

Kimisis

Close-Up



VOLUME 23, ISSUE 3

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
HOLMDEL, NJ

APRIL 2013

PRESIDING PRIEST: FATHER GEORGE H. DOUNELIS

Orthros: 9:00AM
Divine Liturgy: 10:00AM

Special Needs Liturgy
10:30AM
1st Saturday of the Month

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This article originally appeared in the March 2000 edition of the Orthodox Observer

Lent is not for everybody. It is only for faithful Christians who are already doing their best to live a disciplined and Christ-centered life. During Lent, the faithful have the opportunity to practice more intensively those virtues and spiritual exercises which they regularly practice throughout the year.

What are some of those virtues and practices?

Worship

During Lent, the faithful are encouraged to attend various special services in addition to regular Sunday worship.

Prayer

Personal and private prayer at home remains the same, but there is much more prayer through the special Lenten services.

Fasting

What is our regular practice of fasting? How much more can we and do we choose to fast during Lent? How do we understand fasting?

Charity

In what ways do we now contribute to charity? Are we wise and faithful in how we spend our money? Do we adequately support the needs and ministries of our Church? How is it true that "charity begins at home?" How we spend our money says so much about our values (or lack of values) and our true priorities in life.

Spiritual Nourishment

So many "faithful Christians" are seriously under-nourished, if not starving, because they do not adequately feed their souls. What we eat and drink can give us life and health, or it can poison and kill us. In addition to worship and prayer, we need to turn off the TV - make time - study more, especially during Lent.

Repentance and Confession

As often as necessary, we should repent of our sins, return to God in confession, and thus be restored in the grace and fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Lent is an excellent special opportunity to take time, evaluate our moral and spiritual condition, and follow this up with a confession with our Spiritual Father. This will greatly contribute to our spiritual health and stability.

Good Works

This includes all of the above and much more. Our many daily obligations are also "good works": doing our jobs conscientiously; taking care of our homes and families; resisting temptations of every form; being faithful to our spouses; guiding our children in the Christian way; being kind to one another, etc. etc. During Lent, and always, let us remember to "reach out and touch someone" with the "healing love of Jesus."

Summary

Whether you are focusing on Lent or any other special time of the year, don't lose sight of "the whole picture." Your entire life belongs to God. All of your time, your money, your energy, your body, your soul, your desires, your plans, your everything, should be "in Christ." Only in Him can you be saved, healed, sanctified, and glorified.

Church and Community Organization Leaders

Fr. George Dounelis-Protopresbyter

PARISH COUNCIL

President : Dimitri Geaneas
Vice President : Emanuel Tsarnas
Secretary: Paul Callamaras Jr.
Treasurer: Thomas Protentis
Asst. Treasurer: James Thompson

Members:
Matthew Bistrimovich
Chris Churney
Bessie Drogaris
Stavros Fotinos
James Marinos
Argyrios Milonas
Basil Parlamis
Parry Peters
Soteris Petrou
Costa Phillipou
Nikie Sourlis
Elias Tsigounis
Roula Tsoukaris

ORGANIZATIONS

A.H.E.P.A.:	Robert Fourniadis
Acolyte Coordinator:	Emanuel Tsarnas
Art Program:	Susan Englis
Ballroom Dancing:	Sophie Idromenos
Bible Study:	Roula Merianos
Boy Scouts / Cub Scouts:	James Marinos/Nick Englis
Choir:	Marie Devino
Coffee Hour :	Harriet & Fred Callis
Community Center Rental:	Matt Bistrimovich, Emanuel Tsarnas
Festival:	Dimitri Geaneas
Girl Scouts:	Cheryl Bontales
G.O.Y.A./Youth Advisors:	Fr. George Dounelis, Basil Kotsis, Lucy Milonas, Theo Papasavas, Emanuel Tsarnas
Greek School:	Katina Hutin
Greek School PTO:	Katherine Gilbride
KCU Editor:	Cleo Bartos
KCU Ads:	Frieda Mookas
Kimisis Dancers:	Aphro Bucco
Men's Basketball:	Peter Kolydas
Philoptochos:	Josephine Tsarnas
Prime Timers:	Connie Mellas
Stewardship:	Helen Antholis, Frieda Mookas, Josephine Tsarnas
Sunday Bulletin:	Amalia Vapheas
Sunday School:	Nikie Sourlis
Tree of Life:	George Karatzia
Ways & Means:	George Karatzia
Website:	Dimitri Orfanitopoulos
Welcoming Committee	Helen Antholis, Frieda Mookas, Josephine Tsarnas , Roula Tsoukaris



From Father George

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and well wishes, Get Well cards, phone calls, fruit baskets, plants and flowers.

I appreciate all of your prayers for my good health.



