Christ Jesus." (2 Tim. 2.1) Let us all strive together with faith and sincere love in the good struggle of new life in the Church, adhering to all that the Lord has commanded. For He is with us "all the days of our life, to the end of the ages." (Matt 28.20)

Christmas 2016  
✠ B A R T H O L O M E W of Constantinople  
Fervent supplicant of all before God

[1] Gregory the Theologian, Moral Poems 34.

[2] John Chrysostom, Homily before Exile PG 52.429.

[3] Origen, Commentary on the Gospel of John 6.

[4] Christmas Matins.

[5] Gregory the Theologian, Homily 38 on Epiphany, namely the Nativity of the Savior.

[6] The Mission of the Orthodox Church in the Contemporary World, introduction

# ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΙΚΗ ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΙΣ ΕΠΙ ΤΟΙΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΟΙΣ

Αριθμ. Πρωτ. 1297

✠ + Β Α Ρ Θ Ο Λ Ο Μ Α Ι Ο Σ  
ΕΛΕΩ ΘΕΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ,  
ΝΕΑΣ ΡΩΜΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ  
ΠΑΝΤΙ ΤΩ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙ ΤΗΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ ΧΑΡΙΝ, ΕΛΕΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΙΡΗΝΗΝ  
ΠΑΡΑ ΤΟΥ ΕΝ ΒΗΘΛΕΕΜ ΓΕΝΝΗΘΕΝΤΟΣ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ  
“Χριστού δ’ ἐνανθρώπησις, ἄλλη μοι πλάσις”[1].

Αγαπητοὶ ἀδελφοὶ καὶ τέκνα ἐν Κυρίῳ πεφιλημένα,

Υμνοῦμεν καὶ δοξάζομεν τὸν ἐν Τριάδι Θεόν, τὸν ἀξιώσαντα ἡμᾶς καὶ ἐφέτος νὰ φθάσωμεν εἰς τὴν μεγάλην ἐορτὴν τῆς ἐν “Βηθλεὲμ τῆ μικρᾶ” κατὰ σάρκα Γεννήσεως τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ Λόγου τοῦ Θεοῦ Πατρὸς.

Ἐορτάζει ἐν χαρᾷ πεπληρωμένη ἡ Ἁγία Ἐκκλησία, ἥς “σάρκα ἀνέλαβεν” ὁ Χριστὸς σαρκωθείς[2], καταστήσας αὐτὴν “κόσμον τοῦ κόσμου”[3]. Σκιρτᾷ διὰ τὰς θείας εὐλογίας ὄχι μόνον σύνολον τὸ ἀνθρώπινον γένος, ἀλλὰ “πάσα ἡ κτίσις”. “Τὰ σύμπαντα σήμερον χαρᾶς πληροῦνται Ἰησοῦ τεχθέντος ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου”[4].

Ἐν ἀντιθέσει πρὸς τὸ “πρῶτον ἀκίνητον” τῶν Ἀρχαίων, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν εἶναι καθ’ ἑαυτὸν κοινωνία ἀγάπης καὶ κινεῖται ἐν χρόνῳ ἀγαπητικῶς πρὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον καὶ τὸν κόσμον. “Ἐν τούτῳ ἔστιν ἡ ἀγάπη, οὐχ ὅτι ἡμεῖς ἠγαπήσαμεν τὸν Θεόν, ἀλλ’ ὅτι αὐτὸς ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς”[5].

Ὁ προαιώνιος Λόγος τοῦ Πατρὸς, ὁ ὁποῖος ἔδωκεν εἰς τὸν ἄνθρωπον τὸ “εἶναι”, χαρίζεται εἰς αὐτὸν διὰ τῆς Ἐνανθρωπήσεώς Του τὸ “εἶναι”. “Τοῦτό ἐστιν ἡμῖν ἡ πανήγυρις, τοῦτο εορτάζομεν σήμερον, ἐπιδημίαν Θεοῦ πρὸς ἀνθρώπους, ἵνα πρὸς Θεὸν ἐκδημήσωμεν, ἢ ἐπανέλθωμεν... ἵνα τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀποθέμενοι τὸν νέον ἐνδυσώμεθα, καὶ ὡσπερ ἐν τῷ Ἀδὰμ ἀπεθάνομεν οὕτως ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ ζήσωμεν, Χριστῷ καὶ συγγεννώμενοι καὶ συσταυρούμενοι καὶ συνθαπτόμενοι καὶ συνανιστάμενοι”[6]. Εἰς πάντα ἄνθρωπον ἐρχόμενον εἰς τὸν κόσμον εἶναι πλέον ἀνοικτὴ ἡ ὁδὸς τῆς κατὰ χάριν Θεώσεως. Ὅλοι εἴμεθα “Θεοῦ χωρητικοί”. “Οὐκ ἔνι Ἰουδαῖος οὐδὲ Ἕλληνας, οὐκ ἔνι δούλος οὐδὲ ἐλεύθερος, οὐκ ἔνι ἄρσεν καὶ θήλυ· πάντες γὰρ ὑμεῖς εἰς ἔσπε ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ”[7].

Δυστυχῶς, τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον τῶν Χριστουγέννων κηρύσσεται καὶ πάλιν εἰς ἕνα κόσμον, ὅπου ἡγεῖ ἡ κλαγγὴ τῶν ὄπλων, ὅπου ἀσκέεται ἀπρόκλητος βία εἰς βάρος ἀτόμων καὶ λαῶν, ὅπου κυριαρχεῖ ἀνισότης καὶ κοινωνικὴ ἀδικία. Ἀφόρητος εἶναι ἡ κατάστασις εἰς τὴν ὅποιαν εὐρίσκονται τὰ ἀναριθμητὰ παιδία, θύματα πολεμικῶν συγκρούσεων, ἐκρῦβων καταστάσεων, ποικιλῶν ἔκμεταλλήσεων, διωγμῶν καὶ διακρίσεων, πείνης, πενίας καὶ ἐπωδύνων στερήσεων.

Κατὰ τὸν παρελθόντα Ἀπρίλιον εἴχομεν τὴν εὐκαιρίαν, μετὰ τοῦ Ἁγιωτάτου Πάπα Ρώμης Φραγκίσκου καὶ τοῦ Μακαριωτάτου Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Ἀθηνῶν καὶ πάσης Ἑλλάδος Ἱερωνύμου, νὰ διαπιστώσωμεν ἰδίους ὁμασιν ἐν Λέσβῳ τὰς περιπετείας τῶν προσφύγων καὶ τῶν μεταναστῶν καὶ ἰδίως τὰ ὄξεια προβλήματα τῶν ταλαιπωρημένων παιδίων, τῶν ἀθῶν καὶ ἀνυπερασπίστων θυμῶν τῆς πολεμικῆς βίας, τῶν φυλετικῶν καὶ θρησκευτικῶν διακρίσεων καὶ τῆς ἀδικίας, ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν ὁποίων αὐξάνει συνεχῶς.

Ἡ ἐορτὴ τοῦ νηπιάσαντος δι’ ἡμᾶς Λόγου τοῦ Θεοῦ, τοῦ παιδίου Χριστοῦ, τὸν ἀφανισμὸν τοῦ ὁποίου ζητεῖ ἡ κοσμικὴ ἐξουσία συμφῶνως πρὸς τὸν Εὐαγγελιστὴν Ματθαῖον[8], εἶναι ὑπόμησις καὶ κλήσις νὰ μεριμνήσωμεν διὰ τὰ παιδία, νὰ προστατεύσωμεν τὰ εὐάλωτα αὐτὰ θύματα καὶ νὰ σεβασθῶμεν τὴν ἱερότητα τῆς παιδικῆς ἡλικίας.

Τὰ παιδία καὶ αἱ εὐαίσθητοι ψυχὰι των ἀπειλοῦνται βεβαίως καὶ εἰς τὰς χώρας τοῦ ἀνεπτυγμένου οικονομικῶς καὶ σταθερωτέρου πολιτικῶς κόσμου, ἀπὸ τὴν μεγάλην κρίσιν τοῦ γάμου καὶ τῆς οἰκογενείας, ἀπὸ ποικιλοτρόφους παρεμβάσεις καὶ τὴν ἀσκήσιν σωματικῆς καὶ ψυχικῆς βίας. Ἀλλοιώνεται ἡ παιδικὴ ψυχὴ ἐκ τῆς καταλυτικῆς ἐπιρροῆς τῶν ἠλεκτρονικῶν μέσων καὶ ἰδίως τῆς τηλεοράσεως καὶ τοῦ διαδικτύου εἰς τὴν ζωὴν των καὶ ἀπὸ τὴν ριζικὴν ἀλλαγὴν τοῦ ἐπικοινωνιακοῦ περιβάλλοντος. Ὁ ἄκρατος οικονομισμὸς τὰ μετατρέπει ἐνωρὶς εἰς καταναλωτὰ καὶ ὁ εὐδαιμονισμὸς ἐξαφανίζει ταχύτατα τὴν παιδικὴν ἀθωότητα.

Ἐν ὄψει τῶν κινδύνων αὐτῶν ἡ Ἁγία καὶ Μεγάλῃ Σύνοδος τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας, ἀπευθυνθεῖσα “μετ’ ἰδιαίτερας ἀγάπης καὶ στοργῆς” πρὸς τὰ παιδία καὶ τοὺς νέους, ἀναφέρει ἐν τῇ Ἐγκυκλίῳ αὐτῆς[9] τὰ ἑξῆς: “Μέσα εἰς τὸν κυκεῶνα τῶν ἀλλολοαναμιχθέντων ὁρισμῶν τῆς ταυτότητος τῆς παιδικῆς ἡλικίας, ἡ ἀγιωτάτη ἡμῶν Ἐκκλησία προβάλλει τὰ Κυριακὰ λόγια, “ἕαν μὴ στραφῆτε καὶ γένησθε ὡς τὰ παιδία, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθητε εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν Οὐρανῶν”[10] καὶ τὸ “ὅς ἔαν μὴ δέξηται τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ὡς παιδίον, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθῃ εἰς αὐτήν”[11], ὡς καὶ ὅσα ἀναφέρει ὁ Σωτὴρ ἡμῶν δι’ ἐκείνους, οἱ ὁποῖοι “κωλύουν”[12] τὰ παιδία νὰ τὸν πλησιάσουν καὶ δι’ ὅσους τὰ “σκανδαλίζουν”[13].

Τὸ μυστήριον τῶν Χριστουγέννων συμπυκνοῦται εἰς τοὺς λόγους τοῦ Κοντακίου τῆς ἐορτῆς “Δι’ ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰῶνων Θεός”. Ὁ Θεὸς Λόγος ὡς παιδίον καὶ τὸ παιδίον ὡς Θεὸς ἀποκαλύπτεται εἰς ἀνθρώπους μετὰ “καθαρὰν καρδίαν” καὶ μετὰ τὴν ἀπλότητα τοῦ παιδίου. Τὰ παιδία κατανοοῦν ἀληθείας, τὰς ὁποίας “οἱ σοφοὶ καὶ οἱ συντοί” ἀδυνατοῦν νὰ προσεγγίσουν. “Ἄπο παιδία καὶ μόνον φτιάχνει Ἱεροσόλυμα”, σημειώνει ὁ Ἐλύτης εἰς τὸ “Ἐκ τοῦ πλησίον”[14].

Ἀδελφοὶ καὶ τέκνα ἐν Κυρίῳ,

Ἀπευθύνομεν ἔκκλησιν πρὸς πάντας, νὰ σέβωνται τὴν ταυτότητα καὶ τὴν ἱερότητα τῆς παιδικῆς ἡλικίας. Ἐνώπιον τῆς παγκοσμίου προσφυγικῆς κρίσεως, ἡ ὅποια θίγει κατ’ ἐξοχὴν τὰ δικαιώματα τῶν παιδίων, ἐνώπιον τῆς μάλιστα τῆς παιδικῆς θνησιμότητος, τῆς πείνης, τῆς παιδικῆς ἐργασίας, τῶν σωματικῶν κακώσεων καὶ τῆς ψυχολογικῆς βίας, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν κινδύνων ἀλλοιώσεως τῆς παιδικῆς ψυχῆς λόγῳ τῆς ἀνεξέλεγκτου ἐκθέσεώς των εἰς τὴν ἐπιρροὴν τῶν συγχρόνων ἠλεκτρονικῶν μέσων ἐπικοινωνίας καὶ τῆς καθυποτάξεως αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν καταναλωτισμὸν, ἀνακηρύσσομεν τὸ 2017 ἔτος προστασίας τῆς ἱερότητος τῆς παιδικῆς ἡλικίας, καλοῦντες πάντας νὰ ἀναγνωρίζουν καὶ νὰ σέβωνται τὰ δικαιώματα καὶ τὴν ἀκεραιότητα τῶν παιδίων.

