

# KIMISIS COMMUNITY JOURNAL



FALL.2023 Edition

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

HOLMDEL NEW JERSEY



## Top News:

*Congratulations To His Eminence on his Enthronement to Metropolitan of New Jersey*  
Classes have begun for Greek School, Greek Dance, Sunday School, Playgroups and more!



# Welcome Back

My beloved brothers and sisters,

I would like to welcome all of you back praying that our Heavenly father bestows upon you and your family a blessed New Ecclesiastical year.

With a new Church year beginning on Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, we must strive to come closer to God by increasing our participation in the life of the church. It is a big challenge in our days, living in a very secular society, to give priority to the spiritual life, but our spiritual life is the most important.

Establishing and continuing to build on the true spirituality, allows us to set the right example in the home. By following the Orthodox path, it can greatly impact the lives of others and the life of the church and its ministries. Being fully involved in as many ministries can help better direct one's life. The first and most important part is the Divine Liturgy. For those of you who have children in Church school – Sunday school or Greek school, these classes teach the faith, language, and culture. The first classroom is the Divine Liturgy and class begins every Sunday at 9:30 AM. One cannot have the full experience in the church if he or she are not fully involved in the life of the church. In our Orthodox tradition, the Church process begins at the 40 days when the infant is brought as a future follower of Christ. Please remember back when you brought your children on that special day, that feeling should not go away but continue to grow stronger and more exciting! As we grow older and more mature every day in our physical life, shouldn't our spiritual life have that same opportunity?

Orthodox Christian education allows us to learn more and more about our faith, our Lord, His church and ultimately us. We here at Kimisis Tis Theotokou have educational ministries for every age group Sunday school, HOPE and JOY, GOYA and YAL. We have our FOS (Friendly Orthodox Spectrum) for discussions on certain topics of scripture or our faith as well as Bible studies to learn more of our Lord's message because our Christian education should never stop.

Examples are set whether good or bad. Are we setting the right example for our family, our parish family? Always remember someone is following your example! The church allows us to come to her when we fall short and "miss the mark", when we experience one blessing after another, when we are going through difficult times, when we are experiencing joyful moments in our lives. The Church NEVER has it's door locked to us, we, though on the other hand have to be willing to come with an open heart and open her doors ourselves.

Our Orthodox path/spiritual life and growth must be taken seriously. Many of us focus on our family and work, Church life deserves our full attention and participation. If you have found you or your family has not been involved in the life of our Parish, you can change that this Ecclesiastical year. Please be part of the life of our Greek Orthodox Church by supporting all the ministries of our community. They are part of our Parish in which we are all sheltered.

In closing my thoughts, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Parish Council for all the hard work and dedication during our very successful Annual Bay Shore "Taste of Greece" festival as well as all the volunteers. Without your help the festival would not have been successful. Also, a big thank you to the Pliloptochos – BAHA Society and our Parish Council for their outstanding hospitality that was offered to our beloved Chancellor from our Metropolis, as well as the visiting priests and the parishioners who participated on the Feast Day of our Church on August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. As you know we have scheduled many events for 2023 -2024, please participate.

Wishing upon you and your families a blessed healthy, and joyful New Ecclesiastical year. May Lord our God keep you always under His protective Grace.

With respect and love in Christ,

† Rev. Fr. Panagiotis Lekkas



# Καλώς Ορίσατε



Αγαπητοί αδελφοί:

Εύχομαι όλοι σας νά είχατε ένα ξεκούραστο καί χαρούμενο καλοκαίρι.

Μέ την άρχή του Νέου Έκκλησιαστικού Έτους δίδεται ή εύκαιρία σε όλους μας να άνασυγκροτήσουμε την πνευματική μας πορεία καί νά έμβαθύνουμε περισσότερο στην σημασία που έχει η Έκκλησία μέσα στην ζωή μας.

