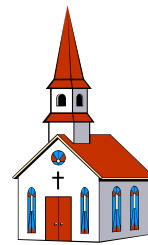


Kimisis Close-Up



VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

20 HILLCREST ROAD, HOLMDEL, NJ 07733 ■ 732-739-1515 ■ WWW.KIMISIS.COM

JAN/FEB 2014

Church Services Schedule:

Orthros: 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy: 10:00 am

Confession – The “forgotten” Sacrament

My Beloved Spiritual Children,

I pray that my message finds all of you spiritually rejuvenated and physically robust as we prepare to travel together on our Lenten Journey commencing on March 3rd, Clean Monday, and culminating with the triumphant and Life-giving Feast of Pascha, on April 20th. Indeed, what a special time of year Holy and Great Lent is, a time when we look inward in retrospection and upward in humility and longing. It is a period when we must take an honest inventory of ourselves, our actions, our thoughts – our whole being. The Church stands ready to assist us in our mission to forgive others, our desire to cleanse ourselves and lifelong goal to reach *theosis*.

As the Feast of Feasts, the Resurrection of our Lord, approaches, it is imperative that we use this time to prepare ourselves, through repentance and confession, so that we might “come and receive the Light from the unwaning Light” with a pure conscience and a soul undefiled. Repentance is an act of reconciliation, of reintegration into the Body of Christ, which has been torn asunder by sin. It is a new beginning, an invitation to new life, an opening up of new horizons, the gaining of a new vision – indeed, an act in which the entire Church Community participates, where both prodigal and saint are “repenting sinners.”

The Greek term for repentance, *metanoia*, denotes a change of mind, a reorientation, a fundamental transformation of outlook, of man’s vision of the world and of himself, and a new way of loving others and God. For in repentance, it is man’s total limitation and insufficiency that is placed before God, not simply particular wrongdoings or transgressions. Through the act of repentance and the subsequent sacrament of confession, we experience a *Pascha* from death to life – for we bury our sinful state in the abyss of our weakness and resurrect one in the presence of God’s abundant mercy and love. For St. John Chrysostom exhorts us to “*enter into the Church and wash away your sins. For here there is a hospital and not a court of law. Do not be ashamed again to enter the Church; be ashamed when you sin, but not when you repent.*”

Confession is thus a necessary sacrament in which our genuine repentance bears fruit and we are reconciled to the love of God. “**Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.**” (James 5:16) In the Orthodox Church, it is customary that we make our confession before God to a Priest, who is seen as a witness of repentance, not a recipient of secrets or a detective of specific misdeeds. The senses of the Priest are dissolved in the sacramental mystery as the loving tenderness and infinite justice and mercy of our Lord take over. Through the forgiveness of sins in confession, the past is no longer an intolerable burden but rather an encouragement for what lies ahead. Life acquires an attitude of expectation, not of despondency; and confession becomes the way out of the impasse caused by sin. God Himself is revealed before us and walks in front of us.

Praying that His loving kindness cascade over our very being and that He will strengthen us on our Lenten Journey, I Remain,

With Love in Christ,

† Archimandrite George Nikas

Pastor



Inside This Issue

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- G.O.Y.A. & Sights & Sounds flyer (2/23)
- Greek School
- Health Ministry
- Kali Parea
- Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter
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- President’s Message
- Saturday of Souls Form
- Stewardship Report & Commitment Forms
- Sunday School News
- Y.A. L. Young Adult

❖❖ Save These Dates ❖❖

Annual Blood Drive-3/29

Greek Parade-NYC - 3/30

Philoptochos Fashion Show- 5/8

Go to www.kimisis.com for the KCU online

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION LEADERS

V.R. ARCHIMANDRITE GEORGE NIKAS

PARISH COUNCIL

		MEMBERS
President	Dimitris Geaneas	Stavros Fotinos
Vice President	Bessie Drogaris	Salomi Horvath
2nd Vice president	Bob Bucco	Jim Marinos
Secretary	Argyris Milonas	Dina Mellas
Treasurer	Tom Protentis	Rosanna Panagakos
Asst. Treasurer	Basil Kotsis	Parry Peters
		Soteris Petrou
		Costas Phillipou
		Nikie Sourlis
		Dimitris Thompson
		Elias Tsigounis
		Roula Tsoukaris

ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

A.H.E.P.A.	Bob Fourniadis
Acolyte Coordinator	Jeremy Milonas
Art Program	Susan Englis
Ballroom Dancing	Sophie Indromenos
Bible Study	Fr. Nikas/Roula Merianos
Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts	Jim Marinos/Nick Englis
Building Expansion	Steve Bontales
Choir	Marie Devino
Coffee Hour	Harriet & Fred Callis
Community Center Rentals	Matt Bistrimovich
Festival	Dimitris Geaneas
Girl Scouts	Cheryl Bontales
G.O.Y.A./Youth Advisors	Linda Antonakakis/Eleni Angelkos/Basil Kotsis/Irene Sourlis
Greek School	Katina Hutin
Greek School PTO	Katherine Gilbride
HOPE/J.O.Y.	Bessie Loukopoulos
KCU Editor	Cleo Bartos
KCU Advertising	Cleo Bartos
Kimisis Dancers	Aphrodite Bucco
Men's Basketball	Pete Kolydas
Philoptochos	Aphrodite Bucco
Kali Parea	Connie Mellas
Security & Maintenance	Paul Callamaras
Stewardship	Helen Antholis
Sunday Bulletin	Amalia Vapheas
Sunday School	Nikie Sourlis/Anna Zamora/ Nausica Orthodoxou/Joyce Magriples
Tree of Life	George Karatzia
Ways & Means	Parry Peters
Website	Dimitri Orfanitopoulos/Jim Silverman
Welcoming	Margarita Actipis Bowden/All

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dimitris Geaneas, President

Dear Stewards of Kimisis Tis Theotokou,

Happy New Year!



On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish everyone health, love, peace and joy in 2014.

With 2013 behind us, and with the V. Rev. Archimandrite George Nikas on board, we need to work together, always stand united and to move forward in order to bring our Church and its Community to greater heights of spiritual growth. Our Kimisis needs to continue to be a place where people come not only to pray but also be respected, loved, and enjoy an environment of harmony, fellowship and order. Quoting 1 Corinthians 13, verses 4-7: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

In addition, as we enter 2014, improvements and changes will need to be made in the structure and effectiveness of our Church organizations. Other areas of concentration and focus will be instilling order in the Church, increasing our emphasis on our Youth, automating our Church office and last but not least increasing Stewardship (talents, time and treasures).

My mission, with the collaboration of our Archimandrite Father George, the Parish Council, all Organizations and Parishioners, is to substantially improve our Finances. In order to continue to maintain our Church and the services it provides to our Community, we need to increase our revenue and have cash reserves to cover our expenses for about two months.

Stewardship

Stewardship is the lifeline of our Church and for that matter of all Churches. For the last several years, revenue from Stewardship has been contributing approximately 50% of the total (the Festival brings in 25% and the remainder 25% is raised by candles, trays, donations, sacraments, etc.). Our daily expense to maintain and run our Church is \$1,200. Dear Stewards, please help us to increase the revenue from Stewardship by 20%, which will allow us to be less dependent on our Festival and at the same time enhance our services to you and the Community. For those of you who have not filled out their stewardship forms, please do so. This is important because it will allow us to plan our expenses and better monitor our budget. **Please be generous to our Kimisis Tis Theotokou.**

Parish Council

Congratulations to the following newly-elected Parish Council members: Salomi Charalambous-Horvath, Basil Kotsis, Dina Mellas and Rosanna Panagakos. A heartfelt Thank You to the following departing members for their hard work and devotion over many, many years: Matt Bistrimovich, Paul Calamaras, Basil Parlamis and Manny Tsarnas. AXIOI!

Festival

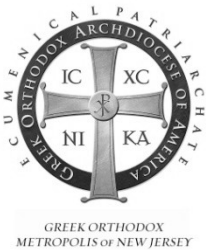
Preparations for our next Festival, which has been scheduled **for June 5 through June 8, 2014**, have started. This important Church fund raiser can only be successful with **your Help**. Our next Festival meeting has been scheduled for **Tuesday, January 28 at 7:30 pm** in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please try to attend and volunteer your time and service.

Lastly, our prayers and get-well wishes go to our Dimitri (Jim) Thompson who is currently recuperating. **May our Panayia Bless our Kimisis Tis Theotokou Family.**

Your servant in Christ,
Dimitris

January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am St. Basil <i>Happy New Year 2014</i> Office Closed	2	3	4
5 Eve of Holy Epiphany/ Theophany/ Feast of Lights Sunday School resumes	6 9am Holy Epiphany /Theophany of our Lord Mega Agiasmos	7 9am St. John the Baptist Greek School resumes	8 8pm Parish Council Meeting	9	10	11 7pm YAL Inaugural Kickoff Cocktail Party – All purpose room
12 Artoclasia for Kali Parea	13	14	15 7pm Organizations Meeting – All-purpose room	16 11am* Kali Parea Meeting	17 9am St. Anthony	18
19 Kali Parea Fellowship Hour	20 ML King Day – Office Closed	21	22	23	24 GOYA Lock-in	25
26 Vasilopita AHEPA Fellowship Hour JOY/HOPE Pizza & Ice Cream social	27	28	29	30 9am Three Hierarchs	31	



KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

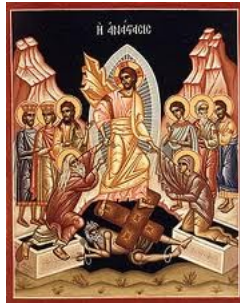
Holmdel, NJ

Sundays: Orthros 9am - Divine Liturgy 10:00am

Weekdays: Orthros at 9am followed by the Divine Liturgy

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JAN 26 Vasilopita AHEPA Fellow-ship Hour JOY/HOPE Pizza & Ice Cream social	JAN 27	JAN 28	JAN 29	JAN 30	JAN 31 9am Three Hierarchs	FEB 1 GOYA JR Playoffs in Toms River
2 Ypapanti Scout Sunday AHEPA Super Bowl	3 GOMNJ CLERGY RETREAT	4 GOMNJ CLERGY RETREAT	5 GOMNJ CLERGY RETREAT	6 KALI PAREA 11am	7	8 St. Theodore
9 TRIODION 50/50 Raffle Drawing 1pm	10 St. Haralam-bos	11	12 PTO Mtg. 5pm Parish Council 8pm	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 GOYA Mtg.	17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20 Philoptochos Mtg. 7:30pm	21	22 1st Sat of Souls
23 Mealfare Sunday GOYA S&S Luncheon	24	25	26	27	28	



ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ - SATURDAY OF SOULS

Names to be read on the 3 Saturday of Souls: Feb 22, Mar 1 & 8, 2014

Please return to Father George's attention

Τα ονόματα θα μνημονευθούν και τα τρία Ψυχοσάββατα: 22 Φεβ, 1 και 8 Μαρτίου 2014

Παρακαλώ να επιστραφεί στην προσοχή του πατρός Γεωργίου

Όνόματα υπέρ Αναπαύσεως

Names of those who have fallen asleep in the Lord



KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU
Greek Orthodox Church

20 Hillcrest Road - Holmdel, New Jersey 07733
Office: (732)739-1515 Fax: (732)739-1172



Stewardship Update

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

Winter is upon us in full force and the bitter cold and snow have made it very difficult for so many. While many of us are fortunate to have a warm home and nearby family, there are many who do not. On an individual level, think of those who may need your assistance and help where you can. On a community level, support our Philanthropic Outreach Ministry to assist those in need. We thank you for your donations.

RENEWING OUR COMMITMENT IN 2014

The year 2013 was filled with many changes for Kimisis. Father George Dounelis retired and Father George Nikas joined us in October. We pray for their health and spiritual guidance as we pray for peace. Yet, through it all, our core community persevered. Many volunteers took on the responsibility to maintain our ministries. Without them, it would be hard to imagine where we would be today. We thank them for their service.

Stewardship is our way of contributing to the growth and maintenance of our community to provide much-needed support to the faithful.

WHAT YOUR STEWARDSHIP SUPPORTS

These are the Ministries of Kimisis Tis Theotokou that are directly funded by our Stewardship Program.

A Worship Ministry nurtures the faithful through regular participation in the sacred services and holy mysteries of the Orthodox Church as expressed through the rich liturgical and hymnological inheritance known as Byzantine music, rendered in both Greek and English.

A Teaching Ministry strives to educate and inspire the faithful through the Sacred Scriptures and Holy Tradition of the Church, with great emphasis on catechetical and Greek language education, for children and adults of all ages.

A Youth Ministry develops and nurtures our children to follow in the footsteps of Christ by learning the foundations of our Faith and to live their lives in integrity, kindness and love.

A Philanthropic Outreach Ministry, under the leadership of a vibrant Ladies Philoptochos Society, fulfills the command of our Lord Jesus Christ to reach out to the sick and poor, and to serve the least of our brethren.

A Social and Cultural Ministry provides a variety of opportunities for all members of the community to volunteer and to share in activities with one another through appropriate cultural, social, and educational events that reflect the life, faith, and cultural heritage of the our Church.

Stewardship Update (Continued)

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

A Stewardship Ministry engenders the faithful dedication of time, talent, and treasure of parishioners in support of the ministries of the Church to the glory of God.

DONATIONS OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

With open hearts and open arms we welcome you and invite your participation in the spiritual and social life of Kimisis Tis Theotokou by continuing your Stewardship. Join our community and help support the critical programs and ministries that Kimisis fosters. Should you have questions or wish to discuss membership further, please contact us.

We look forward to continued support from our community for the coming year. Please feel free to complete the pledge form included in this issue for the new year and bring it to the Church Office or email it to helenantholis@mac.com.

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 basket in the Church entrance lobby or the wall rack in the narthex and Community Center lobby.

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

Download a WORD document from the Church Website: www.kimisis.com in the Stewardship section and email it to me at 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 2014" in the memo section.

Place your check in the collection basket with "Stewardship 2014" 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.

ONLINE GIVING – a convenient way to donate

More and more parishioners are setting up accounts through our secure website portal for online giving. If you wish to donate online with a credit card or debit to your bank account, please go to www.kimisis.com and click on GIVE ONLINE. From there, you will be re-routed to a secure site for enrolling and entering your one-time or recurring donation.

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING ENVELOPES

For those who do not use the Offering Envelopes that are mailed each month, we can remove your address from our mailing list and save the expense. Please contact me at helenantholis@mac.com to have your name removed or call Frieda at 732-739-1515.

