

# Kimisis Close-Up

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 2

Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church  
Holmdel, NJ

March 2011

## Notices

- GOYA SIGHTS AND SOUNDS LUNCHEON- MARCH 6TH
- KIMISIS STEWARDSHIP For those needing a letter confirming donations for 2010 for tax purposes, please contact Helen Antholis by email at [helenantholis@me.com](mailto:helenantholis@me.com). Or you may call Frieda at the Church Office 732-739-1515.
- Kimisis Brownies are collecting food donations for the needy. They have placed baskets throughout our community. Please help by filling them up with lots of healthy food. All donations will go towards continually replenishing our food pantry.

## Inside this issue:

AHEPA

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Publication Deadline for  
April Issue  
March 10th



## From Father George

by Father George H. Dounelis

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Kimisis:

It is hard to believe that we have arrived at the outset of the Lenten Journey already, but here it is. Our Church is taking great care to prepare our souls through its teachings and lessons in these pre-lenten Sundays: may we each give them prayerful consideration for our own life.

### WE ARE NOT ALONE:

When we prepare for a trip, most of us are comfortable when we have others along with us to share the experience. As Orthodox Christians on the Lenten journey, the Church assures us in many ways that we are not alone. We are surrounded by our own parish community; we share this common experience with all Orthodox Christians, we have the prayers, the lives and examples of the generations of saints who have traveled this path before and continue to encourage us; and, most importantly of all, we have the guidance of the Holy Spirit to strengthen us all in our calling to follow the narrow path of the Lord which lies ahead-a path which many are not willing to take. Like Noah and his family in the Ark, we know



and believe that whenever the Lord calls us to a special task, He will give us the ability to do it.

### WHAT LIES AHEAD:

When we consider Lent, we often fall for the misconception that the teachings and practices of the season are limited to this time of year. On the contrary, although they are especially highlighted during Lent, the call to strengthen our faith through prayer and fasting and to help our fellow man, though, that we need a little "Boost" now and then.

### CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

Worship: In addition to the regular Sunday Divine Liturgy which we should commit to on a regular basis, there are some beautiful and inspiring services

offered only during this time of the year, such as the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, celebrated at different Orthodox Churches on Wednesday during Lent (please follow the schedule in the KCU) and the services of the Salutations to the Theotokos on Friday evenings during Lent. If you never attended these services, please commit yourself in the Lord to make it this year. If you have come to these services before, please continue to come for your spiritual edification during this sacred time of the year.

### "KALOI TAXIDI":GOOD JOURNEY:

As we set out on this journey together with our fellow Orthodox Christians, during this very important spiritual period, may we do so with the wish that is indicated

## President's Message

by Robert Bucco, Parish Council President

Dear Members of the Kimisis Community:

I hope and pray all of you and your families had a very merry Christmas, happy new year and holiday season and survived the snow storms.

In December last year our community held its annual parish council elections. There were six positions up for election with seven candidates wanting to fill those positions. The parishioners that were elected are Matthew Bistrimovich, Robert W. Bucco, Jr., Paul Callamaras, Sr., William Parlamis, Nikie Sourlis and Emmanuel Tsarnas. Their term of service to the parish council is for three years and will expire in December 2013. Please join me in congratulating them on their election and giving of their time and talents in keeping our Kimisis Community the best it can be. Also, please join me in thanking Stavros Fotinos for his service on the parish council for the past three years. Stavros was a dedicated member of the parish council and was a great asset to the parish council. He will be missed, thank you Stavros.

This year our community will face many issues that will need to be ad-

ressed. We will start addressing the parking situation this year. This is a long process and we need to start now. We need to replace the gymnasium roof, the gymnasium heating units and recondition the gymnasium floor to name a few. The parish council is working diligently to resolve these issues as soon as possible.

Also, we will be starting to etch the glass windows in the church. Our most Reverend Metropolitan Evangelos has approved the etchings so they can start to be installed shortly.