Η Έκκλησία ως “άκέραιη παιδαγωγός” μέ την άγωγή που προσφέρει σε έμάς και στα παιδιά μας κατευθύνει είς την άγάπη του Κυρίου ημών Ιησού Χριστού. Η Έκκλησία δημιουργήθηκε από την άμετρη άγάπη του Θεού προς τον άνθρωπο καί μιλά μόνο για αυτήν. Η έκκοσμιευμένη αντίληψη της θρησκείας, της Έκκλησίας, είναι η άπαιτούμενη προσήλωση της πίστεως στο Θεό ως τη μοναδική έκλογή του ανθρώπου για την κοινωνία του με Αυτόν. Όμως η Όρθόδοξη Έκκλησία μιλά για μια πίστη ως έμπιστοσύνη προς την άγάπη του Θεού, έφόσον μόνο η άγάπη παραμένει είς του αιώνας. Η πίστη, ή ελπίδα θα καταργηθούν στη έσχάτη μέρα της παρουσίας του Θεού και αυτό που θα διαμείνει θά είναι μόνο η άγάπη. Έπομένως η Έκκλησία ως σωστή παιδαγωγός διδάσκει τον άνθρωπο να άγαπά τον Θεό, αυτό είναι το εύλογο ζητούμενο της πνευματικής τελειώσεως του ανθρώπου. Η πίστη είναι το πρώτο σκαλί της πνευματικής πορείας και το έπόμενο είναι η άγάπη προς τον Θεό. Η ιδέα γίνεται εμπειρία βίωμα και εν συνεχεία τρόπος ζωής και συν-επικοινωνίας με τον διδάσκαλο μας τον Κύριο ημών Ιησού Χριστό. Ός γονείς λοιπόν ο πρωταρχικός σκοπός μας είναι να όδηγήσουμε τα παιδιά μας στην Έκκλησία και να τα βοηθήσουμε να κατανοήσουν την άμέτρητη άγάπη που έχει ο Κύριος ημών Ιησούς Χριστός για αυτά, “Αφετε τα παιδιά και μη κωλύετε αυτά ελθείν προς με, των γαρ τοιούτων εστίν η βασιλεία των ουρανών” (Ματθ. 19,14).

Μέσα λοιπόν εις την Όρθόδοξη Έκκλησία τα παιδιά μας θα διδαχτούν την άγάπη που τρέφει ο Θεός για αυτά και θα μάθουν να άξιολογούν την ζωή πέρα από την φαινομενική άξία της ύλης μεταβαίνοντας στο πραγματικό νόημα της χριστιανικής ύπαρξης που είναι η ζωντανή παρουσία του Θεού πατέρα μέσα στην ζωήν τους. Έτσι λοιπόν στην ένορία μας τα παιδιά μας διαμέσου του Κατηχητικού Σχολείου, της Hope, Joy και Goya, έχουν την εύκαιρία να γνωρίσουν τον Χριστό και τον πλούτο της Όρθοδοξίας μας. Επίσης στο Έλληνικό Σχολείο μαθαίνοντας την Έλληνική γλώσσα, θα κατανοήσουν καλύτερα την συνύπαρξη της Όρθοδοξίας και του Έλληνισμού και θα έκτιμήσουν καλύτερα την μοναδικότητα της Όρθοδόξου Έκκλησίας. Θα περιμένουμε λοιπόν τα παιδιά μας για άλλη μία χρονιά να γεμίσουν τις τάξεις του Κατηχητικού και Έλληνικού Σχολείου και να συμετασχούν σε όλες τίς Ποιμαντικές δραστηριοτητές της ένορίας.

Τελειώνοντας θα ήθελα να εύχαριστήσω το Έκκλησιαστικό Συμβούλιο και όλους τούς έθελοντές για τόν χρόνο, κόπο και έργασία πού προσέφεραν κατά το διάστημα του Έλληνικού μας Φεστιβάλ. Ένα μεγάλο μπράβο στην Φιλόπτωχο Άδελφότητα καί στό Έκκλησιαστικό Συμβούλιο για την ύπέροχη δεξίωση που πρόσφεραν την παραμονή και άνήμερα της έορτής του Ναού μας. Ένα μεγάλο εύχαριστώ σέ όλους πού δώρησαν το φαγητό για τις δεξιώσεις πού έγιναν στις 14 και 15 Αυγούστου.

