



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Ocean Township, New Jersey

the

Beacon

of Orthodoxy and Hellenism

November / December 2021

The Newsletter of St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Volume 21 Issue 2

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER ANDREW

Giving Thanks

For most of us in the United States, the month of November is focused on giving thanks. As Orthodox Christians, each and every day, we should be offering thanks to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the blessings He has bestowed upon us. As a parish, I truly believe we have been blessed over the years. We look back at the Ninety-two years of vision and ministry and see the fruits of all who have labored for our faith. Part of that vision has become a reality with the opening of our new church home, and now at the end of November, its Consecration. We are now enjoying the fruits of our labors with the lamp of orthodoxy becoming a true beacon of our faith in Ocean Township for generations to come.

Part of the mission of an Orthodox Church is to reach out beyond its own community to help others in need and to grow the faith. This can only be done through the many ministries of the church with EVERY MEMBER participating in the life of the church. As stewards (members) we are all individual lamps which make up the beacon of our Orthodox Church.

During the Byzantine Empire, it was individual members in ministry who worked in and established hospitals, cared for the elderly and homeless as well as widows and orphans. Collectively, they became a beacon for the church by meeting the needs of people through their ministry. Our own beacon of orthodoxy has been lit and people from all denominations

and walks of life are seeking out our Orthodox Church and visiting us. We ALL must be active participants in the ministries we enjoy serving as stewards of Christ's Church. The more we become involved, the better we feel about ourselves and the brighter our own personal beacons become. As we grow as individuals, so too our church grows.

On November 28th, our Archbishop Elpidophoros will Consecrate (dedicate) our church. We will have completed yet another milestone in the life of our church. Please join us the entire weekend and participate in this one-in-a-life-time opportunity to rejoice with your entire church family as we use in this great achievement you all have been a part of!

Every one of you can participate in this great event in your own small way. Simply call or invite someone who you know that does not attend Liturgy regularly to come to the consecration. Speak to them about the ministries we have to offer and the facilities of our church home. You, as a member and steward of Christ's Church, are a disciple and a beacon for Him. We ALL must participate in bringing the un-churched and non-regular members back into the fold. You have the power, as did the Disciples, to do something very simple that can have long term effects on our community. Invite those who you know back to church and be a proud witness to your faith. Reach out and be a part of the ministries of our church and give thanks for all the

Lord's blessings he has bestowed upon us as a community. I have deep faith in our community and know through your continued participation in the ministries and witness to the consecration (dedication) we will continually grow Christ's Church.

+Fr. Andrew Eugenis

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Father Andrew's Office Hours

Mon., Tues., & Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Wed.: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

If there is no response to your phone call during regular office hours, please leave a message and someone will return your call ASAP. In case of emergency, call the church office for more information.

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MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**AGAPE**

A.H.E.P.A.

Beacon

Bible Study

Cemetery

Choir Ministry

Daughters of Penelope

Funeral Ministry

G.O.Y.A.

G.O.Y.A.

Greek School

Greek School

Heritage

Heritage

Iconography

Kali Parea

Mustard Seed Bookstore

P.T.O.

Philoptochos

Photographers

Photographers

Sharing Our Faith Book Corner

Socialites

Soup Kitchen

Spiritual Enrichment

Spiritual Enrichment

Spiritual Growth

Spiritual Growth

St. George Acolytes

Stewardship

Sunday School

Webmaster

Website Administrator

Young Adult League (YAL)

Youth Advisors

Youth Advisors

Youth Advisors

Vicki Kamaratos

George Perentesis

Niki Piraquive

Teri Lalli

Billy Athans

Claire Chrysanthopoulos

Joanna Freidli

Sophia Anest

George Moutis

Anja Chatzopoulos

Tonia Sum

Maria Magriplis

Demitri Karagias

Peter Psillas

Anne Papageorge

Lela Panas

Teri Lalli

Barbara Panas Kozak

Marissa Costidis

Arthur Papaylion

Barbara Terlecsky

Teri Lalli

Sophia Anest

Soula Tsettos

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Rick Deet

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dimitris Geaneas

Kristen Cline

Mike Sakelaris

Barbara Terlecsky

Niki Piraquive

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George Moutis

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slalli0726@gmail.com

WEBSITE**Submissions**

If you would like to add an article or flyer to our website, please submit them to Barbara Terlecsky at bterlecsky@aol.com And make sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

*Masthead photo by
Yiorgos Sakelaris*

The St. George Beacon of Orthodoxy & Hellenism newsletter is published five times a year. All submissions and pictures will be reviewed prior to printing by the Beacon committee and under the guidance of Father Andrew Eugenis. All articles, flyers and photos must be submitted by email with a contact name and phone number to Niki Piraquive at niki.piraquive@gmail.com. All submissions must be received by the following deadline dates to be considered.

Edition

January/February

March/April

May/June

August/September/October

November/December

Deadline

December 1st

February 1st

April 1st

July 1st

October 1st

While we cannot be together at St. George we ask that you join us for services via live stream on our website

www.stgeorgeap.org
or via our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/stgeorgeap.org

You can Light A Candle and Say a Prayer for every service – even when you cannot attend by simply visiting our web page

<https://saintgeorgenj.square.site/>

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SERVICES

November, December 2021

Orthros begins at 8:30 am. Divine Liturgy begins at 9:30 am, unless otherwise indicated.