Update by Parish Council President, Dimitris Geaneas

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Dimitris Geaneas, President

Dear Family of Kimisis Tis Theotokou,

I hope our Kimisis Close-Up finds you and your family well. Especially during this time of Lent, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Chanters, our Choir and our Altar Boys for their perpetual devotion to our Church. They are integral components of our Church, and they maximize the impact of the holy liturgy for our parishioners. They have our gratitude for their unselfish service.



To our G.O.Y.A.

CONGRATULATIONS to our G.O.Y.A., the Champions of this year's Sights & Sounds. How gratifying it is to see our Youth work as a Team with a common goal! By constantly rehearsing, working hard, persevering and doing their best, they were able to enjoy the fruition of their dream.

I will also like to thank the four Youth Directors, Basil Kotsis, Lucy Milonas, Theo Papasavas and Emanuel Tsarnas for their time and effort into orchestrating the program. They were instrumental in this achievement.

In addition, we also recognize and are indebted to Linda Antonakakis and Andrea Protentis for the success of the G.O.Y.A. Rehearsal Luncheon.

Greek Independence Day Parade

The Greek Independence Day Parade in NYC has been scheduled for April 7th. Our Community has abstained from participating in this event for the past several years. The time has come to be part of it again, and to re-ignite pride in our Heritage. Free transportation will be available to all participants/marchers courtesy of our A.H.E.P.A. Chapter #517. Please contact Mary Ellen Cestone at 732-263-1226 to reserve a seat on the bus. Zhtw h Ellas kai h Kypros!

Operations

The Parish Council needs your help to raise funds to support the following capital expenses in the Community Center:

1. New Gutters-Approximate cost \$9,000.
2. Curtains for the Stage. This will allow our Sunday School to conduct classes-Cost to be Determined. Please contact Nikie Sourlis, our Sunday School Director, for details.

Since my last monthly message, I would like to acknowledge Nick Plakoudas for repairing the flashing on the fascia.

Donations towards these projects are tax deductible.

Stewardship

I will also kindly ask you, if you have not already pledged for 2013, to please join our list of Stewards by contacting Helen Antholis, or our Church secretary Frieda Mookas. Stewardship Commitment Forms are also available in the Vestibule.

Please remember "We are each of us Angels with only one wing. And we can only fly by embracing each other."

Fr. George

Fr. George is at home re-cooperating. As always, he is in our thoughts and prayers. May God grant him the strength to recover soon. In the interim, we are blessed to have Fr. Daskalakis who will be with us through Easter.

Nasthe panta kala/Me agapi, Dimitris Geaneas



Stewardship Update

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

For those who cannot access the Archdiocese website (www.goarch.org), below is a copy of its first page.

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church. The parish encourages all who accept the Orthodox Faith to become practicing Stewards. Each year the Steward is expected to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment of time, talent, and treasure to support the Parish and her Ministries, which in turn support the National Ministries of our Archdiocese, Metropolises, and institutions.

Effective stewardship ministry is not a single event or project. Rather, it is going out to our people wherever they are in their walk with Christ, listening to their concerns, helping them to realize their importance as branches of the True Vine and encouraging them to offer their gifts in His service. We use various resources to support our efforts, but unless we meet with our people personally, sincerely listen to their ideas and concerns, and share a vision for the future of the parish, our efforts will not reach their full potential.

In *Oriented Leadership*, their book on Orthodox Christian leadership, Williams and McKibben define stewardship as the call of the faithful to share willingly the gifts that God has bestowed on them, including sharing these gifts for God's work. Stewardship is devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as a Parish, as a Metropolis, as a National Church, and as the Church Universal. Stewardship is our active commitment to use ALL our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgement of Christ's redeeming love.

Stewardship is caring for the needs of others. Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us. Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I believe..." as proof of that belief. - Williams and McKibben in *Oriented Leadership*

In the words of Fr. William Chiganos of Holy Apostles Church in Westchester, Illinois, "...people don't give to need; they give to vision.... Church people don't stretch their giving because of need to meet the budget; they give more because they are able to see a vision of people being reached and God's purposes being accomplished in the life of the church and its ministry." Parishes with successful Orthodox Christian Stewardship Programs have found that incredible support is unleashed from Stewards who unselfishly and joyfully offer their time, talent and treasures, which in turn enhances the spirituality and ministry of the local parish.

Please demonstrate your commitment by offering your time, talent and treasure by completing a Stewardship form for 2013

If you would like to receive weekly Offering Envelopes, please indicate that on the form. If you would like a tax letter for your 2012 donation, please contact me at helenantholis@mac.com

If you receive the Offering envelopes and don't use them, contact me to have your name removed from our list or call Frieda Mookas at 732-739-1515.

Thank you for your support.



Welcome to our newest stewards!

