

Church Services Schedule: Orthros: 9:00 am

Inside This Issue

- AHEPA-Superbowl Party
- Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts-
- Christmas/New Year Special Services Schedule
- Church & Community Organization Leaders
- College Connection
- Girl Scouts
- G.O.Y.A.
- Greek School
- Health Ministry
- House Blessing Form
- Kali Parea/Prime Timers
- Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter
- Online Giving Flyer
- Parish Council President's Message
- Stewardship Report & Commitment Forms
- Sunday School News
- Vasilopita Sale-GOYA
 ***Save these Dates**

AHEPA Superbowl Party-2/2/14

Philoptochos Fashion Show- 5/8/14



"Emmanuel: God With Us"



My Beloved spiritual children,

"Be astonished. O ye heavens, be ye horribly afraid, and let the foundations of the earth be shaken. For lo, He who bears the whole world in the hollow of His hand, is wrapped in swaddling clothes and received as guest in a narrow manger. Him do ye children bless, ye priests praise, and ye people exalt above all forever."

So we hear in the hymns of the Orthodox Church as we stand only a few weeks away from Christmas. A short time away from the threshold of an event that changed the way we track the years, changed the way people think, and changed the very meaning of our existence. Such is the cosmic nature of this event, which we seek to celebrate, in the waring weeks of the last month of the year. Because of the Social context within which we live, we tend to think of Christmas—that is the Feast of the Nativity According to the Flesh of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ—in simple, sentimental ways. There are parties to go to, gifts to buy, and decorations to put up. The hymns of this great feast, however, give us pause as they call us all to witness to nothing less than the rebirth of humanity.

For Christ comes to us as the "New Adam" in order to undo the sin of the "Old Adam." In his pride and selfishness, Old Adam condemned himself and his generations to the bondage of death by failing to obey the simplest of God's commandments. Christ came into the world to undo the sin of Adam and show mankind how to walk in the way of God's commandments. He came as the great example for us all. For if Old Adam, the creature, could not obey, then New Adam, Jesus Christ, who is *The* Creator, would come to show us how to obey. And as St. Paul tells us, "He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:8)

How can we explain The Creator taking the form of His creation in order to save it? Indeed, the Theotokos, the Mother of God, stood in awe of this great mystery, for as the hymnographers of the Church tell us, "The Virgin was amazed, as she beheld a conception past telling and a birth past utterance. Rejoicing at once and weeping, she raised her voice and said: 'How shall I feed with milk, Thee, who givest nourishment to all the world, or shall I sing Thy praise as my Son and my God? What manner of name shall I find to call Thee. O Lord whom none can name?'"

Indeed, because of God's infinite love for humankind, he desired to save it from peril and to "be with us", as we read in the Gospel of Matthew, "This was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel," which means, "God with Us." (Isaiah 7:14) For God truly is with us, "For where two or three are gathered in My name, I am there in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20) We know that God is with us in trouble- to see us through; in sorrow- to brush away the tears; when we fall- to raise us up; in weakness- to make us strong; and in death- to make us confident.

God, in his incomprehensible and infinite love, has made His presence known to us throughout our entire lives, in times of joy, such as at the birth of our first child, and at times of sorrow, such as at the passing of a loved one. God does not discriminate as we do, He is always with us!! We have His promise of His continued presence: "And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

May the Incamate Logos, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, carry our hearts to Heaven as we celebrate His glorious Nativity with our loved ones. May the Christ-child bless each and every one of you and may you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2014.

With Love in the New Born King and God, † Archimandrite George Nikas Pastor

Go to www.kimisis.com for the KCU online

 $K_{\rm IMISIS}\,C_{\rm LOSE-}U_{\rm P}$

Church and Community Organization Leaders

V.R. Archimandrite George Nikas

PARISH COUNCIL

President	
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Asst. Treasurer	

Dimitris Geaneas Emanuel Tsarnas Argyrios Milonas Thomas Protentis James Thompson

Members: Matthew Bistrimovich Paul Calamaras Bessie Drogaris Stavros Fotinos James Marinos Bob Bucco Basil Parlamis Parry Peters Soteris Petrou Costa Phillipou Nikie Sourlis Elias Tsigounis Roula Tsoukaris A.H.E.P.A. Acolyte Coordinator Art Program Ballroom Dancing Bible Study Boy Scouts / Cub Scouts

Choir Marie Devino Coffee Hour Harriet & Fred Ca Community Center Rental Matt Bistrimovich

Festival Girl Scouts G.O.Y.A./Youth Advisors

Greek School Greek School PTO KCU Editor KCU Ads Kimisis Dancers Men's Basketball Philoptochos Prime Timers Stewardship

Sunday Bulletin Sunday School Tree of Life Ways & Means Website Welcoming Committee

ORGANIZATIONS

Robert Fourniadis Emanuel Tsarnas Susan Englisis Sophie Idromenos **Roula Merianos** James Marinos Nick Englisis Marie Devino Harriet & Fred Callis Jim Marinos **Dimitris** Geaneas Chervl Bontales Linda Antonakakis Eleni Angelkos **Basil Kotsis** Irene Sourlis Katina Hutin

Katherine Gilbride Cleo Bartos Cleo Bartos Aphrodite Bucco Peter Kolydas Aphrodite Bucco **Connie Mellas** Helen Antholis Frieda Mookas **Ernie Antholis** Amalia Vapheas Nikie Sourlis George Karatzia Parry Peters D. Orfanitopoulos Helen Antholis Frieda Mookas Roula Tsoukaris

