



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Ocean Township, New Jersey

the

# Beacon

*of Orthodoxy and Hellenism*

August/September/October 2023

The Newsletter of St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Volume 21 Issue 10

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER ANDREW

### TIMELINESS

As Greek Orthodox, for whatever reason, we continually need to be reminded of our punctuality and timeliness for attending the services. As we enjoy our summer vacation and begin to plan the new school and Ecclesiastical New Year, I would like to share parts of an article with you that were passed onto me describing some of us Orthodox and why we come to church late. I share this with you out of love and for your self-examination. We as Orthodox have an illness in our church that needs to be eradicated: it is our chronic tardiness to services. EVERY Sunday, and I do mean Every Sunday, at the beginning of The Divine Liturgy (9:40am) there are only twenty to thirty people in church, yet at the call to communion "With the fear of God and faith and love draw near," the church is full. Why is this? Have we been trained from our formative years to do this? Or, is it because we are Orthodox and hold the true faith and need not be on time?

According to the article, latecomers to the Divine Liturgy and church services primarily fall into one of three classes. We are not speaking of those who come late occasionally; there can be a thousand and one justifiable reasons for an occasional lapse. But those who are chronically late and have come to church well after the beginning of the Divine Liturgy; they fall into one of these classes:

1) Unpunctuality in everything. Some people are incorrigible putters. They have never learned to organize their time so that they can do the right things at the right time. They come late to social events, to business engagements, to meetings with friends, and so, inevitability, come to church late. Only a pretty thorough self-

going-over will change this slovenly habit that has been acquired.

2) Unpunctuality because of indifference to the Divine Liturgy and the church services. These differ sharply from the first class because the only event they come to late for is an event at church. They get into the habit of coming late because of a half-conscious boredom they experience in church by not participating in the Liturgy. If they ever really analyzed it, they would hear themselves saying: "Liturgy and church services are tedious and long." Usually such latecomers are among those who dash out of church before services are over as if pursued by a demon or called by an urgent appeal of charity or a sudden attack of illness, only to find themselves standing around, really doing nothing once they have made their escape.

3) Unpunctuality for publicity reasons. To this class belong the fewest in number, but their motives make them worthy of special note. They come late on principle, because it gives them a chance to display themselves before others by walking down the aisle of a church already full.

What category do you fall into? Perhaps, there are others that can be added to the list? Examine yourselves and allow us to begin to eradicate this illness that prevails throughout the Greek Orthodox Church. Is it illness or apathy? We as Orthodox claim to hold the true and right faith! When the second coming occurs, will we be true to our habits and be latecomers when the Kingdom door is closed to us for all eternity?

+Fr. Andrew Eugenis

### ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 10-3

### Father Andrew's Office Hours

Wed.: 2 p.m. -6 p.m.

Thurs.-Fri.: 9:30 a.m. -1:30 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

Caring for God's Creation —

Environmental Stewardship and Protection

Caring for God's Creation —

Environmental Stewardship and Protection

Cemetery

Choir Ministry

Daughters of Penelope

Funeral Ministry

G.O.Y.A.

G.O.Y.A.

Greek School

Greek School

Heritage

Heritage

Iconography

Kali Pareia

Mustard Seed Bookstore

Orthodoxy Connect

Orthodoxy Connect

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

Website Administrator

Young Adult League (YAL)

Youth Advisors

Youth Advisors

Vicki Kamaratos

Dimitris Geaneas

Niki Cronen

Teri Lalli

Stella Fotopoulos

Christina Eliopoulos Barrows

Billy Athans

Claire Chrysanthopoulos

Jacquelyn Marousis-Bush

TBD

George Moutis

Anja Chatzopoulos

Tonia Sum

Maria Magriplis

Demitri Karagias

Peter Psillas

Anne Papageorge

Lela Panas

Faye Pirovolos Deet

Dimitris Geaneas

Thomas Georges

Barbara Panas Kozak

Errie Teevan

Arthur Papaylion

Barbara Terlecsky

TBD

TBD

Soula Tsettos

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Rick Deet

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dimitris Geaneas

Kristen Russo

Barbara Terlecsky

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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](http://www.stgeorgeap.org)  
 or via our Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeap.org)  
[/stgeorgeap.org](https://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.](https://saintgeorgenj.square.site/)  
[square.site/](https://saintgeorgenj.square.site/)

**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](mailto: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 Cronen at [nikicronen@gmail.com](mailto:nikicronen@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

## *From the Parish Council...*

My fellow St. George Parishioners,

Summer is coming upon us, and it is wonderful to see the faithful coming to church on Sundays. I know it can be difficult coming to church services every Sunday during the summer while children are on school break, on travel sporting team, and on vacations. However, Church does not close because it's summer; our church and Lord and Savior are here for you every day, even if you just want to come and light a candle, venerate an icon, or say a prayer.

I would like to congratulate our Mother of the Year Anastasia Constantinou. Anastasia has served our St. George community as Greek School Director, Teacher, Office Administrator, been a proud and dedicated member of Philoptochos, and was rightfully acknowledged with her family from near and far.

On Memorial Day weekend our GOYA participated in the GOYA Olympics at Monmouth University. Members participated in sports and fellowship both within and outside of our St. George community and conducted themselves admirably (and yes, they even won a few medals). Thank you GOYAns, Advisors, and Coaches; we're all so proud of you.

Our Greek School has been busy thanks to our amazing Directors Antonia Sum and Maria Magriplis and all our teachers. Our Greek School program continues to improve; this year we entered a contest with schools from Greece, Cyprus and England and once again won first place for their video submission of the Pontic Genocide. Μπράβο παιδιά, we are so appreciative that our hardworking and dedicated students and teachers keep our heritage and language alive. In this issue of the bulletin you can find Registration Forms for Greek School and Sunday School for the upcoming year.

The Parish Council initiated our first Glendi night, attended by approximately 75 people. The night was filled with delicious food and drinks, laughter, and plenty of dancing late into the night.

The first round of sign ups for baking have been sent out. These sweet treats are both for our festival and for the Philoptochos fundraiser for the Dormition of the Theotokos Annual Bake Sale. Anyone interested in volunteering to bake, roll, or package these treats please reach out to Elise Rogers, Georgia Vlitais, or Bobbie Michals so they can give you more information.

On Father's Day I had the honor of announcing this year's recipient. Congratulations to our Spiritual Father and leader Fr. Andrew. It was a true joy being able to recognize Father not only as a clergyman, but as a proud father of 5 + 1. It was indeed a well-deserved honor; we are so grateful for you and your unwavering love and support during your ministry at our St. George parish.

On Sunday, July 30, His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia will celebrate the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with us. We ask for

everyone's presence at this beautiful service to welcome His Grace back to our community.

Also on Sunday, August 20, our very own Jamie LeMire will be signing copies of her book. If you don't know Jamie or haven't heard her inspirational story, please stop by after church on the 20th.

