

# Kimisis Close-Up



VOLUME 23, ISSUE I

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
HOLMDEL, NJ

JAN/FEB 2013

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

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



## *From Father George*

by Father George H. Dounelis

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*Publication Deadline for  
March Issue February 10th*

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Kimisis:

Simeon met Jesus ! So can we ! Faith is not something we inherit from our families. Faith comes from a personal meeting or encounter with Jesus. We can meet him in prayer each day/ We meet Him in the Bible. We meet Him in every liturgy. We meet Him in the face of every needy person. Simeon held Jesus in his arms. We can picture Jesus holding children in His arms, but here is something totally different: Simeon holds Jesus in his arms! Are we not invited to do the same? Don't we hold Jesus in our mind when we read His Precious words in the Gospel and when we pray to Him? Don't we hold him in our hearts when we receive His precious body and blood in Holy Communion? When this happens, we too can say with Simeon, "Lord, now I've seen everything! Now I can live and die contented! For I have seen the Savior!"

One of the post-communion thanksgiving prayers we recite after receiving Jesus in the Eucharist is the prayer of Simeon. And how very appropriate it is to pray this inspiring prayer at that moment. For, having just received the Savior not just into our arms but into our hearts, we break out in praise and thanksgiving as we say:

Lord now let your servant depart in peace,

According to Your word;

For my eyes have seen your salvation.

Which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples

A light for the revelation to the Gentiles,

And for the glory to your people Israel (Luke 2:29)

Truly we have seen the Light. Let us received Jesus into our hearts. our minds, and our body.

On Sat. 2nd Feb is the Presentation of the Lord Liturgy as well  
*Adelfikos, Father George*

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU  
Greek Orthodox Church20 Hillcrest Road - Holmdel, New Jersey 07733  
Office: (732)739-1515 Fax: (732)739-1172

## Stewardship Update

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

Happy New Year!

### Renewing our commitment to Kimisis for 2013

**T**hank you to those who have already submitted their 2013 Stewardship form.

Your pledge keeps us growing and able to serve our community with much-needed support to the faithful. We are over 400 families who support a \$400,000 budget for Kimisis. Thank you including Kimisis in your offerings.

### Need a Tax Letter?

Contact me at [helenantholis@mac.com](mailto:helenantholis@mac.com) for a tax letter for 2012 or call Frieda at 732-739-1515

### Need a Commitment Form?

Please inform us of your **2013 Stewardship Commitment** in any of these ways:

**Obtain a 2013 commitment form** from the Church Office, the basket in the Church entrance lobby or the wall rack in the narthex and Community Center lobby.

**Use the form included in this issue of the KCU.**

**Ask any member of the Parish Council** for a Stewardship Form.

**Download a WORD document** from the Church Website: [www.kimisis.com](http://www.kimisis.com) in the Stewardship section and email it to me at [helenantholis@mac.com](mailto:helenantholis@mac.com) or print it and mail it to the Church office at 20 Hillcrest Road, PO Box 367, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0367.

**Mail a check to the Church Office** with "Stewardship 2013" in the memo section.

**Place your check in the collection basket** with "Stewardship 2013" in the memo section

Place your check or cash in your **Offering Envelope** and put it in the collection basket

**Call Frieda Mookas at 732-739-1515** and ask her to mail you a form.

We hope these many ways make it convenient for you. If you have any suggestions for making it easier, please let me know.

### STEWARDSHIP OFFERING ENVELOPES

Would you like weekly Stewardship Offering Envelopes mailed to your home? If so, please contact me at [helenantholis@mac.com](mailto:helenantholis@mac.com). If you receive the envelopes and don't use them, contact me to have your name removed from our mailing list or call Frieda at 732-739-1515.

Thank you!

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

**Christian Stewardship  
Annual Commitment Card  
ONGOING STEWARDS for year 2013**

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's  
work at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church for 2013 a

**TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be offered:

\* Weekly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. \$10)      \* Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$50)

\* Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$150) \* Annually \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$600)

Please print

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

For continuing stewards, please provide updated current information (only changes from 2012):

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Cell/Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Work # \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Stewardship  
Annual Commitment Card  
**NEW STEWARDS for year 2013**

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church for 2013 a **TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be offered:

\* Weekly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. \$10) \* Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$50)

\* Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$150) \* Annually \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$600)

Please print

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

If Yes, list date and name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Age	Religion	Birthdate

## Capital Improvement Fund Appeal for Sound System

by Bill Parlamis, Parish Council member



Happy New Year to all !