By Dimitris Geaneas



KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ΕΛΛΗΝΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΜΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

Archimandrite George Nikas, Presiding Priest

2013 PROGRAM OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR THEOPHANY

<u>December 22</u> (Sunday)	Orthros/Divine Liturgy followed by Sunday School Christmas Pageant	9:00AM
<u>December 24</u> (Tuesday)	Royal Hours/Orthros Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil	9:00AM
	Feast of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Orthros/Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom	7:30PM
<u>December 25</u> (Wednesday)	NO SERVICES – MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! KAAA XPIΣTOYFENNA!!!	
December 27 (Friday)	St. Stephen the Archdeacon and Protomartyr Orthros/Divine Liturgy	9:00AM
<u>December 29</u> (Sunday)	Sunday After the Nativity of our Lord/Christmas Orthros/Divine Liturgy	9:00AM
<u>January 1</u> (Wednesday)	The Naming of our Lord/St. Basil the Great Orthros/Divine Liturgy (<i>One Hour Late Start</i>) HAPPY NEW YEAR 2014!!!	10:00AM
<u>January 5</u> (Sunday)	Eve of Holy Epiphany/Theophany/Feast of Lights Orthros/Divine Liturgy/Megas Agiasmos	9:00AM
<u>January 6</u> (Monday)	Holy Epiphany/Theophany of our Lord Orthros/Divine Liturgy/Megas Agiasmos	9:00AM
<u>January 7</u> (Tuesday)	St. John the Baptist Orthros/ Divine Liturgy	9:00AM

May we all come together as one community and family to welcome the King of Kings into our hearts, to proclaim the New Year 2014 as a time of spiritual renewal and to receive the blessings of the Sanctified Waters.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

 20 Hillcrest Road, Holmdel, NJ 07733
 Office (732) 739-1515
 Fax (732) 739-1172

 Pastor's Cell: (732) 232-1036
 Pastor's Email: gnikas@mail.com
 Web: www.kimisis.com



The Blessing of our Homes at Epiphany

When Thou was baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

When Christ entered the Jordan River, he sanctified the waters and all of creation. An important sign of God's sanctification of all things through the feast of Theophany is the act of blessing the homes of faithful Christians. The priest visits the members of the Church to pray with them in the place where they live (and work), and to bless their surroundings with Holy Water. He asks God to have mercy on the house, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing.

As this custom is part of our Orthodox Tradition, if you wish to have your home blessed, please fill out the slip below and return it to the Church. This blessed occasion will also afford Fr. George the opportunity to meet and get to know better the many wonderful families that comprise are beloved Community of Kimisis Tis Theotokou. To prepare for the Priest's visit to bless your home:

Have a list of the Baptismal first names of those family members you wish to pray for.

On your dining room table or family altar, place a lighted candle, an incense burner (if available), a family icon, and a wide bowl half full with clean water.

Turn off all TVs, stereos, and computers and turn on the lights to all the rooms you wish to have blessed.

When the Priest arrives, everyone in the house should gather around the table/family altar.

$K_{\text{IMISIS}} C_{\text{LOSE-}} U_{\text{P}}$

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Dimitris Geaneas, President

Dear Stewards of Kimisis Tis Theotokou,

I hope our Kimisis Close-Up finds you and your families well.



First, I would like to thank Nikie Sourlis of our Sunday School and its Directors, Aphrodite Bucco of Philoptochos/BAHA Chapter, and the Parish Council for hosting the wonderful <u>"Welcome Luncheon"</u> given in honor of our V.R. Archimandrite George Nikas on October 20th. That was also the first Sunday officiated by Father Nikas. We pray that God allows him to be with us for many Sundays and years to come.

Our Youth/GOYA

I am delighted to announce that registration in our GOYA for this ecclesiastical year has increased to 80 members, which is a new record. With the great Advisors that we have (Linda Antonakakis, Basil Kotsis, Eleni Angelkos, Irene Sourlis) and with the guidance of Father George Nikas , I am sure that this organization will continue to grow and thrive in an environment promoting Christian values and building true character.

I will also like to thank and congratulate the following four GOYA who represented our Church in Asbury Park and dived for the Holy Cross: <u>Julianna Magriples</u>, <u>Melina Magriples</u>, <u>Michael Simon and Teddy Sourlis</u>. Special congratulations go to <u>Michael Simon</u> for retrieving the Holy Cross. May God bless all of you and keep you safe and healthy.

The winners of this year's Kimisis GOYA pageant were <u>Nickolas Plakoudas</u> as Mr GOYA and <u>Francesca Nizza</u> as Ms. GOYA. <u>Nickolas Plakoudas</u> went on to win the title of Mr. GOYA NJ Metropolis. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for making us proud.

Parish Council Elections

Elections for Parish Council are to be held on Sunday, December 8th after Divine Liturgy in the Multi-Purpose Room (the voting booth will close at 2:00 pm). As you are aware, the PC consists of 18 members with 6 members up for re-election every year. There are currently seven nominees to fill six positions. Pictures and bios of the nominees will be mailed to you before the elections. Please review them and make your votes count.

On a separate issue, it should be noted that our <u>General Assembly</u> meeting on October 27th was attended by 48 members, a record-breaking number not seen for many years. I hope this trend of increased participation continues as it can only strengthen our Community. Please note that "None of us is as smart as all of us".