September 8-10, all are welcomed to come to our annual Jersey Shore Greek Festival. Every Sunday at coffee hour there will be volunteer sign-up tables and raffle tickets for purchase. The Parish Council and I hope for your time and talents to make this year's festival a success. For anyone interested in volunteering, the St. George website has a festival link to sign up. Saturday night we will have a live band and fill the evening with dancing. We're excited for a weekend full of the best Greek food and desserts, tours of our beautiful church, and good vibes all around. The Connect Ministry will have a table outside the church to help with any questions, our Brother AHEPAns will be manning the grills, our ladies from the Daughters will be ready with frappes, Philoptochos will be with their Baked Goods, and, of course, our Youth will wow all with their Traditional Costumes and Greek Dances. We also have new vendors and new sponsors. Invite your family, friends, neighbors and more! It will NOT disappoint.

Sunday, September 17, we will once again celebrate Holy Cross with the blessing of the waters at the Great Auditorium in with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, and His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia. If needed, with a strong number of parishioners, St. George will charter buses to Ocean Grove and back. Please make every effort to attend.

A brief update with the Cemetery project: after years of delays from Neptune Township, Savas Tsivikos and elected officials from Monmouth County have gotten approval from the city of Neptune to proceed with the expansion project. A big thank you for Spiro Pappas for pushing this project and of course to Savas Tsivikos for his work with county officials. Through God's mercy, this expansion movement should be completed by the end of 2023.

'The city that never sleeps,' our St. George community is continuing to thrive in its rich ministries and are always welcoming new members. Anyone interested in being a part of these groups, please reach out to a ministry leader and offer your time, talents, and treasures. We have a list located on the front of this Beacon or on our website.

With Love, Peace, and our Lord's Blessings. Happy Summer!

George Costidis

Your Parish Council President

## CALENDAR OF SERVICES

Orthos begins at 8:30 am  
Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am  
(Unless otherwise noted)

### July 2023

2 Sunday	4th Sunday of Matthew
9 Sunday	5th Sunday of Matthew
16 Sunday	Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council
17 Monday	St. Marina
20 Thursday	The Glorious Prophet Elias
23 Sunday	7th Sunday of Matthew
26 Wednesday	St. Paraskeve the Righteous Martyr of Rome
27 Thursday	St. Panteleimon the Great Martyr & Healer
30 Sunday	8th Sunday of Matthew

### August 2023

2 Wednesday	7PM	Paraklesis Service
4 Friday	7PM	Paraklesis Service
6 Sunday		Transfiguration of Jesus Christ
7 Monday	7PM	Paraklesis Service
9 Wednesday	7PM	Paraklesis Service
11 Friday	7PM	Paraklesis Service
13 Sunday		10th Sunday of Matthew
14 Monday	6PM	Vespers of the Dormition @ Holmdel Church

15 Tuesday	Dormition of the Theotokos
20 Sunday	11th Sunday of Matthew
27 Sunday	12th Sunday of Matthew
29 Tuesday	Beheading of St. John the Baptist

### September 2023

1 Friday	Ecclesiastical New Year
3 Sunday	13th Sunday of Matthew
8 Friday	Nativity of the Theotokos
10 Sunday	Sunday before Holy Cross
14 Thursday	Elevation of the Holy Cross
17 Sunday	Blessing of the Waters ~ Sunday after Holy Cross
	Ocean Grove Great Auditorium
24 Sunday	1st Sunday of Luke
26 Tuesday	Repose of St. John the Evangelist

### October 2023

1 Sunday	2nd Sunday of Luke
8 Sunday	3rd Sunday of Luke
15 Sunday	Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council
18 Wednesday	St. Luke the Evangelist
22 Sunday	6th Sunday of Luke
26 Thursday	The Holy Great Martyr St. Demetrios the Myrrhstreamer
29 Sunday	7th Sunday of Luke

## RECENT SACRAMENTS

### Baptisms / Chrismations:

May 20, 2023	Leonides Dimitroulakos
May 20, 2023	Clark William Cromwell
May 20, 2023	Madison Sophia Cromwell
June 17, 2023	Theo Anastasio Chewey
July 1, 2023	Charlotte James Gorhan
July 22, 2023	Christina Emilia Chatzopoulos
July 23, 2023	Natasha Liu (Adult Baptism)
August 19, 2023	Ella Giavana Stavrinou

### Weddings

May 7, 2023	Irene Vergis & Christos Stavrakos
May 13, 2023	Michele L. Paccagnini & Alexander Ballas
June 3, 2023	Alaina Todd & Colin M. King
June 10, 2023	Katerina Parlamas & Joseph Iannacone

June 10, 2023	Angelina Palermo & Yianni Kavarakas
September 2, 2023	Kristina Conery & Vincent Chelli
September 3, 2023	Artemisia S. Mazzini & Michael T. Lino
September 29, 2023	Isabel Budd & George Kavarakas
September 30, 2023	Kelly Dronne & Dimitrios Abadiotakis
September 30, 2023	Kristen A. Lucas & Kieran JP Martin

### Deaths:

April 3, 2023	Dorothy Theofanides
April 8, 2023	George E. Koch
April 8, 2023	Eleni Mavrogeni
April 11, 2023	Gust S. Kostidakis
April 14, 2023	Georgia Karagias
April 18, 2023	William Kohanik
April 23, 2023	Vasil Shunda

# SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP

*“What we are, is our Gift from God. What we do with that Gift, is our Gift to God.”*

*Fr. Andrew*

## “STEWARDSHIP OF WORK”

*Selected excerpts from an article written by Fr. Jim Kordaris*

***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men....”***  
***Colossians 3:23***

In the second chapter of the Old Testament Book of Genesis we read, “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2:15). God put man in the garden to work. It is part of God’s plan for us that we work. In Exodus we read, “Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest....” The world has changed, very few of us are called to work the land, and our work week may not be six days, yet we are created and called by God to work, and we can serve him through our work.

Some are blessed to follow a career path to a life’s work bringing satisfaction. Others may work in a position that may not appear to be spiritually or emotionally fulfilling. In whatever type of work we find ourselves, our work can become sacred when we dedicate it to God. In the words of Mother Theresa, “Wherever God has put you, that is your vocation. It is not what we do, but how much love we put into it.”

Life on earth is a gift. The work we do is also a gift if we see it as an opportunity to serve God and others. Saint Paul instructs us, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men....” (Colossians 3:23). When we see our work in this way, we are able to become Christian stewards of our work.

Stewardship of work teaches us that we don’t own our work, our position, our title. We are only stewards of a position for a period of time. We are responsible to fulfill our duties and also to prepare it for the person that will follow us in that position. We may also have the opportunity to mentor the person that will assume our position when we move on, empowering them to apply their particular gifts and talents to take the position to the next level.