Ὅπως τονίζεται εἰς ἕτερον σπουδαῖον κείμενον τῆς Ἁγίας καὶ Μεγάλῃ Συνόδου, ἡ Ἐκκλησία τοῦ Χριστοῦ, μετὰ τὸν λόγον αὐτῆς, δὲν ἀποβλέπει πρωτίστως «εἰς τὸ νὰ κρίνῃ καὶ νὰ καταδικάσῃ τὸν κόσμον»[15], ἀλλὰ εἰς τὸ νὰ προσφέρῃ εἰς αὐτὸν ὡς ὁδηγὸν τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ, τὴν ἐλπίδα καὶ βεβαιότητα ὅτι τὸ κακόν, ὑπὸ οἰανδήποτε μορφήν, δὲν ἔχει τὸν τελευταῖον λόγον εἰς τὴν ἱστορίαν καὶ δὲν πρέπει νὰ ἀφεθῆ νὰ κατευθύνῃ τὴν πορείαν τῆς[16].

Προσκυνοῦντες ἐν ταπεινώσει καὶ κατανύξει τὸν Σωτῆρα ἡμῶν, ὅστις ἐπεσκέψατο ἡμᾶς ἐξ ὕψους, καὶ ἀνυμνοῦντες ἅσμασιν ἐνθέοις τὸ μέγεθος τῆς περὶ ἡμᾶς θείας Οἰκονομίας, κλίνοντες τὸ γόνυ ἐνώπιον τῆς βρεφοκρατουμένης Ὑπεραγίας Θεοτόκου, ἀπευθύνομεν ἐκ τοῦ ἀκοιμήτου Φαναρίου τὸν ἐορτινὸν χαιρετισμὸν «Χριστὸς γεννᾶται· δοξάσατε. Χριστὸς ἐξ οὐρανῶν· ἀπαντήσατε» πρὸς τὰ μακρὰ καὶ τὰ ἐγγύς τέκνα τῆς Κωνσταντινουπολιτικῆς Ἐκκλησίας καὶ ἀποστέλλομεν πρὸς αὐτὰ τὰς πατρικὰς εὐχὰς καὶ τὴν Πατριαρχικὴν ἡμῶν εὐλογίαν.

“Ἐνδυναμούμενοι ἐν τῇ χάριτι τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ”[17], ἄς ἀγωνισθῶμεν ἅπαντες ἐν ὁμοψυχίᾳ, ἐν πίστει καὶ ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτως, τὸν καλὸν ἀγῶνα τῆς καινῆς ἐν Ἐκκλησίᾳ ζωῆς, τηροῦντες ὅσα ἐνετείλατο ἡμῖν ὁ Κύριος, ὁ ὢν μεθ’ ἡμῶν «πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας ἕως τῆς συντελείας τοῦ αἰῶνος»[18].

Χριστούγεννα, βίς (2016)

† Ὁ Κωνσταντινουπόλεως  
διάπυρος πρὸς Θεὸν εὐχέτης πάντων ὑμῶν

## ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΙΚΗ ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΙΣ ΕΠΙ ΤΟΙΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΟΙΣ

Ἀναγνωσθήτω ἐπ' ἐκκλησίας κατὰ τὴν Θεῖαν Λειτουργίαν τῆς ἑορτῆς τῶν Χριστουγέννων, μετὰ τὸ Ἱερὸν Εὐαγγέλιον.

- [1] Γρηγορίου τοῦ Θεολόγου, Ἐπη ἠθικά, ΛΔ', ΒΕΠΕΣ 61, 227.
- [2] Ἰωάννου τοῦ Χρυσοστόμου, Ὁμιλία πρὸ τῆς ἔξορίας, Ρ.Γ. 52, 429.
- [3] Ὠριγένους, Εἰς τὸ κατὰ Ἰωάννην Εὐαγγέλιον Ἐξηγητικῶν, τόμος στ' ΒΕΠΕΣ 12, 63.
- [4] Ὁρθρος Χριστουγέννων.
- [5] Α' Ἰωάν. δ', 10.
- [6] Γρηγορίου τοῦ Θεολόγου, Λόγος ΛΗ' εἰς τὰ Θεοφάνια, εἶπουν τὰ Γενέθλια τοῦ Σωτῆρος, ΒΕΠΕΣ 60, 65.
- [7] Γαλ. γ', 28.
- [8] β', 13.
- [9] Παρ. 8.
- [10] Ματθ. ιη', 3-4.
- [11] Λουκ. ιη', 17.
- [12] Πρβλ. Λουκ. ιη', 16.
- [13] Πρβλ. Ματθ. ιη', 6.
- [14] Ἐκδ. Ἰκαρος, 13.
- [15] Πρβλ. Ἰωάν. γ' 17 καὶ ιβ' 47.
- [16] Ἀποστολή τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας εἰς τὸν σύγχρονον κόσμον. Εἰσαγωγή.
- [17] Πρβλ. Β' Τιμ. β' 1.
- [18] Ματθ. κη' 20.

### ~ The Koutsonouris Memorial Scholarship Program ~

*Applications will be available on February 1, 2017 for the Koutsonouris Memorial Scholarship Program at the church.*

*The Saint Nicholas Church will award one (1) \$1,000.00 scholarship from the Koutsonouris Memorial Scholarship Program to a high school senior who is continuing his/her education at a four-year college or a two-year college, whose family is a member in good standing at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 520 Ponca Street, Baltimore, MD, who meets the qualifying criteria.*

*The deadline for submitting the application is Sunday, April 23, 2017. The completed applications may be returned to the office or given directly to Parish Council Board Member Mary Serafis.*

*The recipient of the scholarship will be announced at church Sunday, May 21, 2017.*

*Applications may be obtained from the church office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sundays 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting February 1, 2017*

Mary Serafis  
Scholarship Chairperson







## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

### ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΟΣΟΛΙΜΙΤΙΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΡΘΑΓΙΝΗΣ

The Nativity of our Lord 2016

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy,  
Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,  
Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council,  
Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood,  
Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools,  
Directors and Participants of all of the Youth Organizations, and all devout  
Orthodox Christians of the Greek Orthodox Communities of our  
Holy Metropolis of New Jersey

***“Mary, why are you amazed and awed by what was done in you? And she answers:  
For in time I have brought forth a timeless Son.”*** (Orthros, Kathisma II)

My Beloved,

It is time to rejoice, time to share the light of life, time to spread love as the sign of our faith, time to be amazed as we behold the mystery unfolding in the darkness of the cave in Bethlehem. The mystery of our faith is entirely present, embodied by the tiny baby who overnight has become the center of the world, as God enters the doors of humanity. Mankind is amazed as reason encounters its limits. Faith speaks to our intellect and grace calls on our hearts to acknowledge the power of the living God, surrendered into the hands of a newborn. The essence of our Orthodox Christian faith shines with humility and simplicity. Today we welcome the true God and His infinite love for us. We welcome Jesus with the angelic hymn: “Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth.” We welcome the beginning of a new humanity, closer to the divine than ever before.

We are so used to celebrating the earthly birth of our Lord Jesus Christ that we too often forget our sense of wonder at this miracle. Life is a miracle in itself. But when the source of life enters life, it creates an extraordinary new reality in which things remain the same but are entirely different. It is the same experience that Saint John the Theologian had when he wrote in the book of Revelation: *“Now, I saw a new heaven, and a new earth... Then, He who sat on the throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’* (Revelation 21:1-5) Our world seems to have remained the same, old, weary and crushed under the weight of the past. But today we are no longer under the old law, we

have been set free from the past through the body of Christ... Now, as Saint Paul wrote, *"we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter."* (Romans 7:4-6)

As we celebrate Christ's glorious Nativity, let us reflect on the sense of wonder that we must rediscover. The same wonder that the Theotokos herself experienced when she held her divine child for the first time. The same wonder that the Magi experienced when they saw Jesus. The same wonder that we experience again today as we approach the icon of the feast, and which calls us to live with the joyful memory not of the past, but of the Kingdom to come, singing: *"The Father was well pleased; the Logos became flesh; and the Virgin gave birth to God who became man. A Star reveals Him; Magi bow in worship; Shepherds marvel, and creation rejoices."* (Sticheron 2)

As Orthodox Christians living in a world which is deeply polarized and divided, it is our mission to offer to our society the genuine meaning of communion as community by seeing others, our neighbors, through the eyes of wonder. It is a similar wonder when parents meet their newborn for the first time, love their child at first glance, even though they still have to get to know him or her. Loving must come before knowing, although today all too often we know more than we love. Love is the free gift that we should offer the world, especially during Christmas time.

May the Joy of Christmas and the Grace and Blessings of our Incarnate Lord be with all of you and your beloved families.

With Paternal Love in our New-Born King and God,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

† E V A N G E L O S  
Metropolitan of New Jersey



## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

### ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ 2016

Πρός τόν εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερόν Κλῆρον,  
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου,  
Τούς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,  
Τάς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,  
Τούς διδάσκοντας καί διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καί Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων,  
Τάς Ὄργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καί ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν  
Ὄρθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσέης.

*«Καί ὁ Λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο καί ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν, καί ἐθεασάμεθα τήν δόξαν αὐτοῦ»  
(Ἰωάν. α' 14)*

Ἀδελφοί μου ἀγαπητοί,

Πρὶν ἀπὸ δύο χιλιάδες χρόνια καί πλέον, οἱ Ἄγγελοι μετέφεραν στήν ἀνθρωπότητα το μήνυμα τῆς Γεννήσεως τοῦ Θεανθρώπου. Τό μήνυμα αὐτό συνετάραξε τόν τότε κόσμον καί ἐξακολουθεῖ μέχρι σήμερα καί εἰς τόν αἰῶνα νά συνταράζει ἀλλά καί νά ἐνθαρρύνει τήν ἀνθρωπότητα, ἐλέγχοντας παράλληλα τήν ἁμαρτία. Ὁ Κύριος μέ τήν Γέννησή Του, ἐπανεφέρε τόν ἄνθρωπο εἰς τήν ἀρχαία δόξα του, ἀπεκατέστησε τό χάσμα μεταξύ Θεοῦ καί ἀνθρώπου, τό ὅποιο δημιούργησε ἡ παρακοή, καί ἄνοιξε καί πάλι τίς Πύλες τοῦ Παραδείσου. Ἄν δέν καταδεχόταν ὁ Κύριος, τό δεύτερο Πρόσωπο τῆς Ἁγίας Τριάδος, νά ἐνσαρκωθεῖ καί νά λάβει «δούλου μορφήν», δέν θα ἐπιτυγχάνετο ἡ σωτηρία μας. Γι'αὐτόν τόν λόγο ὁ ἱερός Χρυσόστομος καλεῖ τήν ἑορτή αὐτή ὡς τήν «Μητέρα» ὄλων τῶν ἑορτῶν. Χωρίς τήν Ἐνανθρώπιση τοῦ Λυτρωτοῦ δέν θά ὑπῆρχε σωτηρία.

Σύμφωνα μέ τήν διδασκαλία τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας, πλαστήκαμε «κατ' εἰκόνα» καί «καθ' ὁμοίωσιν» τῆς Ἁγίας Τριάδος. Ὡς ἐκ τούτου ὁ σκοπός τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἶναι ἡ θέωσή του, ἡ ἔνωσή του δηλαδή μέ τόν Θεό. Ὁ Υἱός καί Λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ σαρκώνεται γιά νά κάνει δυνατή αὐτή τήν ἔνωση, μιᾶ ἔνωση πού ὄχι μόνο διεκόπη, ἀλλά καί ἀποκλείσθηκε μέ τήν ἀνθρώπινη προσφυγή στό κακό. Ὁ Θεός κατέρχεται στόν κόσμο γιά νά μπορέσει ὁ ἄνθρωπος νά ἀνέλθει στήν θεότητα. «Ὁ Θεός ἐγίνε ἀνθρωπος γιά νά μπορέσει ὁ ἄνθρωπος νά γίνε Θεός!». Αὐτή ἡ πρόταση ἀπαντάται συχνά στους Πατέρες, καί τελικά γίνεται κοινό ἀπόφθεγμα στους θεολόγους ὄλων τῶν αἰώνων καί ἐκφράζει περίτρανα τήν πίστη τῆς Ἐκκλησίας.