<u>Stewardship</u>

In order to be eligible to vote on December 8th, all Stewards are strongly encouraged to have 100% of their Stewardship pledge fulfilled by that date. Your financial support, in addition to your time and talents, is critical to the survival and well-being of our Church. Thank you!

Again, I will turn to Apostle Paul, who in his second letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 9 advised, "....he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully....for God loves a cheerful giver...."

In closing, I will like to wish all our Stewards a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. May the peace and goodwill of the season fill your hearts and warm you homes.

Your servant in Christ, Dimitris Geaneas



 $\mathbf{K}_{\text{IMISIS}} \mathbf{C}_{\text{LOSE-}} \mathbf{U}_{P}$

Stewardship Update

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

DECEMBER 2013

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

December is here and our thoughts turn to sharing time and gifts with close family and friends. It gives us joy to see how happy our time and gifts matter to others.

As you know, our beloved Kimisis is your family and friend too, in good times or bad. Your time, talents, and treasure matter to Kimisis. Without you, Kimisis is missing the one crucial ingredient that makes this family and friend available to all of us every day. May we count on you to fulfill your 2013 pledge before the end of the year? It will go a long way toward continuing Kimisis' vibrant mission. Share the joy!

STEWARDSHIP 2013

At the **October 27 General Assembly**, I reported on the status of donations for 2013 to-date (84% of goal) and the number of new families (65) that have joined Kimisis this past year. The number of new families is at an all-time high in the past five years that I have been your Stewardship Chair. Welcome!

I also reported about the success of the new **Online Giving** program we started in August. Many families are using their credit card or bank account debit as a convenient way to donate to Kimisis securely through our website <u>www.kimisis.com</u> at any time of day or night. Donating this way, especially the recurring option for weekly or monthly donations, makes it easier for Kimisis to count on a steady stream of revenue for optimal operation.

Thank you to Nikie Sourlis for approaching me with the idea several years ago and to Demetri Orfanitopoulos for his assistance with the web-links and the instructions for parishioners. Also, thank you to Dimitri Geaneas and Tom Protentis for their support in approving the Online Giving Program at Kimisis.

Renewing our commitment to Kimisis for 2014

Stewardship Sunday was November 24. A brief program encouraged ongoing stewards and parishioners to pledge what they can for 2014. There is a new stewardship form for 2014. Please download it from the website or use the form included in this issue of the KCU. Stewardship is our way of contributing to the growth and maintenance of our community to provide much-needed support to the faithful. The next year has many more programs and plans; your support is needed more than ever to see important improvements in our community. You may email the form to me at <u>helenantholis@me.com</u> or to Father George Nikas at <u>gnikas@mail.com</u>.

Need a Commitment Form?

Please inform us of your **2014 Stewardship Commitment** in any of these ways:

- **Obtain a 2014 commitment form** from the Church Office, the Stewardship Bulleting Board, and the Community Center lobby.
- Ask any member of the Parish Council for a 2014 Stewardship Form.
- Download a WORD document from the Church Website: <u>www.kimisis.com</u> in the Stewardship section and email it to me at <u>helenantholis@mac.com</u> or print it and mail it to the Church office at 20 Hillcrest Road, PO Box 367, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0367.

 $\mathbf{K}_{\text{IMISIS}} \mathbf{C}_{\text{LOSE-}} \mathbf{U}_{P}$

Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church 20 Hillcrest Road - PO Box 367, Holmdel NJ 07733-0367 Tel: 732-739-1515 Very Reverend Archimandrite George Nikas ONGOING STEWARDS Christian Stewardship Annual (January to December) Commitment Card In gratitude for God's blessings, we pledge for Christ's work for the CALENDAR YEAR 2014 Suggested annual donation □ \$5000 □ \$2500 □ \$1200 \$720 suggested minimum for Families \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles D Other ______ To be donated: D Weekly Monthly Quarterly □ Annually NOTE: TO USE A CREDIT CARD OR BANKING ACCCOUNT FOR ONE-TIME OR RECURRING PAYMENTS, GO TO WWW.KIMISIS.COM, CLICK ON "GIVE ONLINE", AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS TO CREATE AN ACCOUNT. For stock donations, contact the Parish Council Treasurer/Church Office. I would like Offering Envelopes mailed to me: Yes _____ No _____

Last Name	Phone ()
Address	
	State Zip code
First Name	Spouse
EMAIL	EMAIL
Profession	
Work/Cell	Work/Cell
Children (Names/Dates of Birth)	
WERE YOU MARRIED IN THE GREEK	CORTHODOX CHURCH? YES NO

Please provide updated information since your previous form.