Nikolaos & Marina Ikonomidis

Serafim & Ria Stamogiorgos

Tony Karatzia

Stamatios & Helen Suravlas

Mihali & Maria Qirici

John & Sophia Maggiore

Christopher Chavan

Nicholas & Wendy Stantzios

Paula Pentogenis

George & Anna Chatzopoulos

Constantine & Maria Kakadelis

Sameh & Maria George

Georgianne Spanellis

Victoria Tampasis

George Perentesis

Michael & Sevasti Tay

John & Olga Papagiannis

Maria Chartoff

Christian & Alina Fotache

Anita Protonentis

Madeline Slater

Tim & Alexis Daugherty

Keith & Eleni Ewing

Basil & Karolyn Papatrefon

Spencer & Cathryn Hondros

Anthony & Jennifer Embrossi

Dionisios & Gloria Raftopoulos

Joshua & Ellen Chalmers

Michael & Domna Ciecierski

Joseph & Erica Xenakis

Fotini Barberopoulos

Peter & Yvonne Ladas

Michael & Denise Urizzo

Anastasios & Lisa Asimopoulos

Kimisis By-Laws

Excerpt about Stewardship approved
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Parishioners are to subscribe and maintain to the Stewardship Program, which allocated the financial obligation of the community to the members, in accordance with each family's ability to pay, rather than on a fixed equal annual rate. A Parishioner is in good standing if he/she has made his/her pledge to the Parish on or before March 31 of each calendar year, has made 75% of his/her pledged payments on or before October 31 of each calendar year and has paid his Stewardship pledge in full on or before December 31 of each calendar year. The priest determines whether the Parishioners are in financial good standing as specified in Article 18, Sections 1 through 4 of the UPRs. Annual Financial Obligations should be maintained by the members continuously and uninterrupted. Members who wish to terminate their Parish membership, should so inform the Priest or the Stewardship chairperson in writing.

Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church
20 Hillcrest Road - PO Box 367, Holmdel NJ 07733-0367

2013 Christian Stewardship Annual Commitment Card
ONGOING STEWARDS

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's
work at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church:

Suggested annual donation – check one:

* \$7500

* \$5000

* \$3000

* \$1500

* \$720 suggested minimum for Families (less than \$2/day)

* \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles

* Other _____

To be donated: * Weekly * Monthly * Quarterly * Annually

I would like Offering Envelopes mailed to my home: Yes ____ No ____

Last Name _____ Phone () _____

First Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Please provide updated current information since your previous commitment form.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

EMAIL _____

Profession _____ Profession _____

Cell/Work # _____ Cell/Work # _____

Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church
20 Hillcrest Road - PO Box 367, Holmdel NJ 07733-0367

2013 Christian Stewardship Annual Commitment Card - **NEW STEWARDS**

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work.

Suggested annual donation – check/circle one:

* \$7500 * \$5000 * \$3000 * \$1500

* \$720 suggested minimum for Families (less than \$2/day)

* \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles

* Other _____

To be donated: * Weekly * Monthly * Quarterly * Annually

I would like Offering Envelopes mailed to my home: Yes _____ No _____

Last Name _____

Phone () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

EMAIL _____

First Name _____ Spouse _____

Religion _____ Religion _____

Profession _____ Profession _____

Work/Cell _____ Work/Cell _____

Were you married in the Greek Orthodox Church? YES / NO

If YES, list **DATE and NAME** of Church _____

Children's Names	Age	Religion	Birthdate



Philoptochos Perspective

By Josephine Michael Tsarnas, President,

JMTsarnas@gmail.com

"When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were afraid. ⁶But he said to them, 'Do not be afraid; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid Him.'"--Mark 16: 1-6

I greet you with this glorious passage because it speaks to us in a simple way. The faithful women went very early in the morning on the day of the Resurrection because they understood their sacred duty to anoint the precious body of Jesus. They went to the tomb knowing they may be arrested and even mocked and not fully sure how they would move the huge stone that was placed as a seal to the tomb of Jesus. As believers we must remember that none of this deterred these women because they were on a mission of

faith and love.

The women's dilemma of who would move the stone away from the tomb was no longer a concern because miraculously "the stone had already been rolled back." Seeing the passage cleared, they entered the tomb to anoint the precious body of our Lord. Instead of seeing the body of the crucified Jesus, they were greeted by a holy angel and were the first to hear the words "He has been raised, He is not here."

It is so important for us to enter into the mystery of the Resurrection of Christ as did the myrrh bearing women, the first to discover the Resurrection. An important aspect of this mystery is that the Lord Himself moved the stone allowing the women access to the tomb to hear the words of the Resurrection. The work was already done by the Lord. All we have to do is approach Him and make the sincere effort to serve Him. It is the message of love.

This is the model for our lives as Philoptochos servants, as mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, grandmothers and godmothers, to approach our sacred role as women of faith. The obstacles and the huge stones that at times stand in our way throughout our life. He will have already moved them even before we encounter them. We must offer what the holy women offered; love and the will to serve Him. As we confront the difficult moments in our lives and observe the huge

stones that impede our progress, remember all will be cleared as it has been for centuries.