Christian stewardship of work also teaches us that we are responsible to those with whom we work and those that may be served by our work. We are called to reflect the light of Christ in their lives, encourage them, support them and even love them. We are also stewards of our co-workers inasmuch as we cooperate and support them in their efforts for the good of all.

In times of trouble or worry, especially over our career, we call upon God to strengthen us, to provide opportunity and to bring us success. When we achieve some measure of worldly success, it is easy to say to ourselves as we read in the Old Testament Book of Deuteronomy (8:17), “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” But the next verse quickly reminds us, “Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.”

As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the “first fruits” of our labor. We support our parish and her ministries in an intentional way and not with only what it left after everything else has been taken care of.

In whatever work we do, we are called to give glory to God for the abilities and opportunities he provides. We do this by caring for the work we do, applying our God-given abilities to our work, and by respecting the responsibilities with which we have been entrusted. We do our best and give the glory to God.

## Stewardship 2023

- **Thank you for your support!** Without you we cannot have a Church! Stewardship (Time, Talent and Financial support), the 40 Ministries and, your attendance are the lifelines of our St George. If you have neither pledged nor donated, kindly do so from the heart and to the best of your ability and be included as a supporting Steward of St. George for 2023.
- Regarding Church attendance, please kindly urge your friends, relatives and neighbors to experience the beauty of Christian Orthodoxy by joining the St. George family. Live stream served its purpose, but nothing can replace being in church, partaking of the sacraments, and worshipping as an Orthodox Christian Family.
- **“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matthew 18-20**
- **Our financial goals** for the years 2023 and 2024 are \$370,000 and \$400,000 respectively. These figures will be contributing to 43% and 47% of our annual revenues. Please note that the national average for Stewardship is 50%. We depend on your generosity to meet these goals. Please help us as you have always done in the past.
- The St. George Church and complex, like every building or home, requires maintenance and repairs such as HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning), replacing doors, repairing the parking lot and painting, just to name a few. After 13 years it is natural to expect more frequent maintenance issues.
- **“Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly, nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (II Corinthians 9:7)**
- Our Orthodoxy Community is growing with 11 Chrismations and new families joining us. Being a friendly and a WELCOMING Parish plays a major role. Thank you!

Lastly, let us try to serve Him on a daily basis as if every day was our last day on earth for **“Today is a Gift.”** Let us count our blessings, love each other and adhere to our strong faith.

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

In God’s Service,

Dimitris Geaneas-Stewardship Chairman

PS - Please remember the Church in your Will.

908-770-2426/jgeaneas@msn.com

Join our St. George group Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com>

# ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## 2023 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 2023*

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$1,350 | <i>Suggested minimum for Families</i>                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$ 7,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$ 700  | <i>Suggested minimum for Seniors and Singles</i>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$ 5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$ 100  | <i>Suggested minimum pledge for College Students</i>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ \$ 3,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ Other   | <i>(Please enter Total Amount of your commitment)</i> |

The above amount will be given: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually ☐ Annual (One time)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION

NEED TO RENEW EVERY YEAR

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.

Recurring payments do not renew year to 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>. 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 2023. If you are unfamiliar with Vanco, please contact the Church Office if you need assistance setting up payments.*

*To transfer shares of a stock or bonds toward your Stewardship, please contact the Church Office.*

*"Let your Love for St. George live on well into the Future by including St. George in your Estate Planning".*

**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, a Monthly Book Reading Session, a Special Monthly Saturday Vespers, Adult Education Classes, Fellowship in Prayer, Weekly Bible Study, Fellowship and Agape(Love), Moral Support
- 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, Philoptochos (Friends of the Poor), Kali Parea, St. George Socialites, Annual Festival, Taste of the Shore, Green Stewardship, Social Activities, AHEPA, Daughters of Penelope

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.



# Ladies Philoptochos Society

## News from Philoptochos!

As you may know, Philoptochos Board Members serve a 2-year term. In May 2023 Chapters nationwide held elections and our parish is blessed to have wonderful women on our Board. They include:

Errie Teevan, President

Elise Rogers, 1st Vice-President

Anastasia (Bobbi) Michals, 2nd Vice President

Athena Loesch, Treasurer

Elayna Pappas, Assistant Treasurer

Penelope Gabriel, Corresponding Secretary

Georgia Vlitats, Recording Secretary

Marissa Costidis, Advisor

### Board Members

Gayle Billows

Donna Karpodinis

Rula Casey

Deirdre Kosmos

Georgia Christodoulou

Antonia Lyons

Maria Conery

Dee Petrantis

Andrea Hellinghausen

Congratulations to all! We look forward to an excellent and productive year.

On Mother's Day, Philoptochos honored Anastasia (Tasoula) Constantinou as the Philoptochos Mother of the Year! She is a long-time member of our community and of our Philoptochos. Please read her biography in this issue - Axia!

In June we held our end of year dinner at Greek Spot in Red Bank. We always have a great time, and Greek Spot did not disappoint; the food was delicious and plentiful. We all went home with leftovers!

Our ladies have already started baking for our August Bake Sale and the St. George Festival. Your support and help is always appreciated. Please see the flyer in this issue to order.

In September we will gear up again for a full year of activities. We invite all to join us. Please see a Board Member for more info!

## Philoptochos Mother of the Year 2023

### Kiria Anastasia Constantinou

Anastasia, known affectionately as Tasoula, was born on the island of Thassos, Greece and spent her early childhood there before moving to Kavala. She was a studious child and dutiful sister to her younger brothers, Rallis and Stavros. Anastasia went on to study at the University of Thessaloniki and earned her degree in Philology, which is the study of the classics. She worked on archaeological digs, in museums and taught Greek, Ancient Greek, Latin and history at a high school.

In 1970, she attended a wedding on the island of Mytilene where she met her future husband, George. George was on his first visit to Greece after moving to the United States with his family in 1956. They married the following summer in Kavala, settled in Eatontown, and she started attending St. George in Asbury Park. Tasoula gave birth to her two daughters, Maro and Pamela, and in 1979, she decided to go back to teaching. Many of us fondly remember Kiria Tasoula as the Greek School Director and teacher at St. George for 29 years!

She has taught generations of our community, and in some cases she has taught the children of her past students. She eventually took on a second role at the Church as Office Administrator and sadly for us, retired from both positions in 2008. We, as a church community are indebted to our service as our Office administrator. You served with grace and expertise for so many years. We were blessed to have you teach our children and be a part of our lives.

Tasoula has been involved in nearly every facet of the Church- from Greek School to GOYA - helping with Greek Dancing and

the Greek plays, singing in the choir, and as an active member of Philoptochos, serving on the Board, and Daughters of Penelope. Kiria Tasoula was an important part

of the history of our Philoptochos. She handled the Greek language minutes, letters, correspondence and anything else that she was given to help our organization become the success it is today.

She was a dedicated caregiver to her mother, Smaro, throughout her struggle with Parkinsons until Kiria Smaro's passing.