If yes, please list date and Church ______

	The state of the s
	Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church
	367, Holmdel NJ 07733-0367 Tel: 732-739-1515 rend Archimandrite George Nikas
very kever	tenu Artininanurite George Nikas
NEW S	STEWARDS OF KIMISIS
Christian Stewardship Ann	uual (January to December) Commitment Card
In gratitude for God's	's blessings, we pledge for Christ's work.
My Pledge is	s for the CALENDAR YEAR 2014
Suggested annual donation	□ \$5000 □ \$2500 □ \$1200
🗆 \$720 suggested minimum fo	or Families
□ \$400 suggested minimum fo	or Seniors/Singles 🛛 Other
To be donated: 🗆 Weekly 🛛	Monthly 🗆 Quarterly 🗆 Annually
NOTE: TO USE A CREDIT CARD OF	R BANKING ACCCOUNT FOR ONE-TIME OR RECURR
PAYMENTS, GO TO <u>WW</u>	W.KIMISIS.COM, CLICK ON "GIVE ONLINE", &
FOLLOW INSTR	RUCTIONS TO CREATE AN ACCOUNT.
Stock donations may be	e made by contacting Treasurer/Church Office
I would like Offering Envelope	es mailed to me: Yes No
Last Nama	Dhone (
	Phone ()
Address	
Address City	StateZip code
Address City EMAIL	State Zip code
Address City EMAIL First Name	StateZip code
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion	StateZip code Spouse Religion
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession	State Zip code Spouse Religion Profession
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell	State Zip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree	State Zip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one)
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree If YES, NAME of Church	StateZip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one) Date
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree	State Zip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one)
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree If YES, NAME of Church	StateZip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one) Date
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree If YES, NAME of Church	StateZip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one) Date
Address City EMAIL First Name Religion Profession Work/Cell Were you married in the Gree If YES, NAME of Church	StateZip code Spouse Religion Profession Work/Cell ek Orthodox Church? YES / NO (Circle one) Date

Use other side for additional names

Election Day for Parish Council - December 8, 2013

Seven stewards of Kimisis have been nominated to the Parish Council. There are six open positions. Your vote matters. Eligible voters received a letter describing the candidates. **Elections take place following the Divine Liturgy up until 2pm.** Voting is a form of stewardship. Please make the time to vote or request an absentee ballot from Roula Merianos. Being a member of the Parish Council is an important responsibility. We entrust them to make decisions on our behalf. If you any questions about the process, please contact Roula. You will find her running the Bookstore in the Community



L to R: Salomi Charalambous Horvath, Basil Kotsis, Tony Koulouris, Dina Mellas, Rosanna Panagakos, Parry Peters, Nikie Sourlis

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holmdel, NJ

Proudly Presents

"Under the Sea" Dinner Fashion Show

Thursday, May 8, 2014

6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor

If you would like to make a donation or have any questions please feel free to contact us directly at Underthesea2014@gmail.com



Save the

Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter 1088 by Aphrodite Bucco

n October 17, the Ladies Philoptochos held its first welcome back social and members met with and welcomed our new parish priest, The Very Reverend Archimandrite George Nikas. Fr. George gave the opening prayer and spoke about the roles and purposes of Philoptochos and is excited to start a new chapter at Kimisis by continuing the work cultivated over the past 30 years of his predecessor the beloved Father George Dounelis.

On November 3, Fr. George bestowed the oath of office to the 2013 – 2014 Executive Board:

President – Mrs. Aphrodite Bucco

Vice President – Mrs. Mary Loizou

Treasurer – Mrs. Harriet Callis

Recording Secretary – Mrs. Joyce Coccaro

Corresponding Secretary – Mrs. Cheryl Bontales

Trustees – Mrs. Christina Garidas, Mrs. Lucy Milonas, Mrs. Martha Parlamis, Mrs. Roula Tsoukaris

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates:

Annual Christmas Party – December 8, 2013 chaired by Trustee Lucy Milonas



Fashion Show "Under the Sea" – May 8, 2014 chaired by Lynne Rexines, Marianthe Koukomis and Susan Wassif



G.O.Y.A. (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) By Linda Antonakakis, Advisor

n November 10th our parish celebrated Youth Sunday. It was a beautiful sight to see how many of our precious youth filled the church, classrooms and community center that day. We are truly blessed at Kimisis to have so many wonderful children amongst us who are ambitious, spiritual and wholeheartedly dedicated to our community. Our GOYAns enthusiastically assisted with coffee hour, candles, trays, altar and our raffle fundraiser that day.

We would like to extend a warm thank you to the Antholis family for their very kind and generous donation of the two framed photographs of Greece that were the prizes for our raffle fundraiser. God bless you Ernie on your artistic and photographic talents.

The GOYA is also having its Vasilopita sale (see flyer attached). The holidays are a wonderful time to enjoy this delicious bread.

By: Gregory Marinos

Francesca Nizza and Niko Plakoudas represented our church at this year's Mr.& Miss GOYA Pageant. After two intense rounds of competition, Niko was named Mr. GOYA 2013! This is the first time in 21 years that a male representing the Holmdel community has placed first in this pageant. We appreciate Francesca and Niko's devotion to our community and representation of our parish. Congratulations to both the Nizza and Plakoudas families!

This holiday season, many people living in poverty have no shelter, no food and nowhere to go to enjoy their holiday. GOYA is not always about dances and receiving first place at Sights and Sounds. It is about helping those in need and giving back to the community. We take this time each year to reflect on what we have and acknowledge those who are less fortunate. At our Christmas party we will be collecting items for those families in need.

The first two GOYA dances this year were a huge success! Our first dance, the Harvest Dance, was held is Westfield. They transformed their gym into a wonderful, Autumn-like environment where us GOYAns could eat, dance and socialize. Next we participated in the Fairview dance. Although it was a very small dance floor, we made sure there was enough room to dance all night....we were dancing in the aisles! There was a huge turnout of Holmdel GOYAns at both dances and we hope to have that number grow with future events. The Executive Board would like to personally thank the advisors and chaperones who volunteered to escort us to these wonderful dances.

