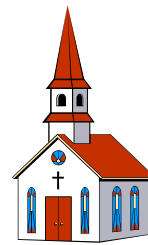


Kimisis Close-Up



VOLUME 23, ISSUE 6

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
HOLMDEL, NJ

JULY/AUGUST 2013

Summer Hours:
Orthros: 8:30 am
Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am

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CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH'S NAMEDAY

Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Throughout our Church history, no woman has been more loved, more lauded and more cherished than the Blessed Virgin Mary. She herself foretold it: "For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed." (Luke 1:48)

In beautiful poetic-hymnography which is characteristic of Byzantine chant in the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Theotokos, the Mother of God is honored and esteemed for her unique role in the salvation of the human race. Through her the Word of God became flesh and the Infinite became, as it were, finite. Humanity took on divine or Divinity took on humanity. The Theotokos is the vehicle, par excellence, of humility and obedience and thus a supreme example of redeemed mankind.

*As the Mother our Lord, she is our greatest ally and our most fervent intercessor, "for...the prayer of the righteous has great power in its effects." (James 5:16) During the Paraklesis Service, we ask the Most Holy Theotokos to save us just as those drowning reach out to those on dry land. Let us then seek with confidence the help and intercession of the **Mother of Light, Mary, the Mother of our Lord.***

Let us also honor the Mother of our Lord, as many others before us have, by coming and participating in the Paraklesis Services, so that we can all praise the Mother of our Lord with hymns and song.

On Wednesday, August 14th at 7:00 p.m. our church will have the Vesper service in which the area Orthodox clergy will be celebrating. All are invited to this great service commemorating the Feast Day of our Church and parish. Following the Vespers service, the Ladies Philoptochos Society will be hosting a reception of lite fare, pastries, and refreshments.

We invite everyone to celebrate Vespers as well as the Divine Liturgy on Thursday, August 15th which is dedicated to our Panagia.

Church and Community Organization Leaders

Fr. George Dounelis-Protopresbyter

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Members:

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

ORGANIZATIONS

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

Sacraments

June 1: Baptisms: Mrs. & Mrs. James Ruzich

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Lombardi

June 2: Funeral: Presbytera Eleni Chakalos

June 10: Funeral: James Pistola

June 15: Baptism: Mrs. & Mrs. Andrew Collins

Wedding: Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Flynn

June 16: 40 day Baby Blessing: Pat & Timothy Mastrogiannakos

1 year memorial: Joanna Vallis

June 20 Baptism: Mr. & Mrs. James Giannakouros

June 30 Baptisms: Mr. & Mrs. Tom Caporale

July 7: 1 Year Memorial: Anastasia (Daphne) Sturges

July 13 Baptisms: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pica

Mr. & Mrs. Michael La Salle

July 14: 40 day Baby Blessing: Jennifer & William Muller

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dimitris Geaneas, President



Dear Family of Kimisis Tis Theotokou,

I hope our Kimisis Close-Up finds you and your family well. In this message, I would like to honor our **Ladies Philoptochos Society/BAHA Chapter**. As you are aware, Philoptochos ("Friends of the Poor") is directly affiliated with the Archdiocese. Its sacred mission is to aid the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the victims of disasters (e.g. Sandy), to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the Church through fund-raising efforts and donations. In the last couple of years, Josephine Tsarnas has been an invaluable asset to Philoptochos. Gifted with superior leadership and organizational skills, she elevated the effectiveness of this organization (formed 12 new Committees/Ministries) and enhanced the lives of many people in need and despair. During her term as President, she raised the bar inspiring increased membership and participation. Thank you Josephine, for your tireless efforts and selfless commitment to this holy mission.

Our GOYA

Congratulations to the Kimisis GOYA for their excellent performance during the GOYA Olympics held at the Monmouth University. Gold Medalists were: Nick Bistrimovich, Irene Garidas and Pauline Protentis. Silver Medalists were: Irene Garidas, Greg Marinos, Steven Simon, Kyra Sourlis, Junior Girls 4x400 Meter Relay and the Volleyball Team. Bronze Medalists were: Greg Marinos (2), Senior Boys 4x400 Meter Relay, 4x50 Meter Medley Relay. Also, thank you to all the Coaches and Parents for their continuing support of our GOYA Youth Program.