November

1	Monday	SS Cosmas & Damian
7	Sunday	7th Sunday of Luke
8	Monday	Archangels Michael & Gabriel
9	Tuesday	St. Nektarios
13	Saturday	St. John Chrysostom
14	Sunday	8th Sunday of Luke
20	Saturday	Vespers
21	Sunday	Entrance of Theotokos
27	Saturday 7pm	Vespers
28	Sunday	St. George CONSECRATION
29	Monday 7pm	St. Andrew at St. Andrew's
30	Tuesday	St. Andrew

December

3	Friday 7 pm	Vespers at St. Barbara's
4	Saturday	Barbara the Great Martyr at St. Barbara's
5	Sunday	10th Sunday of Luke
6	Monday	St. Nicholas
9	Thursday	Conception of Anna
12	Sunday	St. Spyridon
18	Saturday	Vespers
19	Sunday	Sunday before Nativity
24	Friday 6 am	Paramony of Nativity of the Lord
	Friday 6 pm	Nativity of the Lord
26	Sunday	Sunday after Nativity
27	Monday	St. Stephen

From the Parish Council...

The year is rapidly coming to a close. It has been a year filled with challenges and we are slowly emerging from the devastation of the COVID-19 Coronavirus. Even with the many challenges we faced and continue to face, through the grace of God, St. George stands strong.

This month on November 28th, we are blessed to have the long-awaited Consecration of our beautiful Church. All are invited and I urge each of you to attend this much anticipated baptism of our beloved St. George. We have set aside the entire weekend following Thanksgiving for this honor starting with Vespers on Saturday evening, November 27th, at 6:00 PM. This is followed by the Nativity and Tree Lighting Ceremony. On Sunday, November 28th, Orthros begins at 8:00 AM followed by the Holy Consecration and Hierarchal Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM. We will be celebrating this blessed event with his Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and the Patriarchal Vicar of the Metropolis of New Jersey, His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia. A Lenten luncheon will follow and all are invited to attend. As you celebrate Thanksgiving this year with your family and friends remember St. George. Let us continue the Thanksgiving celebration together throughout the weekend and let us give thanks to our Lord for the blessing of our beautiful Church's consecration. Please remember, it is imperative that you use the Sign-Up Genius on the St. George website to reserve your place. If you need assistance signing up, please contact the Church Office.

Elections for Parish Council member seats that are up for election for 2022 will be held on Sunday, December 5th, 2021, in the Church Library immediately following the Divine Liturgy. It is important that all Stewards in good standing come out and vote. If you are not a Steward in good standing please update your status so that you are eligible to vote. The Parish Council represents each of you in the decisions and operations of our Church. This is your opportunity to have input on who you want to sit on the Parish Council as your representative. Please have an impact and come out and cast your vote.

While we are preparing for the Consecration and upcoming elections, we managed to conduct several important events in September and October. We held our Fall Parish Assembly on October 31st. During the Assembly we nominated individuals to run for our Parish Council and we presented the 2022 Budget for approval. Among the many areas discussed, we also addressed the solar installation and the status of our cemetery expansion. For those of you who did not attend and wish to obtain additional information,

please contact the Church Office.

On the administrative side, the rental of our gymnasium is thriving. We are at capacity with our various tenants which include local leagues and schools. Our caterer renting our Cultural Center, Jimmy Pecci, "The Venue", is now increasing bookings and we are seeing increases in our monthly revenues due to the relaxation of COVID restrictions.

Taking a look back at some of the events we conducted in September and October, one was the celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 12th. We were once again honored with his Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and the Patriarchal Vicar of the Metropolis of New Jersey, His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, who celebrated the Divine Liturgy here at St. George and then we followed our long standing tradition and proceeded to Asbury Park where the Greek Orthodox youth throughout our Metropolis dove into the ocean to retrieve the cross. Congratulations to both of our own, Niko Kavarakas for retrieving the Cross for the Boys Senior Division and Petros Kiafoulis for retrieving the Cross for the Boys Junior Division! AXIOI!

Greek School and Sunday School both began in September. If your child or children are not yet enrolled in either, please enroll them now. It's never too late.

On October 24th, we held our first adult religious education session. This is a new program led by Nicholas Ruvelas and it is being held twice a month on Sundays following Holy Communion. Check your weekly bulletin and/or visit the Church website for more information.

Our newest ministry, Orthodoxy Connect, was recently established to broaden the understanding of our Orthodox faith. Sessions are held in the Church with Father Andrew and Deacon Emanuel who will provide you with an in-depth awareness of our Orthodoxy. It is open to all from within and outside of our St. George Community and we sincerely encourage and welcome those that are outside of our Faith to come and learn about us. All are welcome so when you receive your postcard for the next session or receive an email and/or read it in the Sunday Bulletin, please come and please invite your friends to join you. Refreshments are always served.