<u>Upcoming</u> <u>Events</u>:

Friday, December 13--December Goya Meeting/ Christmas Party

Friday, December 27--Christmas Dance (Union)





Go to www.kimisis.com for the KCU online

Sunday School News for December December 15th: Sunday School Communion Breakfast

Please prepare to receive Communion and please remind your children the proper way to receive. **** (1. If you are taking communion, be prepared by fasting and confessing privately or by sacrament. Women should not wear lipstick. Go to the front of the church when the priest says, "With fear of God, faith and love, draw near." When you reach the priest, make the sign of the cross, tell him your baptismal name, hold the red cloth under your chin, and he will put a spoon containing the Gifts in your mouth. (Please don't bite the spoon). Hold the cloth for the next person. Make the sign of the cross again and take the bread offered by the altar boy.)****

Following Communion all students will meet their teachers in the gym for bagels and juice. All students will receive a little gift from the Sunday School. Please pick-up your children from the gym following the service except those children that have roles in the pagent who will be going into church to practice their parts.

**1. Copied from A GUIDE TO GREEK TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS IN AMERICA, by Marilyn Rouvolas, Available in our Ouarch's Book Store

December 22nd: Chrístmas Pageant practices: 11/17, 11/24 after the service

Ms. Eleni Protopapadakis will be leading our little Christmas Production. The entire Sunday School will participate in our Pageant. Some students have volunteered to dress for the Nativity portion of our show. They will meet that morning in the Gym. The show will take place in the church so we look forward to welcoming in the holidays with you and your children.

> December 25th: Merry Christmas to all and enjoy your day of Family Worship

> > January 5, 2014: Classes Resume!

Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happiness filled New Year! with all our Love, Nikie, Anna, Joyce, and Nausica

ష

Holmdel Troop 531 Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

By Nausica Orthodoxou





ctober was filled with fun times. Welcome to Elias Catis who joined our Scouting Family. Thanks to the LaFonte and Catis families for working with Mr. E to do the planting in front of the church as their stewardship. The Cubs also enjoyed a hayride one Sunday after church all these activities were in accordance with our theme for this month "Down on the Farm-Responsibility". We look forward to our new theme this month "Respect".



We celebrated a joint Halloween Pack Night / Court of Awards. Our cubs made advancement with Christian LaFonte and Elias Catis earning their Bobcat badge. The entire Troop heard about Forestburg and witnessed the advancements that our Scouts made at camp. It was an inspiring evening topped off with games that required all the boys to participate and work as a team. As you can see from the pictures they rose to the challenge.



We look forward to caroling with our fellow girl scouts in December. We want to wish all our scout families a Very Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year.

December: 12/4 meeting, 12/6 caroling with girl scouts, 12/18 meeting
January: 1/8 meeting, 1/22 meeting, 1/26 pine wood derby
February: 2/2 Scout Sunday Pancake Breakfast and Valentine Sale
2/9 Valentine Sale & coffee hour, 2/5 meeting, 2/19 meeting, 2/21-2/23 scout camping
March: 3/2 Blue & Gold Dinner, 3/5 meeting, 3/19 meeting

Girl Scouts By

By Julie Simon

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year From the Girl Scouts



ur Kimisis Girl Scouts have had a wonderfully busy fall season. Our troop welcomes girls between the ages of 5-18 to join us every other Friday evening at the church for fellowship and fun.

The girls have been busy working on their journey projects and the Juniors attended a jump start program at the Girl Scouts Activity Center in Farmingdale. Several of our girls are also gaining knowledge of our faith through the Saint George, Chi Rho and Alpha Omega religious awards with the assistance of their parents, leaders, Mrs. Horvath and Father George.

On November 15th the Cadettes visited with seniors at a local nursing home and brought them some cheer. On Sunday, November 17th, all the Girl Scouts hosted Coffee Hour for our fellow parishioners to enjoy refreshments and fellowship after liturgy.

Our Cadettes are looking forward to earning their Legacy Tree Badge from an artist's perspective with the help of Mrs. Angela Karakoglou and our Juniors are collecting Christmas presents for those in need. All of our scouts will join together to wrap these and other donated gifts. For those who join us as we reach out to others in the true spirit of Christmas, please accept our sincere thanks. Our Girl Scouts also combined with the Boy Scouts to bring holiday cheer to a local nursing home with Christmas carols in early December. In addition, our Junior girls are planning a fund raiser to assist those who have lost so much in the Philippines.

Our Ambassador Girl Scouts are partnering with Neighboring agencies and volunteering in their kitch-

ens to serve the community. They will assist the Food bank of NJ which feeds thousands of people each week. Please remember the hungry when you shop for groceries each week; and bring a nonperishable item to church with you. There are Food bank collection bins in the church entrance fover. Stephanie Favara, Irene Garidas, Cassie Sannino and Lana Kandalaft are pictured here at the kitchen of the Kateri Environmental Center where they organized the bake sale that raised \$500.00 for the Center at their annual Fall event.

If your child is between the age of K-12 and would like to join our wonderful organization, please feel free to contact Cheryl Bontales at <u>gsusaholm@aol.com</u> or Mary Ellen Cestone at <u>mariaele-</u>



ni5@comcast.net. Join us and have fun, learn new skills and develop life-long friendships!

 $K_{\rm IMISIS}\,C_{\rm LOSE-}U_{\rm P}$

KALI PAREA

by Connie Mellas, President

Kali Parea of the Prime Timers

n November 14, thirty-eight members of our Kimisis organization and community met for social fellowship to enjoy a delicious luncheon served at The Restaurant at Scarborough Fair hosted by Mike & Eve Fotinos.