**ΣΑΣ ΠΕΡΙΜΕΝΩ ΜΕ ΧΑΡΑ!**



# Inspiration



When a church changes their values to match current culture, they are no longer following the Bible, they are following the lost.

The church was not meant to entertain people. IT exists to train disciples, to glorify God and reach the lost.

When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, you don't throw it away, you change the batteries. When a person messes up and finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not, you help them change their batteries! Some need AA—Attention and affection. Some need AAA—Attention, affection, and acceptance. Some need C—compassion. Some need D—Direction. And if they still don't seem to shine.. simply sit with them quietly and share your light.

Did you know? No one can destroy iron, but its own rust can. Likewise, no one can destroy a person, but his own mindset can.

For a pastor to fulfill the Lord's command to feed God's flock, the sheep must show up during feeding times.

If a parish has no awareness and consciousness of being sent by God, to speak His words, to do His work, and to accomplish His will in this world, it is not an Orthodox parish. A<sup>R</sup>R. Thomas Hopko

Being a lukewarm Christian is so dangerous because you blend in with everybody, and impact nobody.

Worry is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change. Prayer is a conversation you have with God about things He can change.

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient it's important to remember why church attendance matters so much. You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have a community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa. Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. The church needs you. And you need the church.

It's hard to hear God's voice when you've already decided what you want Him to say.



## Letter from the President



Hello Kimisis Family,

It is my pleasure and honor on behalf of the Parish Council to welcome you to the start of our 2023-2024 ecclesiastical year! We pray this summer has given you time to rest and have extra time with family as our children begin their school year.

Kimisis has welcomed new families and beautiful babies into our community over the past few months and are excited to be a part of their lives going forward. We have another busy year ahead planned for the children with Sunday School, Greek School, Joy and Hope, GOYA, Greek Folklore Dancing, and Volleyball & Basketball Teams. Girl Scouts and Maids of Athena are also back in our community! We hope your child will create lifelong Greek friendships within our faith. To participate in any of our ministries, registration will begin on Sundays, September 10<sup>th</sup> thru September 24<sup>th</sup> following church services. Most registrations can also be completed online. Please do not hesitate to contact the corresponding director, the office, or myself with any questions.

The 2023 Bayshore Greek Festival was a great success because of our adhesive community, volunteers, generous donors, sponsors, and our festival committee! Thank you to all who participated! We are so very blessed to have you in our Kimisis Family.

Celebrating Panagia this summer was a heartfelt two days beginning with the Great Hierarchical Vespers on August 14<sup>th</sup> led by His Very Reverend Archimandrite Christoforos Oikonomidis and 14 other Reverend Priests followed by a copious fasting reception hosted by our amazing Philotochos Society. The Feast Day of our Lady Theotokou on August 15<sup>th</sup> was well attended, and everyone enjoyed our plentiful luncheon. The flowers on the Epitaphio were beautiful as usual and have our donors and volunteers to thank! Xronia Polla to Father Panagiotis and to everyone.

Please mark your calendars to join the Parish Council on:

November 4<sup>th</sup>: our second Annual Dance Night in our Community Center

November 5<sup>th</sup>: Stewardship Sunday, lunch will be served

November 19<sup>th</sup>: our bi-annual General Assembly Meeting following church services

Thank you once again to everyone who has helped preserve and continue to assist in improving our sacred Kimisis community. We are looking forward to another wonderful year together and are grateful for our bountiful blessings.

Respectfully,

Despina "Debbie" Mattos  
President, Kimisis Parish Council

# Parish Council



## KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΚΟΙΜΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ  
REVEREND PROTOPRESBYTER PANAGIOTIS LEKKAS  
PRESIDING PRIEST

### PARISH COUNCIL 2023

#### The Rev'd Protopresbyter Panayiotis Lekkas

President: Debbie Mattos

1<sup>st</sup>. Vice-President: Nick Englis

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: Paul Callamaras Jr.