Annual Church Festival (June 6-June 9, 2013)

I am delighted to announce that against all odds (bad weather and no Games), we had a very successful Festival. Friday, June 7th was our first total rain-out day in our recorded history. But, despite predictions of continued rain for the balance of the Festival, our Panayia interceded for us and God gave us two days of good weather. We do anticipate that we will meet our Budget of \$95 k once all the bills are paid. My heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you for your hard work and commitment to this critical fund raiser which comprises 25% of our annual revenue.

Stewardship

It is never too late to submit your pledges for 2013 and become a Steward of Kimisis Tis Theotokou. If you have not already pledged for 2013, please join our list of Stewards by contacting our Church secretary Frieda Mookas, or by filling out the form that you have received in the mail. Stewardship Commitment forms are also available in the Narthex of our Church.

Stewardship is our response to God's grace and moves us from grace to gratitude. Just as we love because God first loved us (I John 4:14), we give because God first gave to us. Please be generous and support our Panayia's Church. Your contributions are its lifeblood.

Panayia's Day

Please keep your calendars open for August 14-15 (Vespers at 7 pm and Divine Liturgy at 9 am, respectively) and join us with His Eminence for the celebration of the Dormition of the Theotokos.

Your Servant in Christ,
Dimitris Geaneas



Stewardship Update by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

In this issue of the KCU, we include the names of all who have donated or pledged for 2013 so far. If your name is missing and you made a pledge, please contact us so we can correct that. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2013, please do so by completing a Stewardship Form (included in this issue.) Thank you!

ONLINE GIVING

It's here! We're testing the process during July and August. In the next issue, there will be more details on how to make secure online donations through our website starting in September.

Make A Donation

Next month, you may conveniently donate online or setup automatic recurring gifts with a bank account transfer or from your credit card. Setting up your account is easy and straightforward. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the Church's bank account. And you won't have to remember to write a check or stop by the ATM on Sundays!

All donations are tax-deductible and credited to your Stewardship account.

We want your online giving to be as easy as possible. If you can't find your answer here, please email me at helenantholis@me.com

How can Online Giving benefit me and Kimisis?

Benefits for You

- No check writing or ATM stops before church
- Safe, secure, and confidential
- Use your checking, savings, or credit card
- Schedule recurring (weekly/monthly) or one-time donations
- Change a gift or account any time you like
- Choose offertory, special funds, pledges
- Earn rewards through your credit card

Benefits for Kimisis Tis Theotokou

- Reduces check processing fees
- Allows for more time to focus on ministries
- Creates peace in knowing your data and auto-deposited gifts are secure
- Can accommodate special funds
- Provides giving history for tax statements
- Reaches a wider demographic of givers

(continued on next page)

Stewardship Update (continued)**Is Online Giving Safe?**

Online Giving meets the highest banking-level security standards set forth by the Payment Card Industry (PCI) to ensure safe and confidential transactions. In fact, your banking information is encrypted in the system and is not accessible to any users or administrators of the Online Giving system. When you manage your own account information, Kimisis never needs to handle checks or worry about locking up documents containing your account information. And you'll always be certain that your gifts are direct-deposited into the Kimisis account.

What are the advantages of Online Giving?

It makes it easy to give, even when you are unable to attend church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan its budget!

How are my contributions automatically deducted from my account?

Once you complete the online registration form, the contribution amount you specify will automatically be transferred from your bank account to the church's bank account.

When will my contribution be deducted from my account?

Your electronic contribution will be debited on the date you specify on the "My Gifts" page of the Online Giving system. **If I do not write checks, how do I keep my checkbook balance straight?** Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions are recorded for you on your bank statement as well as your online reports. **Without a canceled check, how can I prove I made my contribution?**

Your bank statement and the Online Giving system both provide reports that document your electronic transactions.