*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 ☐ Other _____To be donated: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

NOTE: TO USE A CREDIT CARD OR BANKING ACCOUNT 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 ____*

Please provide updated information since your previous form.

Last Name _____ Phone () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

First Name _____ Spouse _____

EMAIL _____ EMAIL _____

Profession _____ Profession _____

Work/Cell _____ Work/Cell _____

Children (Names/Dates of Birth) _____

WERE YOU MARRIED IN THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH? YES ____ NO ____

If yes, please list date and Church _____

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

NEW STEWARDS OF KIMISIS

Christian Stewardship Annual (January to December) Commitment Card

In gratitude for God's blessings, we pledge for Christ's work.

My Pledge is for the CALENDAR YEAR 2014

Suggested annual donation ☐ \$5000 ☐ \$2500 ☐ \$1200

☐ \$720 suggested minimum for Families

☐ \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles ☐ Other _____

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

NOTE: TO USE A CREDIT CARD OR BANKING ACCOUNT FOR ONE-TIME OR RECURRING
PAYMENTS, GO TO WWW.KIMISIS.COM, CLICK ON "GIVE ONLINE", &
FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS TO CREATE AN ACCOUNT.

Stock donations may be made by contacting Treasurer/Church Office

I would like Offering Envelopes mailed to me: 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 (Circle one)

If YES, NAME of Church _____ Date _____

Children's Names	Age	Religion	Birthdate

Use other side for additional names

**Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter 1088** by Aphrodite Bucco, President

Hronia Pola – Happy New Year! I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday with your family and friends.

On December 8, our Kimisis Community had their annual Christmas Party. We had the pleasure of being entertained by our very own youth dancers. They put on a wonderful program and were GREAT!! A big thank you to Peter Kousouris for all his hard work and time he gives to our children.

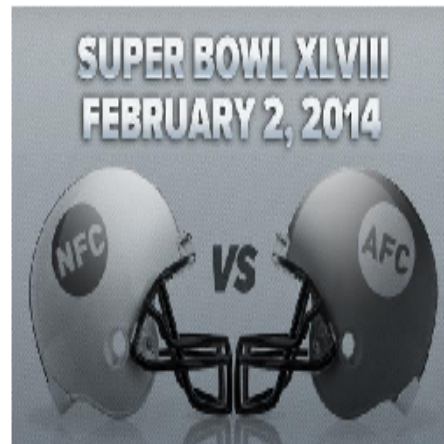
On behalf of Lucy Milonas (Christmas Party Chairperson) and me, we would like to thank all the Philoptochos members who donated items and/or volunteered their time to help make this year's Christmas Party a success! To our Young Adults – Stephanie Bontales, Billy Callis, Jeremy Milonas, Dena Orfanitoupoulos, and Rosanna Panagakos – and to our Goyans – Christina Antonakakis, Christina Gregorakis, Melina Magriples, Julianna Magriples, Francesca Nizza, Pauline Protentis, Michael Simon, Steven Simon, Christian Simon, Alex Stantzios, and Lana Kandaloft – thank you for all your hard work. They helped us set & clean up, serve, and assist with various tasks. They gladly did whatever was asked of them and we appreciate it very much.

On December 19, we had our Christmas Dinner at Town & Surf Diner in Atlantic Highlands. Our host, Chris Kousouris out did himself. Everything was “**delicious**”. It was an evening filled with good food, great company, and the sound of laughter filled the air.

All are welcomed to join our Ladies Philoptochos to experience the satisfaction of helping people in need and to promote the charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic purposes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Our next meeting is on Thursday, February 20 at 7:30 PM.

Upcoming Events:

Palm Sunday Luncheon – April 13, 2014, chaired by Voula Perdikaris
Fashion Show “Under the Sea” – May 8, 2014, chaired by
Marianthe Koukomis, Lynne Rexines, & Susan Wassif



AHEPA ANNUAL SUPER BOWL PARTY Sunday, February 2, 2014

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



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

Save this Date

May 14, 2014

Wednesday

3rd Cigar Night



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





Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church GOYA



Proudly present their
Annual Sights and Sounds Luncheon
Featuring
GOYAN performances from Sights and Sounds
Lunch, Drinks, Dessert



Sunday, February 23, 2014

Immediately following Liturgy
Church Community Center

All participating GOYANs are complimentary
Tickets: Adults: \$20, Children 12 and under: \$10
No tickets will be sold at the door
Paid reservations accepted until Thursday, February 20

Reservations: Please complete this section and mail with your payment to: Linda Antonakakis, 68 Sage Street, Holmdel, NJ 07733. For additional information, please call (732) 616-2972.

Yes, I would like to attend the Sights and Sounds Luncheon and reserve _____ # of seats.

Enclosed is my check for _____Adults @ \$20 each and _____Children (12 and under) @ \$10 each \$_____.

Name:_____

Address and Phone Number:_____

Please write the names of who you would like to be seated with on the back.