This Pascha let us find strength to meet all challenges. Let us go forward serving our families, all those in need and our Church with the courage of these women, always knowing that the Lord has cleared the way before us. Together, let us rejoice in the Resurrection and in your calling to go forward embrace each other and love one another.

Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen! Me Agape~



KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU 2013 Festival June 6 - June 9

Dear Kimisis Tis Theotokou Family Members,

Our next Church Festival is less than 3 months away. As mentioned many times before, our Panayia's Festival cannot be successful without **your** enthusiastic participation, generous contributions and hard work before and during the Festival. **You** are the heart and arms that drive this Festival, and you always come through for our Church and Community. May Panayia (Our Virgin Mary) bless all of us and be with us during this festive and fellowship event.

Regarding the timing of our Festival, please make a note of the following important dates as shown below, and mark your Calendars, accordingly. Thank you!

2013 Festival Dates: June 6 through June 9

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 pm

Festival Set-Up: June 5 (Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 9 pm)

Festival Knock-Down: June 9 (Sunday from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm)

2013 Pre-Festival Meetings

April 2, Tuesday
April 23, Tuesday
April 30, Tuesday
May 14, Tuesday
May 21, Tuesday
May 28, Tuesday

Time: 8 pm to 9:30 pm

Place: Church-Library

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

By Nikie Sourlis, Joyce Magriples, Nausica Orthodoxou, Anna Zamora,

We were so happy so many of you joined us on March 10th as we celebrated Godparent's Sunday. The children's excitement was contagious only to be topped by the fact that our beloved Father George Dounelis joined us that day. We all felt doubly blessed. Father George Daskalakis conducted the service beautifully with reconfirming the Godparent's dedication to Christ and to their Godchild right before they all received communion. Juliana Magriples and Christina Orthodoxou started out the day by handing out a rose, program and commemorative bookmark for all who attended. While Alexis Zamora and Melina Magriples helped out with kitchen prep duty. All who came said they really enjoyed the extended coffee hour/luncheon that was generously donated by our Sunday School Directors along with the proceeds from all our fundraisers.

We look forward to having all of you join us next year with your Godchildren to celebrate this special day. Thanks to everyone who stayed and helped clean up from children, moms and dads. Big Thanks cause we couldn't do it all without you.

A special thank you to the Zamora, Magriples and Sourlis Families for their days of prep, shopping and setting up and for their generous donations every year that makes this *an affair to remember*.

As we go into the most holiest of seasons we ask that you keep bringing your beautiful children to church and Sunday School so that they can learn and prepare for Holy Easter.

Important dates to remember:

March 24, 2013 - Sunday of Orthodoxy - Our 2nd, 4th, 7th and 8th grades will participate with the Icon Procession carrying the icons they make in class.

April 7, 2013 - Sunday of the Holy Cross - Our K, 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th grades will participate with the Cross Procession carrying crosses made in with their classes.

April 27, 2013 - Saturday of Lazarus - A Didactic Liturgy Service/Communion Breakfast Attend Church and help make palm Crosses

April 28, 2013 - Palm Sunday No Classes - Family Worship

May 5, 2013 - Great and Holy Pascha - No Classes - Family Worship

May 12, 2013 - Mother's Day - No Classes - Family Worship

May 19, 2013 - Teacher Recognition Day - Last day of Sunday School

May 26, 2013 - No Classes - Family Worship - Memorial Day

June 2, 2013 - Graduation Day!



Holmdel Troop 531 Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

By Nausica Orthodoxou

March's highlight this year was our Blue and Gold Dinner. This day is set aside to recognize the achievements of the troop.

Our troop was very accomplished starting out with Gregory Haralampoudis being awarded all 20 Webelos activity awards along with various belt loops and compass point awards. Happy Papasavas is the only other Webelo since the pack and troop inception to have completed this feat. Gregory was also awarded his *Arrow of light*. Typically not completed until year-end. In his own words Leader Leigh Robbins, "every once in a while you get a special boy, someone who is determined to accomplish as much as he can, not satisfied with the minimum to advance, with Gregory, the sky's been the limit. I think he will be an excellent addition to troop 531 and definitely a good boy scout". So to say he made his parents, leader and the troop are proud is an understatement.

Evan Kolafas received, aquanaut, scholar, & outdoorsman, TJ Shields and John Kokkinakos received citizen activity badge and belt loop and Apostolos Maroulis received artist and communicator.

A picture is worth a thousand words and as you can see the boys baked cakes with their dads in honor of our theme this year "Wild West." There were cowboy boots, teepees, sheriff stars and cactus all featured this year. Everyone was a winner that night from the boys, to their dads to all of us who got to eat cake for dessert.