Can I put different amounts in offerings and have all of them withdrawn at different times?

You can contribute to different offerings at different times; however, you will have to do each one separately. You will receive a receipt for each one.

What if I change bank accounts?

Log in and update your account information in the My Payment Schedule window. Each checking/savings/credit card can be changed using the edit button, deleted completely, or new accounts can be added on the right side of the screen.

How much does Online Giving cost? It costs you absolutely nothing! However, you may wish to add 3% to your amount to defray expenses to Kimisis.

What if I try Online Giving and don't like it? You can cancel your authorization by deleting your accounts and donation dates at any time.

How do I sign up for Online Giving? In the next issue of the KCU and by email, instructions will be provided. In the meantime, if you have any questions, contact me at helenantholis@me.com. If we do not have your email, please provide that as well. Thank you!

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

2013 Christian Stewardship Annual Commitment Card

ONGOING STEWARDS

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

Suggested annual donation – check one:

* \$7500

* \$5000

* \$3000

* \$1500

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

* \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles

* Other _____

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

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

Last Name _____ Phone () _____

First Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Please provide updated current information since your previous commitment form.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

EMAIL _____

Profession _____ Profession _____

Cell/Work # _____ Cell/Work # _____

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

2013 Christian Stewardship Annual Commitment Card

NEW STEWARDS

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

Suggested annual donation – check/circle one:

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

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

* \$400 suggested minimum for Seniors/Singles

* Other _____

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

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

Last Name _____

Phone () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

EMAIL _____

First Name _____ Spouse _____

Religion _____ Religion _____

Profession _____ Profession _____

Work/Cell _____ Work/Cell _____

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

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

Children's Names	Age	Religion	Birthdate



Philoptochos Perspective

By Josephine Michael Tsarnas, President, JMTsarnas@gmail.com

"My command is this: Love each other as I loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command." -- John 15:12-

To Forgive Someone-

Put aside resentment. The decision to forgive another person who did wrong to us begins when we decide to let go of revenge, gossip or resentment.

To forgive someone does not mean that we will forget what they did to us. The memory of the hurt may always be with you but when you decide to forgive them the grip inside you that tugs and holds you down will be filled with compassion and empathy for the person. You may even find yourself praying for the person because the act of forgiveness opens the heart of God's Grace and you will receive healing.

When we forgive someone, we are not denying the persons' responsibility for offending us, nor justifying their acts or excusing them; but peace and closure to our pain will open us up to live a life without resentment.

When we find ourselves struggling to forgive; try to recall when you did something wrongful and a hurtful to someone and remember when we've been forgiven. It is especially good to recall how God has forgiven us and to call upon Him to give us the strength to put all thoughts of revenge and gossip aside. Remember Paul 3:9 "Don't repay evil with evil, instead pay them back with a blessing and He will bless you for it" *Me Agape~*

Remember Kimisis' Pantry Feeds Hunger One Can at a Time, so keep them coming!



Kimisis Tis Theotokou Philoptochos Fashion Show & Dinner

"Under the Sea"

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Gramercy at Lakeside Manor

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

"The purpose of the **St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival** is to give our youth an opportunity to learn and speak about their beliefs, their Church, and their heritage, which strengthen their understanding and appreciation of their identity as Greek Orthodox Christians."

All children in their parish in grades 7th through 12th, may participate by writing a Religious Composition and reciting it. There are two divisions: the Junior Division (7th - 9th Grade) and the Senior Division (10th - 12th Grade). In each division, a child writes their own composition based on 1 of the 5 topics given. The parish then selects one 1 child from the Junior Division (7th - 9th grade) and 1 child from the Senior Division (10th - 12th grade) to represent the parish and advance to the Metropolis of New Jersey District Finals.