Come join your fellow friends

And let's march with pride together!

The bus will leave right after church. For reservations, please contact

Mary Ellen Cestone, mariaeleni5@comcast.net or 732-299-0288

GREEK PARADE

CELEBRATING THE 193 RD ANNIVERSARY
OF HELLENIC INDEPENDENCE

SUNDAY **30**TH 2014
MARCH 1:45 PM
ON FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY
FROM 64 TH TO 79 TH STREET



ORGANIZED BY:
THE FEDERATION OF HELLENIC SOCIETIES
OF GREATER NEW YORK

FOR INFO:
TELEPHONE (718) 208-6500
WEB: www.hellenicsocieties.org
E-MAIL: hellenicsocieties@yahoo.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

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

Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

We enjoyed the holidays with a wonderful Communion Breakfast hosted for our children. Followed the next week by our Sunday School Pageant which we would like to give our sincerest thanks to Mrs. Eleni Thermos for her dedication to our Sunday School for putting together a wonderful Christmas Pageant this year. The children shined and the chorus and musicians filled our hearts with Christmas cheer. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Shields for working with the children at practice and the day of the pageant to insure they were dressed and on time. We couldn't do it without them and all the parents who pitched in to dress the children the day of the pageant. Thank you all.



Important Upcoming Dates:

March 3, 2014 - Great Lent Begins

March 9, 2014 - Sunday of Orthodoxy - Our 2nd, 4th, 7th and 8th grades will participate with the Icon Procession carrying the icons they make in class.

March 23, 2014 - 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 12, 2014 - Saturday of Lazarus - A Didactic Liturgy Service/Communion Breakfast Attend Church and help make palm Crosses

April 13, 2014 - Palm Sunday No Classes - Family Worship

April 20, 2014- Great and Holy Pascha - No Classes - Family Worship

May 4, 2014 - Godparent's Sunday

May 11, 2014 - Mother's Day - No Classes - Family Worship

May 18, 2014 - Teacher Recognition Day - Last day of Sunday School

May 25, 2014 - No Classes - Family Worship - Memorial Day

June 1, 2014 - Graduation Day!

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, May 4th - Annual Godparent's Sunday. The day we get to give back to the community and teach the children the importance of honoring their godparents. We start in church by receiving communion with our godparents. The children are welcome to stay in church and share the services with their godparents. They will participate in a special prayer given by Father George for all Godparents and Godchildren in attendance. We hope you can join us for this special experience along with the teachers and directors of Sunday School for an extended coffee hour.

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride



Director: Katina Hutin

Editor & PTO President: Katherine Gilbride

Happy New Year!

We 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 17th and December 15th of 2013. We also would like to thank everyone who purchased items to support the Greek School.

For the first time, during the week of December 2nd, parents were able to meet with their children's teachers. Teachers discussed their curriculum and answered questions from the parents.

We had a wonderful Christmas Show on Sunday, December 15th, 2013. 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 23rd, 2014. Details to follow.

REMINDERS:

Our next **PTO Meeting** will be on **Monday, January 13th, 2014** at 5:30 P.M. The Greek School will be **closed** on **Monday, January 20th** and on **Monday, February 17th, 2014**.

Information and upcoming events are available through our email system. If you are in the PTO and are not receiving emails from the Greek School, please contact Katherine Gilbride at ksgilbride1@yahoo.com

Holmdel Troop 531 Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

By Nausica Orthodoxou

Happy New Year from our Scouts. Just to bring you up to speed on our activities December was jammed with events and charity. The troop collected food to for our community food drive. They joined the Girl Scouts and went Christmas caroling at Bay Shore Healthcare Center as you see below. The cubs and webelos attended a movie matinee as a thank you for all the popcorn they sold to help support the troop that was topped off by a pizza lunch thanks to Mr. Englis. Our boys enjoyed a pack nite Christmas party on the 18th with goodies, games, and skits on our theme "Respect".

We are all looking forward to our Pinewood Derby on January 26th and will give you an update on our winners in the next issue. So boys give it your best and we can't wait to see your wonderful designs. Scout Sunday is on February 2nd with our troop represented in church as well as serving a pancake breakfast to the entire parish that morning following church services. We look forward to seeing you all there.

If you would also be so kind as to support our troop with their *Annual Valentine Fundraiser* on 2/2 and 2/9 we would be most appreciative. See you all then.

January: 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, 2/14-2/216 scout camping

March: 3/2 Blue & Gold Dinner, 3/5 meeting, 3/19 meeting



Girl Scouts

by Julie Simon

The Kimisis Girl Scouts have been very busy over the past few months! In November, the Girl Scouts hosted coffee hour and assisted the Parish Council to welcome parishioners as they entered the church at the Pangari.

In early December all of the troop levels were joined by the Boy Scouts as we brought Christmas cheer to the residents of the Bayshore Nursing Home with Christmas Carols. It was a fantastic way to start off the season and the joy in the faces of the residents was an inspiration to our girls.