We had two very successful events in December last year, the parish council's annual dinner dance and the Christmas party that was sold out. We honored three individuals who have given of themselves selflessly to make our Kimisis community what it is today and as an added feature to our Christmas party we were entertained by our Kimisis Dancers who did a fantastic job in performing the traditional Greek dances. Please join me in thanking all the members and organizations that made these events so much fun and special. It's events like these that make our community unique and a great place to raise our children.

With the New Year comes registration for our various community organizations and activities. These organizations and activities are wonderful to be a part of and not only advances are Greek heritage, but it is a great way for you and your family to spend some quality time together, meet members of our community and built lifetime relationships with our parishioners and their families. So please get involved, you will not regret it.

It is time to submit your stewardship pledge for 2011. Stewardship is a vital and essential means for ensuring our community can meet its financial obligations. If you haven't made your 2011 pledge, please do so as soon as possible. You can contact any parish council member, Helen Antholis, our Stewardship Chairman or Frieda Mookas, our parish secretary for the applications and they can answer any questions you may have.

I would like to give thanks and convey my heartfelt appreciation to our Kimisis Family for their continued support and I wish you all a wonderful, happy and safe 2011.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

## Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

by Mary Ellen Cestone



The Boy Scouts have had a lot of fun this winter. They enjoyed a fun-filled day paintballing at Fireball Mountain. They also had an adventurous time camping out at Winnabago Scout Reservation.

Scout Sunday was on February 6th, and we would like to thank all of you for joining us at our traditional community pancake breakfast. Hoped all of you enjoyed yourselves. On February 20th, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts had their Blue and Gold Dinner and celebrated the Birthday of Scouting with a lot of great food, fun,

and wonderful entertainment.

The Cub Scouts had their annual Pinewood Derby, where the boys, along with their parents, made a car from a block of wood. Then they try to make it the coolest and fastest car on the track. They then compete with their fellow scouts to see whose car will make it to the finish line first. The results are: **Race**

1st Place tie Michael Poosikian  
Gregory Haralampoudis  
2nd Place Christian Simon  
3rd Place Evan Kolefas

### **Best design**

1st Place Gregory Haralampoudis  
2nd Place Evan Kolefas  
3rd Place Mike Poosikian

### **Best Pine wood T shirt Design**

1st Place Eric Tepper  
2nd Place tie Christian Simon  
Gregory Haralampoudis  
Apostolos Maroulis

If you are interested in joining our scouting adventures, please call Jim Marinos at 732-739-9486, Nick Englis at 732-591-0563, Matt Bistrimovich at 732-863-1822, or George Marinos at 732-780-7193.

## GOYA NEWS by Rosanna Panagakos

### Upcoming Meetings:

March: Friday 18<sup>th</sup>

April: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> (We will attend church services as part of our meeting)

**Playoffs:** Congratulations to our amazing Volleyball & Basketball players!! They have both managed to hold their titles from last year's playoffs: Girls Volleyball 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Boys Basketball 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Thank you to the wonderful coaches, Dr. Matt Bistrimovich and Dr. Tony Patras, for a wonderful job, yet again!

A HUGE thank you to Mr. Tom Protentis for being our Sports Coordinator the past three years, you have done an astonishing job with every game and playoffs, we are so thankful for all of your help and dedication! Mr. Tom Asimopolous will be stepping into Tom's role and working closely with the advisors for next season; Welcome Tom!

### Sights and Sounds:

We participated in the 39<sup>th</sup> Sights

and Sounds on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Westfield. We attended with 40 GOYANS, 7 chaperones/advisors. Each year we are nothing short of awestruck by the talent that is exhibited, not only in their Sound performances that day, but also seeing their sights displayed all around the hallways and classrooms of Holy Trinity. The amount of talent that each GOYA has is immense, and to see their hard work exhibited is a great joy for all! We are blessed to have such a wonderful group of GOYANS!! CONGRATULATIONS to all of our participants for a job well done!!!!!!

Thank you for all that attended our Sights & Sounds luncheon on Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate everyone's efforts to make the day a success for the GOYANS. Our gratitude for the donations and the luncheon chairwoman: Linda Antonakakis, you did a fabulous job!!! Thank you so much Linda! Thank you to the Red Oak Diner for hosting our celebration on Saturday!