From our parish, Michael Gilbride was selected to represent the Junior Division and Alex Milonas was selected to represent the Senior Division. They were accompanied by Mrs. Roula Merianos, who coached them and spent many hours, rehearsing and editing their oratorical religious compositions.

On April 6th, St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River, New Jersey, hosted the Metropolis of New Jersey District Finals of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. Two children from each participating parish (Michael and Alex) went to St. Barbara's to compete among finalists from all the parishes of New Jersey. First, the Junior Division Speakers recited their compositions; then there was a break, and the Senior Division Speakers recited their compositions. There were three judges who listened to all the speakers and collectively selected a winner from each division. At the end of the Festival, Michael and Alex both achieved Honorable Mentions.

We hope you enjoy reading these inspirational compositions written by Alex Milonas and Michael Gilbride featured in this issue of the KCU.

Kimisis Health Ministry

By Cheryl Bontales, RN



Free Blood Pressure Screening will be conducted on September 22, 2013 during Coffee Hour, by our health care stewards. Stop by for a chat.

Remember to wear sun block every time you go out in the sun and stay hydrated on these hot summer days.

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 KCU and on Bulletin Board under Health Ministry for further information and stay healthy.

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival***Composition written by Alexander Milonas***

“Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.” (Psalm 118/119, verse 73).

Discuss how this passage can guide us in a time when we constantly seek to alter the way we look, act, and live.

The Bible says that God has made every person on earth in His image. Yet, one of our biggest fears is how other people perceive our appearance. We constantly try to make ourselves look different as opposed to accepting who and what we really are. Psalm 118 Verse 8, teaches us that “it is better to trust in the Lord than to put your confidence in man.” We tend to stay away from God’s teachings even though God has fashioned us the way He wants us to be.

The media also has a large effect on the way we act and sets unnecessary standards for us. We watch what is on T.V and attempt to copy what we see. Everyone wants to be in style. They want to wear the latest clothes, and act a certain way that is portrayed as “normal.” We are afraid that if we don’t act the way everyone wishes us to act then we won’t be accepted by society.

I was born with Cerebral Palsy which affects my brain and the nervous system so I’m unable to walk straight and I have to wear leg braces. There is no cure for Cerebral Palsy. Psalm 119 verse 73 states “this is how God has made me and fashioned me,” and I couldn’t be any happier. After all, this is all I know I was born with this disability; I never knew what it was like to be “normal.” It is true that people think I’m “weird, strange, retarded, and helpless” just based on my appearance. It does get slightly annoying, and I have trouble fitting into most groups. The question is why I would want to try to fit in with others when God is pleased with me. In Archimadrite Seraphim Aleksiev’s book, The Meaning of Suffering and Strife and Reconciliation, he emphasizes the profound value of patience when we are insulted or slandered and the fact that we must endure forever if we want to enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Church looks for authentic inner perfection while secular people look for outward perfection. That’s why God allows certain disabilities to happen in order to test us, our parents, our friends, and the people around us. If we blame God for our shortcomings we become bitter and fall short of His mercy. However, if we accept our disability with patience and love we are pleasing to the Lord.

Everyone has the need to fit in, but when we try to fit in, we sometimes digress from the commandments and God’s teachings. Unfortunately we don’t always see the way God is trying to communicate with us, and we start to doubt His presence. For example, you are getting bullied at school and everyone around you just stands there while you take the abuse, it’s hard to believe that there is some higher being that is helping you. However, in Psalm 118 verse 6 it states, “The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? “I know God is paving my path and I will continue to follow it without hesitation. Any pain that God brings me has a purpose. We shouldn’t have to worry about pleasing other people. We should all live our lives the way God wants us to by doing two things: Follow God’s teachings and be yourself. Then you will truly make God happy.

I plan to study Special ED at Montclair State University, and my goal is to help kids with disabilities achieve their goals just like my parents helped me achieve mine. Proverbs 22 verse 6 states, “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.” I don’t need to alter the way I look because I trust in God and that will ultimately lead to my salvation. Together with my Lord and Savior I will serve Him with all my mind, all my heart and all my strength.