The Capital Improvement fund was established as a separate account in order to collect funds necessary to make improvements to our church, community center, and property. The most recent project was the installation of a new sound system for the church, narthex, and church entrance. The cost of this project is approx \$10,500 . We are so appreciative to the congregation for their generosity in so many ways. Yet, with this we have another appeal to fulfill.

Yes, the second tray on Sundays does go to the capital improvement fund. This tray usually generates approx. \$200 per week depending on attendance. The cost of the new sound system must be paid in full by our church's annual festival in the spring. As you can see, we cannot depend solely on the tray. We need your help.

Our church is our home, and we are so blessed to be able to congregate each and every week in our most beautiful House of God. The importance of delivering God's message in a clear manner is the reason the Parish Council decided on the new sound system.

Please donate whatever you can towards this appeal. Together if we give what we can, enough funds will be collected to pay the balance due by the Spring. Donations should be made out to the Kimisis Capital Improvement Fund, please note on the check "Sound System".

*Thank you in advance for responding to this appeal, and your never-ending generosity and love for our church.*

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

By Advisor, Theodora Papasavas

*As we start a New Year, we wish our GOYA and Kimisis families a world of love, peace, prosperity, health and happiness! Our sincerest gratitude to all Kimisis parishioners who consistently support our GOYA program.*

**O**n **January 25th**, our GOYAns along with GOYAns from Saint Barbara's (Toms River) and Saint George (Ocean) prepared 300 brown bagged lunches and toiletry bags for the Bridge's Outreach program. On Saturday, January 26th, two advisors and two GOYAns from each parish met at the Bridge's headquarters in Summit and delivered the lunches and toiletries directly to the homeless who live around Newark Penn, New For more information about Bridge's Outreach, go to [www.bridgesoutreach.net](http://www.bridgesoutreach.net).

**We will be collecting Sights for Sights & Sounds on the following Sunday's - February 3rd, 10th & 17th. ALL Sights will be delivered to Westfield on Monday, February 18th.**

**GOYA CALENDAR FOR JANUARY - MARCH**

**Sunday, January 20th** - GOYA meeting, Deadline for Sights & Sounds registrations, Valentine Dance monies due.

**Friday, January 25** - Bridge's Outreach Program @ Tom's River.

**Saturday, January 26** - Bridge's lunch delivery to Newark Penn, NJ.

**Friday, February 15th** - Valentine's Dance @ Saint George, Trenton.

**Sunday, February 24th** - Sights & Sounds Luncheon @ Kimisis Tis Theotokou

**Saturday, March 2nd** - Sights & Sounds Festival at Holy Trinity, Westfield.

**Sunday, March 3rd**, Sights Display @ Kimisis Tis Theotokou

**Saturday - Sunday, March 23-24th** GOYA Retreat @ Kimisis Tis Theotokou with seminarians. Topics of discussion are: prayer, fasting, alms giving, why we go to church, why we are different from other faiths and what makes our Orthodox faith so special.

**From corresponding secretary, Lana Kandalaft**

This year in the midst of our holiday celebrations, the annual Christmas pageant was yet again a success! From our choir sung by the GOYAns of our church to the talented musicians, the music was phenomenal! Run by The Simons, they have fulfilled the task to organize and play music that would bring joy to us all during this Christmas season. The younger age groups reenacted the nativity scene without a fault! From their costumes, to their acting, everything was run smoothly and successfully. With the collaboration of everyone involved, it truly was an accomplishment! In addition to this blithe event, our GOYA is preparing for Sights and Sounds 2013; it's a competition where we compete against other churches throughout the metropolis with musical and artistic activities. Practices for these events have already commenced, and we are all working our hardest in order to perform to our fullest potential. This New Year has started on a great note, and will surely bring much happiness for the months to come.



## KIMISIS ANNUAL FESTIVAL

### June 6-9, 2013

Dear Kimisis Tis Theotokou Family Members,

Hope all is well! It is that beautiful time of the year, where after we count our Blessings, we need to start thinking and planning for our next Great Festival in June of 2013. As mentioned many times before, our Panagia'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 Panagia ("Our Virgin Mary") bless all of us and keep us Healthy and Happy!