Our Juniors decorated a Christmas tree in front of our gym and used "Christmas Wish Angels" to decorate it. We thank our fellow parishioners for your kind generosity! Together, with you and our Cadettes, we were able to provide presents to 77 children who are in great need. Thank you to Mrs. Angela Karakoglou, Mrs. Calli Kalambakas and Mrs. Evelyn Daskalakis for contacting the trailer home parks and shelters, and organizing and delivering the gifts. A special thanks to the Kalambakis family for hosting a gift wrapping event where the Juniors, Cadettes and Ambassadors wrapped all of the donated presents! It was a fantastic blessing to see our girls so engaged in reaching out with Christian love to other children in need.

All of the girls have all been working hard on their various badges and journeys, including a American Red Cross babysitting class by some of our Ca-

dettes. The Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes and Ambassadors received their patches and recognition during our Court of Awards/pizza party in January.

Several of our scouts completed the Alpha Omega and Chi Rho religious medals with the help of their families, their leaders, Mrs. Horvath and Father George. We look forward to recognizing these girls during Scout Sunday on February 2nd!

Girl Scout cookie sales start soon! Thank you for supporting us with your purchase of these delicious treats!



Ambassador Girl Scouts

Lana Kandalaft is cleaning and reorganizing the Community Center kitchen to make it more user friendly. She will be increasing storage space and labeling bins for the commonly used items and securing items used for the festival. Lana volunteers at the Annual Greek Festival as a food handler alongside her mother Cherine in the *Taverna* dishing out pastichio and mousaka. While working in the kitchen making salads beforehand, Lana noticed that many kitchen items could not be found or could not be reached. For her Gold Award project, Lana plans to have everything labeled and accessible by the end of May, with the help her troop including Cassie Sannino and Irene Garidas. If you would like to donate plastic bins toward Lana's project, or offset the cost of a new stainless steel pantry, please contact Troop Leader Cheryl Bontales at [732-796-1006](tel:732-796-1006)

Adult Volunteers

If you would like to nominate your daughter's Girl Scout Leader for an adult recognition award, please send an e-mail letter to Cheryl Bontales at gsusaholm@aol.com by the end of March. Adult Volunteers are very important to our Troop and we invite you to join us in making a difference in the life of our Girl Scouts. Training is free and conducted online and at the church hall. The next Leader training will be held on Thursday February 13th in the all purpose room at 7pm. If you are interested in becoming an adult volunteer, or If your daughter is between 5 and 18 years of age and would like to join Girl Scouts, contact Organizer Cheryl Bontales at [732-796-1006](tel:732-796-1006).

HOLMDEL GIRL SCOUT TROOP 337

Invites you to the
Monmouth County SPCA
Scout Night

Friday, February 21, 2014

Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church Community Center

Doors open at 6:45pm ~~~~Event begins at 7:00pm

*MCSPCA Speakers will be offering information on pet care & safety, shelter work, plight of puppy mill dogs, and overpopulation.**Our Guest Stars will be Certified Pet Therapy Dogs, and depending on availability, some other furry friends. Petting and interaction will be offered.**Please make us aware of any dog or cat allergy issues.**Tear here*

For registration: Complete the section below. Make checks payable to Troop 337. Mail completed form to:

Mary Ellen Cestone ~ 20 Tocci Ave. Monmouth Beach, NJ 07750 ~(732) 299-0288 ~mariaeleni5@comcast.net
Although registrations will be taken at the door, ensure your space with advanced registration.☐ Yes, I would like to participate in the MCSPCA Scout Night. I am a registered Girl Scout with GSJS. I will attend the event with either my Leader or my Parent.☐ Yes, I am a Kimisis Tis Theotokou Member, and I will attend the event with my parent.

attending @ \$2.00 per child = _____ (refreshments included)

**Please also bring an item towards the MCSPCA Wish List.<http://monmouthcountyspca.org/support/wish-list/> **☐ No, I cannot attend, but I would like to donate an item to the MCSPCA Wish ListName: _____ Address: _____
Phone #: _____ E-mail address: _____

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

Since his arrival at Kimisis, Father George has inspired our youth to attend religious lock-ins, unite in activities with other Orthodox churches and engage in community service such as serving on altar and singing in our choir. We look forward to the remainder of the year with Father George as we have more lock-ins, host a dance in the spring and participate in various community service events throughout the Lenten season.

We would like to congratulate our girls' volleyball team and our senior boys' basketball team on their wins during our playoff games. Girl's volleyball received first place and senior boys' basketball received third place in the playoff championship games. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our GOYAs for their dedication to our teams. Many thanks also to our GOYA families for always helping at the games and cheering our children on. Also, none of this would be possible without the commitment and love of Father George, our volleyball coaches, Amine Kandalaft and Nick Stantzos, our basketball coaches, Tony Patras, Anthony Patras, Jr. and Johnny Sideris and our sports coordinator, Tom Asimosopoulos. Your endless dedication, time and commitment to our GOYAs is greatly appreciate.