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival***Composition written by Michael Gilbride***

“Discuss the importance of participating in the life of the Church in light of Jesus’s teaching in John 15:5: “I am the vine, you are the branches.”

It is Sunday. I am serving as an altar boy at my parish. As I gaze up over the altar, I see large, beautiful and vibrantly colored iconography. Jesus is in the center, and all of His Apostles are connected to Him and to one another by a vine.

This scene is so familiar to me. Every time I enter the church my eyes immediately focus above the altar. My mother tells me when I was younger I would point up at the iconography and ask her, “Who were those people? What was written underneath their icon?” She would explain to me who they were, and what their names were in Greek. “Practice”, she would say, “try sounding out their names every time you come to church and you will learn them.”

As I stare at the iconography now, my thoughts wander....what is the significance of the vine? A vine is strong, requires some maintenance and spreads easily. It consists of branches or stems and may even flower or bear fruit. In John 15:5, Jesus states, “I am the vine, you are the branches.” The Apostles, chosen and appointed by God, represent the branches of the vine, whose purpose was to go out and spread the good news of our Lord for our eternal salvation.

In the Old Testament, the vine was a symbol of Israel. In Isaiah 5:1-7, God instructed the Israelites how to obey His laws and be righteous people. He compared Himself to a vine in His vineyard, which represented the foundation of life and permitted the development for healthy branches to grow and strengthen into developing fruit. The Israelites did not spiritually fertilize or water God’s vineyard and eventually the branches turned into thorns and bore no fruit.

In the New Testament, Jesus instructed His new Apostles to be His messengers and go out and teach all nations. We must follow in their footsteps. As Orthodox Christians, we must have peestee (faith), agapee (love), prosefhee (prayer), and abide by God’s laws (the commandments). If we include the following in our daily lives, we will nourish the vine, keeping it healthy and strong.

God has given us many spiritual gifts that we must apply to fertilize the vine and its branches. Matthew 12:33 says, “For a tree is known by its fruits.” The Church Family consists of parishioners who volunteer their service, time and talent in various organizations within the community. Many of these organizations are established for the benefit of the children. The children represent the fruit that can be produced from the branches on a vine. I am one of those children. We are the future in keeping and spreading the Orthodox Faith.

A vine, if you think about it, is such a simple thing. So simple, yet means so much. The Lord used a free and natural source from the earth, to send us His message. Being good stewards, giving alms to the needy, helping those in distress, and passing on the traditions and commandments of our Lord, are a few requirements made upon us. Attending church and being part of the church family keeps us connected to God’s House. The more we attend the more we commit ourselves to our faith and the life of the Church. Like a vine in God’s vineyard, the branches will spread, grow strong and bear fruit. I know I want to be connected to that vine. Don’t you? Thank you.

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

By Theodora Papasavas, Outgoing Advisor

Correction to the June KCU

Nikolas Bistimovich is also one of our graduating seniors. We wish him the best of luck at the Coast Guard Academy and in all of his future endeavors. (In the June KCU, instead of Nikolas Bistimovich, Nikolaos Plakoudas was listed.)

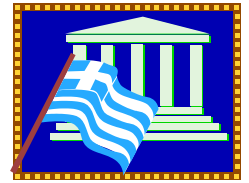
**2013 - 2014 GOYA EXECUTIVE BOARD****President - Melina Magriplis****Vice President - Eleni Sourlis****Corresponding Secretary - Gregory Marinos****Recording Secretary - Michael Simon****Treasurer - Elias Kotsis****GOYA Historian****Krissa Hutin****Looking Ahead**

GOYA registration for the 2013-2014 will **begin Sunday, September 8th** with a **October 31, 2013 DEADLINE**. Registration fee is **\$40.00**, checks should be made payable to Kimisis GOYA. You may download forms from the Kimisis website. GOYA is a youth organization for children between the ages of 12 and 18 years old. Our meetings are held once a month, typically on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Our calendar is full of activities including religious, charitable, athletic and social that are either on the local or state level. **Please note that you must be a registered GOYAn to participate in any GOYA events.**