Τό Μυστήριο τῆς Θείας Ἐνανθρωπίσεως μεταφράζεται ἀπό τούς ἁγίους Πατέρες μας ὡς ἡ ὑπέροχη ἐκφραση τῆς ΑΓΑΠΗΣ τοῦ Θεοῦ πρὸς τόν ἄνθρωπο. Αὐτό σημαίνει πῶς ἡ ἑορτή τῶν Χριστουγέννων εἶναι ἡ ἑορτή τῆς ΑΓΑΠΗΣ. Ὅχι μιᾶς ἐξωτερικῆς καί φαινομενικῆς ἀγάπης πού περιορίζεται σέ ἀνταλλαγή δώρων καί σέ ἐκφράσεις προσωρινῆς ἴσως συμπάθειας, ἀλλά μιᾶς ἀγάπης ἀληθινῆς, ἀγάπης ἕως θυσίας, ὅπως

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Web: [www.nj.goarch.org](http://www.nj.goarch.org) • E-mail: [metropolis@nj.goarch.org](mailto:metropolis@nj.goarch.org)

ἀκριβῶς μᾶς ἀγάπησε ὁ Κύριός μας ἕως θανάτου. Καί βεβαίως αὐτή ἡ ἀγάπη πού μᾶς διδάσκουν τά Χριστούγεννα, ἐπεκτείνεται ὄχι μόνο σέ αὐτούς πού μᾶς ἀγαποῦν, ἀλλά καί σέ ἐκείνους πού γνωρίζουμε πῶς δέν μᾶς ἀγαποῦν, σέ ὅσους μᾶς ἔβλαψαν, μᾶς πίκραναν, μᾶς κατηγόρησαν... Ἡ σημερινή μεγάλη ἑορτή μᾶς καλεῖ νά ρυθμίσουμε τήν καθημερινότητά μας, σύμφωνα μέ τήν κορυφαία ἀρετή τῆς ΑΓΑΠΗΣ. Βιώνοντας κάθε στιγμή τήν ἀγάπη, ἡ ζωή μας ἔχει νόημα, καταξιώνεται ἀληθινά καί μπορεῖ νά ἔχει οὐράνιο στόχο καί προορισμό. Διαφορετικά δέν μπορεῖ νά ὑπάρξει ἐλπίδα.

Σέ ἀντίθεση μέ τίς παραπάνω ὑπέροχες ἀλήθειες, διαπιστώνουμε καθημερινά ὅτι ὁ κόσμος μας ἀπέχει ἀπό τό μέτρο τῆς ἀγάπης. Βλέπουμε τούς ἰσχυρούς τῆς γῆς νά τήν ἔχουν διαγράψει ἀκόμη καί ἀπό τό λεξιλόγιό τους. Ἀνθρώπινα δικαιώματα καταπατοῦνται, τά συμφέροντα τῶν δυνατῶν ὑπερισχύουν καί οἱ λαοί τῆς γῆς παραμένουν στό σκοτάδι τῆς ἀδικίας, τῆς ἀδιαφορίας, τῆς ἀνισότητος καί τοῦ κακοῦ. Ὅλα αὐτά εἶναι τά πικρά ἀποτελέσματα τῆς μεγάλης ἔλλειψης τῆς ΑΓΑΠΗΣ ἀπό τόν κόσμο μας. Ὅμως τό μήνυμα τῶν Χριστουγέννων ἐξακολουθεῖ νά εἶναι πάντα ἐπίκαιρο καί ἐλπιδοφόρο. Καί αὐτό τό μήνυμα μᾶς φέρνει ἐνώπιον τῶν εὐθυνῶν μας. Ἀγαποῦμε ἀληθινά;

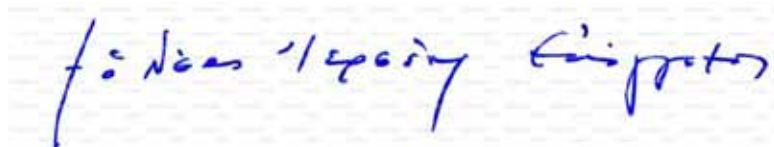
Ἀδελφοί μου ἀγαπητοί,

Τά Χριστούγεννα δέν εἶναι μία ἑορτή ἐμπορικοῦ καί καταναλωτικοῦ χαρακτήρα, πού ἐξαντλεῖται σέ δῶρα, καί κοινωνικές ἐκδηλώσεις καί ὑποχρεώσεις. Ἡ μεγάλη αὐτή ἑορτή εἶναι ἐπέτειος ζωῆς, χαρᾶς καί ἀγάπης γιά ὅλους μας. Τά δικά μας τά δῶρα πρὸς τόν Κύριο πρέπει νά εἶναι ἡ ἀπόλυτη ἐμπιστοσύνη μας σ' Αὐτόν, καί ἀγάπη καί συγχώρεση στούς συνανθρώπους μας. Μέ αὐτόν τόν τρόπο θά ἑορτάσουμε εἰλικρινά καί οὐσιαστικά τά φετινά Χριστούγεννα, ἐνῶ ὁ ἑορτασμός θά κορυφωθεῖ καί θά τελειοποιηθεῖ μέ τήν συμμετοχή μας εἰς τό Ἅγιο Ποτήριο, κοινωνῶντας τό Σῶμα καί τό Αἷμα τοῦ ἐνσαρκωθέντος Κυρίου κατά τήν Θεία Λειτουργία τῶν Χριστουγέννων.

ΚΑΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ!

Μετά πατρικῆς ἀγάπης καί διαπύρων εὐχῶν,

**Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ**



† ὁ Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ



## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

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### ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

New Year 2017

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy,  
Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,  
Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council,  
Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood,  
Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools,  
Directors and Participants of all of the Youth Organizations, and all devout  
Orthodox Christians of the Greek Orthodox Communities of our  
Holy Metropolis of New Jersey

**“Holiness is proper to your House, O Lord, unto the length of days.”**  
(Psalm 92:5)

My Beloved in the Lord, Happy New Year 2017!

As we prepare to enter the year 2017, we should carry with us a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving for the many gifts God has granted us during the course of the past year. Each of us should also ask ourselves the question: during this year have I met the Lord? Have I given Him enough space to change me by His divine grace? Have I recognized the many prints He has left along the path of my life? We have tried, but it was not enough. We could have done more. We should do more, as our world has become a place of insecurity and uncertainty. But how?

Saint Paul wrote that anyone who wishes to work for the Lord will face many difficulties. But as God said to him: *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”* (2 Corinthians 12:9) So let us look for that grace, and consider what our Church celebrates today as part of the answer. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, our Orthodox Church commemorates the feast of the circumcision of our Lord Jesus Christ and the feast of Saint Basil the Great. These two celebrations may seem unrelated, but they express the same spiritual truth: there is no spiritual life without sacrifice.

Following the law of the Old Testament, Christ submitted Himself to the Jewish practice of circumcision, offering Himself as a sign of consecration. The Apoliticion of the feast reads: *“Fulfilling the Law, of Your own will You accepted circumcision in the flesh, to bring an end to the shadow, and to remove the passions that cover us.”* Christ’s

offering only increased during the time of His preaching, until His ultimate sacrifice on the Cross. *“And being found in appearance as man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the Cross.”* (Philippians 2:13) Life is given to us, as sacrifice turns it into the sacred mystery of love.

Saint Basil the Great, who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, embodied this sacred mystery of love throughout his life, shaping our Orthodox Philanthropy by his monastic life and theological knowledge. His charitable program is expressed as a form of prayer in his Divine Liturgy: “Free those who are held captive by unclean spirits; sail with those who sail; travel with those who travel; defend the widows; protect the orphans; liberate the captives; heal the sick... For You, Lord, are the helper of the helpless, the hope of the hopeless, the savior of the afflicted, the haven of the voyager, and the physician of the sick.”

If we want this year 2017 to be worthy of God, of our Christian baptism, of the holy name of Orthodoxy, we must as a Church become to all, to each person who may need us, a vision of what mankind can be and what a community of people can hope for under God’s love.

May the gift of the New Year 2017 and the Grace and Blessings of our Lord be with all of you and your beloved families.

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

† E V A N G E L O S  
Metropolitan of New Jersey



## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

### ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΗΣ

#### ΠΡΩΤΟΧΡΟΝΙΑ 2017

Πρός τόν εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερόν Κληρόν,  
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου,  
Τούς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίῶν,  
Τάς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,  
Τούς διδάσκοντας καί διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καί Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων,  
Τάς Ὄργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καί ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν  
Ὁρθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ἱεράς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσῆς.

*«Βλέπετε οὖν πῶς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μή ὡς ἄσοφοι, ἀλλ' ὡς σοφοί,  
ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τόν καιρόν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραί εἰσίν.» (Εφ. ε' 15-17)*

Ἀδελφοί μου ἀγαπητοί,

Μέ τήν Χάρη τοῦ Τριαδικοῦ Θεοῦ καί τίς πρεσβεῖες τῆς Ὑπεραγίας Θεοτόκου εἰσερχόμεθα στό νέο ἔτος. Τελοῦμε τήν Θεία Λειτουργία τοῦ ἑορταζομένου σήμερα Ἁγίου Βασιλείου τοῦ Μεγάλου καί παραδειγματιζόμεθα ἀπό τό ἅγια βιοτή του. Ὁ Μέγας Βασίλειος ἔκανε πράξη τό θέλημα τοῦ Θεοῦ στήν ζωή του καί ἔτσι δίδαξε τούς ἀνθρώπους. Γι'αυτό ὀνομάστηκε «Μέγας» κατά τήν διδαχή του Κυρίου μας: «ὅς δ' ἂν ποιῆσῃ καί διδάξῃ οὗτος μέγας κληθήσεται ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν» (Ματθ. ε' 19). Παράλληλα, τιμοῦμε τήν Μεγάλη Δεσποτική ἑορτή τῆς Περιτομῆς τοῦ Κυρίου, ἡ ὁποία συνετελέσθη κατά τήν ὄγδοη ἡμέρα ἀπό τῆς γεννήσεώς Του, γεγονός πού μᾶς ὑπενθυμίζει μεταξύ ἄλλων τήν ἄκρα συγκατάβαση καί ταπείνωση τοῦ Υἱοῦ καί Λόγου τοῦ Θεοῦ γιά τήν σωτηρία του κόσμου.

Μαζί ὅμως μέ τίς ἑορτές τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας, σήμερα ἑορτάζουμε καί τήν ἀπαρχή τοῦ νέου πολιτικοῦ καί κοσμικοῦ ἔτους· τό ὀνομάζουμε κοσμικό ἀφοῦ γιά τούς Ὁρθοδόξους Χριστιανούς ἡ νέα ἐκκλησιαστική χρονιά ἄρχεται τήν πρώτη Σεπτεμβρίου. Μᾶς δίνεται λοιπόν ἡ εὐκαιρία νά προσδώσουμε σέ αὐτήν τήν κοσμική ἑορτή πνευματικό χαρακτήρα.

Ὁ λόγος τοῦ Ἀποστόλου Παύλου πού ἀναφέρθηκε ἀνωτέρω θέτει στήν σωστή ὀρθόδοξη πνευματική διάσταση τήν ἀλήθεια περί τοῦ «χρόνου». Ὁ χρόνος δέν εἶναι δικός μας, ἀλλά τοῦ Θεοῦ. Μᾶς δόθηκε ὡς δῶρο ὥστε νά ἐργαζόμεθα γιά τήν σωτηρία μας. Σύμφωνα μέ τόν Ἁπ. Παῦλο ὁ χρόνος ἀποτελεῖ τόν «καιρό» δηλαδή τήν «εὐκαιρία» καί μᾶς συμβουλεύει νά τόν ἀξιοποιοῦμε μέ σύνεση καί

φρόνηση «ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρὸν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραὶ εἰσὶ». Νά μὴν αφήνουμε νά περνᾷ ὁ καιρὸς χωρὶς πνευματικὴ ἐργασία διότι οἱ ἡμέρες πού ζοῦμε εἶναι πονηρές. Αὐτό σημαίνει πὼς ὁ Διάβολος μᾶς στήνει παγίδες ἀνά πάσα στιγμή μέ σκοπό νά μᾶς παραπλανήσει καί νά μᾶς κάνει δικούς του.

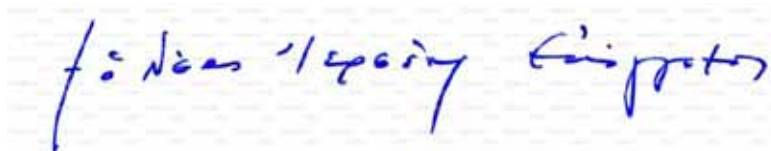
Πόσο ἐπίκαιρος ἀκούγεται σήμερα αὐτός ὁ θεόπνευστος λόγος τοῦ Ἀπ. Παύλου! Ζοῦμε πράγματι σέ ἡμέρες πονηρές. Στίς μέρες μας τό κακό κυριαρχεῖ. Καθημερινά βλέπουμε ὅτι διαστρέφεται ἡ ἔννοια τοῦ καλοῦ, τοῦ ἠθικοῦ, τοῦ ὠραίου. Χρειάζεται λοιπόν ἰδιαίτερη προσοχή. «Βλέπετε πὼς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι, ἀλλ' ὡς σοφοί, ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρὸν», λέγει ὁ Ἀπόστολος Παῦλος.