Tasoula welcomed her sons-in-law, Constantine and William, into the family with open arms. She is the proud Yiayia to four grandchildren- Maria, Constantine, Anastasia, and Pia.

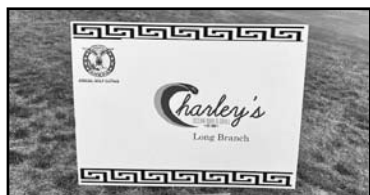
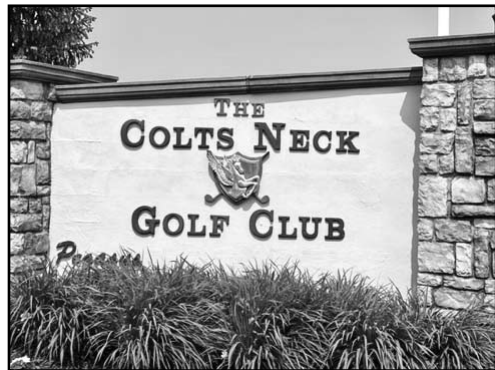
Tasoula and George have been happily married for 51 years and continue to reside in the same house where they raised their family. She enjoys spending the summer in Greece, where she loves to swim in the Aegean and to spend time with her brother Stavros and his family who also vacation in the seaside town of Iraklitsa.

Tasoula is known for her loyalty and lifelong friendships, especially with her dear friends Evdokia and Libby, who have given her love and support, especially in recent years.

We are honored to recognize you today as Philoptochos Mother-of-the-Year!!



# The AHEPA Annual Golf Tournament at Colts Neck Golf Club





## Daughters of Penelope



Aulis 195 has been very busy these last few months. On April 30, 2023, Sisters Patty Vlahos, Antoinette Marousis-Bush, Karen Pascal, Jacquelyn Marousis-Bush, and Peggy Kalamara attended the District 5 Spring Luncheon at the Lobster Shanty in Point Pleasant, NJ. Sister Patty delivered a wonderful speech about all of Aulis 195's happenings for the 2022-2023 year. What a full year we had!

A big welcome to our newest member Bessie Drogaris. Bessie was initiated at our May meeting. Joining us at our meeting was Past Grand President Evelyn Tsiadis. What an honor to have had her there.

On May 20, 2023, Sister Jacquelyn represented Aulis at Aphrodite's (Toms River) "Jogging For John" 5K Fundraiser. This fundraiser was to help purchase an AHEPA Service Dog in honor of John Dooros. While it was a rainy day, the rain did not damper people's spirits!

The District 5 Convention was held on June 3, 2023 at the St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River, NJ. There our very own Karen Pascal, outgoing District Governor, awarded our chapter Outstanding Small Chapter and Most Initiates (Large and Small) for the 2022-2023 year.

Scholarship Sunday was a success. Sister Patty awarded scholarships to Demetra Giannakopoulos and Marilena Iosifides. We also gave token gifts to all the graduating Seniors. We wish them all much success in their future endeavors. Onward and upward!

To wrap up our year, Aulis met at Zachary's in Long Branch for our final meeting of the 2022-2023 year. Here we shared in great food and conversation. We also voted on our Board for the 2023-2024 year. Congratulations to:

Jacquelyn Marousis-Bush, President

Tina Zavolas, Vice President

Effie Psomias, Secretary

Denise Parlamas, Corresponding Secretary

Maria Conery, Treasurer

A huge thank you to outgoing President, Patty Vlahos for her many years of service to Aulis 195. Patty has been the Chapter President (on and off, but mostly on) for more years than we can count! Her commitment to our chapter has been invaluable.

We are looking forward to a fabulous 2023-2024 year, and we would LOVE to include YOU! If you would like to become a member, please contact a member for more information. You can always check us out online: [www.dop195.org](http://www.dop195.org) for more information, and to download a membership form.

Our first meeting will be held on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Library. We can't wait to share what's in store for the upcoming DOP year!



*Sisters Karen, Antoinette, Jacquelyn, Peggy, and Patty at the D5 Spring Luncheon.*



*Sister Jacquelyn with the Aphrodite chapter at "Jogging For John".*



*New initiate Bessie with PGP  
Evellyn Tsiadis.*



*District Governor Karen with Zone I Liaison  
Patty Didik.*



*President Patty Vlahos awards Demetra  
Giannakopoulos and Marilena Iosifides with a  
scholarship.*



*Aulis 195 Board for 2023: Jacquelyn, Tina, Denise,  
and Effie (Maria C. missing).*



*Sisters of Aulis 195 at their June meeting.*



# AGAPE MINISTRIES

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares  
--Hebrews 13:2*

*AGAPE is Christian love.... In Action  
It never stops doing good*

**Vicki Kamaratos - vassilia71@aol.com 732-539-6831**

40 Day Blessing:

Baptism:

Wedding:

New Hope:

Grief Support Group

Welcome:

St. George Guides:

Faithful Hands:

Knit & Crochet

Hospitality Ministry

Coffee Hour Helpers

Environmental Stewardship

& Protection Ministry

St. George Newlyweds:

Newcomers & Visitors:

Colleen Pardenek

Vicki Kamaratos

Tasi Pappaylion

Antonia Lyons

Angela Koumoutsos

Arthur Pappaylion

Bea Paparsenos

Vicki Kamaratos

Angela Koumoutsos

Stella Fotopoulos

Christina Barrows

Angela Koumoutsos

Antonia Lyons

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fiore88@aol.com

s.fotopoulos@att.net

celiop99@me.com

fiore88@aol.com

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](http://www.stgeorgeap.org/agape)



## Faithful Hands



**Faithful Hands has been meeting every Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. In the church library. We are currently crocheting and knitting blankets for 40 day baby blessings and blankets for hospitalized children that are distributed by Project Linus.**

We welcome any newcomers to join us. It is not necessary to know how to crochet or knit. We will teach you. Most of our participants did not know how to crochet or knit and are now creating beautiful blankets.

Please call Bea Paparsenos for more information at 732-585-3402 or email at [beapap@live.com](mailto:beapap@live.com).





# AHEPA NEWS CORNER

Thomas A. Edison Chapter, 287 – Ocean, NJ

The Mission of our AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism.

I am proud to announce that this ecclesiastical year has been a huge success for our Chapter thanks to a great Executive Board with Arthur Pappaylion as the VP, George Haloukas the Secretary and last but not least Nick Billows the Treasurer. We also had a very active and committed membership with monthly attendance at meetings averaging 25-30 Brothers.

We finished the year with 71 members versus 58 for Y-E 2021, an increase of 22%. Our goal for Y-E 2023 and 2024 is 75 and 80, respectively. These are conservative numbers which I am sure we can exceed with the help of our Brothers.