2013 STATE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**Sunday, September 15 - Holy Cross Day @ Asbury Park, NJ****Sunday, October 13 - Mr. & Miss GOYA Pageant @ Pine's Manor****Friday, October 18 - Harvest Dance @ Holy Trinity, Westfield****Saturday, November 2 - Bowling Tournament & Dance @ Fairview****Sunday, November 10 - Youth Sunday, (Blessing of the Artoclasia)****Friday, December 27 - Christmas Dance @ Saint Demetrios, Union**

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride



Welcome Back!

Registration for Greek School will begin on **Sunday, September 8th** and continue throughout the month of September. We have a wonderful program, and fine teachers to meet your child's needs. Our Director, Katina Hutin, works hard to accommodate parent's schedules when placing the children in appropriate classes.

Classes will resume on Monday, September 16th through Wednesday, September 18th. During this week, our students will attend *Agiasmos*. The priest will bless the students and teach them the importance of learning the Greek language.

Information and upcoming events are available through our email system. Please contact Katherine Gilbride at ksgilbride1@yahoo.com to be added to the email distribution list. Also, please check the bulletin board in the church's hallway for information, past events and upcoming events.

KAP Kimisis Art Program By Susan Englishis

The KAP Lehigh Valley Museum Trip was spectacular!

The Kimisis Art Enrichment program took a wonderful trip to Lehigh Valley PA/DE to see American Art, which was the theme for this year's curriculum.

This year's trip included two museums, the Winterthur and the Brandywine River museum. The Winterthur is an American Country Estate and former home of Henry Francis du Pont with 175 rooms housing unparalleled collections of antiques and Americana. The Brandywine River Museum is a museum of regional and American art that included three generations of Wyeth's and a collection of American illustration, still life and landscape painting. Both museums are in a picturesque setting, and small enough to be easy to see everything. Everyone had a great time!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

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



Congratulations to all our children and good luck to all our seniors.

Wishing you success, happiness, and
May God Be With You Always.

The Graduating Class of 2013

Bistrimovich, Nicholas Kamvissis, Maria

Kandalaf, Mia Lizardi, Alexis

Milonas, Alex Paladino, Matthew

Sideris, John Tsoukaris, Demetri

Zamora, Alexa

Thank you to all the parents
for bringing your children
every week to Sunday School.

Thank you to all our dedicated teachers. Have a happy,
healthy and safe summer.

We look forward to the return
of all the children to
Sunday School
and to meeting all
the new faces that are
joining us this year.
Pre-K to high school.
All children are welcome.



Registration for
Sunday School
starts on
Sept. 8th
Join Us!



Classes begin
Sept. 29th

looking for adult volunteers to teach,
please sign up at registration and
give your time for the children.

Holmdel Troop 531 Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

By Nausica Orthodoxou

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCOUTS AND SCOUT FAMILIES

You all came out in a show of force to help for the church's biggest fundraiser. You worked in the kitchen, worked all the grills, worked as runners, sold soda and waters, helped set up tables and chairs, dressed tables, took down tables and chairs and every job in between. You should all be commended for all the work you did in good weather and bad weather without a complaint. BRAVO!!

Our Boy Scouts along with our graduating Webelos are attending Scout Camp the week of July 21st at Forestburg, NY. We look forward to sharing their news in September with you.

We wish you all a safe and happy summer and look forward to seeing you all in September for another year in Scouting.

Good Luck to Andrew Robbins and Michael Emanuel Simmon on their Eagle Scout Projects. The troop and parish look forward to helping you reach your goals so let us know what you need.

A Note from Troop Leader, James Marinos regarding Scout Camp at Forestburg, NY July 21, 2013.