Ἀδελφοί μου ἀγαπητοί,

Μέ τό ἄπειρο ἔλεος τοῦ φιλανθρώπου Θεοῦ ἅς προρευθοῦμε καί αὐτή τὴν νέα χρόνια καί ἅς συνειδητοποιήσουμε ὅτι καθημερινά ἐπιβεβαιώνεται ἡ ἀλήθεια τοῦ Κυρίου, ὅτι «χωρὶς ἐμοῦ οὐ δύνασθε ποιεῖν οὐδέν» (Ἰω. 15, 5). Ἀς προσέξουμε λοιπόν! Μὴν παρασυρόμαστε ἀπὸ τό ρεῦμα τοῦ κόσμου. Μὴ σπαταλᾷμε τὸν χρόνο μας σέ πράγματα πού φθείρουν τὴν ψυχὴ μας. Μὴν αφήνουμε τὸν ἑαυτό μας ἐκτεθειμένο στὴν ἁμαρτία καί σέ ὅτιδήποτε μᾶς παρουσιάζουν οἱ ἄλλοι ὡς «καλό». Ἀς ἀξιοποιήσουμε τὸν χρόνο μας συμμετέχοντας σέ ἔργα ἀγάπης πρὸς τὸν συνάνθρωπο. Ἀς καλλιεργήσουμε τὴν ψυχὴ μας μέ πνευματικὴ μελέτη καί προσευχή. Ἀς συμμετέχουμε πιό ἐνεργά, τακτικά καί πρόθυμα στὰ ἱερά Μυστήρια τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας, στίς ἱερὲς Ἀκολουθίες καί κυρίως στὴν Θεία Λειτουργία τῆς Κυριακῆς. Ἀς εὐχαριστήσουμε τὸν Πανοικτίρμονα Κύριο γιὰ τὴν εὐκαιρία πού μᾶς δίδει νά ἐορτάσουμε μέ τίς οἰκογένειές μας αὐτὴν τὴν ἡμέρα καί ἅς Τοῦ ὑποσχεθοῦμε πὼς μέ ὅλες μας τίς δυνάμεις θά ἀγωνισθοῦμε ὥστε νά φανοῦμε ἀντάξιοι στίς πλούσιες δωρεές Του καί αὐτὴν τὴν νέα χρονιά καί θά ἐντείνουμε ὀλοένα τὸν ὠραῖο ἀγῶνα γιὰ τὴν σωτηρία τῆς ψυχῆς μας.

**ΚΑΛΗ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΛΟΓΗΜΕΝΗ ΧΡΟΝΙΑ 2017!**

Μετά πατρικῆς ἀγάπης καί διαπύρων εὐχῶν,  
**Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ**



† ὁ Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ



# GOYA NEWS

On Thursday, December 8th, the GOYAns participated in the Kennedy Krieger Institute Christmas festivities. The students spent the evening serving dinner, singing Christmas carols, and interacting with the children and young adults who remain hospitalized through the Christmas holidays. A parent of a Kennedy Krieger patient thanked GOYAns Kristina Anastasiades and Irene Angelos for spending time talking with his daughter. The father told Kristina Anastasiades that it was first time his daughter had laughed during her stay at Kennedy Krieger.

This is the fourth year that the GOYAns have participated in this event and they are happy to bring some Christmas cheer to the children and young adults staying at the Kennedy Krieger Institute.



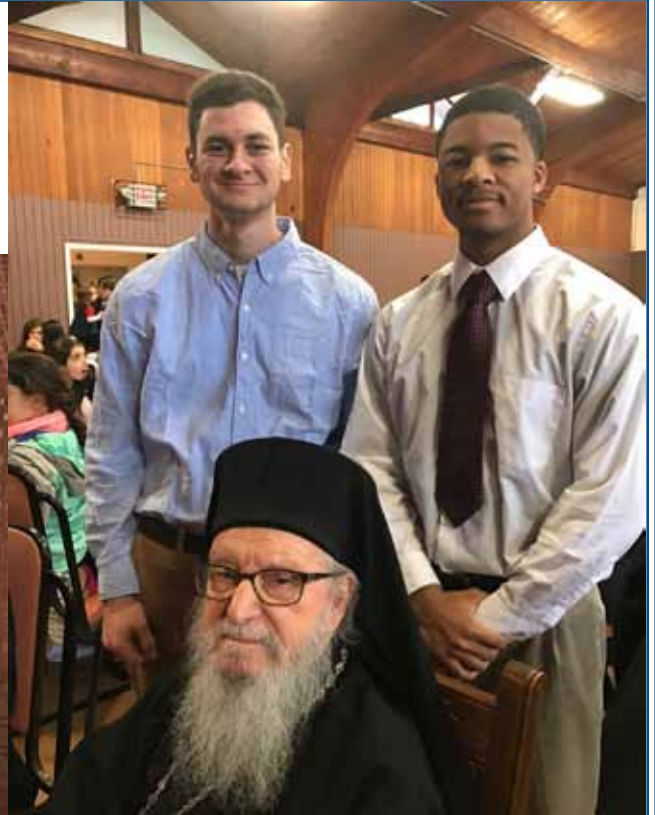
## G.O.Y.A. SINGS “TA KALANTA” & KEEPS THE GREEK TRADITIONS ALIVE!

On Tuesday, December 27th, the GOYAns traveled door to door visiting St. Nicholas parishioners and local businesses singing a special Christmas carol, “Ta Kalanta” to bring good luck and to welcome in the New Year. A very special thank you to all the parents who took time out of their busy work schedules to chaperone and drive all the GOYAns around town. Also, a thank you to the advisors, Mrs. Rita Quintero, Mrs. Rena Koutsantonis, Mrs. Nitsa Zdzeria and Mrs. Katina Palas for organizing the day’s events. Also, we would like to thank all the parishioners, businesses and patrons that donated and opened up their places for our GOYANS to come in and sing the carols. And lastly, thank you to Dino’s Carry-out & Restaurant for their continued support as they opened their doors to the GOYANS to celebrate a day of fellowship over lunch. Without all of YOU, this day would not have been a success.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

*His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America accepts a check for the Saint Basil Academy from Argirios Stakias, a GOYAn, and Anthony Magwood of The John Carroll School in Bel Air, MD.*



## Stakias '17 and Magwood '17 Raise Over \$5,000 for Disadvantaged Youth

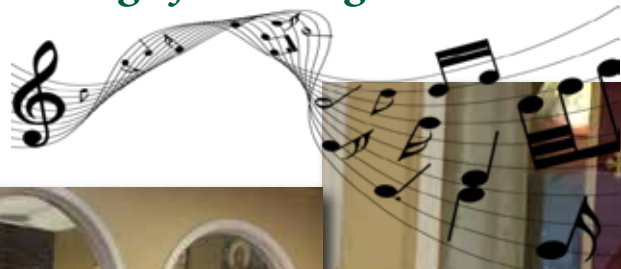
John Carroll seniors Argirios Stakias and Anthony Magwood are spreading the Christmas spirit all the way up to New York as they deliver a check for \$5,015 and 17 containers full of donated items to the disadvantaged children at St. Basil Academy. The two students surpassed their \$4,000 goal thanks in part to the generosity of the John Carroll community. They raised the money through a dress down day and loose change collections at John Carroll and Stakias' Greek Orthodox parish. The 17 containers of items include toiletries, school supplies, clothing, and toys. The items will be greatly appreciated by the students of St. Basil Academy, which serves, houses, and educates children who are orphaned, have chronically ill or destitute parents, or are from broken homes.

This act of kindness is part of the Senior Project of Stakias and Magwood. After delivering the money and items, they plan to make a video to raise awareness for disadvantaged youth and St. Basil Academy.



# GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

## *Greek School Students Enjoy an Evening of Caroling!*



# DIAMONDS NEWS

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!!

Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. Luncheon will be provided at \$10.00 per person.

On Saturday, November 18, 2017, we plan to go to the Rainbow Dinner Theatre, at Paradise PA, to see the comedy "Sex please, we're sixty". It is a Saturday morning. Price per person \$ 85.00. includes, transportation, Luncheon and the ticket for the Theatre. If you wish to attend , you need to give a deposit of \$ 10.00 at the meeting on February, 14, 2017. More information to be announced at the meeting.

Thank you,  
Rose Tsakalos - President

## ΔΙΑΜΑΝΤΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ

Η επομένη μας συνεδρίαση θα είναι την Τρίτη, 14 Φεβρουαρίου, στις 1:00 μ.μ., με Γεύμα προς \$ 10 το άτομο.

Το Σάββατο, 18 Νοεμβρίου, 2017, προγραμματίζουμε ταξίδι στην Πενσυλβάνια, στο Rainbow Dinner Theatre, να παρακολουθήσουμε τη ξεκαρδιστική κωμωδία "Sex please, we're sixty". Κατά γενική απαίτηση τούτο το ταξίδι θα γίνει Σάββατο πρωί για να μπορέσουν να έλθουν και οι εργαζόμενοι. Στοιχίζει \$ 85.00 το άτομο. Συμπεριλαμβάνει το Λεωφορείο, το γεύμα, και το εισιτήριο του Θεάτρου. Αν επιθυμείτε να συμμετέχετε σας παρακαλούμε να δώσετε μια μικρή προκαταβολή \$ 10.00 για να κλείσετε τη θέση σας, περισσότερες λεπτομέρειες στη συνεδρίαση.

Σας ευχαριστώ,  
Ρόζα Τσακάλου Πρόεδρος



Happy New Year! We hope 2017 fills your homes with Health, Love and Happiness! During the month of December we collected items for The Family Crisis center and would like to thank everyone for their donations. We supplied ten families with Christmas Food Baskets and sponsored two families with items for their children. We continue the monthly meals to Our Daily Bread and we also fulfill the obligations to our National and Metropolis Philoptochos.

With so many events during the month of December, and everyone having personal obligations, thank you to the ladies that took time out of their schedules and supported and brought items for this years Christmas Tea!

On December the 16th we hosted "The Holiday Cocktail Party". We would like to thank Maria and John Georgakis along with their children for chairing the event and all the hard work in making the evening a success! Thank you to the families for their donations of very creative hors doeuvres which were enjoyed by all that attended.

## PHILOTOCHOS DONATIONS:

Mrs. Stavroula Christesson, Mrs. Lambrini Bourmias

*In memory of Amalia Hatzikosmas:* Mr. & Mrs. George Perdikakis, Kris Cocoros, Mrs. Susan Alexandradou, Dr. Beckie Michael & Mr. John Nutaltis, Mr. & Mrs. Costas Triantafilos, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Koukides & George, Mr. & Mrs. John Georgakis

*In memory of Nicholas Souranis:* Mr. & Mrs. Costas Triantafilos, Mr. & Mrs. Rickey Alston

*In memory of Maria Saliaris and Anastasios Saliaris:* Mrs. Joe Gafos, Mr. & Mrs. Costas Triantafilos, Mr. & Mrs. John Georgakis

*In memory of Maritsa Kosmas:* Mr. & Mrs. Costas Triantafilos

*In memory of Sophia Tsamuras:* Mr. & Mrs. John Georgakis

## PHILOTOCHOS JANUARY SCHEDULE:

Monday, January 2, 2017 General Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 8, 2017 Vasilopita Cutting / Special Tray to Benefit Saint Basils Academy

Tuesday, January 11, 2017 Ronald McDonald Dinner Visitation

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 Night Out

## PHILOXENIA HOUSE, INC.

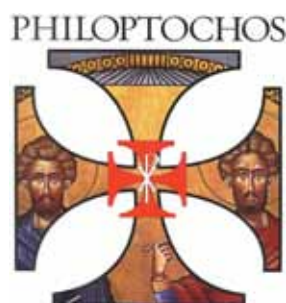
Throughout this past year there have been concerts to help raise the necessary funds for the Second Phase of the home. We would like to thank all the sponsors, those that showed support by attending and those who gave donations. Thank you to Tony and Maria Pearce, Maria Georgakis and Christine Zervos for undertaking this fundraising effort and their endless hours of hard work! In 2017 we hope to have the exact cost and plans finalized and presented to the public. Again thank you and we wish everyone a very Blessed New Year!

## PHILOXENIA HOUSE DONATIONS:

We would like to acknowledge our Sister Parish Cathedral of the Annunciation Philoptochos for their continued support and for their very generous donation!