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 : 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:**

February 5, Tuesday  
 March 5, Tuesday  
 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

**SAVE THE DATE!**

### Prime Timers Meetings and Events

#### 2013 January thru December

February 7 - Meeting on Discussions for on coming events ~ Hostesses: Marina Ikonomidis, Connie Mellas  
 March 7- Meeting Discussion on trip & Event ~ Hostesses: Helen Certa, Tasoula Charitonidis  
 April 4- Last meeting for season ~ Lunch at Middletown Diner ~ Fanni & Michael Manaitho  
 May 9- Discussion on upcoming recess  
 June - Summer Recess Festival ; July - Summer Recess; August Summer Recess Panayia  
 September 5- Welcome Back discussion for October Event (trip)  
 October 3, Select date for event (5th,12th,19th) (Tentative)  
 November 7 12th (Tentative) (Restaurant) Thanksgiving Lunch Celebration  
 December 5, meeting - December 10th Tuesday, Christmas Celebration covered dish

**\*\*Holy Days..Church services ---Meeting will take place after liturgy**

***See Prime Timers bulletin board for change in dates***

Snow days: Call Secretary : Fran Halotis--732-804-2518 or

Phone Squad Captain --Agatha Papadoulis—732-851-4625

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 <b>2' x 4' sign on a Booth</b> , appear on our <b>Kimisis.com website</b> for one full year, listed in the <b>Festival Program</b> , printed in the Church's newsletter the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free</b> <b>admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$500	Platinum Sponsor	Name or business listed appear the <b>Kimisis.com</b> <b>website</b> for one full year, listed in the <b>Festival</b> <b>Program</b> and the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> , and <b>free</b> <b>admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$250	Gold Sponsor	Name or business listed in the <b>Festival Program</b> and the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free admission</b> <b>tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$100	Silver Sponsor	Name or business printed in the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$50	Booster	<b>Free admission tickets</b> <u>to the Festival.</u>

**SPONSOR**(as you prefer to appear) \_\_\_\_\_

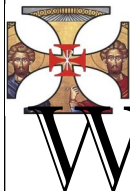
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**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





## Philoptochos Perspective

By Josephine Michael Tsarnas, President

**W**e are and will be recovering from the onslaught of Hurricane Sandy for a long time to come. We witnessed the destruction of our beautiful beaches, we lost an uncountable number of businesses, many of our homes were flooded, damaged severely or lost entirely and we all spent days without power and without our modern conveniences.

United, we stood strong, and our ministries, spearheaded by Philoptochos, our Parish Council and Ahepa, worked together to help our neighbors by offering the basic necessities of life, providing warm clothing, cleaning supplies and personal care products. We opened our doors to give neighbors, family and friends a place to keep warm while our generous families donated disaster relief supplies for distribution to those in need, those of us who organized the supplies and gave them out to people, those of us who dropped off supplies to various shelters throughout Monmouth County, those of us who delivered hot food to the homebound, those of us who climbed up on roofs to cut down fallen trees and remove debris, and those of us who cared in any way at all for our

neighbors are Christians. It's about being like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*If you truly believe the words in the Gospel, "Whatever you do to the least of these, you do unto me,"* Mathew 25:45. Jesus must have been smiling by the generosity of the families in our Kimisis' community during these last few weeks.

From our Christmas party donations to our Food Pantry and coat drive donations, the halls of our community center were filled-literally and figuratively-with the true spirit of Christmas! In the midst of all the hustle and bustle, I thank you sincerely for placing a priority on *giving*, as your means allowed, to help those facing empty cupboards or no gifts under the tree, or the unspeakable stress of a families' severe crisis. You will never know the names of those you helped, but I can guarantee that the *One* who knows each and every name will never forget your kindness.

Generosity has many measures, other than material things, and we had an abundance of "the sharing of God given talents." From the Greek School Christmas songs and the Kimisis Greek Dancers at our Annual Christ-

mas Party, to the caroling of our Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts at local nursing homes to our decorations in Church and stage to our magical Choir, Chanters, and Altar Boys; we are blessed by artistic talent that opened our hearts to the joy of the season!

The Greek School students who sang, the Greek Dancers who danced, and "made joyful noise unto the Spirit of Christmas!" I would like to thank our Philoptochos Sisters and Philoptochos Mothers, our Philoptochos Committee Chairladies who without their guidance, love and support it would not be possible to respond to the needs of our community.

Each year, this is the time, we should deeply reflect on our blessings. Pray for the people who are away from the Church and hope they hear church bells echo vividly in their mind, in hopes they may come closer to God. *I rejoice my family and friends* and somewhere deep in my heart, I know this is what our faith teaches us. Happy New Year to all! May it be a season of joy, health and happiness and may all your blessings be heard! Me agape-



### PHILOPTOCHOS RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY FOR OVER 80 YEARS!

*Has a loss of employment put you behind with your rent, mortgage or utility bills?*