Everyone had a wonderful time as we gathered with Father George Nikas, his mother Presbytera Nikas (Father George's father was a priest as well), and Mrs. Fotinos (Mike's mother). Attending and gracing our lunch were representatives of St. Demetrios of Perth Amboy & St. Barbara's of Toms River. It was an afternoon filled with good conversation and a bountiful harvest.



The group's next meeting is Thursday, December 5 at 11:30 to finalize plans for the Christmas Party to be held on Tuesday, December 10 in the All-Purpose Room. It will be a bring-a-dish (meatless) party that is being coordinated by Anthoula and Maria. There will also be a grab bag for those who wish to participate.

Special thanks to all but especially Connie Mellas, President, Helen Certa, Vice President, and Helen Antholis, Consultant for chairing the event.

New members are encouraged to join this loving and caring group.

The Prime Timers originated in 1995 and through the years, the members, many of whom are founders of Kimisis, meet on the first Thursday of the month. Very active, they attend Church weekday services and spend social time going to different trips and lunches.

On January 12, 2014, the "Prime Timers" will be known as the Kali Parea of Kimisis Tis Theotokou of Holmdel.

This group will continue to meet and enjoy social fellowship. It is open to those stewards who are available during the day. Come join us and improve our life-long membership.

Thank you to all our members & friends for making the Prime Timers SUCCESSFUL. Welcome to the new Kali Parea !!!!! Thank you for four years of fellowship. Good Luck to our new Kali Parea.

Your President, Connie Mellas

DATES TO REMEMBER:

December 5, 2013 meeting discussing Christmas festivities, covered dish.

December 12, 2013 CHRISTMAS LUNCH (CONTACT MARIA & ANTHOULA)

January 12, 2014 Induction of Kali Parea with an Artoclasia

January 26, 2014 Kali Parea is hosting a healthy Sunday Fellowship Hour: Contact: Maria & Anthoula for details.

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride



Director: Katina Hutin

Editor & PTO President: Katherine Gilbride

n Sunday, October 27th, Father George Nikas presented Fanoula Dimarhos, Gianna Fotinos and Michael Gilbride of the Greek School in front of the congregation, their certificates upon the completion of the Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek.

On Sunday, November 24th, we had our Bake Sale and Coffee Hour. Thank you to all members who volunteered their service and donated food. A special thank you to those who supported the Greek School by purchasing items from our Bake Sale, and those who took a chance on our raffle.



The *Christmas Show* will be on December 15th, 2013. We invite everyone to attend and to see the children recite poems and sing Christmas Carols. We will also be hosting *Coffee Hour.* As we prepare for this day, please remember we need PTO members to volunteer their time. Please come and support the Greek School.

REMINDERS:

Our next **PTO Meeting** will be on **Monday, December 2nd**, **2013**. The Greek School will be <u>CLOSED</u> from: **Tuesday, December 24th**, **2013** through Monday, **January 6th**, **2014**. The Greek School will reopen on **Tuesday, January 7th**, **2014**.



Katina Hutin, the Greek School teachers and the PTO would like to wish all the families Kala Xpistougenna kai Kali Xpovia!



$K_{\text{IMISIS}} C_{\text{LOSE-}} U_{\text{P}}$

DECEMBER 2013

Kimisis College Connection by Cheryl Bontales The Kimisis College Connection Committee



r. George Nikas met with the chairladies of the Kimisis College Connection of the Ladies Philoptochos Society on November 13 in the pastoral library. Currently in it's fourth year, the College Connection was created to help students stay connected to Kimisis and encourage their continued Kimisis involvement between semesters and on breaks. Additionally, it aims to help them connect with the closest Greek Orthodox Church if they are living away and encourages them to get involved as they did with Kimisis. In reviewing the list of over 60 College aged students provided by the committee, Fr. Nikas expressed his wishes to form a Young Adult League from this group. With the help of the Chairladies toward this end, the group of names easily went from 60 to 90. Father George indicated that he would like to see the Young Adult League coordinated by a few young adults who are recently graduated from college and back home, or are studying locally, and can dedicate the time to coordinating social gatherings. The Young Adult League would initially include 18 to 29 year olds from Kimisis. It may evolve as a central chapter to include young adults from other churches including St. Barbara's in Toms River and St. George in Piscataway for example, in the 18 to 35 range. Moving forward, the committee decided to plan a social to be held in the all purpose room in January during winter break for the Kimisis young adults. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Cheryl Bontales bontsc@aol.com; Mrs. Salomi Charalambou-Horvath msac2@comcast.net; Mrs. Joanna Kotsis DASKA-LISA@AOL.COM, or Father George Nikas at gnikas@mail.com. On behalf of the College Connection Committee, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2014.

AYLA KOYTA

Τήν άγια κείνη νύχτα σέ σπήλαιο φτωχό 'Τιός θεού γιεννιέται στήν σκέφη άνατριχΞ

Τῶν πάντων ὁ Δεσπότης παιδιοῦ πέρνει μορφή ή ἄπειρος θεότης ή φάτνη τόν χωρεί

Γή καί ούρανδς γιορτάζουν άγγελοι τόν θμνοῦν χαρᾶς τά εύαγγέλια στή κτίση διαλαλοῦν.

'Αγάλλου άνθρωπότις τήν άγια νύχτα αὐτή άνοίχτημαν γιά σένα ζανά οἰ ούρανοί.