*In memory of Maria Saliaris:*

Mr. & Mrs. Pete Saliaris



Ευτυχισμένος ο Καινούργιος Χρόνος! Σας ευχόμαστε όπως ο καινούργιος χρόνος σας χαρίσει Υγεία, Αγάπη και Ευτυχία. Κατά τη διάρκεια του μηνός Δεκεμβρίου μαζεύσαμε πράγματα για το Κέντρο Οικογενειακής Κρίσης, και θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε όλους όσοι προέφεραν τις δωρεές τους για αυτό το σκοπό. Μοιράσαμε δέκα (10) Χριστουγεννιάτικα πακέτα με φαγητά σε οικογένειες και δωρήσαμε σε δύο οικογένειες αντικείμενα για παιδιά. Συνεχίζουμε τα μηνιαία γεύματα στο Ίδρυμα Our Daily Bread και έχουμε εκπληρώσει όλες μας τις οικονομικές υποχρεώσεις προς τον Εθνικό Οργανισμό Φιλοπτύχων καθώς και προς την Φιλόπτωχο της Μητροπόλεως.

Με όλες τις εκδηλώσεις του μηνός Δεκεμβρίου και τις προσωπικές υποχρεώσεις του καθενός, οφείλουμε ένα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ στις κυρίες που συνέβαλαν με τις δωρεές τους και υποστήριξαν το εφεινός μας Χριστουγεννιάτικο Τσάι.

Στις 16 Δεκεμβρίου είχαμε το Εορταστικό μας Κόκτεϊλ Πάρτυ. Θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε τους υπεύθυνους της εκδήλωσης κ. Μαρία και Γιάννη Γιωργάκη και τα παιδιά τους για όλη την προετοιμασία και την διεξαγωγή που έφερε την επιτυχία της εκδήλωσης. Ευχριστούμε όλες τις οικογένειες για τις δωρεές τους και για τα μεζεδάκια που προσέφεραν και όλοι οι παρόντες ετίμησαν ιδιαίτερα.

## ΔΩΡΕΕΣ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΗΝ ΦΙΛΟΠΤΩΧΟ

Η κυρία Σταυρούλα Κρίστενσον, και η κ. Λαμπρινή Μπουρνιά.

*Εις μνήμη της Αμαλίας Χατζηκοσμά:* κος & κα Γεώργιος Πεδικάκης, κα. Κρις Κοκόρος, κα. Σούζαν Αλεξανδράτου, Δρ. Beckie Michael and Mr. John Nutaltis, κος & κα Κώστας Τριαντάφυλος, κος & κα Χαράλαμπος Κουκίδης και Γεώργιος Κουκίδης, κος & κα Ιωάννης Γιωργάκης.

*Εις μνήμη Νικολάου Σουράνη:* κος και κα Κώστας Τριαντάφυλος, κος & κα Rickey Alston.

*Εις μνήμη Αναστασίου και Μαρίας Σάλιαρη:* Κα. Ζωή Γκάφου, κος & κα. Κώστας Τριαντάφυλος, κος & κα. Ιωάννης Γιωργάκης.

*Εις μνήμη Μαρτίτσας Κοσμά:* κος & κα Κώστας Τριαντάφυλος.

*Εις μνήμη Σοφίας Τσαμουρά:* κος & κα. Ιωάννης Γιωργάκης.

## Πρόγραμμα εκδηλώσεων της Φιλοπτύχου μηνός Ιανουαρίου

Δευτέρα, 2 Ιανουαρίου, 2017: Συνεδρίαση ολομέλειας, 7:00 μ.μ.

Κυριακή 8 ΟΙανουαρίου, 2017: Κόνημο της Βασιλόπιτας/έκτακτος δίσκος προς όφελος της Ακαδημίας του Αγίου Βασιλείου.

Τρίτη 11 Ιανουαρίου, 2017: Επίσκεψη και δείπνο στο Ίδρυμα Ronald McDonald.

Τρίτη 31 Ιανουαρίου, 2017: Κοινωνική έξοδος των κυριών.

## ΟΙΚΗΜΑ 'ΦΙΛΟΞΕΝΙΑΣ'

Καθ' όλο το παρελθόν έτος έγιναν συναυλίες για να βοηθήσουμε να συλεχθούν τα απαραίτητα κεφάλαια για το Δεύτερο Στάδιο αποπεράτωσης του Σπιτιού. Θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε όλους τους χορηγούς, εκείνους που τις υποστήριξαν με την παρουσία τους, και εκείνους που έδωσαν δωρεές. Ένα εγκάρδιο ευχαριστώ στον Αντώνη και Μαρία Πής, την Μαρία Γεωργάκη και τη Χριστίνα Ζερβού για την προσπάθεια και την ανάληψη αυτού του έργου συλλογής κεφαλαίων, για τις ατέλειωτες ώρες τους και τη σκληρή δουλειά! Το 2017 ελπίζουμε να συγκεντρώσουμε το ακριβές κόστος, να ολοκληρωθούν τα σχέδια για να μπορέσουμε να τα παρουσιάσουμε στο κοινό. Και πάλι σας ευχαριστούμε και ευχόμαστε σε όλους μια πολύ ευλογημένη και χαρούμενο το Νέο Έτος Δωρεές Νέο Έτος.

## ΔΩΡΕΕΣ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΟ ΟΙΚΗΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΦΙΛΟΞΕΝΙΑΣ

Θα θέλαμε να ευχαριστήσουμε την Φιλόπτωχο της Αδελφής Κοινότητας του Καθεδρικού Ναού του Ευαγγελισμού για την συνεχή τους υποστήριξη και για τις πολλές γενναϊόδωρες προσφορές τους.

*Εις μνήμη της Μαρίας Σαλιάρη:* κος & κα Παναγιώτης Σαλιάρης.

Με εκτίμηση,

Νόρα Κεφάλια, Πρόεδρος Φιλοπτύχου

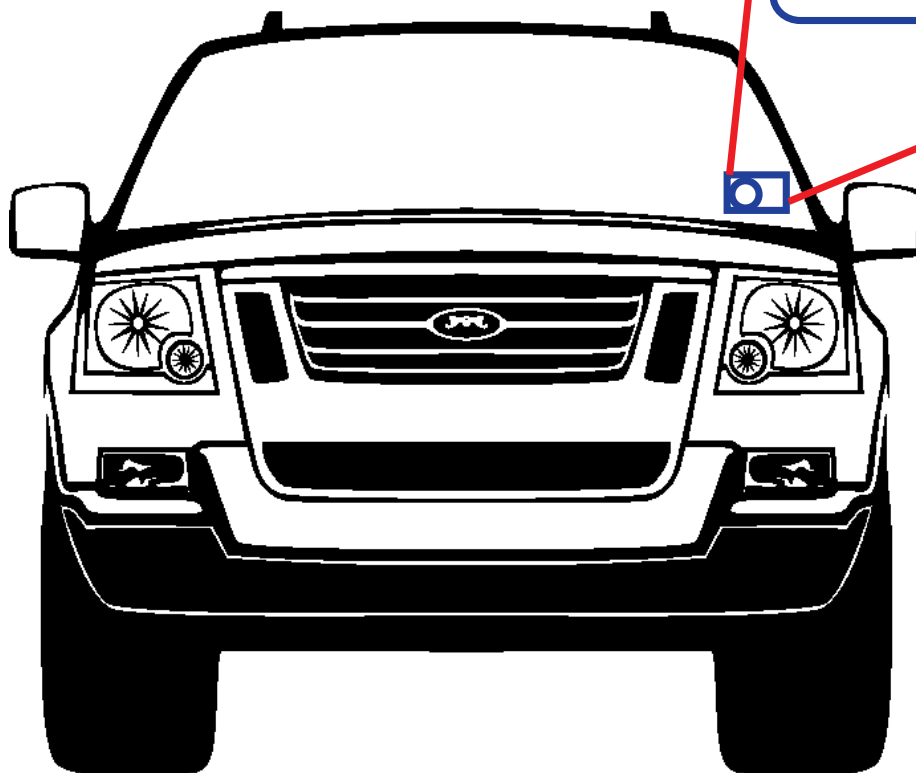
## NEW! 2017 CHURCH PARKING PERMITS

### How do I obtain a parking permit?

- Submit your 2017 stewardship card and receive one permit for each of your vehicles

### Where do I place my new parking permit?

- Lower left corner of driver's side windshield



**Parking  
Permit**

**1234**

*Be sure to  
include your  
email address  
on your  
stewardship  
card!!*

@ @ @ @ @

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER

WEDDING RECEPTIONS • ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES  
NEW YEAR'S EVE • COMPANY GATHERINGS • CLASS OR FAMILY REUNIONS  
RETIREMENT PARTIES • BUSINESS MEETINGS



**FIRST FLOOR HALL**  
FOR UP TO 175 GUESTS



**SECOND FLOOR  
BANQUET HALL**  
FOR UP TO 400 GUESTS



**OUTDOOR VENUE**  
WITH AMPHITHEATRE STAGE  
AND DANCE FLOOR  
FOR UP TO 1,500 GUESTS

701 QUAIL STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21224 • (410) 294-1253 • [WWW.GREEKTOWNSQUARE.COM](http://WWW.GREEKTOWNSQUARE.COM)

### News and Events

The Greektown Square & Event Center (Plateia) is excited to report that we now have a website!

Please visit us at [greektownsquare.com](http://greektownsquare.com) and let us know what you think.

Email us at [info@greektownsquare.com](mailto:info@greektownsquare.com)

The Plateia Committee continues to make great strides. Improvements continue to be made. Event bookings are increasing within as well as outside of our community. To keep up with this momentum, our Marketing Committee needs your help in developing our grass roots outreach program. Please consider volunteering your services. We thank you for your continued faith and support.

### UNITED TRANSPORTATION

*The Premier Passenger Van Service*

••• Reliable and Safe Transportation •••

Airport (BWI, DULLES, JFK),

Dinner, Events, & Wine Tours

Weddings, Anniversaries, Proms, Bachelorette Outings, Corporate Transportation,

Local & Distance, Groups up to 14 people

Serving Baltimore/D.C. Metro

**Contact Solon at 443-791-7141**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**THE GREEKTOWN SQUARE & EVENT CENTER (PLATEIA)** is establishing a list of Business Partners that it can refer clients to for weddings and other event services. If you, your family members or friends are in these lines of business and would like to have clients referred to you, let us know. We will include your business name on our website, include you on Facebook features and provide clients with your business name and contact information during bookings of the facility. In exchange, we ask that you do the same to help us market the Plateia and to offer our clients promo pricing or other benefits you deem appropriate. The list of businesses includes the following:

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

MAGICIANS  
DISC JOCKEYS  
BANDS  
SOLOISTS  
JUGGLERS  
BALLOON ARTISTS  
FACE PAINTERS  
PHOTOBOOTH OPERATORS

### **PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT**

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES  
OFFICIANTS  
PHOTOGRAPHERS  
VIDEOGRAPHERS  
WEDDING PLANNERS  
VALET PARKING

### **FOOD AND DÉCOR SUPPORT**

RENTAL FURNITURE/DECOR  
FLORISTS  
DECORATORS  
BAKERIES  
LIMO COMPANIES

### **MARKETING SUPPORT:**

Now that the Plateia is being marketed to the greater Baltimore area, we are receiving many internet inquiries. Therefore, all parishioners and friends of St. Nicholas who have either sponsored or attended events at the Plateia could help us tremendously if reviews were posted on the following internet sites:

- Our website at [www.greectownsquare.com](http://www.greectownsquare.com) - Send us Testimonials – (use the “Contact Us” tab). If you want to include your picture with the testimonial as others have, then send us your testimonial using the Plateia’s email address at [info@greectownsquare.com](mailto:info@greectownsquare.com) and attach the picture.
- Review us on our Facebook page at [www.greectownsquare.com](http://www.greectownsquare.com)
- Review us on [www.Weddingwire.com](http://www.Weddingwire.com)
- Review us on [www.theknot.com](http://www.theknot.com)

Also, please “Like” us on Facebook and ask your family, your Facebook friends and others to do the same. This will help us expand our client base and keep everyone informed of our news releases as well as past and future events.