### GOYA Giving Back:

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>,

GOYA will be hosting a fundraiser luncheon to assist with the medical needs for a former Kimisis GOYAN. More information is to come.

### Olympics:

Please keep your eyes posted on Olympic practice schedules for April, as well as weekend information and state guidelines for this year. Monies will be due between late March-early April; we will let you know the cost for this annual Memorial Day weekend event. Please see an advisor if you have any questions or concerns.

**Additional Information:** Please see the GOYA section on our church's website: [www.kimisis.com](http://www.kimisis.com). Our up-to-date calendar can be found at:

[www.calendar.yahoo.com/homldelgoya](http://www.calendar.yahoo.com/homldelgoya). You may also contact the advisors at [holmdelgoya@yahoo.com](mailto:holmdelgoya@yahoo.com). For additional information, please see the GOYA section on our church's website: [www.kimisis.com](http://www.kimisis.com). Our up-to-date calendar can be found at: [www.calendar.yahoo.com/homldelgoya](http://www.calendar.yahoo.com/homldelgoya). You may also contact the advisors at [holmdelgoya@yahoo.com](mailto:holmdelgoya@yahoo.com).

## Kimisis Annual Festival -June 9-12, 2011 by Dimitris Geaneas, Festival Chairman

**D**ear Kimisis Tis Theotokou Family Members:  
Our next Church Festival is only a few months away. For planning purposes, **please mark your calendars**, based on the dates and times below, and try to be generous with your time and service to our Church/Panagia and its community.

### 2011 Festival Dates:

June 9 through June 12  
(Thursday from 6 pm to 10 pm,  
Friday from 4 pm to 11 pm, Saturday from 1 pm to 11 pm, Sunday

from 12 noon to 8:00 pm

### Festival Set-Up:

June 8 (Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 9 pm)

### Festival Knock-Down:

June 12 (Sunday from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm)

### 2011 Pre-Festival Meetings:

March 8, Tuesday  
April 5, Tuesday  
April 26, Tuesday  
May 17, Tuesday  
May 24, Tuesday  
May 31, Tuesday

**Time: 8 pm to 9:30 pm**

**Place: Church-Library**

Me agapi/Efharisto/Best regards,

Dimitris Geaneas-Festival Chairman

**Time: 8 pm to 9:30 pm**

**Place: Church-Library**





## Greek School News

By Katherine Gilbride

We would like to once again thank those who supported the Greek School. Congratulations to Cheryl Bontales and Anna Zamora on winning the 2 baskets that were raffled at the Greek School Coffee Hours in November and December 2010. All proceeds go towards the Greek School to benefit our children.

This month our students will be preparing for the celebration of Greek Independence Day of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1821. Children will be reciting poems and remembering the importance of the day. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the festivities, and to support and admire the children. Please check our bulletin board, emails and listen for announcements in church for the scheduled date of this celebration at Kimisis.

Greek Independence Day - March 25- On this day, we celebrate Independence Day, a national holiday in Greece.

For 368 years, the Greeks were enslaved and suffered under Turkish rule. The Greeks couldn't go where they wanted to go, couldn't speak freely, and didn't have schools for their children to learn Greek. The Turks didn't want the Greek children to learn their language, their religion, and the history of their country. Because of this, at night the children secretly would go to school. These "secret schools" were in churches and most of the teachers were priests. The Turks took property, livestock and whatever the Greeks owned. On March 25, 1821, the Greeks took weapons to fight the Turks to acquire their freedom. They fought for 8 years. In the end, they won, and gained their freedom.

February 14th: PTO Meeting: We would like to see an increase in attendance at our meetings; especially since the weather is improving and the days are getting longer. Like all organizations, we need your support to make things happen for our chil-

dren. Currently, we have 30 families enrolled in our PTO! On February 14<sup>th</sup>, we talked about the Greek Independence Parade in New York City and found that many people from the Greek School wanted to march and represent our community.