Τό δεΐον βρέφος φέρνει ατή την δωρέα τόν δρόμο σ'άνοιζη σοῦ λύνει τά δεσμά.

Καί ἐσύ μέ την σειρά σου άσαι νά γεννηθή στην φάτνη τῆς ψυχῆς σου ὅπως την νύχτα αὐτή.



We hope you enjoy this Greek poem written by *Antigone Ganifas,* mother of one of our Kimisis parishioners, Julie Simon.

For information on submitting a poem , contact the KCU at kcueditor@gmail.com.

$K_{\rm IMISIS} \, C_{\rm LOSE-} U_{\rm P}$

Involving Youth in the Music of the Church

"Whoever attunes himself and studies the meaning of sacred songs from beginning to end will find himself approaching God"

St. Gregory Palamas, 12th century

As our beloved Greek Orthodox Church in America moves into the future, many questions will be asked:

What will our Divine Liturgy sound like 100 years from now? Who will be in the choirs? How much English will we be using? Will we have new hymns?



Regardless of the answers to these questions, one concept stands true: for American Orthodoxy to continue successfully into the future, we must hand the liturgical traditions, musical understanding and passion for our faith to our children as our forefathers handed it to us.

As evidenced by the words of St. Gregory Palamas above, the heart of the Orthodox Church lies within its hymnology. The great teachings of our faith can be found within the songs of praise that we have sung for centuries. What better way to guide our children into living Christ-centered lives than through singing the hymns of the Church?

The purpose of the Angel Choirs is to glorify God through song while promoting a lifetime love of music, through the gift of the Holy Spirit. We will strive for excellence in singing and understanding the rich musical heritage of the Greek Orthodox Church. Each Sunday the Angel Choir will sit up in our Choir loft with Adult/GOYAN Choir and sing any part of the Liturgy that they know along with the Adult/GOYAN Choir and will go to Sunday School during communion. Some hymns will be sung by the Angel Choir alone once they have rehearsed them.

Our choir is a member of the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians. Many members participate in the annual conferences and workshops. Our New Jersey district is also very active in the annual Holy Cross Celebration in Asbury Park, a Christmas Concert in a different parish each year, and a Lenten Musical Offering (concert) held each year on the Friday before Holy Week in various parishes. These extra activities are on a volunteer basis.

All rehears als will take place on Sundays after Liturgy for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more, if needed.

Please see Marie Devino for more information or questions.

$K_{\text{IMISIS}} C_{\text{LOSE-}} U_{\text{P}}$

DECEMBER 2013



Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church

hosted by Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter

Annual Christmas Party

featuring The Kimisis Youth Dancers Sunday, December 8, 2013

Immediately following Liturgy Church Community Center Buffet Luncheon, drinks, dessert, music, dancing and a special appearance by Santa Claus with a Christmas present for every child who attends



	Tickets: \$20/Adults \$10/Child No tickets will be sold at the door. All proceeds to benefit Kimisis Tis Theotokou
	tions: Please complete the section below. Make check payable to Ladies Philoptochos Society.
Please mail t	he completed form and payment to:
Lucy Milona	s, 2 Winding Brook Way, Holmdel, NJ 07733 (732)946-9585
	ould like to attend the Christmas Party and reserve # of seats.
	ny check for Adults and children (\$20 per adult/\$10 per child) =
(Please put t	he names of those in your party on the reverse side of this form before mailing)
	fortunately I cannot attend, but would like to show my support with a tax-deductible contribution , to the Philoptochos Society for their many philanthropic endeavors.
Name:	
Address:	
Phone #:	email:

 $K_{\rm IMISIS}\,C_{\rm LOSE-}U_{\rm P}$

Brokerage Account

Initial control of the church of the church of the stock and how much you sell it for. This type of donation of stock to the church of stock can be taken as a charitable donation of your stock to the church of the stock can be taken as a charitable donation of your tax return. If you were to sell the stock and then donate the proceeds to the church you would be required to pay capital gains tax on the difference between what you paid for the stock and how much you sell it for. This type of donation.

There are additional ways to make a donation to our beloved Kimisis. If you have any interest or need any additional information please ask any member of the Parish Council.

Kimisis Health Ministry

ealth Care professionals from the Kimisis Health Ministry offered their services to parishioners in the Community Center during coffee hour on September 22, 2013. Michael Simon, MD and Cheryl Bontales, RN provided blood pressure screening for anyone who was interested in determining if their blood pressure was within normal range, followed by some good advice for healthy living. Mrs. Vanessa Karatzia Pyte, MA, LPG, a Licensed Professional Counselor discussed child and adolescent behavior and mood disorder with several of the young parents and offered a wonderful tool to



havior and mood disorder with several of the young parents and offered a wonderful tool to help recognize mood fluctuation in children and adults.

We will be visible during coffee hour every other month for blood pressure screening and other healthy advice.