By Gregory Marinos

Kimisis GOYA wrapped up the 2013 year with several fun social and religious events. On November 22nd, Kimisis hosted the first of a series of lock-ins. The GOYAs had a wonderful time socializing as well as getting in touch with their faith. Father George was instrumental in bringing DJ Taso in on a discussion of popular music and lyrics as well as George Tomczewski and Joanna Parlamis for various aspects of our faith.

Our GOYA Christmas Party/Meeting on December 13th was a great success. We assisted Philoptochos with a collection. Everyone brought food to enjoy and donations to help the needy. Always a highlight during the holiday season, was that a large number of our GOYAs attended the Christmas Dance in Union where we danced the night away and socialized with GOYAs from other churches. The girls' volleyball team has been undefeated and senior boys' basketball has done well too. The playoff games were exciting and fun. With the new year arriving, our focus will be on Sights & Sounds practices. We need to defend our first place title. All GOYAs interested in attending need to register. The dress rehearsal luncheon will be on Sunday, February 23rd and Sights & Sounds will be held in Westfield on Saturday, March 1st. We look forward to the next GOYA dance at Wyckoff celebrating Valentine's Day. Details to follow.

Our church choir is looking for young voices. Anyone interested in joining, should contact Mrs. Marie DeVino.



Y.A.L. (Young Adult League)



On Saturday, January 11th Fr. George Nikas hosted Kimisis' first YAL social. YAL, or Young Adult League, is a ministry of young adults, ages nineteen to thirty years old, which keeps these young adults connected to each other and to our church. This ministry hopes to meet throughout the year, participating in different philanthropic and social endeavors. All young adults of Kimisis and of our sister churches are welcomed. If you are interested in joining Kimisis' YAL group, please contact Tina Hiras: stamatinahiras@aol.com.

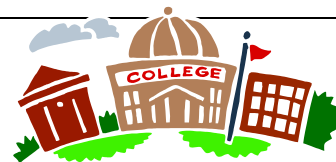
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Set-up Technical Support: 800.348.2886 Ext 4

Or email: onlinegiving@osv.com

Kimisis College Connection by Cheryl Bontales



It was wonderful seeing many of our college students home during Christmas break and taking part in our community events. The Ibrahim sisters were at the Ladies Philoptochos Society Christmas dinner and Sofia Kotsis, Connie Protentis, and Alex Milonas were singing Christmas carols in the choir loft on Christmas eve. Nick Bistrimovich caught our eye in his Coast Guard military uniform, and Matthew and Andrew Palladino served in the altar each week. Mia Kandalaft lent a hand to her father, Amine the GOYA Volleyball coach. Tina Hiras and Anthony Favara set to work organizing a Young Adult League social. When the snow fell, many of them got together and went sleigh riding for fun. We want to wish Sofia Kotsis the very best as she begins a semester of studying abroad in Dublin Ireland. A Junior at James Madison University, Sofia will be a student at the American College Dublin furthering her degree in Hospitality Management. Sofia has located and contacted The Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation in Dublin and is looking forward to meeting Fr. Thomas Carroll and his parish. Ireland has always been a dream destination for her and she is extremely thankful for this opportunity to explore the culture, people, and their country. A member of the Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, we are confident that Sofia will be teaching the *"Kalamatiano"* throughout Ireland.



The College Connection is a support program of the Ladies Philoptochos Society (in its fourth year) that seeks to maintain a link with students from our community during college. It is our goal to keep them informed of the Kimisis news and happenings, and to reach out to them during this time. For

those that are living on a campus away from home, we offer to connect them with a Greek Orthodox Church and priest closest to their college town, and include them in that parish. It is our hope that they will easily readjust to our community when they return home.



Kindly consider our college graduates for employment in your business, corporation or school systems. They are well educated, well rounded, talented individuals who will contribute admirably to any organization they affiliate themselves with.

If you would like to write to any of our students, please let us know.

Any student wishing to join the College Connection should contact any member of our committee of three Ladies; Cheryl Bontales (bontsc@aol.com), Salomi Charalambos-Horvath (msac2@comcast.net) or Joanna Kotsis (daskalisa@aol.com)

KALI PAREA

by Connie Mellas, President

Kali Parea of the Prime Timers

Connie Mellas

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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.



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Festival Dates: June 5 through June 8

June 5 (Thursday) from 6 pm to 10 pm

June 6 (Friday) from 4 pm to 11 pm

June 7 (Saturday) from 1 pm to 11 pm

June 8 (Sunday) from 12 noon to 8 pm

Festival Set-Up: June 4 (Wednesday) from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Festival Knock-Down: June 8 (Sunday) from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Festival Clean-Up: June 9 (Monday) from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Pre-Festival Meetings

January 28 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
February 11 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
March 4 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
April 1 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
April 23 (Wednesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
May 6 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
May 13 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
May 20 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room
May 27 (Tuesday) from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Church Multi-Purpose Room

Special Note : If you have any questions, please see Dimitri Geaneas or contact him at jgeaneas@msn.com or call him at 908 770 2426. Nasthe panta kala!