Secretary: Despina Small

Treasurer: Luke Loucopoulos

Assitant Treasurer: Angelo Del Pizzo

#### Council Members:

Matthew Bistrimovich

Steve Bontales

Christina Coccaro

Harry Dounis

Amjad Gammoh

Edmund Haliotis

Krissa Hutin

Peter Kollydas

Kostas Koufidis

Rosanna Panagakos

Nikie Sourlis

Angie Tsirkas



# Philoptochos



After closing out the summer quarter with a meaningful Panagia event that brought neighboring priests and parishes together, the Ladies Philoptochos chapter is looking forward to a fall quarter full of philanthropic events with leading initiatives:

- **Operation Classroom**
- **St. Basit & St Benedict's partnerships**

The team is also hosting community - centric events:

- **Coffee Hours and Meet & Greet: September 24, October 8**
- **Tour of St. Nicholas Shrine – October 6**
- **Fall Harvest Luncheon – October 15**

We welcome all of you to join!



# Sunday School



## WELCOME TO KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU SUNDAY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2023



We are looking forward to a great year in Sunday School with your children and our wonderful teachers starting on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our Sunday School welcomes children of all ages from Pre-K to High School. One of the places where children learn about our Greek Orthodox faith from a group of dedicated individuals who look forward to seeing them each week. The teachers use many resources including our church, Father Panagiotis' guidance, and interactive tools all in the effort to bring our religion to life.

This year we would like to invite parent participation in our classrooms.

Please reach out to your child's teacher to volunteer to be a reader for a day or to help with a craft in lower grades. Older students will benefit from sharing of Greek traditions and personal stories of familial Greek histories. We look forward to sharing our classroom resources with you and keeping the lines of communication open. Parents and grandparents are a valuable asset to our students and look forward to having you join in our classroom.

- Divine Liturgy begins at 9:30AM and we ask that the children sit in the pews on the left side which allows them to listen to the Holy Gospel reading, receive Holy Communion and then attend Sunday School.
- Father will attempt to offer communion to the children first, so they may get to their respective classes quicker. \*\*Please remind your children to state their name clearly so Father Panagiotis can repeat it while giving them the sacrament of Holy Communion. After receiving they should do their cross.
- Your child's grade/class is the same as their grade/class in public/private school. Registration fees are \$30.00 per student. Registration begins in September and runs thru October.
- Graduation certificates will be given to all students who have attended Sunday School most of the year. If your child is absent and has attended another parish for liturgy or another religious ceremony, please let their teacher know.
- We kindly ask that you please send in a box of non-perishable cookie (no peanut products please) that can be brought to class with your child. This contribution makes our Church Coffee Hour possible. Thank you!

Thank you for your dedication to our program since we strive to support what you as parents teach your children. Together we will help them grow into responsible young adults with their Greek Orthodox faith to help guide them through life.

We look forward to a wonderful year with your children.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to see any of the following directors:

Nikie Sourlis (908) 610-4052 [gsourlis@msn.com](mailto:gsourlis@msn.com), Joyce Magriples (732) 772-0068  
Anna Zamora (908) 715-1722, Nausica Orthodoxou (917) 733-7278 [nlorthodoxou@gmail.com](mailto:nlorthodoxou@gmail.com)



# Sunday School



Dear Parents:

The Early Church Fathers, like St. Basil, St. Gregory and St. John Chrysostom, believed that the purpose of education should be to develop the human being into a person possessing faith with a core of values and a persistent effort to apply them in everyday life until the icon of Christ is formed in him/her. Likewise, the classic Hellenic Fathers like Plato, Aristotle, Solon and Socrates, agreed that the educated person has a good character, is thoughtful and inquisitive. They spoke of the educated person as a person of self-control (sophron), justice (dikaio), goodness (agathos), and piety (euseves aner).

They believed that the ultimate purpose of education was to form or make what they referred to as "the good and beautiful person" (kalos k'agathos anthropos). Both the Holy Church Fathers and the Hellenic Fathers understood that it was only by contemplation of the beautiful and the good that a person could develop into a beautiful and good person. They also agreed that this contemplation and effort to apply it, not only educates the soul but it also shapes the inner person to the ideals of excellence. It was this philosophy, these educational ideals, which gave impetus to the manifold achievements of our ancient Greek culture, effected great social reforms during one of the most critical times in the history of Western Civilization, and enabled Orthodox Christianity to grow and flourish.