# 2016 PLEDGES-\$208,840.20 / Payments-\$206,151.20 / Balance-\$2,689.00

MR/MRS ADAMS MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS AHLADIOTIS JOHN & EFFIE  
 MR/MRS ALEVROGIANNIS GEORGE &  
 MRS AMARANTIDIS PANTHENA  
 MRS ANASTASIS FOTINI  
 MR/MRS ANGELOS MARK  
 MRS APESOS ANTIGONE  
 MR/MRS ARAVIDES ANTONIOS  
 MR/MRS ARGIRAKIS PANTELIS &  
 MRS ASHBY ATHELENE  
 MS ATHOS JANET  
 MR/MRS AVGERINOS VASILIOS  
 MS BALOMAS PATRICIA  
 MR BENETOS JOHN  
 MRS BISBIKIS HELEN  
 MR/MRS BRITZOLAKIS GEORGIOS &  
 MR/MRS CEJEPEK PETER &  
 MR/MRS CHRISOVERGIS NICHOLAS &  
 MRS CHRIST STASA  
 MS CHUVALAS DIMITRA  
 MRS CORNIAS CLARA  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE C.  
 MR/MRS CURTIS JOHN  
 MR/MRS DIACOULOUKAS GEORGE &  
 MR/MRS DIMAS KONSTANTINO  
 MR/MRS EFTHIMIOU SPIROS &  
 MR/MRS FAKAS JAMES  
 MR/MRS FILIPIDIS NICHOLAS  
 MR/MRS FILIPPOU JASON &  
 MR/MRS FORAKIS NICHOLAS &  
 MR/MRS FOTIOU JOHN  
 MR/MRS FRANGOS MICHAEL &  
 MR/MRS GAVRILIS JOHN &  
 MR/MRS GEORGALAS MICHAEL &  
 MR/MRS GEORGAS GEORGE  
 MR/MRS GEORGIU JOHN  
 MR/MRS GIAKOUIMAKIS NICK  
 MR/MRS GIANIS APOSTOLOS  
 MR/MRS GIORGAKIS MARIA  
 MRS GLYKIADIS DESPINA  
 MRS HALKIAS FOTINI  
 MR/MRS HARTOFILIS NICK & SYLVIA  
 MR HATZIGEORGALI ANTONIOS  
 MS HAZIMHALIS MARIA  
 MR/MRS HOFFERBERT JOHN  
 MR/MRS HUEBSCHMAN CHARLES &  
 MR/MRS JANKOWIAK DAVID & MARY  
 MR/MRS KAIKIS CLEMIS  
 MRS KALAMBIHIS MARIA  
 MR/MRS KAMBANOPOULOU STELIOS  
 MR/MRS KANELLOPOULOS FOTIS & RITSA  
 MR/MRS KAPUTSOS MARSHALL  
 MS KARAGIANNIS SHOSHANA  
 MS KARAGIANNIS MARIA  
 MRS KARAMBOULIS FOTINI  
 MR/MRS KARAMPAS IOANIS AND  
 MR KARELIS EPAMINONDAS  
 MR/MRS KAROUTSOS GEORGE &  
 MR/MRS KATRIS ANTONIOS &  
 MR/MRS KEFALAS MIKE & NORA  
 MR/MRS KILLIAS SAVAS &  
 MR/MRS KLOSTERIDES VASILIKI  
 MR KOLIOFOTIS DEMETRIOS  
 MR/MRS KONSTANTINOU JOHN  
 MR/MRS KORNIAS CHRISTOS &  
 MR KOSMOS GEORGE  
 MR/MRS KOTZIAS GEORGE A.  
 MR/MRS KOUKIDES JOHN  
 MR/MRS KOUMOUDIS SOTIRIS &  
 MR/MRS KOURTESIS MICHAEL &  
 MR KOUTSANTONIS THEODORE  
 MR KOVIOS STEVE  
 MS LAMBROW STEPHANIE  
 MRS LERICOS IRENE  
 MISS LIVADITIS SOPHIA  
 MR/MRS MACH LEON J. &  
 MR/MRS MARIANOS ANTONIOS -  
 MR/MRS MATSANGOS ARGYRO  
 MR/MRS MAVRODONTIS ZAHARIAS  
 MR/MRS MEHANI BLENDAR IRINA  
 MR/MRS MILLETT & ALEX EARL &  
 MRS MIMAROS PARASKEVI  
 MISS MITSOS DIMITRA

MR AGAPIOS DIAMANTIS  
 MR/MRS AKALESTOS EMMANUEL  
 MR/MRS ALEXANDROU JOHN  
 MR/MRS AMARANTIDIS HARRY AND  
 MR ANDERSON EMANUEL P. JR.  
 MR/MRS ANGELOU JOHN  
 MR/MRS APOSTOLOU DIMITRIOS &  
 MR/MRS ARCHER ANDREW &  
 MR/MRS ARGIROPOULOS WILLIAM  
 MS ATHANASIOU IOANNA  
 MR/MRS ATSAKIS GUS  
 MR/MRS AVGERINOS DEMETRIOS  
 MR/MRS BARKAS HARALAMBOS  
 MRS BILIS AMALIA  
 MR/MRS BITSANIS DIMITRIOS -  
 DR/MRS CARDIGES NICHOLAS M. &  
 MS CHAGETAS ANGELA  
 MR/MRS CHRISOVERGIS GEORGE &  
 MR/MRS CHRIST PHILIP  
 MRS CONWAY ROSE  
 MR CORNIAS NICHOLAS  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE A. &  
 MRS DARDAMANIS EVA  
 MR/MRS DIACOULOUKAS GUS & MARY  
 MRS DINIOTIS ANASTASIA  
 MR/MRS ELEFTHERIOU JOHN  
 MRS FAKAS ZENOVIA  
 MR FILIPIDIS JAMES  
 MRS FILIPPOU CARMEN  
 MR FORAKIS - GEORGE -  
 MR/MRS FRANGAKIS SOFOULA  
 Mrs FRANGOS ANGELIKI  
 MR/MRS GAZONAS-ZIKOU GEORGE  
 MR/MRS GEORGALAS EMMANUEL  
 MS GEORGAS HARRIET  
 MS GERAPETRITES PANAGIOTA  
 MR/MRS GIALAMAS MARINOS -  
 MRS GIANNAKOULIAS DIONISIA  
 MR GLAVA KIKI  
 MR GLYKIADIS KONSTANTINO  
 MR/MRS HANDAKAS PAUL  
 MRS HATZIDAKIS ANGELIKI  
 MRS HATZIKOSMAS AMALIA  
 MR/MRS HIGGS MATTHEW  
 MR/MRS HONDROULIS EMMANUEL D.  
 MR/MRS IEROMONAHOS DIMITRIOS &  
 MS JOHNS - HELEN  
 MR KAIKIS ANDREW  
 MRS KALIAKOURAS SOFIA  
 MRS KAMINARIS BARBARA  
 MRS KAPETANAKOS SOULLA  
 MR/MRS KAPUTSOS SYLVIA  
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS DEMETRIOS  
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNPOU GUS & SUE  
 MR KARAMIHALIS THEOLOGOS  
 MR/MRS KARANIKOLIS NIKOS  
 MR/MRS KARELLAS EMMANUEL  
 MR/MRS KAROUTSOS APOSTOLOS -  
 MR/MRS KATSAROS MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS KELLEY-CHRIST SHAWN &  
 MR/MRS KIMOS JAMES  
 MR/MRS KLOSTERIDIS SPIRO -  
 MRS KOLOTOS DORA  
 MR/MRS KONTOUDIS KONSTANTINO  
 MR/MRS KORNIAS GEORGE  
 MR/MRS KOSTAKIS GEORGE  
 MR/MRS KOTZIAS CHRIS  
 MR/MRS KOUKOULAS EMMANUEL  
 MR/MRS KOUMOUDIS SOFIA  
 MR/MRS KOUTELIS ADAMANTIOS  
 MR/MRS KOUTSOURIS STYLIANOS  
 MR/MRS KRITIKOS GEORGE &  
 MR/MRS LAURENTZOS JAMES -  
 MR/MRS LESSIS IOANNIS  
 MR/MRS LOIZOU CHRIS  
 MR/MRS MALTAΣ JOHN & ZOE  
 MR/MRS MARVELIS VASILIOS  
 MRS MATTHEWS ANN  
 MR/MRS MAVROMOUSTAK GEORGE  
 MR/MRS MELISSARATOS ARIS  
 MR/MRS MILLON EDWARD &  
 MR MINADAKIS ANTONIOS  
 MR/MRS MITSOS FRANK

MR/MRS AGAPIOS NICHOLAS &  
 MR/MRS ALAFASSOS SPYROS &  
 MR/MRS ALMASON TEPHEN &  
 MRS ANAN ELEZABETH A.  
 MR ANGELOPOULOS CHRIST  
 MR ANTARTIS NIKOLAOS  
 MR/MRS ARAVIKAKIS EKATERINI  
 MR/MRS ARGETAKIS GEORGE &  
 MRS ARGYRAKIS DESPINA  
 MR/MRS ATHANASIOU ANTONIOS  
 MR/MRS ATSIDIS IOANNIS  
 MR/MRS BAKALIS IOANNIS &  
 MR BATES SAM  
 MR/MRS BIRCH PETER  
 MR/MRS BOURNIAS LAMBRINI  
 MRS CARDIGES ANN  
 MR/MRS CHALKIAS IOANNIS &  
 MRS CHRISOVALLIS SOPHIE  
 MS CHRISTAKOU STAVROULA  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS MICHAEL C.  
 MRS CORNIAS CALLIOPH  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS LARRY &  
 MRS DENDRINOS EVANGELIA  
 MR/MRS DIAKANTONIS NICKOLAOS -  
 MR/MRS DOUKELIS GEORGE  
 MRS ELIOPOULOS ANNA  
 MR/MRS FAKAS VASILIOS  
 MR/MRS FILIPPAKIS - LOUIS,  
 MR/MRS FORAKIS MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS FOTINOS GERASIMOS -  
 MR/MRS FRANGAKIS IRENE  
 MR/MRS GALLIATSATOS GERASIMOS &  
 MR GEDEON EMANOUEL  
 MS GEORGAS ANTHIE  
 MR/MRS GEORGE ANTHONY M.  
 MS GERAPETRITES SOFIA  
 MRS GIALAMAS JOANNA  
 MR/MRS GIANNAKOULIAS GEORGE  
 MR/MRS GLAVA KIKI  
 MR/MRS GREEN KENNYATTE &  
 MS HARRIS ATHENA  
 MR HATZIDAKIS KONSTANTINO  
 MR/MRS HATZINICOLAS NICK & OLGA  
 MRS HINELINE  
 MR HONDROULIS ANDREANOS  
 MR/MRS IEROMONAHOS PANTELIS  
 MRS JOHNS ASPASIA  
 Dr. KAITIS ANGELA MARY  
 MS KALIS EUGENIA  
 MR/MRS KAMOS EMMANUEL &  
 MR KAPETANAKOS FANOURIOS  
 MR/MRS KARABELAS PANAGIOTIS  
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS PAVLOS & JO  
 MR/MRS KARAMANLIDES KYRIAKOS -  
 MR KARAMIHALIS GEORGE  
 MS KARAS EVELYN  
 MR/MRS KARIOFILLI PAGONA  
 MR/MRS KASTANAKIS MICHAEL &  
 MR/MRS KATSAS STAVROS &  
 MRS KEPREOS GEORGIA  
 MR/MRS KLOSTERIDES MICHAEL &  
 MR/MRS KOLENDRIANOS JOHN  
 MR/MRS KOLOVOURIS - KON/NOS &  
 MISS KONTOUDIS KYRA  
 MR/MRS KOROLOGOS JOHN &  
 MR/MRS KOSTALAS PANTELIS &  
 MR/MRS KOUGIANOS DIONISIOS -  
 MRS KOULATSOS ANASTASIA  
 MR/MRS KOUROUPIS STEVE  
 MR/MRS KOUTSANTONIS DEMETRIOS  
 MR/MRS KOUVARIS STAVROS &  
 MS LALLAS EVA  
 MR/MRS LASKARIDIS DEMTRE &  
 MR/MRS LEWIS HOWARD E.  
 MR/MRS LOUMIOTIS DIMITRIOS &  
 MR/MRS MANOLITSIS ISMINI  
 MR/MRS MASTROMANOLI MANUEL  
 MR/MRS MAURAKIS JAMES &  
 MR/MRS MAVRONIS NICHOLAS  
 MR/MRS MIHAIL NIKOLAOS &  
 MR/MRS MILONAS KIMON  
 MRS MINAS ROSE  
 MR/MRS MOELLER PATRICIA ZOE