Other topics discussed: The celebration of Independence Day at our church; gifts for our children at graduation; registration for next year; and our next coffee hour and bake sale. We are still accepting new members; please complete your member form, along with dues (\$15.00) and return it to your child's teacher. **REMEMBER:** Check our bulletin board in the hallway for upcoming events and past events in the school. Teacher and classroom information is also available.

## Brownies/Girl Scouts

by Mary Ellen Cestone

The Brownies have been working hard on their Journey Project. They are looking forward to **Girl Scout Sunday on March 6th** where they will be great advocates towards the conservation of water. Please visit

our table after church to get valuable information and then please sign our petition for your pledge to conserve water.

The whole troop also enjoyed a very fun filled pizza bowl night at

AMF  
Strathmore  
Lanes



## AHEPA Garden State Chapter 517 by Steve Bontales

### THANK YOU

To the parishioners of Kimisis and supporters of AHEPA's Super Bowl party held in the church community center on Feb 6. The event helped raise over \$4,000.00 dollars for the chapter's funds. This will help Chapter 517 in their continual mission of helping to spread and support Hellenic missions, causes and charities. Everyone seemed to have a great time watching the game on a super size movie screen long with enough food and drinks to feed a small army. It was the best and most successful Super Bowl Party held by the chapter.

#### Hellenic Night March 26

The chapter will be celebrating a Hellenic Night on March 26 in our community center in honor of Greek Independence Day. The event will be free to all with a Fasoulatha dinner served and many Hellenic items on the program. Come and help support AHEPA's celebration of Greek Independence Day.

#### Ronald McDonald House Visitation

The chapter will once again will be visiting Ronald McDonald House Greek Division on March 7. The chapter for many years now has been donating a free dinner to the families of children at Ronald McDonald House. It is a wonderful event to help these families in a



small way by giving them a night to perhaps forget their worries for a small while and relax with good food and conversation.

It is the most rewarding event that the chapter does throughout the year and we each leave that night feeling better that we may have brightened up a family's day. Please feel free to join us that night if you wish.

The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, and Civic Responsibility

#### Hellenism

An important component of AHEPA's mission is to create an awareness of the principles of Hellenism to society. These principles include a commitment to humanity, freedom, and democracy. The preservation and promotion of these ideals is where AHEPA has, and always will be, deeply committed.

#### Education

AHEPA's commitment to education has been well documented throughout its history. The chapter every year gives out scholarships to graduating high school seniors who meet certain qualifications and whose parents or grandparents are members of AHEPA.

#### Philanthropy

Philanthropy and volunteerism have been pillars of strength for AHEPA. The chapter donates to many charities including

St. Basils Academy, AHEPA Cancer Research Fund, Ronald McDonald House to name a few. The chapter has also donated many dollars and items to Kimisis Tis Theotokou from building classrooms in the community center to donation to the consecration of Kimisis to donating to the icons that adorn our beautiful church.

#### Civic Responsibility

Our grassroots has a strong voice. With chapters in every major metropolitan city and in rural areas of North America, AHEPA communicates the positions of the Greek-American community to elected representatives at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as to our diplomatic leaders. These issues pertain to Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey; however, our constituents are also interested in domestic policy areas affecting the philanthropic, civic, and community service-based programs in which they are involved. These positions are based upon our American heritage and ideals with the best interest of the United States in mind.

If the above mission items are of interest to you, please feel free to contact any AHEPA brother to join or for further information about the organization.

The Order of AHEPA Garden State Chapter 517

Welcomes you to be our guest in celebrating 190 years of Freedom !

It will be a night to remember with Byzantine Music, Song , Dance, Poems, Religion, and a delicious fasoulatha dinner

Kimisis Tis Theotokou, 20 Hillcrest Road Holmdel, New Jersey

Please call for your free reservation to George Karatzia (732)-536-6801





PLEASE SEE ENCLOSED FLYER FOR MORE INFORMATION

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Nikie Sourlis (732) 747-2196, Joyce Magriples (732) 772-0068, Anna Zamora (732) 495-7872, Nausica Orthodoxou (732) 303-9816

We are looking forward to our spring Gertrude Hawk fundraiser to help raise money for Sunday School. We thank you all for your constant support.