On October 1st and 2nd we held our first Jersey Shore "On The Go" Greek Festival. It was a great success and we received a welcome response from within and outside of our Community. A heartfelt thank you to our committee chairs, George Moutis, Theo Koufidakis and John Michals

for a job well done. Thank you also to ALL of our many parishioners and friends of St. George who worked, and donated their time, talents and treasures that helped make this a very successful event.

Our St. George Philoptochos Society held its annual luncheon on October 9th at the Sheraton in Eatontown. They hosted a beautiful event with a tremendous gift auction, various raffles, entertainment by the well-known Greek comedian, Ellen Karis, and lunch. This event is their largest fundraiser each year and it is instrumental in helping them fulfill their philanthropic and charitable efforts throughout the year. As the right arm of the Church, St. George is forever thankful for all of their works. Congratulations on such a wonderfully successful event!

There are also several upcoming events within our Ministries. Please remember to support our Daughters of Penelope Spanakopita Sale to be held on Sunday, November 14th. All proceeds benefit St. George, their charities and the St. George Scholarships. The Daughters will also hold their annual JINGO night on December 04th. It promises to be a fun evening with a gift auction and a fun time playing JINGO.

Our AHEPA will host its first annual Christmas Dinner Dance Comedy Party, December 3, 2021 in our Cultural

Center. Please join our AHEPA Family and share an evening of good food, entertainment by "Basile" the comedian, dancing, and an opportunity to share a fun evening with your St. George family.

As you can see, there are many activities here in the life of St. George. We are truly thriving with all of the upcoming events. Please remember to be mindful of social distancing as COVID-19 is still a presence so be careful in all you do and stay well.

In closing, we are preparing to celebrate one of the holiest of holy days, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. During this Holiday season, remember that our Lord came into the world to save us, let's honor Him and do as He has taught us. Let us love one another. Truly that is the greatest Christmas gift we can give and receive. May God Bless you all and may your Christmas and the coming New Year be filled with grace, peace and love. On behalf of the Parish Council and me, we wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR!!!

With love in Christ,
Spiro Pappas
St. George Parish Council
President

RECENT SACRAMENTS

Weddings:

September 11, 2021 Lia Loizos & Joseph Mercadante

October 2, 2021 Thefania Lynardakis &

Kenneth Morhamm

October 3, 2021 Karen Coviello & Michael Waga

Baptisms:

September 4, 2021 Mikella Fokas

September 11, 2021 Michael Compitello

September 18, 2021 Kenneth Sariotis

September 26, 2021 Nicholas Douvelis

October 23, 2021 Athena Natsis

Deaths:

August 25, 2021 Chris Spannos

August 27, 2021 Kanella Dallaportas

September 18, 2021 Elias Karagias

September 30, 2021 Thoma Mitre

"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" - Galatians 3:27

SAINT GEORGE CONSECRATION COMMEMORATIVE ICON



Take home a lasting memento of this special day in the life of our Saint George Greek Orthodox Church. Pre-order a reprint of this 5x7 limited edition icon - on wood - of Saint George holding & protecting our beloved community. The original (shown here) was hand painted by our iconographer George Giariskanis specifically for the consecration. Order as gifts for your family members and friends and always have Saint George protecting those you love for generations to come.

Name _____

Address _____

(City, State, Zip) _____

Phone No. _____

Email _____

Number of Icons _____ x \$100 = _____

Please make checks payable to "St. George Greek Orthodox Church" & return with this form to the church office or order online to pay by credit card by visiting stgeorgeap.org/consecration. For additional information please contact Theo Koufildakis @ 732-240-2361.



You Are Cordially Invited To Join In The
Consecration
of
St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, November 28, 2021

1033 West Park Avenue
Ocean, New Jersey

Officiated By
His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
Patriarchal Vicar of The Metropolis of New Jersey

His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia

Reverend Protopresbyter Andrew Eugenis

SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP

“A Rich MAN is not one who has much ... But one who gives much for what he gives away remains his forever.”
-St. John Chrysostom

Giving from the Heart & To the Best of Your Ability

The Reading is from the Gospel According to Luke 20:46-47, 21:1-4

The Lord said to his disciples, "Beware of the scribes, who like to go about in long robes, and love salutations in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury; and he saw a poor widow put in two copper coins. And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all the living that she had." Having said this, he proclaimed, "He who has ears let him hear."

The theme of this heartfelt Gospel is that "What is important in this short, earthly life is not the amount you donate, (in our case toward Stewardship,) but what is given from the heart and to the best of your ability that counts. With no fanfare or recognition in return."

At the end of life, we are all going to face the Lord. We will answer to Him what we did with what He gave us. We will have to answer for how we maintained our Christianity in times of difficulty. To "fight the good fight" means to stay consistent and disciplined in the faith, even in times of adversity.

STEWARDSHIP 2021

By the time you receive this issue of the Beacon and are reading it, all the Pandemic regulations would have been lifted, the front doors of our beautiful St. George Church will be opened, and we will be gathering again and worshipping as one Holy family in Christ. Fellowship, very important to our Christian lives, has again rejuvenated itself by the opening of Coffee Hour.

Regardless of the improving times, we would like to remind you that the Church is here to serve you. If you need any type of help, please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Andrew, our Parish Council, Philoptochos or any of our other Ministries. Be assured everything will be kept confidential.