During this ecclesiastical year (Sept.-June) we had four major and successful fund raisers:

- A Souvlaki - Fest event on October 31 for Scholarships
- A Christmas Dinner-Dance on December 17, 2022 Chaired by Brothers Teddy Kavarakas and George Moutis
- Super Bowl Raffle and NCAA March Madness Tournament Chaired By Brothers Kosta Linardakis, Ari Papageorge and Odyssea Kolasis
- A Golf Outing on May 22, 2023 Chaired by Brothers George Perentesis and Petros Vlitas

A big Thank You to all the Chairs and Brothers for their leadership and tireless efforts.

Donations to Charities are too many to enumerate but the major ones were St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, Tunnel to Towers Foundation, District 5 Cancer Research Foundation and Scholarships for College-bound students.

Important Calendar Events through October 2023:

- Chapter elections were held on May 8. In addition to the EB being re-elected, the new two positions of

Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer were filled in by Brendan Ballintine and Paul Kalamaras, respectively. Welcome Brothers!

■ National AHEPA Day was celebrated in our Church on May 21. The following Brothers were awarded as follows: Brother Arthur Pappaylion presented the 2021 AHEPAN of the Year to Brother Kosta Linardakis, Brother George Perentesis presented the 2022 Ahepan of the Year to Brother George Haloukas and AHEPA Supreme Secretary, Brother SavasTsivicos the 2023 Ahepan of the Year to Brother Nick Billows. AXIOI!

■ The AHEPA District 5 Convention took place on June 2-4 at St. Barbara's Church in Toms River. Representing our Chapter were the newly elected EB (6 members) and our Supreme Secretary. Congratulations to Brother George Perentesis, the new District 5 Treasurer.

■ In lieu of a meeting on June 12 we will meet at Charley's in Long Branch. Details will be emailed out by our Brother and Secretary George Haloukas.

■ Summer Recess.

■ The AHEPA National Convention is to take place in Las Vegas on July 23-29. All members are welcome to attend, but we need to know asap. Three members who will be attending from our Chapter are the Supreme Secretary, Brother Nick Billows and myself. We need to do our outmost to support the elevation of our Brother Sava Tsivicos to Supreme President! AXIOS!!!

■ The next ecclesiastical year starts on September with our first monthly meeting on September 11.

■ In October we have the monthly meeting on October 9, the AHEPA Gaming Night on October 13(TBC) and, on October 21 our Chapter will be hosting the District 5 Workshop(TBC).

On behalf of the AHEPA Executive Board, I would like to wish you and your families a "Happy and Safe Summer"

God bless us all!

Dimitris Geaneas-President of AHEPA Chapter 287-Cell Phone 908 770 2426

# Father of the Year:

## Fr. Andrew Eugenis Biography

Andrew Nicholas Eugenis was born on November 28th, 1959, in Chicago, Illinois to Nicholas and Dorothy Eugenis. Being the youngest among his two siblings, Brother Ted, and Sister Irene, Father Andrew and his family found a deep connection to the Greek Orthodox Church within the welcoming embrace of St. John the Baptist Church in Des Plaines, Illinois. Growing up, he fell in love with the Greek Orthodox faith, however, his calling to the priesthood was not immediately evident. During his upbringing, Father Andrew led an engaging childhood, immersing himself in the outdoors, playing sports, particularly ice hockey, and enjoyed getting his hands dirty. As he matured, his innate talent for fixing anything and everything he could get his hands on earned him the affectionate nickname “MacGyver” from friends and family. It was this unique ability that sparked his interest in the engineering field, leading him to pursue engineering classes while a student at East Lyden High School.

Following his graduation from East Lyden High School in 1978, he made the decision to embark on a career in the engineering field. In his twenties, Father Andrew diligently worked and traveled extensively, not only across the United States but even venturing as far as Tokyo, Japan where he contributed his expertise in the Electro-Mechanical Engineering field. However, amid his professional achievements, he felt a persistent sense of longing. The unwavering love for the church, which had accompanied him since his early years, beckoned him towards a different path—an unequivocal devotion to the priesthood. To answer this sacred calling, Father Andrew enrolled at Holy Cross Seminary, an institution that would teach him not only how to lead a parish, but ultimately, become the backdrop for a life altering encounter.

Amid his theological studies, in 1988, Father Andrew decided to take a trip home to Chicago to attend a Young Adult conference. On the second day of the conference, while at breakfast, Father Andrew could not help but notice the brunette girl with voluminous hair among the large crowd of young adults. As the crowds of people ate their breakfast and left, that brunette girl stayed and ultimately sparked the beginning of a profound connection—that girl was Presvytera Angela. In 1989 while on summer break from seminary, Father Andrew and a small number of his fellow seminarians embarked on an arduous, nearly 1-month long journey, cycling across the United States from New York to San Francisco raising funds and awareness for Cooley’s Anemia. After this bike ride across the country, Father Andrew would eventually go on to propose to Presvytera Angela. Through perseverance of a long-distance relationship and the strength of their bond, they were united in holy matrimony in July of 1991 at St. George in Clifton, New Jersey.

Following their wedding, the newlywed couple established their residence in Boston, Massachusetts, where Father Andrew continued his theological education and eventually graduated in May 1993. Their joy multiplied with the birth of their firstborn son, Niko, in August of the same year. Following this, the family of three relocated to Cincinnati, Ohio where Father Andrew was ordained as a Deacon and served at Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas for nearly a year. While in Ohio, a divine calling summoned Father Andrew, a very pregnant Presvytera and little Niko to the Annunciation Cathedral in Houston, Texas. Here, he embarked on a journey of sacrifice and service and embraced his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. This marked a momentous milestone in his spiritual journey as he served the community as an assistant priest.

In December 1994, their second son, Jordan, was welcomed into the family, further enriching their lives. Several years passed and life at the cathedral was busy. The family of four was soon to grow larger and in January 1997, Father Andrew and Presvytera Angela welcomed the joyous birth of their third son Teddy. Shortly after, Father Andrew converged in his role as Proistamenos of the Cathedral. Under his guidance, the Cathedral witnessed growth and expansion as his engineering acumen would aid in the development of a brand new church complex. He proudly and faithfully served the Cathedral for 7 years. However, in a fateful turn of events, a call from Xenia Morris, former Parish Council President, beckoned Father Andrew to the Jersey Shore to serve as the new Proistamenos of St. George in Asbury Park.

The invitation to contribute to the redevelopment and relocation of the church resonated deeply within the Eugenis family. Prior to their move to New Jersey, Father Andrew and Presvytera Angela welcomed their fourth son Stefanos in March 2001. Finally, with unwavering resolve and the support of their loved ones and the community, they returned home to New Jersey. Shortly after, in May of 2002 their fifth son Markos graced their lives with his arrival, completing their family of five boys. After many years of joy raising a family of 5 boys, Father Andrew and Presvytera Angela were blessed with the daughter they always yearned for, as their eldest son Niko, joined in Holy matrimony to Anastasia Gregorakis in November 2022.