<p>March 7, 2011 - Great Lent Begins in preparation of Holy Pascha</p> 	<p>April 16, 2011 - Saturday of Lazarus - A Didactic Liturgy Service/Communion Breakfast as well as help make palm Crosses</p> 	<p>May 1, 2011 - Godparents' Sunday - Regular Classes Sunday School Coffee Hour. A special day for the children to invite their Godparents to attend church with them and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion along with the blessing from Father George</p>
<p>March 13, 2011 - Sunday of the Orthodoxy - Regular Classes Grades 2,4,6,8 will participate with the Icon Procession (children can bring icons from home while some will be making them in class with their teachers)</p>	<p>April 17, 2011 - Palm Sunday No Classes - Family Worship</p>	<p>May 22, 2011 - Teacher Appreciation- "Take Your Books Home"</p> 
<p>March 27, 2011 - Sunday of Holy Cross - Regular classes Grades K,1,3,5,7 will participate with the Cross Procession (children can bring crosses from home while some will be making them in class with their teachers)</p>	<p>April 24, 2011 - Great and Holy Pascha - No Classes - Family Worship</p> 	<p>May 29, 2011 - No Classes - Family Worship - Memorial Day</p> <p>June 5, 2011 Graduation Day!</p>

Prime Timers by Connie Mellas

Prime Timers Calendar Year 2011

March 2  
April 6  
May 4

June - Preparation for Festival

July/August - SUMMER RECESS

September 7 - Return from Summer Recess

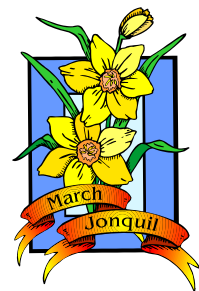
October 5 - Holiday Celebration

for Nov , Dec

November 2

December 7

THESE DATES MAY CHANGE: CHECK PRIME TIMERS BULLETIN BOARD OPPOSITE FROM MEETING ROOM.



# 2010-2011 COFFEE HOUR & SUNDAY FUNDRAISERS



Sept 12, 2010	Fred and Friends	Jan 30, 2011	Men's Basketball
Sept 26	Boy Scouts	Feb 6	Scout Sunday
Oct 3	GOYA	Feb 13	Cub Scouts
Oct 10	Fred and Friends	Feb 20	Martha Parlamis
Oct 17	<i>Need Volunteers</i>	Feb 27	Intermediate Dancers
Oct 24	Philoptochos	Mar 6	<i>Sights &amp; Sounds Luncheon</i>
Oct 31	Hellenic Dancers	Mar 13	Girl Scouts
Nov 7	GOYA	Mar 20	Altar Boys
Nov 14	Girl Scouts	Mar 27	AHEPA
Nov 21	Greek School	Apr 3	Beginner Dancers
Nov 28	<i>Need Volunteers</i>	Apr 10	Greek School
Dec 5	Christmas Party	April 17	<i>Palm Sunday Luncheon</i>
Dec 12	Fred and Friends	April 24	<i>Pascha</i>
Dec 19	Greek School	May 1	Sunday School
Dec 26	<i>Need Volunteers</i>	May 8	Parish Council
Jan 2, 2011	<i>Need Volunteers</i>	May 15	AHEPA
Jan 9	Philoptochos	May 22	Art Show
Jan 16	Advanced Dancers	May 29	<i>Need Volunteers</i>
Jan 23	Prime Timers	June 5	GOYA

Church supplies coffee and paper goods

- Organizations need to donate:
  - Three (3) Gallons juice
  - One (1) Gallon milk
  - Children's cookies (approx 6 packages)
  - Fruit for allergic and non-gluten individuals
  - Adult pound cake for about 80



**Hosting organization must clean up the kitchen**

**PLEASE  
VOLUNTEER  
FOR ANY  
OPEN DATES**

*Contact Harriet Callis at 732-291-5838 if you would like to volunteer or donate in memory of a loved one.*

**Thank you for supporting our community**

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