Christian Orthodoxy and all Christian faiths are going through some difficult times. The percentage of families listed as Christian has dropped from 70% from 1945 to 2000 to 47% in 2020. Reasons for that drop have been listed as aging populations, youth leaving, lack of immigration and apathy in general.

Life on earth is a small fraction of life in Heaven. As per Fr. Andrew, "Our stay on earth can be measured by the blink of an eye!" None of the earthly possessions we have, we can take with us (unfortunate and unfair as it may be!). So, please try to be generous to our Almighty Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by donating to Him your Treasures, Time and Talent.

"Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly, nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (II Corinthians 9:7)

A big THANK YOU to all the supporting Stewards so far this year. It is because of your generosity that we have been able to cover our Church's maintenance and operational expenses during these hard times.

Also, please remember the resurrection of Jesus provided us with an opportunity to renew our lives with:

- Our freedom from the bondage of the past;
- A hope for a new and better future; and,
- The power we would need to leave the one behind and fully enter into the other.

Please continue to be generous to St. George, its community and its 38+ Ministries by offering your Time, Talent and Treasure. Please kindly urge your friends and relatives to join the St. George family, our second home away from home.

May God bless us all and keep us healthy and safe!

In God's Service,
Dimitris Geaneas-Stewardship Chairman
 908-770-2426/jgeaneas@msn.com

Join our St. George group Facebook page.
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/stgeorgeap/>

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1033 WEST PARK AVENUE, OCEAN, NJ 07712 PHONE: 732-775-2777 FAX: 732-775-0109

2021 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

Last Name _____ Are you a new member to St. George Y _____ N _____

First Name _____ Orthodox: Yes _____ No _____

Cell Phone # [] _____ e-mail address: _____

Occupation _____

Spouse's First Name _____ Orthodox: Yes _____ No _____

Cell Phone # [] _____ e-mail address: _____

Occupation _____

Street Address _____ Home Phone # [] _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Children's Name(s) & Birthdates(s) _____

PLEDGE INFORMATION

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work at St. George Church for 2021

- ☐ \$ _____ \$10,000 ☐ \$ _____ \$1,200 ---Suggested minimum for Families
- ☐ \$ _____ \$7,500 ☐ \$ _____ \$ 650 ---- Suggested minimum for Seniors and Singles
- ☐ \$ _____ \$5,000 ☐ \$ _____ \$ 100 ----- Suggested minimum pledge for College Students
- ☐ \$ _____ \$3,000 ☐ \$ _____ Other ----- (Please enter Total Amount of your commitment)

The above amount will be given: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually

Signature _____ Date _____

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION

I authorize the payment of my pledge, according to the payment plan selected, by the following credit card:

☐ VISA / ☐ MC / ☐ AMEX # _____ Exp. Date _____ Code _____

Cardholder's Name as shown on card (Please Print) _____

Card member's Signature _____



ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF GIVING ONLINE!!

Please note that you must fill out a form and/or enter your pledge on Vanco every year.

You can now pledge and pay your Stewardship and your regular weekly offerings with the convenience of electronic giving! On our new Vanco system, Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. Go to <http://stgeorgeap.org/vanco>. In addition, Vanco offers Give Plus Text and Give Plus Mobile. You can easily set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

For your convenience, the use of Vanco online payment system is now available for 2021. If you are unfamiliar with Vanco, please contact the Church Office if you need assistance setting up payments. Additionally, to transfer shares of a stock toward your Stewardship, or to include St. George in your will/estate plan, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you for your support of our St. George Greek Orthodox Church. God bless you and stay safe.

WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A STEWARD OF ST. GEORGE

Parishioners sometimes ask why it's necessary to become a Steward of St. George and submit an annual pledge form. By coming to Church and making an annual and weekly donations, some feel they've met their obligation. While donating funds is one aspect of Stewardship, being a true Steward involves so much more. It involves:

- **Transcendence:** Knowing and experiencing God's presence through prayer and participating in the liturgies and sacraments.
- **Significance:** Having a sense of purpose to do something meaningful in service to our fellow man. To "give back" to God some of the blessings we received from Him through service to others
- **Fellowship:** Connecting with others in meaningful relationships based on shared beliefs and values

Your Church, St. George, offers you a way to know God, gain Significance and enjoy Fellowship by:

- Administering to the spiritual needs of our community and offers ways to participate in the worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through liturgies, and sacraments (baptisms, weddings, funerals) and ministries that promote understanding our faith.
 - Spiritual Enrichment, Circle of Faith, Sunday School, Mustard Seed Book Store, the Book Corner
- Addressing the cultural and social needs of our community through ministries that bring us together to serve and enjoy each other.
 - Philoptochos, GOYA, The Agape Ministries (Hospitality, Baby Blankets, Weddings), Greek School, Kali Parea, St. George Socialites, Annual Festival, Taste of the Shore

Being a Steward of St. George, and submitting an annual pledge form, is an act of faith and commitment to our Church.