AHEPA LORD  
 MS ALBERTINI VICTORIA  
 MR/MRS AMANN MARY & FRANZ  
 MR/MRS ANASTASIADES DEMOS &  
 MR/MRS ANGELOS JOHN & IRENE  
 MR/MRS ANTONAS NICK  
 MR/MRS ARAVIDES NICHOLAS  
 MR/MRS ARGETAKIS NICHOLAS  
 MR/MRS ARMENIS STAMATIS &  
 MR ATHANASIOU NIKOLAOS  
 MR/MRS AVGERINOS GEORGE AND  
 MS BALOMAS HRISOSTOMOS  
 MR/MRS BELLIOS PETER &  
 MR BISBIKIS PETE  
 MR/MRS BOUYOUKAS JOHN & FOTINI  
 MR CAVOURAS STANLEY  
 MR/MRS CHARALAMBOPO CHARALAMBO  
 MRS CHRISOVALLIS METAXIA  
 MS CHRISTESSON STAVROULA  
 MRS CORNIAS KALLIOPH T.  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS DESPINA  
 MR/MRS CORNIAS GEORGE M.  
 MR/MRS DIACOGIANNIS MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS DIAKOKOMNINOS KOSMAS  
 MR/MRS DOUKAS NIKOLAS  
 MR/MRS ELIOU ERNEST  
 MRS FANTIS PENELOPE  
 MRS FILIPPOU IRENE  
 MR/MRS FORAKIS STAMATI &  
 MR/MRS FOTINOS JAMES  
 MR/MRS FRANGOS JOHN  
 MRS GAVRILIS VIRGINIA  
 MR GEORGALAS NICHOLAS  
 MR. GEORGAS SAVAS  
 MS GEORGELIS JOANNE  
 MRS GERAPETRITES FOTINI  
 MR/MRS GIALOURIS ANDREAS &  
 MR/MRS GIANNAS STYLIANOS  
 MS GLUSZCZ CHRISTINE  
 IALKIAN "SAINT  
 MR/MRS HARRIS SPYROS  
 MS HATZIEFTHIMIO ANASTASIA  
 MRS HAZARIDES MELLI  
 MR/MRS HIOTIS MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS HOUVARDAS MINAS &  
 MR/MRS IORDANOU CHRISTOFORO  
 MR/MRS JONES KENNY &  
 MR/MRS KAKAROLIS NIKOLAOS  
 MR/MRS KALOGRANI VASILIKI  
 MR/MRS KANELLOPOULOS JOHN  
 MR/MRS KAPETANAKOS ELIAS & STE  
 MISS KARABELAS IOANNA  
 MR/MRS KARAGIANNIS SEVASTI  
 MR KARAMANLIDES ANTONIOS  
 MRS KARAMIHALIS ELEFTHERIA  
 MRS KARDIASMENOS METAXIA  
 MR/MRS KARLOS PETER -  
 MR/MRS KASTELLORIZIOS KONSTANTINO  
 MR/MRS KAZAMIAS GUS  
 MR/MRS KEVAS GEORGE &  
 MR/MRS KLOSTERIDES MICHAEL  
 MR/MRS KOLIADIS EMMANUEL &  
 MRS KONDYLAS DESPINA  
 MRS KORNIAS MARIA  
 MR/MRS KOSMAS - SAM &  
 MR KOSTOS JOHN  
 MR/MRS KOUKIDES HARRY  
 MR/MRS KOULATSOS DIONISIOS  
 MR/MRS KOUROUPIS JOHN  
 MR KOUTSANTONIS JOHN  
 MR/MRS KOVIOS PETE  
 MR LALLAS JOHN  
 MR/MRS LAZAROU TED & MARY  
 MR/MRS LIOREISIS JOHN &  
 MRS LYGGUMENOS ALEXANDRA  
 MS MARCUNE KAREN  
 MR/MRS MASTROVASILIS IOANIS &  
 MISS MAVRELLOS ANNA  
 MR MAVROULIS PHOTIS  
 MRS MILLER MARY  
 MR/MRS MIMAROS STAVROS  
 MR/MRS MINUTELLA MASSIMO &  
 MR/MRS MONIOTIS MICHAEL



# 2016 PLEDGES-\$208,840.20 / Payments-\$206,151.20 / Balance-\$2,689.00

MISS MONIODIS DESPINA	MISS MONIODIS PANAGIOTA	MISS MONIODIS CYNTHIA	MR/MRS MONIODIS MICHAEL &
MS MOREKAS NITSA	MRS MOSKONAS VASILIKI	MR/MRS MULLINS TROY &	MR/MRS NEOFITOU ATHINA
MR/MRS NEZIS NICHOLAS &	MR/MRS NICOLAIDIS VASILIOS &	MR NICOLARAKIS MICHAEL	MR/MRS NIKOLETOS VASILIKI
MR/MRS NISTAZOS EFSTRATIOS	MR/MRS NISTAZOS GEORGE &	MRS NOMIKOS FANNY	MR/MRS NYCHIS VASILIOS
MR/MRS NYCHIS GEORGE	MR/MRS O'DRUDY LEO K. III &	MR/MRS ONASIS THEODORE	MR/MRS ORFANOS ANTONIOS
MR ORFANOS MICHAEL	MRS ORFANOS MARIA	MR/MRS PADOUSIS JOHN E.	MR PALAIOS GABRIEL
MR PALAIOS MICHAEL	MR/MRS PALAS JOHN	MR/MRS PANTELIS GABRIEL	MR/MRS PANTOULIS NICK
MRS PAPADIMITRIOU ERMA	MR/MRS PAPADIMITRIOU EMMANUEL &	DR. PAPADIMITRIOU GEORGE	MR/MRS PAPADOPOULOS ASIMAKIS
MR/MRS PAPADOPOULOS ANASTASIOS &	MR/MRS PAPAMINAS ANDREW	MR/MRS PAPATHAKIS MATTHEW	MRS PAPAVASILIOU THABRENOS &
MS PAPPAS MARIA	MRS PAPPAS IRENE	MR/MRS PARAGIOS IOANNIS &	MR/MRS PARALIS KONSTANTINO
MRS PAROS MARY	MR/MRS PARTHEMOS KONSTATINOS	MISS PARTHEMOS ANTONIA	FR/MRS PASTRIKOS MICHAEL &
MR/MRS PATERAKIS CHARLES &	MR/MRS PATINIOTIS PANAGIOTIS &	MR/MRS PATRAS LEONARD N.&	MR/MRS PATRAS PETE
MRS PATRIKIOS-JISSRI AIKATERINE &	MR FAYIAVLAS JOHN	MR/MRS FEARCE ANTHONY &	MRS PELTSEMES IRENE
MR/MRS PERDIKAKIS GEORGE	MR/MRS PHILIPPOU POPI	MR PHILIPPOU PHILIP	MR/MRS PHILIPS DOUGLAS &
MRS PIKOUNIS ELENI	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS JOHN & DEBBIE	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS GEORGE E.	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS JAMES
MS PIROVOLIKAS MARIA	MR/MRS PIROVOLIKOS MICHAEL -	MR/MRS POLITAKIS NICHOLAS	MRS POLITES DESPINA
MR/MRS POLYCHRONIS ARISTIDES	MS POULIMENAKOS ELENI	MR/MRS PRASSINAS JAMES	MR/MRS PRASSINAS MANUEL
MR/MRS PROAKIS KOULA	MR/MRS PROTOPAPAS EMMANUEL	MR/MRS PSICHIS DULA	MRS PULIANAS DESPINA
MR/MRS QUINTERO DENNIS & RITA	MS RAMOS JOANNA	MS RAMOS VIOLETTA	MS REDMILES SOPHIA
MR/MRS REPPAS SOTERIOS	MR/MRS REPPAS IRODOTOS	MR/MRS ROLOGAS ANASTASIOS	MR ROLOGAS STAVROS
MR/MRS ROROS STAVROS &	MR/MRS ROROS GEORGE I.	MR/MRS ROROS PETE JOHN	MR/MRS ROROS GEORGE W.
MR/MRS ROROS JOHN P.	MR/MRS ROROS DIMITRIOS &	MR/MRS ROUFAS VASILIS	MR/MRS ROUSSOS ANTHONY
MR/MRS RONANIS DEAN & SOULA	MR/MRS SAKELAKIS JOHN &	MS SAKELLIS MARIA M.	MRS SAKELLIS GEORGE &
MR/MRS SAKELLIS NICHOLAS &	MR/MRS SAKPAZIS IOANNIS	MR/MRS SALARIS STEPHEN	MR/MRS SALARIS DEAN &
MRS SALIARIS MARIA	MR/MRS SALIARIS PANAGIOTIS	MS SALPEAS MARIA	MRS SARIKIANIS CHRISTINE
MR/MRS SARIGIANIS- THOMAS &	MR SARIOGLOU NIKOLAOS &	MR SARIOGLOU ANASTASIA	MS SARIOGLOU KERASSA
MR/MRS SARRIS EMMANUEL &	MRS SAZAKLIS EFTHIA	MRS SCHNEIDER MARIANNA	MRS SERAFIS MARY
MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS VASILIS &	MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS JOHN	MRS SFAKIANOUDIS ANGELINE	MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS KONSTANTINO
MR SFIKAS PARASKEYAS	MR/MRS SFIRIOU ANTONIOS	MS SFIRIOU ANTONIA	MR/MRS SIATRAS POLYCHRONIS
MR/MRS SIGAMBRIIS HARRY	MR/MRS SIGAMBRIIS JOHN &	MR/MRS SISKOS STEFANOS	MR/MRS SKANDALIS GEORGE
MR/MRS SKORDALOS VASILIOS	MR/MRS SMOUDIANIS JOHN & TINA	MR SOLLON JAMES	MR/MRS SOLLON NICK &
MRS SOPHOCLEOUS HELEN	DR/MRS SOPHOCLEUS GREGORY J.	MR/MRS SOULIKAS GEORGE &	MR/MRS SOULIKAS JAMES & JOAN
MR/MRS SOURANIS NICHOLAS &	MR/MRS SOURANIS PARASKEVI	MR/MRS SOURANIS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS SPENCER ERIC AND
MR/MRS STAKIAS PETE &	MR/MRS STAKIAS STELIOS &	MR/MRS STAKIAS JOHN &	MR/MRS STAKIAS DIMITRIOS
MR/MRS STAKIAS GEORGE	MR/MRS STAKIAS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS STAMATOPOULOU JOHN &	MR STAMATOPOULOU NICK &
MRS STAMIDES SOFIA	MR/MRS STAMIDIS ANASTASIOS	MR/MRS STAMIDIS -PEREZ CHRISOULA	MR/MRS STAMOULIS GEORGE
MR/MRS STAVLAS NIKOLAOS &	MR/MRS STAVLAS JERRY	MR/MRS STAVRAKIS DEMETRIOS &	MR/MRS STAVRAKIS MARIA
MR STAVRINOUDIS JOHN	MR/MRS STAVRIOU MARINOS	MR/MRS STEFANONUSTAK MICHAEL	MR/MRS STEWART JOHN
MRS STRAKES KATHERINE	MR/MRS STRATAKOS LEONIDAS &	MR/MRS STRATAKOS CHRISTOS L. &	MR/MRS SVRJCEK ELENI
MR/MRS SYROPOULOS NICHOLAS	MR/MRS SYROPOULOS AMALIA	MRS TAGLIAMBURIS KATHERINE	MR TAKOS STEVE
MRS TARATSIDES ATHENA	MR TARATSIDES GEORGE	MR/MRS TETTERIS STEVE	MR/MRS THEOHARIS JOHN & RENE
MS THEMELIS STELLA	MR THEMELIS JOHN	MR THEOHARIS GEORGE	MR/MRS THEOHARIS EMMANUEL
MR/MRS TOPOZOGLOU ANASTASIOS &	MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS COSTAS	MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS PETE	MR/MRS THEOULIS DEMETRIOS
MISS TRIKOUKIS JOANNE	MR/MRS TRINTIS NIKOLAOS &	MRS TRINTIS THORINA	MRS TRIPOLITIS EKATERINI
MR/MRS TROYER NICHOLAS &	MRS TSAKALAS JULIE	MR/MRS TSAKALAS STEVEN	MS TSAKALOS JEANETTE
MRS TSAKALOS ROSE	MR/MRS TSAKALOS CHRISTOPHER	MRS TSAKIRIS ANASTASIA	MR/MRS TSAMBIKOS IRENE
MR/MRS TSAMOURAS CONSTANTINE	MR/MRS TSAMFICOS GEORGE	MR/MRS TSAMPOS GEORGE	MR/MRS TSEKIS PANTELIS -
MR/MRS TSEKIS GEORGE	MR/MRS TZIMOS PETE	MR/MRS VALMAS GREGORY &	MR/MRS VANTELAS STELIOS &
MS VASILAKOPOULOU IRENE	MRS VASILAKOPOULOU ANASTASIA	MR/MRS VASILAKOPOULOU THEOFILOS	MRS VASILAKOPOULOU PARASKEVI
MR VASILARAKIS EMMANUEL	MR/MRS VASILIADES ANTONIOS	MR/MRS VASILIADES GEORGE	MR/MRS VASILIOS FRANK
MS VATAKIS TESSIE	MRS VATAKIS ARGYRO	MR/MRS VAVAKAS KIRIAKI	MR/MRS VENETIS APOSTOLOS
MR/MRS VERENAKIS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS VERGOS GEORGE &	MR/MRS VIZANIARIS ALEXANDROS	MRS VOYRVOULAS SOPHIA
MR/MRS VOXAKIS JOHN & IRENE	MS VOXAKIS SAMANTHA	MR/MRS VOXAKIS GEORGE	MR/MRS WEITKAMP - SETH AND
MR XIPOLITIDIS JOHN	MR/MRS YEAKIM DENNIS &	MR/MRS VIANAKIS STEVE &	MR/MRS ZDJIERA STEVE
MR/MRS ZERVOS DEMETRIOS	MR/MRS ZISSIMOS GUS PETE -	MR/MRS ZOULIS JOHN &	