In conclusion, beyond his role as a loving husband and devoted father to his children, Father Andrew assumes the significant mantle of a spiritual father to the entire Saint George community. His boundless love, compassionate guidance, unwavering faith, and steadfast support have touched the lives of countless individuals seeking solace, inspiration, and spiritual nourishment. Father Andrew, thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for our community. You have had a profound impact on all of us here at St. George and we are blessed to have you in our lives. Happy Father’s Day!





## A MESSAGE FROM OUR GREEK SCHOOL

Our school year has finished on a successful note! Our students worked hard right up to the end. Mrs. Alexandra's class participated in a worldwide contest: the 7th international student competition: Pontic Hellenism: memories and dreams, past, present and future. We submitted a video with our partnering schools from England, Cyprus, and Greece and our video submission won first place! We are proud of all the students that participated and grateful to the teachers that worked behind the scenes to make it all happen. The Greek parade was not well attended because of the weather but we would like to thank Barbara Panas, Antonia, Melanie, and Olivia Sum for representing our entire parish at the parade in rainy NYC! We are grateful that you took the time to represent us, and we hope that next year we can have better weather and better participation!

Our end of the year program took place on Sunday, June 11th. It was a beautiful celebration dedicated to all our students for their hard work and dedication to their Greek studies. We celebrated our graduates, Thanos Belekos, Louie D'Agnese, Michail Magriplis, and Olivia Sum. We are proud of each of them for finishing the program and being excellent role models to our younger students. We would like to recognize Thanos Belekos for completing the Ellinomatheia exam in May. We are anxious for his results but are positive he did well! We would also like to recognize Olivia Sum for receiving the Three Hierarchs Award of Excellence amongst the graduates. Congratulations to all! Lastly, we would like to wish Mrs. Alexandra Wright all the best as she retires from teaching Greek School. She has been a wonderful asset to our school and we will be sorry to see her go.

As we close out the year we would like to thank all the families that have supported our school this year. Your positive words of encouragement and commitment to the Greek School program has helped our students succeed in all they do! Thank you to all our teachers for another wonderful year. We look forward to the 2023-2024 school year and meeting new students and families in September. Please see the Greek school website for registration.

Τελειώσαμε και φέτος δυναμικά ακόμα μία σχολική χρονιά, με μεγάλη επιτυχία. Οι μαθητές μας δούλεψαν σκληρά μέχρι και την τελευταία μέρα. Το τμήμα της κυρίας Αλεξάνδρας έλαβε μέρος στον 7ο Διεθνή Μαθητικό Διαγωνισμό: Ποντιακός Ελληνισμός: μνήμες και όνειρα, παρελθόν, παρόν και μέλλον.

Οι τελειόφοιτοι μαθητές ήταν μέρος μιας ομάδας με μαθητές από ολόκληρα σχολεία στην Ελλάδα και Κύπρο, όπως και δύο απογευματινά σχολεία από την Αγγλία. Όλα τα παιδιά έστειλαν ένα μαγνητοφωνημένο κομμάτι, ως μέρος ενός ντοκιμαντέρ. Το έργο τους πήρε το Πρώτο Βραβείο στην κατηγορία τους! Είμαστε ευγνώμων τόσο προς τους μαθητές που έλαβαν μέρος, αλλά και προς τις δασκάλες που δούλεψαν σε αυτό το έργο πίσω από τα παρασκήνια.

Στη φετινή παρέλαση στη Νέα Υόρκη δεν συμμετείχαν πολλοί από την ενορία μας, αλλά θέλουμε να ευχαριστήσουμε την Βαρβάρα Πάνας, και τις Αντωνία, Μέλανη και Ολίβια Σαμ, που παραβρέθηκαν και αντιπροσώπευσαν την ενορία μας. Ευελπιστούμε ότι την επόμενη χρονιά θα έχουμε περισσότερους ενορίτες μαζί μας.

Η τελική γιορτή του σχολείου μας έγινε την Κυριακή 11 Ιουνίου. Η όμορφη γιορτή ήταν αφιερωμένη στους μαθητές μας, για την ολόχρονη αφοσίωση και την προσπάθεια που κατέλαβαν προς τα μαθήματά τους. Τιμήσαμε τους τέσσερις τελειόφοιτους, Θάνο Μπελέκο, Ελία Νταγνίση, Μιχάλη Μαγριπλή και Ολίβια Σαμ, που συμπλήρωσαν τις σπουδές τους. Είμαστε πολύ περήφανες και για τους τέσσερις, αφού είναι όλοι παράδειγμα προς μίμηση για



*Graduates: Thanos Belekos, Michail Magriplis, Louie D'Agnese, & Olivia Sum*



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR GREEK SCHOOL

τους υπόλοιπους συμμαθητές τους. Θέλουμε να κάνουμε ιδιαίτερη αναφορά και στο Θάνο Μπελέκο που συμπλήρωσε τις εξετάσεις γλώσσας της Ελληνομάθειας. Περιμένουμε με ανυπομονησία τα αποτελέσματα των εξετάσεων, αν και δεν έχουμε καμία αμφιβολία για την επιτυχία του Θάνου. Επίσης θέλουμε να κάνουμε μια τιμητική αναφορά στην Ολίβια Σαμ, που έλαβε το Βραβείο Αριστείας Τριών Ιεραρχών. Τέλος, θέλουμε να ευχαριστήσουμε την Κυρία Αλεξάνδρα για τα χρόνια υπηρεσίας στο σχολείο μας, και για τα όσα πρόσφερε στους μαθητές που είχαν την ευκαιρία να είναι στις τάξεις της. Η κυρία Αλεξάνδρα αφυπηρετεί και της ευχόμαστε ό,τι καλύτερο στην συνταξιοδότησή της.

Καθώς έκλεισε και φέτος άλλη μία σχολική χρονιά, θέλουμε να ευχαριστήσουμε τις οικογένειες του σχολείου μας για όλη τη στήριξη που μας έδειξαν. Τα θετικά και ενθαρρυντικά τους λόγια, αλλά και πράξεις προς στο πρόγραμμα του Ελληνικού Σχολείου βοήθησαν τους μαθητές μας να επιτύχουν σε ό,τι κάνουν! Ευχαριστούμε και όλες τις δασκάλες μας για άλλη μια υπέροχη χρονιά. Ανυπομονούμε για τη νέα σχολική χρονιά 2023-2024 και για όλους του νέους μαθητές και καινούργιες οικογένειες

που θα γνωρίσουμε το Σεπτέμβριο. Για όλες τις πληροφορίες εγγραφής, δείτε την ιστοσελίδα του ελληνικού σχολείου.