- The annual pledge form makes you think about your Church and re-examine your commitment to St. George – How important is the Church to me? What can I do to help our Church fulfill the needs of our community?
- Your financial commitment helps St. George offer the many spiritual, religious, cultural and social services our community wants and needs
- It enables you to have an active voice in the affairs of the Parish by participating in Parish Assemblies, voting on issues critical to the future of the Church and selecting the leadership of our community
- The pledge form provides information on our community's size and needs, helping the Parish Council to ensure critical needs are met and resources are available

The Parish Council and the Stewardship Committee want you to participate fully in the life of St. George. There is no minimum Stewardship pledge. Give from your heart and to the best of your ability.

Saint George Ladies Philoptochos Society

Holiday Grave Blankets & Christmas Wreaths

****Burgundy Bows Will Be Used Unless You Specify Below You Want Red****

Large Grave Blanket with Natural Decorations

(Birch branches, pinecones and a weatherproof bow)

Rectangular – approximately 40"L x 22"W \$35.00

Qty: _____ x \$35.00 = _____

Wreaths

14" decorated \$30.00 Qty: _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

14" undecorated \$25.00 Qty: _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

20" decorated \$35.00 Qty: _____ x \$35.00 = \$ _____

20" undecorated \$30.00 Qty: _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

30" decorated \$50.00 Qty: _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Order Deadline - November 14, 2021

Name: _____ Prefer Red Bows _____

Telephone: _____

Blankets and Wreaths will be ready for pick up at St. George Church on Sunday, December 5, 2021. Please mail your check and order form to **Elise Rogers 2210 Glenmere Court, Wall New Jersey 07719** or place your check and order form in the Philoptochos mailbox at church. Make checks payable to **St. George Philoptochos Society**. If you would like our St. George GOYANS to place your grave blanket at the cemetery for you please indicates the grave location and name.

NAME: _____

LOCATION: _____



Saint George Philoptochos

Board Members & Officers



Marissa Costidis	President
Angie Gregos-Swaroop	1st Vice President
Errie Teevan	2nd Vice President
Penelope Gabriel	Corresponding Secretary
Pandora Jacobs	Recording Secretary
Athena Loesch	Treasurer
Elayna Pappas	Assistant Treasurer
Elsie Rogers	Advisor

Gayle Billows
 Rula Casey
 Georgia Christodoulou
 Krissy Conery
 Maria Conery
 Deirdre Kosmas

Antonia Lyons
 Victoria Michals
 Effie Nicas
 Demetra Petrantis
 Georgia Vlitas



**Philoptochos
& Daughters of Penelope
Christmas Dinner**

When: Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Where: Scarborough Fair, 1414 Meetinghouse Road,
Sea Girt, NJ

Time: 6:30 PM

Cost: \$40.00 per person

Choice of entree; NY Angus Strip Steak, Filet of Sole Francaise,
Pistachio Crusted Salmon, Chicken Portobello, or

Vegetarian option available upon request

Salad & Soup of the day, Coffee & Dessert

A complimentary glass of wine with your meal

Reservation Form due by: December 1st

Name(s): _____

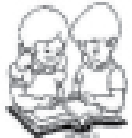
Indicate your dinner choice: _____

Please make your check out to: St. George Philoptochos/Att:Christmas Dinner. Mail
to: 1033 West Park Avenue, West Long Branch, NJ 07712



Bring a gift; Get a gift- Value \$20.00

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Everyone is so happy to be back in the classroom. Thank you for your continued patience as we navigate some of the little pitfalls that we have come across. Don't forget your masks! This year, many of our classes will be taking a special focus on the Consecration of the church as well as God's gift of the Environment and our role in caring for it. We are all excited about the upcoming events!

Any questions, please contact Kristen Russo at kristen.et.cline@gmail.com

Please take a look at our website through the St. George website or directly: <https://tinyurl.com/stgsundayschool>

Direct link to registration form: <https://forms.gle/V9bmwLihjfQozRPr6>
or scan the QR code below:

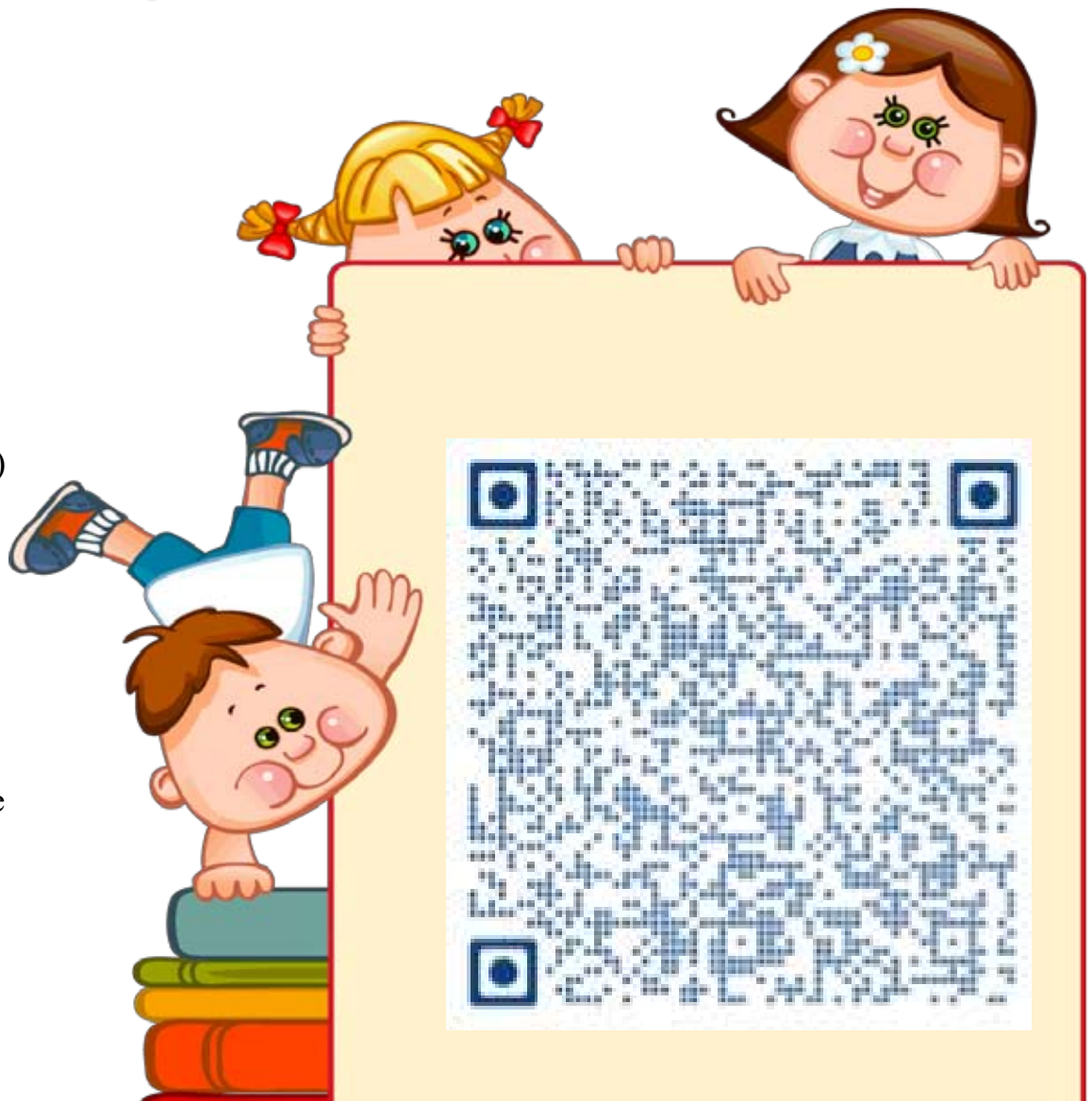
As of right now, please make note of the following dates:

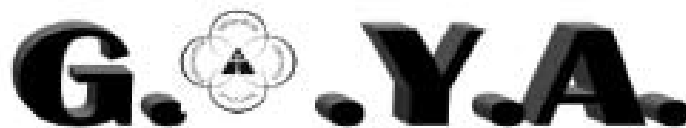
November

- 7: Godparent Sunday (Invite your Godparent to visit your Sunday School classroom)
- 14: Class
- 21: Class (Select roles for the Nativity Pageant)
- 28: NO CLASS (Let's all celebrate the Consecration of our church!)

December

- 5: Class (Practice for Nativity Pageant)
- 12: Class
- 19: Nativity Pageant
- 26: NO CLASS





Dear St. George Families,

The GOYA year has started strongly. The pandemic is not holding us back from doing our events. We started off with many great and memorable events, such as the Holy Cross diving on September 12th, celebrated by His Grace, at our own St. George Greek Orthodox Church. Following the Divine Liturgy service, we all headed to Asbury Park for the diving of the cross. His Grace surprised us all with his terrific throwing ability! The divers had to swim far, but two of our divers won - Niko Kavarakas for the seniors and Petro Kiafoulis for the juniors! On October 1st, we all headed to Paramus for our annual Harvest Dance. It is always a blast connecting with GOYAns from around the state. All the GOYAns had an amazing time dancing, eating, and making new friends. Our first volleyball and basketball game was on October 3rd. We hope to have a successful year! On October 10th, we went to Hanover Manor to cheer on our GOYAns Rafaella Lambrinos and Niko Kavarakas. On October 16th, the GOYAns met up at Holland Farms for sunflower picking. Many GOYAns took beautiful pictures.

Our first GOYA Retreat of the year was held on October 29th. All of the GOYAns socialized together,

and learned more about the faith. Upcoming events of November include the bowling dance, cemetery clean up, and the Christmas giving tree. The bowling dance is on November 6th located at Fairview. The cemetery clean-up will be on November 20th. The annual Christmas Giving Tree will be put up on November 21st after church in coffee hour. Every gift could make someone's day, so please stop by to donate!

On December 17th through the 19th, our GOYA will be singing Christmas carols. We always have a blast dressing up in our themes, and helping the community get more into the Christmas spirit! On Christmas morning, a group of our older GOYAns will deliver gifts to the less fortunate. All the gifts were donated from members of the church. This year's Christmas dance will be hosted at Toms River. We hope to have a great time dancing, taking pictures, and socializing. This GOYA year has had a great start, and we hope to have more fun, spiritual, and exciting events in the upcoming months!