Our troop once again proved itself to be one of the finest scouting units in Monmouth Council. We earned over 30 merit badges, and we will have 5 scouts advance one rank. In addition, for the first time in our 12 years at Forestburg, our troop came in first place in the camp wide games. They defeated 20 other troops using superior teamwork under the guidance of our acting SPLs, Elias Kotsis and Steven Simon. You should be proud of them all. In addition for the first time, a member of our troop won the photography contest. Elias Kotsis brought home that prize.

But what I am most proud of is the way our scouts once again represented Troop 531 and the Kimisis Community. I hope you all have a great rest of your summer and I will see you all in September.

SAVE THE DATE

& SAVE A LIFE

DONATE BLOOD

**Saturday, Oct 26th 9:00 am—
12:00 pm**

Kimisis All Purpose Room.

**SPREAD THE WORD & SAVE A
LIFE.**





Greek Dance Lessons

Registration will be in the auditorium after church services on Sept 8, 2013.

Anyone signing up will need to be a member of Kimisis Church.

Beginning age to start must be 7 years of age as of 12/31/13.

Please bring copy of Birth Certificate.

Classes will be on Monday from 5-8pm

Beginner 5pm-6pm

Intermediate 6pm-7pm

Advance 7pm-8pm

Interested in Adult Classes?

Please call

Pete 732-486-6400

Girl Scouts

By Cheryl Bontales and Mary Ellen Cestone

The Kimisis Girl Scouts are very excited to begin a new year! Brownies will be under the instruction of Angie Belitsis and Evangelia Dounis. Juniors will be led by Katherine Gilbride and Julie Simon. Cadettes will be led by Mary Ellen Cestone and Seniors and Ambassadors will be led by Cheryl Bontales and Angel Kazanis. We welcome all girls ages Kindergarten through 12th grade to come and join our wonderful organization!

Highlights include a wonderful, sisterly, great memory building time together while participating in various fun-filled activities such as camping, rock climbing, zumba dancing, ice skating, and much, much more. The girls also work on various girl scout programs which teach them valuable life lessons and are building blocks for the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. These are the highest awards you can achieve as a Girl Scout. Religious awards are also worked on and proudly received in Church on Scout Sunday.

Our first meeting of the year will be on **Friday, September 13th**. We hope that you will join us. Please contact us to find out where the meeting place will be.

On Friday, September 20th, our troop will have some good old fashioned fun while enjoying dinner, smores, singing songs and telling stories around the campfire at Camp Sacajawea. If your daughter is in the Kindergarten through 12th grade age range and would like to join us, please register her by the first meeting on Friday, September 13th. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact Cheryl Bontales at gsusaholm@aol.com or Mary Ellen Cestone at mariaeleni5@comcast.net. You can also contact the leader of the group that your scout would be in.

We will also have a registration table at church on Sunday, September 22nd, but in order to attend our campfire, you will need to register by Friday, September 13th. Thank you and hope to see you in September!