This leads us to conclude that we too should strive to keep before us things of beauty, goodness, and excellence, such as will inspire us to truth, wisdom, and love of God. We also conclude that we should instill in our children the same traditions of the Orthodox Christian Faith and Hellenic Classical wisdom.

Through Youth Ministry at Kimisis Church, we seek to provide our youth with the knowledge of the will of God, an understanding of how to live by faith and to do good, and lead them to what can be fashioned usefully by the soul, mind and heart throughout their lives.

## **OUR VISION:**

Kimisis's Sunday School and Youth Ministry Program educates our children by providing a rich religious education's curriculum, and offers activities based in Greek Orthodox Christian values, while centering on a love of Christ, service to His Church, respect for all people and outreach to those in need. Accordingly, we have set the following goals:

- To honor God and educate children in the faith.
- To guide children in development of a spiritual maturity as evidenced by increased sacramental life.
- To provide a safe and loving environment.

# Sunday School



- To act as an extension of the parental role in the religious education of the child.
- To draw families more fully into the life of the Church.
- To further form character in our youth so they will become productive and good members of our community.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES AT KIMISIS CHURCH

**Acolytes** assist the clergy and receive keen insight into the beauty and importance the Divine Liturgy can have in their lives.

**Choir** offers all members the opportunity to sing praises to the Lord, as a family filled with love and joy.

**Sunday School** is held for children from pre-school through post high school ages, thus introducing Christian fellowship as well as instructions in their faith. Adults are welcome to join their children's class.

**HOPE** (Hellenic Orthodox Primary Enrichment): An early introduction to Orthodox fellowship for children in kindergarten through second grades.

**JOY** (Junior Orthodox Youth): Open for all children in the third to sixth grades. Its members continue to interact through worship, service, and fellowship opportunities.

**GOYA** (Greek Orthodox Youth of America): Its members, defined as 7- 12th graders, participate in various activities on the local, regional and Metropolis levels. Discussion groups, retreats, service projects and athletics are examples of the ways teenagers are encouraged to become involved in parish life.

**YAL** (Young Adult League): Offers young adults of post high school through 25 years of age opportunities for education and growth in the Church.

**HELLENIC SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)**: Help support the efforts of this group as they endeavor to make our children's Greek School years memorable.

Thank you very much for Supporting our Church by encouraging your children to participate in the Youth Ministries of our Church.

I am waiting to see you.

*Fr. Panagiotis*

### REGISTRATION SUNDAYS:

September 10, 17 & 24

October – Sunday School will continue registration





# Greek School



## GREEK SCHOOL 2023-2024



Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! The Greek School began the year with a blessing by Reverend Protopresbyter Panagiotis Lekkas on September 12th. It was such a beautiful day seeing our students' bright smiles ready to learn. The afternoon was followed by a PTO Meet and Greet. We're really looking forward to a great year!

The mission of the Greek School is to provide our children a high quality education while at the same time preserving our Greek heritage. Our students are placed in proficiency levels, so this way educators can provide instruction that is tailored to the needs and abilities of each level. This ensures that students feel confident in their own success. The school runs from 5-7pm on Tuesdays for PreK- Level 3 and Wednesdays for Level 4 and above.

We are looking forward to our OXI Day celebration on Sunday, October 29th that will take place after church services. Students will sing and recite poetry as they take in the significance of this important event in Greek history. On this day, our PTO will also run a fundraiser. Money raised is used for enriching our program with supplies, books, tech etc.