We can't thank Mr. Peters enough for all the cooking he did that day with Mrs. Bartos as his trusted assistant. Also, Mrs. Englis who made great pulled pork that everyone polished off. A great meal, good singing and always a great time especially when the parents took to the stage and entertained all of us with their pancake tossing skills.

Big thanks to Mr. Englis who orchestrates our Blue & Gold each year and puts his heart and soul into it. To all our leaders and parents that helped that day and each week make our scouts experience a rewarding one.

Thank you,
Xristos Anesti and Happy Easter.



Girl Scouts

by Mary Ellen Cestone and Cheryl Bontales



Girls of all levels enjoyed a day of fitness, fun and friendship in the community center where they sharpened their teamwork skill as they went around the gym and tried many different sports.

Spring Camping

Troop 337 is planning their annual spring encampment at Camp Sacajawea. The girls will hike trails, build campfires, cook outdoors, pitch tents, take on a challenge course, go boating and advance on their outdoor skills, all while having fun and earning badges. If you've got a favorite campfire recipe or song, share it with us, and we'll use it at camp this year. Last year the girls made chicken souvlakia and banana boats stuffed with chocolate and marshmallows on an open fire.

Our Ambassadors are planning their Gold Award where they will be making some improvements to the Community Center kitchen. After hurricane Sandy, they learned that they could have utilized the church and community center as a means of helping those who were displaced and hungry, but needed proper permits and specific kitchen requirements in order to be an aid station. With that in mind, they are moving forward to get this accomplished. The girls are grateful to Fr. George and the Parish Council for their support. The Troop has adopted a Troop of Girl Scouts from Manasquan that were directly affected by the hurricane. Our troop will be hosting a day of fun at our community center for them which will include, cooking, baking and a game of volleyball, as both troops complete their requirements for the *Restore the Shore* badge.

Pinewood Derby

We are very grateful for the time and talent that the Thermos family has brought to our troop with the donation of the Pinewood Derby Track for our second annual Derby. Under the direction of Mr. Peter Thermos, the girls have crafted their race cars which will cross the finish line in the community center in May. Please stop by the gym and see our camp display on May 19th during coffee hour.

Cook Book



Troop 337 will be creating a Kimisis Community Recipe book/history book which will feature recipes and stories from our original founders and any parishioner who wishes to participate and be interviewed. The recipe and history could reflect the region of your ancestors. If you would like to be featured in this book, contact Mary Ellen Cestone at mariaeleni5@comcast.net, for an application.

Rock Climbing

The girls enrolled in a very exciting program at Garden State Rocks. They learned climbing commands, safety rules, top rope climbing, and bouldering in a fun and safe environment. They hope to take another class so that they can build on the valuable skills that they have just learned.

Information

Girl Scouting is for all girls ages 5-18 and for adults over 18 to become Adult Volunteers. Membership is accepted throughout the year. Training is free for adults and held at the church. Girl Scout meetings are on Friday from 6pm to 8pm. If you would like to share your time and talents with our girls or for more information on Holmdel Girl Scouting contact troop organizer Cheryl Bontales at gsusaholm@aol.com

G.O.Y.A. NEWS (Greek Orthodox Youth of America)

By Advisor, Theodora Papasavas

First and foremost, we miss our beloved Father George and pray continuously for God to restore him with good health. Our thoughts and prayers are always with you!



On **February 24th**, our Annual Sights & Sounds luncheon was held. Our very talented GOYAnS performed their first rate Sound performances for our viewing pleasure. We were all well fed by The Red Oak Diner. We wish extend our heartfelt gratitude to Linda Antonakakis and Andrea Protentis for chairing such a wonderful luncheon. The Sights & Sounds luncheon not only allows the parents of our GOYAnS to enjoy their magnificent talents, it is our most profitable fundraiser of the year. The funds raised help pay our costly parish registrations fees, hefty bus costs, etc and allow us to participate in philanthropic endeavors such as feeding the homeless.



On **March 2nd**, approximately 500 GOYAnS from sixteen churches competed in the 42nd Annual Sights & Sound Festival held at Holy Trinity, Westfield. **All** 39 of our GOYAnS brought their creative and artistic talents with them to Westfield and contributed to our great success of winning **FIRST PLACE** in the state! Each year we are nothing short of awestruck by the talent that is exhibited, not only by their Sounds performances that day, but also seeing their sights displayed all around the hallways and classrooms of Holy Trinity. Our Group Sound winners were :

1st place Band, 3rd place Greek Folk Dance and 4th place Play. For a complete list of our winners, please see the GOYA bulletin board.