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Thursday, May 8, 2014

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

The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor
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Open Bar at Cocktail Hour

Any questions please feel free to contact us directly at
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"Under the Sea" Dinner Fashion Show

The Gramercy at Lakeside Manor

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Thursday, May 8, 2014

6:30pm- 11:30pm

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- ~ Raffles to be auctioned
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- ~ Music by Uptown Entertainment

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Any Questions please feel free to contact us at Underthesea2014@gmail.com

We Thank You in advance for your Support

Στὸν Ἀη-Βασίλη

Καλέ μου Ἀη-Βασίλη
ἔκου σάν προσευχή
αὐτά ποὺ θά σοῦ ποῦμε
γιά τ' ὄρφανό παιδί.

Αὐτό δέν ἔχει Μάννα
σάν τ' ἄλλα τὰ παιδιά
ἀγάπη γιά νά νοιώσῃ
σπῆτι καί ζεστασιά.

Καί τώρα που ὁ Χριστός μας
εἶναι καί αὐτός παιδί
καί ὅλοι πανηγυρίζουν
μέ χάρη περιφοῇ

Δέν θά τὸ πάρῃ ἡ Μάννα
γλυκὰ στήν ἀγκαλιά
τά μάλιστα νά ποῦνε
ἀκόμα μιά φορά.

Οὔτε τὸ περιμένουν
λογικῆς λογικῆς γλυκὰ
καί ἕνα σωρό παιχίδια
σάν τ' ἄλλα τὰ παιδιά.

Γιαυτό Ἀη-Βασίλη
σὺ ποὺ μάς ἀγαπᾷς
ἔταν πᾶς νά τοῦς δώσῃς
τά ὅλα ἀπὸ μάς.

Δῶσ' τους ἀκόμη ἕνα
τὸ ὅρο τῆς καρδιάς
"ἀγάπη" τ' ὀνομάζουν
δῶσ' τους τὸ ἀπὸ μάς.

Poet's Corner



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.



Choir Notes

By Marie Devino

The Kimisis Tis Theotokou Choir is encouraging anyone over 12 years of age to join. If you like to sing then the choir is the place for you. The choir is an integral part of the Divine Liturgy. Join us as we sing praises, responses and hymns each week and on holidays. The song sheets and lyrics are written in English with Greek phonetics. Reading music is not mandatory. Practices are held on Sunday after fellowship hour. We are members of the Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians and participate in concerts, workshops and religious events throughout the year. Students will earn community service hours for honor society or other clubs in addition to the enormous satisfaction of contributing to the Divine Liturgy. If you are interested, contact Choir Director Marie Devino at efgocm3@gmail.com.

Brokerage Account

Kimisis Tis Theotokou now has a brokerage account with Morgan Stanley. This account is available to anyone who would like to make a donation of stock to the church. There are tax advantages to this type of donation. If a stock you own has gone up in value during the period of time it is owned, that stock can be donated to the church and the current value of the stock can be taken as a charitable donation on 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 can be used for your annual stewardship or any other 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 By Cheryl Bontales, RN

February is Heart Healthy Month. Free Blood Pressure Screening will be conducted on Sunday February 16 during Coffee Hour by our health care stewards. Stop by for a chat and get your Red Dress Ribbon to show everyone you're heart healthy.

During the winter noses, fingers, toes and ears face the biggest risk of frostbite. Those body parts have less blood flowing through them and a lot less mass than the body's core. They're also more likely to be exposed to the elements. Bundling up those tender parts with hats, gloves and scarfs and avoiding exposure to the cold is key to preventing frostbite, which can develop in 30 minutes or less. Frostbite has an early warning sign, called frostnip. The skin reddens and stings, and can feel numb. That's the signal to get out of the elements, fast. If you do end up getting frostbite, you need to seek the care of a physician or go to an ER. In the meantime, get to a warm place and take off wet clothing. Try to remove rings or other jewelry, because frostbite causes serious swelling.



The Kimisis Tis Theotokou community is lucky to have some very talented people serve as stewards of the church. Among them are professionals and providers from a broad range of the health care field who practice as Nurses, Physicians, Dentists, Pharmacists, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Massage Therapists, Psychologists, Chiropractors, Nutritionists and Dieticians. To join the health ministry, all interested health care providers are asked to contact Cheryl Bontales, RN at bontsc@aol.com Follow postings in the KCU and on the Bulletin Board under Health Ministry for further information and stay healthy.

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
Mar 23	Greek School
Mar 30	GOYA
Apr 6	Beginner Dancers
April 13	Palm Sunday Luncheon
April 20	Pascha
April 27	Altar Boys
May 4	Sunday School
May 11	Parish Council
May 18	AHEPA
May 25	Need Volunteers
June 1	GOYA

2014 Coffee Hour & Sunday Fundraisers

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.



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1/14



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