*Are you swamped by out-of-pocket medical costs?*

*Are you having difficulty feeding your family?*

*Do you need help finding homecare for your mom?*

*Do you know someone who needs help, a friendly call or visit?*

**CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!**

***Contact Your Local Philoptochos:***

***By Calling President, Josephine Tsarnas (732) 441-1722***

*The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc. assists Greek Orthodox and Orthodox Christian individuals and families throughout the United States, as well as Greek and Cypriot nationals, regardless of their immigration status, who are in the U.S.A. Philoptochos is here to help!*

If any individual would like to contribute to our Social Services cause, please leave donations in the Poor Box located at the Church Narthex. Checks can be payable to Kimisis Philoptochos. (You can also say Tax-deductible checks)

**THE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY/ BAHAMAS CHAPTER OF KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU**

2012-2013 Coffee Hour &amp; Sunday Fundraisers By Harriett Callis

Jan 27	Intermediate Dancers
Feb 3	Scout Sunday
Feb 10	Boy Scouts
Feb 17	Martha Parlamis
Feb 24	<i>Sights &amp; Sounds Luncheon</i>
Mar 3	Ballroom Dancers
Mar 10	Godparents Sunday
Mar 17	Girl Scouts
Mar 24	Greek School
Mar 31	Philoptochos
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
<i>*NOTE: Please volunteer for any open dates</i>	

### CHURCH SUPPLIES COFFEE AND PAPER GOODS



### ORGANIZATIONS NEED TO DONATE THE FOLLOWING:

- Three (3) Gallons Juice
- 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**

## SAVE THE DATE

### Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, Inc.

Celebrate Greek Independence Day  
in a

Journey to Greece through Dance  
Sunday March 17, 2013

at the

Holmdel High School Theater  
Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel NJ  
(one mile from Kimisis Tis Theotokou)

Authentic Greek Folk Dances in Authentic Greek Folk Dance attire  
3 TO 5PM

For more information [www.hellenicdancersofnj.org](http://www.hellenicdancersofnj.org)

Or contact Cheryl Bontales, HDNJ Corresponding Secretary at [BONTSC@aol.com](mailto:BONTSC@aol.com)



### 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, 12<sup>th</sup> 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 conference 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.

Please see Lucy Milonas or Marie Devino for more information or questions. For Angel choir rehearsals will be after Sunday School alternating Sundays with Goyan Choir for 20 minutes.

*See Kimisis Choir Director Marie Devino for more information*

Sunday the 20th Of January the Prime Timers hosted the Sunday coffee social time of our community..

The members of the Prime Timers gave a outstanding buffet of many pastries....

As president of this group I would like to thank one and all for giving of themselves for the community..

Also thank you to the GOYA , and the men for helping take down the tables and chairs ..

Thanks to Margareta Bowden, she is always there for all of us. Great work Margareta.



# SUPER BOWL XLVII



## AHEPA ANNUAL SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Sunday, February 3, 2013**

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



DOORS OPEN 5:00 P.M.

ADULTS : \$15.00

KICKOFF TIME 6:30 P.M.

CHILDREN : \$10.00 AGES 6-16



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

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

PORTION OF PROCEEDS DONATED TO VARIOUS CHARITIES

Save this Date  
May 22, 2013  
Wednesday  
2nd Cigar Night



St. George Greek Orthodox Church  
1033 West Park Avenue, Ocean, New Jersey

*is pleased to host*

*The Eastern Federation of  
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians  
District of New Jersey  
in*

### *The Spirit of Lent*

A Choral Offering of Ancient and Modern Works in English and Greek

Kathryn Athanasoulas, Director

E. Hope Demitry, Organist

**Friday, April 26, 2013, 8:00 p.m.**

**Donation \$10.00, under 12 free**

Refreshments following program

<http://www.stgeorgeap.org/>

*A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Metropolis of NJ Philoptochos Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund*

## GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride

Happy New Year!

**W**e hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays. We are looking forward to a healthy and prosperous year.

First, we would like to thank everyone who volunteered, participated and/ or donated items for our coffee hour and bake sales on November 18th and December 16th of 2012. We also would like to thank everyone who purchased items to support the Greek School.

We are very proud of all our talented children and wish them all the best in the New Year. We thank all the parents who support and help to preserve the Greek Language and its customs by bringing their children to Greek School.

Upcoming Events:

January 30th – Feast Day of The Three Hierarchs:

Three outstanding hierarchs, St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom, are honored as patron saints of education and culture. Each Saint individually celebrates their own name day, but we celebrate them together on January 30th. They recognized the importance of the Greek language and culture in developing and advancing Orthodoxy.

The week around January 30th is proclaimed as the week of Greek letters. Greek school teachers are honored and recognized.

March 25th Greek Independence Celebration:

Our celebration will take place on Sunday, March

24th. In addition, we will be hosting an extensive Coffee Hour for our families, friends and for those who wish to celebrate and/ or support our children. Details to follow.