OLYMPICS

Practices for Olympics will begin in **early April** so lace up your running shoes. Please keep in mind that if you do not attend the practices for Olympics, you will not be allowed to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 7th - Greek Independence Day Parade - New York

Saturday, April 20th - NJ Metropolis Soccer Tournament

Saturday, April 27th - GOYAn's help to make Palm Crosses

Sunday, April 28 - GOYAn's Palm Cross Sale

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride



Greek Independence Day :

On Sunday, March 24th, the Greek School celebrated Greek Independence Day right after The Divine Liturgy. Our Gym was beautifully decorated in blue and white. National pride was strong, as our children proudly marched in the Gym waving Greek Flags, while the audience sang the Greek National Anthem. Some children wore ethnic costumes while others wore blue & white. Pins of the Greek Flag were placed on all the children. Our children recited poems and sang songs in memory of this day. Teachers, parents, extended family members and friends were so proud of all the children. Let's extend a special thank you to our director, Katina Hutin, and to our teachers, Irene Lizardi, Irini Socratous, Roula Tsoukaris, Alexandra Velmahos and Anna Zamora. They worked diligently to prepare and teach our children the importance of this day.

Our expanded Coffee Hour consisted of a wide variety of delicious items. Thank you to all who generously donated food items and volunteered their time and services to make this event a special celebration.

ZHTO H ELLADA!

Upcoming Events:

The Service of the "Akathist Hymn" – The 5 Friday Evenings of Lent (Beginning Friday, March 22nd):

During this Prayer Service, in praise of our Holy Mother Mary (Theotokos), a few of our older students, Fanoula Dimarhos, Gianna Fotinos, Michael Gilbride, Vasilios Halkias, David Lockwood, Michael Simon and Anastasios Thermos will be reading prayers in Greek. This is organized by Roula Tsoukaris, one of our Greek School Teachers. Please come and enjoy these spiritual evenings with the children.

The Greek Independence Parade in New York City on Sunday, April 7th:

The Parish Council has asked if anyone from the Greek School would like to attend and/ or march in the parade. They are reserving a bus. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Mary Ellen Cestone, who is assisting them on this task. Her email is mariaeleni5@comcast.net.

Saturday of Lazarus on April 27th - Making Palms:

On the Saturday of Lazarus, we invite those who wish to help make palms for Palm Sunday. Liturgy begins at 10:00 A.M. and after we proceed to the small coffee room. It's a great way to start Holy Week and see people of all ages from the community participate.

Easter Items for Sale on Palm Sunday, April 28th:

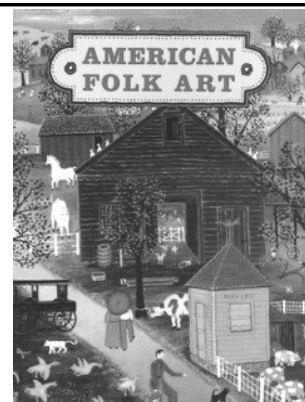
Katina Hutin will have the annual sale of **Tsourekia** (Greek Easter Bread), decorated **Lambades** (candles), **red dye** (for Easter Eggs) and an assortment of **food trays** to help prepare our households for the Easter celebration. **During the month of April contact Katina (Home #: 732-566-9310) to place your order.**

REMEMBER to check our bulletin board in the hallway and admire the display from our children.

Information and upcoming events are available through our email system. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Gilbride at ksgilbride1@yahoo.com.

KIMISIS ART PROGRAM NEWS

By Susan English



This year's theme for KAP is American Folk Art!

The students have already started several pieces of artwork and they are currently working on drawing quilt patterns in folk art style!

Folk Art is a very important part of everyday life. It is not only the work of well-known artists in renowned art museums, but it is also the art of distinctive societies and subcultures. Gender, age, ethnicity, region, religion, language, or occupation define who we are. The students will use their creativity to explore connections between their own life experiences and artistic expressions.

Folk art fosters a sense of belonging, is a basis for meaningful communication, helps us reflect on basic life questions, makes life interesting by creating beauty in unexpected places and upholds creativity as an important value.

Please look forward to our annual Art Show in May to see the wonderful works of our very talented children!

Prime Timers Meetings & Events

By Connie Mellas

April 4th was our last meeting for the season, by Savas Charitonides with a lunch at the Middletown Diner Hwy. 35, Middletown . This was our last meeting until September 5th.

May /June/July/August: Summer Recess- September 5: Welcome Back. Discussion, A.C. & theatre, Astoria.

Keep checking the KCU for June, July and August for further events.



Kimisis Ballroom Program (Adults)

Every Sunday after coffee hour in the all purpose room, only \$10 a class. 100% of the proceeds go to the church!

No partner or previous classes required.

Site: <http://tiny.cc/kimisisballroom>

Kimisis College Connection by Salomi Charalambou-Horvath, Joanna Kotsis and Cheryl Bontales

Our College students are finishing up their spring semester and will be returning home to their families and their church community with another year of college tucked under their belt. We're eager to see them back in church on Sunday and helping with the Greek Festival as they did so amazingly last year. Some were home for spring break, some stayed on campus with varsity sport and job obligations, while others traveled and took part in field work and outreach programs. One thing is certain, our kids are talented and busy and we miss them when they're away.