Η Διεύθυνση Πρωτοβάθμιας Εκπαίδευσης Σερρών, το Υπουργείο Εσωτερικών (Μακεδονίας-Θράκης) και το Τμήμα Εκπαιδευτικής Ραδιοτηλεόρασης και Ψηφιακών Μέσων του Υ.ΠΑΙ.Θ. συνδιοργανώνουν με την υποστήριξη της Έδρας Ποντιακών Σπουδών του Α.Π.Θ. και του Πανελλήνιου Συνδέσμου Ποντίων Εκπαιδευτικών τον 7ο διεθνή μαθητικό Διαγωνισμό:

Ποντιακός Ελληνισμός: μνήμες και όνειρα, παρελθόν, παρόν και μέλλον



*Olivia Sum:*

*Recipient of Three Hierarchs  
Award of Excellence*



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone for another great end to the Sunday School year!

On Saturday of Lazarus, thanks to the dedicated efforts of all generations of our community, we successfully made over 1,000 crosses for Father Andrew to pass out on Palm Sunday. Thank you so much to the Greek School PTO for a great breakfast and for everyone who joined us. Everyone in the community is welcome next year to help! No experience necessary! There are always people willing to teach others how to fold the palms!

We had a great turn out for our Holy Friday Retreat. Children ages three to sixth grade. They helped prepare the baskets of rose petals for the girls to use during the Friday evening service, learned about Holy Week through story time and discussion, before creating their own triptych of icons outlining the events of the week, and learning about the Epitaphios from Father Andrew. Thank you to the students and parents for making this educational experience a priority and Renee Panagos and Stella Fotopoulos for helping make the day a success!

On Mother's Day, Sophia Georges read a poem to our church's mother of the year and gifted her two appropriately-motherly icons. Great job to you and Olivia Sum (representing Greek School) for reading the poems in front of a packed church!

As with every year, Sunday School Graduation came upon us quite quickly. Thank you to all the teachers without whose dedication the program could not continue. Congratulations to our seniors as they take the next steps in the adventure of life.

The 2023-2024 school year will begin on September 25th, Due to the festival we will not have a traditional registration Sunday, however please be on the lookout for emails, bulletins, and other posters regarding registration for the new school year.

All kids three years old and up are welcome to join us Sundays after communion!

Contact Kristen Russo with questions.



*Sunday School Graduation Day.*



*Story time at the Holy Friday Retreat.*

## Upcoming Sunday School Events

9/25 First day of the new school year!

Can't wait to see everyone!

Sunday School  
Website



Check out our  
website for  
general information.

[tinyurl.com/  
StGSundaySchool2022](https://tinyurl.com/StGSundaySchool2022)

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



*Thank you Sunday School students of all ages who came to help make over 1,000 crosses.*



*Congratulations to our High School seniors!*



*Thank you, Sophia Georges for representing Sunday School and Olivia Sum for representing Greek School on Mother's Day*



*There were important jobs for all ages when it came to making crosses!*



*David Russo and Stephen D'Agnes hard at work to meet the quota.*



*There were important jobs for all ages when it came to making crosses!*



*Icons help us tell the story of Holy Week with this triptych project.*



*Nobody is ever too young to do important work for the church.*





My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are ready to start a brand-new year in GOYA! Welcome back to our returning GOYAns and a special welcome to our newcomers. GOYA is an incredible organization that the Greek Orthodox youth from seventh to twelfth grade are able to join. Together, the GOYAns grow closer to our faith, to our culture, and to other Greek youth throughout New Jersey and beyond.

As usual, we have a lot of exciting events planned for this year. There will be many service, leadership, and community events to participate in, and I encourage everyone to seize as many opportunities as possible. GOYA truly becomes a family filled with many laughs, lessons, and memories that will

last a lifetime. As a graduated GOYAn who has been a member for the past six years, I would like to take a moment to offer some advice that I have learned. Although there is a comfort in making friends from our Saint George GOYA, I urge you to meet individuals from other GOYAs as well – I have found some of my best friends by doing this. If you have an idea for an event you would like to run, please speak to one of the advisors because they will help you to make it a reality. Sign up for as many things as you can whether it be Greek dance, volleyball, basketball, cemetery clean-ups, Sights and Sounds, et cetera. Lastly, live in the moment, and cherish the memories. I hope you all enjoy this year in GOYA!

With Love,  
GOYA President,  
Demetra Giannakopoulos

# 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. Please contact Athena Loesch or Anne Papageorge through the Church Office. We thank you for your generosity.

## The Saints

St. Pandora - Back Wall Left -	\$10,000
St. Kathryn - Back Wall Left -	\$10,000
St. Irene - Back Wall Left -	\$10,000
St. Paraskevi - Back Wall Left -	\$10,000
St. Cassiani - Back Wall Left -	\$10,000
S.S. Rafael, Nicholas, Irene -	
Back Wall Right -	\$10,000
St. Gerasimos -Back Wall Right -	\$10,000
St. Elpidophoros -Back Wall Right -	\$10,000
St. Savva - Back Wall Right -	\$10,000
St. Theodore the Commander	
Back Wall Right -	\$10,000
Medallions - Rear Arch Above Choir Loft	
Archangel Gabriel -	\$5,000
St. Alexandros - Right -	\$5,000
St. Alexios - Right -	\$5,000
St. Panteleimon - Right -	\$5,000
St. Haralambos - Right -	\$5,000
St. Marina - Left -	\$5,000
St. Kyriaki - Left -	\$5,000
St. Elizabeth - Left -	\$5,000
St. Magdalene - Left -	\$5,000
St. Julia - Left -	\$5,000
St. Christina - Left -	\$5,000

## In The Altar

Deacon Parmenas - Left Side-	\$3,000
Deacon Prohoros - Right Side-	\$3,000
Diakonikon - Right Side -	\$25,000
Artoforio - Left Side Altar -	\$25,000
Amnos Tou Theou - Center Altar -	\$20,000
Archangel Michael - Left Side -	\$20,000
St. Gregory - Half of Icon - Left Side -	\$7,500
St. Fotios - Half of Icon - Right Side -	\$7,500

## Church Proper

Pandokratora ( Dome )	
Prophets:	
Daniel -	\$10,000
Jonah -	\$10,000
Solomon -	\$10,000
Habakkuk -	\$10,000
Gideon -	\$10,000
Zephaniah/Sophonias -	\$10,000
Ekzekiel -	\$10,000

*List is subject to update*

## Following Icons are Available

### Contact Fr. Andrew:

Transfiguration - Rear Arch Left  
 Baptism of Christ - Rear Arch Left  
 The Dormition of the Theotokos - Rear Arch Right

Christ Entrance into Jerusalem ( Palm Sunday ) - Rear Arch Right  
 Raising of Lazarus - Rear Arch Right  
 Pentecost - Front Arch Left Solea  
 Life of St. George Torture - Back Wall



# GREEK FESTIVAL

**ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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**FRIDAY, SEPT 8TH  
5PM - 10 PM**

**SATURDAY, SEPT 9TH  
12PM - 11 PM**

**LIVE  
MUSIC!**

**SUNDAY, SEPT 10TH  
1 PM - 8 PM**

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Authentic Greek music & dancing...  
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**OPA!**

**ADMISSION \$2**

Children under 6 free

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50/50  
RAFFLE**

**PURCHASE TICKETS AND WIN UP  
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Tickets \$20 each

Only 1,500 Tickets to be sold!