# 2017 PLEDGES - \$66,815.00 / Payments-\$29,550.00 / Balance-\$37,265.00

MR AGAPIOS DIAMANTIS	MR/MRS AKALESTOS EMMANUEL	MR/MRS ALEVROGIANNIS GEORGE &	MRS AMARANTIDIS PARTHENA
MR/MRS AMARANTIDIS HARRY AND	MR/MRS ANAN ELEZABETH A.	MR/MRS ANASTASIADES DEMOS &	MR/MRS ANGELOS JOHN & IRENE
MR/MRS ANGELOS MARK	MS ANGELOU MARIA	MR APOSTOLOU DIMITRIOS	MR/MRS ARGYRAKIS DESPINA
MR/MRS ATSAKIS GUS	MS BAGIATI AIKATERINI	MR/MRS BATES SAM	MISS CANNING NICOLE
MRS CHRISOMALLIS SOPHIE	MRS CHRIST STASA	MR/MRS CHRIST PHILIP	MRS CHRISTAKOU STAVROULA
MR/MRS CORNIAS MICHAEL C.	MRS CORNIAS CLARA	MRS CORNIAS DESPINA	MR/MRS DOUSKAS NIKOLAS
MRS ELIOPIDIOS ANNA	MR/MRS ELIOU ERNEST	MR/MRS FAKAS JAMES	MR/MRS FEKOS CHRISTOFORO
MR/MRS FILIPIDIS NICHOLAS	MR/MRS FORAKIS MICHAEL	MR/MRS FOTIOU JOHN	COL/MRS GAVRILIS JOHN &
MR/MRS GAZONAS-ZIKOU GEORGE	MR/MRS GEORGALAS MICHAEL &	MS GEORGAS ANTHIE	MR GEORGE ANTHONY M.
MR/MRS GEORGIOU JOHN	MR/MRS GIAKOUMAKIS NICK	MR/MRS GIALOURIS ANDREAS &	MR/MRS GIANIS APOSTOLOS
MRS GIANNAKOULIAS DIONISIA	MR/MRS GIANNAKOULIAS GEORGE	MR/MRS GIANNAS STYLIANOS	MR/MRS GLUSZCZ CHRISTINE
MR/MRS GLYKLIADIS KONSTANTINO	MRS GLYKLIADIS DESPINA	MR/MRS HALKIAN "SAINT	MS HARRIS ATHENA
MR/MRS HATZIEFTHIMIO ANASTASIA	MR HONDROULIS ANDREANOS	MR/MRS JANKOWIAK DAVID & MARY	MR/MRS KAIKIS CLEMIS
MRS KALIS EUGENIA	MR/MRS KAMBANOPOULOU STELIOS	MR/MRS KAMENARIS DEMETRIOS	MRS KAPETANAKOS SOULLA
MR/MRS KAPUTSOS MARSHALL	MS KAPUTSOS SYLVIA	MISS KARABELAS IOANNA	MR/MRS KARAGIANNOPOU GUS & SUE
MR/MRS KARELLAS EUGENIA M.	MR/MRS KARELLAS EMMANUEL	MR/MRS KATSAROS MICHAEL	MRS KEPREOS GEORGIA
MR/MRS KIMOS JAMES	MR/MRS KLOSTERIDIS SPIRO -	MR KOKOLAKIS PANAGIOTIS	MR/MRS KONTOUDIS KONSTANTINO
MR KOSMOS GEORGE	MR/MRS KOSTAKIS GEORGE	MR KOSTOS JOHN	MR/MRS KOTZIAS CHRIS
MR KOTZIAS GEORGE A.	MR/MRS KOUKIDES HARRY	MRS KOULATOS ANASTASIA	MR KOUROUPIS STEVE
MR/MRS KOURTESIS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS KOURTESIS KONSTANTINE	MRS KOUVARIS PAULA	MS LAMBROW STEPHANIE
MRS LERICOS IRENE	MR/MRS LOGOTHETIS NIKOLAOS &	MR/MRS LOIZOU CHRIS	MR/MRS LOUMIOTIS DIMITRIOS &
MR/MRS MASTROMANOGLI MANUEL	MR MERITIS ALEXANDROS	MR/MRS MILLETT & ALEX EARL &	MR/MRS MILONAS KIMON
MRS MIMAROS PARASKEVI	MS NICOLAIDIS VIRGINIA	MR/MRS ONASIS THEODORE	MRS PANTAZONIS MARY
MR/MRS PAPADOPOULOS EFSTATHIOS	MRS PAPAVASILIOU VIRGINIA	MRS PAPPAS IRENE	MR/MRS PARAGIOS IOANNIS &
MRS PAROS MARY	MR/MRS PASTRIKOS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS PATERAKIS CHARLES &	MR/MRS PATRAS PETE
MRS PHILIPPOU POPI	MR PHILIPPOU KOSMAS	MR/MRS PIKOUNIS GEORGE E.	MRS PIKOUNIS ELENI
MR/MRS PIKOUNIS JOHN & DEBBIE	MRS POLITES DESPINA	MISS PROTOPAPAS MIROFORA	MS REDMILES SOPHIA
MR/MRS ROROS DIMITRIOS &	MR/MRS ROUSSOS ANTHONY	MR/MRS SAKPAZIS IOANNIS	MS SALPEAS MARIA
MR/MRS SALPEAS EMMANUEL D.	MRS SARIOGLOU ANASTASIA	MR/MRS SAKPAZIS NIKOLAOS &	MRS SERAFIS MARY
MR/MRS SFAKIANOUDIS VASILIS &	MR/MRS SISAMIS IOANNIS &	MRS SOPHOCLEOUS HELEN	MR/MRS SOULIKAS GEORGE &
MR/MRS SOULIKAS JAMES & JOAN	MR/MRS STAKIAS PETE &	MR/MRS STAKIAS MICHAEL &	MR/MRS STAKIAS DIMITRIOS
MRS STRAKES KATHERINE	MR/MRS TAGLIAMBURIS JOHN	MR/MRS TETTERIS STEVE	MR THEMELIS JOHN
MISS THEMELIS STELLA	MR/MRS THEMELIS JOHN & RENE	MR/MRS THEOHARIS EMMANUEL	MR THEOHARIS GEORGE
MR/MRS TRIANTAFILOS PETE	MRS TRIPOLITIS EKATERINI	MR/MRS THEOHARIS MICHAEL &	MS TSAKALOS JEANETTE
MR/MRS TSAMPOS GEORGE	MRS VASILAKOPOULOU ANASTASIA	MS VENZKE KELLIE ANN	MR/MRS VERENAKIS MICHAEL &
MRS VIZANIARIS EVANGELIA	MR/MRS YEAKIM STEVE &		

# LITURGICAL PROGRAM

*Happy New Year to Everyone. May it be blessed with abundant health and prosperity.*

Sunday	January 1	New Years Day The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am. Feast Day of St Basil the Great
Thursday	January 5	Eve of Epiphany: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 9:30 (Strict Fast) Blessing of the Waters
Friday	January 6	Holy Epiphany Day: Orthros: 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 9:30 am. Blessing of the Great Waters
Saturday	January 7	Synaxis of St. John the Baptist: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 9:30 am.
Sunday	January 8	Sunday after Epiphany: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am.
Sunday	January 15	12th Sunday of St. Luke: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Tuesday	January 17	St. Anthony the Great: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday	January 22	15th Sunday of St. Luke: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am.
Sunday	January 29	17th Sunday of Luke: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Monday	January 30	The Three Hierarchs: Orthros 8:45 am. Divine Liturgy 9:30 am.

**On Friday January 6, we celebrate the Holy Baptism of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is a Major Feast Day of the Church. We must make an effort to come to church on this day to worship and glorify our Lord. Blessing of the Great Waters will take place near the end of the Divine Liturgy.**

**On Sunday, January 22, His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey will make his Hierarchal Visitation to our Community. Attention to all Parents. Fr. Michael would like to see all Sunday School and Greek School children attend this memorable service. Also all GOYANS are requested to attend.**

## IONIAN VILLAGE

## SUMMER CAMP

## FAITH TRAVEL

~ • ~

**GRANTS NOW  
AVAILABLE!!**

## APPLY NOW!

The 2017 FAITH Travel Grants to Ionian Village application is now available.

START YOUR APPLICATION NOW AT:  
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DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 3, 2017



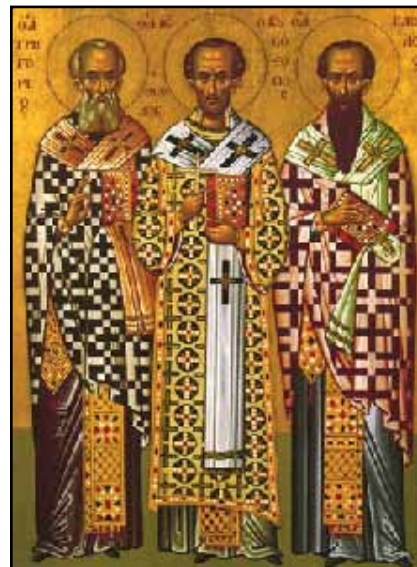
2017 FAITH Travel Grants are now available!!! Get your application started to have the #bestsummerofyourlife! Please visit: [thefaithendowment.org/travelgrant](http://thefaithendowment.org/travelgrant) for full applicant criteria and to download the application.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, Jan. 2nd: The Ladies Philoptochos Monthly meeting at 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 3rd: Choir Rehearsal at 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 11, & 18: Pan Hellenic Dance Practice at 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, Jan. 4th: Greek School Resumes at 4:30 p.m. & 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 7th: The Ladies Panchian Society is sponsoring a trip to St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean City, Md. for the Blessings of the Waters. The bus will leave at 7 a.m. and return at 7 p.m.  
Sunday, Jan. 8th: Vasilopita Sunday sponsored by the Philoptochos  
Sunday, Jan. 8th: GOYA Executive Board Meeting at 12 noon.  
Monday, Jan. 9th: GOYA Monthly Meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.  
Monday, Jan. 9th: Greek School PTA Monthly Meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 10th: The Parish Council Monthly Meeting at 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 10th: Philoptochos Ronald McDonald Visitation at 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Jan. 11th: Bible Study with Father Michael at 6 p.m.  
Friday-Sunday, Jan. 13th- Jan. 15th: Hellenic Folk Dance Festival in Annapolis, Md.  
Saturday, Jan. 14th: The Diamonds New Year's Luncheon at the Plateia.  
Monday, Jan. 16th: Greek School Closed for Martin Luther King Celebration  
Tuesday, Jan. 17th: Choir Rehearsal  
Saturday, Jan. 21st: Ladies Chios Vasilopita Luncheon  
Saturday, Jan. 21st: Panos Kiamos concert to benefit the Philoxenia House  
Sunday, Jan. 22nd: Celebration of the Three Hierarchs & Greek Letters with the Metropolitan Evangelos at 4 p.m. at the Greektown Square & Event Center.  
Wednesday, Jan. 25th: Bible Study with Father Michael at 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 31st: Ladies Night Out Sponsored by the Philoptochos Society

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, Feb. 3rd: GOYA Basket Bingo at the Greektown Square & Event  
Monday, Feb. 6th: The Ladies Philoptochos General Monthly Meeting at 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, Feb. 8th: Bible Study with Father Michael at 6 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 10th: Rhodian Society's Bull and Oyster Roast  
Saturday, Feb. 11th: The Hellenic Golden Coins sponsored concert.  
Monday, Feb. 13th: GOYA Monthly Meeting at 6:30 p.m.  
Monday, Feb. 13th: Greek School PTA Monthly Meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 14th: The Parish Council Monthly Meeting at 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 18th- Feb. 19th: GOYA Away Basketball Tournament Sponsored by Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Wilmington, DE.  
Wednesday, Feb. 22nd: Bible Study with Father Michael at 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 25th: GOYA Visit to Local Nursing Home.  
Saturday, Feb. 25th: Apokreatiko Glendi to benefit the Philoxenia House at 8 p.m.  
Monday, Feb. 27th: Kathara Deftera Lenten Pot Luck Dinner sponsored by Philoptochos after church services.



Three Hierarchs

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE: KOINONIA DEADLINE**

Please submit your article(s) to the Koinonia staff by the deadline stated below:

**ISSUE MONTH: FEBRUARY 2017 - SUBMISSIONS DUE: JANUARY 20<sup>th</sup>**

Please email your article(s) to: [msalpeas@stnicholasmd.org](mailto:msalpeas@stnicholasmd.org)  
Articles are due no later than the 20th of each month. If they are received after the deadline they will be published in the following month's issue.  
All articles must be proofread and color corrected prior to submission.

*Thank you for your consideration!*