From Rowan University we hear from Miss Alexis Marinos, daughter of James and Lisa Marinos who graduated from Raritan High School: I am currently a junior at Rowan University and my dual major is; Elementary Education and Liberal Studies Math/Science with a Specialization in Special Education. Last year is when I really started getting involved on campus and I am very glad that I did. Rowan has a lot to offer on campus for everyone such as; intramural sports, club sports, academic clubs, Rowan After Hours (RAH), and the Peer Mentor Program as well as many more programs and fun activities for the students. RAH is held every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night from nine to one in the Student center. At RAH there are many different activities and shows for the students. Some of the things RAH has to offer for this year are; comedy shows, magic shows, student bands, make your own tee shirt, an Asian Cultural Association festival and many, many other fun activities and events. At the end of every night, RAH gives out; free tee shirts, free food and gift cards. I do attend RAH, it is a blast and a perfect opportunity for students to meet each other in a fun, safe environment. I am a part of the Elementary Ed Club, I work at the Recreation Center as a Weight Room Supervisor, I participate in Intramural Sports and I am also currently starting a Greek Club this semester. There are so many activities to offer here for everyone. I am very glad I selected Rowan for my higher education.

AHEPA sponsors Networking Event and Fundraiser to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy, The Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, Wounded Warrior Project and other AHEPA charities.

To continue to fulfill its philanthropic and educational missions, AHEPA GARDEN STATE CHAPTER 517 is sponsoring our Second Annual Cigar Night and Networking Event.

Over the past years, with the help of those who support our Fundraising Events, we have donated close to \$200,000 to such worthy charities as Ronald McDonald House, Cancer Research, Coolies Anemia, Autism Speaks, AHEPA Bone marrow Registry, Got Your Back (aiding families of fallen soldiers), Hellenic Dancers, Saint Basil's Academy and, of course, our beloved Kimisis tis Theotokou.

This year, the Cigar Night is being hosted in order to raise funds for the victims of Hurricane Sandy, The Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, Wounded Warrior Project and other AHEPA charities.

We are excited about this event, as it will be an enjoyable evening of fine food, top shelf liquors, cigars, entertainment and networking amongst friends and business associates. We have reserved The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor in Hazlet for this event.

The event begins at 6:30PM with appetizers, drinks and cigars in our outdoor tent. The entire evening will continue with open bar, including premium liquors, mouthwatering dinner and desserts, a live Jazz Band and raffles. Please see enclosed flyer (web version only) for more information. Tickets to the event are \$125 and must be purchased in advance. Make a table of ten of your friends and business associates. We promise you a relaxing and enjoyable evening in an elegant setting. If you cannot make it this year, please consider the many sponsorships. We hope you can join us.



Garden State Chapter #517 Second Annual Cigar Night and Networking Event

The Gramercy at
Lakeside Manor

410 Highway 36 South, Hazlet, NJ 07730
(732) 739-2700

Wednesday, May 22, 2013
6:30PM

*Non Smokers welcomed
All Smoking on outside Patio*

- Fine Assortment of complimentary Cigars
- Cigar Roller – *Cortez Cigars*
- Open Bar with Premium Liquor & Wines
- Excellent Appetizers
- Raw Bar
- Carving Stations
- Mouthwatering Dinner
- Desserts Bar
- Live Jazz Music



Proceeds to support :



VICTIMS OF
HURRICANE SANDY

OTHER AHEPA CHARITIES

Sponsorship Opportunities

Event Sponsor	\$2,000	_____
Two complimentary tickets		
Banner Displayed (sponsor to provide)		
Recognition in promotional material		
Bar Sponsor	\$1,000	_____
One complimentary ticket		
Banner Displayed (sponsor to provide)		
Recognition in promotional material		
Cigar Roller Sponsor	\$750	_____
Additional recognition given at event display boards		
Recognition in promotional material		
Entertainment Sponsor	\$ 750	_____
Additional recognition given at event display boards		
Recognition in promotional material		
Scotch Tasting Sponsor	\$ 500	_____
Additional recognition given at event display boards		
Recognition in promotional material		
Tent Sponsor	\$ 500	_____
Additional recognition given at event display boards		
Recognition in promotional material		
Gold Sponsor	\$ 300	_____
Recognition in promotional material		
Silver Sponsor	\$ 200	_____
Recognition in promotional material		
Bronze Sponsor	\$ 100	_____
Recognition in promotional material		
Individual Admission Tickets	\$125	_____

**Additional recognition will be given to all Sponsors
in the form of Display Boards at the Event**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email : _____ Amount Enclosed _____

How would you like the name of the individual, company or family to appear on promotional material :