We have amazing teachers, involved parents and a wonderful PTO board ready to help with whatever we need. I encourage your child to sign-up for Greek School, as it is a challenging but rewarding endeavor. You may contact me at any time! -Evangelia Dounis, Greek School Director

Contact Info: Director, Evangelia Dounis- Liadounis@gmail.com

PTO President, Kara Rexinis- greekschoolptokimisis@gmail.com



# Greek School PTO



Kimisis Tis Theotokou  
20 Hillcrest Road  
Holmdel, NJ 07743  
GREEK SCHOOL PTO

[GreekSchoolPTOkimisis@gmail.com](mailto:GreekSchoolPTOkimisis@gmail.com)

## Welcome to our Greek School Community 2023-2024 School

Our goal at Greek School PTO is to work closely together with our church & Greek School administrators to provide a fun & memorable experience here at the Kimissis Community.

### Meet our executive board:

President - Kara Reginis

Vice President - Helen Koufidis

Treasurer- Stephanie Fotinos

Secretary - Georgia Aravatinos

Corresponding Secretary - Catie Haliyiannis

PTO board and parents meet once a month to discuss and plan our fundraising events, school supplies needed, school/class trips, student parties, and other school based fundraising events. This is also a good opportunity to meet the other parents make new connections and enjoy the PTO experience. Refreshments are served. Dates to be announced and email reminders will be sent.

## Our Annual Events 2023 - 2024

Meet & Greet 9/12

Oxi Day 10/29

Harvest Bake Sale 11/19

Christmas Breakfast 12/3

Apokriatiko Glendi TBD

Greek Independence day Coffee Hour 3/24

Easter Bread Sales Tsourekia 4/28

Greek Independence Day Parade TBD

End of school year Graduation Party 5/30

Volunteer support from our parents and our community is vital to the success of our community and events. There are many moving parts to these events and they cannot be successful without the help of our parents. Please consider joining us, we need all your support and your time volunteering, in order to keep our community thriving.

Membership is \$20 per family. Click the QR code to make payment. All funds go directly to Greek school PTO for purposes of Greek school only.

If you have any questions please email us at

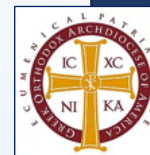
[GreekSchoolPTOkimisis@gmail.com](mailto:GreekSchoolPTOkimisis@gmail.com) or simply find one of our Board

members and at any time and we'd be happy to assist!





# Kimisis Dancers



## Kimisis Dancers - Fall of 2023

The year of Kimisis Greek Dance is starting off with many exciting events over the next couple of months! First, our GOYA Dancers have been invited to perform at Roseland's Greek Festival on Friday September 22 at Ss. Nicholas, Constantine, and Helen Greek Church. We hope to have a good showing to support our youth as they proudly represent Kimisis at this event. In addition, our Kimisis Youth Dancers will be performing at Philoptochos' Harvest Luncheon on Sunday October 15. Later in the year, our dancers will be performing at events such as FDF in Maryland, Sights and Sounds at Westfield, the Apokriatiko Glendi hosted by our Greek School PTO, and, of course, the Kimisis Greek Festival.

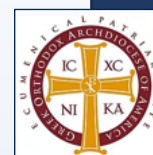
We're lucky to have so many opportunities to practice our traditions for both the Kimisis community and other Greek Orthodox communities in New Jersey and the surrounding states. The number of Kimisis Youth Dancers and GOYA Dancers will hopefully continue to grow in the coming years, fostering the growth of a community that is filled with dancers who proudly wish to perpetuate their Hellenic heritage.

If your child is interested in becoming a dancer, please email Nicholas Fourniadis ([nfourniadis@gmail.com](mailto:nfourniadis@gmail.com)) for dancers 7 and up. If your child is between the ages of 4-6, you can email Catie Haliyiannis ([catiehal@gmail.com](mailto:catiehal@gmail.com)).





# Maid of Athena



As September emerges at full speed ahead, the sisters of Maids of Athena chapter Theodora #282 are taking advantage of this fresh start to the year. Together, we've brainstormed, organized, and revised our plans and ideas that will bring us to the very end of 2023. For the remainder of this month, the chapter president, Lia Belitsis, will be attending the National Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. After that, we've arranged an initiation where we will be welcoming new members into our group. The final day of September, we will be hosting a Bingo Night Fundraiser right in the Church's gym. This night will be filled with, pizza, prizes, and lots of fun. For some sister bonding time, we have a Halloween costume party scheduled, exclusively for our chapter members. By the end of November, we plan on having completed a total of three fundraisers within the Church.