If you would like to join the Kimisis Health Ministry, please contact Cheryl Bontales, RN at 732-796-1006

$K_{\rm IMISIS}\,C_{\rm LOSE-}U_{\rm P}$



Dec 1 Martha Parlamis Dec 8 **Christmas Party** Dec 15 Greek School **Dec 22 Need Volunteers** Dec 29 **Need Volunteers** Jan 5, 2014 Men's Basketball Ian 12 Philoptochos Ian 19 **Prime Timers** Jan 26, 2014 AHEPA Feb 2 Scout Sunday Feb 9 **Boy Scouts** Feb 16 Advanced Dancers Feb 23 Sights & Sounds Luncheon Mar 2 **Ballroom Dancers** Mar 9 **Girl Scouts** Mar 16 **Intermediate Dancers** Greek School Mar 23 Mar 30 GOYA Apr 6 **Beginner Dancers** April 13 Palm Sunday Luncheon April 20 Pascha April 27 Altar Boys May 4 Sunday School Parish Council May 11 May 18 AHEPA May 25 **Need Volunteers** June 1 GOYA

2013-2014 Coffee Hour & Sunday Fundraísers

Church supplies coffee and paper goods.

Organizations please donate the following:

(3) Gallons of Juice

(1) Gallon of Milk

Children's cookies (approx. 6 pkgs.)

Fruit for allergic and non-gluten individuals.

Adult pound cake for about 80

Hosting organizations/individuals are responsible for cleaning 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.









AHEPA ANNUAL SUPER BOWL PARTY Sunday, February 2, 2014

KIMISIS COMMUNITY CENTER - 20 Hillcrest Road, Holmdel, N.J.

(series and s

DOORS OPEN 5:00 P.M. KICKOFF TIME 6:30 P.M. ADULTS : \$15.00 CHILDREN : \$10.00 AGES 6-16



LOTS OF FOOD & DRINK AS YOU WATCH THE GAME ON THE BIG SCREEN

PORTION OF PROCEEDS DONATED TO VARIOUS CHARITIES

For Information Contact: Robert Fourniadis (732) 259-3894





Do you really want to sit out in the Cold when you can see it at KIMISIS !



Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church Holmdel, NJ



Online Giving is here !

You may conveniently donate online or setup automatic recurring gifts with a bank account or from your credit card (get your mileage).

Setting up your account is easy and straightforward. When you participate, your taxdeductible donation will be securely transferred directly into the Church's bank account. No more checks. In addition to Stewardship, you may donate to other fund accounts such as: The Tree of Life program, Memorials, Building Fund, Holy Days, and the Festival. Please follow the easy steps below to set up your account.



KIMISIS CLOSE-UP ADS

Weichert, Realtors

Mary Loizou

Sales Representative

I Live Here...

I Work Here...

I Sell Here... Truly your neighborhood specialist.

- Free Market Analysis
- Holmdel Resident for over 20 years

Kimisis Member for over 20 years 43 East Main Street, Holmdel, NJ 732.946.9400, ext. 126 Direct #: 908.601.4040



THOMAS VASTARDIS, CPA

TAX AND ACCOUNTING

FINANCIAL CHECK-UP

Serving The Greek Community Since 1986

63 MILLTOWN ROAD EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816 PH: 732-238-1908 FAX: 732 875 0459 EMAIL: tom@tomvcpa.com www.vastardis.net 1-877-UN-TAX-ME



awaken your senses with the heavenly flavors of

> AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

OPEN TUES-SUN, 11:30**A-9:00P** LUNCH~DINNER~TAKE OUT~CATERING GROUP EVENTS PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS

> 444 OCEAN BLVD NO., LONG BRANCH INSIDE URSULA PLAZA 732-222-4600 WWW.NIKOSTRAPEZI.COM

Nikolatos

12/14

5216 Route 34

Farmingdale, NJ 07727

1040 Route 33

Wreck O Mend

Freehold, NJ 07728

732-938-6162

732-938-4211

NMJ License # 01287A

NJ License

Wreck O



COLLISION REPAIR SPECIALISTS

Family Owned and Operated for Over 30 Years Lifetime Warranty **www.wreckomendautobody.com**

12/14

KIMISIS CLOSE-UP ADS

HARRY JOHN CONIARIS, M.D. F.A.A.O.

Eye Physician and Surgeon

Diplomate American Boards of Ophthalmology and Internal Medicine *Office Hours By Appointment* 723 N. Beers Street, Suite 1-C Holmdel, NJ 07733

Phone: 732-888-3688

Fax: 732-888-3633

ANTHONY S. LAFONTE, CRPC[®] Assistant Vice President Financial Advisor - Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

The Finan Group

77 Broad Street Red Bank, NJ 07701 <u>732.530.3047</u> (*Direct*) <u>732.475.4850 (*Fax*) Anthony LaFonte@ml.com</u>

Donate securely online with a credit card or your bank account for Stewardship and other Church Fund accounts. Go to <u>www.kimisis.com</u> 24/7 and click on the Online Giving icon to create an account. Thank you for your support.



Set-up Technical Support: 800.348.2886 Ext 4

Or email: onlinegiving@osv.com

A great party starts with a beautiful invitation. From traditional to unique invitations, LM Designs provides a personalized solution that fits your needs, style and budget



Invitations · Gifts · Promotional Items

Wedding • Bar/Bat Mitzvah • Save the Date • Engagement • Rehearsal Dinner Showers • Christening • Communion • Graduation • Baby • Sweet Sixteen • Anniversary Seasonal/Holiday • Birthday • Moving • Corporate

www.LMDesigns.biz By appointment in Holmdel with Lori Mausner 732.335.4002 LMDesigns4@gmail.c<u>sm</u>

Thank You

We are so fortunate to have the support of our advertisers to offset the expense of printing and mailing the Kimisis Close-up. Please thank them when you can, and give them the support of your business. Also, please mention that you saw their ad in the KCU newsletter. For information on advertising in the KCU, contact Cleo Bartos at kcueditor@gmail.com.