Please make checks payable to:

Mail To:

AHEPA CHAPTER #517

P.O. Box 735 – Holmdel, NJ 07733

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

AHEPA NEWS

By Robert Fourniadis



**American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association
Garden State Chapter 517 invites you to
Enjoy an evening of fine food, drink, cigars & networking**

- ✦ Fine Assortment of complimentary Cigars
- ✦ Cigar Roller – **Cortez Cigars**
- ✦ Open Bar with Premium Liquor & Wines
- ✦ Excellent Appetizers
- ✦ Raw Bar
- ✦ Carving Stations
- ✦ Mouthwatering Dinner
- ✦ Desserts Bar
- ✦ Live Jazz Music

**The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor**

410 Highway 36 South, Hazlet, NJ 07730

(732) 739-2700

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

6:30PM

*Non Smokers welcomed
All Smoking on outside Patio*

Sponsorship Opportunities
and Additional Info
www.ahepa517.com

Donations:**\$125 Payable to: AHEPA 517****For Tickets contact:**Bill Parlamis 917-617-4087 bparlamis@aol.comBob Fourniadis 732-259-3894 bfourniadis@optonline.netGreg Ploussas 732 236-9244 gspholm@aol.com**Proceeds to support :**

**VICTIMS OF
HURRICANE SANDY**

OTHER AHEPA CHARITIES

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SUPPORT OUR BELOVED CHURCH
KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU

"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit..." (John 15:8)

DOVE (limited available) \$10,000
ROCK \$5,000
BENEFACTOR: \$3,000
SPONSOR: \$2,000
PATRON: \$1,000
DONOR: \$500

LEAF with image of Dove
LEAF with image of Fish
LEAF
NAME ON BOULDER with others



BOULDER \$500



LEAF \$1000-\$3000



SAMPLE OF IMAGES

Kimisis Tis Theotokou
Greek Orthodox Church
Holmdel, NJ

**2013 GREEK FESTIVAL
SPONSOR FORM**

Please indicate your Sponsor Level below:

<u>DONATION</u>	<u>SPONSOR LEVEL</u>	<u>RECOGNITION</u>
_____ \$1000 (monetary donors only) <u>Select Booth:</u> Kitchen Burgers Souvlaki Coffee Pastry Beer/Soda Boutique Loucoumades	Booth Sponsor	Name or business printed on an approximate 2' x 4' sign on a Booth , appear on our Kimisis.com website for one full year, listed in the Festival Program , printed in the Church's newsletter the <i>Kimisis Close Up</i> and free admission tickets to the Festival.
_____ \$500	Platinum Sponsor	Name or business listed appear the Kimisis.com website for one full year, listed in the Festival Program and the <i>Kimisis Close Up</i> , and free admission tickets to the Festival.
_____ \$250	Gold Sponsor	Name or business listed in the Festival Program and the <i>Kimisis Close Up</i> and free admission tickets to the Festival.
_____ \$100	Silver Sponsor	Name or business printed in the <i>Kimisis Close Up</i> and free admission tickets to the Festival.
_____ \$50	Booster	Free admission tickets <u>to the Festival.</u>

SPONSOR(as you prefer to appear) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TELEPHONE _____ **EMAIL** _____

Please make checks payable to: Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church - Festival
Please send to: PO Box 367, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0367

The Ladies Philoptochos Society/ BAHHA Chapter

Cordially invites you

To join us for our Annual

Palm Sunday Luncheon

Sunday, April 28, 2013

Immediately following Liturgy

In the Kimisis Community Center



Fish Luncheon, Drinks, Dessert

Pasta will be available for the kids

Donation:

Adults: \$20.00 Children under 17: \$10.00

For reservations, please call:

Martha Parlamis (732) 888-7880 or mparlamis1@aol.com

All reservations must be made and paid for by Sunday, April 21, 2013.

There will be no tickets sold at the door.

Name: _____

Adults: _____ Children: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Please mail to Mrs. Martha Parlamis, 14 Heyward Hills Drive, Holmdel, NJ 07733.

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you are interested in helping out with
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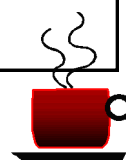


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2013 Coffee Hour & Sunday Fundraisers By Harriett Callis



Apr 7	Altar Boys
April 14	Beginner Dancers
April 21	GOYA
April 28	<i>Palm Sunday Luncheon</i>
May 5	<i>Pascha</i>
May 12	Parish Council
May 19	AHEPA
*May 26	<i>Need Volunteers</i>
June 2	GOYA

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ORGANIZATIONS NEED TO DONATE THE FOLLOWING:

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- One (1) Gallon Milk
- Children's Cookies (approx. 6 pkgs.)
- Adult Pound Cake (for about 80)
- Fruit (for allergic and non-gluten individuals)

Hosting organization must clean up the kitchen

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

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