Drawing to be held at the Festival on  
Sunday, September 10th at 7 PM

For details or to purchase tickets,  
Please contact the church office  
732-775-2777



# GREEK FESTIVAL

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**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!**  
**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**SIGN-UP HERE**



We need each of our St. George community members to help make these three days a success!

Please review the available slots using the QR Code and sign-up. **Kindly arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time to allow transition between shifts.** Thank you!

**DON'T FORGET TO ADD YOUR SHIRT SIZE!**

**FESTIVAL HOURS:**

Friday, September 8th: 5 PM - 10 PM  
Saturday, September 9th: 12 PM - 11 PM  
Sunday, September 10th: 1 PM - 8 PM

---

**Bookstore**

**Cashier - Pastries**

*Training will be given*

**Cashier - Souvlaki Tent**

*Training will be given*

**Cashier - Yia Yia**

**Cusina Restaurant**

*Training will be given*

**Games & Rides**

**Greeters**

**Kafeneo**

**Kitchen Help**

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**Loukoumades**

**Never on a Sundae  
(Ice Cream)**

**Parking Attendants**

**Pastries**

**Raffle**

**Runners**

**Setup & Breakdown**

**Souvlaki Servers**

**Yia Yia Cusina Servers**

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**3RD PRIZE - 5% OF TOTAL PROCEEDS**

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1st Prize - 35%

2nd Prize - 10%

3rd Prize - 5%

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NAME ON CREDIT CARD \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

**Scholarship Sunday, June 4, 2023**

**St. George High School Graduates & College Students**

### HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Tsarnas Family Community Scholarship - **Stavros Fay**  
 Into the Light Community Scholarship - **Kayla Deet**  
 Aleka Vassilia Damiano Agape Scholarship - **Marilena Iosifides**  
 Gregos Family Memorial Scholarship - **Angelina Bennett**  
 Poulos Family Memorial Scholarship - **Demetra Giannakopoulos**  
 George N. Arvanitis Memorial Scholarship - **Kayla Deet**  
 George S. Michals Memorial Scholarship - **Marcelo Felice**  
 Reverend Spyros Mourikis Memorial Scholarship - **none for this year**  
 Alice Nicas & Mary Papageorge Philoptochos Memorial Scholarship - **Alex Xanthacos**  
 Helen Micholopoulos Memorial Scholarship - **Paul Christopoulos**  
 James A. Pavlides Memorial Scholarship - **Marcelo Felice**

### CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Constantine And Fotina Pascal Tinios Continuing Education Scholarship - **Alexandra Ritorto**  
 Philoptochos Post Graduate Studies Memorial Scholarship - **Penny Demetriades**  
 Reverend Spyros Mourikis Memorial Scholarship - **Nikos Schwarz**  
 Michael Halkias Memorial Scholarship - **Spyridon Costidis**  
 Spiro & Helen Michals and John & Helen Morris Memorial Scholarship -  
**2 recipients; Nicholas Chatzopoulos and Nicholas Calabretta**  
 Into the Light Scholarship - **Kyriaki Kiafoulis**

### AHEPA

Thomas A. Edison Chapter #287 Scholarships  
**Alexander Xanthacos**  
**Demetra Giannakopoulos**  
**Marilena Iosifides**

### Daughters of Penelope Aulis Chapter #195 Scholarships

**Demetra Giannakopoulos**  
**Marilena Iosifides**



**An Invitation From Father Andrew**

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Interactive discussion and review via zoom



**August**

**Abbreviated Study of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph**

**September**

**No Bible Study**

**October**

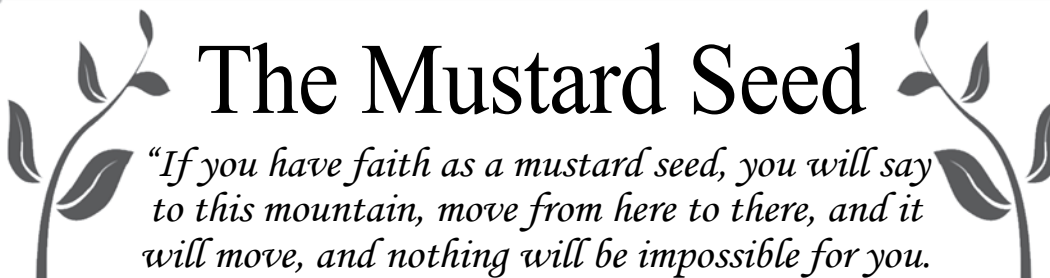
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*Matthew 17:20*

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- ✠ And learn specific strategies to help you live happily ever after!

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 Angela Koumoutsos: [fiore88@aol.com](mailto:fiore88@aol.com)



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# ST. GEORGE CHOIR

This year our Metropolis, in conjunction with the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (EFGOCM), decided to combine the annual choir conference with the celebration of the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Our church was chosen to host this special event, with the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, His Grace, Bishop Apostolos and our Proistamenos, Father Andrew, on September 14th-17th.

Conference attendees will participate in many workshops and rehearsals over the weekend, and will also rehearse to sing as a choir at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 17th in the great auditorium at Ocean Grove; directed by Ryan Kiel. On Saturday evening, September 16th, our church will host a banquet, in our banquet hall, celebrating all EFGOC musicians. This event will be open to our St. George community!

If you are interested in participating in the choir conference, just singing in the Holy Cross Choir, or attending the banquet, please reach out to Claire Chrysanthopoulos (732) 236-9405 or [clairechrys1@gmail.com](mailto:clairechrys1@gmail.com). Tickets for the banquet are \$65 per person.

## AHEPA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

AHEPA Chapter 287 was proud to award scholarships to Alex Xanthacos, Mariliana Iosifides and Demetra Giannakopoulos for their outstanding achievements in their schools. Demetra Giannakopoulos also received the highest scholarship award at our NJ Ahepa District 5 Convention in Toms River on June 3, 2023 out of 7 applicants. (Arthur Pappaylion, Scholarship Chairman)



## AHEPAN OF THE YEAR

On May 21, we honored three members of our chapter with AHEPAN of the Year plaque. George Haloukas, Nick Billows and Kosta Linardakis for their outstanding service to the Ahepa and our chapter. Also standing is Savas Tsivicos, Ahepa Supreme Secretary, George Perentesis, District Marshal, Arthur Pappaylion, chapter Vice President and Dimitri Geaneas, Chapter President.



*2023 EFGOCM*  
*Metropolis of New Jersey*  
*Annual Choir Conference*  
*Saint George Greek Orthodox Church*  
*Ocean Township, New Jersey*



*September 14 - 17, 2023*

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