REMINDER:

- The Greek School will be closed on Monday, January 21st and on Monday, February 18th, 2013.
- Please visit our bulletin board in the hallway and admire the beautiful artwork by our students.

Information and upcoming events are available through our email system. If you are not receiving emails, please contact Katherine Gilbride at ksgilbride1@yahoo.com so that you can be added to the email distribution list.

### KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOUS PRIME TIMERS HOSTED

A bus trip to Agia Skepi in White Haven Pennsylvania...47,, mostly friends members of Kimisis Tis Theotokou (in picture) ..The sisters of Agia Skepi Hosted a wonderful lunch for us and a vesper service..There was a bakery & religious gift shoppe.. most of the items were made on the premises ... the trip going and coming was a memorable time. Songs of the times were sung. an enjoyable time was had..

Thanks to my staff and everyone who made this event memorable... look for further information on our bulletin board in the administration building hallway..

Happy New year...Representing the staff & Prime Timers.... Pres. Connie Mellas





## GIRL SCOUTS

by Cheryl Bontales and Mary Ellen Cestone

**T**he Kimisis Tis Theotokou Girl Scouts of Troop 337 wish you and your family a Happy New Year with good health and happiness.

We hope you had an opportunity to stop by our registration table in September and hear about Girl Scouting at Kimisis. If you missed those registration dates, don't worry, you can register anytime throughout the year; but the sooner the better so you can make the most out of your scouting experience.

### Religious Retreat

Kimisis Girl Scouts attended the Religious Retreat at St. Basil Academy in Garrison New York in October joining Eastern Orthodox Scouts from NY, NJ and Conn. The event was led by seminarian from Holy Cross and we had a wonderful time with hikes, discussion groups and campfires.

### Caroling

Our Troop joined with the Kimisis Boy Scout Troop and Pack 531 on December 7th and brought cheer to residents at Victoria Manor Nursing Home. Our large scouting family sang traditional Christmas Carols for all to enjoy. It warmed our hearts to see the joy it brought the residents and their family members who joined in the singing as well. Mr. Frank Drekos, past Director of Greek School at Kimisis was especially moved when carolers sang a selection of Greek Christmas songs.

### Court of Awards and Rededication

On December 14th our Girl Scouts gathered for an investiture ceremony in the church hall. Girl Scouts and Adult Volunteers recited the Girl Scout Promise and Girl Scout Law as they rededicated themselves in a candle ceremony to the world's largest female organization dedicated to helping girls grow strong and into competent, confident women. All Girls received their earned level badges.

### Girl Scout Cookie Sale

Kimisis Girl Scouts wish to thank all parishioners who supported our fall product sale by purchasing nuts and candies. We are now taking orders for Cookies which are only sold once a year. See infor-

mation on the bulletin board. Purchasing these products help Girls with marketing and financial skills while helping the program that helps Girls grow strong. Visit our Cookie Booth Sale under the Tree of Life and see our display in the Community Center on March 10th during coffee hour and learn how camping can be so much fun.

### Family Game Night

Kimisis Girl Scouts will be sponsoring a Family Game Night on March 15th in the church hall. Your admission price of \$4.00 per person gets you one game card, soft drinks, snacks, coffee and cake, and prizes for all winners. Additional game cards can be purchased at \$1.00 each. Please bring a non perishable item donation for our food pantry too. Girl Scouts will earn their Games for Life Badge.

### Restore The Shore

Our Girls are working on their Restore the Shore Badge by adopting a troop of Girl Scouts that were displaced from their homes and suffered great losses.

### Horse Back Riding, Rock Climbing and Ropes Challenge Course

In the next few months, the Girls will be attending these fun workshops leading up to their annual spring campout at Camp Sacajawea. Don't miss out! Sign up.

### Kimisis Kitchen Remodeling

Our Ambassador Girl Scouts will begin to remodel and reorganize the community center kitchen to better prepare it for festival time. Their goal is to maximize its potential, properly store and label all contents. Provide recycling receptacles and be able to serve as a "soup kitchen" to the community in times of need. If you would like to offer your time and talent please contact Leader Cheryl at number below.

Information: Positions are available for Leaders and Co-Leaders on all levels. K-12. Training begins online and continues at the church hall and is free. We invite you to join the world's largest female organization. If you would like to become a Girl Scout or Adult Volunteer, contact Cheryl at [gsusaholm@aol.com](mailto:gsusaholm@aol.com). 732-796-1006. Please join us and have fun, learn new skills and develop lifelong friendships .

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