Marilena Iosifides and Costa Demetriades

Calendar of Events

December

- 5 GOYA meeting – Parents Meeting
- 17,18,19 Christmas Caroling (2 out of 3 days required)
- 25 Christmas Morning Gift Giving after Church
- 28 State Youth Christmas Dance at St. Barbara, Toms River

November

- 7 GOYA Meeting – Parent Meeting
- 20 Cemetery Clean Up 1 pm – 3 pm
- 21 Put up Christmas Giving Tree
- 27 Christmas Tree Lighting



AGAPE MINISTRIES

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit." - James 15:5

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Baptism:	Vicki Kamaratos	vassilia71@aol.com
Wedding:	Tasi Pappaylion	tasipappaylion@gmail.com
New Hope:	Antonia Lyons	antonia.lyons16@gmail.com
Grief Support Group		
Funeral Group:	Sophia Anest	sophiaharry@optonline.net
Welcome:	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
St. George Guides:	Arthur Pappaylion	a.pappaylion@gmail.com
Faithful Hands:	Bea Paparsenos	beapap@live.com
Knit & Crochet		
Hospitality Ministry	Vicki Kamaratos	vassilia71@aol.com
Coffee Hour Helpers	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
Environmental Stewardship	Stella Fotopoulos	s.fotopoulos@att.net
& Protection Ministry	Christina Barrows	celiop99@me.com
St. George Newlyweds:	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
Newcomers & Visitors:	Antonia Lyons	antonia.lyons16@gmail.com

Join a group or start another. Share what you love to do with others!

Visit us at www.stgeorgeap.org/agape

Blessed Advent Season and Merry Christmas!!!



AHEPA NEWS CORNER

Thomas A. Edison Chapter, 287 – Ocean, NJ

Hopefully everyone is getting ready for the fall and winter seasons. AHEPA is also ready and looking forward to an exciting upcoming year. In previous editions we discussed AHEPA's mission and vision. We also discussed the brief history of the origin of AHEPA in 1922. In this edition I would like to provide a brief update about AHEPA Thomas A. Edison Chapter of Asbury/Ocean at St. George, and report on the up-and-coming events of 2021-22.

On December 3rd, 2021, we are planning a fantastic "Christmas Dinner Dance and Comedy Hour" with Live Entertainment for the entire community. All are invited to attend. We have also invited our brothers and sisters from our surrounding communities. It should be a very exciting and entertaining evening for all.

The AHEPA room is now equipped with WI-Fi. Arthur Pappaylion was kind enough to donate a flat screen TV, so we can now relax with our fellow AHEPANS and use the room for TV watching, special sporting events and other programs. In addition, Ping Pong, board games like backgammon (TAVLI), cards, chess, checkers, and other board games are also available. Our goal was to create a relaxing environment where AHEPANS can come together and talk, have a coffee, and maybe watch a soccer game or play some TAVLI.

This winter we look forward to our traditional winter sports fund raisers, and potentially expanding the festivities surrounding the events. We had planned a Super Bowl party last year, but COVID did not cooperate with us, and we had to cancel. Hopefully this year we will be able to plan a Super Bowl Party with less restrictions.

The spring also looks exciting. We have had a couple of successful golf outings under our belts, and we are looking forward to planning a larger golf tournament next year. We plan to organize the tournament to provide an evening dinner which will include prizes and entertainment.

The events discussed above are not just for AHEPANS but for our entire community, so please join us as you hear about them. If you are interested in joining AHEPA please contact us. We are always available!

I will close by saying thank you to all the AHEPAN's in our chapter. They have always stepped up and worked together to make our events successful and enjoyable. The brothers in our chapter have truly elevated us to a new level of brotherhood and philanthropy. We have and will continue to contribute to our church and ministries, in addition to several charitable organization.

Please have a wonderful Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas and New Year.



**Saint George's
AHEPA Chapter 287**
welcomes you for



Our First Annual Christmas Dinner Dance Comedy Party

**Friday, December 3, 2021
7:00PM to 11:30PM
\$80.00 per person**

Let's usher in the Christmas Season with laughter, good food, (2 free) drinks (wine/beer), raffle/prizes, and dancing with our church family. This is also a great opportunity to invite friends and family to enjoy the Saint George Greek Orthodox Spirit of **Christ**mas.

Featuring: Basile the Comedian and DJ Tommy • Catered by: Jimmy Pecci's "Taste of Italy" Buffet

Cultural Center: 1033 West Park Avenue, Ocean, NJ 07712 (RSVP by Nov. 20, 2021)

Spiritual Enrichment Ministries

❖ **Circle of Faith**

This internet ministry provides emails of podcasts, videos and daily readings to educate and deepen our understanding of our journey to Orthodoxy.

Leader: Barbara Terlecsky bterlecsky@aol.com

❖ **Fellowship in Prayer**

This ministry prays continually for the ill, believing in God's Will, compassion and love. Please inform us if someone is in need of prayer. First names are posted in the Sunday bulletin; please add them to your daily prayer life.

Leader: George Moutis gmoutis@scinj.com

❖ **Spiritual Growth**

This ministry provides many enlightening and educational programs throughout the year in harmony with the liturgical cycle helping participants to come to a deeper understanding of the Orthodox Faith.