Souvlaki and Gyro Stand by Cheryl Bontales

Cooking over the hot coals for a family backyard bar-b-que is one thing, but laboring over the hot coals, in the sun at an annual Greek Festival is a whole different story. Watching them turn souvlakia, pita and gyro for four days in the wind, rain, heat and humidity, for a demanding crowd, reminds me of an Olympic event – The Marathon. At the starting line every day, to turn on the propane, heat up the grills, defrost the meats and start the cooking was Grill Sargent Jimmy Marinos. Slicing hundreds of pounds of vegetables daily was the super human kitchen crew under the direction of Margarita Bowden and Paul Callamaras. Setting up the serving area was Alaina Bontales and Matt Bistrimovich. These marathoners worked tirelessly from the beginning to the end and never once complained, even when the sandwich makers barked out “more gyro”. We’ve heard that a transformation occurs in the mind of a marathon runner after 12 miles of running and we saw that happen in our elite grill men and women as well. Ever focused on the grills, they entered a mind frame that could only be experienced when the demand grows greater than the supply. On Saturday night, in the midst of the 4 hour marathon, this cashier could not recall a time when the souvlaki stand was pressed to cook the meat fast enough for the hungry crowd as the line weaved past the entrance and around to the pastries. As the dozen spry sandwich makers barked “more gyro”, the grillers directed them to; “take only souvlaki orders till the gyro is cooked.” Words of wisdom as they raced through the marathon, too busy to even make eye contact with the customers they served. Other marathon men and women on the grill were Michael Peters, Perry Peters, Paul Gilbride, Tom Protentis, Denise Nizza, Bill Callis, George Kalogridis, Peter Thermos, and Demetri Orfanitopoulos. Creating and serving a gyro or souvlaki every 8 seconds during the marathon with nerves of steel were, Dr. Matt and Daphne Bistrimovich, Christie, Alaina and Stephanie Bontales, Eric and Jason Andreadis, Sal Cardinale, Maryellen Cestone, Aphro Bucco, Dan Gammoh, Fred Callis, Paul Callamaras- the younger, Nick Englis, Alexis Marinos, Connie Protentis, Debbie Mattos, Dr. Michael Simon, Andy Thermos, Christian and Christianna Simon and Noni Theocharides, and to Nikie Sourlis for keeping our supplies stocked and attractive. It is because of their resilience, stamina and dedication that we are able to have a souvlaki/gyro stand each year, and generate the profits for the church as we do. The marathon was won and we were victorious. Ke to chrono!

The Kimisis College Connection



Sunday August 11, 2013 – College Blessing

What an incredibly busy year our High School seniors have had. They've developed wonderful friends and collected many lasting memories through their school and church community. In the next few weeks they'll be finalizing their plans before beginning the next phase in their life as they enter the work force, military or college. Whatever path choose, we want them to know that we would like to help them "stay connected" to Kimisis and to the many people who care about them in our *kinotitis*, (community). They've made a connection here and a significant contribution to our church either through GOYA, Greek School, Sunday School, Altar service, or Scouting. We are confident they'll be equally engaged if they go away to college and will contribute admirably to their new school and/or job.

2013 High School Graduates are; Nick Bistrimovich, Bobby Fourniadis, Mia Kandalaft, Alexis Lizardi, David Lockwood, Alex Milonas, Matthew Palladino, John Sideris, Demetri Tsoukaris, Debbie Vapheas and Alexa Zamora.

The Kimisis College Connection was created to help students stay connected to Kimisis and encourage their continued Kimisis involvement between semesters and on breaks. Additionally, we aim to help them connect with the closest Greek Orthodox Church if they are going away and encourage them to get involved as they did with Kimisis. We have asked them to kindly provide us with a few paragraphs of their plans. A few are showcased here.

Alexa Zamora - Raritan High School 2013 writes; *"This summer I am in a community theater show called "Children of Eden". In September, I will be attending William Patterson University in Wayne, NJ to study Communication Disorders with a minor in Linguistics. I hope join a few clubs and make many friends while away at school.*

Mia Kaandalaft - Holmdel High School 2013 writes; *"I've graduated Holmdel High School as a member of the National Honor Society, President of the French Honor Society, recipient of the Holmdel "Hornet" award, and also played Varsity Volleyball as well as receiving Annual Honors throughout all four years of my High School career. After five fantastic years in GOYA were slowly coming to an end, I was elected GOYA President and was also honored with the 2013 NJ Metropolis Clergy Laity Award. This fall, I will be attending Penn State University's Smeal College of Business as a Marketing major. I plan on getting involved on campus through many student activities from Club Volleyball to the Sapphire Leadership Program, an organization for Business students to enhance their experience through networking events, community service initiatives, and leadership development opportunities. After obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Marketing, I plan on continuing my studies in Business to hopefully acquire a career in Marketing Management.*

We invite all the students to join together in church on August 11th and receive a special blessing. Afterwards we will gather in fellowship in the coffee hour room for a social and showcase their biography and photo on the college connection board for our fellow parishioners to admire.

Mrs. Cheryl Bontales, Mrs. Salomi Charalambou-Horvath and Mrs. Joanna Kotsis

The Kimisis College Connection Committee

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