These fundraisers will help us raise money to complete our beautification project in the Spring of 2024. We'll be transforming the garden outside the Church for the entire community to enjoy. With the help of parishioners and other ministries, we'll add charm to this space with seating, lights, flowers, and more.

In the past year or so that our chapter has been established, we've raised money for the Ahepa Service Dogs for Warriors, held a successful basket fundraiser, managed booths at the festival, hosted a children's movie night, and more. We can't wait to see all that will be accomplished within the upcoming year.





## Girl Scout Troop 337



Kimisis Girl Scout Troop 337 is welcoming all Girls entering Kindergarten and First Grade this school year. Please see our registration table on Sunday 9/17 and 9/24, or register online at <https://gsfun.org/Troop> - 60337. Our first meeting will be held in the all purpose room on 9/15 from 4:30pm-6:00pm. Girls will discuss badges, outings, community service and learn the Girl Scout Promise. Girls will have the opportunity to begin working on the St. George Religious Recognition Award. Kimisis Girl Scout Troop 337 was founded in 1994, helping hundreds of Girls become confident adults. For more information contact [cheryl.bontales@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.bontales@gmail.com)





# GOYA



## GOYA

Registration begins on September 10, as GOYA welcomes previous, as well as new members, and then kick off our year at the "Welcome Back Social" on September 21.

We are attending the Holy Cross Celebration in Ocean Grove on September 24.

Best of luck to our divers:

**Aristea Ciecierski, Christos Churney, Emmanuel Xenakis and Christina Xenakis!**

Kimisis is honored to have **Alana Pytel** as our

Miss GOYA representative on October 8.

Good luck Alana!



We look forward to a successful YOUTH SUNDAY in November . Please come support our Kimisis Youth!

In June, Kimisis GOYA ended the year with a fun-filled trip to Jenkinson's boardwalk! Lots of fun was had by all, as we wished our Senior GOYANs farewell





## Kimisis Playgroup



The Kimisis Playgroup is open to children from ages 0-4. Meetings will include structured activities, storytime, singing, dancing and unstructured playtimes. Children of all abilities are welcome, and must have a parent, grandparent or other caregiver with them at all times. Older siblings are welcome to join in on the fun as well.

Our hopes are that our precious children can form bonds with their peers, setting a foundation for lifelong friendships. Additionally, meetings give our children the opportunity to become more familiar and comfortable inside church walls and on church grounds.

Parents and caregivers are also given an outlet to socialize with other parents and caregivers caring for children of the same age.

Please e-mail

Vivian Silverman at [vsilverman95@gmail.com](mailto:vsilverman95@gmail.com)  
with any questions or if you are interested in joining.

# AHEPA Chapter 517



## AHEPA CHAPTER 517

We're back from our summer hiatus!

Join now and become a member of this great organization.

Hellenism

Education

Philanthropy

Brotherhood

Some upcoming events:

- Clay Shooting Outing (October 2023)
- Texas Hold'Em Tournament (TBD)
- Ronald McDonald House (November 2023)
- Christmas Dinner (December 2023)
- Superbowl (February 2024)
- Cigar Night (May 2024)

Become a member to find out more, meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month.

Email Paul Zafiriou at [paul@pharosent.com](mailto:paul@pharosent.com) to inquire about membership.



*Advertise Here*

## **Have a business and want to advertise?**

For information on how to place an ad  
please reach out to:  
Katina Hutin

c/o Kimisis tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church  
20 Hillcrest Road  
Holmdel, New Jersey 07733

[info@kimisis.com](mailto:info@kimisis.com)

732-739-1515

Call Tuesday-Thursday to speak to Katina directly. Come to the office on Sunday after church to speak to someone.  
Email or call. We are happy to help get your information to the parish.

**KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**20 HILLCREST ROAD**  
**HOLMDEL NEW JERSEY 07733**