Priest: Father Andrew Eugenis
frandrew@stgeorgeap.org

❖ **Sharing Our Faith Book Corner**

This ministry conducts sessions to discuss books about the Orthodox Faith to enrich understanding of our lives through the lens of the Church.

Leader: Teri Lalli lalliptds@gmail.com

❖ **The Mustard Seed Book Store**

The new book store will be open on Sundays during Coffee Hour stocked with a variety of books about Orthodoxy, liturgical music CD's, icons and other religious items.

Leader: Teri Lalli lalliptds@gmail.com

❖ **Bible Study**

A weekly chapter by chapter, in-depth review and discussion of the scriptures with spiritual direction by Fr. Andrew.

Facilitator: Teri Lalli lalliptds@gmail.com

ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT

Below is a list of available icons. We ask those of you who have pledged to fulfill your pledge, and those of you who have not yet contributed to join us. In addition, the Gold Leaf Program or any donation you would like to offer to the Community Icon are available. You can use the form below to contribute. We thank you for your generosity.

☐ GENERAL CONTRIBUTION

I would like to make a general contribution to the Iconography Project. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

\$50____ \$100____ \$500____ Other_____

☐ GOLD LEAF DONATION

Donate a gold leaf in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please list name(s) below:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

_____ \$250 each = \$ _____

☐ ICON NAMING OPPORTUNITY

To the right are remaining available icons. Please contact Father Andrew Eugenis through the church office, 732-775-2777

Please fill this out in its entirety, including signature and return with your payment, check made to:

St. George Greek Orthodox Church, "Iconography"
1033 West Park Ave, Ocean Township, NJ 07712.

Name _____

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Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

CSV# _____

Name on credit card _____

Signature _____

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Medallions- Gabriel and Michael	Below choir loft	\$5,000	each
Hierarchs - half each Fotios & Gregory	In the Altar	\$7,500	each
Prophets - Designated as the Community Icon	Dome	\$10,000	each
Seven Available - Daniel, Jonah, Solomon, Habakkuk, Gideon, Zephaniah/Sophonias, Ekzekiel			
Sts, Rafael, Nicholas, & Irene	Left of Choir Loft	\$10,000	
St Katerina	Right of Choir Loft	\$10,000	
St Antonios	Behind Chanter	\$12,500	
Scenes of Life of St George			
One available	Under the choir loft	\$20,000	
Archangel Michael	In the altar	\$20,000	
Artorio Amnos tou Theo	In the altar	\$25,000	
Diakonikon	In the altar	\$25,000	
Birth of Christ	Arch over the solea	\$65,000	
Pentecost	Arch over the solea	\$65,000	
Crucifixion	Right wall	\$75,000	





An Invitation From Father Andrew

BIBLE STUDY

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Every Tuesday - 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Interactive discussion and review via zoom

Contact: lalliptds@gmail.com



SHARING OUR FAITH BOOK CORNER

***“Toolkit For Spiritual Growth”* A Practical Guide to Prayer,
Fasting and Almsgiving by Fr. Evan Armatas**

Thursday, January 20, 2022

7:00 pm via zoom - Contact: lalliptds@gmail.com

**Softcover copies available at the Mustard Seed Bookstore
for \$10. Also available on audiobook or ebook at
Ancient Faith Store and Amazon**





An Invitation From Father Andrew



A Christmas Story / Theotokos

with Father Andrew Eugenis & Deacon Emanuel Tsarnas

Tuesday, December 14 • 7 - 8pm

Please join us for a discussion and
Q&A about the practices of Orthodoxy
in the Church and in the home.

(Refreshments to follow)

Vesper Service

Evening Prayer Service

Monday, December 18 6 - 7pm

(Refreshments to follow)



The Mustard Seed



*"If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say
to this mountain, move from here to there, and it
will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."*

Matthew 17:20

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- St. George Socialites
- Daughters of Penelope Aulis Chapter #195
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- St. George PTO

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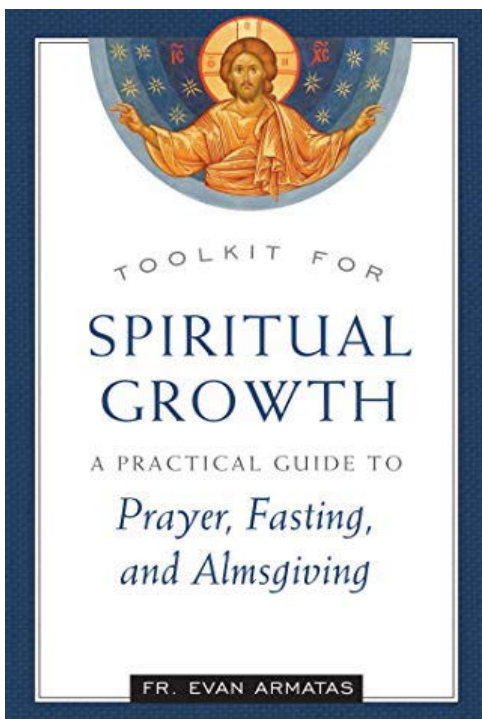
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